

OCCGS Civil War Veteran's Project

Veteran's Information

Veteran's Name: James Thompson (Holy Jim) SMITH

Birth Date: 7 April 1841

Location: Calumet, Porter County, Indiana

Death Date: 4 January 1934

Location:

Buried at: Oaklawn Cemetery, Fayette County, Indiana

Plot:

Service: Union

Rank: PVT

Company: E

Unit: 73rd Infantry

State: Indiana

Occupation: Beekeeper, General Farming

Family Information

Parents –

Father: James Johnson Smith

Birth Date/Location: 1807

Death Date/Location: 3 February 1887, Fayette County, Iowa

Mother: Nancy Carder

Birth Date/Location: 1815, New York

Death Date/Location: 3 October 1886, Fayette County, Iowa

Spouse: Harriet E Stone

Birth Date / Location: 17 July 1852, Lake County, Illinois

Death Date/Location: 23 January 1922, Orange County, California

Marriage Date / Location: 16 June 1882, Fayette County, Iowa

Children: None

Additional Information

James Smith, a resident of Calumet, Porter County, Indiana, enlisted as a Private on 16 August 1862. He mustered into Co E, Indiana 73rd Infantry the same day. He mustered out on 1 July 1865 at Nashville, Davidson County, Illinois.

James had two brothers that also served during the Civil War

- Oscar also served in the Indiana 73rd Infantry
- George served in the 13th Regiment of Volunteers of Michigan

Member of GAR, Sedgwick Post No 17, Orange County, California

Holy Jim Canyon located in the foothills of Orange County was named after James T Smith who resided in the canyon in the late 1880's. He was a beekeeper known in the community as "Cussin Jim" for his use of most colorful language. The name eventually evolved to 'Holy Jim' which is what he was known as for the rest of his life. The Canyon has remained populated since James Smith lived there and has maintained the rustic experience of James Smith's era. Smith lived in the Santa Ana area for 42 years. The Orange County Register had a story on James T Smith as a result of the Holy Fire of 2018 which started in the area that 'Holy Jim' used to live.

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

- Record for James T Smith

Historical Data Systems, comp. U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2009

- Record for James Smith

Orange County California Genealogy Society Quarterly Journal, XVIII, #2, June 1981 – Roll of Honor for the Sedgwick Post No 17 GAR

- Record for J T Smith

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.

- Westchester, Porter County, Indiana, Roll M432_165, Page 160B, Family 803, Record for James T Smith in the household of James and Nancy Smith

1860 U.S. census, population schedule. NARA microfilm publication M653, 1,438 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.

- Eden, Fayette County, Iowa, Roll M653_322, Page 3, Record for James T Smith in the household of Nancy Smith

1870 U.S. census, population schedules. NARA microfilm publication M593, 1,761 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.

- Davis, Fountain County, Indiana, Roll M593_314, Page 25A, Family 6, Record for James T Smith
- Eden, Fayette, Iowa, Roll M593_391, Page 59B, Record for Harriet Stone in the household of James and Catherine Stone

Tenth Census of the United States, 1880. (NARA microfilm publication T9, 1,454 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C. United States of America, Bureau of the Census.

- Eden, Fayette County, Iowa, Roll T9_339, Page 78A, ED: 197, Family 86, Record for James Smith in the household of Nancy Smith

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

- Santa Ana, Orange County, California, Page 15, ED: 0149, Family 376, Record for James T Smith

Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910 (NARA microfilm publication T624, 1,178 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

- Hemet, Riverside County, California, T624_91, Page 18A, Family 391, Record for James T Smith

Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920. (NARA microfilm publication T625, 2076 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

- Santa Ana Ward 4, Orange County, California, Roll T625_124, Page 12B, ED: 85, Family 302, Record for James T Smith

United States of America, Bureau of the Census. *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930*. Washington, D.C: National Archives and Records Administration, 1930. T626, 2,667 rolls.

- Santa Ana, Orange County, California, Page 16A, ED: 0076, Page 16A, ED:0076, Family 479, Record for James T Smith

"1890 The Great Register of Orange County", State of California, Compiled by Orange County California Genealogical Society, Orange, CA 92668, 1996, searchable on-line at: <http://occgs.com/projects/1890%20Register/1890%20Register%201.pdf>

- Record for James T Smith, Miner

Ancestry.com. *Indiana, Marriage Index, 1800-1941* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2005.

- Record for James J Smith and Nancy Carder

Ancestry.com. *Iowa, Marriage Records, 1880-1940* [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2014.

- Record for James T Smith and Harriet E Stone
- Record for parents of James T Smith, Mother: Nancy Carder, Father: James J Smith

California, Death Index, 1905-1939. California Department of Health and Welfare. California Vital Records

- Record for James T Smith

Find A Grave, database and images - <https://www.findagrave.com>

- Memorial 73791807, Created by larry, Record for James T. Smith
- Memorial 104566128, Created by Jim Pulver, Record for Harriet E Stone Smith
- Memorial 73791829, Created by larry, Record for James J Smith
- Memorial 13881621, Created by None to be Forgotten, Record for Nancy A Smith

Santa Ana Register, Santa Ana, California, Tuesday, January 24, 1924, Pg 2, Col 4

- Mrs. Hattie Smith Summoned by Death

Santa Ana Register, Santa Ana, California, Friday, January 5, 1934, Pg 2, Col 5

- James T Smith Passes at Home

Santa Register, Santa Ana, California, Saturday, January 6, 1934, Pg 3, Col 1

- Funeral Notice – James T Smith

Santa Ana Register, Santa Ana, California, Monday, January 8, 1934, Pg 3, Col 2

- Obituary – James T Smith

The Orange County Register, Santa Ana, California, Thursday, August 9, 2018, News Pg 15

- Who was Holy Jim Anyway?