

JAMES RAMSEY

REFERENCES

1. Copies of original documents from circuit court files in Effingham IL.
2. History of Wayne and Clay Counties Illinois-1884
3. 1850 Census-Effingham Co. IL
4. 1818 Tax list & 1820 census-Wayne Co. IL
5. Combined history of Shelby and Moultrie counties Illinois. Philadelphia: Brink & McDonnough & Co., 1881 (reprinted 1976)
6. Perrin, William Henry. History of Effingham County Illinois. Chicago: O.L. Baskin & Co. Historical Publishers, 1883 (reprinted 1972)
7. Lloyd, Katherine. Shelby County Illinois Probate Journal. Shelbyville: Shelby County Historical Society, 1973.
8. 1840-1850 Effingham County IL census (copied from microfilm). Effingham Illinois Genealogical Society, 1985.
9. Effingham Illinois History. Effingham Illinois: 1905
10. "The History of Mount Erie" by: Charles Fischel (in Wayne Co. Library)
11. 1830 Federal census Wayne Co. IL
12. Marriage Register in the Henderson Co. Court House, Henderson KY
13. Spinner, Naomi Elizabeth. Book Family History

1784: James Ramsey born in Georgia

Parents: Alexander and Elanor Ramsey

1811 Apr 9: James Ramsey married Elizabeth Book in Henderson Co. KY.

Elizabeth was the daughter of Michael and Mary Book, who came to Henderson County KY from Fincastle County VA in 1805. Michael died in Henderson County on 27 Mar 1815. Michael also had a son named Michael, and it is this younger Michael, Elizabeth's brother, who, it is believed, went with Alexander and James Ramsey to Illinois in 1816.

1816:-Alexander & son, James came to White Co. IL in 1816 from Hopkins Co. KY then to Wayne Co. IL in 1818

The following quotation is from "The History of Mount Erie"

"In the fall of 1818, Alexander Ramsey, A Revolutionary war veteran, accompanied by his son, James, Alexander Nisbet, William Farmer, William McCormick, Michael Book, and possibly Andrew Bratton ... (made a) trip up the Little Wabash from ... White Co. Where they had come in 1816 from Hopkins Co. KY ... " They settled along the Little Wabash in a grove of trees which became known as Ramsey's Grove. This is where Mt. Erie now stands. Alexander Ramsey built a horse mill there in 1825 and operated it until 1840.

1818:-James & Alex. Ramsey listed in tax lists in Wayne Co. IL in 1818.

1820:- James and Alexander Ramsey are listed in the 1820 Federal census of Wayne Co. IL

James Ramsey 200010/30010

Alexander Ramsey 011001/01101

1830:- Fed Census, Wayne Co. IL Lists James & Alexander Ramsey.
James Ramsey 211101-/112101

The oldest male is in the 30-40 age range, This is probably a mistake since the 1850 census shows James Ramsey of Effingham to be 66. He should be 46 in 1830 if he is the same James Ramsey, and other information makes it highly probable that he is. Age ranges of his household members match those of James of Effingham.

Alexander Ramsey 100000001-/000000001-

1830:- 1905 History of Effingham Co. IL p.622 states that James Ramsey came in 1830 and settled on the Wabash (Little Wabash) river in Sec. 19. He built a horse powered mill and later a water mill on the river. The settlement later developed into what is known as Bull Flat. --- Article by Anton Jansen, 1905. (Actually he probably came in the early 1830's because he is listed in Wayne County in the 1830 Fed Census)

1840:-Fed Census, Effingham Co. IL lists James and Preston Ramsey

James Ramsey 12011001-/121101-

Preston Ramsey 21001-/10001-

It is an accepted fact that Preston was the son of James. The marriage consent of Eleanor Ramsey James' daughter, which was found attached to her marriage license to William Colson in the County Court Records of Effingham County IL, was signed by James Ramsey and countersigned by Preston. Also when Preston died at the age of 37, James became the administrator of his estate.

Other researchers have said that Preston was born in 1810 in Tennessee. If this is true, then James must have been married to someone other than Elizabeth Book at sometime earlier than 1810, and they lived in Tennessee. It is probable that James' first wife died soon after Preston was born, then James moved to Henderson County, where his father was living, and married Elizabeth Book. James' second child was a daughter, Eleanor, born in KY in 1813. His next child was a son, Michael, probably named for Elizabeth's father. Michael was born in IL in 1817. This is an item that we are still trying to sort out.

9 Sep 1842:-James Ramsey is listed as one of the purchasers of personal property in settlement of the estate of Daniel Stewart on 9 Sep 1842 in Shelby Co.

1843:-Jefferson Rentfrow came to Banner Twp Effingham Co. in 1843. At about the same time a man by the name of Ramsey made some improvements in the timber near Rentfrow's place and was prominently connected with the early history of the twp. His death occurred about the year 1855.

James and Nathan Ramsey are listed among the early settlers of Douglas twp. Effingham Co. The Ramseys and Coheas settled in the area known as "Bull Flat"

In a biographical sketch of John R. Cohea, it is stated that his grandfather, Richard Cohea who came to Effingham Co. in 1827 started to build a mill, but did not finish it because of illness. It further stated that the mill was finished in 1831 or 32 by a Mr. Ramsey.

A letter from H. H. Wright dated 1898, he mentions that when he came to Effingham County in 1834, Ramsey's mill north of Effingham, was there at the time.

4 Feb 1850:- An accounting of the estate of Preston Ramsey by James Ramsey, Admr. Mentions James Ramsey's activities in settling the estate and charges for same

1850 Fed Census of Effingham Co.IL, James Ramsey's household is listed as follows:

381/381 James Ramsey	66 M	b.GA
Margaret	50 F	b.SC
Michael	33 M	b.IL
Samuel	22 M	b.IL
John	18 M	b.IL
Elizabeth	16 F	b.IL
Sarah	16 F	b.IL
Milly	15 F	b.IL
Robert	11 M	b.IL
Benj. Franklin	5 M	b.IL

29 Aug 1853:- Receipt to James Ramsey from Wm. S. Colson, guardian of Preston's children, for \$21.00 (for expenses ?)

26 Jul 1854:- Receipt signed by James Ramsey for medicines (which he was apparently selling) to M. A. Walker, traveling agent for Dr. Graves. Payment was by means of a promissory note for \$15.66 due in five months after date.

2 Jul 1855 :-Margaret Ramsey, William Colston & Samuel Ramsey gave their bond of \$24.00 for Margaret Ramsey to act as Administrator of the Estate of James Ramsey, Dec'd

16 May 1856:- An affidavit by Dr. James Graves and his agent Mr. M. A. Walker Stating that the James Ramsey estate is indebted to Dr. Graves in the amount of \$28.32 which James Ramsey owed at the time of his death. The affidavit was made in Louisville, Jefferson Co. KY.

October 1856:- A petition entered in the October term of the Effingham County Court in 1856 by Margaret Ramsey Administrator of the estate of James Ramsey states that personal assets were insufficient to pay outstanding debts and asks the court's permission to sell real estate to wit: 25 acres of the north part of the NW 1/4 SE 1/4 sec 19 T9N R6E.

An order from the Circuit Court Clerks office to the Sheriff of Effingham Co. IL to offer for public sale, real estate of James Ramsey decd. described as follows: The South half of the SE 1/4 sec 29 T9N R6E. Samuel Ramsey bid \$202.59 which was the highest bid and the land was to be deeded to him no later than 10 Jan 1860
September 4 1856 :- Advertisement for the sale of 25 acres of the north part of the NW 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 19, T9N, R6E in the Pioneer Newspaper of Effingham IL.

22 Nov 1856:- Memo stating that a sawmill with 25 acres of land were sold for \$288.00 at public venue. Signed by Margaret Ramsey, Admx. of James Ramsey's estate
25 Dec 1857 :- Samuel Ramsey was appointed Administrator of James Ramsey's estate 25 Dec 1857. He replaced Margaret, James' widow who died in 1858.

18 Jan 1859:- A document signed by Samuel Winter, Sheriff of Effingham Co. IL bearing the above date indicates that Samuel Ramsey purchased property of the James Ramsey estate to wit: The south half of the south east quarter of Sec. 29 T9N R5E, and also 25 acres in the north part of the NW 1/4 of sec. 19 T9N R6E for the price of \$204.59 which satisfied a \$175.45 claim against the

estate and court costs.

1859:- In a letter dated 7 Mar 1859 from Mr. Wm. Holmes of Mt. Erie IL, Executor of the estate of Alexander Ramsey who died in 1855, to Samuel Ramsey of Effingham Co. IL, Executor of James Ramsey's estate, Mr. Holmes requests Samuel Ramsey to pay John Farley the principal and interest on a note filed in the Effingham Court Clerks office against the estate of James Ramsey.--(John P. Farley was the husband of Milly (Ramsey) Farley, who was the daughter of Alexander Ramsey of Wayne County, and therefore the sister of James Ramsey)

This provides a link between the Ramseys of Wayne County and James Ramsey of Effingham County. It is highly likely that James of Effingham is the James that came with Alexander, his father to White County in 1816 then on to Wayne County in 1818, as mentioned in the History of Wayne and Clay Counties.

The first settlement in the north east part of Wayne County in the present Mt. Erie Twp. was composed of: Alexander Ramsey, James Ramsey, Alexander Nesbit, William Farmer, William McCormick, and Michael Book. These people left Hopkins County KY in 1816 and came overland to White County ... Located at Seven Mile Prairie, near Enfield. ... Stayed 2 years and went up the Little Wabash in a pirogue to Wayne County near where Mt. Erie now stands. Alexander Sr. died there in 1857 and Alexander Jr. died there in 1851.