

ISAIAH BARTLEY
by Gladys Boice Tolbert

“Which Isaiah Bartley is the United Empire Loyalist?” by Gladys Boice Tolbert of Denver,
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The Dutch had certain customs in naming their children. The first born was named for the paternal grandparent, second born for maternal grandparent. So, Benjamin, Henry & Ephraim Bartley, brothers, and sons of Isaiah and Cornelia Cornelise, each named a son "Isaiah".

It has been put forth that the Isaiah Bartley listed in the Loyalist Directory is the Isaiah Bartley who is the son of Benjamin Bartley. And, horrors! The Poughkeepsie Precinct [Dutchess County New York] Articles of Association for the months of June and July 1775 list Isaiah Bartly [sic] as a signer. It is one of these sons of Benjamin or Ephraim who signed the Articles of Association.

- One of the three Isaiahs is Isaiah Bartley, son of Benjamin Bartley & Neeltje Buys, who has a church recorded baptism of 9 May 1740 in the Poughkeepsie Dutch Reform Church.
- The second is Isaiah Bartley, son of Ephraim Bartley and Margaret who was baptized 1 July 1741 in the Fishkill Reformed Church. Both churches were in Dutchess County New York.
- However, it most likely the third Isaiah Bartley who aligned with the Loyalist cause and served as a soldier (as did his brother Michael). *The King's Royal Regiment of New York* by Ernest Cruikshank with Index, Appendices & Master Muster Roll by Gavin Watt, shows the UEL Isaiah Bartley was born 1743 and from New York.

The 1743-born Isaiah Bartley married Eleanor Cammel (as church register reads) and they christened a son Hendericus Bartley in July 1769, who was born in April of that same year. This christening event took place in the Reformed Dutch Church of New Hackensack [Dutchess County New York]. 1743-born Isaiah is a son of Hendrick Bartley and his second wife Elizabeth Palmatier. Hendrick Bartley is a brother to Benjamin and Ephraim named earlier and who also named sons Isaiah.

The 1743-born Isaiah and Eleanor Cammell/Campbell Bartley followed the naming practice of naming children for grandparents and blood line relatives as seen on their children's SUE or DUE [Son or Daughter of a UE] land petitions. 1743-born Isaiah's son Henry, and his wife Mary Wright name sons Isaiah and Samuel (Mary's father); the daughter Cornelia Bartley Thompson named a son Isaiah. 1743-born Isaiah's brother, Michael, also named a son Henry.

The consistency in naming patterns should place emphasis on naming Hendrick Bartley, brother of Benjamin and Ephraim, as the father of UE Isaiah Bartley rather than Benjamin - if there are submissions showing such.

The 1743-born Isaiah's choosing to affiliate with the Loyalist cause led him to be among the thirty of the least dangerous Tories ordered to New Windsor [Ulster County New York] under the direction of Captain Mechin. The action by the Committee of Rombout Precinct [Dutchess County New York] occurred in 1776. Recorded in the committee meeting minutes of a 1776 interrogation of Isaiah are statements, "that he [Isaiah] had left Long Island last Monday. . . Baltus Van Kleek with whom the examinant [Isaiah] lives. . ." Further testimony indicates that an

election had been held concerning a local issue and Isaiah had voted in the negative.

Isaiah had several applications for land in Upper Canada in his right as a United Empire Loyalist. A 1791 land acquisition request was for land in Seventh Township [Ameliasburgh]. The names "Asa" and "Isaiah" appear in this document.

Isaiah had property in Fredericksburgh Township. In the year 1787, Isaiah Bartley purchased the east half of Lot 7 in the 4th Concession from John Benn [Sr.] who was the original nominee for the whole of Lot 7. Isaiah's possession or questionable lack of possession of property in Fredericksburgh became a legal issue between him and the heirs of John Benn. Isaiah Bartley had designated a member of the Benn family as his [Isaiah's] agent in performing the required legalities to obtain title to land and the designee titled the land in his own name. 1743-born Isaiah Bartley believed himself to be the owner of E ½ Lot 17 4th Concession, Fredericksburgh. In Isaiah's words:

The petition of Isaiah Bartley of the Township of Fredericksburgh in the Midland District, Husbandman, humbly sheweth, that your Petitioner is a U. E. Loyalist having joined his Britannic Majesty's Standard before the Peace of 1783, that he has been a Resident of the said township of Fredericksburgh ever since the first settlement of it in 1784 [and purchased from one John Benn . . .] and has erected buildings thereon, cleared aforesaid land & planted an orchard.

This land title error was not discovered until a death occurred in the Benn family and probate matters ensued. In 1825, son-in-law Benjamin Boice, and some other residents of Loughborough Township in Frontenac County circulated and signed a petition to the Crown asking that Isaiah be given a parcel of land in Loughborough that was vacant, in place of the Fredericksburgh property Isaiah Bartley lost.

The legal issues concerning the property which began in 1818 lasted into the year 1826 and it was in March of 1826 the appeal was denied. It is presumed that the now aged, possibly 83-year-old, Isaiah Bartley lived out his remaining life in the home of his daughter Margaret Bartley, wife of Benjamin Boice.

Sources: Upper Canada Land Petitions, "B" Bundle 14, Pt 3 1823-1826 CRG1, L3, Vol 48; Loughborough [Frontenac] Township Papers