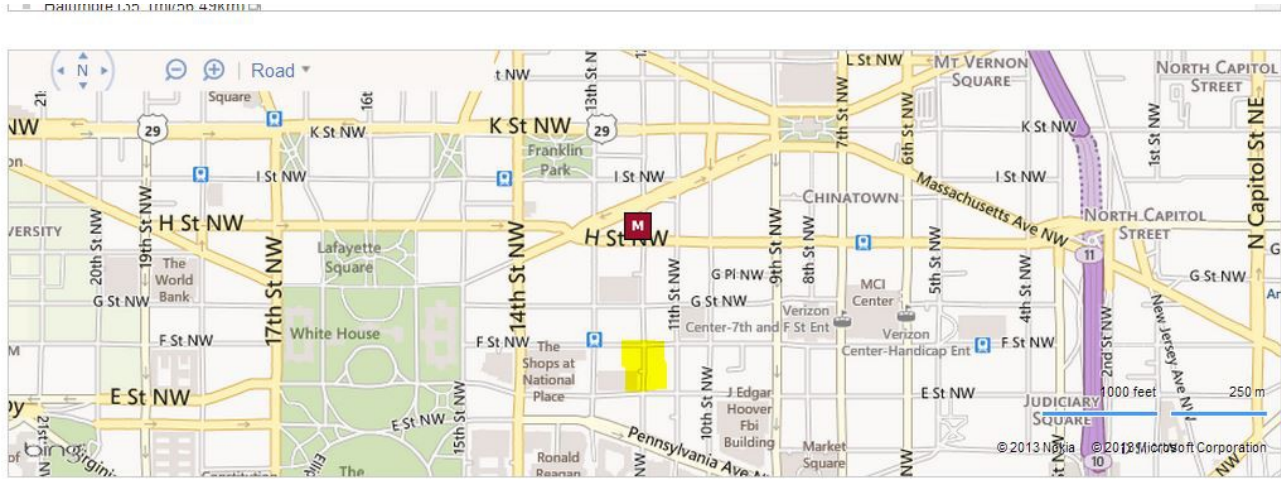


I love it when I discover information that I have possessed for some time yet didn't comprehend what it is that I have. A few months ago, I came across information concerning my grand uncle Hiram Robinett and what he was doing between his honorable discharge from the US Army in Jun 1866 and his death in March 1868.

As a civilian, Hiram was living in Washington DC at No. 503 12th Street and working in the office of Major General Oliver Otis Howard, Head of the **Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands**, usually referred to as simply the Freedmen's **Bureau**.



The Freedmen's Bureau Bill, which established the Freedmen's Bureau in March 1865, was initiated by President Abraham Lincoln and was intended to last for one year after the end of the Civil War. The Freedmen's Bureau was an important agency of the early Reconstruction, assisting freedmen (freed ex-slaves) in the South. The Bureau was part of the United States Department of War. Headed by Union Army General Oliver O. Howard, the Bureau was operational from 1865 to 1872. It was disbanded under President Ulysses S. Grant. (From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia).

General Howard, a Medal of Honor winner in the Civil War, and who assisted in the founding of Howard University, was a career military officer who went on to notable fame and is quite an enjoyable read. The General recommended Hiram for a return to active duty in one of the Veteran Reserve Corp Units. I surmise, whether correctly or not, General Howard intended to continue employing Hiram once on active duty.

Note on the document below that Hiram was also endorsed by the Representative from his Ohio District, his Honorable T. A. Plants.

R 425 CR 1867
Washington D.C.
June 21, 1867

Hiram Robinett
D. W. C.

Applies for a commission
in U.S.A. recommended
by Gen O'Konard et al.
Gene

16 Lost at sea at
Gettysburg

Ohio

Gen. Howard
Col. Woodward
Richmond

Recd at O.S. July 6, 67

Bureau R. F. & Land
Washington June 29, 1867
Solemnly recommend Mr
Robinett for the position he
seeks. He has been on duty
for some time in my office,
and has proved himself faithful
and efficient.

He lost an arm at
Gettysburg.

O. D. Howard

Maj. Genl. Comd.

House Reps. Wash. D.C.
July 3^d 1867

Mr. Robinett is from
my Dist. from personal
knowledge, and information
of his character and merits
I most cheerfully concur
in the above recommendation
of Mr. Platts.