

Source:

ROSTER OF OHIO SOLDIERS IN WAR OF 1812

Pages 120-121-122.

ROLL OF LIEUT. JOHN DEVAULT OR DEVALL'S COMPANY
(Probably from Washington County).

Served from July 26, until August 13, 1813.

Benjamin Roebuck and George Roebuck.

Benjamin Roebuck would have been about seventeen years of age when he left Virginia for Ohio with his father and family. The Roebucks went to Ross County, OH and there on July 6, 1807, Benjamin and Elizabeth Russell married. Elizabeth was a daughter of John Russell, a Virginian who migrated first to Ross County and later to Lawrence County, OH, where he died and left a will.

Records show that Benjamin Roebuck served in Lt. John Devault's Company, Stewart's Regiment, 3rd Ohio Militia from July 26 to August 16, 1813. He was a private, "remained in service and was fit for duty."

Benjamin Roebuck, Sr. was the first permanent settler of Center Township [Mercer County, OH]. He settled on the St. Marys and Ft. Wayne road at the crossing of Twelve Mile creek in Section 5 in 1825, kept a tavern or public house for travelers for many years. Early Methodist preachers on their circuits made his house a place for meetings until his death in 1843. His sons, **Lorenzo**, Greenley, and William, and all his daughters became residents of Center and Union Townships, but all are dead now except the oldest daughter Frances, wife of William Cain of Center Township. (1876).

The 1820 Census of Mercer County, Ohio is given here in its entirety. Out of a total of 96 persons, not counting those who were not yet naturalized, Roebucks and relatives account for 35. Compared to the Mercer County population of 96 people, Darke County, Ohio, just to the south, in 1820, in the same categories, had a population of 3,681.

Ohio became a state in 1803. Mercer County, Ohio was not established until 1820.

The first white settlement [in Mercer County] was made in 1819 immediately after the cession of lands by the Indians under the Treaty of St. Marys. Among the first

settlers who came in during the years of 1819 and 1820 were: William B. and John P. Hedges, **John, Ruel**, and **Benjamin Roebuck**...

From the Western Christian Advocate:

Departed this life, in great peace, at his residence in Mercer County, Ohio, December 17, 1842, Benjamin ROEBUCK. He was born in the state of Virginia, from whence he removed to Ross county, O., where he embraced religion and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, and lived a consistent and exemplary member for about thirty-six years. Brother Roebuck was one of the first settlers of this new country. He came here and pitched his tent, and erected his altar of worship, while the war whoop of the Indian was yet heard. He was here eight years before he heard a Methodist sermon preached; but still he maintained his integrity in the cause of God; and when the missionaries of the cross came, they found an asylum under his roof--his house was the preacher's home. Death was no terror to him; his work was done. During his illness, he spoke of his latter end in great calmness and resignation. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." In his death the Church has sustained a great loss, the family a kind husband and an affectionate father.

Benjamin is buried in the Roebuck Cemetery located just west of Celina-Mendon Road on State Route 33.

Benjamin Roebuck was my great-great-great-great-grandfather.

Benjamin, his wife, Elizabeth, and his son, Lorenzo allowed me to prove my genealogy and become a member of the First Families of Ohio.

Douglas Roebuck

dougroebuck@comcast.net