

NAME:MCPHAIL, John

PARISH: Scotland

ENTERED SERVICE:1832

DATES:b.ca. 1809

Appointments & Service

Outfit Year*:

Position:

Post:

District:

HBCA Reference:

**An Outfit year ran from 1 June to 31 May*

John McPhail of Shabost, in the parish of Lochs, Ross-shire, Scotland, was born about 1809. He entered the service of the Hudson's Bay Company as a labourer in 1832, and in June of that year sailed from Stornoway to York Factory in the Company's ship Prince Rupert. He apparently spent the winter of 1832-33 somewhere in Saskatchewan District, but for the remainder of his service he was stationed in the Columbia District, where his service were often at the disposal of the Puget's Sound Agricultural Company. McPhail worked as a labourer and middleman, chiefly at fort Vancouver, until the end of outfit 1839-42, but from outfit 1842-43 until the end of outfit 1848-49 he was employed as a shepherd at Fort Vancouver. He then apparently retired, but his mane appeared again in the Columbia accounts for trading seasons 1850-53, when he was listed as being a shepherd at Fort Nisqually. From outfit 1848-49 until his final retirement in 1853 his wages were debited to the account of the Puget's Sound Agricultural Company. McPhail apparently retired to Victoria, Vancouver Island, in January, 1853. His contract with the Hudson's Bay Company dated March 1, 1850, is printed in Oregon Hist.Quart., XV11, 52-4.

{HBC Archives: McLoughlin's Fort Vancouver Letters, 1844-46 edited by E.E. Rich, Hudson's Bay Record Society Vol.V11 (London: Hudson's Bay Record Society, 1944) p.318}

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