

Revolutionary War Soldier Buried in Rankin Cemetery



Thomas Rankin

John Rowland



Information is available for this Patriot listed above. You may view it by scrolling down through the pages that follow. Patriots appear in alphabetical order of last name then the first name.

While these specific pages cannot be used as actual proof of Revolutionary War service, it can be very helpful as a guide. The reference section for each Patriot contains all of the sources used to validate the information presented on this webpage and would be invaluable on a membership application for the Sons or Daughters of the American Revolution.

The cemetery is located in Moorefield Township. From Cadiz, OH take State Route 22 West, 7.8 miles and turn right on to County Road 31 (Rankin Road). After a little more than 350 feet, turn right on to Rankin Cemetery Road. The church and cemetery are on the right and can be seen from State Route 22.



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THOMAS RANKIN (lived and buried in Harrison County, Ohio)

BORN: 1760 Virginia (a, b)

SON OF: William and Abigail (Tassia) Rankin (c)

DIED: 12 May 1832 Moorefield Township, Harrison County, OH. (a, b)

AGE: 72 years (c)

BURIED: Rankin Cemetery, Moorefield Township, Harrison County, OH. (b)

MARKER: Yes Older Military (b)

MARRIED: before 1785 (a)

SERVICE IN THE REVOLUTION:

General: Private, Sergeant, & Captain in Washington County Militia

Specific: Thomas Rankin was a private under Capt. Williamson in the Rangers of the Frontier. (d) He served as a sergeant under Williamson to the Moravian Indians, (e) and a captain under Major Williamson commanded by Col. Crawford in the Sandusky Expedition. (f)

RESIDED: Thomas Rankin was born in Virginia and moved with his parents to 1600 acres of land on Raccoon Creek in Mt. Pleasant Township, Washington County, Pa., in 1774. About 1805 he moved to what was then Tuscarawas County but became Moorefield Township, Harrison County. (g) On 10 August 1813 he patented the southeast quarter of Section 31, Township 10, Range 5. (h) Rankin Methodist Church is located in this quarter section.

WIFE: NANCY FOREMAN (a) She is buried in Rankin Cemetery, Moorefield Township, Harrison County. There is no grave marker present. No other information available at this time.

CHILDREN:

(1) James 1784-1858 married (1809) Hester Early (1793-1874) Rankin (h & k) Vet War of 1812

(2) William (1822-1864)

(3) David

(4) Jane

(5) Nancy

MORE OF HIS HISTORY: Thomas Rankin was a farmer. He was influential with Thomas Dickerson in starting Rankin Methodist Church. It is still an active church. Before a church was erected, they met in the cabin of Thomas Rankin. The cemetery where he is buried was part of his property. (i) Until about the last fifty years some of his descendants have been active members of this church.

REFERENCES:

(a) Charles A Hanna, Historical Collections of Harrison County, in the State of Ohio. (New York: Privately Printed, 1900), page 560.

(b) R Moore, "Moorefield & Nottingham Township Cemeteries," Harrison County Genealogical Society, (Freeport: Privately Printed, 1987), page 145.

(c) Calculated using birth and death years.

(d) William H. Egle, Ed., Archives of Pennsylvania, Third Series, Volume XXIII, (Harrisburg, Pa.: Wm. S. Ray, State Printer, 1887), page 111.

(e) *ibid*, Second Series, Volume XIV, page 753.

(f) Egle, *op. cit.*, pages 705, 716.

(g) Hanna, *op. cit.*, page 560.

(h) *ibid.* page 229.

(i) *ibid.* page 182.

(j) *ibid.*, page 560.

(k) Moore, *op. cit.* 144.

JOHN ROWLAND (lived and buried in Harrison County, Ohio.)

BORN: 1758 in York County, Pa. (a)

SON OF: Robert Rowland (g)

BORN: 20 April 1855, Moorefield Township, Harrison Co., OH. (b, f)

AGE: 96 years (b, f)

BURIED: Rankin Church Cemetery, Moorefield Township, Harrison County, OH. (b, f)

MARKER: Yes

MARRIED: Yes, date unknown

SERVICE IN THE REVOLUTION:

General: York County, Pa., Militia

Specific: Private, Captain James Edgar's Co., York County, Pa., Militia, pay roll of October 10-December 10, 1781 (c).
Note of discharge: "Camp Security, Dec. 9, 1782; this is to certify that John Rowland has served his full tour of two months in the Sixth Class of York County Militia and is hereby Discharged, Jas. Edgar Capt"(d).

RESIDED: He was born in Fawn Township, York Co, Pa., and lived there through the war. John Rowland "was an Indian Scout for three years along the Muskingum and Ohio Rivers, from Steubenville to Louisville, KY; settled at Steubenville, where he remained until 1815, and then located in Moorefield Tp., Harrison Co.," where he died (a).

WIFE: RACHEL ENGLE (a, g) daughter of: William & Rachel (Edington) Engle or Ingle. (g)

BORN: 1778 (b)

DIED: 4 May 1863, Aged: 85 years (b)

BURIED: Rankin Church Cemetery, Harrison County, OH.

CHILDREN: (Some ages unknown)

(1) William Rowland (1796-1873 Minksville) (a, f)

(2) Sarah Rowland married Charles Hammell (e)

(3) Mary Rowland

(4) Rachel Rowland

(5) James Rowland (1805-1890 Rankin) (a, f)

(6) Levi Rowland (ca. 1810) (b)

(7) Rebecca Rowland

(8) John Rowland (1815-1900 Greenmont) (a, f)

(9) Cyrus Rowland (1817-1898 Rankin) (a, f)

(10) Elizabeth Rowland

MORE OF HIS HISTORY: Robert Rowland, father of John married twice. John was bound out to a Mr. Wells. Mr. Wells was drafted when the Revolutionary War started. He hired John Rowland as his substitute. At the close of the war, he was hired as an Indian Scout and served for / three years along the Ohio River. He operated the first hotel in what became Harrison County. His father-in-law, William Engle, had built it on Elk Run in what is now Moorefield Township. John was a farmer in Moorefield Township. He died at the borne of his son, James. He was a Presbyterian (g).

REFERENCES:

(a) Charles A. "Hanna, *Historical Collections of Harrison Co., in the State of Ohio.*" (New York: Privately Printed, 1900), page 564.

(b) *ibid.*, page 371

(c) Thomas L. Montgomery, Ed., "*Archives of Pennsylvania,*" Sixth Series, Volume II, (Harrisburg, PA: 1906), page 641.

(d) *ibid.*, page 789

(e) "*Will Book*" C. John Rowland, Harrison Co., Ohio, Court of Common Pleas, Probate Division, pages 77-78.

(f) Government cemetery marker

(g) J.H. Beers, "*Commemorative Biographical Record, Harrison & Carroll Counties, Ohio.*" (Chicago: J. R Beers & Co., pages 128, 129.