As a British history graduate I had barely heard of the Loyalists but, during PhD work at Berkeley specializing in the American Colonial field, that gap was soon rectified. My dissertation subject was the Loyalists, mainly because it combined my British and Canadian backgrounds with mainstream American history. After the publication of my dissertation as The King’s Friends, the bulk of my research and publications remained focused on the Loyalists. The Good Americans attempted to summarize the story of the Loyalists during the American Revolution and finally, Victorious in Defeat (with Wake Senior) tried to summarize the Canadian phase. During the latter part of my professional career I concentrated on the Loyalists in Sierra Leone, Bermuda, Belize, the Bahamas and the West Indies. I’m particularly proud of my publications relating to Sierra Leone, Bermuda, Dominica and Belize.

I have no personal Loyalist heritage but I have given several talks to the Fredericton and Saint John Branches of the UEL. In the time of Dominion President E. John Chard UE, I wrote a good deal for The Loyalist Gazette. I have given several addresses, scholarly and popular, in Bermuda, Belize, the UK, Canada and the US, where I always tried to challenge Americans regarding their often-myopic view of their Revolution. I have written many popular articles on the Loyalists for the press and magazines. I have been interviewed about the Loyalists for the CBS Evening News and CTV AM as well as many local media appearances.

For many years, starting around 1970, I was active in a junior capacity with the Loyalist Programme for Loyalist Studies and Publications, a tri-national organization (UK, USA and Canada). This programme had mixed results but the Canadian portion was by far the most successful and resulted in the large distinguished collection of Loyalist source material in the Library of the University of New Brunswick, Fredericton. These microfilmed documents are available on loan. I am now completely retired from all writing and “speechifying” on the Loyalists in any shape or form.

Most of my professional life was spent at University of New Brunswick. I also worked at the University of Alberta and Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island.

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