

**NAME:** BIRD, James Sr. **PLACE OF BIRTH:** Acton, Middlesex  
(sometimes James Curtis) (also Mitcham, Surrey, A.16/15)

**ENTERED SERVICE:** 23 April 1788 (A.32/3,fo.202) **DATES:** b. ca.1773  
d.18 Oct.1856

Appointments & Service

Outfit Year*	Position	Post	District	HBCA Reference
<i>*An Outfit year ran from 1 June to 31 May</i>				
1788 - 1792	Writer	York Factory		A.16/33, fo.161; D.C.B. Vol. VIII pgs. 90-91
1792 - 1793	Writer	Cumberland House	York Inland	B.239/f/1, fo.54d-55
1793 - 1794	In Charge	South Branch House		D.C.B.
1794 - 1795	In Charge	Nepawi		D.C.B.
1795 - 1797	In Charge	Carlton House		B.27/a/1; D.C.B.
1797 - 1799	Trader	Carlton House		A.15/15 ,fo.491
1799 - 1803	Trader	Edmonton House	Saskatchewan	B.239/d/147; D.C.B.; B.49/a/30
1803 - 1813	In Charge of Inland Posts	Edmonton A.16/35,fo.14; D.C.B.	Saskatchewan	A.16/34, fo.103;
1813 - 1816	Chief of District	Edmonton	Saskatchewan	A.16/15,fo.10, 131
1816 - 1817	Chief of District	Carlton House	Saskatchewan	D.C.B.
1817 - 1818	Acting Governor of Rupert's Land			A.6/19,fo.18d-19, 40
1818 - 1820	Chief of District	Cumberland	Saskatchewan	D.C.B.
1820 - 1821	Chief Factor	Forks	Red River	B.51/a/3, fo.5, 23 July 1820
1821 - 1822	Chief in charge of District		Lower Red River	B.239/k/1,p.7
1822 - 1823	on furlough			B.239/k/1,p.14
1823 - 1824	Chief Factor in charge of District		Upper Red River	B.239/k/1,p.44
1824, 1 June	retired			B.239/k/1, p.67
1856, 18 Oct.	died			Wills; A.36/1b, p.43-47; PAM, MG2 C41



Granted land: 1245A, Lot 582, E. Bank Red River (modern lots 100-110, St. Paul's)

E.6/2

Wrote the following journals: B.27/a/1-3, Carlton House, 1795-1798 (1M19); B.27/a/6-7, Carlton House, 1816-1817 (1M19); B.60/a/5-16, Edmonton, 1799-1800, 1806-1816 (1M49).

Biographies: E.E. Rich, *Simpson's Athabasca Journal*, HBRV Vol.I, p.429; *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, Vol.VIII

Search File: "Bird, James Sr."

See next page for family information...

Parents: James Bird and Elizabeth Curtis (m. 30 May 1773, St. Batholomew Gt, London)Info. International Gen. Index, LDS  
Siblings: Elizabeth (baptised 3 Dec. 1777); William; George (baptised 4 June 1779); Charles James;Info. Int. Gen. Index, LDS;  
Levi (baptised 11 April 1782); Mary Downes (baptised 8 Jan. 1784) (A.16/15,33,34,35,37)

Wife: Elizabeth [Montour] b.c.1789, married 30 March 1821; buried 1 November 1834

E.4/1;Search File: "Bird, James Sr."

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Children:

*The Selkirk Settlers of Red River and Their Descendants, 1812-1997*

James Jr.(James John or Jimmy Jock) b. [ca. 1798-1800] at Sturgeon River, married Sarah Butts

George (ca.1793-1855) married Anne Thomas

\*Joseph (1800-1878)

Levi (1801-1864)

\*William (ca.1805- ) married Venus Hay, b. 1801

\*Henry (1805- ) m. Harriet Calder, son John James

Elizabeth (ca. 1806-April 1845) married James Sinclair

John (ca.1808-1837)

\*Letitia (1810-1897) married Charles McKay, to Oregon 1841

Thomas (ca.1815- ), to Oregon 1854, married Ellen McDermot

Philip (ca.1818- ), to Oregon 1854, married Mary Fidler

Chloe ( -1842) married James Flett, died in Oregon

Arthur (1822 [1811?]- ), to Oregon 1854

Nicholas Garry (1824- ), to Oregon 1841

\*Mary (11 Oct.1829- ) married McKenzie

Peter (1826- )

\* named in will of 21 March 1855

Wife: Mary Kelly Lowman, married 22 January 1835 (born 1801, died at Cheshunt, Herts in 1873)

E.4/lb, fo.242d

Children:

\*Curtis James (1837-1876) married Frances Ross and Annabella Ross

\*Elizabeth/ [Eliza] Margaret (4 January 1840- ) married Charles John Griffin

Harriet Isabella (6 June 1842- ) Baptised 23 October 1843 (died before 1855)



\* named in will of 21 March 1855

Some genealogical information taken from Lord Selkirk Association of Rupert's Land, *The Selkirk Settlers of Red River and Their Descendants, 1812-1997*, 1997. There is some discrepancy regarding dates and the list of children.

Filename: Bird, James Sr. (ca. 1773-1856) (fl. 1788-1824) JHB:ek April 1986 (Revised July 1986, JHB:wg; 11/92; revised 02/98, KE) ; May/99/mhd