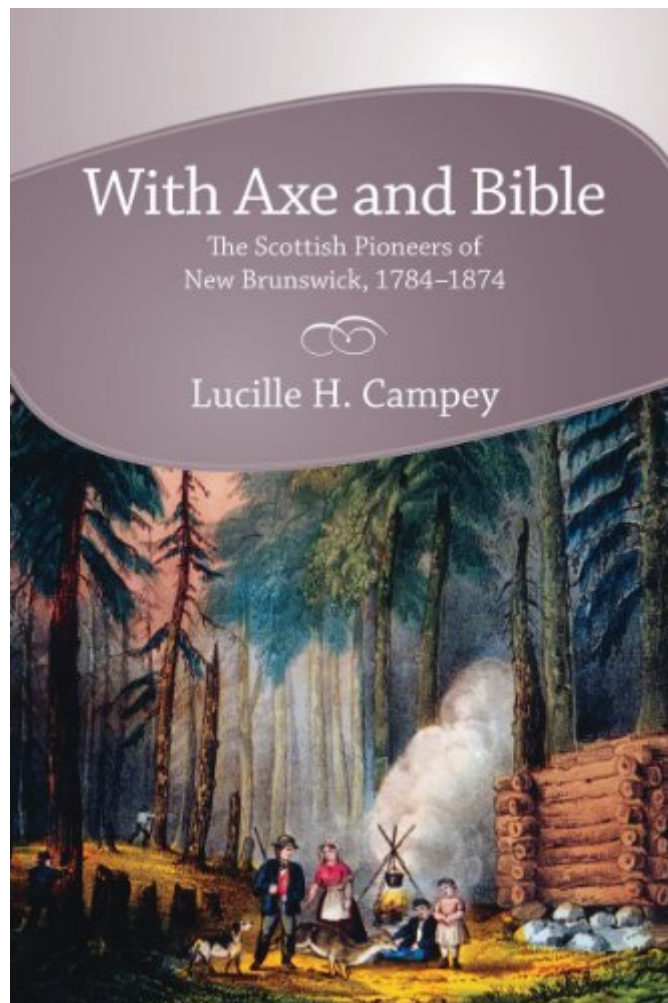




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With Axe And Bible: The Scottish Pioneers Of New Brunswick, 1784-1874



Synopsis

New Brunswick's enormous timber trade attracted the first wave of Scots in the late 18th century. As economic conditions in Scotland worsened, the flow of emigrants increased, creating distinctive Scottish communities along the province's major timber bays and river frontages. While Scots relied on the timber trade for economic sustenance, their religion offered another form of support. It sustained them in a spiritual and cultural sense. These two themes, the axe and the bible, underpin their story. Using wide-ranging documentary sources, including passengers lists and newspaper shipping reports, the book traces the progress of Scottish colonization and its ramification for the province's early development. The book is the first fully documented account of Scottish emigration to New Brunswick ever to be written. Most Scots came in small groups but there were also great contingents such as the Arran emigrants who settled in Restigouche and the Kincardine emigrants who settled in the Upper St. John Valley. Lowlanders were dispersed fairly widely while Highlanders became concentrated in particular areas like Miramichi Bay. What factors caused them to select their various locations? What problems did they face? Were they successful pioneers? Why was the Scottish Church so important to them? In tracing the process of emigration, author Lucille H. Campey offers new insights on where Scots settled, their overall impact and the cultural legacy which they left behind. With axe and bible Scots overcame great hardship and peril and through their efforts created many of the province's most enduring pioneer settlements.

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Customer Reviews

Excellent scholarly look at the Scottish people who came to the wilds of New Brunswick, Canada from the late 18th to late 19th century. A wilderness teeming with forests and a booming timber trade drew these Scots from their homeland seeking new opportunity in the New World. They worked hard to preserve their culture and national identity and the author's thesis that the Presbyterian church was the lynch pin that held it all together. My Great Grandfather's family took this route from Scotland and so part of me hoped I would see his father's name in the rolls of one of the ships that came from the highlands to Western NB. I did not, but now feel like I have a more complete picture of why his family made the trip and some window into what life was likely like for them. If Scottish immigration to the New World, especially Canada, is of interest to you, I would check this author out, as this is one of six books she has written about Scots coming to various regions in eastern Canada.

Very nice book with lots of lists of families that came to Brunswick. I might've found my family origins that I'm looking for.

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