

HADLEY NEWSLETTER

(Hadley, Headley, Hadlee, Hadly, Hadleigh, etc and their related kin)

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Hadlington, Ontario: A Ghost town today.

Hadlington, named for Joseph Hadley, was a small milling community located in Haliburton County. It was originally settled during the mid-1890s and contained a sawmill, general store, post office and school. Primary occupations in the area were lumbering and farming.

The school was a busy place, and was used for a variety of activities besides education. On weekends it was used for church services and Sunday school. It also served as a theatre and dance hall. Dances in particular were extremely popular in this small remote community. Hadlington was never large and at its height boasted about 30 families.



Remains of home in Hadlington

Hadlington's downfall was a due to the depression in the 1930s. After the mills shut down, there was nothing left to sustain the small hamlet. By the 1940s, it was almost deserted.

Today all that remains of Hadlington are shells and ruins. The only remaining complete building is the schoolhouse, now owned by a hunt club. We thank **Jan Corley** jcorley@gov.ns.ca a direct relative to Joseph Hadley for this story.

Correction:

The Nov 2017 *Hadley Newsletter* indicated Capt. Joseph Hadley (1724-1801) was a Loyalists. That information is incorrect. We are fortunate two Canadian members of our Hadley family, who are directly related to Joseph, found the error. **Elizabeth (Rose) Maize** who is a descendent of Joseph and who has written a most informative explanation as to why Joseph was not a Loyalist. Her writing included historical data about our relative Joseph who was the great grandson of our patriarch George. Please see attachment for this wonderful story: *“Was Joseph Hadley a Loyalist?”*

Why did our Patriarch George Hadley (ca. 1612-1686) leave his home in England and come to America?

At this stage of our research we have been unable to ascertain when our George arrived in the “New World” or for that matter, with absolute certainty, from where he came. However, we are reasonably certain he came from England. We do have hard evidence he was here in 1628 and believe he had been in Massachusetts about 10 years before that 1628 documentation. Our research has uncovered what were likely several reasons why George left his home.

1st, A dictate about land issued by King Henry the VIII (1491-1547), had the effect of breaking up the vast landholding of the Roman Catholic Church. This decree prevented subdivision of land and made it unlikely our George would ever

had inherited land. Upon the death of the land-owner, land usually went to the oldest son and probably our George was **not** the oldest male in his family.

While in Massachusetts, we do know our George had the skills of a weaver and he likely acquired this much sort-after trade while in his youth. (It was common for the oldest family son to learn the business of caring for inherited family land, and for additional male children to learn a trade.)

2nd, England was in a political mess in the early 1600s. Much of Europe had been devastated by the *30 Year War* (1618-1648) which resulting in the death of an estimated 8 million people and bankrupted much of Europe. The cause of that war *“was fought over a confused welter of **religious, political and economic matters**”* [*Turning Points* by Mark A Noll]. This war had a profound effect upon the pilgrims and was one of the reasons in 1620 they decided to leave Holland.

3rd, England itself was in great religious and political strife and was about to enter its own Civil War, also called the Great Rebellion (1642-51). This was due to the policies of Charles I and Puritans’ zeal, and it put Protestant England and Roman Catholic Ireland in a violent conflagration.

4th, It is highly likely a Hadley came about 1607 to what we refer to as Colonial Jamestown and was related to our George. This fact could well have given our young George impetus and motivation to make the decision to try his luck in America, since he had learned the basics of the weaving trade and felt he would be able to make his own way in the new world.

5th, No evidence has yet been found that our George had a religious zeal or a need to escape its dictates he likely found in England. We believe our George came to America, as did most, for opportunities.

Wedding Bells:

We send our congratulations to Luke Hadley and the new Mrs. Hadley, the former Mackenzi King, on 15 Oct 2017. Luke is the son of Bruce and Frances Hadley
<http://www.hadleygenealogy.net/ghtout/grpf6955.html>



Shane & Quincy (Hadley)Vincton:

These delightful twin boys were born on the 13 May 2017 to Melissa Hadley
<http://www.hadleygenealogy.net/ghtout/grpf5720.html> and Sean Vincton. (A double blessing and congratulation to Melissa and Sean.)



“A skillful trade is better than an inherited fortune”.

Welsh Proverb

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