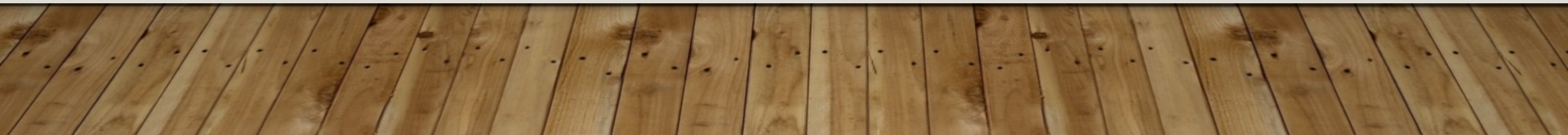


LOYALISTS IN KINGWOOD, PART I

BETTY DESAPIO, PLCGS
23 JANUARY 2023



NEW JERSEY LOYALISTS

- ❖ Estimated by historian Paul Smith at about 50,000 Loyalists in New Jersey - ~ 1/3 of the white population
- ❖ 477 New Jerseyans made repayment claims to the British Crown
- ❖ New Jersey Volunteers
 - ❖ Fought on the British side
 - ❖ Various estimates and times ~ 500 to ~2450 soldiers
 - ❖ Over 100 engagements, just in NJ, including:
 - ❖ Battle of Monmouth
 - ❖ Battles of Connecticut Farms and Springfield

TIMELINE - THE BREAK - 1776

- ❖ 25 June – Gov. William Franklin ordered to confinement in Connecticut
- ❖ 26 June – Provincial Congress and Council of Safety
 - ❖ Move to stop insurrection in Hunterdon and Somerset counties
 - ❖ Called for several individuals to be jailed in Trenton
- ❖ 1 July – First battalion NJV (Loyalists) commissioned on Staten Island
- ❖ 2 July – NJ declared independence from Great Britain
- ❖ 4 July – Declaration of Independence
- ❖ 4 September – NJV Brigadier General Cortlandt Skinner commissioned – Goal – 2500 men

TIMELINE - LEGAL ACTION - 1778-1779

- ❖ Numerous laws passed and legal action against Loyalists
- ❖ Leasing and sales of Loyalists assets
- ❖ Final judgments handed down in October (a couple of exceptions)
- ❖ NJ vested with the real and personal estates of those convicted
- ❖ Hunterdon Commissioners ordered to sell all remaining real estate and personal estates of those convicted as Loyalists.

TIMELINE - PEACE - 1781-1784

- ❖ 19 October 1781 – British surrender at Yorktown – ending significant conflicts in North America
- ❖ 1782 – Loyalists start coming back to New Jersey
 - ❖ Discussions of what to do with Loyalists
 - ❖ Illegal trade between Loyalists and Patriots
- ❖ 3 September 1783 – Treaty of Paris signed (effective 12 May 1784)
 - ❖ Terms give Loyalists a way back
- ❖ 1783 – 1784 – Mass exodus of Loyalists, mostly to Nova Scotia (area that is today New Brunswick)



Source: H. Sandham, "The Coming of the Loyalists," Wikipedia

To the Honourable the Governor, Council, and Representatives, of the State of New Jersey.

I am Impressed with the Importance of a full
harvest. I am Exposed to your Honors, requesting an
Act of Grace for the Purpose of Permitting those who have
gone from amongst us to the enemy, to have leave to return
such an Innovation, your Excellencies Trusts me Will be
Wishes to the glorious Cause of America will Countenance for
several Reasons.

Because they left their Country from Great Principles of
Obedience to the Cause, and have Done All In their Power
to subjugate us to the Tyranny of Britain, And are there-
fore Unwilling the Liberty we contend for.

⁴ Because As they Left their Country from Pennsylvania, the
Between could only be for Interest - they might serve as En-
sures for ^{us} ~~us~~, save the Seeds of Defect, Faint Mutinies And
Dissatisfaction Amongst us.

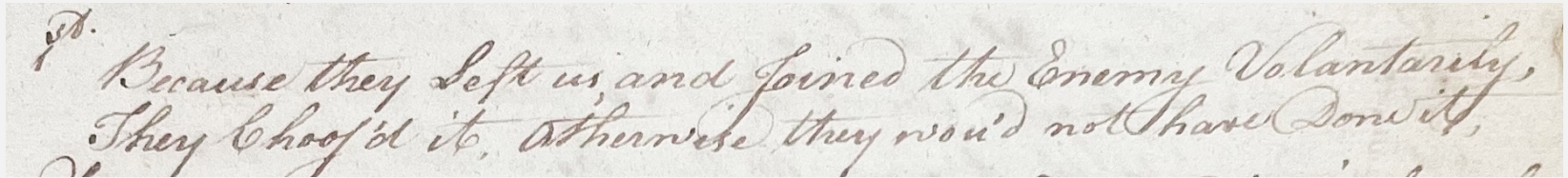
§ 4 Because no true friend to his Country could but with
Sorrow see those Negroes enjoying those Privileges
which by Sheddin the Rights of their Countrymen, they
threw to Obstruction, which therefore they cannot have the
least Right too, founded either in Reason or Equity.

Because the Permitting their Custom would be deemed
concerns us Dealing Unjustly by us, And Treacherously
by them, Unjustly by us Because we cannot receive them
with Good Faith, And Treacherously by them, Because we
cannot think any honest man would be security for their
Safety. ~~They~~ ^{They} ~~Grasp~~ ^{Grasp} of their many Crimes And Malignant
Crimes.

Abram Van Dorem
 Thomas M. Platt
 Thomas Spencer
 David Thompson
 John Lott
 Capt. Riley
 Richard Stillwell
 Warrant Canaan Smith
 Michael Nichols
 Andrew Van Hook
 David Cole
 Peter Johnson
 George Canaan Smith
 Daniel Stevenson
 John Boncher
 Henry Lott
 Henry Schamp
 Robert Smith
 William Wright
 Wm Johnson
 John Barber
 Peter Salas
 John G. Lane
 Harmon Lane
 Ezekiel Cole
 Richard Smith
 Richard Smith
 John A. Smith
 John H. Smith
 Michael Smith
 L. Smith
 John Canaan Smith
 Aaron Lane
 James Smith
 Ezekiel Blue
 Cornelia Lane
 Cornelia McLean
 Garrett Johnson
 James Bredeker
 Derrick Demott

Betty DeSapio, PLCGS, 23 Jan 2023

WHAT HUNTERDON SAID - EXCERPTS



*Ed. Because they Left us, and joined the Enemy Voluntarily,
They Choos'd it, Otherwise they wou'd not have Done it,*

- ❖ “Because they Left us, and joined the Enemy Voluntarily, They Choos'd it. Otherwise they wou'd not have Done it,”
- ❖ “Because they Left their Country from Real Principals of Disaffection to the Cause, And have Done All In their Power to Subjugate us, to the Tyranny of Britain, And are therefore Unworthy the Liberty we Contend for,”
- ❖ “...they might serve as Emissaries for our Enemies, Sow the Seeds of Discord, Raise Mutunies And Disaffection Amongst us.”
- ❖ “Because No true friend to his Country Could but with Horror, See those Miscreants Injoying those Priviledges which by Shedding the Blood Of their Countrymen, they Strove to Obstruct...”
- ❖ “...we Cannot Receive them with Good faith...”

KINGWOOD'S LOYALISTS

- ❖ Capt. Bartholomew Thatcher – 2nd and 3rd Battalions of New Jersey Volunteers
- ❖ Edward Taylor – “adhered to” the King
- ❖ Joseph Merrill – “joined the Army of the King”
- ❖ Rev. David Sutton – Baptist minister – called in to take Oath, apparently fined

BARTHOLOMEW THATCHER

- ❖ Born ca. 1738 to Joseph Thatcher and Margaret Hull
- ❖ Likely birthplace, Kingwood
- ❖ First wife said to be Nancy Ann?
- ❖ Married 2nd wife, Margaret Gambel in Hunterdon County in 1806 (likely Kingwood)
- ❖ Died in Kingwood in 1817
- ❖ Buried in Friends Cemetery in Quakertown (formerly Kingwood)

BARTHOLOMEW, LOYALIST AND SOLDIER

- ❖ Jailed in Trenton for Loyalist activities, July 1776
- ❖ Joined New Jersey Volunteers, December 1776 – said to have escaped to the British Army
- ❖ Captain of 3rd Battalion, NJV, September 1778
- ❖ Captain of 2nd Battalion, NJV, July 1781
- ❖ Retired, October 1783
- ❖ Collected half-pay for life from United Kingdom
- ❖ Widow filed for UK military pension upon his death

APPOINTMENT TO CAPTAIN - 1778

By His Excellency SIR HENRY CLINTON, K. B. GENERAL
and COMMANDER IN CHIEF of all His MAJESTY'S Forces within
the Colonies laying on the ATLANTIC Ocean, from NOVA-SCOTIA to
WEST-FLORIDA, inclusive, &c. &c. &c.

To Bartholemew Thatcher Esq^r.

By Virtue of the Power and Authority in Me vested, I DO hereby constitute and appoint You to be CAPTAIN of a Company
in the *Third Battalion of New Jersey Volunteers*, - commanded by *Lieut. Colonel Command Isaac Allan*,
You are therefore to take the said Company into Your Care and Charge, and duly to exercise as well the Officers, as Soldiers thereof in
Arms, and to use Your best Endeavours to keep them in good Order and Discipline; and I DO hereby command them to obey You as
their Captain: And You are to observe and follow such Orders and Directions from Time to Time, as You shall receive from the GENERAL
or COMMANDER in CHIEF of His MAJESTY'S Forces in NORTH-AMERICA, now, and for the Time being, Your *Lieutenant Commandant*,
or any other Your Superior Officer, according to the Rules and Discipline of War, in pursuance of the Trust hereby reposed in You.

GIVEN under my Hand and Seal, at HEAD-QUARTERS, in *New York* the *Tenth*
Day of *September*, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy *Eight* in the *Eighteenth*
Year of the Reign of our SOVEREIGN LORD GEORGE THE THIRD, by the Grace of GOD, of GREAT-BRITAIN, FRANCE
and IRELAND, King, Defender of the FAITH, and so forth.

By His EXCELLENCY's Command,

John Smith



Henry Clinton

WIDOW'S PENSION APPLICATION - 1819

- ❖ Bartholomew's Widow applied for pension from UK
- ❖ Could not locate if pension was granted

State of New Jersey }
Huntendon County }
Personally appeared before me
John C. Rockhills, one of the Justices of the
Peace in and for the said County, Margaret
Thatcher and made oath according to law
that she was lawfully married on the
seventh day of December Anno Domini 1806
to Bartholomew Thatcher (late a Captain
on half pay of the Third Battalion of
New Jersey Volunteers commanded by Lieut.
Colonel Commandant Isaac Allam) who died
at Kingwood Township in the County of Hun-
tendon aforesaid on the twenty third day
of May Anno Domini 1817. and that she has no
petition, allowance or provision from
Government - her
Margaret Thatcher
mark
Residing in the Township
of Kingwood aforesaid.

Sworn before me at
Bethlehem Township
in the said County
the 9th day January
Anno Domini 1819
J. C. Rockhills J. C.
Residing in the said
Township of Bethlehem

BARTHOLOMEW'S PERSONAL LOSSES

- ❖ Found guilty of joining the King's Army, Oct 1778
- ❖ Personal estate sold, Dec 1778
- ❖ Real estate surveyed for sale, 1779

*Recd. Dec: 6th 1779. of Peter Brunner one of the Commissioners of Hunterdon County Thirty Seven Pounds Seventeen Shillings & Six pence in full for Surveying a Lot of land late the property of Bartholomew Thatcher — J^r Kline
L37:17:6*

- ❖ Auctioned off 18 Dec 1779 in Flemington (30 acres)
- ❖ Real estate purchased by his father, who bequeathed it to him in 1791

Receipt Source: NJ State Archives

December 3 ^d 1778	
Sales of Sundries of the Estate of Bartholomew Thatcher	
Viz. 1 Harrow	12 6
1 Grind Stone	8 6
1 Wheel Barrow	7
2 pair Iron Traces	2 0 6
1 Hay fork	3 9
2 pair Harnes & Collars	7 6
a Plough & Irons	1 2 6
1 Wash Tub	7 6
1 Pail	3 6
1 Cupboard	7
1 Feather Bed, Bedstead & Bedding	8
1 Bed & Bedstead	16
2 Pewter plates	15
1 Pewter platter	16
1 Do Do	16
1 Pewter bason	1 11
1 Pewter plate	11
1 Grid Iron	10
1 Tea Kettle	3
1 pair Tongs	1 6
a Spit	3
1 Frying pan	1 6
1 Trammel	1 3
1 Spinning Wheel	9 1
1 Dough Trough & pail	1 6
2 Chairs	6
1 Bedstead	3 9
1 black heifer	7 15
1 white Do	9
1 Bull	7 16
1 Brindle Cow	15 5
1 Red Heifer	15 7
2 Cleveses	2 6
4 Hogs	10
	94 3 4

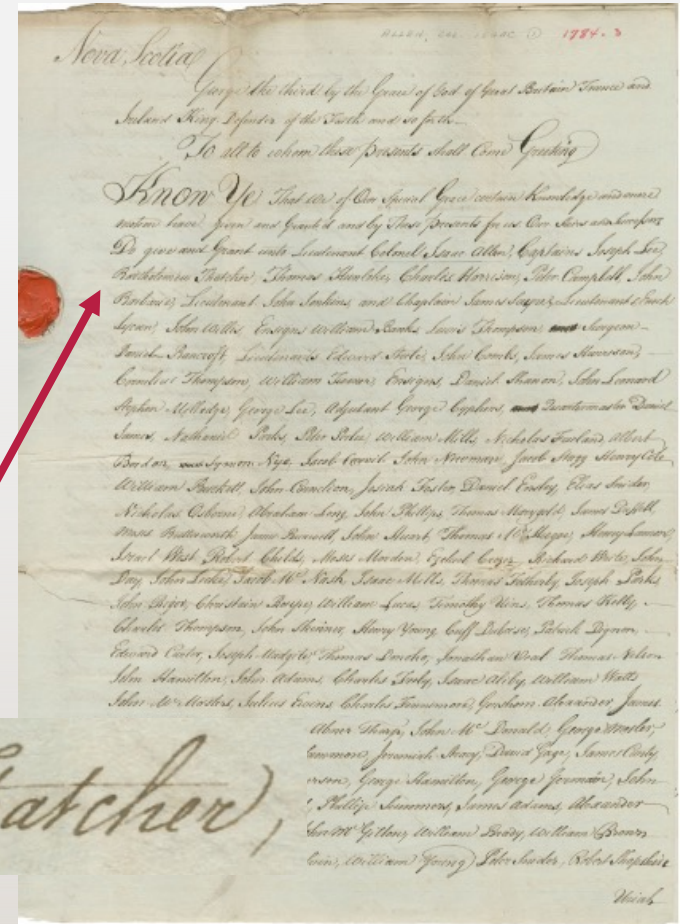
Betty DeSapio, PLCGS, 23 Jan 2023

BARTHOLOMEW AFTER THE WAR

- ❖ Received a land grant in Nova Scotia – 1784
- ❖ Claimed to UK for assistance but denied; living in Fredericton, New Brunswick – 1786
- ❖ Father left Bartholomew the land he used to live on – 1791
- ❖ Back in NJ by 1793 based on civil suit by a neighbor
- ❖ Married Margaret Gambel in 1806, called “Captain” in the marriage record
- ❖ Died in Kingwood 23 May 1817 “with christian [sic] fortitude, patience and resignation” according to his obituary.

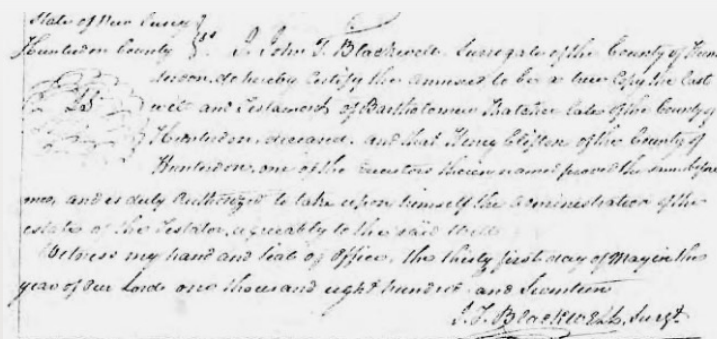
BARTHOLOMEW'S NOVA SCOTIA LAND GRANT - 1784

- ❖ Draft Land Grant – 1784
 - ❖ NJ Volunteers, 2nd Battalion
 - ❖ 38,450 acres
 - ❖ Township and County of Sunbury, now New Brunswick
 - ❖ Final grant not available at Nova Scotia Archives



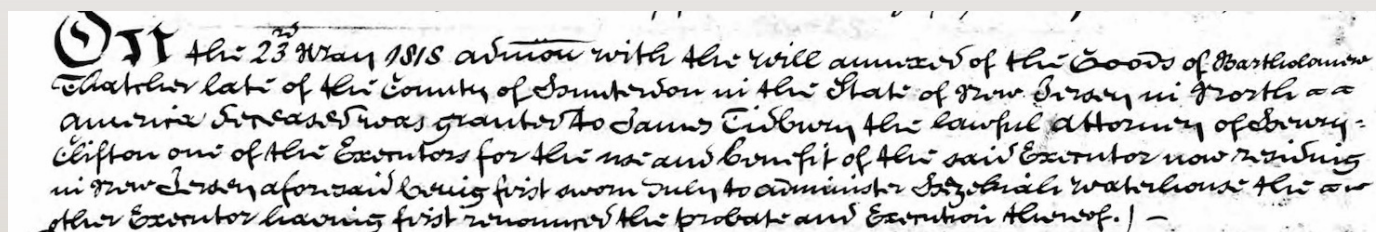
BARTHOLOMEW'S PROBATE – US AND UK

❖ Will proved in Hunterdon Co. New Jersey, May 1817



State of New Jersey }
County of Hunterdon } ss. I, John L. Blackwell, Surrogate of the County of
Hunterdon, do hereby certify the annexed to be a true and
correct copy of the will and testament of Bartholomew Clifton late of the County
of Hunterdon deceased, and that Henry Clifton of the County of
Hunterdon, one of the Executors therein named, proved the same to
me, and as duly authorized to take upon himself the administration of the
estate of the Testator, according to the said will.
Witness my hand and seal of Office, the thirty first day of May in the
year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventeen
J. L. Blackwell, Surgt.

❖ Will proved in Canterbury, England, May 1818



On the 23rd May 1818 admission with the will annexed of the Goods of Bartholomew
Clifton late of the County of Hunterdon in the State of New Jersey in Prose & a
curative Licence was granted to James Esbary the lawful Attorney of Henry
Clifton one of the Executors for the use and benefit of the said Executor now residing
in New Jersey aforesaid being first sworn duly to administer & to be true & faithful
the said Executor having first renounced the probate and Execution thereof. -

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Other:

The *Internet Archive* website (<https://archive.org>) has a vast amount of early New Jersey Government records available in the public domain, including the "Minutes of the Provincial Congress and the Council of Safety of the State of New Jersey, 1775-1776 and some or all volumes of the "Minutes of the Council of Safety of the State of New Jersey."

Betty DeSapio, PLCGS, 23 Jan 2023