

NAME: McKAY, John 'd' PARISH: Temiscamingue

ENTERED SERVICE: ca.1815 (NWC)

DATES: b. ca.1800
d. 1856

Appointments & Service

Outfit Year*:	Position:	Post:	District:	HBCA Reference:
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*An Outfit year ran from 1 June to 31 May

1815-1821	North West Company*			
1821-1828	Clerk/Clerk & Interpreter		Temiscamingue	B.134/g/2,4-6
1829-1833	Clerk		Temiscamingue	B.135/g/11-17
1834-1835	Clerk & Interpreter		Temiscamingue	B.135/g/18-19
1836-1847	Postmaster		Temiscamingue	B.135/g/20-31
1848	Listed as "Retired to Canada"			B.135/g/32
1856, 15 August	Died			B.135/g/40

*HBC records credit him with service beginning around 1815. He is listed as an apprentice in the NWC's Temiscamingue Department in the spring of 1821. (F.4/46, p. 24)

In his report on Temiscamingue of 4 July 1823, Thomas Fraser described McKay as:

"A very ingenious, industrious and serviceable person at this Post but is rather fond of Liquor." (B.218/e/1, fo. 4)

In his Character Book, 1832, George Simpson also refers to McKay's heavy drinking:

"[he] is only retained in the Service as he would be troublesome in opposition from his knowledge [of] the country and influence over the principal Indians in the District to whom he is related." (A.34/2)

According to Elaine A. Mitchell, *Fort Timiskaming and the Fur Trade* (1977), he was the son of Donald McKay (fl. 1785-1820). John's only son, Henry, died in 1851. (Search File, "McKay, Donald (fl. 1785-1820)")

