

# A Family Affair

## Multiple Conflicts Across Three Generations: The Rake Family Conflicts

St. Augustine  
National Cemetery

**VA**



**U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs**

National Cemetery  
Administration



**UCF**

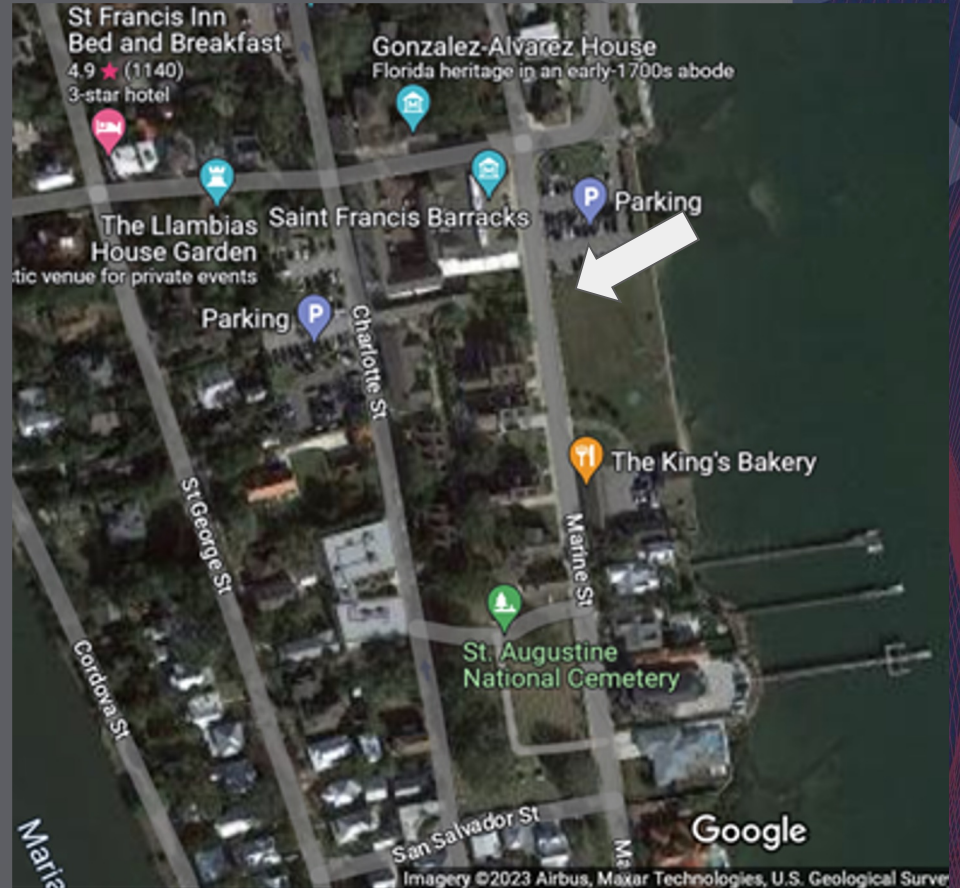
**Department  
of History**

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA



# Map of St. Francis Barracks and SANC

- This tour begins at 82 Marine St, St. Augustine, FL 32084
  - Stops 1 - 4
- The tour then moves to St. Augustine National Cemetery
  - Stops 5 - 8





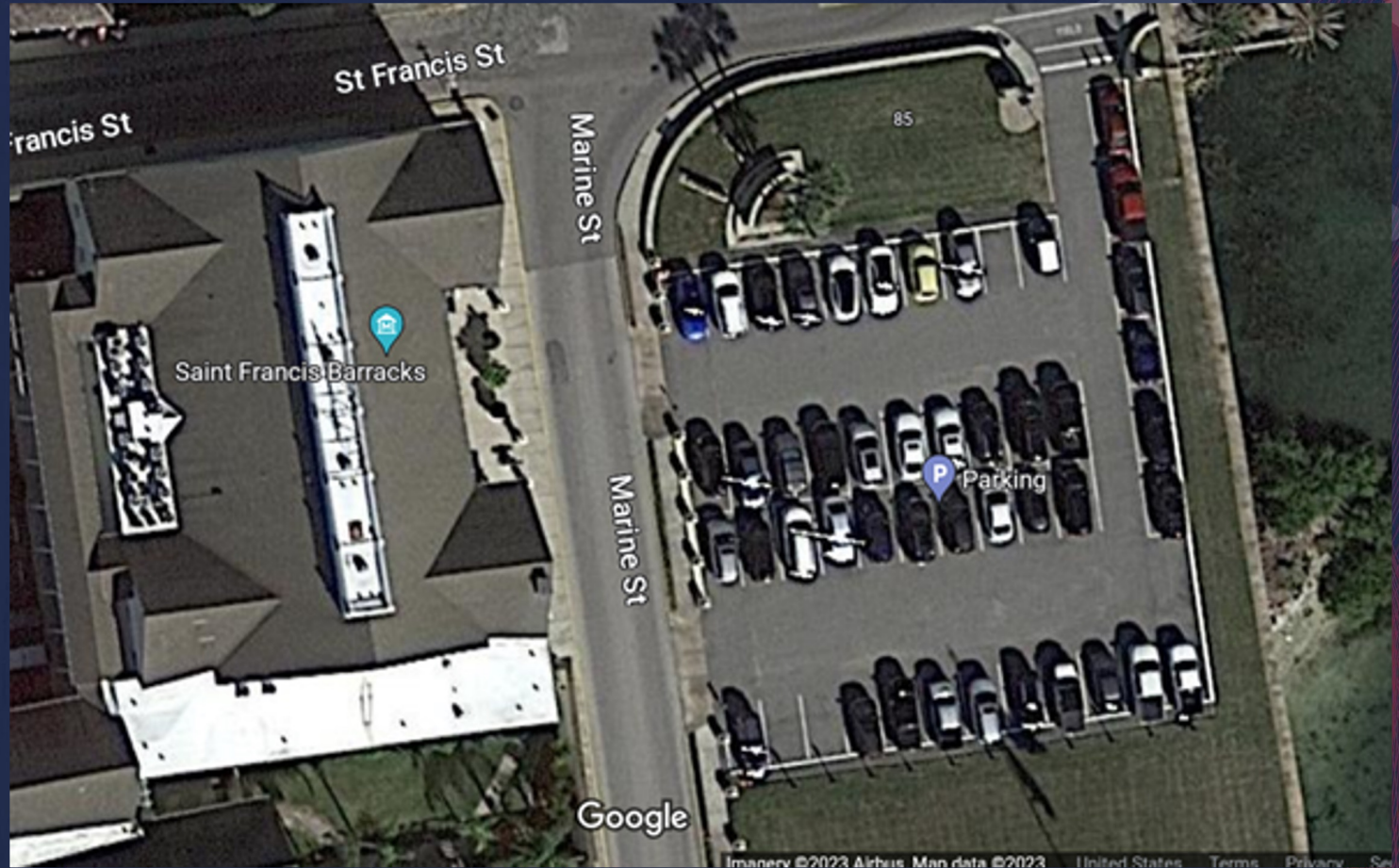
## Tour Stops

1 - American Civil War plaque

2 - World War I plaque


3 - World War II plaque

4 - Korean War plaque



# Historical Context

- Military service and wars are a part of American history.
- Every state and all people have contributed to the various war efforts.
- Florida is no exception.
- These plaques represent the places where Floridians have served.
- The Rake family exemplifies this tradition.



The following markers  
contain soil collected  
from locations  
worldwide  
representing combat  
areas in which  
Florida's men and  
women served.



# American Civil War

- The American Civil War is the *central event* in America's historical consciousness.
- While the Revolution of 1776-1783 created the United States, the Civil War of 1861-1865 determined what kind of nation it would be.
- While Florida seceded from the Union, many Floridians chose to remain loyal and founded regiments with allegiance to the North.





# World War I

- World War I began in August 1914.
- The murder of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria catapulted Europe and the world into a war that lasted until November 1918
- The US did its best to remain neutral, but German aggression led to its entry in 1917
- The US Army grew from about 127,000 to over 4 million in less than two years
- US citizens contributed to the war effort on and off the battlefield, helping to bring about a lasting peace
- This plaque commemorates a Florida Army unit that served in Le Mans, France during World War I



# World War II

- WWII began when Nazi Germany invaded Poland in 1939
- On December 7, 1941, Imperial Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, HI and the US joined the war against the Axis Powers
- The war raged across Europe and the Pacific until the Axis Powers surrendered in 1945.
- This plaque commemorates Florida National Guard units that fought in the Pacific.



# The Korean War



- After WWII, the 38th parallel divided communist North Korea and non-communist South Korea.
- The Korean War began on June 25, 1950, when North Korea invaded South Korea.
- US Forces, as part of the United Nations forces, assisted South Korea.
- Fighting ended with a 1953 armistice, but no treaty; even today both nations remained armed their side of the 38th parallel.
- This plaque honors Florida National Guard units that supported the war from Japan.



# Tour Stops

**5 - John G. Rake:**  
A148

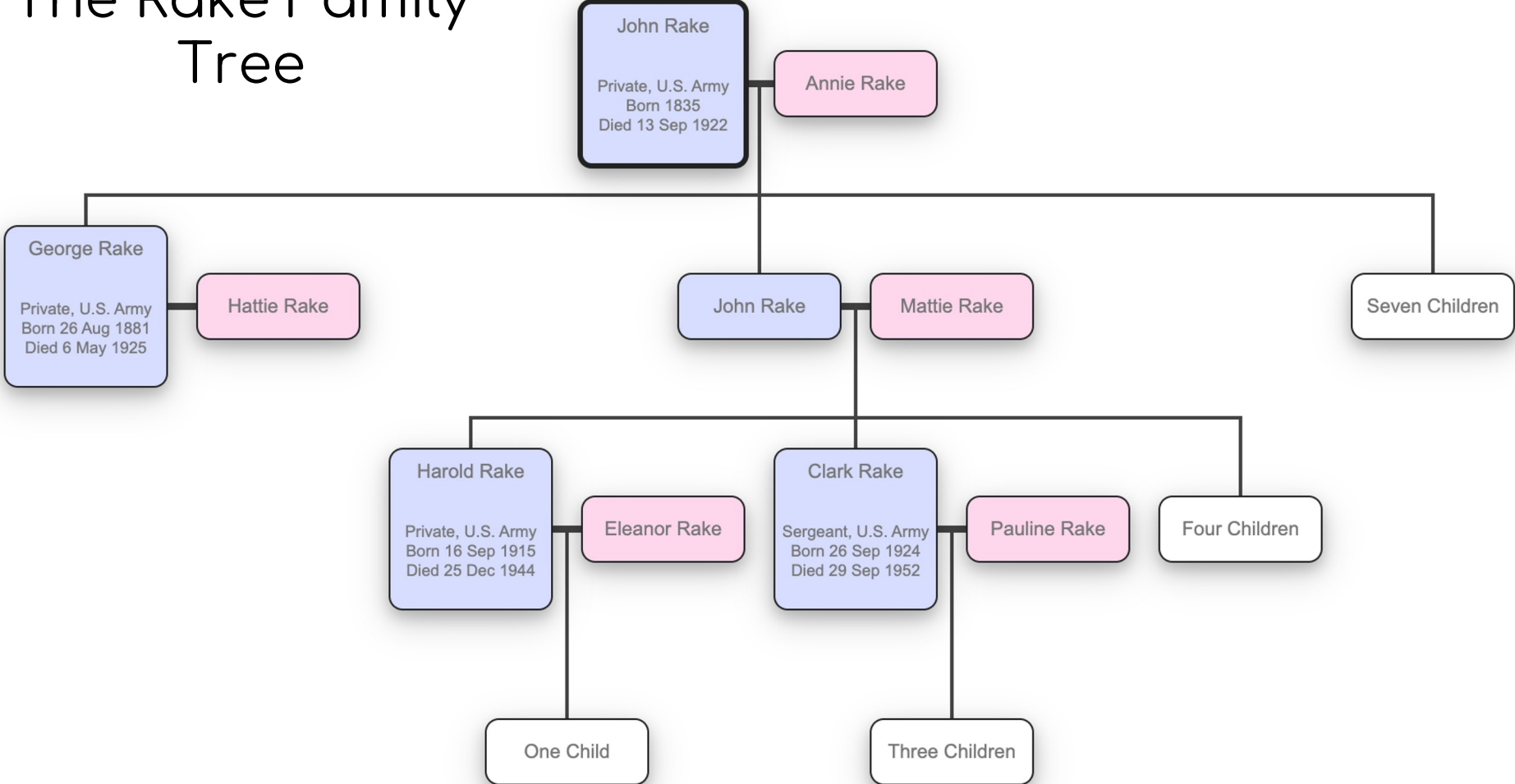
**6 - George E. Rake:**  
A153

**7 - Harold E. Rake:**  
B570

**8 - Clark E. Rake:**  
C6



# The Rake Family Tree

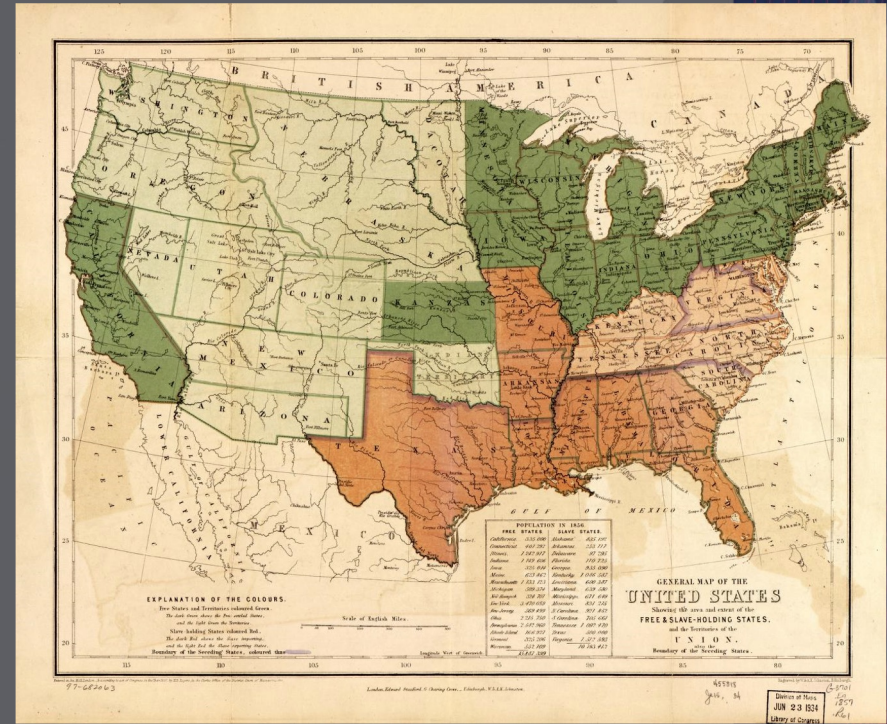




## Section A, Plot 148

John G. Rake  
Early Life

- Pvt. John Gayhart Rake was born to Henry and Nancy Rake in Pennsylvania in 1835.
- Henry was from New Jersey and Nancy was from Pennsylvania.
- Little is known about John's life prior to service in the military



Map of US during the Civil War, courtesy of the Library of Congress

# John G. Rake

## Military Service

- John mustered for the Union Army on January 30, 1862.
- He served as a private in Battery F, 1st Pennsylvania, Light Artillery.
- His annual salary was \$125
- The 1st Pennsylvania fought in many engagements, including Bull Run, Antietam, and Gettysburg.
- John continued to serve until he was discharged on June 9, 1865, after the war.



Photo of Battery F, 1st Pennsylvania  
Light Artillery Monument,  
courtesy of Creative Commons



# John G. Rake

## Post-Service Life

- After the Civil War, John met and married Annie Janse Reyes, a Cuban-American woman; they settled in St. Augustine, her hometown.
- John worked as a gardener and then as a locomotive machinist.
- They had eight children – George, Cordelia, Henry John, Maggie, Rachel, Jessie, Joseph, and Eugene.
- On September 13, 1922 at 10:30 P.M., John died of cardiac neuralgia at the age of eighty-seven.



# George Rake Early Life

- George was born August 26, 1881 to John G. and Annie J. Rake in St Augustine.
- George was a “day laborer” before becoming a “hackman” or taxi driver.
- He married Hattie Lewis and in 1905 they had a son.
- George went to Jacksonville to look for work.
- The Rake family moved back to St. Augustine by 1916 and lived on Cuna Street about 1 mile from this cemetery.

Rake family on 1909 Jacksonville City Directory,  
courtesy of Ancestry.com

## Section A, Plot 153

UCF Veterans Legacy Program

**William Fairlie**  
Prescription Druggist  
122  
R. L. POLK & CO'S

Raiford A. S. eng S A L, r Prospect House  
\*Raiford Bessie, cook, h 14 (103) Ida  
Raiford Ida F Mrs, steno Crigler & Crigler, h 922 Laura  
\*Raiford James, driver, h 728 W Ashley  
\*Raiford Wm J (m), lab, h 1019 Myrtle av  
Radio (Wireless) Telegraph Co, F B Matthews agt, 10 Bennett bldg  
Radio (Wireless) Telephone Co, C S Cowenhoven gt sales agt, Duval-Upchurch bldg  
Rafferty John H, dist pass sgt G S & F, b 419 W Duval  
Raffo Raymond L (Helen), electr eng city plant, h 1649 Main  
Rahaim John (Lillie), grocer 1001 W Myrtle av, h same  
Rahaim Ellis (Mary), grocer 708 Main, h same  
Rahaim George (Eva; George Rahaim & Bro), h 1116 W Adams  
Rahaim George & Bro (George and Joseph), grocers 1118 W Adams  
Rahaim John (Lillie), grocer 1001 W Myrtle av, h same  
Rahaim Joseph (George Rahaim & Bro), grocer 1009 W Adams, b 1116 same

**Land Investment Co.** Florida Lands  
411-412 Conchatares Building Postal Brings  
PHONE 1561 Full Information

Rahaim Tiffa, clk, h 708 Main  
Rahn Alice C, student, b 609 Laura  
Rahn Shepard S Rev, pastor St John's Evang Luth Ch, h 809 Laura  
Rahner Willie B, b 1444 (1445) Clark  
\*Raiford Gilbert W Rev (m), pastor Cent Baptist Ch, h 311 E Ashley  
\*Raiford John, baker, r 1003 W Adams  
\*Raiford Nancy (wid), dom, b 1718 Jefferson  
\*Raiford Sophia (wid), Indrs, b 211 Myrtle av  
\*Raiford Thomas, lab, b 386 Price  
\*Raiford Willie (m), lab, h 921 E 3d  
Railway Mail Service, Transfer office, Union Depot  
Raimond Charles, grinder, h 211 Johnson  
\*Raines Alonzo (m), carp, b 103 Howell  
\*Raines Charles (m), carp, b 131 W North  
\*Raines Cooper, carp, b 914 W Beaver  
\*Raines Josephine, dom 108 Copeland  
Raines, see also Raney and Ranney  
Raney Alice M (wid Edmond H), h 30 W 12th  
\*Raney Andrew, lab, h 647 Jessie

**Florida Life Insurance Co.** A STRONG HOME INSTITUTION

**Fred E. Rankin** 834 ROSSELIE Street  
PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT, SUBSCRIPTION  
ACCOUNTANT  
Phone 677  
Jacksonville Directory, 1909.

Rainey Edmond F, carp, b 20 W 12th  
\*Rainey Frank (m), fireman, h 1703 Lee  
\*Rainey Henry (m), lab, h 1024 W Beaver  
Rainey Jesse E, carp, b 30 W 12th  
\*Rainey Minnie, Indrs, h 1031 E Ashley  
\*Rainey Rhoebe, Indrs, h 1032 Lee  
Rainey Roy (May), auditor P & O S S Co, h 318 E Monroe

Rake Cordelia, b 1337 E Duval  
Rake George W, hackman, b 1337 E Duval  
Rake Hattie, b 1337 E Duval  
Rake Jessie, dom, b 1337 E Duval  
Rake John T (Annie), b 1337 E Duval  
Rake Joseph, clk, b 1337 E Duval  
Rake J Henry, baker, b 1337 E Duval  
Rake Rachel, dom, b 1337 E Duval  
Raleigh Sallie, clk Furchgott's, b 1333 Walnut  
Raley Martin V (West-Raley-Hambo Co), r Aragon Hotel  
Rambert John, clk Baker & Holmes Co, b 903 Washington  
\*Rambo Isaac (m), lab, h 1033 Madison  
\*Rambo Isiah, lab, b 213 Jackson  
\*Rambo Jacob (m), lab, b 1137 Davis

**ZANNI'S EUROPEAN HOTEL** Rooms 50c, 75c, 51 per day  
SEMI-AMBERLEE, Proprietor. MEALS AT ALL HOURS  
126 East Bay St. Phone 930 Wine, Liquor, Beer & Cigars  
\*Rambo Julius, lab Gas Co  
Ranis Arthur R, clk R G Dun & Co, b 1523 Clark  
RANIS CO THE, Janes & Ranis Mgrs, Bicycles and Furniture 206-208 Main, Tel 1951  
Ranis Henrietta Mrs, b 1119 E Adams  
Ranis James S (Ethan), mgr The Ranis Co, h 1804 Liberty  
Ranis Walter S (May), cigarist, h 534 E Adams  
Ranis Wm (Nancy), carp, b 1028 Clark  
Ranis Wm E, carp, b 1523 Clark  
Ramsay James (Bowersamy Co), b 41 E 8th  
Ramsdell Hazel M, clk, b 125 Liberty  
Ramsdell Jerome J (Mary; W H Fox & Co), b 125 Liberty  
Ramsdell Jerome J, jr, clk, b 125 Liberty  
Ramsdell Leonard H (Fannie), optician, b 125 Liberty  
Ramsdell May, student, b 125 Liberty  
Ramsay, see also Ramsay  
\*Ramsey Charles, lab, b 1014 Lee  
\*Ramsey Elmina G (Vera), Indrs, h 218 Liberty  
\*Ramsey George C, lab, b 918 Spearling

**REED E. LA MANCE CO.** REPAIRS  
MARBLE - GRANITE - MONUMENTS  
CONTRACTORS

D. H. McMillan & Co.  
River Front between Main and Laura Sts.  
Phone 317  
Cigars Fully Prepared for Smoking and Lunch Served in Specialty.



# George Rake

## Military Service

- George entered the Army as a member of the Battery F, 118th Field Artillery in 1917.
- He served as a Stable Sergeant.
  - He was responsible for the horses used to pull the artillery pieces around on the battlefield.
- He did not arrive in Europe until after the war ended.
- He likely supported the post-war occupation efforts.

SUPPLY COMPANY.		
NAME.	RANK.	ORGANIZATION TO WHICH TRANSFERRED.
Beist, John E.	Reg. Sub. Sgt.	192d Engineers.
Burns, Joseph L.	Reg. Sub. Sgt.	192d Engineers.
Quattlebaum, Clyde M.	Reg. Sub. Sgt.	192d Engineers.
Edhouse, Ralph H.	First Sergeant	124th Infantry.
Rake, George	Stable Sergeant	118th Regiment, F. A.
Rogers, Edward G.	Mess Sergeant	124th Infantry.
Canora, Oscar A.	Corporal	124th Infantry.
Fumar, Joseph G.	Sergeant	196th Field Signal Battalion.
DeMedicis, Emanuel J.	Horseholder	118th Regiment, F. A.
Felina, Joseph O.	Soldier	Medical Repair Shop
Brandenburg, Henry P.	Wagoner	196th Engineers.
Byrne, John C.	Wagoner	196th Field Signal Battalion.
Coch, Charles R.	Wagoner	124th Infantry.
Charvin, Fred M.	Wagoner	124th Infantry.
Clark, Leo E.	Wagoner	124th Infantry.
Collins, Raymond P.	Wagoner	124th Infantry.
De Cox, Paul	Wagoner	196th Engineers.
Gilbert, Grady R.	Wagoner	124th Infantry.
Gilsson, Dewey	Wagoner	118th Regiment, F. A.
Gilson, Silvio	Wagoner	196th Engineers.
Hartley, Eugene	Wagoner	118th Regiment, F. A.
Head, Charles B.	Wagoner	124th Infantry.
Hendricks, Theodore W.	Wagoner	Q. M. Corps, Camp Wheeler.
Hood, Walter H.	Wagoner	118th Regiment, F. A.
Marrill, John C.	Wagoner	124th Infantry.
Meibers, Bartolo M.	Wagoner	196th Engineers.

1917 Adjutant General Military Record featuring George Rake, courtesy of Ancestry.com



WWI-Era US Army Gun Carriage, courtesy of US WWI Centennial Commission



## George Rake Post-Service Life

- George returned home and worked as a “hackman” or taxi driver.
- He lived in River Junction, a very small community just south of the George border.
- George died on May 6, 1925 of acute cholecystitis (inflamed gallbladder) and complications of an infection
- His widow, Hattie, and son moved to Illinois after his death.

REPORT OF INTERMENT										NAME OF CEMETERY	
TO: THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.										National St. Augustine, Fla.	
NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) Rake, George										EMBLEM (Check one) <input type="checkbox"/> CHRISTIAN <input type="checkbox"/> HEBREW <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (Specify)	
RANK Private				SERIAL NUMBER 1356095				118th Field Art.			
STATE Florida				<input type="checkbox"/> WW I <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (Specify)							
DATE OF BIRTH		DATE OF DEATH		DATE OF INTERMENT		GRAVE LOC.		DATES OF SERVICE			
MONTH	DAY	YEAR	MONTH	DAY	YEAR	SEC.	OR	ENLISTMENT	DISCHARGE	DIED ON A.	RETIREMENT
			May	6	1925	A	153				
REMARKS (Authority for interment, pension, or claim number, disinterment, etc.)										HEADSTONE OR MARKER ORDERED	
typed fr old card 12 Aug 52 amb										OR May 1925	
NAME AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN OR OTHER RESPONSIBLE PERSON										SHIPPING POINT FOR HEADSTONE	
										NEAREST FREIGHT STATION	
SIGNATURE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF NATIONAL CEMETERY, OR TRANSPORTATION OFFICER, OR ON OF POST CEMETERY										POST OFFICE ADDRESS	
DMC FORM 111 REV. 3 JUL 50		PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM ARE OBSOLETE						SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE			

Interment Card for George Rake,  
courtesy of Ancestry.com

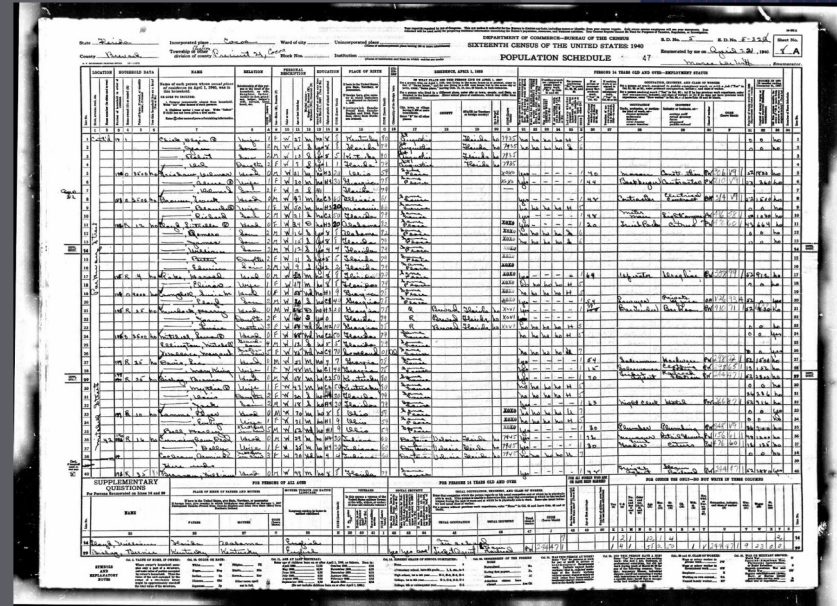


Section B, Plot 570

# Harold Rake

## Early Life

- Pvt. Harold Everett Rake was born on September 16, 1915 in St. Augustine, Florida.
- He lived with his parents J. Henry and Mattie Rake.
- J. Henry worked as a railroad carpenter.
- He had two siblings: Flossie and Earl.
- Harold married Eleanor Rake (née Barrs) on August 19, 1939.
- By 1940, Harold and Eleanor had moved to Brevard County where Harold worked as a dragline operator. A dragline operator dug canals.
- Their son, James, joined his parents in 1940.



1940 US Census featuring the Rake Family, courtesy of Ancestry.com

# Harold Rake Military Service

- Harold entered the US Army at Camp Blanding, in Starke, FL on December 31, 1943.

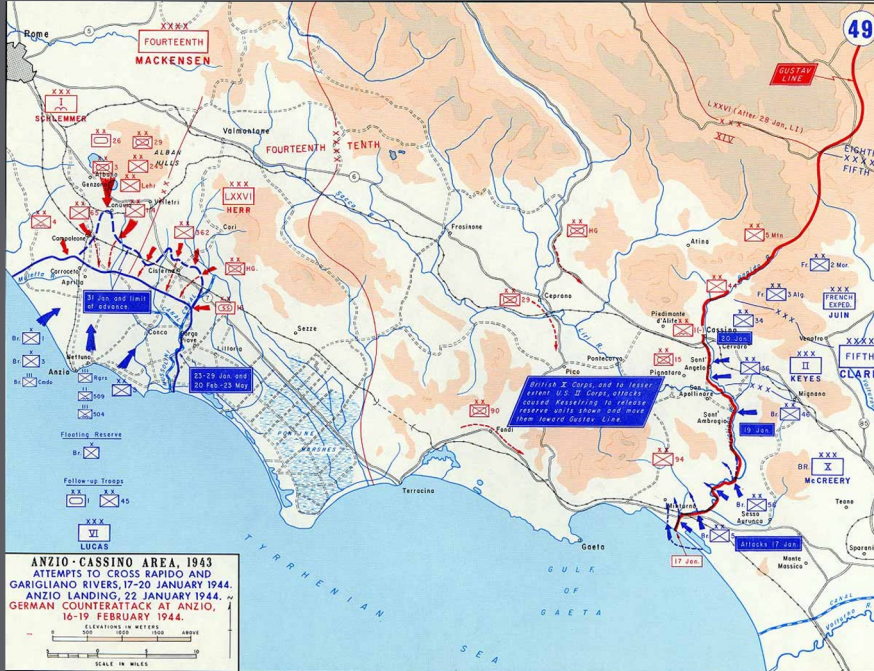
- Harold participated in the Camp Blanding's Infantry Replacement Training program.

- Harold served in the 142nd Regiment of the 36th Infantry Division.

- In January 1944, Allied leaders decided to mount an invasion along the coast at Anzio, Italy

- Harold and the 36th Infantry Division arrived in Anzio, Italy on May 1944.

- The following month they participated in the Allied capture of Rome.



Map of Anzio - Casino Area, 1943,  
Courtesy of the National WWII Museum



# Harold Rake

## Military Service, Con't

- After taking Rome, the 36th ID prepared for the land invasion of southern France.
- On 15 August 1944, Harold and the 36th ID participated in the massive amphibious landing of southern France pictured here.
- Before the end of August, they moved north along the Rhone River Valley, facing stiff German opposition.
- They continued north and east reaching the foothills of the Vosges Mountains by the end of September.



Photo of soldiers unloading equipment for Operation Dragoon, courtesy of the National WWII Museum

# Harold Rake

## Military Service, Con't

- Over the next two months, Harold and the 36th Infantry Division fought to reach the Alsatian plains.
- In December 1944, the 36th Infantry Division began its drive toward the Colmar Pocket.
- A train struck and killed Harold on December 25, 1944, as he and the 36th Infantry Division prepared for battle.

Rake, Harold E	
U.S. WWII Hospital Admission Card Files, 1942-1954	
<a href="#">Info</a>	<a href="#">Memorials</a>
<a href="#">Comments</a>	<a href="#">Browse</a>
Full Name	Rake, Harold E
Race	White, includes Mexican
Admission Date	Dec 1944
Admission Type of Injury	Injury, non-battle
Military Service Number	34799980
Rank	Enlisted Man
Branch	Ordnance, General or Unspecified
Injured in Line of Duty	Not determined
Medical Diagnosis	SecondLocation: Unknown, code not applicable;; CausativeAgent: Railway, Steam or Electric, Struck by
Discharge Type	Died
Discharge Date	Dec 1944
Conflict Period	World War II
Served for	United States of America

Text from a World War II Hospital Admission Card for Harold Rake, courtesy of Ancestry.com



# Harold Rake

## Legacy

- Harold was buried in the American Epinal Cemetery in Eastern France.
- After the war, the US government contacted the families of the fallen to decide if their loved one would remain in overseas or be interred in the US.
- The family chose to have Pvt. Harold Rake interred as the third generation of the family buried in their local National Cemetery.
- Harold was survived by his wife, Eleanor, who is buried with him, and his son James, who was four when he lost his father.



## Section C, Plot 6

# Clark Eugene Rake

## Early Life

- Clark Eugene Rake was born on September 26, 1924, in Saint Augustine, Florida
- Clark grew up in a modest home located at 38 Palmer St., just a mile and a half away from the St. Francis Barracks
- Clark graduated high school and worked at the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company on W. King St. in St. Johns County
- Clark was married to Pauline who had a son, Frankie Freeman; They had two children together Wayne and Tommy



## Clark Eugene Rake Military Service

- Clark enlisted in the US Army on March 13, 1943.
- Like his brother Harold, Clark participated in Camp Blanding's Infantry Replacement Training program.
- Clark served in WWII and the Korean War.
- While in Korea, Clark served with the 555 Field Artillery Battalion, known as the "Triple Nickel."
- He received three bronze stars, a distinguished unit citation for his tank company, and the Korean Service Medal.

## Clark Eugene Rake Military Service, Con't

Excerpt from "Hardluck 'Triple Nickel' Outfit Battles Way Back," *St. Petersburg Times*, 1951

Resting on his haunches beside the rusty, shell-battered tank, Rake told his story:

"There must have been 350 of us at least, counting the Triple Nickel, our tanks, and the infantry. I think most of the guys got out. But someone said 18 men from my company were killed. A lieutenant from Dog Company who got captured was released by the [Chinese] so he could get medical treatment said nine other guys were captured and he didn't know how many were killed.

"We came into the valley with the tanks fighting rear guard.

"Then the [Chinese], on the left side of the valley, opened up. They had heavy mortar and bazookas. Pretty soon the road was clogged with knocked out trucks and jeeps, standing almost bumper to bumper.

"I don't know how many Reds were in those hills and on the valley edge, but they started blowing bugles and pouring down as soon as we got in there. They were every place."

As Sgt. Rake finished his story, a cuckoo bird perched on the fire-blackened turret of a rusted, trackless Patton tank, sang out as if in mockery of the war.





## Clark Eugene Rake Legacy

- Tragically, Clark's life was cut short due to a motor vehicle collision in 1952
- He passed away on September 29, 1952 at Walter Reed medical hospital.
- Like previous generations of the Rake Family, he rests in the St. Augustine National Cemetery, not far from his brother, his uncle, and his grandfather.

## *The significance of a coin on the headstone.*

Here is the breakdown:

**A penny:** This means someone has visited the grave.

**A nickel:** This signifies that the visitor served with the deceased service member at boot camp.

**A dime:** A dime means the visitor and deceased service member served together at some point.

**A quarter:** Be prepared to have some tissue on hand when you see this denomination on a headstone. This coin is left by someone who was physically with the service member when they died.

