

Baldy Dyer's Children - Genealogy Research Report

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Objective

Identify the children of Baldy Dyer, who married Polly Taylor, 13 Dec 1800, in Davidson, Tennessee, and died 20 November 1814 in Davidson, TN. This is part of an overarching project to find out if there is any connection in Baldy Dyer's descendants to John Robert Dyer.

Limitations

This report was generated by Claude AI with prompts from Nicole Dyer using a previously created timeline and research log.¹

Results Summary

- Discovered a marriage record of Joel Dyer and Sally Jones Christmas in Davidson County, Tennessee, 1802, suggesting a possible connection to Baldy Dyer.
- Identified Joel, R. Thomas, and Baldy Dyer in the 1805 Davidson County, Tennessee tax list, confirming their residence in the area.
- Uncovered Baldy Dyer's War of 1812 service record providing details about his enlistment, physical description, and death in February 1815 while serving in the 39th Infantry Regiment.
- Found Maria Dyer (likely Baldy's widow) as the head of a household of six free white persons in the 1820 census record for Nashville, Davidson County.
- Revealed a marriage record of Polly Dyer and James Tayler in Davidson County, Tennessee, 1830, possibly referring to Baldy's daughter.
- Discovered a mention of Archibald Dyer (possibly Baldy's son) in an 1841 estate inventory in McMinn County, Tennessee.
- Identified a pension index card for Thomas Blake listing Baldy Dyer as his dependent, suggesting another potential family relationship.
- Conducted negative searches for Baldy Dyer's will, probate records, land transactions, and Revolutionary War service in various Davidson County, Tennessee records and U.S. Compiled Revolutionary War Military Service Records (1775-1783).
- Reviewed an overview image from Baldy Dyer's bounty land warrant file, dated 1817, confirming his service as a private in Lt. Covington's Company of the 39th Infantry during the War of 1812.

¹ Claude 3 Opus, April 2024, user Nicole Dyer, *Anthropic* (<https://claude.ai/chat/> : accessed 10 April 2024).

- Examined a certification by William Steen, a paymaster, confirming Baldy Dyer's enlistment on November 20, 1814, for a five-year term and his death in February 1815, based on a muster roll of Captain Covington's detachment.
- Analyzed Mary Dyer's bounty land warrant application on behalf of her seven children, identifying her as Baldy's widow and guardian of their children.
- Confirmed the issuance of a warrant to Mary Dyer, survivor of Baldy Dyer, specifying the claim was for a survivor's pension based on Baldy's service as a private in the 39th Infantry.

Starting Point

Baldy Dyer, born in 1764 in Charles, Maryland², married his first wife, Sophronia or Sophie, in 1782 in Halifax County, Virginia³. He had several children with her, including Archibald Dyer (born 1784 in Virginia)⁴, Samuel Linn "Lem" Dyer (born 1785 in Virginia)⁵, John Dyer (born 1791 in Virginia)⁶, James Dyer (born 1794 in Virginia)⁷, and Matthew Dyer (born June 4, 1794, in Green, Kentucky)⁸. Baldy Dyer later married his second wife, Mary Polly Taylor, on December 13, 1800, in Davidson, Tennessee⁹. Mary "Polly" Taylor was born in 1765 in Charles County, Maryland¹⁰. The couple had several children together, including Willie Dyer (born 1801 in Tennessee)¹¹, James Dyer (born 1803 in Tennessee)¹², Simpson Dyer (born 1805 in Tennessee)¹³, William Dyer (born 1807 in Tennessee)¹⁴, David Dyer (born 1810 in McMinn, Tennessee)¹⁵, and Susanna Dyer (born 1811 in Tennessee)¹⁶. Baldy Dyer served as a Private in the 39th regiment of infantry and died on November 20, 1814, in Florida Territory, USA^{17,18}. His heirs, listed as Willie, James, William, David, Susanna, Simpson, and Mary Dyer of Davidson County, received an annual allowance of 48.00 and a total sum of 240.00 from his pension, which commenced on February 17, 1815, and ended on February 17,

² "Public Member Trees," database, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 14 May 2019), "Keith Family Tree," entry for Baldwin "Baldy" Dyer (b. 1764); submitted by user BN Keith.

³ "Public Member Trees," database, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 14 May 2019), "Keith Family Tree," entry for Baldwin "Baldy" Dyer (b. 1764); submitted by user BN Keith.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Davidson County, Tennessee, Marriage Record 1800-1821, Dyer-Taylor, 13 Dec 1800, p. 240, "Tennessee, Marriage Records, 1780-2002," Ancestry (<https://ancestry.com> : accessed 2 April 2019); citing Tennessee State Library and Archives.

¹⁰ "Public Member Trees," database, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 14 May 2019), "johnson Family Tree," entry for Mary "Polly" Taylor (b. 1766); submitted by user wayne52johnson.

¹¹ "Public Member Trees," database, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 14 May 2019), "johnson Family Tree," entry for Mary "Polly" Taylor (b. 1766); submitted by user wayne52johnson.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ "Public Member Trees," database, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 14 May 2019), "Seidlikoski Family Tree," entry for David Dyer (b. 1810); submitted by user Beverley Biever.

¹⁶ "Public Member Trees," database, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 14 May 2019), "johnson Family Tree," entry for Mary "Polly" Taylor (b. 1766); submitted by user wayne52johnson.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ The Pension Roll of 1835, Indexed Edition, In Four Volumes (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1992) 3:534; database and images online, Ancestry (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 14 May 2019) "U.S., The Pension Roll of 1835," > Vol. III > 13 Tennessee > image 13; citing the United States Senate, Senate Document 514, Serial Nos. 249-51 (23rd Cong., 1st Sess).

1820¹⁹. Archibald Dyer, son of Baldy Dyer, was granted 20 acres of land in White, Tennessee, on April 29, 1819, based on a military warrant originally issued to the heirs of Thompson Chapman²⁰.

Findings

Marriage of Joel Dyer and Sally Jones Christmas, 1802

<i>Name</i>	<i>Joel Dyer, Sex</i>	<i>Male Spouse's Name</i>	<i>Sally Jones Christmas, Spouse's Sex</i>	<i>Female</i>			
<i>Event Type</i>	<i>Marriage</i>	<i>Event Date</i>	<i>16 July 1802</i>	<i>Event Place</i>	<i>Davidson, Tennessee, United States</i>	<i>Page</i>	<i>43</i> ²¹

Joel Dyer's marriage to Sally Jones Christmas in 1802 was found in Davidson County, Tennessee records. Joel Dyer was also found in Hawkins County records, suggesting a possible connection to John Robert Dyer. Joel may have been a sibling, father, or uncle to Baldy Dyer. The marriage record book left blank the field indicating who solemnized the marriage for almost all entries, with possible ditto marks. Reviewing other pages could help determine the meaning of these ditto marks.

1805 Davidson County, Tennessee Tax List

*1805 Tax list, Davidson County, Tennessee page 8 Dyer, Joel... 2 free white males, 12 taxable slaves Dyer, R. Thomas... 2 free white males, 5 taxable slaves Dyer, Baldy... 1 free white male*²²

The 1805 tax list for Davidson County, Tennessee, arranged alphabetically, lists several Dyers including Joel, R. Thomas, and Baldy Dyer. The image at Ancestry is difficult to read due to contrast and lighting issues. Researching R. Thomas Dyer and Joel Dyer could help determine their relationship to Baldy.

Betsy F. West's Transcription of the 1805 Davidson County Tax List

*Dyer Joel 2 free white males, 12 taxable slaves Dyer, R. Thomas 2 free white males, 5 taxable slaves Dyer Baldy 1 free white male, - [0] taxable slaves*²³

¹⁹ The Pension Roll of 1835, Indexed Edition, In Four Volumes (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1992) 3:534; database and images online, Ancestry (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 14 May 2019) "U.S., The Pension Roll of 1835," > Vol. III > 13 Tennessee > image 13; citing the United States Senate, Senate Document 514, Serial Nos. 249-51 (23rd Cong., 1st Sess).

²⁰ State of Tennessee, First District, Archibald Dyer, 29 Apr 1819, Entry No. 19433, "Tennessee, Early Land Registers, 1778-1927," Ancestry (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 2 April 2019); citing Tennessee State Library and Archives, Series 3, Plats and Surveys, Nashville, Tennessee.

²¹ "Tennessee, County Marriages, 1790-1950," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 27 May 2019), Joel Dyer and Sally Jones Christmas, 16 Jul 1802; citing Davidson, Tennessee, United States, Marriage, p. 43, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville and county clerk offices from various counties; FHL microfilm 200,294.

²² Davidson County, Tennessee, Tax List, 1805, Baldy Dyer, p. 8; image online, Ancestry (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 3 June 2019); citing Early Tax Lists of Tennessee, The Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee.

²³ Betsy F. West, "Davidson County, Tennessee, Tax List - 1805," Ansearchin' News vol. 26 (No. 2 Spring, 1979): 80-85, esp. 82; image online, Tennessee Genealogical Society (<https://www.tngs.org/Ansearchn-News> : accessed 3 June 2019).

Betsy F. West correctly transcribed Baldy Dyer's entry from the 1805 Davidson County tax list in her published transcription. As a derivative source, the transcriber almost certainly had access to the original tax list and was able to read it well.

Baldy Dyer's War of 1812 Service Record

No. 377, Full Name: Dyer, Baldy Rank: Pri, Regiment: 39 U.S. Infy Regimental Commander: Col J. Williams Height: 5' 10", Eyes: Blue, Hair: black, Complexion: sandy Another line of his description says he had sandy hair and fair complexion, age 30

Enlistment Date: 20 Nov 1814, enlisted by Ens RB Harney, for the period of 5 years Occupation: Farmer Birth Place: Greenville, N.C. Age: 39, Estimated Birth Year: 1775 Branch: US Army, Conflict Period: War of 1812, Served For: United States of America Remarks: D.R. Recruits Knoxville, Tenn, Nov 3 of 14 - D.R. Lt N.A. Covington's Co. Knoxville, April 3 of 15, absent, died Feby 1815.²⁴

Baldy Dyer's War of 1812 service record provides significant details, including a birthplace of Greenville, North Carolina around 1775. This suggests a location to find additional Dyer relatives and possible father candidates. The register was created from enlistment papers, muster rolls, and other sources. Researching the original enlistment papers, a regimental history, and Baldy's fellow soldiers and commanding officers could yield further insights.

39th Infantry Regiment (War of 1812)

39th United States Infantry was a regiment of the regular Army; authorized 29 Jan 1813, recruited in East Tennessee by Col. John Williams; who had previously led the Mounted Volunteers of East Tennessee.²⁵

Baldy Dyer enlisted in the 39th United States Infantry in November 1814, after the regiment had participated in the Battle of Horseshoe Bend. Finding a more detailed regimental history could provide context for Baldy's brief service.

Baldy Dyer's Bounty Land Warrant Application

*Full Name: Baldy Dyer Rank: Private
Service Year: 1812 Military Unit: 39th US Inf, Lt Covington Warrant Number: 12-302 Rejected: FALSE Conflict Period: War of 1812
Served For: United States of America²⁶*

Baldy Dyer's bounty land warrant application confirms his service in the War of 1812 as a private in the 39th U.S. Infantry under Lt. Covington. The warrant was not rejected, suggesting it was approved. Baldy's widow, Mary, likely applied for the warrant after his death in 1815.

²⁴ Records of Men Enlisted in the U.S. Army Prior to the Peace Establishment, May 17, 1815, Vol. 8 "D", p. 30, line 377, Baldy Dyer, enlisted 20 Nov 1814; image online, Fold3 (<https://www.fold3.com/image/310973464?rec=300880247> : accessed 3 June 2019); citing National Archives Microfilm Publication M233, roll MIUSA1798_102863, National Archives, Washington DC.

²⁵ "39th Infantry Regiment (War of 1812)," Wikipedia, ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/39th_Infantry_Regiment_\(War_of_1812\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/39th_Infantry_Regiment_(War_of_1812)) : last edited on 28 April 2018, at 13:41 (UTC).

²⁶ "Bounty-Land Warrant Applications Index," entry for Baldy Dyer, Private, 1812, Fold3 (<https://www.fold3.com/record/641231683-baldy-dyer-private> : accessed 3 June 2019); citing National Archives Publication, Bounty-Land Warrant Applications Index (Text only collection), citing Warrant Number 12-302.

Maria Dyer's Household in the 1820 Census

Name: Maria Dyer Home in 1820 (City, County, State): Nashville, Davidson, Tennessee Enumeration Date: August 7, 1820 Free White Persons - Males - Under 10: 2 Free White Persons - Females - Under 10: 1 Free White Persons - Females - 16 thru 25: 1 Free White Persons - Females - 45 and over: 2 Free White Persons - Under 16: 3 Free White Persons - Over 25: 2 Total Free White Persons: 6 Total All Persons - White, Slaves, Colored, Other: 6 Neighbors: Ducan Robertson, David O Snow, James W McComb, David Bosworth, William Brooks, James B Houston, John Price, William Arthur, Joseph Woods²⁷

The 1820 census for Nashville, Davidson County, Tennessee lists the household of Maria Dyer, likely the widow of Baldy Dyer. Maria, born before 1775, is head of a household of six free white persons, including two females over 45, suggesting she lived with her mother or another older female relative. The other individuals are probably Maria's children. Researching the neighbors could provide additional context.

Marriage of James Tayler and Polly Dyer, 1830

Polly Dyer married James Tayler, 29 April 1830 in Davidson County, Tennessee; "I solemnized the rite of matrimony between the within named parties on the 29th day of Apl 1830. Jno P. Enim J.P."²⁸

Polly Dyer's 1830 marriage to James Tayler in Davidson County, Tennessee could refer to the daughter of Baldy and Maria Dyer. If Polly was the female under 10 in Maria's 1820 household, she would have been 20 or younger at her marriage. If she was the female aged 16-25 in 1820, she would have been 26-35 years old. Researching James Tayler's origins and tracing the couple forward could reveal connections to the Dyer family.

Archibald Dyer in McMinn County, Tennessee, 1841

"1 note on Archibald Dyer due 8 January 1841 desperate \$4.62", ditto for the next line due 7 Jan."²⁹

The 1841 inventory of Manuel Parkinson's estate in McMinn County, Tennessee includes notes due from Archibald Dyer. This could be the same Archibald Dyer listed as a son of Baldy Dyer in other records. Further research on Archibald Dyer of McMinn County could confirm this connection.

Thomas Blake's Pension with Possible Connection to Baldy Dyer

*Card # 28317 Old War
Invalid: Thomas Blake Dependent: Baldy Dyer³⁰*

²⁷ 1820 U.S. Census, Davidson County, Tennessee, Nashville City, household of Mary Dyer, page 45 (penned) line 19; database and images, Ancestry (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 27 May 2019); citing National Archives microfilm publication M33, roll 122.

²⁸ "Tennessee, County Marriages, 1790-1950," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 27 May 2019), James Tayler and Polly Dyer, 29 Apr 1830; citing Davidson, Tennessee, United States, Marriage, p. 381, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville and county clerk offices from various counties; FHL microfilm 200,294.

²⁹ "Tennessee, Wills and Probate Records, 1779-2008," database online, Ancestry (<https://ancestry.com> : accessed 27 May 2019), Archibald Dyer in Manuel Parkinson Inventory; citing McMinn County Will Books, 1828-1848, p. 450.

³⁰ "Numerical Index to Pensions, 1860-1934," Dependent Pension File, index card, Old War, Pension # 28317, Baldy Dyer as a dependent in Thomas Blake pension; image online, Fold3 (<https://www.fold3.com/image/309160385?rec=293366466> : accessed 3 June 2019).

A pension index card for Thomas Blake, who served in an "Old War" (likely the War of 1812 era), lists Baldy Dyer as his dependent. Although the card is from a later period (1860-1934), it could refer to the same Baldy Dyer who died in 1815, suggesting a possible connection between Baldy and Thomas Blake, perhaps through Baldy's mother's family. Reviewing the digitized pension files for several Thomas Blakes could provide more information.

Negative Search Results

Searches for Baldy Dyer's will, probate records, and land transactions in Davidson County, Tennessee, as well as a search for his Revolutionary War service, yielded negative results. These searches were conducted on Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org, and in the Tennessee Probate Court Files.

- Negative search for Baldwin or Baldy Dyer's will in Davidson County, Tennessee on Ancestry.com³¹
- Negative search for Dyer in Davidson County, Tennessee, Wills & Inventories Vol 3, 1805-1811³²
- Negative search for Dyer in Davidson County, Tennessee, Will Book #3-4, April 1805-April 1816³³
- Negative search for Dyer in Davidson County, Tennessee, Will Book #7 1816-1821³⁴
- Negative search for Dyer in Davidson County, Tennessee, Will Book #8 1821-1826³⁵
- Negative search for Dyer in Davidson County, Tennessee, Will Book #9 1826-1832³⁶
- Negative search for Dyer in Davidson County, Tennessee, Will Book #10 1832-1836³⁷
- Negative search for Dyer in Davidson County, Tennessee, Will Book #11 1837-1840³⁸
- Negative search for Baldwin or Baldy Dyer in Davidson County, Tennessee Probate Court Files³⁹

³¹ "Tennessee, Wills and Probate Records, 1779-2008," database online, Ancestry (<https://ancestry.com> : accessed 27 May 2019), negative search for Baldwin or Baldy Dyer in Davidson, Tennessee; citing Tennessee County, District and Probate Courts.

³² Davidson County, Tennessee, Wills & Inventories Vol 3, 1805-1811, Historical Record Project Copied under work's progress administration (Davidson Co., TN, 1936) 130, negative search for Dyer; image copy, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 27 May 2019); citing FHL 24,633.

³³ Davidson County, Tennessee, Will Book #3-4, April 1805-April 1816, negative search for Dyer; image copy, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 27 May 2019).

³⁴ Davidson County, Tennessee, Will Book #7 1816-1821, negative search for Dyer; image copy, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 27 May 2019).

³⁵ Davidson County, Tennessee, Will Book #8 1821-1826, negative search for Dyer; image copy, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 27 May 2019).

³⁶ Davidson County, Tennessee, Will Book #9 1826-1832, negative search for Dyer; image copy, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 27 May 2019).

³⁷ Davidson County, Tennessee, Will Book #10 1832-1836, negative search for Dyer; image copy, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 27 May 2019).

³⁸ Davidson County, Tennessee, Will Book #11 1837-1840, negative search for Dyer; image copy, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 27 May 2019).

³⁹ "Tennessee Probate Court Files, 1795-1955," images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : 27 May 2019), Davidson > Probate Court, Will records > 1784-1920 > Cobble, Cami - Eggstein, Joseph > image 2608 of 2908, negative search for Baldwin or Baldy Dyer; county archives, Tennessee.

- Negative search for Dyer in Davidson County, Tennessee land and property records, 1784-1946, Grantee index A-K 1784-1871⁴⁰
- Negative search for Dyer in Davidson County, Tennessee land and property records, 1784-1946, Grantor index A-K 1784-1871⁴¹
- Negative search for Baldwin or Baldy Dyer in U.S. Compiled Revolutionary War Military Service Records, 1775-1783⁴²

Baldy Dyer's Bounty Land Warrant File, 1817

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES BOUNTY LAND FILES

ACT OF 1812 In lieu of B.L. # 302

VETERAN Baldy Dyer

1812 GRADE private

SERVICE 39th Inf.

Lt. Covington's Company

CAN NO. 1672 BUNDLE NO. 151⁴³

This image from Baldy Dyer's bounty land warrant file, dated 1817, provides an overview of the file's contents. It confirms Baldy's service as a private in Lt. Covington's Company of the 39th Infantry during the War of 1812. The file was created in lieu of a previously issued bounty land warrant, No. 302.

Certification of Baldy Dyer's Service and Death by William Steen, 1817

Pay master General's Office City of Washington Nov'r 11th 1817

I certify that it appears from a muster Roll of Capt. Covingtons detachment of the 39th U. S. Inf'y, on file in this Office, that Baldy Dyer a private thereof, enlisted on the 20th of Nov'r 1814, for 5 years, and died in the month of February 1815.

Wm. Steen Maj'r & Pay Master

The Secretary of War.⁴⁴

⁴⁰ Land and property records, 1784-1946, Grantee index A-K 1784-1871, negative search for Dyer; image copy, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 27 May 2019).

⁴¹ Land and property records, 1784-1946, Grantor index A-K 1784-1871, negative search for Dyer; image copy, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 27 May 2019).

⁴² U.S. Compiled Revolutionary War Military Service Records, 1775-1783, negative search for Baldwin or Baldy Dyer; database online, Ancestry (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 27 May 2019).

⁴³ Baldy Dyer (Priv., Lt. Covington's Company, 39th Inf., War of 1812), bounty land warrant file 36389 (Act of 1812 In Lieu of BL #302), image 1; Military Bounty Land Warrants and Related Papers; Record Group 49: Records of the Bureau of Land Management; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

⁴⁴ Baldy Dyer (Priv., Lt. Covington's Company, 39th Inf., War of 1812), bounty land warrant file 36389 (Act of 1812 In Lieu of BL #302), image 2; Military Bounty Land Warrants and Related Papers; Record Group 49: Records of the Bureau of Land Management; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

William Steen, a paymaster, certified Baldy Dyer's service and death based on a muster roll of Captain Covington's detachment of the 39th U.S. Infantry. According to the roll, Baldy enlisted on November 20, 1814, for a five-year term but died in February 1815, serving only 2-3 months. Researching the regiment's activities during this period could shed light on the circumstances of Baldy's death.

Mary Dyer's Bounty Land Warrant Application on Behalf of Her Children, 1817

*No 302. Certificate of Military service & death Baldy Dyer a privt 39th Infy Capt Covington Detachment Mary Dyer
Guardian to 7 Children*

Enlisted 20th Nov 1814 for 5 years and died in February 1815⁴⁵

This document in Baldy Dyer's bounty land warrant file identifies Mary Dyer as the guardian of seven children and reiterates Baldy's enlistment and death dates. This suggests that Mary was Baldy's widow and provides a clue about the size of their family. Comparing this information with census and other records could help identify the children.

Warrant for Mary Dyer, Survivor of Baldy Dyer, 1817

Warrant No. _____ Certificate No 302

WAR OF 1812.

Act of April 16, 1816

Warrantee Mary Dyer Guardian of Children Soldier Baldy Dyer Private 39th Infantry

Nature of claim Survivor For Pension⁴⁶

The fourth image in Baldy Dyer's bounty land warrant file confirms that the warrant was issued to Mary Dyer, guardian of Baldy's children, as the survivor of the soldier Baldy Dyer, a private in the 39th Infantry. The file specifies that the claim was for a survivor's pension. Checking for additional records related to this warrant could provide more details about Mary and her children's post-war experiences.

Conclusion

In this phase of research, the 1802 marriage of Joel Dyer and Sally Jones Christmas was found in Davidson County, Tennessee, suggesting a possible connection to Baldy Dyer. The 1805 Davidson County tax list includes entries for Joel, R. Thomas, and Baldy Dyer, providing further evidence of their residence in the area. Baldy Dyer's War of 1812 service record offers details about his enlistment, physical description, and death in February 1815 while serving in the 39th Infantry Regiment. His widow, Maria, appears as the head of a household of six free white persons in the 1820 census for Nashville, Davidson County. The 1830 marriage record of Polly Dyer and James Tayler in Davidson County could refer to Baldy's daughter. The report also mentions Archibald Dyer, possibly Baldy's son, in connection with an 1841 estate inventory in McMinn

⁴⁵ Baldy Dyer (Priv., Lt. Covington's Company, 39th Inf., War of 1812), bounty land warrant file 36389 (Act of 1812 In Lieu of BL #302), image 3; Military Bounty Land Warrants and Related Papers; Record Group 49: Records of the Bureau of Land Management; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

⁴⁶ Baldy Dyer (Priv., Lt. Covington's Company, 39th Inf., War of 1812), bounty land warrant file 36389 (Act of 1812 In Lieu of BL #302), image 4; Military Bounty Land Warrants and Related Papers; Record Group 49: Records of the Bureau of Land Management; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

County, Tennessee. A pension index card for Thomas Blake lists Baldy Dyer as his dependent, hinting at another potential family relationship.

Searches for Baldy Dyer's will, probate records, and land transactions in Davidson County, Tennessee yielded no relevant findings. Various will books, inventories, and indexes spanning from 1805 to 1840, as well as probate court files and land records were examined, but found no mention of Baldy or Baldwin Dyer. Additionally, a search for Baldy Dyer's potential Revolutionary War service in the U.S. Compiled Revolutionary War Military Service Records (1775-1783) produced no results. These negative findings suggest that Baldy Dyer may not have left a will or extensive probate records in Davidson County, and that he likely did not serve in the Revolutionary War. However, record availability in Davidson County may have been poor due to record loss. Future research should review that.

The bounty land warrant file for Baldy Dyer, dated 1817, provides crucial information about his military service and family. The file confirms Baldy's service as a private in Lt. Covington's Company of the 39th Infantry during the War of 1812, his enlistment on November 20, 1814, for a five-year term, and his death in February 1815. It also identifies Mary Dyer as Baldy's widow and the guardian of their seven children, to whom a warrant and survivor's pension were issued based on Baldy's service.

While the research has not definitively identified all of Baldy Dyer's children, some progress has been made towards this objective:

1. The report identifies several potential children of Baldy Dyer from his first marriage to Sophronia or Sophie, including Archibald, Samuel Linn, John, James, and Matthew Dyer.
2. The report also lists potential children from Baldy's marriage to Mary Polly Taylor, including Willie, James, Simpson, William, David, and Susanna Dyer.
3. The 1820 census record for Maria Dyer's household in Nashville, Davidson County, suggests that she had several children living with her after Baldy's death, providing a clue about the size of their family.
4. Mary Dyer's bounty land warrant application identifies her as the guardian of seven children, offering further evidence of the number of children Baldy had with her.
5. The marriage record of Polly Dyer and James Taylor in 1830 could refer to one of Baldy and Mary's daughters.
6. The mention of Archibald Dyer in an 1841 estate inventory in McMinn County, Tennessee, suggests he may have been one of Baldy's sons who lived in the area.

Although the report does not conclusively name all of Baldy Dyer's children, it provides several leads and clues that could help identify them through further research. The information gathered so far can serve as a foundation for continuing the investigation into Baldy Dyer's descendants and their potential connection to John Robert Dyer's descendants through DNA testing.

Future Research

- Research the original enlistment papers, regimental history, and Baldy Dyer's fellow soldiers and commanding officers to gain further insights into his military service.
- Find a more detailed history of the 39th United States Infantry regiment to provide context for Baldy Dyer's brief service.

- Research Baldy Dyer's potential relatives, such as Joel Dyer and R. Thomas Dyer, who appear in Davidson County tax lists, to determine their relationship to Baldy.
- Investigate the neighbors listed in the 1820 census record for Maria Dyer's household to provide additional context about the family's life in Nashville, Davidson County.
- Research James Tayler's origins and trace his marriage to Polly Dyer in 1830 to reveal connections to the Dyer family.
- Conduct further research on Archibald Dyer of McMinn County to confirm his connection as a son of Baldy Dyer.
- Review the digitized pension files for several Thomas Blakes to gather more information about the potential connection between Thomas Blake and Baldy Dyer.
- Check for additional records related to Mary Dyer's bounty land warrant and survivor's pension to provide more details about her and her children's post-war experiences.