

# Hammonds Plains Historical Society Newsletter

[www.hammondsplainshistoricalsociety.ca](http://www.hammondsplainshistoricalsociety.ca)

## UPCOMING GENERAL MEETING

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Upcoming General Meeting—January 28th	1
Becoming a Member?	1
Who Do You Know?	2
HPHS at the Hammonds Plains Remembrance Day Ceremony	2
Colonel Hamond (Part 2)	3
How Things Have Changed	4
News from the Past	4

The Hammonds Plains Historical Society will be holding it's next general on **Monday January 28th —7pm.**

The feature presentation will be on the history of the **Hammonds Plans**

**Road.** As part of the presentation, members will be asked to share their stories of the road. Folks are asked to bring pictures of the road from the past, if they have any.



### Did you know???

- The Hammonds Plains Road started as a path that the Mi'kmaq used for seasonal movement from Pockwock Lake to Bedford Basin.
- The HP road was one of the first official roads in HRM.
- The HP Road was paved in 1957.

### BECOME A MEMBER?

You can become a member of the Hammonds Plains Historical Society by filling in a registration form and returning it to Ted

Mistzela at 1342 Hammonds Plains Road, Hammonds Plains, N.S. B4B 1P6

Registration Forms available at general meetings or visiting our web site.

**Annual Fee \$10**

## WHO DO YOU KNOW?



Do you someone from the 1953-54 Grade Primary-2 class at Hammonds Plains School?

## HPHS AT THE HAMMONDS PLAINS REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY

On a beautiful sunny morning on Sunday November 11th, at Eisenhower Ballfield, Hammonds Plains held it's 2nd annual Remembrance Day Ceremony.

The Hammonds Plains Historical Society laid a wreath in honor of the veterans, who have

served our country and who have called Hammonds Plains home.



## COLONEL ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND

*Part 2 looks at Col. Hamond's return to England after a holding several important posts in Nova Scotia, including Lieutenant Governor. Part 1 was in Newsletter # 1.*

Sir Andrew remained in Nova Scotia performing his duties until January 1783, when he left Nova Scotia with his family and household staff for England, arriving home in June 1783 after a very difficult journey. On 10 December 1783, Sir Andrew was appointed first "Baronet of Holly Grove", Berkshire, County. He chose for his "Hamond" arms, a design roughly based on the "Hammond" family arms of Kent and of the Isle of Wight. In 1785 he was promoted commodore and appointed commander-in-chief of the Nore (included the Medway River facilities and other east coast naval bases and depots), with headquarters at Chatham, Kent. He held this appointment for three years. In 1793 he was appointed Commissioner of the Navy Board for which he became Deputy – Comptroller of the Navy in February 1794, and on the death of the incumbent in August of that year, was made Comptroller for the subsequent 12 years. In 1794, Captain George Vancouver, during his charting of the Alaska coastline, re-named "Controller Bay", at the southern end of Kayak Island, "Cape Hamond" after Sir Andrew.

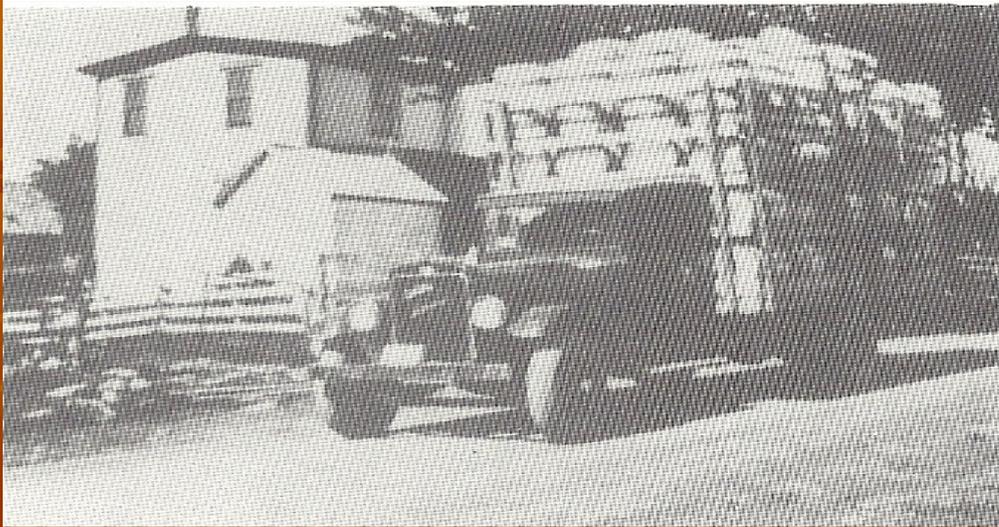
Sir Andrew was elected in 1796 as one of eleven Elder Brethren of "Trinity House", an ancient guild incorporated in 1514 by the King and located in Deptford-Stroud, Kent. From the beginning it was open to men and women interested in maritime safety. It is currently the Lighthouse Authority for the United Kingdom. Later in 1796, Sir Andrew was elected (twice, second time uncontested), as Member of Parliament for Ipswich. On 2 March 1797 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. At that time, membership was restricted to working scientists and wealthy amateurs, and since the 1820s to only scientists. He resigned from Parliament and the navy in 1806 on the death of Prime Minister William Pitt (the younger). He retired with a pension of 1,500 pounds per annum. His retirement had been hastened by problems that developed over investigations involving accounting differences for naval funds between civil and naval authorities.

In 1809 Sir Andrew purchased an old estate at Terrington (now called Terrington St Clement), Norfolk. He rebuilt the estate and named it "Hamond Lodge", now known as "Terrington Court". He died at Terrington on 12 October 1828 at age 90. Lady Anne died on 8 September 1838, Sir Andrew and Lady Anne are buried in nearby St Clement Church, a very large and beautiful 14th century Church built over Norman Abbey ruins. The family vault is one of only two in the church, located just below the organ. In retirement and in death, Sir Andrew was considered a naval hero and a gentleman, respected by Parliament, his peers, and above all the British people.

In 1786, some 9,000 acres between Mill Cove, at the shores of Bedford Basin, and the head of St Margarets Bay were granted to 45 proprietors, who voted to call the settlement "Hamond Plains". Thus began the recorded history of the community of Hammonds Plains.



HOW THINGS HAVE  
CHANGED



During the 1930-40's, truck or wagon loads of barrels were often seen on the Hammonds Plains Road travelling to Halifax from the local copper shops. This truck is shown across from the Baptist Cemetery.

NEWS FROM THE PAST - STORY ABOUT WILL  
ROMANS AND HIS STORE - 1947

Merchant Over Half Century

Didn't Like Walk, So He  
Established Own Store

Distaste for a walk of a few miles, after a hard day's work as cooper, in order to make a purchase at a store some way along the Hammonds Plains road changed the life of William Romans.

As a result of that experience Mr. Romans embarked on a career that placed him in the role of keeper of a rural general store for over half a century.

Today as his 84th birthday approaches this November, the tall, dignified man feels no regret at his decision made to be keeper of a store. "It has been interesting, I liked meeting the people who have been my customers through the years and I also gained satisfaction from knowing that I have been serving the people of my home district in meeting their needs through the years," Mr. Romans says.

For the past few years, the handling of store affairs has been largely in the hands of his son-in-law, J. R. Thomas, but with the establishment attached to the attractive and comfortable home where they live, Mr. Romans finds it possible to often be on hand to greet customers of long standing and engage in friendly chats.

When Mr. Romans arrived home that night about half a century ago he told his wife that he was tired of having to travel so far to make purchases. He said that there were men in Halifax who would willingly provide him with stock to open a small store and he intended to adopt that course. The decision was acted upon and a store opened. At that time his place of business was a few miles from its present site, where a store was operated by Fred Schmidt.

A little after the start of the century Mr. Romans bought out the Schmidt store set up his business in the new stand. Today, although not taking a place behind the counter as he did for so many years, his interest in his customers has not lessened, and the fact that so many of them have "dealt with me for years and years" is a source of pride to the veteran country merchant.



83-YEAR-OLD MERCHANT—  
With a record of being a country merchant for over half a century, 83-year-old William Romans is shown above outside his store at Hammonds Plains. He says he established the business so he wouldn't have to walk to a store himself.

The Article:

Distaste for a walk of a few miles, after a hard day's work as cooper, in order to make a purchase at a store some way along the Hammonds Plains road changed the life of William Romans.

As a result of that experience Mr. Romans embarked on a career that placed him in the role of keeper of a rural general store for over half a century.

Today as his 84th birthday approaches this November, the tall, dignified man feels no regret at his decision made to be keeper of a store. "It has been interesting, I liked meeting the people who have been my customers through the years and I also gained satisfaction from knowing that I have been serving the people of my home district in meeting their needs through the years" Mr. Romans says.

For the past few years, the handling of store affairs has been largely in the hands of his son-in-law, J. R. Thomas, but with the establishment attached to the attractive and comfortable home where they live, Mr. Romans finds it possible to often be on hand to greet customers of long standing and engage in friendly chats.

When Mr. Romans arrived home that night about half a century ago he told his wife that was tired of having to travel so far to make purchases. He said that there were men in Halifax who would willingly provide him with stock to open a small store and he intended to adopt that course. The decision was acted upon and a small store opened. At that time his place of business was a few miles from its present site, where a store was owned by Fred Schmidt.

A little after the start of the century Mr. Romans bought out the Schmidt store set up his own business in the new stand. To-day although not taking a place behind the counter as he did for so many years, his interest in his customers has not lessened, and the fact that so many of them have "dealt with me for years and years" is a source of pride to the veteran country merchant.

The Romans Store was located at current day 1895 Hammonds Plains Road.