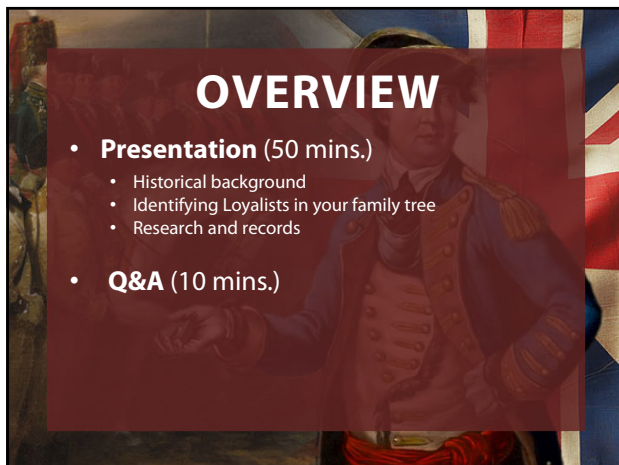








Who were the Loyalists?



Voice of
Sheilagh Doerfler
Senior Genealogist

Loyalists

- Individuals who remained loyal to the British Crown during and after the American Revolution
- Also known as Tories and Royalists
- Later referred to as Refugees



Loyalists

- Lived in all thirteen colonies
- Hailed from different social and economic groups
- Roughly 15-20% population identified as Loyalists



Loyalists

- Native Peoples
 - Iroquois
- People of color
 - Black Loyalists
- New Immigrants
 - Great Britain
- Scotch Irish
- Descendants of Dutch settlers



Joseph Brant

Reasons for Loyalty

- Identified as British subjects
 - Morally wrong to oppose the British Crown
- Politically conservative
- Family ties to the British Crown
- Business relationship with the British Crown
- Personal advantage to remaining loyal
 - Property owners

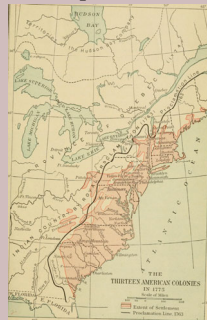
Reasons for Loyalty

- Employed by the British Crown
 - Clerks, officials, etc.
- Saw Patriot cause as radical
- Former soldiers who served in British Army
- Newly arrived immigrants from Britain
- Personal reasons

Loyalists in the Colonies

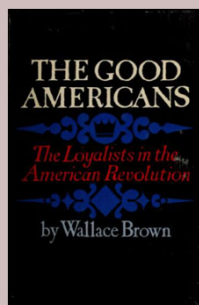
Loyalist Hot Spots

- New York
- South Carolina
- Georgia
- New Jersey
- North Carolina
- Pennsylvania



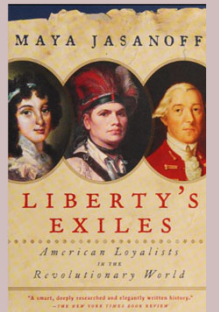
The Good Americans

- Wallace Brown
- Social and political history of Loyalists in the American Colonies
- Reasons for loyalty
- Differences by region
- Loyalist Diaspora



Liberty's Exiles

- Maya Jasanoff
- Motives for leaving the colonies
- Study of exile and migration
- Highlights resettlement and life after the American Revolution



How to identify Loyalists in your Family Tree

Location

- **Where** did they reside? **When** did they reside there?
- Create a timeline of your ancestor's life
 - Use vital records, deeds, court, town, and tax records to track residences
- Note family, associates, and neighbors
 - Research all
 - Loyalist? Patriot?

Learn about Residence

- Always learn about community in which your ancestor lived
 - Community **AND** Colony
- What was the political climate?
- Was it predominantly Patriot? Loyalist?

Important Questions

- Did your ancestor live in a town, county, or colony with Loyalist leanings?
- Were family members Loyalists?
- What about neighbors or associates?



Loyalist Population Rankings

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. New York | 8. Virginia |
| 2. South Carolina | 9. Georgia |
| 3. Massachusetts | 10. Maryland |
| 4. New Jersey | 11. Rhode Island |
| 5. Pennsylvania | 12. New Hampshire |
| 6. North Carolina | 13. Delaware |
| 7. Connecticut | |

Loyalist Strongholds

- Savannah
- Boston
- Charleston
- Annapolis
- New York City
- Baltimore
- Newport, Rhode Island
- Philadelphia
- Portsmouth, New Hampshire



Timing

- Did your ancestor arrive in what is now Canada in the 1780s?
 - Ontario
 - Quebec
 - Nova Scotia
 - New Brunswick
 - Prince Edward Island
- Receive land grant in 1783 or after?

Where in Canada?

Nova Scotia

- Shelburne
- Halifax
- Guysborough
- Digby

New Brunswick

- Fredericton
- Saint John
- Saint John River Valley

Prince Edward Island

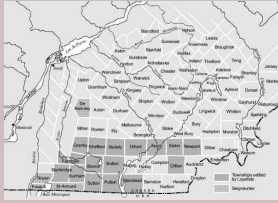
Where in Canada?

Ontario

- Bay of Quinte
- Prince Edward Co.
- Kingston
- Cornwall
- York (Toronto)

Quebec

- Eastern Townships



Map of the Eastern Townships settled by Loyalists, by Victor Dohar

Beware!

- Not all Americans who settled in what is now Canada in the late 18th century were Loyalists
 - Economic opportunity
 - Available lands
 - Arrived from UK, Ireland, and Europe
 - New England Planters

How can I tell the difference?

- Settlement
 - Loyalists often settled amongst themselves
 - Geography
 - Military
- Land grants given in and after 1783
- Who did they interact with?
- Identify and research all associates!

Finding Loyalists in U.S. Records

Finding Loyalists in U.S. Records

- Loyalist Muster Rolls
- Confiscations
- Loyalist Claims
- Prisoners
- Town Records
- Newspapers
- Published Town Histories and Diaries
- Study Projects



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Skip to: [Finding the Records](#), [Muster Rolls On-Line](#)

Loyalist Muster Rolls

During the American Revolution, muster rolls were prepared by the commanding officer of each company of a regiment for the express purpose of paying the officers and soldiers. For the British, they were prepared about once every 182 days. Loyalist rolls were to have been made out once every 61 days, although there were exceptions, especially during the southern campaigns.

Only those regiments that received pay and clothing for their services were mustered. As a result, there is an absence of muster rolls for many of the militia and other irregular units that served during the war. Rolls do exist for some of the militia units that were in pay for a part of their service, however, such as some of the North and South Carolina militias. For a better understanding of the different types of regiments, or establishments, please see [Not All Loyalist Regiments Were Created Equal](#).

royalprovincial.com/military/musters/musters.htm

Tracing Loyalist Lineages

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[X](#)

Loyalists in the Maritimes — Ward Chipman Master's Office, 1777–1785

- The records
- About the database
- Search screen
- How to interpret the results
- How to obtain copies
- Other resources

Search: Database

Loyalists in the Maritimes — Ward Chipman Master's Office, 1777–1785

On this page

- The Records
- The Database
- Search Screen
- How to Interpret the Results
- How to Obtain Copies
- Other Resources

The Records

Ward Chipman, a prominent lawyer, judge and Loyalist, was born July 30, 1754, in Martinehead, Massachusetts and died on February 9, 1824, in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

*The coming of the Loyalists, 1783.
Mban 2832.4A23*

bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/loyalists/loyalists-ward-chipman

[Search in 1980s, Probates, Land, Tax & Colonial](#)

New York, U.S., Sales of Loyalist Land, 1762-1830

☐ Watch of terms accuracy

First & Middle Name(s)
Last Name

Day	Month	Year	Location
Any Event			

Keyword
eg. "my King's Tavern"

Day	Month	Year	Location
Ord Place			

Search	Clear search
---------------------------------------	---

Source Information

New York State Archives
 Ancestry.com, New York, U.S., Sales of Loyalist Land, 1762-1830
 [Database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA, 2013.

Original data: New York Engineer and Surveyor, Records of Surveys and Maps of State Lands, 1680-1830, Series A4010, Vols. 3-42 and 17 New York Archives, Albany, New York.

About New York, U.S., Sales of Loyalist Land, 1762-1830

As the story of the American Revolutionary begins to unfold, beginning in 1777 New York's Provincial Congress began issuing land patents for the new Nation of a Loyalist landline. Loyalist could have been guilty of treason or they had the reputation of collaboration or they would be otherwise certified as illegitimate property rights by the state legislation, and apart either without their lands in the state. The state then used the property to repurchase its depleted coffers.

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To browse this image set, select from the options below:

Sale Contracts

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Related data collections

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[All 1800s, Probates, Land, Tax & Colonial in the Card Catalog](#)

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New York, U.S., Sales of Loyalist Land, 1762-1830
Volume 17 - Page 191

MEMORANDUM OF AN AGREEMENT, made the *seventeenth*
Day of *September* One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-four, BETWEEN HENRY
DOUTRIVET, JEREMIAH VAN RENSSLAER, and CHRISTOPHER YATAS, Esquires, Commissioners of Forfeitures
of the Western District of the State of New-York, of the first Part, and *John Little of Schenectady in the*
County of Montgomery of the second Part,
WITNESSETH, That the said Commissioners do hereby acknowledge to have, on the Day of the Date hereof,
fold, and the said *John Little* do hereby
hereby acknowledge to have purchased from the said Commissioners, ALL that certain *lot of ground*
Situate in Schenectady County of Montgomery specified by the attached draft
of *John Schenectady late of the County of Schenectady and District known*
by the Name of *lot Number Fifty Eight* is bounded on the West by William
Street on the South by the Church Lot being in breadth in front and Rear
Six Chains and in length from East to West five Chains containing half
an Acre

Ancestry.com/search/collections/5368/

Tracing Loyalist Lineages

CONFISCATED ESTATES					OF BOSTON LOYALISTS				
Date of record	Locality or estate	Particulars	Vol.	Ac.	Description				
May 13, 1780	BRATTLE, WILLIAM	JAMES ALLAN	180	300	Land and buildings in Boston, Tremont St. W.; John Howe and Henry Chase on premises S.; Nathaniel Drake S.; George Deane S. and S.; John Andrew and heirs of Samuel Farnham deceased S.; Robert Babbington S. and S.; George W. and S. (S.).				
Sept. 25, 1780	BRATTLE, THOMAS	GOVERNOR FELLOWS	180	31	Land, dwellinghouse, distill house and what in Boston, Ball's St. S.; heirs of Joshua Mendenhall deceased W.; low water mark.				
Sept. 26, 1780	CARLE, REV. HENRY	HANDEL HEARLY	177	42	Land and dwellinghouse in Boston, Tremont St. W.; Chapel Burying Ground and heirs of Nathaniel Cook deceased S.; John Howe S.; Wm. Allen Smith, an abolition, N.				
Aug. 9, 1780	CARLE, JOHN	CHRISTOPHER CLARK	180	141	Land in Boston, Essex St. S.; Short St. W.; Joseph Ford S.; Thomas Howe S.				
May 12, 1780	"	MORRIS WALLACE	180	390	Land in Boston, Essex St. S.; and Wallack W.; S. and W.; Blind Lane N.; Thomas Stevens and Samuel Dradley S.				
Feb. 13, 1780	"	EDWARD JONES	180	111	Land in Boston, Essex St. S.; the sea S.; sugar house and land of heirs of Thomas Child deceased S.; Mary Thomas and heirs of Samuel Bird by W.; with title to low water mark.				
Feb. 9, 1780	DEKLE, GILBERT	GILBERT DEKLE, JR.	187	38	Two thirds of land and brick warehouse in Boston, Cornhill W.; Spring Lane S.; Stephen Wilson S.; land of Old South Church S.				
Oct. 17, 1780	"	ALAN DEKLE, wife of Gilbert DeKle	181	137	Two thirds of land and house in Boston, Cornhill W.; Martha Stevens Lane S.				
Feb. 7, 1780	DRAPE, MARGARET	RICHARD DRYDEN	187	48	Land and buildings in Boston, Church St. W.; heirs of Benjamin Church S. and S.; John Waters Jr. S.				
May 4, 1780	DRAPE, JOHN	JAMES LLOYD	180	105	Land and buildings in Boston, Kilby St., formerly Mackerel Lane, S.; heirs of John Irving deceased S.; heirs of Samuel Hapton W.; Joseph W. Wray S.				
July 3, 1780	"	JOHN CHURCH, JR.	180	101	Land and mortgage in Boston, Newbury St. W.; John Condy N.; E. and N.; John Boley S. and S.; garage or alley S.; Land, H. A. in W. corner, and from Wagon to the edge of the Black Land in Longfellow S.; Nathaniel Proulx S. S.; Philip Smith S. W. and N. W.				
Feb. 13, 1780	"	NATHANIEL APPELTON	186	149	Land, H. A. in W. corner, and from Wagon to the edge of the Black Land in Longfellow S.; Nathaniel Proulx S. S.; Philip Smith S. W. and N. W.				
May 4, 1780	"	JOHN DEKLE	180	11	Land and mortgage in Boston, Newbury St. W.; John Condy N.; E. and N.; John Boley S. and S.; garage or alley S.				
Mar. 13, 1780	FARRIS, WILLIAM	PHILIP WENTWORTH	184	80	Land and buildings in Boston, Blind Lane N.; William Kitchin and heirs of Joseph Spiller Jr. W.; Isaac Howe S.; heirs of John Pratt deceased S.				

Hassam, *The Confiscated Estates of Boston Loyalists* (1895)

American Loyalist Claims

- Records often include evidence and "memorials" given by witnesses about a Loyalists Claim
- List of losses of both land and personal possessions
- Associated documents relating to the claim are also provided

Genealogical Details

- Name of the person or family affected for the purpose of the claim
- Residence(s) of the individual or family
- Financial estimates of their losses
- Actual documents to support the claim
- Details of the Loyalist's life in America before, during, and after the Revolutionary War

[illegible]

- Former residence
- Military service in British Army
- Details of property and real estate

704 PENNSYLVANIA ARCHIVES 1778.

joined the British Army, viz, in Septem^r, 1777; he marched with them to New-York in June, 1778. He was taken as a Captain of marines on board of the privateer sloop *Jenny* of New-York.

3. Joseph Moffat.—He joined the British army when in Philad^a, marched with them to New-York, and was taken on board a schooner, prize to the Privateer *Bayard* of New-York.

4. John Connel.—Formerly a schoolmaster near Concord in Chester County, from whence he came and joined the British Army when in Philad^a—marched with them to New-York, and was taken on board the Privateer *Intrepid*.

5. Joseph Paxton.—He is a freeholder in Bucks county, joined the British Army when in this city, and was taken prisoner in the Fort at Stony Point.

6. Jacob Gathens.—Captain of the Enemy's Privateer Impertinent. He was on Inhabitant of Philad^a, and went with the Enemy to New-York in June, 1778.

7. Samuel Saunders.—Pilot in the above Privateer, & joined the Enemy with Gathens.

8. Jas. Thompson, } —They respectively joined the British
9. Charles McOlain, } Army when in Philad^a, went with them
10. John McDonald, } to New-York, and were taken as privateers
on board the Enemy's Privateer Impertinent.

Pennsylvania Archives Series

50

CITY DOCUMENT No. 150.

Boston Ss: At a meeting of the Selectmen, Sep^r. 17, 1777.
Present, Mess^{rs}. Scollay, ——— Greenough, Dorr, Williams,
Care, Mr. John Paulson, ——— Confession of the Indians & D. B. L.

Gave Mr. John Peck two Certificates for the Judge of Probate of this County, that Richard Smith Merch. & Daniel Chismore Commissary General of Stores, have absented themselves from this Town & State & voluntarily joined themselves to our Enemies.

Mr. Dorr appointed to make a change of the Stove in y^e School in Queen Street, the present being insufficient.

[157.] Mr. Preston & Fellows a Comm^{rs}. to view the Hay Engine & Report what alteration in the same & of its situation may be necessary.

Boston Selectmen's Minutes from 1776 through 1786


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Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman of Veracity, Dated Falmouth July 21, 1780

Original Gazette published as the **ROYAL GAZETTE** (New York, New York) : September 6, 1780

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On Friday, the 11th instant departed this life, much lamented, after a long and tedious illness, which he bore with great patience, in the 68th year of his age, Mr. SAMUEL JARVIS, a [Falmouth](#) native, born at Hattam, in Connecticut, and on 3rd day evening his passing was lateral, attended by a numerous body of the inhabitants of this city, and lay in state for three days.—He was ever much respected by the circle of his acquaintance, as a brave man, an affectionate husband, tender parent, and sincere friend. He discharged the duties of Mayor in the town of Falmouth for many years, in which he gave universal satisfaction, until the commencement of this cruel rebellion, which he early opposed with a patriotic zeal, and ever exposed a man, unshaken as ever in behalf of his country and the glorious constitution. His zeal, by the persecution of the rebels, was early forced from their persecution, and came within the British lines. Known to all the many and frequent abuses he met with, in person and property, from the bandits, he sustained in affliction of his farm &c. &c. until about twelve months ago, when his health was surrounded by a mob of rebels in the dead of night, blinded, wife, three daughters, and one little son, torn off their heads, stripped of every necessary, put on board a rebel

[readex.com/products/americas-historical-newspapers-periodicals](#)

Tracing Loyalist Lineages

Newspaper Search Terms

- Loyalist
- Tory
- Refugee
- Enemy
- Rebel
- Traitor
- Prisoner

B O S T O N, April 25.
 William Jackson of this town, and Crean Bruth of New-York, who were on board a brig taken the third inst. inst, by Capt. Manly, are now imprisoned in the jail here.
 Last Friday a vessel arrived off Marblehead, from Halifax, with Dr. Stockbridge, and a number of other refugee Tories. The information from some of them is, that they had their choice of inflicting as soldiers, and as such to be provided for, or to starve, or return to this colony. They chose the latter, and are now supplicating their country for mercy. How they have been disposed of, we have not heard.
 We hear that the Continental currency is received in payment, and passes very freely among the inhabitants of the French West-India islands.

The Pennsylvania Evening Post, May 04, 1776

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Loyalist Diary

149 Loyalist Diary

Records 1 to 10 of 149

Diary, 1777-1778
 Pemberton, James, 1723-1809
 Historical Society of Pennsylvania
 Online text listing only

Diary of Samuel Shoemaker, Esquire, of Philadelphia. From November 7, 1783 to October 5, 1785.
 Copied from the original in the possession of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania : typescript, 1892
 Shoemaker, Samuel, 1725-1800
 New York Historical Society
 Typescript copy, 1892, of the diary, 1783 Nov. 7-1785 Oct. 5, of Samuel Shoemaker of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, kept while staying in New York City from 1783 Nov. 7-1785 Oct. 5, and in London. Most of his diary records his life in London, as an exile from America, and of his daily intercourse with other American Loyalists there; and of his traveling before the Commissioners on Loyalist Claims.

Diary, 1752-1783
 Parker, James, 1725-1797
 New Jersey Historical Society

researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/

Search > Stories, Memories & Histories

The diary of Thomas Vernon : a loyalist, banished from Newport by the Rhode Island General Assembly in 1776 : with notes

First & Middle Name(s) Last Name

Year Location

Any Event (City, County, State, Country)

Keyword

Page Number

Source Information
 Ancestry.com. The diary of Thomas Vernon : a loyalist, banished from Newport by the Rhode Island General Assembly in 1776 : with notes [Database on-line]. Provo, UT : Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2006.
 Original data: Vernon, Thomas. The diary of Thomas Vernon : a loyalist, banished from Newport by the Rhode Island General Assembly in 1776 : with notes. Providence, R.I. : S.S. Bates, 1925.

Browse this collection
 Table of Contents
 Front matter
 Title page
 The diary
 The Vernon family and some
 Descendants of the family of Richard Vernon, of Providence

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THE DEATH OF THOMAS VERNON. 11

at five P. M. We walked and talked until eight in the evening, when Mr. A. Lechmere made his appearance, a very welcome visitor, not having before the agreeable news of hearing from home. A bowl of punch being soon made, we remembered our Newport friends, chatted until after tea, and retired to bed quietly.

Saturday, June 29, 1776. Arose at ten minutes after five; pleasant morning, fresh breeze at about west. We chatted till breakfast, which was tea, after which we walked to the river, and A. Lechmere tried for trout but caught none, Mr. Nisoll took some pike or trout fish; we returned at twelve, it being very warm. Made a cool bowl of punch, which was very refreshing. Dined upon a baked line of veal, part of a calf which was killed in the morning, with some sorrel for a salad. Took a nap after dinner and drank tea at five, watered our garden, etc., walked till our retirement. About eight o'clock Mr. John Bowen, of Providence, joined us. He

1. John Bowen was born in Providence June 5, 1720. He was the son of Ephraim and Mary (Pearce) Bowen. He married Sarah, daughter of Ephraim Bowen, December 16, 1741, second, Polly Leonard, May 15, 1765. The first mention of Mr. Bowen in connection with Colonial history is with the

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Tracing Loyalist Lineages


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Search Database

Massachusetts: Divided Hearts, Massachusetts Loyalists, 1765-1790

Keywords

By default, all results are a best fit to your criteria

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This index only database supports the following searchable fields:

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- Keywords - (For record view)

Wild card characters are available for name fields, helpful symbols to use in your name search include:

- * For search on single character
- ? To match any number of characters. Note that too characters might preclude the "?" wildcard

AmericanAncestors.org/search/databasesearch/80/massachusetts-divided-hearts-massachusetts-loyalists-1765-1790


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Massachusetts: Divided Hearts, Massachusetts Loyalists, 1765-1790

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Name	Joseph CUTLER VANIT		
Record	1765 - 1790		
Location			
Original Text	d. 8/17/75; H&F&A, N& vs. L&H S&S children B&H P&H P&H L&H 1762 1446		
Citation	Massachusetts Divided hearts, Massachusetts Loyalists, 1765-1790 A Biographical/Directory Online Database. AmericanAncestors.org. New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2002 Originally published by:		

No image - Index only database

Why can't I see an image?

Our databases are not always fully indexed, so we may not have an image for this record.



Peace

- Preliminary treaty of peace signed in November 1782
- Termination of fighting on April 19, 1783
- Treaty of Paris signed in September 1783



Evacuation

- Sir Guy Carleton installed as commander-in-chief of North America in 1782
- Ordered evacuation of all British troops in the southern colonies
 - Left southern Loyalists vulnerable
- Many flee to the Bahamas, Jamaica, and greater Caribbean
- Others flee to the north

Evacuation

- Largest population in New York City
- Loyalists worked to sell property and businesses before evacuation
- Transportation organized by Sir Guy Carleton
 - First ship leaves in April of 1783 for Nova Scotia
 - Ensuing ships bring about 32,000 Loyalists to Nova Scotia in summer of 1783
- Others flee to Britain

Why did they leave?

- Lost property, fear of violence or retribution
- Exiled or banished from home colony
- British government offered reimbursement for property losses
- Opportunity to resettle while still a subject of British Crown; transportation provided
- Land grants

The Ships to Canada

- Nine transport ships sailed from New York on October 19, 1782, and arrived in Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia
- On April 11, 1783, the "Spring" Fleet set sail
- Ships continued to arrive with thousands of refugees; ships arrived as late as January 15, 1784

Canadian Sources

Tracing Loyalist Lineages

Ship Database

Click on any column heading to sort by the data in that column

Ship	Departed	Date	Landed	Date	Passengers	Notes
Alexander	New York	1783, fall	New Brunswick	1783, Oct. 17	116	Ref. Evacuation of NY
Amity's Production	New York	1783, Jun. 16	New Brunswick	1783, Jul. 5	62	Ref. Evacuation of NY
Amphitrite	New York	1782	Annapolis	1782, Oct. 19	360	Ref. Evacuation of NY
Ann	New York	1783, fall	New Brunswick	1783, Sept. 27	204	Ref. Evacuation of NY
Ann	New York	1783, Jul. 8	New Brunswick	1783, Jul. 24	103	Ref. Evacuation of NY
Ann & Elizabeth			Port Roseway / Shelburne			from The Book of Negroes
Antelope Gordon			Bremer Lee (German port)			from The Book of Negroes
Apollo	New York	1783, Jun. 8 (?)	Port Roseway, NS			
Apollo	New York	1783, fall	New Brunswick	1783, Sept. 27	605	Ref. Evacuation of NY
Argo	St. Augustine,		Halifax	1784, Jul. 13		TheShipsList has more information: Argo Transport from St. Augustine, FL, arrived at Halifax Nov. 13, 1784.

uelac.ca/loyalist-ships

Loyalist Ships: The Amphitrite

Return of Men, Women & Children arrived at Annapolis from New York, 19th Octr. 1782 (360 persons)

Name	Women	Ch. above 8 years	Ch. under 8 years	Total
Abbott, Samel.				
Anderson, Walter	1			
Babcock, Benjn.				
Belcher, Adam				
Botsford, Amos, Esq.	1	4	1	
Bouchan, Alexr.	1		2	
Bourgar, Alexr.	1	3	1	
Bragg, John	1			
Brandon, John	1		1	
Bunnet, Solomon	1	4	1	
Burnet, William				
Carrier, Green	1		2	
Carron, James				
Chandler, Samel.				
Craigies, James	1	1		
Crain, Thos.				

uelac.ca/loyalist-ships

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

Land Grants – July 1783

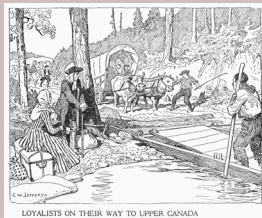
- 200 acres allotted to non-commissioned officers of Provincial Corps and Associated Loyalists
- 100 acres to private soldiers
- 100 acres to a family head
- 50 acres to each family member or single man

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)

Land Grants – 1787

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



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

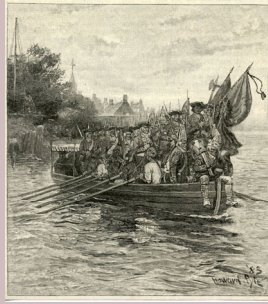
Where can I find them?

- Library and Archives Canada
 - Upper and Lower Canada
- Provincial Archives of Nova Scotia
- Provincial Archives of New Brunswick
- Ancestry.com
- FamilySearch.org

Other Loyalist Destinations

England

- About 14,000 Loyalists fled to England
 - Including roughly 5,000 free people of color
- Close family ties
- Economic interests
- Property



Audit Office – (AO-3/276)

- Series consists of four volumes of pensions paid out to American Loyalists and others seeking refuge in Great Britain
- Each list contains the names of persons who will receive the pension or allowance, the period for the pension or allowance, and the amount
- The typical period was one year, however, there were exceptions
- Widows and children were included in the allowances
- Records are held at the National Archives in Kew, England; not currently digitized

AO 12 and 13

- As discussed in Class 2, claims for or against giving compensation incurred during the Revolutionary War
- Ancestry.com database: "UK, American Loyalist Claims, 1776-1835"

Tracing Loyalist Lineages

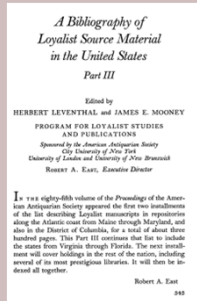
WO 42

- Officers' Birth Certificates, Wills, and Personal Papers
 - Applications for pensions or benefits for widows and children contain vital records (birth, baptism, marriage, and death), probate records, and other personal papers of officers who died between 1776 and 1881
 - Original records at the National Archives in Kew, England; digitized on Ancestry.com

The screenshot shows the Ancestry.com search page for the collection 'UK, Pension Applications For Widows and Family of Military Officers, 1776-1881'. The search form includes fields for 'First & Middle Name(s)', 'Last Name', 'Birth' (with day, month, and year dropdowns), 'Death' (with dropdowns), 'Marriage' (with dropdowns), and 'Any Event'. There are also fields for 'City, County, State, Country' and 'Location'. A 'Search' button is present. Below the search form, there are links to 'Add family member' (Spouse) and 'Keyword'. The page also features a 'Browse this collection' section with a 'Piece Title' dropdown and a 'Surname Range' dropdown. A 'Related data collections' section lists other records like 'Canada, British Navy Ship Muster Rolls and Pay Lists, 1792-1800' and 'Canada, British Army and Canadian Militia Muster Rolls and Pay Lists, 1795-1800'.

Bibliography of Loyalist Source Material

- Published in volumes 85, 86, and 90 of *Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society*
- United States, Canada, and Great Britain



Tracing Loyalist Lineages

Loyalist Source Material in Canada 77

PRIMARY UNPUBLISHED

New Brunswick

Fredericton

100 Public Archives of New Brunswick

1 Rep. No. MYO/D38
Typecripts, 10 pages, 1878-1910.
Family records of the Barker family of New Brunswick. Apparently only one branch of the family became Loyalists and emigrated to Nova Scotia. Barker family genealogy, 1878-1910.
Ref. YES inventory.

2 Rep. No. MYO/D38
Typecripts, 27 pages, 1800-1871.
Family record of the Binkney family. David Binkney came from South Carolina to New Brunswick in 1784 and resided in Westmorland County. An account of the family's activities during the Revolutionary War and of their emigration to N. B. Much of the information is based on David Binkney's Loyalist Claim, no. 163.

3 Rep. No. 14-15
Microfilm, 2 reels, 1784-1786.
Carapet, N. B. St. Pierre (Roman Catholic) Church. Records of baptisms, marriages, and burials, 1784-1786.
Ref. inventory to church records on microfilm.

4 Rep. No. Nova
Originals, 12 vols, 1785-1798.
Official papers of Sir Thomas Carleton (1733-1817), Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick, 1784-1817. Correspondence between Carleton and the Duke of Portland concerning certain money bills before the N. B. House of Assembly pertaining to provincial debts, 1784; letters regarding commercial duties, 1796. Two letters deal with the problem of relations between the provincial House of Assembly and the Executive Council, 1797 and 1798.

5 Rep. No. Nova
Originals, 5 vols, 1784-1810.
Official papers of Sir Thomas Carleton (1733-1817), Lieutenant-Governor of N. B., 1784-1817. Seven letter-books, principally of correspondence between Carleton and several Secretaries of State in London. These officials include Lord Sydney—correspondence concerning N. B. government administration 1790-1796; Hon.

Bib. of Loyalist Source Material

Bahamas

- According to a report presented to the Bahamas House of Assembly in 1789, 1,200 Whites and 3,600 people of color arrived between 1784 and 1785
- Around 2,000 Loyalists and their enslaved servants arrived between 1783 and 1789
- The enslaved were listed as "servants" to help avoid possible claims issues with the United States

FamilySearch Family Tree Search Memories Get Involved Activities

Records Images Family Tree Genealogies **Catalog** Books Wiki

BACK TO SEARCH RESULTS PRINT Catalog Print List (0)

Land and property records, 1788-1955

Authors: Bahamas, Registrar General (Main Author)

Format: Manuscript/Manuscript on Film

Language: English

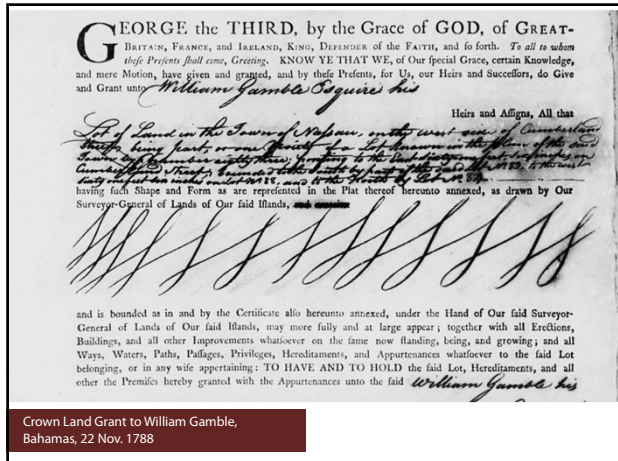
Publication: Nassau, Bahamas : Filmed by Delcota Southern Microfilm Service, 1956

Physical: 326 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

Notes
Microfilm of original manuscripts in the Bahama Islands.
Includes indexes.
View this catalog record in WorldCat for other possible copy locations

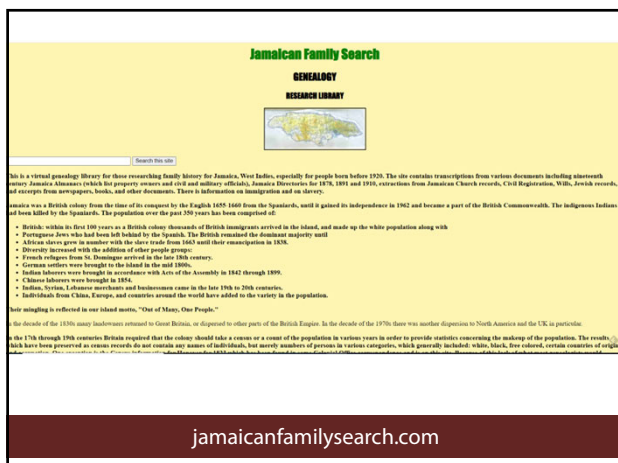
Subjects
Locality Subjects
Bahamas - Land and property
Bahamas - Probate records

familysearch.org

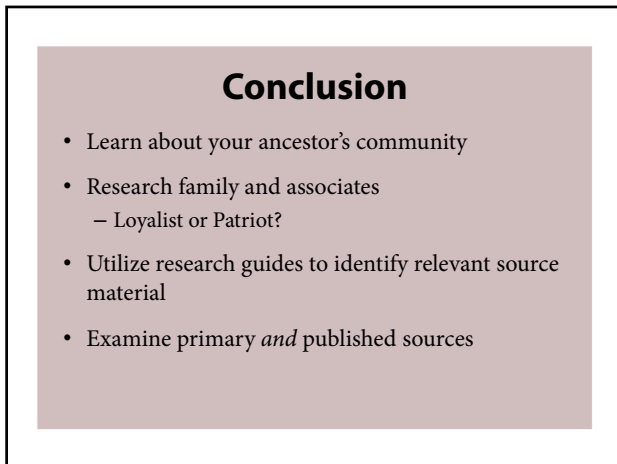


Jamaica

- Most Loyalists came from Georgia, North and South Carolina, and Virginia
- They departed from the cities of Charlestown and Savannah
- There were 3,000 Loyalists who took 8,000 enslaved persons to Jamaica









Tracing Loyalist Lineages

AmericanAncestors.org
A National Center for Family History, Heritage & Culture

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Tracing Loyalist Lineages: Sources and Strategies

Not all our early American ancestors were patriots fighting for independence. Approximately one third of the population in the American colonies at the time were loyal to the Crown, with tens of thousands leaving their homes and taking up residence in Canada's eastern provinces or England. You can piece together your ancestor's movements and motivations using several resources. This lecture will provide you with historical context, records, and research strategies for identifying and learning more about your loyalist ancestors.

Registration in this program includes access to a 60-minute live broadcast, recording, and other materials for the foreseeable future.

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AmericanAncestors.org/tracing-loyalist-lineages-sources-and-strategies

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Upcoming Events

IN-PERSON OPEN HOUSE
Discover Your Revolutionary Roots
In Partnership with the Massachusetts DAR
October 3, 2026, 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM ET

ONLINE LECTURE
Applying to Colonial Lineage Societies
Presented by David Allen Lambert
October 8, 2026, 3:00 – 4:00 PM ET

ONLINE LECTURE
Jewish Patriots in the American Revolution
Presented by Melanie McComb
October 15, 2026, 2:00 – 3:00 PM ET

IN-PERSON EXHIBIT
Patriots of Color
April 23–December 31, 2026

AmericanAncestors.org/Events



