Preserving West Hants Historical Society

A Sustainable Future for Our Shared History

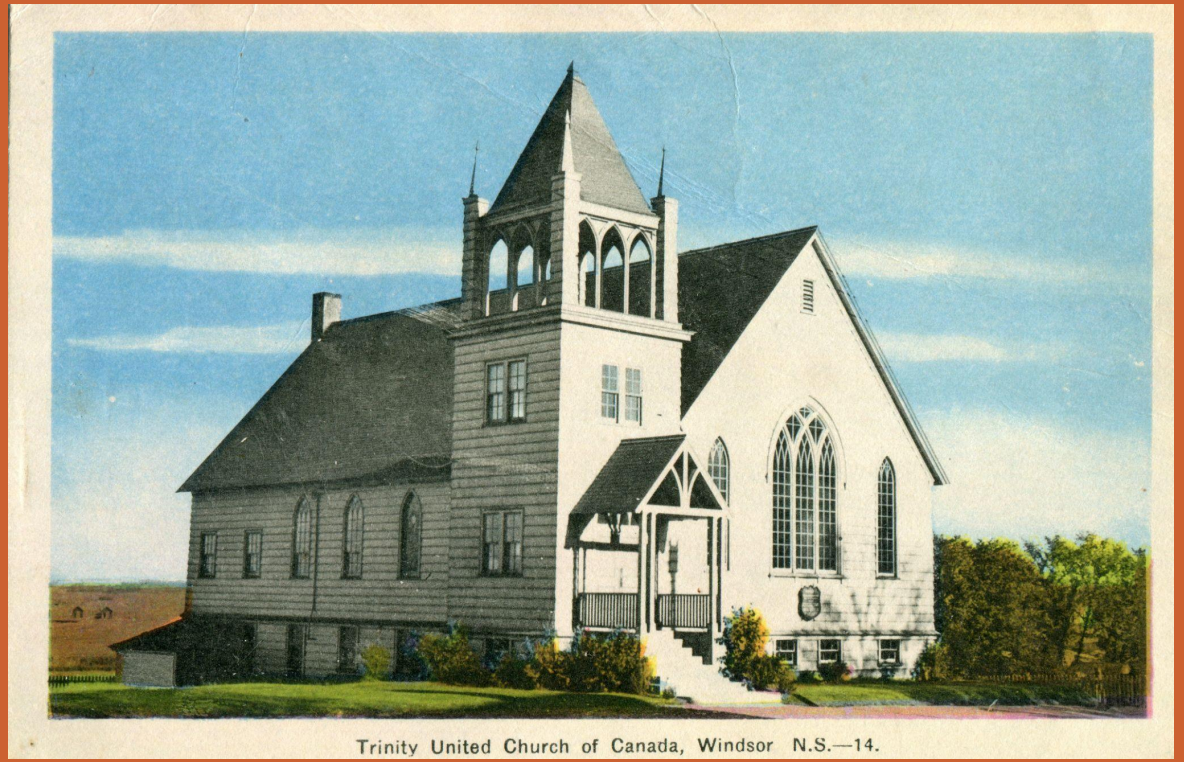
November 12, 2026

WHHS
your window to our past

West Hants Historical Society
50 Years
1973 - 2023
Funding History

Our Building

- 90 Years old
- Accessibility issues
- In need of Major Repairs



Our Volunteers



1973 THE BEGINNING

25 Interested Citizens Met At The Courthouse In 1973 and formed The ***West Hants Historical Society*** Electing Roland Muise As The First President



1978 FORT EDWARD

Following a successful campaign by the West Hants Historical Society, Fort Edward Opened to the public on June 1, 1978

2026 TODAY

WHHS Holds Thousands Of Files, Books, Documents and Newspapers. Including thousands Of Obituaries.To Preserve These Fragile Documents, They Need To Be Digitized

This Requires Special Software, Equipment And Expertise.

Thanks to Historians like

- John V. Duncanson
- Dr. Garth Vaughan
- Ralph Whittier
- Roland Muse
- Kay Anslow
- Maribelle Smiley
- John Wilson

Because of these partnerships, WHHS has thousands of Original documents from the West Hants Area.

But they need to be preserved!



Original Deeds, Wills and Land Grants





Office of Town Clerk.

January 12 1915

Mrs. Florence Shaw

I hereby, under the provisions of the "Assessment Act," give you notice that your Real and Personal Property within the Town of Windsor, and your Income for the year 1915 have for the purpose of rating, been valued at the respective amounts set out below

REAL.	PERSONAL.	INCOME.
$ 3000	$	$

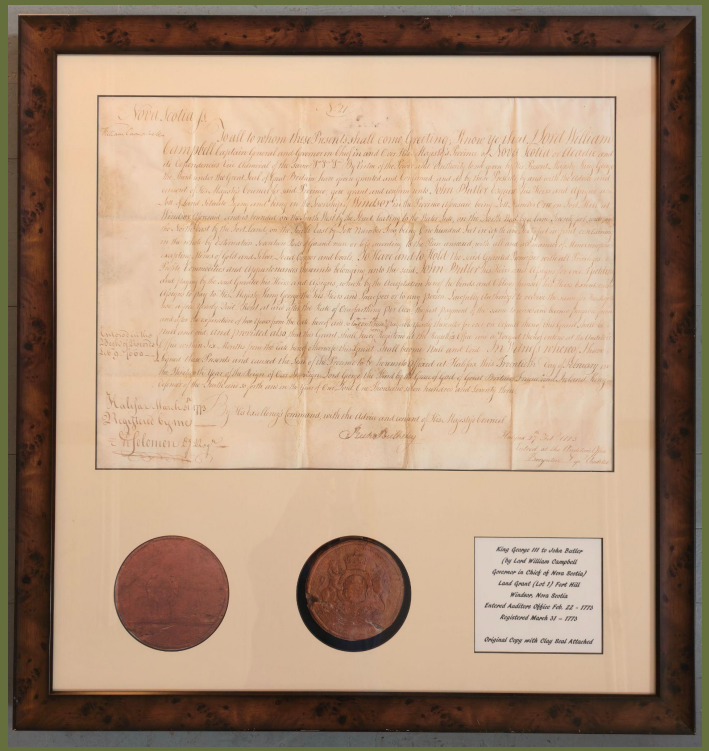
N. B.---Appeals from this Valuation must be filed, according to law, with the Town Clerk at his office, on or before the 10th day of February next; and the Assessment Appeal Court will meet on Tuesday, the 23rd. day of February next, at the Town Clerk's Office, at the hour of eleven o'clock in the forenoon, at which time and place you may appear in support of your appeal.

JAS. C. GELDERT,
Town Clerk.

Town of Windsor.

Hants Journals and Town Records

OUR COLLECTION



Example of original documents and artifacts

01 Land Grants - 1773 Fort Edward

02 Bennett Smith's Ships logs 1800's



ACHIEVEMENTS

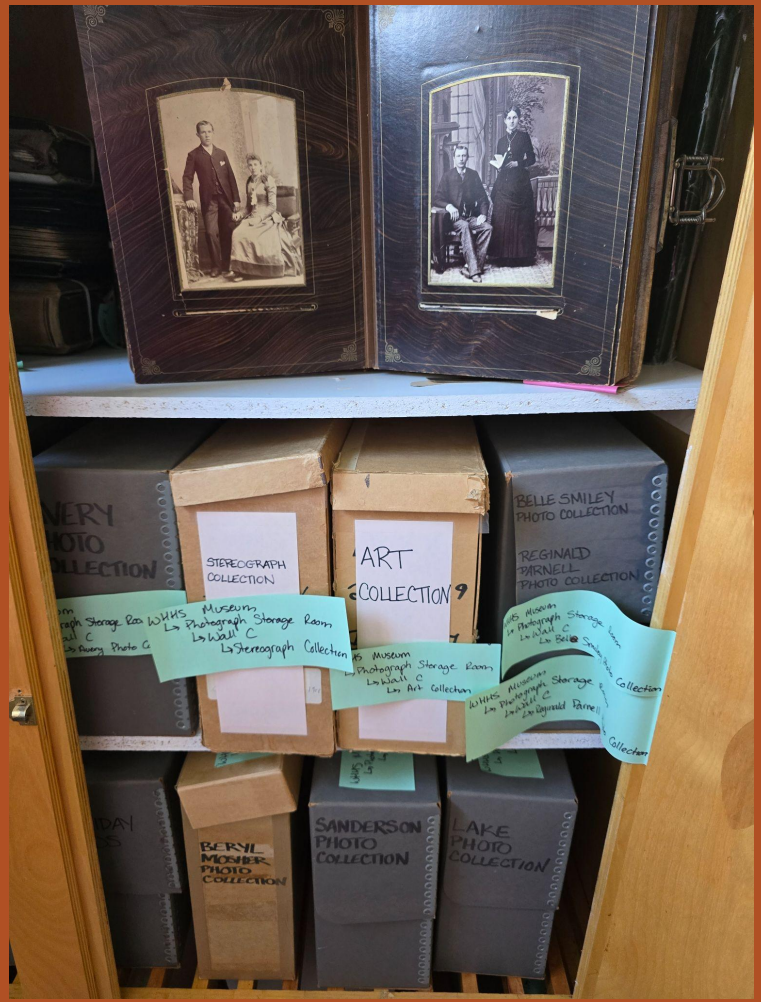
We have digitized over 400 genealogy books from our private archives. These are rare family records, many original documents. There are still much more to digitize.





THOUSANDS OF WEST HANTS PHOTOS





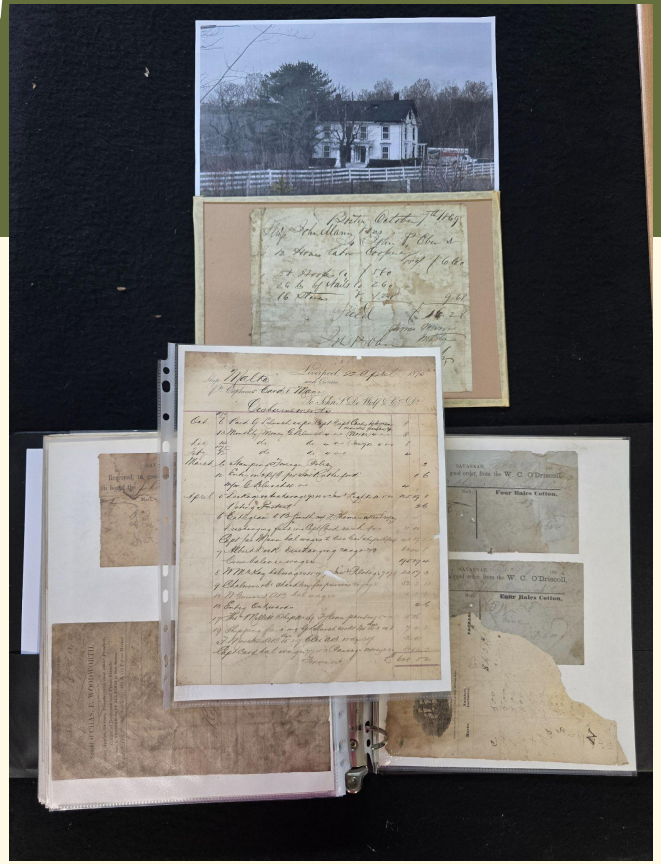
LETTERS FROM THE MANN HOUSE



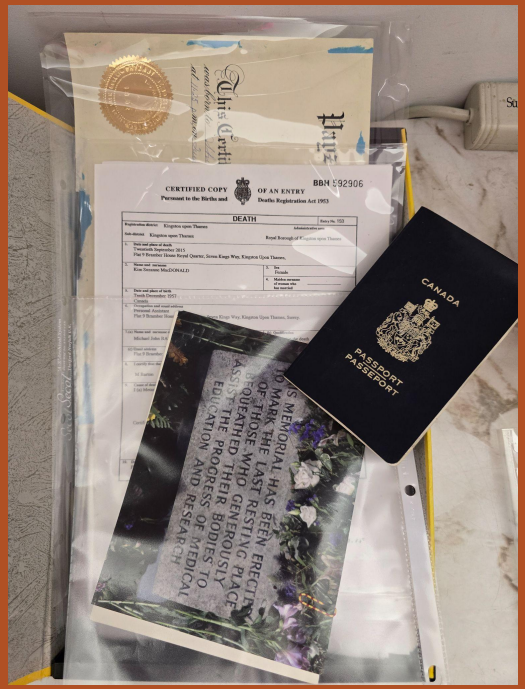
A fews years back, the owners of The Mann House found original documents in the walls.

This home is now gone due to fire.

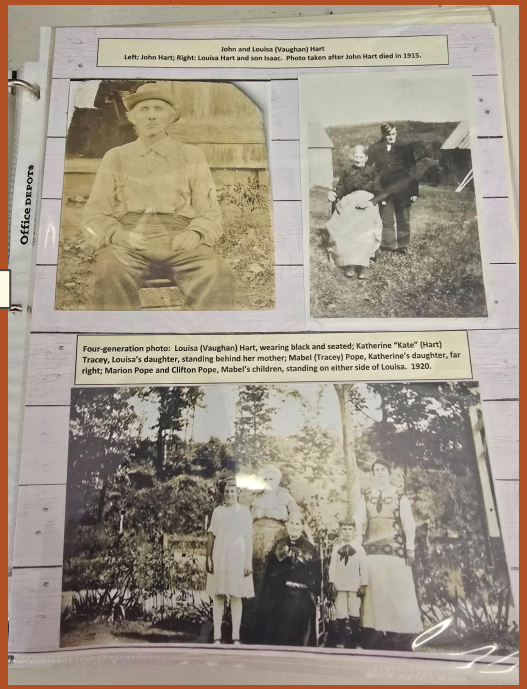
These have not been digitized



Photos, letters and Documents to be preserved equal Cost!



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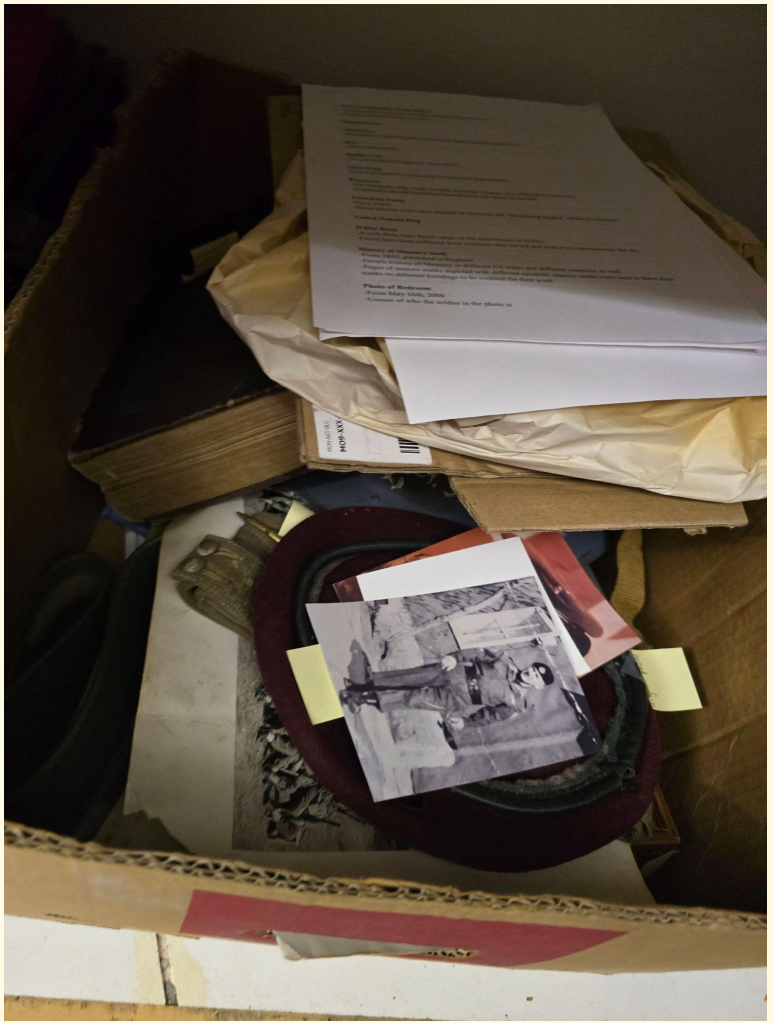


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WE CARE....

We Care About Family Records, Identity, Citizenship, Legal Rights, Photographs and Documents that People Want To Preserve for Future Generations.



Military photos, letters and artifacts in boxes



Numerous Artifacts on the 3rd Floor

WE CARE....

We Care About Shared History And Continuity.
Including The Records Of Local Institutions, Businesses, Community Organizations, Cultural Traditions And Collective Experiences.

WE CARE.....

Like you, as representatives dedicated to our community, we deeply value the role that reliable evidence plays in ensuring government accountability, advancing research, and protecting community rights.



Kay Anslow - 1931 1st Miss Windsor

- We Are All Volunteers.
- Grants For Summer Students keep the doors open July And August.
- No Money To Hire Regular Staff or Purchase Archival Materials.



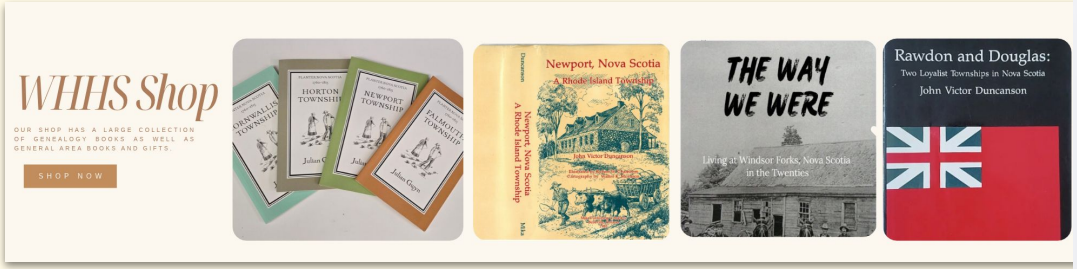
Operating Expenses Funded by:

- PUBLISHING BOOKS
- RESEARCH LIBRARY FEES
- MEMBERSHIPS
- FUNDRAISING
- ROOM RENTALS
- DONATIONS
- PRESENTATIONS
- TOWN AND CEMETERY TOURS











TWICE BY FIRE!!

- This Building Has been Destroyed Twice by Fire!
- It Is Vital To Preserve These Records ASAP
- Many Records that are in the Municipal Vaults Should Be Digitized
- Let’s Partner together to have These Preserved.



Our Ask.....

We Are Asking You To Consider A Two Or Three Year Project.



1865 Brooklyn Quarry Workers

To Secure Hardware, Software, and A Part Time Digital Archivist

We Estimate **$30,000** Per Year.

- ★ Provincial grants and operating income have been cut back.
- ★ WHHS is at a Risk of closure.
- ★ Who takes custody of the collection/assets?
- ★ Who funds ongoing preservation?
- ★ Who ensures continued professional access?
- ★ Who remains accountable to the public and stakeholders?



1917 Hilly Myles, Mable, Maggie Dimock

ARCHIVES

ARCHIVES PRESERVE MORE THAN RECORDS. THEY SUSTAIN COMMUNITY MEMORY, SUPPORT GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY, ENABLE HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH, PROTECT INSTITUTIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND PROVIDE DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE THAT COMMUNITIES RELY ON TO UNDERSTAND THEMSELVES AND MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT THEIR FUTURE.

Thank You!

WHHS
your window to our past