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Further Backward to Nineteenth Century US Research

1. Make sure you understand the period and location you are researching.
 - a. *Rand McNally Commercial Atlas* (check local libraries) for small hard to locate places or locales that are now obsolete
 - b. Place Finder may be bundled in your genealogy software or supplemental software like *AniMap*. A sample of *AniMap*: <http://www.familyhistory101.com/maps.html#county>
 - c. *MapQuest* www.mapquest.com
 - d. *Google Maps* www.google.com/maps

2. **Census Records again**
 - a. **1890 Census:** Mostly destroyed in fire at Department of Commerce. Use substitutes to fill in this 20 year time warp whenever they are available such as:
 - i. **Civil War Veterans Lists**
 - ii. **City Directories**
 - iii. **State Censuses**
 - iv. **Voter Registration Records:**
 - v. **Tax payer lists**
 - b. **1880-1850 Every name index.** 1880 available free @: <http://www.familysearch.org>
 - c. **Separate Slave Indexes (1850 & 1860)**
 - d. **1840-1790** Head of households indexed only.

3. **National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)**
 - a. **General:** www.archives.gov/
 - b. **Federal Census Tips:**
 - i. All names: <http://www.archives.gov/research/census/1850-1930.html>
 - ii. **Heads of Household only:** <http://www.archives.gov/research/census/1790-1840.html>
 - c. **Vital Records again**
 - d. Generally not found at the state level in the 19th Century
 - e. Generally can be found at county or town level unless there has been a "courthouse fire": <http://www.familyhistory101.com/research-vital/index.html>
 - f. Remember to keep your eye out for divorce and adoption records as well as births, deaths and marriages

4. **Civil War**
 - a. Online Indexes
 - i. Ancestry.com
 - ii. <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/>
 - iii. <http://sunsite.utk.edu/civil-war/warweb.html#rosters>
 - b. Paper regiment or company histories are often included in 1876 local histories



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- c. Tennessee Confederate Pension Files
 - i. Applications Index: Soldiers (1891) and Widows (1905) [**get file #**]
<http://www.tennessee.gov/tsla/history/military/pension.htm>
 - ii. View files: <https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.3.1/TH-1942-20624-8098-27?cc=1874474&wc=MMV9-F7J:n1056344989#uri=https%3A%2F%2Ffamilysearch.org%2Frecords%2Fcollection%2F1874474%2Fwaypoints>
5. **War of 1812** service and pension records www.fold3.com
6. **Other Wars or other events that create a lot of documentation?**
7. **Immigration Records:**
 - a. **Ellis Island (1892-1924):** www.ellisland.org
 - b. **Castle Garden (pre 1892 for NY arrivals):** www.castlegarden.org
 - c. Other ports of arrival including both coasts, New Orleans & overland from Canada
 - d. **Immigrant Ships Transcription Guild:** <http://www.immigrantships.net/>
 - e. **One step searching:** www.stevenmorse.org
8. **Probate records** usually kept at local level.
 - a. Wills: Tennessee, Probate Court Books, 1795-1927:
<https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1909088>
 - b. Inventories, etc.
9. **Land records** usually kept at local level at least after the initial sale from public ownership
 - a. **Land Patents:**
 - i. What states?



- b. **Search:** <http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/search/default.aspx> Search response time has been extremely slow recently.

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- c. **Rectangular Survey System:** While GLO site is down try:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_Land_Survey_System
 - d. **North Carolina and Tennessee, Early Land Records, 1753-1931:**
http://interactive.ancestry.com/2882/33118_290694-00120/158212?backurl=http%3a%2f%2fsearch.ancestry.com%2fcgi-bin%2fsse.dll%3findiv%3d1%26MS_AdvCB%3d1%26db%3dTNNCLandRecordc%26rank%3d1%26new%3d1%26MSAV%3d2%26msT%3d1%26gss%3dangs-d%26gsfn_x%3d1%26gsln%3dTanksley%26gsln_x%3d1%26dbOnly%3d_F800775A%257c_F800775A_x%26uidh%3dxa1%26pcat%3dTENN_SATE_LIBRARY%26fh%3d0%26h%3d158212%26recoff%3d8%26ml_rpos%3d1&ssrc=&backlabel=ReturnRecord
 - e. **Buyers & Sellers:** After the initial state or federal grant, records of subsequent transactions generally are found at the county level. There they are filed in two lists: by **grantee** (buyer) and by **granter** (seller).
10. **Tennessee Newspapers on Microfilm** <http://www.tn.gov/tsla/history/newspapers/tn-paper.htm>
11. **Chicago Ancestors** <http://chicagoancestors.org/>

