

# LOYALISTS

Development of the Eastern  
Townships by the Loyalists

**Documentary Record**  
For elementary school



## STATION 1

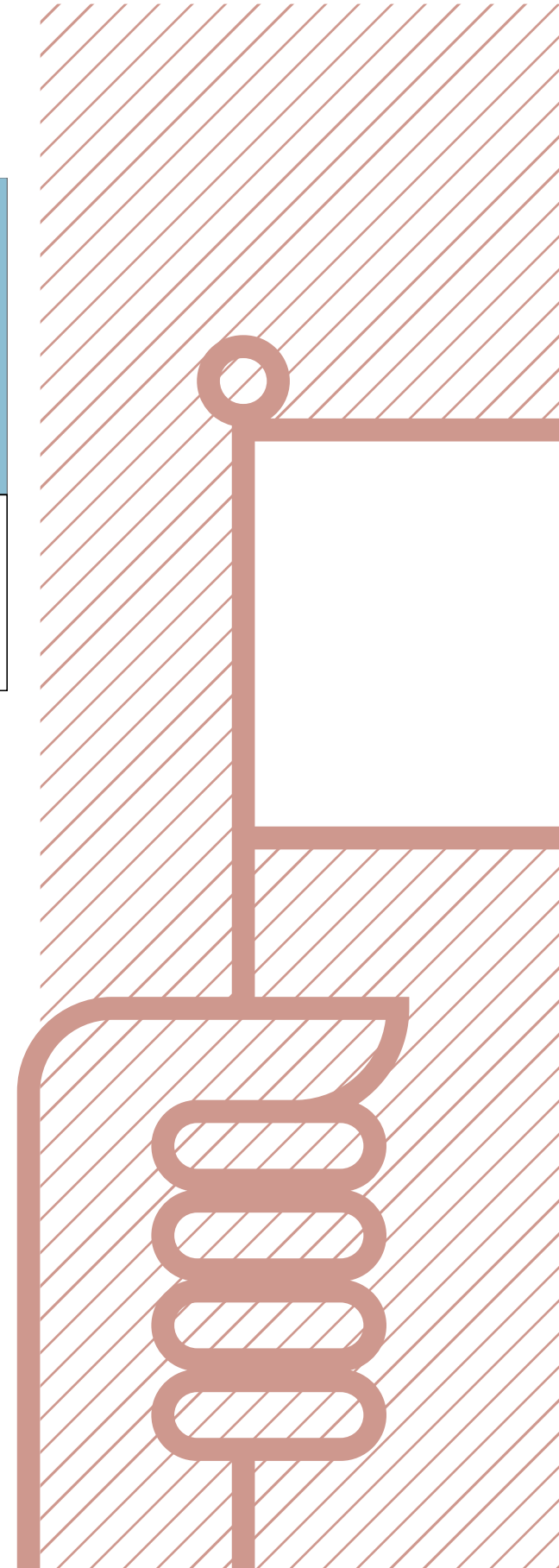
# The Loyalists

## Document 1: Map of the Loyalists' Arrival – After 1783

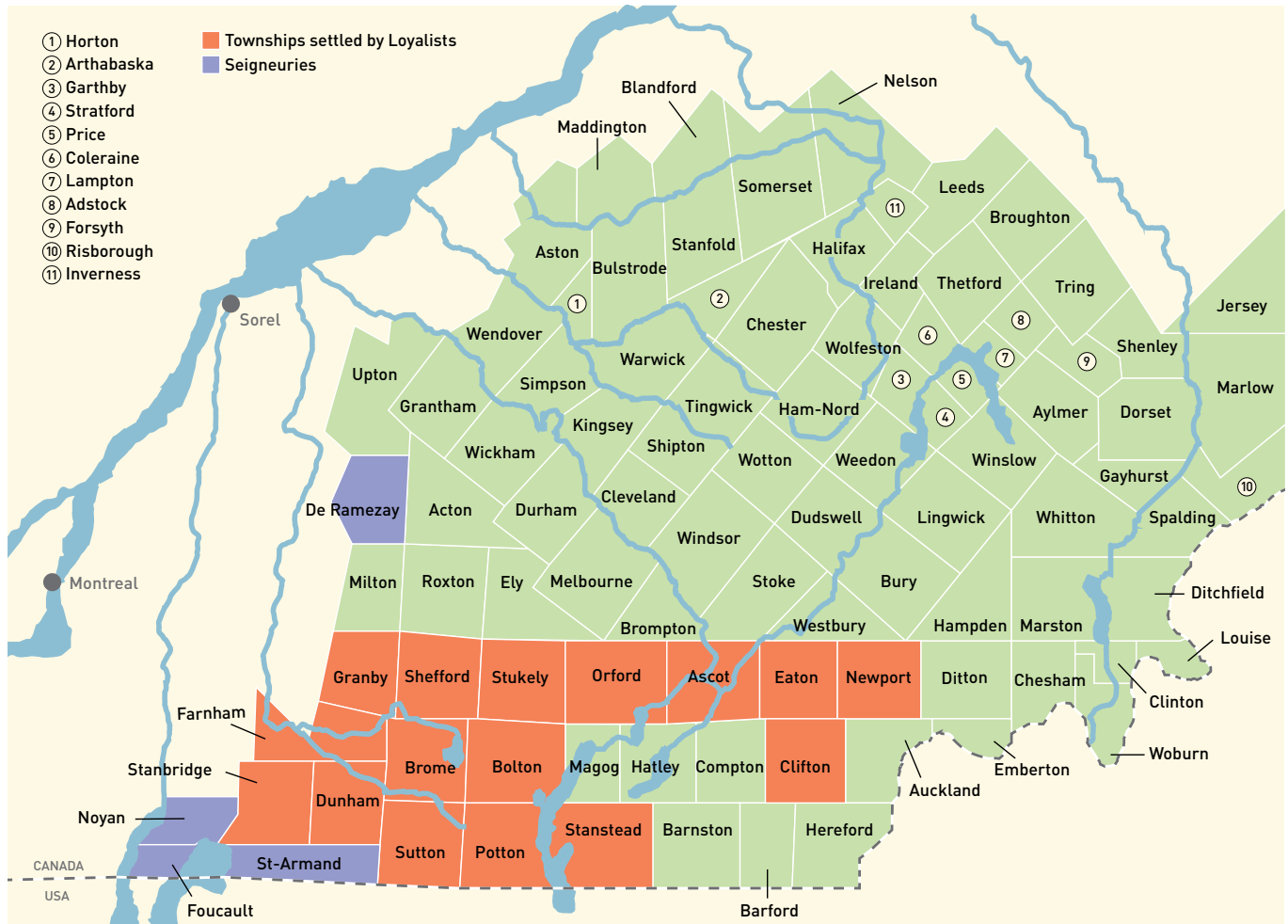


## Document 2: Loyalists of the Province of Quebec

Following the American War of Independence, the Thirteen Colonies became the United States. Those who wished to remain faithful to the British Crown were obliged to leave their home to reach British territory. Consequently, following the 1783 Treaty that ended the War of Independence, Loyalists moved to British-occupied territories. Fifty thousand Loyalists reached British territories. Today, these territories make up Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick. Of these 50 000 Loyalists, 500 fled to the Upper Richelieu Valley, to Noyan, Focault and St. Armand, unoccupied seigneuries of the Province of Quebec. These lands were ideal for clearing and their geographical location facilitated trade with the United States.

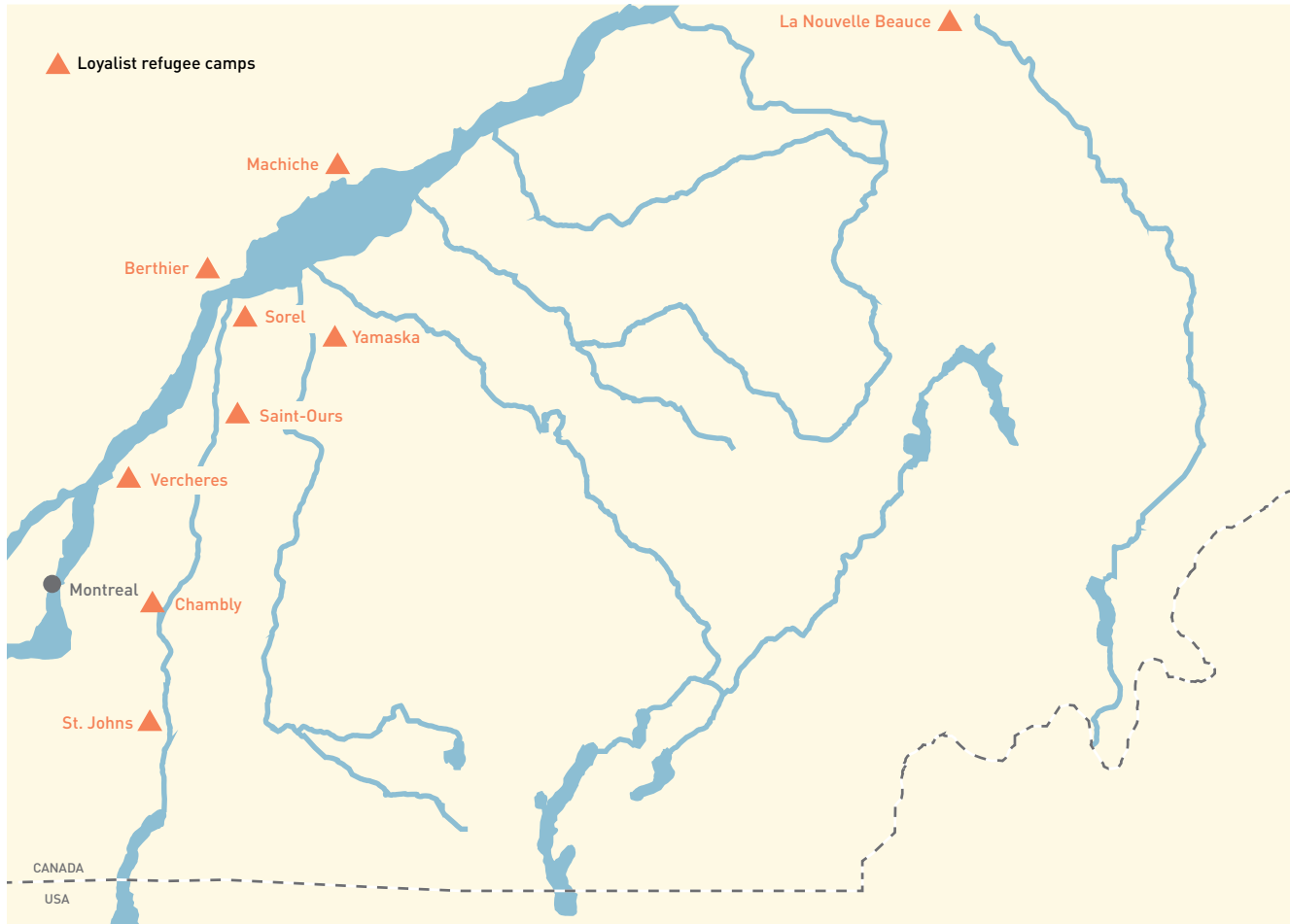


### Document 3: Map of Eastern Townships Settlement by Loyalists



**STATION 2: LOYALIST REFUGEES**

## Document 4: Loyalist Refugee Camps



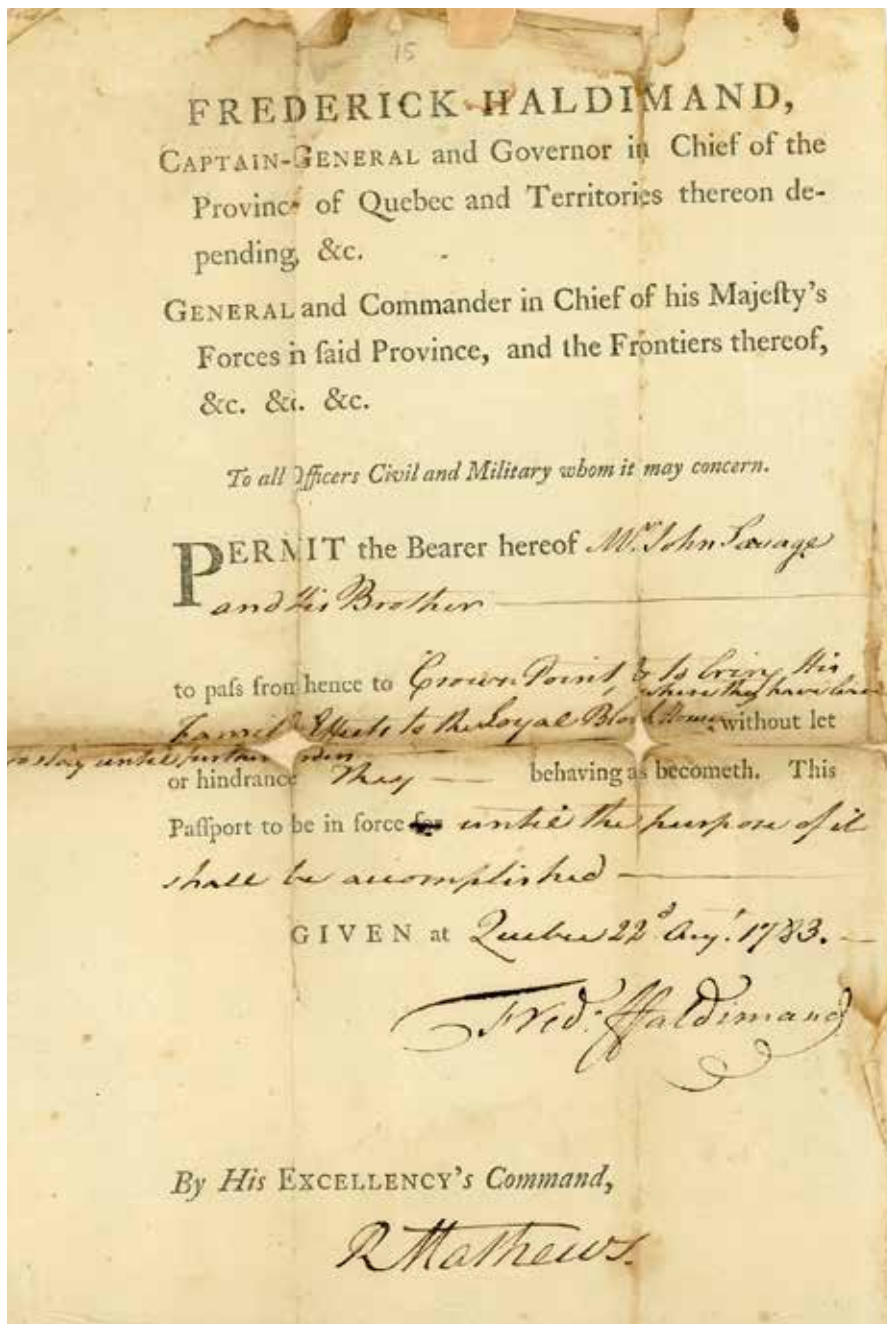
*Image of a Loyalist encampment in Ontario, 1784 / James Peachy  
/ BIBLIOTHÈQUE ET ARCHIVES Canada / C-002001*

## DOCUMENT 5: JOHN SAVAGE

During the American War of Independence, John Savage volunteered with the Loyalist forces of the British Crown. Captured during the conflict, he was released in 1783 and obliged to seek refuge in Canada. After having spent some time in a military shelter in St. Johns, he illegally settled at Caldwell's Manor (Noyan),

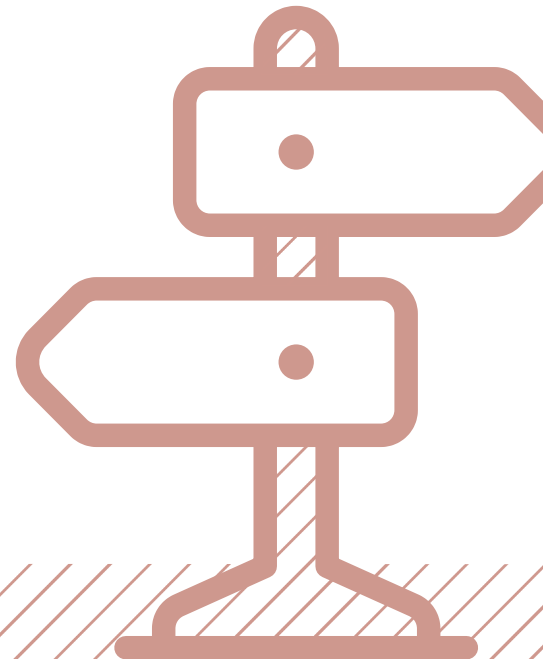
a seignury located at the intersection of the Richelieu River, the Missisquoi Bay and the United States. Loyalist refugees who had settled at Caldwell's Manor (Noyan) faced significant pressure to vacate this land, as the United States claimed this territory.

## DOCUMENT 6: LETTER FROM GOVERNOR FREDERICK HALDIMAND



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License given to John Savage and to his brother to pass through CrownPoint (a British fort) and to bring their family and their belongings to the Loyal Block House (located in the St. Johns military shelter) unimpeded.

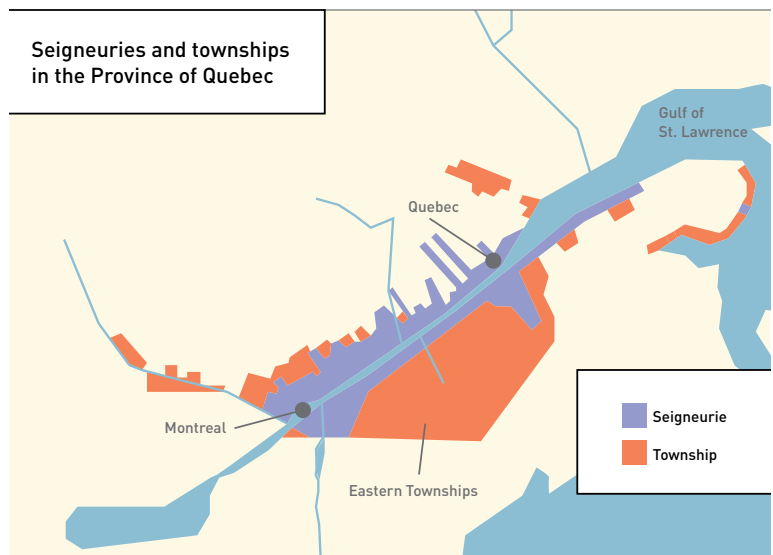
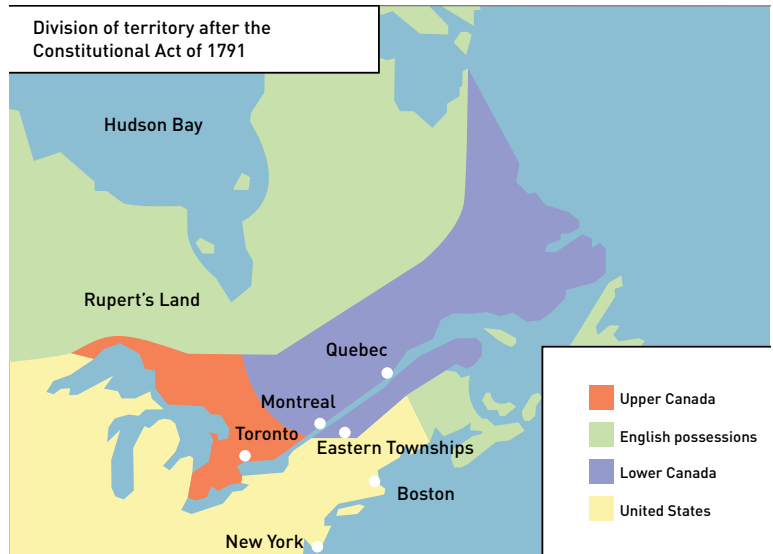


### STATION 3: THE CONSTITUTIONAL ACT AND THE CREATION OF THE TOWNSHIPS

#### DOCUMENT 7: The Constitutional Act

In 1791, Loyalist families were given fresh hopes. The Constitutional Act had divided the Province of Quebec in two parts: Upper and Lower Canada. In Upper and Lower Canada, new lands were given to Loyalists who wished to settle them. These new lands were divided according to the townships system, as opposed to the seigneurial system. The lands of Upper Canada were reserved for Loyalists in order to allow them to live according to their laws and their religion. Likewise, several new townships were created for Loyalists who wished to settle in Lower Canada. These were to become the Eastern Townships. However, to claim a land here, Loyalists had to put in a request. To be given the right to settle land, individuals had to demonstrate that they had suffered losses because of their loyalty to the British Crown. Moreover, they had to pledge allegiance to the Crown, that is, swear to obey and remain faithful to the king; they also had to commit to settling the lands and to developing the necessary mills and roads at their own cost.

#### DOCUMENT 8: Division of Territory After 1791







**STATION 4: CHALLENGES FACED BY LOYALIST SETTLERS****DOCUMENT 10:****The Shefford Pioneer**

With the Constitutional Act of 1791, Loyalists were given the right to request British lands. These lands were townships. In 1801, John Savage was officially granted Shefford Township. His first few years were difficult. During his first winter, Savage lost nearly all of his cattle. During his pioneer years, families settling in Shefford Township were confronted with many dangers. On top of mosquitos and flies, wolves and bears were also present on this territory and caused several problems.



*Image of Loyalists travelling to a township / ANC, C.W. Jefferies, The Picture Gallery of Canada, vol II, p. 23*









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