

Hammonds Plains Historical Society Newsletter

www.hammondsplainshistoricalsociety.ca

UPCOMING GENERAL MEETINGS

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The Hammonds Plains Historical Society plans for five general meetings per year, open to the general public. For 2012-13 the meetings are tentatively scheduled for:

- Monday September 24th
- Monday November 28th
- Monday January 28th
- Monday March 25th
- Monday May 27th

Our meetings begin at 7pm. At each of our meetings there is a presentation of a topic that have particular a connection to the community of Hammonds Plains.



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 1960-61 Grade primary class at Hammonds Plains School?

OUR ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Description of Project:

This exciting project is currently interviewing long time residents of Hammonds Plains, as they talk about what life was like as a youth and how things have changed since that time. A focus of the discussion is on how the community of Hammonds Plains

has changed through the years, as it has evolved from a resourced based hamlet around the timber industry in the 1880's to a vibrant export center of forest products such as lumber, barrels, wooden boxes during the first half of the 20th century to a suburban community in

the second half of the 20th century and now a neighbourhood in the 21st century of diverse business and residential opportunities.

Participants for this project are selected based on their longevity in the community (participants must have lived in the community at least 40 years). They will be interviewed in their residences using video and audio equipment that will allow us to have a permanent record of their conversations.

COLONEL ANDREW SNAPE HAMOND

Part 1 looks at the early years and the time spent in Nova Scotia of Andrew Snape Hamond, the individual from whom Hammonds Plains is named after.

Andrew Snape Hamond was born on 17 December 1738 in England, the only son of Robert Hamond and Susannah Snape. His father Robert was a successful London merchant and ship owner. Andrew entered the Royal Navy in 1753. He served at sea during the Seven Years' War. In 1763, Andrew married Cecilia Sutherland (no children). He was promoted Commander in 1765 and Captain on 7 December 1770. During the American Revolutionary War, he served as Captain of HMS Roebuck, of 44 guns. He was knighted at the close of 1778 for his distinguished conduct that year. In 1779 he married secondly, Anne, the daughter of Henry Greene, Esquire. During the war, HMS Roebuck was involved with most active sea engagements up to 1780. On return to England in that year, Sir Andrew was offered and accepted the posts of Lieutenant-Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Nova Scotia and Commodore and Resident Navy Commissioner at Halifax.

Sir Andrew and his family (wife Anne son Graham, and daughter Caroline) arrived in Halifax during the night of 29–30 July 1781, being sworn into office on the 31st. As Commander-in-Chief, his main concern was the defence of the province which included: the provision of an adequate militia, upgrading of defences, and the supply of masts for the navy. He also oversaw the building of a new 200 bed naval hospital at Halifax in 1782.

Sir Andrew's tenure as lieutenant governor coincided with the beginning of the loyalist migration from the American colonies, and a proposal for settling the Port Roseway (Shelburne) area was made to him by New York Loyalists in August 1782. He approved the plan and promised his support, although he discouraged loyalists from trying to come before the spring. Nova Scotia was in fact completely unprepared for the loyalists in terms of food, building supplies, and available land. Large tracks of land had been previously granted, but were unoccupied and had to be escheated before settlement could begin.

On 8 July 1782, the home secretary had written to Sir Andrew informing him that John Parr had been appointed to succeed the absent Francis Legge as governor of Nova Scotia. Sir Andrew was surprised and embittered, having accepted the office of Lieutenant Governor "on the strongest assurances of succeeding to the Government." John Parr was appointed Governor due to his influence with Lord Shelburne, the home secretary. He arrived in Halifax 5 October. Sir Andrew quickly realized that the province could not contain both of them, and thus resigned on 8 October.

The news of Sir Andrew's resignation was greeted with surprise and genuine regret in the province. Five counties presented him with "addresses of approbation," and the Council voted him a grant of 10,000 acres at the mouth of the Kennebecasis River near Saint John. The flood of southern Loyalist settlers began in the early fall of 1782, having to spend the winter on the commons and at Point Pleasant.

Sir Andrew remained in Nova Scotia performing his duties as Naval Commissioner until January 1783, when he left Nova Scotia with his family and household staff for England via Antigua, arriving home in June 1783 after a very difficult journey.

Part 2 explores Sir Andrew's experiences back in England and his later years in our next issue.

HOW THINGS HAVE
CHANGED



A view of a Hammonds Plains Residence near present day entrance to Kingswood—cira 1920's

NEWS FROM THE PAST— FEBRUARY 10, 1945

Hammonds Plains Rapidly Growing Into Prosperous And Modern Area



KINGSWOOD PLAINS, WHERE HUNDREDS OF HOUSES AND BARRACKS AND MANUFACTURES NEARLY to equal the entire town is the dominant feature of the district, is fast expanding into a large and prosperous community. Many new homes are being built in the district, and the whole town is being transformed into a modern town. The Hammonds Plains district has now become a residential and commercial center, and is rapidly becoming one of the most important and best of the district.



SPRING HILL LAMP HOUSE, one of the many new modern homes being built in the district, is being built by the owner of the district. It is a two-story brick house, and is one of the many new homes being built in the district.

