

DAVID RANKIN

An Account of The Time ^{to} Each person belonging to my Company
 Center in said Company

Names	Year & Month	Names	Year & Month
Bernard Frazer	Dec ^r 1777	Joseph Dartington	Decem ^r 1777
John Lusk	0	John M ^c Farlin	8
John Hair	0	James Wilson	Jan ^y 1 st 1778
Robert Miller	15	Henry Dyer	1-1778
Isaac Popborough	15	David Brianan	4-1778
John Buchanan	27	Thomas Fealen	5 th 1778
James Waters	0	David Rankin	9 th 1778
Jacob Lorrick	0	James M ^c Curdy	9 th 80
Isaac Simpson	0	John Falkender	10 th 80
John Shannon	0	Isaac Sullinder	11 th 80
		John Casely	11 th 80

The relationship of Greene County's Pioneer settler David Rankin to other Rankin Families who lived in/near the Timber Ridge area, then moved on to Jefferson County, TN, is uncertain. Only Y-DNA testing could 'prove' or 'disprove' a bloodline relationship. However, Richard Rankin, also a Revolutionary War Soldier who died in Jefferson had a grandson named David who was killed during the War of 1812. This David Rankin is buried in Fort Williams Military Memorial Cemetery.

Revolutionary War Soldier David Rankin [Senior] received two North Carolina Land Grants; one for 200 acres located at the 'Head of Stories Creek' and one for 100 acres located at the 'Head of Sinking Creek'. This area is near today's Tusculum University. David's son, David Junior [1775-1836] is buried in Mt. Bethel Presbyterian Church Cemetery located on Tusculum Blvd., within the Greeneville City Limits. The founding Elders, included James Galbreath, Anthony Moore, Major Temple, and others. As will be seen in an article of David Rankin Senior, this Rankin Family was closely association with the Moore and 'Galbraith' families. It is said these three families migrated together from Pennsylvania to the area that would later become Greene County, Tennessee.

On November 27, 1791, Church Elders James 'Galbreath' deeded three acres and four poles of land near the head of Richland Creek for ten dollars to Alexander 'Galbreath', Anthony Moore, and Major Temple. The Church membership later separated over Church Doctrine. The Cemetery associated with the original Church is now known as Old Harmony. The membership who relocated to today's Tusculum Blvd. area retained the original name of Mt. Bethel. The Mt. Bethel 'Meeting House' was begun sometime before 1815. Revolutionary War Soldier David Rankin Senior died in 1802. His place of burial is not known.

DAVID RANKIN

David Rankin settled in Greene County, Tennessee (formerly North Carolina) in 1779. He was born in 1745, in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. He died in 1802 in Greene County, Tennessee. His will was recorded in 1802, Greene County, Tennessee. He was married to Ann Campbell of North Carolina, a daughter of William Campbell, a soldier who fought in Battle of King's Mountain in 1780. David served as a Private from Pennsylvania and later NC (now Tennessee) in the Battle of King's Mountain.

David had seven children: James Rankin, born 1768 Chester County, Pennsylvania, died 1810 Sequatchie Valley, Tennessee, married 1794 to Mary Breser (Brashear); Mary Rankin, born in Pennsylvania, married 1792 to John Williams, died November 21, 1815; Robert Rankin, born 1773, in Virginia, died 1837 in Greene County, Tennessee, made will February 9, 1837, married to Elizabeth Dinwiddie; David Rankin, Jr., born 1775 in Virginia, died 1836 in Greene County, married 1802 to Jane B. Dinwiddie (1784-1853); Ann Rankin, born in Virginia, married 1805 to James Shaddon; Elizabeth "Betsy" Rankin (1779-1862), married 1830 to John Gass (1758-1840); Jane Rankin (1782-1862) Greene County, married 1802 to James Oliphant (1775-1855).

David's father was William Rankin, born in Feremish, Ireland, 1713. He served under several commanders at Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, in the militia as a Private. He was married in Antrim Township, Franklin County, Virginia, to Mary Huston. William died, 1792, in Franklin County, Virginia.

PIONEER (1779) OF TENNESSEE

David Rankin arrived with his family in Washington District, NC (now Greene County, Tennessee) in the Spring of 1779. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He was a Private of PA and NC in the 8th Battalion, Chester County, PA, and fought in the Battle of King's Mountain, 1780.

David Rankin's name was listed on first tax list of Greene County, Tennessee, in 1783. In 1781 he had been honored with a seat on the Washington County Court. He served on Jury of Greene County, Tennessee, in 1784. He was prominent in the State of Franklin 1786-1787. He signed a petition to establish the State of Franklin. He was a Signer of Petition of Inhabitants of the Western Country South of the Ohio for NC Statehood, 1787. Was appointed by Governor Blount of NC, February, 1791, as one of five members of the first Court of Greene County, Tennessee, a position he continued to hold until his death in 1802. Before he was appointed by Governor Blount of NC to the Greene County Court, David Rankin was a leader in planning the first government of Greene County, Tennessee, which was formed November 11, 1790. He was one of fifteen first persons holding the position of Commissioners of Greene County under the allegiance of NC.

He cleared land for cultivation, built houses, planted orchards, cultivated soil on his plantation of several hundred acres.

He believed in educating his children. His numerous books were willed to four of his children. He was an educated man. A son, James, was appointed a surveyor of Greene County.

David was a Presbyterian. His brothers, John and Adam, were preachers. Adam was the second Presbyterian minister in Kentucky; a position he held for about 40 years.

David Rankin with two other families, Moore and Galbraith, migrated together from Pennsylvania to Tennessee. They settled close together so that their land joined. A baby born to the Moore family in 1779 was the first white child born in Greene County. All three of these families were very active in planning for a new community and county government. Their close friendship continued. *Submitted by Mrs. Louise Kiker, Route 2, Chuckey, TN 37641*

WILL OF DAVID RANKIN [SENIOR]

Greene: Roll # 387: Probate Records (County or Chancery Court) Wills: Vol.: 0-00: 1780-1828: Tennessee State Archives: Nashville, Tennessee:

Vol. 0: page 13-14-15-16

David Rankin

Whereas I David Rankin Senr of Greene County & State of Tennessee farmer being sick and weak in body but of perfect mind and memory blessed be God and calling to mind the mortallity of my body knowing that it is once appointed for all men to die do make and ordain this my last will and Testament in order following that is to say I give and recommend my soul into the hands of Almighty God that gave it and my body I recommend to the earth to be decently interred at the discretion of my Executors and touching such worldly Estate which it hath pleased God to bless me with, I give and bequeath in the following manner & form and first I will that all my Just debts be paid out of my Estate

Secondly I give and bequeath unto my eldest son James Rankin at my decease one dollar, my black Suit of cloaths, my great coat & my cupboard to be by him possessed and enjoyed forever.

3^{thly} I give and bequeath unto my eldest daughter Mary Williams at my decease one dollar & her mothers clock & that by her to be posseses and enjoyed forever.

4^{thly} I will and bequeath unto my Second Son Robert Rankin at my decease two hundred acres of my land below the knobs runing between the upper & the lower meadows excepting the use of ten acres of the fresh cleared land for my third son David Rankin for three years in case the girls live with the said David Rankin after which time to be possessed and enjoyed by said Robert his heirs and assignes forever also I give to my second son Robert Rankin one hundred acres of land adjoining the land of William McAmis to be taken of that part next to Sd McAmis the whole width of the survey to be possessed and enjoyed by him as afforesaid.

5^{thly} I give and bequeath unto my third son David Rankin, Junr at my decease all & singular my lands & tennements, houses, improvements orchards &c which are not expressed in former legacies left in this my last will & Testament to be by him & his heirs &c.

6^{thly} I give and bequeath unto my second daughter Ann Rankin at my decease two hundred dollars in cash to be by her possessed forever, also one horse called White head side saddle and bridle, two cows & two yearlings, four sheep two beds & furniture also my loom and tackling one fourth part of my household furnature & also of the books all which by her to be possessed and enjoyed forever.

- 7^{thly} I give and bequeath unto my third daughter Elizabeth Rankin at my decease two hundred dollars in cash, also one mare called Gale, side saddle and bridle, two cows and two yearlings four sheep two beds & furniture, also one fourth part of my household furniture & one fourth part of the books to be by her possessed & enjoyed forever.
- Eighthly I give and bequeath unto my fourth daughter Jane Rankin at my decease two hundred & thirty dollars in cash, also one horse called Pompey, one side saddle & Bridle two cows & two yearlings four sheep, two beds & furniture, also one fourth part of my household furniture & one fourth part of my books (the other fourth part of the household furniture & books I give to my third son David Rankin to be my heir Enjoyed & possessed forever) the above legacy to my fourth daughter by her to be enjoyed forever ~
- 9^{thly} I will that a certain mare called Bond with her colt with all the rest of my cattle that are not possessed in this Testament together with all my farming utentials stay upon the plantation where they be, excepting that my waggon be for the use of my two sons Robert & David to them equally enjoyed.
- 10^{thly} I give unto my two daughters Elizabeth Rankin and Jane Rankin at my decease the sum of thirty eight dollars in cash to purchase each of them a case of drawers when they come to lawful age by them to be possessed forever.
- 11th I give and bequeath unto my grandson David Wilson Williams the sum of fifty dollars in cash to be by him possessed & enjoyed when he arrives to the age of twenty one years by him Then to be enjoyed forever
- 12th I give and bequeath unto my Grandson David Rankin fifty dollars in cash to be put to interest for him until he arrives to the age of twenty one years, by him then to be enjoyed forever.

Item - I likewise constitute make and ordain my two sons Robert Rankin & David Rankin, Jun, the sole Executors of this my last will & testament and I do hereby utterly disallow revoke & disannul all and every other Testament & will by me made Ratifying & confirming this & no other to be my last will and Testament in witness whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and Seal this twenty Seventh day of February, 1802.

David Rankin {Seal}

Signed, sealed published and pronounced by the said David Rankin Ser. as his last will & testament in the presence of us, who in his presence & in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our Names

Thomas Down

James Dinwiddie

David Moore