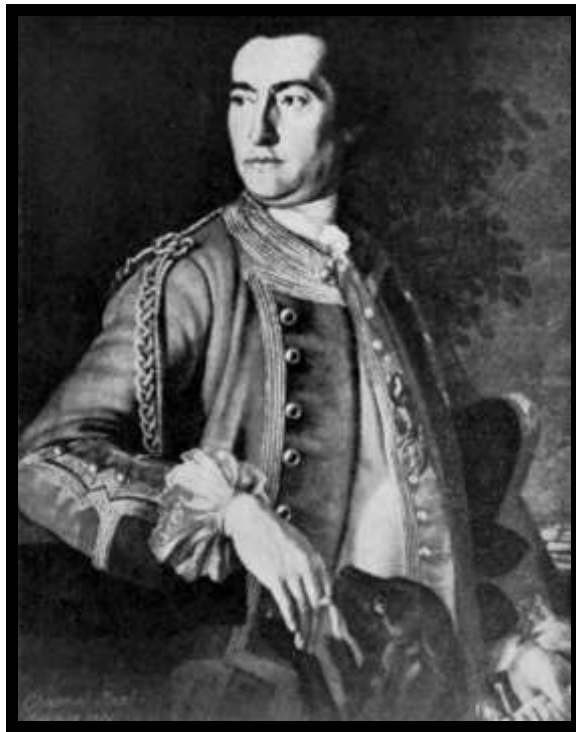# A Brief History on Sackville's Fultz Corner

In August of 1749, Captain John Gorham, acting on orders from Governor Edward Cornwallis, established a fort named Fort Sackville. The purpose of the fort was to protect the newly founded city of Halifax as a means of guarding what is known today as the Sackville River, which flowed into the basin to prevent attacks from enemy aggressors of the day. Soon after, grants of land became available around the fort and a community was founded and given the name of Sackville.

A 1755 painting of Edward Cornwallis by Sir George Chalmers.

The community of Sackville became especially important in the days of stagecoach travel. A line passed through Sackville starting in 1816. Located on land which today marks the beginning of Sackville, were Nova Scotia's two "Great Roads." The roads which are today known as the Cobequid Road and the Old Sackville Road respectively, once marked the point where the road from Halifax divided to take travellers to either Truro by way of the Cobequid Road or to Windsor via the Old Sackville Road.
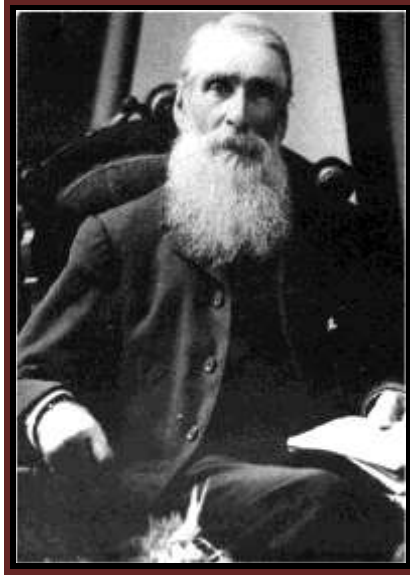
Sackville (the area known as Bedford was originally part of Sackville) became a traditional stopping place of what was considered then to be the crossroads of Nova Scotia. Stagecoach horses were changed at the Twelve Mile House, an inn built in 1822. The inn was operated by William Fultz. The inn catered to those

people who used the stagecoaches, including such political figures as Joseph Howe and the Earl of Dalhousie.

**The above scene depicts Fultz Corner in the 1800's.
It is an original piece of art, painted by Jean Watson.**

In 1858, Bennett Daniel Fultz bought the land on the corner across the street from the Twelve Mile House. Here, between 1863 and 1865, he built a twenty-by-twenty house (which is now home to the Fultz House Museum) which accommodated himself and his wife, Mary Robinson. The Fultz family grew to include eight children. Bennett died in 1910. Until her death in 1928 at age eighty-six, Mary operated a post office from the kitchen window of her small house.

Bennett Fultz

After the house left the Fultz family and came into the possession of the Baker family, the house underwent renovations. For instance, the bay window and arched doorway was added to the front of the house. The wall between the original parlor and the first floor room was removed to enlarge the living room area. Then, by 1979, the land at the corner of the once "Great Roads" was the property of the provincial government.

Seeing the need to preserve the site as a historical landmark, the Fultz Corner Restoration Society was formed late in that year. In 1980, the restoration society leased the land from the government in the provincial captial for the Sackville community. The deed for the property was transfered to the society in 1990, the same year the Fultz House received its heritage designation from the County of Halifax.

The work of the Fultz Corner Restoration Society has led up to the 40th anniversary of the Fultz House Museum in 2022. That is forty years of telling the stories of Beaver Bank, Kinsac, Lower Sackville, Lucasville, Middle Sackville and Upper Sackville, capturing moments of the past in terms of culture, the changing landscape and a dynamic people.