

CATARAQUI LOYALIST TOWN CRIER



The Kingston and District Branch was granted its charter November 4, 1978

Volume 41, No. 5 – November 2022

Upcoming Branch A.G.M. : Your Choice: In-Person OR By ZOOM.

Saturday November 26 1:00, 2022

ZOOM & In-person, St. Paul's Anglican Church Hall, Queen @ Montreal St.

the link for the 1:00 Presentation

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82784506081?pwd=L1BvamhPL0RtMzY3dGdpMWVyNHhaQT09>

Our GUEST Speaker will be NATHAN TIDRIDGE with a talk called:

“The Treaty of Niagara”

- “Nathan will explore with us the oldest indigenous/non-indigenous relationship on the continent: The Silver Covenant Chain. It is this treaty relationship that allowed for the Loyalists to enter these lands, and it would have animated those early settlements and interactions in the Great Lakes Region.”
- This will be a Hybrid presentation with Nathan on Zoom to many of us in person at St. Paul's Hall. Others will join us by Zoom about 1:00.

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Future Events: We have shifted the Winter 2023 meetings to February and April, 2023. Please check the Months & Dates carefully.

1:00 pm Saturday February 25, 2023 St. Paul's & Zoom, Kingston & Dist. Branch:
Anne Redish: Herchmer's Secret: The Loyalist Family, the Land and the Kingston Fall Fair since 1830.

1:00 pm Saturday April 22, 2023 St. Paul's & Zoom, Kingston & Dist. Branch: possibly
Jean Rae Baxter with Fort Frontenac or TBA with Heritage Cemetery at Cataraqui,
Loyalist Burials and Veterans of the War of 1812.

PLEASE CONTACT kingston.uelac@gmail.com for information or to offer support.

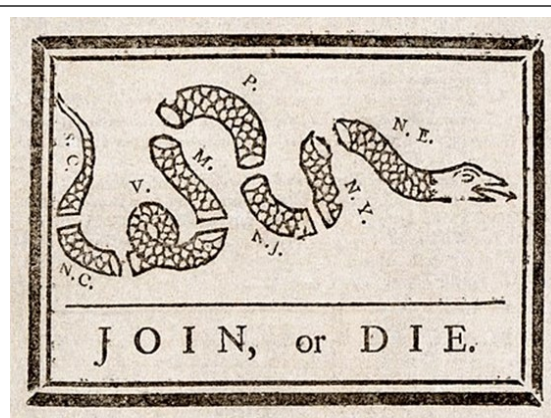
THE AMERICAN OCCUPATION OF MONTREAL & THE RICHELIEU VALLEY: 1775-1776

Presented by Mark Gallop, U.E. – September 24, 2022

Mark Gallop started his talk by outlining what he planned to share with us and indicate some topics that he would not cover. His presentation focused on interesting people and their stories along with places involved in the occupation. Some personalities include Honorable James McGill, fur trader, and geographical places like the Chateau Reimes, as well as the Richelieu Valley which goes north through Lake Champlain, to St Jean-sur-Richelieu (earlier called Fort St. John) and following it northward the Richelieu River exits into the St. Lawrence River at Sorel.



Honorable James McGill, who was a Montreal businessman dealing in the fur trade, and whose estate was instrumental in the founding of McGill University, Montreal.



Join, or Die. is a **PRE-REVOLUTION** political cartoon showing the disunity in the colonies. Attributed to Benjamin Franklin, the original publication by The Pennsylvania Gazette on **May 9, 1754**,¹ is the earliest known pictorial representation of colonial union produced by an American colonist in Colonial America. (Wikipedia) NE is 'New England' and encompassed a collection of the smaller colonies.

Mark promised to not get bogged down on dates, battles, and politics. He indicated that this talk, for some obvious reasons, would not talk about women, indigenous, nor the Siege of Quebec.

The Americans did not come out very well at the end of the Occupation of Montreal, so there will be no glorification of them at all. Their attempt to take over Canada was a bumbling fiasco.

This image is from shortly after British takeover of 'New France', also called 'The Capitulation', this drawing was made approx. 1760.

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/capitulation-of-montreal-1760>

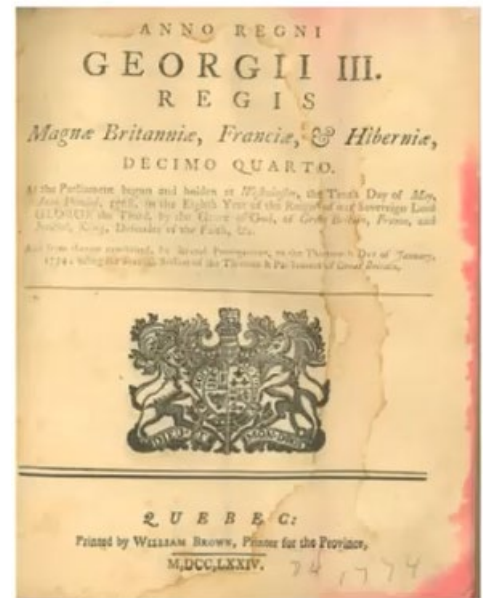


It must have been done by someone who had not been there at the time since the architecture is completely off. Some other images and maps of Montreal at that time are at the website shown above.

Montreal, a frontier town, was a booming walled city, 93 acres, with farming communities around the edges. In the census of 1771 and 1781 there were 12,000 inhabitants within the walls, with the majority being french-speaking. Montreal

was the 4th or 5th largest community in North America, with Philadelphia, New York, Boston ahead of it. Those who were English were merchants, fur traders, old soldiers, and settlers who stayed after the 1760 'capitulation'.

The Quebec Act was given Royal assent in 1774. Sir Guy Carleton, later Lord Dorchester, was the Governor of Quebec, and although he faced criticism, he made many accomplishments, so he deserves to be respected in the most part. This Act under Carleton set the terms for how to incorporate French Canada into the British governance.



In regard to law, 'The Quebec Act' kept French Law for Civil matters; the Seigneurial system was kept, the Roman Catholic religion was kept, and Catholics could hold office. It created an Appointed Legislative Council. And it redefined the boundaries of 'Quebec', to include much land around all around the

great lakes. That took effect in May 1, 1775.

The Quebec clergy was very contended with this act. Those unhappy were many Montreal merchants, who had active trade with the American colonies. Those land 'speculators' who were hoping to settle the Ohio lands were unhappy that those lands were no longer available. Representation for taxation as 'promised' did not come about and that disappointed many.

A George III statue was placed on Place D'Armes, Montreal. The bust was vandalized, but it was found and salvaged from bottom of a well in 1875 after which it went to the McCord Museum, Montreal after sitting on the archivists' desk for some time.

The First Continental Congress (Pro-‘America’) was held in Sept-Oct 1774, at Philadelphia. The main topics were not just taxation without representation but also focused on the Quebec Act and its implications. A letter was written to the ‘Habitants of Quebec’. It was translated and two thousand copies were printed and sent to a Montreal merchant for underground subversive distribution to drum up support for what they hoped would be a continental rebellion.

Early in May 1775, the ‘Americans’ captured Fort Ticonderoga located in the south end of Lake Champlain, and at the end of May 1775, a Second Congress was held and a second letter was sent out similarly. The actual Congress continued technically for 4 years. Thomas Jefferson stated this about the War of 1812 but it shows the same attitude of the Americans at this time. That the overturning of Canada was a “...mere matter of Marching”, anticipating little resistance.

Roads of the time: Waterways were the main roads. There were two land roads going from Fort St John and the Richelieu to Montreal along with only a few others in the area.

Nearby, the ‘State’ of Vermont was known for the Green Mountain Boys who were an effective militia. In Aug 1775, the Green Mtn Boys sent out a scouting party led by a man named “Remember Baker”, who was a 1st cousin of Ethan Allan. The story goes that he was a red-headed, freckled-faced ‘giant’, was shot and killed at “Remember Point” by some Indigenous who beheaded him, and took his head on a pole to Fort St. John. There, officers bought it from the Natives, and buried it, and sent men to collect and bury his body. His was regarded as the first death in the ‘Invasion of Quebec’ conflict and was recognized by DAR who commemorated his death with a cairn at Noyan, Quebec, at “Remember Point”.

Fort St. John: The area is very flat and had no advantageous land-forms for defenses, but this fort was built and it withstood a 25 day siege early on, and the British Major Charles Preston held-off another 45 day siege by the ‘Americans / Continentals’ under Montgomery. Archaeology has revealed numerous items of the 1774 time-period.



Ethan Allen



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Siege_of_Fort_St._Jean

In Sept 1775, shortly after the siege, Ethan Allan decided, contrary to orders, to lead his Green Mountain Boys, to cross to the eastern end of the Montreal Island, and he failed to meet

another group, and they were besieged. Guy Carleton with a small troop, sent the Americans retreating. With about 31 of Ethan Allen's Green Mountain Boys men remaining, they hid in the above very old farmhouse. Allen was chained and taken as prisoner back to England. Peter Johnson, son of Sir John Johnson was the arresting officer. The 1740 farmhouse was moved in 1970, restored as a day care centre.

After the 45-day siege ended, the 'American' General Richard Montgomery made his way to Montreal, via Nun's Island, and landed with troops. Next day, Carleton stayed with his men at the Citadel and twelve Montreal citizens met Montgomery, one was McGill. This 'Occupation' was a discussion and negotiation, not a battle or conquest. These Americans hoped to win the Montrealers over to their side against the British. They wanted to maintain the Indigenous trade, their Quebec and Montreal court system, and some were in favour of American system. Some other terms were discussed. Most just wanted to get on with their lives.

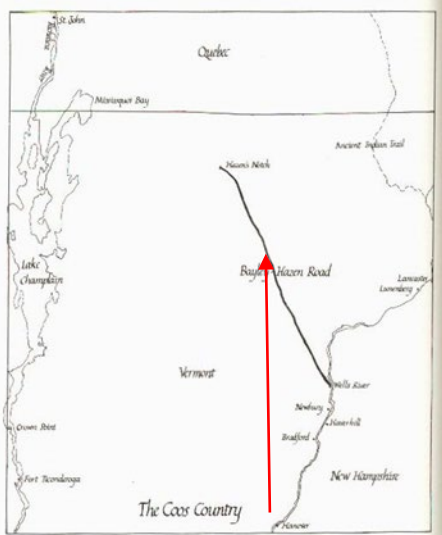
During the Occupation for the winter of 1775, the 'Forretier' house was General Montgomery's residence. Since then, its uses included the Willis piano store and this was Mark's Great Grandfather's Sewing Machine and Piano location. It was built in 1767, and demolished 1940. Now it is a parking lot. <https://antiquepianoshop.com/online-museum/willis-company/>

Chateau Ramezay, built in 1705, was the Continental Army HQ during the Occupation. It had been the Governor's mansion in British regime and was the seat of Government until 1849, except for during the American occupation. It is now an excellent museum.

Another old house in Montreal is the Becancour House, that of Thomas and Jane Walker, a merchant supporter of the American efforts. They came to Montreal in 1763. It seems that he was a disagreeable merchant. By 1775, it was clear to others that he favoured the Americans. His home was visited for long and short stays by delegates from American Congress; Benjamin Franklin who did not enjoy this trip; Samuel Chase, from Maryland; Charles Carroll of Maryland, a Catholic and the last living signer of the Declaration of Independence who died at the age of 94; Jean Carroll (cousin of the mentioned Charles Carroll), a Jesuit priest, a future Bishop. A Philadelphia printer, Fleury, came with equipment and stayed and became an upstanding citizen, later in 1778 founding the *Gazette Litteraire*, a precursor to the Montreal Gazette. http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/mesplet_fleury_4F.html

Jane Walker travelled with Franklin and she was found to not be an agreeable companion according to Franklin, and that the Walker couple were good at making enemies. In 1777, the Becancour house was purchased by James McGill, but it too no longer is standing. <https://www.catholiceducation.org/en/culture/history/catholic-founding-fathers-the-carroll-family.html>

Moses Hazen was born in Massachusetts, enlisted at age 22 and after Gen. Richard Montgomery departed, Moses was in command of Montreal. After the death of Montgomery, David Wooster, the newly-assigned Commander-in-chief of the 'Provincial' [Continental / American] Army against Quebec, ordered that mass houses be closed on Christmas eve. He tried to stop the Indigenous trade and tried to circulate continental currency. These and other approaches were very unpopular, although he had difficult conditions to manage. Hazen was part of the expulsion of the Acadians, at Fredericton. Hazen was a wheeler-dealer, acquired



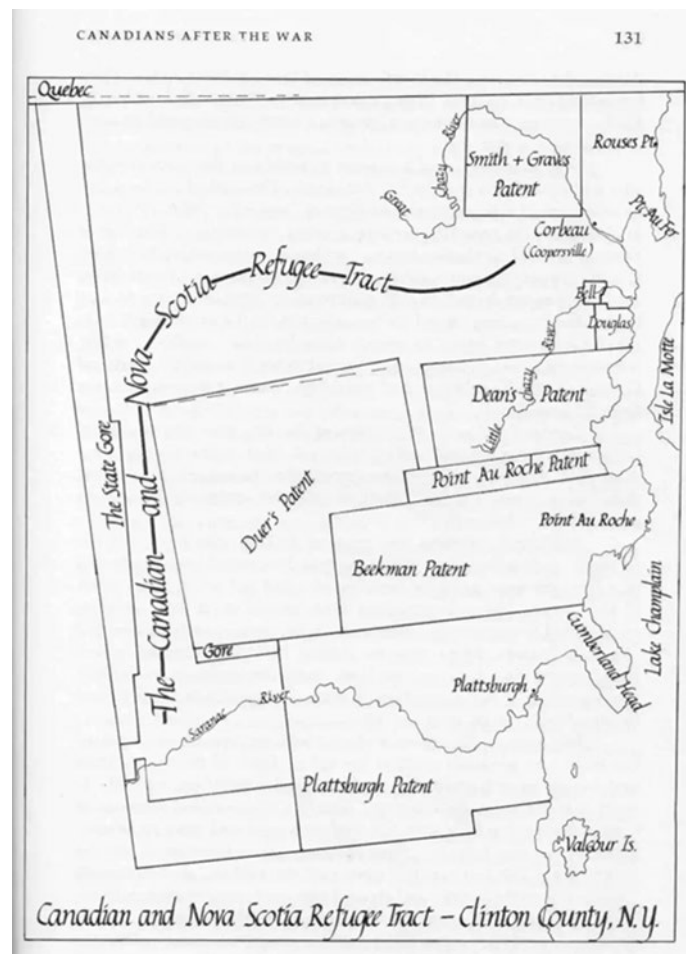
lands in Richelieu near Fort St. John, and left a paper trail of disputes and debts. In 1790 a comment was made about his obstinate temperament, and about his vacillating as to which side he supported. Tried to raise a 1,000 regiment, but only found about 500.

LEFT: Map of northern Vermont showing the route of Hazen's Road built by Hazen's Regiment in preparation for a second invasion of Canada, which never occurred.

The Congress delegates and the troops left in June of 1776. Hazen retreated across the border with a few hundred men. Later these troops were successful elsewhere and were known as 'Hazen's infernals'. He made another attempt to return to 'Canada' which failed. Hazen's name is now attached to The Bayley-Hazen Road (Red Arrow) from Wells River to Hazen's Notch.

Canadian and Nova Scotia Refugee Tract: In addition to Loyalists who were largely 'war refugees', there were others who sided with the new 'Americans' who moved from 'Canadian' areas including 'Nova Scotia' to 'American' areas. A refugee tract of available land was used up to 1803 by those in 'American refugee camps' at Albany and Fishkill. "When New York State enacted Chapter 63 of the laws of 1784, it directed the Surveyor General to "...lay out such a number of townships of unoccupied lands for the Canadian and Nova Scotia refugees." The entire 231,540 acre tract was in Clinton County, including a section along the shore of Lake Champlain. As the time allotted for refugees to make their claims ended, very little of the land was occupied and most of it reverted to the state." <https://empirestateplaza.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2019/10/refugeelands.pdf>

One 'Canadian' 'war refugee' who was a follower of Hazen was Jacques Rouse from what is now New Brunswick. He was an Acadian, was previously expelled to Quebec.



After 1776, he retreated to New York State and his name is shown in New York State Clinton County, at Rouse's Point, very close to the current Canadian-American Border.

In this same area existed Lot 62 with 80 acres was initially assigned to Moses Hazen, later transferred to William Hazen. At his death in 1814, it was purchased by the U.S. Government due to its proximity to the international border with Canada, with whom they had just been at war. They started to build Fort Montgomery named after Gen R Montgomery. It was nicknamed Fort Blunder because it was found to be on the wrong side of the New York / Canadian border. The early fort is now mostly demolished, but other construction attempts were since including for the American Civil War. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Montgomery_\(Lake_Champlain\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Montgomery_(Lake_Champlain))

In closing Mark told us about a sign he saw that suggested that the Americans and Ethan Allen (STORES) are still "Coming Soon!".

HANDOUT & RESOURCES:

Mark Gallop, U.E. – September 2022

PLACES:

FORT SAINT-JEAN NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE & MUSEUM, a National Historic Site, on the grounds of the Royal Military College, St-Jean-sur-Richelieu

<https://www.museedufortsaintjean.ca/EN/index-en.htm>

CHATEAU RAMEZAY NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE & MUSEUM, Old Montreal

<https://www.chateauramezay.qc.ca/en/>

McCORD STEWART MUSEUM, downtown Montreal

<https://www.musee-mccord-stewart.ca/en/>

BOOKS:

Hatch, Robert M., *Thrust for Canada: the American Attempt on Quebec in 1775-1776*, Houghton Mifflin, 1797 (out of print but in many libraries)

Everest, Allan S., *Moses Hazen and the Canadian Refugees in the American Revolution*, Syracuse Unbound, 2018

<https://press.syr.edu/supressbooks/177/moses-hazen-and-the-canadian-refugees-in-the-american-revolution>

Baby, François, *Quebec during the American invasion, 1775-1776: the journal of François Baby*, Gabriel Taschereau, and Jenkin Williams, Michigan State University Press, 2005

<https://msupress.org/9780870137402/quebec-during-the-american-invasion-1775-1776/>

ONLINE:

Dictionary of Canadian Biography online: <http://www.biographi.ca/en/>

(Benedict Arnold, Guy Carleton, Moses Hazen, James McGill, Richard Montgomery, Thomas Walker, and others)

Canadian Participants in the American Revolution - an Index, at FamilySearch.org:

<https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/records/item/404267-canadian-participants-in-the-american-revolution-an-index?offset=>

Many Thanks to Mark!

LITERARY NEWS

Jean Rae Baxter, Program Chair of the Kingston Branch, has recently received some very special recognition. First, she has been nominated for the 2022 Governor General's History Award for Popular Media: the Pierre Berton Award. Just as exciting, her latest novel, *The Knotted Rope* has received the Moonbeam Silver Medal for Young Adult Historical Fiction. What makes this special is that Jean has already won the Moonbeam Gold and Bronze. Here are the details:

2011. The Bronze Medal for *Freedom Bound*. This novel, set in South Carolina during the American Revolution, portrays the Loyalist experience in Charleston and in the backwater swamps, as well as the experience of enslaved persons granted their freedom by the General Birch Certificate, who escaped from Rebel owners to help in many ways on the British side.

2012. Gold Medal for *Broken Trail*. A coming-of-age novel about a boy born white but adopted and raised by the Oneida nation of the Haudenosaunee. Through his story the reader sees the disruption to indigenous culture caused by white settlement and the violence of the American Revolution.

2022. Silver Medal for *The Knotted Rope*. The year is 1793. The Government of Upper Canada has passed new legislation aimed to gradually end slavery in this province. But the new law is so flawed that it takes a daring act of rescue, combined with a loophole in the law, to achieve freedom for the enslaved persons central to this story.

Jean is especially proud of these three medals—Gold, Silver and Bronze—because the Moonbeam Awards are American, and she writes Loyalist history from an unswervingly Canadian point of view. The Moonbeam Award ceremony will take place in Traverse City, Michigan, on November 12, 2022.

Jean will have the three Moonbeam Award winning novels-available for purchase at the November 26 meeting of our Kingston Branch. She will also bring the other three in the “Forging a Nation” series: *The Way Lies North*, *The White Oneida* and *Hope's Journey*. Actually, all of them are award winners. Congratulations to Jean Rae Baxter U.E.

FREE TRANSCRIPTION SOFTWARE

Staying “inside” over the past three years has given me a lot of time to watch online webinars and videos, to improve my knowledge of genealogical research practices. A webinar I watched recently stressed the importance of transcribing every original document you receive, so that you don't miss out on important wording.

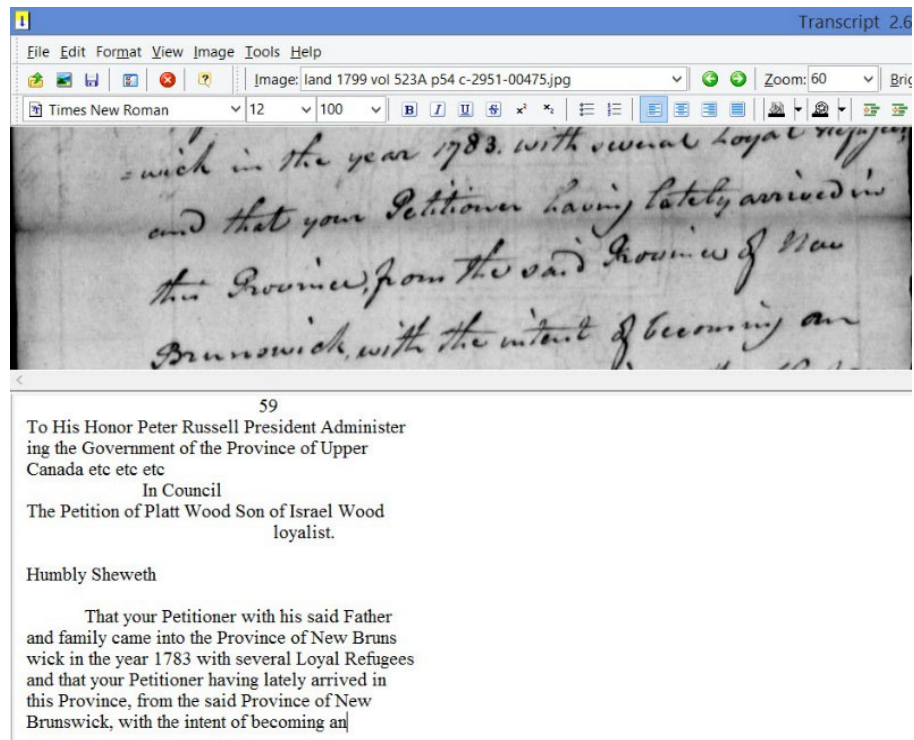
The transcription method I've used up to now has been fairly primitive: printing out the image of the document and placing it on a small stand to the right of my screen and looking back and forth from the paper document to the screen as I type into a word processor – a very good generator of neck strain headache, and of the high possibility of skipping a line in error.

During the webinar mentioned above, the speaker recommended two FREE pieces of software that make the process of transcribing a document much easier:

- [Genscriber](https://genscriber.com/en/) is available from <https://genscriber.com/en/> for both Windows and Mac. It lets you use several different entry formats, so that you can have a census image above a blank table form that you're filling in to match census information, for example. I haven't yet tested it out.
- [Transcript](https://www.jacobboerema.nl/en/Freeware.htm) 2.6.0 is available from <https://www.jacobboerema.nl/en/Freeware.htm>. It comes in both free and Pro versions. Do read the details on the home page, to determine which is right for you. For most of us, the free version should be sufficient for personal use for occasional documents.

I tested out *Transcript* first. The document has to be in *.jpg format, although apparently the Pro version can deal with *.pdf documents.

Here's an example of a screen when using *Transcript*. First you open an imagefile, as the software calls it. You can see the name of the image file centred above the handwritten bit (my filename should probably include the name of the person it concerns, but I do have the files I downloaded from Library and Archives Canada in a folder named "Platt Wood."). You can zoom the image as large or small as you want.



As you type in the lower box, you have to press "Enter" at the end of each line so your text exactly matches the wording in the image. As you do that, the focus on the image file moves down a line, presenting a new line at the bottom and keeping your entry box in sync with the image.

Your transcripts are saved in *.rtf format, and can later be used with other editors such as Word, OpenOffice, Libre or WordPerfect. I haven't yet tested *GenScriber* but I'm sure it works similarly.

When you transcribe a document, it makes you read every word. You then pay more attention to things like witnesses on land documents and wills: ask yourself if they are connected to the principal person, or just the lawyer's clerk. And no more strain on your neck as you transcribe!

Nancy Cutway, UE

HOW TO CONVERT A MODERN ADDRESS TO LOT & CONCESSION #s

Sometime ago I had an interesting article forwarded to me by Anne Redish UE that was posted on “Family Tree Knot”. The question was asked “How do you find a modern urban address on the old Lot and Concession maps?” see:

<https://familytreeknots.blogspot.com/2022/09/finding-on-ground-urban-address.html?fbclid=IwAR1TjDgPB3dHSJSv-f0gUj1n4WQck10pXdFu4qTPruI5w07FQvWfhU8CyM>

The article is very well written and was easily followed using Onland.ca to locate both the modern address and original land records. As a test I looked up my own address.

The first step was to connect with Onland.ca and in the LRO box and type in Hastings which it converted to Hastings (LRO 21) and then click on the Property box and click on address.

I entered 101 for the street number and Greenfield Park for the street name, then I entered **me** in the requested box, yes simply **me**, and click search.

The result was details 40524-0054 Active Land 101 Greenfield Park LT 32 PL 1557 Thurlow; Belleville; County of Hastings.

Showing 1 to 1 of 1 search results for Address "101 GREENFIELD PARK".

PIN Details ↑↓	Address ↑↓	Property Details ↑↓
40524-0054 Active Land Titles	101 GREENFIELD PARK BELLEVILLE	LT 32 PL 1557 THURLOW; BELLEVILLE ; COUNTY OF HASTINGS

Now go back to the PIN ADDRESS INSTRUMENT MAP page and select MAP and click on all areas in the land registry and select Belleville and then click view map. Now click on search by street and insert Greenfield Park and click find streets. The street name is displayed and when you click on it a map is displayed showing the street. As can be seen the Greenfield Park subdivision spans both Lots 3 and 4 in the 4th Concession of Thurlow Township, Hastings



County, Ontario, Canada.

Now all I had to do is go back to the Onland.ca start-page and select ‘Historical Books’/Hastings County/Concession 4, and scroll through to Lot 3 which showed me that the Crown gave this Lot of 200 acres to Samuel ? and ? Frederick in 1791. Richard Parry, U.E.

End of newsletter