



PROCLAMATION

Year of the Planters

WHEREAS in 1759, Governor Lawrence, in preparation for settlers in southern Nova Scotia, established the Township of Barrington, a grant covering 100,000 acres;

AND WHEREAS Cape Cod, Nantucket and Chatham were places of departure for the Barrington settlers;

AND WHEREAS in 1760 there were at least 2 families and by 1761 there were 20 families and 180 individuals in the new Barrington Township;

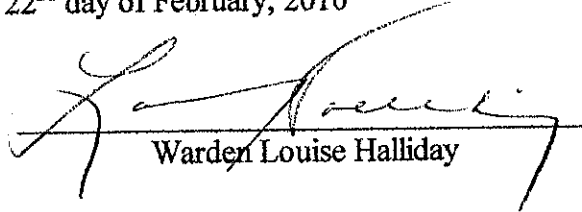
AND WHEREAS many of us are descendants of the Planters;

AND WHEREAS the year of 2010 is designated as the celebration of the arrival of New England Planters to Nova Scotia 250 years ago;

AND WHEREAS the Cape Sable Historical Society is planning events to mark the anniversary and encourage other groups to do so as well;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that I, Louise Halliday, Warden for the Municipality of the District of Barrington do hereby proclaim 2010 as the Year of the Planters in the Municipality of Barrington and urge our citizens to participate in the activities planned.

Dated at Barrington, Nova Scotia this
22nd day of February, 2010


Warden Louise Halliday

The New England Planters

The summer of 2010 is designated as a celebration of the arrival of New England Planters to Nova Scotia 250 years ago. The Planters were settlers from the New England colonies who responded to an invitation by the Governor of Nova Scotia, Charles Lawrence, to move to this province. They were to settle on the lands left vacant by the Acadians, 1755-56. Eight thousand Planters, largely farmers and fishermen arrived from 1759 to 1768. The farmers settled mainly on the rich farms of Annapolis Valley and southern New Brunswick. The Planters laid the groundwork for many communities in the province, including Liverpool, Yarmouth and Barrington Township.

In 1759, Governor Lawrence, in preparation for settlers in southern Nova Scotia, had established the Township of Barrington, a grant covering 100,000 acres.

It was fishermen from the New England coast who decided to take advantage of the offer of a fresh beginning in this Township. Some of these people had already been fishing seasonally along our coast and knew the area very well. The arrival of the people to Barrington was unlike the arrival to other townships where groups came in larger ships in greater numbers and with some degree of fanfare. Cape Cod, Nantucket, and Chatham were places of quieter departure for the Barrington groups. Their mode of travel was in fishing vessels and not always in company with others.

In 1760 at least two families were in the area and stayed the winter, those of Thomas Crowell and Archelaus Smith. The Smith family consisted of Elizabeth Smith and children. Archelaus had returned to New England, a fact unknown to her when she set out to join him in Nova Scotia. Consequently, she and the children spent the winter alone in a log hut across from the Old Meeting House. Archelaus returned in the spring.

By 1761 there were 20 families and 180 individuals in the new Barrington Township. Additional families and individuals arrived in 1762 and in subsequent years. Wherever possible, the new arrivals took up the farm lands developed by the Acadians before their expulsion from this end of the province in 1756. The winter of 1761 was very severe and ice prevented ships from going to Boston for supplies. Eels were speared through the ice providing food for the desperate settlers.

A quote from an early writer states the following: "No smiling land of promise greeted these daring pioneers of old colonial days. The whole area was a veritable wilderness with its soil largely of granite boulders. On one hand stretched the forest abounding with no more than bears and wildcats. The struggle for mere existence must have been severe and often dubious; but those fishermen were *Putitan to the Core*".

Above article: Crowell's "History Barrington Township," http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New-England_Planters



An early Planter building in Barrington

Some Planter families who came to Barrington area: Smith, Atwood, Crosby, Hopkins, Doane, Cromwell, Crowell, Clemon (Clements), Sparrow, Harding, Nickerson, Wilson, Bearce, Kenney, Knowles, Folger, Worth, Swaine, Coffin, Gardner, Bunker, Pinkham, Baker, Snow, Paine, Porter, Webb, Freeman, King, Clarke, Cahoon, Kendrick, Osbourne, Vinson, West, Wood.

These names come from early township lists and from Arnold Doane and Edwin Crowell's genealogies found in Crowell's History of Barrington Township. Local contacts: barmuseumcomplex@eastlink.ca ,

2010
Celebrating the New England Planters
1760- 61

The New England Planters came to the western end of the county starting in 1760. They settled in other parts of the province as well. Celebrations of their arrival are being held through 2010 and 2011 in towns such as Liverpool, Yarmouth, Annapolis, Cornwallis, Horton, Minas Basin and in this area.

The Cape Sable Historical Society is planning a tea and fashion show, June 5, 2010, at the Lion's Hall. At the Old Meeting House there will be an evening of song and a morning church service.

Three or more cemetery tours will take place in this part of the county where Planter families were laid to rest.

The monthly programs at the Cape Sable Historical Society will feature talks and displays in keeping with the subject of our early people. Programs are held on the first Monday evening of each month. The public is welcome to attend. Student attendance is encouraged.

The Shelburne County Genealogy Society which includes a large Barrington area membership, is producing family genealogy books. In July and August they will hold their annual summer "Teas" to honour local county families. They will also be holding book launchings.

Input from other groups, ie, events which they can hold through the spring, summer or autumn seasons, would greatly enhance the celebrations. Examples of events which could be held: teas, lawn parties, re-enactments, plays, musicals, quilt and rug hooking displays, suppers, ceremonies marking the arrival by ship, (North East Point would be a great spot), cemetery tours and special speakers on the Planter subject .

Contact persons: Betty June Smith 637-3185, Lillian Perry 637-2844, Phyllis Cunningham 745-3280