



### **COLONEL JOSEPH MCDOWELL**

Born: 2/26/1758

Died: 3/7/1799

Joseph McDowell, son of "Hunting" John and Annie Edmiston McDowell, was born February 26, 1758. He was educated in Virginia and was a physician and lawyer by profession. On April 27, 1786, he married his cousin Mary Moffitt of Augusta County, Virginia. Mary Moffitt was a granddaughter of Ephriam McDowell.

Joseph was a captain in the Battle of Kings Mountain and commanded a company. He was later promoted to major during the Revolutionary War. After the Battle of Kings Mountain, when the spoils were divided, a portion of a set of General Ferguson's china was given to him. It is now in the North Carolina Museum in Raleigh, NC.

After the Revolutionary War, he was given the title of Colonel. Colonel Joseph McDowell distinguished himself as a legislator in the North Carolina House of Commons from Burke County in 1787, 1788, 1791 and 1792. Then he was elected to represent this area in the 3<sup>rd</sup> United States Congress of 1793-1795. He was appointed to a commission to settle the boundary lines between North Carolina and Tennessee.

In 1780, Colonel Joseph McDowell built what is now known as the McDowell House in

Marion, NC in the Federal style. He named it Pleasant Gardens.  
Colonel Joseph and Mary Moffitt had three children: John, Anne and James.

When McDowell County was organized in 1843, it was named for Joseph McDowell. He was regarded as one of the most prominent men in the Upper Catawba Valley.

Colonel Joseph McDowell died March 7, 1799 and was buried in the Round Hill burial plot on the former McDowell property with other members of the McDowell family.