

# **STILLMAN FAMILY ASSOCIATION**

## **Newsletter No. 3**

### **November 17, 2004**

1) Well, I have finally been able to go through all the land records for Stillmans that I had copied on my visit to the New Brunswick Archives in early September. I had managed to copy 13 records (around 30 pages) while there are still another 26 records. I am going to New Brunswick next Wednesday (Nov 24th) for 10 days will get the rest of them.

There were no records of land transactions for Stillmans or Dillmans in Westmorland County, which is where David Stillman settled.

All the land records I found were for Carleton County. I have transcribed them and placed them in the attached Word Document entitled Land Records.

The Document is 27 pages. The first section contains land records held at the County records office. Hence, they are handwritten copies of the actual documents (the owners of the land naturally held onto the originals). As such, the documents are all written by the same person, ie, real signatures are not shown. Persons not being able to write signed with an X (and this is indicated in the attachment). The records here are primarily sorted by Date except that I kept the ones for John Handover Stillman and his children separate from the ones for Samuel Stillman and his children. Their families moved at separate times to New Brunswick from Nova Scotia (John in the 1830's and Samuel in about 1854). They didn't seem to execute any transactions from one branch to the other. I kept the families together so it would be easier to see the movement of property from parents to children.

The second section is Land Petitions wherein the petitioner was asking for a Land Grant. The third section is on Land Grants. To give away the ending, there were NO land Grants in New Brunswick to Stillmans.

I have kept the wording and spelling exactly as was written. I have used square brackets [ ] to surround any comments I made, which were usually at the beginning of the record, or to insert words that seemed to be missing from transcription to the record book copy. These documents were standard forms that both Justices of the Peace and Registrars were familiar with. I was very careful in keeping the spelling of the Stillman surname as it appeared in these records. They were sometimes spelled with one 'l', sometimes two, which was the only variation.

As in the 1861 Census, there are 3 different John Stillman's in the Land records for Richmond Parish. There is John Handover Stillman, his son John E. Stillman. Also, there is a John W. Stillman whose wife is listed as being Lydia A. John W. Stillman and Lydia moved to the United States in 1865 and sold their land (and claim) to Elizabeth Potter.

Also, we have a John Brown Stillman whom Maryellen found mentioned in a land record in Nova Scotia along with Samuel and Daniel Stillman. Hopefully, we can someday sort out all these Johns!

Oh yes, the parishes mentioned in the documents changed. Carleton County was formed in 1831 from York County (which is why the Carleton County records don't go back before 1832). Richmond Parish was formed in 1853 from Woodstock Parish. Hence, early records show Woodstock Parish, later ones show Richmond and one around the time of the formation had the incorrect Parish name. However, they are all referring to the same physical place.

2) In Vol. 2, I mentioned that I was going to include the topic of witnesses for the marriage application forms for the children of George and Sarah Jane (Foley) Stillman. I think I will hold off on that for another time since the attached document kept me busy for the last week and a half!

3) One other item to note is that I have been volunteering my time to help launch the Canada GenWeb's Cemetery Project. I volunteered to be the co-ordinator for Nova Scotia and PEI. The site is now live and can be accessed at:

[www.continue.to/cgwcem](http://www.continue.to/cgwcem)

The objective of the project is to locate and link to every online and hardcopy cemetery transcription in Canada. Also, there is another powerful feature in that people can submit to the site transcriptions and photos they have compiled/taken. Users have the capability of searching through a fully indexed list of surnames as well as cemetery names. Hopefully as the database gets populated, it will come to be very handy.

I hope that everyone is keeping well!

Andrew Stillman