

Cochran, James ^[1]

Cochran, James

by [William S. Powell](#) ^[2], 1979

1761–13 Apr. 1817

James Cochran, planter and congressman, was born in or near the community of Mount Tirzah, Orange (now [Person](#) ^[3]) County. He attended local schools and engaged in farming near the present Timberlake. At the time of his death he owned over six thousand acres of land. He represented [Person County](#) ^[3] in the House of Commons in 1802–6 and in the senate in 1807. Elected as a [Democrat](#) ^[4] to Congress, he served from March 1809 until March 1813. He was elected in 1814 and in 1815 to a seat on the council of state.

On 14 Jan. 1793, Cochran married Annis McNeill; they were the parents of Susanna, who married William A. Lea; Annis, who married John Dobbin and was the mother of [James Cochran Dobbin](#) ^[5], secretary of the navy from 1853 to 1857; and Addison, a minor at the time of his father's death, who entered [The University of North Carolina](#) ^[6] in 1820.

Cochran died intestate, perhaps unexpectedly, and was buried in the cemetery at Lea's Chapel west of Roxboro. An obituary notice in the [Raleigh Register](#) ^[7] of 25 Apr. 1817 referred to him as Major James Cochran, indicating perhaps a rank in the local militia.

References:

Biog. Dir. Am. Cong. (1971).

Cochran Estate Papers, Person County Records (North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh).

Additional Resources:

"Cochran, James, (ca. 1767 - 1813)." *Biographical Directory of the United States Congress*. Washington, D.C.: The Congress. <http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=C000564> ^[8] (accessed May 1, 2013).

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[Powell, William S.](#) ^[12]

Origin - location:

[Person County](#) ^[13]

From:

[Dictionary of North Carolina Biography, University of North Carolina Press](#).^[14]

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