

October 2024
 Volume 13 - Issue 5
 Bi-Monthly Newsletter
<http://www.uelac.org/Chilliwack/>
 First issue - Just found May 1991
 Branch Chartered October 18, 1990

Link Up



Photo by M.L. Dance UE

**United Empire
 Loyalists' Association
 of Canada**
Chilliwack Branch
 Your Management Committee
 for 2024/25

President: Marlene Dance UE
 Vice Pres: vacant
 Past Pres: Shirley Dargatz UE
 Secretary: Judy Scholz UE
 Treasurer: Carole Lefler UE
 Genealogist: Marlene Dance UE
 Asst. Genealogist: vacant
 Web Mistress: Vicky Heibner UE
 Newsletter: Marlene Dance UE
 Branch Directors:
 Margaret Strocel UE
 Chris Hay UE
 Cindy Lyftogh UE
 Jan Duelliet
 Social Conveners:
 Vicky Heibner UE
 Rebecca Heibner UE

Pacific Regional VP
 Diane Ferris UE
 Pacific Regional Councilor
 Christine Manzer UE



President's Message

Summer is over and, while the sun is still shining, we are getting the rain we need. Time for the fall garden clear up and the storing of summer chairs and patio items.

A recent drive to St. Paul, Alberta to visit with my brother and family reminded me of how quickly the fall changes are coming. But Jasper, Alberta was quite a shock to see.

I am so pleased with the offer of an article for our newsletter that came from member Helena Bastedo Smith UE. There is also a hint of more to come. You will find it on pages three and four as a nice lead to a 2011 Loyalist Trails article and recent contributions from the church named. Thank you to everyone involved.

Many of our UELAC branches have a Facebook page. It has proven to be a good place to find Loyalist items both current and from the past. Please enjoy the offerings taken from both the Victoria and New Brunswick branches. In addition, an item from the New Brunswick Genealogy Society on page ten.

As a branch we find our numbers are shrinking. This is due to members passing away, moving away and also aging out. This is very common among many groups and clubs.

Presently we have fifty-three members down from one hundred in 2014. The UELAC organization as a whole is experiencing this same problem. We need you to get your children and friends interested in knowing their family tree and their history.

But especially, we need to keep to the Loyalist story alive. Recently, through the genealogy classes I facilitate, I have found two people who did not know of their Loyalist connections and are now very interested in finding more.

We also need help on the management committee to plan our coming events. Please be in touch to offer your ideas and skills.

Enjoy a lovely Thanksgiving with family and friends. And don't forget to plan to attend Remembrance Day Services in your area. We will be placing wreaths at both cenotaphs here in Chilliwack and then going for lunch afterwards.

Please join us if you are able.

Loyally yours
 Marlene Dance UE



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2011 Loyalist Trails item
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Calendar of Events for 2024

Print and save with your calendar



Meetings will be scheduled individually.

Chilliwack Alliance Church, 8700 Young Road, Chilliwack, BC

Unless otherwise advised.

Details and reminders about any change in time, location or about guest speakers will be sent via email and/or included in each edition of this newsletter.

Schedule for 2024:

November 11	Remembrance Day and luncheon to follow at Canton Gardens
November 16	Lunch meeting for Margaret Strocel UE details TBA
December	Christmas Social TBA

Be sure to send suggestions, information and/or pictures for this publication to:

chwkbuelcontact@gmail.com

Please visit our branch webpage: <http://www.uelac.org/Chilliwack>

UELAC Conference for 2025:

Saint John, New Brunswick

July 10th - 13th, 2025



United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada

Partnering with Heritage Chilliwack Society since 2019

Keeping the Past Present! www.heritagechilliwack.org/

"On the Porch" - beautiful old homes in Chilliwack.
Just Google to find all eight episodes on YouTube.

Featuring:

Hazel House, Carmichael House,

Higginson House, Gwynne Vaughan House,

Brock House,

Skelton House, Gibbens House.

As well as District 1881 - the new downtown rejuvenation.



**With Remembrance Day soon upon us,
member Helena Bastedo Smith UE has contributed the following item:**

Marlene Dance UE, President of the Chilliwack Branch, UELAC, has asked me to lay a wreath in Chilliwack on Remembrance Day on behalf of the branch. I shall be honoured to do so on this day which we set aside to remember the Canadian men and women who gave military service to their country and the many thousands who died while doing so.

I was sensitized to the sadness of war early as my mother's first cousin, James Fairhead, and her sister's husband, Tom Parkinson, had both died in active service, one in World War I, the second in World War II.

Of the Bastedos in Canada, that is, our UE ancestry, I knew that my father's older half-brother, Nellis Bastedo served with the Canadian services in France in the First World War.

In a Loyalist Trails 2011 – 03 article by UELAC Past President, Frederick H. Hayward (see pages 5-7), I learned of Captain Alfred C. Bastedo who was killed in action in 1915. He was my father's fifth cousin, descended from Gilbert Tice Bastedo, brother of my family's direct ancestor David Bastedo, both sons of Jacob Bastedo and Clarissa Van Slyke who arrived in Kingston in 1784. (I shall write about Jacob and Clarissa at a later date.) No doubt there were other Bastedos who had served in The Great War and certainly many whose lives were altered by the war.



The six years and six days of service my father gave during World War II were heroic, and equally so, the service my mother gave her country and family at home. When my father signed up for service in September 1939, my older brother Tom, born February 24, 1939, was a little over six months old. My dad was stationed for his first year at Camp Borden, Ontario and managed during that year to see his wife and son a few times where they were living in Stratford, Ontario. My mother became pregnant with my older sister Jane, and thus when my father sailed to England he left behind his wife and two infants.

My father, Dr. George McClelland Bastedo, DSO, MA, MD, UE, was a general surgeon and during wartime became head of a Canadian field surgical unit. He trained in England with his unit and eventually went by ship to Italy. Before reaching that country, however, the ship was struck by aerial torpedoes in the Mediterranean and all on board had to abandon ship; fortunately, no lives were lost thanks to their training and courageous and calm presence of mind.

A description of this is written up in his own words in his *War Experiences* -

“In a few minutes darkness descended and the attack ended. We were alone, with nothing within our range of vision, the guns were silent, and there was nothing to hear but the waves washing against the side of our motionless ship. Our public address system had been put out of action by the aerial torpedo which crashed into our engine room. By this time, the decks were crowded with troops who had come up out of the holds without a trace of panic, guided only by the light of a few flashlights of the type which were used in England during black-outs. One bit of panic would have spelled disaster. I was never so proud of being Canadian, as we stood in silence, each with our own thoughts.”

My father went on to organize the debarkation with another officer and longtime friend also in his surgical unit, Dr. Robert Meiklejohn; eventually all were picked up from their rafts by a troopship from their convoy that had returned for them.

Continued on following page:

From previous page:

The next morning, while on board the ship taking them to Naples, as told in *War Experiences* -
 "...suddenly, within full sight of us, the stern sank lower, the ship rolled over on her side, and sank. Down went all my personal belongings, except the clothes I had on my back, and my watch which I had been able to save by buckling the wrist strap around my necktie and thus kept it out of water. Good-bye Santa Elena!"

For the next year, over long days on the Italian front, my father performed major operations upon soldiers who were too seriously wounded to be moved any further back toward the hospitals without operative care. Bullets would sometimes fly through the canvas tent that served as his operating room.

On one occasion,

"Others [the wounded] rolled in from the north, rapidly filling the Field Dressing Room to capacity. We started to work immediately, and worked all through the night, but seemed to be making little progress in our efforts to clear the resuscitation room. I think this was the only time in the war when I despaired of being able to cope with the situation. We worked on..."

"...the work of the "Padre" service, stands out in my mind as being exceptionally good. To men waiting their turn for operation, time must have moved agonizingly slowly...At Mombaroccio there were two particularly good padres, one Roman Catholic, and one Protestant. They stayed on duty continuously, doing what they could to encourage, strengthen, build up morale. The tireless effort of these men will stay in my mind for a long time, in fact ...[is] in my mind now, thirty-one years after."

My father was awarded the Distinguished Service Order by King George VI and sent home at the beginning of 1945, promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, to take charge of surgery at Camp Borden Military Hospital. My mother, after long years of separation, worry, single-parenting, and volunteer work for the Canadian Red Cross told me that that last year when my father was back in Canada, but not with them, was in some ways the hardest of all. My father was transferred to the non-active reserve effective September 16, 1945.

Our family was deeply affected by these years: each of my parents and my two older siblings, then five and close to seven years of age, had huge adjustments to make right after the war had ended and over the years that followed. My younger sister Catherine and I, born post-war, only later gained an understanding of the depth of the emotions involved.



May we remember our fallen and those who served and also those who are experiencing pain and loss in our times.

Lest we forget.

Helena Bastedo Smith UE

Dr. George McClelland Bastedo
 DSO, MA, MD, UE leads the
 Remembrance Day parade
 in Marathon, Ontario
 Sometime in the mid-50s.

Fragility, Connections, Bastedo

From Loyalist Trails 2011/03

Submitted by then UELAC

President Frederick H. Hayward.

(reprinted with permission)

Fragility is a powerful word.

Whether it is applied to an emotional state, physical characteristic or memory of the past, its use creates a connection to an earlier time.

Window pain (right) by Miriam Spies in the November 2010 issue of The United Church Observer took me back to my earlier life as a member of St. Paul's United Church in Milton, Ontario.

I can faintly recall a series of five stained glass windows across the back aisle, but when you are young, you seldom read the dedications, or for that matter, remember the images as you pass by with other things on your mind. Back then, remembrance of the fallen of World War One was something

that was only done in November.

In June of 2010, three of those memorial windows were destroyed by fire.

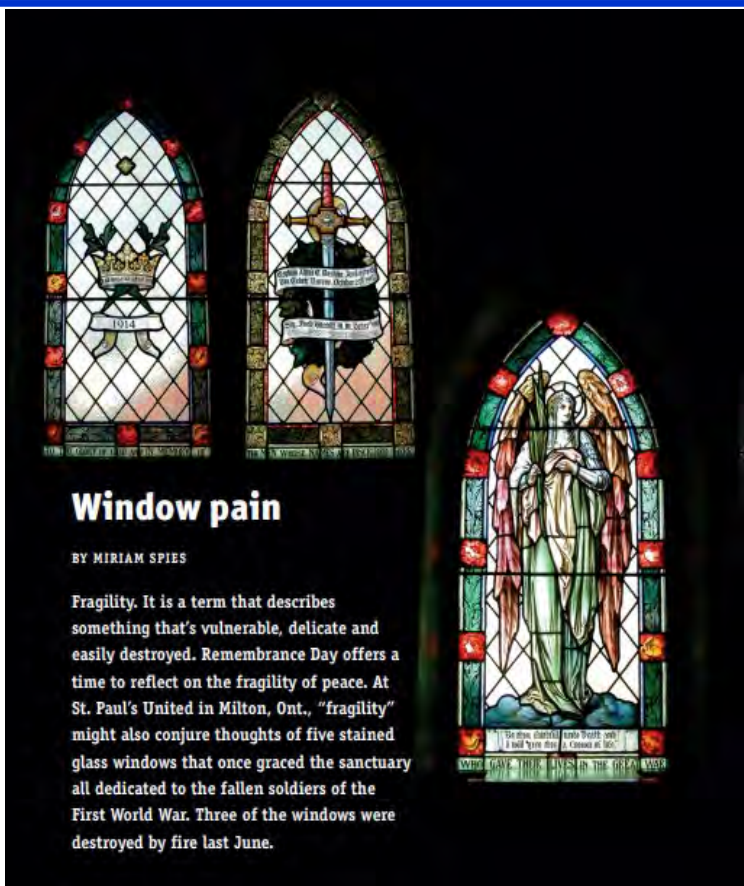
One of them was dedicated to Captain Alfred C. Bastedo. (see picture on next page)

While I grew up in Milton, the name Bastedo was not familiar to me. At the recent Remembrance Day Sunday Service, while images of the windows were projected on the screen, young people of the St. Paul's congregation shared the stories of those who had died in combat based on files gathered by Jim Dills of the Milton Historical Society. "Captain Bastedo was one of the first men to enlist from the Milton area, on September 22, 1914. He was taken on strength in the CEF 1st Battalion on April 11, 1915, and killed in action on April 23, 1915. On that April day in 1915 the 1st Battalion received orders to move over the Yser Canal to attack Pilckem Village where it was subjected to heavy artillery, machine gun and rifle fire. Officer casualties were 7 wounded and 3 killed.

Captain Bastedo was one of many casualties.

"Long past my youth, I am now aware that "Bastedo" is also a Loyalist name. Between 1976 and 1991 eight Certificates of Loyalist Lineage were presented in Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba. In the Commemorative Biographical Record of the County of York, Ontario, (p. 37) a brief family history indicates the connection.

"The Bastedos trace their descent from the important Spanish family of De La Bastido, of whom the chief is the Marquis De La Bastida, member of the Chamber of Deputies for the Balearic Islands. Another is Don Guillermo De La Bastida, treasurer of the Province of Badajoz. The progenitor of the Bastedo family, having embraced the faith of the Reformed Church, was forced to leave Spain and take refuge in Holland, whence about 1778 he or one of his descendants emigrated to America, ultimately settling at Schenectady, New York. Of this branch of the family was Jacob Basted, as the name became Anglicized, who, abandoning a valuable estate in Schenectady, came to Canada as a United Empire Loyalist, and settled first at Cataraqui (Kingston), where he had a grant of 800 acres, but removed to Stamford, County of Welland, Ont. Continues on next page:



He married Clarissa Jean Van Slyke, whose sister married a Van Buren, and their son, Martin Van Buren, was President of the United States from 1837 to 1841. Another sister was married to Major Tice, a Royalist officer. The children of Jacob and Clarissa Bastedo were: (1) Abraham; (2) Lewis; (3) David; (4) Joseph, killed at the battle of Chippewa; (5) Gilbert Tice; (6) John, of Nelson, married Mary Flewelling and had issue... (7) Cornelius, killed in the war of 1812."

Another connection to UELAC is discovered in the biographies of the [petitioners](#) who hoped to create a Canadian UEL Association. In 1882, Lieut. Col. George Alexander Shaw, R.L., UE married Marion Christina, daughter of Gilbert Tice Bastedo, County Crown Attorney, Halton and 2x great granddaughter of Jacob Bastedo. Gilbert Tice Bastedo was also the second Wor. Master of the [St. Clair Lodge](#) #135 in Milton, the same Masonic Lodge as that of my father who held that position in 1952.

Those stained glass memorials of 1919 are still covered with plywood as the congregation continues to review the future of St. Paul's. However, the story of Capt. Bastedo and the United Empire Loyalist connection, less fragile than glass, has survived. One more solid brick has been fired to add to the history our Association and our country.



On the following page is a newsletter update on the stained glass windows from 2016.

Below is an on-line picture of St. Paul's United Church, Milton, Ontario





St. Paul's

Herald

November 2016

Windows of Remembrance *by Jim Dills*

When bugles sound, poppies appear and veterans parade in remembrance at the town cenotaph, pause a moment to see anew the windows of remembrance that appear at the rear of St. Paul's sanctuary.

There are five of them, and while specifically they mark the sacrifice of seven former members of St. Paul's, they represent the 44 who served in that First World War from this church. The town's population was just 1800.

After the windows were designed, they were installed in a July 1919 service. From that War they were:

- Alfred Bastedo, killed in Belgium in 1915. He was believed to be the first Halton man killed in action.
- Cedric Harrop who was killed near Passchendaele, Belgium during the Battle of Passchendaele, one of the worst slaughters of World War I.
- Fred Walsh, married and father of a young daughter he never saw, was killed in action in October 1916. Prior to his death he was awarded the Military Medal for Bravery.
- Meacham Denyes, son of the Inspector of Public Schools, was killed in France on September 2, 1918. He received the British War Medal and the Victory Medal posthumously.
- Elmer Tuck was killed near Amiens, France. He had joined the 164th Battalion in 1916 and was killed advancing on a wood that was a machine gun nest. He

received the British War Medal and the Victory Medal posthumously.

- Roland A. Merrett, another British born son, was killed August 16, 1918 near Arras, France. He received the Distinguished Conduct Medal as well as the British War Medal and Victory Medal posthumously.



- Jonathan Archer came to Canada and from Milton enlisted at Toronto. He was killed June 8, 1918 along the Western Front in France, during the Second Battle of the Somme. He was 28.

The windows are from the McCausland studio in Toronto. In the centre of the five panels is a painted stained glass figure representing the "Resurrection Angel" holding in one hand the martyrs' palm, the ancient symbol of victory (i.e. victory over death). The slight suggestion of armour around the head and shoulders of the figure indicated a war memorial. Text underneath is "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life."

Windows on either side were suggestive of Colonel McCrae's well-known lines

"In Flanders Fields". In the one was the sword surrounded by maple leaves and in the other the torch with poppies. The names of the soldiers and their death date are on surmounting scrolls.

Two outside panels are simpler. On either side is shown the Crown, with the dates 1914 on the left and 1919 on the right surrounded by poppies.

Running across the base of the five windows are the words: "To the glory of God and in memory of the men whose names are inscribed here who gave their lives in the great war in honor of Canada and the defence of righteousness, liberty and justice."

And yes, there was another World War with 84 enlisting from St. Paul's. Alas nine did not return. These included P/O

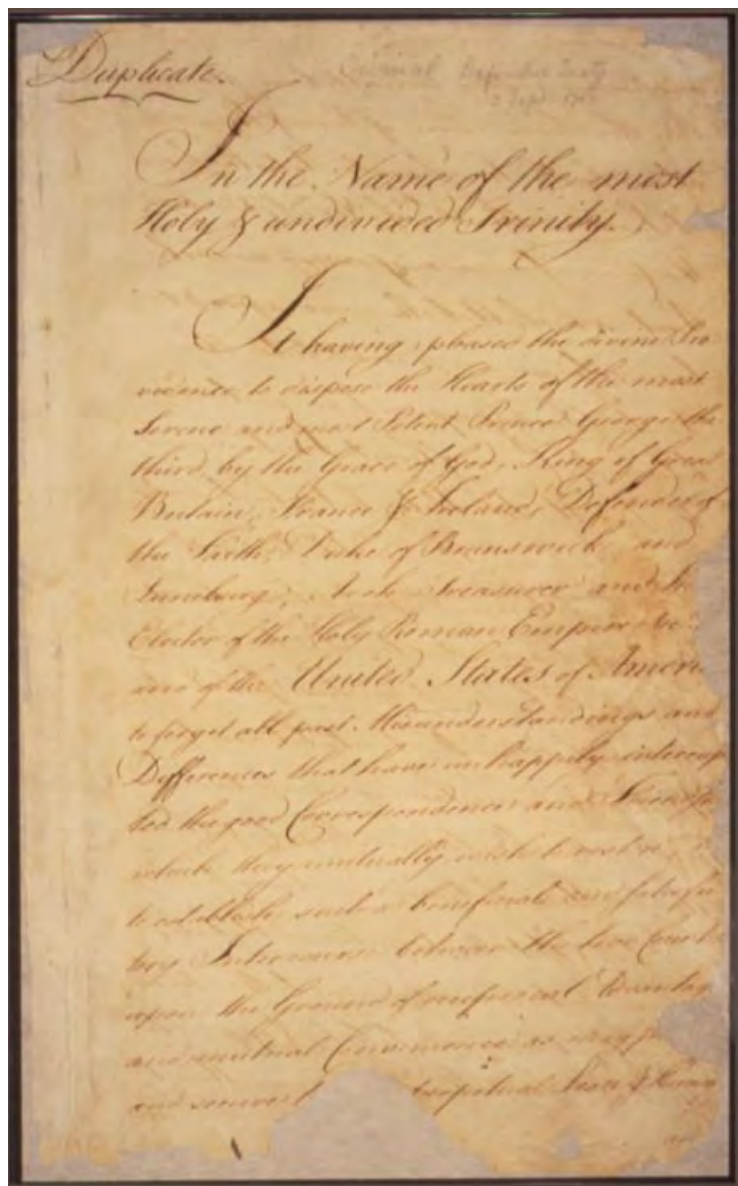
John R. Clements, Cpl. William Alexander Coxe, Pte. Kenneth Albert Coxe, P/O Earle Dolby, D.F.C., F/Lt. Roger Harrop Galbraith, Pte. David Edward Harrop, Sgt. Gordon Keith McLellan, Major T. Jack MacArthur, Flt. Lieut. Donald Scott MacNabb.

The full list of those who served in both World Wars has been retained. The original parchment listing those of World War II was burned in the St. Paul's fire of 2010.

(Several of the original windows were destroyed in the June 2010 fire and replicated by McCausland Studios from original drawings that had been retained by them.)

St. Paul's United Church 123 Main Street East Milton Ontario 905-878-8895 www.stpaulsmilton.com

With thanks to Martha in the offices of St. Paul's United Church in Milton, Ontario who took an interest in our enquiry about the destroyed church windows. She quickly provided the information at the bottom of page 6 and this newsletter page from November 2016. Thank you so much.



Treaty of Paris.

(with thanks from - FB page of New Brunswick Loyalists)

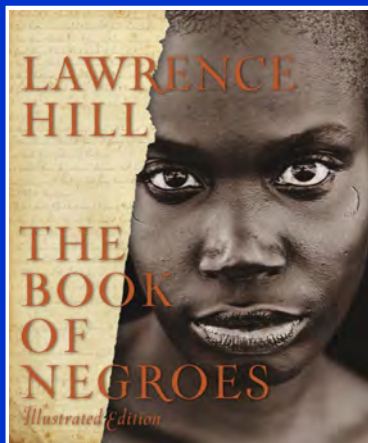
On this day, September 3, 1783 the Treaty of Paris was signed by representatives of King George III and representatives of the United States, bringing an official end to the American Revolutionary War and recognized the Thirteen Colonies, which had been part of colonial British America, to be free, sovereign and independent states.

Article 7 of the Treaty of Paris made reference to Black Loyalists, noting that "his British Majesty shall with all convenient speed, and without causing any Destruction, or carrying away any Negroes or other Property of the American inhabitants, withdraw all his Armies, Garrisons & Fleets from the said United States, and from every Post, Place and Harbour within the same".

What would happen to Black Loyalists in the aftermath of the war was a point of contention between the British and Americans throughout peace negotiations.

Sir Guy Carleton argued that the British had promised the Black Loyalists freedom for their service to the Crown during the American Revolution and that promise should be kept. If the British were to release Black Loyalists to their former enslavers it would be "a dishonorable violation of the public faith pledged to the Negroes in the Proclamations".

Sir Guy Carleton instead ordered the creation of a registry of Black Loyalists who were being evacuated. The registry, called the Book of Negroes, would include relevant information including the name of the individual, their age, a description, as well as information about where and to whom they had been enslaved. This registry would then be used to issue compensation to Americans.



The Book of Negroes

by Canadian author Lawrence Hill

published by HarperCollins in October 2011 - Abducted as an 11-year-old child from her village in West Africa and forced to walk for months to the sea in a coffle—a string of slaves— Aminata Diallo is sent to live as a slave in South Carolina. But years later, she forges her way to freedom, serving the British in the Revolutionary War and registering her name in the historic "Book of Negroes." This book, an actual document, provides a short but immensely revealing record of freed Loyalist slaves who requested permission to leave the US for resettlement in Nova Scotia, only to find that the haven they sought was steeped in an oppression all of its own.

Also a CBC six part TV mini-series released in December of 2014.



New Jersey Volunteers (Skinners Greens)

with thanks to Victoria Branch UELAC via Facebook Aug. 21, 2021
 Left: New Jersey Volunteer Belt Plate from the New Brunswick Museum Right: Courtland Skinner



Many Loyalist settlers of Nova Scotia and later New Brunswick were attached to the New Jersey Volunteers (Skinner's Greens). This British Provincial regiment of over 3000 officers and men in 6 battalions was the largest Provincial regiment.

Brigadier Cortland Skinner raised this regiment in July 1776.

The men served in many battles: Philadelphia campaign, Monmouth, Savannah, Augusta, Charleston, Ninety Six, King's Mountain, Eutaw Springs, Connecticut Farms, Springfield, Paulus Hook, and Bergen Wood.

-History and Muster Rolls of the New Jersey Volunteers

<http://www.royalprovincial.com/mili.../rhist/njv/njvlist.htm>

-Captain Peter Ruttan's Co. 4th Battalion <https://www.trailofourancestors.com/loyalind.htm>

-Muster Rolls 4th Battalion <http://www.royalprovincial.com/.../musters/4njv/mrnjvman.htm>

-Braisted, Todd. "Who was Captain Marsh?" <https://allthingsliberty.com/2018/10/who-was-captain-marsh/>

-Braisted, Todd. "Bergen County's Loyalist Population"

<https://www.bergencountyhistory.org/loyalists-in-bergen>

-Wiser, Eric. "The Outlaw Cornelius Hatfield: Loyalist Partisan of the American Revolution."

<https://allthingsliberty.com/.../the-outlaw-cornelius.../>

-Moody, James. "Narratives of his Exertions and Sufferings."

<https://www.canadiana.ca/view/oocihm.56778/8?r=0&s=1>

-Burleigh, H "The Block House in Bergen Wood"

<http://www.uelac.org/PDF/The-Block-House-in-Bergen-Wood.pdf>

-Stryker, William "The New Jersey Volunteers. Loyalists in the Revolutionary War."

<https://archives.gnb.ca/Exh.../FortHavoc/html/NJVols.aspx...>

-Names of settlers King's County New Brunswick 1784

<http://www.royalprovincial.com/genea.../settle/Ind2njv.shtml>

-Settlers of Digby, Nova Scotia https://heritage.canadiana.ca/.../oocihm.lac_reel.../264...

-McConnel, Brian. "The Loyalists of Digby"

<https://www.amazon.ca/Loyalists-Digby-Brian.../dp/B08WK2L9ZX>

-Search Nova Scotia Land Papers <https://archives.novascotia.ca/land-papers/>

-Search New Brunswick Crown Grants <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html...>

Many of us have ancestors who served with the
 New Jersey Volunteers then settled in the Maritimes.
 Find your information with the links above !

Defrichage du lotissement de Stanley, October 1834

Image W. P. Kay from Library & Archives Canada



This from the New Brunswick Genealogy Society, Facebook Page from Megan Hicks
The link below is recommended. "FAMILY TREE KNOTS"

[Family Tree Knots: Upper Canada Land Books](#)



Chilliwack Branch Projects in the works:

1) LOYALISTS AND THE CHILLIWACK CONNECTION

This project is ongoing. We are working with the applications in our archives. Chilliwack Pioneers with a Loyalist connection include: Aitken, Blakney, Dahl, Evans, Thornton, Stevenson, Patten, Webb, Reeves, Munro, Chadsey, Halcrow, Nelles, Kipp, Reece and Higginson.

2) BACK ISSUES OF THE "LINK UP"

We have been given a three ring binder of back issues. Gradually, as we go through them we can determine what may be duplicates using the list provided on page 8 of the April 2024 Link up issue. In addition, another issue from 2007 has been discovered. Once sorted, comes the scanning and creation of a PDF for each issue. Please have a look to see what you can share. I am sure there are more to come.

If you know of any please advise us.

3) Organization of our Library/Storage room area:

This is ongoing. We have slowed down a bit. But we continue.
Slow and steady wins the race!