

# Hammonds Plains Historical Society

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

## Our Road Sign is Up

Our Road Sign is finally in place. It is located in front of Uplands Park, along the side of the Hammonds Plains Road.



On September 10<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Director's hosted a short dedication ceremony to publically thank Matt Whitman (HRM District 13 Councilor) and Greg Veinot (Owner of Veinot G Metal Fabrication, who made and installed the sign) for their support in making our sign become a reality.

Look for messages about our meetings, upcoming projects and historical facts about the Hammonds Plains area.



## Upcoming General Meetings:

### November 24

**General Meeting** – 'A Tale of Two Communities' – Video and presentation about our neighboring historic African Canadian Communities

### January 26

**General Meeting** – A presentation on the Big Indian Lake Mi' Kmaq archaeological dig.

## HPHS at Haunted Hollow



The Hammonds Plains Historical Society will be operating the canteen at the Haunted Hollow this year on Friday and Saturday Nights in October. We are looking for volunteers to help us out. Contact Dave at [haverstockdave@gmail.com](mailto:haverstockdave@gmail.com) if interested.

## Becoming a HPHS Member:

You can become a member of the Hammonds Plains Historical Society by filling out a registration form and e-mailing it to Dave Haverstock ([haverstockdave@gmail.com](mailto:haverstockdave@gmail.com)) or mailing to 1541 Hammonds Plains Road, Hammonds Plains, Nova Scotia B4B 1P6. **Annual fee is \$10.**

Registration forms are available during one of our general meetings or by copying from our web site.

## 2014-15 Board of Directors:

The Board of Directors for the 2013-14 year include:

- Dave Haverstock – President
- Brian Murray – Vice President
- Wayne Shellnutt – Treasurer
- Cathy Munroe
- Reg Jones
- Cynthia Simpson
- Vernon Kynock

## Old Photos of Hammonds Plains

If you have old photos of the community, we would love to be able to scan them into our resource file. Please let us know if you would be interested in sharing them with us. Originals will be given back to you. E-mail Cathy Munroe at [cmunroe@hrsb.ca](mailto:cmunroe@hrsb.ca) if you can help us out.



**Do you know what part of the Hammonds Plains Road this picture was taken? (from 1957)**



**Hammonds Plains Road in front of Pin Hi Golf Course. (From 1950's)**

## HPHS Strategic Plan 2014-19:

The Board of Directors has recently created a strategic plan that will direct its focus for the next 5 years. The plan identifies future goals, including action steps, in the following areas:

- **Membership**
- **Oral History Project**
- **Inventory of Real and Personal Property**
- **General Meetings**
- **Research Topics**
- **Newsletter**
- **Semi-Permanent Display**
- **Communication Plan**
- **Hosting a Community Event**
- **Grants**
- **Fund Raising**

You can view the complete plan by going to our web site:

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## *Our Past – Yankeetown United Baptist Church*



**The Yankeetown United Baptist Church – 1960's**

One of the more distinctive buildings located in the Hammonds Plains area during the 20<sup>th</sup> century was the Yankeetown Baptist Church. It is was known because of its size ... as it was one of the tiniest churches in Canada.

The Yankeetown Church was built in 1896-97. The original purpose of building the church was to give the young children of the Yankeetown area a place to attend Sunday School, without having to walk to the First Baptist Church, located about 5 Kilometers away. The church was dedicated in July of 1897. Two members of the community who were instrumental in seeing the church get built were James Smith and Mrs. Tremaine Thompson.

The Church measured only 12 by 15 feet, with a capacity for seating about 12-15 folks. The first Sunday School session was held only two days after its dedication on July 11, 1897.

Throughout the first part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the church was used for both church services and Sunday school. Typically services were held twice monthly, with attendance from 3-12 individuals. On the inside the church had a few benches for worshipers, a tiny organ, a heater stove and a table that was used as the pulpit by the minister.

For most of its life, the church was associated with the Hammonds Plains First Baptist Church, with the minister from that church conducting the services at the Yankeetown Church. The church was moved at least twice within the Yankeetown area, during its existence.

For many years, church had an active sewing circle group which provided fund raising support. With improved transportation methods during the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the small church felt the pressures of a more mobile community and consequently started losing families until by 1980, only a few regular church goers were left. Finally during the 1980's, the church was retired, sold off to a charitable group, and soon after dismantled.

## The Changing Face of the Community Hall in Hammonds Plains



Original Foresters Hall – 1930's



The Community Hall with new addition – 1950's



The Hall was used as a school – 1950's



The Fire Department takes over old school  
making it the new Community Hall – 1970's

The original hall was built by the local chapter of the Foresters in 1912 on the piece of land where the Fire Station is now.