

## THOMAS SCAGGS/SKAGGS – MILITARY RECORDS DISAMBIGUATION

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- The Thomas Scaggs who married Mary E. Turner was born in approximately 1835, as determined by the 1860 census in Christy Township, Lawrence County, Illinois. In that census, he and Mary have recently married and are shown with their first child, James. Living next door to Thomas and Mary is his brother, William with his family. And immediately next door to William we find their parents Henry and Nancy.
- In 1910, Mary Skaggs filed a claim for pension based on Thomas's military service in 47 A 12 Illinois Calvary...indicating Thomas had passed away prior to her filing (specifically as widow). One of the records for her filing gives his death date as 3 Sep 1910.
- A 1921 death record for a Thomas Skaggs in Wabash County, Illinois is not valid as this Thomas.
- There are at least two military pension claim records for a Thomas Scaggs who are not this Thomas as well. One is dated in 1887 and one is undated. Both records cite the same IC number, linking them to the same person, and one of those records cite him as having died in 1933. If it were not already clear by Mary's claim in 1910 indicating he died prior to her 1910 filing, one might assume he simply lived to be 98 years old.
- An undated military gravestone in Sumner Cemetery, Sumner, Lawrence County, Illinois exists (note that Christy, Illinois (*where our Thomas lived*) was at one time in Sumner Christy Township). That gravestone cites Thomas's military service as with Co A, Illinois Infantry. This service agrees with the two pension claims who are not for our Thomas (for the Thomas who died in 1933). Our Thomas served in 47 A 12 Illinois Calvary. Although it may have been possible to serve in both units, the death date on one of the pension records reveals that this is indeed a different Thomas Scaggs/Skaggs.

All the images in this album are presented to illustrate that certain records are not our Thomas Scaggs. The census image and the 2 pension filing records by Mary in 1910 are the only three images presented here which correctly refer to our Thomas Scaggs/Skaggs.

— Doug Couch, 1 Oct 2020