

# Silhouettes

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Number 35

The Associates of the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick

## Loyalists, land, and the Surveyor General's Office



Portion from survey of Charlotte and Saint John Grants by George Sproule, Surveyor General, May 1805.



## Silhouettes

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**THE ASSOCIATES OF THE PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF NEW BRUNSWICK**

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*“It is a comfortable feeling to know that you stand on your own ground. Land is about the only thing that can’t fly away.”*

Anthony Trollope

**T**HE OFFICE of the Surveyor General played a critical role in the early development of the province of New Brunswick. The Surveyor General and his Deputies ensured that parcels of land were described and mapped and that land ownership was recorded and tracked. Their work laid the foundation for the settlement of New Brunswick as we know it today.

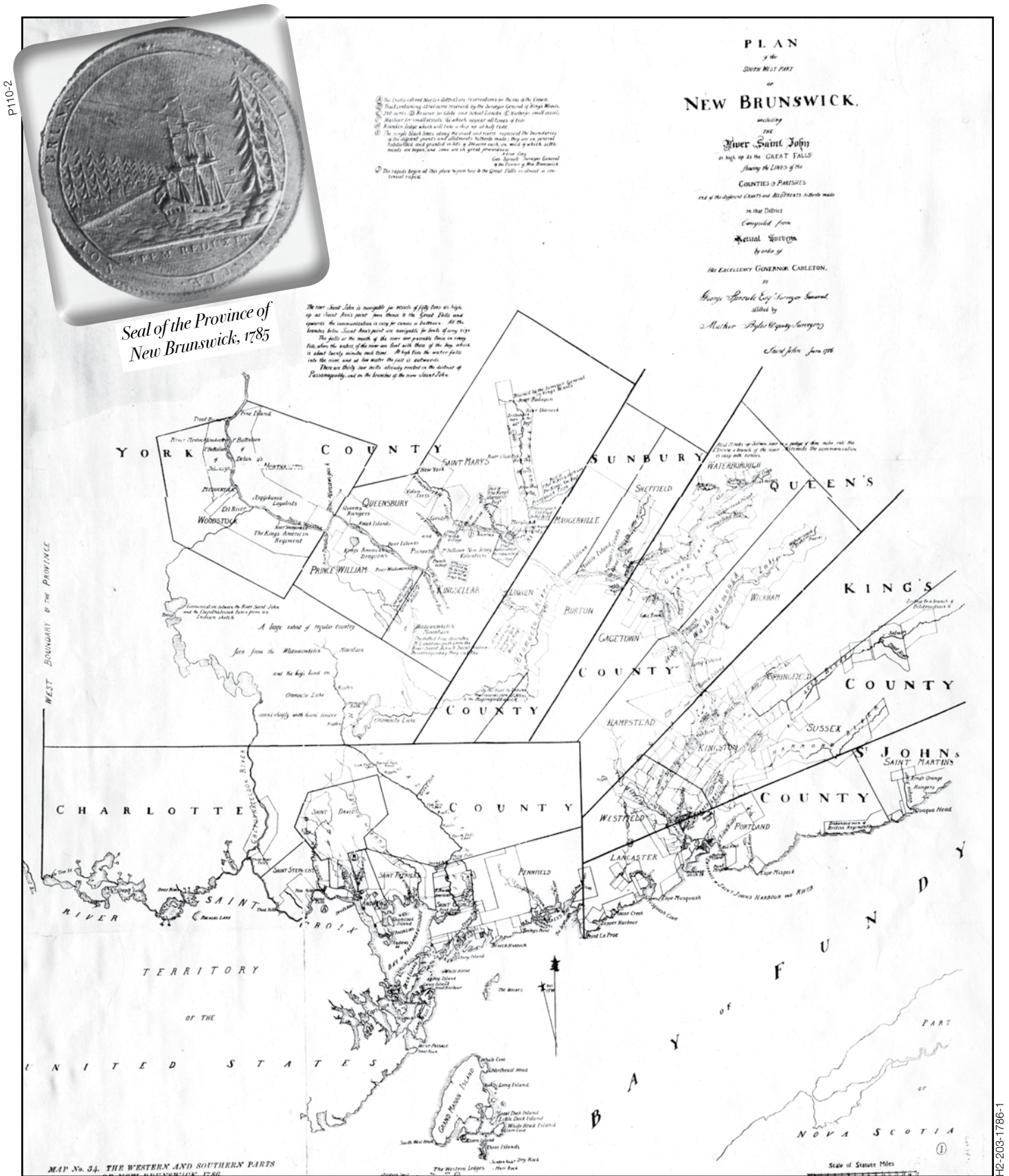
Land grants for pre-Loyalist settlers had been made by the government of the former, larger colony of Nova Scotia, centered in Halifax. “The old inhabitants” occupied various prime locations, such as Gagetown and Maugerville on the St. John River, and Hillsborough and Moncton on the Petitcodiac. There were also pockets of Acadian settlement, and the Malecite and Mi’kmaq nations were a significant presence. The total population is estimated to have been about 5000 souls.

Upon the arrival of the Loyalists, New Brunswick was established, and the enormous task of settling the new populace in their wilderness home passed to the administration of Thomas Carleton after his arrival in 1784. The population of the new colony quadrupled. There was great pressure on the government to assign land to the new settlers, for land represented their survival, as well as reward for their loyalty and losses.

The first step in acquiring land was to petition for a grant. The settler submitted a petition to the Lieutenant Governor describing his or her circumstances, need, family, and any service (usually

military) rendered the Crown which would reflect favorably and put the petitioner in the good graces of the administration. This early series of petitions (RS108) are extremely valuable historical documents that have been well plumbed by researchers of all stripes.

Besides Carleton, the key officials involved in land matters were the Provincial Secretary, the Solicitor General, the Attorney General, and the Surveyor General. The royal instructions received from King George III included the terms and methods for granting and administering crown lands. By January of 1785 Carleton and His Majesty’s Council were meeting almost daily as the Council Committee on Land to supervise and direct the Loyalist settlement. The Committee records (RS568) illustrate the process. Would-be settlers submitted their petition to the Provincial Secretary’s office. The Land Committee considered each petition. If they approved the request, the applicant was instructed to advertise in the newspapers, to ensure against other claims on the same land. If there appeared to be no conflict in ownership, the Committee issued a warrant directing the Surveyor General to conduct a survey and return a description of the land surveyed to the Provincial Secretary within six months. Once the survey was completed and fees paid, the patent was signed by Carleton and recorded by the Provincial Secretary and Surveyor General. Petitioners who did not have a specific piece of land in mind registered their names and drew



*Plan of the South West part of New Brunswick by Surveyor General George Sproule, 1786. Made shortly after the formation of New Brunswick this mapping survey would have been carried out with the assistance of local settlers who served as guides and supplied sketches of remote areas. Resources including soil and lumber and navigability of the rivers and lakes are reported on in the document.*



for newly surveyed land.

Grants averaged 100 acres for each head of family and 50 acres for each additional family member. Military personnel received additional grants as a reward for service; the size of the grant depended on their rank. Additional lands were available to those who could afford the quit-rents on a larger grant or who fulfilled the terms of their first grant. In many cases, groups of Loyalists appointed one main grantee to represent them: the grant was made in one name but all were legally bound to the terms of the grant. No more than two hundred acres were to be granted to any one person until the needs of all the “indigent” claimants were looked after.

George Sproule was appointed the first Surveyor General of the province, and he was well qualified for the position. He had ten years of experience as a surveyor for the British military prior to becoming the Surveyor General of New Hampshire before the American Revolution. A Loyalist himself, he served as a field engineer during the conflict and he

was given his post in New Brunswick as compensation for earlier services and losses. (In memorials to the Loyalist Claims Commission he estimated that his total losses as a result of the revolution exceeded £2,300.) His new job was “to execute the government’s warrants for the distribution of the Crown Lands, to return plans and descriptions for the patents, in such a manner as to ascertain, guard and record the territorial rights of the Crown.”

Even with his considerable experience, Sproule had his work cut out for him. On his arrival in New Brunswick he noted that he found the surveying business “in a very perplexed state”. In addition to the new work waiting to be done, grants that had already been passed had to be re-described and earlier surveys needed correction. Sproule was in charge of a network of deputy surveyors who were his “men in the field”. The first deputies were Loyalists with military experience as engineers. Most of them lived in the area where they did their surveying work and were farmers

or merchants. Some held other official positions which supplemented the small income received from surveying. Their duty was “to admeasure, survey, and set out and impartially ascertain the bounds and limits of land ordered surveyed...”.

Initially, twenty-seven deputies were sworn in. There was a shortage of qualified surveyors as few settlers were able to spare time from their efforts to establish their own families. Sproule himself noted that the financial inducement to do the work was meagre “...little or no profit can attend it.” There must have been limited appeal to struggling through dense forest, bogs and marsh for little compensation, while their own new homes needed attention.

In addition to surveying new farm and town lots, the deputies were also required to evaluate improvements to land already granted, arbitrate minor disputes over ownership, supervise town settlements, and explore, map, and report on land, timber, and mineral resources. Reserves for public use, for military and naval use, and for religious and educational use also had to be laid out.

Sproule and his deputies carried out the business of surveying through regular correspondence between the office (first in Saint John, later in Fredericton) and the field. This correspondence forms part of the records of the Surveyor Generals Office (RS637). The deputies kept Sproule informed of local news, and sent names of Loyalists entitled to free grants and lists of petitioners. They certified that petitions were true, and that the petitioners were of sound character and really intended to settle the land. They also reported on the condition of the land in question. From Sproule they received warrants of survey, sketches and copies of old grants and plans, detailed surveying instructions, and sometimes surveying equipment, on loan from the office.



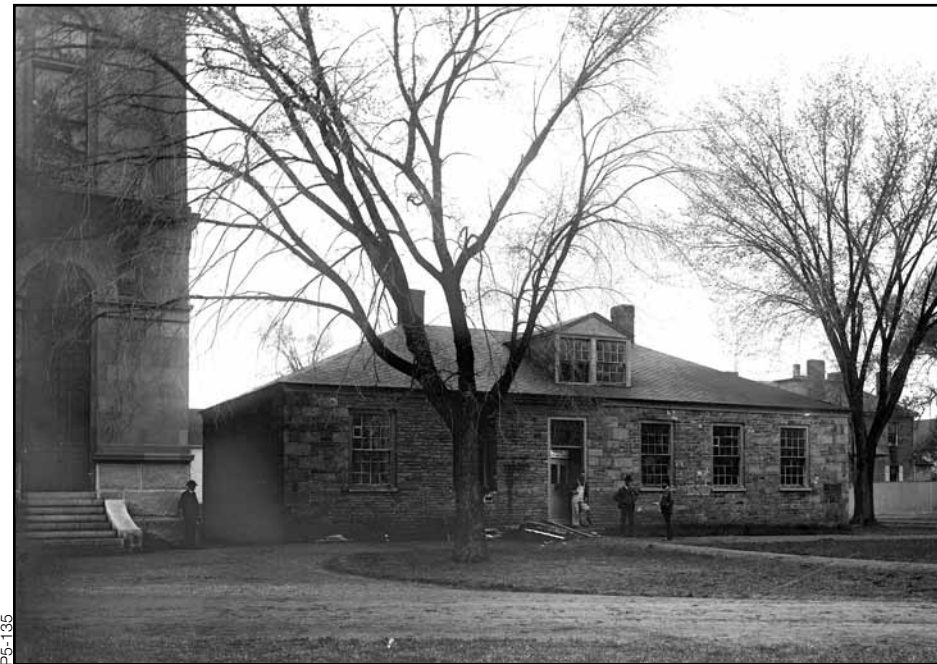
*A settlement in its early years, ca 1870s. The work of the Surveyor General and his office ensured that such settlement could occur, laying the foundations of communities which exist today.*

Routine surveys of farmland usually involved plotting a parcel of two hundred acres. Rectangular in shape, their width was one-third of their length. Plots were set out side-by-side which allowed owners to share frontage on rivers or streams, and have access to meadows or marsh. It was desirable that each grant contain equal portions of arable and barren land. The lines of earlier grants or fixed “permanent” markers were used as base points to calculate the angles of the side lines. Chainmen and axemen (usually locals hired to assist) would run the side lines. Usually the rear lines were determined at the office, after the deputy had submitted his return to the Surveyor General. Field notes made by the deputy-surveyors described the boundaries and from them the Return of Survey (RS687B) was prepared to show in detail the location, size, and other survey-

related information concerning the land to be granted. The Returns were used to draw up the official Land Grant (RS686) which formed the official record and final authority of granted Crown land. A copy of the Grant was issued to the petitioner and became their proof of ownership. Once the land was granted and owned privately (not by the Crown), any further sale, division, mortgage, lease, etc. was to be registered in the county registry office.

In addition to the “routine” surveying work, exploratory and mapping surveys were done with the goal of producing general plans of the province. The Deputy Surveyors received assistance from local settlers who served as guides and supplied sketches of remote areas. Other resources were catalogued: soil and lumber quality and navigability of rivers and lakes were reported on.

Deputies were advised to avoid encroaching on pre-existing grants in an attempt to limit conflict between “old” and “new” settlers. They also tried to describe any improvements on the land that had already been made by any settler, legally or otherwise. Squatters were encouraged to petition the government and they were usually successful in getting the land, especially if they had made “improvements”. Improvements included clearing and cultivating, draining a swamp, keeping cattle, digging a quarry, or building a house. These required “improvements” were also demanded of the new settlers, and varied according to the initial condition of the land. The Loyalists were given three years from the date of their grant to demonstrate proof of improvement. Some did not stay on their initial allotments and there was considerable moving about to find



*Crown Land Office, Fredericton, from which much of the province’s surveying and granting work was directed, ca 1880.*



better land. Some Loyalists moved on to “greener pastures” in what was to become Ontario, or (worse yet) returned to the United States. Their abandoned lands, or lands with no improvements, reverted to the Crown and were available for re-granting to others.

Although the process of granting lands began slowly, in 1785 a total of 8039 acres was granted; in 1786 the number climbed to over 200,000 acres, with another 184,00 acres in 1787. Those were the peak years, and by 1790, a total of 476,000 acres had been put in Loyalist hands. The scope of the work done by the Land Committee, Sproule, and his deputies is hard to imagine, and the record keeping challenges must have been significant as settlers came and went and unimproved land continued to change hands.

In 1790 the British government called a temporary halt to any further granting of Crown lands. They hoped to begin selling the land rather than granting it, thus helping fund the costs associated

with keeping the colonies. This did not prevent Lieutenant Governor Carleton from encouraging further settlement, despite the fact that he could not actually grant any land. This resulted in settlers who were in limbo: they lived on property that they had no title to, and they could only hope that the situation would be resolved. It was not until 1802 that this restriction was at least partially lifted, and Sproule’s office again became very busy as Crown Land was once more available.

George Sproule died in 1817 (at age 74) while still holding the position of Surveyor General. During his career of 33 years, he was a pivotal player in the orderly settlement of thousands of settlers and their families. He enjoyed little financial compensation for his labours; besides his salary he received no funding to cover the expenses of his office and at times used his own money to pay for clerk’s wages, postage, fuel, etc. The fees collected from the grantees were meagre, and Sproule seems to have felt

empathy with the poorer settlers – “I only mean to charge such as are able to pay.” The nature and quality of his work was commented on in a newspaper article from 1892, where he is referred to as “upright and inflexible” because he refused to grant land to someone who already had more than the royal instructions permitted.

Subsequent Surveyors General may be more memorable, or perhaps notorious. Anthony Lockwood is remembered for his “madness” and Thomas Baillie for his enterprising efforts to make Crown Land a source of income for Great Britain. However, it is George Sproule who is honored by the Association of Land Surveyors of New Brunswick. Their most prestigious award, “to a person who has made outstanding contributions in promoting and/or advancing the profession of land surveying” is named for George Sproule. ■

DIANA MOORE

*(with thanks to Robert Fellows and other archivists who have gone before)*

## “Things you discover while looking for something else”

A SEARCH FOR George Sproule in the Archives’ on-line database “Daniel F. Johnson’s New Brunswick Newspaper Vital Statistics” yielded the following nugget from the Royal Gazette of October 10, 1786:

“St. John, Saturday, James COAP & George HEANEY were convicted of burglary on the house of George SPROULE, Esq. Surveyor General and were sentenced to suffer death.”

This prompted a search of other

archival sources to discover what was stolen, and whether the pair were actually put to death. The records of the Saint John magistrate’s court provide a witness’s statement and a description of the items stolen: a “cheek” of pickled pork and several bottles of porter. (Perhaps the consumption of some of the porter slowed the escape of the thieves.) Burglary was a capital crime at the time, although in at least two other instances thieves who had been sentenced to die were pardoned on the condition that

they leave New Brunswick. The case was referred to “Superior Court”. The Supreme Court Minute books reveal that on October 4<sup>th</sup> Coap and Heaney appeared and pled not guilty. They were tried by jury the same day and found guilty. On October 7<sup>th</sup> they were sentenced “to be hanged by the neck till their bodies be dead” within the week. The Royal Gazette of October 17 tells the sad tale: they were executed near Saint John (on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>) and “At

### ST. JOHN, OCTOBER 10.

On Tuesday last the Supreme Court for this province (being Michaelmas term) commenced and ended on Saturday; during the course of the term James Coap and George Heany were convicted of a burglary on the house of George Sproule Esq. Surveyor General, and were sentenced to suffer death. They are to be executed on Friday next the 13<sup>th</sup> inst. John Culbertson was convicted of a grand larceny and was burnt in the hand.—And Gilliam Butler was by his own confession, convicted of false swearing and was sentenced to suffer three months imprisonment, to pay a fine of Five Hundred Pounds, and at the expiration of three months to find security himself 500l. and two sureties in 250l. each for his good behaviour for twelve months.

The following subscriptions have been received for the benefit of Mr. THOMAS JENNINGS, viz:

From HIRAM LODGE,	£ 19	2	0	}	£ 20	17	0
W. CAMPBELL,	1	10	0				
19 Members of the Union-Fire-Club	37	11	8				
A Citizen,	-	-	-		2	5	0
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					£ 59	13	8

Subscriptions are still received by Mr. SAMUEL RANDALL and by the PRINTER.

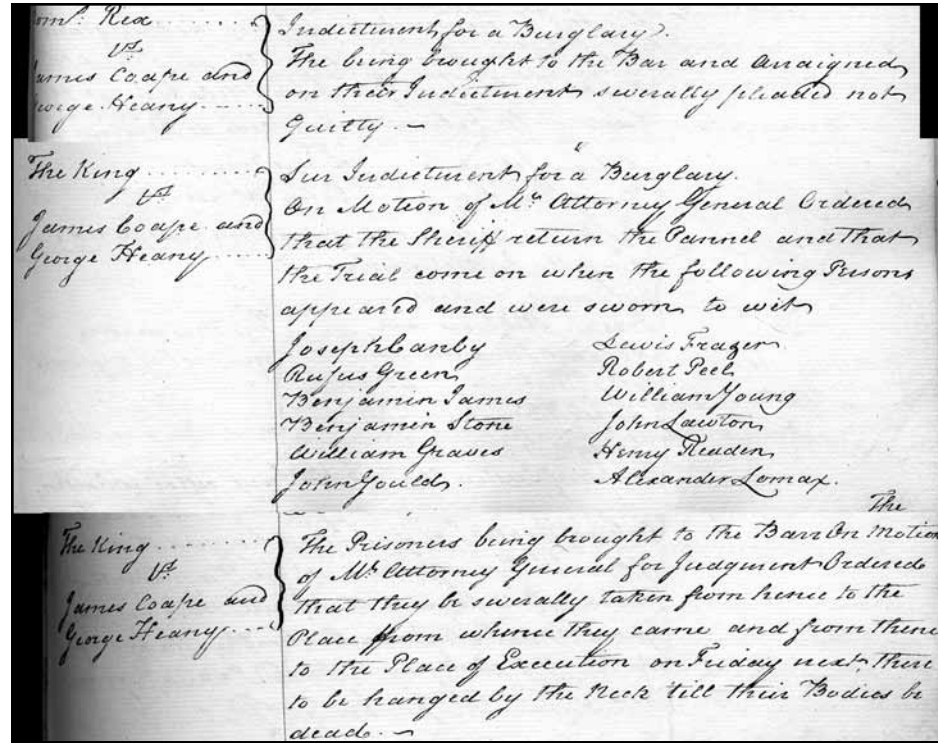
*Royal Gazette Oct 10, 1786 F3809 Coverage of the sitting of the Supreme Court dealing with burglary by Coap and Heany*



the place of execution they behaved with propriety and left letters....addressed to the public containing matter of confession.”

Coap had a previous run-in with the law in the spring of 1786 when he cheated a man out of an entire set of clothes. His past history likely had an influence on the judge’s sentence, but perhaps the fact that this time he had stolen from a government official was the more significant factor. Heaney’s past remains a mystery but it may be that he was simply in the wrong place at the wrong time.

This was not the first incidence of capital punishment in the province, but is certainly among the first. New Brunswick was still very much a frontier; resources were scarce; and perhaps the Loyalist administration took a hard line in an effort to maintain order, and to protect what was theirs. After all, they had lost so much in the past. ■



Indictment, list of jurors and the judgment of execution by hanging for burglars James Coap and George Heany who committed the crime in question against Surveyor General George Sproule.

## Tribute to a volunteer

LIZ BURGE (Ed. D., U of T) has contributed over a hundred hours of interviews to the Archives oral history program on subjects ranging from music to journalism to politics. Recently retired from the Faculty of Education at UNB where she specialized in adult learning Liz brought considerable experience to the task having done a series of interviews with women activists in Atlantic Canada now accessible on the web at

<http://etc.lib.unb.ca/womenactivists/>

The oral history Liz recorded for the Archives is valuable in complementing the written record and filling gaps in it, and in documenting aspects of history that would otherwise be unrecorded.

The connections developed during the interview process also opened the way for acquisition of significant papers of the interview subjects or individuals connected with them. As President of Fredericton Heritage Trust Liz promoted the photographic holdings of the Archives and was responsible for the integration of “before” photographs in the décor of a local restaurant and the long term display of historic photos at York Care Centre. A native of Australia Liz is moving home but she leaves a significant contribution to New Brunswick’s heritage. ■



Liz Burge and Elena Cobb, archivist, sound and moving image records

## News from the Associates

THE ANNUAL General Meeting of the Associates was held in Shippagan on May 16, 2012 with approximately 50 people attending. Gwen Davies, Jocelyn Lebel, Frank Morehouse, Joan Pearce, Phillip Christie, and Gail Campbell were elected to the Board of Directors for the 2012-2014 term.

A feature of the meeting was the launch of the web version of Mgr. Donat Robichaud’s Genealogical and Historical Research Collection. Compiled over many years by Mgr. Robichaud, a Shippagan native dedicated to researching and writing on the history of the region, it includes excerpts from New Brunswick’s first Acadian newspaper, l’Evangéline, and genealogical and historical information on families who settled in the northeastern part of the province. The Associates supported the conversion of the data and the development of the web portal. The Société historique Nicolas-Denys, of which Mgr. Robichaud was a founder, cohosted the reception.

At a Board meeting on the same date the Associates pledged \$11,000 for the support of summer positions for students at the Archives ensuring matching funds for the Young Canada Works and Canada Summer Jobs programs; and \$10,000 for the Elizabeth Diamond Memorial Trust Fund which is being built to support the purchase of acquisitions. The meeting also discussed the implications for archives in New Brunswick of the elimination of the National Archival Development Program of the Canadian Council of Archives.

On October 24 the Associates hosted the launch of two other additions to the Archives web site: a new feature that



Senator Joseph Day, founding President of the Associates, presents Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal to Marion Beyea, Provincial Archivist.

permits a *federated search* making it possible to search all of the 31 different databases on the Archives web site from one entry; and an on-line United Empire Loyalist resource, the work of Wally Hale of Woodstock. Wally donated the web site entitled *Fort Havoc*, that he hosted until recently, to the Provincial Archives. It includes transcriptions of 300 early and out of print publications and documents related to the Loyalists. His first project was Thomas Jones’ 1000+ page tome *The History of New York During the Revolutionary War* and with painstaking work he went on to add such significant research material as Archdeacon William Odbur Raymond’s scrapbook of Woodstock *Dispatch* articles, numerous items relating to the

American Revolution and the settlement of the Loyalists in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, genealogies of the Sharp, Dickinson, Smith, and Shea families, texts on New Brunswick history, passenger lists for the Amphitrite, Union, and Eagle, as well as miscellaneous other ships records. A second part of Mr. Hale’s work is his publication “Early New Brunswick (Canada) Probate Records 1785-1835” abstracts from early probate files and entries in the probate register. These have been entered into a database and are searchable by name, county, and women’s names, and also by vessel type. Occurrence of Blacks, Freeman, and Servants can also be searched. ■



## New Finding Aids

### Government Records

**RS24 Legislative Assembly: Sessional Records.** 1976-1998. Added Petitions to finding aid (.2m)

### Private Sector Records

**MC913 Gray, Pincombe, Anderson family fonds:** 1889-1978; diaries of Sarah Jane (Mitchell) Gray, 1889-1909 (scattered years), her daughter-in-law, Florence Grace (Pincombe) Gray, 1920s, 1943-1947 and her daughter, Hulda (Gray), 1976-1978. Microfilm F7631-F7632. All lived just outside of Fredericton.

**MC1219 Grimmer family fonds:** 1818-1972, predominant 1865-1965; records of family and business activities of several family members. 45cm textual; 163 photos. Charlotte County.

**MC2283 Rideout, Murchison family fonds:** [1884-1946]; photocopied correspondence between family members; also typescript "Sentimental Journey through Yesteryears in Limestone Siding." 2.5cm textual, photocopies. Victoria County.

**MC3006 Benjamin Ingraham diary** [1776]-1783, 2011; original & transcription, Connecticut Loyalist, who enlisted in the Kings American Regiment. Discusses rigours of soldier's life, food, places the army lodged, having to cut up wooden docks to keep warm etc. 30pp. York County.

**MC3587 Mabel Alice Black autobiography** (transcription):. Mabel Alice (Straight) Black was trained as a teacher and taught briefly until her marriage. When her husband died, with 6

young children to raise, she provided for her family by taking boarders, and returned to teaching, upgrading her skills at night school. 8pp Queens County.

**MC3684 Rev. John M. Brooke fonds:** 1841-1884; record book of monies received and paid. It documents his church activities (noting sums received for performing marriages etc.) from his arrival (in 1842) at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, in Fredericton, until about July 1855, as well as his household's activities (1841-1882), purchasing food etc. and paying servants. 2cm textual.

**MC3694 John Martin de Luca fonds:** [1944-1945]. Prisoner of war journal kept from the time of de Luca's capture in Holland by the Germans until liberation by the Russians, details deplorable living conditions and near starvation. 44 p, digital images.

**MC3291 Dr. B. M. Mullin fonds:** 1898-1926. Patient diaries/physical's call lists record patients' names, number of visits, and amounts charged. 20cm Fredericton area.

**MC3568 Stanley Agricultural Society#35 fonds:** 1850s; 1887-1988. Minutes; financial and membership records; Stanley Fair guest log (with Lord Beaverbrook's signature) and a detailed history. 30cm textual records.

**MC3665 Hanington store ledger:** [1839-1844]. Ledger from William Hanington store, containing names and addresses of clients, types of goods purchased and costs. Labour, farm products and occasionally seafood were exchanged for goods. 5cm Microfilm F25298 Shediac.

**RS844 Communications New Brunswick.** News releases. 2010. E-records

**RS857 Business New Brunswick.** Final reports of Team Atlantic Canada Trade Missions to Boston and Chicago. 2006-2007. (.2m)

**RS975 Cultural Development Board.** NB Film Board movie posters. 2000-2007 (0.1m)

### Private Records

**P744 Donald Peacock fonds:** 1941-1980s. Photographs taken by Donald Peacock, a Saint John native who co-founded Peacock and Wilson Studios (later Wilson Studios). After serv-

ing in the RCAF, he moved to Fredericton. He recorded his family's life and environment through photographs and diaries (not at PANB). 1950s. 1000+ images. Images of RCAF locations and activities and of Saint John and Fredericton.

**MC3711 Smith-McLaughlin collection:** 1840s-2012. Genealogy, photographs and correspondence of Smith and McLaughlin familie. The lineage descends from George Neilson Smith (1787-1854), native of Edinburgh, who emigrated to NB, working first at Crown Land Office in Fredericton and later in Saint John as architect and artist. Smith and his wife had 11 children, and the McLaughlin line results from the marriage of his daughter, Marjory Melville Smith to Daniel John McLaughlin in 1859. 18cm. Saint John. ■

## Selected Recent Acquisitions

### Government Records

**RS17 Corporate Affairs Branch Records.** Incorporation of Non-Profit Companies. 2002-2005. (.8m)

**RS72, RS91, RS95, RS98 Registry Office Records.** Bills of sale - chattel mortgages, Probate Court Fee Book, Minute Book, Lien Book, Licenses Book, etc. 1840-1936. (.2m)

**RS84 to RS98 Registry Office Records.** By-Laws and Regulations for all counties except Northumberland. 1973-2003. (.6m) Microfilmed

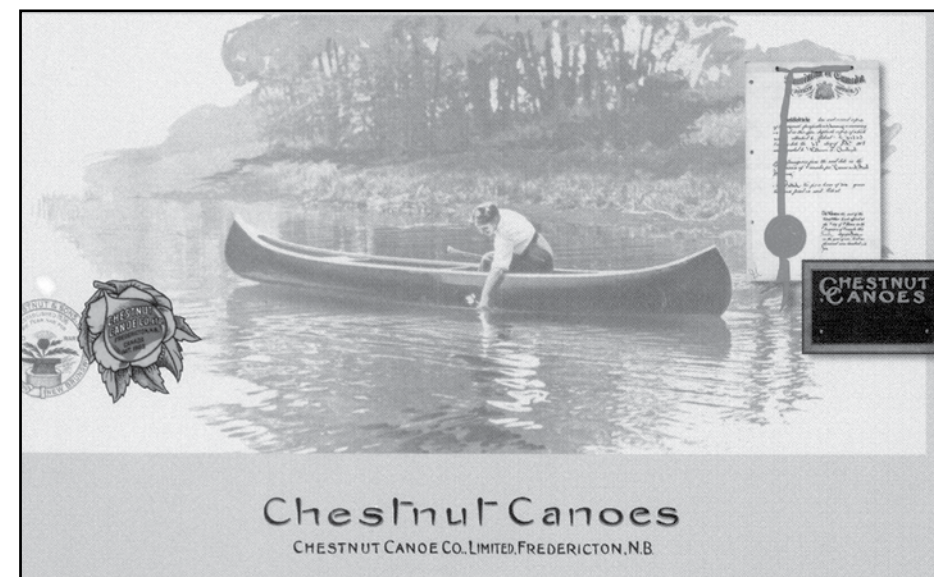
**RS126 Department of Public Works.** Complaints. 1948-1966. (.2m)

**RS149 Gloucester County Council Records.** Photocopy of Gloucester County Marriage Register (acquired by donation). 1860-1873. (.1m)

**RS418 Moncton Municipal Records.** Clerk/City Manager's Office: Property related: easements, amalgamation agreements, leases and service agreements. 1919-1981. (1.6m)

*Unique Gifts . . . Unique History*

## Chestnut Canoe Memorabilia



**Chestnut Canoe memorabilia**, including clothing, decals, postcards, lithographs and other items are available for purchase at the sales kiosk in the lobby of the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick.

Also available is the definitive company history *When the Chestnut Was in Flower* by Roger MacGregor.



# Knowledge passed down: The life of a surveyor in the field



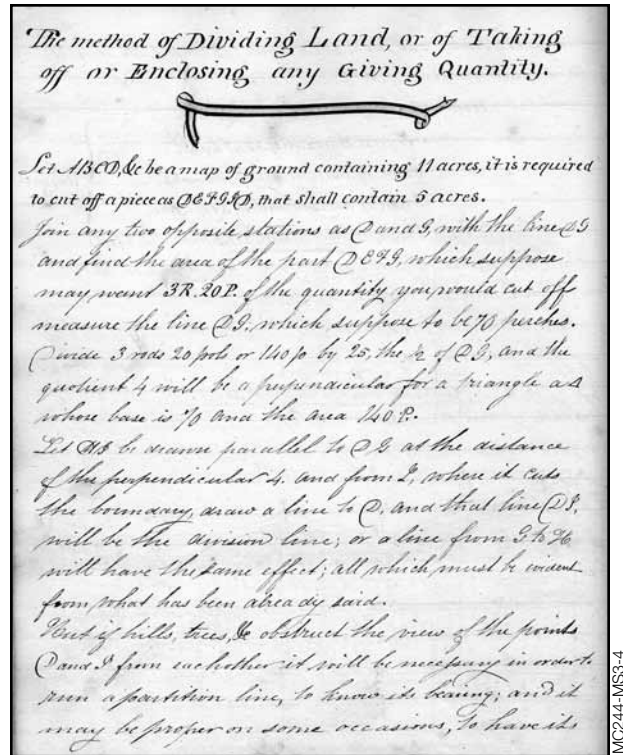
1. Robert Douglass holding Frederick Douglass with orrery patented by him in the background, ca 1885. / Robert Douglass tenant Frederick Douglass avec, en arrière-plan, un planétaire qu'il avait lui-même fabriqué, vers 1885.

complete the job without today's modern computing as well as the basic skills surveyors required when living and working in the field (3). Subjects range from trigonometry, finding the height or altitude of an object, enlarging or diminishing maps, leveling, dividing land and finding the solidity of an object.

Upon Douglass' arrival in New Brunswick he initially taught at a school and later became Deputy Surveyor General in Shediac Cape, where he surveyed many of the roads in Kent County (4). His son, Charles Knowlton S. Douglass, took up the same trade, learning the necessary skills from his father and assisting him in the field. By the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Charles Douglass was employed at Buctouche as a Deputy Land Surveyor for the provincial Crown Land Department (5). In addition to his government post, Charles Douglass ran his own surveying business.

3. Surveying party encampment at Stanley, 1834. / Campement d'une équipe d'arpenteurs à Stanley, 1834.

**I**N 1829 ROBERT DOUGLASS emigrated from Ireland to New Brunswick (1) having studied surveying in his native country. His surveying practice book (2) reveals the depth of knowledge and skill required of a surveyor that extended far from simply entailing the division of land and the forming of borders. It illustrates the intricate calculations required to



2. "The Method of Dividing Land" from Robert Douglass' 1848 surveying practice book. / « The Method of Dividing Land », tiré du guide pratique de l'arpentage de Robert Douglass, paru en 1848.



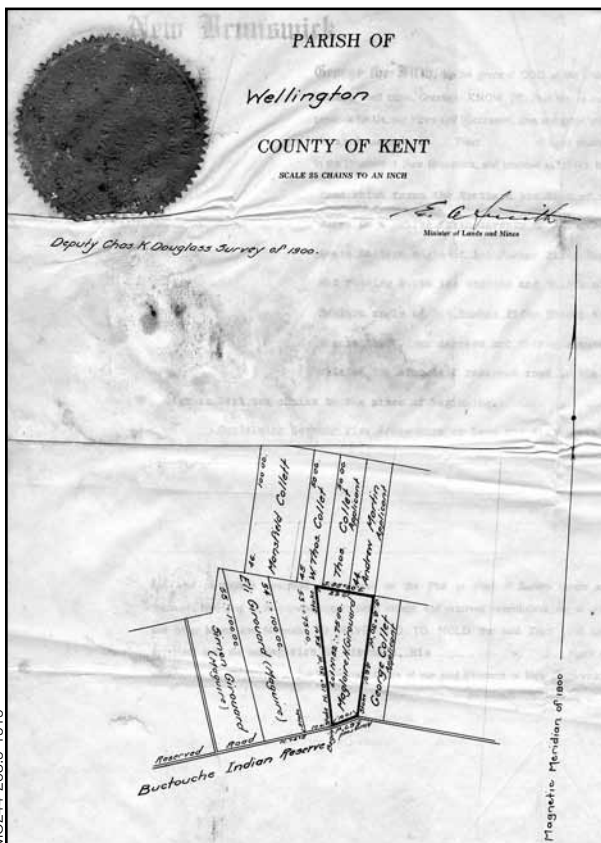
## Un savoir transmis de père en fils : la vie d'un arpenteur sur le terrain

**E**N 1829, ROBERT DOUGLASS, qui avait étudié l'arpentage dans son pays natal, quitta l'Irlande pour émigrer au Nouveau-Brunswick (1). Son guide pratique de l'arpentage (2) révèle l'étendue des

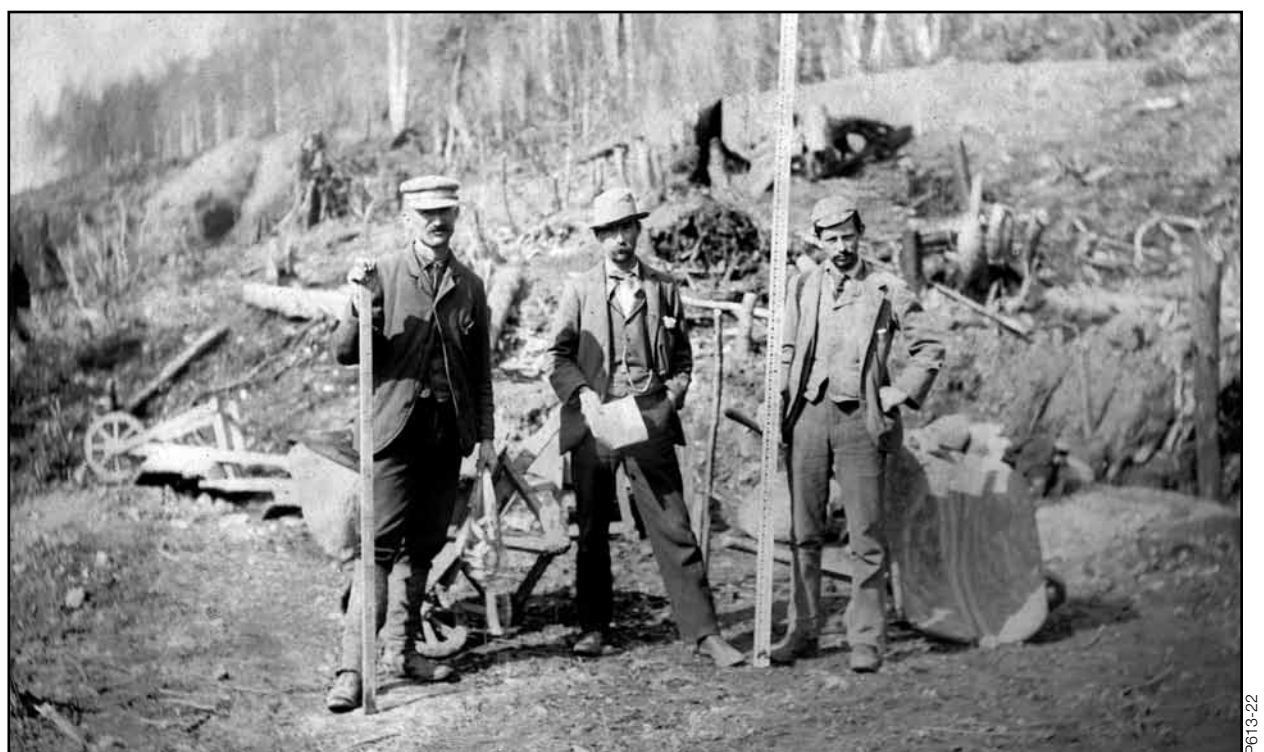
connaissances et des compétences exigées de la part d'un arpenteur, qui étaient loin de se limiter simplement à la division des terres et au tracé de leurs limites. Il illustre les calculs complexes nécessaires pour accomplir le travail sans les ordinateurs modernes actuels, ainsi que les compétences de base que les arpenteurs devaient posséder pour vivre et travailler sur le terrain (3). Les sujets couverts comprennent la trigonométrie, la détermination de la hauteur ou de

l'altitude d'un objet, l'augmentation ou la diminution de l'échelle des cartes, le nivellement, la division des terres et la mesure de la solidité d'un objet.

Après son arrivée au Nouveau-Brunswick, Douglass enseigna d'abord dans une école et, plus tard, il devint arpenteur général adjoint à Shediac Cape, où il arpenta de nombreux chemins du comté de Kent (4). Son fils Charles Knowlton S. Douglass choisit le même métier, acquérant de son père les compétences nécessaires et l'assistant sur le terrain. Au début du XX<sup>e</sup> siècle, Charles Douglass était employé à Bouctouche à titre d'arpenteur adjoint pour le ministère provincial des Terres de la Couronne (5). En plus de son poste gouvernemental, Charles Douglass dirigeait sa propre entreprise d'arpentage.



5. Wellington Parish, Kent County survey demarcating the bounds of property along the Buctouche Reserve, by Charles Douglass, 1900. / Arpentage de la paroisse de Wellington, dans le comté de Kent, établissant les limites de propriété le long de la réserve de Bouctouche, par Charles Douglass, 1900.



4. Men posed with road surveying equipment, no doubt similar to that which Charles Douglass would have used, early 1900s. / Hommes posant avec du matériel d'arpentage de chemins sans doute similaire à celui qu'aurait utilisé Charles Douglass, début des années 1900.