



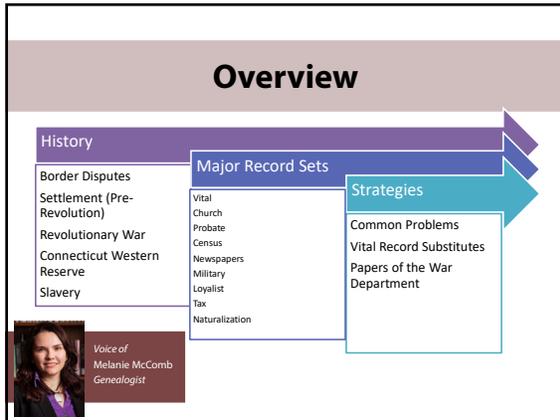
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3



4



5

New Counties

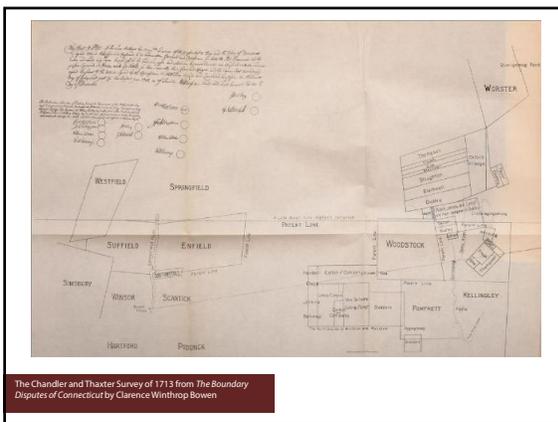
- Windham (1726) from Hartford and New London
- Litchfield (1751) from Hartford and Fairfield.
- Middlesex (1785) from Hartford, New Haven, and New London.
- Tolland (1785) from Windham

6

Border Disputes

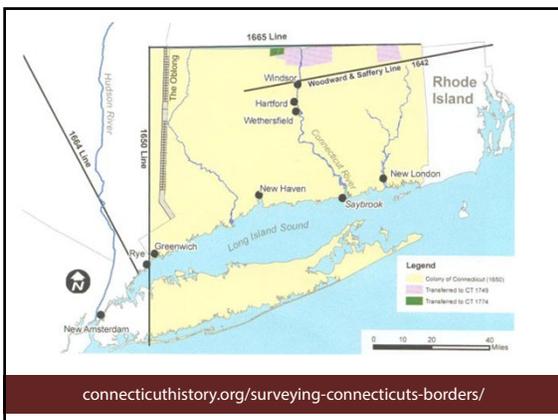
- 1713 – Connecticut sold land on the northern border line to Massachusetts for 683 pounds. The border towns continued to petition Connecticut for annexation.
- 1731 – border disputes between New York and Connecticut resolved
- 1749 – Connecticut Assembly decided the towns of Suffield, Enfield, Somers, and Woodstock fell within the charter's limits and were returned to Connecticut
 - Middlesex Gore (in Woodstock) was not annexed to Connecticut and remained part of Massachusetts

7



The Chandler and Thaxter Survey of 1713 from *The Boundary Disputes of Connecticut* by Clarence Winthrop Bowen

8



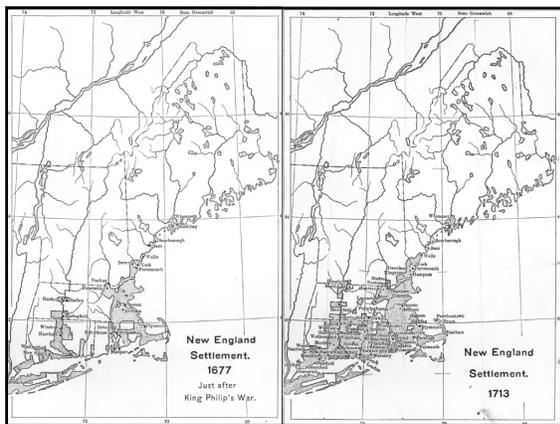
connecticuthistory.org/surveying-connecticuts-borders/

9

Settlement (Pre-Revolution)

- Starting in 1759, New England Planters left for Nova Scotia
- 1763 - French and Indian Wars hamper efforts for interior settlement until conflict ends
- 1775-1783 - Loyalists leave for Canada, UK & Caribbean

10



11

Revolutionary War

- Connecticut was known as the "Provisions State" due to the arms and manufacturing that contributed to the war effort
- Its coastline harbored privateers who would raid British ships
- Not occupied by British armies, but did experience several British raids
 - Fort Griswold in New London in 1781 was led by patriot-turned-traitor Benedict Arnold
- Nathan Hale became the official state hero of Connecticut



Photo Credit: Library of Congress

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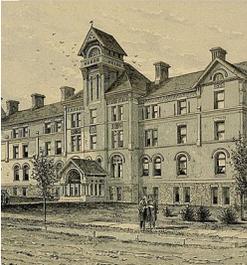
Revolutionary War Statistics

- In June 1775, out of the 37,363 soldiers who enlisted in the Continental Army, 3,700 came from Connecticut



13

Post-Revolution



- In 1788 Connecticut becomes a new state
- Westward migration begins into Ohio and other states; former soldiers claim bounty land

14

The Connecticut Western Reserve

- Area in the Northwest Territory that was owned, sold, and distributed by the state of Connecticut after the American Revolution
- Western part was the fire lands – land reserved for people who lost property during the Revolution
- Eastern part sold to Connecticut Land Company in 1795 for \$1.2 million



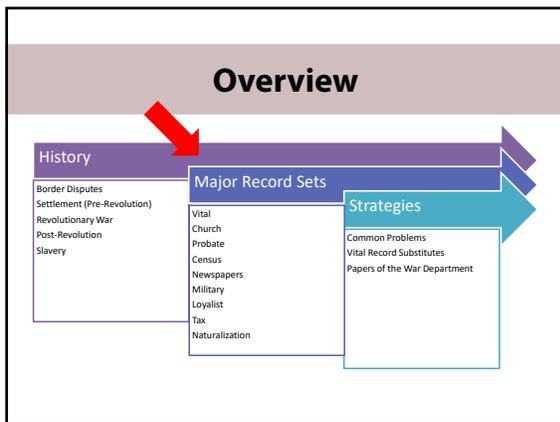
Photo Credit: Ohio History Central

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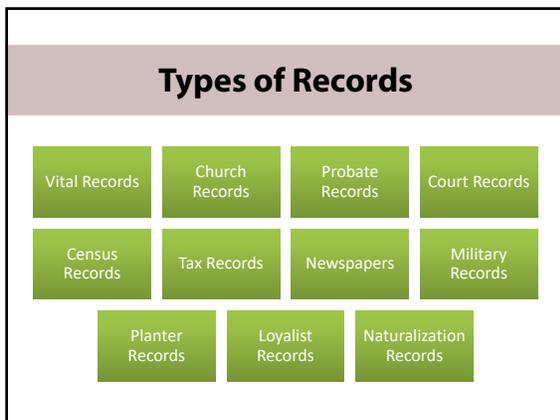
Slavery

- 1779 - Prime and Prince are the first enslaved persons to petition the General Assembly to abolish all slavery
- 1784 - Connecticut passes law for gradual emancipation; enslaved persons that are 25 years old and born after March 1st are freed
- 1790 - The federal census revealed that about half the population was still enslaved; of the 3,763 enslaved in New England, 2,648 lived in Connecticut
- Not officially abolished until 1848

16



17



18



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Vital Record Notes

- Originally recorded at the town level
- 1897 – Statewide registration began
- 1915 – General compliance

20

Not Every Town is in Barbour Collection

- Bound volumes were not prepared for the towns of Bolton, Coventry, Enfield, Mansfield, New Haven, Norwich, and Vernon.
 - Published compilations of vital records had previously been prepared for these towns

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Search Database ★ Favorite

Bolton and Vernon, CT: Vital Records, 1704-1852

Exact Search Soundex

First Name: Last Name:
First and/or Middle and/or (Maiden) name Last Name

Years: From To Record Type: -All-

Location: Exact Location Keywords:
e.g. Boston, Massachusetts Enter terms or words

Volume: Page:
-All-

SEARCH [Reset Search](#) By default all results are a best fit to your criteria

AmericanAncestors.org

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BOLTON VITAL RECORDS. 25

Rebeckah Darte Daughter of Ebenezer Darte and Ruth his wife was Borne november 24th AD: 1728
 Ruth Darte Daughter of Ebenezer Darte and Ruth his wife was Borne march 6th AD 1730/31
 Gideon King Son of Jonathan King and mary his wiffe was Borne Aug^t 24th AD 1729
 Jeremiah Bishop Son of Jeremiah Bishop & martha his wife was Borne march 24th AD 1731
 Daud Taylor Son of Daud Taylor and Martha his wife was Borne march 18th AD 1730/31
 Ichabod Marshel Son of John Marshel & Damaris his wiffe was Borne December the 5th AD: 1730
 John King Son of Hezekiah King & Sarah his wife was Borne September the 11th AD 1730
 Abigail Goodridge Daughter of Moses Goodridge and Hannah his wiffe was Borne ffeb 17th AD 1730/31

AmericanAncestors.org

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FamilySearch Databases

- Connecticut Births and Christenings (1649-1906)
- Connecticut Marriages (1630-1997)
- Connecticut Deaths and Burials (1772-1934)

24



25

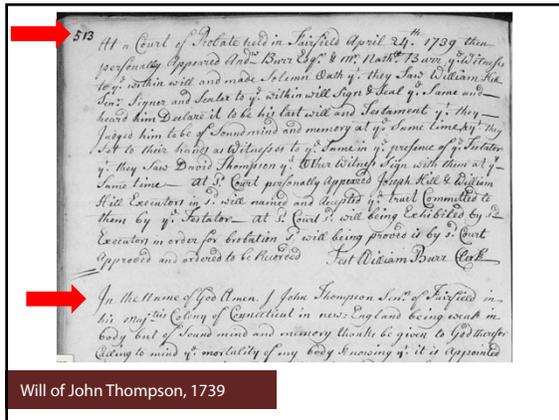
Congregational Library and Archives

- Located in Boston, Massachusetts
- Repository for Congregational churches in the United States
- Digitizing New England church records
- Hidden Histories project includes 4 Connecticut churches:
 - Canterbury, Conn. Strict Congregational Church (1733-1815)
 - Lebanon, Conn. First Church and Society (1697-1796)
 - Litchfield, Conn. South Farms Church (1781)
 - Lyme, Conn. Second Church and Society (1767)

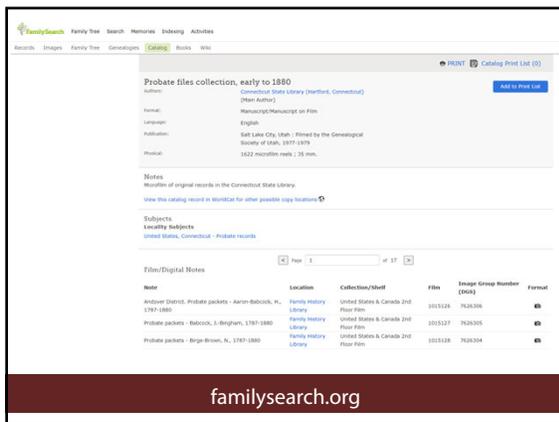
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congregationallibrary.org

27



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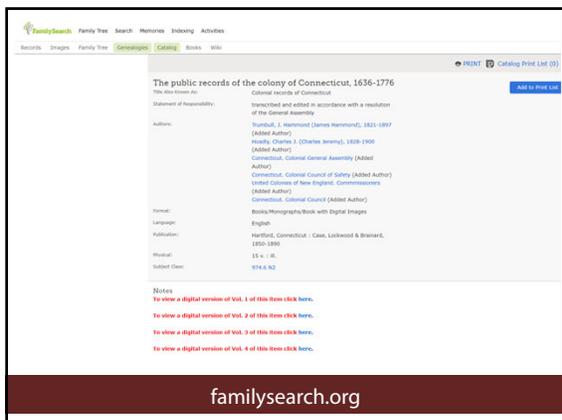


49

General Court

- General Assembly after 1637
- Highest state court – handled civil and criminal cases
- Most judicial responsibilities relinquished by 1750
- Records are published in *The Public Records of The Colony of Connecticut (1636-1776)*, available on FamilySearch

50



51

Supreme Court of Errors

- Created in 1784 as the highest appellate court
- Reviewed cases based on a writ of error, which was previously done by General Assembly
- Published with superior court records



58

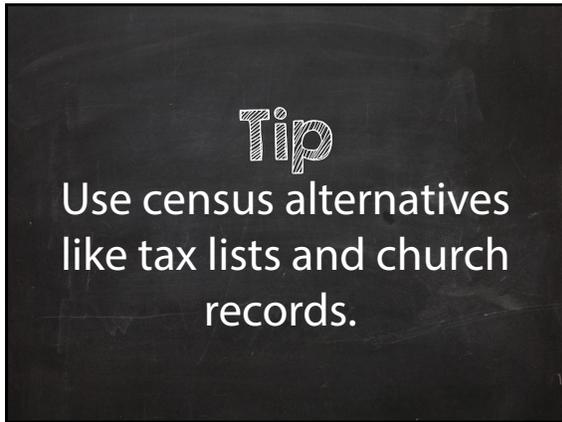
Census Records

59

Census Records

- 1756 Census – First Census of the Colony
- 1762 Census was taken by selectmen of 68 towns.
- Other censuses were taken in 1774, 1776, 1779, and 1782.
- No state census records were recorded for Connecticut
- 1790 U.S. Census
 - First federal census of the United States
 - Head of household named
 - All other household members broken down by sex and age

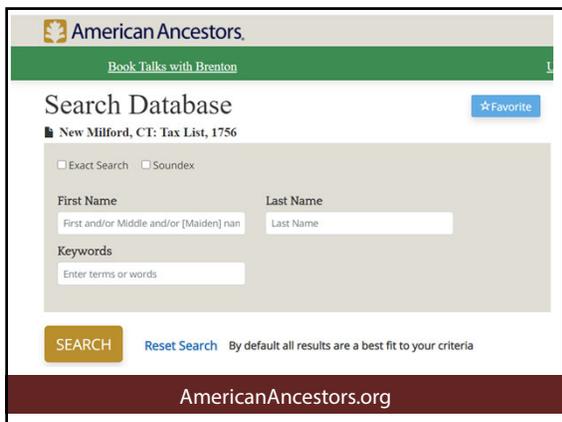
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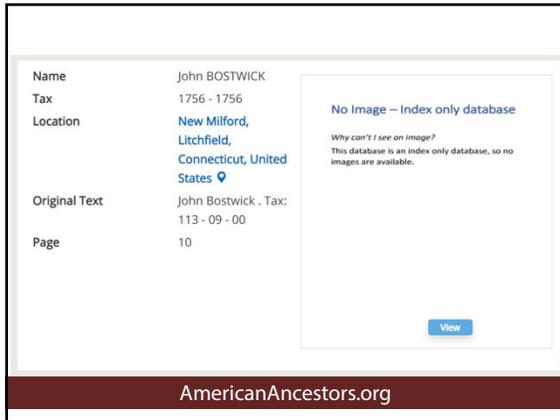
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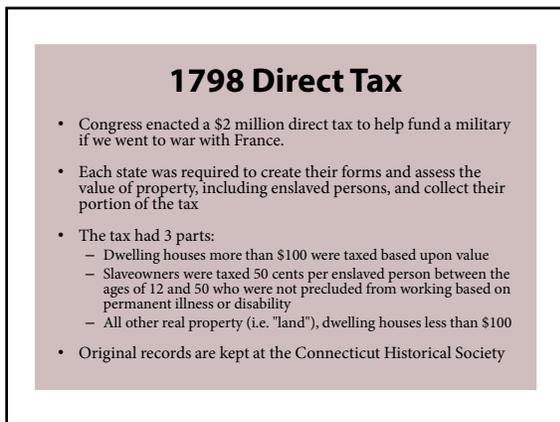


A screenshot of a profile page on AmericanAncestors.org. The profile information includes:

- Name:** John BOSTWICK
- Tax:** 1756 - 1756
- Location:** New Milford, Litchfield, Connecticut, United States
- Original Text:** John Bostwick . Tax: 113 - 09 - 00
- Page:** 10

There is a message box on the right that says: "No image – Index only database. Why can't I see an image? This database is an index only database, so no images are available." Below this message is a "View" button. The AmericanAncestors.org logo is at the bottom.

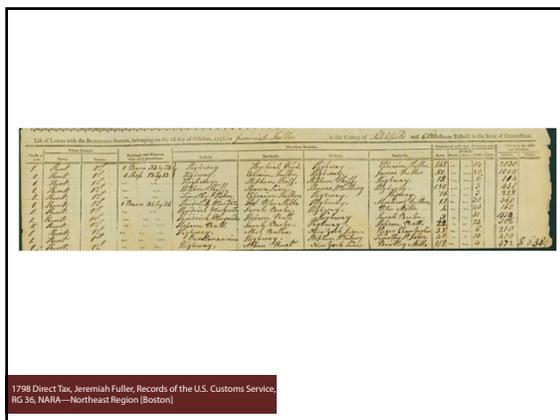
64



1798 Direct Tax

- Congress enacted a \$2 million direct tax to help fund a military if we went to war with France.
- Each state was required to create their forms and assess the value of property, including enslaved persons, and collect their portion of the tax
- The tax had 3 parts:
 - Dwelling houses more than \$100 were taxed based upon value
 - Slaveowners were taxed 50 cents per enslaved person between the ages of 12 and 50 who were not precluded from working based on permanent illness or disability
 - All other real property (i.e. "land"), dwelling houses less than \$100
- Original records are kept at the Connecticut Historical Society

65



A photograph of a handwritten tax record from 1798. The document is a table with multiple columns containing names, addresses, and tax amounts. The text is written in cursive. At the bottom of the image, there is a caption: "1798 Direct Tax, Jeremiah Fuller, Records of the U.S. Customs Service, RG 36, NARA—Northeast Region (Boston)".

66



67

Newspapers

- First Connecticut newspapers published during the 18th century:
 - Connecticut Gazette – 1755 (New Haven)
 - New London Summary – 1758
 - New London Gazette – 1763 (formerly Connecticut Gazette)
 - Connecticut Courant – 1764 (Hartford)
 - Connecticut Journal – 1767 (New Haven)
 - Norwich Packet - 1773

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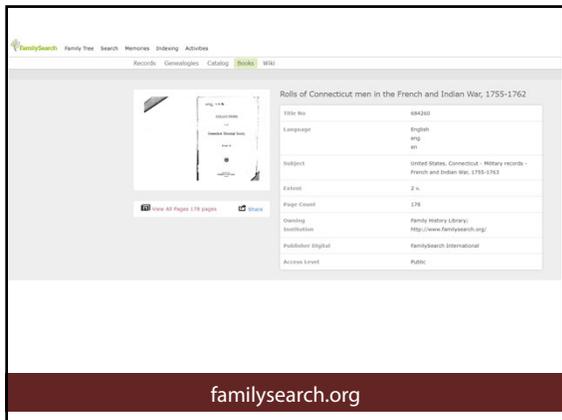


76

French and Indian War

- Colonial Soldiers and Officers in New England, 1620-1775 database on AmericanAncestors.org
- Published Muster Rolls on FamilySearch
- Connecticut Soldiers, French and Indian War, 1755-62 on Ancestry.com
- More records held at the Connecticut Historical Society

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Loyalist Databases

- Connecticut State Library Index to Loyalist Court Records (1776-1784)
- United Empire Loyalist database

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[COLLECTIONS](#)
[RESEARCH](#)
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Connecticut State Archives – Archival Record Group-003

Connecticut State Archives Archival Record Group (RG) #003, Records of the Judicial Department Papers by Subject Index to Loyalist Connecticut court records, 1776-84

This index covers the years 1776-84 and references 867 individuals who were in some way charged as a Loyalist during the Revolutionary War. These original documents are from various County & Superior Courts primarily from Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield, New Haven, and New London Counties; Middlesex and Tolland Counties were created in 1785 and there is only 1 record from Windham County in the index. **Please keep in mind that this index is not comprehensive and additional information may be found within the unseparated files and records of each court.**

This index includes the surname and given name of the individual, residence, year of hearing, specific notes about the case, the Connecticut court where the case was heard along with drawer/box number where the original document is found. The bulk of the documents are either warrants for an arrest or a personal or Grand Jury complaint registered against an individual. Notes include such bits of information such as the person's rank, the reason for the charge, the verdict in the case, or a petition to reduce the sentence. Of particular interest are three "Negro" men who were accused of treason, and accusations against several men who fled out of state but owned land in Connecticut. Loyalism, not surprisingly, also seemed to run in families.

For more resources about Loyalists in Connecticut, please see our [Loyalist Research Guide](#).

People may request a copy of a file by contacting the staff of the History & Genealogy Unit by telephone (860) 731-6380 or email. When requesting a copy of a record, please include the name of the individual, date, and the specific court. **Please understand that some files are extremely fragile and may not be able to**

<https://ctstatelibrary.org>

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Loyalists Index Updated October 2021

Show - entries

Print | Email | CSV | Copy

Search

Surname	Given Name	Residence	Year of hearing	Notes	Court	Box number
Shaw	John		1777		New Haven County, Superior Court	Box 305
Wager	Anthony	Newtown	1777	Transient person	New Haven County, Superior Court	Box 305
Phillips	Thomas	Bolton	1778	Dawson	Windham County, County Court	Box 519
Lynn	Peter	Bedding	1776		Fairfield County, Superior Court	Box 3
Mead	John	Greenwich	1777	petitions for release of sons	Fairfield County, Superior Court	Box 3
Bayly/Bailey	Oliver	New Haven	1777		Fairfield County, Superior Court	Box 3
Bell	Isaac	Stamford	1777	see Oliver Bayly/Bailey	Fairfield County, Superior Court	Box 3
Leske	John	Stamford	1777	see Oliver Bayly/Bailey	Fairfield County, Superior Court	Box 3
Blair	Abraham	Stamford	1777	see also Oliver Bayly/Bailey	Fairfield County, Superior Court	Box 3
Burt	Joshua	Bridgefield	1779	complaint against by Mary Ann Postman	Fairfield County, County Court	Box 163 Expenses

Showing 10 of 6031 entries

Loyalists Index, CT State Library

97

United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada

INFORMATION ON THE LOYALISTS

Please Note - Disclaimer

This Directory is to be used as a guideline only. It is not proof. Please consult with a Branch Genealogist.

All applications before 2015 may not have sufficient acceptable proof that meet current standards.

Information on Individual Loyalists

Click here to know the directors of Loyalists. Or jump to a letter, by instance:

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

See also:

- Names to which information has been added
- Additional Data Sources on Card

Perhaps as many as 70,000 or more individuals were Loyalists - estimates range from 30,000 to over 100,000. To be a Loyalist, one had to have been:

- either under 16 years of age, as of 19 April 1775, a resident of the American colonies, and joined the Royal Standard prior to the Treaty of September of 1783, or otherwise demonstrated loyalty to the Crown, and served as a military or non-military member of the British or allied forces;
- a soldier who served in an American Loyalist Regiment and was disbanded in Canada; or
- a member of the 6th or 7th Battalion of the King's Own Regiment who was disbanded from their respective regiments in 1783.

However, there were others who qualified too - for example, if a Loyalist was killed in action, and his family then moved to Canada and settled around the time of the Treaty of September in 1783, they might qualify.

An objective of the UELAC is to develop a directory of people of the Loyalist era, and to categorize them, especially those who meet the qualifications as a United Empire Loyalist and who earned the right, along with his heirs, to the designation or post-nominal U.E., standing for Unity of the Empire.

In 2004 a project was begun by a group of UELAC members together with a Committee to acquire and process information on Individual Loyalists. The first phase involved researching the UEL Executive List which was created by the government of Upper Canada in the late 1790s. This list has about 1,000 names but there is very little information for each individual.

www.uelac.org

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Loyalist Directory: William Ward Atwater

(For a short explanation of each item, click on the row title ex. "name")

Given name	William Ward
Rank	
Where Reported	Manchester, Nova Scotia
Form of Loyalty	Proven
Proof of Loyalty	Land Grant
Notes (Espionage, Suspended, Reinstated)	
Enlistment Date	21 Mar 1780 at Chelsea, New Haven, Connecticut
Date & Place of Birth	
Expatriated before war	Connecticut
Date & Place of Death	10 Aug 1787 at Manchester, Guysborough County, Nova Scotia
Place of Burial	Guyborough County, Nova Scotia (see headstone)
File Note	William Tuttle, b. 1716 Wallingford, CT, d. 1807 Greyborough, NS, on 21 Jun 1784, daughter of Ephraim and Hannah Tuttle
File Note	1. Bels, b. 29 Nov 1754 d. 1790 in 1777, Mary Tuttle; 2. Leman, b. 8 Feb, 1757 d. 1795; 3. William, b. 8 Feb, 1758 d. 1845 (son, Sarah Esther Andrews); 4. Abel Ward, b. 1760 d. 1822 (son, Abiah Atwater); 5. Clark, b. 21 Sep, 1763 d. 1823 (son, 1793 John Clark); 6. Jos, b. 21 Aug 1763 d. 1838 (son, Lois Foss); 7. Asaiah, b. 30 Oct, 1768 d. 1783; 8. Esther, b. 4 Oct 1771 d. 1814 (in 1788 George Whitman).
Biography	William Atwater came with his family (though not all the older children, some of whom remained in CT) to Nova Scotia as part of the Associated Loyalists of Connecticut, and settled at Manchester in what was then Halifax County (now Guysborough County), Nova Scotia, in 1785. He died in 1787, shortly after completing construction of a sawmill and before the land grants were formally completed - the land grants eventually came to his wife Esther "widow Atwater" (d.1823) and heirs (d.1825).
Proven Descendants	Kawatha 2020.09.17: Edward Graham Hart

www.uelac.org

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Naturalization Records

100

First Naturalization Act (1790)

- Any free, white, adult alien, male or female, who had resided within the limits and jurisdictions of the U.S. for a period of 2 years was eligible for citizenship
- Applicant would apply to any court in any one of the states where they resided at least one year
- Citizenship was granted to those who showed they were of good moral character and took an oath of allegiance to the Constitution
- Children under 21 years automatically became citizens if they had a parent who successfully naturalized

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Naturalization Act of 1795

- Increased period of residence from 2 to 5 years
- Applicants were required to declare publicly their intention to become citizens of the United States and to renounce any allegiance to a foreign prince, monarch, state, or sovereignty 3 years before admission as citizens
- Immigrants who had any hereditary titles or of the nobility class were also required to renounce that status

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Searching for Naturalization Records

- New England Petitions for Naturalization Index, 1791-1906
 - Index cards created for each immigrant that indicate when they naturalized, what court, what country they were from, where they live, and the reference information to find the naturalization records
- Search at the county level where the person resided in FamilySearch for any digitized naturalization records
- Contact county courthouses to check their naturalization indexes and court minutes that are not digitized

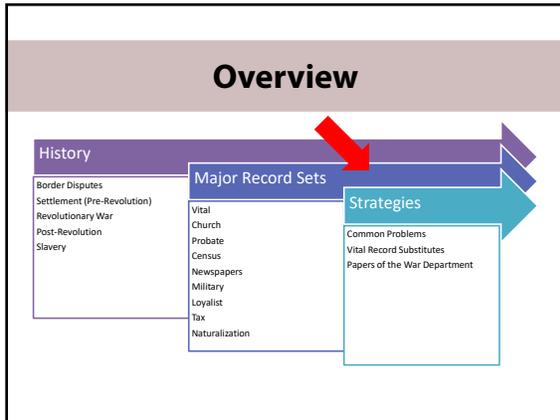
103

The screenshot shows the FamilySearch search interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Home, Family Tree, Search, Memories, Indexing, and Activities. Below that, there are links for Records, Images, Family Tree, Genealogies, Catalog, Books, and Wiki. The main heading is "United States, New England Petitions for Naturalization Index, 1791-1906". Underneath, there is a "Description" section explaining that this is an index to photostatic copies of naturalization documents. Below the description is a "How to Use this Collection" section. The primary search section is "Search Collection Deceased Ancestor's Information", which includes a "Name | Alternate Name" field with sub-fields for "First Name" and "Last Name". There are also sections for "Search with a life event:" (Birth, Marriage, Residence, Death, Naturalization, Any), "Search with a relationship:" (Spouse, Father, Mother, Other Person), and "Restrict records by:" (Location, Type, Batch Number, Film Number).

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The screenshot shows the Ancestry.com search interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Home, Trees, Search, DNA, Help, and Extras. The main heading is "Connecticut, U.S., Federal Naturalization Records, 1790-1996". Below the heading is a "Search" section with a "Match all terms exactly" checkbox. The primary search section is "First & Middle Name(s) | Last Name", with sub-fields for "Day", "Month", "Year", and "Location". There are also sections for "Birth", "Arrival", and "Any Event", each with dropdown menus for "City, County, State, Court". Below that is an "Add family member:" section with "Spouse" and "First & Middle Name(s) | Last Name" fields. There is also a "Keyword" field with a hint "e.g. pilot or 'Young Tom'". Below the search fields are "Record Type", "Declaration Number", "Petition Number", and "Certificate Number" fields. On the right side, there is a "Browse this collection" section with a "Court" dropdown menu and a "Description" dropdown menu. Below that is a "Related data collections" section with links to "U.S. Naturalization Records" and "U.S. Naturalization Record Indexes".

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Common Problems

- Vital Record Registration not mandatory until 1897
- First major census is 1790 and is by head of household only
- Military pension and bounty land warrant applications destroyed by fire at the War Dept in 1800

108

Vital Record Substitutes

- Church Records
- Land Deeds
- Probate Records
- Court Records
- Tax Records

109

Census Substitutes

- Church Records
- Tax Records

110

**Papers of the War Department
1784-1800**

- On November 8, 1800, there was a fire at the War Department
- Revolutionary War pension applications and bounty land application files were destroyed
- A project was started to rebuild the War Department Papers, led by Ted Crackel; the project team visited more than 200 repositories and about 42,000 documents collected and scanned

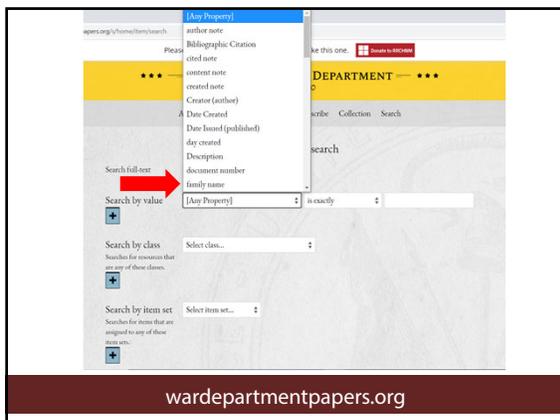
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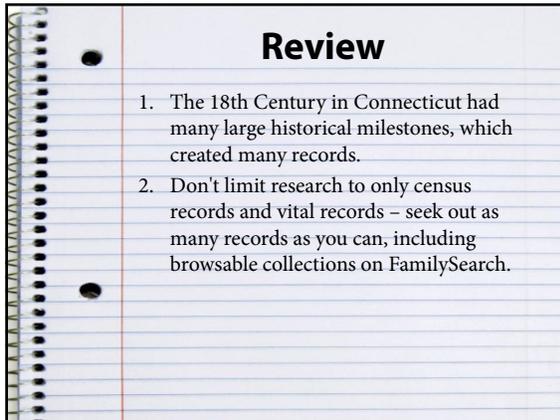
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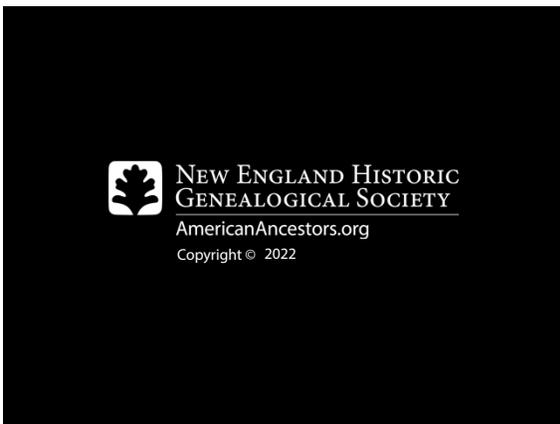
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