

# OCCGS Civil War Veterans Project

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## Veteran's Information

**Veteran's Name:** Aaron H. THOMAS

**Birth Date:** 4 March 1842

Location: Grant County, Indiana

**Death Date:** 12 November 1925

Location: Orange County, California

Buried at (Cemetery): Good Shepherd Cemetery

Plot Location: D-170-1

GPS Coordinates: N33° 42' 07.80399" W117° 59' 17.14661"

(DMS) Datum: NAD83. Coordinates are +/- 1.00 feet of the grave location.



**Side Served:** Union

Rank: Private

Company: D

Unit: 19TH

State: Michigan

**Occupation:** Farmer

## Family Information

**Parents –**

**Father: Snead Thomas**

Birth Date / Location: 16 May 1815, New London, Howard County, Indiana

Death Date / Location: 27 November 1876, Honey Creek County, Indiana

**Mother: Miriam Lamb**

Birth Date / Location: 24 December 1818, Wayne County, Indiana

Death Date / Location: 9 August 1869, Honey Creek County, Indiana

**Spouse 1: Sara Ellen McKanna**

Birth Date / Location: 14 July 1853, Greene County, Pennsylvania

Death Date / Location: 31 August 1905, Bunker Hill, Russell County, Kansas

Marriage Date / Location: 6 February 1870, Roundgrove, Jefferson County, Kansas

**Children –**

**Name: Curtis Urso Thomas**

Birth Date / Location: 19 November 1870, Leavenworth County, Kansas

Death Date / Location: 1963, Jackson County, Oregon

**Name: Escot Adron Thomas**

Birth Date / Location: 25 September 1872, Jefferson County, Kansas

Death Date / Location: 24 August 1952, San Bernardino County, California

**Name: Ralph Clyde Thomas**

Birth Date / Location: 8 May 1874, Russell County, Kansas

Death Date / Location: 22 July 1929, Clackamas County, Oregon

**Name: Lois Edna Thomas (Fowler)**

Birth Date / Location: 29 February 1876, Russell County, Kansas

Death Date / Location: 27 January 1961, Kansas

**Name: Guy Edward Thomas**

Birth Date / Location: 1 March 1890, Russell County, Kansas

Death Date / Location: 17 March 1965, Salina, Saline County, Kansas

**Spouse: Susie Frey**

Birth Date / Location: About 1845, Unknown

Death Date/Location: Between 1907 and 1910, Unknown

Marriage Date / Location: 28 October 1907, Possibly Kansas

**Spouse: Rebecca Elizabeth Thomas**

Birth Date / Location: August 1843, Grant County, Indiana

Death Date/Location: 28 August 1914, Orange County, California

Marriage Date / Location: 1 November 1910, California

Previously married to Hiram Coates

**Spouse: Hannah Marsh Conklin**

Birth Date / Location: 12 February 1846, Madison County, Ohio

Death Date/Location: 12 November 1917, Orange County, California

Marriage Date / Location: 8 September 1915, Orange County, California

Previously married to Andrew C Nixon and Oliver Stewart

**Spouse: Mary E.**

Birth Date / Location: About 1867, Missouri

Death Date/Location: 12 September 1924, Orange County, California

Marriage Date / Location: Between 1917-1920, California

## Additional Information

Aaron Thomas was a member of the Bunker Hill, Russell County, Kansas GAR, and also a member of Huntington Beach, Orange County, California Post 194, GAR, where he served as Post Commander. He was also a Commander of the Local Veterans Association. He was instrumental in getting the annual GAR encampment moved back to Huntington Beach.

Aaron Thomas was in Company D, 19th Regiment Michigan Volunteers, and enlisted Aug 11, 1862 in Constantine, Michigan. Another Orange County Veteran, Truman Green, fought in the same unit with Aaron.

Aaron Thomas joined a Michigan unit as he was visiting relatives in Michigan when the war broke out. He joined the service along with four of his Michigan cousins. The Michigan company Aaron fought with was held prisoner by the Confederates but Aaron was in the hospital at the time recovering from pneumonia.

Three of Aaron's brothers also served in the Civil War.

- Clarke Thomas served in the 137<sup>th</sup> Indiana Infantry Regiment
- Luke Thomas served in the 13<sup>th</sup> Indiana Cavalry Regiment
- Lindley Thomas served in the 11<sup>th</sup> Indiana Cavalry Regiment.

Aaron Thomas was married five times. His fourth wife was Hannah Marsh Conklin who had been married to Andrew Clark Nixon. Nixon was also a Civil War soldier and is buried in Orange County, California.

Photograph of tombstone for Aaron H Thomas, The Good Shepherd Cemetery, Orange County, California taken by Charles Lewis Beal, 2/19/2007, and is used with the permission of Charles Beal.

## Sources

*"Pioneers in Blue and Gray"*, Civil War Veterans in Orange County by Gordon Bricken, First Edition, The Bricken Press, Santa Ana, California, Copyright 2009

National Park Service, Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System, searchable data base on-line  
<<http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/>>

Roster of the members and posts: Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Kansas Russell Co., KS, Bunker Hill Post No. 152, Bunker Hill, 1894, p.160, A.H. Thomas  
Source: <http://www.kansasmemory.org/item/208494/page/176>

Seventh Census of the United States, 1850; (National Archives Microfilm Publication M432, 1009 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C.,

- Monroe, Howard County, Indiana; Roll M432\_151, Page 393B, Family 9, Record for Aaron Thomas

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- Amwell, Washington County, Pennsylvania; Roll M653\_1191, Page 42, Record for Sarah McKenna

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- Alexandria, Leavenworth County, Kansas; Roll M593\_437, Page 136A, Family 87, Record for Aaron H Thomas

*1875 Kansas State Census*. Microfilm reels K-1 – K-20. Kansas State Historical Society.

- Center, Russell County, Kansas; Roll ks1875\_17, Line 29, Record for Aron Thomas

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- Center, Russell County, Kansas; Roll T9\_395, Page 69D, ED: 290, Family 288, Record for Aaron Thomas

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United States of America, Bureau of the Census. *Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1900. T623, 1854 rolls,

- Center, Russell, County Kansas; Roll T623\_498, Page 3B, ED: 0149, Family 67, Record for Aaron Thomas
- Fairview, Russell County, Kansas, Roll T623\_498, Page 5B, ED: 0151, Record for Lois E Fowler

*1905 Kansas State Census*. Microfilm reels K-1 - K-181. Kansas State Historical Society.

- Bunker Hill, Russell County, Kansas; Roll ks1905\_141, Family 8, Record for A H Thomas

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- Dayton, Yamhill County, Oregon; Roll T624\_1290, Page 1A, ED: 0299, Family 2, Aaron H Thomas

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- Huntington Beach, Orange County, California; Roll T625\_123, Page 1B, ED: 63, Family 21, Record for Aron Thomas

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"California, County Marriages, 1850-1952," index and images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/K8DD-5WC> : accessed 07 Jan 2014), Aaron H Thomas and Rebecca Elizabeth Coate, 1910.

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Message Board, "Amelia B. Castle" Subject: Civil War, Sat, 5 Apr 1997

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Biographical Data on Aaron Thomas - Santa Ana Register, Santa Ana, California, Thursday Evening, August 10, 1922, Pg 11, Col 4

Funeral Notice for Mrs. A. H. Thomas (Mary) – Santa Ana Register, Santa Ana, California, Tuesday Evening, September 16, 1924, Pg 11, Col 6

Findagrave.com, searchable database of cemeteries with tombstone inscriptions, memorials and photographs

- Memorial 17986730, Created by Charles Lewis Beal, Record for Aaron Thomas
- Memorial 59145787, Created by Diehard, Record for Sarah Ellen Thomas (1<sup>st</sup> wife)
- Memorial 128737534, Maintained by Trish Coate, Record for Rebecca Elizabeth *Thomas* Coate
- Memorial 20886605, Created by Kimberley Terrill, Record for Hannah M. Thomas (4th wife)
- Memorial 61746867, Created by AEPDLP, Record for Curtis U Thomas
- Memorial 77036064, Created by delkan, Record for Lois E. Fowler
- Memorial 93948994, Created by emtsuj Sto, Record for Guy Edward Thomas
- Memorial 116406522, Created by Susan Clemons, Record for Snead Thomas

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- Record for Curtis M Thomas

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- Record for Escot A Thomas, Mother's Maiden Name: McKanna

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- Record for Guy E Thomas, Saline County, Kansas