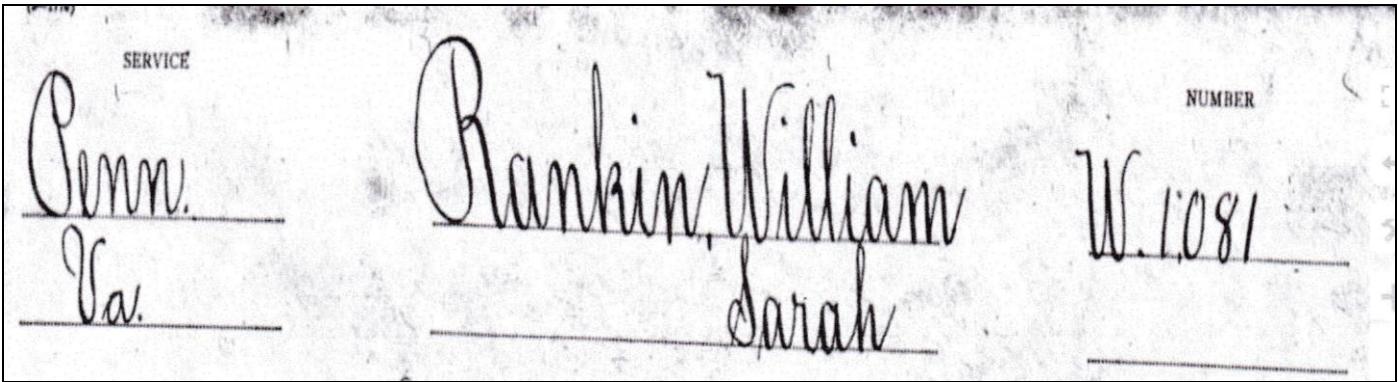


WILLIAM RANKIN



William Rankin appears on the 1835 Pensioners Roster. His rank was Private and Quartermaster of the North Carolina Militia, age 76. He was among the very earliest settlers in what would become Tennessee.

These were very dangerous times - the times of the most famous woman in early Tennessee History, who was Nancy Ward, a Cherokee Woman known for her kindness and protectiveness shown to the 'newcomers' of this land.

William barter with the Indians

“ Extracted from Tennessee by Williams”About 1775 during the infancy of the settlements on Nollichucky [known by some as Watauga and Carters Valley], corn became scarce and, availing themselves of a short suspension of hostilities, Jeremiah Jack & **WILLIAM RANKIN** descended the river in a canoe to barter with the Indians for corn. They reached Coiatee (Kaia-a-tee) without interruption. The warriors of that place refused to exchange or sell the corn and manifested other signs of suspicion, if not of open enmity. They entered the canoe and lifted up some wearing apparel lying in it and which covered some rifles. This discovery increased the unwillingness of the Indians to trade and they began to show a disposition to offer violence to their visitants. The Beloved Woman, Nancy Ward, happily was present, and was able by her commanding influence to appease their wrath and to bring about a friendlier feeling between the parties. Little Indians were soon clad in homemade vestments brought by the traders. The canoe was filled with corn, and the white men started on their return voyage well pleased with the exchange they had made and especially with the kind offices of the Beloved Woman

Date: ABT 1775

Place: Nollichucky Settlement

Description: William & the 'Beloved Woman', Nancy Ward

Not known to shy away from danger, William Rankin fathered sons of the same disposition and character. Two of these sons served in the War of 1812. Son, Anthony Boon Rankin [1794-1872] is buried in Timber Ridge cemetery as are many of his Family. Son, John Moore Rankin [1792-1844] went on to Missouri, where he is buried in Weir Cemetery in Dade County.

Included in the Pension File is a Record of the children of William and Sarah Moore Rankin:

Children Names
With their Ages

Thomas Rankin Born 13th July 1788

Deggy Rankin Born 5th Jan^y 1790

John Moore Rankin Born 10th April 1792

Anthony Rankin Born 23th August 1794

Isabel Clindimon Rankin Born 30th Aug^t 1796

William Rankin Born 23th March 1799

Ginny Rankin Born 17th Apr 1805

David Rankin Born 10th July 1804

I certify that the above account
is the one stated to in the declaration
of Mrs Janet Rankin in witness whereof
I have subscribed my name this 20th of
day of March 1844

At Rankin
Justice of the Peace

1844

7049.
 Donaborough Tennessee
 William Rankin
 of Greene Co in the State of Tennessee
 who was a private in the Company commanded
 by Captain _____ of the Regt. commanded
 by _____ in the U.S. ma-
 tins for 9 months 23 days for 1779.

Inscribed on the Roll of Tennessee
 at the rate of 45 Dollars 88 Cents per annum
 to commence on the 1st day of March, 1831.

Certificate of Pension issued the 27th day of February
 1833 and sent to
 Mr. J. Blair. H of Rep.

Arrears to 1st of March 1833... \$91.76
 Pensional allowance ending 4 Sept. 1833. 22.94
 \$114.70

{ Revolutionary Claim,
 Act June 7, 1832. }

Recorded by W. L. Williams Clerk
 Book C Vol. 10 Page 132

3126
 Tennessee Inscribed
 Sarah Rankin
 widow of William
 Rankin
 who served in the Revolutionary
 Penⁿ war, as a priv 90. M^{rs}

Inscribed on the Roll at the rate of
 45 Dollars 88
 Cents per annum, to commence on
 the 4th day of March, 1848.

Certificate of Pension issued the
 18 day of Jan^y 1848
 and sent to
 Wm. A. Johnson
 H of R

Recorded on Roll of Pensioners under act
 February 7, 1848, Page 304 Vol. 3.

Pension application of William Rankin W1081

Sarah

f50PA/VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/6/12

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

[f p. 11]

State of Tennessee Greene County: October Sessions 1832

On this 23rd day of October 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County aforesaid William Rankin a resident Citizen of Greene County aforesaid aged seventy-four years the 27th of January [indecipherable word]¹ who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed 7th of June 1832. That he was born in Cumberland County Pennsylvania five miles below Carlisle and raised there till twelve years of age and then moved to Jurriatta [?]² in the same County where he continued until the War of the Revolution had progressed some time. He entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein after stated to wit, in the year 1779 in the month of August he volunteered and served a Campaign against the Indians and British who had taken Freeland's Fort and committed much depredations in the quarter of this Country and pursued the enemy some fifty or more miles and after considerable roting [sic ?] and fatigue returned to the place from whence he started and was out two weeks, and perhaps three weeks or more.

Shortly after that campaign perhaps one month or less he was drafted to serve two months in the same Section of the State against the same enemy and was stationed at or near Freeland's Fort and was continued in that campaign his full time ranging the Country and guarding the frontier settlements his Officers' names on the Campaign he cannot state except he believes Ensign George Dickey was in command who was from the neighborhood of Carlisle.

In the summer of 1780 in the month of June his father Thomas Rankin and family and this applicant moved to Augusta County Virginia near Staunton and soon after perhaps in the fall he was drafted to serve three months and after they rendezvoused he was selected to drive and take charge of a baggage wagon and team and was then marched to Richmond with the troops, the officers and men all being strangers to him and for which reason he cannot now name the officers under whom he entered the Service at that time. When the troops marched to Richmond Virginia the Applicant was present and continued in the baggage wagon Department and performed a trip with warlike stores to Staunton River on the borders of North Carolina and after

unloading at Staunton River they returned to Richmond and then were discharged and returned home having been out seven weeks or more. He remembers he arrived home on Christmas day.

In the summer of 1781 he was again drafted for twenty days and during that time was the battles of hot water [also called the battle of Spencer's Tavern, June 26, 1781] and James Town [perhaps a reference to the engagement known as the battle of Jamestown Ford, July 6, 1781] in June and July he will was one of the detached party who made the assault on the British picket at James Town and brought on the battle under Major Ruchard a Continental Officer though his name may have been Richard and after the battle was brought home he was during the battle on the right wing and he was one of the last man who left the ground. Generals Lafayette and Wayne commanded in that battle.

About the first of September 1781 he was appointed by Quarter Master Hunter at Staunton a quartermaster to take charge of the baggage wagons to take provisions to Richmond and after conducting the wagons with provisions to Richmond he was then reappointed to the same command by Major Claiborne Quarter master at Richmond to continue on with the provisions to the Army having had a wagons under his command from Richmond he went with his wagons to Williamsburg where he received fresh orders from Colonel Carrington. He then loaded his wagons with military Stores and marched to Yorktown and was then in the main Army at the Siege of York when his wagons and [he] was then under the command of Captain Stuart wagon master general and remained there in that service until 8 days after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis [October 19, 1781]. After the surrender he assisted to haul the munitions [of] war to the wharf from there he was sent in charge of a wagon loaded by Major Claiborne to Richmond and then returned to Staunton which ended his military career having served in that service 2 months or more. Near York town General Washington halted say about 5 miles from the Town and the wagons under the command of this Applicant and munitions laid within about 10 rods of his tent until the Army drove in the British outposts. He served 9 1/2 months altogether to the best of his knowledge. He has no witness to prove his service except the Affidavits of Francis A. McCorkle & James McGill hereto annexed and he has not any documentary evidence to prove his service as he never received any written discharges. And he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension whatever except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any State or its Agency. Sworn to and subscribed in open Court this 23rd day of October 1832
S/ M. Payne, D. C. S/ William Rankin

'832
William Rankin

We Francis A McCorkle and James Magill resident citizens of said County do hereby certify that we are well acquainted with William Rankin who has sworn to and subscribed the foregoing declaration and that we believe him to be 74 years of age as he has stated and that it is reputed and believed in his neighborhood that he was a soldier of the revolution and we concur in that opinion. Sworn to and subscribed this 23rd day of October 1832

Francis A McCorkle
James Magill

[f p. 5: On March 25, 1844 in Greene County Tennessee, Sarah Rankin, 81, filed for a widow's

pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of William Rankin, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him August 29, 1787; that her husband died December 13, 1833.

Sarah Rankin

]

[Facts in file: Veteran married Sarah Moore born July, 1763; they had the following children
Thomas born July 13, 1788
Peggey born January 1 1790
John Moore born April 10, 1792
Anthony born August 23, 1794
Isabel Clindinon born August 30, 1796
William born March 23, 1799
Ginny born November 17, 1801
David born February 10, 1804.]

[f p. 22: copy of a marriage bond dated August 24, 1787 issued in Greene County Tennessee to William Rankin and David Moore conditioned upon the marriage of William Rankin to Sarah Moore.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$45.88 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private & quarter master for 9 months and 23 days in the Virginia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

Sarah Moore Rankin was the daughter of Anthony Moore, a Revolutionary War soldier.

Excerpted from *Historic Greene County and Its People*, pg 242-243

Anthony Moore, is described in *Goodspeed's East Tennessee* as the first permanent settler of Greene County. Anthony was born in Northampton County, Pennsylvania in 1725. During the year 1778, Anthony led a colony of hardy immigrants to the great unknown wilderness west of the Alleghenies. Tradition says the first preaching in Greene County was in his house. A daughter was the first white child born in Greene County.

Anthony Moore was a Founding Elder of the Mount Bethel Presbyterian Church. The ancient graveyard is located on today's Tusculum Blvd., in the heart of Greeneville, has been preserved.

Today, Anthony's farm is at the intersection of the 11E and Morgan Road, where the new shopping center, Morgan Square, is being developed.

[For additional information see Anthony Moore, a Revolutionary War Soldier.]

Duloracion

In order to obtain the benefit of the acts of Congress of the 7th July 1838
enacted an act granting half pay and pension to certain widows
State of Tennessee }
Green County } ss

On this 25th day of August 1844 personally
appeared before the subscriber a Justice of the peace Mrs Sarah Rankin
a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged Eighty one in
July next who being first duly sworn according to Law doth in his oath
make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision
made by the act of Congress passed July 7th 1838 enacted an act
granting half pay and pension to certain widows That she is the widow of
William Rankin who was a soldier in the Pennsylvania Militia in the war
of the Revolution that the aforesaid William Rankin drew a pension under
the act of Congress of 7th June 1832 of \$48.88 for his said services
She further declares that she was married to the said William Rankin
on the 29th day of August Seventeen hundred and Eighty seven That her
husband the aforesaid William Rankin died on the 13th December 1833
That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but the mar-
riage took place previous to the first of January Seventeen hundred and Ninety
four viz at the time above stated and she is still a widow

Sarah Rankin