



# Masters Mariners — AND — Merchants

A walking tour of  
Sackville Rural Cemetery  
— Pioneer Section —

## SACKVILLE RURAL CEMETERY

109 York Street  
Sackville, New Brunswick

Special thanks to the Tantramar Historic Sites Committee for developing this tour of the pioneer section of the Sackville Rural Cemetery. On June 10, 2007, the committee launched the tour and unveiled a bronze plaque marking the cemetery as one of Sackville's significant historic sites.

For more information on the history of Sackville, and a detailed list of historic sites, visit the Tantramar Heritage Trust web site at <http://heritage.tantramar.com>.

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**Sackville**  
New Brunswick *Where you belong*

**1 Dr. Byron C. Borden** was a graduate of Mount Allison University, appointed Principal of the Ladies' College in 1885 and went on to become the 5<sup>th</sup> President of Mount Allison University from 1911 to 1923.

**2 Dr. Harold E. Bigelow** was a Professor of Chemistry at Mount Allison University almost continuously from 1914 until 1947. His work in chemical research is recognized the world over.

**3 Frank B. Black** had a long and distinguished military career, served as president of Joseph L. Black and Sons, Ltd., was President of the New Brunswick Telephone Company and held many directorships in other companies. In public life he served as the 6<sup>th</sup> Mayor of Sackville in 1917-18, served as a New Brunswick MLA and was called to the Senate in 1921.

**4** The large **Anderson Stone** celebrates the lives of Anderson Master Mariners, Thomas, Gaius, Charles, Titus and George, who was also a prominent shipbuilder. Ammi Anderson was a carpenter and worked on reconstruction of the Marine Hospital.

**5 Samuel F. Black** came from Amherst to Sackville in 1839 to establish a store, the first location being in Middle Sackville. He re-established on Main Street in 1846 where he subsequently built a store and mansion, both still standing in 2007.

**6 Robert Bowser**, grandson of Thomas Bowser, Yorkshire settler, was the owner of the land on which the Pioneer section of the Sackville Cemetery was built. The Sackville Rural Cemetery Company purchased this pioneer burial site in 1864 for 150 pounds. A second large field was acquired from great grandson H. Eugene Bowser in 1894.

**7 Amasa Dixon** arrived in Sackville in 1872 after having learned the drug business in Amherst under the supervision of Dr. Nathan Tupper. Dixon bought the premises at the corner of York and Main Street, known as the Dixon Block. A drug store was located there from 1872 until

1992. In public life Amasa was a councilor for the Town of Sackville.

**8 Major Richard Wilson**, a native of Scotland, died in 1810 at age 70, and was an officer of the British Army, at one time stationed at Fort Cumberland. Richard Wilson, the son, was engaged in mercantile pursuits, particularly the exporting of grindstones. He owned several vessels employed in the business.

**9 Joseph Allison** and his partner, Hon. William Crane, exchanged agricultural products for goods imported from the British Isles and other areas of Canada and United States. After the death of Crane in 1853, Allison was sole executor of the estate. At his death Crane owned 49 pieces of land and had 665 mortgages or securities. Allison took great interest in the affairs of the Sackville Academy after the death of his brother Charles F. Allison.

**10 Rev. Christopher M. Milner**, who died at Sackville in 1877, aged 92, arrived in Windsor, Nova Scotia in 1818 and was Rector of the Parish of Sackville from 1820 to 1835.

• **Christopher Milner**, Barrister, son of Rev. Christopher Milner, born on the Isle of Wight, died in 1890 after having served the area well as one of the first lawyers. He was appointed 1<sup>st</sup> Post Master of Sackville in 1849 and served until 1867.

• **William Cochran Milner**, son of Christopher Milner, was founder of the *Chignecto Post* in 1870, Collector of Customs and Manager of the Joggins Railway. In 1912 he accepted the position of Dominion Archivist for the Maritime Provinces.

**11 H.G.C. Ketchum**, distinguished engineer of the Chignecto Ship Railway, died in 1896 and was buried at his estate in Tidnish. He was reinterred in the Sackville Cemetery in 1914, beneath a large stone in Pleasant Ridge Section, as the sea had encroached on the burial site at Tidnish. His wife was Sarah Milner, a daughter of Christopher Milner, Barrister.

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**12 Charles Pickard** was first a storekeeper, then a lumberman. He was best known for his third career as the owner of the Pickard Quarry. From this Quarry near his burial site building stone was shipped all over North America. In public life he was the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mayor of Sackville from 1908 to 1910.

**13 Dr. George F.G. Stanley**, a Rhodes scholar from Alberta, graduated from Oxford University. He had an extensive career as an educator that began and ended at Mount Allison University. From 1982 to 1987 he was Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick. Canadians best remember him for his design of the Red Maple Leaf Canadian flag.

**14 Charles A. Doull** came to Sackville from Summerside in the 1880s. In partnership with his brother John W. Doull he ran a woodworking factory on the grounds of the present day Memorial Park. He was prominent in the music life of the Community.

**15 Edward Cogswell** arrived in Sackville in 1842 from Cornwallis, married Ruth, the daughter of William Crane, building the house now known as Marshlands Inn. He formed a company to carry on stove making, the old Dominion Foundry, afterwards Enterprise Foundry, which is still in operation today.

**16 William Crane** started his career here as a shopkeeper in 1804 and went on to become an importer/exporter working with his cousin Charles F. Allison. He was involved with Sir Samuel Cunard in the establishment of a shipping line. He was elected to the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly in 1824 and eventually became Speaker of the House.

**17 Joseph L. Black** first commenced business for himself in Middle Sackville in 1847. The firm, Joseph L. Black and Sons was well known throughout the Maritimes, as they operated a wholesale and retail merchandising business, a large farm and had vast lumber interests.

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Mr. Black was elected to the New Brunswick Legislature and served for seven years.

**18 Mariner Wood** and his son, **Josiah Wood**, one of the first two graduates of Mount Allison in 1863, are prominent names on the Wood Stone. Josiah was admitted to the bar, but never practiced as he had the entire control of the M. Wood and Sons business after the death of his father. He became the 1<sup>st</sup> Mayor of Sackville from 1903 to 1908, a member of parliament, was summoned to the Senate and was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick. At the back of this lot rests Herbert M. Wood, and William T. Wood, sons of Josiah, who carried on the Wood interests. Herbert M. Wood was an MLA and 5<sup>th</sup> Mayor of Sackville.

**19 Dr. Titus W. Knapp** was a grandson of Titus Knapp who came from Saint John to old Fort Cumberland and purchased an old French farm. Before his death in 1877 Dr. Knapp was one of very few doctors in the area.

**20 Dr. Sidney W. Hunton** was born in Ottawa and educated at McGill University, coming to Sackville in 1883. He taught at Mount Allison in the mathematics department for 51 years.

**21 Dr. James R. Inch** became a teacher in the Mount Allison Academy and in 1867 became Principal of the Ladies' College. He was appointed Chief Superintendent of Education for New Brunswick and served from 1891 to 1909.

**22 Captain Silliker Bulmer** passed away in Brooklyn, NY in 1909. He was born at Boultenhouse Corner, great-grandson of George Bulmer, the first of that name to settle in this locality. He achieved his Master Mariner papers from the McNally and Seaton Marine School, Saint John, in 1876.

**23 Rev. Charles Paisley** was ordained in 1870 and received the Doctor of Divinity degree from Victoria University. At Mount Allison he was professor of New Testament and church history.

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**24 Captain William Pringle** obtained his Captain papers in 1879 and sailed for twenty years, entering many ports throughout the world. After the Town of Sackville was incorporated in 1903 he was engaged as commissioner of Water and Sewerage. He also was instrumental in supplying and maintaining the early wooden sidewalks that the town was so proud of.

**25 Julia E. Robinson**, daughter of blacksmith James A. Robinson, was one of the first children to be buried in the cemetery upon her death on September 28, 1866. Note Julia's early child's tombstone with lamb design.

**26 Charles Fawcett** was one of New Brunswick's most successful manufacturers. He started business as a tinsmith but after a six year period he went on to establish a successful stove manufacturing business.

**27 Captain Elisha S. Towse**, commemorated on this stone, partnered with Mariner Wood in shipbuilding and also captained many ships out of the Port of Sackville. In 1891 when Master of the brig *Herbert* he caught a heavy cold, went ashore at Barbados, died and was buried there.

**28 Hanford Palmer** retired after thirty-six years with the Intercolonial Railway, thirty-two of them as stationmaster at Sackville. He entered the station office at Dorchester in 1871 and learned telegraphy under C. R. Palmer, station agent at the Shiretown.

**29 Humphrey Pickard, D. D.** who died in 1890 was for 26 years head of Mount Allison Educational Institutions, being first Principal of the Academy from 1843 and the 1<sup>st</sup> President of Mount Allison University serving from 1862 until 1869.

**30 Edward Ogden** after a successful career in shipbuilding in Port Elgin moved to Sackville in 1875 where he built the barques *Onaway*, *Kwasind*, *Siddartha* and *Herbert*. After his retirement from shipbuilding he started a successful export business in the cultivation of small fruits.

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**31 Miles Hoar** was employed in 1853 on the survey for the European and British North American Railway. From 1854 and for seventeen years he drove the stagecoach between Saint John, Moncton and Amherst. He entered the employ of the Intercolonial Railway retiring in 1909 with thirty-seven years service.

**32 Dr. F.W.W. Desbarres** died at the age of 98 after celebrating 70 years as a clergyman. He was Mount Allison librarian from 1914-1942, secretary of the faculty from 1917-1942 and professor of history from 1926-36.

**33 Edward Bulmer's** stone marks the first known site of a burial in the new Sackville Rural Cemetery upon his death on July 5, 1864.

**34 Fulton MacDougall**, son of a shipbuilder, started in the bank in Pictou, NS. He was manager of the Merchants Bank of Halifax in Sackville between 1883 and 1902. This bank became the Royal Bank of Canada and in 2007 celebrated its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary here in Sackville.

**35 Captain Thomas Egan**, after a successful marine career built his first ship the *Minnie E.* in 1879. Before his death in 1904 he built four ships, the last one being the *Two Sisters*, an 86-ton schooner built in 1896.

**36 Rev. W.T. Ross Flemington**, served with the Royal Air Force during World War I, and was Chief Protestant Chaplain Overseas during World War II. He was a distinguished graduate, teacher, headmaster of the Academy and 7<sup>th</sup> President of Mount Allison University serving from 1945 until 1962.

**37 George J. Trueman** after more than a decade as Principal at Stanstead College returned to Mount Allison University serving as the 6<sup>th</sup> President of the University from 1923 to 1945. He was Mayor of Sackville at the time of his death in 1949.