

NAME: McMillan, James

PARISH: Glen Pean, Scotland

ENTERED SERVICE: ca 1803

DATES: b. [ca 1783]

d. 26 Jan 1858, Glasgow

(A.16/62 fo.10)

Appointments & Service

Outfit Year*:	Position:	Post:	District:	HBCA Reference:
<i>*An Outfit year ran from 1 June to 31 May</i>				
[ca 1803]	NWC clerk	Fort Des Prairies dept		<i>HBR</i> S Vol.III, P.450
1807	David Thompson expedition to Upper Columbia River			<i>HBR</i> S Vol.III, P.450
1808-09	wintered at Kootenae House			F.3/2 fo. 235
1809-10	wintered at Saleesh House			<i>Dict. Of Cdn Biog.</i> Vol. VIII
1810	sent to monitor Joseph Howse			"David Thompson's Narrative..." pp. 415-16.
1821	Chief Trader		Columbia	F.3/2 fo. 235; B.239/k/1 pp.7, 16
1822	Permitted to visit York Factory			B.239/k/1 p. 24
1823-24	furlough spent in Canadas			B.239/k/1 p. 44
1824	accompanied George Simpson, York Factory to the Columbia			D.3/1; B.239/k/1 p.78
Nov, 1824	led expedition to Fraser River			<i>Dict. Of Cdn Biog.</i> Vol. VIII
1825	appointed in charge of Fort Assiniboine		Saskatchewan	B.239/k/1 p.120
1825	arrived at Norway House			B.154/a/11
[ca 1825]	survey expedition	Jasper House to Fraser River		B.188/a/5; B.188/b/4)
1825-27	Chief Trader	Fort Assiniboine	Columbia	B.60/a/23; B.239/k/1 pp.177, 215
1826	Simpson expedition			B.223/a/3
1827	Chief Factor	Fort Langley		D.4/121 fos. 17d-18; A.1/55 fo. 173; B.239/k/1 p.250
1828	furlough	Scotland		B.239/k/1 p.260
1829-30				B.135/c/2 fos. 33d, 35d, 40, 42d-43, 45
1830-34	appointed to establish an experimental farm, RRS			B.239/k/1 pp.288, 311; B.239/k/2 pp. 12, 37
1834-37	Chief Factor	Lake of Two Mtns	Lake of Two Mtns	B.239/k/2 p. 62
1837-38	Furlough granted			B.239/k/2 p. 152
1838-39	leave of absence extended			D.4/23 fos. 87d-88
1839	resignation			D.4/23 fos. 87d-88

Re: pension allowance/assistance: (A.5/13; A.10/37 fo. 403; A.10/39 fo. 506; A.10/40 fos. 211-212, 222-223, 291-292, 525; A.10/41 fos. 307-308, 316, 327, A.10/42 fos. 317, 391) See also Search file : 'McMILLAN, JAMES'



Parents: Allan McMillan and Margaret Cameron (Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online)

Wives: Josephthe Belisle, m. [pre-1806] daughter of Bellisle (French Canadian) and Josephthe ? (native)
 Marie Letendre, b. 1790 (Rupert's Land) daughter of Baptiste Letendre (French Canadian) and a native woman, m. [ca 1811]
 Marguerite 'Kil-a-ko-tah' Clatsoppe, m. 1820 as his "country wife", previously married to Mathews (American), later married to Louis Laborite (photograph of Marguerite held at the Archives of Ontario)
 Eleanor (Ellen, Helen) McKinley, m. [ca 1828] in Scotland; remained in Scotland while James was at RRS (B.135/c/2 fo. 54d); travelled with daughter to RRS (B.135/e/2 fos. 64d, 68d); at RRS (B.135/e/2 fo.80d); after death of James, sent requests for financial assistance to the company, ca. 1869 (A.10/73; also, Search File 'McMillan, James'); d. 18 August 1869, 94 Hill Street, Garnethill, Glasgow

Children: From Josephthe Belisle: William, b. 1806 married Margaret Dease; James b. [ca 1808] (photograph held by the Archives of Ontario)

From Marie Letendre: Marie, married Pierre Parenteau; Helene b. 1811 married Jean Baptiste Boyer; Marguerite b. 16 Sept 1813 (Denney) baptized 24 Sept 1823 St. Andrew's; Allan b. 1 Jun 1816 baptized 24 Sept 1823 St. Andrew's; Angelique 'Nellie' (Nelly) b. [ca 1823] married John Warren Dease (D.5/33 fos. 327-328)

From Marguerite 'Kil-a-ko-tah' Clatsoppe: Victoire, b. [ca 1820] married Joseph McLoughlin

8 children from Eleanor (Ellen, Helen) McKinley: Archibald b. 1816 (Perthshire, England) married Sarah Julia Ogden; daughter b. 1831; Margaret, baptized 6 Feb. 1833 (E.4/1 fo. 96d); Ewen Alexander, HBC employee b. 1837 (A.10/37 fo.403); James McMillan HBC Clerk (b. 1839; engaged 1858); Eleanor Cameron, sent letter informing the company of her mother's death on 18 August 1869 (A.10/49 fos. 194-197; A.10/79)

Mother unknown: Patrick, HBC employee (A.10/40 fos. 291-292, 525)
 William (B.60/a/23)
 Allan (D.4/22 fos. 80-80d)
 Etienne Gregoire ("The Round Hand of George B. Roberts. Letters of Mrs. F.F. Victor" in *Oregon Historical Quarterly*, Vol. LXIII, Nos. 2, 3 (June-Sept., 1962), pp. 232-233)



Journals kept by James McMillan:
 Thompson's River Post Journals 1822-1823 (B.97/a/1)

Fort Langley Journals 1827-1830 (E.244/2)

Rigolet Post Journals (B.183/a)

Except from George Simpson's Character Book: "About 49 years of Age.—A very steady plain blunt man, shrewd & sensible of correct conduct and good character, but who has gone through a vast deal of severe duty and is fit for any Service requiring physical strength firmness of mind and good Management provided he has no occasion to meddle with Pen & Ink in the use of which he is deficient his Education having been neglected.—An excellent Trader, speaks several Indian Languages and is very regular and economical in all his arrangements: a good practical Man, better adapted for the executive than the Legislative departments of the business. His plain blunt manner however cannot conceal a vast deal of little highland pride, and his prejudices are exceedingly strong, but upon the whole he is among the most respectable of his class and a generally useful Man.—" (A.34/2)

References:

Fleming, Harvey (ed.), *Minutes of Council, Northern Department of Rupert Land, 1821-31*, Toronto: Champlain Society, 1940.

Glazebrook, G.P. de T. (ed.), *The Hargrave Correspondence, 1821-1843*, Toronto: Champlain Society, 1938.

Howay, F.W., "The Discovery of the Fraser River: The Second Phase", *The British Columbia Historical Quarterly*, Vol. IV, No. 4 (Oct., 1940), pp. 245-251.

Howay, F.W., "Fort Langley, Historic HBC Post in British Columbia", *The Beaver*, Vol. 2, No. 2 (Nov., 1921), pp. 2-6.

Merk, Frederick (Ed.), *Fur Trade and Empire; George Simpson's Journal: Remarks connected with the fur trade in the course of a voyage from York Factory to Fort George and back to York Factory; 1824-1825; together with accompanying documents*, Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1931, p. 68 n.

Morin, Gail, *Métis Families—A Genealogical Compendium*, Vol. 4, pp. 127-129

Sinclair, Warren, *Métis Genealogies*, E.235/121 "Mc"

Thomas, Gregory, "McMillan, James" *Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online* Vol. VIII, 1851-1860, <http://www.biographi.ca/009004-119.01-e.php?BioId=38209&query=mcmillan>

Thompson, David (ed.), *David Thompson's Narrative of his explorations in Western America 1784-1812*, Toronto: Champlain Society, 1916.

Wallace, W.S. (Ed.), *Documents Relating to the North West Company*, Toronto: The Champlain Society, 1934, pp. 482-483.

HBRS Vol. III Pp. 450-451

Search File: 'McMILLAN,CHIEF FACTOR JAMES'

Beaver Vertical File: 'Employees: McMillan, James, Chief Factor' (x2)

Filename: McMillan, James ([b.ca 1783]-d.1858) (fl. [ca 1803]-1839); AES 2011/03

