## JOHN KELSAY/KELSEY/KELSO

John "Kelsey" is a documented Revolutionary War Soldier by the D.A.R.: Born January 25, 1745 in Virginia; died October 29, 1830 in Missouri. His first wife was Sarah Harris. His second wife was Mary Anderson.



Kelsay Family Cemetery, Versailles, Missouri

John Kelsay was a Revolutionary War Soldier who fought in the battle of Point Pleasant in Virginia. At least two of the Kelsay brothers [also spelled Kelso] arrived in Greene County by 1792. In January of that year, a deed of Conveyance from James Casey to Moses 'Kelso' was recorded for 200 acres. In February, John 'Kelso' appeared before the Greene County Court of Common Pleas to record his 'earmark': "John Kelso has leave to record his earmark to wit his ear mark a crop of the left ear and slit in the same and an under reel in the right ear." He paid 1 shilling to record his 'mark'. John's son, William, was born in Greene County in June of 1792. William would later marry Barthena Harmon, the daughter of George Harmon, who was a noted maker of long rifles and William Kelsay would apprentice under his father-in-law. [Refer to the *Greene County Pioneer*, Volume 28 Number 1 for additional information on the Harmon Families.]

A memorial at Find-A-Grave for the Revolutionary War soldier has been written by a descendant:

## The Life of John Kelsay. 1745 - 1830

The Author: Public Member Trees. [beachbaby23466] added May 23, 2007.

"Direct Quote"

"John Kelsay, born January 25, 1745 in Landcaster County., Pennsylvania. He may be the John Kelsay listed on the tax list of 1771 in Boteourt County, Virginia, (or may be his Father). He married in this county on March 4, 1773 to Sarah Harris, probably the daughter of James Harris. She died there on January 31, 1774, John who lived here on his 190 acres on a dry run in the Forks of the James River volunteered on September 10, 1774 in Boteourt County for service in the Revolutionary War as a member of Captain John Murray's Company. He took part in the Battle of Point Pleasant, a fierce conflict against the British backed Indians where many of the Americans, including Captain Murray, were killed. In 1778 the portion of Boteourt County in which he resided became Rockbridge County, and he Married there March 23, 1780 to Mary Anderson, daughter of Mr. Anderson and Elizabeth Gowdy. On the 15th of March, 1786 John sold his 190 acres and next appears on May 5th, 1789 purchasing 640 acres of land lying on the waters of Plumb and Churn Camp Creek in Greene County, Tennessee. Mary his wife died here July 27, 1794. In 1813 to Campbell County., Tennessee and again in 1816 to Wayne County, Kentucky. Thirteen years later John accompanied his son Alexander to Cooper County, Missouri and settled on the upper reaches of Burrus Creek. He died here on October 29, 1830, and is buried in the Kelsay Family Cemetery near Versailles, Missouri. A Daughter of the American Revolution Marker has been placed next to his tombstone."