

# 10 Million Names

 American Ancestors



## 10 Million Names Pilot Project

### On the Battlefield

### Records of Soldiers, Veterans, and Refugees

Prior to emancipation, Black soldiers served both voluntarily and involuntarily in conflicts in what is now the United States, Canada, and the Caribbean. Enslaved and free men took part in colonial wars (1609–1775), the Revolutionary War (1775–1783), the War of 1812 (1812–1815), and the Civil War (1861–1865). Later, free Black soldiers—most of whom were descended from enslaved people—participated in the Spanish-American War (1898) and the Philippine Insurrection (1899–1902). This project will rely not just on the rich records created for soldiers, but also for veterans and wartime refugees.

#### Examples of records:

- Military records (muster rolls, pay rolls, drafts, enlistment records, etc.)
- Veteran records (pension records, bounty land warrants, veteran headstone inscription records, etc.)
- Documentation from the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands—more commonly known as “the Freedmen’s Bureau”

#### Upcoming Databases:

- 1st Kansan Colored Volunteer Regiment

#### Completed Databases:

- The Book of Negroes: African Americans in Exile After the American Revolution
- Massachusetts: 54th Regiment List
- Massachusetts: 55th Regiment List
- Massachusetts: 5th Cavalry List

*The 10 Million Names Project is dedicated to finding the names of the estimated ten million men, women, and children of African descent who were enslaved in pre- and post-colonial America (specifically, the territory that would become the United States) between the late 1500s and 1865. For this ambitious undertaking, Dr. Kendra Field serves as our Chief Historian, and we will split the work into five manageable flagship projects, each with a clear and defined scope.*