



Scott Manor News

March 2022

Scott Manor House



FSF Photo Collection

President's Message

Friends of the Fort Sackville Foundation,

As I write this, Nova Scotia has entered Phase 2 of its "Living With COVID" reopening plan. Although things may never return to our past "normal", spring brings us hope that the Scott Manor House will be able to fully open this summer.

Thanks to volunteers Shari Burnard Ostrom and Mary McIntyre planning is underway for our summer program. Volunteer Debbie Miller is planning an activity for June 25th that will be part of Bedford Days and kick off our summer events at Scott Manor House.

Our volunteers continue to work on capturing the history of Bedford through research, photos and artifacts. It is our goal to preserve and promote the history and cultural heritage of Bedford.

Finally, I want to welcome you to visit Scott Manor House this summer, enjoy the grounds, tour the Manor House and learn more about the work of our Foundation.

Stay safe and healthy,
Judy
Chair Fort Sackville Foundation

Spring is a wonderful time to tour the grounds of Scott Manor House!

Looking Back at the Origin of the Fort Sackville Foundation

– by Jean MacLeod

The Fort Sackville Foundation has been engaged in preserving, recording and promoting the history of Bedford for more than thirty years. It is interesting to look back at its beginnings.

In 1980, a group of concerned Bedford citizens formed Bedford Heritage '80 and was incorporated under the name Bedford Heritage Society. Originally, Bedford Heritage '80 worked principally on obtaining and identifying photographs of Bedford. It then broadened its work to gathering artifacts, historical files and doing historical presentations about community heritage. In 1988, Bedford Heritage '80 started a new initiative to convince Bedford Town Council to purchase the Tolson family residence (Scott Manor). As the goals of the

Bedford Heritage Society were changing, the Executive members and Directors of the Bedford Heritage '80 (Norman E. Fenerty, Marion Christie, C. Nelson Kennedy, Allan F. Duffus and Bosko Loncarevic) signed the application to incorporate the Fort Sackville Foundation.

The Fort Sackville Foundation (FSF) was established in June, 1988 under the Society's Act of the Province of Nova Scotia, with the prime objective of finding ways and means to acquire and preserve the historically significant Scott Manor House and the Fort Sackville site. Three years later, in late 1991, Scott Manor House was purchased by the Town of Bedford. In 1992, the Town of Bedford assumed overall responsibility for the administration and maintenance of the Manor and the Grounds. The Foundation was asked to put together a proposal for the management of the Manor and Grounds. The management plan outlined general operating policies – under the categories of House and Grounds, Programs and Events and Financial Support. The plan was approved by Town Council on August 31, 1993. FSF then began its work of preserving, recording and promoting the history of Bedford by receiving donations of photographs and artifacts, engaging in historical research, and printing booklets on local history. With much effort by dedicated FSF volunteers, Scott Manor House was able to be opened to the public in 1995. Notably, the “tea room” was the first thing to be opened in the Manor and it continued every year until COVID shut it down in the summer of 2020. Then in 1996, FSF signed a twenty-one-year lease for the Scott Manor House with the Town of Bedford. Presently, there is a ten-year lease agreement between Halifax Regional Municipality and

Fort Sackville Foundation dated October 10, 2018.

Since 1993, the FSF has been engaged in the community in a multitude of ways. Fort Sackville Foundation seems to be synonymous with the Scott Manor House; but it is much more than a physical location. The Foundation would certainly exist beyond Scott Manor House if necessary, though FSF is very pleased to be able to have its “home” at the Manor.

- Written with information from the Allan Duffus fond and Ann MacVicar's files.

We Need You

We need volunteers! Interested in researching to continue and expand the research of the Bedford community? Join us. Have communication skills to both promote and share our work through social media? We want you! Volunteers with organization skills, and/or program developers? We can be your new volunteer home! Would you love to help organize our tea room? Are you interested in preservation and collections? We have much to offer those interested in using old skills, developing new skills, meeting your neighbours or just looking for a place to spend a few hours a week. If any of these interests you, we welcome you to contact us (scott.manor@ns.sympatico.ca) and to become a part of the Fort Sackville Foundation!

Summer Program Is Back

After two years of COVID, Scott Manor is opening up for summer programming once again. We are looking for volunteer committee members to help determine what programs we will be offering, and volunteers for the various events.

If you are interested in being part of the summer fun, please contact the co-chairs, Shari Burnard Ostrom (shari_burnard@hotmail.com) or Mary MacIntyre (memacintyre@icloud.com)

Tea Room

Many of you have told us how much you miss the Tea Room – well, we are hoping to reopen this year. Check our website in June for more information.

Glimpses of Bedford

Some volunteers of Scott Manor are gathering information on older houses (some grand, some small) and older neighbourhoods, in order to write about our community's heritage.

We are following up on research completed by John MacDonald, George and Marion Christie and Elsie C. Tolson, among others.

We would like to capture the story of Bedford, bit by bit, through its houses and neighbourhoods in a new printed resource entitled "*Glimpses of Bedford.*"

We would welcome your input. Please contact us if you have information to share.

Annual General Meeting

Members of the Fort Sackville Foundation are invited to attend our Annual General Meeting at Scott Manor House on March 31, 2022 at 7:00pm.

In order to vote you must have attended a previous meeting of the Association, but new members are welcome to attend to find out more about the Fort Sackville Foundation. A membership application is available on the website.

Scott Manor House

As well as events in the North Room, guided tours of Scott Manor House and of our artifacts will continue.

Below is a photo of the gates that used to lead in to the Scott Manor House from the south end of the property.



***Volunteers Make A Difference!
Please join us!***