



Ottawa Loyalist  
Newsletter of the Sir Guy Carleton Branch,  
UELAC  
Volume 40 Issue Number 1  
Winter 2024

## Message from the President

Hello Sir Guy Carleton members,

Welcome to 2024. I hope you and your families had a great Christmas and Happy New Year. We had more events in 2023, and the Executive Committee is looking forward to holding more this year. If you have ideas and suggestions, we would love to hear from you.

We are planning an in person Annual General Meeting, along with Heritage Day, marking Loyalist Flag Day, and Zoom webinars. I have been going through the old newsletters and the Branch used to have a lot of activities and we need more ways to get together, in person or via Zoom.

So, take care, don't forget that the UELAC Convention is in Cornwall this year so attend if you can. This should be the year everything gets back to normal.

Rose  
Rosemarie Pleasant, President  
Sir Guy Carleton Branch, UEL

## Heritage Day, February 20

We are excited to celebrate Heritage Day with the theme "Diversity of Heritage: Recognizing the past and celebrating the future".

**Tuesday, February 20, 2024**  
**12 pm to 2 pm**  
**Ottawa City Hall**

The Sir Guy Carleton Chapter will be present at the Heritage Day activities on February 20 at [Jean Piggott Hall](#) (Ottawa City Hall.) It's a great opportunity to meet the different historical societies across the city.

# Share Your Family Stories in 2024!

The Sir Guy Carleton branch is pleased to invite members to share their family research stories online or in-person during our upcoming meetings this year. Enhance your storytelling skills, help other researchers, and find a receptive audience all in one spot!

**Sharing suggestions include:**

- How you finally broke through a difficult brick wall to locate your elusive ancestor's details.
- An interesting and successful visit to a museum, cemetery or historical site over the years.
- A visit to a lesser-known local repository that held the clues needed to assist you with your family tree.
- Website(s) that were most helpful in advancing your research.

We would like to hear from you whether you are a new or long-time branch member. Tell us about an ancestor who has inspired you, intrigued you or frustrated you...especially if they are on your Loyalist line.

Your talk would ideally be between 5 - 15 minutes in length. If you have photos, artifacts, screenshots, or other images pertaining to your ancestor, we look forward to seeing these treasured memories. As our meetings are recorded, your stories will be saved and with your consent, would also be featured on our website as a helpful tool for other researchers.

Let's share our stories, tips, and experiences with our fellow branch members in 2024!

Send your topic details or any questions to Holly Haimerl, Sir Guy Carleton Branch genealogist, at [sgcgenealogist@gmail.com](mailto:sgcgenealogist@gmail.com).

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## Resources from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island

After the above-mentioned seminar by Reverend Becket Soule on Canadian Loyalist sources, our Vice-President noted the lack of resources on the Maritime Provinces. Working with our Librarian, Janet Kennedy, resources will be added to Sir Guy Carleton's web page. Under Loyalist Resources: <https://www.uelac.org/SirGuyCarleton/resources.php> has been extensively updated with other links to related materials. Please check it out. If sources are missing, please let us know.

## Your Loyalist Ancestors: Part 2, Canadian Sources

Dr. Becket Soule gave the second part of his presentation on researching Loyalist ancestors on the evening of November 7 last. This second part covered Canadian, British, and Caribbean sources of information on our Loyalist ancestors.

Dr. Soule started by describing the arrival of a fleet carrying Loyalist refugees to Parrtown, New Brunswick on the Bay of Fundy in May 1783. New Brunswick was one of five areas of Loyalist settlement in Canada; the others being Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Lower Canada, and Upper Canada. Passenger lists on the UELAC web site are an important source, giving information such as the name of the ships, the names of the passengers, the dates, the port of departure and the port of arrival.

Land grant petitions are a second rich source of information. Applicants had to prove how they supported the King's cause. If proof was adequate, the applicant received a ticket and a lot number. Depending on the applicant's rank and family size, grants in most cases ranged from 100 to 1,000 acres. In the case of the veterans of the Royal Highland Emigrants (Glengarry-Stormont-Dundas), land grants ranged up to 5,000 acres. There were additional grants for veterans of the British and German regiments. Information on land grants is available from the United Empire Loyalist site at Library and Archives Canada and the various provincial archives. The Prince Edward Island Genealogy Society is a useful source for that province. Family Search contains an array of books, maps, and microfilms on that web site.

Other useful sources include the UELAC web site, simply for names of registered United Empire Loyalists and the Loyalist Collection of the University of New Brunswick for muster rolls and settlement lists in that province.

There are rich sources specifically for Black Loyalists, many of whom served in the Black Pioneer and Ethiopian regiments. Many Black Loyalists were confirmed through the Birch Trials in 1783 in New York and received Birch Certificates. *The Book of Negroes* is available in the Carleton Papers section at Library and Archives Canada and as an electronic database on the Sir Guy Carleton branch website at: <https://www.uelac.org/SirGuyCarleton/book-of-negroes.php>

The Port Roseway Associates contains information Black Loyalist Refugees between 1782 and 1807. The Nova Scotia Archives contains a section entitled African Nova Scotians in the Age of Slavery and Abolition. The Black Loyalist Heritage Society is also a valuable source.

For Loyalists who settled in the United Kingdom, the Audit Office at the National Archives in Kew contains information on Loyalists who were granted pensions and settlements of claims for lost property in the colonies. The Probate Records at the 300 church probate courts is an additional source of information on wills and inheritances.

Starting in 1792, many Black Loyalists began to settle in Sierra Leone. The Sierra Leone Archives from that period can be found on CARLI digital collections at the University of Illinois (Chicago.)

See <https://www.uelac.org/SirGuyCarleton/PDF/Beckett-Finding-Canadian-Loyalists-2023.pdf> for the links to most of these sites.

## New in Our Library

| Title   | Author                                 |
|---|--|
| The Genealogy of Frederick Snetsinger 1795-1881, son of Mathias Snetsinger 1755-1833, vol. II       | Rosemary A. Joy                        |
| The Genealogy of John George Snetsinger 1793-1851, son of Mathias Snetsinger 1755-1833, vol. I      | Rosemary A. Joy                        |
| Canada's History, est. 1920 as the Beaver   | October/November 2023, vol. 103:5      |
| Heraldry in Canada  | Vol. X, No. 3, September 1976          |
| Various Family History CDs  | Family History Magazine inserts        |
| The NEHG Register, The Journal of American Genealogy  | Vol. 177, No. 2, Spring 2023           |
| Glengarry Life  | Number 33, 1994                        |
| Glengarry Life  | 1980                                   |
| The Raven and the Rock  | August 2023                            |
| Gravestones of Glengarry, Volume 1, Williamstown  | Alex W. Fraser, U.E.                   |
| Gravestones of Glengarry, Volume 2  | Alex W. Fraser, U.E.                   |
| Sacred Ground: Loyalist Cemeteries of Eastern Ontario, Volume 2                                     | Stuart Lyall Manson                    |
| Jacob Countryman, United Empire Loyalist: Ancestors and Descendants in Canada and the United States | Paul Countryman                        |
| Canada's History, est. 1920 as the Beaver   | December 2023/January 2024, vol. 103:6 |
| The NEHG Register, The Journal of American Genealogy  | Vol. 177, No. 3, Summer 2023           |
| Legion, Canada's Military History   | November/December 2023, vol. 98, no. 6 |
| Legion, Canada's Military History   | January/February 2024, vol. 99, no. 1  |
| The Loyalist Gazette  | Fall 2023, vol. LXI, no. 2             |

## Current Periodical List in Our Library

If you would like to search electronically for articles appearing in many of the periodicals listed below, WorldCat (<https://www.worldcat.org>) may be able to provide further details. Otherwise, you will need to perform a manual search through the material within the reference room.

| Title   |
|---|
| <b>A</b>  |
| American Ancestors  |
| American Spirit   |
| <b>B</b>  |
| Branches and Twigs: Bulletin of the Genealogical Society of Vermont               |
| <b>C</b>  |
| Canada's History  |
| Canadian River Genealogist  |
| Canadian Pilgrim: The Newsletter of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants |
| Collections of the Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society                           |
| Connecticut Ancestry  |
| Connecticut Nutmegger, The  |
| <b>D</b>  |
| Daughters of the American Revolution Magazine                                     |
| Downeast Ancestry   |
| Dutchess, The   |
| <b>G</b>  |
| Genealogical Newsletter of the Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society               |
| Glengarry Life  |
| <b>H</b>  |
| Heraldry in Canada - Index  |
| Heraldry in Canada  |
| <b>I</b>  |
| Index of Persons – New England Historical and Genealogical Society                |
| <b>L</b>  |
| Legion: Canada's Military History Magazine  |
| Lost in Canada - Index  |
| Lost in Canada  |
| Loyalist Gazette  |
| Loyalist Quarterly Newsletter   |
| <b>M</b>  |
| Mayflower Quarterly   |
| <b>N</b>  |
| New England Ancestors   |
| New England Historical and Genealogical Register                                  |
| New England Register: the Journal of American Genealogy                           |
| Nexus: New England Historical and Genealogical Society News Magazine              |
| Nova Scotia Genealogist   |

|  |
|--|
| Nova Scotia Historical Review                  |
| Nyando Roots                                   |
| <b>O</b>                                       |
| Ontario History                                |
| Ontario Historical Society (OHS) Bulletin      |
| Ontario Register                               |
| Ottawa Loyalist, The - Index                   |
| Ottawa Loyalist, The                           |
| <b>P</b>                                       |
| Palatines to America                           |
| <b>R</b>                                       |
| Raven and the Rock, The                        |
| Rhode Island Genealogical Register             |
| Rhode Island Roots                             |
| Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society Journal   |
| <b>S</b>                                       |
| Saint Andrew's Society of Ottawa, founded 1846 |
| <b>V</b>                                       |
| Vermont Genealogy                              |

## New UEL Certification

Mr. Bo Sterby, UE, proudly displays his new UEL certificate for his proven ancestor, Solomon Ball.

Mr. Sterby is descended from Solomon Ball, UEL (1757-1831), who settled in Ernestown, Wilton Township, Lennox and Addington, Ontario.



# Book Review: New Addition to our Branch Library

**Sacred Ground Loyalist Cemeteries of Eastern Ontario, Volume 2**

**Manson, Stuart Lyall**

**Global Heritage Press**

**Carleton Place, Ontario**

**2023**

The three united counties, Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry were among the earliest to be settled in Ontario after the close of the Revolutionary War in 1783. These counties are the location of cemeteries where early Loyalists (and others) rest. Volume 2 of Stuart Manson's series focuses on Glengarry County and Cornwall (Stormont), following on Volume 1, which covers Stormont and Dundas Counties.

Volume 2 covers five cemeteries in Glengarry County and St. John's Presbyterian in the City of Cornwall. The author tells us, "Most of the loyalists of Stormont and Glengarry were disbanded soldiers who served in the first battalion of the King's Royal Regiment on New York (KRRNY) and in the Royal Highland Emigrants, which was also known as the 84<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot." There were also a few veterans of other loyalist units in the two counties.

The reader may find St. Andrews United Cemetery in Williamstown to be of particular interest. Among the more prominent residents of this cemetery is John Bethune, Scottish-born loyalist soldier who was taken prisoner at the Battle of Moore's Creek in North Carolina in early 1776. After being freed from captivity in 1777 and stays in Halifax and Montreal, he made his way to Williamstown, where he obtained his land grant and took up his duties as a Presbyterian Minister. He eventually became a leader among the Presbyterian communities in Eastern Ontario.

Also prominent is St. John's Presbyterian Cemetery in Cornwall. Lying here is Neil McLean, another Scottish-born loyalist who served as an officer in the Royal Highland Emigrants. He and his bride, Isabelle McDonell, settled in St. Andrew's West (north of Cornwall) in 1784. In addition to clearing and farming his new grant, he served as an officer in several military and militia regiments in Canada up to and including the War of 1812.

The Falkner Settlement Cemetery is in the community of Lancaster (South Lancaster, Glengarry.) The settlement is named after William Falkner, who was jailed in upstate New York by the Patriot side for 10 months in 1776 and then made his way to Fort Niagara in the western part of that state, where he served in the King's cause in a civilian capacity. He is considered the founder of that community. Many Kings Royal Regiment (KRRNY) veterans rest here.

St. Raphael's Cemetery in St. Raphael's, Glengarry lies beside the ruins of a Roman Catholic church of that name. The church ruins themselves are a National Historic Site. The cemetery is the resting place of many Scottish Catholic loyalists but also of many other Scottish immigrants who came here after the wave of loyalist settlement in the 1780s.

The book also describes the Salem United Cemetery in Summerstown and the Gleninore Cemetery in Charlottenburgh (both in Glengarry)

Note: The reader who is interested in visiting the grave of the explorer Simon Fraser should refer to Volume 1 of this series.

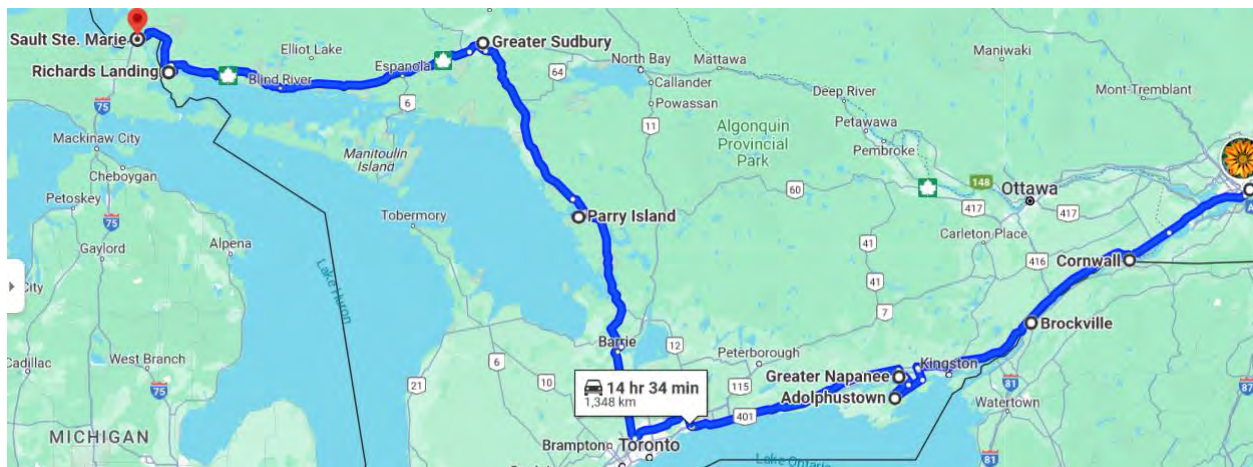
# Tombstone Travels: My 2023 Loyalist Research Trip

## Part 1 - Cornwall, Brockville, Loyalist Parkway, Adolphustown, Bath, Old Hay Bay Church, Peterborough

Written by Holly Haimerl

All photos provided courtesy of Holly Haimerl

The Route: Google Map: Montreal Quebec to Sault Ste Marie, Ontario



### The Plan

My **Loyalist Research Trip** grew out of plans to visit extended family in Sault Ste Marie, Ontario last summer. I was born in Sault Ste Marie (Soo) and moved to Montreal when I was quite young. But I've always had an enduring attachment to my hometown. My last visit to the Soo was six years ago in 2017. It was a longer gap than usual between visits, in part due to Covid restrictions.

Our family moved to Montreal when I was 9 or 10 years old and over the years, we have used various means of transportation between Montreal and the Soo. When my Dad worked for CN in the 1970s, my mom, sister and I once traveled in the baggage car of a cargo train for part of the journey.

I have flown to the Soo from Montreal many times over the years. However, when I checked the cost to fly during the summer of 2023, return airfare from Montreal to Sault Ste Marie was double what I used to pay pre-Covid (abt. \$700+ return for one person). I attended the UELAC conference in B.C. with our daughter last June and the return airfare for the two of us was only \$667. Add in the cost of renting a car for a few weeks in the Soo (over \$1500), and I knew it was time to look for a less expensive option. And why not plan some in-person research stops along the way? I did some advance research for my trip but also planned to stop when an interesting site caught my eye.



In my twenties, I could do this 14-hour drive to the Soo alone and in all kinds of weather but that was doubtful now. In my mid-sixties, I barely have the patience or energy to drive 3-4 hours and I need to take frequent rest breaks, usually involving copious amounts of coffee. Luckily, there are lots of “Timmie’s” in Canada so I was confident I would withstand the journey. I choose my hotel nights based on which cemeteries, museums, and Loyalist sites I could visit along the way.

I am still filling in the details about my Loyalist ancestors and their families. Three years ago, I didn’t know that my father’s family line had any Loyalist roots. I wish my father was still around so I could share some of my recent discoveries with him. The information about our Loyalist ancestors came via a DNA match/meeting with unknown paternal Fetherstonhaugh cousins in Ottawa.

I also learned about other surnames of my Loyalist ancestors, such as, Landon, Burritt, Phillips, and Brown. I ’m working on my certificate application for my Landon Loyalist line and hope to submit it for approval in early 2024.

On my drive from Montreal to the Soo, I stopped overnight in Brockville, Peterborough, and Sudbury. On my return drive I took a more northern route and stayed in North Bay and Ottawa. I picked those two overnight locations as I wanted to research cemeteries and/or historic sites in Mattawa and Burritt’s Rapids. I stayed for 2 nights in Ottawa so that I could visit the Sir Guy Carleton archives with our branch President Rosemary Pleasant and Librarian/ Archivist Janet Kennedy. I also stopped at Library and Archives Canada.

I left Montreal on July 12th. I planned to visit several cemeteries in the Brockville area where I hoped to find the graves of many of our Loyalist ancestors on our Landon and Burritt lines. On the way to Brockville, I stopped at the Cornwall Museum for a brief visit with our new UELAC President Carl Stymiest. The UELAC archives were moved to the Cornwall Community Museum and Carl was busy organizing the collection.



**Carl Stymiest in the UELAC archives at the Cornwall Museum**



**Loyalist Sign in the Lost Villages**

Carl suggested I stop at the [Lost Villages of the St. Lawrence](#) on my way to Brockville. If you are in the area, make a point of stopping at both the [Cornwall Community Museum](#) and the Lost Villages. The Lost villages is a worthwhile visit, as it is very well-maintained and quite a fascinating site.

After visiting Lost Villages, I set off to explore the following cemeteries:

- Blue Church Cemetery (Hw2 at Blue Church Rd, New Oswegatchie)
- Read's Cemetery (3100 Bethel Rd. , Augusta)
- Carpenters' Cemetery (Sixth Concession Road East off North Augusta Rd.



**Blue Church cemetery**

I was looking for the tombstone for my Loyalist ancestor Asa Landon (c. 1736-1814) and his wife Jerusha Grifface (c.1736-1813) in the [Blue Church cemetery](#) . Asa and Jerusha Landon are my 6<sup>th</sup> great-grandparents. I based my search on information I found on the Find a Grave website. I searched through the cemetery for about 2 hours without success. It is sad to note that there are so many illegible old gravestones that may date back to the 1790s although the present church was only constructed in 1845.

I contacted the Blue Church archivist when I returned to Montreal and there is no record of my Landon ancestors in the Blue Church cemetery records. The cemetery archivist contacted the Find a Grave contributor who listed the Blue Church cemetery as my Landon ancestors burial place - the listing has since been updated. This underscores the need to validate/authenticate information that you add to your family tree.

I was more successful at Read's cemetery. I located tombstones for my Burritt ancestors near the front gate. My first discovery here was the headstone of my Loyalist ancestor and 6<sup>th</sup> great-grandparents Daniel Burritt Sr. (c.1734-1827) and his wife Sarah Collins (c.1733-1815). Daniel Burritt Sr. was the son of Captain Stephen Burritt and Mary Dayton. Daniel and Sarah Burritt were the parents of Colonel Stephen Burritt, my 5<sup>th</sup> great granduncle, who was also a mysterious British spy.



**The original gravestone for Daniel Burritt Sr. is behind a new stone erected by a great-granddaughter.**

Doritha Brown Landon (c. 1771-1841), my 5<sup>th</sup> great grandmother was buried in Read's cemetery. I did find her tombstone even though the engraving is barely legible. Her husband Heman Landon (c.1768-1832) was not buried with her, and his burial details remain unconfirmed. According to some historical accounts, Heman Landon died of cholera near Fitzroy Harbor and is "buried 2 miles below the Indian village on the bank of the lake." (source Find a Grave)

At Carpenters cemetery there is a sign posted near the entrance: “Enter at own risk.” The ground in the cemetery was quite squishy and wet between the gravestones and I proceeded cautiously through the cemetery. I did not linger long and didn’t find any of my Landon ancestors’ gravestones here.



**Carpenters Cemetery**



**Loyalist Trading Company**

### **The Loyalist Parkway: Brockville to Adolphustown**

On July 13th I left Brockville and headed to the Loyalist Parkway, destination Adolphustown. I stopped to stretch my legs at the [Bath Museum and Visitor Centre](#) and picked up a few brochures for stops along the next part of my route. If you do drive along this route, be sure to stop at the [Loyalist Trading Company](#) and feed the goats that hang out on the roof of the building.

This was my first trip driving along the Loyalist Parkway and I wish I would have allotted more time and an overnight stay near Adolphustown. It was a long day of driving with lots of sights to see before arriving at the [UEL Heritage Centre and Park](#). Unfortunately, the UEL centre was closed but I did visit the Loyalist cemetery and the shoreline historical sites.



**Loyalist Batteau at the shoreline historical site**

Another highlight of the day was a visit to the [Old Hay Bay church](#) built in 1792 and located at 2365 South Shore Road, Greater Napanee. Although not open to visitors in the winter except by appointment, any other time a guide in period costume is available to give a tour of the church and cemetery during the day. The guides are rotating volunteers who stay for a week or two in a nearby cottage .



**Old Hay Bay Church**

## Peterborough to Parry Island

I squeezed in a lot of stops on July 13<sup>th</sup> and arrived quite late at the hotel on the Peterborough waterfront. It was a toss-up between Barrie and Peterborough for an overnight stay. The next morning, I stopped in Huntsville to visit my younger sister with a goal was to visit a cemetery on Parry Island before I stayed overnight in Sudbury.

In future travels, I will book an overnight stay closer to Parry Sound to have enough time to explore the island. GPS did not work on Parry Island and by the time I realized I was on the wrong side of the island and probably at the wrong cemetery, it was starting to get dark. I will go back to Parry Island one day soon to search again for the gravesite of my paternal 2<sup>nd</sup> great-grandfather, William John Fetherstonhaugh.

I had a bit of scare at the Parry Island cemetery- there should be an “enter at your risk” sign at the entrance there too. More details on that spooky experience will be in part 2 of my **“Tombstone Travels: Parry Island, Sudbury, Richard’s Landing/St Joseph Island cemetery, Sault Ste Marie.** If you would like to view more photos of my recent Loyalist research trip, please join our Sir Guy Carleton Facebook (FB) page or Instagram page. Our branch FB page is private but open to all UELAC members. I will also be posting more details and photos on my personal genealogy website: <https://familyfootprints.ca/>

Comments, critiques, and suggestions are welcome and can be emailed to [sgcgenealogist@gmail.com](mailto:sgcgenealogist@gmail.com) For those who are interested, the title for this multi-part blog was inspired by an interesting article I read while planning my Loyalist research trip: [“Tombstone Tourism”](#).

**End of part one**