

McLeroy Ancestors Who Fought in the Revolutionary War

William McElroy

1717 - 1802

The McLeroy story begins with the first documented appearance of Scottish immigrant John Muckelroy in Baltimore, Maryland in 1716 when John received a warrant for 100 acres. Along the way there have been at least nine different ways the name McLeroy was spelled. Records indicate five land grants, each with a different spelling of McLeroy! The birth of John and Francis' four children are recorded in the Maryland Hall of Records in Annapolis, Maryland. William, the third child was born in 1717 in St. George's Parish, Annapolis, Maryland

John did not remain in Maryland long, for by 1733 he sold all his land and moved to Virginia. Later he migrated to Johnson County, (now Wake County) North Carolina. It was in this area that William was licensed to operate an ordinary, which was a combination rooming house and saloon. It was here that Revolutionary War Patriot Reuben was born, the fifth child of seven children born to William and Ghasky. William's older brother, John, also had a son named William and both father and son served in the Revolutionary War. Brother John's son, William, died in 1776 as a British prisoner in Charleston

Note that William changed the spelling of the family name from Muckelroy to McElroy. His son, Reuben changed that spelling to what is used today by his descendants - McLeroy.

William was 58 years old when the Revolutionary War started and did not fight as a soldier. He did, however, qualify as a Patriot for furnishing pork for the Militia and Continental troops in the State of North Carolina. William has been documented by both the Sons of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the American Revolution for his assistance in aiding in the Revolution.

After the war, William and his adult family members all moved to Wilkes County, Georgia. William died in Oglethorpe County, Georgia in 1802 and it is not known where he is buried. His family members later settled around what is now Clarke County, Georgia.

Reuben McLeroy

1759-1820

Reuben married Christina Johnson in April 1776 and lived in Johnson County, North Carolina during The Revolution. Reuben participated in the skirmishes following the battle of Guilford Courthouse and several other area conflicts. His unit is also credited with rescuing Reuben's older brother, John, from the Tories (John owned 1,000 acres in Guilford County). Both became Baptist Preachers.

By the end of the Revolutionary War, all of the William McLeroy family migrated to Wilkes County, Georgia. When the county was later subdivided into several counties, it was in Oconee County that Reuben was ordained as a Baptist Preacher in 1806 at the Mars Hill Baptist Church.