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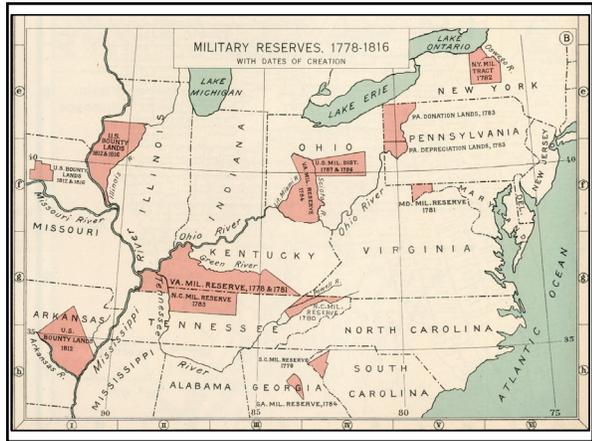
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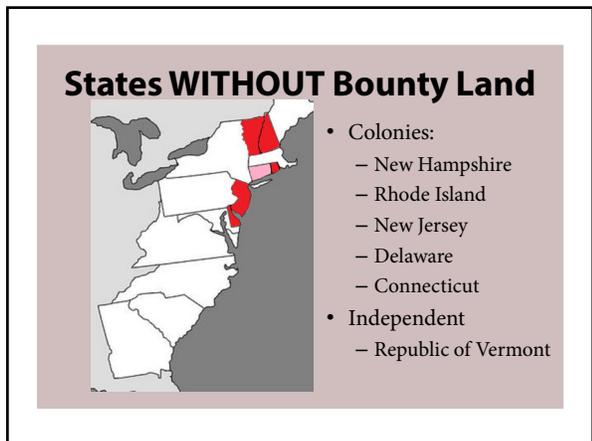
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First the Promise

To enlistees in the Continental Army:

That Congress make provision for **granting lands**, in the following proportions: to the officers and soldiers who shall so engage in the service, and continue therein to the close of the war, or until discharged by Congress, and to the representatives of such officers and soldiers as shall be slain by the enemy

Congressional Act of 16 September 1776

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Introduction of Bounty Land

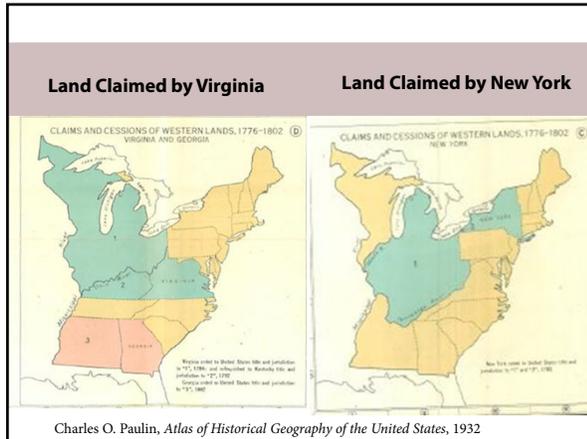
- To entice soldiers to fight, the Continental Congress in 1776 promised land in exchange for service
- After the war, states had to cede land to federal government
 - Competing land claims among states

8

Then the Land

LOC, Robertson, "The thirteen original states, 1783," 1898

9



10

Key to Bounty Land: Northwest Territory

- 1780 – Continental Congress declares Northwest Territory is public land
- 1785 – Land Ordinance establishing the six mile square township
- 1787 – Plan for creating states in the NW Territory

Northwest Territory (1787)

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Acts Authorizing Bounty Land Warrants

- Bounty Land Acts 1788, 1803, 1806, 1850, 1855.
 - These acts awarded land for service
 - 1788 allowed soldiers to sell/assign their award to someone else
 - Information about land received under these acts often combined in Revolutionary War pension files, if applicable

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Land Survey Systems

- Colonial
- Post-1796:
- Rectangular Survey System

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Post-1796 Federal Survey System

- Based on a grid
- Township – six square miles, measured N/S from base
- Section – one sq. mile in a township
- Range – distance E/W from referenced meridian
- Quarter – NE, NW, SE, SW portion of township

Warwick County, Indiana

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Eligibility and Process

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Did Your Ancestor Serve?

BIRTH YEARS	BATTLE YEARS	WAR
1726-1767	1775-1783	REV WAR
1762-1799	1812-1815	WAR 1812
1796-1831	1846-1848	MEX WAR
1811-1848	1861-1865	CIVIL WAR
1848-1881	1898	SPANISH/AMERICAN

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Eligibility

- **Unit:** Continental line
- **Rank:** Soldier or non-commissioned officer
- **Duration:** Minimum three years of service
- **Assignment Allowed:** No (changed in 1788)
- **State Application Allowed:** Yes

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Amount by Rank

Rank	Amount
Colonel	500 acres
Lieutenant Colonel	450 acres
Major	400 acres
Captain	300 acres
Lieutenant	200 acres
Ensign	150 acres
Private	100 acres
Resolution: 16 September 1776	

18

Process Generated Paper

- Steps
- Federal Agencies
 - Secretary of War reviewed applications and issued warrants
 - Treasury Department supervised selection of land and issued patents
- State Agencies
 - Unique to state

Application

Warrant

Survey

Patent

Possession

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Application

- Serviceman submitted affidavits from commanding officers or fellow soldiers
- Submitted discharge papers
- If soldier died during service, heirs could file with documentation that they were legal heirs of the deceased

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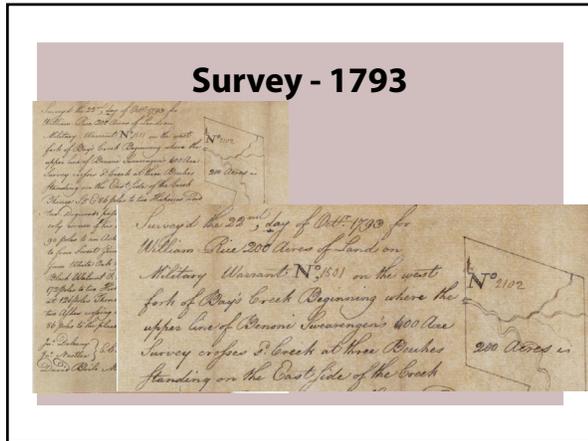
Warrant Authorizing a Survey

- Warrants issued – date of issuance, name and rank of veteran, state from which he enlisted
- Usually the state picked the land; Virginia allowed the soldier to choose

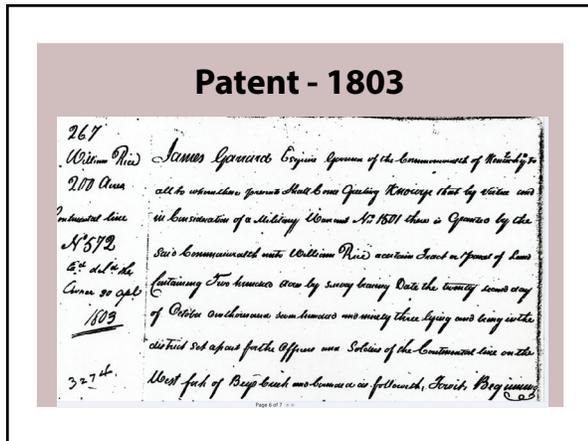


Virginia Warrant for William Rice
1783, land in Kentucky

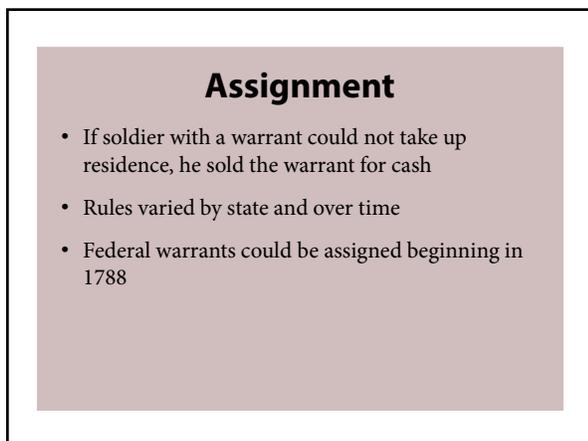
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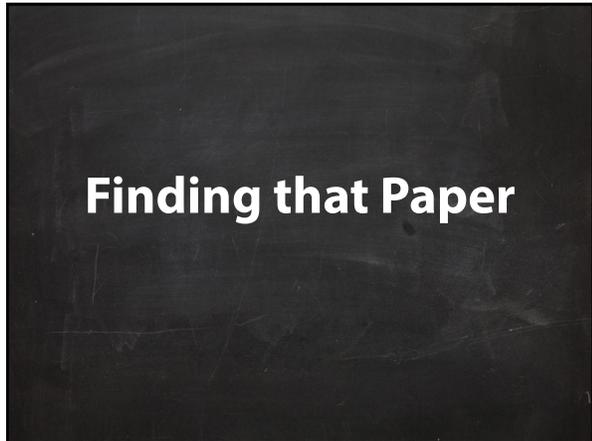
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25

Disaster – 14,000+ Records Lost

Print published 14 Oct 1814 by G. Thompson showing Washington, DC under attack

26

Finding Federal Applications and Warrants

- Destroyed bounty application files have been replaced by cards
 - Name of veteran, rank, unit, warrant number, numbers of acres granted, date issued, assignee
- National Archives (NARA)
 - **Applications:** M804 *Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files 1800-1900*
 - **Warrants:** M829 *Revolutionary War Bounty Land Warrants Used in the U.S. Military District of Ohio and Related Papers*

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Finding Your Patriot

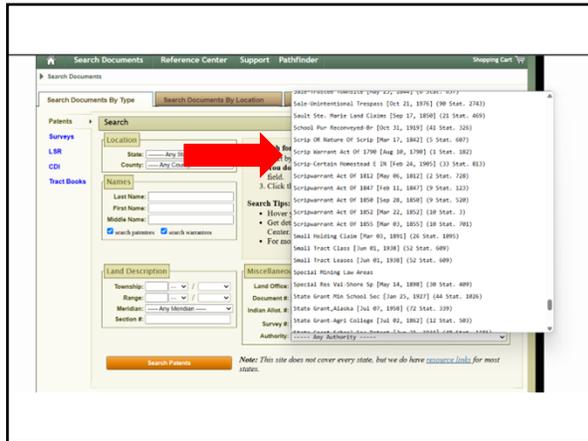
Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck, *Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants Awarded by State Governments* (Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1996)

Morse, John. Mass. Sergeant. 10 Sep. 1832. 200 acres to heirs.

Bockstruck's book is on Ancestry as "Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants"

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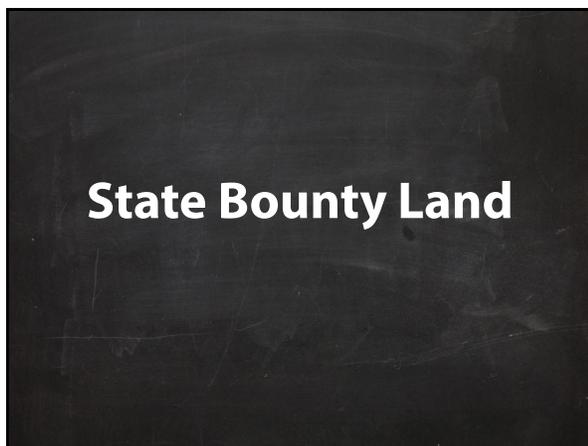
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Introduction to State Bounty Land

- For **military service**: Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia
- For **neutrality (or military service)**: Georgia
- Soldiers could “double-dip,” federal and state
- See Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck, *Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants*, Genealogical Publishing Company, 1996.

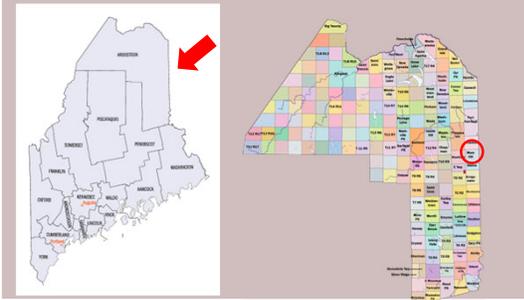
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Massachusetts

- First authorized Bounty Land: 5 March 1801
- Eligibility
 - Same as federal
 - **Additional criterion: No Double Dipping**: could not take federal bounty land
- First warrant for Mars Hill in Aroostook County
- Second allotment of land in Maine enabled in 1833

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Mars Hill



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Maine

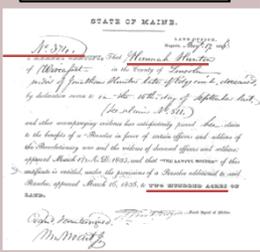
- First authorized - 17 March 1835
- Eligibility
 - Same as federal
 - **Additional criteria:** Currently living in Maine and enlisted from Massachusetts or Maine
- Land assigned by lottery

49

Soldier

- Finding the Name
- Finding the Warrant
 - “Maine Revolutionary War Bounty Land Applications, 1835-1838,” *Family Search*

Hutton, Jonathan. Me. ———. 14 Sep. 1835. 200 acres to widow Hannah Hutton, Wiscasset.

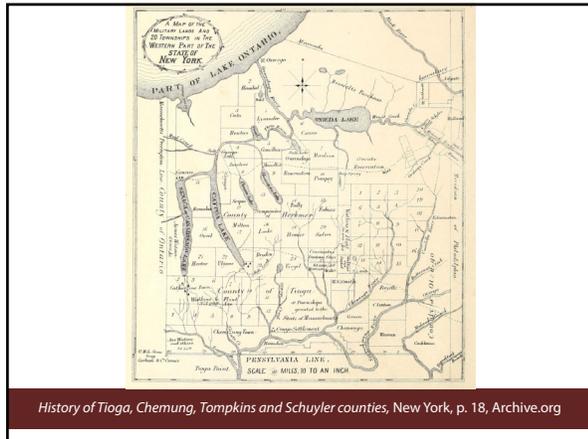


50

New York

- Authorizing Act: 20 March 1783
- Eligibility
 - Same as federal
 - **Notable deviation:** Min Acres - 500
- Distributed via Balloting Box

51



52

Military Tract Townships

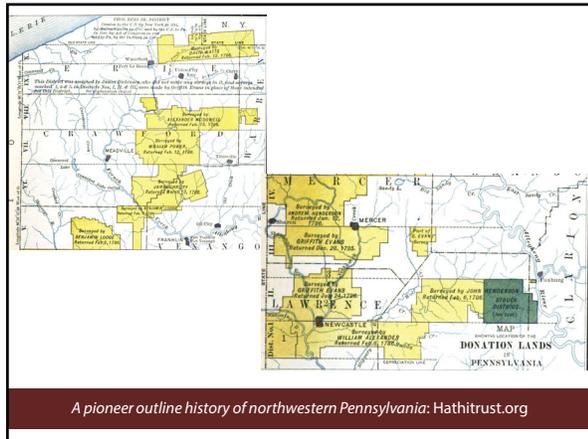
1. Lysander	11. Romulus	21. Hector
2. Hannibal	12. Scipio	22. Ulysses
3. Cato	13. Sempronius	23. Dryden
4. Brutus	14. Tully	24. Virgil
5. Camillus	15. Fabius	25. Cincinnatus
6. Cicero	16. Ovid	26. Junius
7. Manlius	17. Milton	27. Galen
8. Aurelius	18. Locke	28. Sterling
9. Marcellus	19. Horace	
10. Pompey	20. Solon	

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Pennsylvania

- Authorizing Act: 7 March 1780
- Eligibility
 - Same as federal
 - **Additional criterion:** Prisoners of war (Pennsylvania line)
- Used a lottery wheel to assign

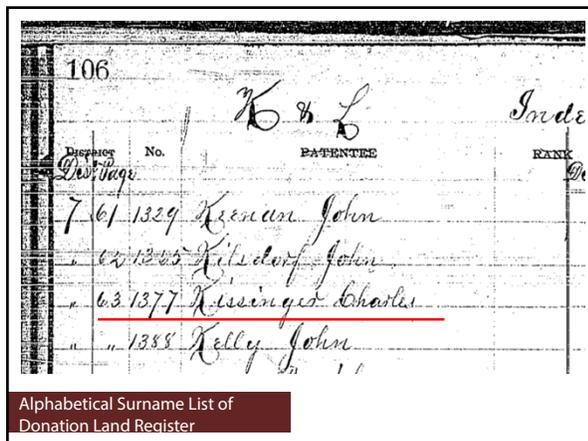
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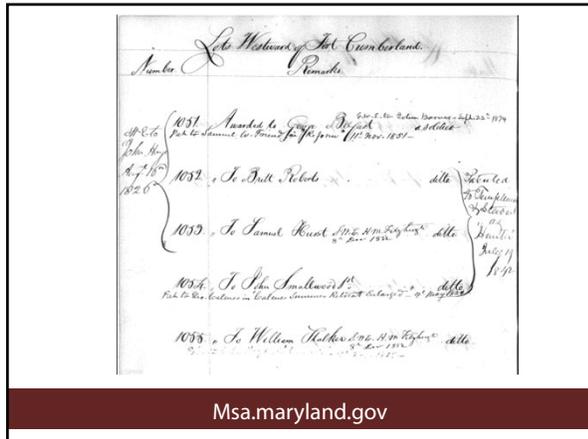
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61

Virginia

- Authorized: 22 June 1779
- First award: first warrant was issued in 1782
- Eligibility
 - Same as federal
 - Additional criterion: State line soldiers eligible
- Process
 - Soldier applied for a certificate which verified his eligibility
 - Certificate exchanged for a warrant

62

Application and Certificate

Craddock, Henry. Va. Sergeant. 19 Mar. 1783. 200 acres.
 Craddock, John. N.C. Captain. 28 Mar. 1784. 3840 acres.
 Craddock, Robert. Va. Lieutenant. 1783. 2666 2/3 acres.

63

Land in Ohio and Kentucky

- Soldier could take his certificate and apply for a survey warrant in either Kentucky or later, Ohio.
- Ohio Land not available until 1796

175	Lowmyer, Francis	4000	Captain	Va. Cont. Line	3 yrs	Mch. 11 '83
187	Baskock, Robert	2664	Lieutenant	Va. Cont. Line	3 yrs	Mch. 20 '83
188	Watts, John	2664	Lieutenant	Va. Cont. Line	3 yrs	Mch. 20 '83
189	Baskock, Henry	290	Sergeant	Va. Cont. Line	3 yrs	Mch. 20 '83
193	CHAYERS, John	100	Private	Va. Cont. Line	3 yrs	Mch. 24 '83

- From Samuel Wilson's Catalogue based on Kentucky State Land Office Records
- If a person appears in Bockstruck's book, but not in Wilson's book, then the land is in Ohio

64

North Carolina

- First Act: 16 April 1780 for 200 acres, soon increased to 640 acres
- First Warrant: 1783
- Eligibility
 - Same as federal
 - **Additional criterion:** non-assignable

65

NC Survey Order

Newton, Stephen. N.C. Private. 30 Sep. 1785. 274 acres.

66

South Carolina

- Authorized: 1778
- Eligibility
 - Same as federal

67

Finding the SC Records

Gunter, Henry. S.C. Soldier. 2 May 1785.
200 acres.

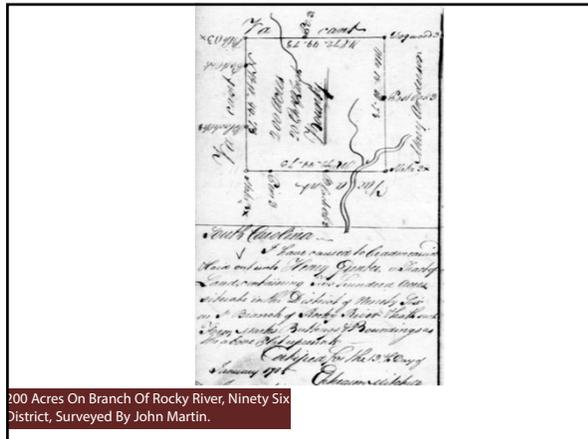
<http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov>

68

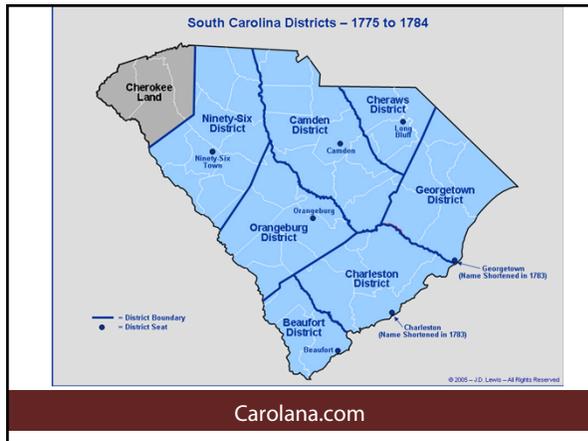
Gunter, Henry. Plat For 200 Acres On Branch Of Rocky River, Ninety Six District, Surveyed by John Martin. Date: 1/13/1785

www.archivesindex.sc.gov

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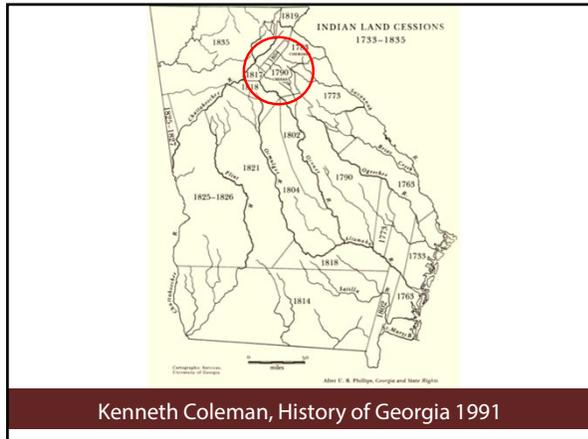


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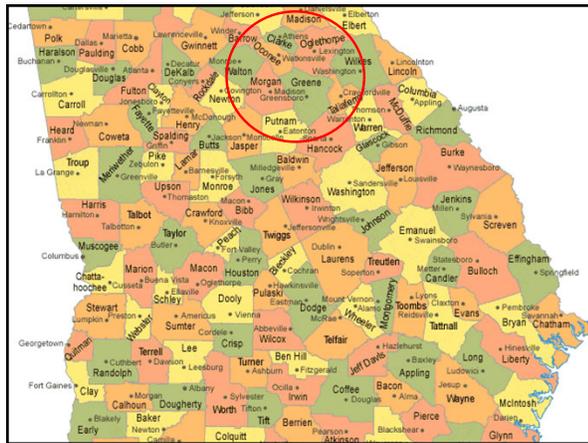
Georgia

- Authorized: Act of 25 February 1784
- Warrants: All issued before 22 February 1786
- Eligibility
 - Unit:
 1. Continental Line
 2. Service as Minute Battalion and non-resident of Georgia at time of enlistment
 3. Short term militia
 4. Georgia residents who fled the state and served in North or South Carolina
 5. Georgia citizen who remained loyal to the cause for the entire conflict
 6. British deserters

72



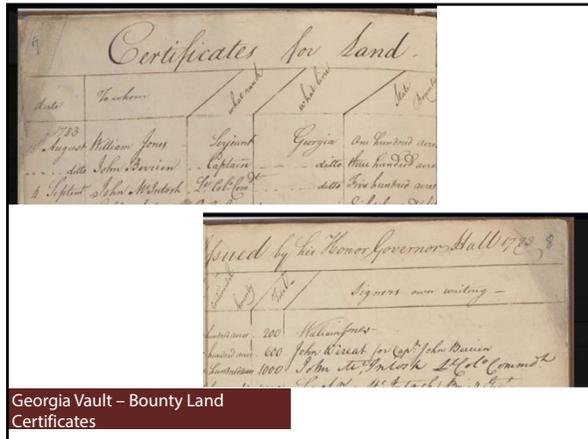
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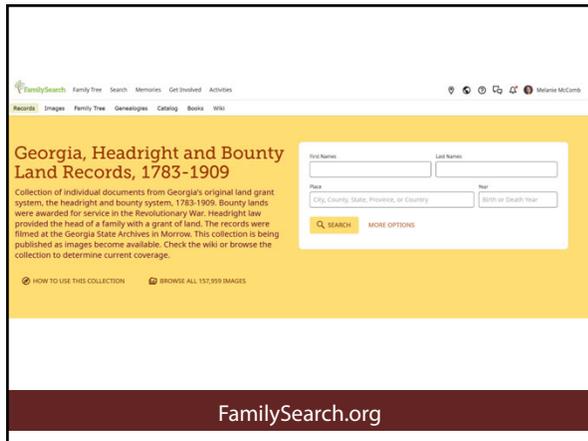


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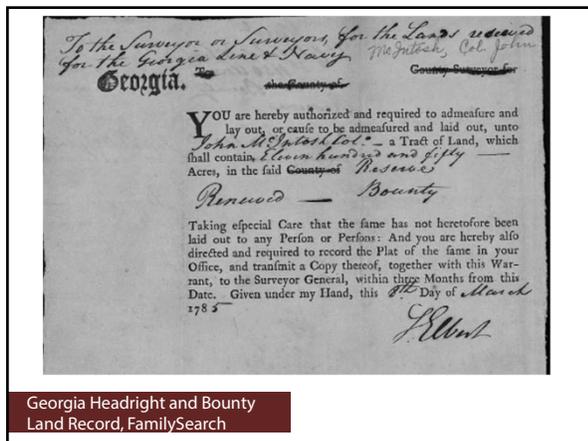


Georgia Vault – Bounty Land Certificates

76



77



Georgia Headright and Bounty Land Record, FamilySearch

78



79



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Land Grant Petitions

- Petitions were submitted that stated whether the Loyalist was a soldier or supported the British in some other way.
- Petitions could be submitted by the children of the Loyalist.
- If petition was approved, the claimant was provided with a ticket with the township and lot # of the land they were awarded.

81

Land Grants – July 1783

- 200 acres allotted to non-commissioned officers of Provincial Corps and Associated Loyalists
- 100 acres to private soldiers
- 100 acres to a family head
- 50 acres to each family member or single man

82

Land Grants – August 1783

- 1,000 acres to Field Officers in the Loyalist Corps
- 700 acres to Captains
- 500 acres to Subaltern/Staff/Warrant Officers
- 50 acres to family members
- Officers in the Royal Highland Emigrants (84th Regiment) received significantly higher portions (5,000 for field officers, 3,000 for captains, and 2,000 acres for lesser ranks).

83

Land Grants – 1787

- "General refugees" were granted 200 acres, with the increase of 200 acres to each son or daughter.

84

Land Grants – 1788

- Land grants for the Provincial Corps officers were matched with the Royal Highland Emigrants if they were classified as "military claimants"
- A military claimant applies to a soldier in the British army and its Germanic allies, the Hessians.

85

Finding Land Grant Petitions on the Library and Archives of Canada (LAC) Web Site

86

The screenshot shows the Library and Archives Canada website. The main navigation bar includes 'Discover the Collection', 'Search the Collection', 'Services for the Public', and 'Services and programs'. The breadcrumb trail is 'Home > Discover the Collection > Military Heritage > Loyalists'. A search bar is visible at the top right. The left sidebar contains a list of categories, with 'Loyalists' selected. The main content area is titled 'Loyalists' and lists several sub-sections: 'Databases', 'Acad Office 17 and 13 (MG 16)', 'Bank of Nova Scotia', 'British Headquarters Papers (MG 23 B1)', 'British Military and Naval Records (SG 8 C Series)', 'Land records', 'Loyalist lists', 'Sir Frederick Haldimand (MG 21)', 'War Office 20, Headquarters Records (MG 13 Y0029)', and 'Published sources'. A red arrow points to the 'Loyalist lists' link. Below the list, there is a paragraph explaining the term 'Loyalist' and where records are held.

87

Case Study: The Parentage of Mary Loyst

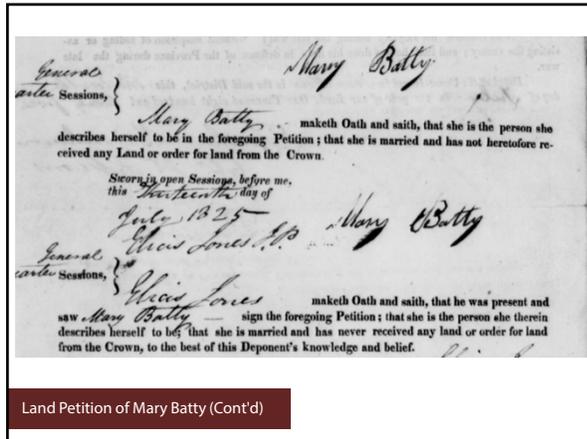
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Background

- Mary Loyst was b. circa 1794 in Lennox and Addington County, Ontario (then called Upper Canada)
- She married David Finley Batty about 1815 and settled in Haldimand township, Northumberland County, Ontario
- Her suspected father was Andrew Loyst, but no proof was found confirming this.

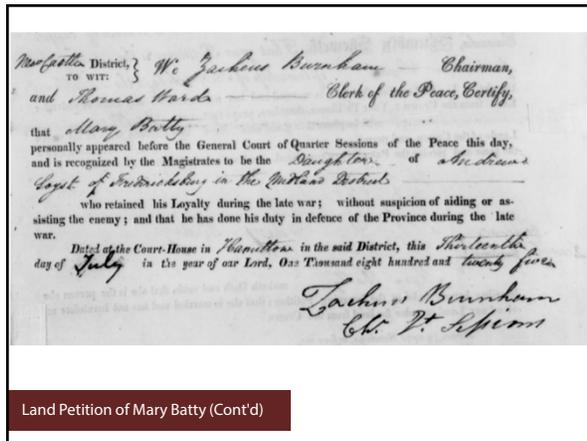
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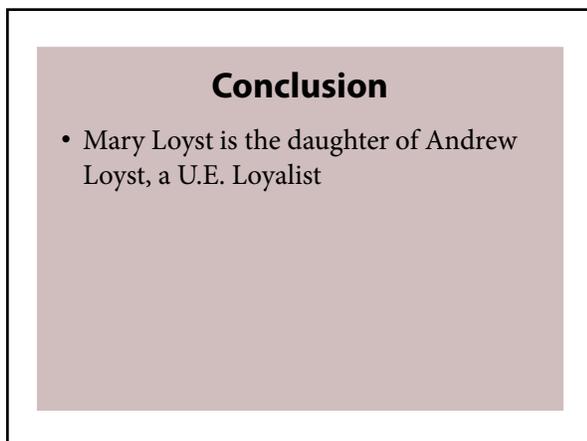
Land Petition of Mary Batty (Cont'd)

100



Land Petition of Mary Batty (Cont'd)

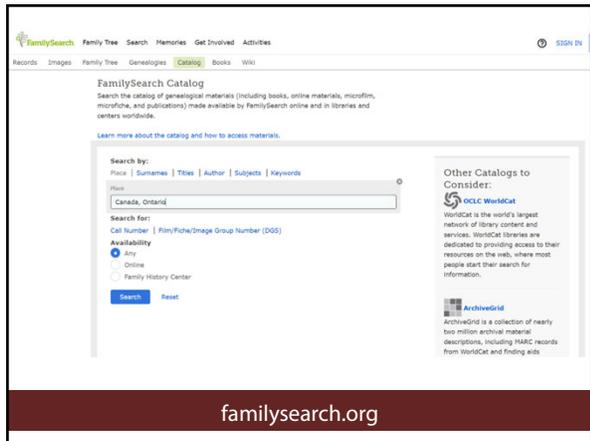
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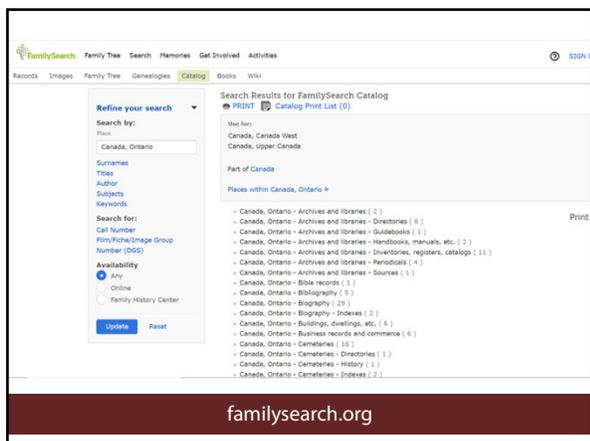
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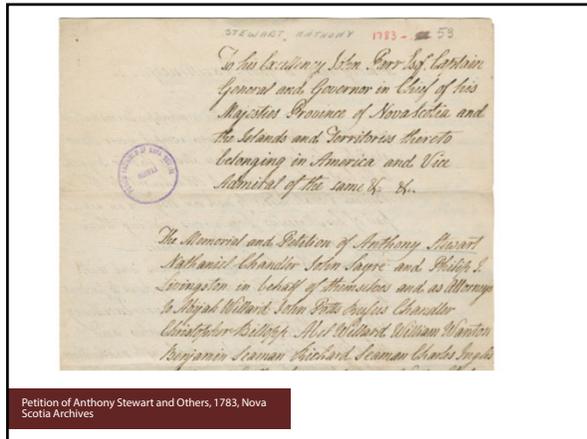
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123



Petition of Anthony Stewart and Others, 1783, Nova Scotia Archives

124



125



126



130



131



132



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