

Company A, 120th OVI



Photo Credit: Susie Holderfield

McKINNEY, John R. 23 Aug 1862
Private McKinney was age 18 when he entered service. He was captured 3 May 1864 near Snaggy Point on the Red River, Louisiana; mustered out 19 July 1865 at Camp Chase, Ohio.

Father: William McKINNEY
Mother: Jane RAY
Birth: 12 Nov 1844 Washington Co PA
Marriage: Anna CHRISTIE 2 Jun 1870 at Ashland Co OH.
Death: 10 Apr 1910 Wooster, Wayne Co OH
Cemetery: Wooster Cemetery, Wayne Co OH

Note: John's son Fred was in the Spanish American War.

Pension Index: John R. McKINNEY, A 120th OH Inf. Invalid filed 28 June 1889, Application 713923, Certificate 894926, filed in Ohio. John died 1910.

1850 Census, Sugar Creek Twp, Wayne Co OH, Dwelling 31, Family 31: William McKINNEY, age 34 PA, farmer; Jane, age 25 PA; Elizabeth, age 13 PA; Jane H., age 11 Pa; John, age 6 PA.

1860 Census, Sugar Creek Twp, Wayne County OH, page 100: Wm McKINNEY, age 47 PA, farmer; Jane, age 50 PA; Elizabeth, age 22 Pa; Jane, age 20 PA; John, age 16 PA; Elizabeth RAY, age 11 PA; Mary RAY, age 55 PA.

Family Search, Ohio, County Marriages, 1789-1994: John R. McKINNEY married Anna CHRISTIE 2 Jun 1870 at Ashland Co OH.

1870 Census, dated 20 July 1870, village of Ashland, Ashland Co OH, Dwelling 180, Family 178: William G. CHRISTIE, age 58 PA, Retired Grocer; Elizabeth J, age 55 PA; Anna, age 24 PA, Laura J, age 20 PA; Charles, age 12 PA.

Have not found John R. MCKINNEY in 1870 for certain. There is one listed as John R. in Kankakee, Kankakee Co IL, but I don't know if it is him. He is age 25 PA and is a lumber dealer.

1880 Census, Wooster township, Wayne county OH, page 394: John R McKINNEY, age 36 PA, a lawyer, parents born PA; Annie E, age 34 PA, parents born PA; William C, son, age 8 OH; Fred S, son, age 7 OH; Charles H, son, age 5 OH; Jennie E, daughter, age 2 OH; also living there was Kate RUBESCH, age 14 NY, servant, parents born Germany...she is listed as "other".

1890 Veterans Schedule: Franklin Twp, Wayne Co OH: Line 24, House 74, Family 77: John R. McKINNEY, Pvt, Co A 120 OVI. Post Office: Wooster, OH. Disability: prisoner at Camp Ford Prison TX for 13 months.

1900 Census, College Ave, Wooster City, Wooster Twp, Wayne County OH, page 149; John R McKINNEY, age 47 PA, born Nov 1842, married 30 yrs, lawyer, parents born PA; Anna E, age 43 PA, born July 1846; married 30 yrs, 5 children/4 still living; parents born PA; Laura J, daughter, age 18 OH; single, born Oct 1881, student. There were also boarders and a domestic living there.

Wife, Anna: Family Search, Ohio, Deaths and Burials, 1854-1997: Anna E. McKENNEY died 14 Jan 1903 at Wooster, Wayne Co OH. Age 56. Born <1847> at Butler Co, PA. Married.

Hardesty's Historical and Geographical Encyclopedia [Wayne county Ohio version] page 495 Franklin Township section:

John R. McKinney--bade adieu to Ohio for nearly three years in the fall of 1862, and entered on the experience of a life in the field and in the enemy's country. He enlisted at Wooster, 22 August, 1862, and at Camp Mansfield, October 14, 1862, was mustered into Company A, 120th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. The regiment went to the front in time to take part in the two movements on Vicksburg, that under Sherman, including the battles of Chickasaw Bayou and Arkansas Post, and that under Grant, in which, a part of the 2d brigade, 3d division, 13th army corps, the 120th had its share in the fighting, and won its laurel with the victory. In all these battles Mr. McKinney participated, and when the regiment was in Louisiana he was engaged in the battle of Richmond, then started with the regiment on the ill-fated Red River Campaign. He was among the many captured at Snaggy Point, and he was one of the few who, after 13 months in the prison stockade at Camp Ford, Texas, were alive and able to move to the place of exchange. His suffering in prison was like that elsewhere told in these pages [[see the History section](#)]; cold, starvation, and a cruel enemy all did their work. The exchange which released him was effected at the mouth of the Red river, and at New Orleans he took transport for St. Louis, from that city came to Columbus, and was there discharged from service, July 8, 1865. He was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, November 12, 1843, the son of William and Jane (Ray) McKinney. He married in Ashland county, Ohio, June 2, 1870, Anna Christie, who was born in Butler county, Pennsylvania, July 16, 1846, and is the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Hall) Christie. Their children are four living, one deceased: William, born September 6, 1871; Fred S., February 1, 1873; Charles H., June 18, 1875; Jennie, August 13, 1878, died October 2, 1880; Laura, October 3, 1881. Mr. McKinney has a farm in Franklin township and is also engaged in the profession of attorney. He is a member of Given Post, No 133, G.A.R., at Wooster, and his post office address is Wooster.

Civil War veteran John McKinney is buried in Wooster Cemetery, 1843-1909.[years seem to be wrong]

Wooster Daily News, Monday, 14 April 1910, page 1:

J.R. McKinney Passes Away

Civil War Veteran Dies at Home on College Avenue on Sunday Afternoon

Another old soldier, a veteran of three years service in the Civil war, over a year of which was spent in a Rebel prison, answered the last roll call Sunday when John R. McKinney died at his home on College avenue, death coming at 8:30 p.m.

Mr. McKinney has been in poor health for several years, but up until the present winter he was always able to be around. Catarrhal jaundice however, gained the upper hand after a long fight, and for several days it was seen that he could not live long. Mr. McKinney was 65 years of age.

He was born in Washington county, PA., November 12, 1844,*[the birth year actually seems to be 1843]* and came to Wayne county with his parents in his youth. They settled on a farm in Sugarcreek township. John McKinney enlisted as a private in Judge Downing's company, the 120th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in August, 1862, and for three years was in the service of his country. The last thirteen months of this service, he was in a Rebel prison at Camp Ford, Tyler, Texas, he having been taken prisoner at Snaggy Point on Red river at the time of the attack on boat in which the 120th regiment was going to the relief of General Banks. His term in prison was full of the horrors so often described, and so impossible to exaggerate.

Mr. McKinney took part in all of the engagements of Grant in the opening of the Mississippi and for some months before the fall of Vicksburg he was especially assigned to the Pioneer Corps and therefore was almost constantly in the front. Comrades speak well of Mr. McKinney as a soldier. Only eighteen when he enlisted, he was bright and active, brave, and daring and, was always in command of a detail of soldiers.

After the war he returned to Wayne county and came to Wooster where he read law. He was elected Justice of the Peace of Wooster township which office he filled with his characteristic effectiveness. He practiced law in Wooster until the death of his father, who in the meantime had moved to a farm south of the city. Then he moved on the home farm, and remained there until about ten years ago, when he returned to the city.

During recent years he has been one of the active and prominent members of Given Post, G.A.R., and was Post Commander for one term. He served as Adjutant of the Post under several Post Commanders, and for many years has been secretary of the regimental organization of the 120th O.V.I., all of which positions, he filled very capably. Mr. McKinney attended school at the Hayesville Academy [*Hayesville is in Ashland county*], and there he met Miss Anna Christy, who afterwards became his wife. They lived together happily for many years, the wife passing away six years ago. Mr. McKinney was a member of the United Presbyterian church. He is survived by four children, William McKinney, of Carlin, Nevada; Dr. Fred McKinney of Leetonia, O., Dr. Chas. McKinney, of Pittsburg, and Miss Laura McKinney, at home. Funeral Tuesday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock, services in charge of Rev. Heron.

Dalton Gazette, Thursday 14 April 1910 [Died 10 Apr 1910]

Another Veteran Gone

J. R. McKinney, a civil war veteran died at his home in Wooster Sunday afternoon. Mr. McKinney was born in

Pennsylvania, moving to what is know as the McDowell farm west of Dalton in 1844, where he resided till 18 years of age. In August 1862 he enlisted in the 120th O.V.I. for three years. After the war he took up his residence in Wooster. During his residence in Sugarcreek township [*Wayne county*] he taught a term at the West Moscow school. During his career as a soldier he spent nearly a year in rebel prison.

Mr. McKinney was a member of the United Presbyterian church. He is survived by four children, Wm. McKinney of Carlin, Nevada; Dr. Fred McKinney of Leetonia, O. Dr. Chas. McKinney of Pittsburg, and Miss Laura McKinney at home.

Funeral was held Tuesday afternoon services in charge of Rev. Heron.

Family Search, Death record in Ohio: John R. McKINNEY died 10 Apr 1910 at Wooster OH. He was born 12 Nov 1844 in Washington Co PA. Attorney. His parents: Wm McKINNEY and Jane RAY, born PA. Burial at Wooster Cem. Informant was Laura McKINNEY, of Wooster.

Research by Susie Holderfield
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