

Soldier Burials with Service Information

I have a nice table that shows soldiers buried in Caledonia County, Vermont. I've chosen the sort I like best: conflict (in chronological order, a custom sort), followed by cemetery, and then alphabetically by name within the cemetery. I really want to add something about each soldier's service. How can I do that? The original report is a list of people report, but military tags are events. I will need to compare the list of soldiers in the list of people report to those same soldiers with their various military event tags created by a list of events report.

Open the example report, "soldiers_cemeteryD.xlsx". It opens with two columns hidden, Columns G and H. You need to "unhide" those columns. The composite screenshot below illustrates my "unhide" technique.

1. Click on the small square containing a triangle just above row 1 and to the left of column A. This selects the entire worksheet.
2. Move the cursor slowly to the right until it turns into the small downward arrow.
3. Right-click to open the context menu.
4. Click on "Unhide". Columns G and H will magically appear.

| | | C | D | E | F | I | J |
|----|------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|----------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| | | Born | Died | Served | Cemetery | Enlisted/Served | First Unit |
| 1 | Nathaniel | circa 1748 | 13 Oct 1839 | R | Batchelder (aka Drew-Kelsey) Cemetery | circa 18 Jun 1775 | Wyman's Company, William |
| 2 | John | 1 Jan 1750 | 14 Apr 1827 | R | Danville Green Cemetery | 15 Jul 1782 | Cherry's Company, Samuel of light infantry |
| 3 | Otho | 5 Jul 1765 | 26 Aug 1820 | R | Lower Waterford Cemetery | Apr 1777- May 1779 | Bayley's Company, John G., Vermont Militia |
| 4 | Samuel | circa Jun 1793 | 1 Dec 1878 | 0 | Danville Green Cemetery | 1812 | Capt. Morrill's Company, Col. Fifield's Regt. |
| 5 | Benjamin | 13 May 1790 | 16 Feb 1870 | 0 | Danville Green Cemetery | 29 Sep 1814 | Fuller's Company, Edward |
| 6 | Josiah | 6 Sep 1787 | 17 Jun 1859 | 0 | St. Johnsbury Center Cemetery | 12 Sep 1812 | Wheeler's Company, Samuel A. |
| 7 | Ezra Harv | 4 May 1838 | 24 Feb 1914 | C | Danville Green Cemetery | 1 Oct 1861 | 8th Vermont Infantry, Company A |
| 8 | Noah Will | 9 Feb 1846 | 29 Dec 1913 | C | Danville Green Cemetery | 8 Aug 1862 | 15th Vermont Volunteers, Company B |
| 9 | George | 23 May 1829 | 8 May 1906 | C | Danville Green Cemetery | 31 Aug 1861 | 4th Vermont Volunteers, Company H |
| 10 | William H | 30 Sep 1835 | 8 Dec 1903 | C | Danville Green Cemetery | 5 Jan 1864 | 4th Vermont Volunteers, Company C |
| 11 | John R. | 12 Apr 1836 | 3 Oct 1862 | C | Danville Green Cemetery | 8 Mar 1862 | 7th Iowa Infantry, Company E |
| 12 | Samuel | 3 Mar 1835 | 14 Jan 1865 | C | Danville Green Cemetery | 21 Sep 1861 | 4th Vermont Volunteers, Company G |
| 13 | William H | 20 Jan 1844 | 25 Jun 1910 | C | Danville Green Cemetery | 8 Sep 1862 | 15th Vermont Volunteers, Company B |
| 14 | Benaiah | circa 1821 | 6 Apr 1873 | C | Massey Cemetery | 8 Sep 1862 | 15th Vermont Volunteers, Company B |
| 15 | Pearl D. | 7 Apr 1828 | 15 May 1903 | C | Mt. Pleasant Cemetery | | 10th Vermont Infantry, Company E |
| 16 | William K | circa 1831 | 31 Dec 1890 | C | South Walden Cemetery | 6 Nov 1861 | 92nd Regiment New York Volunteers, Company G |
| 17 | William W. | Bean 12 Mar 1845 | 7 Aug 1911 | C | South Wheelock Cemetery | 17 Aug 1864 | 1st Vermont Volunteer Cavalry, Company H |
| 18 | Fredom Densmore | Prescott 20 Nov 1832 | 23 Jul 1902 | C | Wheelock Village Cemetery | 25 Dec 1863 | 9th Vermont Infantry, Company F |
| 19 | Guy Beckley | Staples 12 Nov 1847 | 19 Mar 1879 | C | Wheelock Village Cemetery | 16 Oct 1863 | Vermont Light Artillery, 3rd Battery |
| 20 | Marshall S. | Staples circa 10 Oct 1825 | 8 Jul 1888 | C | Wheelock Village Cemetery | 9 Oct 1861 | 1st Vermont Cavalry, Company C |
| 21 | Benjamin F. | Jenkins circa 18 Sep 1847 | 5 Jul 1904 | C | Woodmont Cemetery | 15 Sep 1862 | 15th Vermont Volunteers, Company E |
| 22 | Hamilton Brock | Morrill 27 Dec 1881 | 15 May 1954 | S | Danville Green Cemetery | 6 May 1898 | 1st Vermont Infantry, Company D |
| 23 | Morris Ellsworth | Bigelow 29 Sep 1889 | 20 Oct 1967 | 1 | Danville Green Cemetery | 1 Aug 1917 | 1st Vermont Infantry, Company F |
| 24 | Raymond H. | Osgood 13 Oct 1895 | 15 Dec 1968 | 1 | Danville Green Cemetery | 28 Jun 1917 | 1st Vermont Infantry, Company D |
| 25 | Osborn H. | Ward 3 Nov 1886 | 26 Dec 1946 | 1 | Danville Green Cemetery | 1 Apr 1918 | 303d Infantry, Company M |
| 26 | Willard Harrison | Ward 11 Jul 1894 | 10 Feb 1985 | 1 | Mt. Pleasant Cemetery | 18 Sep 1917 | 302nd Field Artillery, Battery C |
| 27 | Warren Arthur | Farrington 25 Mar 1895 | 16 Dec 1993 | 1 | Peacham Village Cemetery | 14 Jun 1918 | 151st Depot Brigade, the |
| 28 | Lewis A. | Fisher 3 Sep 1907 | 19 Dec 1981 | 2 | Danville Green Cemetery | 16 Feb 1943 | |
| 29 | Ernest Edmund | Henderson 14 Sep 1916 | 22 Aug 1986 | 2 | Danville Green Cemetery | 19 Jun 1944 | |
| 30 | Roger Edson | Morse 25 Aug 1915 | 13 Dec 1964 | 2 | Danville Green Cemetery | 6 Apr 1945 | |
| 31 | Horace B. | Ward 28 Jan 1926 | 7 Mar 1945 | 2 | Danville Green Cemetery | 12 Jun 1944 | 47th Infantry, the |
| 32 | Wesley G. | Ward 4 Nov 1926 | 29 Nov 1990 | 2 | Danville Green Cemetery | | CM3, U.S. Navy, World War II |
| 33 | Elwin L. | Withers 20 Nov 1920 | 5 Mar 1975 | 2 | Danville Green Cemetery | 19 Jul 1944 | |
| 34 | David Wilson | Henderson 15 Aug 1922 | 22 Apr 1987 | 2 | St. Johnsbury Center Cemetery | 5 Mar 1943 | Army Air Corps |
| 35 | Michael James | Sullivan 17 Feb 1949 | 21 Dec 2014 | V | Fairview Cemetery | | |

Those two columns were added to the output of the original report. Column G, ID Number, creates a unique point of comparison between this list of people report and a list of events report. Column H, the cause of death flag, was included because I also wanted an efficient way to highlight those soldiers whose death was caused by the conflict in which they served. Notice the two names in bold highlighted by light blue. Samuel Ward Rollins died a few days after being released from confinement as a prisoner of war in the Civil War. Horace B. Ward was killed in the Battle of Remagen in World War II.

| Sort Order | Column Type | Heading | Width |
|------------|---------------------------------|---------------|-------|
| 1 | Name Group* tag; Given Name | Given Name | 30 |
| 2 | Name Group* tag; Surname | Surname | 25 |
| 3 | Birth Group* tag; Date | Birth Date | 30 |
| 4 | Death Group* tag; Date | Death Date | 30 |
| 5 | MIL_SERV#1 | Service | 10 |
| 6 | Burial Group* tag; Place Detail | Cemetery | 45 |
| 7 | ID Number | ID Number | 10 |
| 8 | DEATH_CAUSE#1 | DEATH_CAUSE#1 | 10 |
| 9 | | | |
| Total | | | 190 |

One other change is incorporated in the original soldiers' burials report. The Temporary flag value is changed in the secondary output. This will allow me to limit my list of military events to those people in the original report. Creating this final report thus requires a sequence of three reports: (1) a list of people report that resets the Temporary flag value to its default; (2) a list of people report that forms the main body of the final table; and (3) a list of events report that includes dates of enlistment or service and military units. If your final report requires a sequence of reports, it's helpful to set that sequence in TMG's Book Manager and run the report from there.

☐ Create New Project: My Project
☐ Create New Dataset: User Defined Name
☐ Lock Timelines
☐ Unlock Timelines
☒ Change Flag: Temporary#1 X
☐ Suppress output to screen, file, and printer

The List of Military Events Report

Military companies, military regiments, and battles are all pseudo-people in my TMG database. It's very unlikely that you enter these data in the same way in your database, so don't think you need to copy the details in this report creation. See if you can create the same end report, though.

Report Filter

Save Filter As: soldiers_enlist_flag

For Example: Events happened in 1845

Filter

| | Field | Subfield | Operator | Value | Connect |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|----------|------------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Principal1... | Temporary#1 | = Equals | [?] | AND |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Tag Type... | Label | = Equals | MILIT-ENL | OR |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tag Type... | Label | = Equals | MILIT-SERV | OR |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tag Type... | Label | = Equals | MILIT-SHIP | OR |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tag Type... | Label | = Equals | MIL SERV |) END |

My filter for the list of events selects first any Principal1 whose Temporary flag value equals that created in my initial list of people report. (I do change this value often enough that I routinely use the **[?]** for flag values and input the correct value when a report is run.) If a military event tag involves a real person, that person is Principal1. I have a variety of military event tags. Those that might include data on enlistment and military units are the four in this filter. You might need to filter for only one military event tag.

This report is intended only as a list of military information for use by other reports. Therefore, sorting and filtering, analyzing, and manipulating this report is unnecessary. Not all the output columns shown below are essential, but some of them are included to highlight any inconsistent data entries. Essential columns are: (1) Prin1 ID (the unique value that connects this report to the list of people report); (2) Prin2 Last, Given (the name of the military unit pseudo-person); (3) Date (because I want that information in the original report). The sort output is important, but will be explained in the section titled "VLOOKUP" (below).

Report Options

Miscellaneous

General Page Options Fonts **Output Columns** Places Publication Tools Secondary Output

| | Sort Order | Column Type | Heading | Width |
|-------|------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 1 | | Prin1 Last, Given | P1_Last_Given | 50 |
| 2 | 2 | Prin1 ID | P1_ID | 6 |
| 3 | | Prin2 Last, Given | P2_Last_Given | 50 |
| 4 | | Prin2 ID | P2_ID | 6 |
| 5 | 1 | Tag Type Label | Label | 10 |
| 6 | 3 | Date | Date | 45 |
| 7 | | Place | Place | 75 |
| 8 | | Memo | Memo | 254 |
| 9 | | Prin1 Role | Role1 | 25 |
| Total | | | | 521 |

VLOOKUP

VLOOKUP and MATCH are two Excel functions important in comparing and connecting data from multiple worksheets, or in TMG parlance, TMG reports output as spreadsheets. The essential part of these two formulas, the VLOOKUP function, says, “Look at the value in cell G2 (Prin1 ID). In the “enlistment” worksheet, look at the data in Columns B through F. If you find a value that matches the value in cell G2, enter the contents of the *first* cell defined by the value match’s corresponding row and the fifth column in the range, i.e., Column F (the Date). The value must be an *exact* match (the “FALSE” part of this formula). The IFERROR part of this formula tells Excel that if no match is found, leave this cell blank (the “” at the end of the formula).

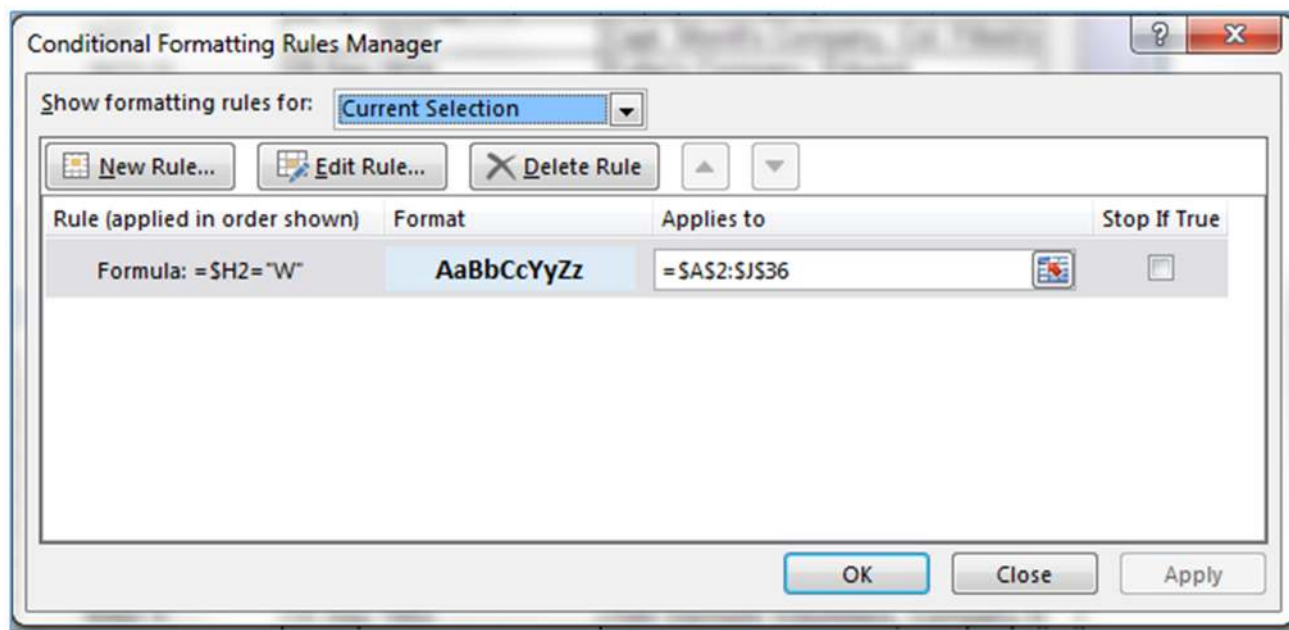
| | I | J |
|----|--|--|
| 1 | Enlisted/Served | First Unit |
| 2 | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G2,enlistment!B:F,5,FALSE),"") | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G2,enlistment!B:F,2,FALSE),"") |
| 3 | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G3,enlistment!B:F,5,FALSE),"") | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G3,enlistment!B:F,2,FALSE),"") |
| 4 | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G4,enlistment!B:F,5,FALSE),"") | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G4,enlistment!B:F,2,FALSE),"") |
| 5 | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G5,enlistment!B:F,5,FALSE),"") | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G5,enlistment!B:F,2,FALSE),"") |
| 6 | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G6,enlistment!B:F,5,FALSE),"") | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G6,enlistment!B:F,2,FALSE),"") |
| 7 | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G7,enlistment!B:F,5,FALSE),"") | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G7,enlistment!B:F,2,FALSE),"") |
| 8 | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G8,enlistment!B:F,5,FALSE),"") | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G8,enlistment!B:F,2,FALSE),"") |
| 9 | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G9,enlistment!B:F,5,FALSE),"") | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G9,enlistment!B:F,2,FALSE),"") |
| 10 | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G10,enlistment!B:F,5,FALSE),"") | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G10,enlistment!B:F,2,FALSE),"") |
| 11 | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G11,enlistment!B:F,5,FALSE),"") | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G11,enlistment!B:F,2,FALSE),"") |
| 12 | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G12,enlistment!B:F,5,FALSE),"") | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G12,enlistment!B:F,2,FALSE),"") |
| 13 | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G13,enlistment!B:F,5,FALSE),"") | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G13,enlistment!B:F,2,FALSE),"") |
| 14 | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G14,enlistment!B:F,5,FALSE),"") | =IFERROR(VLOOKUP(G14,enlistment!B:F,2,FALSE),"") |

VLOOKUP enters a value when the first match is found, and then it stops looking. If you look at the military list of events report, you will see that several of the people on the list served in more than one company, or have a Milit-Serv entry, but no Milit-Enl entry. The Tag Type labels were included in this report, and are the first sort level, because I wanted to create a priority list for the VLOOKUP function. If the soldier had precise enlistment information, I wanted that to appear in the original report table. If not, I wanted the service information from the Milit-Serv tag to appear. If the soldier had more than one enlistment tag, I wanted the earliest to appear in the report.

The other way to handle this “first match and quit” problem is to work from the report with multiple entries per person, the list of events report, and tell VLOOKUP to enter the information from the list of people report. Then, the final report can be edited as desired. This is the method to use when you want a list of people with parents and all spouses. Start with a list of events (marriages) report and use the list of people report as your source for personal information, such as birth and death information and parents’ names.

Conditional Formatting

Applying special formatting to a cell or row if the contents meet specified criteria is a very effective spreadsheet feature. One sequence to access this feature is: Select the body of the table > from the **Home** tab > **Conditional Formatting** > **New Rule** > “Use a formula to determine which cells to format” > enter the formula that describes the conditions to be met > set the format.



For this report, the formula is **= \$H2= "W"**. If an entry in Column H equals “W” (quotes tell Excel that W is a text entry), apply bold font and light blue background to the entire row within the selected area. How do you designate someone who died in a war in your database?