

Commemorative Ribbon

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| MUSEUM / ARCHIVE | Elgin County Museum |
| ARTIFACT TYPE | ribbon, commemorative |
| DESCRIPTION | Bicentennial Reunion (in honour of the landing of Patterson, Pearce, Storey and Backus family at the Talbot Settlement) commemorative ribbon. White ribbon with gilt text. At the top, a white label; the label is designed to be peeled off (there is an adhesive underneath) so that the ribbon may be attached to clothing, hats, etc. The ribbon reads "1809-2009 - Patterson - Pearce - Storey - Backus - Bicentennial - Reunion - July 11th - Tyrconnel - In honour of - the landing - souvenir". |
| CATEGORY | Communication Artifact |
| SUB-CATEGORY | Documentary Artifact |
| ACCESSION NUMBER | 021.001.028 |
| FILE NUMBER | 021.001 |
| DATE RANGE | 2009 |
| ITEM HISTORY | Colonel Thomas Talbot's first settlers arrived at Tyrconnel in 1809. These settlers were the close relatives of Leslie Patterson, an Irishman from County Fermanagh. The bicentennial celebration of their landing was held on July 11th, 2009. |

On July 14, 1809, 13 family members returned in a flat bottomed boat with all their earthly possessions, driving their few cattle on land bordering the water and landed on the beach of Lake Erie behind the site of St. Peter's Anglican Church cemetery to claim their land that they had purchased from Colonel Talbot in 1808. These families had faced many hardships as they slowly traveled along the lake shore. A storm wrecked their raft, forcing the tired travelers to search for nails to repair it; despite these adversities, they persisted and made good hardy pioneers.

Leslie Patterson and his wife Lydia Backus Patterson with their sons Joseph and Walter aged 2 and 1 were among the 13 settlers.

This group also included Mary Patterson Storey (Leslie Patterson's sister), age 51, a widow, her adult son Walter Storey and her 2 daughters, Sarah and Anne Storey.

John Pearce (originally from Rhode Island) and his wife, Frances Patterson Pearce (sister to Mary Storey and Leslie Patterson) with their children William age 4, Leslie age 2, and infant Catherine came as part of the 13 as well.