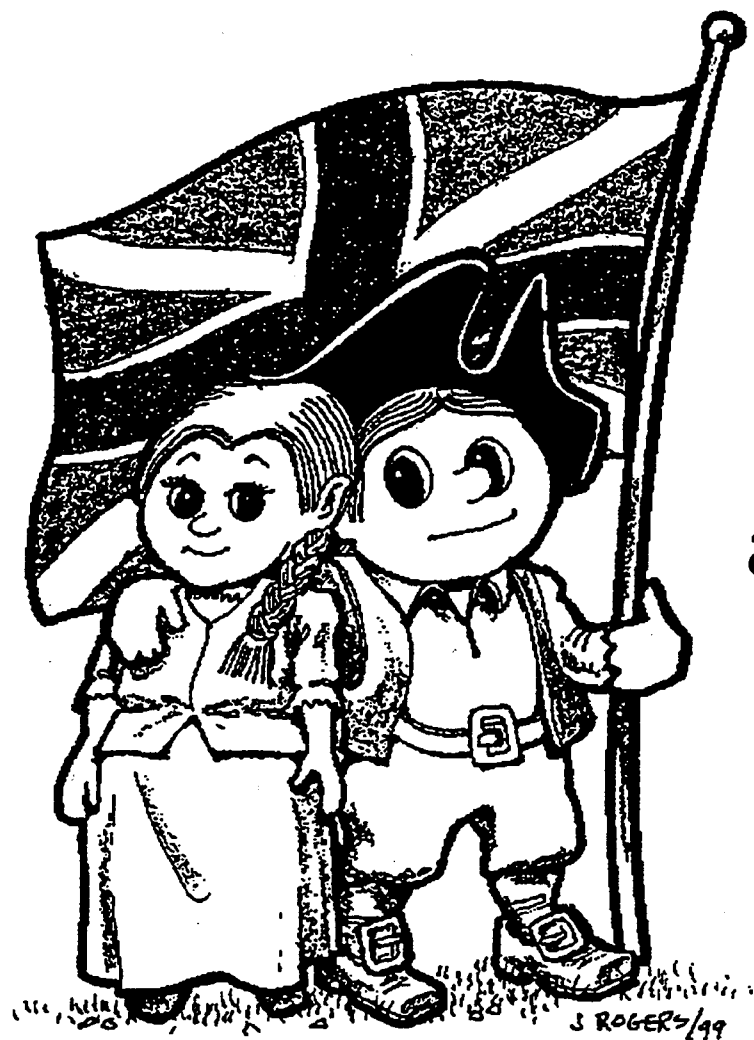


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# Teachers' Resource

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Loyalists  
Pioneers  
and Settlers

## Contents

### **1 Introduction and Acknowledgments**

### **2 Preface**

### **3 Areas of Loyalist Settlement in Upper Canada**

Niagara, Native American Settlement, The New Settlement (Essex County),  
The Royal Townships (Eastern Ontario), Long Point

### **4 Launching the New Colony**

The Constitution Act, 1791

John Graves Simcoe - First Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada

### **5 Some Founders Of Ontario**

The Black Loyalists

Native Leaders - Joseph Brant

- John Deserontyon

Sir John Johnson

Colonel John Butler

Captain William Caldwell

Captain John W. Meyers

Mollie Brant

Sarah Kast McGinnis

Barbara and Paul Heck

John Stuart

John Bethune

The Glassford Family

The Sherwood Family

### **6 Symbols**

The Loyalist Rose

The Loyalist Flag

The Mark of Honour

The Badge of the UEL Association

### **7 Transportation**

Bateau, canoe, on foot, horse, oxen

### **8 Clothing of the time**

Pictures and a story

### **9 Children's Games of the Time**

### **10 Loyalist Word Search**

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## INTRODUCTION AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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When the Education Committee of the United Empire Loyalists' Association began the work of compiling a second booklet of information about United Empire Loyalists, we decided to survey the materials already available. We came upon *Growth of a Nation* Series (Fitzhenry and Whiteside) and found that three books in this series, *In the Pioneer Home*, *Life of the Loyalists*, and *Building a New Life* provided accurate material in an interesting way with excellent illustrations. We suggest that these three books be used as resources for the teachers of Grades 3 and 7 for their history classes. The *Growth of a Nation* series was originally printed in the mid-seventies and has been reprinted recently. The books are available from the publishers, Fitzhenry and Whiteside, 195 Allstate Parkway, Markham, Ontario, L3R 4T8 at modest cost.

The committee then chose areas of study we might supplement. We also included more maps and illustrations, and, following the suggestion of several teachers who wrote to us following the distribution of our first booklet, we included sketches of some of the people most closely identified with the founding of the province.

The committee is deeply indebted to many people: Donald Diminie, Angela Files, Myrna Fox, Mary Beacock Fryer, Brig. Gen. William Patterson, William Smy, Glenn Stott, Okill Stuart, Earle Thomas - all of whom wrote articles and supplied material for this project. Special mention must be made of Ann MacKenzie who researched, wrote, and edited, as well as did the word processing, and the Rogers, John and Lorraine, for the design, graphics and proofreading. All took time from their busy lives to help with this project and lend their support and encouragement.

We hope that the booklet will be useful and we encourage your comments.

Loyally,

The Education Committee, UELAC

Bernice Flett, UE, Chair

Beverly Craig, UE

Elizabeth Richardson, UE

Myrna Fox, UE

William Terry, UE

Doris Lemon, UE

## **PREFACE**

The United Empire Loyalists were both pioneers and settlers, although not all pioneers and settlers were Loyalists. A pioneer may be defined as one who originates any enterprise. When applying this term to the early settlement of Ontario, one must be aware that in many parts of Ontario the U.E. Loyalists were the first to settle the area. Other pioneers had come to other areas of Ontario because of the fur trade; U.E. Loyalists came in 1784 because they were political refugees who remained loyal to the British crown during the American Revolution and as a result had lost everything. Recognizing that something must be done for these people, the British government purchased land from the First Nations and gave it to the U.E. Loyalists who settled and made new lives for themselves.

Many more settlers came to begin new lives, but the United Empire Loyalists were the real pioneers in much of our province.

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## Areas of Loyalist Settlement in Upper Canada (Ontario)

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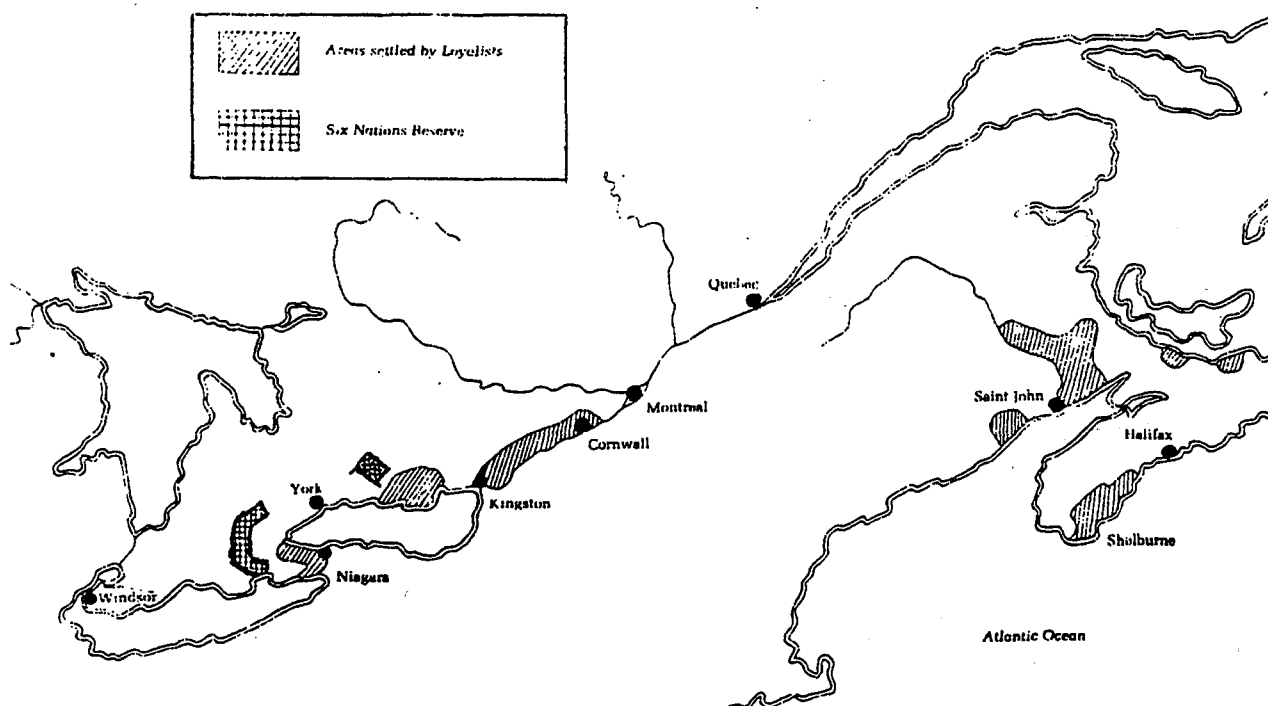
Loyalist Settlement  
Niagara  
Native Americans  
The New Settlement ( Essex County)  
The Royal Townships ( Eastern Ontario)  
Long Point Settlement

## LOYALIST SETTLEMENTS

When the Treaty of Paris officially ended hostilities between Britain and the former Thirteen Colonies and recognized the existence of the United States in 1783, the British government had at least two continuing problems. It was responsible for the welfare of the colonists who had remained loyal to King George III and had lost property and been uprooted from their homes as a result. In addition, it was faced with the possibility of a hostile new nation on the southern boundary of what remained of British territory in North America. It was these considerations which affected the British settlement policies at the end of the American Revolution.

Since most of the Loyalists had some connection with a military unit, their experience was considered an important factor in protecting the British lands. As a

result, Loyalist settlements were laid out along the waterways which formed the boundaries between British North America and the United States. Because the majority of the Loyalists who chose to remain in America had come from frontier areas and had lost everything they owned during the war, opening new settlements in undeveloped parts of the colonies where land was plentiful was a logical way, in the opinion of the government, of compensating these refugees. The government hesitated to allow Loyalists to remain close to enemy territory. Furthermore, many Loyalists were not inclined to relocate in the settled parts of Quebec where the majority of the population was of French descent and civil law was based on French traditions. As a result, while some Loyalists insisted on settling in the Eastern Townships of the old colony of Quebec, most of the refugees went elsewhere.



## NIAGARA

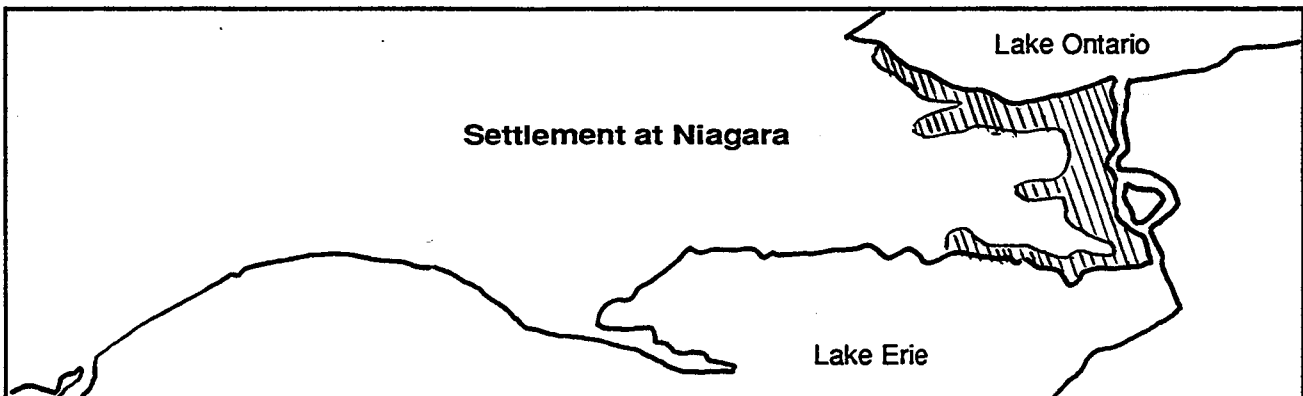
The earliest settlers to come to the colony of Quebec as a result of the American Revolution arrived on the west bank of the Niagara River during the war. Fort Niagara, on the east bank, had been a military installation since the French regime and it was the base from which the British campaigned against the rebellious colonists in Pennsylvania and northern New York. It was the headquarters for Butler's Rangers, a Loyalist unit, British regular soldiers, members of the Indian Department, and as many as 5,000 Indians from the Six Nations. Clearly overcrowded and needing enormous provisions, the commanders, including Colonel John Butler decided to move some of Butler's Corps to the west bank. In 1779 Colonel Butler had a log barracks constructed for the Rangers and their families. One intention was that this would be a source of supplies for Fort Niagara. Another suggestion is that the British wished to move the Rangers away from the poorly paid regular British soldiers.

By 1780 Butler wrote that four or five families had built homes. It is possible that the presence of the Rangers had attracted non-military refugees to the west bank. The settlement was further secured when the British purchased land along the river from the Mississauga Indians in May 1781. Butler reported in 1782 that there were 16 farmers

in the Niagara settlement. Within two years refugees from New York and Pennsylvania, many of German and Huguenot origin, found their way to the west bank of the Niagara River making it the first permanent settlement west of Montreal since the arrival of the French around the Detroit River a generation earlier.

In the fall of 1783 arrangements were finalized for the purchase of more land from the Mississaugas. This included land along the north shore of Lake Ontario from Cataraqui to the mouth of the Trent River, an area from Niagara west to the head of Lake Ontario, and a stretch six miles wide on both banks of the Grand River from Lake Erie to its source. This territory was to become significant as the government made arrangements to compensate the Six Nations for their losses during the war.

In the meantime, when Butler's Rangers were disbanded in 1784, many of the families decided to stay on at Niagara thereby forming the first permanent British Settlement in what was to become Upper Canada. The significance of this settlement is further indicated by the choice of Niagara as the location of the first capital of the new colony of Upper Canada in 1791.



## THE NATIVE AMERICAN SETTLEMENTS

The Six Nations who lived in the northern part of the colony of New York maintained their loyalty to the king partly because of the influence of Sir William Johnson, a British Indian Superintendent whose estate was located near the Indian villages. The leadership of Thayendanegea (Chief Joseph Brant) who was elected war chief during the Revolution, was of enormous importance, as well. When their lands were devastated in 1779, the homeless Six Nations fled to Fort Niagara and remained there until the end of the war.

The British realized that these native Loyalists needed land to substitute for what they had lost in New York and decided to provide them with territory in additional tracts purchased from the Mississaugas in 1784. Brant initially accepted the offer of land in the vicinity of the Bay of Quinte but then decided that the west end of Lake Ontario would be preferable because it would be more accessible to the Senecas and other members of the Six Nations who had decided to stay in New York. He pointed out to the British that from that location, his people would also have better contact with the "Western Nations" in the Ohio Valley whose loyalty the British wished to maintain.

In 1784 and 1785 Brant and about 1,600 of his followers took possession of 768,000 acres along the Grand River. A few hundred others followed Brant's cousin Chief Deseronto to the Bay of Quinte because they thought the more isolated site would provide them with better protection from the Americans.

The Mohawks consolidated themselves at Brant's Ford on the Grand River. Brant received Power of Attorney from the Six Nations Council to dispose of tracts of land to persons that he might think "meet and proper". Beginning in 1787, therefore, he invited old friends from the Indian Agency and Loyalist soldiers to settle on Indian lands. He realized that the original tract was much too large to be opened by the Six Nations on their own and he thought that white farmers and merchants would be useful in the development of farms and businesses. As time passed, non-Loyalists began to arrive and develop settlements along the fertile banks of the Grand River with the result that the Six Nations lost control of all but approximately 20 per cent of the original grant.





## THE NEW SETTLEMENT (ESSEX COUNTY)

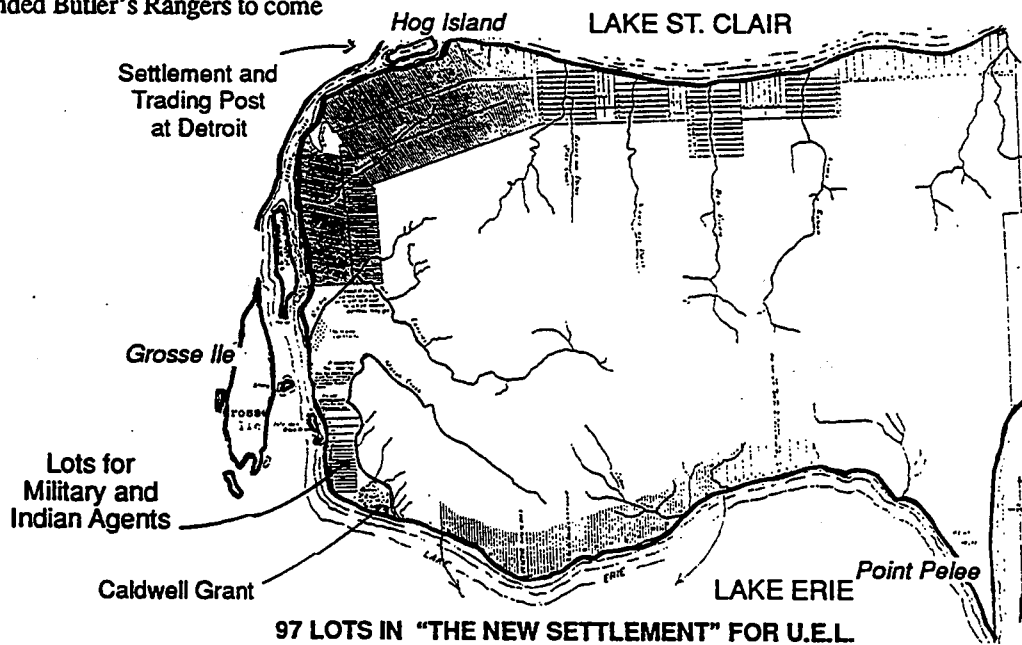
When Butler's Rangers were disbanded in 1784, a select group of veterans and people from the Indian Department were invited to settle the north shore of Lake Erie from the Detroit River to the site of present-day Kingsville. The purpose of this settlement was to protect the frontier and to continue good relations with the Indians in the Ohio Valley and the western Great Lakes region.

Captain William Caldwell of Butler's Rangers obtained a tract of land near the mouth of the Detroit River and named it "The New Settlement" to distinguish it from the "Old" French settlements at Petite Cote and L'Assomption. He also obtained an additional parcel of land to the east which came to be known as "The Two Connected Townships". Captains Bird, McKee, and Elliott, all former Indian Agents, made their own arrangements with the Indians to acquire land in the Amherstburg area.

With the support of Governor Haldimand, Captain Caldwell encouraged disbanded Butler's Rangers to come

to establish a settlement with a strong military influence and structure. By 1787 a total of 173 heads of households had applied for lots. One third of these were Butler's Rangers and the rest were simply designated "Loyalists". Among these were civilian refugees from Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland and New York who had made their way to Fort Detroit. While they waited for lots in the New Settlement, they worked for large land holders on Grosse Isle and Hog Island in the Detroit River. Although many had moved on by 1794, a strong Loyalist influence, characterized by Pennsylvania German and Black traditions along with French and British backgrounds, remained.

The various groups of Loyalists who established the New Settlement were united by military ties, ties of language, tradition, and culture, and shared hardships because of beliefs, race, or prejudice. Although they came from many backgrounds and experiences, they learned to cooperate and persevere in order to survive.



## THE ROYAL TOWNSHIPS (EASTERN ONTARIO)

By 1783, large numbers of refugees had gathered at St. John's on the Richelieu River and in the vicinity of Sorel at the mouth of the Richelieu River. In addition, New York City, which never fell to the rebel forces, was home for many Loyalists.

The British government did not encourage Loyalists to settle in the present-day Eastern Townships, and the Loyalists themselves were not inclined to live under the seigneurial system of land tenure which the Quebec Act of 1774 guaranteed. Loyalists arriving by sea from the former colonies flooded the Atlantic colonies, and officials there did not think they could deal with more refugees from Quebec.

Two parties led by Captain Michael Grass and Major Peter Van Alstine sailed from New York when Sir Guy Carleton evacuated the city in 1783 and made their way to the Montreal area. Grass, who was familiar with the territory around the eastern end of Lake Ontario from earlier trips, convinced Governor Haldimand that there was no more desirable site for a settlement. Grass's opinions were supported by the findings of surveyors who had been working along the St. Lawrence west of Lake St. Francis to provide land for Indian Loyalists.

Consequently, Michael Grass took 200 families to Cataraqui and townships were surveyed and settled beginning in the spring of 1784. Kingston was the major settlement in this area

The first nine townships west of the seigneurie of Longueuil (the most westerly of the established seigneuries in Quebec) were known as the Royal Townships. The next five townships, known as the Cataraqui townships, took up the area to the Bay of Quinte. Land was granted according to military rank with a minimum of 50 acres being given to

each member of a Loyalist family, including unborn children.

Disbanded military units settled together in townships. Sir John Johnson's Royal Yorkers, for example, held the first five of the Royal Township, townships, organized, at the settlers' request and with Lord Dorchester's approval, according to nationality, language, and religion. Catholic Highlanders, Scottish Presbyterians, German Calvinists, German Lutherans, and Anglicans occupied those townships in that order. Initially, administration of justice and local government continued according to military custom under the authority of former officers. In addition, some civilians received military rank for a time in the earliest days in order to fill the offices necessary for basic administration.

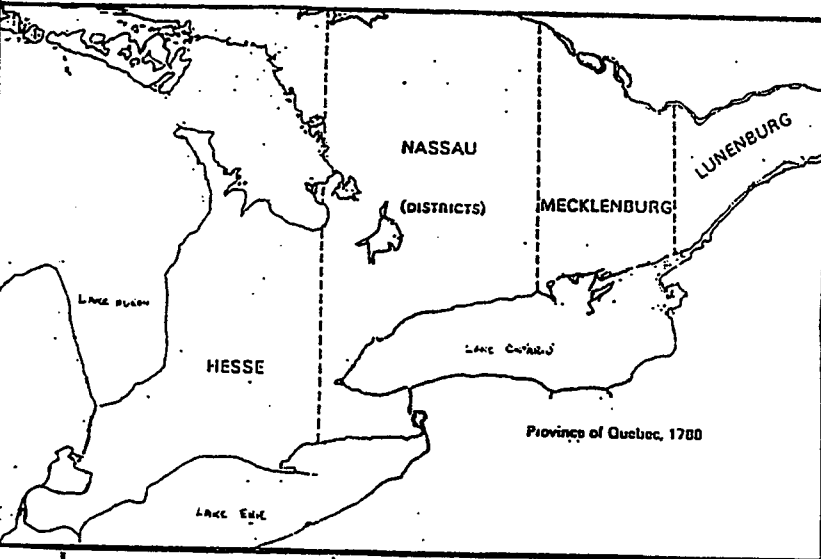
By 1788 the authorities had given the numbered townships and settlements names which honoured the royal family. Sophiasburg, Williamsburg, and Matilda, for example, commemorated some of King George III's children while Charlottenburg was named after the Queen. In that same year the government divided the western part of the old province of Quebec, which would become Upper Canada, into four districts for the purposes of future political administration. These districts, from east to west were: Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Nassau, and Hesse. The names reflected the German origins of the Royal family as well as the large German element among the Loyalists.

The Loyalists who came to Quebec brought with them the tradition of freehold land tenure, British laws and representative government. They did not want to give up these rights by living under the Quebec Act which guaranteed the seigneurial system of landholding and denied an elected assembly to the people of that colony.

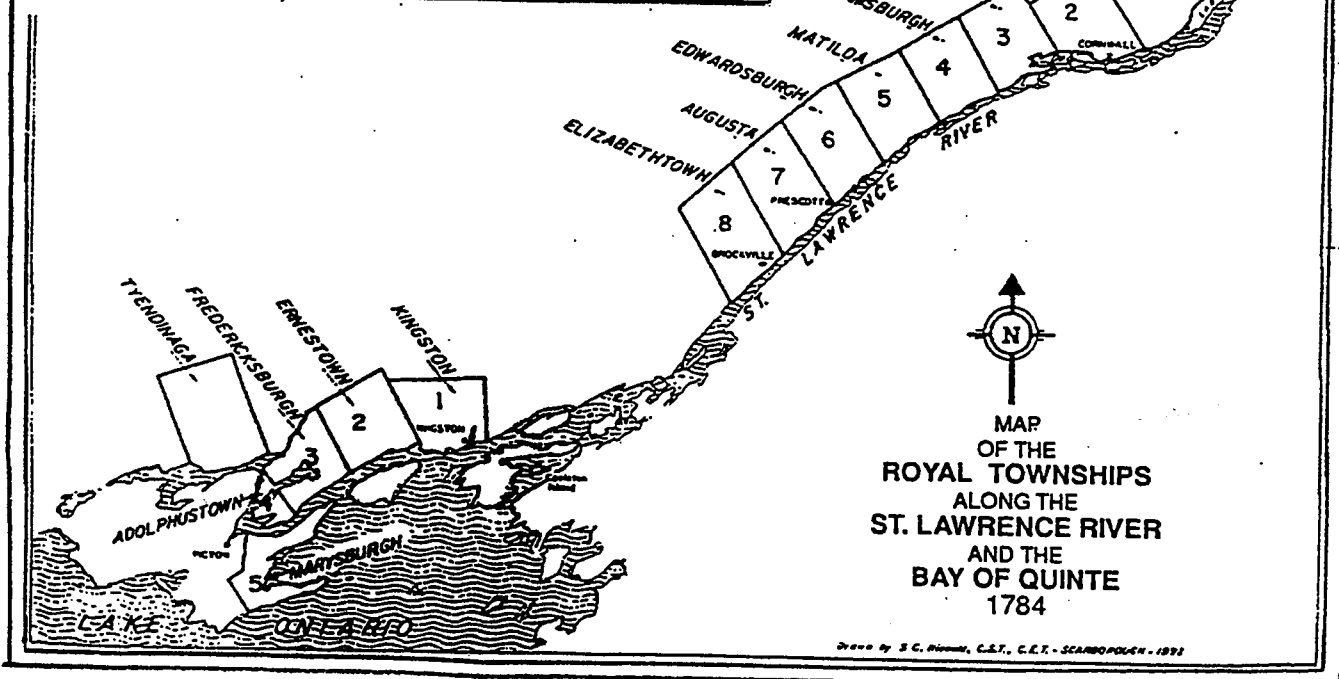
Shortly after their arrival, Loyalist representatives petitioned the government to alter the system of holding land to freehold tenure.

In 1791 the British Parliament passed the Canada Act, usually known as the Constitutional Act, which provided for the division of Quebec into Upper and Lower Canada. Both colonies were granted an elected assembly and the freehold system of land tenure went into effect in Upper

Canada (later Ontario). For purposes of parliamentary representation and militia organization, Colonel John Graves Simcoe, first Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, proclaimed the creation of the original 19 counties in the colony, including, Glengarry, Frontenac, York, Essex, and Kent. The names of all 19 counties still designate administrative jurisdictions in the Province of Ontario. The arrival of the Loyalists, therefore, changed the course of Canadian history and created the basic design of the province.



MAP OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC 1788



MAP OF THE ROYAL TOWNSHIPS ALONG THE ST. LAWRENCE RIVER AND THE BAY OF QUINTE 1784

Drawn by S. C. Plummer, C.E.T., C.E.T. - SCARBOROUGH - 1971

## ORIGIN OF NAMES OF ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS IN EASTERN ONTARIO

by Brian Tackaberry

The United Empire Loyalists took their allegiance to Britain and King George III very seriously, and on coming to Canada, reflected this in the settlement of Ontario. In order to understand the "Royal Connection" to many of our place names, it is necessary to become familiar with the family of King George III.

King George III was born Jun. 4, 1738 in London, England and died Jan. 29, 1820, the son of Frederick Louis, Duke of Cornwall, and grandson of King George II. His father had died in 1751, and so on the death of George II in 1760, he became king. He was married to **Charlotte**, daughter of Duke Charles of Mecklenburgh. George III and Charlotte had a family of fifteen children:

- 1) **George (Prinny)** born Aug. 12, 1762, died Jun. 26, 1830, Prince of Wales and Duke of Cornwall, later serving as Prince Regent from 1811 until his father's death in 1820 when he became **King George IV** ruling 1820-1830.
- 2) **Frederick Augustus** born 1763 died 1837, Duke of York and Albany
- 3) **William** born Aug. 21, 1765 died 1837, Duke of Clarence and later **King William IV** from 1830-1837.
- 4) **Charlotte** died 1828, married King Frederick of Wurttemberg
- 5) **Edward Augustus** born 1767 died 1820, Duke of Kent and father of Queen Victoria
- 6) **Augusta** died 1840
- 7) **Elizabeth** died 1840, married Frederick, Landgrave of Hesse, whose grandfather had furnished the Hessian soldiers to aid the British
- 8) **Ernest Augustus** died 1851, Duke of Cumberland, and later King of Hanover
- 9) **Augustus Frederick** died 1843, Duke of Sussex
- 10) **Adolphus Frederick** died 1850, Duke of Cambridge
- 11) **Mary** died 1857, married Duke William Frederick of Gloucester

12) **Sophia Matilda** died 1848, married General Thomas Garth

13) **Octavius** died 1783

14) **Alfred** died 1782

15) **Amelia** died 1810, married Charles Fitzroy

The names of this royal family have survived in many place names of Loyalist settlement in Ontario. Originally there were two regions of settlement: the Royal Townships along the St. Lawrence River, and the Cataraqui Townships in the Bay of Quinte area. The Royal Township names with connections to the family were as follows: Williamsburgh, Charlottenburgh, Edwardsburgh, Augusta Township, Elizabethtown, and Matilda Township, all named after the children of King George III. In addition, Osnabruck was named for the birthplace of his great-grandfather King George I, in Brunswick-Lunenburgh. Cornwall, the major centre in the area was named for the Duke of Cornwall, a title held by Prince George. The whole area was named the Lunenburgh District, again a royal connection.

Similar ties can be traced in the Quinte region. The area became known as the District of Mecklenburgh, named for the region King George's wife came from. The townships of Royal name were as follows: Ernestown, Fredericksburgh, Adolphustown, Sophiasburgh, Marysburgh, and Ameliasburgh. Cataraqui itself became known as King's Town, and later Kingston in honour of the King. The adjacent township of Pittsburgh was named for William Pitt, the Prime Minister of England at the time of the Loyalist settlement. Prince Edward County itself was named for Prince Edward, Duke of Kent, who later became the first royal family member to visit Canada.

## THE LONG POINT SETTLEMENT

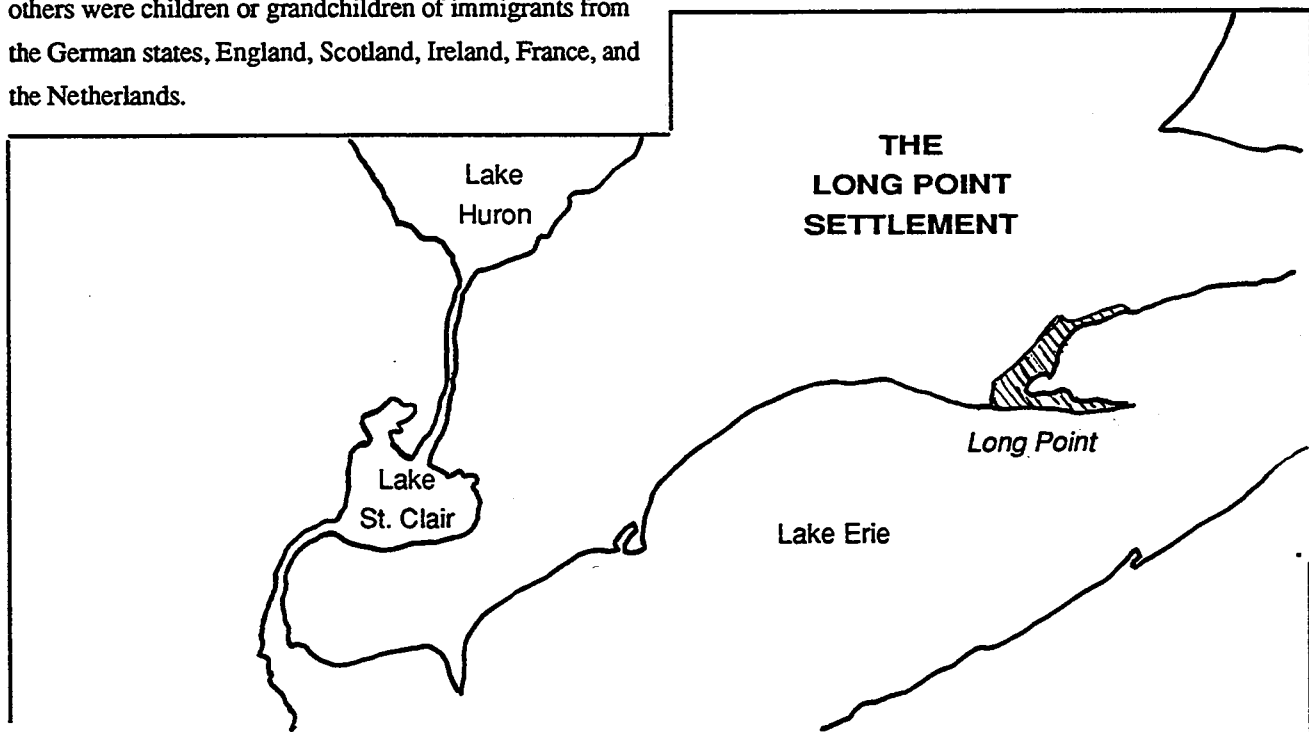
*By Wm. Yeager*

Half way across the north shore of Lake Erie, the peninsula of Long Point stretches about 20 miles to the east as part of the old Norfolk County. In the early 1790's Loyalists began to arrive from New Brunswick, Eastern Ontario, and Niagara to establish settlements in the townships of Charlotteville, Walsingham, Woodhouse, Townsend, Windham, Middleton, and Houghton. The town of Simcoe, named for the lieutenant-governor was one of the centres of government for the Talbot District and later Norfolk County. On a tour through the Long Point area in 1795, Simcoe camped along the Lynn River where the future town would develop.

The Loyalists had left their former homes in New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania, many joining Loyalist regiments when the war broke out. Some of these were first generation settlers from overseas, but many others were children or grandchildren of immigrants from the German states, England, Scotland, Ireland, France, and the Netherlands.

Captain Samuel Ryerse (later spelled Ryerson), a friend of Lieutenant-Governor John Graves Simcoe, was one of the leaders of the community. His brother, Col. Joseph Ryerson, another Long Point Loyalist, was the father of Egerton Ryerson who was instrumental in the establishment of the public school system in the colony (later Ontario).

Ryerse's daughter, Amelia, married John Harris who held a number of government posts including that of treasurer of the London District whose original capital was located at Vittoria on Long Point. In 1826, after fire destroyed the courthouse there, the capital was moved to London. The Harris family became one of the leading families in London and their home, Eldon House, built in 1835 and still standing, became the social centre for London.



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## Launching the New Colony

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The Constitution Act 1791

John Graves Simcoe

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## THE CANADIAN CONSTITUTION ACT OF 1791

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*by B. Gen. Wm. J. Patterson, O.M.M., C.D., M.A., U.E.,*

The word "constitution" is very much in the news these days. Much of the recent turmoil in Canada - the threat of separation in Quebec, alienation in the West, confrontation with the native peoples and their demand for self government, along with a general dissatisfaction with those governing - is a situation requiring constitutional reform.

We who have Loyalist ancestors have deep roots in this country going back six or seven generations. Maybe somewhere in our genes, we have an accumulation of inherent experience of previous attempts to set down rules for governing this part of the world. Perhaps, even today, we can make a contribution to the present crisis because of our knowledge and interest in Loyalist heritage. It may not be redundant, therefore, to recall the situation in the old province of Quebec over two hundred years ago.

The Canada [Constitutional] Act was proclaimed in Great Britain on June 19, 1791. It is this document that established the province of Upper Canada, the forerunner of Ontario. Today very few people know that 1991 was the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Province of Ontario. Perhaps the division of opinion in 1984 over whether that year or 1991 was the bicentennial dampened interest in celebrating again in 1991. Certainly there was justification to celebrate in 1984 the arrival of the Loyalists in this part of the country. Without them there would have been no need for the Constitutional Act of 1791, and no Ontario as we know it. There was a legitimate opportunity for two celebrations, and another chance to inform all Canadians of this part of their heritage that has been lost.

Just what was the Canada Act of 1791, and why was it necessary? Most are familiar with the general situation in Canada west of Montreal in 1784 and in the years immediately following. During this period approximately 10,000 Loyalists (including 2,000 Indians) had settled along the

Upper St. Lawrence River and in the Kingston and Niagara areas. Their immediate concerns were, firstly, to put a roof over their heads and to carve a farm out of the forest in order to put food on the table, and, secondly, to create an economy and society sufficient for their other basic needs: education, religion, a system of law and order and justice, and finally, a framework of political institutions. It took only a couple of years for the Loyalists to realize that this second part of their hopes for the future was not possible under the constitution in effect at the time.

The Loyalists who came to the old province of Quebec, which extended west-ward to include the area of the Great Lakes and the Ohio Valley, found themselves governed by the provisions of the Quebec Act of 1774. After the peace of 1763 when all of French Canada was ceded to Great Britain, it was initially thought that Quebec would become an English colony in every respect. When this did not turn out to be the case, and French culture survived, the British government passed the Quebec Act to guarantee certain rights: the Roman Catholic religion and the right of the Church to Tithe and for Roman Catholics to hold office, French civil law including the holding of property under the old seigniorial system of leasehold, English criminal law, and an appointed legislative council of 17 to 23 persons to make laws and raise taxes. Overall the governor had the power of veto and British laws concerning trade and commerce were to apply. There was no mention of language.

It is not hard to imagine that the incoming Loyalists would not appreciate most of the features of the Quebec Act. As early as 1786 there were complaints about French civil law, particularly in respect to the holding of land. Loyalists were used to holding land freehold, as in English law, and having the right to will it to their children. The lack of an elected assembly meant there was no democratic way of bringing the wishes of the people to the authorities,

except by personal appeal to the governor .

Led by Sir John Johnson the Loyalists attempted to rectify these problems. Some progress was made in 1787 when the area west of Montreal was divided into four districts and Land Boards were set up. Magistrates were appointed, lower courts were established, and minor officials such as sheriffs, coroners, and constables were hired. All land was Crown land because it was acquired from the Indians by treaty. This subject, which is beyond our present scope, has modern day implications. The intent of the British was honourable, but the price paid (by today's standards) ridiculously low and the actual amount of land in question is disputed. At the time there was no confrontation between settlers and Indians, and so Canada avoided the bloodshed and turmoil of the American frontier.

In addition to the difficulties imposed by the Quebec Act there was opposition to the appointment of half-pay officers from former Loyalist regiments to positions of authority in the new districts. Some of the men felt their former officers were taking advantage of their appointments and, led by Patrick McNiff, they mounted a political campaign. Although an investigation showed most of McNiff's complaints were unfounded, the turmoil did help to speed up the process of constitutional reform.

To find a political solution to the problems of the colony where 86 percent of the population was French speaking, dominated by the Roman Catholic Church, and used to 200 years of French civil law enforced by an absolute monarch, and the other 14 percent were English speaking, mostly Protestant, and used to English law and representative government, was no easy task. Chief Justice William Smith pushed for a complete repeal of the Quebec Act and a new constitution based on a prediction that the English population would soon out-number the French, and so assimilate them. More realistically, Sir John Johnson advocated separation - the creation of two distinct colonies and societies.

The Governor General, Lord Dorchester, who as Guy Carleton had been responsible for much of the Quebec Act, took Sir John's advice, not so much because of French Canadian opposition or Loyalist demands but simply because it was the line of least resistance. In the short run it was probably best; in the long run who knows?

The Act was proclaimed in Quebec City on November 18, 1791. Its 10 main points were:

1. The portion of the Quebec Act referring to the legislative council was repealed but the rest remained in effect for Lower Canada.
2. The province was divided into two separate colonies, Upper and Lower Canada (Ontario and Quebec as we know them), excluding the northern parts that were still the property of the Hudson's Bay Company.
3. The Governor General, who resided in Quebec City, headed the government in Lower Canada and was in overall control of defence and matters common to all. Upper Canada had a lieutenant governor who headed the government. He reported directly to Great Britain but was also subject to the authority of the Governor General.
4. The Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada represented the Crown and was in large measure independent. He had the revenues from Crown Lands (1/7 of all the land in the established townships was set aside for this purpose), and the control of the military and civil lists which were financed directly by Great Britain. He had power of veto over actions of the legislature. In turn the British parliament could overturn any laws for up to two years after their passage through the provincial assembly.
5. The Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada was to exercise power through an Executive Council of five members (later supplemented by additional honorary members). They audited public accounts, granted land (which was now to be freehold) and were a court of appeal. They were all members of the Legislative Council.
6. The Legislative Council of Upper Canada was to consist of no fewer than seven members appointed for life and granted the title "Honourable". Its purpose was to advise the Governor-in-Council, but rapidly it became a tool of the Administration and not a House of Lords as was the intent.



7. The House of Assembly of Upper Canada consisted initially of 16 members elected to represent 19 counties (established in 1792). The electors were males, 21 years or older, who in rural areas had an assessed value of £2, and in the city as assessed value of £5 or paid an annual rent of £10 or more. Legislative Councillors could not sit in the Assembly nor could clergymen. Members were elected for four years and the House had to be called into session at least once annually. The Lieutenant Governor could dissolve it at any time and call an election. The speaker, who was elected by majority vote, was the House Leader. Members were paid 10 shillings a day whilst sitting, the money raised by local taxes. They enjoyed “freedom of debate, access to the Lieutenant Governor, and were privileged from arrest”.

8. The courts of justice were established. The superior court (King’s Bench) met four times annually (in York) and held courts of assize in each district. Also, each district had its own lower courts - the main one being Court of Quarter Sessions where the local magistrates, Justices of the Peace, not only levied minor justice but also ran local government. In addition, there was a Surrogate Court to probate wills, and a Court of Requests to settle minor debts, contracts, etc.

9. The Church of England was strengthened but not established. Bishoprics were authorized and parishes were to be allotted rectories (land to provide “financial support”). Also 1/7 of all land was to be set aside to support the Protestant clergy (eventually the Clergy Reserves funded all major denominations).

10. Trade and commerce was regulated by British Customs law. Any duties collected, however, could only be spent in the colony with the consent of the Assembly.

The act was an attempt by the British Parliament to avoid the mistakes that led to the American Revolution. It was believed that too much freedom (democracy) had been allowed in the Thirteen Colonies. Consequently, the powers of the governor were strengthened by giving him an income not controlled by the assembly. The idea of a British governor with an appointed council of the best people in the colony with an elected assembly, both

working together in harmony was to be, in the words of William Pitt, “the very image and transcript of the British Constitution”. Unfortunately, the British system was not wholly transportable. The creation of a colonial aristocracy never caught on, The Church of England never became the dominant denomination, and the revenues from Crown land never became sufficient to support the governor without taxation.

Although the Act was proclaimed in November 1791 and the boundary division effected on December 26<sup>th</sup>, the execution of all other provisions had to wait until July 1792. Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe had to wait because his Executive Councillors were out of the country until then. Finally, on July 7, in St. George’s Church, Kingston, Simcoe was sworn in and his council the following day. By the proclamation of July 16, Upper Canada was divided into 19 counties, but retained the old administrative districts simply renamed, e.g. Lunenburg became the Eastern District (eventually the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry). Counties were electoral districts, centres for land registration, and the basis on which the militia was organized. Local government was maintained at the district level in the hands of the appointed magistrates of the Courts of Quarter Sessions for the next 50 years. All elected officials: clerks, assessors, tax collectors, etc., merely carried out the law; they or the taxpayers did not make the laws or set the taxes.

The first Assembly met on September 16 in Niagara. The 16 members chose John Macdonell of Glengarry to be Speaker of the House. The first laws enacted were: that trial by jury and jails and court houses be established in each district, that British laws of evidence were to apply, and that the toll for the milling of wheat into flour be set at 1/12

There is little doubt that the Act of 1791 was needed. Canada had a large new population that was not only well acquainted with the “privileges” due a British subject but also “they had retired to that country for the express purpose of enjoying them in greater perfection than they would elsewhere”. They deserved the “blessings of the

English Constitution, the best in the world". As Professor Lower wrote: "The Loyalists had won a constitutional victory ...," and now "had a base on which they could proceed to build what would be the most populous and the richest section of Canada." Later when political parties began to emerge, "Loyalist respect for the conventions and procedures of the British parliamentary tradition permeated all parties". As Canadian patriotism grew and flourished it did so around loyalty to the Crown. Also a distinctly Canadian political tradition, part of which was favourably disposed towards the role of the state in society, began in Canada. It also ensured a British North America and ultimately a British Canada. It also ensured the continued existence of a distinctly French-Canadian society.

Is there in all of this any message for us today? Yes! Faced with a political problem, the British government acted positively. The Quebec Act of 1774 was fine for Quebec of 1774 - it saved the colony from the Americans who were repulsed in 1775 at the gates of Quebec City. It was no longer valid in 1784 when 10,000 non-French, English speaking, British traditionalists arrived on the scene. Once settled and over the initial shock of establishing a new life, it was natural that they would want to be governed in a way they understood to be their right as British subjects. And so the Act of 1791 was constituted. It gave the Loyalists a firm base of British parliamentary democracy on which to build a new province. Within 50 years Upper Canadians were to help create the theory of responsible government whereby the wishes of the elected majority, not those of the governor or an appointed council, would be the law.

Unfortunately, in Lower Canada there was a different situation. There, the Governor and appointed council, mostly English, tried to dominate the elected assembly, mostly French. The rebellion of 1837 in Lower Canada was caused, in the main, by an English versus French situation. The Constitutional Act of Union in 1841 joining Upper and Lower Canada was an attempt to solve this problem by putting the two ethnic groups together in the

same Assembly, and letting them work out a mutually acceptable compromise. Within 25 years it was realized that the rights and aspirations of all Canadians, in the Canadas and the Maritimes, could be best realized in a federation, and so with the British North America Act, July 1, 1867, the Dominion of Canada was born. From 1791 to 1867 there were three constitutional acts, all designed to create a political system that was best for Canada at the time. But what about today? Can our constitutional past help us to solve Canada's constitutional crisis as we near a new millennium? Yes, it can.

In 1791, Quebec was recognized in a special way - as a distinct society - even if those specific words were not used. At the same time, Upper Canada was recognized as a distinct society. Both colonies received special rights and privileges. The Constitutional Act of 1791 was designed to provide a solution to the political problems of the day. Surely Canadians with vision, courage, and a sense of tolerance can design a new Constitution for Canada that will solve our present-day problems. Decisions must be made that recognize that certain elements of the country - the native peoples, the different regions, the haves and the have-nots, and yes, the French in Quebec - have unique and special needs and concerns. In 1791 the British parliamentary system provided a basis for solution for the problems of the Loyalists. Today we still have that tradition, plus 200 years of Canadian experience to build on.

## JOHN GRAVES SIMCOE - First Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada

by Mary Beacock Fryer



The first lieutenant-governor of Upper Canada (Ontario) gained his early military experience when he commanded the Queen's Rangers in the American Revolution from 1777 to 1784.

He was born in Cotterstock, Northamptonshire, England in 1752, the third son of Captain John Simcoe, Royal Navy, and Katherine Stamford. Both of his elder brothers died young. His father died during the campaign against New France in 1759 and was buried at sea. Katherine took her two surviving sons to live in Exeter, probably to be near the home of Samuel Graves, John's godfather. Graves, who rose to be an admiral would have been helpful in raising his godson.

After attending the Exeter Grammar School and Eton College, Simcoe went to Oxford, thinking he might study law. After two terms he changed his mind and decided to join the army. His mother purchased an ensign's commission in the 35<sup>th</sup> Foot and he went to join his regiment in Ireland. As the time of open rebellion drew near, the regiment was among those dispatched to keep order in Boston. In 1776 he purchased a captaincy in the 40<sup>th</sup> Foot and was severely wounded at the Battle of Brandywine, Pennsylvania. In 1777, as he was

convalescing in Philadelphia, he asked for, and obtained, the command of the Queen's Rangers, a Provincial (Loyalist) Corps.

His soldiers were irregulars, with a talent for hit and run tactics well-suited to warfare in a heavily forested land with a sparse, scattered population. The Rangers were so successful that the commander-in-chief ordered them dressed in the red coats of the regular regiments. Simcoe declined; his men were safer in their green jackets in the woods. In addition, green coats resembled those worn by the rebel cavalry. His men could mingle freely among the enemy without suspicion. Some of his Hussars (cavalry) actually drew feed for their horses from rebel depots!

In late 1779 during a raid into New Jersey, Simcoe was taken prisoner when his horse was shot from under him. By January he was exchanged for a rebel officer the British were holding and he was back with his Rangers on Staten Island by January 1780.

For the rest of the war Simcoe and his Rangers served from Staten Island, in South Carolina, and in Virginia. The Queen's Rangers were so effective that they were designated the 1<sup>st</sup> American Regiment. They were at the final siege at Yorktown, Virginia in October 1781. When Simcoe knew that defeat was imminent, he asked permission to evacuate his Rangers to New York or Niagara, knowing that the trails to either of those places were familiar and accessible. He was refused permission; all of the army had to "share the same fate". By the time the British surrendered, Simcoe was very ill and so he was allowed to leave Yorktown on a ship carrying dispatches to the British at New York. Although some of his Rangers were shot as traitors, most were soon sent to New York from where they went to settle in New Brunswick.

Simcoe returned to England in November 1781 and went to Henbury Fort, his godfather's home, to recuperate. There he met Elizabeth Postuma Gwillim, a wealthy

heiress and Admiral Graves' niece. They married in December 1782, and lived in Wolford Lodge, near Honiton, Devonshire. With Elizabeth's inheritance, Simcoe purchased several estates and learned the careful management of his extensive properties. Five girls, and then a son, Francis, were born by 1791, the year Simcoe was appointed lieutenant-governor of Upper Canada. The Simcoes took Francis and the youngest girl, Sophia, with them to Upper Canada in 1792 but left the four oldest girls behind to receive a proper education.

Simcoe established his first capital at Niagara (Niagara-on-the-Lake) which he renamed Newark. Here he called the first parliament which passed laws setting up the colonial administration and took the first steps in the British Empire to phase out slavery.

Because of his military background and his distrust of Americans who, he thought, could invade Upper Canada with ease at a number of points, Simcoe was very concerned about defense. He used members of the Queen's Rangers, stationed in the colony, to build military roads for the protection of the interior. He named the road going north from Lake Ontario to the lake which he named "Simcoe" in memory of his father, Yonge Street after the British Secretary of War. Another road constructed east from the head of Lake Ontario was named the Dundas Road after the British Secretary of State. He planned that it would ultimately extend to the vicinity of Fort Detroit.

In 1793 Simcoe and a scouting party set out to see how the troops at Fort Detroit, which had not yet been turned over to the Americans, were managing. This trip gave him an excellent opportunity to see the nature and extent of the colony. He found a location which he thought would make an ideal site for a more secure colonial capital than Newark because of its isolation from the American border. It was located at the forks of a river which the Natives called "Antlered". He promptly renamed the river "Thames" and suggested the name "Georgiana-on-the-Thames" for the proposed city. Governor General Lord Dorchester vetoed the plan, but a city named London did develop at the site early in the next century.

Although Newark remained the seat of government until 1796, Simcoe chose to move his family to the north shore of Lake Ontario where there was excellent harbour and the remnants of a fur trading post. The Indian name for the area was Toronto, but Simcoe changed it to York and soon set the Queen's Rangers to surveying a town site and constructing Fort York. He had a house built which he named Castle Frank after their son, Francis. Gradually the government moved permanently to York which has remained the capital of the province almost continuously to the present. The name Toronto was restored to the town in 1834.

The American threat motivated Simcoe to maintain good relations with the Native tribes and one of his wishes was that a Native state could be established between Upper Canada and the Ohio Valley in the United States to act as a buffer between the two unfriendly nations. This did not come to pass because of the American policy of "pacifying" the native tribes that stood in the way of white expansion into western lands. The natives did whatever they could to discourage and drive out white settlers to the point where the American army was sent in. They soundly defeated the natives at the Battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794 and this cleared the way for white settlers to enter western lands safely.

Simcoe was quite sure that there were many British sympathizers still living in the new United States. He believed that these people would make excellent settlers and would help to fill up the wilderness and provide an occupying group which would strengthen the British presence in Upper Canada. He therefore launched an advertising campaign in the United States inviting settlers to come to the colony where plenty of fertile land could be had for virtually no payment. Such groups as the Mennonites who settled the Waterloo area, Quakers, and numerous frontier farmers, including a contingent brought in by William Berczy answered the call. Sometimes these settlers are mistakenly called "Late Loyalists". Their main reason for coming was to obtain cheap land or freedom to practise their religion under a government that had a reputation for tolerance, rather than overwhelming loyalty

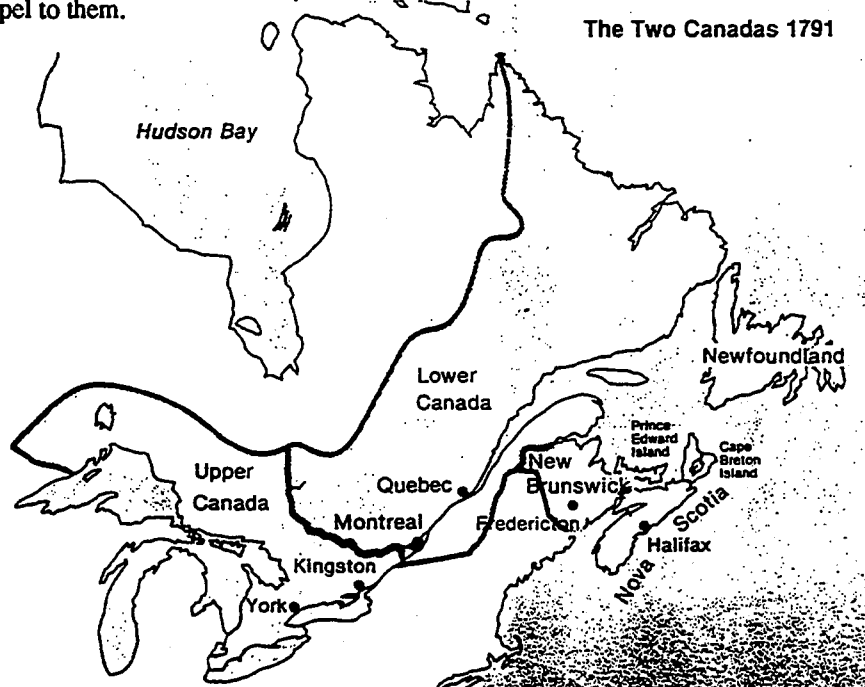
to the British. These settlers proved to be loyal and hard-working citizens, however, and made an important contribution to the development of the province.

As a military man who also owned large estates, Simcoe thought that a class system, similar to what existed in England at the time, would be most advantageous in Upper Canada. He hoped that men who shared his background would become leaders in government and that the Church of England would be established as the official church in the colony with total control over such legal matters as marriage, as well as religious services. He dreamed of an educational system whose teachers would be Anglican clergymen, and looked forward to the day when an Anglican provincial university would provide higher education for the aristocracy who would otherwise have to send their sons back to England for training for the professions.

These hopes were dashed because the model did not suit the wilderness or its people. Upper Canadians seem to have been influenced by the leveling effects of the frontier and did not defer to their "betters" as the English "lower orders" did. Neither were they about to support what was often a distant Anglican church and clergy when itinerant Methodist circuit riders brought the gospel to them.

Plagued by illness, and discouraged by what he interpreted as lack of support from Lord Dorchester, Simcoe obtained a leave of absence to return to England in the summer of 1796. Once back at home he settled down to the life of a gentleman and was elected to Parliament in addition to holding a number of military appointments. A daughter who died in infancy was born to the Simcoes in Upper Canada. Four additional children, of whom one died after having been inoculated against smallpox, were born after they returned to England.

As years passed, Simcoe was promoted in the British army until, in 1806, he was named commander-in-chief of the army in India. He must have thought that this appointment was sure to bring him the long-awaited knighthood or peerage which was customarily conferred on a colonial governor. While his family was preparing to depart for India, Simcoe was ordered to Portugal to investigate a problem involving Spain. While at sea he became ill, probably from inhaling toxic substances in the paint on the ship. The commander of the ship immediately sent Simcoe back to England on the same ship, with the result that he was nearly dead when he reached his home in Exeter. He died a few days later, at age 54, without the title he had anticipated.



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## Some Founders of Ontario

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### The Black Loyalists

Joseph Brant (Thayendanegea)  
Captain John Deserontyon (Odeserundiye)

Chapels of the Mohawks  
St Paul's (Brantford)  
Christ Church (Deseronto)

Sir John Johnson  
Colonel John Butler  
Captain William Caldwell  
Captain John W. Meyers  
Molly Brant  
Sarah Kast McInnis  
Paul and Barbara (Ruckle) Heck  
Reverend John Stuart  
Reverend John Bethune

The Glassford Family  
The Sherwood Family

## THE BLACK LOYALISTS

*Based on an article by Angela E.M. Files*

*from the Loyalist Gazette, Fall 1991*

As early as 1775, Lord John Dunsmore, Royal Governor of Virginia, offered freedom to rebel-owned slaves who would join His Majesty's Army. Over 300 Blacks responded to the call. In 1779, Sir Henry Clinton, Commander-in-Chief of All His Majesty's forces in America issued a proclamation which offered protection within British Lines to Blacks who deserted the rebel standard and their rebel owners. As a result hundreds of Blacks fled to British lines and freedom.

Approximately ten per cent of the Loyalists who came to British North America after the war were Blacks. Of these, the majority, including the all-Black regiment under the leadership of Colonel Stephen Buck, settled in Nova Scotia. In total, about 3000 Blacks migrated to Nova Scotia. These were declared free, while most Blacks who came to Upper and Lower Canada were defined as slaves. According to military and land records only a few dozen Black Loyalists settled between the area east of Cornwall to Windsor, Ontario. Most of the Blacks who came to Upper Canada were owned by their military masters. Many of these Black servants fought along side their masters in the battlefield but were not granted land for their loyalty to the British crown.

There were slaves in practically all of the Loyalist settlements in Upper Canada. According to Robin Winks, in his book, The Blacks in Canada, Richard Cartwright at Cataragui, and Major Peter Van Alstine, who helped found Adolphustown, Captain Justus Sherwood, one of the founders of Johnstown, Peter Russell, William Jarvis, and Peter Robinson, all political figures, owned numerous slaves. By 1778 there were 127 Blacks in the Detroit-Windsor area and by 1791 the veterans of Butler's Rangers in the Niagara area had 300 slaves, designated as servants of the household.

Lieutenant-Governor Colonel John Graves Simcoe of Upper Canada ruled that Black Loyalists who had actually

served in the military were eligible for free land grants and provisions in Upper Canada. Following at least one incident in which a Black settler was kidnapped and returned to slavery in the United States because Blacks had no legal rights in Upper Canada, a law which would have freed all slaves was introduced in the parliament of Upper Canada in 1793. This law had to be modified owing to objections of slave-owners. Eventually a bill which stated that no more slaves could be brought into Upper Canada and that children of slaves were to be freed when they reached the age of 25 became law. Thus Upper Canada became the first British Territory to legislate against slavery, although the conditions of slavery continued for some time.

### Some Black Loyalists of Upper Canada

1. Jack Baker (Blackman) James, Residence: Home District, Served in Pioneer Black Rangers.
2. Adam Lewis, of Clinton Twp., Lincoln County was a military grantee.
3. Peter and Richard Martin, Home District. Peter and Richard were slaves of Colonel J. Butler, who were seized by the rebels and sold at auction but regained their freedom. They joined Butler's Rangers and served until the end of the Revolution. Richard died in 1783 and Peter received a soldier's grant of land. In 1797 Peter asked for the land that would have been allowed to Richard in order that he would be able to buy the freedom of his son, who was a slave of Thomas Butler. The petition was granted.
4. Richard Parepoint (Pierpont), Residence Home District, Pioneer, Butler's Rangers. About 1776 he joined Butler's Rangers and was granted freedom. He came to Canada in 1780, first settled in Grantham Twp., Niagara County and after the war of 1812-1814 in West Garafaxa Twp., Wellington County with Black Loyalists of Butler's Rangers: Robert Jupiter, John Vanpatten, and Philip and William Wintermute.

5. Cato Prime, James Fonda, Jack Powell, Jos. Goff, Wm. Thomas, Londonderry and Sambo were likely military claimants of Lot 7, 2<sup>nd</sup> Concession, Lancaster Twp., Glengarry County.

6. James Robertson, Butler's Rangers, was granted land on Lot 81, in the new settlement at Detroit in 1787.

7. Edward Smith, a former slave taken prisoner by the Cherokee Indians during the war, was the only Black Loyalist who received land in the Lower Valley of the Thames River.

8. Joseph Try or Fry, of Butler's Rangers was a land claimant in Essex County.

In 1864, Dr. S.G. Howe, a member of the Freedmen's Inquiry Commission visited Canada West (Upper Canada), to study the conditions of the refugees who had entered the British province and made it their home. In an article in

the Ontario Historical Society Papers and Records in 1922, Professor Fred Landon quoted part of Dr. Howe's report, as follows:

Advances have been made by these people in their new homes...They earn a living, gather property; they marry and respect women; they build churches and send their children to schools; they improve in manners and morals - not because they are picked men, but simply because they are free men...

In Canada, the Black man faces hardships compared with the South, sometimes there was difficulty in making a livelihood, and there was occasional prejudice. On the other hand, there was justice and opportunity and, above all, freedom from bondage.

## DURHAM ROAD CEMETARY

DEDICATED OCTOBER 13, 1990

BY LINCOLN M. ALEXANDER

LIEUT. GOVERNOR OF ONTARIO

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PIONEERS OF  
AFRICAN DESCENT AND LOYALIST STOCK  
WHO WERE EARLY SETTLERS IN THIS AREA

The dedication unveiling by

Lieutenant Governor Lincoln Alexander

Photo: Ted Shaw, Flesherton, Ontario





## JOSEPH BRANT (THAYENDANEGEA)

*By Angela E.M. Files*



While his parents were on a hunting trip in Ohio, Joseph Brant was born near Akron in March 1742. His native name "Thayendanegea" means "two sticks tied together for strength". He spent his early years at Canajoharie, New York. Brant died at Wellington Square, now Burlington, Ontario, on November 24, 1807, and was buried at Burlington. In 1852, a relay of native people carried his remains to their final resting place on the Mohawk burial grounds which surround the Mohawk Chapel, located on the outskirts of Brantford.

Brant supported the British during the Seven Years War and the Pontiac uprising. In 1761, Sir William Johnson, Superintendent of Indian Affairs in the colony of New York, sent Brant to an Anglican school in Lebanon, Connecticut. He studied there for two years and was baptized into the Anglican church. In 1765 he married Margaret, an Oneida woman, and they had two children. After she died of consumption in 1771, Brant went to live with the Reverend John Stuart, missionary to the Mohawks at Fort Hunter, teaching him the Mohawk language and translating scriptures into Mohawk. His second wife was Margaret's half-sister Susanna who died soon after their marriage without having any children. In 1779 he married

Catharine with whom he had seven children.

At the outbreak of the revolutionary war, Brant became War Chief of the Six Nations which consisted of the Mohawks, Cayugas, Onondagas, and Senecas, who supported the British, and the Oneidas and Tuscaroras who either remained neutral or backed the rebels. In 1775, along with his cousin, John Deserontyon, his friend Ohranta, John Hill, and Guy Johnson, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Brant travelled to England where he was received by King George III. It was during this visit that George Romney painted Brant's portrait in full Indian costume. Through Brant's influence the alliance with the Iroquois Confederacy was maintained during the war.

Brant was appointed captain in the Indian Department in early 1779 and made captain of Northern Confederate Indians in July 1780 but he much preferred the designation, War Chief. He foraged, scouted and raided for the British during the war, seeing action in such places as Oriskany and Cherry Valley with Captain Walter Butler.

Much to Brant's indignation, the Native people were completely ignored during the peace negotiations following the war. He worked to obtain recognition and compensation for his people from the British, travelling to England again in 1785 to present Mohawk claims for losses and to acquire pensions and money for schools, and the Mohawk chapel to replace the one destroyed by the rebels at Fort Hunter, New York. In addition, he tried to form a native confederacy between the Six Nations and the Western Indians to oppose American expansion.

At the end of the war, Brant requested land for his people to compensate for the territory that they had lost in New York. The original plan put forward by Governor Haldimand was that the Mohawks would all settle on territory on the Bay of Quinte. Brant, however, decided that in order to be closer to the western tribes and more

removed from the Americans, he would rather establish a settlement farther west.

Land grant #15173, gave the Mohawks a tract along the Grand River, six miles in depth on each side of the river extending to the headwaters of the Grand, a length of over 100 miles. The Lower Mohawks of Fort Hunter, New York, led by Captain David Hill and the Upper Mohawks of Canajaharie, led by Joseph Brant, settled in Loyalist, or Mohawk Village. It was within an arc, one-half mile around the oxbow-shaped bend in the Grand River. The focal point of the village was the Chapel of the Mohawks, built in 1785. A council house, a school, more than 20 log houses, and a home for Captain Brant and his family made up the village. Throughout his life Brant continued to be the main spokesman for his people in the Grand River Valley, even though he moved to Burlington in 1795.

Brant lived in genteel English style, entertaining frequently with the help of a staff of 20 black and white servants. He believed that the Mohawks should co-operate with the white settlers and was in favour of encouraging non-natives to settle on native land in order to develop it. He also encouraged intermarriage between non-natives and natives. Although he admired much of British tradition, he hated the class divisions that he saw in English society and thought that such British punishments as imprisonment for debt were too harsh.

By the early 1850's most of the villagers had moved to their reserve on the south bank of the Grand River because non-native settlers were encroaching on their land. Over the years the Mohawks sold much of their land to settlers or back to the government. The Six Nations Lands along the banks of the Grand River now occupy only approximately one-twentieth of the original Haldimand Grant.

## CAPTAIN JOHN DESERONTYON (ODESERUNDIYE)

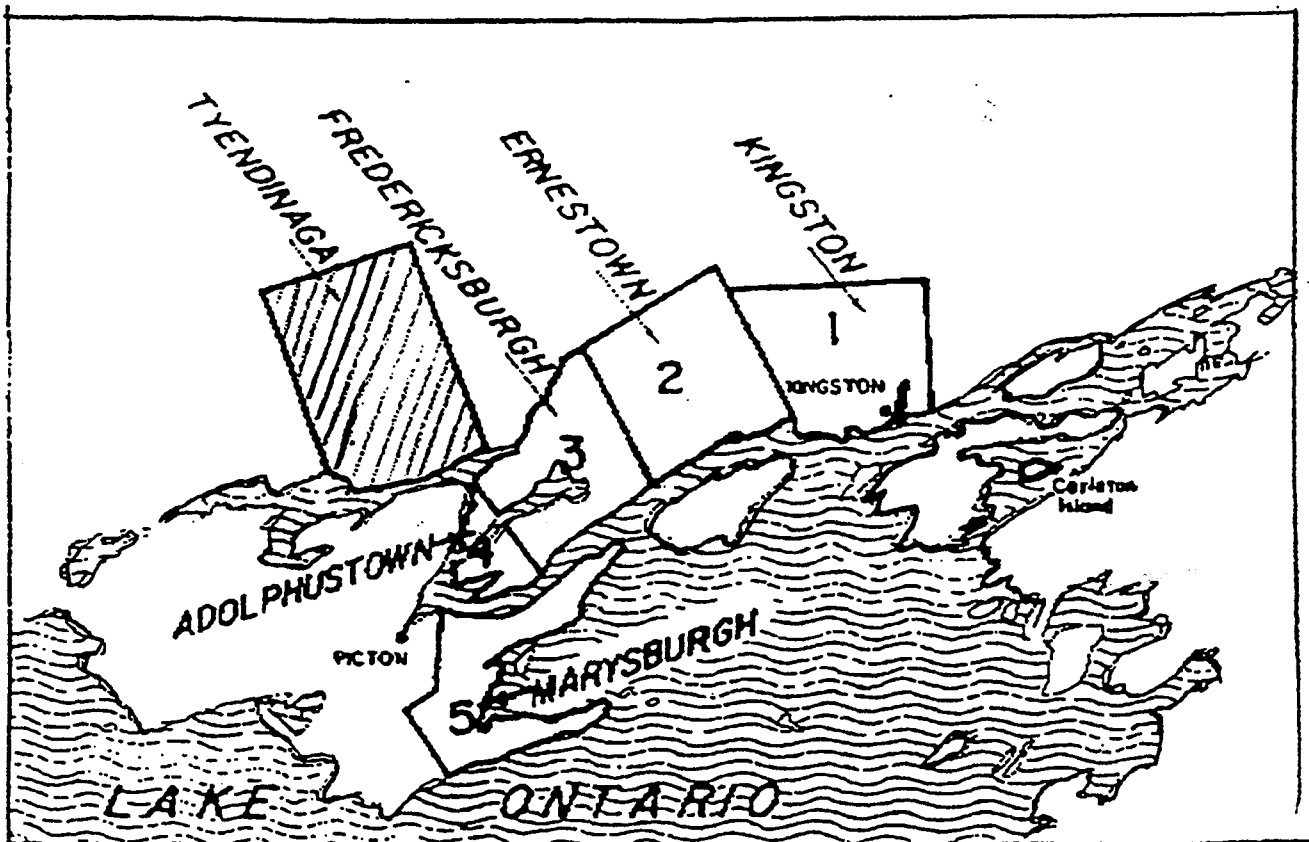
John Deserontyon, Mohawk chief at Fort Hunter when the American Revolution began, was born during the 1740's probably in the Mohawk Valley. Educated by whites, he was quite comfortable with whitemen's customs. During the Seven Years War and Pontiac's uprising he chose to support the British.

He was a guide for Guy Johnston and Daniel Claus of the Indian department when they went to Montreal in 1775 and he carried messages and spied for Sir John Johnson during the war. In 1777 he fought along with Joseph Brant at Oriskany. By 1779 most of the Mohawks were at Lachine, west of Montreal. That year they went west to the newly surveyed lands along the Bay of Quinte with Sir John Johnson. Although the original plan had been that all of the Mohawk Loyalists should settle together, Brant ultimately chose to move to the valley of the Grand River.

Deseronto received a grant of 3000 acres, a lump sum of £836 and an annual pension of £45 along with the assurance that his son would be educated at a boarding school. Education was very important to Deserontyon as is evidenced by his having a teacher appointed in the settlement in 1785. He was also instrumental in the construction of Christ Church, Her Majesty's Chapel of the Mohawks.

Daniel Claus stated that Deserontyon was "the clearest and best speaker of the Six Nations in the old way". He died on 7 January 1811 at the Mohawk settlement on the Bay of Quinte.

### MOHAWK RESERVE TYENDINAGA ON THE BAY OF QUINTE



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## HER MAJESTY'S CHAPELS OF THE MOHAWKS

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In 1710 several Mohawk chiefs travelled from New York to London to negotiate a military and political treaty with Queen Anne. In addition, they requested that an Anglican missionary be sent to them. In due course a Royal Chapel - Queen Anne's - was built at the junction of the Schoharie and the Mohawk Rivers at Fort Hunter, named after Robert Hunter, the Governor of New York. The location was near the Johnstown estate of Sir William Johnston, Superintendent of Indians for the British Government. For its consecration in 1712, Queen Anne gave a silver double communion set, a communion tablecloth and two napkins of finest damask, prayer books, Bibles, Surplices, and four large tablets inscribed in the Mohawk language in raised letters of gold with the Lord's Prayer, the Apostle's Creed, and the Ten Commandments. She also sent a reed organ, the only one of its kind west of Albany for more than 50 years. The Queen Anne Bible bore on the front cover the words, "For Her Majesty's Church of the Mohawks, 1712".

At the outbreak of the American Revolution, the Mohawks, along with their missionary, Rev. John Stuart, abandoned their homes and chapel to give their support to King George III. Before escaping, however, they buried Queen Anne's gifts in sealed caskets on the farm of Boyd Hunter, west of Fort Hunter. The rebels damaged the limestone chapel extensively and the rubble went into the building of the Erie Canal in the 1820's. They spared the Rectory, however, and it still stands.

When the war ended the Mohawks settled in two major areas: the Grand River Valley and Tyendinaga (Deseronto) near the Bay of Quinte.

## St. Paul's, Her Majesty's Chapel of the Mohawks (Brantford)

Built beginning in 1785 to replace the Queen Anne Chapel at Fort Hunter, N.Y., St. Paul's is the first Protestant church built in Upper Canada and the oldest complete church still standing in Ontario. John Smith, a United Empire Loyalist headed up the construction from hand-hewn timber floated down the Grand River from the site of Paris. The original entrance faced the river because the first worshipers arrived by canoe.

The Rev. John Stuart who had followed the Mohawks into exile dedicated the chapel in 1788. Part of the communion set recovered from its hiding place near the ruins of the chapel in New York is preserved there along with the Queen Anne Bible. Sadly, the linens which were also buried with these articles did not survive. The other pieces of the communion set are in Christ Church Chapel at Tyendinaga.

Cast in England in 1786, the Chapel bell was the first in Upper Canada. The bell bears the Arms of the House of Hanover indicating that it, along with the Royal Coat of Arms, carved from oak, which hangs on the wall behind the lectern, were gifts from King George III, who had received Joseph Brant in London during the Revolution. Although the bell later cracked, it has been preserved on the grounds to the left of the main entrance. The wall over the altar is decorated with the Apostle's Creed, the Ten Commandments, and the Lord's Prayer - all inscribed in the Mohawk language. The red carpet in the centre aisle was first used in 1939 when King George VI and Queen Elizabeth visited Brantford. The gold carpet in the sanctuary was initially used in Westminster Abbey during the crowning of Queen Elizabeth II. There are eight stained glass windows in the Chapel, designed to recognize the important role of the Six Nations in the history of Canada.

Unfortunately, the chapel was vandalized in 1975 and 1976, with the result that a beautiful piece of needlework was destroyed in the ensuing fire. Behind the Cross above

the altar had hung the famous Iroquois symbol called the Pine Tree of Peace, embroidered in exquisite beadwork by the Caughnawaga Indians 200 years earlier and donated to the Chapel by Mrs. E. Monture, a lineal descendant of Captain Joseph Brant. After extensive renovations during the following decade, Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip happily attended the re-opening of the Chapel in 1984.

When Joseph Brant died in 1807, he was buried in St. Luke's Cemetery, Burlington, Ontario. In 1850 his body was unearthed and borne on the sturdy shoulders of Native men to its final resting place beside the Royal Chapel. The same stone-topped enclosure, surrounded by a protecting iron railing, also contains the tomb of his son, Captain John Brant, who was buried there when he died in 1832. A second enclosure commemorates E. Pauline Johnson, the Mohawk princess and poetess who was born on the Grand River Reservation in 1861 and had regularly attended services in the Mohawk Chapel, although she was actually buried in Stanley Park in Vancouver, where she died in 1913.

King Edward VII bestowed the "Royal" designation in 1904.



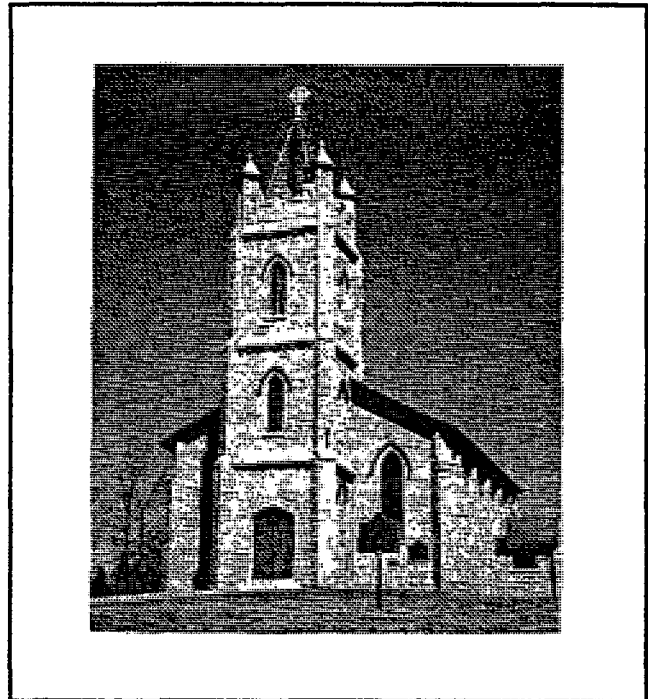
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## Christ Church, Her Majesty's Chapel of the Mohawks (Deseronto)

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Built of limestone in 1843 to replace the first chapel constructed shortly after the Mohawks arrived at Tyendinaga, Christ Church houses a share of the Queen Anne Silver, as well as a triptych in the Mohawk language, and a bell, gifts of King George III in 1798. In addition, the chapel holds a Bible, given by Queen Victoria and a royal coat of arms, the gift of King George V. Queen Elizabeth II presented a communion chalice in 1984 to commemorate the coming of the United Empire Loyalists to Ontario.

A memorial window recognizes the achievements of Dr. Oronhyateka, the first academically accredited Native American medical doctor, who is buried in the church yard of the Royal Chapel. Plaques which commemorate the military service of Mohawk Veterans from World Wars I and II demonstrate the continuing military alliance that has existed between the Crown and the Mohawks for the last three centuries.



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## SIR JOHN JOHNSON

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by Earle Thomas



Sir John Johnson played a central role in the organization and development of the province of Canada. The son of Sir William Johnson, he was born and bred in the Mohawk valley of New York, and after the Revolution, became the most prominent Loyalist in the old province of Quebec. The commander of the King's Royal Regiment of New York, he played an important part in the raids of the rich agricultural lands of his native state, a region regarded as the breadbasket of the Thirteen Colonies. In 1782 he was appointed Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs in British North America; during his decades in this post, he remained the loyal friend of the Indians and the champion of their rights.

In 1784 he organized and supervised the movement of the Loyalists from the Montreal area to the upper St. Lawrence and Bay of Quinte regions. These Loyalists, housed mainly in Montreal, Machiche, Sorel, St. Jean, and Chambly assembled at Lachine and proceeded up the St. Lawrence by *bateau* to the townships provided for their regiment and eventually drew lots for their land grants. They continued to turn to Sir John for guidance and help in the solution of their innumerable problems, regarding him as their champion and leader. Therefore he may be considered the founder of modern Ontario. He was recommended by Lord Dorchester for the position of first

lieutenant-governor of Upper Canada, and there was widespread disappointment among the Loyalist settlers when Colonel John Graves Simcoe was chosen instead. Sir John got along well with the common people and mixed easily with elite of both America and the British Isles. He understood the problems of pioneers and seemed suited for the position.

He was never able to recoup his losses suffered as a Loyalist, including more than 200,000 acres of land and two mansions, Fort Johnson and Johnson Hall, in the Mohawk valley. Nevertheless, he managed to maintain an extravagant style of life: mansions in Montreal, seigneuries in old Quebec, houses and mills in Upper Canada, including all of Amherst Island, 1,000 acres with mills in Gananoque, a tract on Lake St. Francis extending back along the Raisin River to Williamstown, with a house (still standing) and mills, and 20 acres and a house in Kingston. Nevertheless, his long life (1742-1830) was a continuous struggle to find the funds to finance his many and varied responsibilities. He and Lady Johnson had fourteen children; he also had to provide for his former common-law wife and their two children in Schenectady as well as for the families of three deceased brothers-in-law. His tumultuous affairs reflected the tumultuous times he lived in. He managed to survive the Seven Years' War, the American Revolution, the French Revolution, the War of 1812, and the Napoleonic Wars. Many of his male relatives were less fortunate; sons, nephews, half-brothers, brothers-in-law, and cousins paid with their lives. Sir John survived, but he did not escape unscathed; this remarkable man paid a price in a different currency.

For further information see: Earle Thomas, *Sir John Johnson: Loyalist Baronet* (Toronto: Dundurn Press, 1986).

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## COLONEL JOHN BUTLER

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by Lieutenant-Colonel William Smy



John Butler was born in New London, Connecticut, the son of Lieutenant Walter Butler and Deborah Dennis. His father was an officer in the British Army who had come to North America to participate in the expedition against Quebec in 1711. At the end of the campaign Walter was placed on Half Pay, and settled in New London, Connecticut. His mother's ancestors had been in Connecticut for at least three generations. In 1728, shortly after John Butler's birth, Walter Butler was posted to Fort Hunter on the Mohawk River. In the next few years he acquired land across the river from the fort and moved his family from New London. John, his youngest son, was then fourteen years of age. These were the years of the French and Indian Wars, and John followed his older brothers into the Indian Department of Sir William Johnson. He was in action at Ticonderoga, Lake George, and the captures of Fort Frontenac, Niagara and Montreal. In 1752, he married Catherine Bradt of a prominent Dutch family on the Mohawk. They raised a family of five children (two others had died in infancy).

During the peace following the conquest of Canada, John Butler took up the management of his estate, some 26,600 acres, of which 3,400 acres had been inherited from his father. The balance he had accumulated by purchase or grant. He valued his holdings at over £13,000.

At the outbreak of the Revolution, he moved to Montreal with the Indian Department, and was dispatched to Niagara in November of 1775 to manage the department there. His eldest son, Walter, accompanied him, but the rebels held his wife and the remaining children prisoners until 1780.

John Butler led a strong detachment of Indians from Niagara at the Battle of Oriskany in August of 1777. His success during the battle led to the authorization to raise a Corps of Rangers to serve with the Indians on the frontiers. This corps informally came to be known as Butler's Corps, or Butler's Rangers. It grew to ten companies and fought in every major engagement on the northern frontier. Headquartered at Fort Niagara, its men fought actions in New York, Pennsylvania, Western Virginia, Ohio, and Kentucky. During the six years of the existence of the Corps, over 900 men served in the Rangers. The last company of the Corps was disbanded at Niagara in July 1784. A majority of the men who had served in the Rangers settled the Niagara Peninsula, while some established themselves in the Windsor Area. A few settled in eastern Ontario and one even in Prince Edward Island. Their presence in Niagara established the Loyalist tradition, which helped defend the province during the War of 1812.

At the end of the Revolution, Butler once again turned to farming, and became the *de facto* leader of the settlement of the Niagara Peninsula. He served as the Deputy Superintendent of the Indian Department at Niagara, a Justice of the Peace, a member of the Land Board of Niagara, Lieutenant of the County of Lincoln, Commanding Officer of the Nassau and Lincoln militias, leader in the Church of England in the community, and a prominent member of the Masonic order.

Butler died at Niagara on 12 May 1796, after a long illness. His wife had died three years earlier. He left a family of one daughter and three sons.

The words of Sir Arthur Wellsley, later the Duke of Wellington, could well have served as Butler's personal motto, "I have ate of the King's salt, and therefore, I conceive it to be my duty to serve with unhesitating zeal and cheerfulness, when and where the King or his government may think proper to employ me."

John Butler can truly be described as one of the Founding Fathers of Upper Canada.



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## CAPTAIN WILLIAM CALDWELL

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*by Glenn Stott*

Seldom in Canadian history do we seem to have heroes who rival the likes of Daniel Boone and David Crockett. One Canadian whose courage, achievement, and adventures might well surpass that of these individuals, however, was William Caldwell. Caldwell was born in the 1750's in Fermanagh County, Ireland but by the 1770's he had immigrated to the American colonies and settled in Pennsylvania. Here he developed an excellent rapport with the natives who still populated the colony. He earned the trust of many native groups and a lasting bond and mutual respect resulted. A writer in an American journal noted that "He was an active and able partisan leader and over the western Indians he acquired an influence which remained unshaken until his death".

When the American colonies declared their independence from Great Britain, William Caldwell sided with King George III. Caldwell was one of many Loyalists whose neighbours drove them from their homes because of their stand. He abandoned his property and made his way to Fort Niagara where he joined Bird's Rangers under Lord Dunmore. Rangers were special soldiers who used their skills in moving quickly and secretly through the woodland, practising hit-and-run fighting techniques, similar to those used by the Indians. In May of 1776, he joined Colonel John Butler's Rangers and rose to the rank of captain by Christmas Eve, 1777. He was, therefore, in the company of such historical characters as Simon Girty, John and Walter Butler, and John Johnson. He was put in charge of a group of about 80 men who took part in successful bloody raids on the Wyoming Valley and Cherry Valley in 1778. In the summer of 1782 Caldwell led two lightning-quick attacks, modeled on Indian ambushes, the first on American forces under Colonel Crawford at Sandusky, Ohio, and a second on a band under Daniel Boone at Blue Licks in Kentucky. In the latter battle Daniel Boone's son, Israel, was killed.

After the Revolution ended in 1783, Caldwell used his influence as a prominent member of Butler's Rangers and an Indian ally to acquire considerable holdings in Essex and Kent Counties in Upper Canada. He built his home opposite Bois Blanc Island on land that he obtained through his friendship with the natives. This later became the site of Amherstburg. He also ventured into partnership

with Matthew Elliott, Deputy Superintendent of the British Indian Department, in a trading post located along the Maumee River. Upon Elliott's death in the Spring of 1814, Caldwell was chosen his successor.

Using his connections, Caldwell assisted the settling of former Loyalist soldiers and their families along the north shore of Lake Erie in the future townships of Colchester and Gosfield. He is also reported to have advocated granting land to Natives who had fought for Great Britain during the American Revolution. There was no doubt that William Caldwell was influential in the economy and government of Upper Canada.

In 1783, William married Suzanne Bâby whose family had been prominent in the Detroit-Amherstburg area since the French régime. They had five sons and three daughters. He also maintained close ties with the Western Natives and had a son named Billy Caldwell by a Potawatomi woman after his marriage to Suzanne.

When war with the United States broke out in 1812, William Caldwell and his sons played an active part in the Essex Militia. William Sr., upon the suggestion of General Proctor, assisted in forming a company of soldiers known as Caldwell's Western Rangers, modeled after Butler's Rangers. He served as a Colonel in this unit while William Jr. was a Captain. Along with the Potawatomi Indians led by his son, Chief Billy Caldwell, they provided yeoman service for the British throughout the war, acting not only as scouts, but also participating in almost all of the major battles in the Niagara, Detroit, and Thames theatres.

When Colonel William Caldwell died in 1820 at Amherstburg, he left behind a legacy which few could equal. He was a leader of a company of Butler's Rangers, one of the most famous regiments that fought in the American Revolution; he participated in the settling of Southwestern Ontario with fellow Loyalists and other disbanded soldiers; he acted as an advocate for his friends, the Natives; and he assisted with the successful defence of Upper Canada during the War of 1812. As a Loyalist, fur trader, soldier, and official in the Indian Department, this remarkable person did much to influence the development of the province of Ontario.

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## CAPTAIN JOHN W. MEYERS, LOYALIST SPY

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John Meyers, who originally was known as Hans Waltermeyer, was born in Albany County, New York, in 1745 to German immigrants. He probably anglicized his name after he settled near the Bay of Quinte. He married twice: first to Polly Kruger about 1765 with whom he had seven children, and second to Sophia Davy around 1817.

At the outbreak of hostilities his father went with the rebels but Meyers set off in 1777 to enroll in the King's Loyal Americans under Major General Burgoyne. He also acted as a recruiting agent for Colonel Gabriel Ludlow and Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Rogers. His main contribution to the Loyalist effort, however, was in the area of intelligence and the carrying of dispatches through enemy territory. Scholars have stated that he almost always returned to his wartime headquarters at Fort St. John with new recruits and prisoners. Another tale describes how mothers sympathetic to the rebels would extract good behavior from their children by threatening them with dire consequences from Hans Waltermeyer, if they didn't behave themselves.

When Meyers left his farm near Albany to join the Loyalists, rebels evicted his wife and children but gave them a pass to join him in New York City where they stayed together supporting themselves as servants until 1782 when Polly and the children went to Halifax.

In 1781, Governor Haldimand asked Meyers to raise an independent military unit, and when he was not able to accomplish this by 1782, Haldimand made him a captain in Jessup's Loyal Rangers. He served in this unit until the end of the war. In 1783 the family was reunited at Mississquoi Bay on Lake Champlain. Meyers would have been pleased to have settled there permanently but Haldimand insisted that they go with the other Provincials to the townships being surveyed to the west. Meyers

resisted until the governor threatened to withhold supplies without which the settlers could not survive.

By 1790 Meyers had settled his family in Thurlow Township and had built the district's first mill at the mouth of Meyer's Creek - later renamed the Moira. His prosperity, gained from the mill, a distillery, the fur trade, and shipping goods to Montreal in his own ships, is evidenced by the construction of one of the first brick houses in the district, completed within 10 years of his arrival. He named the village which grew up around his various enterprises after his family. Later it was renamed Belleville after Lady Bella, the wife of Lieutenant-Governor Sir Francis Gore.

His holdings and those of his family, including his son, Tobias, who was also a veteran, were considerable, owing to his original captain's grant of 3000 acres, and to the order-in-council which in 1788 entitled all children of Loyalists to 200 acres at age 21. Meyers was not only wealthy but also assumed a leadership role in the community through the Masonic Lodge, the local Agricultural Society, and St. Thomas Anglican Church. He was a Justice of the Peace from 1788 until his death, and a captain of the Hastings militia from 1798 to 1812. He freed his few slaves before he was legally required to do so, was highly respected by the Mississauga Ojibways with whom he traded, and was well-known for generosity towards guests. One scholar has suggested that he was one of the few who passed into folklore *before* his death.

His was not a blind loyalty to the British since he was not hesitant to question policy with which he did not agree and he was tenacious in demanding what he thought he deserved. Late in life he was associated briefly with the Reformer, Robert Gourlay. He died in Belleville in 1821.

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## MOLLY BRANT

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by Earle Thomas

Molly Brant played a significant role on the Loyalist side in the American Revolution. A full-blooded Mohawk, she spent most of her childhood days in the Mohawk village of Canajoharie in the Mohawk valley of New York. While little is known of her childhood, she grew up to be a remarkable woman, gifted, vivacious, and intelligent. As the housekeeper and common-law wife of Sir William Johnson, an Irishman who had attained a position of wealth and prominence in the Province of New York, Molly was quite at home in both cultures, and her charm and grace endeared her to the throngs of European and colonial guests at Sir William's elegant home. Her influence and popularity with the Six Nations were important factors in Johnson's success in North America. Her personality and position as leader of the clan mothers in the matrilineal society of the Iroquois nations helped her play a crucial part in keeping four of the Six Nations loyal to King George III in the American Revolution.

When Sir William died in 1774, his heir, Sir John Johnson, his son by his first wife, moved into Johnson Hall and Molly with her eight children went to the house Sir William had left her in Canajoharie. Here she opened a store, which provided her with the opportunity of constant association with her fellow Mohawks. Staunchly loyal to King and Empire, she exerted herself to the utmost to aid those Loyalists who were forced to flee the wrath of Rebel neighbours. She carried food and information to them in their hiding places in the woods and even hid some of them in her house. She warned the British at Fort Stanwix of the intentions of Colonel Nicholas Herkimer, thus precipitating the bloody battle of Oriskany in which hundreds of Mohawk valley Rebels were killed. It then became her turn to flee for her life.

She went first to Niagara and then to Montreal, where she entered some of her children in school. Then General Sullivan's Rebel army marched into the Mohawk valley area in 1779, driving hundreds of the Iroquois to Niagara, Molly felt she should return there to help her people. She got only so far as Carleton Island where she came in contact with large numbers of her dispossessed and disconsolate people. Constantly using her influence and charm, she kept them loyal to the Crown. She contributed more than any other person to keeping four of the Six Nations loyal.

At the conclusion of the War she settled in Kingston in a house built for her by the Government, with a Government pension provided in recognition of her services. She remained there for the rest of her life and was accepted by the white inhabitants. She was one of the contributors to the building fund of St. George's Church and an old friend of the Reverend John Stuart. One daughter never married, but the other five became wives of white officers or professional men in Kingston or Niagara. Three plaques and one statue in Kingston mark her importance in the history of our country.

For further information see: Earle Thomas, *The Three Faces of Molly Brant* (Kingston: Quarry Press, 1996).

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## SARAH KAST MCINNIS - 1713 - 1791

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by Donald W. Diminie

Sarah Kast McInnis was many things: daughter of German immigrants, soldier's wife and widow, mother of Loyalists, British agent, and a true Loyalist herself. She was born in 1713 to Johan Jurg Kast and his wife after the family had come New York under British sponsorship. Queen Anne had rescued thousands of Palatine Germans from political tyranny and poverty. On the Mohawk river, Kast carved prosperity out of primeval forest. His great success in the fur trade under Sir William Johnson was in no small measure a result of the admiration and trust that the Six Nations felt for his daughter Sarah. During her childhood, the Indians "prevailed upon her parents to let her live among them, and adopted her as one of themselves."<sup>1</sup> This respect would later prove invaluable to the Crown

In the 1740's Sarah married another fur trader, Timothy McInnis, who was also a captain in the Indian Department. His death serving the British cause at the Battle of Lake George in 1755 left Sarah to cope alone with a large family, a farm, and a business. She succeeded with her gritty perseverance and was able to bring her sons-in-law into the fur trade with her, but hard times and heartache were soon to come.

"When the Revolution broke out, both sides courted Sarah because of her close association with the Iroquois, the Patriots offering her twelve shillings York currency a day and a guard of 15 men. But Sarah and her family sided with the British and worked to cement the Iroquois' loyalty, actions that caused them to be persecuted by the Patriots."<sup>2</sup> To neutralize her influence, her son-in-law was arrested and jailed. Then all she owned was confiscated and sold at auction. She and her daughter and a granddaughter were then imprisoned in Fort Dayton (Herkimer, New York) and were "so harshly used"<sup>3</sup> that the little girl died. The women were released only when it appeared that the British were poised to invade the valley, and they escaped to St. Leger's camp at Fort Stanwix. That escape cost her dearly because she was forced to leave her son, William "who was out of his senses and bound in chains...and who sometime afterward was burnt alive".<sup>4</sup>

Eventually Sarah and her surviving family came to safety at Carleton Island in Quebec. She was now 64 years old and had endured unimaginable anguish. Despite her sufferings, Daniel Claus, Superintendent of Indians, persuaded her to winter with the Iroquois to counter both the "harmful effects of Burgoyne's defeat"<sup>5</sup> and the tremendous Indian losses at Oriskany. The Indians "flocked to her from the remotest villages and thanked her for coming...to direct and advise them in that critical time".<sup>6</sup> Her powerful influence persuaded the Indians that messages from the rebels were false, indeed evil, and must be ignored. There in the wilderness she helped to maintain the allegiance of the Six Nations, providing Britain with their continued support as men-at-arms, and ensuring their on-going loyalty, and later migration to Canada.

After the war, Sarah came with her family to Upper Canada. She petitioned for land and repayment of her losses but received no land. She and her son, George, received a small sum for her losses but less than the amount they claimed. We know little about Sarah's later life, although there is evidence that she died at the home of her grandson, Timothy Thompson, who lived in Fredericksburg Township. The site of her grave is unknown.

On September 8, 1991, the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Sarah's death, the descendants of Sarah Kast McInnis gathered at St. John's Anglican Church in Bath, Ontario to dedicate a granite monument and bronze plaque to the memory of this remarkable woman. She chose a hard course in a harder time, but lived to see her sacrifices, her children, and some of her grandchildren become part of the fabric and fibre of a new country - Canada.

### ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup>*Haldimand Papers*, Volume 21, p. 774; Daniel Claus to Governor Haldimand, 5 November 1778. National Archives of Canada, Ottawa.

<sup>2</sup>Potter, Janice, "Patriarchy and Paternalism: The case of the Eastern Ontario Loyalist Woman", *Ontario History*, Volume LXXXI, No. 1, March 1989. p. 11.

<sup>3</sup>*Haldimand Papers*, Volume 21, p. 774.

<sup>4</sup>*Ibid.*, Volume 27, p. 302, Petition of Sarah McInnis Audit Office 14.

<sup>5</sup>Potter, p. 11.

<sup>6</sup>*Ibid.*

## SARAH KAST MCGINNIS

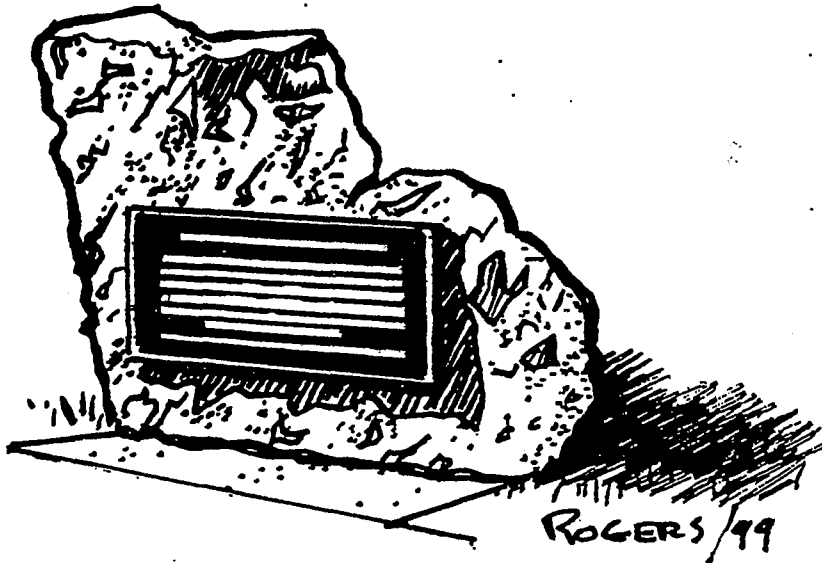
**UNITED EMPIRE LOYALIST 1713 - 1791**

Sarah Kast grew up in German Flats, New York,  
Beloved by her Indian neighbours. She Married Captain Timothy McGinnis, killed in  
1755 at the Battle of Lake George.

During the American Revolution her persistent loyalty  
to Britain resulted in imprisonment, confiscation of property  
and a son lost in a fire. Nevertheless, Daniel Claus, Superintendent of Indians,  
persuaded her to spend the crucial winter of 1777 with the Six Nations, ensuring their  
continued loyalty and eventual migration to Ontario

She died September 9, 1791 and is believed buried in St John's Cemetary, Bath, Ontario

*Representation of commemorative plaque*



*Sketch of memorial at St. John's Cemetary, Bath, Ontario, for Sarah Kast McGinnis*

## **PAUL AND BARBARA (RUCKLE) HECK**

*by Mary Beacock Fryer*



This devoted Loyalist couple were among the first Methodists to settle in what became Upper Canada and their influence on the establishment of that church in Canada was considerable.

Both of their families had been among refugees from the German Palatinate whom the British government settled in Ireland in 1709. When John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, visited Ireland in 1748 about 100 families, including the Hecks and the Ruckles were among the converts to Methodism.

After their marriage in 1760 the Hecks emigrated along with several other Methodist families whose goal was to establish a linen factory in New York City. They did not accomplish their objective and took other employment in New York City for the time being.

In 1766, Barbara Heck had a religious experience which resulted in a concerted effort to establish a Methodist Chapel in New York. The chapel, the first in New York City, opened in 1768.

The Hecks moved to Camden Township near Bennington Vermont in 1770 and Paul began to farm. He enlisted in a Loyalist unit known as the Camden group and served as a sergeant in Mackay's Corps until he requested a discharge because of ill health. He spent the balance of the war serving as a bateauxman taking Loyalists to their new grants in western Quebec.

The Rebels confiscated his farm when he joined the Loyalist forces and his family fled to the Montreal area. When the war ended the family received their Loyalist land grant in the Third Concession of Augusta Township near what became the hamlet of Maynard. There they held the first Methodist class (service) in their tiny cabin in the forest. A number of other Palatine Methodist families received grants in the same vicinity and this group was instrumental in establishing the first circuits of the Canadian Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church in Upper Canada.

Methodism was particularly well-suited to frontier conditions since its followers were quite happy to hold services in their houses or the outdoors, if necessary, whenever one of their circuit riders (itinerant preachers) visited them. These services were attractive to common people because of their stirring preaching and hymn singing. The authorities, most of whom were Anglicans, intended that their church would become the official one in Upper Canada, as it was in England. This turned out to be impossible because more of the early settlers were attracted to Methodism. Soon the Methodists erected their first chapel at Hay Bay on the Bay of Quinte. In 1817, Paul and Barbara's son, Samuel, was ordained a deacon in the Methodist chapel at Elizabethtown at the first meeting of the Methodist Conference held in Upper Canada, rather than in New York State from where many Upper Canadian Methodists originated.

Paul died in 1795 and Barbara died in 1804. Both are buried in the Blue Church (Anglican) cemetery near Prescott.

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## THE REVEREND JOHN STUART

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by G. B. Okill Stuart

A formidable figure standing over six feet, John Stuart devoted his life to ministering to the Mohawk Indians, first in New York and later in Upper Canada.

He was born on March 10, 1740 to Andrew and Mary (Dinwiddie) Stuart. Some years earlier his father brought his family from County Omagh, Ireland to Paxton, a small town in Pennsylvania now a suburb of Harrisburg. John studied at the College of Philadelphia where he came under the influence of Episcopalian clergymen whose teachings and example convinced him that he wished to follow in their footsteps.

His father, a devout Presbyterian, strenuously opposed this plan, and so Stuart, not wishing to defy his father's wishes spent seven years as a schoolmaster. At the end of that time, since he was still determined to seek ordination, his father relented and John went to England to complete the required formalities. The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel sent him back to America as a missionary to the Mohawk Indians at Fort Hunter on the Mohawk River in New York. From 1770 until 1781, he served at Fort Hunter, which was in the area dominated by Sir William Johnson. In fact, he officiated at Sir William's funeral in 1774. During this time, the young Joseph Brant, greatly assisted him in his study and use of the Mohawk language as his tutor and interpreter. Together they translated part of the Bible into the Mohawk language.

From the outbreak of hostilities, Stuart supported the king, mainly by supplying Sir John Johnson with intelligence from the Mohawk Valley. Because of his activities, Patriots burned his church, confiscated his belongings and placed him under house arrest in Schenectady. The authorities eventually allowed him to proceed with his family and personal property, including three black slaves, to Montreal as part of a prisoner exchange. A group of Mohawks accompanied them and protected and cared for the family to the point of providing

a wet nurse for their infant son, George Okill, when his mother was too ill to care for him.

Sir John Johnson appointed Stuart chaplain to the Second Battalion of his Loyalist regiment, the King's Royal Regiment of New York, also known as the "Royal Greens" or "Royal Yorkers". He opened a school in Montreal at this time and assisted at the Anglican services held in the chapel that the Recollets owned.

When the war was over, Stuart took his family to Kingston and resumed his service to the Mohawks and non-native Loyalists who had sought refuge there after the war. He continued to serve as chaplain to the garrison and opened a school in 1786. In addition, he travelled to Six Nations settlements in the valley of the Grand River to perform marriages and baptisms, stopping at Niagara on the way to conduct services. He was able, once again, to use the communion vessels which he had been obliged to bury in the woods when Patriots burned his church at Fort Hunter because faithful Indians had retrieved them and returned them to him after the war. In due course he presented all but three of these pieces, known as the Queen Anne Silver, to the Mohawk Chapel on the Grand River. The remaining pieces stayed with the Mohawks who settled on the Bay of Quinte.

Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe named him chaplain of the Legislative Council in 1792 and he went to Newark (Niagara) and York (Toronto) as required when Parliament was in session.

Although his services were in demand in other parts of the colony, he declined all offers, choosing to remain in Kingston where he died in 1811. He was married to Jane Okill, of Philadelphia, and they had eight children.

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## THE REVEREND JOHN BETHUNE

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*based on articles from The Loyalist Gazette*



The great-great-grandfather of Dr. Norman Bethune, known for the formulation of mobile blood transfusion equipment during the Spanish Civil War in the 1930's and for his medical assistance and ultimate death in the service of the Chinese during their war with the Japanese, served as chaplain for British forces during the American Revolution and the War of 1812.

John Bethune, eldest son of Angus (Beaton) who had fought with the Jacobite forces at Culloden and his wife, Christina (Christian), was born in 1751 on the Isle of Skye. He was ordained into the ministry of the Free Church of Scotland (Presbyterian) after graduating from St. Andrew's College, Aberdeen in 1772. While in college he began to use Bethune, the French form of his surname, instead of the Skye family name, Beaton.

Shortly after his ordination, he left Scotland with a group of victims of the Highland clearances including his mother and Flora MacDonald, who had helped Bonnie Prince Charlie escape to Skye after the defeat at Culloden. By 1773, the Scots had established plantations near Goldsboro, North Carolina and Bethune had founded Mount Carmel Church and opened a school where Flora MacDonald's sons were among his students.

At the outbreak of hostilities between the British and the Patriots, the newcomers formed a Loyalist regiment, the Royal Highland Immigrants, under the command of Colonel McLean. Bethune served as the regiment's chaplain. He was captured after the regiment's defeat in 1776 and spent some time in military prison in Philadelphia where he developed respiratory problems which would trouble him throughout his life.

Since he had lost his property as a result of his loyalty, he went to Halifax upon his release in 1778 and rejoined his regiment which had been reorganized as the Royal 84<sup>th</sup>. He accompanied it to Quebec in 1779 where they were stationed for a number of years. In 1782 he married Veronique Waddin, whose father was one of the founding partners of the North West Company. Along with the church, this company and the Hudson's Bay Company with which it later amalgamated, were to have a major influence on the family.

Bethune remained with the Royal 84<sup>th</sup>, which by 1783 was stationed near Kingston. When the regiment was disbanded at the end of the war the Bethunes returned to Montreal where John assisted at the services of the Established Church of Scotland which initially met in a building lent to them by the Recollet fathers. This congregation was the precursor of the Gabriel Street Presbyterian Church, mother church of the Presbyterians denomination in Canada. Because he conducted the service in Gaelic, the congregation attracted displaced highlanders and employees of the North West Company among whom were Alexander Mackenzie and Alexander Henry.

In 1787 he moved his family to Glengarry County where he took possession of the land which he was granted as a Loyalist. At Williamstown he built a home for his family which would eventually number six sons and three natural and one adopted daughter. He also built St.



Andrew's, the first Presbyterian Church in Upper Canada, on his property. He ministered to the faithful on Sunday and taught their children during the week to supplement his income as a half-pay officer. In addition, he organized congregations which he visited on a rotating basis in other Scottish communities, namely: Lancaster, Martintown, Summerstown, and Cornwall.

These years were distinguished by an extraordinary ecumenical spirit among the clergy in the newly settled area. The Roman Catholic bishop, Alexander Macdonell, who substituted for Bethune in emergencies, contributed £20 to the construction of the stone church which was to replace the original St. Andrew's log church at Williamstown. He quipped that he "would donate £20 anytime to help tear down a protestant church." John Strachan, founder of the Cornwall Grammar School and an Anglican priest, educated three of the Bethune boys and Bethune officiated at his marriage in 1807. Alexander Neil, one of John's sons, succeeded John Strachan as the second Anglican Bishop of Toronto.

When the War of 1812 broke out, Bethune again served as a chaplain, this time for the Glengarry Fencibles. Years of toil in the service of the church, along with the illness that had plagued him since his imprisonment, took their toll and he died at his home in Williamstown on September 23, 1815.

Within a month of her husband's death, Veronique sold their property to the explorer-geographer, David Thompson who promptly returned the church and cemetery to the congregation for the sum of £25. She then returned to Montreal. In 1846, she died at the home of her daughter Christian whose husband Robert Henry had been a wintering partner of the North West Company.

The Bethune daughters all married businessmen, the majority of whom had a connection with the North West Company at one time or another. The sons or their wives also were likely to have some connection with the North West Company or the Hudson's Bay Company.

The Bethune-Thompson House located in Williamstown, Ontario is owned by the Ontario Heritage Foundation and is open to the public.

## THE GLASSFORD FAMILY

Paul Glassford was descended from an ancient Scottish family; he was born in the Province of New York (then a British colony). Four years before the breaking out of the revolution, he came to Canada, the family being driven from the colony by the rebels in consequence of their loyalty to the British Crown. At that time there were five brothers in the family, John being the father of Paul Glassford. With their families they made their way from the Mohawk Valley, where they resided, until they reached the shore of Lake Ontario, near where Sackett's Harbor now stands. At that place they secured a bateau to convey them to Niagara, where a British regiment was stationed. Paul at this time was six years of age. When coasting along the lake, the party frequently landed, to secure game and cook provisions. During one of the halts, Paul was lost and could not be found. The distress of the parents cannot be described. Three days were spent in searching the forest, but no trace could be found of the lost child. Sorrowing, they departed on their journey, believing that little Paul had been devoured by some wild beast. What happened is best described in the words as they fell from the lips of Mr. Glassford in later life: —

“I wandered away from the other children, gathering wild grapes and flowers, and, before I was aware of the fact, I was lost. I could not make them hear my cries. I continued running about, expecting to find the lake. I at last became overcome with fatigue, and, lying down, cried myself to sleep. When I awoke, the sun was shining. I satisfied my hunger with the grapes I had gathered, which were abundant around me, and continued to travel through the woods by day, sleeping in the best hiding place at night. I do not know how many days I had wandered about, when I suddenly came in sight of the lake. I was

overjoyed, thinking that I would find my parents. I ran down to the beach, and looked in all directions, but could see nothing but the clear blue water in front, and the dark forest behind. I had lived on the wild grapes all this time, as I could find nothing else; and as I had heard my father say that Niagara was towards the setting sun, I continued in that direction along the sandy beach day after day, concealing myself at night in the bushes, as I was greatly afraid of meeting with Indians, thinking they would take me with them. For fear that it would prove cloudy, I made a mark in the sand every night before going to sleep, so that I would not be mistaken the next morning in the direction to proceed. One day I saw an Indian and squaw coming along the beach. I was frightened and hid in the bushes, but escaped their notice. After they had disappeared, I proceeded on my journey, travelling day by day until I reached the mouth of the Niagara River, where I was taken charge of and conveyed to the camp by some soldiers. I told them that I had been lost in the woods. I was soon in my mother's arms, my parents having delayed along the shore in the vain hope of receiving tidings of me.”

The family settled in the Township of Matilda, County of Dundas. In 1820, Paul entered into the mercantile business in Augusta, just above Maitland, removing eventually to Brockville. He was an active Magistrate; frequently chairman of the Court of Quarter Sessions. Retiring from active life about the year 1850, he died on March 30<sup>th</sup>, 1858. Mr. Glassford was twice married. His first wife was Miss Parlow, by whom he had one son and one daughter. His second wife, a daughter of the late Colonel David Breakenridge, bore him five sons and four daughters.

## THE SHERWOOD FAMILY

After his home was invaded by a group of his Patriot neighbours and he narrowly escaped a sentence of life imprisonment for his political beliefs, Justus Sherwood served in the Loyalist forces, negotiated with Patriots on behalf of the British, was involved in secret service activities, and ultimately was a leader of Loyalist settlers in what became Upper Canada.

Sherwood was born in Newtown, Connecticut on March 7, 1747, the 10<sup>th</sup> child of John and Hannah Sherwood. He moved to Vermont about 1771 and married Sarah Bottum about 1774. They had three daughters and two sons.

He was a frontier farmer, dedicated to his family, community and king. He knew, and sympathized with, Ethan Allen and his Green Mountain Boys who carried on a long struggle to attain Vermont's independence from New York. He did not, however, support their revolutionary activities. As a result, in 1776, local Patriots raided his home, destroyed his belongings, and arrested him. After a revolutionary court condemned him to life imprisonment in Simsbury Mines in Connecticut he escaped and fled to Bennington where his wife had gone to be with her family. Here he spoke out against the rebels who subsequently captured him and had him publicly flogged.

In 1777 he made a getaway, this time with a group of Loyalists among whom was his cousin Thomas. They went to Crown Point where they met Sir Guy Carleton who assisted them in reaching Quebec. The next year he and Thomas joined the Queen's Loyal Rangers under the command of Colonel John Peters. After the regiment's defeat at Saratoga Justus spent three years with his wife and family at St. John's, Quebec doing secret service work. Thomas was also living at St. John's with his family, including his son Reuben who enlisted in the Loyal Rangers in 1782 at age 14. Thomas was a scout for the British at this time, as well.

In 1780 Governor General Frederick Haldimand sent Justus back to Vermont to negotiate with Ethan Allen for the exchange of prisoners and the eventual return of Vermont to the British Empire. The British defeat at

Yorktown destroyed whatever feeble hope there was for reconciliation, although Sherwood seems to have continued on good terms with the Allens.

For the next two years Justus Sherwood continued to carry out intelligence work in Northern New York and New England. The Treaty of Paris which officially brought peace found Sherwood involved in settling Loyalists in what was left of British North America.

He carried out an extensive inspection of the Gaspé shoreline as far as New Brunswick and, in 1783 led a party of Loyalists to the Kingston-Bay of Quinte area where he began the surveys of the new townships. Reuben Sherwood was one of his assistants.

The decision to open the area along the St. Lawrence west of Montreal is a reflection of adamant opposition to any plan to locate Loyalists on the seigneuries of Quebec. Loyalists preferred settling on the new lands to the west. Thomas Sherwood's family also settled in the new townships along the St. Lawrence. Reuben received 200 acres in Elizabeth Township as a veteran and began clearing land and building timber rafts with his father and cousin Justus.

By 1785 Justus had installed his family on a new farm in Augusta Township, just west of present-day Prescott. By 1792 he had constructed a grist mill on one of his properties. He served as Land Commissioner for Lunenburg District and Justice of the Peace. He died in the summer of 1798 at Trois Rivières while taking one of the timber rafts to Quebec.

Reuben served as captain of guides on the St. Lawrence during the War of 1812. In February 1813 Americans raided Brockville and captured approximately 50 men including his younger brother Adiel, a captain in the Leeds Militia. Through trickery, Reuben was able to capture two American officers and arrange for the release of his brother and another officer in exchange for their release.

For many years Reuben earned his living as a government surveyor. His survey records are preserved in the Archives of Ontario.

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## **Symbols and Badges**

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Loyalist Rose

Loyalist Flag

Mark of Honour

Badge of the U.E.L. Association

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## THE LOYALIST ROSE

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This antique rose, identified as “Maiden’s Blush” of the *ROSA ACRA* family, was brought to Europe from Damascus during the Crusades. It appears in many Renaissance paintings, notably Botticelli’s “Birth of Venus”. In 1773 John and Mary Cameron carried a specimen with them when they emigrated from Scotland to Sir William Johnson’s estate in Western New York.

In 1776, John joined the King’s Royal Regiment of New York and the family took a root on the 230 mile trek over the Appalachians to the Cornwall area. It was a treasured possession, vital to their survival: from its flowers, stalks, leaves and tips, they could make medicines, tea and many delicacies.

Two hundred years later, Ethel Macleod, a descendant of John and Mary Cameron, registered “Maiden’s Blush” as “The Loyalist Rose” with the International Registration Authority for Roses. She presented the designation to The United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada to mark the Bi-Centennial of the American Revolution and the beginning of the Loyalist migration to Canada.

It is a double, very fragrant pale pink rose fading almost to white. The abundant blooms appear on the compact, dense bush in June.

## THE LOYALIST FLAG

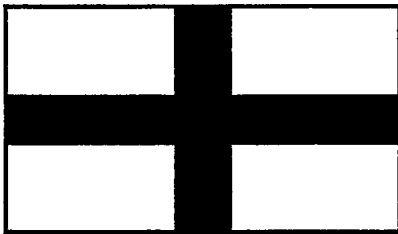
The First Union Flag, which came into being in England in the year 1606, is the flag which symbolizes the heritage of the United Empire Loyalists. Created at the command of James I of England (formerly James VI of Scotland), it symbolized the unity of those two countries under his rule. The flag was composed of the Cross of St. George, patron saint of England (a red cross on a white background), and Cross of St. Andrew, patron saint of Scotland (a diagonal white cross on a blue background). By 1707, the flag, then known as the Union Jack, was accepted without question as the flag of the British Empire.

This flag was flown on the ships of such explorers as Henry Hudson and James Cook. It flew from the ramparts of the Hudson's Bay Company trading posts and the British military forts all over the world. The forces of Gen. James Wolfe and Col. George Washington marched behind this flag during the Seven Years War in America and it replaced the French *fleur-de-lis* on the fortifications of

Louisbourg and the Upper Town of Quebec when those strongholds fell to the British in 1758 and 1759, respectively. It flew from the masts of the ships which brought the despised tea belonging to the East India Company to Boston in 1773.

When the Continental Congress of the Thirteen Colonies adopted the "Stars and Stripes" in 1777, forces loyal to the British government continued to display the Union Jack. Indeed, the Union Jack still flies at Colonial historic sites in the United States. When the United Empire Loyalists left the United States for their new homes in British North America, they brought their flag with them. Col. John Graves Simcoe, the first Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, one of the colonies created because of the arrival of Loyalists in British North America, saluted the Union Jack when he opened the first parliament at Newark (Niagara-on-the-Lake) in 1792.

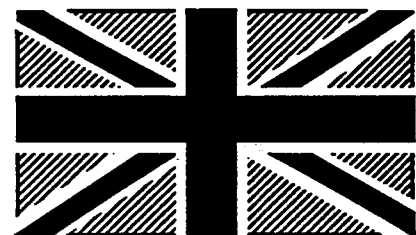
St George Flag



First Union Flag



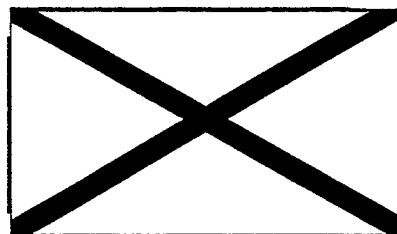
The Union Jack Flag



St Andrew Flag



St Patrick Flag



The Royal Union Jack became the official Flag of Great Britain in 1801 when the cross of St. Patrick of Ireland (a diagonal red cross on a white field) was incorporated in the first Union Flag. The word "Jack" comes from the same root as Jacket and refers to the coat which warriors and knights wore for protection as early as the Crusades. The cross of the patron saint of each warrior was sewn on his surcoat and served as identification.

In 1892, the Canadian Red Ensign, a red flag with the Union Jack in the upper corner next the staff and the Canadian Coat-of-Arms to the right became the official flag of Canadian ships. The ensign, along with the Union Jack, were accepted as Canada's flags until 1965 when the Canadian Parliament approved a distinctive National Flag.

The Union Jack is flown in Canada today as the national flag of the United Kingdom and as a symbol of Canada's membership in the Commonwealth and allegiance to Queen Elizabeth II, the Queen of Canada. It is flown during Royal visits, for example, and is flown, along with Canada's National Flag, on such occasions as the official observance of Her Majesty the Queen's Birthday (Victoria Day, the Monday preceding May 24).

The first British flag to fly over the Province of Ontario was the First Union Flag, however. To commemorate the contribution of the United Empire Loyalists to the development of Ontario, the First Union Flag was raised over the Ontario Legislative Building at Queen's Park on June 18, 1998 for the first time since 1801.

Originally symbol of the union of two peoples, today the Union Flag represents the unity of the British Empire for which the Loyalists stood. In addition, it reminds us of the traditions of peace, order, and good government which the Loyalists upheld and brought with them to their new homes.

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## Mark of Honour

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### THE MARK OF HONOUR - U.E.

*Based on material from Loyalist Lineages,  
Toronto Branch, UELAC*

After the initial flurry of settling the United Empire Loyalists on their new lands, Lord Dorchester, Governor-in-Chief of British North America decided to honour those who had lost virtually everything they owned.

On November 9, 1789, in Council at Quebec City, he gave particular recognition to the "First Loyalists" by differentiating them from other Loyalists and settlers e.g.

Late Loyalists - those who came later, attracted by cheap land rather than for reasons of loyalty

Treasury Loyalists - those sponsored by the British Treasury Board in the 1790's after they left the colonies

Simcoe Loyalists - those who came to Upper Canada when Lt. Gov. Simcoe opened lands for development

Associated Loyalists/Incorporated Loyalists - mostly civilian Loyalists who formed themselves into groups to journey to Canada and settle there after the American Revolution

Regular British and German soldiers who were considered to be 'Military Claimants'.

The Dorchester Resolution, approved by the Council

1) defined the U.E. Loyalists as those "who had adhered to the Unity of Empire and joined the Royal Standard in America (publicly showed support for the British) before the Treaty of Separation in the year 1783"

2) "put a Mark of Honour upon the Families" of the U.E. Loyalists

3) approved the granting by the Land Boards of 200 acres of land to the sons and daughters of the U.E. Loyalists

# U.E.

Accompanying the resolution to be laid before King George III in London was the following:

*"N.B. Those Loyalists who have adhered to the Unity of the Empire, and joined the Royal Standard (in America) before the Treaty of Separation in the year 1783, and all their children and their descendants by either sex, are to be distinguished by the following Capitals, affixed to their names:*

U.E.

*Alluding to their great principle The Unity of the Empire."*

In the covering letter, Lord Dorchester explained: "Care has been taken to reward the spirit of loyalty and industry, to extend and transmit it to future generations."

Today, if one can prove that he/she is a descendant of one of those "First Loyalists", he/she can use those initials after his/her name. This is Canada's only hereditary title.



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## The Badge of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada

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by Conrad Swan, Herald of Arms - in Ordinary to Her Majesty the Queen

“ Within a wreath quarterly of maple leaves Gules and Oak Leaves Vert fructed Or charged with four crosses formy the letters and figures G III R also gold.”

The badge of the Association consists of a wreath made up of Red Maple Leaves and Green Oak Leaves and Acorns. Maple occupies the upper left and lower right quarters of the circle; Oak makes up the remainder and each quarter is separated by a cross formy (i.e. a cross made up of 4 triangular shapes equal in size).

The Maple Leaves are of obvious relevance as the Association is 'of Canada'. On the other hand, the Oak Leaves and Acorns are a long held symbol of loyalty and fidelity to the Monarchy. In the British traditions, this has been particularly so since Charles II was hidden in the Oak Tree after the Battle of Worcester in 1651. As a consequence, he chose an Oak Tree as the symbol for his Coronation Medal following the Restoration, and ever since, the oak had this particular symbolism of fidelity for loyalists.



The cross formy placed at each point where the Maple and Oak come together in the Badge is inspired by that form of cross which has long been used by the Association. In the centre is the Cypher G III R signifying Georgius Tertius Rex, the sovereign to whom the Loyalists gave their devotion and their service in such a pre-eminent manner. This Cypher is similar to the one actually used by George III during his lifetime.

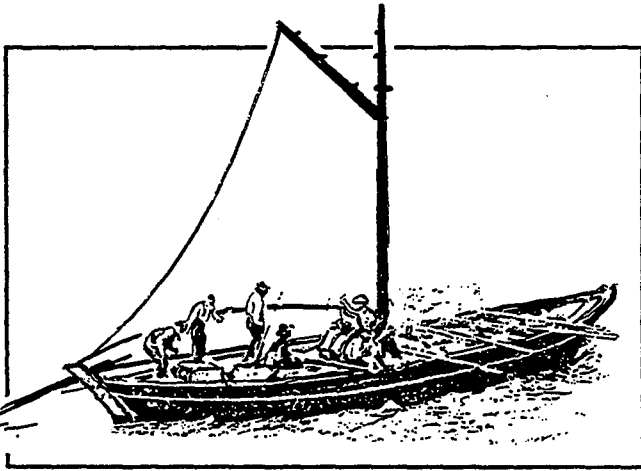
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## **Transportation**

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Bateau  
Canoe  
On Foot  
Corduoy or Plank Road  
Horses, Oxen  
Journey

## TRANSPORTATION BY BATEAU



Bateau (spelled with two t's by the people of the day) is simply the French word for boat, but in the eighteenth century it was a specialized type of boat, especially significant in the transportation of United Empire Loyalists to their new homes in the wilderness west of Montreal, beginning in 1784.

Bateaux had been so useful on the St. Lawrence all through the course of the Revolutionary War that in 1780 the Governor ordered Sir John Johnson to form a company of bateaumen and to accept responsibility for it. The company consisted of three officers, ten foremen, and eighty "common Working Men", under the command of Captain Johan Jost Herkimer.

The typical bateau that the Loyalists used was flat-bottomed, from 30 to 40 feet long, from five to eight feet wide at the centre, with nearly perpendicular sides. The bow and stern, which came to a sharp point, were each about a foot higher than the rest of the boat. A long oar, or sweep, at the stern was used instead of a rudder.

Ordinarily the bottom was made of white oak and the sides of fir. Drawing only about 20 inches of water when fully loaded, it was reasonably efficient in shallow water and rapids, being almost impossible to capsize. Normally there were four or more benches across the boat for oarsmen and their passengers.

The Loyalists assembled to begin their journey at

Lachine, above the rapids of the same name about eight miles west of Montreal. This also happened to be where the bateaux were built. Four or five families and as many as 25 barrels of cargo were loaded on each bateau, and they embarked in brigades of twelve. Four oarsmen and one steersman made up the crew. A sail with about 15 feet of hoist was used on open water when the winds were favourable, but oars were a necessity if there were strong currents, and nine-foot setting poles replaced the oars in shallow stretches.

Rapids presented the greatest challenge. Adiel Sherwood, Sheriff of the District of Johnstown described how they were mastered:

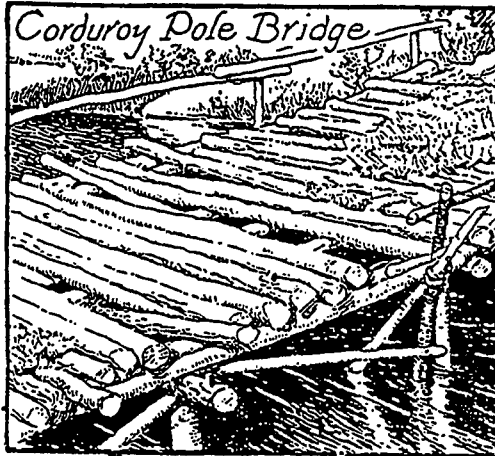
When a rapid was ascended, part of the boats were left at the foot in charge of one man, the remaining boats being double manned and drawn up by means of a rope fastened to the bow, leaving four men in the boat, with setting poles to assist.

The men at the end of the rope walked along the bank, but were frequently compelled to wade in the current, upon the jagged rocks. On reaching the head of the rapid, one man was left in charge, and the boatmen returned for the balance of the brigade.

On some occasions, the cargo had to be unloaded and portaged. When all of the brigade was safely through the rapids, the crews and passengers resumed their places, along with the cargo, and the journey resumed through smoother waters.

The bateau continued to be the major source of transportation between Montreal and Kingston long after the Loyalists had established their settlements. As need increased and canals improved, bateaux increased in size in answer to the growing demand for transportation. The first generation of Loyalists on the upper St. Lawrence and the Bay of Quinte depended almost exclusively on bateaux. In fact, it is difficult to imagine how these pioneer settlements could have survived without this "clumsy-looking but efficient" boat, that adapted so easily to all the various conditions on this difficult stretch of water.

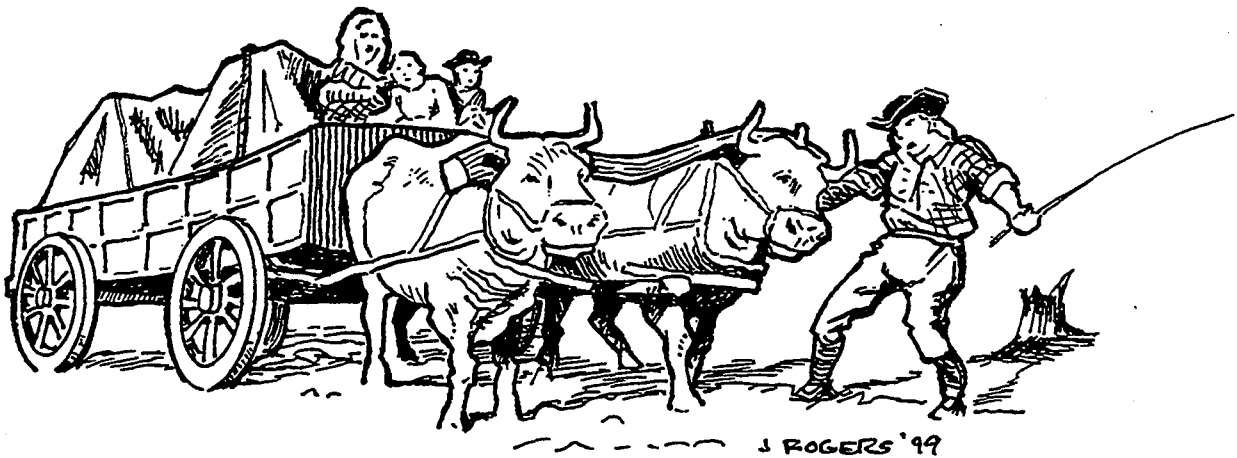
## Corduroy or Plank Road



File: Archives of Canada (C-12/632)

A Corduroy Road was constructed by laying one log after another for the entire length of the road. The logs were mostly taken from the forest through which the road passed, therefore they were of various sizes; this added to the roughness of the road and the trip travelled

## A Journey to a New Home



U.E.L. Pioneers loaded their few possessions into a farmwagon, pulled by oxen or horses, and headed along old Native Trails through unknown territory over hundreds of kilometres to New York or directly overland to their new homestead.



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## **Clothing of the Time**

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Pioneer Woman

Pioneer Children

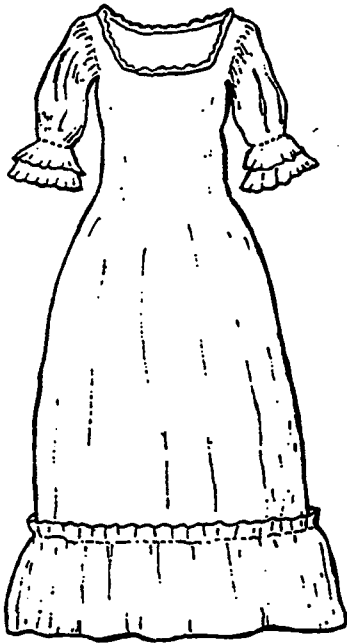
Pioneer Man

Ryerse Story

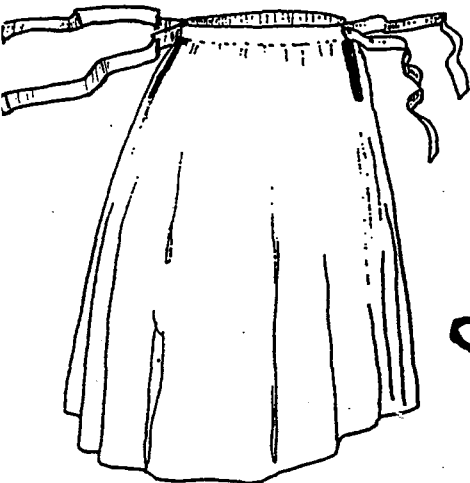
# Clothing of a Pioneer Woman 1770 / 1790

Mob Cap  
worn everyday

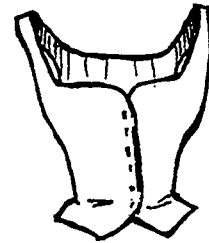
Hair Style  
Worn combed straight,  
in braids or  
rolled up into a Bun



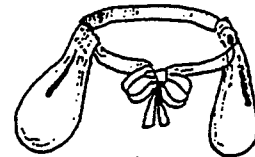
Undergarment  
Chemise / Smock / Shift  
also as blouse and petticoat



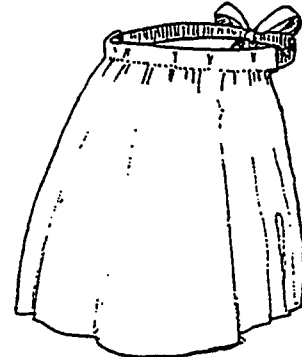
Skirt  
with drawstring ties



Bodice / Waistcoat  
usually reversable  
one side for everyday  
other side for good



Pockets  
on ribbon ties  
worn around waist  
under skirt

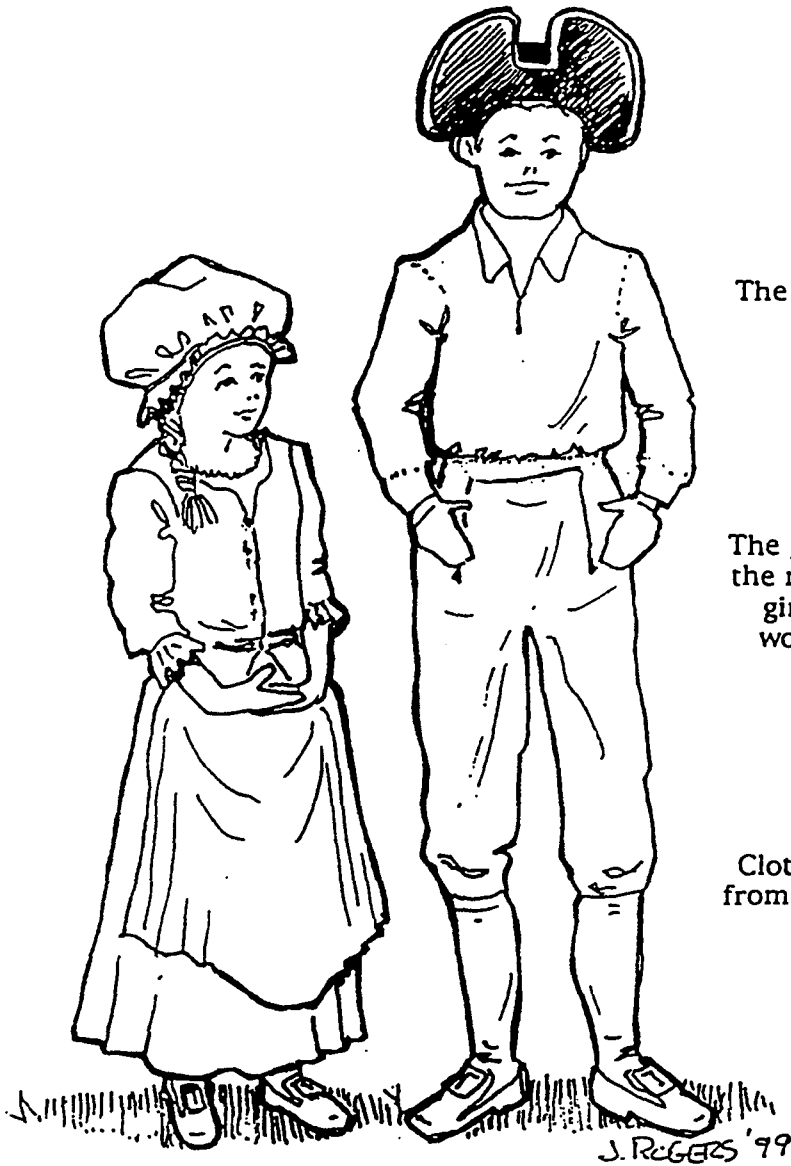


Apron (no Bib)  
on ribbon ties  
worn everyday



Square toed Shoes  
with Buckles  
worn with hand made stockings

## Clothing of Pioneer Children



### Boy

The Boy's clothing was made by the mother and styled after the father's, only smaller

### Girl

The girl's clothing was also made by the mother, and with the help of the girl, styled after the mother's. It would be as she would wear as a grown up

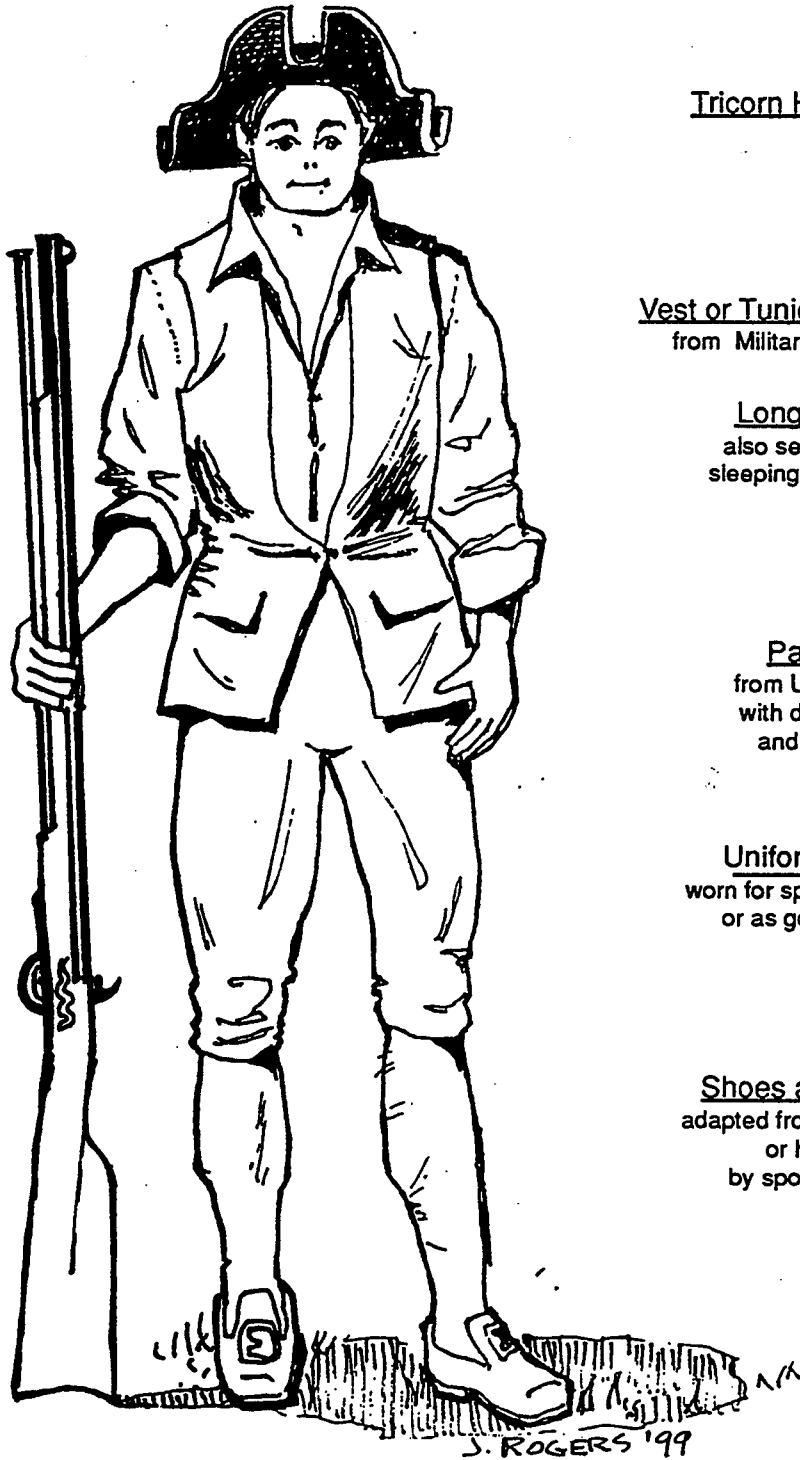
Clothing was usually handed down from older children or from family to family



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## Clothing of a Pioneer Man 1770 / 1790

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Tricorn Hat

Vest or Tunic and Shirt  
from Military Uniform

Long shirt  
also served as  
sleeping garment

Pants  
from Uniform  
with drop fly  
and seat

Uniform Jacket  
worn for special occasion  
or as good clothes

Shoes and Stockings  
adapted from Military Uniform  
or hand made  
by spouse or himself

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## RYERSE STORY

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A story is told of a very funny thing that happened at Port Ryerse in the early times. A family by the name of Sprague had settled there, one member of whom was a bright girl of fourteen or fifteen, named Polly. Buckskin was the only kind of dress goods obtainable by the poor settlers at this time. In mild weather a single garment made of this material constituted the entire wardrobe of more than one buxom young lass in those times and Polly Sprague was one of them. She had often been in the kitchen of the Ryerse home, which was a sort of headquarters for all Long Point settlement at this time, and she had witnessed the operation of washing clothing in boiling soap suds, and she resolved to treat her "buckskin

slip" to the same process at the first opportunity. One day she was left in sole charge of the Sprague cabin, and, taking advantage of the situation, she gave effect to her resolution. The reader may imagine the result. When the elder Spragues returned to the cabin they found the shrunken and ruined garment lying on the floor, and they found the unfortunate Polly in the potato hole under the floor. The situation was a bad one. There was not more buckskin in the Sprague household, and the Ryerse home was the only place in the entire settlement where a covering of some kind might be loaned until a new supply of buckskin could be obtained. The luckless Polly was put into a barrel and carted to the home of Mrs. Amelia Ryerse-Harris, with an ox team, where her needs were attended to.

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## **Children's Games of the time**

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# **LOYALIST CHILDREN'S GAMES**

*by Myrna Fox*

Since toys were scarce, Loyalist children had to amuse themselves with simple objects that were available around their houses or yards. Large families guaranteed an abundance of playmates but time free from work was limited. Sometimes work and play had to be combined and toys were made from materials left over from everyday tasks.

## **Toys**

**Dolls** were made from corn husks, and carved pieces of wood. Their clothes were made from scraps of material left over from dressmaking, or from worn-out clothing.

**Toy animals and wagons** were also whittled from scraps of wood.

**Wooden puzzles** could be manufactured from wood chips left after trees were felled. Chips often provided interesting shapes.

**Toy Boats** were made from leaves, birch bark to imitate native canoes, and twigs bound together with thongs or willow withes to form rafts.

**Whistles** were made from poplar wood. The bark was carefully removed from a small 4 to 6 inch long piece of wood and a groove was cut from a V nick at the top to the opposite end. When the bark was replaced it was possible to make a whistling sound by blowing into the groove.

**Hoops** were made from willow branches fastened into a circle. Children would run beside the hoop propelling it with a stick to see how far they could run before it fell over.

## **Outdoor Games**

Outdoor games sometimes required simple objects and sometimes only players were needed.

### **GAMES REQUIRING OBJECTS**

#### **Jacks**

The jacks were small pebbles and the ball was made from scraps of rabbit or deer skin.

The players picked up the jacks in series after bouncing the ball, adding one jack with every toss. The first child scattered the jacks on the ground or floor and either tossed the ball into the air or bounced it on the ground and picked

up one jack before catching the ball. Keeping the first jack in the hand the player tried to pick up another jack before catching the tossed ball. The aim was to pick up all of the jacks before catching the ball. The player lost the turn when unable to pick up a jack.

**Jumping rope** and tossing a ball were ancient ways to invoke favourable weather. In Loyalist days cordwainers made rope.

Two children held opposite ends of a rope and turned it while a third child stood between them and jumped over the rope as it swung underfoot. An individual child could use a shorter rope and grasping an end in each hand, could swing the rope overhead, jumping as it swung underfoot.

#### **Marbles**

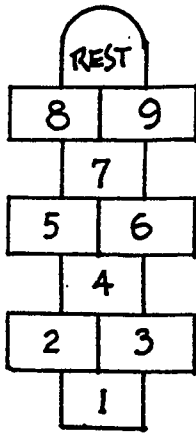
Pebbles chosen because of the distinctive color, smoothness, or unique markings served as marbles. Each player would pitch or roll shooters into a circle drawn in the dirt and attempt to knock the pebbles out of the circle. A pebble was pitched when it was balanced between the thumb nail and index finger and the thumb flicked it out of position. The player was allowed to keep the pebbles knocked out of the circle. Players continued to play until unable to hit a pebble to the outside of the circle and then play passed to the next child. The child with the most pebbles at the end of the game was the winner.

#### **Skipping Stones**

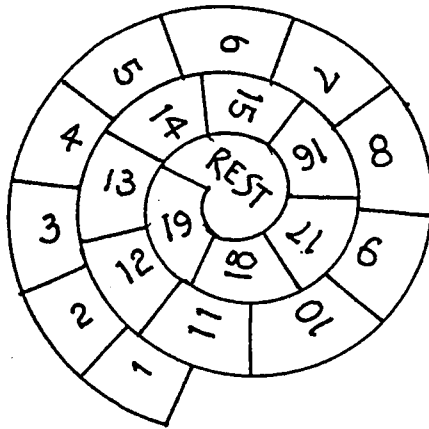
Using the same techniques for tossing a Frisbee today, children would hurl a very flat stone to make it skip across the surface of the water.

#### **Hopscotch**

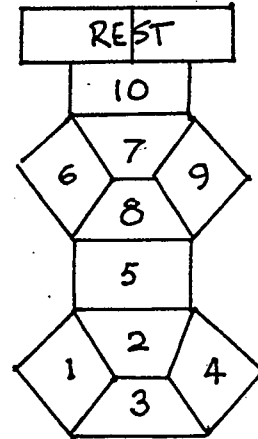
This was an ancient game which was a favorite leisure activity of the Roman soldiers when they occupied the Great North Road in Britain. The court was originally 100 feet long and represented the 400 mile journey from London to Scotland and back. Players hopped through the court carrying heavy loads to test their strength and agility.



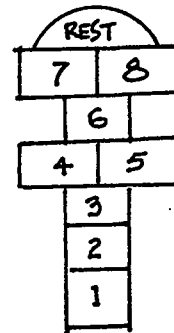
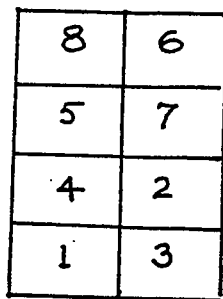
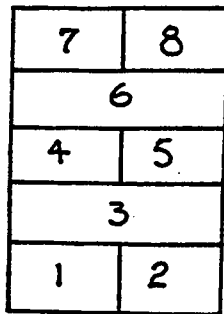
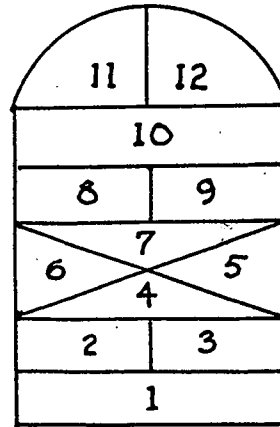
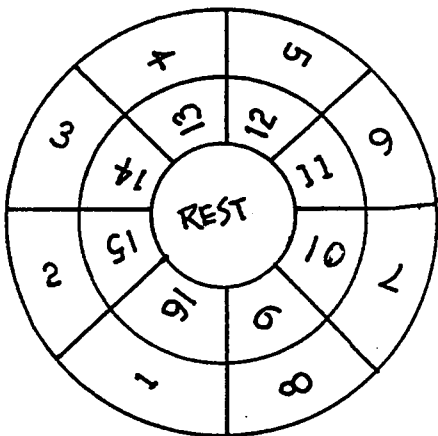
Italian



Snail



Monte Carlo



The game required a pattern (court) drawn on the ground.  
(See Diagrams)

Each player stood outside the court and first tossed a marker into the space labeled 1. The marker had to land completely within the intended space. If it touched any of the lines the player lost a turn. When the marker landed correctly, the child hopped into the court on one foot. When two spaces were side by side the player put one foot in each space. At 10, the player turned around and worked backwards through the court, stopping to pick up the marker at the beginning of the court.

The players took turns trying to hop through all of the spaces without stepping on a line. Stepping on a line sent the player back to the beginning to repeat that space. After each child had a turn, the first player then threw the marker into the next space of the court and hopped through the court, skipping the space where the marker rested.

The first child to navigate all the spaces successfully won. For any court that contained rest spaces, players could land there with two feet (as in Italian Hopscotch).

Every time a player went through the court successfully, the space in which the marker rested was out of bounds to all other players although the owner could rest there on both feet. For English Hopscotch the players had to hold the marker between the feet while jumping through the court. Only one jump was permitted to reach a space.

#### **Tug-of-War**

Children were divided into two groups of equal strength. A rag was tied around the centre of a rope to mark the centre line. The groups lined up on opposite side and pulled the rope in their direction. The goal was to force the opposite side to be drawn over the centre line.

#### **GAMES REQUIRING ONLY PLAYERS**

The various versions of tag and hide-and-seek mimicked the stalking of wild animals and the herding of livestock.

#### **Freeze Tag**

"It" chases the other children trying to touch each one. When tagged, the frozen player must wait to be unfrozen by another unfrozen child. The "It" who manages to freeze

all of the other players wins.

#### **Shadow Tag**

This was played in the sunshine in the late afternoon. "It" had to step on the shadow of a runner to make the tag and "freeze" the other player. Any other child could tag the shadow to un-freeze a frozen player.

#### **Hide-and-Seek**

The home base tree symbolized the special sycamore tree which Egyptians in the biblical era considered sacred. When the faithful touched it they were rendered safe from the evil forces. North American Indians, Homeric Greeks and Druids also played tag and revered the oak tree. Remember what you are doing when you knock on wood! Players established boundaries for the hiding area and chose a home base tree. "It" stood at the home base and counted to 100 with closed eyes while the other children scattered around the playing area in search of a good hiding place. After counting to 100, "It" shouted "Ready or not, here I come!" When "It" started searching, those who were hiding waited for an opportunity when "It" was looking another way and sprinted for the home base tree. If "It" spotted a player on the way to home base and managed a tag, that child was captured and could only be freed by another player racing home and calling "Home free"! When the last person in hiding reached home and called "Home free!" then everyone was free and "It" had to start all over again.

#### **Fox and Geese**

This was an ideal game to play after a fresh snowfall. The players drew a large circle (20 or more feet in diameter) and divided it into 8 sections, like pieces of a pie. The child chosen to be "It" stood at the centre of the circle and the other players lined up on the circle's outer edge. "It" gave the signal for the players to run to avoid being tagged. However, all of the children, including "It" could only run along the lines. A player became the new "It" by being tagged or running off the lines.

## Other Outdoor Games

### Snow Angels

Children lay on their backs on the snow. They moved their legs apart and together while moving their outstretched arms above their heads and down their sides. When they rose carefully, they could see the perfect image of an angel.

### Crossing the Brook

The object of this game was to jump the brook at its widest point. Two markers were laid on the ground a short distance apart (about a foot apart to begin with) to represent the banks of a brook, if there didn't happen to be a real one nearby. The children approached the brook at a run and tried to jump across it. Those who fell in were out of the game. If everyone successfully jumped across the brook, its banks were widened. The brook was widened until there was only one child left who had stayed out of the water

### Military Copycat Marching

Children would march back and forth imitating the soldiers who would have to muster or practise on a regular basis.

### Singing and Chanting Games

#### Ring-Around-the-Rosy (or Ring-a-ring O'roses)

The words of the song referred to the Great Plague of London in 1664-1665.

Two or more players formed a circle and walked with joined hands, singing:

"Ring Around the Rosy" (This referred to the circular body rash that was an early symptom of the plague).

"A pocket full of posies" (The healthy tried to thwart the disease by carrying herbs or flowers)

"A-Tishoo, A-Tishoo" - later Ashes Ashes (This imitates violent sneezing)

"We all fall down" (This refers to the many deaths)

#### London Bridge

This game dates back to the 11<sup>th</sup> century when troops of Norway's King Olaf destroyed one of London's bridges while Britons were standing on it. The game was played

by 8 or more children. Two players were chosen to form the bridge. They faced each other and raised their arms above their heads, joining their hands (one child represented gold and one silver). The other children formed a single line at one side of the bridge and all of the players sang...

*"London bridge is falling down,*

*Falling down, Falling down*

*London Bridge is falling down*

*My fair Lady O"*

While singing, the children marched under the arch formed by the children with raised arms. At the words "My fair lady O" the arch players lowered their arms to capture one of the marchers. The prisoner secretly had to choose gold or silver and stood behind the side of the bridge according to that choice. Children continued to march under the bridge while singing additional verses:

*Build it up with iron bars*

*Iron bars will rust away*

*Build it up with steel and stone*

*Steel and stone will bend and break*

*Build it up with gold and silver*

*Gold and silver will be stolen away*

*Get a man to watch all night*

*Suppose a man should fall asleep?*

*Get a dog to bark all night*

*Suppose the dog should find a bone*

*Get a lion to roar all night*

*Suppose the lion should see a mouse?*

*Here's a prisoner we have found*

*What's the prisoner done to you?*

*Stole my hat and lost my keys*

Use as many verses as there are children. When only one child is left the final verse is:

*Off to prison he/she must go*

*He/she must go, he/she must go*

*Off to prison he/she must go*

*My fair lady O*

The last prisoner is then captured and chooses a side, gold or silver for the next game.

### Drop the Handkerchief

One child was designated "It" and given a handkerchief. The rest of the children held hands to form a circle facing inward. "It" walked slowly around the outside of the circle chanting "*A tisket, a tasket, a green and yellow basket; I wrote a letter to my love and on the way I dropped it: a little child picked it up and put it in its pocket*". Along the way, "It" dropped the handkerchief behind one of the children. When the child realized that the handkerchief has been dropped, that person had to run after "It". "It" tried to get around to the empty space in the circle before being tagged. Whoever reached the space first was safe and the other player became "It".

### Indoor Games

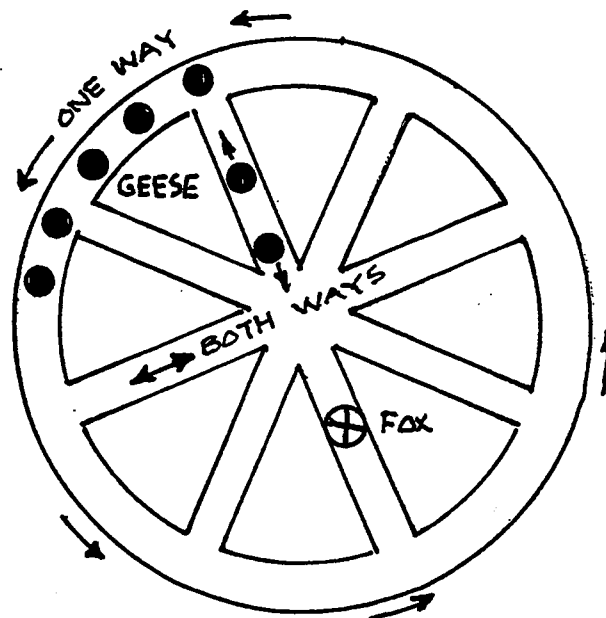
#### Hot and Cold

One player was sent out of the room and a small object, perhaps a candy or a small piece of fruit, was hidden. When the child came back into the room to look for the treat the other players gave hints to help find the object. If

the searcher were far from the object the others would say "You're cold" and as the child neared the treat the others would say "You're getting warmer", Or "You're hot" or "You're burning"

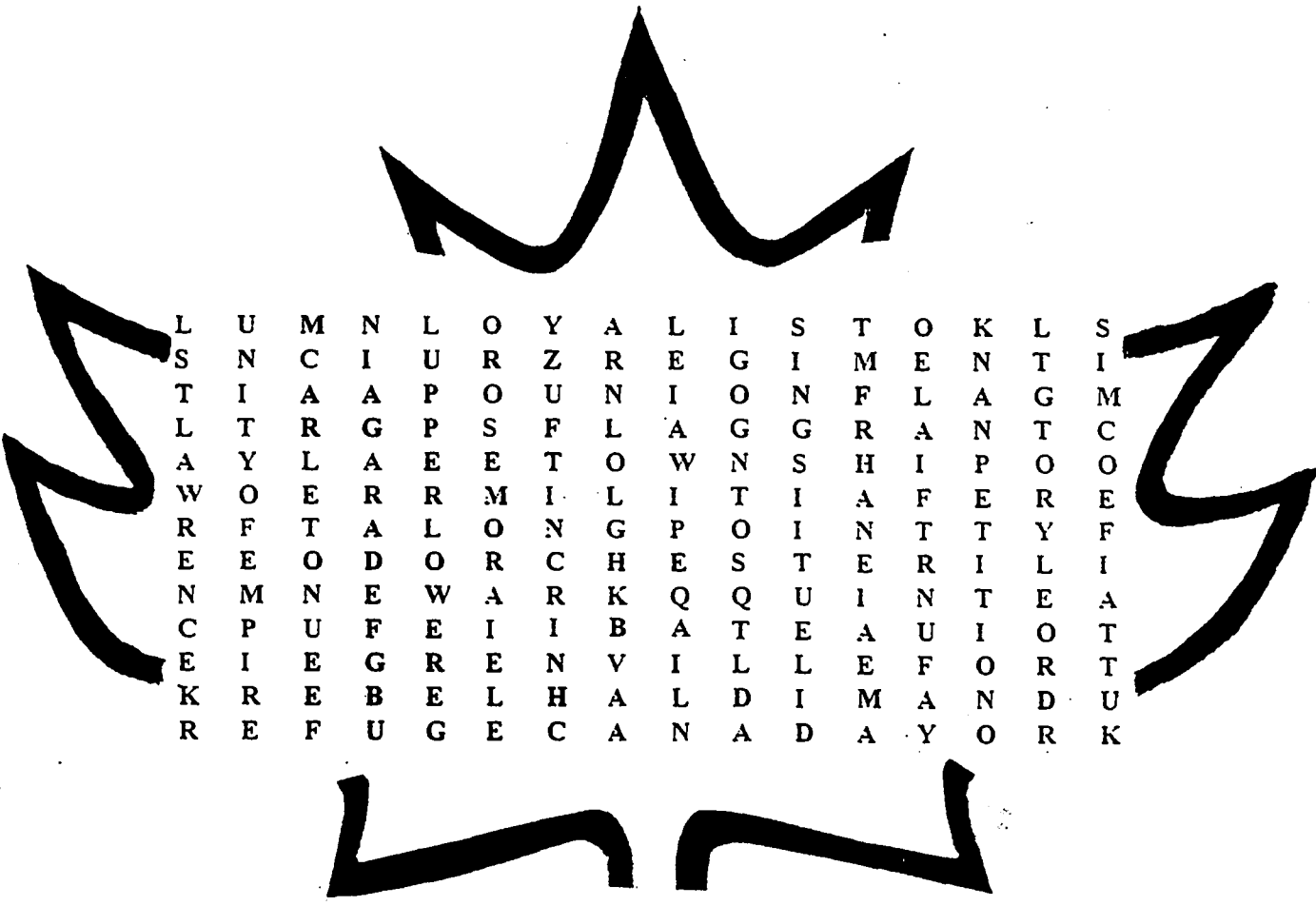
#### I Spy

One child was chosen to "spy" an object in the room. That person began the game by saying "I spy with my little eye something beginning with...(the initial of the name of the object)". The other players called out their guesses and the child who first guessed correctly became the next "spy".



FOX AND GEESE





L	U	M	N	L	O	Y	A	L	I	S	T	O	K	L	S
S	N	C	I	U	R	Z	R	E	G	I	M	E	N	T	I
T	I	A	A	P	O	U	N	I	O	N	F	L	A	G	M
L	T	R	G	P	S	F	L	A	G	G	R	A	N	T	O
A	Y	L	A	E	E	T	O	W	N	S	H	I	P	O	E
W	O	R	R	R	M	I	L	I	T	I	A	F	T	T	R
R	F	E	A	L	O	R	C	H	E	S	T	E	R	I	L
E	N	M	N	E	W	A	R	K	Q	Q	U	I	N	T	E
N	C	P	U	F	E	I	I	B	A	T	E	A	U	I	O
C	E	I	E	G	R	E	L	H	A	L	D	I	M	A	N
K	R	E	F	U	G	E	C	A	N	A	D	A	Y	O	R
R	E	F	U	G	E	C	A	N	A	D	A	Y	O	R	K

Check (✓) each word when you locate it in the puzzle

**Loyalist  
Regiment  
Quinte  
Batteau  
Haldimand  
Niagara  
Upper  
Refuge  
Long Point  
Petition**

**Unity of Empire  
Newark  
Grenville  
Union Flag  
Rose  
UEL  
Grant  
Fiat  
Tory  
York  
Flag**

**Carleton  
Township  
Rebel  
Milita  
UE  
St Lawrence  
Canada  
Dorchester  
Simcoe  
Fort**

When you have found all the words, try to write a sentence about each word