FOUND IN THE ARCHIVES, no. 31 – April 2017 Fairfax Circuit Court Historic Records Center



The year 2017 marks Fairfax County's 275th Anniversary – check out <u>www.fairfax275.com</u> for a calendar of upcoming events this Spring, all celebrating the County's historic birthday!

April 6, 1917 marks the centennial of the U.S. entering World War I. In this month's edition of *Found in the Archives*, we look at military service register "chits" which were recently discovered in papers left by a previous Circuit Court Clerk named

F. W. Richardson. F.W. also served as clerk for the Local Board of Fairfax County for the Selective Service System Draft, which explains why the chits appear in his papers. On these chits, the men were identified solely by their serial numbers. However, in conjunction with the Local Board record book, *Muster Roll in the War with Germany* ledger, and other records, these chits reveal personal information about the young men from Fairfax County who were selected to register in America's first draft. These simple slips of paper tell us who was exempted from serving in the U.S. Army, and who, ultimately, went to war.



Chit 390, Unknown "Did Not Pass"

The first nationwide draft, or registration, for men to enter military service began on June 5, 1917. There were about 4,700 Local Selective Service Boards, who were charged with registering and classifying each young man. When the potential draftee appeared, a card with a unique serial number assigned to him was

logged. Our Local Record minutes for July 6, 1917, state that 1,468 'persons' had registered with the Local Board for Fairfax County. According to the Local Board minutes, men who registered late (after July 10) were not initially given serial numbers.

Each individual earned a classification: "fit for service" (class 1), or "temporarily exempt or discharged" (classes II – V). The Local Board assessed men using various criteria, including physical fitness. A local doctor gave medical examinations to determine any physical disabilities or illnesses rendering the registrant unfit to serve. Initial exemptions for service were often made based on the doctor's examination. Chits for serial numbers 182, 390 (pictured above) and 786 all state that the draftees were physically disqualified from service. We have no record of their names.

Even if the draftee was qualified or "passed," his family situation might entitle him to an exemption. A draftee who was the sole provider for his family could be exempted. One such Fairfax County draftee was Solomon Marshall, serial number 721, who claimed sole providership for his wife and five children. Grant Leigh Trickett, serial number 1322, was exempted because his 'Aged and infirm' parents were dependent on him.

721 NO

Chit 721, Solomon Marshall

and citizens needed their

necessary supplies, too.

Chit 1322, Grant Leigh Trickett

C. Los Barris and State			Another classification
	THE PROVOST MARSHAL		category was
	CCUPATIONAL CODI		category was
Λ. AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY.	14. Ship Building and Boat Building.	D. TRANSPORTATION. 23. Steam Railroads.	occupation. Certain
 Agriculture (Farming; Truck Gardening; Fruit Raising, etc.). 	 Agricultural Implement Factories; Auto- mobile Factories; Wagon and Carriage Factories; Car and Railroad Shops; 	 Steam Railroads. 24. Telegraph and Telephone Companies. 	•
2. Forestry (Lumbering, etc.).	Other Iron and Steel Factories.	25. Water Transportation; Construction and	occupations were
 Animal Husbandry (Fishing; Cattle Rais- ing; Sheep Raising, etc.). 	(VII) LEATHER INDUSTRIES. 16. Harness and Saddle Factories; Shoe Fac-	Maintenance of Streets, Roads, Sewers, and Bridges; Electric and Street Rail-	regarded as necessary
B. MINES, QUARRIES, AND WELLS.	tories; Tanneries; Trunk Factories. (VIII) LIQUOR AND BEVERAGE	. ways; Livery Stables; Truck, Transfer, Cab, and Hack Companies; Express Companies; Postal Service.	regarded as necessary
 Coal Mines. Other Mines (Copper Mines; Gold and 	INDUSTRIES.	E. TRADE AND MERCHANDISE IN	for the war effort, and
Silver Mines; Iron Mines; Lead and Zinc Mines); Quarries; Salt Mines;	17. Breweries; Other Liquor and Beverage Factories.	GENERAL.	
Salt Wells and Salt Factories. 6. Oil Wells and Gas Wells.	(IX) LUMBER AND FURNITURE INDUSTRIES.	26. Banking and Brokerage; Insurance; Real Estate; Sundry Wholesale and Retail	exemptions might be
(). MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.	18. Box Factories (wood); Furniture Facto- ries; Piano and Organ Factories; Saw	Trades; Buying and Selling of all sorts of Articles; Any kind of Store or Shop; Grain Elevators; Stock Yards; Ware-	given. Agriculture and
 BUILDING INDUSTRIES. House Contractors; Carpenters; Black- 	and Planing Mills; Other Woodworking Factories.	houses and Cold-storage Plants.	given. Agriculture and
smiths; Machinists; Electricians; Painters; Plasterers; Plumbers, etc.	(X) METAL INDUSTRIES (EXCEPT IRON AND STEEL.)	F. PUBLIC SERVICE (NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED.)	food production, mining
(II) CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES. 8. Powder, Cartridge, Dynamite, Fuse, and	19. Brass Mills; Clock and Watch Factories; Copper Factories; Gold and Silver Fac-	27. Public Administration (United States, State, County, City, and Township Em-	working in oil and gas
Fireworks Factories. 9. Fertilizer Factories; Paint Factories; Soap	tories; Jewelry Factories; Lead and Zinc Factories; Tin-plate Factories; Tin-	ployees); National Defense (Army and Navy); Marshals, Sheriffs; Policemen;	working in on and gas
Factories; Other Chemical Factories. (III) CLAY, CLASS, AND STONE	ware and Enamelware Factories; Other Metal Factories.	Watchmen. G. PROFESSIONAL SERVICE.	production and general
INDUSTRIES. 10. Brick, Tile, and Terra Cotta Factories;	(XI) PAPER AND PRINTING INDUSTRIES.	28. Actors, Professional Showmen, etc.; Ar-	
Glass Factories; Lime, Cement, and Gypsum Factories; Marble and Stone	20. Blank Book, Envelope, Tag, Paper Bag, and Paper Box Factories; Paper and	tists, Sculptors, and Teachers of Art; Clergymen; Officials of Lodges; Re-	manufacturing,
Yards; Potteries. (IV) CLOTHING INDUSTRIES.	Pulp Mills; Printing and Publishing Houses.	ligious and Charity Workers; Legal Profession; Literary Professions (Jour- nalists, etc.); Dentists; Physicians and	especially manufacturin
11. Clothing Factories; Glove Factories; Hat Factories; Shirt, Collar, and Cuff Fac-	(XII) TEXTILE INDUSTRIES.	Surgeons; Veterinary Surgeons; Musi- cians and Teachers of Music; Scientific	especially manufacturin
tories.	 Carpet Mills; Cotton Mills; Hemp and Jute Mills; Knitting Mills; Lace and Embroidery Mills; Linen Mills; Rope 	Professions; Teachers, Professors in Colleges, etc.; Other Professional Pur-	of weapons and other
(V) FOOD INDUSTRIES.12. Bakeries; Butter and Cheese Factories;	and Cordage Factories; Sail, Awning, and Tent Factories; Silk Mills; Woolen and	suits; Students. H. DOMESTIC AND MANUAL SERVICE IN	
Candy Factories; Fish Curing and Pack- ing; Flour and Grain Mills; Fruit and Vegetable Canning; Slaughter and	Worsted Mills; Sundry Textile Mills. (XIII) MISCELLANEOUS INDUSTRIES.	GENERAL.	military equipment,
Packing Houses; Sugar Factories and Refineries; Other Food Factories.	22. Broom and Brush Factories; Button Fac-	29. Barbers and Hairdressers; Bartenders; Cooks; Hotel Keepers and Managers;	were considered very
(VI) IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRIES.	tories; Charcoal and Coke Works; Cigar and Tobacco Factories; Electric Light and Power Plants; Electrical Supply	Janitors; Porters; Restaurant, Cafe, and Lunch-room Keepers; Saloon Keepers;	were considered very
13. Blast Furnaces; Steel Rolling Mills; Iron Foundries; Military Weapons Facto-	Factories; Gas Works; Oil Refineries; Rubber Factories; Straw Factories;	Servants; Waiters; Clerks; Laundries; Other Occupations.	important occupations.
ries.	Other Miscellaneous Industries.	30. Laborers (in General).	
			Soldiers needed food,
cupational Code sheet			weapons and uniforms;
cupational code sheet			

The Occupation Code sheet issued by the federal government sheds light on what the country viewed as priority occupations. Clergymen were listed on the Occupational Code reference

sheet (above) as Occupation No. 28; agricultural work was listed as Occupation No. 1, which means it was regarded as the most important work to maintain during the war. Harry Carter Marsh, serial number 509, was exempted because he was a 'Regular ordained minister.'

M 50

Chit 509, Harry Carter Marsh

509 = Regular Ord. minister Harry Carler marsh

Local Board record book entry, Harry Carter Marsh

A summary sheet for the number of men in each occupational category shows that roughly 1 in 7 clergymen registered in Fairfax County was sent to war; by contrast, only 1 in every 14 agricultural workers registered was accepted for service.

Draftees not immediately exempted from service could appeal the decision to their Local Board. Most of the chits we have are from those very exemption appeals. The Local Board Record Book tells us why certain men's exemptions were allowed, but it does not tell us why

Chit 379, Malachi Jasper



Chit 1014, Robert R. Cross

1012

other men's exemptions were *disallowed*. Draftee Malachi Jasper from Alexandria, serial number 379, was not exempted, and he was inducted into the U.S. Army as 10/26/1917. Robert R. Cross, serial number 1014, was also not exempted. Albert H. Lester from Falls Church, serial number 652, was inducted on 9/4/1917, which makes him one of the first men from Fairfax County to begin service in the Great War.

MUSTER ROLL	Pairpay .	cot	JNTY	, VIRGINIA
NAME	ADDRESS	rion	Color	Successive Service
Loyd, Joseph Jerome	aley. Va. R. g. With Sta. Va.		wh.	9-4-17 9-18-17
Fester, albert St.	Falls Church, Va.		Uch-	9-4-17

Muster Roll entry for Albert H. Lester of Falls Church

0	State States	C)				
	Form No. 146, prepared by	y the Provost Marshal General.					
Local Board	T Local Board	for the County of					
LOCAI BOARD (Insert designation by themp according to see. 9 of Theydathons.) Fairfax, Virginia.							
Ad	dress						
LIST OF PERSONS CALLED INTO THE SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES							
NOT EXEMPTED OR DISCHARGED.							
Local Board for the County of							
Fai	A STATE A TO DE TRETER	lesignation by stamp according to see. 3 of Regulations.)	*				
		insert designation by stamp according to see. 33 of Regulations					
	ist of the names and addresses of j of the United States, and who have	persons who have been duly and legally not been exempted or discharged	called for the				
Serial No.	NAME.	Address Given on Registration Card.	Order No.				
275	William Grimsley,	Accotink, Virginia,	12				
596	Joseph J. Lloyd,	Alexandria, Va.R.F.D. 3.	17				
126	Clayton Arnold Dindlebe	ck, Fairfax, Va.R.F.D.1.	21				
692	Macon Ware,	Falls Church, Va.	32				
600	George W. McClanahan,	Alexandria, Va.R.F.D. 3.	33				
507	Tolbert Lacy,	Clifton Station, Va.R.F.I c/o Mrs.M.A.Harrison.	35				
1324	Alfred Bruce Trickett,	Vienna, Va. R.F.D. No. 1,	38				
105600000	nakalancelik neg kina marak inganoanoano	and a subsection of the second s	maan di Rim				
1045	Henry Thomas Magarity.	McLean, Virginia,	51				
1323	Clarence Alexander Tram	mell, Herndon, Va.R.F.D.2.	56				
140	Ira Sutphin,	Fairfax, Va. R. F. D.	58				
18	Robert N. Kendall,	Fairfax, Virginia,	61				
652	Albert H. Lester,	Falls Church, Va.	62				
601	Walter Thos.McClanahan,		65				
(1103	Carl Johnson,	McLean, Virginia,	68				
606	George Marion Sheads.	Fairfax, Va. R.F.D. 2.	70				
	Aubrey Wm. Padgett.	Theological Seminary, Va.	72				
513 1020	man		74				
an	Jack R. Darne, S	McLean, Virginia,					
1441	John L. Wilson,	Herndon, Va. R.F.D. 2					

List of draftees from Fairfax County

After the classification cards were summarized and a list sent to the Provost Marshall General in Washington, D.C., the cards themselves were sent to the state capital. Fairfax's were sent to Richmond. Each Local Board kept a copy of the list; part of the first page of the list for the first draft in Fairfax County is shown at left. Two men from our chits can be seen on this list: Carl Johnson, serial number 1103, and Jack R. Darne, serial number 1020. Carl Johnson is listed on our Muster Roll, Jack R. Darne is not. This may indicate either that Darne was not eventually inducted into the army, or that Darne was inducted but accidently missed off our Muster Roll.



Photograph of first draftees embarking for training camp, courtesy of Lee Hubbard

The final act of the Local Boards was to place draftees on trains to take them to their training camps. This photograph, courtesy of local historian Lee Hubbard, shows the first group of draftees waiting for their train at Fairfax Station. Draftees from Virginia were taken to several training camps depending on the kind of service they would perform and the division they would join. Officers and engineers would generally attend Camp Humphreys (now Fort Belvoir), engineers and artillery regiments attended Camp Myer near Arlington, while members of the 29th Division went to Camp Dix in New Jersey, and members of the 80th Division

went to Camp Lee, south of Richmond. We know that some of our draftees went to Camp Lee, because our Muster Roll lists two men dying from disease there, Clarence Dawson of Lorton and Corliss Montgomery Fox from Vienna.

MUSTER ROLL	Cairfay o	OUNT	Y, VIRGINIA	RMANY
NAME	ADDRESS	Acr Color	Solective Services	REMARKS
Follin, Maurice antrey Finch, Elwood Finnacom, George France, Lawrence Lee Foy, Corlies Montynung	Great Salls, Va. aley. Va. Pt. 3 Barcroft. Va. Fairpay. Va. Vienna, Va. P. 2.	look. hrh. look. look. hrh.	9-18-17 9-18-17 9-18-17 9-18-17 9-4-12	Wounded in action . Died in leavy ter 4084998

Muster Roll entry for Corliss Montgomery Fox

Thankfully, none of the men whose chits we have in the collection (and whose Muster Roll entries indicate they went to training camps) are found on the War Memorial on the historic courthouse green, which means they were not killed during active service. But, one of our men did die: John Elmore Gaines, serial number 440. Gaines is not listed as having been killed in action. His Muster Roll entry lists him as being inducted into service on 10/26/1917 and his home address as Alexandria Route 4; a final note reads 'Died of disease'.



Chit 440, John Elmore Gaines

As with all our military members, living and dead, we thank these men for their service.

For more information on these and other records held at the Fairfax Circuit Court Historic Records Center, please call 703-246-4168 or email historicalrecords@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Sign up for *Found in the Archives,* the monthly newsletter of the HRC: <u>http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/courts/circuit/historical_records.htm</u> Save the Date! June 17, 2017 Historic Fairfax County Courthouse

Celebrate FAIRFAX COUNTY'S 275TH Birthday!

Saturday, June 17, 2017 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Historic Fairfax Courthouse

The day's events, which are free and open to the public, will include:

- Family-friendly activities
- Entertainment
- History Exhibits
- Living History
- Performances

...and more!

Visit www.Fairfax275.org for more information.



To request reasonable ADA accommodations, call 703-324-5421 or 703-449-1186 (TTY).

