

John Mills Biography

John Mills was born in Sussex New Jersey about 1733 and died after 1801 in Ontario, Canada. He married Rebecca Smith in New Jersey about 1755. She was born about 1740 in New Jersey. Rebecca (Smith) Mills is the daughter of Joseph Smith and Rachel Alfred. She died after 1782 in Ontario, Canada.

In 1793, John Mills went from New Jersey to Ontario, Canada. John Mills in his First Loyalist Land Petition dated August 10, 1794 stated that : he was formerly an inhabitant of Sussex County, New Jersey, and by reason of his attachment to the King and Constitution of Great Britain lost nearly all he had possessed of land and in 1780 was long imprisoned, indicted, and sat in a pillory for a long time in an extreme cold season that nearly cost him his life and for a long time rendered him incapable of supporting his family and obliged him to remain in the States in a miserable way. The petition was signed in his hand, so John Mills could write.

On July 9, 1795 John Mills petition was recommended for 200 acres of land and was granted Lot 15, Concession 4, amounting to 200 acres in Grimsby Township, Lincoln County, Ontario, Canada. The lot is located at the top of the Niagara Escarpment, near Forty Mile Creek.

On April 30, 1797 John Mills petitioned for additional land stating that he was apprehended by the Americans and they punished him very severely and took all his land and property which was considerable. Attendant to this second petition were subscribers who Certified that John Mills was fined and otherwise EVIL treated. He was rendered so Poor that his family was obliged to be dispersed and he was near Losing his life. The petition was certified by Nathaniel Pettit, John Adair, Jacob Beam, Daniel Corson, Cris Buchner, Davis Palmer, John Green and John Moore. So John Mills was awarded an additional 200 acres on May 16, 1797.

John Mills thus left New Jersey in 1793 with his wife and four children and resided in Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. In a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Township of Grimsby, Ontario, John Mills was elected Overseers Of Roads. He was cited as settled on Lots 15 and 16 Concession 4.