

The History of Sussex Corner

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Compiled by the Sussex Corner Village Council Bicentennial committee

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About the Author, W. Harvey Dalling

W. Harvey Dalling was born in Waterford, Kings County, N.B., and received the first eight years of his education in the Chambers' Settlement School. He then attended Sussex High School and following graduation entered the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton where he received his B.A. degree. He later returned to a summer school for a secondary bilingual certificate.

Mr. Dalling began his teaching career in rural schools. For eight years he taught all subjects to eight or nine grades and prepared pupils for Normal School. For 31 years he taught in various high schools in this area. He taught grades nine, ten and eleven at Norton Superior School and then became vice-principal at Salisbury Regional High School where he taught English, French and Latin. He also taught at Rothesay Regional High School and completed his lengthy teaching career at Sussex Composite High School in 1970.

Mr. Dalling was active in several professional organizations including the provincial sub-committee on English and the French and Latin Councils. He was president of the School District 18 Branch of the New Brunswick Teachers Association. He is presently curator of the Kings County Historical and Archival Society Inc. museum at Hampton and has a special interest in genealogy and the geography it involves.

Dedicated to all those who have served so faithfully in the community and have made it the beautiful place it is.

This is an attempt to have a History of Sussex Corner as complete as possible since 1792.

History of Sussex Corner

“It is truly a Pleasant Valley.” So may have spoken a company travelling from a settlement on the Saint John River to Fort Beausejour in the Sackville area. It was a day in late September, and from their vantage point on a high hill a vista of gray autumnal colours spread before them. Protected from the cool breezes by surrounding hills, the valley lay basking in the warmth of the autumn sun. Perhaps in such a way our valley, which encompasses Roachville, Sussex, Sussex Corner, and Dutch Valley was first named “Pleasant Valley” and so called until changed to “Sussex Vale” about the year 1792.

For a number of years prior to the coming of settlers to Sussex Vale, there were settlers in New Brunswick at Saint John, along the Saint John River and lower Kennebecasis River, and in the isthmus of Chignecto area. Hence in travelling between these locations, the upper branches of the Kennebecasis were a highway for canoeists from the Saint John River endeavouring to reach the headwaters of the Petitcodiac and from thence the Chignecto lands, thus avoiding the rough waters and strong tides of the Bay of Fundy.

Following the Revolutionary War of 1776, in which many colonists of New England rebelled against their mother country, England, and adopting as their constitution the Declaration of Independence, declared themselves a separate country, Life was made very difficult for the families who were loyal to England and who took no part in the rebellion. Their lands were taken from them, many of their homes destroyed; some, put to death or imprisoned. These lucky people collected a few belongings and leaving behind comfortable homes and prosperous businesses, by ship and by land headed north to the part of America still under British rule. Many arrived at Saint John around the year 1783.

They found a forbidding land, dark, rocky, the settlement uninviting. As soon as land grants were made to them, many left for their new homes in the interior.

Among the first to come to Sussex Vale was George Leonard in March, 1786. He built his home on what is now Camp Sussex, near the site of the old Morrison house removed but a few years ago. George Leonard encouraged other Loyalist settlers to come to Sussex Vale, and many took up residence on the lands granted to them. Some of the family names shown on the map of granted lands are still well known in the community.

Among the Loyalists were educated men who realized the value of education and so in 1787 Oliver Arnold was persuaded to teach the children of the white settlers. This he did in his own home on the present site of The Willows, between Sussex and Sussex Corner. Later he taught in the first school which was built on the site of the Kirk property east of the present Trinity Church in Sussex. Mr. Arnold was a graduate of Yale University, a man of stainless character and became the first minister of old Trinity in 1792, where he gave years of loyal service.

The history concerns itself mostly with the part of Sussex Vale known as Sussex Corner, where one of the first houses built was the home of Christopher Sheck, a carpenter from New Jersey. The original building may still be seen at the rear of Mrs. Abram Bailey’s house where it is used as a garage.

A house with an interesting history is that owned by Miss Florence Markham, now sold. It was the original Spicer’s Inn, built by Ebenezer Spicer, a Loyalist who moved

from Kingston to Sussex Vale in 1797. It was later known as Cogle's Inn. When the Reformed Episcopal Church was established, it was purchased to serve as a rectory. It has since been moved nearer the road and remodeled.

There is an interesting story about the origin of a very large and beautiful elm tree growing near the Markham house. William Pitfield on a visit to the rectory carried with him an elm stick which he was using as a cane, and as he entered the rectory, it was reported he stuck the cane in the ground and left without retrieving it. It took root and grew into one of the largest and most beautiful trees in that area.

The Pitfield Elm – Spicer's Inn

The so-called Pitfield Elm story came to an end in the month of October, 1972, with the felling of a "magnificent giant" as described in "The Story of Sussex and Vicinity", by Miss Grace Aiton.

It has been generally believed this elm had been planted by George Pitfield, a Loyalist, in 1822 to perpetuate the family name. However, with the felling of this landmark, that belief is no longer true. The number of rings found in the trunk was 200, making the tree at least eleven years old before the landing of the United Empire Loyalists at Saint John in 1783. Therefore it is assumed that the tree originated from a young seedling. It had been used to mark the half-way point between Saint John and Moncton.

At the time of the felling, the tree was 100 feet high and when cut the measurement across the stump was 6 feet, two inches. It was estimated the trunk weighed in the vicinity of 15 tons. Many of the higher and larger branches had become very dangerous, especially during storms, but even with this, it was with much reluctance, the task was allowed to be done, as it marked the end of a long era.

The tree stood in front of the house owned by Miss Florence Markham, Sussex Corner. This residence was built in 1792 by Ebenezer Spicer, a Loyalist and carpenter by trade, who arrived in Saint John in 1783. He first settled in Kingston and was a member of the Board of Assessors for the County.

Later in 1792 he purchased many acres of land on which is now Needle Street and Post Road, and in the same year he established an inn, known as "Spicer's Inn," the residence of Miss Markham, now A.S. Smith. This inn was mostly used by traders passing through from Saint John to Moncton with their wares and livestock.

Over the years the interior of the residence has been remodeled, however there still are many reminders of a bygone era – ie. – a ceiling had to be replaced recently in one of the rooms, and during the process, many square wooden pegs were found as well as the fact the house had been insulated with buckwheat hulls; in the basement all the beams are hand-hewn and in the house itself, at least one of the original doors is still in use. It is being remodeled again.

Also of special interest, Mr. Spicer instituted the Zion Lodge in Sussex. He died in 1818 and was buried on his own property which had become the area's cemetery, known as "Spicer's Field", and now as Holy Trinity Cemetery, Sussex Corner.

Among the first of the settlers in Sussex Corner was Captain John Cogle who received grants of 1200 acres between Trout Creek and Salmon Creek. His home as built on the site

of the house built about one hundred years ago (1857) by the father of the Hon. William Pugsley and occupied by William Sullivan who has since died.

Oxias Ainsely owned the land at what is now the centre of Sussex Corner. He gave part to his son, Thomas who in turn gave land for the site of the first church, Trinity, (Anglican) on the same spot where St. Mark's Church now stands. Construction of this church was begun around 1792.

In the area were numerous friendly Indians, and in the hope of educating them as Christians and encouraging them to till the soil, a school house for Indians was built about 1792 on the present Church Avenue in Sussex. This was called the Indian College and was financed by the "Society for Propagating the Gospel among the Natives of America." The Indian children were boarded and clothed as well as instructed. The school was discontinued in 1826, and the Indians speedily abandoned the church which had made such exertions for their civilization and conversion.

Shortly after the settlement was established a road was surveyed between Saint John and Moncton, but was not completed for some time, and remained a trail for years. When supplies for the settlers were brought in, they came mostly by boat up the river. The boats for heavy freight were called "Durham boats". They were from 30 to 40 feet long, eight feet wide, flat bottomed, and propelled by oars and sail. In the upper waters, the crew of four or five dragged them with stout tow ropes.

About the year 1819, the first school house was built at Sussex Corner and occupied the same site used by the present school. The land for this school had been given by Robert Vail to the Governor and Trustees of the Madras School System. A large class could be well managed by an efficient teacher, for the older and more clever pupils taught the younger ones. Many of the teachers were old soldiers who received but small, cash payments.

After the turn of the century, many more settlers arrived and began to open up the country. In 1816, John Jeffries began his grist mill at Jeffries Mill Pond, where part of the original mill is still in use. The gear and shingles for this mill came from England, while the mill stones came from France. The top grinding stone is made of French burr, an exceedingly hard stone, weighing 2400 pounds and is 20 inches thick. The task of bringing it so far inland from the sea at that time seems almost beyond human possibility.

The first local cemetery, which is still in use, was called Spicer's Field. Here may be seen many old tombstones marking the graves of the departed. The date of 1801 may be seen on the gravestone of Major Richard Stockton, and there are other stones with illegible printing due to the weathering of 150 years.

An outstanding character of the late 1800s was Hugh McMonagle. He was born of Irish parents, and first saw the light of day in the home now occupied by Lloyd Hunt in Dutch Valley. He became the proprietor of the well-known McMonagle Inn, which still stands at the cross-roads and is now used as a residence. At the Inn, accommodation for travelers by stage coach and horseback was supplied. Liquor also flowed freely at a 30-foot bar served by four bartenders at times. McMonagle also managed a racetrack of one-half mile, at that time the fastest in North America, and to which horses came from as far as Kentucky.

In 1827, a Wesleyan Society was formed due mainly to the preaching of travelling missionaries and the first Methodist chapel in Kings County was built on the site of the

present Walter Law's house. In 1874 a new church was built east of the Colonial Home. This was later moved to Sussex where it is now the Orange Hall.

Churches

Through the latter part of the 19th century, the Church of England went through a period of upheaval through the rise of a strong "Low Church" party which protested certain points of doctrine and practice of the high Episcopal churches. This movement was widespread in England and on this continent, one result being the formation in New York of the Reformed Episcopal Church.

During this time, our country was going through a period of rapid expansion. The railroad had gone through Sussex in 1859, with the result that the business centre of the district shifted from "Upper Corner" to nearer the railway terminal. When it was proposed to remove the original Trinity Church from the site where the present St. Mark's stands in Sussex a strong group of laymen seceded and organized a separate congregation. This was 1874. The corner stone of this Church was laid in 1875 and the building dedicated in 1876. The present residence, owned by a Mr. Smith (formerly Florence Markham's) served as the first rectory. The present manse was built in 1892.

The congregation flourished until 1911, the most notable period being the pastorate of Rev. A.M. Hubly (1886-1905). Following several brief ministries, the church was left without a minister in 1911, the Reformed Episcopal cause being then on the wane. A Union Sunday School was still being carried on by devoted laymen.

Dr. Willard Brewing was the one hundredth anniversary speaker. Mrs. Brewing was a daughter of a former pastor, Rev. A.M. Hubly (1886-1905).

In 1928, the United Church of this area secured this building and Sussex Corner became the centre of the newly organized charge of Newtown-Waterford. Rev. Theodore Ross was the first minister, then Rev. J.M. Fraser, Rev. F.J. Little, Rev. E.E. Fytche, Rev. C.G. Westhaven, Rev. E.A. Reynolds, Rev. Gordon Cann, Rev. Bernard Roberts, then Rev. Norman Green and at present Rev. Elaine Palmer.

On July 31, 1955, the turning of the first sod of the hall attached to the church took place. It is an "L" twenty-five by forty-five feet and is a small memorial to the first minister, Rev. A.M. Hubly. This addition has filled many needs to the life of the congregation. The Church's Recreation Centre is now the former Sussex Corner School.

As Saint Mark's Church had its 50th anniversary, in 1978, a comprehensive history was written then. I shall mention the clergy from the earliest date of an Anglican Church at Sussex Corner.

Rev. James H. Talbot (1873-1878); Rev. John Lockwood (1878-1882); Rev. J.R. de W. Cowie (1883-1890); Rev. Alan Smithers (1890-1898); Rev. Arthur Slipper (1898-1900); Rev. Sourbutts (1900-1905); Rev. George L. Freeburn (1905 – 1908); Rev. F.J. Leroy (1908-1912); Rev. A.J. Gollmir (1912-1916); Rev. Leonard Richards (1916-1921); Rev. W.E. Best (1921-1925); Rev. Craig Nichols (1926-29); Rev. Orlando Evans (1929-1930); Rev. Craig Nichols (1930 – 1937); Rev. Robert R. Webb (1937-1962); Rev. Peter

Cowland (1962-1965); Rev. Donald Calvert (1965-1969); Canon B.J. Buckland (1970-1979); Rev. John Moorhead (1979-1984); Rev. David Dean (1984-?).

In the early part of the last century letters were carried by anyone who happened to be going to the letters' destination. There were no envelopes or stamps, the letter written on a sheet of paper was folded and sealed with wax; the receiver, not the sender paid for its transportation.

When plans were made for a railway between Saint John and Moncton, it was routed through Sussex Corner, but several landowners refused to sell land required, so the plans were changed and the line was built through Sussex between 1853-1859. Many people and businesses moved to Sussex with it. Sussex boomed and Sussex Corner became a separate community with a slower growth. With the Potash Mines near Sussex, the number of homes has increased.

During the past fifty years, many changes have taken place in our area. Growth has been steady and continual in line with the remainder of our province. Dairy Farming is a chief industry in the community which now consists of two churches, a roomed school, post office, W.I. Community Hall; a large general store, tourist cabins, garages and many comfortable homes. We have a street lighting system, installed by a local improvement association. To the people in Sussex Corner this is still a "Pleasant Valley" I which to live.

To the east of Sussex Corner is Dutch Valley and I am including the following poem:

Dutch Valley Idyll

Oh majestic bluffs of Rockville
Off your placid top I've trod
To view the varied scenery
Of the farms where fertile sod
Producing cereal in abundance
Far more than can home supply
And the farmers ever prosper
And poverty defy.

Aiton's Hill first confronts you
That high and lofty ridge
Then sight wanders to the river
With rough unpainted bridge

Up the road beside the river
We can see the village school
Here we educated the genius
And also Arnold's mule
We used to learn plain English
And sat upon a bench
Now they sit on fancy chairs

And learn English, French.

I see rows of willows
Planted many years ago
They are very old and knotty now
And have almost ceased to grow
They stand like trusty sentinels
That watch upon the hills
They are sentinels very truly
For the home of Mr. Mills.

Then there's a house above
All hidden by the trees
If you examine it closely
You'll find it's Medley Parlee's.

Then at your feet the monstrous farm
Of George Hazen does lie
Across the river the Post Office
With the blacksmith shop nearby
Then there's Doherty's and Aiton's
With houses on a knoll
And a little further down
Are John Brannan's and Charles Dole's
Next there is Clark Teakles
Whose family is a rouser
And very near beside it
Is the home of Allen Bowser.

Written by a Mr. Gray (about 1900)

The Old Beehive

(Mrs. W.D. Sullivan)

One of the interesting old homes in Sussex Corner is one once known as the "Beehive" and now the residence of Mrs. Abram Bailey. The numerous people who have lived under its roof could no doubt tell fascinating tales of the happenings there.

It was Christopher Sheck, of Dutch descent, a Loyalist from New Amsterdam, New York State, who received Lot No. 52 in Sussex Vale, and there built his first home, probably a one-roomed log cabin. Christopher Sheck had been a sergeant in the 1st Battalion, New Jersey Volunteers, and at the time of his coming, other members of his battalion came and settled along the banks of Trout Creek and in what is now called

Dutch Valley – these Dutch settlers were responsible for the name of our well-known Dutch Valley.

Thinking that a tavern would be a profitable venture, he built a large two-storied structure (This building may still be seen at the rear of Mrs. Bailey's home). Then when stage coaches began to run in the 1830s, he was ready for them. At Sheck's Inn, the stage stopped to change hoses on the lengthy trips between Saint John and Moncton and between Saint John and Halifax where the English mail was carried.

In the year of 1838, this Inn was the scene of great excitement when a murderer was captured there. A warning had been received by the Clerk of the Peace at Sussex from the High Sheriff at Amherst, N.S., that a murderer was on his way to Saint John, and his assistance was sought in apprehending him. In the meantime, young Joseph Avard of Shemogue had started after the murderer and captured him at Sheck's Inn in Sussex Vale. He was taken back to Amherst, tried for this crime and hanged.

Christopher Sheck was the father of five sons and several daughters. He lived to the advanced age of 85. His death occurred in 1840. In his later years when he could no longer carry on as an innkeeper, his son took over the business with one son, Daniel in charge. While the inn was under Daniel Sheck's supervision, many public meetings were held. The Sussex and Studholm Agricultural Society was organized there. For a time Sheck's Inn was the Sussex Vale post office with Daniel as postmaster.

We do not know the exact date when the old inn was replaced by the present building, which is now the residence of Mrs. A.W. Bailey. It was sturdily built with handhewn beams and wooden tree nails. Downstairs were two large stone fireplaces reaching nearly to the ceiling. The flue had four roisens to it. Over the fireplace were swung the heavy cranes on which the cooking pots were kept. This new inn was managed by Mrs. Ann Bowen, who perhaps was a daughter of Daniel Sheck. The whereabouts of her husband was unknown. The inn was now called the "Bowen House" and later on the "Half-way House", situated as it was half-way between Saint John and Moncton.

As time went on and the stagecoaches were no longer running on the Great Road, the Half-Way Inn fell into disuse and for a number of years after the turn of the century, when these families and their many children were occupying the house, the name "Bee-Hive" was given to it. This name is familiar to many people in this vicinity.

Until about 1900, the inn was owned and operated by Christopher Sheck and his descendents. Then it was purchased by Mark Teakles. Later it was occupied by Henry Teakles and Dr. Teakles, a well known resident of this area for many years. James Hornbrook was the next owner. He repaired the house and removed the old stone fireplaces. Again for sometime it fell into disuse, until Charles D. Mills purchased it. Mr. Mills restored and modernized it into a very respectable house, as it is today. It then became the property of Mr. Abram Bailey, who wife is the present owner.

The house is not the oldest house in the area. Still it ranks among the more ancient of the homes built by the Loyalist settlers of the community.

Sussex Corner School

Won't you come with me on a little stroll
Down colourful Memory Lane,
Back to the days of "Used-to-Be"
That will never return again.

We will visit our Sussex Corner School
As it as in the years gone by,
And wander along the paths of the past
Sharing a smile and a sigh.

We'll remember the pupils and the teachers of old,
Trustees and Janitors too,
In this little sketch we honour them all,
With respect that is their due.

For they've left us a colourful heritage,
A history that's rich and fine,
A message for us in the "Here and Now"
If we read between the lines.

They tell us, "The things you do today
Will soon take their place by our side,
So do your best...Excelsior'
Be your motto and constant guide.

Strive for the best, the honest and true
As you make your way through the years,
Then non of your strolls down Memory Lane
Will be marred with regrets and tears.

Learn from our story...and be proud of the past,
And then with a purpose bold,
Make the future of Sussex Corner School
A wonderful thing to behold.

By Helen Bronnum

Historical Sketch of the Progress of Education in Sussex Corner

Education has always been given a prominent place in the Sussex area. Generations have followed generations, teachers have come and gone, but the interest in educating the young has never ceased.

With the possible exception of Sheffield and Saint John, it is doubtful if any community in New Brunswick can boast of older education facilities than the Sussex area. For a period of nearly two hundred years from the autumn of 1787, three years after the formation of the Province, this area has had continuous school facilities.

Sussex was founded in 1786 by the Honourable George Leonard, whose burial place is in the Sussex Corner Cemetery. He was the leading resident and soon realized there was great need of a school, primarily to Christianize the Indian children, not excluding the English schoolchildren, and so in 1787 the first school in this area was built by Isaiah McCaty. This school had three rooms and stood a short distance above the Trinity Church in Sussex. The first school teacher was Oliver Arnold, who graduated from Yale University in 1776 and came with the Loyalists to Saint John in 1783, then to Sussex in 1787 at the age of twenty-two years, to become the first master of what may very well have been the first school in Kings County. Mr. Arnold lived where Archie McGibbon now resides. Mr. Arnold's salary was 15 pounds a year, and after a year or two he resigned for further study, to be succeeded as master by Elkanah Morton. Mr. Arnold returned to Sussex in 1792 as a missionary of the Church of England.

In 1793 a college was built on the property later owned by Judge D.V. White, Church Avenue and this was known as the Indian College. Once again many white children also attended. Some came from outside points to be educated here. In 1819 an Academy and Boarding School were also added as a part of this college.

A small school was built at Sussex Corner in 1819 on the site of what is now the United Church Centre. We have no further mention of it until 1855 when a new school was opened on the same site. Sussex Corner had now become the chief centre of population and this new school took prominence – a place which it continued to hold for many years. This school had two rooms with Grades 1 to 9 inclusive, and the first master was Mr. John Raymond with C.R. Palmer as primary teacher. These were followed by the Misses Davis and Humphrey. Owing to the general excellence of the school, many children attended from what is now the town. This building was in use for seventy-six years, until 1931 when the front part of the school was built as a new school. The original building had the primary and advanced department with a small room in the centre known to the children as “the dark room”, where one pupil who is still living was sent for disciplinary reasons and forgotten until he walked out at the end of the school day, much to the surprise of the teacher. This room was used for purposes such as storage of chemicals, cleaning supplies, etc.

Much of my information is based on the minutes of the school meetings, dating back to January 11, 1872. The first minutes state that chairman for the meeting was Dr. E.A. Vail, M.P.P. The secretary was John A. Humphreys and the Trustees were Hugh Jeffries, Robert McCully and Hugh McMonagle. Auditor was William A. Smith. It would seem many parents were anxious for their children to receive some education, because there was such a large number in attendance they were considering enlarging the accommodation. The teachers at this time were S.C. Wilbur with a salary of \$300 paid half-yearly and Julia Pugsley - \$155, also paid half-yearly. The janitor was Albert Morrison who made fires from the first of January to the first of June for \$3.00.

In the minutes of 1873 there were 76 names on the register for the fall term and 82 for the remainder, but the attendance was very poor. Many of the children, especially boys, were kept at home from early spring to late autumn to do farm work, etc. hence grown

men were in attendance from Grade 3 on for several years. However, plans were still going ahead for increasing the accommodation and Mr. Edwin Crawford, a carpenter who lived on the property now owned by Mrs. Aldran Stewart, was engaged to draw plans and specifications for the enlargement. After this was completed, the trustees advertised for tenders, the lowest being \$500. And here the minutes state "nothing was done". The trustees through Mr. McMonagle explained the reasons (which are not mentioned) and apparently these were satisfactory.

The school was heated by a box stove in each room and the drinking water was carried in a pail from a well in front of the big white house now owned by Lester Anderson. During the night and on weekends in the winter the water would freeze in the pail and was allowed to thaw on the stove the next morning if there was any amount.

The janitor in 1878 was Oliver Ritchie who received nine cents each time he swept the rooms, the number of times being regulated by the trustees and later the rate was lowered to seven cents. Also in 1878 there was an epidemic of diphtheria, and the principal, Mr. Angus Sillars agreed to return \$25.00 of his salary because the school was closed for several weeks.

In 1882 a special trustees' meeting was called, the purpose being to consider the advisability of dispensing with primary department for awhile, but it would seem this was not done, because two teachers were hired in 1883. Also in the minutes we note that the year's supply of wood, eight cords at \$2.24 per cord, was purchased from John Hunter and James Bell was hired to saw this at 60 cents per cord.

In 1884 the school was made a Superior School.

The minutes in 1895 tell us the school was moved forward forty feet, placed on cedar posts and raised not less than two feet from the ground also the roof had new shingles, and the building was painted inside and outside, the cost being \$480.77. It had been planned not to exceed \$500.00. At the same time there was a motion made not to put a fence in front of the school, but a tight board fence seven feet high built from the rear of the lot to the back of the building. However, in 1896 there was a fence built in front of the school similar to the one in front of the Reformed Episcopal Church next door, with two small gates and a large one, at a cost of \$65.00.

The children received few holidays in their school year which was eleven months. During the winter they received a half day for skating, but no party. The skating usually took place on the race track which was on land formerly owned by Mrs. Earl Cunningham, or on the Jeffries millpond. Arbor Day was always looked upon with much pleasure. The girls did their usual inside cleaning and the boys were busy outside beautifying the grounds. Maple, willow, butternut and elm trees were planted, but today there are not any left.

Children came from far away as Picadilly some years ago, and also children from the house now owned by John Hynes. Winter roads were not as they are today. Tracks were made then by the occasional horse and sled. At times some of the children would be overtaken by a team and given a ride. The children did not seem to mind the long walk, since their feet were well-covered by shoepacks over heavy homeknitted hose which went at least to the knees. One little girl was more fortunate than some of the other children in having her pet dog as a means of conveyance to school. The dog would haul her on a sled from what is now John Hynes' home. The dog was lodged in Hugh Aiton's barn until the end of the school day for the trip back home. This barn was torn down only

a few years ago on the late Clarence Anderson property at the Corner, and in the year, 1976, purchased by Earl Cunningham.

One pupil mentioned in the 1896 minutes was given the opportunity to attend school only if he would bring a cord of wood to the school, this being his tuition fee because he was a resident of Millbrook. This same pupil later became a successful businessman in the United States and did live in California.

The principal of the school in 1897 asked the School Board for a medium sized Webster dictionary but this could not be purchased for less than 10 dollars and so they decided to wait, and we find that it was not purchased until 1901 at a cost of eleven dollars, including express charges.

In 1897 a portion of the minutes reads as follows: The school inspector suggested a Canadian flag be purchased and owing to limited space on school grounds, the Road Commission gave permission to erect a pole on the green opposite the school house for such purposes; being hoisted on all proper occasions, including Exhibition Day, which was a half holiday for the pupils.

The trustees decided in 1898 to allow the children to play on the road during the noon-hour but not at recess. One trustee strongly opposed this at any time. In this same year the principal decided to resign earlier than was expected, so a special meeting was called to see if sufficient money could be collected to pay his salary at once and it is presumed he left happy. About this time there were two unfortunate incidents at different intervals. The two teachers found it impossible to keep order in the schoolroom and with the children in full command of the situation, one teacher left after only three days with them, and the other stayed three weeks. We might judge by this that those children were not too much different from those of today.

We find in 1898 the primary department became overcrowded with 32 pupils and 22 in the advanced. Inspector Steeves consulted with the teachers about this situation but they decided not to change the grades too much, and only transferred two bright pupils from primary to advanced.

The trustees' meeting on April 28, 1899 ended abruptly. The last paragraph in reading from the minutes is, "For want of some paraffin oil the lamp went suddenly out leaving the trustees in total darkness. Meeting then adjourned without ceremony." Again in 1899 the primary room was overcrowded and with the sanction of the Inspector, twelve students were graded into the advanced department. The principal, Mr. Nevers, was given twelve days leave of absence for military drill on the condition he provide a suitable teacher, and it is presumed he did.

The year 1900 saw the purchase of a new school bell. One pupil of that era tells me an assistant teacher who came in occasionally had no use for a school bell. He merely put two fingers in his mouth and that resounding whistle could be heard as far away as Trout Creek Bridge.

The principal in 1900 requested coloured crayons, ruler, the much needed dictionary, map of Canada, and blackboard erasers. The secretary purchased the crayons, ruler and felt to repair the old erasers, since new erasers cost 70 cents per half-dozen. How pleased the teacher must have been the next year to receive the dictionary after four years of waiting.

Scarlet fever raged in 1901 and many children were found attending school with the disease. They were later told they must stay at home until completely cured.

In 1902 new desks were purchased and the trustees decided they should not be used on the old floor, as it has been examined by a carpenter who found it would not last more than two years. A new hardwood floor was laid and the desks set by Peter Pitfield. A smaller stove was needed for the primary room since the good wood being used threw too much heat from the large stove. A smaller one was bought for \$4.00 and the larger one was sold for the same amount.

The year, 1902, still can be remembered in other ways...painful to some, no doubt. The Board of Health now insisted that all children be vaccinated before attending school and those who were now in attendance and not vaccinated would be done by a doctor who would come to the school. One girl of that day remembers several small children, ready for school, being vaccinated in the livingroom of Archibald Robinson's home and later owned by Harry Brown.

The janitor in 1903 was relieved of some of his duties as the trustees thought it advisable not to have the school floor scrubbed until after the boys were through wearing moccasins for the winter. The same year is well remembered by some of the senior citizens of this area who still have in their possession a small booklet which the principal of that year, Mr. Duncan Kirkpatrick, had printed containing the names of the children in the advanced department and also some well chosen quotations, one being "Let Excelsior be thy motto". He went on to explain the meaning of "Excelsior" as "Onward and upward", excellent advice to the pupils of today.

Mr. Kirkpatrick was a much liked teacher, even more so perhaps, because he asked the trustees for an eight week summer holiday instead of the usual six, but the trustees decided to let this lay on the table. A few months later a petition signed by the ratepayers were presented to the trustees, asking the same thing, and this was granted. The number of pupils in attendance at this date was; advanced, 40; primary 23.

In 1906 the school was once again painted white with colored trimmings; sashes: India red; the roof was a type of fire proof paint, and the inside washed and whitewashed; also the board fence, woodhouse, and outside toilets were whitewashed, all at the cost of \$74.00. It was done by Bert Brewing who submitted the lowest tender.

The teachers in the school were no doubt very pleased in 1906 with the news that they would henceforth receive their salaries in monthly installments, instead of half-yearly. The school had always been able to hire teachers with excellent qualifications, and when an advertisement appeared in the "Saint John Sun and Telegraph" daily paper for one primary teacher, there were 25 applications received, with a salary range of \$160 to \$225 per year.

In 1911 a decision was made to hire only male teachers, but apparently this did not prove out, as there were many female teachers hired within the next few years. One of the female teachers in 1912 had difficulty teaching the children not to say "Ain't". One of the scholars of that year tells us that the teacher thought she had finally eliminated the use of the word when one particular little girl happened to utter it again in the teacher's hearing. A lively lecture followed, ending with the following verse:

There was a little girl who said "ain't"
She fell in a can of paint
And when she got out
She said "isn't" and "aren't", not "ain't"

This pupil never forgot that grammatical error or verse.

Music played an important part in school entertainments at Christmas and in June, and prior to 1910 the organ from the Reformed Episcopal Church was borrowed for the occasions. However, in 1910 the school board sponsored a pie social. The proceeds were used for a school organ and the event proved so successful, they soon installed an organ in the school. For the closings the music was taught to the children by Miss Florence Markham in her home. One lady tells me that the children were asked on Friday afternoon who could sing, and the fortunate ones who raised their hands were allowed an hour off to go to Miss Markham's to learn the various songs.

The end of carrying the drinking water from the Aiton well came in 1915 with the installation of a pump in the school.

During the years 1917 – 1923 it should be noted that the Honorable William Pugsley was Lieutenant Governor of the Province. He had at one time been a pupil of the Sussex Corner School. Many more pupils of the school have gone on to fame and importance in all parts of the world, but space does not permit mention of all their names.

The education of the pupils progressed very well in the nineteen twenties, with many new families moving in, and the need again arose to remodel the school or even consider an entirely new building. In 1930 it was agreed a new school was necessary to have an acre of land. The new school, built by Perley Law at a cost of \$5400.00, was ready for occupancy in September 1931. The old one was sold and moved away and later torn down. Not too many renovations were required in the new school until 1939 when inside toilets were installed at a cost of \$375.00.

During the war years many children were on the move with their parents and the school received a number of these. The years since have seen many new families moving to the Corner and in 1954 the need arose again either to remodel or build a new school. In 1955 and 1956, Myles Chown at a cost of \$31,000 insulated the building, installed the oil heating system, added two new rooms, and made a few other minor changes. 1966 finds overcrowded conditions again and time will tell of any further changes.

In 1961, two large trophies were given to the school board by the Misses Elizabeth and Muriel McMonagle of Montreal. One trophy was to be presented each year to the leader of Grade 8, in memory of their brother Hugh McMonagle, and the other to the leader of Grade 4 in memory of another brother, Walter Neil McMonagle. The McMonagle family had lived at the Corner for many years, and their uncle, Hugh McMonagle, had been a member of the school board for many years. Small replicas of the trophies have also been presented to the winning pupils who have been:

Grade 8:	1961...Philip Hynes	Grade 4:	Thomas Cunningham
	1962...Clement Kelly		David Bunnell
	1963...Lorraine Tabor		Christine Hynes
	1964...Shirley Wilkins		Edward Armstrong
	1965...Thomas Cunningham		Wendy Bennet

These names have been engraved on the large trophies, which remain in the school, by the school board.

Many would be interested in reading the names of the many teachers through the years, who have taught in our school. These names are listed from 1855, as we have no records of any names before that time. It is hoped that no name has been omitted.

John Raymond
C.R. Palmer
Miss David
Miss Humphrey
P. Cassidy
R. Nesbitt
S.C. Wilbur
Julia Pugsley
O.J. McCully
Margaret Ryan
Edwin Crawford
David Wilson
Angus Sillars
L.M. Nolan
G.H. Raymond
F.A. McCully
A.M. Belding
Alice Haggerty
Alex Robinson
W.J.S. Myles
Heber Burgess
May Smiley
Edwin McKnight
Marian Ross
C.H. Perry
O.M. Campbell
Julia Smith
Amasa Ryder
Alex Hubly
C.D. Strong
Susie Johnson
Harry Alward

Lottie Howard
James Howe
Olivia J. Moore
Duncan Kirkpatrick
Norman Fraser
Reece Keith
Harris Biggar
Miss Mitton
Miss Alward
Miss Estey
Miss McClelland
Mabel McFarlane
P.L. Robinson
Alex McMorran
Roy Bell
C.H. Edgett
Helen Jonah
Miss Corbett
R.K. Nevers
Robert Scott
Muriel Seely
Mildred Craig
Alice Leake
P.I. O'Leary
Mabel Marven
Carolyn Currie
Grace Aiton
Helen Reynolds
Ethel Keirstead
Joan Lawlor
Emily Myers

Florence McAulay
Josephine McLeod
Bonar Mundle
Mary Mosher
Annie Jones
Madeline McFarlane
Mae Wallace
Evelyn Burns
Eva Kelso
Evelyn Brown
Marion Wiley
Lesley Parlee
Estella Lockhart
Joyce Mayo
Mabel Walker
Cora Frazee
Shirley Hanlon
Sylvia McMorran
Raymond Haslett
L. Irene Hoyt
Alice Crowe
Anne Anderson
Eveline Dunn
A. Maude Robertson
Christina Creighton
Ina Sullivan
Fannie McFarlane
Velma Earle
Della Graham
Evelyn Murray
Marilyn Thorne

In 1974, Jeffries Corner, Hammondvale, and Hillsdale pupils were transferred to Sussex Corner; thus requiring three mobiles. Those teaching in 1974 at Sussex Corner, were:

Mrs. Velma Earle, principal, with 204 pupils in grades one to six. The teachers for 1976-77 were: year 1 – Mrs. Marilyn Thorne, years 1 and 2 – Mrs. Sylvia Carten, year 2 – Mrs. Mary Brown, year 3 – Mrs. Shirley Cox; year 4 – Mrs. Ruth Walker, year 5 – Mrs. Dixie-Lee Folkins, year 6 – Mrs. Velma Earle. Part time music teacher – Mrs. Albert Bunnell, traveling French teacher – Mr. Philip Mallory, part time elementary guidance - Mrs. I. Lewis.

Before I close, special mention must be given to the many trustees and secretaries who have served so faithfully all these many years. They have borne many heavy burdens and

their untiring efforts express their deep interest in the education of the youth of our community. We owe to all these men an expression of sincere gratitude.

Truly our school has a most interesting history, only a very small part of which has been told here. It is my hope that this sketch, through its distribution, will help arouse and reveal many more interesting facts pertaining to our school's history.

Other Notes of Interest

In a letter dated January 8, 1928, John Chestnut wrote interestingly of Sussex Corner and Sussex, about the year 1868. He went to school at Sussex Corner (1868) and his letter informs us of some of the boys in that school at that time. There were about 40 pupils and the teacher, a Mr. Palmer, had an assistant, Miss Davies. Some of the scholars who attended there were the Pugsleys, MacLeods, Stocktons, Morrisons, the Flewellings and a colored family named Johnson.

Miss Maude McMonagle was the May Queen, and the Evangeline of the village. She died in 1879 of diphtheria.

The businesses of the village included "Smith Brothers", who had a large general store, and their father was the village blacksmith; one could hear his anvil ring from morn 'til night. Mr. Orin Hayes was the wheelwright. He cut out all his spokes and rims by hand, as nothing could be imported for there were few railways in Canada in those days.

The buildings at Sussex Corner included a hotel owned by "McMonagle". It was built before 1853. He kept racehorses and ran the racecourse.

The present council is: Mayor R.O. Doncaster; Deputy Mayor Cecil Jeffries; George Sproule, Mrs. Edna Campbell and Bill Stewart.

The teachers for the year 1983 – 84 are as follows: School secretary, Mrs. Georgette Smith; teachers Joanne Ruitenberg, Marilyn Thorne, Anne Kilfoil, Laura Wallace, Sylvia Carten, Shirley Cox, David Daley, Etha Lynn Murray, Rosalie Crosbie, Patricia Daley, D. Lee Folkins, Mary Lea Stafford, Zoe Watson, Darryl Caines, Fritz Amizial, Briant Eaton and Kenneth Smith, principal.

There have been many people from this area who have served "King and Country". There have been booklets printed about Russell C. Hubly, whose father was Rector of St. John's Reformed Episcopal Church, later St. John's United Church. His photo is in the Kings County Museum, Hampton.

The following account is taken from the records of the day: The death of Russell C. Hubly took place at Sussex Corner and added another name to the roll of heroes who gave up their lives for the defence of the flag in South Africa. The deceased was the youngest son of Rev. A.M. Hubly, rector of St. John's Reformed Episcopal Church at Upper Corner and was in his 25th year. He was born in Halifax, but when young his parents removed to Moncton, and later to Sussex where they have resided for the past 15 years. He received a common school education and after attending Normal School received a first-class license but, shortly afterwards received a superior license. In his chosen profession he was very successful and had his life been spared he would no doubt have taken a leading position among the educationists of the province. Mr. Hubly was in

charge of the superior school at Hampton when the trouble in South Africa broke out. Nothing could prevent him from enlisting and in November of 1899 he joined the first contingent becoming a member of "G" company. Early in the campaign he contracted phthisis, but continued in the field through the early part of the march through the Orange Free State. When he got to Bloemfontein he was ordered into hospital. In July 1900 he was invalided to England where he remained until September sailing for home on that month and reaching here on October 2nd. Since then he has been gradually sinking and the end came not unexpected.

The deceased was one of the best types of young men which our country produces. Honorable and upright, clean in character and unimpeachable in morals, his life might well be taken as an example by many. He was a sincere Christian and lived up to his belief, facing the slow approach of death with a calmness and fortitude truly admirable. His literary ability was very marked and was shown in his book "G" Company or the Every Day Life of the R.C.R., which was considered by competent judges the best of its kind written on the war by a Canadian. His letters to the Kings County Record from the front were always interesting and showed that his inclinations were literary in character.

Death is at all times sad but particularly so in this instance. In the prime of life with his whole future before him, he met the end, not on the battle field where the exiting joy of strife robs the grim spector of its hideousness; but in his home surrounded by his family where each day marked the approach of the inevitable. He will be missed and mourned by all who knew him. His parents and the other members of the family have the heartfelt sympathy of the community in which the Record joins.

Col. H.M. Campbell, commanding the 8th Hussars completed arrangements by which the deceased will have an impressive military funeral, Major MacDougall commanding Capt. Oliver Arnold, Lieut. Ralph Markham, Lieut. H.R. Emmerson and 40 men of the 8th Hussars, of which the deceased was a trooper, will be in attendance. The 74th Regt. Of Infantry will furnish the band as well as a firing party and a large number of the officers and men will also turn out. The Newcastle field battery will convey the remains to the grave on a gun carriage in military form. The funeral took place at 2:30 pm Thursday.

The poem "On the Death of R.C. Hubly" was composed by "A Sympathizer".

On the Death of R.C. Hubly

In health and strength and manhood's pride,
He left his friends and home,
For distant Africa's shore
Across the briny foam.

His country called, he could not stay;
Within the soldier's breast
The fire of chivalry burned bright
And would not let him rest.

Afar upon the battlefield,
With thousands just as brave,

He fought, endured without complaint,
The hardships warfare gave.

He did not die upon the field
'Mid sound of shot and shell;
No mauser bullet pierced his heart,
Or sung his funeral knell.

He did not die upon the march
From sickness, or from cold,
When lying shivering on the sands,
In his rough blanket rolled.

Oh no, but he came home again,
A changed and altered man,
For death had set his seal upon
His cheek so pale and wan.

Back to his own dear native land
He had returned to die,
Back to the friends who loved him there,
Only to say "good-bye".

And though he fell not in the fight,
At Patriotism's shrine
He gave his life bravely as they
Who fell in battle's line.

For Country and Queen, he gave
The gift of his young life;
And now he sleeps the hero's sleep;
Death has ended the strife.

Above his quiet resting-place
The breezes softly blow
And sing the soldier's requiem,
In whispers soft and low.

Dark is the pathway to the grave,
But light shines through the gloom,
And O, what joy is in the thought
Of life beyond the tomb.

It already has been mentioned about his book “G” Company. This inscription was on the front cover.

“G” Company,
or
Every-day Life of the R.C.R.

Being a Descriptive Account of Typical
Events in the Life of The First Canadian
Contingent in South Africa

By Russell C. Hubly,
Formerly Principal of Hampton Superior School.

Price 25 cents
St. John, N.B.

The second page explained the “Dedication”.

To My Comrade,
Patrick McCreary,
Who, On February 19th, 1900,
For The “Old Flag”,
Poured Out His Life-Blood On the Sands Of Africa,
And Made Us Thrill With Pride At His
Glorious Death,
This Book Is Dedicated.

Hugh McMonagle, a colourful figure who influenced the history of our province in the field of sport, especially in horse racing. He came from a family of strong Irish heritage, and perhaps it was the Irish love of thoroughbred horses that first aroused his interest. He was born in Hillsborough, Albert County, and later moved to Sussex Corner. He was married twice – to twin sisters, Margaret and Mary Roach. His family to both wives were William, James, Hugh, Jr., Walter and a daughter.

About 1850, he chartered a ship to carry pure-bred stallions from Ireland, but the ship was wrecked and the horses were lost. New Brunswick government’s interest was aroused, and Hugh McMonagle was reimbursed for buying new stock wherever he could find it. Later another ship containing four stallions purchased from Ireland, was in danger of sinking unless the deck cargo was placed overboard. Hugh protested but could do nothing.

One of the most prominent horses was “Ida Grey” foaled in 1876. She was successful in horse-racing for three years and in 1882 she successfully overcame many of her own offspring.

His interests also included breeding very good farm animals, as cattle and work horses.

Hugh also served as a member of the Legislative Assembly during 1856-57 and was almost responsible for the overthrow of the Government on the issue of prohibition. It was saved only by the Governor proroguing the house.

Beginning in the 1860s Hugh McMonagle ran the "Posting house" at Sussex Corner for more than a quarter-century. Some reports called Sussex Corner "the most sporting little town to be found on the map." Its character has been compared to a transplanted Kentucky. Tales were told of merry gatherings of gentlemen-farmers at McMonagle's posting house with many pleasant hours spent with "good old Jamaica" and the "Cognac". While they kept the "Grog shops" busy, even busier were the tailors. Needle Street, a small lane, (now well settled with many attractive homes), is said to have supported no less than seven tailors and three taverns. Such was the existence!

Those men had no use for a man who couldn't judge horseflesh, nor the man who wouldn't back his judgement with his money. On one occasion, Hugh wagered 1000 pounds (about \$5000 on one of his thoroughbreds named "Livingstone" against George Gilbert's stallion, "Retriever". The race was run one April morning on the Courtenay Bay Flats, Saint John. The stake was the largest ever wagered on a race up to that time. People came from all over the Province to see it. One story is told of young John Robinson who walked the sixty miles from Waterford to Saint John to see the race, but he didn't walk quite fast enough and arrived a half-hour too late. We are told that he was so disappointed he sat down and cried.

The McMonagle clan went home very pleased because "Livingstone" was triumphant. The Saint Johners were disgusted as they heavily favoured "Retriever".

The story of Hugh McMonagle and his friends is part of our New Brunswick heritage, a part that for too long has been forgotten. (Information supplied by Mayor Richard Doncaster, Sussex Corner).

James Wade, pilot

A third resident of Sussex Corner who brought honour is James Wade, born in England in 1909, the son of Mr and Mrs. Robert Wade. He attended the Village Elementary School and graduated from Sussex High in 1928.

A pioneer in the early days of flying, he was a bush pilot in the North and he served during the Second World War as a ferry pilot flying military planes to Greenland. Also, he pioneered private plane flying and was K.C. Irving's personal pilot for several years.

He was best known for his many mercy and rescue flights. Before 1943 one could read of airmen rushing serum through the night skies to a critically ill patient, or airmen braving angry weather hurrying a passenger to the bedside of a dying mother or wife, but even among such illustrations, the following feat of Jimmy Wade in Greenland stands out like a brilliant light.

Three times he safely landed his amphibian plane on a "dime-sized" spot of open water in the frigid river, where moving ice-floes and bobbing cakes of ice constantly threatened to crumple the craft, and every time he managed to take off again without mishap – a demonstration of resourcefulness and know-how that won the unreserved admiration of

fellow fliers. With other aviators he stayed on the job until after Christmas, despite lack of rest, until he was certain that all survivors had been brought ashore.

Once, before this hazardous rescue mission, he spent three months, including Christmas, in the Arctic wastes, trying to find his way to civilization after being forced down on a rescue flight. These two deeds perhaps symbolize the real spirit of Christmas as truly as anything that has happened in Canada.

A green field in ice, an ice-floe off Greenland, drifting ice in the St. Lawrence River and his residence with his family in Saint John were all “home” to him. He received two distinguished awards for his flying ability. One was the British Empire Medal; the other, the Distinguished Flying Medal for deeds which few others would even try.

In recognition of this outstanding man, the Bicentennial Committee of Sussex Corner had a commemorative monument mounted and set in place on the Sussex Corner School grounds. Ceremonies were held on June 6, 1984, when the unveiling was done by Captain Wade’s widow (the former Florence Lillian Mingo) of Charlottetown, PEI, and his sister, Mrs. Ronald Bell, Peterborough, Ontario.

Outstanding guests included Mr and Mrs. K.C. Irving and Mr. Henry Irwin, Deputy Minister of Transportation.

He died at his home in Saint John in January, 1974.

Houses in Sussex Corner

There are many houses in Sussex Corner which are worthy of mention. The committee has selected eight.



The first selected is: The Stage Coach House, or McMonagle Inn. The proprietor has already been mentioned.



The second one selected is the home of Kenneth Doncaster. It was first owned by a Mr. Stiles.



Charles Upham sold to John and Mary Humphreys on April 22, 1914. Mary E. Humphreys sold to Thomas Donnachie on May 1, 1941. It is now owned by Mr. Ernest Huber.



Hugh McElroy sold to Stanley McElroy on March 25, 1943 and Stanley McElroy sold to Richard Jones who later sold it to Palmer Murray. It is now owned by William Wortley.



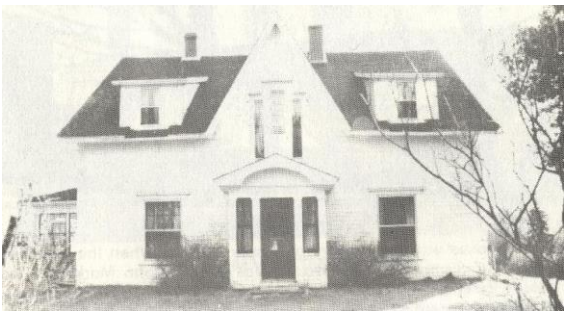
Mrs. Armour Mills bought this house from James Smith Estate and she willed it to Harry McFarlane in August 1955. Harry sold it to the present owner Murray N. McFarlane. It is at least 160 years old. The attic is noted for the wooden pegs in the rafters.



This house was the Rectory at Sussex Corner. When the Anglican Church was dismantled the Rectory was sold to John Markham, the father of Miss Florence Markham. In 1976, she sold it to a Mr. Smith from United States. Later he sold it to Garth Long. His wife has the Kindergarten. For years the "Pitfield Elm" made it famous.



Then there is the house on the Post Road owned by Keltie Thomas. The first record is on March 6, 1877, Robert Keltie, Saint John and William Morrison, Parish of Sussex, a farmer, purchased it. The mortgage was settled February 12, 1881. It was then sold to the present owner by an heiress, Katherine K. Morrison in 1940.



Records show that this house was owned by William Pugsley, a member of the Legislative Assembly. On May 30, 1938 it was sold to John James McFarlane who sold it to William Sullivan. Mr. Sullivan died the winter of 1983 and it is now the "William Sullivan Estate".

There can be much more written on Sussex Corner since there are many new homes and new streets, sidewalks, and the Village has its own sewerage.

One hopes the writer of the next history will have a background of this Village since 1792.

There are many new dwellings and streets in the present Sussex Corner, but it has had its losses too.

About 1924 a store, a dwelling over the store, a barn and a horse were burned. These were all owned by the late King McFarlane, father of Mrs. Madeline Moore and Mrs. Evelyn Neal who now reside at the present time in this area.

Again in 1931, Percy Wood's store and house, the "Dysart" home and barn, the Mission Room, with a dwelling upstairs and Calvin Snyder's house were burned.

In both instances, beautiful buildings soon were built in their places.

Epilogue

There are a few things, now that my task is complete, I feel compelled to mention. This history is written with the hope that the readers will find it entertaining and educational.

However, the one thing that bothered me the most as I was researching was that very few came forward to substantiate any data.

Though I was not a resident of Sussex Corner until 1939, I found a certain excitement in the research. I wish to thank the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Mrs. Jennie Powell, Mrs. Evelyn Neal, Murray McFarlane and the Kings County Museum for any assistance.

The Bicentennial Committee has tried to renew interest in Sussex Corner's past and not have the young people go to other parts of Canada in order to learn about their roots.

The committee asks that this history will not be read with a critical eye but with a decision of sparking interest toward preserving the history as a benefit for future generations.

W.H.D.

(The Village Council is appreciative of Zoe Watson in providing the pictures for this publication.)

Mayors

1967 to 1971	Fred Kilpatrick
1971 to 1973	Roger Caron
1973 to 1974	Rev. H. E. Dysart
1974 to 1986	Richard Doncaster
1986 to 1989	William B. Stewart
1989 to 1992	Gerry Hatt
1992 to 1995	Wayne Brown
1995 to 2004	Eric Cunningham
2004 to 2008	Garth Long
2008 to present	Eric Cunningham

Councils

First council 1967

Mayor Fred Kilpatrick

Council Earl Cunningham; Ronald Watson; Roger Caron; Austin Goggin

Clerk Mrs. Mary Cotter

1980

Mayor Richard Doncaster

Deputy Mayor Cecil Jeffries

Council Don Elmore; E. A. Jonah; George Sproul

Clerk Wilmot Neal

1981

Mayor Richard Doncaster

Deputy Mayor Cecil Jeffries

Council Edna Campbell; E. A. Jonah; George Sproul

Clerk Mrs. Ruth Lambe

1983 to 1986

Mayor Richard Doncaster

Deputy Mayor Cecil Jeffries

Council Edna Campbell; W. B. Stewart; George Sproul

Clerk Mrs. Ruth Lambe

1986 to 1989

Mayor William B. Stewart

Deputy Mayor Arie Ruitenbergh

Council Garnet MacKenzie; Edna Campbell; Serena Renner

Clerk Mrs. Ruth Lambe

1989 to 1992

Mayor Gerald Hatt

Deputy Mayor Lori Beaman-Hall

Council Marny Robinson; Arie Ruitenberg; Wayne Brown; Jerry Streisel

Clerk Sandra Daigle

1992 to 1995

Mayor Wayne Brown

Deputy Mayor Eric Cunningham

Council Ellen Robinson; Jack Lynch; Arie Ruitenberg; Don Schofield

Clerk Sandra Daigle

1995 to 1998

Mayor Eric Cunningham

Deputy Mayor Arie Ruitenberg

Council John (Jack) Lynch; Ella Robinson; Garth Long; Don Schofield

Clerk Sandra Daigle

1998 to 2001

Mayor Eric Cunningham

Deputy Mayor Arie Ruitenberg

Council Garth Long; Larry McPhee; Ella Robinson; Terry Gale

Clerk Sandra Daigle

2001 to 2004

Mayor Eric Cunningham

Deputy Mayor Arie Ruitenberg

Council Garth Long; David Bean; Janice Beardsley; John (Jack) Lynch

Clerk Sandra Kierstead

2004 to 2008

Mayor Garth Long

Deputy Mayor David Bean

Council John (Jack) Lynch; Douglas Tobin; Deacon McLaren; Arie Ruitenberg

Clerk Don Smith

2008 to Sept 2009

Mayor Eric Cunningham

Deputy Mayor John Mahoney

Council Ben Whalen; Steve Gillies; Arie Ruitenberg; Pat Pearson

Clerk Don Smith

Oct 2009 to present

Mayor Eric Cunningham

Deputy Mayor Steve Gillies

Council Ben Whalen; Arie Ruitenberg; Pat Pearson

Village milestones

April 7, 1847	The Great Horse Race, between Hugh McMonagle's Livingstone and George Gilbert's Retriever, full brother horses with Livingstone winning race
Sept 14, 1853	Sod turning on both ends of new railway between Saint John and Shediac
Nov 10, 1859	Arrival of first train in Sussex from Saint John
Aug 1, 1860	Completion of railroad between Sussex and Moncton
Oct 10, 1889	Death of Hugh McMonagle, prominent Sussex Vale businessman
Nov. 9, 1966	Incorporated as a municipality
February, 1987	Olympic Torch Relay visited as part of XV Olympics in Calgary
August 2009	Mural on Village hall painted by Fred Harrison
Nov. 24, 2009	Olympic Torch Relay passes through village as part of Relay for Vancouver 2010 Olympics