THE FULTZ WOMEN

565656565656565656

The Fultz family identified themselves to be farmers, but in actuality they led diverse and interesting lives. Some members of the family worked as blacksmiths, wheelwrights & ironworkers. The family lived a modest life as a simple hardworking unit.

The Fultz women were always active community-minded residents. Frau Fultz was often seen carrying samples of her cooking to the French prisoners. One of the incarcerated Acadians presented her with a crucifix made from bones found in the jail yard. The Fultz connection to the Acadian deportation suggests the possibility that the Fultz family may have lived in the area as early as 1764.



Pictured above are Bennett and Mary's daughters, Annie, Jane, Mary and Winifred

Beginning in 1812 and for the next fifty years the Fultz family gained ownership of all the land at the intersection of the Windsor and Cobequid Roads. William Fultz, the son of Anthony Fultz, began operating the famous Twelve Mile House (by 1814). The two-and-a-half story wooden structure housed a forty foot long by twenty foot wide ballroom. Once the stagecoach line ran through Sackville, the inn always had its share of visitors, including Joseph Howe and the Earl of Dalhousie. The inn burned to the ground in 1890.

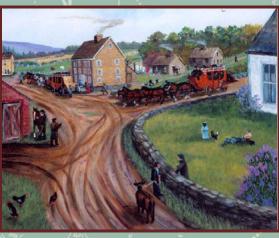
William Beresford Fultz bought the property opposite of the inn in 1856. By 1858 Bennett Daniel Fultz purchased the property from his cousin. A twenty-by-twenty house was built by 1865. Bennett and his wife Mary had eight children, Winifred, Annie, Jane, Mary, Francis, Herman, George and Thomas. Bennett with his brother George operated a carriage shop on the property.

Bennett and Mary Fultz were active community citizens. It was with great sadness that Bennett died in 1910 when he was eighty-four years old. Until her death in 1928 at age eighty-six, Mary operated a post office from the kitchen window of her small house. The house stayed in the family until the death of their daughter Jane Emily Fultz in the 1940's.



Mary Fultz





The above scene depicts Sackville on the corner of where the two "Great Roads" of Nova Scotia met in the 1800's. It is an original piece of art, painted by Jean Watson and the rights to the picture are held by the Fultz House Museum.

The FULTZ HOUSE MUSEUM

is named after one of the founding families of Sackville.



The Fultz family home at the turn of the 20th century

THE ORIGINS OF THE FULTZ FAMILY

The **Fultz family** owned land in the area since the 1770's, but did not extensively settle in the area until 1812, just four years before a stagecoach line started passing through Sackville.

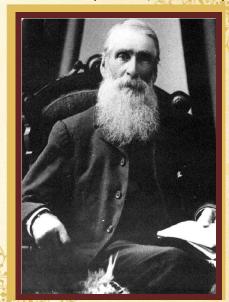
Johann Andreas Fultz (the name Fultz is of German origin) is believed to be the first member of the Fultz family to settle in Nova Scotia at the age of thirty-two. He arrived on board the Speedwell to Halifax in 1751, two years after the founding of Sackville and Halifax, the capital city of the province. Fultz disappeared from public records until 1758. Rather than follow his fellow foreign Protestants in the settling of Lunenburg in 1753, he appears to have settled in Louisbourg, a Catholic stronghold.

German Protestant families in Louisbourg totalled 59 people. Records show that Johann was married to a woman named **Elizabeth**, and they had two children named **Lorenz** (Lawrence) and **Antony** (Anthony). The most accepted explanation of why Johann settled on the island instead of the mainland was that he felt it would feel more like home. One of the conditions in coming to Nova Scotia was that a person had to be of the Protestant faith. Like others did, Johann hid his true

religious beliefs to gain entry. At that time many Roman Catholics turned to the island, as they grew frustrated with the lack of tolerance and acceptance of Catholicism on the mainland.

According to the passenger list of the Speedwell, Johann Fultz hailed from Saxony. Fultz may have been trying to mislead or confuse authorities, as Saxony is a general designation without any specific community mentioned in the eastern half of Germany. Family records indicate that in 1750 Johann was a carpenter by trade and lived in the village Haslach, situated in the Bruscia Valley of the Argentinensis district. Documents also show that he was married to a woman by the name of Ephrosina Scharen.

Scharen's birthplace can be traced to a place just north of **Lake Constance**, which can be found along the German-Swiss border. Argentinensis, which Johann Fultz referred to as home to the authorities of the Speedwell, is most likely the city



Bennett Fultz

FROM EUROPE TO SACKVILLE

of **Strasbourg**, located in what is now eastern France, situated near the Rhine River. Approximately twenty miles west of Strasbourg is the Bruche Valley with two Haslach villages. In one village is the church St. Florent, and according to family papers Johann and Ephrosina had a son baptized in this location. It would appear that the Fultzes true origin in Europe was far removed from the duchy of Saxony.

The Speedwell passenger records list Johann Andreas Fultz as having no dependents. Some mystery still exists as to what happened to Ephrosina and his son Florent. A plausible scenario has Ephrosina dying after childbirth, or perhaps she did come to Nova Scotia after Johann's arrival and died shortly after. Records show that Ephrosina was five years older than Johann, and therefore it would be impossible for her to be Elizabeth, as she would have been too old to give birth to Anthony and Lawrence.

A land grant was registered to Johann Fultz in Sackville in 1773 on December 17th in the amount of five hundred acres, which stretched from the Windsor Road to Beaver Pond in Windsor Junction today. Johann died in 1801.

26-36-36-36-36-36-36-36-36