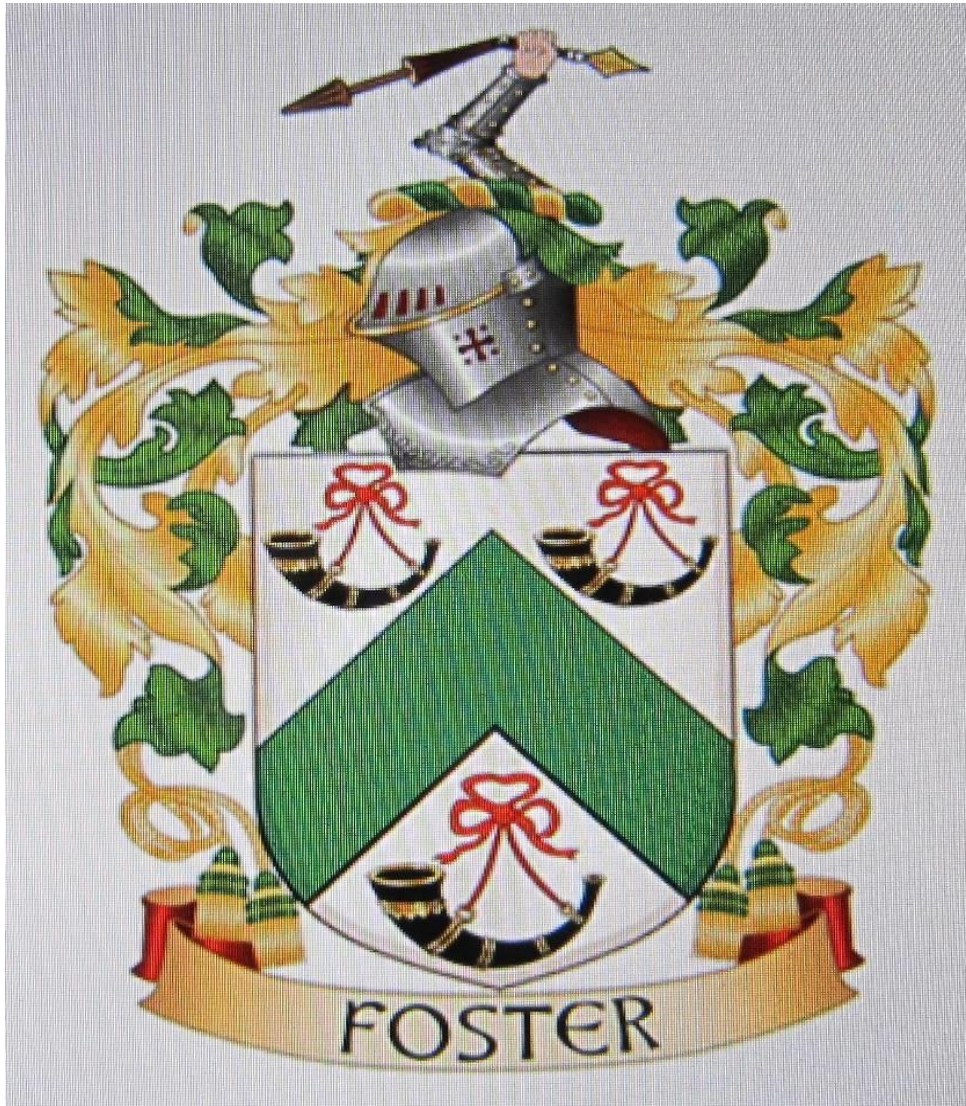


# *The Fosterville Fosters*



*"If broken, still strong"*

*300 Years of History*

*R. B. Foster*

*January 3, 2014*

## INTRODUCTION

My name is Ronald B. Foster b.1947 in Woodstock, NB and now, retired, I live in Fosterville, NB on East Grand Lake. From my home I have a scenic view across crystal-clear, blue waters to the opposite shore in the State of Maine, just one mile away.

In early 2013 I decided to research the origin of the Fosters' who settled Fosterville, NB in the mid-1800s.

Since I'm what you might call a "Double Foster" in that my mother's maiden name is also Foster, and since both great-great grandfathers on my paternal and maternal sides are Fosters, and since it has always been rumored that Fosterville was settled in the mid-1800s by four Foster brothers – David, James, Josiah and Elias Foster – I was intrigued to see if this rumor was true or not.

Using information from such sources as: Census reports, birth/death/marriage certificates, cemeteries, Land Grants, Land Grant Petitions, newspaper articles, Public Archives, personal recollections, letters, internet communications with web sites and people with experience in doing genealogical research, and even starting with the simplest form of "hear-say", I accumulated information that was put into a MS DOCUMENT FILE titled "**The Fosterville Fosters – 300 years of history**" about 70 pages in length.

Briefly, this research showed a time line as follows:

- That the four Fosters' who settled Fosterville in the mid-1800s were indeed "brothers".
- That the father of these four brothers was Samuel Foster b.1780 in the state of New York.
- That Samuel Foster came as a Loyalist with his parents, landing in Saint John, NB in 1783 as a three-year old.
- That Samuel's father was Josiah Foster b. 1758 in Elizabeth, NJ.
- That Josiah Foster was a corporal in the Revolutionary War from 1775-1783, fighting as a Loyalist.
- That Josiah's father was Ebenezer Foster, b. ca. 1724.
- That Ebenezer was a lawyer and judge in New Jersey, as well as in New Brunswick.
- That Ebenezer's father was Stephen Foster b. ca. 1700.
- That Ebenezer's mother, Margaret Van Galen b.1706 in New Jersey, was of Dutch descent.

In 2014 I decided to use this information to write the history in a "Genogram style".

A **GENOGRAM** is a variation of a Family Tree, like a "road map" of information about family members and their relationships across generations. Each family has its own unique history with "flaws" as well as "successes".

Using the information that is in this report, along with more details, this Genogram will start at a specific date in time – now about 1700 – and move forward "hi-liting" such important events as major life-cycle changes, transitions, relationship shifts, losses and successes, migration, job changes, etc.

Included as well will be demographic information such as ages, dates of birth and death, locations, occupations, education levels, and ethnic and religious backgrounds.

The main focus will be on my paternal, direct line from Stephen Foster b. ca.1700 to my grandson, Gage Nicolas Foster b. 2004 in Brockville, Ontario – over 300 years of history in a timeline as follows:

Stephen Foster b. ca.1700 d. ca.1742 (My 6G Great Grandfather)

Ebenezer Foster b. ca.1724 d.1787 (My 5G Grandfather)

Josiah Foster b.1758 d.1833 (My 4G Grandfather)

Samuel Foster b.1780 d.1853 (My 3G Grandfather)

Josiah Foster b. 1817 d. ca.1887 (My 2G Grandfather)

William Henry Foster b.1847 d.1907 (My Great Grandfather)

Ward Beecher Foster b. 1872 d. 1952 (My Grandfather)

Beecher Ronald Foster b. 1923 (My Father)

Ronald Beecher Foster b.1947

Mark Allison Robert Foster b. 1973 (My Son)

Gage Nicolas Foster b.2004 (My Grandson)

But, where information is available, other branches will be explored, so that other Fosters' in this family tree can have a "head start" to explore their particular branch if desired.

Hopefully, writing in the "genogram style" will put some "flesh and blood" on the skeletal outline of the family tree and bring our ancestors "to life" during the period of time in which they lived, and make for a more interesting "read".

So...let's begin our journey.

## CHAPTER 1

### COMING TO AMERICA

*[Most of the information in this report that "fleshes out" the time periods in which our ancestors lived comes from researching or "Googling" the vast store of information found on the Internet, and the reader should take the opportunity to explore for himself in more detail what I have only briefly written in my own words.]*

#### ***The Ancient Beginnings – The perilous times in the New World***

Two of the earliest settlements in America were in New Amsterdam (now New York) settled by the Dutch, and Plymouth, Massachusetts settled by the English in the early 1600s.

#### **Plymouth, Massachusetts**

The Pilgrims left Southampton, England on September 16, 1620 and landed in Cape Cod on November 21 but later overwintered in Plymouth in December, 1620 after a two-month sail aboard The Mayflower. Following is an example of the kind of travel by ship and the extreme hardships endured by the passengers in coming to America.

From Wikipedia:



[Home](#)

[Mayflower](#)

- [The Compact](#)
- [The Journey](#)
- **[The Mayflower](#)**
- [Thanksgiving](#)

[The Pilgrim Fathers](#)

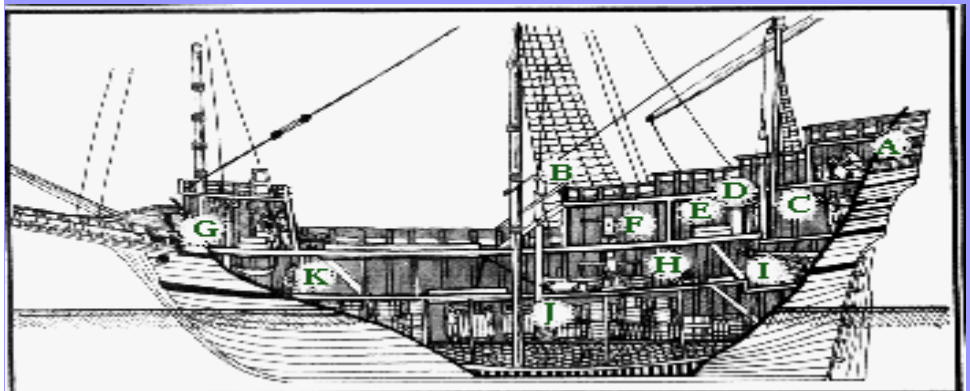
[Plymouth](#)

[About Us](#)

[Mayflower Souvenirs](#)

# The Mayflower

**A.** The Round House is the Mate's cabin, the chartroom where the ship's progress is planned and plotted. The Mate is second in command only to the Captain





[Gadgets](#)  
powered by  
Google

See the [modern day tour](#) of the area around the Mayflower Steps. It starts at North Quay, takes in Sutton Harbour, the Barbican and the Hoe.



click this image for a bigger picture - close the new window when done

**B.** Maybe you've heard the nautical term "eight bells"? The Ship's Bell is rung to mark the time of the watch, with one to eight strokes at each half-hour of the four hours. It is also used to raise the "alarum" in an emergency.

**C.** The Great Cabin houses the Master or commander of the ship. A second bunk provides accommodation for an additional officer or, should one be on board, a distinguished guest.

**D.** The Whipstaff, the ship's helm, located on the main deck, is a long lever used to move the tiller below, which moves the rudder to steer the ship. The helmsman steers by the compass in the binnacle set in front of him, according to the orders from the conning officer on the Half Deck above.

**E.** Steerage is the cabin of the ship's officers. The hatch and ladder forward of the binnacle provide access to the 'tween decks.

**F.** The Capstan is a kind of pulley, or winch, used to hoist cargo and other heavy loads. it is fitted with holes into which long bars are inserted. By pushing the bars around, sailors haul in a rope wound around the capstan, moving the load up or down accordingly.

**G.** The Forecastle, or "Fo'c's'le", houses the common seamen (about 18, half of whom would be on watch while at sea), the Boatswain (master of discipline) and the cook, who prepared meals here for the crew only. A hatch gives access to 'tween decks, and doors lead forward to the Beakhead.

**H.** 'Tween decks is where the passengers made their cabins. (The Mayflower was not built to carry passengers.) Here, also, were kept their livestock, the parts of the shallop (a work boat) and several more of the ship's guns.

**I.** The Gun Room held the "stern chasers," the two guns a merchant ship kept ready against possible attack. These guns fire a three-pound solid

shot a distance of 2500 yards.

**J.** The Hold is the main cargo space. It holds most of the household goods, tools and supplies as well as the ship's stores of food, cordage, canvas, cannot shot, powder, etc.

**K.** The Windlass is used for raising anchors and works like but is safer to use than the capstan.

There were 102 passengers and a crew of 33 on board the Mayflower which was about 100 feet in length (80-90 feet on the decks). The passengers mostly slept and lived in the low-ceilinged great cabins. These cabins were thin-walled and extremely cramped. The cabin area was 25 feet by 15 at its largest, and on the main deck, which was 75 by 20 at the most. Below decks, any person over five feet tall would be unable to stand up straight. The maximum possible space for each person would have been slightly less than the size of a standard single bed.<sup>[32]</sup> The *Mayflower* passengers were the earliest permanent European settlers in New England, referring to themselves as "First Comers". They lived in the perilous times of what was called "The Ancient Beginnings" of the New World adventure.<sup>[33]</sup>

Passengers would pass the time by reading by candlelight or playing cards and games like [Nine Men's Morris](#).<sup>[11]</sup> Meals on board were cooked by the [firebox](#), which was an iron tray with sand in it on which a fire was built. This was risky because it was kept in the waist of the ship. Passengers made their own meals from rations that were issued daily and food was cooked for a group at a time.<sup>[32]</sup>

Upon arrival late in the year, the harsh climate and scarcity of fresh food caused many more deaths. Due to the delay in departure, provisions were short. Living in these extremely close and crowded quarters, several passengers experienced [scurvy](#), a disease caused by a lack of the essential nutrient [vitamin C](#). There was no way to store fruits or vegetables without their becoming rotten, so many passengers did not receive enough nutrients in their diets. Passengers with scurvy experienced symptoms such as rotten teeth, which would fall out; bleeding gums, and stinking breath.

Passengers consumed large amounts of alcohol such as beer with meals which was known to be safer than water, which often came from polluted sources causing diseases. All food and drink was stored in barrels known as "[hogsheads](#)"

No cattle or beasts of draft or burden were brought on the journey, but there were pigs, goats, and poultry. Some passengers brought family pets such as cats and birds. Peter Browne took his large bitch [mastiff](#) and John Goodman brought along his [spaniel](#).

Because the Mayflower arrived late in December, the passengers had to remain on ship until March. Many caught contagious diseases on board and about one half of the passengers died before spring, and yet countless descendants living today in America can trace their ancestry to these first pioneers.

## **New Amsterdam**

(A short history of New Amsterdam follows :)

**New Amsterdam** (*Nieuw-Amsterdam*) was a 17th-century [Dutch colonial](#) settlement on the southern tip of [Manhattan Island](#) that served as capital city of [New Netherland](#). It was renamed [New York](#) in 1665 in honor of the Duke of York (later [James II of England](#)) when English forces seized control of Manhattan along with the rest of the Dutch colony.

The settlement, outside of [Fort Amsterdam](#) on [Manhattan Island](#) in the [New Netherland territory](#) (1614–1664), was situated between 38 and 42 degrees latitude and was a provincial extension of the [Dutch Republic](#) as of 1624. Situated on the strategic, fortifiable southern tip of the island of Manhattan, the fort was meant to defend the [Dutch West India Company's fur trade](#) operations in the North River ([Hudson River](#)). Fort Amsterdam was designated the capital of the province in 1625.

The 1625 date of the founding of New Amsterdam is now commemorated in the official Seal of New York City. (Formerly, the year on the seal was 1664, the year of the provisional Articles of Transfer, ensuring New Netherlanders that they "shall keep and enjoy the liberty of their consciences in religion", negotiated with the English by [Pieter Stuyvesant](#) and his council).

### **English capture**

On August 27, 1664, while England and the Dutch Republic were at peace, four English frigates sailed into New Amsterdam's harbor and demanded New Netherland's surrender, whereupon New Netherland was provisionally ceded by director-general [Peter Stuyvesant](#). This was swiftly followed by the [Second Anglo-Dutch War](#), between England and the [Dutch Republic](#). In June 1665, New Amsterdam was reincorporated under English law as New York City, named after the [Duke of York](#) (later [King James II](#)). He was the brother of the English [King Charles II](#), who had been granted the lands.<sup>[9]</sup>

That same year Jan van Bonnel built a [saw mill](#) on [East 74th Street](#) and the East River, where a 13,710-meter long creek or stream that began in the north of today's Central Park, which became known as the [Saw Kill](#) or Saw Kill Creek, emptied into the river.<sup>[10][11][12][13][14]</sup> Later owners of the property George Elphinstone and Abraham Shotwell replaced the sawmill with a leather mill in 1677.<sup>[10][15]</sup>

In 1667 the [Treaty of Breda](#) ended the conflict. The Dutch did not press their claims on [New Netherland](#). In return, they were granted the tiny [Island of Run](#) in [North Maluku](#), rich in nutmegs, and a guarantee for their de facto possession of [Suriname](#), captured by them that year.

[English colonial](#) Governor [Richard Nicolls](#) made [74th Street](#), beginning at the [East River](#), the southern border patent line (which was called the "Harlem Line") of the

village of Nieuw Haarlem (later, the village of [Harlem](#)); the British also renamed the village "Lancaster". [\[16\]\[17\]\[18\]\[19\]](#)

In July 1673, during the [Third Anglo-Dutch War](#), the Dutch briefly occupied New York City and renamed it New Orange. [Anthony Colve](#) was installed as the first [Governor](#). Previously there had only been West India Company Directors. After the signing of the [Treaty of Westminster](#) in November 1674, the city was relinquished to the English and the name reverted to "New York". [Suriname](#) became an official Dutch possession in return.



*The Fall of New Amsterdam*, by [Jean Leon Gerome Ferris](#), showing Peter Stuyvesant (left of center, with wooden leg) standing on shore among residents of New Amsterdam who are pleading with him not to open fire on the English who have arrived in warships waiting in the harbor to claim the territory for England

The settlements in New York and New Jersey are central to the beginnings of the journey of the Fosters to Fosterville, NB.

After the English took control of New Amsterdam, renaming it New York in 1674, the Dutch and English inhabitants got along very well, with intermarriage among the two ethnic races often taking place.



Settlers of New Amsterdam blended into the new British colony. *The Rapalje Children*, 1768, children of trader of early New Amsterdam descent.

A good example of this was the marriage of **Stephen Foster** to **Margaret Van Galen**.

**Stephen Foster b. ca.1700 d. ca. 1742 (my 6G Grandfather)**

It would appear that Stephen may have been born in Woodbridge, NJ and may have lived there after his marriage to Margaret Van Galen.

**Merytje (Margaret) Van Galen b.1706 d.1767**

Margaret Van Galen was born on Feb 4, 1706 in Bergen, NJ. She was christened on April 1, 1706 in the Reformed Dutch Church in Bergen, NJ. Bergen and Woodbridge are about 30 miles apart.

Margaret's parents were father, **Lourus Van Galen** and mother, **Treyntje Vreelant** who were probably some of the earliest Dutch settlers to the area.

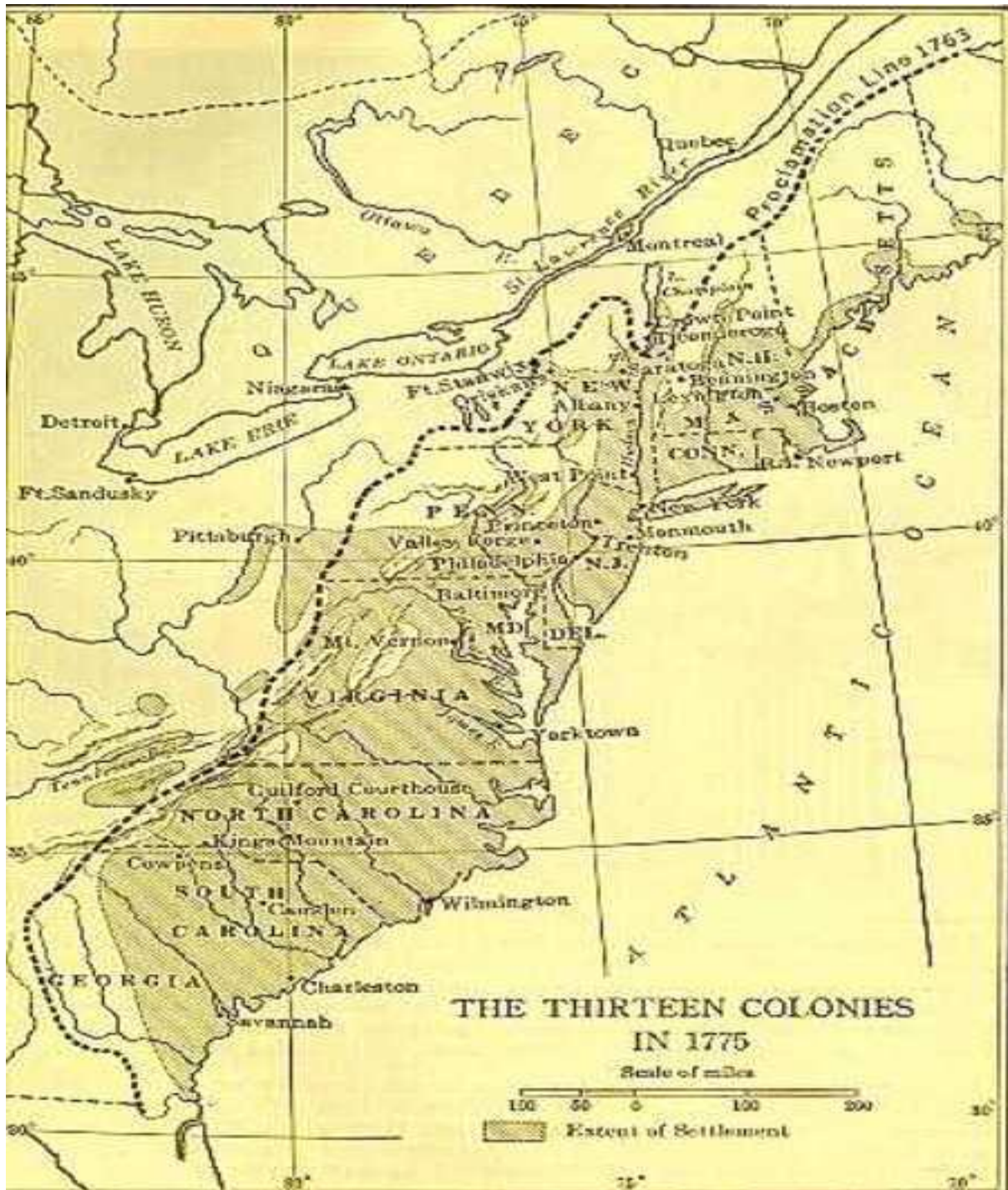
In about 1724, Margaret Van Galen married Stephen Foster and in 1725 they had a son they named Ebenezer Foster. It would appear that the young couple lived in Woodbridge, NJ, and obviously their son, Ebenezer, had a good upbringing with opportunities for higher education as he went on to become a lawyer and judge in New Jersey.

Sometime before 1744, Stephen Foster died, and Ebenezer's mother, Margaret, married Ezekiel Bloomfield in 1744, and later in 1750, she married for a third time, Thomas Hedden. Margaret Van Galen died on Feb. 9, 1767 at age 61.

As we will see, many Foster descendants named their children Stephen or Margaret in their honor.

## CHAPTER 2

### THE THIRTEEN COLONIES



## **Ebenezer Foster b. ca.1725 d.1787 in NB (my 5G Grandfather)**

Ebenezer Foster lived during the rise of what was known as The Thirteen Colonies in America.

The New England Colonies were: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Rhode Island.

The Middle Colonies were: New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey.

The Southern Colonies were: Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

Ebenezer Foster lived in the Middle Colonies, New Jersey.

*Excerpts from Wikipedia:*

*There was relatively good climate in the Middle colonies. Having this and good soil helped the farming greatly. They could produce more crops, causing the farmers to be able to sell their extras for money, but still not as much as the Southern colonies could. Even though the Middle colonies had decent climate and soil, farming was not the main way to make money and a living.*

*The Middle colonies were not known for their farming as well as they were known for their mills and bread. On average in the Middle colonies, people ate about 1 pound of bread per day. The mills used to produce the bread was powered by rivers to crush the grains. This was very helpful if you wanted to live in the Middle colonies. The main foods you got out of these grains were pancakes, waffles, and pretzels.*

*There were a variety of jobs in the Middle Colonies. Some were different than those in the New England and Southern Colonies because of the variety of climate and needs for the different areas. The main jobs for the Middle colonies were:*

- *Farmers*
- *Tailors*
- *Glass Blowers*
- *Silversmiths*
- *and Brick makers*

*Just about all the colonies needed farmers. They were a very important source for food for all the colonies, even if farmers couldn't get very much crops. The main items for the farmers in this area was any type of grain, meats, and some corn. The Middle colonies had a mild climate, rich soil and a long growing season.*

## **Farm life**

A majority of New England residents were small farmers. Within these small farm families, and English families as well, a man had complete power over the property and his wife. When married, an English woman lost her maiden name and personal identity, meaning she could not own property, file lawsuits, or participate in political life, even when widowed. The role of wives was to raise and nurture healthy children and support their husbands. Most women carried out these duties.<sup>[58]</sup> During the 18th century, couples usually married between the ages of 20-24 and 6-8 children were typical of a family, with three on average surviving to adulthood. Farm women provided most of the materials needed by the rest of the family by spinning yarn from wool and knitting sweaters and stockings, making candles and soap from ashes, and churning milk into butter.<sup>[59]</sup>

Most New England parents tried to help their sons establish farms of their own. When sons married, fathers gave them gifts of land, livestock, or farming equipment; daughters received household goods, farm animals, and/or cash. [Arranged marriages](#) were very unusual; normally, children chose their own spouses from within a circle of suitable acquaintances who shared their race, religion, and social standing. Parents retained veto power over their children's marriages.

New England farming families generally lived in wooden houses because of the abundance of trees. A typical New England farmhouse was one-and-a-half stories tall and had a strong frame (usually made of large square timbers) that was covered by wooden clapboard siding. A large chimney stood in the middle of the house that provided cooking facilities and warmth during the winter. One side of the ground floor contained a hall, a general-purpose room where the family worked and ate meals. Adjacent to the hall was the parlor, a room used to entertain guests that contained the family's best furnishings and the parent's bed. Children slept in a loft above, while the kitchen was either part of the hall or was located in a shed along the back of the house. Because colonial families were large, these small dwellings had much activity and there was little privacy.

By the middle of the 18th century, New England's way of life was threatened by overpopulation, going from about 100,000 people in 1700 to 250,000 in 1725 and 375,000 in 1750 thanks to high birth rates and low overall life expectancy (a 15 year old boy in 1700 could expect to live to about 63) As colonists in Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island continued to subdivide their land between farmers, the farms became too small to support single families. This overpopulation threatened the New England ideal of a society of independent yeoman farmers.<sup>[60]</sup>

Some farmers obtained land grants to create farms in undeveloped land in Massachusetts and Connecticut or bought plots of land from speculators in New Hampshire and what later became Vermont. Other farmers became agricultural innovators. They planted nutritious English grass such as [red clover](#) and [timothy-grass](#), which provided more feed for livestock, and potatoes, which provided a high production rate that was an advantage for small farms. Families increased their productivity by exchanging goods and labor with each other. They loaned livestock and grazing land to one another and worked together to spin yarn, sew quilts, and shuck corn. Migration, agricultural innovation, and economic cooperation were creative measures that preserved New England's yeoman society until the 19th century.



[Saltbox](#)-style homes originated in [New England](#) after 1650

On August 24, 1750 Ebenezer Foster married Mary Beach of Essex, NJ and they settled on a farm in the vicinity of Woodbridge and Elizabeth, NJ. (Woodbridge and Elizabeth are about 10 miles apart.)

They had the following children:

Elias b. April 24, 1754

James b. Aug 29, 1755 d. May 5 1759

Josiah b. June 11, 1758 d. Nov 9, 1833 in NB

Hannah b. Oct 3, 1759 d. Dec 10, 1762

Stephen b. Oct 1760 d. Dec 10, 1762

Lawrence b. June 18, 1765 d. Jan 8, 1839 in NB

Joshua b. 1768 d. 1799 in NB

Margaret b. 1770 d. Jan 8, 1839 in NY

As can be seen from the births, James died young at age 4 years and both Hannah and Stephen died on the same day at ages 2 and 3, probably from a contagious disease of some kind. (At about this time there was an outbreak of smallpox in the area.)

It would seem that all children were christened in St. John's Episcopalian Church in Elizabeth, NJ, as there is a record of Josiah's christening in June 1758 being witnessed by his father, Ebenezer Foster.

St. John's Church was established in Elizabeth, NJ in 1703. The original church building was destroyed but has been rebuilt over the centuries and still stands today in Elizabeth, NJ.



Picture of what the "original" church looked like in the early 1700s.

## CHAPTER 3

### The Revolutionary War 1775 – 1783

Life was probably fairly normal for the family until a few years leading up to the start of the War. Many people in the Colonies became dissatisfied with England's rule over them with higher taxes, no representative government, etc. and wanted separation from England and the setting up of a new country, even if it was by force. Of course there were also many who wanted to remain loyal to the King and Crown and wanted to "work things out" in an amicable manner without force. Eventually, in 1775, it was by force that the beginnings of a new country would begin to take place, and it was decision time for all colonists. Either side with the rebels (Patriots), or side with the King (Loyalists). (See Timeline of Revolutionary War – Appendix 1)

Ebenezer and his family sided with the Loyalists, which proved to be costly for them, because at the end of the War in 1783 Ebenezer had all of his lands in Middlesex County, NJ confiscated for his loyalty to King George and he and his family had to leave by ship from New York for a new life and beginning in New Brunswick.

#### **Josiah Foster b.1758 d. 1833 in NB (my 4G Grandfather)**

Josiah was the second son of Ebenezer and appears to be the only son who fought in the War.

He fought for the Loyalists in the Revolutionary War from 1776 – 1783 with the rank of Corporal in the New Jersey Volunteers. He would have been 18 years old in 1776 and 25 when the war ended in 1783.



Josiah Foster probably wore a uniform similar to the ones pictured here.





This would be a typical uniform worn by the Patriot soldiers under General Washington's command.

(From Wikipedia)

*Washington and his men moved in to defend Manhattan in 1776, and their letters provide a rare behind the scenes look at the city during the revolution. Prior to roughly 1/3 of New York City's population fleeing the expected combat, the Continental soldiers came upon a grand city of wealth, a bustling center of commerce, shipbuilding and maritime trade. This was a city built for seafaring transit and trade, Manhattan's only connection to the mainland was the narrow, wooden King's bridge over the Harlem river, nearly 11 miles north of the city, and ferries across the North (Hudson's) River; most of its population of 20,000 was crowded into an area of less than a square mile near the East River wharves and the sprawling natural New York harbor.<sup>[1]</sup>*

*The city's sharp-elbowed traders, stock brokers, and mariners brought with them great wealth. [Henry Knox](#) wrote his wife admiring New Yorkers' "magnificent" horse carriages and fine furniture, but condemning their "want of principle," "pride and conceit," "profaneness," and "insufferable" [Toryism](#).<sup>[3]</sup> Manhattan's free-wheeling ways did create an environment of loose tongues and loose women. A young Presbyterian chaplain "worried what the consequences might be to the American cause of so many of all ranks so habitually taking the name of the Lord in vain." "But alas, swearing abounds, all classes swear," he lamented.<sup>[4]</sup>*

The abundance of prostitutes in New York City—an estimated at 500 women plying "their trade" in 1776<sup>[5]</sup>—was particularly distressing for many of the Continental soldiers of a puritan-bent, George Washington included. From Lieutenant Isaac Bangs of Massachusetts comes one of the most complete accounts of [prostitution in revolutionary America](#); he had a medical degree from Harvard, and took it upon himself to tour the brothel district to inspect the health conditions of the neighborhood and investigate the seedy side of the city that so worried General Washington. He was absolutely appalled by the women of the bawdy houses, who, he thought, "nothing could exceed them in impudence and immodesty," but "the more I became acquainted with them, the more they excelled in their brutality."<sup>[5]</sup>

April 22, barely a week after the Continentals arrived in the city, two soldiers were found dead hidden in a bordello, one corpse "castrated in a barbarous manner," Bangs reported. Soldiers went on a rampage in the brothel district "in furious retaliation." General Washington condemned all such "riotous behavior" and ordered military patrols in the district, a strict curfew, and other restrictions.<sup>[6]</sup> General Washington understood the crucial strategic importance of New York and its waterways to the war effort, but "...had seen enough of New York on prior visits to dislike and distrust the city as the most sinful place in America, a not uncommon view."<sup>[1]</sup>

[General Washington](#) correctly surmised that after their defeat at the [Siege of Boston](#) the British strategy would be to divide the colonies by capturing the strategic port and waterways of New York City. He then began to fortify the city and took personal command of the [Continental Army](#) at New York in the summer of 1776.

Five battles comprising the [New York Campaign](#) were fought around the city's then limits in late 1776, beginning with the [Battle of Long Island](#) in Brooklyn on August 27—the largest battle of the entire war. A quarter of the city structures were destroyed in the [Great Fire](#) on September 21, a few days after the British [Landing at Kip's Bay](#) and the [Battle of Harlem Heights](#) - the lone American victory in this part of the campaign, but doing much to improve morale and keep the army together. Following the highly suspicious fire, British authorities apprehended dozens of people for questioning, including [Nathan Hale](#), who was executed a day later for unrelated charges of [espionage](#). The British conquest of Manhattan was completed with the fall of [Fort Washington](#) on November 16, 1776, and thereafter they held the city without challenge until 1783. Major General [James Robertson](#), commandant in charge of the city confiscated houses of rebels who had left and distributed them to British officers.

Early British military success resulted in [military occupation](#) of the city, and the exodus of any remaining Patriots combined with a large influx of Loyalist refugees from throughout the former colonies, making the city solidly Loyalist for the remainder of the British occupation. The city became the British political and military center of operations for the rest of the conflict. For this purpose the map now known as the British Headquarters Map was drawn in 1782, the best map of Manhattan Island's largely natural, unengineered condition.<sup>[7]</sup>



editing was necessary for clarity of meaning. Obvious typesetting errors have been corrected or noted, and occasional editorial comment interjected. Original format has been preserved as much as possible, although the newspaper-style columns have been abandoned in this presentation.)

### **The New Jersey Volunteers**

This corps, sometimes termed "Skinner's Greens" was enrolled by Brigadier General Cortland Skinner, the last royal attorney general of New Jersey. The corps comprised three battalions which were afterward increased to four. The officers and men were natives of New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. Numerically, the New Jersey volunteers was the strongest of all the loyalist regiments and it gave a good account of itself during the war.

On the 22nd August 1777 the corps was attacked on Staten Island by a large party of Americans. The 1st and 2nd battalions under Lieut Colonels Lawrence and Barton were surprised and roughly handled, but the gallant conduct of the third and fourth battalions under Lieut Col. Isaac Allen and Lieut Col. Van Buskirk retrieved the day; the Americans were beaten off with severe loss and a large number made prisoners. Lt. Col. Allen and the third battalion shared in the occupation of Philadelphia in the early part of the year 1778.

About this time, various excursions were made by the men of the New Jersey volunteers into the surrounding country in the course of which they came to be cordially hated by their old neighbors. They were termed "Skinner's Cowboys" and their marauding proclivities did not win much admiration from those who had suffered at their hands. The story of the adventures of Lieut James Moody of this corps, lately reprinted in the St. John Telegraph, possesses all the fascination of a romance.

In November 1778 a part of the corps including Col. Isaac Allen's battalion was sent to the southern provinces and took part in the capture of Savannah in Georgia and also in the gallant and successful defense of that city against the combined French and American forces. They also took an active part in the great battle of Eutaw Springs. Their gallant conduct in the memorable defense of Fort "ninety six" will be more fully detailed when we come to speak of de Lancey's battalions.

During the War, Josiah Foster met a young lady named Sarah Parks who was born in Hunterdon, NJ in 1763. Hunterdon, NJ, is about 40 miles west of New York City.

Sarah's father was Nathaniel Parks who was a Sergeant in the King's Dragoons where her brother, Joseph, also served. Her mother's name was Elizabeth: and her maiden name was Parlee, of French origin in France.

By this time most Loyalists were now living in New York City in close quarters in the district of Harlem on Manhattan Island, and it was here that Josiah met Sarah. It was probably here, too, that Josiah became good friends with a John McDonald who also served in the War and would later obtain a Land Grant at Belleisle Bay in NB for his service in the War.

In John McDonald's Petition letter for a Pension from the NB Government in 1838 he mentions some of his involvement in the War in the New York area as follows:

That he enlisted under Colonel James Delancey; that Barnes Hatfield was his captain; that Gabriel Fowler was his lieutenant; that he continued in the same regiment until the end of the war; that he was four years in His Majesty's service; that he was in several skirmishes at the taking of Old Greenwich and in a general engagement at Kings Bridge we were attacked by the French and by Washington's army, and that we stood our ground three days, and that our enemies then retreated and that we pursued them...

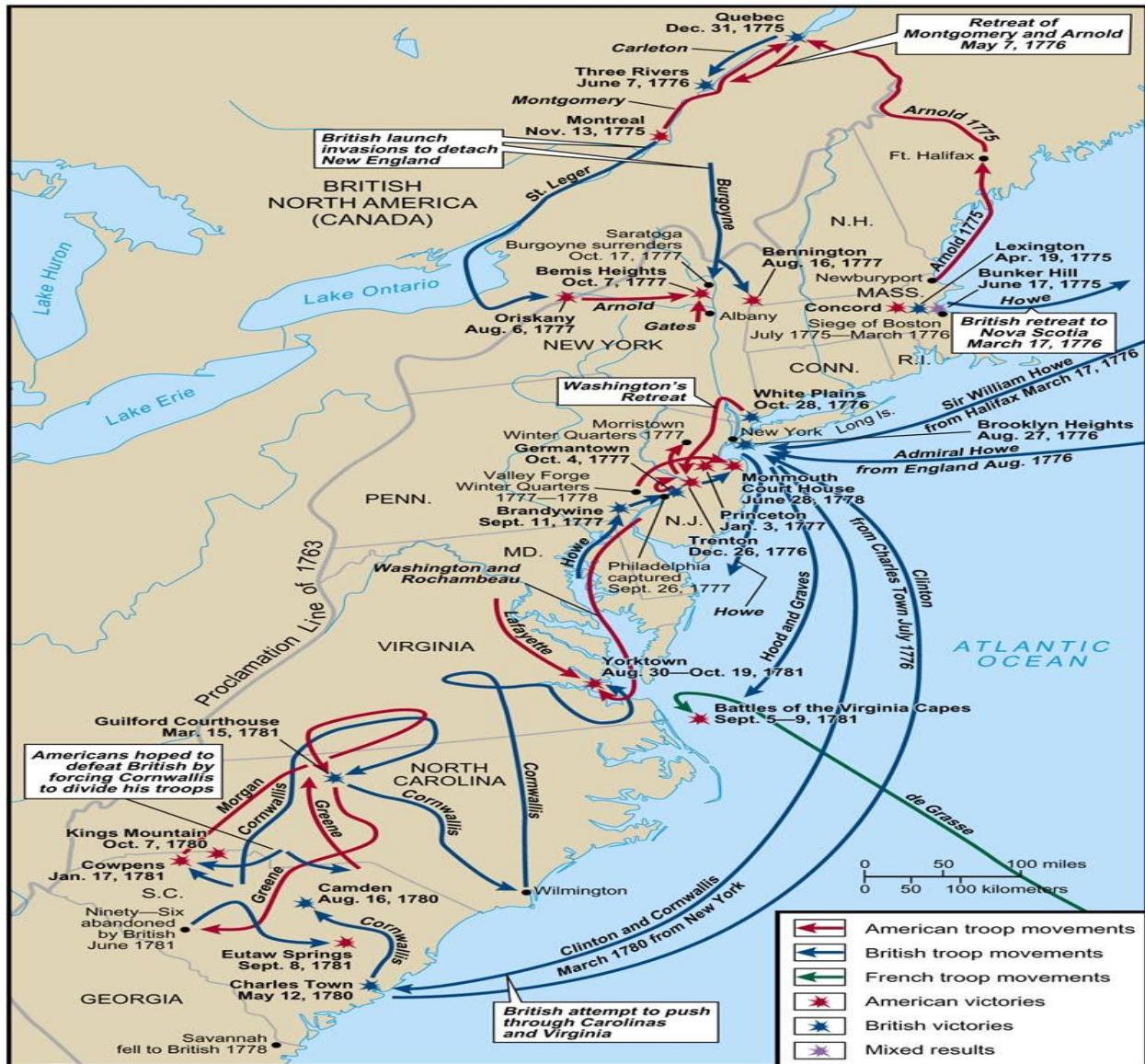
These may have been some of the same skirmishes that Josiah Foster fought in with his regiment, the New Jersey Volunteers in August 1777 on Staten Island. (See Timeline of Revolutionary War – Appendix 1)

Sometime between the years 1777 -1778, Josiah and Sarah married. (Although there is no marriage certificate, due to the war, Sarah makes mention of her marriage to Josiah in her Petition for a Pension for the "Old Soldiers of the Revolutionary War" to the NB Government in 1838. She said she had come with her husband, Josiah, to Saint John in 1783 as a Loyalist. (See Appendix 2)

Sometime in 1780 Sarah gave birth to a baby son they named Samuel. It's not known if Josiah was even present for Samuel's birth in 1780 as he had set sail with Lord Cornwallis in March, 1780 for Charleston, SC (also known as Charles Town) as shown on the map.

It could very well have been three years before Josiah would have ever seen his newborn son, Samuel, due to the War.





## THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, 1775–1781

From the Muster Roll of Captain John Barbarie in 1781 we can see that Josiah fought in many of the battles in the southern states of Georgia, and North and South Carolina under Lord Cornwallis and General Clinton. There were more than 14,000 British troops and Loyalist regiments of all stripes taking part in this offensive in the Carolinas.

The British won major battles at Charleston, Camden, Eutaw Springs and Guilford Courthouse during the years of 1780-81.

Excerpts from W.O.Raymond on some of the engagements in the Carolinas show the ferociousness of the battles:

*Like most of the loyal corps the King's American Regiment experienced its most arduous service during the campaign in the Carolinas. It was present at the capture of Charleston in 1779, and at the disastrous battle of King's Mountain in which 334 Loyalists of various corps were killed and wounded, and a large number taken prisoners. It recovered sufficiently to take part under Lord Rawdon in the great battle at Camden, South Carolina, on the 7th April 1781, where the Americans under General Greene were defeated with the loss of seventy officers and two thousand men killed, wounded and prisoners.*

*The New York Volunteers fought well in the gallant defense of Savannah, September 1779, and gained fresh laurels at the taking of Charleston by Sir Henry Clinton in the following April. The siege lasted twelve days and ended with the capture of the city with 5,618 prisoners of war and 400 pieces of artillery besides a great quantity of spoils. Shortly after the corps was attacked at Rocky Mount, on the Wateree River west of Camden, where they were in garrison, by a superior force under Colonel Sumpter, but the latter was handsomely defeated. Col. Turnbull and his men fought at Camden in the great battle of the 16th August, 1779, in which the Americans lost 70 officers and 2,000 men killed, wounded and prisoners.*

*On the 25th April following, Lord Rawdon with 900 men, the New York Volunteers included, gained a brilliant victory over General Greene at Hobkirk's Hill. Again at Eutaw Springs on the 8th September, the corps behaved well. Major John Coffin had honor of opening the battle on behalf of the King's troops, which he did in gallant style, and a very essential service was rendered by Major Sullivan and another portion of the corps which at a critical moment threw themselves in a brick house from which they could not be dislodged, thereby holding in check the advance of the enemy's right wing until the victory elsewhere was assured.*

As you have read, many of the battles were ferocious and it's fortunate that Josiah wasn't one of the statistics in the killed, wounded or captured columns from the war casualties of the many battles fought during the Revolution, as shown in the War Casualties (Appendix 3).

Following is a Muster Roll of Captain John Barbarie's New Jersey Volunteers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion on February 23, 1781.

Josiah Foster is listed as a Corporal. It looks like the soldiers may have been stationed near Charleston, SC at the time.

**New Jersey Volunteers  
Barbarie's Coy.**

Muster Roll of Captain John BARBARIE's Company in the 3rd Battn. New Jersey

Ninety Six February the 23rd 1781

Captain John BARBARIE

Lieutenant John TROUP

at Charles Town by Leave

Ensign John WILLES

Barrack Master at Augusta

Sgt Daniel JAMES

Sgt Albert BERDAN

Sgt John FORBES

Cpl John PRIESTLY

Cpl John G. BAMBERY

Cpl Josiah FOSTER

Drummer John ATKINS

John CORNELISON

Amos STEDHAM

William PACK

James BURWELL

David BLOOMFIELD

Thomas DEANASH

Thomas LOCKERMAN

James FRAZE

Oliver FRAZE

James BENNET

Siles ROBERTS

Thomas ARSTEN

Andrew DENYKE

Elias MAY

Alexander PECOR

Ambrose MALLIS

Jacob SEELIFF

John ENSLY

Benjamin STONE

Jacob OSBORNE

Sent to New York

Nicholas MILES

do

John McLEROTH

Dead 25 Feby. 1781

Daniel BOSEY

Prisoner

Thomas PULLEN

do

Thomas CALLAGHAN

do

John McMULLEN

do

Joseph OGDEN

do

From the timeline of the War it can be seen that the British didn't leave Charleston SC until Dec 14 1782 to return to NY, and so Josiah probably didn't see his wife or new son until late 1782 when Samuel was a three-year old.

Loyalists began leaving the thirteen colonies in 1783 and by Nov 25 all British troops had left New York City.

## CHAPTER 4

### The United Empire Loyalists

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



Present-day monument by [Sydney March](#) to the United Empire Loyalists in [Hamilton, Ontario](#)

The name **United Empire Loyalists** is an honorific given after the fact to those [American Loyalists](#) who resettled in [British North America](#) and other [British Colonies](#) as an act of loyalty to [King George III](#) after the [British](#) failure in the [American Revolutionary War](#) and prior to the [Treaty of Paris](#). Reasons for their movement north range from loyalty to Britain, to a rejection of the republican ideals of the American Revolution, to an offer of free land<sup>[citation needed](#)</sup> in British North America. Many were prominent Americans whose ancestors had originally settled in the early 17th century, while a portion were recent settlers in the [Thirteen Colonies](#) with few economic or social ties. Many had their property confiscated by the revolutionaries.<sup>[1]</sup>

These Loyalists settled in what was initially [Quebec](#) (including the [Eastern Townships](#)) and modern-day [Ontario](#), where they received land grants of 200 acres (81 ha) per person, and in [Nova Scotia](#) (including modern-day [New Brunswick](#)). Their arrival marked the beginning of a predominantly [English-speaking](#) population in the future [Canada](#) west and east of the Quebec border.

Loyalists from the slave-owning regions of the American South brought their slaves with them as [slavery](#) was also [legal in Canada](#). Some 2000 slaves arrived in British North America: Some 500 in Upper Canada (Ontario), some 300 in Lower Canada (Quebec) but some 1200 in the main area of resettlement, the Maritime colonies of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. The presence and condition of the latter population would become a particular issue, as the community was large in number and the original purpose, in most cases, of their purchase - to work the sugar-plantations - no

longer applied. In due course many would be freed and returned to Africa, together with existing freedmen, to be re-settled yet again, this time in the designated colony for freedmen, Sierra Leone. Meanwhile an imperial law in 1790 assured prospective immigrants to Canada that their slaves would remain their property. From 1793, the trade in, but not the possession of, slaves was abolished in the colony of Upper Canada. The trade in slaves was abolished across the British Empire in 1807 and the abolition of possession was completed across the Empire in 1834. Most [Black Loyalists](#) were free, however, having been given their freedom from slavery by fighting for the British or joining British lines during the Revolution. The government also helped them resettle in Canada, transporting nearly 3500 free blacks to New Brunswick.<sup>[2]</sup>

## Origins



The [Union Flag](#), in its original form that was valid from 1707 to 1801, which can still be seen as a common Loyalist symbol in certain parts of Canada.

During the American Revolution, a significant proportion of the population of [New York](#), [Massachusetts](#), [Pennsylvania](#), [Virginia](#), [North Carolina](#), [Georgia](#), [East Florida](#), [West Florida](#), and other colonies remained loyal to the Crown. They were compelled to flee to the protection of their King, and the British Empire. The reasons were varied, but primarily were either loyalty to the King, or the belief in peaceful and evolutionary independence, as did eventually occur in Canada. As Daniel Bliss of [Concord](#), [Massachusetts](#) (who later became a Chief Justice of New Brunswick) stated: "Better to live under one tyrant a thousand miles away, than a thousand tyrants one mile away." Many Loyalist refugees made the difficult overland trek into Canada after losing their homes, property, and security during the Revolution. The Loyalists, many of whom helped found America from the early 17th century, left a well-armed population hostile to the King and his loyalist subjects to build the new nation of Canada. The motto of New Brunswick, created out of Nova Scotia for loyalist settlement, is *Spem Reduxit* ("Hope restored").

Many of the Loyalist refugees had fought bravely for King George. Land in Canada was sometimes allotted to Loyalist refugees according to which Loyalist regiment a man had fought in. See [Loyalists Fighting in the American Revolution#The fate of the Tories](#).

Loyalist refugees, mainly of British descent, later called **United Empire Loyalists**, began leaving at the end of the war whenever transport was available, with considerable loss of property and transfer of wealth. An estimated 70,000 left the thirteen newly independent states, representing about 3% of the total American population, of which 20-30% had supported the Crown during the American War for Independence.<sup>[citation needed]</sup> Approximately 62,000 were White (who also had 17,000 black

slaves) and 8,000 Black; 40,000 went to Canada,<sup>[3]</sup> 7,000 to Britain, and 17,000 to the [Caribbean](#).<sup>[citation needed]</sup> Beginning in the mid-1780s and lasting until the end of the century, some returned to the United States from the Caribbean and Nova Scotia.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

Following the end of the Revolution and the signing of the [Treaty of Paris](#) in 1783, Loyalist soldiers and civilians were evacuated from [New York](#) and resettled in other [colonies](#) of the [British Empire](#), most notably in Canada. The two colonies of Nova Scotia (including modern-day New Brunswick), received about 20,000 Loyalist refugees;<sup>[3]</sup> [Prince Edward Island](#) 2,000; and Quebec (including the Eastern Townships and modern-day Ontario) received some 10,000 refugees. An unknown but substantial number of refugees were unable to establish themselves in British North America and eventually returned to the United States.<sup>[4]</sup> Many in Canada continued to maintain close ties with relatives in the United States, and as well conducted commerce across the border without much regard to British trade laws.<sup>[5]</sup>

Excerpts from W O Raymond scrapbooks:

The number of Loyalists who left the United States at the close of the American Revolution has been variously estimated. Judge Thomas Jones, the Loyalist historian, says that Sir Guy Carleton sent away from New York 100,000 persons; perhaps 70,000 would be nearer the mark. But be the number less or more, the British commander-in-chief was obliged to put forth his utmost exertions to provide for the establishment of the Loyalists in their new homes in the various parts of the world whither they desired to go. And busily engaged as he was the summer days of 1783 sped all too quickly, both for Sir Guy and, as the events proved, for the Loyalists as well. **Refugees made their way from all parts of the old colonies to New York where they embarked for all parts of the world — some going to England, Scotland and Ireland, some to Canada, some to Nova Scotia and Cape Breton, some to Newfoundland and the Island of St. John's (now Prince Edward Island).**

**Those who had independent means formed companies and hired vessels for themselves; those impoverished by the event of the war were sent in fleets of transport ships to their several destinations by the British government. By the close of the summer the great majority of the loyal exiles had sailed from New York to their future homes.**

Many of the 20,000 Loyalists going to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick sailed on ships from New York City during the spring, summer and fall of 1783.

On one of the ships was Ebenezer Foster, his wife Mary (Beach) and his grown children: Elias, Lawrence, Joshua and Margaret. It's possible that Josiah's wife, Sarah, and three-year old son, Samuel, also sailed with these early ships, because Josiah and the troops didn't sail until late September. It's also possible that Ebenezer and his family came on a "hired" vessel, as he had the means to afford such a ship, and he came quite early to New Brunswick, probably in the spring, as he was hired to do some work for Major Studholme upon his arrival that took place in June, 1783.

The Loyalists basically left New York with just the clothes on their back, their lands and possessions having been confiscated with no remuneration, and they had to endure a difficult ships voyage to a new and strange land.

A diary kept by a passenger on one of these ships shows the timeline of her voyage on the Two Sisters:

### ***Two Sisters***

A synopsis of the saga, as written in the diary of Sarah Scofield Frost, adds life to our record of the journey. Mrs. Frost was a passenger on the ship, "Two Sisters" during the voyage from Long Island to New Brunswick in the Spring of 1783:

May 1783. - I left Lloyd's Neck with my family and went aboard the Two Sisters, commanded by Capt. Brown, for a voyage to Nova Scotia (New Brunswick) with the rest of the Loyalist sufferers . . . we expect to sail soon as the wind shall favor . . . there are two hundred and fifty passengers on board.

Monday, May 26. - . . . We lie at anchor in Oyster Bay the whole day, not having got all our passengers on board.

Tuesday, May 27. - At 8 o'clock we weighed anchor at Oyster Bay, with a fair wind, for New York . . . We went on with a fair breeze through Hell Gate; but as we got through, the wind and tide headed us, and we had like to have gone ashore, which put us all in great surprise. They tried twice to go on, but at length were obliged to anchor at the mouth of Harlem Creek (2 miles east of Rikers Island where highway 278 crosses the East River between the boroughs of Bronx and Queens), where we lay that night.

Wednesday, May 28. - We weighed anchor at Harlem Creek at a quarter after six in the morning, with a fair breeze, but the tide being low we struck a rock. We soon got off, but in a few minutes struck again. At half past seven we got off and went clear, and at ten we anchored at the lower end of the City of New York, the tide not serving to go round into the North River as we had intended. An hour later I went on shore . . .

Thursday, May 29. - . . . went on shore . . .

Friday, May 30. - went on shore . . .

Saturday, May 31. - . . . went out amongst the shops to trade . . .

Monday, June 2. - We are still lying at anchor in the North River, not having any orders for sailing, and I don't know when we shall sail but hope soon. Nothing happens worth mentioning.

Wednesday, June 4. - I staid on board all day. It being the King's (George III) birthday there was such a firing of cannons and noise amongst the ships it was enough to astound anyone . . .

Friday, June 6. - We are still lying at anchor waiting for other vessels of our fleet . . . We have had a very bad storm this evening. Our ship tossed very much, and some of the people are quite sick . . .

Sunday, June 8. - We are still lying at anchor in the North (Hudson) River. We expected to sail tomorrow for Nova Scotia, but I believe we shall remain at Staten Island or Sandy Hook (within 1 mile of Ellis Island in the Upper Bay between the Hudson River and the Atlantic Ocean) for some days or until our fleet is all got together.

Wednesday, June 11. - We weighed anchor in the North River about six o'clock this morning, and sailed as far as Staten Island, where we came to anchor . . . went ashore . . .

Friday, June 13. - It is now about half after three in the morning. I have got up, not being able to sleep for the heat . . . It storms so I cannot go on deck . . .

Saturday, June 14. - . . . We are still lying at Staten Island. We expected to sail this morning.

Sunday, June 15. - Our people seem cross and quarrelsome today, but I will not differ with any one, if I can help it. At half-past twelve our ship is getting under way - I suppose for Nova Scotia. I hope for a good passage. About five o'clock we come to anchor within six miles of the lighthouse at Sandy Hook. How long we shall lie here I don't know, but I hope not long. About six o'clock this evening we had a terrible thunder storm, and hail stones fell as big as ounce balls. About sunset there came another shower, and it hailed faster than before. Mr. Frost went out and gathered up a mugful of hail stones. Such an instance I never saw before on the 15th of June.

Monday, June 16. - Off at last! We weighed anchor about half after five in the morning, with the wind north-nor'west, and it blows very fresh. We passed the lighthouse about half after seven. We have twelve ships belonging to our fleet besides our commodore's. Two

hours later a signal was fired for the ships all to lie to for the Bridgewater, which seems to lag behind, I believe on account of some misfortune which happened to her yesterday. At 9 a.m. we have a signal fired to crowd sail. Again we are ordered to lie to. I don't know what it is for, as the Bridgewater has come up. It is now two o'clock, and we have again got under way. The mate tells me they have been waiting for a ship to come from New York, and she has overhauled us. We have now got all our fleet together; we have thirteen ships, two brigs, (brigantine) one frigate. The frigate is our commodore's.

The wind dies away. It is now three o'clock, and the men are fishing for mackerel. Mr. Mills has caught the first one. I never saw a live one before. It is the handsomest fish I ever beheld.

Tuesday, June 17. - The wind began to blow very fresh last night, about eleven o'clock. About half after five we are sixty miles from the lighthouse at Sandy Hook, the wind southwest. They say that is a fair wind for us. At half-past nine we are out of sight of land.

Wednesday, June 18. - Feel very well this morning and go to work, but soon the wind blows fresh, and I have to go back to my berth. At noon we are an hundred and ten miles from Sandy Hook, with the wind very fair, at southwest. At half after five we saw something floating on the water. Some thought it a wreck; others said it was a dead whale. One of our ships put about to see what it was. At sunset we are one hundred and fifty miles on our way.

Thursday, June 19. - We are still steering east by south, with a fine breeze. We sailed five miles an hour through the night, and today we sail seven miles an hour the chief part of the time, it is now about twelve o'clock. We have shifted our course, and are now steering north by east. At two o'clock, Captain Brown tells me, we are two hundred and fifty miles from Sandy Hook, on our passage to Nova Scotia, with the wind west-nor'-west. At six o'clock we saw a sail ahead. She crowded sail and put off from us, but our frigate knew how to speak to her, for at half-past seven she gave the stranger a shot, which caused her to shorten sail and lie to for the frigate to come up. Our captain looked out with his spy-glass. He told me she was a rebel Brig; he saw her thirteen stripes. She was steering to the westward. The wind blows so high this evening I am afraid to go to bed for fear of rolling out.

Friday, June 20. - At half after nine this morning our frigate fired to shift our course to north-north-east. We

have still fine weather and fair wind. Mr. Emslie, the mate, tells me we are five in the afternoon, five hundred miles from Sandy Hook light. We now begin to see the fog come on, for that is natural to this place. At six our commodore fired for the ships ahead to lie to till those behind should come up with us. The fog comes on very thick this evening.

Saturday, June 21. - I rose at eight o'clock, and it was so foggy we could not see one ship belonging to our fleet. They rang their bells and fired guns all the morning to keep company with one another. About half after ten the fog went off, so that we saw the chief part of our fleet around us. At noon the fog came on again, so that we lost sight of them, but we could hear their bells all around us. This evening the captain showed us the map of the whole way we have come and the way we have still to go. He told us we were two hundred and forty miles from Nova Scotia at this time. It is so foggy we have lost all our company and are entirely alone.

Sunday, June 22. - This morning the fog is still dense. No ships in sight, nor any bells to be heard. Towards noon we heard some guns fired from our fleet, but could not tell in what quarter. The fog is so thick we cannot see ten rods [165 feet], and the wind so ahead we have not made ten miles since yesterday noon.

Monday, June 23. - It grows brighter towards noon, and the fog disappears rapidly. This afternoon we can see several of our fleet, and one of our ships came close alongside of us. Mr. Emslie says we are an hundred and forty miles from land now. The wind becomes more favorable, the fog seems to leave us and the sun looks very pleasant. Mr. Whitney and his wife, Mr. Frost and myself have been diverting ourselves with a few games of crib [cribbage].

Tuesday, June 24. - The sun appears very pleasant this morning. Ten ships are in sight. The fog comes on, and they all disappear. We have been nearly becalmed for three days. A light breeze enables us to sail this evening two miles and a half an hour.

Wednesday, June 25. - Still foggy; the wind is fair, but we are obliged to lie to for the rest of the fleet. The commodore fires once an hour. The frigate is near us, and judging by the bells, we are not far from some of the other ships, but we can't see ten rods for the fog. We have measles very bad on board our ship.

Thursday, June 26. - This morning the sun appears very pleasant. The fog is gone to our great satisfaction. Ten of our ships are in sight. We are now nigh the banks of Cape Sable. At nine o'clock we begin to see land, at which we all rejoice. We have been nine days out of sight of land. At half after six we have twelve ships in sight. Our captain told me just now we should be in the Bay of Fundy before morning. He says it is about one day's sail after we get into the bay to Saint John's River. Oh, how I long to see that place, though a strange land. I am tired of being on board ship, though we have as kind a captain as ever need to live.

Friday, June 27. - I got up this morning very early to look out. I can see land on both sides of us. About ten o'clock we passed Annapolis [Annapolis Royal on the northwest coast of Nova Scotia, 40 miles south of St. John Harbour across the Bay of Fundy]; after that the wind all died away. Our people have got their lines out to catch codfish, and about half after five John Waterbury caught the first one for our ship.

Saturday, June 28. - Got up in the morning and found ourselves nigh to land on each side. It was up the river St. John's. At half after nine our captain fired a gun for a pilot; an hour later a pilot came on board, and at quarter after one our ship anchored off Fort Howe in St. Johns River. Our people went on shore and brought on board spruce and gooseberries, and grass and pea vines with the blossoms on them, all of which grow wild here. They say this is to be our city. Our land is five and twenty miles up the river. We are to have here only a building place of forty feet in the front and a hundred feet back. Mr. Frost has now gone on shore in his whale boat to see how the place looks, and he says he will soon come back and take me on shore. I long to set my feet once more on land. He soon came on board and brought a fine salmon.

Sunday, June 29. - This morning it looks very pleasant on the shore. I am just going ashore with my children to see how I like it. Later - It is now afternoon and I have been ashore. **It is, I think, the roughest land I ever saw. It beats Short Rocks, indeed, I think, that is nothing in comparison; but this is to be the city, they say! We are to settle here, but are to have our land sixty miles farther up the river. We are all ordered to land to-morrow, and not a shelter to go under. (This wasn't a "good" first impression of Saint John, was it?)**

Thus, ends the 660-mile journey from Long Island to New Brunswick as recorded in the pages of the diary of Sarah Frost. The date was July 5, 1783.

Submitted by James C. Fosdyck

### References

[1] Walter Bates, *Kingston and The Loyalists of The Spring Fleet of 1783*, (Barnes & Company, 1889), (reprint, Woodstock, New Brunswick: Non-Entity Press, 1990), pp. 29-32.

In September, 1783 the Loyalist regiments began their journey to New Brunswick. All those Loyalists not involved in the actual fighting during the War had already arrived in New Brunswick during the spring and summer months, and had a head start in preparing for the cold winter ahead.

Excerpts from W O Raymond scrapbooks:

### Arrival of the Loyalist Regiments

*The American Revolution was in reality much more of a civil war than has generally been supposed. On the battle fields of the Revolution neighbor often met neighbor, and brother sometimes met brother. About forty Loyalist corps were organized during the war and incorporated into the British army. Many of them gained an enviable reputation for steadiness and courage on the battle field. A conservative estimate places the number of inhabitants of the old colonies, who at one time or another were enrolled in the king's service, at 25,000 men. Of course not all of these were on active service at the same time for the composition of the Loyalist corps, like that of Washington's army, was constantly changing. However, at the close of the year 1780 there were nearly 9,000 efficient Loyalists enrolled among the British forces in America, at which time the actual strength of the American army was but little over 21,000 men.*

*Unfortunately for the cause of the mother country the haughty, arrogant demeanor of the British "regulars" towards the "provincials," combined with the ill treatment of loyal inhabitants and plundering their property by the English and German soldiers lost to the royal cause thousands of friends and well-wishers. Had the Revolution been the rising of the American people en masse, it would have resulted in the attainment of independence much sooner than it did. But the divided state of public opinion was such that England was several times on the verge of success and in the end failed chiefly on account of the incapacity of her own generals. Lord North, the leader of the British ministry, once said with grim humor, "**I do not know whether our generals will frighten the enemy, but I know they frighten me whenever I think of them.**" It was not till the appointment of Sir Guy Carleton to the command, just at the close of the war that the control of the British army passed into competent hands. Col. Henry Lee, the United States military historian, aptly observes: "**By a strange fatality the soldier best qualified for the arduous duties of war was reserved to conduct the scenes of returning peace. America may justly rejoice in the misapplication of such***

**talents and Great Britain as truly lament the infatuation of her rulers who overlooked a leader of such high promise.”**

*New York remained in the hands of the British until about the close of November 1783. During the war it had served [as] a rallying point, and the Loyalists naturally turned their faces thither, as to a city of refuge, when the success of their enemies was assured.*

*The commanding officers of fourteen Loyalist regiments, on the 14th of March, 1783, presented a memorial to Sir Guy Carleton, in which they stated:—*

***"That from principles of loyalty and attachment to British government they took arms in His Majesty's service, and relying on the justice of their cause and the support of their Sovereign and the British nation, they had preserved with unabated zeal through all the vicissitudes of a calamitous war. . . That whatever stipulations may be made at the peace for the restoration of the property of the Loyalists and permission for them to return home, yet should the American provinces be severed from the British Empire, it will be impossible for those who have served His Majesty in arms in this war to remain in the country. The personal animosity arising from civil dissensions have been so heightened by the blood that had been shed in the contest that the parties can never be reconciled. . . . Many who have served in the ranks of the Provincial troops during the war have been respectable yeomen of good connections and possessed of considerable property, which from principles of loyalty and a sense of duty they quitted, and in course of the contest have shown a degree of patience, fortitude and bravery almost without example."***

*The memorial closes with a request for grants of the land and assistance in making settlements in some part of America where they may still live under the British flag; that provision be made for non-commissioned officers and privates disabled by wounds and for the widows and orphans of deceased officers and soldiers; and the officers be allowed to retain their rank with an allowance of half pay on the disbanding of the respective corps. Sir Guy Carleton at once forwarded the memorial to England with a strong recommendation that the requests contained therein be approved by the British ministry. The result was that on the 9th day of June following, the Royal Instruction were issued which provided that all con-commissioned officers and privates willing to settle in Nova Scotia should receive grants of land, 200 acres to non-commissioned officers, and 100 acres to privates exclusive of what each man should be entitled to in right of his family. Rations of provisions to be supplied for one year, and the disbanded troops to retain their arms and accoutrements. The commissioned officers were to receive grants of land in proportion to their rank and to be retired on half pay at the disbanding of their respective corps. The non-commissioned officers and privates to receive a gratuity of fourteen days' pay.*

*On September 15 the provincial troops had sailed from New York for the River St. John. On the eve of their departure Sir Guy Carleton wrote to Lieut. Col. Richard Hewlett, of de Lancey's 3rd battalion, who appears to have been the senior officer accompanying the loyalist regiment to New Brunswick the following letter:—*

**New York**  
Sept. 12th, 1783

*Sir: — You are to take the command of the British and British American troops mentioned in margin [namely the Queens Rangers, Kings American Regiment, Garrison Battalion, New York Volunteers, 1st de Lanceys, 3rd de Lanceys, Loyal American Regiment, 1st Battalion 1st New Jersey Volunteers, 2nd ditto, 3rd ditto, Prince of Wales American Regiment, Pennsylvania Loyalists, Maryland Loyalists, American Legion, Guides [and] Pioneers, Detachment of Kings Dragoons, Detachment of North Carolina Volunteers]*

*These corps are to proceed to the River St. Johns in the Bay of Fundy in Nova Scotia. On your arrival there you will see that the stores intended for them are duly delivered, and you will take such steps as shall be necessary for the several corps proceedings immediately to the places allotted for their settlement, where they are to be disbanded on their arrival, provided it does not exceed the 20th October, on or before which day Captain Preost, Deputy Inspector of the British American forces, has directions to disband them for which purpose you will give him the necessary assistance wherever you may be at the time, adhering strictly to the orders of 17th August last.*

*The disembarkment of the troops must not be delayed as the transports must return with all possible dispatch. Directions have been given to Mr. Colvill assistant agent for all small craft at the River St. John to assist the corps to their destinations.*

*A large fleet of transports left New York on the 15th day of September, 1783, under convoy of one or more men of war. Some of the vessels were bound for Shelburne and others for St. John. They sailed in company until near Nova Scotia, when those for St. John turned their course towards the mouth of the Bay of Fundy. During the voyage the ships became separated more or less from one another, and did not arrive at their destination in a body. One unfortunate ship, the Martha, having on board detachments of the Maryland loyalists and of de Lancey's third battalion, was wrecked on a ledge of rocks near Yarmouth, and out of 174 souls about 100 were lost. The other vessels arrived safely after a voyage of from ten to twelve days.*

*Major Studholme's correspondence shows that the transport, which brought Captain Buskirk's company of the 3rd battalion, New Jersey Volunteers, had reached St. John on the 25th September. (A party of soldiers from on board this ship having landed on the east side of the harbor managed to get into a fine squabble with some of the Royal Fencibles in garrison at Fort Howe. Several of the latter were wounded, and two sergeants and five privates carried as prisoners on board the transport. Major Studholme writes a very indignant letter to General Fox complaining of the treatment of his men.)*

*By the 27th of September nearly all the fleet were at anchor in the harbor and preparations were at once made to disembark both passengers and stores.*

*The commander-in-chief wrote from New York, Sept. 29th, to General Fox, enclosing a list of the troops who were to be disbanded and settle on the river St. John and other parts of Nova Scotia. **Each man was to be paid up to the 24th day of October and***

***to receive two pairs of stockings, two pairs of mitts, two pairs of shoes, also an axe and a spade. The troops were to be "victualed" on board the transports until the day of landing after which the king's allowance of one year's provisions was to commence.***

***Col. Hewlett says that great dissatisfaction was caused among the troops in consequence of having hatchets in lieu of axes.***

Josiah Foster had now landed with his regiment in Saint John and was reunited with his family. Josiah's father, Ebenezer, had arrived earlier in the spring and already had shelter for the winter, so Josiah didn't have to experience some of the hardships that others did in the winter months ahead.

## CHAPTER 5

### SPEM REDUXIT

The Loyalists adopted *Spem Reduxit* as the motto for their Province which means "Hope Restored".

Basically, when the Loyalists landed in Saint John, New Brunswick, all that they had was "hope", as they only came with literally the "clothes on their backs."

It would be a "new beginning" for everyone, and a very hard one at that. For those Loyalists arriving in the spring and summer months, they had time to prepare for the cold winter to come by building some kind of shelter and storing some food supplies, but such wasn't the case for those arriving with the Fall ships (which were the Loyalist regiment troops) and many endured a cruel and harsh winter without adequate shelter or food.

Excerpts from W O Raymond scrapbooks:

#### ***The Loyalists and Their First New Brunswick Winter***

*The first winter in New Brunswick was long remembered by the loyalists. Those who came early in the season were able to build log houses which, though rude structures in comparison with former dwellings, enabled them to pass the cold weather with comfort. But the later arrivals were not so fortunate. When they arrived they found that scarcely any preparations had been made for their reception. At Parrtown, Portland and Carleton every habitation was crowded, and up the river S. John the houses of the old inhabitants at Gagetown, Sheffield and Maugerville were in many cases filled to overflowing with as many of the loyalists as could find accommodation. During the month of October many of the disbanded soldiers pushed their way up the Saint John transporting their few possessions in boats provided by government. But the season was cold and wet and the hardships and exposure very great.*

*Mrs. Mary Bradley in her curious old autobiography describes the effect produced in her mind by the arrival of the loyalists. She was living at the time in the lower part of the township of Maugerville, now known as Sheffield. "My heart," she says, "was filled with pity and affection when I saw them in a strange land without house or home, and many of them were sick and helpless. I often looked at them when they passed by in boats in rainy weather and wished for them to call and refresh themselves and was glad when they did so." She adds that during the winter one of the loyalist families occupied a part of her father's house.*

*Colonel Richard Hewlett seeing the impossibility of disbanding the loyalist corps at their several locations, as originally intended by Sir Guy Carleton, was compelled to disband them at St. John, urging them at the same time to make the best provision they could for the approaching winter.*

*The more adventurous spirits pressed on up the river, some finding shelter in the houses of the old settlers, while others took possession of the abandoned French settlements at*

*Grimross and St. Anne's Point, where they set about building huts and repairing the ruined dwellings of the Acadians, but before they had made much progress the snow was on the ground and the winter frost in the air. They then endured the greatest hardships, their situation being at times rendered well-nigh desperate in consequence of the non-arrival of supplies expected up the river before the close of navigation. Frequently the stout hearted fathers and sons of the little colony at St. Anne's had to journey from fifty to a hundred miles with toboggans through wild woods or on the ice to procure a precarious supply of food for their famishing families. Women, delicately reared, cared for their children beneath canvas tents rendered habitable only by the banks of snow which lay six feet deep in the open spaces of the forest, and as one said who had as a child passed through the terrible experience of that first winter: **"There were times when strong proud men wept like children and lay down in their snow bound tents to die."***

*A few of the pioneer settlers doubtless found shelter among the French Acadians of whom there were then several families living near Springhill, others may have passed the winter at Prince William where the disbanded men of the King's American Dragoons had been sent sufficiently early to finish their log cabins and provisions for passing the winter in comfort.*

*Very many men from all the loyal American regiments spent their first winter at St. John. Some of them drew town lots there and became permanent residents, others removed to their lands up the river the following year. For lack of other accommodation many were forced to live in bark camps and even under canvas tents pitched upon what is now known as the barrack square. These tents were trenched around and covered with spruce brought in the ship's boats from Partridge Island but even then they were a pitiful protection against the biting cold of a New Brunswick winter. Still it was wonderful what the brave hearted founders of this province endured. The late Hon. John Ward, who died at St. John, Jan. 2nd, 1875, at the advanced age of 92 years, was born in a canvas tent on the barrack square Dec. 18th 1783.*

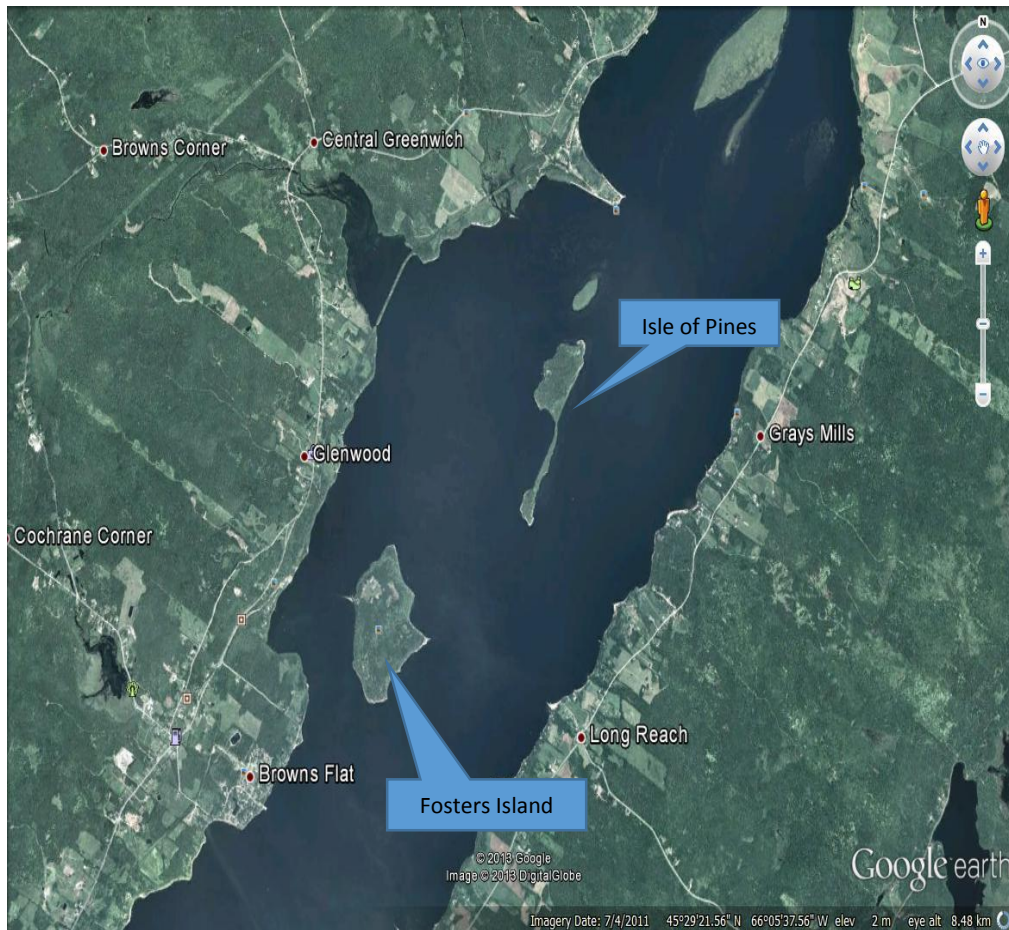
*In his little work on New Brunswick history, published in the year 1825, Mr. Peter Fisher (father of ex-Mayor Fisher of Woodstock) speaks of the tribulations endured by the pioneer settlers in the words following, "The privations and sufferings of these people almost exceed belief. The want of food and clothing in a wild, cold country, was not easily dispensed with or soon remedied. Frequently in the piercing cold of winter a part of the family had to remain up during the night to keep fire in their huts to prevent the other part from freezing. Some very destitute families made use of boards to supply the want of bedding; the father or some of the elder children remaining up by turns, and warming two suitable pieces of boards, which they applied alternately to the smaller children to keep warm; with many similar expedients. . . . I have received the above facts with many other expedients, which were at that time adopted by the settlers, from persons of undoubted veracity, and who had been eye witness of what they related."*

## CHAPTER 6

### The Years from 1784 to 1800

In the spring of 1784 – after enduring their first harsh New Brunswick winter – the colonists began their new beginnings and life in earnest.

Ebenezer Foster settled on his land grant at Long Reach with his wife and children. At this time Ebenezer and wife Mary would have been about 60 years of age. Elias would have been 30, Lawrence, 19, and Joshua, 16. Their daughter, Margaret, would have been 14 years of age.



The Land Grant was for 3 islands in the river, named Foster's Islands. Undoubtedly, the family also lived on the shoreline of the river at Long Reach where they began to clear the land and build their home. (See above photo)

With three grown and able sons to do the work, this left Ebenezer, who had been a judge in New Jersey, to continue on the work he had started in the early summer of 1783 for Major Studholme that was to give a report on the inhabitants found living on the Saint John River at the time of the Loyalists coming to the Province.

Excerpts from Studholme Report:

Made a claim, probably page 754 of Fraser's 1903 report.

Probably from Studholme's report:

St. John's River, June 30th, 1783.

To Major Studholme, Commandant at Fort Howe, &c.

SIR:-Agreeable to your instructions on the 15th Inst., we proceeded up the River St. Johns on the 24th, and have endeavored in the most accurate manner to collect the best information that was possible respecting the titles, claims, characters, principles and deserts of those people settled on the lands commonly known by the appellation of Amesbury tract, the townships of Gage, Burton, Sunbury, Newtown, and the lands formerly granted to one McNutt, and after full examination report as follows:

[Then follow reports on the various settlers, those given below being of special interest in this connection.]

5. Stephen Dow, has a wife; is settled on Musquash Island (Township of Gage,) has no claim but possession. Has built a log house and cleared about 3 acres of land. Came from Passamaquodde about 4 years past and says he was drove off by the rebels.

19. Daniel Rolf an aged man, has a wife and one child. Came on last spring from Passamaquoddie. He came on to this river about 4 years past and has cleared 1 ½ acres of land.

20. Jeremiah Frost has a wife and four children. Purchased the improvements of William Curtis. Has a log house and about 12 acres of land cleared. Came from Passamaquoddie.

24. Israel Kinney has a log house and framed barn, and about 15 acres of cleared land, which as chiefly done by the French and Indians. Has been on about 15 years and was a committee man.

The foregoing are all the persons that are settled on the lands at Amesbury and Gagetown and all that we could find that have the least reasonable pretence of claim. Those that we thought worthy of any particular favor for their loyalty, attachment or any services to the government we have properly noticed and refer the whole to the determination of the authority proper to decide.

The returns of Burton, Sunbury, Newtown and McNutts shall be handed you as soon as complete.

We have the honor to be &c.

**EBENEZER FOSTER,**

FYLER DIBBLEE,

JAMES WHITE,

GERVICE SAY.

In **1784** New Brunswick separated from what until then was known as Nova Scotia, and became a separate Province.

In **1785** there was a free election of representatives to sit in the new House of Assembly for the Province. **Judge Ebenezer Foster** and **General Coffin** were elected as representatives for Long Reach and Kings County. The House of Assembly convened in Saint John until 1788 when the Assembly moved to the new provincial capital in

Fredericton. Ebenezer was also one of the Judges of the inferior court of common pleas for New Brunswick.

However, **Ebenezer died while in office (the first to do so) on Dec 21, 1787 at about 63 years of age.**

Ebenezer's wife, Mary, and her children had to carry on their lives now without him.

From research so far it would seem that **Elias Foster b.1754** eventually left New Brunswick for the Niagara Peninsula in Ontario, and so there is little information on him.

From many newspaper clippings during that period it's quite easy to piece together this profile of **Lawrence Foster b.1765 d.1839**:

Lawrence Foster married Sarah Kent who was born in 1771 in NJ. Sarah also came as one of the Loyalists. They were probably married sometime around 1790. They had the following children: Daughter **Mary** married George Taylor Jr. on July 21, 1813; Daughter **Elizabeth** married William Brundage on Feb 6, 1813; Daughter **Margaret** married Charles J Melick on June 23, 1830 and died in 1866 at age 51; Daughter **Ann Isabella** b.1800 married Henry Melick, merchant, on June 11, 1834 and died in 1884 with no children; Son **Stephen Kent**, b.1811 d.1887 was a retired Colonel and worked with his father in the shoe and paper business in the oldest building in Saint John that burned in the great fire of 1837. Lawrence resided at the corner of King and Germain Streets in Saint John and died there in 1839 at age 74. Lawrence was a lawyer and a JP for many years.

Date December 21 1887

County Saint John

Place Saint John

Newspaper The Daily Telegraph

The language of the text is the original used in the newspaper entry and as transcribed by Daniel F. Johnson. Records acquired by the Provincial Archives are not translated from the language in which they originate.

A telegram from Ottawa yesterday announced the death of Colonel S.K. FOSTER, a former resident of Saint John. He removed from Saint John to Ottawa some years ago and has been living with his son, George C. FOSTER. Colonel Foster was the grandson of a loyalists, Ebenezer FOSTER who settled in Kings Co. on that part of the St. John River known as the Long Reach. At the first election of representatives of the House of Assembly in 1785, he and General Coffin were elected members for Kings Co. Ebenezer Foster was the first member of the House of Assembly who died. Lawrence FOSTER, his son, resided at the corner of King and Germain Streets, to the time of his death 1839, his wife living until 1854. S.K. Foster, the deceased, was in the shoe and paper business with his father and their building, which was the oldest in the city, was destroyed in the great fire of 1837. He was born in March, 1811 and in 1832

married the daughter of George WHITTAKER. For many years he led the choir in Trinity Church and was prominent in all musical events. In 1834 he was appointed a lieutenant in the artillery militia and a few years later was advanced to the rank of a retired colonel. He was an alderman for Queens ward for many years and once was a candidate for mayor, but was defeated by Wm O. Smith by a few votes. In 1851 he was an unsuccessful candidate for the House of Assembly, being defeated by Sheriff Harding. He left quite a large family, three members of which are in St. John now. The remains will be brought here for interment.

### **Joshua Foster b.1768 d.1799**

Joshua married Sarah Sharp (b.1771 d.1850); Sarah Sharp was d/o Samuel Sharp & Priscilla Sutton, Loyalists; they had 3 children:

- i) James b.1795
- ii) Samuel b.1797 d.1872
- iii) Sarah b.1800

Joshua died in 1799 just shortly before his daughter Sarah was born on Jan 16, 1800. He was 31 years old. We can only speculate about his untimely death; probably an accident of some kind, perhaps felling the large trees while clearing the land; perhaps drowning from a boating accident in going "to and fro" to Foster's Island where he may have been living on the Land Grant.

Sarah then married, in 1801, Samuel Smith, (b.1760 in Long Island, NY & died Aug 19, 1834 in Kings Co. & s/o Samuel & Elizabeth Smith)

Sarah & Samuel Smith settled in Smithtown, Hampton Parish, Kings Co. and had 7 children: 3 from the marriage to Joshua, and 4 more with Samuel Smith.

Samuel Smith died in 1834, and on Sept 20, 1834, the Estate of Samuel Smith, Hampton, Kings Co. was settled with the Executors: Ebenezer Smith, **Samuel Foster** and Joshua Smith.

Joshua's son, **Samuel Foster, b.1797** married **Allida Prall Sherwood b.1800 d.1880**; they had at least two children:

In the Upham St. Peter's Anglican, Kings Co. Cemetery are buried:

- i) Samuel Foster Esq. b.1797 d.1872
- ii) Allida Prall (Sherwood) Foster b.1800 d.1880
- iii) **Samuel Foster b.1831 d.1897**
- iv) Mary S. Foster b.1824 d.1853

From a newspaper at the time was this entry:

Date December 4 1896

County Kings

Place Sussex  
Newspaper Kings County Record

The language of the text is the original used in the newspaper entry and as transcribed by Daniel F. Johnson. Records acquired by the Provincial Archives are not translated from the language in which they originate.

Upham (Kings Co.) Dec. 2 - Samuel FOSTER, who for the past 23 years has been making his home in California, has returned home to spend the winter among us.

Obviously this was their son, Samuel, coming home from California where he had lived for the past 23 years, from 1873 to 1896. Samuel, grandson of Joshua Foster, died at age 66 in 1897 and is buried in the cemetery with his parents. (Wouldn't it have been interesting to have had a diary of his life? How did he travel to California, by water or land? Why did he go? What did he do there?)

*(As an aside, it's interesting that people in that day and age didn't seem to mind travelling long distances, even though they didn't have the modern conveyances of travel like cars, trains and planes that we have today. It reminds me of Samuel Cleaves in Weston, Maine just across the border from Fosterville. Samuel Cleaves was born in Wales in 1795 but settled on the Baskahegan Stream near Weston in 1827. When gold was found in San Francisco in 1849, he pulled up stakes and headed west to make his fortune. After the Gold Rush was over he returned home to Weston, Maine where he died in 1872. He married three times, too! What a diary that would have been to read!)*

### **Margaret Foster b.1770 d.1839**

Margaret was the only surviving daughter of Ebenezer Foster, and probably named after his mother, Margaret Van Galen. She married a Mr. Ketchum and died in New York on Feb 19, 1839.

That brings us to Ebenezer's second son, Josiah Foster b.1758, my direct descendant and 4G Grandfather.

### **Josiah Foster b.1758 d.1833 (My 4G Grandfather)**

In 1784 Josiah set about acquiring his land grant and clearing the ground. He was 26 years old, and his wife, Sarah, was 21, with a four-year old son, Samuel. They would have 8 more children in the years ahead, because Sarah had indicated in her Petition that she and Josiah had raised 9 children.

Josiah's Land Grant was 400 acres at Mill Cove on Grand Lake – Waterborough Parish



There was a stream on Josiah's property called Foster's mill stream and Josiah built a causeway and bridge across the stream for which he applied to the Provincial Government for compensation since the main road around the lake crossed his property (according to PANB information).



“New clearing”, excellent shot of squared timber houses.

In the early days, most of these trees were cut with axes and brute strength; notice all the stumps; these were often left in the ground for a few years to rot before being pulled out with teams of oxen or horses.

Josiah’s first house, like most dwellings of the early Loyalists, probably looked like one of these squared-timber houses or even a log house.

In time, when sawmills were set up, usually on streams or close to lakes for the transportation of logs to the mill, frame-timber houses were built using studs and boards with cedar shakes or shingles for the roof.

Josiah’s land grant was ideally situated on a small stream that flowed into Grand Lake and he was the first to establish a sawmill and grist mill in the area to take advantage of the trees and logs growing on his 400-acre property, and buying and sawing logs from his neighbors who were also busy clearing their land grants and building their houses, barns and outbuildings. Booms of logs could have been towed across Grand Lake to his mill. In the early days the only transportation was by water using boats or canoes, as there were no roads except for “trails” cut through the woods (that eventually turned into roads in time).

For the next sixteen years Josiah was busy with establishing his sawmill and forestry work while his wife Sarah was busy having babies. We know for certain that Samuel was the firstborn in 1780, and then came John, Stephen, William, Joshua, Frances,

Sarah, and two other children we don't have any record of at this time. Frances was born in 1795 and Sarah was born in 1800.

In 1800, Sarah (Parks) Foster, wife of Josiah, would only have been 37 years old when her daughter Sarah was born, so perhaps two more children were born after 1800 that we don't have any record of. They could have died at a young age.

*(Josiah's saw mill and grist mill operations were still a going concern in 1833 when he died at age 75. See Deed later in history).*

## CHAPTER 7

### The Years from 1801 to 1850

By **1801** Josiah's sawmilling operations would have been a well-established enterprise in the area and he would have built up considerable equity for himself and the family. By now they were probably living in a finely crafted farmhouse with many bedrooms for his large family. The sons, especially Samuel the eldest, would have been of invaluable help to Josiah in the logging and sawmilling operations. Much of the land would have been cleared by now for farming as well.

About this time Samuel, now age 21, was attracted to a local girl by the name of Ann Sims, the daughter of David Sims who lived in Waterborough Parish. In **August of 1801 Samuel and Ann were married** at the home of her father, David, in Waterborough Parish by a Rev. Clarke and the marriage was registered in the marriage register at the Anglican Church in Gagetown.

In **1803** they had their first child, a son they named **David**, probably after Ann's father. In **1805** a daughter was born that they named **Mary Ann**.

They were probably living somewhere on the Josiah Foster property during this time and Samuel was still working at the saw mill.

But somewhere around **1810**, Samuel and his young family moved to Kings County for a five-year period. Why? We don't know. However, if we could speculate a bit, perhaps Josiah asked Samuel to go to Ebenezer's land grant, Foster's Island, at Long Reach and settle on this land, as it wasn't being used. When Ebenezer died in 1787, the 174 acres were deeded to his children: Elias, Josiah, Lawrence, Joshua and Margaret.

We know that Elias had moved to Ontario by this time, that Lawrence was married and living in Saint John with a shoe and paper business to run, that Joshua had died young at age 31 in 1799 and that Margaret had married a Mr. Ketchum and perhaps had already moved back to New York where she died in 1839, and so they would not have had much interest in "working" the property. That left Josiah, but he had a successful sawmilling operation on Grand Lake and wasn't interested either. Perhaps Josiah gave his joint share of this property to Samuel as his inheritance, **because there is no mention of Foster's Islands in Josiah's Will when he died in 1833.**

This is a description of this particular land grant, Foster's Islands.

Josiah Foster Land Grant #331 Greenwich Parish, Kings Co. 1798-05-30 as MF F16301: The Land Grant can be found in Land Grant Plan Books RS686C under F17260 and more specifically KS2 #40. I've put this Land Grant on Google Earth. *(See previous photo connected with Ebenezer Foster; the photo only shows two islands, because one island is usually submerged during high water.)*

The Land Grant ...**do give and grant** “Unto Elias Foster, Josiah Foster, Lawrence Foster, Joshua Foster and Margaret Foster, their heirs, three several islands numbered one, two and three on the annexed plan containing **in the whole one hundred and seventy four acres, more or less** without any allowance, the said three islands situate lying and being in the upper part of the Long Reach of the River Saint John below Oak Point within the Parish of Greenwich in Kings County, being commonly known and distinguished by the name of Fosters Islands and are abutted and abounded by the waters of the said river as shown on the annexed plan...together with all woods, timber, lakes, ponds, watercourses, etc. ...with the privilege of hunting, fowling, etc., ...**saving and reserving nevertheless to us our heirs and successors all white pine trees if any such shall be found growing thereon**, and also saving and reserving to us our heirs and successors all mines of Gold, Silver, Copper, Lead and Coals. To have and to hold the said three Islands and all and singular other the premises hereby granted unto the said Grantees above named their heirs and assigns forever...”

What’s interesting to me is that the **“white pine trees”** could not be cut for their use, but remained as property of the Province; this would make the islands not that valuable without this resource (and one of the islands was known as the **“Isle of Pines”**), and the fact that the islands could only be reached by boat would also not be that practical to own in that day and age.

But, five years of trying to live on an island where you couldn’t cut the “white pine” trees must have proved “hard” for Samuel to take since he had grown up working with trees, logs and a sawmill. So he moved back to Wickham Parish, Queens Co. in search of his own Land Grant with, hopefully, virgin timber – because **“timber equaled money”** in those days.

Today, Fosters Islands, (also known as Caton’s Islands) is the site of a Christian camp.

### **Wickham Parish, Queens County 1815**

About **1815**, Samuel and his young family moved back to Wickham Parish, Queens County. By this time there had been another addition to the family, a son they named **James b.1814**.

Samuel petitioned for a Land Grant east of Washademoak Lake in **1817**, and was successful in getting it.

### **Samuel Foster Land Grant Petition of 1817 – Washademoak, NB (see Appendix 4)**

At PANB (Public Archives New Brunswick) in Fredericton, I checked out the Land Grant Petition of Samuel Foster, dated 1817, for the 300-acre Land Grant at Washademoak, NB., and found some interesting facts from Samuel as follows:

- 1) Samuel said he was born in New York State

- 2) That he came as a Loyalist to NB in 1783
- 3) That he had never owned a land grant before
- 4) That he had been living for a five-year period before 1817 in Kings County, but was now residing again in Wickham Parish, Queens County
- 5) That he had a young family
- 6) That his son would help him clear the Land Grant

The only son old enough to help Samuel at this time to clear his land was David who would have been 15 years old. It was a requisite of getting a Land Grant that one must live on the land continuously for a three-year period and clear a minimum of ten acres in order to keep it.

In **1817** another son was born to Samuel and Ann that they named **Josiah**, probably after Samuel's father.

In **1819** Samuel's younger sister, **Sarah Foster b.1800**, married **Reuben Vantassel** in the Parish of Waterborough, probably at the home of Josiah Foster. A John McDonald was one of the witnesses to their marriage. John was about the same age as Sarah, and the son of **John McDonald**, Josiah's old "comrade in arms" from the Revolutionary War days in New York. John McDonald's land grant was located at Belleisle Bay.

John McDonald Jr. was a Deputy Surveyor and would have probably passed on information about the 300-acre land grant that Samuel had petitioned for in 1817 at Washademoak Lake – **a description that Samuel was very accurate about in his Petition.**

Reuben Vantassel's 300-acre land grant was located north of Samuel's land grant at Washademoak Lake, and to the east was a land grant registered to a William Vantassel.

South of Samuel's land grant was a 200-acre land grant deeded to a Richard Cropley.

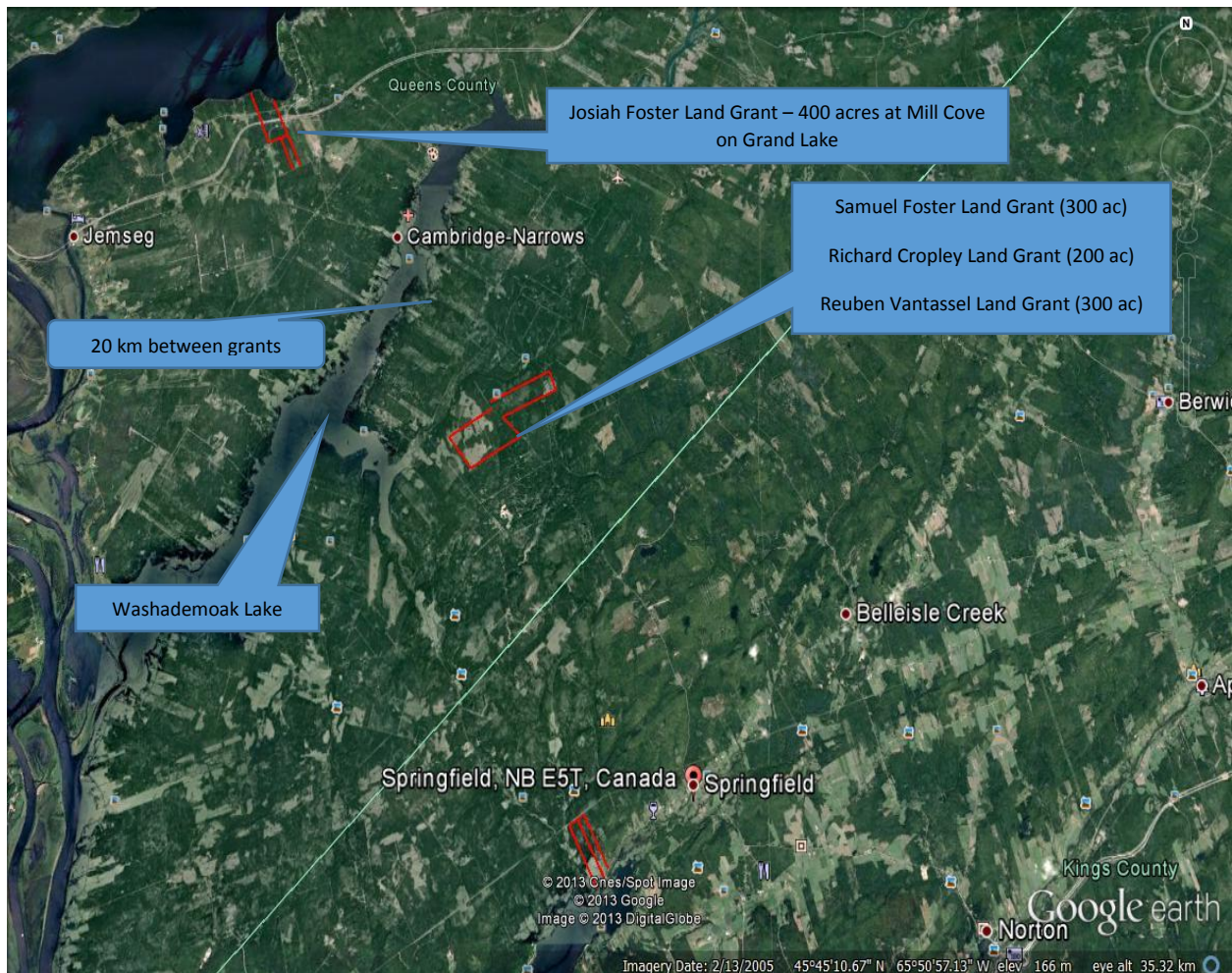
In **1820** another son, **Elias**, was born to Samuel and Ann.

In **1822 Richard Cropley** married Samuel's daughter, **Mary Ann Foster**, at Springfield, and John McDonald Jr. was also a witness to their marriage. Richard Cropley was born in North Plains England in 1789 and died in Fosterville in 1887 at the age of 98.

In **1823** John McDonald Jr. married Miss Cromwell. The Cromwell's had a land grant next to Foster and Cropley. It would appear that Sarah Foster, Mary Ann Foster and John McDonald were very close in age and good friends, as John McDonald was a witness to both marriages (Vantassel and Cropley).

## Overview of Josiah and Samuel Foster Land Grants on Google Map

- Josiah's Land Grant was 400 acres located in Parish of Waterborough on Grand Lake.
- Samuel's Land Grant was 300 acres located in Parish of Wickham just east of Washademoak Lake, about 20 km from Josiah's in Waterborough Parish.
- Reuben Vantassel's Land Grant was 300 acres just north of Samuel's Land Grant.
- Richard Cropley's Land Grant was 200 acres south and adjacent to Samuel's Land Grant.
- The Mott's also had a Land Grant just south of Richard Cropley's Land Grant.
- All lots fronted the Post Road.
- John McDonald's 100 acre Land Grant is located just west of Springfield at Belleisle Creek.



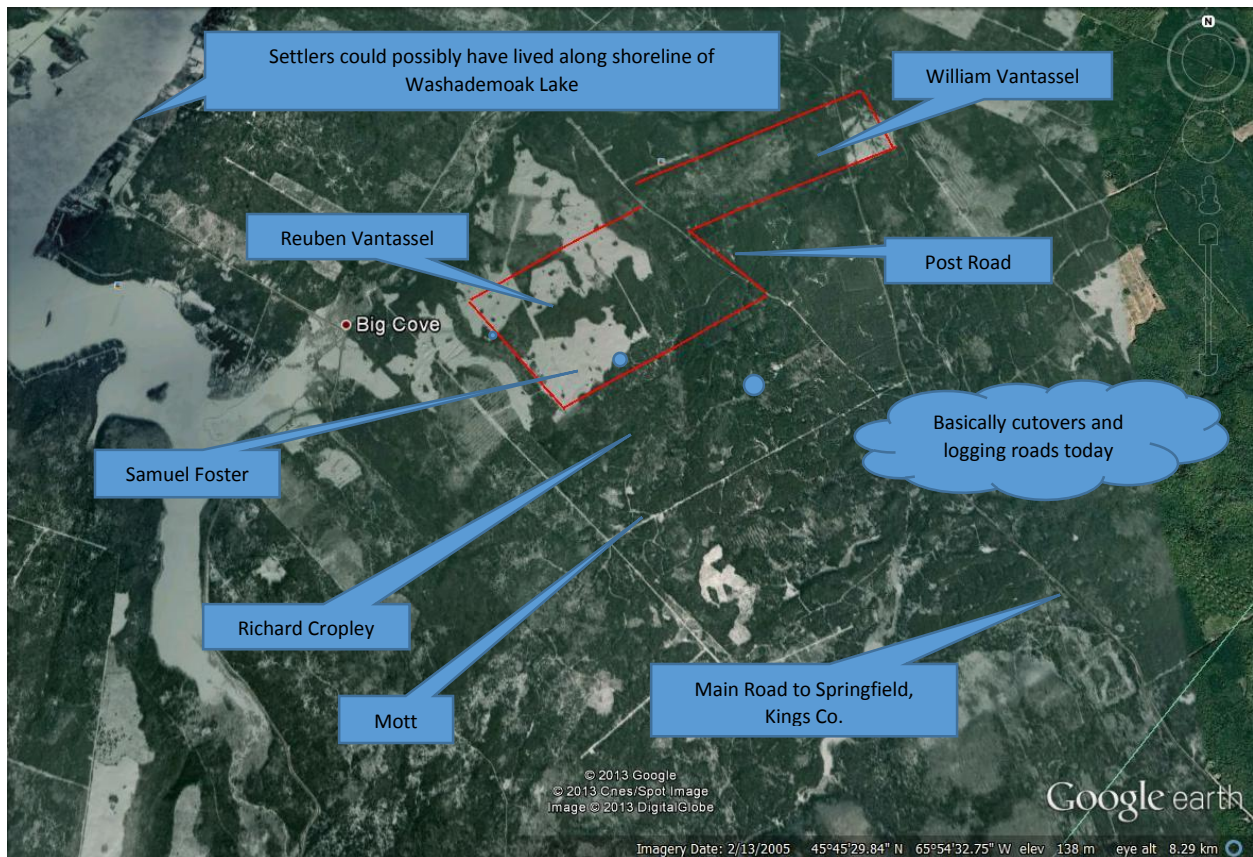
## Washademoak Lake in Wickham Parish

The Foster, Vantassel, Cropley and Mott Land Grants were all located in "wild and undeveloped land" as the Crown designated it, and in back of the preferred Land Grants that fronted Washademoak Lake, which were the first lots to be settled.

It's likely that all these new settlers lived somewhere on Washademoak Lake and travelled down the Post Road to work their Land Grants, which basically was harvesting the trees for valuable logs that could easily be hauled to Washademoak lake, put in log booms and transported by water to local sawmills for sawing.

It's quite possible that many of these logs ended up at Josiah's sawmill at Mill Cove on Grand Lake, as the transport would have been fairly easy by water.

With over 1000 acres of prime forest land just in this area, the logs would have been worth a lot of money for the new settlers, and the work involved in harvesting these logs would have taken decades to cut with the axes and saws they used in those days.



When looking at aerial photos today, it would appear that the area never became a "farming community". The geography is very hilly with ravines and streams; good for growing trees, but not so good for farming.

Today these land grants are now Crown Lands, and under management by J D Irving (formerly Rothesay Pulp & Paper Co. that Irving took over.)

Very visible are the large cutovers and straight logging roads indicative of a J D Irving operation.

In **1829** Josiah's daughter, **Frances Foster b.1795** got married. She had met a medical doctor, **James Wood b.1795**, who had moved to the Gagetown area a few years earlier. James Wood was born in 1795 in England and came to Fredericton in 1820 with his young wife, Mary, and infant daughter. But tragedy struck the young couple in 1825 when Mary and her young daughter were travelling by sleigh across the river in Sheffield and the horse and sleigh went through the thinning ice and both were drowned. James Wood then moved to the Gagetown area and met Frances Foster. Both were 34 years old when they married.

Date April 2 1825  
County Saint John  
Place Saint John  
Newspaper New Brunswick Courier

The language of the text is the original used in the newspaper entry and as transcribed by Daniel F. Johnson. Records acquired by the Provincial Archives are not translated from the language in which they originate.

Drowned Sheffield (Sunbury Co.) 22nd ult., sleigh broke through ice, the wife and youngest child of Dr. WOOD.

On **May 15, 1830**, Commissioner John Earle, married **David Foster** and **Rebecca Ann** (also known as **Rachel**) **Sypher** in the Parish of Canning, Queens County. Witnesses to the marriage were William Sypher/John T. Sypher.

A year later in **1831**, a son, **William**, was born, (*probably named after her father*), followed in **1835** by a daughter named **Belsey** and another daughter in **1841** named **Sarah Sopenia**.

**In 1833, Josiah Foster died** at his home in Mill Cove. Unusual in that day, Josiah Foster left a Will; most landowners were too poor to afford the cost of a Will.

### **Copy of Josiah Foster's Will dated Oct 11, 1833**

Was there a Will?	Yes
Date of Will	1833-10-11
Date Will was proved	1833-11-09

Was an inventory completed?	Yes
Date of inventory	1833-10-29
County	Queens
Parish	Waterborough
Probate is for a woman?	No
Abstract references a vessel?	No
Abstract	

Grand Lake, Parish of Waterborough, Queens County. Will dated 11 October 1833, proved 9 November 1833. **Son John FOSTER** the upper lot of land and half the grist mill, he to support his mother during her life. **Daughter Frances WOOD** the sawmill lot and the sawmill and the other half of the grist mill. **Son Stephen FOSTER** the lot of land he has in his possession. **Son Joshua FOSTER** 15 shillings. The heirs of my son **William** 5 shillings if demanded. Wife **Sarah FOSTER** "all my Chattel (*sic*) and Household property." **John FOSTER and Doctor James WOOD executors.** Witnesses: John ARMSTRONG, William MOWAT, David McIntosh. **Inventory, dated 29 October 1833, valued real and personal estate at £1,227** by John ARMSTRONG and David McIntosh. (*Armstrong, Mowat and McIntosh were all land grant owners living next to the Josiah Foster land grant. James Wood was Josiah's son-in-law and husband to his daughter, Frances.*)

The personal estate was valued at 1227 pounds, which was quite considerable in those times.

In this Will only five children are mentioned: John, Frances, Stephen, Joshua and William.

Sarah said she and Josiah had raised 9 children; so who are the other four and why weren't they included in the Will?

Since there's no information on **John**, it's possible that he was a bachelor living at home and therefore expected to support his mother, Sarah, as Josiah had asked.

**Stephen**, it would seem, already had some portion of the Land Grant deeded in his possession. His wife's name was Catherine and their marriage is in the register at the Anglican Church in Gagetown.

**Joshua** only received 15 shillings; not much compared to John and Frances. Not much is known about Joshua.

**Frances** received a good inheritance which was unusual in those days as quite often daughters weren't even in a Will, as everything was usually left to the sons.

Research has shown that son **William** had moved to Ontario and died there leaving a wife and young family; the wife had remarried.

In **1833**, **Samuel Foster** would have been 53 years old, a grandfather (Grandson William), and living on his own 300 acre land grant on Washademoak Lake in Wickham Parish, and perhaps not in need of any inheritance from his father. And perhaps, as mentioned earlier, Samuel may have been offered, as his inheritance, Josiah's share of Ebenezer's Land Grant (Fosters Islands) at Long Reach, because this land wasn't mentioned in Josiah's Will.

Daughter **Sarah Foster** who had married Reuben Vantassel wasn't mentioned because she was already living on her 300 acre land grant at Washademoak Lake.

There are still two children unaccounted for to date; perhaps they died young.

In **1835** Samuel Foster's second son, **James**, married **Anne Earle b.1804**. In **1836** they had a daughter, **Sarah Anne** who died in 1837. In **1839**, son **Samuel** was born, followed in **1842** by daughters **Sarah Abigail** and **Agnes Spencer**, followed by daughter **Elisa Anne** in **1844** and daughter **Margaret Levina** in **1848**.

By **1843** most of the wood had been cut off Samuel's 300 acre land grant and the sons were looking elsewhere to make a living.

About this time Samuel received word from his sister, Frances Wood, who was now living in Woodstock that land grants were being surveyed about 40 miles from Woodstock in the Chippineticook Lakes region on the border between New Brunswick and Maine, and that it might be a good opportunity to investigate.

Frances' husband, James Wood, had gone to Woodstock in the mid-1830s to be the town doctor. As a doctor he would have been privy to lots of information within Government circles and one item of interest to him was the establishment of new land grants on East Grand Lake. After the 1812 war with the United States, the boundary between New Brunswick and Maine had not been clearly identified and was in dispute, and it was important that the Province exert some influence in this border area by having it settled. For example, the stream (called the Thoroughfare) that flows from North Lake into East Grand Lake was so narrow that one could almost cross over by foot. (Today this is the Fosterville/Orient border crossing.)

So surveyors had been sent to establish roads and land grants for settlement in the area.

### **The Trip to the Chippineticook Lakes region**

In the early summer months of **1844**, David Foster and his younger brother, Josiah Foster, decided to explore this new opportunity for their own land grants.

David would have been 41 years old, and Josiah, a bachelor, was 27 years old.

This would not be an "easy" or "one-day" trip. At that time there were no roads and the only way to Woodstock was by water travel, down Washademoak Lake and up the Saint John River in boats or canoes.

The two brothers would travel lightly carrying only a knapsack with the basic necessities, plus a good knife, axe or hatchet and a gun. The trip from Woodstock to the Lakes would probably require an overnight stay along the route and a gun might be needed for protection from any bears or wolves. At the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, wolves were a major concern with the populace as can be seen by the following bill passed by the House of Assembly in 1792.

***Feb. 20, 1792. — A bill was introduced fixing bounties to encourage the destroying of wolves, £1 for each full grown wolf and 10s. for a whelp wolf. People yet living remember when wolves were quite numerous; their melancholy howls round the little clearings of the first settlers were not conducive to sound slumbers.***

After reaching Fredericton, the brothers had to find a ride on one of the many "tow boats" that were used on the river from Fredericton to Woodstock. In early times there were obstacles in the way of the boatman like Feroe's rocks, Calhoun Rock (near Nackawic), "the Flounces" and other rocks at the Meductic rapids that made for a long and difficult journey. Horses were used to "tow" the boats upstream. In 1843 there were no steam boats in use on the river from Fredericton to Woodstock. That didn't happen until about 1847.

Excerpt from W O Raymond scrapbook:

*The first steamer regularly employed on the route from Fredericton to Woodstock was "The Carleton" — a boat built by Messrs. Craig of St. John for George Connell, Esq., of Woodstock about the year 1847. She was a stern wheeler of only 14 inches draft of water, and provided with an excellent engine. She did a large business, and used to run the greater part of the summer — a circumstance partly due to her light draft and also in part to the fact that in olden times, before the country was cleared of forest, the river did not fall so rapidly after the spring freshets as it does now. The arrival of the "Carleton" was a source of pride and satisfaction to the Woodstock people, she being the first steamboat owned in that place. On her first trip as she rounded the island opposite the town, she was welcomed by a salute from the Woodstock artillery. The "Carleton" probably had as extensive a business as any boat since employed on the same route, and proved a financial success to her owner as well as a great accommodation to the public. Mr. Connell afterwards, namely in 1853, built the "John Warren," a side-wheel steamer of greater draft and requiring more power to propel her than the "Carleton." She was not so successful a venture from the financial standpoint.*

After arriving in Woodstock and a short stay at the home of their Aunt Frances and husband, James Wood, the two set out for the Lakes on the border with the US. It was

a distance of over 40 miles, and if they weren't able to use one of James Wood's horses, it would be by foot. In that day walking was the norm; that's how you travelled, and perhaps that's why these early pioneers lived healthy and often long lives without ever seeing a doctor. (Today our noses can get "out of joint" when we arrive at the Mall and can't drive up to the entrance door because the parking lot is full!)

In the early days roads were simply trails or beaten paths through the woods often following the road center line laid out by the surveyor. In time, the trees were felled on the right-of-way, stumps pulled out with oxen or horses, and soil and muck replaced with gravel. But no thought was ever given to drainage, and heavy rains, ice and frost would soon make the roads impassable at certain times of the year. When a stream, bog or river was encountered, you simply forded it or crossed on logs laid across the waterway. (See Appendix 5)

Such were the "road" conditions faced by the Foster brothers on their journey to the Lakes, which may have required two-days travel to cover the over 40-mile distance.

Finally they reached the new Land Grants at North Lake and East Grand Lake which had a completely different geology than the Woodstock area. The last ice age had gouged out numerous lakes and left mountains (hills) and valleys and deposited large boulders, rocks and gravel eskers on the landscape in the Fosterville area.

And this is what they found: large granite boulders, rocks, mountains, pristine lakes and large trees. This was not farming country with rich, fertile soils and gently sloping lands, like the Woodstock area, but it was excellent country for growing trees and the harvesting of logs which is exactly what they had been used to doing all their lives. Basically they were "foresters", not "farmers".

*[And that's interesting, because I can relate with my forefathers love of the forests, since I'm a Professional Forester with a B. Sc. Forestry from UNB. But rather than cutting the trees, I was involved in managing the forests as the Operations Manager for a Pulp & Paper Company with the harvesting, scaling and road construction aspects of these forests. Today, retired, you might find me at home, but, if not, then I'm out "walking in the woods". To paraphrase a famous line, "You can take me out of the forest, but you can't take the forest out of me."]*

Today people kind of "shake their head" in wonderment at why anyone would have settled in this remote, inhospitable place where even establishing a small garden plot was a challenge. But it was the forests of mature trees and the beautiful lakes that beckoned them. Today the lake shore frontage has become a recreational paradise with summer cottages and high-end, year round residences for many retired people.

But what forests they must have been; large spruce, white pine, hemlock, sugar maple, yellow birch and elm trees. Today I can only "dream" of what these huge trees in the

primeval forest must have looked like. An example of the size of these trees is given in this excerpt from W O Raymond's scrapbook:

*On the flats and intervals in the vicinity of the town of Woodstock there are still standing here and there a few **giant elms** of the primeval forest. The writer examined in the summer of 1893 the stump of one of these venerable trees that grew near the road side of his father's place and counted 325 concentric rings showing this old elm had been a sapling in the days of Queen Elizabeth 1, and there is now standing on the adjoining farm of Mr. Stephen Peabody a yet larger and probably still older tree. The existence of such establishes the fact that there has not been any general forest conflagration in the vicinity of Woodstock for more than 300 years. To clear a densely wooded country was in itself no light task to men unaccustomed to wielding the axe. The trees were many of them of huge size, the axes were not always of the best and they were of a pattern that would be regarded by our modern lumberman with the utmost disdain. Yet with such implements and with such trees to cut down our forefathers, unskilled foresters though they were, set manfully to work; the axe rang through the woods and one by one the old forest monarchs swayed and trembled and finally fell with thundering crash that awoke the echoes for miles around. No doubt many a weary toiler as he surveyed the slow progress made in clearing a spot for his humble log dwelling wished that nature had been less lavish in her "stock of wood."*

*My father, Beecher Foster b.1923, remembers the "giant" elm tree that grew on his property (the Josiah Foster land grant); it took 5 men with outstretched arms to encircle the tree at breast height – over 21 feet in circumference, and reaching majestically some 90 feet into the heavens, and, he said, many Americans used to come to just look at it! This was in the mid to late 1930s when he was a youngster, and he used to play in the hollowed out tree stump before the old monarch fell to earth in a wind storm driving the large limbs some two to three feet deep into the wet soil next to the stream where it was growing.*

## An Overview of Fosterville in 1851 on Google Maps



After looking at the Land Grants, David and Josiah selected the lot that interested them, as shown on the map.

According to PANB (Public Archives New Brunswick) Re: Place Names, the reason Fosterville got its name is for the first settlers to the area, David and Josiah Foster. *(But another equally valid reason could simply be the fact that the main road from Canterbury forked on the property of David Foster, with one fork leading south to the hamlets of Green Mountain, Pemberton Ridge and Forest City, and the second fork leading north for one mile to the US border, and if anyone asked for directions they would simply say turn left or right at the "Foster" farm or at "Foster corner" or eventually, "Fosterville".)*

After a few days stay in the area, it was the long trek back to Woodstock and the downriver boat trip to Fredericton and Washademoak.

**On July 19, 1844** David and Josiah Foster appeared before a clerk of the Province in Fredericton and put in their Petition for these two land grants, which they were successful in obtaining.

Now the hard part in “working” their Land Grants would really begin, either in late summer of 1844, or early the next spring in 1845 when the ice was out of the river and the boats were working again.

Both David and Josiah were busy in **1845** with clearing their land grants in Fosterville and building log houses for accommodation. Another neighbor, Nathaniel Jones, and his family, had settled on Lot No.2 at Fosterville and he was busy with the same task. There were now three families living in Fosterville on their land grants.

In **1846**, back in Washademoak, **Elias Foster b.1820** had married **Sarah Ann Earle b.1821** in the Parish of Kingston, NB and witnessed by Stephen and Catherine Marshall. On **Oct.14, 1848**, they had their first child, a son named **John Little Foster**.

In **1846**, up in Fosterville, **Josiah Foster b.1817** had married **Mary Ann Jones b.1831**. Mary Ann was probably the niece of his neighbor, Nathaniel Jones. In **1847**, they had their first child, a son named **William Henry Foster**.

Now all four Foster brothers were married; **James and Elias** were still living in Washademoak, Wickham Parish, and **David and Josiah** were living on their new land grants in Fosterville.

## CHAPTER 8

### The Years 1851 to 1900

In **April 1851**, Ann Foster, wife of Samuel Foster, dies at their home in Washademoak and Samuel moves in and lives with his son, Elias.

Date May 10 1851  
County Saint John  
Place Saint John  
Newspaper New Brunswick Courier

The language of the text is the original used in the newspaper entry and as transcribed by Daniel F. Johnson. Records acquired by the Provincial Archives are not translated from the language in which they originate.

d. Wickham (Queens Co.) 25th April, Ann FOSTER w/o Samuel FOSTER, age 78.

**In the summer of 1851 the first Census was undertaken in New Brunswick**, to be done on a decade by decade basis thereafter. This information was invaluable in tracking people over time; who was still living, who had died, who had been born, who had moved, who had married, etc.

#### **Census for Woodstock Parish, Carleton County 1851**

Living in the household of **James Wood** in Woodstock were: James T. Wood, age 56, doctor; **Frances Wood (Foster)**, age 56, wife; **James Foster Wood**, age 15, adopted son.

It would appear that James and Frances didn't have any children of their own and adopted a son they gave the name James Foster Wood, who was born in 1836, about the time James and Frances left Waterborough Parish for Woodstock. Who was James Foster? Perhaps he could have been a son of Joshua Foster, Frances brother. There is no information on Joshua; perhaps he died and left a son that Frances took care of.

On August 4, 1855, James Foster Wood married Temperance Hillman, both of Woodstock.

**On July 22, 1860, Frances (Foster) Wood died in Woodstock at age 65.**

#### **Census for Wickham Parish, Queens County, 1851**

Living in households next to each other in Washademoak, Wickham Parish, in 1851 were James Foster b.1814 and Elias Foster b.1820.

Living in the household of **James Foster FID 19317** were: **James**, age 37, head; **Ann**, wife, age 47; **Samuel**, son, age 12; **Agnes Spenser**, daughter, age 9; **Sarah Abigail**, daughter, age 9; **Elisa Ann**, daughter, age 8; and **Margaret**, daughter, age 4.

Living in the household of **Elias Foster FID19316** were: **Elias**, age 30, head, occupation, Miller; **Sarah Ann**, wife, age 30; **John Little**, son, age 3; **Elmira**, daughter, age 1; and **Samuel**, age 71, widower, American. (This "Samuel" was the father.)

Also living in Washademoak in 1851 were other families who would later move to Fosterville, NB; the **Cropley, Mott, Vantassel** and **Maxon** families.

Living in the household of **Jacob Mott FID 315** were: **Jacob Mott**, head, age 30; **Elizabeth**, wife, age 25; **Edward Melvin**, son, age 2; **Margaret Ann**, daughter, age 1. (*Edward Melvin Mott would later marry Ruth Lovely Foster, daughter of Josiah Foster, and they would have 15 children; they moved to Mattawamkeag, Maine in 1887, and most of the Mott descendants still live there.*)

Living in the household of **John Vantassel FID 19318** were: **John**, age 28, head; **Elmyra**, wife, age 28; **George**, son, age 2; and **Charles**, son, age 1.

What's interesting is that the Family FID numbers were consecutive, meaning that these families being enumerated were most likely living next to one another in Washademoak, Wickham Parish.

### **Census for Dumfries Parish, York County, 1851**

*(In 1851 all people living in the Fosterville area were recorded as living in the Parish of Dumfries, as the area at Fosterville didn't become North Lake Parish until 1879.)*

Only three families were recorded as living in the Fosterville area in the 1851 Census: **David Foster, Josiah Foster** and **Nathaniel Jones**. Also living in the David Foster household were two "lodgers", **James** and **Samuel Cropley** who also had land grants sandwiched between David and Josiah Foster. James and Samuel Cropley were the sons of Richard and Mary Ann (Foster) Cropley. Richard Cropley eventually settled on Lot No.1 in Fosterville. (See land grant map in Appendix 7)

Living in the household of **David Foster FID 20047** were: **David Foster b.1803**, age, 48, head, farmer; **Rachel b.1806**, age 45, wife; **William b.1831**, age 20, son; **Belsey b.1835**, age 16, daughter; **Sarah Sopenia b.1841**, age 10, daughter; **James Cropley b.1824**, age 27, lodger; **Samuel Cropley b.1828**, age 23, lodger.

Living in the household of **Josiah Foster FID 20043** were: **Josiah Foster b.1817**, age 34, head; **Mary Ann b.1831**, age 20, wife; **William Henry b.1847**, age 3, son; **Charles Owen b.1851**, age 9 months, son.

Living in the household of **Nathaniel Jones FID 20042** were: **Nathaniel Jones b.1798**, age 53, head; **Sarah b.1811**, age 40, wife; **Rhoda b.1835**, age 16, daughter; **Mary b.1838**, age 13, daughter; **Harriet b.1839**, age 12, daughter; **Ruth b.1840**, age 11, daughter; **Stephen b.1845**, age 6, son; **Sarah b.1847**, age 4, daughter.

Nathaniel Jones had a son named Leonard who had just died in 1850 at age 21 and was buried in a family plot on the edge of the Jones property next to the main road – probably the first burial in this cemetery. Later in 1855, Nathaniel would bury his eldest daughter, Rhoda, age 21 (w/o Charles Bartlett) and her infant child from childbirth in the same cemetery. Also, in 1855, Elias Foster would bury his daughter, Elmira, age 5, in this cemetery.

This was the beginning of what came to be called the “Upper Fosterville Cemetery”, and when space became a premium, another location was found on the Carr property, called the “Lower Fosterville Cemetery.”

## Nathaniel Jones Lot No. 2

***(This land grant is presently owned by the L H Gould family.)***



In the 1700s and 1800s, complications from childbirth was fairly common, often resulting in the death of the infant, and sometimes, both mother and child.

In a Google search about this subject, a James Martell wrote the following piece:

### *The History of Childbirth – Ouch!*

*Thu, 09/11/2008 - 04:34 — James Martell*

*After reviewing some of the history of childbirth, women can rejoice in the knowledge that there has never been a better time to give birth to a baby than now!*

*We have the most amazing advanced technology to deal with all kinds of labor, and especially difficult deliveries such as breach babies or obstructed labor. We have complete hygiene in our operating rooms, amazing diagnostic machinery, and modern equipment. We have access to an array of medication, which has come a long way from*

*giving the mother chloroform or a bottle of whiskey for easing pain. We have free choice as to who we have in our delivery rooms, whether it is our husbands, sisters, friends, children, doulas, midwives or our parents, or all of them if we wish!*

*This is important, considering that all males were banned from delivery rooms until the mid-1900's! We are also now free of the many superstitions that surrounded labor and birth, such as; we now know that whipping male servants outside of a delivery room does not speed up the birthing process! Read on for an overview of the history that has brought us to our modern day baby birthing practices!*

### ***A baby is born on a cold winter's night in the 1800's***

*Imagine that it is midnight on a night in the middle of winter with a raging blizzard outside, and somehow, miraculously, the midwife has managed to find her way down the road to your house just before the worst of the blizzard started. You are one of the lucky ones, as the midwife actually made it to your house to help you with the long, hard laborious task of this "journey of your new baby" into this world!*

*You are in a tiny dark room with no electricity, no heat and no running water. There are no drugs, medicines, or the comforts of modern day conveniences such as disposable diapers, modern cribs, electric baby swings, trendy strollers, adjustable high chairs or even nursing bras – just to name a few of the modern day conveniences that we take for granted! You are shivering with cold in the light of a shortening candle, as another long, painful and hard contraction starts.*

*Your husband is nowhere to be seen as it is unheard of for men (even if they were a doctor!) to be present during the birth of a baby, during the 1800's. Finally, after a long 16 hours, your baby appears into this world. You are tired, cold, hungry and your husband fell asleep at the local pub hours ago (one of the only warm places to hide in this blizzard) and you know that he probably won't be home until the next day.*

*Your midwife helps you to swaddle the baby, and gives you a sponge bath. Later you will attempt to leave the house to go to the outhouse, but for now you are content to use the bedpan. Your baby cries as the first pangs of hunger start in his belly. You realize for the first time that you are hungry too. As you pull your new baby to your breast and contemplate what the next few days will bring, you wonder and thank God that you had no complications during your baby's birth.*

*You shudder at the memory of your best friend who died during the birth of her third baby last month. Her baby was breach and the midwife did not make it on time - **your friend died from the "complications of childbirth" as was common in these times.***

*As a young mother in the New Americas, you have your work cut out for you! Money is short as jobs are scarce; you know that the daily chores will be harder with more baby clothes and cloth diapers adding to your laundry. All your laundry must be hand scrubbed and washed with water that you have to bring in from the well. Keeping in mind that the well has been frozen for a couple of weeks due to a particularly cold winter this year, you may have to collect snow and melt it over your wood fire stove before washing your growing pile of infant clothes and diapers, and your own laundry.*

*Food has to be prepared with your wood fire stove and the wood still has to be chopped to fuel the stove. Your four other children (all under the age of 7) need you as well. You hope your husband will find a job soon and that he will be able to make trips to the local town. The nearest town is about 2 hours away by horse and carriage and he'll need to bring in monthly supplies of food and other sundries such as baby supplies, children's clothing and more laundry soap! You bite your lip as you breastfeed your newborn and brace yourself for the busy future...*

### ***Washademoak, Wickham Parish, 1853***

Back in Washademoak, Wickham Parish, there is sadness in the community, as the patriarch of the Foster family, Samuel Foster b.1780 in New York, dies in **1853** at age 73 in the home of his son, James Foster, of "protracted consumption".

Date June 3 1853  
County Saint John  
Place Saint John  
Newspaper Weekly Chronicle

The language of the text is the original used in the newspaper entry and as transcribed by Daniel F. Johnson. Records acquired by the Provincial Archives are not translated from the language in which they originate.

d. Wickham (Queens Co.) 1st inst., at residence of his son, James FOSTER, Samuel FOSTER, of protracted consumption, age 73.

With both parents now deceased, it was time for James and Elias to move on with their lives, and it was to be a new move to Fosterville on their own land grants.

In **1854** both brothers packed up their belongings and set out on the long trip, but this time at least there was a steamboat that plied the river from Fredericton to Woodstock making the trip a little easier than what Josiah and David experienced a decade earlier.

After a stopover at their Aunt Frances Wood in Woodstock, they set out for Fosterville. The trail was more of a road now with the right-of-way having had the trees cut, stumps removed, soil removed and replaced with gravel, but still a long and tiresome journey, especially with all the little ones in tow.

Elias Foster's land grant was Lot No.13 on Green Mountain and James Foster's land grant was Lot No.27 at North Lake, about 6 miles apart. Now, **in 1854**, all four Foster brothers were living in the same area – **Fosterville**.



During the 1860s, 1870s, and 1880s there was a large influx of new settlers to the Parish of North Lake, and many of these new settlers married into the first families who had settled here earlier on their land grants. During this time the children of the four Foster brothers married and had families of their own. Some of these new family surnames were such familiar names still living here today, namely:

Anderson, Boone, Buckingham, Carr, DeWitt, Frost, Howe, McMinn, Till, Tucker and Wood. These families migrated from the Oromocto area and their histories can be found in Rex Grady's history in Bill Boone's website: [fosterville.ca](http://fosterville.ca).

Fosterville suffered through a diphtheria epidemic in the late 1880s and early 1890s, taking the lives of many children, as can be attested by any walk through the two cemeteries.

From Public Archives New Brunswick is the following historical picture of Fosterville in the 1860s:

In 1866 North Lake Parish was a farming community of about 60 families, including 5 Cropley and 5 Foster families: in 1871 North Lake and the surrounding district had a population of 400: in 1898 Fosterville was a settlement with 1 post office and a population of 70.

The family histories of these four Foster brothers (as well as other families living in the Parish of North Lake) from about 1851 to 1995 can be found in a publication titled "**The Parish of North Lake and Its People**" authored by Bill Boone in 1995. Bill has also added a web site: [Fosterville.ca](http://Fosterville.ca) called the "**North Lake Connection**". These two sources were of immense help in researching this work and readers should take the opportunity to look at these two sources for themselves – especially if they want to research their own genealogy in more detail.

Based on Bill Boone's data in his work dated 1995, the descendants of Elias Foster b.1820 would number 435, and the descendants of Josiah Foster b.1817 would number 192, as of 1995. Of course there would be many more descendants now. (See Appendix 6)

But the point is this, ***all these descendants of the four brothers can now trace their history back to the early 1700s with this Genogram.***

***So why did all these families migrate to the Fosterville area?***

Not only did the four Foster brothers leave Washademoak, Wickham Parish for Fosterville, but so did other families, and neighbors, living next to Samuel Foster and his sons, namely:

- Richard **Cropley** and his wife Mary Ann (Foster) and their children. Richard Cropley settled on Lot No. 1 at Fosterville. Mary Ann Foster was Samuel Foster's daughter.
- The **Vantassels** settled on three land grants on Green Mountain: John, George and Charles .
- The **Maxons** settled on a land grant at North Lake.
- The **Motts** also settled in the Parish of North Lake.

This migration of these families from the Washademoak Lake area looking for their own land grants was similar to the same migration of families leaving the Oromocto area in the mid 1800s for the same reason. It was basically the "timber industry" and the large expanse of virgin forests with giant white pine, spruce, elm, yellow birch, sugar maple and hemlocks that drew these new settlers to the Parish of North Lake. As mentioned earlier – "**timber equalled money**" – in those days, as it still does today.

In the mid 1800s, the tree species, Hemlock, was undoubtedly "king" of the trees. The hemlock bark was used for its tannin in the curing of leather goods, and was in great demand during the Civil War years in the 1860s. Mills were established in Forest City, Danforth and Winn, Maine on the newly established railway lines. The tanning required hemlock bark and good, clean waters to cure the leather, and both were in abundant supply in the Fosterville area. *(Still, even today, I have found remnants of these old hemlock trees on the forest floor covered by moss that were felled solely for their bark and generally left to rot.)*

Winn, Maine was one of the largest tanneries in North America in 1882, but, unfortunately, the leather industry found other cheaper means to "cure" their

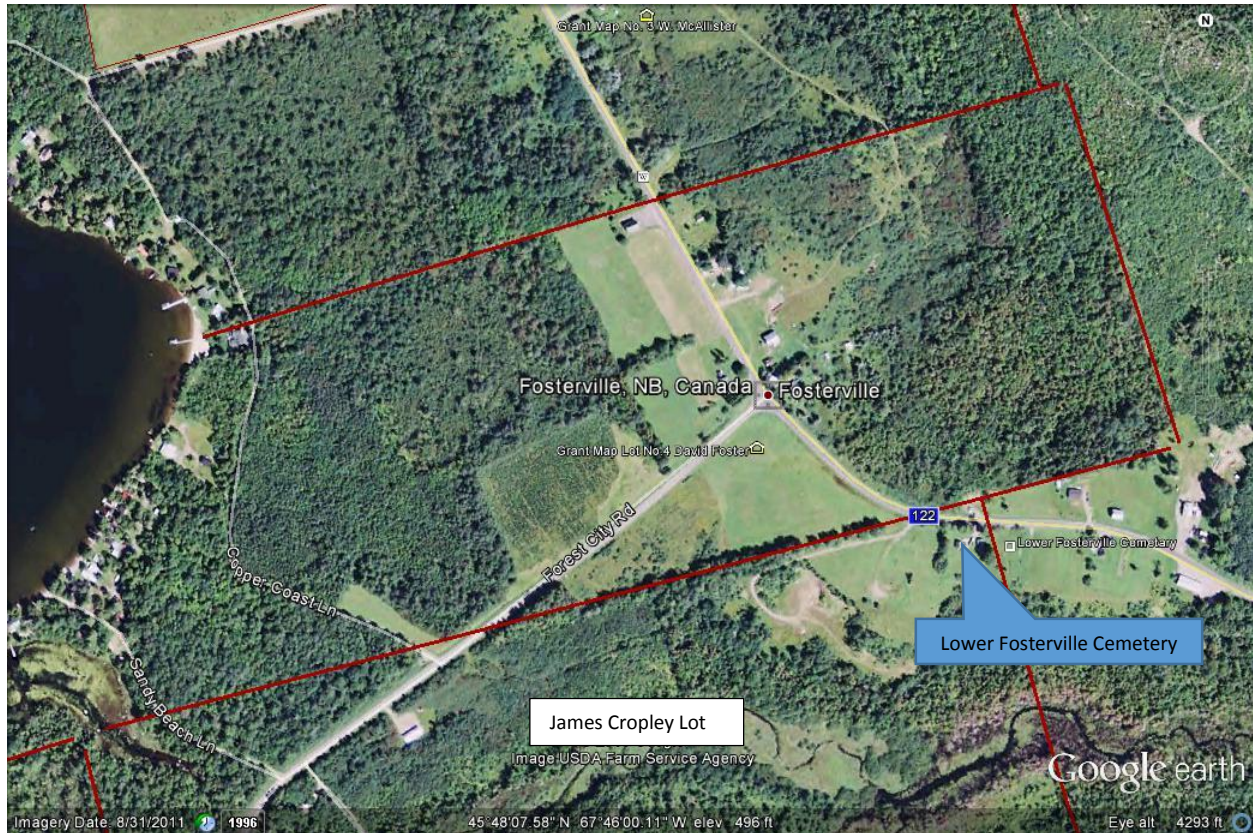
leather, and the cutting of hemlock was stopped in its tracks causing an industry to almost disappear overnight.

Now, let's take a brief, closer look at each of the four Foster brothers, after 1855.

## Chapter 9

### Biographies of the Four Foster Brothers In Fosterville

#### David Foster b.1803 d.after 1881



David settled on Land Grant Lot No. 4. The main road from Canterbury forked on his property and this junction of the two roads was where a store, church, and the Loyal Orange Lodge were located. David's two nephews, James and Samuel Cropley, had land grants south of David's land grant.

David's son, **William** b.1831, was married at one time, but was listed as a "widower" in the 1881 Census. In a search to try and find the name of his wife, I came across a newspaper article with this obituary:

Date June 23 1873  
County York  
Place Fredericton  
Newspaper Colonial Farmer

The language of the text is the original used in the newspaper entry and as transcribed by Daniel F. Johnson. Records acquired by the Provincial Archives are not translated from the language in which they originate.

d. Tuesday afternoon, 20th May, North Lake (York Co.) Mrs. Elizabeth FOSTER youngest d/o Richard CROPLEY and Mary CROPLEY and w/o Wm FOSTER, Esq., age 32, together with an infant son and daughter. (See eulogy)

Elizabeth could very well have been William's wife, but it appears that William never remarried and, as a result, the Foster name through David Foster died out. *(If I could find and read the eulogy written in the Colonial Farmer newspaper of 1873, I'm sure there would be a lot of information on names of those who attended the funeral, like relatives, neighbors, etc.)*

**David Foster** was 67 in the 1871 Census but died sometime before the 1881 Census, as did his wife, **Rachel**, so probably both lived to be in their 70s.

William was listed as a "widower" in the 1881 Census, as a "boarder" in the 1901 Census living in the David Cropley household (his nephew), and as a "domestic" in the 1911 Census living in the Wilmot Buckingham household. William died in 1913, age 82.

No information has been found on **Belsey** b.1835.

**Sarah Sopenia** b.1841 was first married to a Bartlett, who must have died. In 1905 she married Samuel Foster in Orient, Maine. This was the second marriage for Samuel as his first wife had died a few years earlier in 1897. Sarah died sometime after the 1911 Census, so she lived to be in her 70s..

## James Foster b.1814 d.1871



James and his family settled on Land Grant No. 27 at the head of North Lake. All his children were born in Washademoak, Wickham Parish. James died at the relatively young age of 57 in 1871. His wife, Anne (Earle) b. 1804 died sometime after the 1881 Census where she was listed as living as a widow in the William Henry Foster household and age 77.

James and Anne's children were:

### 1) **Samuel Foster b.1839 d. Sept 12, 1922**

Samuel married Adelaide Tidd b.1845 d.1897 and they had the following children:

**Margaret** b.1870 d.1924; **Ernest** b.1874 d.1938; **George** b.1880 d.? **Grover** b.1881 d.? **Corie** b.1885 d.?

In 1865 – 1867, Samuel had a grist mill operation on Mill Stream that ran through the land grant at the bottom of a very steep hill that is still called to this day, “the Sam Foster Hill”. *(In June, 2013 I walked up Mill Stream and could easily see how a dam could have been constructed in the upper reaches of the stream to produce the power needed to grind the grains on the stones as shown in the Appendix.)*

Samuel was the JP for the North Lake Parish from about 1887 to 1902. *(According to PANB information)*

*(Of the four land grants belonging to the Foster brothers, this land grant of James Foster - without doubt - had to be the "worst of the lot", with giant boulders and rocks and hills making any kind of farming almost impossible. Yet, today, it is probably one of the most valuable lots of the four due to its shoreline on North Lake with permanent residences costing upwards of hundreds of thousands of dollars. Old James and his son, Samuel, would probably "turn over in their graves", if they had an inkling of what their land grant looked like today. Just an example of how time changes things.)*

In the **1881 Census**, living in the Samuel Foster household were: **Samuel**, age 42, head; **Adelaide**, age 36, wife; **Maggie**, age 11, daughter; **Ernest**, age 8, son; **George**, age 1, son.

Twenty years later in the **1901 Census**, living in the household were: **Samuel**, age 60, widower; **Maggie**, age 31, daughter; **George**, age 20, son; **Grover**, age 19, son; **Corie**, age 15, daughter; **Abram Collier**, age 37, boarder; **Newton James Foster**, age 44, son of Josiah Foster, boarder and listed as “cousin”.

By the time of the **1901 Census**, son **Ernest Foster** had married **Lavanha Rhoda Kinney** b.1874 d.1961 and they had the following children: **Forest** b.1896; **Elsia** b.1898; **John K** b.1899. **Merville B.** was born in 1903 and died in 2000.

Samuel's son, Ernest, moved to Danforth, Maine early in the 1900s with his young family. His son, **Merville B. Foster**, graduated from the Danforth high school in 1925 and operated a store outside Bangor until the 1960s. Merville had a son named **John** and grandchildren named **Kevin** and **Leslie** Foster. Merville B. Foster died at the old age of 97 in Bangor, Maine.

It would appear that Samuel's sons, **George** and **Grover**, may have also moved to Maine, as the Foster name through Samuel died out in the Fosterville area.

Samuel's first wife, Adelaide, died in 1897 and is buried in the Lower Fosterville Cemetery. Although there is no record of Samuel's burial in this cemetery, perhaps he is buried in the same plot as Adelaide.

Samuel married Sarah Sophenia Foster (daughter of David Foster) in 1905, and in the **1911 Census Samuel** he was listed as age 72 and his wife, **Sarah**, was listed as age 70, and both were living in the same household. The children had all moved out by this time. Samuel died on Sept 12, 1922 of sudden heart failure at age 83.

## **2.) Sarah Abigail b.1842 d.1920**

No information on Sarah could be found at this time; not sure who she married, but lived to be 78 years old.

## **3.) Agnes Spenser b.1842 d.1928**

Beecher Foster remembers his older sister, Hilda Foster, often talking about her correspondence with her "**aunt Agnes Spenser**" who lived in California at the time. She married (not sure of her married name) and moved to California and lived to be 86 years old, dying there in 1928.

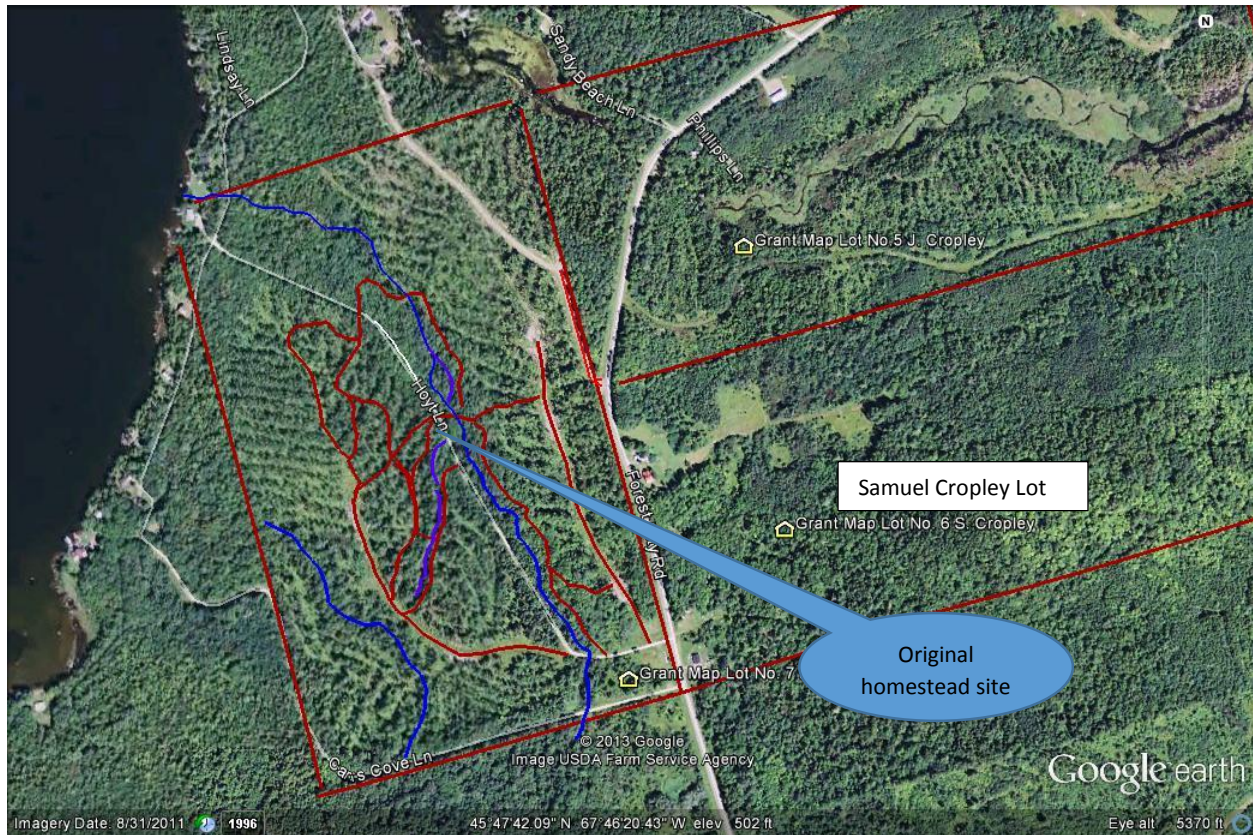
## **4.) Elisa Anne b. 1844 d.1923**

**Elisa Anne** married her cousin, **William Henry Foster**, son of Josiah Foster, and her children are listed in the Josiah Foster lineage. Elisa Anne Foster lived to be 79 years old.

**5.) Margaret Levina b. 1848 d.?**

No information on Margaret to this date.

## Josiah Foster b.1817 d.1887? (My 2Great Grandfather, paternal side)



Josiah Foster settled on his Land Grant Lot No.7 at the foot of Green Mountain and began clearing the lot and building his log home in 1845.

The original homestead's rock-wall foundation can still be seen on the property in the middle of the lot close to a small stream the locals call "laughing brook". The house was later moved to the main road and expanded in size over the years. The original trail that bisects the lot is now known as Hoyt lane and services the many recreational properties on East Grand Lake.

In 2008, the centuries-old, vacant homestead farmhouse was demolished with an excavator and burned by the North Lake Fire Department as a "training exercise".

In 2009 the lot was harvested (again) using mechanical logging equipment including: Feller bunchers, grapple skidders and full-tree chippers that chipped all pulpwood fiber

after first removing all saw logs. The waste from the bark, branches and tops was chipped for hog fuel and transported to the Mill in Nackawic. Most of the hardwood and softwood chip material went to points in Maine. *(If my forefathers could see today how these trees were cut, compared with how they had to do it in their day with axes, saws and horses, I'm sure they wouldn't believe it.)*

The lot was selectively harvested using trails (as can be seen on the photo), leaving small-diameter hardwoods on a 12-15 foot spacing, which will ensure another harvest in about 40 years' time for my son, Mark Foster, and grandson, Gage Foster. The original land grant of Josiah Foster from 1844 is now deeded in the name of my son, Mark Foster.

**Josiah Foster** married **Mary Ann Jones** in 1846, who was probably a niece of his neighbor, Nathaniel Jones, living on Lot No.2.

Mary Ann had married at age 16, and by the time she was 31, she had borne 5 children and was – perhaps - “tired of childbearing” by now, because she evidently left Josiah for a time as revealed in the following newspaper:

In the Carleton Sentinel newspaper dated March 30, 1867 was: ***“As Mary Ann Foster, my wife, has left my home, bed and board, without any just cause, I forbid any person from harboring or crediting her on my account as I will pay no debts contracted by her”. Signed Josiah Foster, North Lake, Canterbury (York Co.), March 13, 1867.”***

This was an obvious “marital spat” of some kind, but reconciled, for we find in the **1871 Census** living in the Josiah Foster household were: **Josiah Foster**, age 53; **Mary Ann**, age 38, wife; **Charles Owen**, age 21, son; **Newton James**, age 14, son.

The other children, **William Henry, Ruth Lovely, Lucy Augusta and Alice** were not living at home during this Census.

Mary Ann Foster died sometime before the 1881 Census, as Josiah is listed as a "widower" living in the household of his daughter Ruth Mott in the 1881 Census.

Josiah Foster b.1817 d.1887? lived to be about 70 years of age. (So far I can't find a record of his death or burial place.)

The descendants of Josiah Foster had large families of daughters who married into family surnames such as: Boone, Cropley, Leeman, Graham, Mott, as well as many others (See Appendix 6)

**The children of Josiah and Mary Ann Foster** were: **William Henry** Foster b.1847; **Charles Owen** b.1850; **Lucy Augusta** b.1853; **Newton James** b.1857; **Ruth Lovely** b.1859; **Alice** b.1862

### **1. William Henry Foster b.1847 d.1907 (My Great Grandfather, paternal side)**

**William Henry Foster** married his cousin, **Elisa Ann Foster** b.1844 d.1923, daughter of James Foster, in 1867 or 1868

William Henry was known locally as "Bill Hen". This was probably to distinguish him from his cousin, William, David Foster's son.

Bill Hen had a logging camp on Pirate Brook where logging operations were carried out during the winter months. It was the norm for most of the able-bodied men to go to the bush camps during the winter months for gainful employment, while the wives stayed home to care for the children and livestock.

William Henry died at his logging camp in the winter of 1907, supposedly from lifting a heavy stove at the camp, probably a heart attack or stroke. He was 60 years old. Elisa Ann, known as "Annie" died of the flu at the home of her son, Ward Foster, in 1923, age 79. William Henry and his wife Elisa Ann are buried in the Upper Fosterville cemetery.

**William Henry** and **Elisa Ann Foster** had 5 children: **Cynthia Alberta** b.1869 d.1869; **Ward Beecher** b.1872 d.1951; **Hadred Hudson** b.1875 d.1882; **Myrtle Gertrude** b.1880 d.1959; **Ella O'Cella** b.1885 d.1885. They also adopted a son, **Fred Foster b.1890**.

**1. Cynthia Alberta b. May 10, 1869 d. Sept 1869 at age 4 months.**

**2. Ward Beecher b.1872 d.1951 (My Grandfather, paternal side)**

Ward married **Minnie Beatrice Nason** b.1888 d. 1976, in 1906. Minnie had come from Nackawic, NB and had been hired to help run Elisa's household on the family farm. When she was no longer required to help out, she left for Nackawic, but Ward , a 33 year-old bachelor at the time , pursued her and proposed marriage to Minnie. After accepting the proposal, Minnie returned and lived on the family farm until her death in 1976 at age 88.

In stature, Ward was a big man for those times, about 6 ft. tall and weighing over 200 pounds. Early on he became bald (although his three sons never lost their hair- even into old age; as we know today, "baldness" is usually inherited from the mother's side).

Ward was a carpenter by trade and ran the family farm that provided the basic necessities for the growing family. Throughout life Ward had robust health, until the latter years when he developed high blood pressure and died from a stroke and brain hemorrhage at age 78.

From a newspaper at the time:

#### **Died In Woodstock**

**Ward B. Foster, 78, of Fosterville, Passed Away in Fisher Memorial Hospital**

Fosterville, April 11, [1951] — This community was saddened by the death of one of its

oldest and respected citizens, Ward B. Foster, which occurred at Fisher Memorial Hospital in Woodstock on March 11th, at the age of 78 years. He was known for his honesty and kindness and loved by all who knew him.

He leaves to mourn his wife, formerly Miss Minnie Nason, of Pokiok; three sons, Thyrlle, Barkers Point; Beecher, Green Mountain; Earl at home; seven daughters, Mrs. Fred Boone, Green Mountain; Mrs. Thomas Doherty, Mrs. Burleigh Buckingham, Mrs. Edward Gorman, and Muriel Foster, Fredericton; Mrs. Allen Perley, Moncton; and Hilda, at home. 21 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. A brother Fred Foster, Woodstock and a sister, Mrs. Claude Peck, Newburg Junction.

The funeral was held on Sunday, March 13th, in the Baptist Church, Fosterville at 2:30 o'clock and interment made in the Lower Cemetery Fosterville. The pallbearers were members of the L.O.L No. 50 of which he was a member. There were many beautiful floral tributes.

### **Ward and Minnie had 12 children:**

1. **Thyrlle Gerard** b.1907 d. 1988. Thyrlle was over 6 ft. in height and raw-boned in physique. He was a veteran of WWII and served in the theater overseas. He married **Florence Mallinson** of McAdam, NB, and they had two children: Fred and Judy. Thyrlle died at age 81.
2. **Hilda Irma** b.1909 d.2006. Hilda never married and cared for her mother. She was an avid reader, loved watching all sports on TV, could knit and crochet "anything", played crossword puzzles and was loved by all nieces and nephews. She died at age 97.
3. **Cynthia Evelyn** b. Oct 26, 1910 d. Nov. 24, 1924. Cynthia and her sister, Necia, were brutally murdered (shot through the head) by her mother's step brother, "Uncle Harry", on November 24, 1924. Oftentimes, Ward's daughters would go to the William's camp on East Grand Lake to make supper for him. On the tragic night of Nov. 24, when Cynthia and Necia failed to return home

by the usual time of 7:00, their father, Ward, set out on the mile walk to the William's camp.

Can one even begin to imagine the shock of Ward as he entered the cabin to find one daughter stretched out on the bed, and one stuffed under it – both shot through the head?

Williams was captured by a posse the next day, and after a lengthy trial in Fredericton in January, 1925, he was hanged on April 23, 1925. All the gory details of the trial can be found at: [fosterville.ca](http://fosterville.ca) the "North Lake Connection" under the "Fosterville Murders". Cynthia was 14 years old.

4. **Earl Haddred** b. 1912 d. 1992. Earl married **Inez Wood**, and they had 5 children: David, Anthony, Tracy, Alice and Brent. He was 80 years old when he died.
5. **Necia Gertrude** b.1914 d. 1924. Necia was murdered with her sister, Cynthia, in 1924 at age 10.
6. **Dorothy Juanita** b.1916 d.1991. She married **Fred Boone**, and they had 6 children: Fred, Marlene, Sylvia, Linda, Gail and Vaughn. She was 75 when she died.
7. **Virginia Pauline** b.1919 d.1973. She married **Thomas Doherty**, in 1941, and they had the following children: Tommy Joe, William, Shirley, Kathy, Marianne and Philip. She died in 1973 in a tragic car accident at age 54.
8. **Naomi Marguerite** b.1921 d. 1989. She married **Burleigh (Slip) Buckingham**, and they had three children: Prudence, Charity and Stephen. She died at age 68.
9. **Beecher Ronald** b.1923 Beecher married **Kathryn Foster**, and they had 5 children: Ronald, Sheila, Marcia, Boyd and Martin. (More on Beecher and Kathryn later, as they are my parents.)

10. **Daisy Esther** b.1925 d.1989. She married **Edward Gorman**, and they had 4 children: Dixie, Cynthia, Judy and Terri. They also adopted a boy. She died at age 64.

11. **Muriel Capitola** b.1927 d.1995. She married **Paul Crabbe**, and they had 2 children: Elizabeth and Heather. She died at age 68.

12. **Wanda Maxine** b.1929 d.2009. She married **Allan Perley**, and they had 3 children: Hal, Brian and Jennifer. She died at age 80.

**3. Hadred Hudson** b.1875 d. 1882. Hadred died at age 7, supposedly of a heat stroke.

**4. Myrtle Gertrude** b.1880 d.1959 at age 79. She married three times to: **Roy Veysey, Frank Holmes, and Claude Peck.**

**5. Ella O'Cella** b.1890 d.1890. She lived for only one day before dying.

#### **Charles Owen Foster b.1850 d.1936**

Charles Owen got his own land grant #20826 at Eel River registered on May 29, 1886. He married **Ida Helen Smith** b.1857 d.1936 and they had the following children: Mae Delcina, Evelyn Burchill, Joseph Scott, Frederick James, Amber, Allie Belle, Roxanne, Harry Douglas b.1894 and Waldo Thomas b.1898.

My father, Beecher Foster b.1923, said , that as a youngster growing up, he used to hear stories of Uncle "Charlie" and his "legendary fights" that would occur at the logging camps during the long winter months; an entertainment for the men, I suppose, but he was a "tough character". Beecher remembers his uncle Charlie as a large, raw-boned man with "very large hands". This physical trait was probably good for the fights that only allowed for "blows" to the "body", but never the "head". On one occasion both contestants were so badly beaten up with the "blows" that they had to be

"carted off" by horse and wagon for "medical repairs". This was probably during Charlie's early years when he was in his twenties in the 1870s.

As a small boy, Beecher also remembers his uncle Charlie – then in his 80s - putting his large hands up to Beecher's nose and making a loud snapping noise with his thumb and forefinger and then showing a long, protruding finger between his index and middle fingers that looked so much like a nose that dad would check to see if his nose was still on his face. He also remembers his father Ward taking him to visit his uncle Charlie, and Ida, Charlie's wife, had cooked the most delicious venison steak he'd ever eaten.

Charles Owen Foster died at age 86.

### **Lucy Agusta b.1853 d.1932**

**Lucy Agusta** b.1853 d.1932 married **Matthew Guy Cropley**, a son of Richard and Mary Ann (Foster) Cropley, which would make them cousins.

They had 14 children: Laura Evalina b.1869 d.1950; Elmer Enorst b.1871 d.1872; Infant b.1872 d.1872; Lillian Adelia b.1873 d.1888; Truman Josiah b.1875 d.1929; Elonzo Stilman b.1880 d.1896; Horace Edman b.1882 d.1896; Theresa Edna b.1884 d.1884; Celia Delstia b.1885 d.1896; Guy Royal b.1887 d.1974; Jessie Isadora b.1891 d.1970; Eva Servilla b.1893 d.1983; Flora Irena b.1893 d.1983; and Alan Alberry b.1895 d.1972.

Three children died at or near birth and five children died during a diphtheria epidemic in the late 1880s, which also claimed the lives of many others, like John L. Foster's children during the same time. This was quite a tragedy for many families with visits to the local cemetery every day or so.

Lucy Agusta Cropley died at the age of 79.

### **Newton James b.1857 d.1937**

Newton James Foster never married. He's somewhat "famous" in the Fosterville area for discovering gold. He had it assayed in Danforth, Maine and it was of good quality, but he discovered the gold late in his life when his eyesight was deteriorating rapidly (from what possibly could have been glaucoma) and the whereabouts was never revealed to anyone.

Today some people still look for "Newt's gold"; but it's interesting that a mining company has discovered gold in the area of Golden Ridge, and is considering an operation if more tests prove its economic viability.

Newton James Foster died of heart failure at the age of 80.

### **Ruth Lovely b.1859 d.1943**

**Ruth Lovely Foster** married **Edward Melvin Mott** who had been born in Washademoak, NB where his parents, Jacob and Elizabeth, were neighbors of Samuel Foster and his sons. The Motts moved to the Fosterville area in the mid-1850s when Elias and James Foster moved to their new land grants.

They had 15 children: Sophia b.1875; Walter b.1877; Louise b.1880. (At this time in 1881, Ruth's father, Josiah Foster, was living with her as he's listed in the Mott household in the 1881 Census as a "widower".) She continued having more babies: Milford b.1882; Hazen b.1884; Alvia b.1886 d.1887.

The first 6 children were all born in NB. At about this time Edward and Ruth and their small children moved to Mattawamkeag, Maine for better work opportunities as Mattawamkeag was quickly becoming a bustling railroad and forestry town.

And onward the births continued: Beecher b.1888 in Mattawamkeag; Josephine b.1889; Burns b.1891; Rosella b. 1893; Gene b.1895; Carl b.1896; Budd b.1897 d.1897; Floss b.1900 and Effie b.1901.

Most of the Mott descendants still live in the state of Maine.

Ruth Lovely Mott died at the age of 84.

When you remember back to what you read about the "trials and tribulations" of childbirth in the 1800s, you have to admire the strength of these two daughters of Josiah Foster, Lucy Augusta with 14 children and Ruth Lovely with 15 children.

### **Alice Foster b.1862 d. 1882**

Alice died at the age of 21 and is reportedly buried in Winn, Maine, just a few miles from Mattawamkeag.

I looked for her tombstone in the old Winn cemetery, but couldn't find it there. I'm not sure if she married or not, and just why she was there.

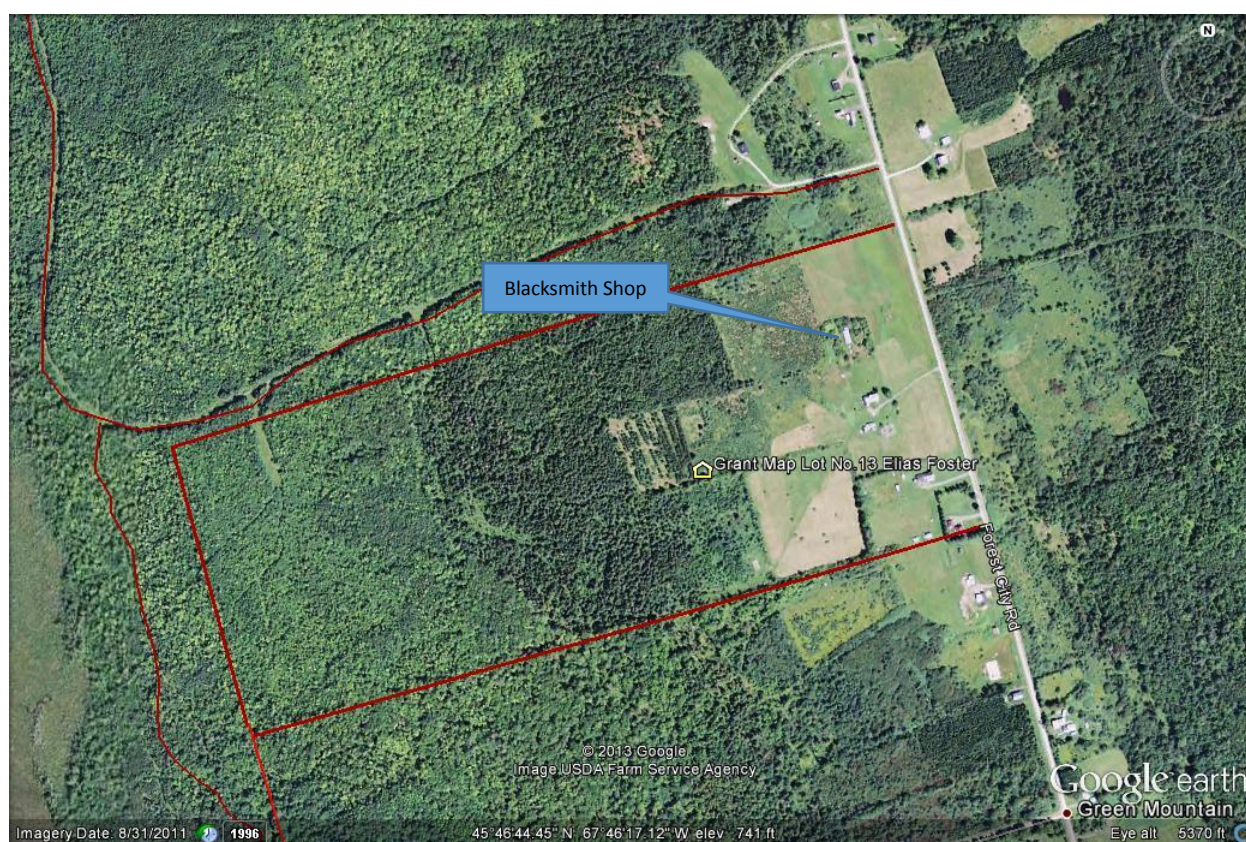
In 1882, Winn was the largest tannery in eastern North America and a bustling place and perhaps she was there looking for work.

## **Elias Foster b. 1820 d.1868 (My Great, Great Grandfather, maternal side)**

Elias was the youngest of the Foster brothers. On September 12, 1846, Elias married Sarah Ann Earl b.1821 d.1898 in the Parish of Kingston, NB and witnesses were Stephen and Catherine Marshall.

His first two children, John Little and Elmira were born in Washademoak, Wickham Parish, NB before his move to Fosterville in 1854. According to the 1851 Census, he was listed in the occupations category as a "Miller".

In Fosterville Elias settled on his Land Grant Lot No. 13, Green Mountain.



These hardy pioneers faced rough times in settling their land grants. Their survival depended on their individual efforts, as well as the help of neighbors and family members living around them.

Green Mountain is located on the eastern shore of East Grand Lake, and from its summit on a clear day you can see Mount Katahdin in central Maine, and the scenic view is majestic with all the lakes and forests.

Unfortunately, though, the land was not good, rich farmland, but was basically a "wasteland" of large granite boulders and rocks, and dynamite often had to be used to just clear and move some of the rocks and boulders.

The settlers practiced "subsistence farming": clearing enough land for a garden plot, and fields and pasture land for their livestock of cattle, pigs, chickens, sheep and horses that kept them fed and clothed. The forests provided the money needed for other needs, and the men would go to the logging camps during the three-month winter period to cut the large spruce, hemlock and hardwood trees.

In Fosterville Elias became the local blacksmith for the Parish of North Lake, as well as being a farmer.

Elias and Sarah had 6 children: John Little b.1848 d.1927; Elmira b.1851 d.1855 (both born in Washademoak); Almeda b.1857 d.1919; Amanda Jane b.1858 d.1933; Elias Samuel b.1863 d.1885 and an Infant b.1867 d.1867 all born in Green Mountain, NB.

In **1855**, shortly after moving to Green Mountain, Elias buried his daughter, Elmira, in the Upper Fosterville Cemetery, probably one of first to be buried there.

In **1868** Elias Foster died at the young age of 48, leaving his wife and a young family in the care of his eldest son, John Little, who would have been 20 years old at the time.

## **John Little Foster b.1848 d.1927 (My Great Grandfather, maternal side)**

John L. (as he was known by the locals) Foster became the breadwinner for his family. He took over the blacksmithing from his father until his death in 1927. He was also the JP from 1902 to 1927. He may have taken over the JP duties from his cousin Samuel Foster, who held it from 1887 to 1902.

John L. stood about 6 ft. tall and was of stocky build; he had brown hair and blue eyes, but in his old age he sported a long, white beard and an unruly mop of gray hair.

John L. enjoyed good health even into his old age. He was a respected citizen and, as the JP for the Parish of North Lake, the community looked to him for wisdom and advice where fair and firm justice was dispensed to the locals when needed from an office in his farmhouse. He was the JP in 1924 during the murders of Cynthia and Necia Foster and sent his two sons, Sedences and Elias, off with a posse to apprehend the fugitive, Harry Williams, who was captured and sent to Fredericton for trial by jury, and subsequently found guilty and hanged for the two murders in April 1925.

In **1874** John L. married Mary E. Welsh of Canterbury, NB.

Date October 24 1874

County Carleton

Place Woodstock

Newspaper Carleton Sentinel

*The language of the text is the original used in the newspaper entry and as transcribed by Daniel F. Johnson. Records acquired by the Provincial Archives are not translated from the language in which they originate.*

m. Wednesday 21st inst., at the Gibson House, Woodstock, by Rev. J. Seller, A.M.,  
John L. FOSTER / Miss Mary E. WELSH, both of North Lake (York Co.)

Mary was dark haired and brown eyed. She was gregarious, outspoken and had a hearty laugh – a trait passed on to many of her children. But she also passed on diabetes – the middle-age onset type – and her love of “rich food” that tended to put on weight in the later years. She was a loving mother and got along well in her marriage – although it appears she may have “ruled the roost” – so to speak. Even through the lean and tragic times in her life (like losing so many of her young children in the diphtheria epidemic), she never weakened in her spirit of living.

**John L. and Mary had 13 children:** Lenora b.1875 d.1936; Emma b.1877; Annie Maude b.1880 d.1916; Sedences b.1882 d.1941; Johnny b.1881 d.1890; Jane b.1885 d.1941; Isabella b.1888 d.1890; Robert L. b.1889 d.1890; Nellie Mae b.1891 d.1955; Nina b.1892 d.1969; Edith b.1893 d.1893; Inez b.1895 d.1985 and Elias b.1896 d.1971.

**In the 1881 Census**, living in the John L. Foster household were: John L. age 32; Mary E. age 24, wife, Lenora, age 5, Emma, age 4, Annie Maude, age 1.

Twenty years later **in the 1901 Census**, living in the John L. Foster household were: John L. age 52; Mary, age 44, wife; Sedences, age 18, son; Jane, age 15; Nelly, age 9; Nina, age 8; Inez, age 6; and Elias, age 4.

**In the 1911 Census**, living in the John L. Foster household were: John L. age 62; Mary, age 55, wife; Sedences, age 28, son; Nellie, age 20; Nina, age 19; Inez, age 16; Elias, age 14; Augustus Welsh, age 84, father-in-law; Harley Welsh, age 23, nephew.

The children of John L. and Mary were:

### **1. Lenora "Nora" Foster b.1875 d.1936**

**Lenora Foster** married **William Warden "Bill" Boone** on March 20, 1892 in Orient, Maine and they had 11 children:

- 1) **Hattie** married **Alfred Veysey**, and they had 13 children: Arlene, Kenneth, Audrey, Earle, Neil, Lillian, Norma, Lawrence, Robert, Floyd, Lenora, Beatrice and Elizabeth.
- 2) **Arlington** married **Hazel McFawn**, and they had 4 children: Arthur, Mary, William and Delbert.
- 3) **Leslie** Weslie and Leslie were twins who died at birth.
- 4) **Weslie**
- 5) **Helen** married **Claude Veysey**, and they had 3 children: Gerald Warden, Beryl Alvin and Arnold Eugene.
- 6) **John**
- 7) **Edith** married **Alton Wood**, and they had 12 children: Isobel, Gertrude, Doris, Lloyd, Wayne, Marilyn, Marie, Eileen, Vaughn, Donald, Ronald and Larry.
- 8) **Margaret** married **Claude Tomilson**, and they had 2 children: Ralph and Harold.
- 9) **Basil Sedences** married **Mamie Carr**, and they had 6 children: Jean, Charles, William Cedric, Joan, Nancy and Dana.
- 10) **Hazel**
- 11) **Frederick Whelpley** married **Dorothy Foster**, and they had 6 children: Fred, Marlene, Sylvia, Linda, Gail and Vaughn.

Lenora died at age 61 in 1936 and her husband's obituary follows:

**William Warden Boone**

Orange circles in the parish of North Lake, County of York, N.B., & L.O.L. No 50 in particular, are mourning the passing of Brother William Warden Boone, which occurred at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Alfred Veysey, of Fosterville, June 17. The late brother was born at Fredericton in 1864, coming to North Lake as a young man and soon after became a member of L.O.L. No 50, of which lodge he was ever a faithful member. He held every office in the primary lodge and was holder of the 50-year medal, and was also an honorary member of L.O.L. No 50.

The funeral was attended by a large gathering of old friends, members of the Orange Lodges of Fosterville and Canterbury. The service was held at the Baptist Church at Fosterville where Rev Brother Ritchie officiated. The brethren marched to the grave, where the burial service was conducted by the Orange Order under the direction of the County Master of York West, Eldon Tompkins. The pallbearers were Bros. George Scott, Thomas Derrick, of L.O.L. No 48; Henry Farrell, Ward Foster, of L.O.L. No 50. The late brother leaves to mourn, four daughters, Mrs. Alfred Veysey, Mrs. Clyde Veysey of Fosterville; Mrs. Alton Wood, North Lake; Mrs. Claude Tomilson, Houlton, Maine; and three sons, Arlington, Basil and Frederick Boone of North Lake, and 33 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

**William Cedric Boone**, known as **Bill Boone**, is the author of the publication "**The Parish of North Lake and Its People**" and the website: **Fosterville.ca the North Lake Connection**.

**Lenora Foster** would have been his grandmother, and his great grandfather would have been Lenora's father, **John L. Foster**.

## **2. Emma b.1877 d.?**

**Emma** married **Joseph Witcombe** on May 10, 1900 and they lived in Beechwood, Mass; they had 2 children; Ruth and Walter.

## **3. Annie Maude b.1880 d. Dec. 23, 1918**

**Annie Maude** married **Elmer Farrell** and they had 2 children: Robert Leslie and Maude. Maude was only 8 years old when her mother, Annie Maude, died with the flu epidemic that occurred after WWI.

Maude was raised by her aunt Inez and Uncle Harry Louder. Maude died at age 23 in 1934. Elmer Farrell died in 1949.

**Robert Leslie Farrell** married **Sarah Ellen O'Hearn** and they had 10 children: Lewis, Annie, Freeman, Nellis, Maurice, Joyce, Clayton, Hedley, Roland and Jane.

## **4. Sedences b.1881 d.1941**

Sedences, the eldest son, never married. He lived all his life in the homestead farm his father had built. He was a favorite "Uncle Den" to all his nieces and nephews – especially so to the five young children of his younger brother, Elias who lived in the same house. Uncle Den, unlike most men in the community, faithfully attended services

at the Baptist church erected on Green Mountain in 1895. Uncle Den had a large print edition of the Psalms given to him as a gift when he was a youngster and he would read from it without fail every evening before going to bed. Den was a tall, large-boned man with curly hair that he would absent-mindedly twist around his fingers while resting and contemplating a hard day's work on the farm. He was shy and peaceable by nature, and was also the local undertaker for the community. He died at age 60 years.

### **Green Mountain**

#### Death of Sedences Foster Regretted—Many at Funeral Service

Green Mountain, N.B., Aug 5, [1941]—This community was saddened by the death of Sedences Foster which occurred at his home Thursday morning, July 31st, caused by heart trouble of which he had been suffering for the past few years. Mr. Foster, who was 59 years of age, had been a lifelong resident of this community and was highly respected by all and in his passing many have lost a kind friend and neighbor.

Mr. Foster was a member of the United Baptist church and was keenly interested in all church activities until his death. He was also a member of the Loyal Orange Lodge No 50, Fosterville, N.B. He leaves to mourn their sad loss, one brother, Elias of Green Mountain, and four sisters, Mrs. Harvey Boone and Mrs. Nina Wood of Green Mountain, N.B., Mrs. Emery Farrell, Eel River Lake, N.B., and Mrs. Harry Louder, Vanceboro, Me., and several nieces and nephews. The funeral service was conducted by Rev A Gibson, Devon, N.B., and was held at the home of the deceased on Saturday at 2 o'clock. The hymns sung were "We are going down the Valley" and "When I get to the end of the way". Burial was made at the Upper Cemetery, Fosterville, N.B. under the Orange Order and "Shall we gather at the river" was sung at this service. The pallbearers were four nephews, Arlie Boone, Robert Farrell, Sedences Wood and Basil Boone, all Orange members. The funeral was largely attended. There was a great many floral tributes from friends and relatives including wreaths from the Orange Lodge and Baptist Church.

### **5. John Little (Johnny) b.1884 d. Aug. 28, 1890**

Johnny died in the diphtheria epidemic that swept the community in the 1890s. His tombstone is shared with his three young siblings who also died in the same epidemic. He was 6 years old.

### **6. Jane b. 1885 d.1941**

**Jane** married **Harvey Beverley Boone** and they had 2 children: John Beverley and Clarence. She died at age 56 in 1941.

### **7. Isabella b. 1888 d. Sept 8, 1890**

Isabella died of diphtheria at age 2 years and 26 days, just 11 days after 6-year old Johnny had died.

### **8. Robert L. b.1889 d. Sept 7, 1890**

Robert L. Foster died of diphtheria, just one day before Isabella died, at age 1 year and 1 month.

### **9. Nellie Mae b.1891 d.1955**

**Nellie** married **Charles Emery Farrell** and they had 4 children: Ethel Alice, Lida, Floyd and Paul.

**Paul Farrell** married **Marjorie Elva Armour** and they had 3 children: Cameron, Becky and Kevin.

Nellie Mae died at age 64.

### **10. Nina b.1892 d. Nov. 23, 1969**

**Nina** married **Frank Wood**, who died by accident while working on his farm in 1934. They had 7 children: Annie, Isabelle, Osgood, Sedences L., Dellis and Pauline and Ila. The youngest, Ila, was only 4 years old at the time. After Frank's death, Nina worked, nursed and kept house for different families in need to make a living until she died at age 77 in 1969.

### **11. Edith b. 1893 d. Sept 19, 1893**

Edith died at age 8 months.

### **12. Inez b.1895 d.1985**

**Inez** married **Harry B. Lounder**, a railroad engineer in Vanceboro, Maine. They spent their summers at their family home on Green Mountain. Inez raised her sister Ann's daughter, Maude, from age 8 until her death at age 23. Harry died while shoveling snow in 1963. They had one son: Laurel Lounder, who was a Professional Forester, and managed pulp mills in Espanola, Ontario.

Inez died in 1985 at age 90.

### **13. Elias b.1896 d.1971 (My Grandfather, maternal side)**

**Elias** was born on August 17, 1896, and he married **Florence Ada McNerlin** b.1890 d.1983, in 1925 at her father's home in Maxwell, NB; they had 5 children: Gordon, Alice, Kathryn, Marvin and Curtis.

Elias took over the blacksmithing from his father, John L. when he died in 1927 and built a new and improved black smith shop that contained a large area for carpentry work. He made sleds, furniture, wagons, axe handles, whiffletrees and other items to sell, and there was always a big demand for his solid and durable constructions.

However, he supported his family mainly from the blacksmithing trade - shoeing the horses used on the farms and in the logging operations. This job kept him busy from early morning to late evening most days, except Sunday. He also ran a farm with milking cows, and the usual barnyard animals like chickens, pigs, and sheep.

Elias owned a car or two in his lifetime, but shortly after his marriage in 1925 he "junked" these cars and "hired" a neighbor's car to take him to Woodstock to "stock" up on supplies when the need arose. These supplies included not only the staples of flour, sugar, salt and the like, but also his blacksmithing supplies such as hammers, nails, and horseshoes. This was about an 80-mile round trip over rough, dusty roads and was about the farthest he would ever travel in a year. He did make one trip to visit his sister in Boston and two more trips to Ontario and Manitoba to visit his daughters.

Elias was of medium build and height and rather "skinny" as a child and young man, but he put on weight in his middle years that led to diabetes and resulted in "complications" in later life leading to his death at age 75 in 1971.

Elias had pale blue eyes and brown hair. He was independent and stubborn, sometimes to a "fault"; yet he had a "teasing" nature and good sense of humor. Unlike his brother, Den, Elias attended church only to get people "married" or "buried". Yet he still had a strong reverence for God and was never heard to swear – or allow his children to swear! Although moral and upright, he could, at times, be judgmental of others. He enjoyed having company, but was not keen to visit others. His blacksmith shop was a sort of local "hang out" for the men and boys of the community, and all were welcomed in hospitality. Many times he was also seen – unbeknownst to him – kneeling at his bedside, praying, before retiring for the night.

### **Florence McNerlin**

Florence, known locally as "Flossie", was the local school teacher and six years older than Elias. Flossie brought with her a new "dimension" into the Elias Foster home – "higher education|" and "social graces".

Flossie came from a family of 9 children where her parents, Tom and Kate McNerlin, raised their "brood of young'uns" on a backwoods farm in Maxwell, NB.

Flossie's grandparents, on her mother's side, Nancy (nee Buchanan) and John Slater moved to Eel River when Kate was 9 years old. They came from the Browns Flat area near Saint John.

Her paternal grandparents were James and Florence (nee MacPherson) McNerlin. Flossie's father, Tom McNerlin, was born in Maxwell on March 28, 1857 and died in his 89<sup>th</sup> year in 1946. Kate, her mother, lived to be 91 years old.

Yet Flossie, and another sister, Lena (Hawkes), managed to escape this "wilderness" and get a formal education in the capital of Fredericton, which was no small feat in those days! They each became school teachers after getting their certificates from the "Normal School" located in Fredericton. Flossie was raised Presbyterian and she joined Fredericton's St. Paul's Church in 1910 while attending school there. (Soon after her marriage in 1925, she joined the Baptist church on Green Mountain in 1931.)

Flossie began her teaching career at the age of 17 in 1907. She taught in many rural areas of western New Brunswick, and must have taught in Kintore, a small place just outside of Plaster Rock, at one time because she gave me a small "keepsake" vase that had been given to her as a gift with a message inside that read, "Given to me by an old Scotch lady in Kintore."

Eventually she would teach at the one-room schoolhouse on Green Mountain where she met her future husband, Elias Foster. After her children were grown, she returned to teaching until the age of 67 when she retired with a teacher's pension.

Excerpt from a newspaper at the time:

### **Key to Long Life**

[1980] — Over 230 well-wishers gathered at the Fosterville Elementary school on April 12, to honor Mrs. Florence Foster on the occasion of her 90th birthday.

A retired school teacher, Mrs. Foster welcomed several former pupils. She obtained her education quite differently from today's teachers, such as her grandson, Leonard Foster, who will graduate within weeks from the University of New Brunswick with his teaching degree; or her daughter, Alice Graham, who also received a Bachelor of Education to teach.

One of nine children born to Thomas and Catherine McNerlin of Maxwell, Mrs. Foster was born and raised on the farm which her father hacked out of the forest with an axe and elbow grease. As a child she often walked miles to the next district to attend classes because some schools were closed during winter months or for whole terms. Most of the teachers only had a local license without formal training.

Yet in 1907, Mrs. Foster managed to go to Fredericton to attend Normal School. She left school again at the age of 17 to support herself by teaching. After three terms of teaching, she returned to Fredericton and graduated from Normal School in June, 1910. (Note: the Normal School later became Teacher's College and was located on Queen Street at York across from the City Hall. Today it houses the Courts.)

After graduating, she held teaching positions in various New Brunswick schools. In 1918 she was granted a U.S. Maine license for seven years. She returned to teach in the Pemberton Ridge/Green Mountain area where she met and married Elias Foster, the local blacksmith, and 13th child of a blacksmith.

Although starting her family at the age of 35, she gave birth to five healthy children in the following ten years. She did not again teach until 1950 when she had as her students the children of former pupils in many cases. When she retired in 1957 at the age of 67 her teaching career had spanned 50 years.

For many years Mrs. Foster served as organist, treasurer, and superintendent and Sunday school teacher of the Green Mountain Baptist church. Although her sight for reading is poor, she still teaches an Adult Bible Class making use of an excellent memory of bible verses memorized in her youth.

The old Foster homestead at Green Mountain (long past its centenarian mark), where her late husband and five children were born, is still her home. She enjoys visiting close friends and family. Alert and able to care for all her own needs she can still whip up a batch of cookies or put out a wash with ease.

Present at the party were her three sons, Gordon, Green Mountain (Note: with whom Flossie lived), Marvin, North Lake, Curtis, Canterbury and one daughter, Kathryn, Canterbury. Another daughter, Mary Alice Graham, Winnipeg, was unable to attend because of illness, but sent flowers and a message.

Mrs. Foster has 17 grandchildren and all except Douglas and Brian Graham, Winnipeg, and Capt. Boyd Foster, currently on course in BC, were able to attend.

Guests arrived from 2 until 9 p.m. and Mrs. Foster remained in attendance the full time greeting each arrival personally. It was a memorable day.

Flossie had a bright and cheerful personality; yet she showed her melancholy and romantic side in her beautifully expressed and introspective poetry and writings. While Elias preferred to remain at home and not visit, Flossie "loved" to visit and socialize, sharing meals, organizing picnics, quilting bees, family reunions and other celebrations. She played the organ at home and in the church.

Even though Elias and Flossie may not have had a lot in common – in a social and education way - what was most important to both, and what eventually prevailed in their relationship as husband and wife was the development of strong "family ties", because commitment and co-operation was essential for survival in this remote part of New Brunswick.

During this age, the Community's social events usually comprised school and church events at Christmas and Easter, or barn dances held in the Orange Hall or in someone's kitchen. Music was often provided by anyone who could "fiddle a tune" or "squeeze an accordion".

An excerpt from a newspaper at the time:

Fosterville Corner, June 1 [1938] - On Monday evening May thirteenth, the Ramblin Ranch Boys made their first appearance of the season in the local hall. A crowd numbering close to two hundred people filled the building and were pleasantly entertained. Tex Johnson delighted the assembly by offering several solos that left the audience applauding wildly. Shorty Best and Slim Cropley were in fine form as they performed on their violins, guitars and accordion. Emc. Dickinson directed the show also joining Tex Johnson in the vocal part of the programme. The guests of honor were Mrs. R W Cropley and Mrs. W Dickinson of Meductic. The Ranch Boys expect to make several more appearances in various places in the province in the near future.

A popular event was the "chivaree". This was a noisy, mock serenade to newlyweds with a pounding of large tin cans with hammers, the rattling of pots and pans or the incessant ringing of cow bells. It would only end with the groom providing a "treat" of some kind – usually peanuts in the shell or hard candy.

The people worked hard, played hard, and laughed loudly and often; yet they shared in one another's burdens and miseries as well. It was the end of an era.

Flossie didn't have her first child until 1926 at the age of 36 and had her last child at age 45 in 1935. She lived to be 93 years old and had good health until her last few days when she died of a stomach aneurism.

### **Obituary Florence A Foster**

[1983] — Mrs. Florence Ada (McNerlin) Foster, 92, widow of Elias Foster, died unexpectedly at the home of her daughter in Canterbury on Jan. 28, 1983.

*Born at Maxwell, she was a daughter of the late Thomas and Catherine (Kate) McNerlin (nee Slater) of Maxwell. She began teaching school at 17, and after three terms returned to Fredericton for more education where she graduated from Normal School in 1910. When she retired from teaching in 1957 at the age of 67, her career had covered a span of 50 years.*

*She was a member of the Green Mountain United Baptist Church all her married life, and served as a bible teacher and organist during that time. She lived at Green Mountain the last 57 years of her life except for periods spent with her daughter in Canterbury, where she died suddenly. She remained mentally and physically alert and active until her death.*

*Mrs. Foster is survived by three sons, Gordon of Green Mountain, Marvin of North Lake and Curtis of Canterbury; two daughters, Mrs. Beecher (Kathryn) Foster of Canterbury and Mrs. Mary Alice Graham of Winnipeg; two sisters, Mrs. Lena Hawkes and Mrs. Alex (Hattie) Graham of Woodstock; 17 grandchildren and nine great grandchildren; nieces and nephews.*

*Funeral service was held from the Green Mountain United Baptist Church with Lic. Peter Douglas and Lic. Charles Collicott officiating. Burial was in the Fosterville upper cemetery.*

*The children of Elias and Flossie:*

#### **1. John Gordon b. 1926 d.1993**

Gordon took over the family farm after Elias died in 1971. Besides the farming activities, Gordon drove the school bus for a living. He was mechanically inclined which showed in some of his hobbies such as building model airplanes. He also raised turkeys for a while. He had the same slight build as his father and was about 5 ft. 9 inches tall with dark brown hair and blue eyes. Gordon was a quiet, dependable and devoted husband and father.

Gordon married **Maxine Wood** and they had 2 children: Leonard and Juanita. Leonard inherited the original homestead from his father when his mother died and it's been kept in the Foster name since 1854 when his great, great, grandfather Elias Foster b.1820 moved to Fosterville in 1854. Leonard has two sons, Christopher and Matthew, and Matthew's son is also named, Elias.

Gordon died on his birthday at age 67 in 1993.

## **2. Mary Alice b.1928 d.1999**

While teaching school in Saint John, Alice married **Frank Graham**, a RCMP constable. After her marriage, she got her B. Ed. degree. They had 2 children: Douglas Allen and Brian Kenneth. Alice divorced Frank in 1973 and lived most of her life in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Frank remarried and lived in the US.

Alice died at age 71 in 1999.

## **3. Kathryn Jean b.1929**

Kathryn married **Beecher Foster** in 1946. She is my mother. They had 5 children: Ronald b.1947; Sheila b.1948; Marcia b.1950; Boyd b.1952 and Martin b.1963. More on my parents later.

## **4. Marvin Elias b. Sept 8, 1930**

When Marvin was just a few days old, he became seriously ill with whooping cough, contracted by his mother right after his birth. One-year old Kathryn, two-year old Alice and four-year old Gordon also became sick.

Along with many others, Louella Buckingham, came to the Foster home to assist in this trying time for the young family. After one coughing and choking spasm, the newborn, Marvin, being held on a pillow by Louella, became very still and turned a bluish color. "He's gone", she said. But a miracle happened! Marvin revived and survived the disease that was usually fatal in newborn infants. He was immediately named "Tough", by his happy father, Elias, and the nickname persists to this day.

Marvin was a successful woods contractor and Game Warden. He excelled in carpentry and built his own house, and others as well. He stands about 6 ft. tall, of medium build, weighs about 180 pounds and has light brown hair and blue eyes. He is talkative, good natured, loves to square dance and is good company to be around.

Marvin married **Gladys Armour**, and they had 3 children: Gregory, Lucille and Tracy.

## **5. Arden Curtis b. 1935**

Curtis, known by the nickname of "Snude", graduated from Canterbury High School and Forest Ranger School. He worked for the Department of Natural Resources until his

retirement. He stands about 6 ft. tall and weighs about 190 pounds and has light brown hair and blue eyes. During his Game Warden days it was often said (tongue in cheek) that Curtis took his duties so seriously that he would turn in his own mother if he caught her "deer jacking".

Curtis married **Donna Grant**, and they had 5 children: Marianne, Travis, Jonathan, Terri Dawn and Nathaniel.

### **Elmira Foster b. 1851 d. 1855**

Elmira was Elias' second child and born in Washademoak, NB. She died about 1 year after arriving in Fosterville and is buried in the Upper Fosterville Cemetery in 1855. She was only 5 years old.

### **Almeda b.1857 d.1919**

**Almeda** married **Charles Whitfield Peck** and they had 7 children: Maude Amelia, Claude, Fred Whelpley, Eldon Manzer, Mary, John and Fee. She died at age 62.

### **Amanda Jane b.1858 d.1933**

**Amanda** married **John William Braun** of Millville, NB and they had 3 children: James Wilbur, Irene Idelia and Mamie. She died at age 75.

### **Elias Samuel b.1863 d.1885**

Elias, who went by his middle name, **Samuel**, died a tragic death at the young age of 22 by drowning in North Lake.

Following are newspaper articles regarding this tragedy that befell three young men:

Date October 23 1885  
County Saint John  
Place Saint John  
Newspaper The Daily Sun

The language of the text is the original used in the newspaper entry and as transcribed by Daniel F. Johnson. Records acquired by the Provincial Archives are not translated from the language in which they originate.

A correspondent writes: On Monday 19th inst., three young men, Samuel FOSTER and Fenwick WILLIAMS of this place and Wm FOSTER of Queens Co., set out to cross North Lake in a small boat. Not returning the next day, search was made for them, when the boat was found filled with water, with the sail and mast floating by its side, held by a rope. Several parties have been dragging the lake, without finding the bodies.

Date May 8 1886  
County Carleton  
Place Woodstock  
Newspaper Carleton Sentinel

The language of the text is the original used in the newspaper entry and as transcribed by Daniel F. Johnson. Records acquired by the Provincial Archives are not translated from the language in which they originate.

The bodies of the two young men, FOSTER and young WILLIAMS, who were drowned in North Lake (York Co.) last fall, have been found.

*(There was no mention if the body of young William Foster from Queens County was ever recovered or not.)*

I've often wondered why these three young men would be on North Lake so late in the fall; it wasn't for fishing, that late in the year. One possibility is that there were land grants on the north shore of North Lake, and perhaps the three men were going there to work on the grants. One grant is in the name of a Samuel Foster, and a few of the land grants were settled at one time.

North Lake can be very rough at times when the winds blow, and they wouldn't have stood much of a chance after capsizing the boat in the chilly waters late in October, with hypothermia quickly setting in.

Elias (known locally as "Samuel") was buried the following May in the Upper Fosterville Cemetery, after his body had been recovered.

My grandfather, Elias Foster b.1896, always had a "phobia" about lakes and drowning, and the tragic drowning of his uncle was probably passed down in stories by his father, siblings and others over the years as he was growing up, and he certainly passed this "phobia" on to his own children and grandchildren to this day.

**Infant b. 1867 d. July 19, 1867**

## **Beecher Ronald Foster b.1923 (My Father)**

Beecher was the 9<sup>th</sup> of 12 children born to Ward Beecher Foster and Minnie Nason on January 3, 1923. He lived in a family of mostly sisters when growing up as his oldest brother, Thyrlle, had already left home. His only other brother, Earl, was still living at home, but he was 11 years Beecher's senior.

When he was 18, he joined the Army during WWII. While in Europe he did meet his brother, Thyrlle, who was also serving in the War. Originally Beecher wanted to be a "tail gunner", but being color blind, he was refused, and enlisted in the Army corps instead; which was probably good for me - as tail gunners lives were usually "measured in minutes".

Upon returning safely from the War in 1945, he fell "head over heels" for a pretty, young lady "up the hill", at the Elias Foster homestead. Her name was Kathryn, who was all of 16, and Beecher was 22.

Kathryn Jean was named after her maternal grandmother, although the spelling was changed by her mother. She went by the name of Kaye. Unable to further her education beyond the Grade 8 level - for financial reasons - Kathryn went to Community College in Woodstock for upgrading and earned her Grade 12 G.E.D. High School Diploma after her five children were grown, and they were living in Canterbury in 1972. Then she finished further training at the same College to become a R.N.A. finishing at the top of her class. In addition she completed a Theory of the Human Counsellor course at the College and took correspondence courses in History, Geography and English. Kathryn worked for 14 years at the Woodstock hospital and did some home nursing before retiring.

She completed a course in Writing and enjoys writing short stories and poems.

Beecher and Kathryn married in 1946 and Earl, Beecher's brother, was the best man.

In 1947 Ronald Beecher was born, followed by Sheila in 1948, Marcia in 1951 and Boyd in 1952 in Woodstock, NB and later by Martin Ward b.1963 in Zweibrucken, Germany.

Work was scarce in the Fosterville area after the War and Beecher decided to go back into uniform and joined the Royal Canadian Air Force. His first posting was to Trenton, Ontario.

After 6 years in Trenton, the family was posted to Zweibrucken, Germany from 1960 to 1964. Martin Ward was born in Germany in 1963.

Upon returning to Canada in 1964, Beecher was posted to a remote radar site in Armstrong, Ontario for a one-year stint, and the family lived in Canterbury, NB in his absence.

In 1965 the family, except for Ron who remained in NB, moved to North Bay, Ontario where Beecher retired from the Air Force in 1972.

Beecher moved back to Canterbury, NB where they still live today. He then worked at the Pulp & Paper Mill in Nackawic as a security guard until he turned 65 in 1988.

Beecher is 91 years young and Kathryn is 84 years young, and for their ages, both are in good health.

Beecher loves to hunt and fish and go on his four wheeler. Kathryn loves to write poetry, paint, play the accordion and sing and, until just recently, bike and walk.

**Ronald Beecher b.1947** married **Barbara A. Durling** in 1969 and they have two children: Mark Alison Robert b.1973 and Julia Barbara b.1975.

Ron got his B. Sc. Forestry at UNB in 1971 and worked for St. Anne Nackawic Pulp & Paper Co. until 2004 when it went bankrupt. He then worked for the Province for one year and then for AV Nackawic for one year, retiring with the position of Operations Manager for the Woodlands Division in 2007.

Barbara finished one year at UNB before getting married in 1969 and working to support Ron who still had two years to go to get his Degree. She then went to Community College in Woodstock and got her Degree finishing at the top of her class. However, before she could start a career, Mark Alison Robert was born in 1973 followed in 1975 by Julia Barbara. So Barb stayed home and took on the most important job of all: raising two children that any parent would be proud of - and the whole reason that Mark and Julia are the successful people and parents that they've become today.

**Sheila Jean b. April 14, 1948** married **William Grant** and they have two children: Benjamin Foster b.1975 and Alisha Kathryn b.1977. Sheila has her nursing assistant diploma and is a RNA. Sheila is a widow now, with husband, Bill, having died a few years ago.

**Marcia Ellen b. July 21, 1951** married **Ron McLean** and they have three children: Thomas Ronald b.1976, James Daniel b.1978 and Kathryn Elizabeth (Katie) b.1981. She divorced, and then married **Ron Davidson**. Marcia is a Psychiatric nurse and works as a Manager for a hospital in Ottawa.

**Boyd Allison b. October 26, 1952** married **Annette Gertrude Joly** on April 14, 1978; they have no children. Boyd went to Royal Military College in Kingston and got his engineering degree followed by a MBA from Queens University later on. He retired with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel from the Armed Forces and lives at East Grand Lake next to his brother, Ron.

**Martin Ward b. August 26, 1963** in Zweibrucken, Germany. Martin never married. Martin has University degrees from UNB in Business Administration, Psychology and

Education and is presently employed as a manager in the computer department with McCains in Florenceville, NB.

*(It was always the desire of both Beecher and Kathryn that their children go to University and get the education that wasn't available to them when growing up, and as you have read, they are both pleased with what their children have accomplished.)*

### **Mark Alison Robert Foster b.1973 (My Son)**

**Mark Alison Robert Foster** b. March 29, 1973 married **Pamela Heather Gibbons** b.1976 and they have one child: Gage Nicolas b.2004.

Both Mark and Pam attended UNB; Mark getting his Mechanical Engineering degree and Pam getting her Chemical Engineering degree. Presently both are employed as managers with Proctor & Gamble in Auburn, Maine.

### **Julia Barbara Foster b. February 17, 1975 (My Daughter)**

**Julia Barbara** married **Kevin Hemsley** b.1976 (from Dayton, Ohio) and they have two children: Madeline Pearl b.2003 and Sophie Marie b.2005. They live in Huntley, Illinois, just west of Chicago. Julia has a double major in Psychology and Mass Communication from a University in Texas and Kevin has a Business Degree from a University in Texas.

### **Gage Nicolas Foster b.2004 (My Grandson)**

**Gage Nicolas** is the 8<sup>th</sup> Great grandson of Stephen Foster b. ca. 1700 in Woodbridge, NJ and represents over 300 years of history to this date in this branch of the Foster line.

Gage is a budding athlete and excels in his favorite sport – soccer.

## APPENDIX 1

### Timeline of the Revolutionary War

		1754-1763
	<a href="#"><u>The French and Indian War</u></a>	1754
June 19-July 11	<a href="#"><u>The Albany Congress</u></a>	1763
Oct. 7	<a href="#"><u>Proclamation of 1763</u></a>	1764
April 5	<a href="#"><u>The Sugar Act</u></a>	
September 1	<a href="#"><u>The Currency Act</u></a>	1765
March 22	<a href="#"><u>The Stamp Act</u></a>	
March 24	<a href="#"><u>The Quartering Act of 1765</u></a>	
May 29	<a href="#"><u>Patrick Henry's "If this be treason, make the most of it!" speech</u></a>	
May 30	<a href="#"><u>The Virginia Stamp Act Resolutions</u></a>	
Oct. 7-25	<a href="#"><u>The Stamp Act Congress</u></a>	1766
March 18	<a href="#"><u>The Declaratory Act</u></a>	1767
June 29	<a href="#"><u>The Townshend Revenue Act</u></a>	1768
August 1	<a href="#"><u>Boston Non-Importation Agreement</u></a>	1770
March 5	<a href="#"><u>The Boston Massacre</u></a>	1772
June 9	<a href="#"><u>The Gaspee Affair</u></a>	1773
May 10	<a href="#"><u>The Tea Act</u></a>	
Dec. 16	<a href="#"><u>The Boston Tea Party</u></a>	1774
March 31	<a href="#"><u>Boston Port Act</u></a> , one of the " <a href="#"><u>Intolerable Acts</u></a> "	
May 20	<a href="#"><u>Administration of Justice Act</u></a> , one of the " <a href="#"><u>Intolerable Acts</u></a> "	
May 20	<a href="#"><u>Massachusetts Government Act</u></a> , one of the " <a href="#"><u>Intolerable Acts</u></a> "	
June 2	<a href="#"><u>Quartering Act of 1774</u></a> , one of the " <a href="#"><u>Intolerable Acts</u></a> "	
June 22	<a href="#"><u>Quebec Act</u></a> , one of the " <a href="#"><u>Intolerable Acts</u></a> "	
Sept. 5-Oct. 26	<a href="#"><u>The First Continental Congress</u></a> meets in Philadelphia and issues <a href="#"><u>Declaration and Resolves</u></a>	
Oct. 10	Battle of Point Pleasant, Virginia (disputed as to whether it was a battle of the American Revolution or the culmination of Lord Dunmore's War)	
Oct. 20	<a href="#"><u>The Association</u></a> (prohibition of trade with Great Britain)	
Oct. 24	<a href="#"><u>Galloway's Plan</u></a> rejected	1775
March 23	<a href="#"><u>Patrick Henry's "Give me liberty or give me death" speech</u></a>	
Apr. 18	The Rides of <a href="#"><u>Paul Revere</u></a> and William Dawes	

- Apr. 19 [Minutemen](#) and redcoats clash at [Lexington and Concord](#) "The shot heard 'round the world."
- May 10 Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys seize Fort Ticonderoga
- May 10 [The Second Continental Congress](#) meets in Philadelphia
- June 15 [George Washington](#) named Commander in Chief
- June 17 [Battle of Bunker Hill](#): The British drive the Americans from Breed's Hill
- July 3 Washington assumes command of the Continental Army
- Nov. 10-21 Ninety Six, SC, Patriots sieged
- Nov. 13 The patriots under Montgomery occupy Montreal in Canada
- Dec. 11 Virginia and NC patriots rout Loyalist troops and burn Norfolk
- Dec. 22 Col. Thomson with 1,500 rangers and militia capture Loyalists at Great Canebrake, SC
- Dec. 23-30 Snow Campaign, in SC, so-called because patriots are impeded by 15" of snow
- Dec. 30-31 American forces under [Benedict Arnold](#) fail to seize Quebec
- 1776**
- Jan. 1 Daniel Morgan taken prisoner in attempt to take Quebec City
- Jan. 15 Paine's "[Common Sense](#)" published
- Feb. 27 The patriots drive the Loyalists from Moore's Creek Bridge, North Carolina
- March 3 The Continental fleet captures New Providence Island in the Bahamas
- March 17 The British evacuate Boston; British Navy moves to Halifax, Canada
- June 8 Patriots fail to take Three Rivers, Quebec
- June 12 [The Virginia Declaration of Rights](#)
- June 28 Sullivan's Island, SC, failed British naval attack
- June 29 [The First Virginia Constitution](#)
- June 28 Patriots decisively defeat the British Navy at Fort Moultrie, South Carolina
- July 1 At the instigation of British agents, the Cherokee attack along the entire southern frontier
- July 1-4 Congress debates and revises the Declaration of Independence. See [Chronology of the Declaration](#)
- July 4 Congress adopts the Declaration of Independence; it's sent to the printer
- July 8 The Declaration of Independence is read publicly
- July 15 Lyndley's Fort, SC, Patriots fend off attack by Indians and Tories dressed as Indians
- Aug. 1 Ambushed by Cherokees, Patriots are saved by a mounted charge at Seneca, SC
- Aug. 2 Delegates begin to sign The Declaration of Independence
- Aug. 10 Tugaloo River, SC, Andrew Pickens defeats Cherokees
- Aug. 12? Andrew Pickens' detachment surrounded by 185 Cherokee Indians, forms a ring and fires outward. It is known as the "Ring Fight."
- Aug. 12 Col. Williamson and Andrew Pickens defeat Cherokee Indians and burn Tamassy, an Indian town
- Aug. 27 Redcoats defeat the George Washington's army in the Battle of Long Island. Washington's army escapes at night.
- Sept. 15 The British occupy New York City
- Sept. 16 Generals George Washington, Nathanael Greene, and Israel Putnam triumphantly hold their ground at the Battle of Harlem Heights
- Sept. 19 Col. Williamson's patriots attacked by Cherokees at Coweecho River, NC

- Oct. 11 [Benedict Arnold](#) defeated at the Battle of Valcour Island (Lake Champlain), but delayed British advance
- Oct. 28 The Americans retreat from White Plains, New York. British casualties (~300) higher than American (~200).
- Nov. 16 The Hessians capture Fort Washington, NY
- Nov. 20 Lord Cornwallis captures Fort Lee from Nathanael Greene
- Dec. 26 Washington [crosses the Delaware](#) and captures Trenton from Hessians
- 1777**
- Jan. 3 Washington victorious at Princeton
- Jan. 6-May 28 Washington winters in Morristown, NJ
- Apr. 27 [Benedict Arnold](#)'s troops force a British retreat at Ridgefield, Connecticut.
- May 20 Treaty of DeWitt's Corner, SC: Cherokees lose most of their land east of the mountains
- June 14 [Flag Resolution](#)
- July 5 St. Clair surrenders Fort Ticonderoga to the British
- July 27 [Lafayette](#) arrives in Philadelphia
- Aug. 6 The Redcoats, with Iroquois support, force the patriots back at Oriskany, NY, but then have to evacuate
- Aug. 16 American Militia under General Stark victorious at the Battle of Bennington, VT (actually fought in Walloomsac, New York, several miles to the west)
- Aug. 23 British withdraw from Fort Stanwix, NY, upon hearing of Benedict Arnold's approach
- Aug. 25 British General Howe lands at [Head of Elk, Maryland](#)
- Sept. 11 The British win the Battle of [Brandywine, Pennsylvania](#)
- Sept. 16 Rain-out at the [Battle of the Clouds](#), Pennsylvania
- Sept. 19 Burgoyne checked by Americans under Gates at Freeman's Farm, NY. This is part of the "Battles of Saratoga."
- Sept. 21 [Paoli Massacre, PA](#)
- Sept. 26 British under Howe [occupy Philadelphia](#)
- Oct. 4 Americans driven off at the [Battle of Germantown](#)
- Oct. 7 Burgoyne loses second battle of Freeman's Farm, NY (at Bemis Heights). This is part of the "Battles of Saratoga."
- Oct. 17 Burgoyne surrenders to American General Gates at Saratoga, NY
- Oct. 22 Hessian attack on Fort Mercer, NJ repulsed
- Nov. 16 British capture [Fort Mifflin](#), Pennsylvania
- Dec. 5-7 Americans repulse British at [Whitemarsh, Pennsylvania](#)
- Dec. 19 Washington's army retires to winter quarters at [Valley Forge](#)
- 1778**
- Feb. 6 The United States and France sign the [French Alliance](#)
- March 7 British General William Howe replaced by Henry Clinton
- May 20 Battle of Barren Hill, Pennsylvania. Lafayette with 500 men and about 50 Oneida Indians successfully evade British onslaught
- June 18 British abandon Philadelphia and return to New York
- June 19 Washington's army [leaves Valley Forge](#)
- June 28 The Battle of Monmouth Court House ends in a draw
- July 4 George Rogers Clark captures Kaskaskia, a French village south of St. Louis

- Aug. 8 French and American forces besiege Newport, RI  
 Dec. 29 The redcoats occupy Savannah
- 1779**
- Feb. 3 Maj. Gen. Moultrie defeats British detachment at Port Royal Island, SC  
 Feb. 14 Patriots Andrew Pickens and Elijah Clarke beat Loyalists at Kettle Creek, GA  
 Feb. 23-24 American George Rogers Clark captures Vincennes (in what is now Indiana) on the Wabash in the Western campaign  
 March 3 British Lt. Col. Jacques Marcus Prevost defeats Americans under Gen. John Ashe at Brier Creek, GA  
 May 11-13 Maj. General Augustin Prévost (brother of Jacques, see above) breaks his siege when American forces under Maj. Gen. Lincoln approaches Stono River, SC, Maj. Gen. Lincoln inflicts extensive British casualties in indecisive battle  
 June 20 Spain declares war on Great Britain  
 June 21 Fairfield, CT, burned by British  
 July 8 Norwalk, CT, burned by British  
 July 11 [American "Mad" Anthony Wayne](#) captures Stony Point, NY  
 July 15-16 "Light Horse" Harry Lee attacks Paulus Hook, NJ  
 Aug. 19 Newtown, NY, after two massacres, American forces burn Indian villages  
 Aug. 29 John Paul Jones, aboard the *Bonhomme Richard*, captures British man-of-war *Serapis* near English coast  
 Sept. 23 The Tappan Massacre ("No Flint" Grey kills 30 Americans by bayonet)  
 Sept. 28 American attempt to recapture Savannah, GA fails  
 Oct. 9 Washington's 2nd winter at Morristown, NJ (the harshest winter of the 18th century)  
 Nov.-June 23, 1780
- 1780**
- May 12 British capture Charleston, SC  
 May 29 British crush Americans at Waxhaw Creek, SC  
 June 20 Patriots rout Tories at Ramseur's Mill, NC  
 July 11 French troops arrive at Newport, RI, to aid the American cause  
 Aug. 6 Patriots defeat Tories at Hanging Rock, SC  
 Aug. 16 British rout Americans at Camden, SC  
 Sept. 23 John André arrested, leading to the exposure of Benedict Arnold's plans to cede West Point to the British  
 King's Mountain, SC: battle lasts 65 minutes. American troops led by Isaac Shelby and John Sevier defeat Maj. Patrick Ferguson and one-third of General Cornwallis's army  
 Oct. 7 Washington names Nathanael Greene commander of the Southern Army  
 Oct. 14
- 1781**
- Jan. 1 Mutiny of unpaid Pennsylvania soldiers  
 Jan. 17 Patriot Morgan overwhelmingly defeats British Col. Tarleton at Cowpens, SC  
 Feb. 1 The Battle of Cowan's Ford, Huntersville, NC  
 March 2 [Articles of Confederation](#) adopted  
 March 15 British win costly victory at Guilford Courthouse, NC  
 April 25 Greene defeated at Hobkirk's Hill, SC  
 May 15 British Major Andrew Maxwell cedes Fort Granby, SC to patriot Lieutenant Colonel Henry Lee  
 June 6 Americans recapture Augusta, GA

June 18 British hold off Americans at Ninety Six, SC  
 July 6 "Mad" Anthony Wayne repulsed at Green Springs Farm, VA  
 Sept. 8 Greene defeated at Eutaw Springs, SC  
 Sept. 15 French fleet drives British naval force from Chesapeake Bay  
 Oct. 19 Cornwallis surrounded on land and sea by Americans and French and  
 surrenders at Yorktown, VA  
**1782**  
 March 20 [Lord North](#) resigns as British prime minister  
 July 11 British evacuate Savannah, GA  
 Nov. 30 British and Americans sign preliminary Articles of Peace  
 Dec. 14 British leave Charleston, SC  
**1783**  
 April 19 Congress ratifies preliminary peace treaty  
 Sept. 3 The United States and Great Britain sign the Treaty of Paris  
 Nov. 25 British troops leave New York City  
 Dec. 23 Washington resigns as Commander  
**1787**  
 Sept. 17 [U.S. Constitution](#) signed  
**1788**  
 June 21 U.S. Constitution adopted, when New Hampshire ratifies it

APPENDIX 2

Sarah Foster Petition Letter in 1838

To His Excellency Major General Sir John Harvey  
RCA and CB Lieutenant Governor and Commander  
in Chief of the Province of New Brunswick &c.  
To The Honble the President and Members of Her Ma-  
jesty's Legislative Council and The Honble the Speaker  
and Members of the House of Assembly  
Humbly Sheweth, That your Petitioner is the  
Widow of Corporal Josiah Foster who served for the  
term of seven years in the 2<sup>d</sup> Batt N<sup>y</sup> Volunteers during  
the American Rebellion as by reference to the annexed  
discharge will more fully appear - That your Petitioner  
came to this Province with her late Husband with the  
Loyalists, that she has raised a Family of nine Chil-  
dren, that she is now upwards of seventy four years of  
age and is living on the affectionate bounty of one of  
her Sons - she therefore humbly trusts that the Liberality  
of the Legislature will be extended to her that may be  
afforded to persons in her situation and as in duty  
bound will ever pray - Sarah <sup>her</sup> Foster

I hereby Certify that my Mother has resided with <sup>mark</sup>  
me since the death of my late Father and I truly believe the facts  
stated in the above Petition to be correct John Foster

### APPENDIX 3

#### War Casualties in the Revolutionary War

**Casualties (killed in action, wounded, missing in action and captured) during the American Revolution are surprisingly low considering the ferocity of some of the battles. Below is a tabulation from the best primary sources. Typically as in all wars, each side understated their losses and exaggerated those of their enemy. Therefore the figures given are basically a compromise. Further, losses from disease are not reported, but a reliable sources indicate that for every casualty, ten were lost to disease.**

Date	Engagement	Commander	Troops	Killed	Wounded	Captured
Apr. 19, 1775	Lexington/ Concord	American: Capt. John Parker, et al	3,763	49	41	0
		British: Lt. Col. Francis Smith	1,800	73	174	7
June 17, 1775	Bunker (Breed's) Hill	American: Gens. Putnam & Ward	2,000	140	271	30
		British: General William Howe	2,400	226	826	0
Sep-Nov 1775	Siege of St. John's	American: Gen. Richard Montgomery	1,500	?	?	?
		British: Major John Preston	720			720
Oct. 15, 1775	Montreal	American: Col. Ethan Allen	110	?	?	40
		British: Gen. Guy Carleton	235	?	?	0
Dec. 9, 1775	Great Bridge	American: Gen. William Woolford	1,000	0	1	0
		British: Lord Dunsmore	600	62*		?
Dec. 31, 1775	Quebec	American: Gen. Richard Montgomery	800	60*		460
		British: Gen. Guy Carleton	1,800	5	13	0

<b>* killed and/or wounded</b>		<b>** wounded and/or captured</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Engagement</b>	<b>Commander</b>	<b>Troops</b>	<b>Killed</b>	<b>Wounded</b>	<b>Captured</b>
Feb. 27, 1776	Moore's Creek	American: Col. Richard Caswell	1000	1	1	0
		British: Col Donald McLeon	1,780	30*		850
May 15, 1776	The Cedars	American: Maj. Issac Butterfield	540	0	0	400
		British: Capt. Foster	640	?	8	13
June 8, 1776	Trois Rivieres	American: Gen. William Thompson	2,000	160*		236
		British: Gen. Guy Carleton	6,000	8	9	0
June 28, 1776	Fort Sullivan	American Gen. William Moultrie	435	17	20	0
		British: Gen. Henry Clinton	9 ships	64	131	0
Aug.27, 1776	Long Island	American: Gen. George Washington	19,000	300	1,100**	
		British: Gen. William Howe	32,000	63	314	23
Sept. 15,1776	Kips Bay	American: Col.William Douglas	900	60*		320
		British: Gen. William Howe	4,000	12*		0
Sept 16, 1776	Harlem Heights	American: Gen. George Washington	2,000	30	100	0
		British: Gen. Alexander Leslie	5,000	14	157	0
Oct. 11, 1776	Valcour Island	American: Col. Benedict Arnold	750	60*		320

		British: Gen. Guy Carleton	1,670	40*		0
Oct. 18, 1776	Pell's Point	American :Col. John Glover	750	8	13	0
		British: Gen. William Howe	4,000	25*		0
Oct. 22, 1776	Mamaroneck	American: Col John Haslet	750	3	12	0
		British: Maj. Robert Rogers	428	77*		36
Oct. 26, 1776	White Plains	American: Gen. George Washington	14,500	28	126	0
		British: Gen. William Howe	14,000	313*		0
Nov. 16, 1776	Fort Washington	American: Col. Robert Magaw	2,967	53	96	2,818
		British: Gen. Baron W. Knyphausen	8,000	78	374	0
Dec. 26, 1776	Trenton	American: Gen. George Washington	2,400	0	4	0
		British: Col. Johann Rall	1,400	22	92	948
<b>* killed and/or wounded</b>		<b>** wounded and/or captured</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Engagement</b>	<b>Commander</b>	<b>Troops</b>	<b>Killed</b>	<b>Wounded</b>	<b>Captured</b>
Jan. 3, 1777	Princeton	American: Gen. George Washington	4,000	30	75	0
		British: Lt. Col. Charles Mawhood	1,200	60	150	244
Apr. 27, 1777	Danbury Raid	American: Col. Benedict Arnold	700	20	80	0
		British: Gov. William Tryon	2,000	154*		40

June 16, 1777	Metuchen	American: Gen. Lord Sterling	2,200	12	50	50
		British: Gen. Charles Cornwallis	4,000	70*		0
July 7, 1777	Hubbardton	American: Col. Henry Van Rensselaer	730	41	95	234
		British: Gen. Baron Freidrich Riedesel	1,030	60	148	0
July 8, 1777	Fort Ann	American: Col. Peter Gansvoort	550	77	23	6
		British: Lt. Col. John Hill	190	13	23	15
Aug. 2, 1777	Fort Stanwix	American: Col. Peter Gansvoort	750	12	23	0
		British: Lt. Col. Barry St. Leger	1,875	?	?	?
Aug. 5, 1777	Oriskany	American: Col. Nicholas Herkimer	5,860	200*		0
		British: Col. John Butler	1,000	150*		
Aug. 16, 1777	Bennington	American: Gen. John Stark	2,330	30	50	0
		British: Lt. Col. Breyman	1,442	207	?	700
Aug. 22, 1777	Staten Island	American: Gen. John Sullivan	1,000	10	15	40
		British: Gen. John Campbell	3,000	?	?	259
Sept. 3, 1777	Cooch's Bridge	American: Gen. William Maxwell	720	40*		0
		British: Lt. Col. Ludwig von Wurm	?	4	5	0
Sept. 11, 1777	Brandywine	American: Gen. George Washington	11,000	1,300*		400
		British: Gen. William Howe	12,500	90	400	0

Sept. 19, 1777	Freeman's Farm	American: Gen. Horatio Gates	7,000	65	218	0
		British: Gen. John Burgoyne	6,000	600*		0
Sept. 21, 1777	Paoli	American: Gen. Anthony Wayne	1,500	150*		17
		British: Gen. Charles Grey	?	4	5	0
Oct. 4, 1777	Germantown	American: Gen. George Washington	11,000	152	521	400
		British: Gen. William Howe	9,000	70	400	14
Oct. 6, 1777	Fort Montgomery	Gen. George Clinton	600	25*		227
		Gen. Henry Clinton	3,000	40	150	0
Oct 7, 1777	Saratoga	American: Gen. Horatio Gates	11,000	50	150	0
		British: Gen. John Burgoyne	6,300	600*		5,300
Oct. 22, 1777	Fort Mercer	American: Gen. Nathaniel Greene	400	14	23	0
		British: Col. Carl von Donop	1,200	377*		20
Nov. 10, 1777	Port Mifflin	American: Lt. Col. Samuel Smith	450	250*		227
		British: Gen. William Howe	?	13	24	0
Dec. 5, 1777	White Marsh		11,000	90*		0
		British: Gen. William Howe	14,000	60*		0
<b>* killed and/or wounded</b>		<b>** wounded and/or captured</b>				

<b>Date</b>	<b>Engagement</b>	<b>Commander</b>	<b>Troops</b>	<b>Killed</b>	<b>Wounded</b>	<b>Captured</b>
Jan. 28, 1778	Monmouth Court House	American: Gen. George Washington	13,425	152	300	37
		British: Gen. Sir Henry Clinton	13,000	190	390	576
July 3, 1778	Wyoming	American: Col. Zebulon Butler	360	300		0
		British: Col. John Butler	900	3	8	0
Aug. 29, 1778	Newport	American: Gen. John Sullivan	5,000	30	137	0
		British: Gen. Sir Robert Pigot	3,000	38	210	0
Nov. 11, 1778	Cherry Valley	American: Col. Ichabod Alden	250	70*		71
		British: Walter Butler/Joseph Brnat	700	?	?	0
Dec. 29, 1778	Savannah	American: Gen. Robert Howe	850	83*		453
		British: Lt. Col. Archibald Campbell	3,500	3	10	0
<b>* killed and/or wounded</b>		<b>** wounded and/or captured</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Engagement</b>	<b>Commander</b>	<b>Troops</b>	<b>Killed</b>	<b>Wounded</b>	<b>Captured</b>
Feb 3, 1779	Beaufort	American: Gen. William Moultrie	320	8	23	0
		British: Major Gardiner	200	?	?	0
Feb 14, 1779	Kettle Creek	American: Col. Andrew Pickins	300	9	23	0
		British: Col. Boyd	400	40*		70
Mar. 3, 1779	Briar Creek	American: Gen. John Ashe	1,700	200*		173

		British: Lt. Col. Mark Provost	900	5	11	0
June 20, 1779	Stono Ferry	American: Gen. Benjamin Lincoln	1,200	146*		
		British: Lt. Col. John Maitland	900	26	103	0
July 16, 1779	Stoney Point	American: Gen. Anthony Wayne	1,350	15	83	0
		British: Lt. Col. Henry Johnson	625	20	74	574
Jul/Aug 1779	Penobscot	American: Gen. Lovell/Gen. Wadsworth	1,000	474* **		
		British: Col. Francis McLean	600	13*		0
Aug. 19, 1779	Paulus Hook	American: Col. Henry Lee	300	2	3	
		British: Maj. William Sutherland	250	50*		158
Aug. 29, 1779	Newtown	American: Gen. John Sutherland	3,462	3	39	0
		British: Walter Butler/Joseph Brant	1,200	12*		0
Sept. 16, 1779	Siege of Savannah	American: Gen. Benjamin Lincoln	5,050	244	584	0
		British: Gen. Augustine Prevost	3,200	40	63	
<b>* killed and/or wounded</b>		<b>** wounded and/or captured</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Engagement</b>	<b>Commander</b>	<b>Troops</b>	<b>Killed</b>	<b>Wounded</b>	<b>Captured</b>
Feb. 3, 1780	Youngs House	American: Lt. Col. Joseph Thompson	1,025	12	60	0
		British: Lt. Col. Chapple Newton	550	5	18	0

Mar. 29, 1780	Siege of Charleston	American: Gen. Benjamin Lincolnm	5,000	92	148	4,650
		British: Gen. Sir Henry Clinton	14,000	76	189	0
Apr. 14, 1780	Monck's Corner	American: Gen. Isaac Huger	500	20*		67
		British: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarlton	650	0	3	0
May 6, 1780	Lenud's Ferry	American: Col. William Washington	350	41*		67
		British: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarlton	150	7	7	?
May 29, 1780	Waxhaws	American: Col Abraham Buford	400	113	200**	
		British: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarlton	270	5	15	?
June 7- 23, 1780	Springfield	American: Gen. Nathaniel Greene	1,800	15	61	0
		British: Gen. W. Knyphausen	5,000	150*		0
June 20, 1780	Ramseur's Mill	American: Col. Frances Locke	400	150*		0
		British: Lt. Col John Moore	1300	150*		0
Aug. 1, 1780	Rocky Mount	American: Col. Thomas Sumter	600	14*		0
		British: Lt. Col George Turnbull	500	20*		0
Aug. 16, 1780	Camden	American: Gen. Horatio Gates	3,052	1,050**		
		British: Gen. Lord Charles Cornwallis	2,239	68	245	0
Aug 18., 1780	Fishing Creek	American: Col. Thomas Sumter	700	150*		330
		British: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarlton	160	16*		0

Oct. 7, 1780	Kings Mountain	American: Col. Wm. Campbell, et al	900	28	62	0
		British: Maj. Patrick Ferguson	1,000	157	163	698
Oct. 19, 1780	Klock's Field	American: Gen. Robert Van Rensselaer	1,500	?	?	?
		British: Sir John Johnson	1,000	?	?	?
Nov. 20, 1780	Blackstock's Plantation	American: Col. Thomas Sumter	1,000	3	5	0
		British: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarlton	270	50*		0
<b>* killed and/or wounded</b>		<b>** wounded and/or captured</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Engagement</b>	<b>Commander</b>	<b>Troops</b>	<b>Killed</b>	<b>Wounded</b>	<b>Captured</b>
Jan. 17, 1781	Cowpens	American: Gen. Daniel Morgan	1,025	12	60	0
		British: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarlton	1,100	100	229	829
Feb. 25, 1781	Haw River	American: Cols. Pickens and Lee	600	0	0	0
		British: Col. John Pyle	400	90	250	0
Mar. 6, 1781	Wetzell's Mill	American: Col. Otho Williams	700	20*		0
		British: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarlton	1,200	21*		0
Mar. 15, 1781	Guilford Court House	American: Gen. Nathaniel Greene	4,400	78	183	0
		British: Gen. Lord Charles Cornwallis	1,900	143	389	?
Apr. 25, 1781	Blandford	American: Gen. Baron A. von Steuben	1,000	60*		0

		British: Gen. William Phillips	2,500	70*		?
Apr. 25, 1781	Hobkirk's Hill	American: Gen. Nathaniel Greene	1,551	19	115	0
		British: Lt. Col. Lord Francis Rawdon	900	38	190	50
May 8, 1781	Fort Motte	American: Gen. Francis Marion	450	2	0	0
		British: Lt. Donald McPherson	175			175
May 22, 1781	Siege of Augusta	American: Gen. Andrew Pickens	1,600	16	35	0
		British: Lt. Col. Thomas Browne	630	52*		334
May 22, 1781	Siege of Ninety-Six	American: Gen. Nathaniel Greene	1,500	57	70	0
		British: Lt. Col. Cruger	550	27	58	
June 26, 1781	Spencer's Ordinary	American: Col. Richard Butler	570	9	14	32
		British: Lt. Col. John Simcoe	400	10	23	0
July 6, 1781	Greenspring Farm	American: Gens. LaFayette and A. Wayne	900	28	99	12
		British: Gen. Lord Charles Cornwallis	7,000	75*		0
Sept.6, 1781	Groton Heights (Fort Griswold)	American: Cmdr. William Ledyard	150	83	39 **	
		British: Gen. Benedict Arnold	800	52	144	0
Sept.6, 1781	Burning of New London	American: Cmdr. William Ledyard	150	6	20	
		British: Gen. Benedict Arnold	800	6	20	0

Sept. 8, 1781	Eutaw Springs	American: Gen. Nathaniel Greene	2,200	139	365	0
		British: Lt. Col. Alexander Stewart	2,000	85	351	400
Sept. 12, 1781	Cane Creek	American: Col. John Butler	400	25	90	10
		British: Cols. D. Fanning & H. McNeil	950	27	90	0
Sept. 28, 1781	Siege of Yorktown	American: Gen. George Washington & Gen. Comte Rochambeau	11,133 7,800	23 60	65 193	0 0
		British: Gen. Lord Charles Cornwallis	8,885	156	326	8,087
<b>* killed and/or wounded</b>		<b>** wounded and/or captured</b>				

Here you have the data.

But when you look over, realize that most of the American losses were early. Then the Brits took it hard.

Also note the high French losses.

The war had to stop as it would get worse for England.

American War of Independence (1775-83)

[Listed roughly in order of completeness.]

Louis Duncan, Medical Men in the American Revolution (1931)

US:

KIA and mortally wounded: 7,000

Disease: 63,000

TOTAL: 70,000

UK:

KIA and mortally wounded: 4,000

Disease: 27,000

TOTAL: 31,000

Hessians:

KIA and mortally wounded: 1,800

Disease: 6,000

TOTAL: 7,800

TOTAL: 108,800

Clodfelter

US dead, citing Peckham, The Toll of Independence

KIA: 6,824, incl. naval

POW deaths: 8,500

Disease, etc.: 10,000

[TOTAL: 25,324]

British side: 15,000 KIA+DOW, incl...

Lost at sea: 3,000

Tories and Canadians: 3,000

German mercenaries: 3,000

NAm Indians: 500

American allies:

French: 10,000 battle dead, 75% at sea.

Spain: 5,000

Netherlands: 500

[TOTAL: 37,324 battle dead, all sides, all theaters, plus 18,500 Americans dead of disease, which would give an overall total of 55,824 w/o British, French and Hessian disease deaths. It looks like about a third of the battle dead (ca. 11,500 French, US, UK) died in the war at sea.]

## APPENDIX 4

28/8  
 To His Excellency George Stacey Smyth  
 Esq. Lieutenant-Governor and Commander  
 in Chief of the Province of New Brunswick &c &c  
 The Memorial of Samuel Foster of the Parish  
 of Mickham in Queens County and Province of  
 New Brunswick Humbly Sheweth

That your Memorialist was born in the State  
 of New York and came with the Loyalists to this  
 Province in the Year 1783 is a British Subject  
 has resided for the five Years last past in King's  
 County but is now residing in Mickham Queens  
 County has a Wife and Family that your Memo-  
 rialist has never had any Grant, or Allotment  
 of Land from the Crown; and understanding that  
 there is an unimproved Tract of Land lying on  
 the East side of the Washademoac Lake on the  
 New post road, one mile and a half more or less  
 from the rear of Lot Number twelve bounding on  
 said Lake your Memorialist is able and intends  
 with the Assistance of his son to improve said lot  
 for the ensuing season that he has not directly  
 or indirectly bargained or agreed for the sale or  
 transfer of said land to any Person or Persons what-  
 soever your Memorialist therefore humbly  
 requests that his case may be taken into consideration  
 and that your Excellency may grant him such a  
 portion of Land as in your wisdom may seem meet  
 and your Memorialist as in duty bound will ever pray  
 28<sup>th</sup> November 1817 Samuel Foster

Translation of above letter.

His Excellency George Tracey Smyth, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New Brunswick.

The Memorial of Samuel Foster of the Parish of Wickham in Queens County and Province of New Brunswick humbly showeth:

That your Memorialist was born in the State of New York and came with the Loyalists to this Province in the year 1783, is a British Subject, has resided for the five years past in Kings County, but is now residing in Wickham, Queens County, has a wife and Family. That your Memorialist has never had any Grant or allotment of land from the Crown, and understanding that there is an unimproved Tract of Land lying on the East side of the Washademoak Lake to front on the new Post Road, one mile and a half more or less from the Lot number twelve bounding on said Lake.

Your Memorialist is able and intends with the assistance of his son to improve said Lot for the (?). That he has not directly bargained or agreed for the sale or transfer of said land to any Person or Persons whatsoever. Your Memorialist therefore humbly requests that his case may be taken into consideration and that your Excellency may grant him such a portion of Land as in your wisdom may (?) and Your Memorialist as in duty bound will ever pray.

28th November, 1817

Signed, Samuel Foster

## APPENDIX 5

### New Brunswick's roads and bridges of the past

#### Introduction

The trail system that once meandered through the territory predated many of today's roads in New Brunswick. This becomes clear upon looking at a map of the roads skirting the province's rivers and streams. The roads improved in response to needs and technology. Along with the use of automobiles and trucks starting early in the 20th century came a pressing need to build roads and bridges in the province.

#### The early roads

The outer regions of the province and the areas along its inland waters were the first to be inhabited and the first to open [roads](#), which were often former trails and beaten tracks. Scheduled stagecoach services were in operation prior to 1850: from the north of the province to Nova Scotia, going through Bathurst and Miramichi, in the south from Sackville to Saint John and St. Andrews, then from Saint John to Fredericton. That route coincides with today's highways more or less.

A modern road system was established in New Brunswick in the 1920s with the advent of the [automobile](#), which took to the roads in summer only. In winter, everyone went back to the horse-drawn sled, the only vehicle capable of negotiating snowbanks. The road system was a sign of progress for the province. The minister of public works, at the time, Pierre Veniot, was instrumental in road development and was nicknamed P.J. Bonnes Routes (good roads) Veniot. When he became premier in 1924, his government enacted a law calling for roads throughout the province, including the frontier areas. Five years later, 20,000 people had been involved in building roads.

There were three main types of roads in the early 20th century:

1. King's highways, measuring 3.66 metres wide with 60-centimetre shoulders;
2. 2.5-metre roads;
3. roads 1.2 metres wide reserved for pedestrians and horse-drawn vehicles.

Motorists first drove on the left side of the road, then switched to the right in the 1920s, imitating the practice in the United States. People who were accustomed to the British practice had trouble adjusting. Adaptability was also needed for negotiating curves in the road since the early autos could not take 90 degree turns as easily as [horse-drawn carriages](#) could.

Starting at the turn of the 20th century, buses were used for public transportation and [trucks](#) for hauling goods. The use of stagecoaches declined, but they had served their time on the province's very first roads.

## **Stagecoach travel**

In the 1830s, the stagecoach was already part of New Brunswick's roadscape, including the Westmorland highway. The comfortless four-horse vehicle of the St. John Stage Coach Company made a scheduled weekly run from Saint John to Amherst in two days. It left on Tuesday and returned on Friday, laying over for the night in Petitcodiac, the halfway point, and stopping at the crossroads of Norton, Sussex, and Memramcook. Another stagecoach departed Saint John for Fredericton on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and travelled from Fredericton to Saint John on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

At the relays, travellers were provided with a meal, a room for the night, a pipe smoke, and a glass of rum. The stagecoach horses rested up for the next leg of the journey. Other relay services included a court of law, a post office, religious services, and a trading post. The relays became hotels as time went by. The stagecoach was soon replaced by the train and later the [bus](#), both of them faster and more comfortable conveyances.

## **The early road builders**

Few roads were fit for travel in the early 1880s despite the money spent on them. Settlers and at times militiamen had to work [building roads](#) under a surveyor's supervision. Roads were usually laid through statute labour, meaning that a settler had to put in a number of unpaid work days. Those days were deducted from the amount of taxes he had to pay.

Given New Brunswick's small population, statute labour could not supply the huge amount of labour that road construction required. There was insufficient know-how and no provincial planning in those days. Furthermore, the settlers were busy clearing their land and lacked the time for such labour. The ideal time for them to work on the roads was between seeding and harvesting hay on the farm.

## **Road building and maintenance**

Road construction in the early 19th century consisted first in felling trees and digging up the stumps and roots. Then, the surface was levelled before adding gravel to replace the black soil or mud that had been removed. Drainage techniques were not in common use, and harsh weather conditions soon damaged the roads. Each settler was responsible for maintaining a given section of road with the means at hand, often an ox rather than a horse.

More time passed before the arrival of the "[giant road making machine](#)" drawn by four or five horses. That machine was supplied by the provincial government.

## **New Brunswick's bridges**

In days of old, it was common to cross water via a ford or a tree laid across the water. Floating [platforms](#) were an efficient means of ferrying horse-drawn carriages across. The last such ferry was decommissioned at Tracadie in 1877. Bridge building was already well under way by then.

Private firms began building toll bridges in the 1830s, e.g. on the St. Croix and Kennebecasis rivers and on the river at Saint John and Fredericton in 1868. The last toll bridge was decommissioned in 1904. The government built numerous bridges and then took over all bridges in the province. In the mid-19th century, New Brunswick reportedly had 415 large [bridges](#) and 10 ferries.

Suspension bridges were in fashion for a while, examples being the one built across Saint John's Reversing Falls in 1853 and the one built at [Grand Falls](#) in 1861. They were wooden structures supported by cables. The toll was four cents for a person and 13 cents for a horse and carriage.

## **Bridge building materials**

The spruce and eastern hemlock used most often for building the early bridges were later replaced by cedar and pine. About 1885, steel was recommended as a building material despite its high cost, and indeed it proved more economical than wood for long spans. Starting then, a hundred [steel](#) bridges were built in the province, at Bathurst, Newcastle, Moncton, Saint John, and St. Stephen, for instance. The first ones spanned the Dennis River in Charlotte County and the Missisiquash River at the Nova Scotia border.

## **Construction challenges**

After stagecoaches had long gone through the water to get from one side of the river to the other, a wooden bridge was built over the Petitcodiac River in Salisbury. Bridge building was a tremendous challenge. In addition to being sturdy enough to support the traffic, the bridges had to be high enough to withstand possible flooding and avoid ice damage. They also had to withstand heavy snowfall and torrential rains. The Salisbury bridge was rebuilt four times before a steel bridge was constructed in 1892.

The automobile created the need for structural reinforcement of the bridges. Bridge safety was boosted by the use of stone, wooden, and steel structures of varied shapes patterned on American models and by foundations dug in the riverbeds. A pedestrian walkway was sometimes provided. Automobiles and horse-drawn carriages used the bridges at the same time. Warnings at the bridge entrances informed users to cross at walking speed, subject to a \$20 [fine](#). That law was intended to prevent the bridges from collapsing from resonance vibration.

## **Covered bridges**

Numerous covered bridges were built in New Brunswick and are now part of our proud provincial heritage. They were wooden bridges for the most part. The most famous of all is unquestionably the [Hartland](#) Covered Bridge, built in 1901 across the Saint John River. At 391 metres, it is the world's longest covered bridge. Set solidly on cement pillars, it defies the ice masses that come with spring. The lane for automobiles has a series of small windows on one side for ventilation purposes and a pedestrian walkway on the other.

[Covered bridges](#) are better protection against bad weather and thus extend the lifespan of the structures. On the other hand, they are highly susceptible to fire.

### **Conclusion**

As concerns road building, the advent of the automobile and truck marked the close of one era and the beginning of another, against a backdrop of evolving technology; however, the early trails opened for travel by foot or horse long influenced development of the roadway system, both old and new.

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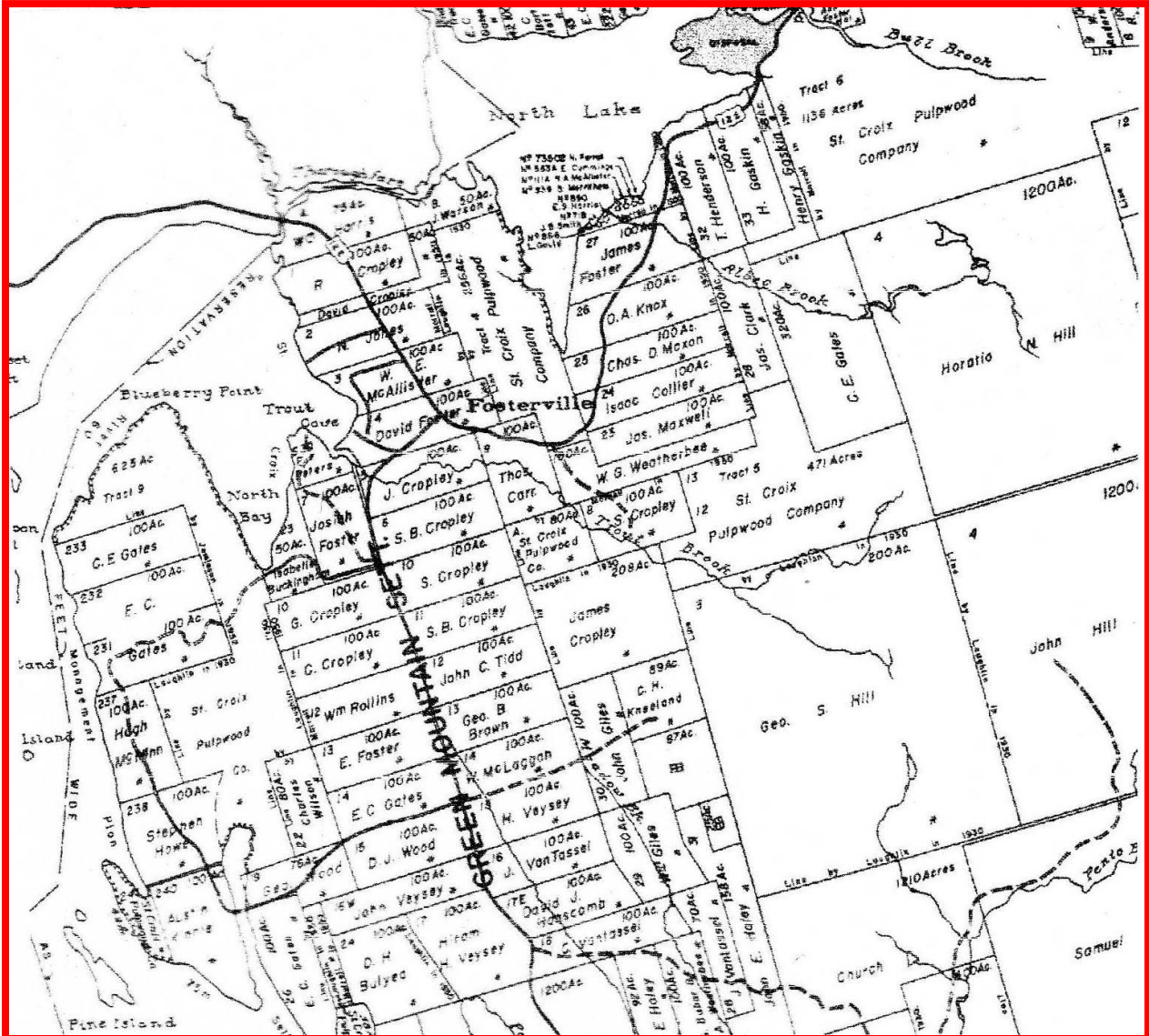
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APPENDIX 7  
Land Grant Map



## APPENDIX 8

### Grist Mill Stone



Probably a grist stone similar to this one was used by Samuel Foster b.1839 on Lot No. 27 at North Lake from 1865-67, and on Josiah Foster's property on Grand Lake in the early 1800s.

## APPENDIX 9

### Transportation in the early days.



Horse and buggy with two women; man standing outside. Captioned “ready for church, 1892.

The blacksmith was an important person in the early days tending to the shoeing of the horses, repairing the wagon wheels and forging iron and steel implements used on the farm and in the forest.

Elias Foster b.1820, his son, John L. Foster b.1847 and his grandson, Elias Foster b.1896 were three generations of blacksmiths for the Fosterville area that lasted to the late 1960s. The old blacksmith shop still stands to this day on the original land grant Lot No. 13 at Green Mountain.



Horse and buggy.



Two young ladies in horse-drawn buggy in Carleton County. J. McFarlane's Store in background, c.1910



Horse, "Jimmy", and buggy, in 1893



Horse-drawn sleigh, spring, 1892.



Going fishing?

## APPENDIX 10

### Sawmilling & Logging Operations



Group of mill workers assembled outside of building, Canterbury, ca. 1902.

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Logs piled on stream in preparation for spring thaw and subsequent log drive.



Lumber and driving operations on river, man unloading logs from horse-drawn sled



Lumbermen and horse hauling logs, 1897 : log being "twitched" onto pile in Miramichi lumber yard; one lumberman holding reins, pile of roped timber in foreground, yard horse in background stands by to move next log.

## Farming in the Early Days



Haying with horses, cut hay field in foreground, farmhouse in background, Kingsclear, 1900.

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Group in farmyard putting away hay, also horse powered treadmill, York County, ca. 1899.

## APPENDIX 12

### Road Construction in the Early Days



Men and machinery work together to build a road at Shogomoc, a former community between Nackawic and Hawkshaw.



Two men standing in front of stone roller while doing road work in York County.



Breaking roadway through snow, Place, Bloomfield Station area, Kings Co., NB, ca. 1910 - 1920.

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Horse-drawn drum used for packing down roads.



Eight-horse-drawn road scraper with crew: close-up of nine men riding horses and standing on road scraper. - Two, two-story, wooden dwellings and out-buildings behind crew; wooden church partially visible on left. - taken from roadway, road soft or full of fresh soil.

When these road scrapers were used, the men were paid by the Provincial Government.

## APPENDIX 13

### Hunting in the Early Days



Hunters with deer. (*What hunting used to be like in the old days?*)



Hunters with deer carcasses hanging behind them.

## Appendix 14

### River boats and water travel in the early days



**Riverboat docked on Washademoak Lake, NB.**



**This is the paddle wheeler, the “New Brunswick”.**

Steam boats such as these plied the Saint John River in the latter part of the 1800s.

