NARA ...ready access to essential evidence...

Genealogy

The Dawes Rolls
(Final Rolls of the Citizens and Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory)

What's online in this section:	What's not here:
• Lists of people accepted between 1898 and 1914 by the Dawes Commission as members of these five Indian tribes: Cherokee, Creek, Choctaw, Chickasaw and Seminole • Steps on how to search for someone in the Dawes Rolls online • Ideas for further steps you can take in your Native American research.	• Information about any tribes other than the Cherokee, Creek, Choctaw, Chickasaw and Seminole. • Many descriptions from the census cards, and the majority of census card images. • Information about applying for tribal membership. (See links provided on Step 5: What You Can Do Next.)

- **Step 1: Introduction**
  - Why Search the Dawes Rolls?
  - About the Dawes Rolls
  - Before You Start
- Step 2: Check to see if the person's Census Card is described online
- Step 3: Use the Index to the Final Rolls online
- Step 4: Look up the Person in the Final Rolls online
- Step 5: What You Can Do Next?
- Print all 5 steps out (PDF format) *

Will Rogers and his wife, 1935. Will's application to the Dawes Commission in 1900 was accepted, and he was enrolled as a member of the Cherokee Nation.

Step 1: Introduction

Why Search the Dawes Rolls?

The Dawes Rolls, also known as the "Final Rolls", are the lists of individuals who were accepted as eligible for tribal membership in the "Five Civilized Tribes": Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws, and Seminoles. (It does not include those whose applications were stricken, rejected or judged as doubtful.) Those found eligible for the Final Rolls were entitled to an allotment of land, usually as a homestead.

The Rolls contain more than 101,000 names from 1898-1914 (primarily from 1899-1906). They can be searched to discover the enrollee's name, sex, blood degree, and census card number. The census card may provide additional genealogical information, and may also contain references to earlier rolls, such as the 1880 Cherokee census. A census card was generally accompanied by an "application jacket". The jackets then sometimes contain valuable supporting documentation, such as birth and death affidavits, marriage licenses, and correspondence.

Today these five tribes continue to use the Dawes Rolls as the basis for determining tribal membership. They usually require applicants to provide proof of descent from a person who is listed on these rolls. (Contact the tribes directly for enrollment information).

Before You Start

Before you can effectively use the online index to find a person in the Final Rolls, you need to know:

- Your ancestor's name
- The name of the person's tribe

If you know the individual's name and their tribe:
Proceed to Step 2: Check to see if the person's Census Card is described online.

About the Dawes Rolls

The Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes was appointed by President Grover Cleveland in 1893 to negotiate land with the Cherokee, Creek, Choctaw, Chickasaw and Seminole tribes. It is commonly called the Dawes Commission, after its chairman, Henry L. Dawes.

Tribe members were entitled to an allotment of land, in return for abolishing their tribal governments and recognizing Federal laws. In order to receive the land, individual tribal members first had to apply and be deemed eligible by the Commission.

The first application process for enrollment began in 1896, but was declared invalid. So the Dawes Commission started all over again in 1898. People had to re-apply in order to be considered, even if they had already applied in 1896.

The resulting lists of those who were accepted as eligible became known as the Dawes Rolls. Their formal name is the "Final Rolls of the Citizens and Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory". The Commission accepted applications from 1898 until 1907, with a few additional people accepted by an Act of Congress in 1914.

If you do not know the person's tribe: you can look for clues in the 1900 Census:

- For those Indians living in predominantly Indian areas, there were special Indian schedules in the 1900 Census identifying one's tribe and parent's tribes. For those Indians living among the general population, only one's color or race was designated, such as Indian or white, etc. Note: For the 1900 Census, start with the Soundex Index. You may first want to read background on the Soundex indexing system.

- If your ancestor's tribe is not identified in the 1900 Census, once you find where your ancestor was living, you can consult books such as *The Indian Tribes of North America*, by John R. Swanton, for information on the tribes living in each state. Other good sources are *A Guide to the Indian Tribes of Oklahoma*, by Muriel H. Wright, and *The Indians of Texas*, by W.W. Newcomb, Jr., for tribes in those areas. Read more.

- Online copies of the 1900 Census are available through the subscription-based Ancestry.com (unlimited free access to AncestryPlus from all NARA facilities). Limited parts of the 1900 Census have been transcribed by volunteers and are online on the USGenWeb website.
  The NARA website does not have census records online, but we do have census catalogs online, so you can find microfilm roll numbers that you can then rent, purchase, or find in a NARA facility or local library.

Next Step

If you know the individual's name, and he or she belonged to one of these tribes: Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws, or Seminoles, you can now proceed to Step 2: Check to see if the person's Census Card is described online.

TOP OF PAGE

Back to Genealogy Main Page

PDF files require the free Adobe Acrobat Reader.
More information on Adobe Acrobat PDF files is available on our Accessibility page.

U.S. National Archives & Records Administration
700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20408 • 1-86-NARA-NARA • 1-866-272-6272

The Dawes Rolls
(Final Rolls of the Citizens and Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory)

Step 2: Check to see if the Person's Census Card is Described Online

---

- Step 1: Dawes Rolls Introduction
- **Step 2: Check to see if the person's Census Card is described online**
- Step 3: Use the Index to the Final Rolls online
- Step 4: Look up the Person in the Final Rolls online
- Step 5: What You Can Do Next?
- Print all 5 steps out (PDF format) *

On the Census or Enrollment cards, you will find the person's name, along with all members living in their household, their tribal enrollment, their parent's names and tribal affiliation, and often notes with additional information. For Freedmen, you'll get the parent's names, parent's owners, name of tribe and band listed. Only a portion are described online.

Step 2: Check to see if the Person's Census Card (Enrollment) is described online

Note: Only a portion of the census cards are described online, and none for the Choctaw. If you are looking for a Choctaw, you may still want to do the online search as described below, since there may be records online for an 1896 application. (The 1896 applications were declared invalid by the Dawes Commission, but they may still prove helpful to your research. Copies are available from Fort Worth.)

By first doing a simple name search for Dawes census (enrollment) cards in the Archival Research Catalog (ARC), you may be able to bypass a search for your ancestor in the Final Rolls Index and Final Rolls (Steps 3 and 4). The goal of using the Final Rolls Index and Final Rolls is to obtain the person's census card number, as that will then lead you to additional records. Since many of the census card descriptions are available online, a successful result from ARC will immediately provide you with the person's census card number, and you may be able to go straight to Step 5: What You Can Do Next!
Please note that only a small number of the enrollment cards described online have digital copies attached to them.

To Look for the Dawes Census Card description online:

1. Go to the ARC main page
   http://www.archives.gov/research_room/arc/

2. Click the yellow Search button.

3. On the next screen, fill in the boxes as follows:
    a. In the Keyword box, enter either the person's name, or alternatively, enter "Enrollment and " (without quotes) and the person's last name
    b. Select 100 where it says "Limit Results to".
    c. Hit "Go".

Result 1: You find an Enrollment for Census Card description
For a small number of people, a Census card (Enrollment) description will result, possibly with a digital image attached. If you find your person here, write down their census card number as well as the other information you find listed, and you can jump to Step 5: What You Can Do Next! You will learn how to contact Fort Worth for copies, and what additional resources are available.

Result 2: Says "1896 Citizenship Application".
For another small number of people, after you type in the person's name in ARC, you will get a result that says "1896 Citizenship Application." If you see this, that means that they applied to the Dawes Commission during the initial 1896 application process which was later declared invalid. If this is what you find, please write down the name of the person and their tribe, and contact the National Archives in Fort Worth at (817) 831-5920. They will send you a copy of the 1896 application.

Result 3: Not found
For the majority of people, you will either get a screen that says "No search results have been found in response to your search criteria", or else you will find census cards for people with similar names, not the one you are looking for. In this case, you should proceed to Step 3: Use the Index to the Final Rolls online.

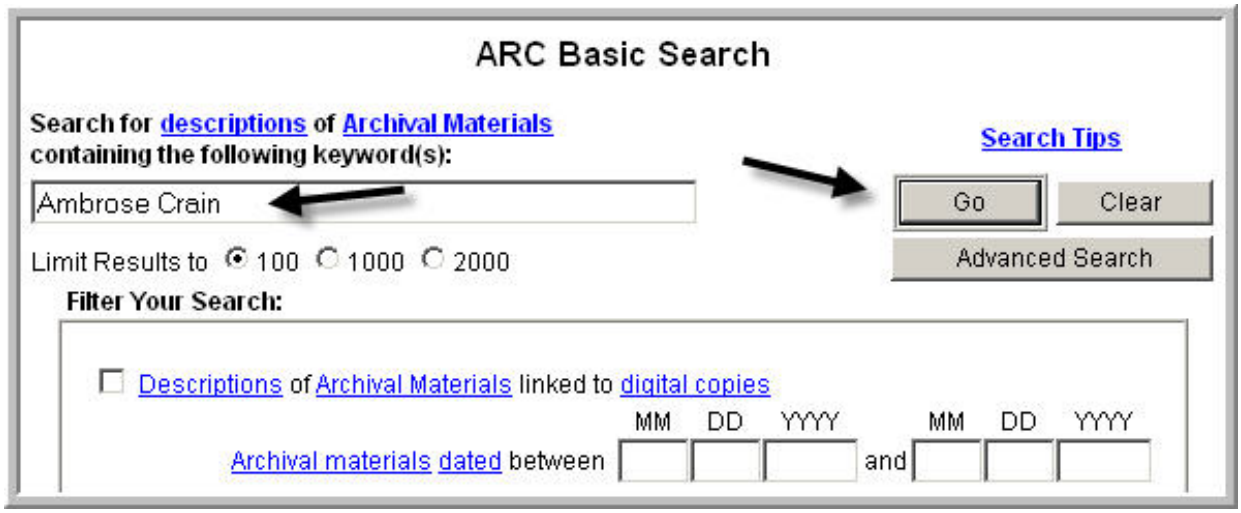
To illustrate the above, we will search for 3 individuals in ARC who we believe were listed in the Final Rolls.

Example 1:

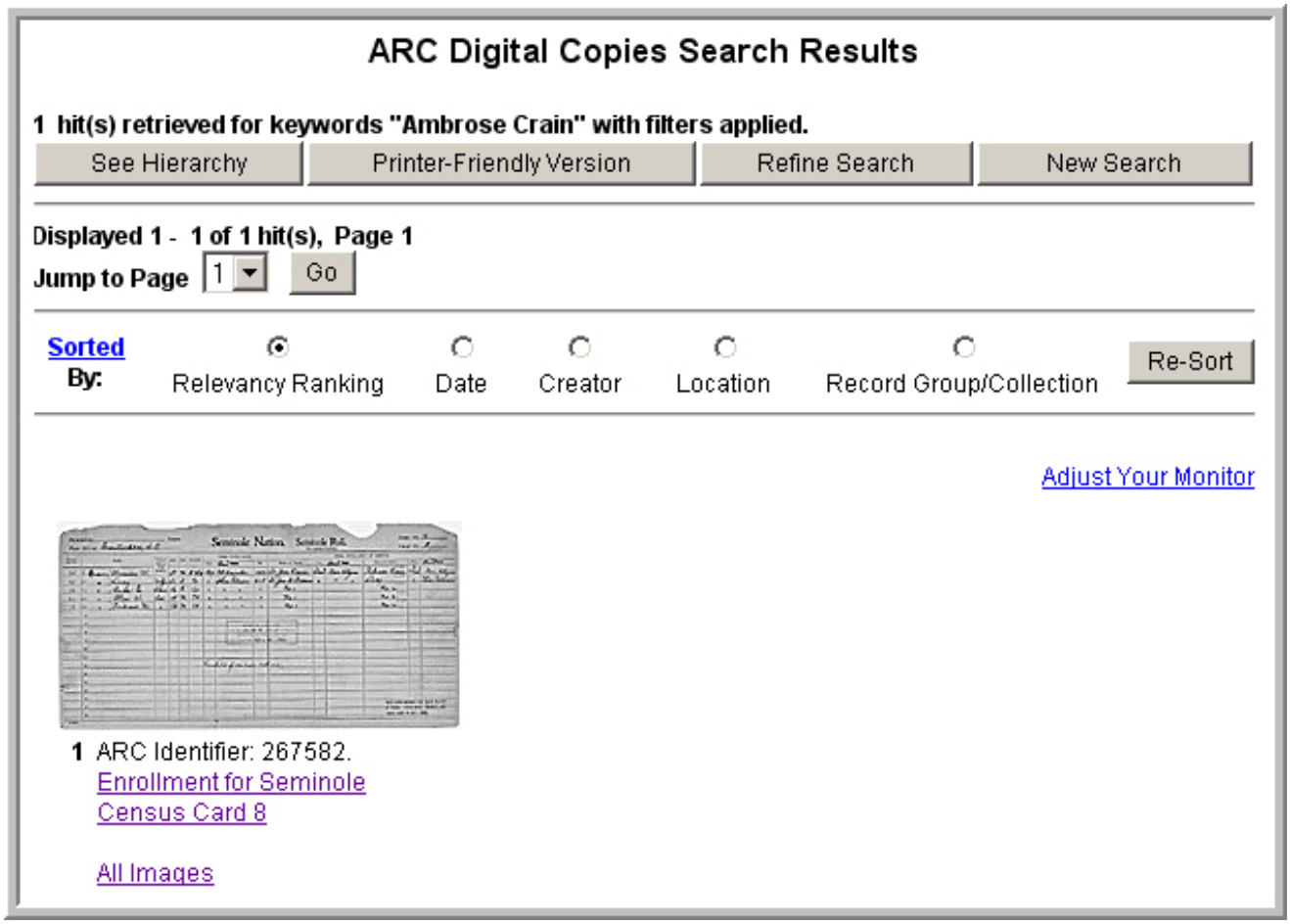
First, we look for Ambrose Crain.

1. We go to the ARC main page http://www.archives.gov/research_room/arc/
2. Click the yellow Search button.
3. In the ARC box, we type in Ambrose Crain,
4. Select 100 where it says "Limit Results to",

Your screen should look like this:



5. We hit "**Go**", and this is the is the result we see:



As you can see, the result is the census card.

6. Then click on the link below the image, that in this case says "Enrollment for Seminole Census Card 8", and you will see the details for this record. You may want to print this out. An example showing some of the details is below:

ARC Identifier: 267582

Title: Enrollment for Seminole Census Card 8

All Images

Creator: Department of the Interior. Office of Indian Affairs. Office of the Commissioner to the Five Civilized Tribes. (1893 - 1914) (Most Recent)

Type of Archival Materials: Textual Records

Level of Description: Item from Record Group 75: Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1793 - 1989

Location: NARA's Southwest Region (Fort Worth) (NRFFA), 501 West Felix Street, Building 1, Fort Worth, TX 76115-3405 PHONE: 817-831-5620, FAX: 817-334-5621, EMAIL: ftworth.archives@nara.gov

Part of: Series: Applications for Enrollment in the Five Civilized Tribes, 1898 - 1914

Scope & Content Note: Name: Jonathan F Brown Type: Parent Sex: Male

Name: Alexander W Crain Type: By Blood Age: 51 Sex: Male Degree Indian Blood: AW Roll Number: 24 City of Residence: o

Name: Allen W Crain Type: By Blood Age: 14 Sex: Male Degree Indian Blood: 1/4 Roll Number: 27 City of Residence: tp

Name: Ambrose M Crain Type: By Blood Age: 12 Sex: Male Degree Indian Blood: 1/4 Roll Number: 28 City of Residence: tp

7. Next, just beneath the image, click on the "All Images" link.

8. In this case, we get a choice of 2 cards. We will check them both to see which one is relevant.

Digital Copies for Hit #1

See Hierarchy | Refine Search | New Search | Back to Details

Displayed 1 - 2 of 2 hit(s), Page 1

Jump to Page 1 Go

Adjust Your Monitor

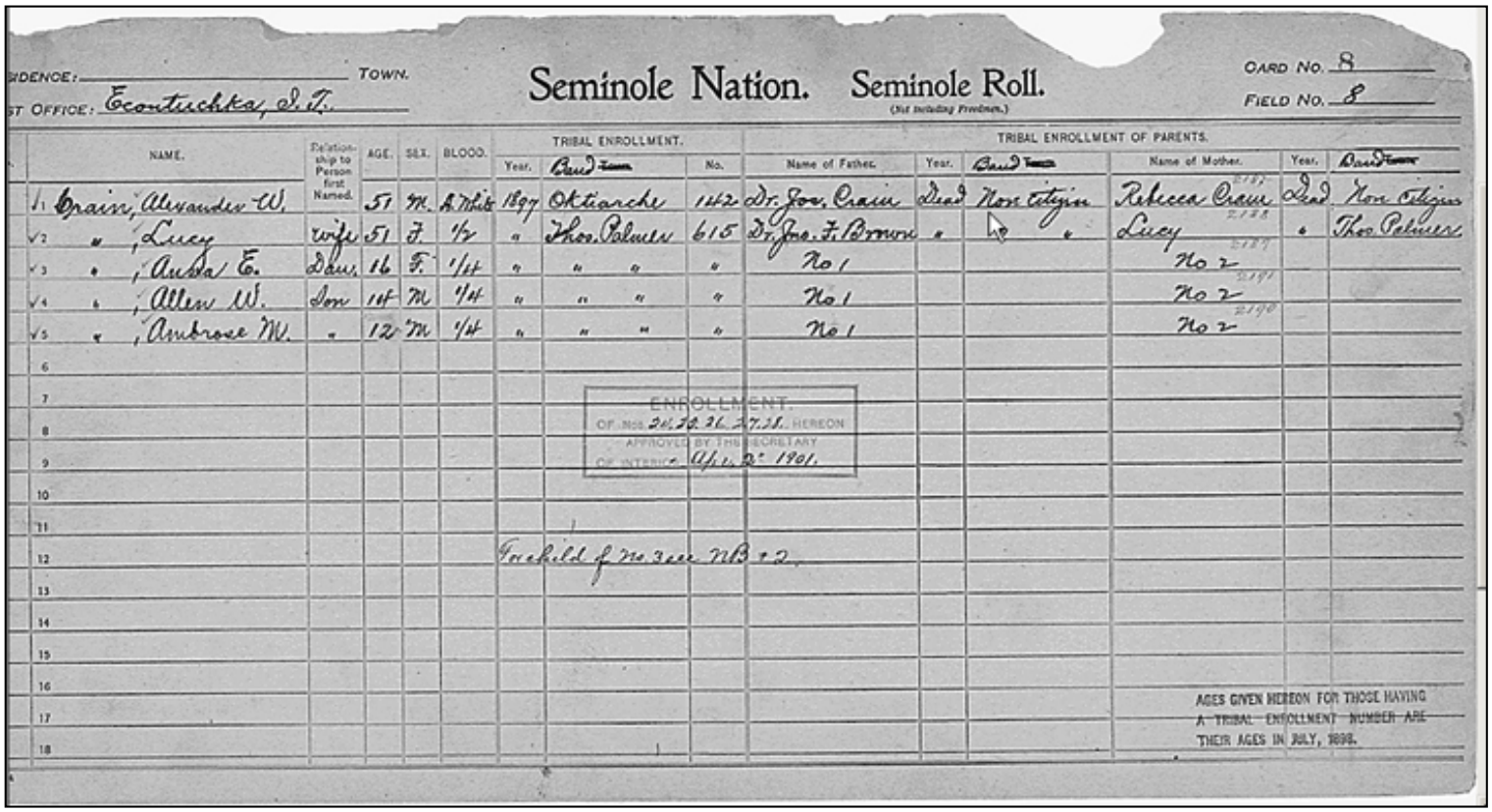
Large image (149616 Bytes) Large image (124414 Bytes)

Enrollment for Seminole Census Card 8

NARA's Southwest Region (Fort Worth) (NRFFA), 501 West Felix Street, Building 1, Fort Worth, TX 76115-3405 PHONE: 817-831-5620, FAX: 817-334-5621, EMAIL: ftworth.archives@nara.gov

9. When you click on the "Large Image" links to see a close-up of the cards, you will see that only the first card contains Ambrose Crain, who we've been following in this example. (The second card has the same census card number, but is in the Seminole Freedmen category and for a different person.)

   The first card, where you find Ambrose Crain, looks like the following:



RESIDENCE: _____ TOWN.
POST OFFICE: Econtuchka, I. T.

Seminole Nation. Seminole Roll.
(Not including Freedmen.)

CARD No. 8
FIELD No. 8

	NAME.	Relationship to Person first Named.	AGE.	SEX.	BLOOD.	TRIBAL ENROLLMENT. Year.	Band	No.	TRIBAL ENROLLMENT OF PARENTS. Name of Father.	Year.	Band	Name of Mother.	Year.	Band
1	Crain, Alexander W.		51	M.	1/2 Wh	1897	Oktiarche	1142	Dr. Jos. Crain	Dead	Non citizen	Rebecca Crain 2188	Dead	Non citizen
2	" , Lucy	wife	51	F.	1/2	"	Thos. Palmer	615	Dr. Jno. F. Brown	"	"	Lucy 2189	"	Thos. Palmer
3	" , Anda E.	Dau.	16	F.	1/4	"	" "	"	No 1			No 2 2191		
4	" , Allen W.	Son	14	M	1/4	"	" "	"	No 1			No 2 2190		
5	" , Ambrose M.	"	12	M	1/4	"	" "	"	No 1			No 2		
6														
7														
8														
9														
10														
11														
12						Foreskild of No 3 see NB + 2.								
13														
14														
15														
16														
17														
18														

ENROLLMENT OF Nos. 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, HEREON APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY OF INTERIOR April 2, 1901.

AGES GIVEN HEREON FOR THOSE HAVING A TRIBAL ENROLLMENT NUMBER ARE THEIR AGES IN JULY, 1898.

10. Since these results provide you immediately with the census (enrollment) card and number in the righthand corner, you do not need to look for the person in the Final Rolls Index and Final Rolls lists. You should print the card out or copy down all the information you find, especially the Census Card number.

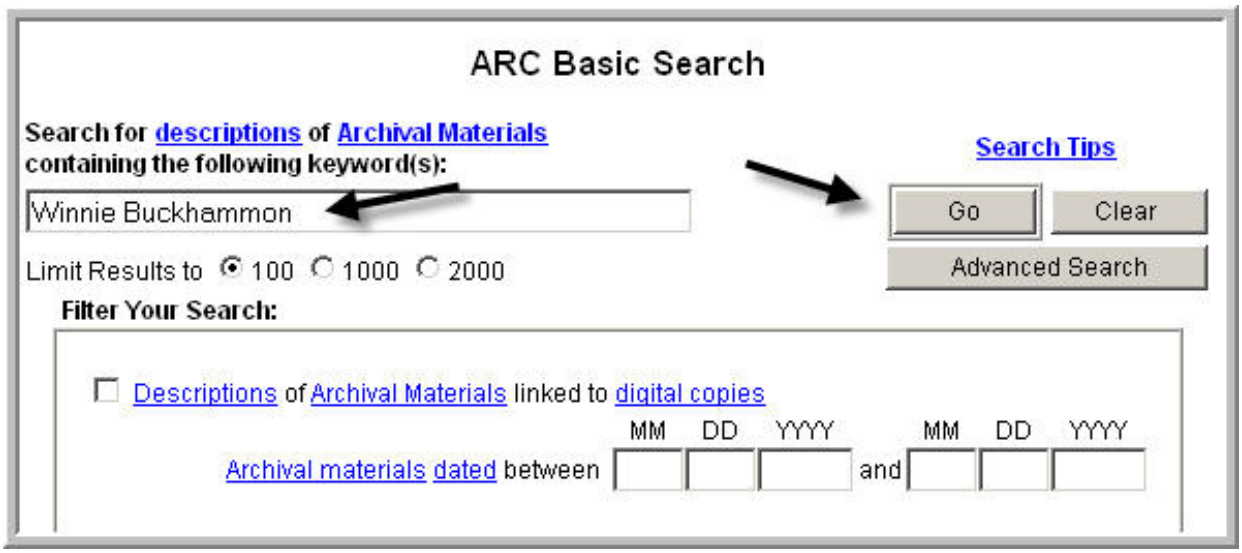
11. You are ready to jump straight to Step 5: What You Can Do Next, to learn how to contact Fort Worth to order copies, and more.

Example 2:

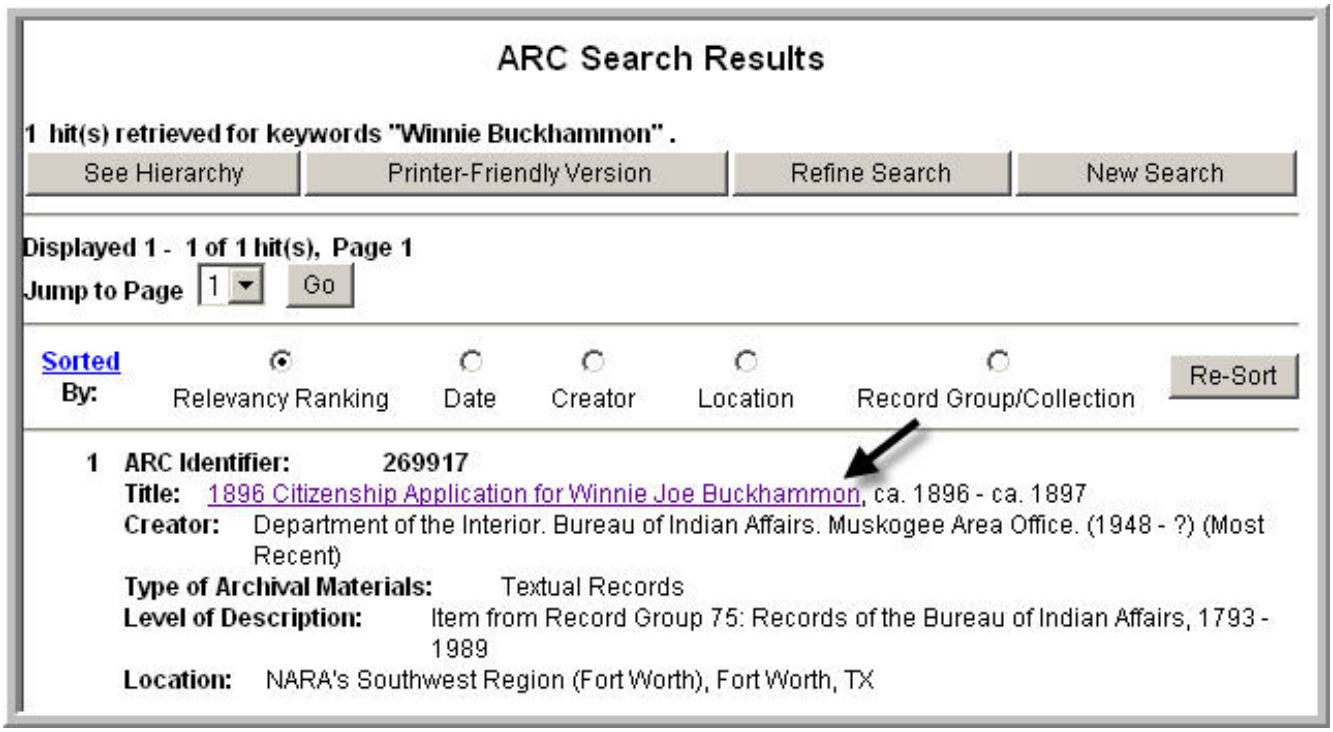
Second, we will do a search for Winnie Buckhammon.

1. We go to the ARC main page http://www.archives.gov/research_room/arc/
2. Click the yellow Search button.
3. In the ARC box, we type in Winnie Buckhammon
4. Select 100 where it says "Limit Results to",

   Your screen should look like this:

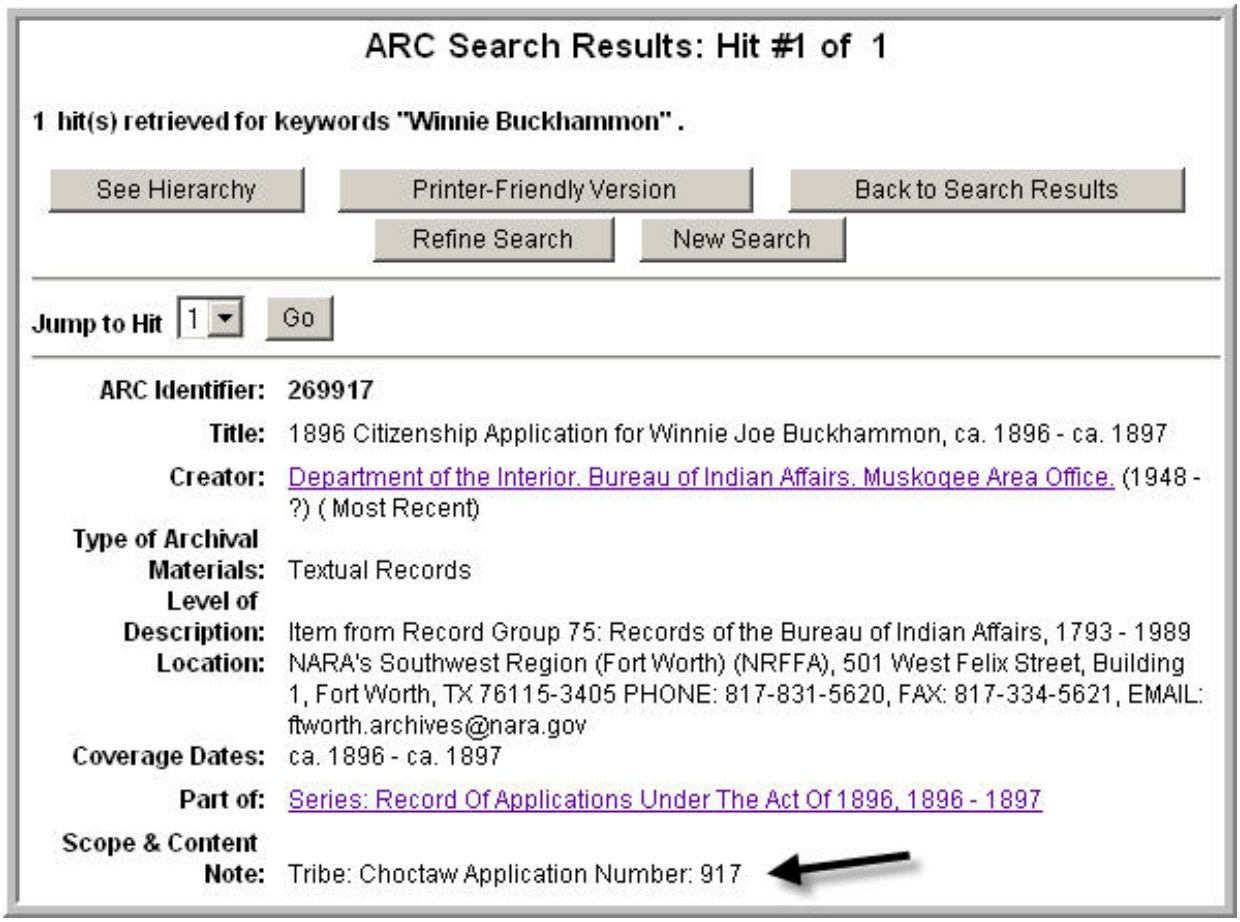


5. We hit "**Go**", and this is the is the result we see:



There is nothing here regarding an Enrollment or Census card. In fact, if you see "1896 Citizenship Application" as the result, this means that the person applied to the Dawes Commission under the initial 1896 application process, which was later declared invalid.

6. Click on Winnie's name for more details, specifically to find out her tribe.



ARC Search Results: Hit #1 of 1

1 hit(s) retrieved for keywords "Winnie Buckhammon" .

See Hierarchy | Printer-Friendly Version | Back to Search Results | Refine Search | New Search

Jump to Hit 1 Go

ARC Identifier:	269917
Title:	1896 Citizenship Application for Winnie Joe Buckhammon, ca. 1896 - ca. 1897
Creator:	Department of the Interior. Bureau of Indian Affairs. Muskogee Area Office. (1948 - ?) (Most Recent)
Type of Archival Materials:	Textual Records
Level of Description:	Item from Record Group 75: Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1793 - 1989
Location:	NARA's Southwest Region (Fort Worth) (NRFFA), 501 West Felix Street, Building 1, Fort Worth, TX 76115-3405 PHONE: 817-831-5620, FAX: 817-334-5621, EMAIL: ftworth.archives@nara.gov
Coverage Dates:	ca. 1896 - ca. 1897
Part of:	Series: Record Of Applications Under The Act Of 1896, 1896 - 1897
Scope & Content Note:	Tribe: Choctaw Application Number: 917

7. To receive a copy of the 1896 application to the Dawes Commission, write down the person's name and tribe which you find listed here, and contact the National Archives in Fort Worth, Texas. See Step 5: What You Can Do Next.

   You can also continue on to Step 3, and look for the person in the Final Rolls Index, since this ARC catalog online does not have everyone included who was enrolled on the Dawes Rolls. Proceed to Step 3: Use the Index to the Final Rolls online

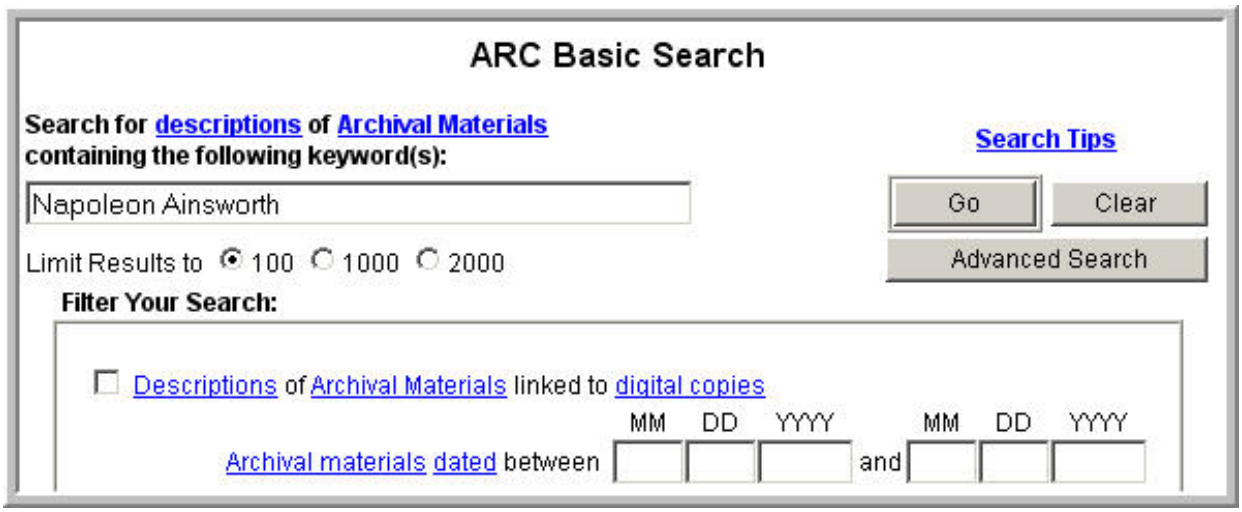
Example 3:

As a final example, we will look for Napoleon Ainsworth.

1. Go to the ARC main page
   http://www.archives.gov/research_room/arc/

2. Click the yellow Search button.
3. In the ARC box, we type in Napoleon Ainsworth
4. Select 100 where it says "Limit Results to",

   Your screen should look like this:



5. We hit "**Go**", and we see the following screen.

6. As expected, there is no census card online for Napoleon Ainsworth. Very few of these enrollment cards have been scanned and digitized into ARC, and none for Choctaw. So since we do not find his census card here, we proceed to searching for him in the Final Rolls index.
   Step 3: Use the Index to the Final Rolls online.

Next Step:

If you found the census card of the person you are looking for, proceed to
Step 5: What You Can Do Next.
If you did not find the person's card, continue on to Step 3: Use the Index to the Final Rolls online.

TOP OF PAGE

Back to Genealogy Main Page

PDF files require the free Adobe Acrobat Reader.
More information on Adobe Acrobat PDF files is available on our
Accessibility page.

U.S. National Archives & Records Administration
700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20408 • 1-86-NARA-NARA • 1-866-272-6272

The Dawes Rolls
(Final Rolls of the Citizens and Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory)

Step 3: Use the Index to the Final Rolls online

- Step 1: Dawes Rolls Introduction
- Step 2: Check to see if the person's Census Card is described online
- **Step 3: Use the Index to the Final Rolls online**
- Step 4: Look up the Person in the Final Rolls online
- Step 5: What You Can Do Next
- Print all 5 steps out (PDF format) *

Did you know?

The Dawes Commission rejected nearly two-thirds of the applications for enrollment. Those who were rejected also have census cards and application jackets available for research. NARA's Fort Worth facility has indexes available on microfilm for those rejected as Cherokee or Choctaw. Fort Worth also has the applications of those who applied to the Dawes Commission in 1896, all of which were declared invalid.

Step 3: Use the Index to the Final Rolls online

There are two ways to navigate these pages.
You can:

- Open up a second browser window and do your own search simultaneously while following along the steps in this example. Or,
- You can print these pages out (see PDF link above), and do your own search later.

Remember:

- Before you begin, you should know which of the five tribes your ancestor was in since the index is organized by tribal name.
- The Dawes Rolls only includes records of Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws, and Seminoles, so if the person you are looking for was in another tribe, you will not find them in the Dawes Rolls.
- If you do not yet have the name/tribe information for the person, the 1900 Census may be of assistance to you.
- There are links to other online resources for Native American research on the Step 5: What You Can Do Next page.

Begin Searching in the Final Rolls Index

1. To begin the search for your ancestor in the Final Rolls online index, you need the person's name and their tribe. The index of people accepted by the Dawes Commission has been digitized in NARA's Archival Research Catalog (ARC) at www.archives.gov/research_room/arc/arc_info/native_americans_final_rolls_index.html.

   This is what you will see when you arrive at this page:

   Index to the Final Rolls of Citizens and Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory (Dawes)

   Index to Final Rolls | Descriptive Information | More Native American links

   INDEX TO THE FINAL ROLLS (DAWES)

Page No.	Title	Image Size
A	Cover page	(174729 bytes)
B	Errata	(210406 bytes)
C	Errata	(223602 bytes)
D	Errata	(213535 bytes)
1	Choctaw by Blood	(179663 bytes)
2	Choctaw by Blood	(230068 bytes)
3	Choctaw by Blood	(226025 bytes)

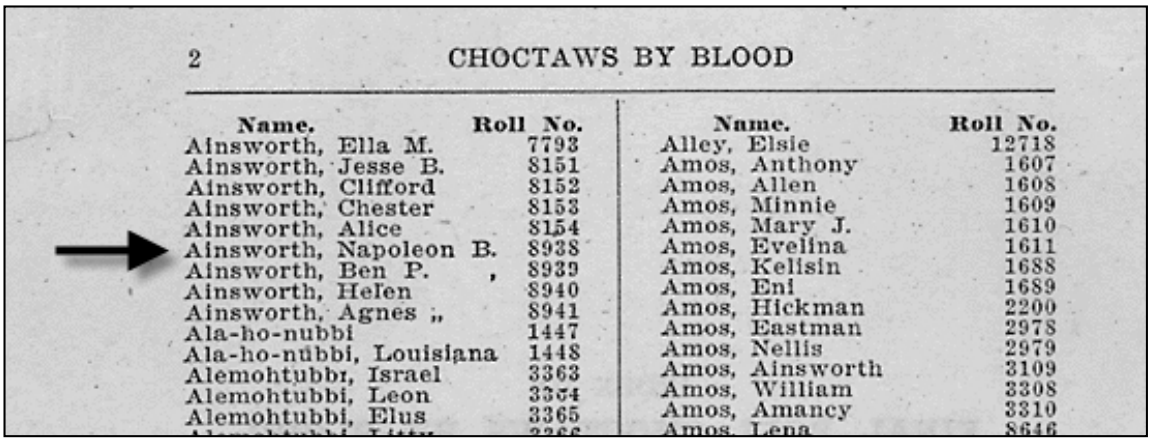
   Note that the tribes are listed, but are not in alphabetical order.
2. Scroll down until you find your tribe.

   Tip: In most cases, the Dawes Rolls categorized people using a matriarchal system, i.e. it's based on the mother's race. For example, if one's mother was Cherokee and father was a Freedman, the person will be listed under Cherokee by Blood. If one's mother is a Freedman and one's father is Cherokee, the person will be listed under Cherokee Freedmen. Other categories include by Marriage, by Intermarriage, Minors, and Newborn. So you may want to look in several places.

3. As an example for how to find someone in the index, let's look for Napoleon Ainsworth, who we believe was a member of the Choctaws. So scroll down until you see the Choctaw tribe listed. We find them at the very top.

4. When you find the tribe you're looking for, start clicking on the pages until you find the person you are looking for. You will see that the names are alphabetical by first letter. You may have to click through several pages before you find the correct page. Use the alphabet as your guide.

   In this case, we start clicking on the *Choctaw by Blood* pages. We start on page 1, since his last name begins with the letter "A", and we find Napoleon Ainsworth on page 2. This is what we find:



2 CHOCTAWS BY BLOOD

Name.	Roll No.	Name.	Roll No.
Ainsworth, Ella M.	7793	Alley, Elsie	12718
Ainsworth, Jesse B.	8151	Amos, Anthony	1607
Ainsworth, Clifford	8152	Amos, Allen	1608
Ainsworth, Chester	8153	Amos, Minnie	1609
Ainsworth, Alice	8154	Amos, Mary J.	1610
Ainsworth, Napoleon B.	8938	Amos, Evelina	1611
Ainsworth, Ben P.	8939	Amos, Kelisin	1688
Ainsworth, Helen	8940	Amos, Eni	1689
Ainsworth, Agnes	8941	Amos, Hickman	2200
Ala-ho-nubbi	1447	Amos, Eastman	2978
Ala-ho-nubbi, Louisiana	1448	Amos, Nellis	2979
Alemohtubbi, Israel	3363	Amos, Ainsworth	3109
Alemohtubbi, Leon	3364	Amos, William	3308
Alemohtubbi, Elus	3365	Amos, Amancy	3310
		Amos, Lena	8646

5. Note that the pages in the index include a list of names, with Roll Numbers next to each name. **Make note of the Roll Number** next to the person you are looking for.

   Since Napoleon Ainsworth is the person we are looking for in this example, and he has Roll Number 8938 next to his name, this means he will be the 8938th name on the Final Rolls list in the section dealing with Choctaw. We write down Napoleon B. Ainsworth, Roll No. 8938.

   Next Step:

6. If you found your person in the index, you are now ready to look up your person in the **Final Rolls** online. Go to Step 4: The Final Rolls
   If you did not find the person you are looking for, you can proceed to Step 5: What You Can Do Next.

TOP OF PAGE

Back to Genealogy Main Page

PDF files require the free Adobe Acrobat Reader.
More information on Adobe Acrobat PDF files is available on our Accessibility page.

U.S. National Archives & Records Administration
700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20408 • 1-86-NARA-NARA • 1-866-272-6272

The Dawes Rolls
(Final Rolls of the Citizens and Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory)

Step 4: Look up the Person in the Final Rolls online

- Step 1: Dawes Rolls Introduction
- Step 2: Check to see if the person's Census Card is described online
- Step 3: Use the Index to the Final Rolls online
- **Step 4: Look up the Person in the Final Rolls online**
- Step 5: What You Can Do Next
- Print all 5 steps out (PDF format) *

In the Final Rolls for Indians by blood, you will find the person's name, age, sex, blood degree, and census card number. For Freedmen, you'll find the person's name, age, sex, and census card number (no blood degree).

Step 4: Look up the Person in the Final Rolls online

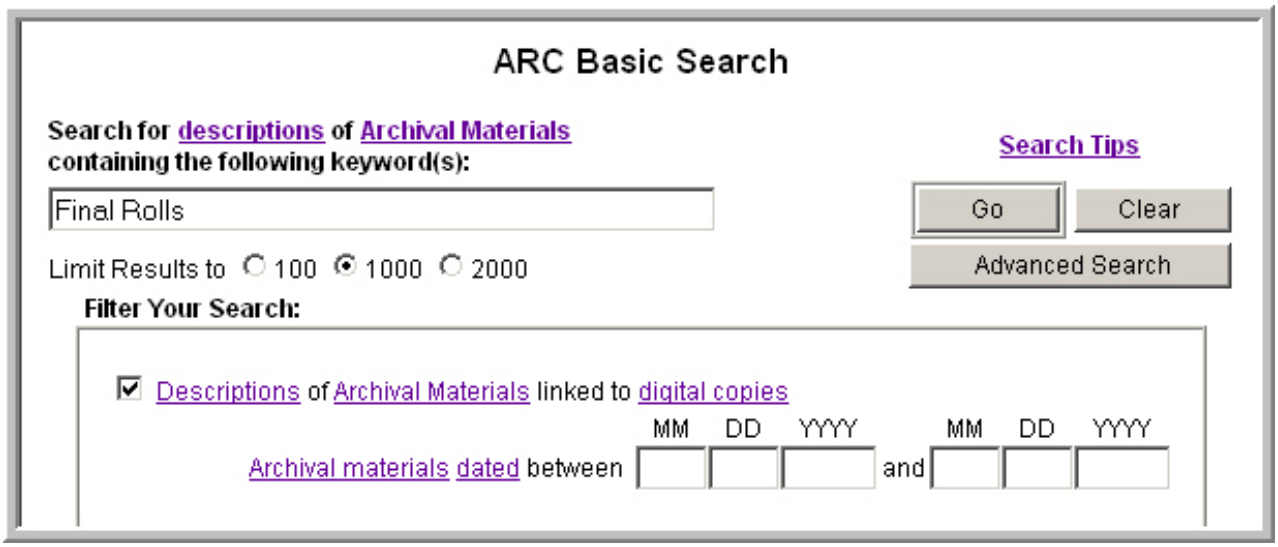
The Final Rolls are available through NARA's Archival Research Catalog (ARC).
In order to find the person in the Final Rolls, you will be searching in (ARC).

1. Go to the ARC main page
   http://www.archives.gov/research_room/arc/

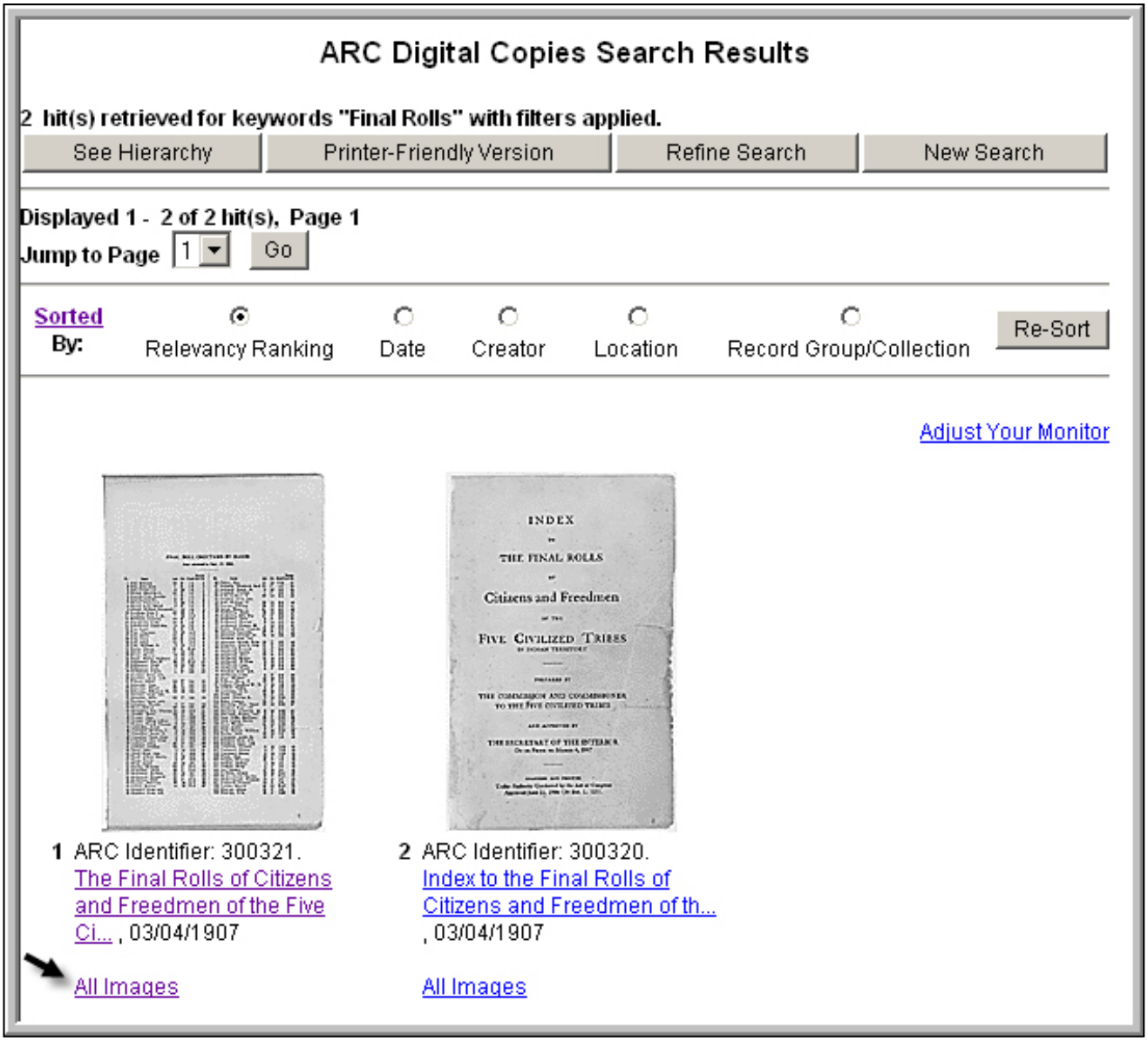
2. Click the yellow Search button.

3. On the next screen, fill in the boxes as follows:
   - In the Keyword box, enter "Final Rolls" (without quotes).
   - Select 1000 where it says "Limit Results to".
   - Check the box "Descriptions of Archival Materials linked to digital copies."

   The screen should look like this:



4. Click the "**Go**" button. The first result will be the Final Rolls.



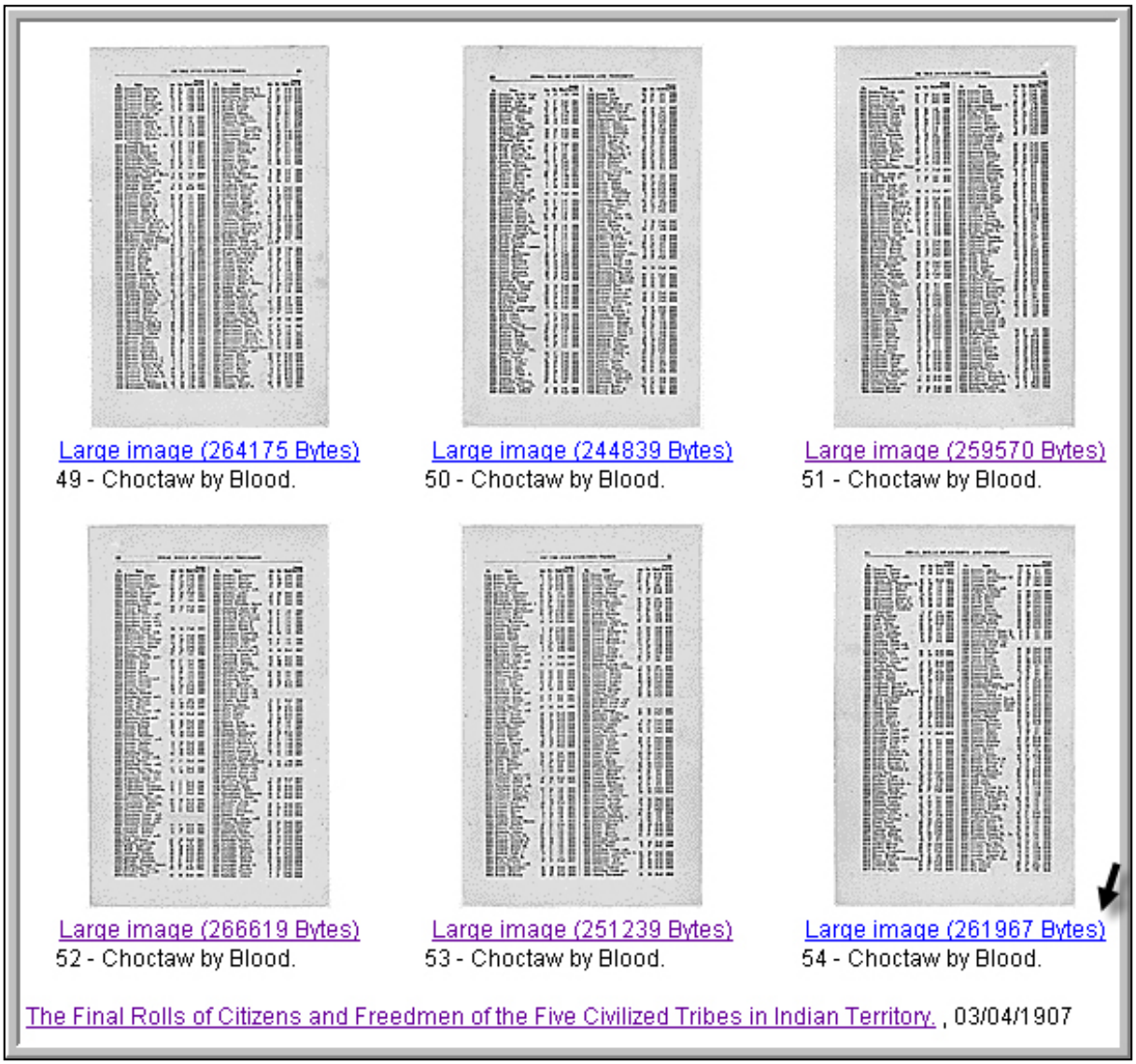
5. Beneath the image and ARC identifier information, click on the "All Images" link.

   You will then get a result that says there are "634 hits" (pages).

6. Scroll to the pages for the respective tribe you are looking for by either clicking on the "Next Page" button or by filling in the "Jump to Page" box and clicking on "Go".
   (Note: This may require patience and some trial and error to find it!)

   After you browse through the pages to find the tribe you are looking for, you can find the person listed in numerical order, using the Roll Number you obtained from the Index.

   Getting back to the previous example where we were looking for Napoleon Ainsworth of the Choctaws, we will browse through the images to find the Choctaw tribe, and then click through those images until we find number 8938 listed on image 54 (page 9).



Click on the "Large image" link below the image. This is what you will see:

54 FINAL ROLLS OF CITIZENS AND FREEDMEN

No.	Name	Age	Sex	Blood	Census Card No
8934	Benton, James	9	M	Full	3053
8935	Benton, Jacob	5	M	Full	3053
8936	Stricken from roll.				
8937	Amos, Emily	25	F	Full	3054
8938	Ainsworth, Napoleon B.	46	M	1-4	3055
8939	Ainsworth, Ben P.	18	M	1-8	3055
8940	Ainsworth, Helen	16	F	1-8	3055
8941	Ainsworth, Agnes	14	F	1-8	3055
8942	McCurtain, David C.	29	M	1-2	3056
8943	McCurtain, Kate N.	27	F	1-4	3056
8944	McCurtain, Ewart P.	3	M	3-8	3056
8945	McCurtain, Juanita Jeanetta	1	F	3-8	3056
8946	Lewis, Sallie	64	F	Full	3057
8947	Joel, Henry	44	M	Full	3058
8948	Joel, Sillis	53	F	Full	3058
8949	Blue, William	63	M	1-2	3059

No.	Name	Age	Sex	Blood	Census Card No
9018	Brown, Mary	18	F	3-4	3094
9019	Brown, Wesley	15	M	3-4	3094
9020	Nelson, Smallwood W.	56	M	Full	3095
9021	Nelson, Sarah	57	F	Full	3095
9022	Nelson, Jane	30	F	Full	3096
9023	Stricken from roll.				
9024	Austin, Charles	27	M	Full	3097
9025	Wade, Eastman	33	M	Full	3099
9026	Wade, Ellen	33	F	Full	3099
9027	Wade, Ellis	10	M	Full	3099
9028	Baker, John	51	M	Full	3100
9029	Baker, Sukey	54	F	Full	3100
9030	Baker, Jimmie	25	M	Full	3100
9031	McClish, Lorden	24	M	Full	3101
9032	McClish, Ross	23	M	Full	3101
9033	Brown, Milton	25	M	Full	3103
9034	Wilson, Jerry	55	M	Full	3104

Napoleon is listed as number 8938, just as expected from the index, along with his age, sex, blood degree, and census card number.

7. **Write down everything that is listed on the line of the person you are looking for.** You will especially want to write down the Census Card No. so you can continue research with records held in NARA's Fort Worth facility. You will find the Census Card number in the sixth column, after the person's age, sex, and blood degree.

   In this case, we write down Census Card No. 3055 for Napoleon Ainsworth.

   Next Step:

8. Now that you have obtained the Census Card number from the Final Rolls, and have already checked to see if the Enrollment or Census card has been described in ARC (in Step 2), you can proceed to Step 5: What You Can Do Next.

TOP OF PAGE

Back to Genealogy Main Page

PDF files require the free Adobe Acrobat Reader.
More information on Adobe Acrobat PDF files is available on our Accessibility page.

U.S. National Archives & Records Administration
700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20408 • 1-86-NARA-NARA • 1-866-272-6272

The Dawes Rolls
(Final Rolls of the Citizens and Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory)

Step 5: What You Can Do Next

- Step 1: Dawes Rolls Introduction
- Step 2: Check to see if the person's Census Card is described online
- Step 3: Use the Index to the Final Rolls online
- Step 4: Look up the Final Rolls online

- **Step 5: What You Can Do Next**
  - If you did not find your ancestor in the Dawes Rolls
  - If you found your ancestor in the Dawes Rolls
    - Continue Native American Research Online
    - Order copies of records
    - Access Microfilm
    - Hire a Researcher
    - Visit NARA
    - Contact NARA

- Print all 5 steps out (PDF format) *

Step 5: What You Can Do Next

If you did not find your ancestor in the Dawes Rolls online, but you feel sure they were in one of the "Five Civilized Tribes", here are some ideas for where you can look further:

- Check in the microfilm of BIA records for those who applied for the Dawes Rolls, but who were rejected or stricken or judged doubtful for enrollment. This microfilm can be viewed or purchased from NARA's Fort Worth facility. See Fort Worth's microfilm listing.

- Contact the National Archives facility in Fort Worth, and request that they check the 1896 Dawes applications. Many who applied during the 1896 application process, which was later declared invalid, did not re-apply after the Dawes Commission started over in 1898. Fort Worth has these 1896 applications. To order a copy, you will need to provide Fort Worth with the person's name and tribe.

- Contact the National Archives facility in Fort Worth at (817) 831-5920, and have them check their alphabetical indexes. The Final Rolls Index online here just includes those who were accepted by the Dawes Commission. Fort Worth has an index that includes everyone who applied.

- Check the 1900 Census, beginning with the Soundex index. This will tell you where your ancestor was living, and one's race as Indian or white, etc. was designated. For those Indians living in predominantly Indian areas, there were special Indian schedules identifying one's tribe and parents' tribes.
  Note: The 1900 Census is not available on the NARA website, only the microfilm catalog is. For access to the census, you can visit any NARA facility, rent, or purchase the microfilm, go to the subscription-based Ancestry.com website (there's free access to AncestryPlus in all NARA facilities), or check with your local library or genealogical society.

- Read a comprehensive overview on Native American records in the National Archives, and a systematic approach to researching in them, in Wantabes and Outalucks: Searching for Indian Ancestors in Federal Records, by Kent Carter

- Check the Guion Miller Rolls on microfilm roll M1104. These include 45,847 applications by Eastern Cherokees to share in an award granted by the U.S. Court of Claims on May 28, 1906. You can view the Guion Miller Rolls index online.

- Check the Census of Intruders. For example, the Cherokees compiled a list of intruders in 1893. See the listing of microfilm rolls pertaining to Non-Indians in Indian Territory available from NARA's Fort Worth facility.

- See the page of links to Indian/Native American web sites, compiled by the National Archives librarians.

- See the Department of Interior's How Do I Trace Indian Ancestry? page.

- Ask yourself why do you think your ancestor was Indian? Just because they may have lived in Indian Territory does not make them Indian. There were many non-Indians living in these areas. Read more.

If you found your ancestor online in the Dawes Rolls, you can:
Continue Native American Research Online

- Find Tribal Membership information:
  - Tribal Membership in the Cherokee Nation.
  - Creek Nation
  - Choctaw Tribal Membership
  - Chickasaw Tribal Membership
  - Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

- Review the following article in *Prologue*, The Journal of the National Archives
  Snakes & Scribes: The Dawes Commission and the Enrollment of the Creeks, part 1 and part 2, by Kent Carter, Spring 1997, Vol. 29, No. 1

- Check the Guion Miller Rolls on microfilm roll M1104. These include 45,847 applications by Eastern Cherokees to share in an award granted by the U.S. Court of Claims on May 28, 1906. You can view the Guion Miller Rolls index online.

- Read about other Native American records in the National Archives, in Wantabes and Outalucks: Searching for Indian Ancestors in Federal Records, by Kent Carter

- Read Kent Carter's book, *The Dawes Commission and the Allotment of the Five Civilized Tribes, 1893-1914*. Publisher: Ancestry.com; (May 1, 1999). ISBN: 091648985X

- Search other Native American records online in ARC.
- Review American Indians: A Select Catalog of National Archives Microfilm Publications.
- See the list of holdings in the Fort Worth facility from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
- See the list of Microfilm Rolls pertaining to Native Americans available at the National Archives Southwest Region, Fort Worth
- Read about Indian Census Rolls, 1885-1940, which also lists Microfilm roll numbers, the jurisdiction, and dates.
- Link to other NARA web pages relating to Indian/Native American records at NARA
- Link to Indian/Native American web sites, compiled by the National Archives librarians.
- See the Department of Interior's How Do I Trace Indian Ancestry? page.
- The Oklahoma Historical Society holds some federal records related to the Five Civilized Tribes, and their web site has info. on Native American research. (This is one of NARA's Affiliated Archives.)

TOP OF PAGE

Order Copies

- To order copies of the census cards, application jackets, and land allotment jackets please include in your request the name of the tribe, enrollment category, roll number, and census card number (from the Census card number you found in the Final Rolls).

  Cost: The cost is $10 for up to 20 pages of the census card/enrollment jacket or land allotment jacket.

  Send your request to:
  Archival Operations, NARA's
  Southwest Regional Archives
  P.O. 6216
  Fort Worth, Texas 76115-0216

- For copies of other records, see the Obtain Reproductions page.

Applications for enrollment with the Dawes Commission.
Located in NARA's Fort Worth facility.

Hire a Researcher

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) staff is available to provide reference assistance to you. However, if you find that you require extensive research assistance at NARA facilities,

we offer you this list of researchers who are available for hire.
(Note: Researchers for hire are not NARA employees.)

The Oklahoma Historical Society also has staff available to assist you in your research. See also their page on fees.

TOP OF PAGE

Access the Dawes Rolls and other Native American Records on Microfilm

Visit NARA in Washington, D.C., or check with the 13 Regional Archives around the country. Many of these facilities have these records on microfilm for use in person. Microfilm can also be purchased.

Some of the available microfilm publications include:

- M1186 - "Enrollment Cards of the Five Civilized Tribes, 1898-1914."
- M1301 - "Applications for Enrollment of the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes, 1898-1914." Find the application jacket associated with your ancestor's Dawes Roll application. (See also the order copies section above.)
- M1650 - "Applications from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Muskogee Area Office, Relating to Enrollment in the Five Civilized Tribes Under the Act of 1896."
- M1104 - Check the Guion Miller Rolls. These include 45,847 applications by Eastern Cherokees to share in an award granted by the U.S. Court of Claims on May 28, 1906. You can view the Guion Miller Rolls index online.

  You may then also want to pursue earlier records in NARA:

- Review Cherokee census and payment rolls from 1867-1896. They are available from NARA's Fort Worth facility on microfilm 7RA25.
- Search Civil War records for possible military service.
- For additional types of microfilm records available to research, see Kent Carter's article Wantabes and Outalucks: Searching for Indian Ancestors in Federal Records

For more comprehensive microfilm lists:

- See American Indians: A Select Catalog of National Archives Microfilm Publications online.
- See also the list of Microfilm Rolls pertaining to Native Americans available at the National Archives Southwest Region, Fort Worth
- You can also search NARA's Microfilm Publications Catalog to find out the availability of specific microfilm in various locations.
- Also view the Catalog of Microfilm Publications * from the Oklahoma Historical Society.

You can buy rolls of microfilm from NARA once you have used the indexes and roll list for the census card number, so you know what you need: call 1-800-234-8861.

You can also buy the Dawes Rolls and other American Indian records on CD from the Oklahoma Historical Society. The "Native American Collection" CD, for example, includes searchable databases.

TOP OF PAGE

Visit NARA

Once you have found the person you are looking for in the online Index and Final Rolls, you can then:

- Visit NARA's Southwest Regional Archives in Fort Worth, Texas, to review the original records, such as the Dawes Rolls census cards, enrollment jackets, and land allotment jackets, and to view their extensive Native American microfilm collection.
- Visit other NARA locations to review microfilm.
- The Oklahoma Historical Society (OHS) in Oklahoma City also holds some federal records related to the Five Civilized Tribes and many other Native American records. For example, see their Archival Holdings page and Microfilm Catalog *. (The OHS is one of NARA's Affiliated Archives.)

Contact the National Archives

- **E-mail**: http://www.archives.gov/global_pages/inquire_form.html
- **Mail:** Please mail your inquiry to:

  The National Archives and Records Administration
  8601 Adelphi Road
  College Park, MD 20740-6001
- **For specific questions about the Dawes Rolls, you can contact:**
  NARA's Southwest Region in Fort Worth, Texas
  (817) 831-5920
- **For general NARA inquiries, call (toll-free)**:
  1-86-NARA-NARA (1-866-272-6272), 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. EST

TOP OF PAGE

Back to Genealogy Main Page

PDF files require the free Adobe Acrobat Reader.
More information on Adobe Acrobat PDF files is available on our Accessibility page.

U.S. National Archives & Records Administration
700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20408 • 1-86-NARA-NARA • 1-866-272-6272