

## **Cathey's Fort** <sup>[1]</sup>

# Cathey's Fort

by Steve Suther, 2006



Concrete monument near Cathey's Fort, McDowell County. Image from the North Carolina Digital Collections. <sup>[2]</sup>Cathey's Fort was built in [McDowell County](#) <sup>[3]</sup> by William Cathey in 1776. Cathey had purchased land near Turkey Cove at the foot of the mountains and there, where Cove Creek joined the North Fork of the [Catawba River](#) <sup>[4]</sup>, he made his home. The fort was raised to protect Cathey's family and his neighbors from the [Cherokee Indians](#) <sup>[5]</sup>. Until Davidson's Fort was built soon afterward in what is now Old Fort, Cathey's Fort was the farthest western military outpost in North Carolina during the [Revolutionary War](#) <sup>[6]</sup>. Both forts played a part in the western campaigns of the war, including events leading up to the [Battle of King's Mountain](#) <sup>[7]</sup> on 7 Oct. 1780.

### References:

Pat Alderman, *The Overmountain Men* (1986).

Lyman C. Draper, *King's Mountain and Its Heroes: History of the Battle of King's Mountain, October 7th 1780 and the Events Which Led to It* (repr., 1967).

### Additional Resources:

"Cathey's Fort." North Carolina Highway Historical Marker Program. <https://www.ncdcr.gov/about/history/division-historical-resources/nc-highway-historical-marker-program/Markers.aspx?ct=ddl&sp=search&k=Markers&sv=N-26> <sup>[8]</sup> (accessed August 31, 2012).

North Carolina Office of Archives and History. "Cathey's Fort: Consideration of potential development as a state historic site." 2004. <https://cdm16062.contentdm.oclc.org/u/?p249901coll22,647277> <sup>[9]</sup> (accessed October 19, 2012).

"McDowell County: The Cathey-Wofford-Greenlee House." Instructional Technology Section, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. <http://www.ncwiseowl.org/carolinaclips/counties/mcdowell/mcdowell/cathys.html> <sup>[10]</sup> (accessed August 31, 2012).

Brook, David L. S. "Division Of Historical Resources: Research Branch." *Biennial report of the North Carolina Office of Archives and History*. 2002-2004. p.7-12. <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/Documents/Detail/biennial-report-of-the-north-carolina-office-of-archives-and-history-2002-2004-50th/2934141> <sup>[11]</sup> (accessed August 31, 2012).

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North Carolina Office of Archives and History. "Cathey's Fort: Consideration of potential development as a state historic site." 2004. p.5. <https://cdm16062.contentdm.oclc.org/u/?p249901coll22,647277> <sup>[9]</sup> (accessed October 19, 2012).

### Subjects:

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[Military](#) <sup>[13]</sup>

[Places](#) <sup>[14]</sup>

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### Origin - location:

[McDowell County](#) <sup>[16]</sup>

### From:

[Encyclopedia of North Carolina, University of North Carolina Press.](#) <sup>[17]</sup>

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