



The Sackville Drive-in Theatre

The face of 1950s Sackville changed for the better with the construction and implementation of a drive-in theatre. It was built at a time when Sackville was still a very rural place. It became a popular attraction.



The roads that have influenced development and events in Sackville for more than 200 years brought a new commercial enterprise in the years after World War II. Sackville, being just the right distance from the population centres of Dartmouth and Halifax, was well positioned to be the destination of the motoring public bent on patronizing the latest entertainment fad – watching a film from the comfort and privacy of one's car.

For the next couple of decades, the drive-in theatre was a thriving business. Cars were always lined at the gate, waiting for an evening of enjoyment, laughter, entertainment, up until its closing in the mid-1980s, it always remained a special spot for family and friends to hang out and have a ball.

The Sackville Drive-in Theatre was more than a business, it was a place where the community gathered, socialized, and were entertained. Romance at times was in full swing, under the moonlight, as the stars shined brightly off and on the screen.

A popular destination for adults and teens, few have forgotten the charms, memories and moments at the drive-in. For some, the delights of the canteen are recalled, while for others, it was Tuesday “buck night”. Others remember packing in non-paying patrons in the trunk of the car to get in free on regular paying nights. There were times when the fog clouded the screen and turned the movie into more of a radio show – a reminder of yesteryear.

There were even some who forgot about removing the speaker from the car window in a rush to get their date home on time, or through simple stupidity, forgot to remove the speaker, just as it tore free from its stand, or went flying through the air, with a noticeable thud and buzz.



**Pictured above is the Sackville Drive-in
as seen from the Sackville Downs racetrack.
Both were torn down in the 1980's.**

A crew of workers brought the giant outdoor Sackville Drive-in Theatre screen down in October of 1985.

But alas, like many Sackville landmarks, it too, is but a memory under the parking lot of the Atlantic Superstore, to be remembered by those who experienced its many pleasures.