Daniel Wood of French Lake

CHRONOLOGY NOTES

By JohnWood1946@hotmail.com

Daniel Wood was born on June 30, 1764, according to his tombstone. He arrived in New Brunswick in about, or perhaps slightly before, 1785. I don't know where he was from for certain, but he termed himself a 'Loyalist'. Some have suggested that he was from New York, but no one is sure.

Tradition has it, that he had a brother Thomas who also came to New Brunswick. There was a Thomas associated with Daniel and it is reasonable to suppose that they were brothers, but there is no proof.

Some also say that he had a brother John, but it could just as easily be that this John was some other relative of Daniel. In fact, Rex Grady's research reveals that the John who was supposed to be Daniel's brother was a generation older than Daniel. I think that the tradition that there was a brother named 'John' is not correct. It is part of the tradition that the 'Rusagonis Woods' are of a different line from the 'French Lake Woods' - which is almost certainly not correct. It is not my purpose to criticize firmly held views. However, these chronologies do seem to indicate that Daniel and Ann were ancestors of nearly all Sunbury County Woods.

February 28, 1786

PANB, New Brunswick Gazette and General Advertiser, p 3. Reference seen: Thomas Wood published a notice in the Gazette, refuting a slander by someone else against Nathan Smith. This was in connection with some legal matter, or suit, between Smith and George Andrew. The slander was that Smith had induced Wood to lie on Smith's behalf; but Wood swore that Smith didn't put him up to it. It is interesting to note that Wood didn't bother to claim that there had been no falsehood in the first place.

Details of the suit have not been determined.

The July 3, 1788 petition would place Daniel and Thomas's arrival in New Brunswick at mid-1785 or earlier. This legal problem in February, 1786, is the earliest Wood record found so far, and confirms that they had been in the Province for long enough by then to get into trouble.

1785-1790/93

I don't know where Daniel lived in the early years. In 1788 he was living in York County and I assume that this was on the Rusagonis River since he was associated
with that area from the start. Son John is said to have been born in the Beaver Dam area in 1788. Daniel must have been living with a parent or other relative or an employer or a friend, or simply occupying a lot which would not have been unusual at the time.

June 5, 1787

PANB. Reference seen: A petition was written at Rusagonis with Jacob Clark and Samuel Sinclair for three lots in Welsh's Survey (or Whitmore) on the north Rusagonis adjoining Peabody's tract. Lot 11 was to be for Daniel, 13 for Clark, and 15 for Sinclair.

The lots were just east of the York County line, west of Rusagonis, in the area where Daniel is said to have spent the early years.

Sinclair was a 'disbanded soldier' (from the Royal Fencibles) and Clark was a 'refugee'. However, Daniel stated no such qualification. When he said on July 3, 1799 that he was a Loyalist, he may have only meant to imply that he had been loyal. Some pre-Loyalists used the word Loyalist in this way. In this case, loyalty could have helped in obtaining a grant.

These three main petitioners also asked for lot 5 for Owen Madden who had asked for that lot before. This request was almost incidental.

This petition was apparently denied.

ca 1788

Daniel married Ann Morgan, daughter of John Morgan.

July 3, 1788

PANB. Reference seen: A petition was made with Thomas Wood for lots 2 and 3 on Welsh's first survey, on the east side of the Oromocto River. Daniel and Thomas were living in York County and had been in the Province for three years and upwards. This is the Thomas who is said to have been Daniel's brother.

They wrote that the lots were 'vacant', and then scratched that out and substituted 'unoccupied and without improvement'. They may have been stretching the truth. There is an administrative notation dated August 1, 1788 that lot 2 had been allotted to Patterson. Lot 3 only was still available.

Daniel's name was signed, but the handwriting seems to be the same as Thomas's.

See "1788, July or later", below.
1788, July or later

Reference from Rex Grady (Ellnora R. Young): Daniel Mersereau, George Hayward, Daniel Wood and Thomas Wood relinquished all rights to lot 42 (---?--- acres) on the Oromocto River to John Smith who had already settled on it when the four had applied. Rex Grady's information comes from some notes made by Ellnora Young from her reading of W.D. Moore's history of Sunbury County.

This could not have been the land from the June 5, 1787 petition, as that was on the North Rusagonis River. It could have been the land from the 1788 petition, explaining why Daniel did not take up that land though the petition was partly successful. The timing is right but the lot number is apparently wrong.

Curiously, the Index to Sunbury County Land Petitions (PANB) lists the 1788 petition under lot 242 instead of under lots 2 and 3. It appears that '42' should read '242', or vice versa, but that in any case this was the same lot as in their recent petition.

This lot is well down River in Oromocto West, the one eventually granted to Hiel Camp. This is a bit of a surprise since it was John Smith who settled it in 1788. Still, the record is clear enough. Perhaps John Smith's grant fell to escheat.

It seems that the 1788 petition stretched the truth to the breaking point. Neither lot 2 or 3 were free from other claims.

At this point, there is no record that Daniel owned any land at all.

December 25, 1788

Daniel and Ann's son John was born in the Rusagonis / Beaver Dam area.

May, 1790?

Daniel and Ann's Son Nehemiah was born. John was born in 1788 and was presumably the first child. Daughter Margaret was born in 1793. Nehemiah was baptized in 1792 and must have been born in about 1790. I don't know why someone suggested the month of May.

October 12, 1791

Daniel and Ann's daughter Amelia was born.

March 11, 1792
Daniel (adult), John and Nehemiah Wood were baptized at the Maugerville Church of England. Nehemiah lived until at least the age of 19 years (refer to May 20, 1809), and probably moved away shortly thereafter.

July 16, 1793

Daniel and Ann's daughter Margaret was born.

January 1, 1794

PANB, RS95, C(5)-126. Reference seen: Daniel, Burton Parish farmer, bought from Benin Foster (sale later co-signed by his wife Deborah) for 10 pounds 7 shillings and 10 pence, the upper 1/2 of lot 19 (30 rods) and all of lot 21 (60 rods) in Welch's survey on the Oromocto River (100 acres and 200 acres). Witnesses were David Inglis and Stephen Pine.

Benin didn't go down River to register this sale until the Summer, July 9, 1794, and the matter was not finally settled until March 12, 1795 when Deborah confirmed her free choice in cosigning the transfer to Wood.

See notes under N(15)-237 of August 10, 1836.

May 14, 1795

PANB, RS95, H(10)-137. Reference seen: Daniel, yeoman, bought from Elisha Shaw, also a Burton Parish yeoman, and his wife Susanna, for 16 pounds, lot 20 in Welch's survey with 60 rods of frontage on the southeast side of the Oromocto River (225 acres).

The transaction was witnessed by John Nason and Richard Kimball.

It was likely in 1795 that Daniel moved to French Lake from the Rusagonis Stream, living first in a log cabin. See notes at the end of this chronology.

See notes under N(15)-237 of August 10, 1836.

June 7, 1795

Daniel and Ann's daughter Ann was born.

March 6, 1798

Daniel and Ann's daughter Elizabeth was born.

July 3, 1799
PANB. Reference seen: Having a 'large and increasing family', and having drawn no land, Daniel petitioned for 500 acres on the Oromocto River above French Lake, behind Nathaniel Howe's grant. He termed himself a 'Loyalist'. The petition was apparently denied, see 1809 petition.

This must have been near the Lot 'D' land that he eventually owned (H(10)-139).

He had "drawn land" previously. However, the July 13, 1788 petition became a fiasco and he eventually got nothing out of it.

March 17, 1800

Daniel and Ann's daughter Mary was born.

November 1, 1800

PANB, RS95, H(10)-139. Reference seen: Daniel bought from Benjamin Bailey of Burton Parish for 50 pounds land in Burton Parish bounded on the north side by 60 rods on the Oromocto, on the east side by French Lake adjoining the land of Elias Foss and Nathaniel Underhill, and on the west side by the lot of Nathaniel Howe (200 acres). The deed was witnessed by Andrew Mersereau and Nathaniel Underhill, and was confirmed by JP Lawrence Mersereau two days later on November 3, 1800. Bailey's quit rent obligations were transferred to Wood.

This is the land that was sold in 1816, see I&J(11)-183. I cannot be certain exactly where it was, but it must have been just north of the Stennick Cemetery at the point where the road to French Lake divides into two.

1801

PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Daniel was included on the Sunbury County list of qualified jurors.

July 20 or 30, 1801

Daniel and Ann's daughter Mary died.

1802

PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Daniel was included on the Sunbury County list of qualified jurors.

March 1, 1802

Daniel and Ann's daughter Hannah was born.
1803

PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Daniel was included on the Sunbury County list of qualified jurors.

1804

PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Daniel was included on the Sunbury County list of qualified jurors.

September 20 or 22, 1805/06

Daniel and Ann's second daughter Mary was born.

1806 and 1807

PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Daniel was included on the Sunbury County list of qualified jurors.

1807

PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Rex Grady reports that Daniel was listed in connection with the Sunbury County Petit Jury. I do not know if he served on the jury, or if he was simply listed as a qualified jury candidate.

January 21, 1807

PANB, RS95, H(10)-141. Reference seen: Daniel bought from Lemuel and Mary Nason of Burton Parish for 76 pounds, 16 shillings, and 8 pence, Burton lots 22 and 23; 1/2 of lot 19; and 7 rods, 7 feet and 7 inches off the upper side of lot 18 all on the south side of the Oromocto (527 acres).

The transaction was witnessed by John Nason, Justice of the Peace.

The paperwork was not completed until August 1, 1807, when the Nasons were examined as to their 'free will' in making the sale.

See notes under N(15)-237 of August 10, 1836.

March 9, 1807

PANB, RS95, H(10)-134. Reference seen: William Hazen, Esq., and his wife Sarah of Portland Parish; and James White, Esq., of Portland Parish; and Samuel Peabody and his wife Hannah of Lincoln sold to Daniel for 25 pounds a piece of land on the north side of the Rusagonis Stream (100 acres).
This must have been from the large block of 'Hazen and Associates' property near the Oromocto River. It was described as starting at a point opposite "James Write's (sic.) Creek", which may be the same as what is now called 'William Wright Brook', a.k.a. 'Jim Knight Brook'. The lot ran back north 32 degrees east to the "first branch of the Susanassis", which must be a variation on 'Waasis'.

This is the land that Daniel sold to John Nason on July 14, 1812 (H(10)-144).

April 20, 1807

Daniel and Ann's daughter Phoebe was born.

1809

PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Daniel was assessed 10 shillings and 4 pence on his property in the lower district of Burton Parish.

See entry under date of 1811.

1809

PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Daniel was included on the Sunbury County list of qualified jurors.

May 20, 1809

PANB. Reference seen: Daniel petitioned with Israel Tracy and (son) John Wood, "presently settled on French Lake". Daniel said that he had 9 children, Tracy had 3, and John was still single (in his 20th year). None but Tracy had ever got any government land, and Tracy's was indirect by purchase of his father's rights.

They asked for 300 acres for Tracy, 500 acres for Daniel, and 200 acres for John on the north side of the southwest branch of the Rusagonis River above Peter Day's lot.

JPs John Hazen and Samuel Peabody recommended the petitioners.

Daniel signed with an 'X'.

The request was approved in Council on August 18, 1809, but may not actually have been granted until March 8, 1813 (Lands Branch grant F-650).

On the north side of the South Rusagonis River just inside York County, and west of Beaver Dam are three lots that were owned as follows - from east to west:

Lot 8 Peter Day --- 200 acres
Lot 9 Israel Tracy --- 300 acres
Lot 10 Daniel Wood --- 300 acres
Lot 11 John Wood --- 265 acres

This is the land that they sought in the petition. There are also lots nearby that belonged to John Morgan, Sr. and John Morgan, Jr.

This land was sold in 1819, I&J(11)-329.

Refer to notes regarding Tracy and Wood, at the end of the John Wood chronology.

Daniel's nine children would have included John, Amelia, Margaret, Ann, Elizabeth, Hannah, Mary and Phoebe; but that would be too few by one, and the ninth child must have been Nehemiah (refer to May, 1790).

I had assumed at one time that Nehemiah died young. However, there are only two other possibilities as to who the ninth child of May 20, 1809 could have been, and both of these have been disproved or, at least, thrown into serious question by Rex Grady as follows:

1. Sophia Wood, who married Isaac Allaby on March 15, 1815, has sometimes been confused as being one of Daniel's daughters. If she had been born late in 1796, then she would have been 19 years old at the time of her marriage. It is unlikely, if she had been Daniel's daughter, that she could have been born at any other time. Ann's children were quite evenly spaced.

   However, family tradition is emphatic that Sophia was not Daniel's daughter. Added to this tradition is Rex Grady's finding that Joshua Wood, son of James Wood of Washedemoak in Queens County, was living in Sheffield or Maugerville within two years of Sophia's marriage to Isaac Allaby. Sophia, then, would seem to be a daughter of Joshua Wood, and not of Daniel Wood - supporting the family tradition.

   Another piece of evidence supporting the tradition that Sophia was not Daniel's daughter was also discovered by Rex Grady. According to the 1851 Kings County census, Sophia was born in 1793 - which would conflict with Daniel's daughter Margaret.

2. An earlier proposal that Daniel had a daughter Jane (Jane Wood married George Good, 1826), has also been disproved by Rex Grady. This Jane was the daughter of Anthony Wood and Margaret Fitzpatrick (E. Stone Wiggins, "History of Queens County").
In conclusion, the ninth child was Nehemiah, showing that he lived at least to the age of nineteen years, and probably moved away shortly thereafter since so many people have never heard of him.

1810 and 1811

PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Daniel was included on the Sunbury County list of qualified jurors.

1811

PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Daniel Wood served 6 days of Statute Labour.

1811

PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Daniel was assessed 6 shillings and 5 pence on his property in the lower district of Burton Parish.

See other entry under date of 1811.

1811

PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: The assessment rate for Daniel's property in Burton Parish was set at 4 pounds and 7 shillings.

I do not know the difference between this "Assessment Rate" and the (other) "Property Rate". cf 1809, 1811, and March 12, 1814.

1812

PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Daniel Wood served 6 days of Statute Labour.

July 14, 1812

PANB, RS95, H(10)-144. Reference seen: Daniel, yeoman, and Ann sold the land on the north side of the Rusagonis Stream in Lincoln Parish that they had obtained on March 9, 1807 (H(10)-134) (100 acres). The sale was to John Nason of Lincoln Parish and was for 30 pounds.

Both Daniel and Ann signed with an 'X'.

The description of the lot was copied from H(10)-134, and therefore does not help in clarifying the location.
PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Daniel was included on the Sunbury County list of qualified jurors.

March 12, 1814

William Darrell Moore, "Sunbury County, 1760-1830", M.A. Thesis, U.N.B., 1977. Reference seen: Daniel was taxed 2 shillings, 10-1/2 pence for his property on the Oromocto River in Burton Parish (2 oxen, 5 cows, 15 sheep, 1 horse, 4 acres of plow/pastorage land and 2 acres of meadow). The only other Wood household in the upper district of Burton at that time was Daniel's son, John.

This is either the lot 'D' land, H(10)-139, or the larger block of French Lake land N(15)-237. However, refer to notes at the end of this chronology regarding Daniel's house, and see that this must have been the 'larger block', the one that would become the Morrow homestead. Refer also to the second entry of August 7, 1828, and come to the same conclusion.

Tax was only a fair indication of prosperity in those days. There was no income tax, and assessments were made on amounts of improved land and the numbers of various farm animals. However, of the 30 tax payers in the Upper District, Daniel was the sixth most heavily taxed. Only Nathaniel Howe, Ezekiel Seely, and Clapman, Daniel and Orlo Smith paid more. His tax was about 40% over the average.

It seems that he was taxed on one property only. His other properties must have been 'unimproved'.

See entry under date of 1811.

Oct 19, 1814

Elizabeth S. Sewell, "Sunbury County New Brunswick Marriages 1766-1888", Volume 1, 1987, number C0042: Daniel and Ann's daughter Amelia married Thomas Mersereau. They were both of Burton Parish. The licence was dated October 3, 1814, and the ceremony was performed by JP John Hazen, and witnessed by Linus Seely and John DeWitt.

November 3, 1814

There are two records of licence, dated October 15 and November 3, 1814. Possibly the earlier date was the licence and the later date was the ceremony. The ceremony was performed by JP John Hazen, and witnessed by John Sinckler (sic) and John DeWitt.

1815

PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Daniel was included on the Sunbury County list of qualified jurors.

October 24, 1815

Elizabeth S. Sewell, "Sunbury County New Brunswick Marriages 1766-1888", Volume 1, 1987 number C0077: Daniel and Ann's daughter Ann married John DeWitt. They were both of Burton Parish. The licence was dated October 16, 1815. The ceremony was performed by JP John Hazen, and witnessed by Linus Seely and Israel Tracy. (Refer to notes regarding Tracy and Wood, at the end of the John Wood chronology.)

They possibly lived in French Lake for a few years following marriage, but then moved across the Lake and bought a piece of the old Hayward property. This is where Adolphus and Sadie (Wood) Smith lived later. Smith built his house on the site of the old DeWitt house.

Refer also to K(12)-223 under date of August 22, 1826.

March 25, 1816

PANB, RS95, I&J(11)-183. Reference seen: Daniel sold for 50 pounds to John Foss of Burton Parish land bounded on the north by 60 rods on the Oromocto River, and on the east by the land of Elias Foss and Nathaniel Howe and on the west by lands belonging to Foss and Howe (200 acres). Quit rent obligations were transferred to John Foss.

Witnesses were Clapman Smith and Thomas Mersereau.

This was the land, near the Stennick Cemetery, which he had bought on November 1, 1800 (H(10)-139).

There is a problem with this land sale, when comparing it with page 69 of Eugene Campbell's "French Lake". Campbell says that Will Wood lived in the same house for most of his life, and that the house had been in the family for over 170 years at the time of Will's death in 1979. In other words, the house was built before 1809.
I am told that the Will Wood house was on the Lake Road, about a quarter mile past the Stennick place. That would fit the description of this lot, and the time frame is right. However, here we have, in 1816, the house and lot being sold outside the family.

October 30, 1816

Daniel and Ann's daughter Margaret married John Mersereau. They were both of Burton Parish. The licence was dated October 26, 1816, and the ceremony was performed by JP John Hazen, and witnessed by Jeremiah Tracy and John Tracy.

Refer to notes regarding Tracy and Wood, at the end of the John Wood chronology.

December 21, 1819

PANB, RS95, I&J(11)-329. Reference seen: Daniel and Ann sold for 40 pounds land on the north side of the south branch Rusagonis Stream in York County to John DeWitt, Sr. of Burton Parish. The lot was bounded on the east by Israel Tracy's lot, and on the west by John Wood's lot (300 acres).

This was the land obtained by the May 20, 1809 petition.

Witnesses were Clapman Smith, JP, and Thomas Mersereau.

Daniel's name was signed in Clapman Smith's hand, but Ann used an 'X'.

August 21, 1824

Elizabeth S. Sewell, "Sunbury County New Brunswick Marriages 1766-1888", Volume 1, 1987 number C0309: Daniel and Ann's daughter Hannah married Thomas Stennick. They were both of Burton Parish. The licence was dated July 12, 1824. The ceremony was performed by JP John Hazen, and witnessed by Peter Hamil and Richard Bell.

August 22, 1826

PANB, RS95, K(12)-223 (this is the item wrongly listed in the Index as B(3)-223). Reference seen:

This bond of mortgage records a debt with collateral security. The land covered by the bond was 1/3 of lots 16 and 17, and 1/3 of a lot originally granted to George Hayward north of French Lake in what is now Waterville (refer to notes under October 24, 1815) (--?-- acres).
For unknown reasons, and by separate documentation which has not been found, John DeWitt owed Daniel 700 pounds. He had apparently repaid 350 pounds already, since only 350 pounds with interest was still owing. To assure payment of the installments, DeWitt agreed by bond to give the land to Wood. Ownership of the land would revert to DeWitt, but only if he paid off the remaining 350 pounds within the agreed 2 years and 2 days.

Wood certified on July 16, 1835 that the debt had been paid. The land therefore must have remained with DeWitt, and Wood's temporary ownership of it was only incidental. The notes regarding Daniel's daughter Ann, under date of October 24, 1815, support the view that DeWitt remained in possession of the land.

January, 1827


January 31, 1827

Elizabeth S. Sewell, "Sunbury County New Brunswick Marriages 1766-1888", Volume 1, 1987 number C0374: Daniel and Ann's daughter Phoebe married Orlo Hoyt. They were both of Burton Parish. The licence was dated January 13, 1827. The ceremony was performed by JP John Hazen Jr., and witnessed by Robert Hazen and William Ferguson.

It seems that this could have been a double wedding with Mary and Luke DeWitt but, if this was so, then the ceremonies were either by John Hazen Sr. or John Hazen Jr., not both. This would mean that the record is flawed, but all of this is just speculation.

This is the last marriage of this generation of Woods for which I have the details of the ceremony. Elizabeth was married perhaps a year later, but I do not know where or by whom. Note that the only hint of religious denomination is the baptism of March 11, 1792 at the Maugerville Church of England. Refer also to the John Wood chronology and note that the Woods appear to have been Anglican in the 1830's. (ref. May 26, 1832 and 'May 18 or 19, 1838'; confirming the entry of 1820. However, there was a Baptist influence by September 30, 1852.)

September 19, 1827

PANB, RS95, K(12)-331. Reference seen: Daniel Wood, yeoman of Burton Parish, bought for 800 pounds from Orlo Smith, Sr., and his wife Martha of Burton Parish:
lot 4 on the east side of the south branch Oromocto 'Creek', originally granted to Stephen Dolph, being 60 rods wide and extending east; and 6 rods of lot 3 below this Dolph lot (218 acres); and

lot 9 on the south Oromocto next to William Hoyt, 60 rods wide (200 acres); and

lot 4 on the west side of the south branch Oromocto, 60 rods wide, originally granted to William Woodward, and next to John Bailey (200 acres); and

lot 6 next to the Woodward lot on the south side, 60 rods wide (200 acres).

This transaction was witnessed by John Robinson, Esq., Mayor of Saint John, and R. Robinson, and Thomas O. Miles, JP.

This land is located in Blissville.

See notes under Q(18)-99.
March 11, 1828

PANB, RS95, K(12)-383; and PANB RS42, Daniel Wood vs. Jeremiah Tracy, 1828. Reference seen: A judgment was signed in the Supreme Court of New Brunswick in favor of Daniel Wood against Jeremiah Tracy.

Daniel was represented by his Attorney C.S. Putnam, to recover debts of 800 pounds. The debts consisted of two promissory notes of June 9, 1826 for a total of 181 pounds, 10 shillings, and 1-1/2 pence; plus 100 pounds which had been due on February 1, 1828 for labour; plus various other amounts. To the 800 pounds, Daniel added 9 pounds, 9 shillings, and 9 pence for damages and costs. There were other small expenses and costs as well.

The accounting of how this debt was paid is not clear. It seems that Tracy was making payments and that by May, 1829 the debt had been reduced to 172 pounds and 3 pence.

Refer to notes regarding Tracy and Wood, at the end of the John Wood chronology.

August 7, 1828

PANB, RS95, N(15)-284. Reference seen: (Note that the Index gives he wrong lot numbers. The transaction was actually as follows.)

Daniel and Ann sold, for 20 pounds, to Orlo Hoyt, lots 22 and 23 on the southeast side of the Oromocto River (400 acres).

Witnesses were Clapman Smith and Samuel Hoyt.

The sale was not registered until December 21, 1836, possibly on the occasion of Hoyt wanting to re-sell. This explains why Book N(15) was used to register such an early transaction.

See notes under N(15)-237 of August 10, 1836.

August 7, 1828 (also)

PANB, RS95, K(12)-545. Reference seen: Daniel sold to son John Wood for 50 pounds, 7 rods, 7 feet, and 7 inches off the upper side of lot 18, and 1/2 of lot 19, all on the southeast side of the Oromocto River in Burton Parish. The total width of the parcel was 38 rods, 7 feet and 7 inches, and it adjoined the farm where Daniel Wood was living at the time (--- acres). In other words, Daniel was living south of where the Wood cemetery is now, in the Morrow Road area.
Daniel signed his name, but Ann used an 'X'.

See notes under N(15)-237 of August 10, 1836. Refer also to the notes about houses, at the end of this chronology.

September 11, 1828

Daniel and Ann's daughter Elizabeth married George Morrow. Witnesses were Otis (Orlo?) Hoyt and George Hayward. Both Elizabeth and George were from Lincoln Parish.

George Morrow arrived in New Brunswick from Ireland in 1819. According to the 'John Tracy book', he began his active business life with the money that Elizabeth brought into the marriage. This story of how George got started in business has been heard from several people.

1830

PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Rex Grady reports that Daniel was listed in connection with the Sunbury County Grand Jury. I do not know if he served on the jury, or if he was simply listed as a qualified jury candidate.

Curiously, this listing was for Daniel Wood Senior, but our Daniel Wood was the only person by that name of the right age to fit this record.

July 27, 1830

PANB, RS95, M(14)-154. Reference seen: Daniel, farmer, bought from James Woodworth, a Burton Parish blacksmith, and his wife Rebecca for 6 pounds and 5 shillings, lot 5 in Burton Parish on the south Oromocto originally granted to William Woodworth, Orlo Smith and others (200 acres). This land was between lots 4 and 6 owned by Daniel Wood.

Despite the description, this land was in Blissville.

See notes under Q(18)-99.

July 4, 1831

PANB, RS95, M(14)-151. Reference seen: Daniel bought from James Hazen and Robert and Sarah Hazen of Burton Parish for 110 pounds, land in Lincoln Parish on the Saint John and Oromocto Rivers (--?-- acres).

The lot was a strip of land 20 rods (330 feet) wide extending north-south between the two Rivers. The downstream corner on the Saint John adjoined the land of James Hazen and Robert Hazen. The downstream corner on the Oromocto
adjoined the land of the late John Hazen, transferred to James and Robert Hazen. The Registry book does not give the acreage, and the cadastral map is of no use as this land was expropriated for the airport. The exact location is therefore not yet known, though the north-south orientation of the land makes it seem to be just south of Thatch Island.

The Hazens retained an option to buy the land back on August 1, 1834 for 110 pounds plus interest. The transaction therefore resembles collateral for a loan, or a mortgage.

It is not clear when Daniel disposed of this land or if the Hazens bought it back in 1834. It seems likely that the Hazens did buy it back and that Wood's temporary ownership of it was only incidental.

1832

PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Daniel Wood served 6 days of Statute Labour.

1832

PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Rex Grady reports that Daniel was listed in connection with the Sunbury County Grand Jury. I do not know if he served on the jury, or if he was simply listed as a qualified jury candidate.

Curiously, this listing was for Daniel Wood Senior, but our Daniel Wood was the only person by that name of the right age to fit this record.

1832

PANB, RS157, A/2, 1832. Reference from Rex Grady: John Wood, Daniel Wood, John Foss, Thomas Stennick, Thomas Gilles Jr., John Mersereau and John DeWitt submitted the following petition to the Court of County Session:

"We freeholders, resident on the west side (sic) of the Oromocto, beg leave to present ... that we have for a series of years suffered very great damages from the vast number of cattle that are annually taken into the meadows from different parts of the county, and beg leave to request that you will be pleased to grant us provision to erect a gate across the public road passing through our settlement to New Gary and on the line between Thomas Stennick and John Foss. Should you have the goodness to comply with our request (which we trust you will) said gate will be a perfect protection to our properties, we promise to keep it in good order that it may be as little inconvenience to the public as circumstances will admit."

January 2, 1832
PANB, RS95, N(15)-4. Reference seen: Daniel bought a 400 pound mortgage, owed to the estate of the late Samuel Nevers by Thomas DeWitt, for 100 pounds. The executors were Alexander Nevers and Samuel Nevers, Jr.

The mortgage was later cancelled, and so Thomas DeWitt must have paid his 400 pound debt.

It looks as though the Nevers family needed cash, and that Daniel was able to buy the mortgage at a considerable discount - 25 cents on the dollar.

Refer to notes regarding Nevers and Wood, at the end of the John Wood chronology.

1833

PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Daniel Wood served 6 days of Statute Labour.

March 20, 1833

PANB, RS95, M(14)-342. Reference seen: Daniel Bought from Priscilla Hazen of Burton Parish for 121 pounds, a lot in Lincoln Parish originally deeded by Andrew Kinney to James and Robert Hazen. The lot was between the Saint John and the Oromocto and was bounded on the west by the John Dow lot, and on the east by another Priscilla Hazen lot (--?-- acres).

As with M(14)-151, the exact location of the lot is not known. However, the deed said that it extended across the "Point, so-called" and it was therefore somewhere south of Thatch Island.

It is not clear when Daniel disposed of this land. Priscilla Hazen had retained an option to buy it back on August 1, 1834 (as with M(14)-151), for 121 pounds plus interest, and likely she did.
June 10, 1833

Sunbury County Records, RS 157, A/2/33a. Reference from Rex Grady: The following petition was submitted to the Sunbury County Court of General Sessions. It was signed by a large number of people, including Daniel Wood, John Wood, and George Morrow:

"The fishery of Alewives and Gaspereau at the falls of the North Branch ... was of inestimable value before the erection of mill dams on the said stream. That not only the settlers on the branches of the Oromocto but the inhabitants of the River St. John and its tributary streams for a distance of fifty miles above Fredericton were plentifully supplied. That at one time an old resident on the Oromocto recollects to have counted eighty-four boats and canoes on the fishery ground which went away loaded. That by the erection of mill dams on the said stream the passage of fish to the Oromocto Lake (which they periodically visited) has been totally obstructed. That the vicinity in general and the Branches of the Oromocto in particular have therefore sustained an incalculable loss. Petitioners therefore pray your Honorable Court will compel the overseers of Mills on the said stream to make sufficient fish-ways past the respective dams, that the few fish which yet come to make the attempt may find a practicable passage. Petitioners flatter themselves your Honorable Court will agree with them in opinion that a matter of such importance should not be longer neglected as the advantage resulting will in all probability extend to remote posterity."

Taken together with John's similar petition of January, 1811, it appears that the Woods had been involved in the fishing business for a long time.

The mill owners did erect the fishways, and the results did extend to remote posterity. Today, the spring migration of gaspereau is so abundant that they can be caught in baskets. They are not thought much of as food, but are so plentiful that they are used to fertilize tomato plants.

1833 and 1835

PANB, RS42, Daniel Wood vs. George Matthew, 1833 and 1835. Reference seen, but not copied: The Supreme Court case files for these two suits were reviewed. They were for debts incurred in Saint John. There was a George Matthew registered in school in Saint John in 1807 (B.J. Grant's Index, p 113). I also found nothing in Elizabeth Sewell's marriage records, or in Hayward's 1851 census that would link any George Matthew with Sunbury County. Therefore, I think that this was not our Daniel Wood.

ca 1833, perhaps

Daniel and Ann's daughter Phoebe died.
PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Rex Grady reports that Daniel was listed in connection with the Sunbury County Grand Jury. I do not know if he served on the jury, or if he was simply listed as a qualified jury candidate.

Curiously, this listing was for Daniel Wood Senior, but our Daniel Wood was the only person by that name of the right age to fit this record.

February, 1834

PANB, RS42, George Morrow vs. George P. Nevers and John Wood, 1834. Reference seen: In February, 1834, John Wood and George P. Nevers appeared in the Supreme Court of New Brunswick to face the able Attorney L.A. Wilmot.

Wilmot was representing George Morrow, John's brother-in-law, Elizabeth Wood's husband, in a suit for 250 pounds for work, merchandise, loans, etc., plus interest and costs.

A more interesting part of the suit was another debt of 43 pounds dating back to April 1, 1829. The promissory note was originally owed to George Morrow. However, as of December 25, 1831, Daniel Wood became the creditor, though George Morrow was left to fight the suit.

Notices of suit were issued against Wood and Nevers in Sunbury County on December 23 and 26, 1833. The judgment was issued from the Bench on March 14, 1834.

This was certainly John Wood of French Lake, and an unhappy little family fight. Maybe it was mostly Nevers, that George and Daniel were after. Possibly also it had something to do with the mill at Tracy. It is even possible that it was a conspiracy on the part of the Wood family to raid John of his assets and to hold them in safe keeping, out of the hands of less friendly creditors.

See commentary regarding suits, attached.

See commentary regarding Nevers and Wood, attached to the John Wood chronology.

July 4, 1836

PANB, RS95, N(15)-236. Reference seen: Daniel and Ann sold lot 21 on the southeast side of the Oromocto River to Orlo Hoyt for 10 pounds. The lot was 30 rods in front and was just above (sic) lot 22 already owned by Hoyt (200 acres). This is a mistake in the Registry book: lot 21 was below lot 22.
Witnesses were William Hoyt and Margaret Ashfield.

See notes under N(15)-237 of August 10, 1836.

August 10, 1836

PANB, RS95, N(15)-237. Reference seen: Daniel and Ann of Blissville sold to
George Morrow, merchant, also of Blissville, for 150 pounds, land in Blissville on
the southeast side of the Oromocto River. This was the upper or westerly 1/2 of
lot 19, all of lot 20, and the lower or easterly 1/2 of lot 21. The total width was
120 rods, likely made up of 30 plus 60 plus 30 (400 acres).

Witnesses were William Hoyt and John Hoyt.

The reference to Blissville is from the Registry Office information, but it is
wrong. This land is in French Lake.

See notes regarding Morrow land acquisitions, attached.

The following notes cover the large block of land owned by Daniel at French
Lake. The land started at the Wood Cemetery on the hill and stretched southward
to include all of Morrow Pond. From the River, it went back nearly to New Road.
The transactions were as follows.

January 1, 1794: Bought 1/2 of lot 19 and all of lot 21.

May 14, 1795: Bought lot 20.

January 21, 1807: Bought part of lot 18, 1/2 of 19, and all of lots 22 and 23.

August 7, 1828: Sold lots 22 and 23 to Orlo Hoyt, and 1/2 of lot 19 and part of lot 18 to
John Wood.

July 14, 1836: Sold 1/2 of lot 21 to Orlo Hoyt.

August 10, 1836: Sold 1/2 of lot 19, all of 20, and 1/2 of 21 to George Morrow.

March 23, 1838

PANB, RS95, O(16)-73. Reference seen: Daniel, yeoman, and his wife Ann, both
of Blissville sold to son-in-law John Mersereau of Blissville for 100 pounds land,
on the east side (except as noted) of the south branch Oromocto in Blissville:

1/2 of lot 4 and 6 rods of lot 3 originally granted to Stephen Dolph and
others (33 rods total); and (109 acres)
1/2 of lot 9, being 60 rods in front (100 acres); and

1/2 of lot 4 on the west side, 60 rods front (100 acres); and

1/2 of lot 6 between William Woodward and Joseph Depicy (sic), being 60 rods wide (100 acres).

The deed was witnessed by JP William Hoyt and William E. Hoyt.

Daniel's name was signed in William Hoyt's hand, but Ann used an 'X'.

See notes under Q(18)-99.

1839

PANB, RS157, A/1. Reference from Rex Grady: Daniel Wood served 3 days of Statute Labour.

June 10, 1841

PANB, RS95, Q(18)-433. Reference seen: Daniel of Blissville bought from Joseph and Harriet Mary Smith also of Blissville, one half of Lot 4 originally granted to Stephen Dolph, and 6 rods off the lower side of lot 3, all on the east side of the south branch Oromocto (110 acres). This land was bounded by William Hoyt's and Joseph Smith's land. The price was 30 pounds.

The sale refers to 220 acres, but this must be the total acreage of the lots, not all of which was involved in this sale.

See notes under Q(18)-99.
January 17, 1842

PANB, RS95, P(17)-50. Reference seen: Daniel, yeoman, and Ann, both of Blissville Parish, sold for 200 pounds to John DeWitt of Blissville Parish:

1/2 of lot 4 on the east side of the south branch of the Oromocto River originally granted to Stephen Dolph, with the addition of 6 rods of lot 3 (109 acres); and

1/2 of lot 9 on the east side of the south branch of the Oromocto River bounded on the lower side by the grant of William Hoyt, and on the south side by Crown land and the grants of Joseph and Daniel Smith (100 acres); and

land on the west side of the south branch of the Oromocto River, being 60 rods wide, bounded on the lower side by the William Woodward grant, and on the west side by Crown land, and on the south side by various parcels (100 acres). This sounds like lot # 6 and, on that basis, the acres must have been 100, not 200 as cited in the Register. He had already sold 1/2 of lot 6 previously.

 Witnesses were JP William Hoyt, and Mark Rathbone.

Daniel's name was signed in William Hoyt's hand, but Ann used an 'X'.

See notes under Q(18)-99.

January 17, 1842 (also)

PANB, RS95, P(17)-52. Reference seen: Daniel, yeoman, sold lot 5 on the west side of the south branch Oromocto to John DeWitt for 5 pounds. This lot was originally granted to William Woodward (200 acres).

See notes under Q(18)-99.

February 15, 1844

Daniel and Ann's daughter Hannah died, aged 42.

April 4, 1845

PANB, RS95, Q(18)-99. Reference seen: Daniel Wood of Burton Parish, and John DeWitt of Blissville Parish sold to John Mersereau of Blissville Parish for 10 (ten) pounds, the lower 1/2 of lot 4 on the east side of the south branch of the
Oromocto River, plus 6 rods adjoining on the lower side (110 acres); and lot 4 on the west side of the south branch (200 acres) - complete with buildings.

Witnesses were William and William E. Hoyt.

Daniel's name was signed in William Hoyt's hand.

There were a number of transactions which all dealt with the same pieces of land. The record is not clear, but is something as follows.

- On September 19, 1827, Daniel bought the Dolph lot #4 on the east side of the south branch Oromocto, the Woodward lot #4 on the west side of the Oromocto, lot 9, and lot 6, and 6 rods of lot 3 - all in Blissville.

- On July 7, 1830, Daniel bought lot 5 on the south Oromocto, between lots 4 and 6 which he already owned.

- On March 23, 1838 he sold half of each of these lots to John Mersereau, but including all 6 rods of lot 3 and none of lot 5.

- Mersereau must have sold some of this land right away because, on June 10, 1841, Daniel re-bought the Dolph lot #4 and the 6 rods of lot #3 back from Joseph Smith.

- On January 17, 1842, Daniel sold half of the Dolph lot and the 6 rods of lot #3 again, this time to John DeWitt. He also sold him the other half of lot #9 which he had retained in 1838. He also sold him land on the west side of the south branch Oromocto which sounds like lot #6 (curious, since he only had half of lot #6 left to sell), and lot 5 on the east side.

- On April 4, 1845, Daniel Wood and John DeWitt sold to John Mersereau half of the Dolph lot #4. It is not clear whether this was Wood's half or DeWitt's half, presumably DeWitt's. They also sold lot number 4 and 6 rods adjacent. This is curious since the west side lot #4 was already half owned by John Mersereau.

All of this land, except for lot 9, was just south of the Blissville airport, despite some confusion over lot numbers. Lots 4, 5, and 6 were on the west side, and the other lot 4 plus the sliver of lot 3 were on the east side. Lot 9 was a couple of lots further south on the east side at Hoyt. From the description, lot 9 was not the one that carries that number today. Rather, it was the so called 'William Smith Third Tract', exactly at the covered bridge over the south branch Oromocto.

Motivations may become clear later but, for now, it seems that there were a lot of transactions. See notes regarding Morrow land acquisitions, attached.
February 25, 1847

PANB, RS95, Q(18)-318. Reference seen: Daniel Wood, husbandman, drew up his will (at 0800H, per Rex Grady) with witnesses Solomon Smith and Joseph Mersereau. Executors were to be George Morrow and Thomas Mersereau. He divided his estate among his wife and children. His wife Ann was to get a pension allowance of 30 pounds per year, and more if required for her comfort. Daughter Margaret was to get 50 pounds less than the other children from his 'notes on hand and money' since he had already given her half of a house and barnyard. Other household furniture was to be divided among his daughters upon the death of his wife Ann.

Rex Grady advises that there was another sheet attached to the will, not annexed to Q(18)-318. This sheet named other beneficiaries as follows: Anthony Breen, John DeWitt (mentioned three times), Luke DeWitt, E. Eastbrooks (sic), Benjamin Gray, John Hazen, Thomas Hazen (twice), John Hoyt, Orlo Hoyt, Alexander Lean, Henry McLaughlin, John McLaughlin, Hugh McQuestion, John Mersereau, George Morrow, Samuel Nason, George Nott, Edward Perley, Ezekiel Sely (sic), Benjamin Smith, Daniel Smith, E. Smith, Joseph Smith, Samuel Smith, Stephen Smith, William Smith, and George Tracy (refer to notes regarding Tracy and Wood, at the end of the John Wood chronology).

It is difficult to identify any land that was not already sold when Daniel and Ann died in 1847. The only parts that might have remained were the land on the St. John and Oromocto Rivers, M(14)-151 and -342, but even this seems unlikely.

August 21, 1847

Daniel died at French Lake, aged 83.

September 4, 1847

Ann died at French Lake, aged 78.

September 15, 1847

PANB, RS95, Q(18)-318, again. Reference seen: John Hazen at Burton examined Solomon Smith and Joseph Mersereau and proved the will of February 25, 1847. George Morrow and Thomas Mersereau were sworn as executors.
Daniel Wood and George Morrow houses - Notes:

There was once a house 400 to 500 feet due west of the George Morrow house at French Lake. In other words, it was behind and slightly to the right of the Morrow house when viewed from Morrow Road. This house pre-dates the Morrow house, and the stone foundation is all that is left of it today. It is overgrown with a thicket of apple and cherry bushes at the back of an open field. This house could only have belonged to Daniel Wood or to George Morrow.

The foundation was of dry wall construction without mortar, and used native field stone and boulders. It is hard to tell now, but some such foundations have sloping faces for stability. The foundation may not have extended far above ground level for the same reason.

There was no basement. Malcolm Smith points out that outside root cellars were common in those days.

The foundation is very small, no more than about 20 feet square. The house itself may have been larger, extending beyond the stonework on sills or posts.

There is a stone doorstep on the left side of the foundation (viewed from the road) near the riverside corner.

The house and well are at the start of the decline toward the river, and the riverbank is covered by large trees. This house may easily have been there before Morrow Road was built. The front of the house would have faced the river and the embankment would have been clear then.

Morrow Pond is only slightly to the left of the house site, further down alongside the river. That whole pond and riverside area was flooded out each Spring, and would have served as meadow only. Today, there is no pond. The area is permanently flooded by "Ducks Unlimited", more to the benefit of the mosquitoes than the ducks (G. Hanson).

Behind the house, about half way between the house and the road is an area of very tall, dark green hay/grass. This may have been an old barn site. Not even the oldest of the local people can remember there ever being a barn there.

Eugene Campbell (p 66) says that foundation and well belonged to George Morrow, and that he and his wife Elizabeth lived there in a log cabin prior to 1847 when they built their permanent home - the "Morrow house". On the other hand, Malcolm Smith is very definite that this is where the "first Wood" lived. The following story that Malcolm tells about the well was definitely related to Daniel and Ann.
(Paraphrased) "The first Wood did a lot of logging and used to be involved in the log drives down the river. He had a team of horses like they used to have in those days that did nothing but haul logs and were very used to that type of work. 'Driving teams' used 'driving harnesses' which were quite simple, as harnesses go, and did not consist of much."

"Anyway, Wood's wife was a 'little strange' and took Daniel's driving harness - cut it up into pieces - and threw it down the well. I went down that well to clean it out. The well was sixteen feet deep and I used a ladder. I found that harness and brought it back up myself. I asked my mother about it, and she told me this story."

"The water level in the well was affected by the tide in the river."

It is possible that both Eugene Campbell and Malcolm Smith are correct. If so, then Daniel and Ann lived in the log cabin here, and later so did George and Elizabeth.

The Morrow house and the older foundation observed above are both on lot 20, which Daniel bought in 1795. George Morrow married Daniel and Ann's daughter Elizabeth in 1828, and Daniel sold the lot to him in 1836. Daniel and Ann died in 1847, the same year that the George Morrow house was built (Campbell, p 66). Both Daniel and George are said to have occupied the log cabin site at one time or another.

Daniel, then, may have lived on the George Morrow site after moving out of the log cabin, and before Morrow built his house in 1847. Malcolm Smith says that the Morrow house (now demolished) had charred timbers near its base. This could indicate that the first house on the Morrow site, the Daniel Wood house, burned.

The tradition that Morrow built his house in the exact same year that Daniel and Ann died, even though he had owned the property and lived on it for several years, is compelling. However, Morrow could not have built his house in 1847 but following the Wood deaths, since Daniel died in August and Ann in September. Either Morrow only moved into the pre-existing house in 1847, possibly rebuilding it later, or he built it from scratch starting no sooner than 1848.

It seems likely that Daniel Wood lived on the George Morrow site before 1847. The log cabin was too small to raise a family the size of Daniel's, and there are no other abandoned foundations as far as I know.

The Morrow foundation should be examined for any sign of modifications. If such are found, then the Morrow house was definitely the second house there. The Morrow 'salt-box house' was architecturally complete and was never built on to or significantly modified.

I do not know why the water level in the well fluctuated, but doubt if it was due to the tide. The tide is not much here, only sometimes causing the eel grass to point upstream, and a direct flow would be required from the river to the well. The well head is also about
20 feet above the river, while Malcolm said that the well was only 16 feet deep. Gene Hanson says that when George Morrow built his house on the old Wood place, he also built a wooden aqueduct to bring water down from a spring further up (from the north). Clarence Wood, Wilfred Wood, and Morris McLaughlin also added details to this story.

The aqueduct was known as the Fountainhead Line, and was made of wooden pipe, with tamarack logs bored out in sections and joined together. Wooden pipe made in this way was common. The ends were normally tapered in male/female fashion so that they could be assembled. Some people, on the other hand, speak of cedar couplers.

The water from the aqueduct was used to cool the 'milk room' and to keep a granite tub in the milk room full of water. There were also two large barrels that were kept full of water for domestic use. A sign warned against watering horses from these barrels.

In any case, Morrow neither continued to use the old Daniel Wood well, nor did he dig a new one - except possibly for use in the winter. The water must have been poor, and this may have been related to the water level fluctuations that Malcolm attributes to the tide.

There is another place on lot 20 that likely figured in Daniel's farming operation. It is also on the riverside of Morrow Road, about half way between the log cabin site and the present day Wood cemetery. It is called Little Field Barn and all local people know it by that name. No one can remember there ever being a barn or a field there, but there must have been. When dad was a boy (born 1905) it was only a clearing where he used to play baseball. He remembers nothing of any structure.

The extensive Morrow land and business dealings are not the subject of these notes. That, would be a study in itself! Two references for more information are Campbell's "French Lake", and Rex Grady's "... Settlement of Victoria".
Morrow Aquisitions of Wood Land

John C. Tracy said that Daniel Wood became quite prosperous, and that much of his land eventually "fell into the hands of" his son-in-law, George Morrow.

I believe Tracy, but I do not know how prosperous Daniel was. He did have a good deal of land. "Fell into the hands of..." is an odd way of describing land acquisitions.

The following transactions involve properties once owned by Daniel and/or John Wood:

- August 10, 1836 - Daniel sold 400 acres of French Lake land to George Morrow. This was 1/2 each of lots 19 and 21, and all of lot 20.

- August 10, 1836 (also) - Orlo Hoyt sold part of what had once been Daniel's land at French Lake to George Morrow. This was 500 acres, including 1/2 of lot 21, and all of lots 22 and 23.

  Orlo Hoyt had bought part of this land from Daniel Wood only about a month earlier. He had owned the remainder for about eight years.

- December 11, 1845 - John Wood sold 100 acres of French Lake land to George Morrow. This was 1/2 of lot 19.

- 1870s (?) - David Morrow mortgaged several hundred acres of land in Blissville from John Murphy. This information is from the index (Z(27)-219), and I do not have full details. However, it included 1/2 of lot 4, six rods of lot 3, part of lot 9 (100 acres), lot 5 (200 acres), and lot 6 (180 acres). Much or all of this had been Daniel's.

  I do not know if the mortgage was paid off, or if David Morrow kept the land.

  David Morrow was one of George Morrow's sons.

- May 24, 1881 - George D. Morrow tried to buy John Wood's old homestead property from his widow, Hannah, in exchange for a pension. However, he could not buy it, as it had already been sold at auction to Fraser and Winslow.

  George D. Morrow was another of George Morrow's sons.
In summary, the Morrows owned, at one time or another, all of what had been Daniel Wood's French Lake homestead property, except for a narrow strip off the upper side of lot 18. They also held a mortgage on the Blissville lots that had once been Daniel's.

The Morrows had very extensive land holdings, aside from the above.