

C. NSM Site Mandates and Topics

SIMEON PERKINS HOUSE MUSEUM

MANDATE AND MISSION

- » To present the story of New England Planter Simeon Perkins, merchant, politician, judge and militia captain, as seen through the record of his remarkable diary, 1766-1812.
- » To interpret the period of Planter immigration and settlement, 1759-1768.
- » To provide a picture of the social, economic and political life of colonial Nova Scotia in the years before and after the American Revolution.
- » To introduce the patterns of domestic life of a prosperous and influential family in 18th century Liverpool.

PROPOSED CONTENT

*Note: Topics are drawn from the NS Interpretive Master Plan Content Framework.

I. CONTENT TO MAINTAIN

D. RELATING

- ###### D.1 Peoples of Nova Scotia
- European
 - African: Early Black experience in Nova Scotia.

E. LIVING

- ###### E.1 Life at Home and Work
- Gender Roles and Home Life: Life in a late 18th century family home.
- ###### E.4 Cultural Expression
- Architecture: History and evolution of the building.
 - Literature/Poetry/Drama: Perkins' diary.

II. CONTENT TO ENHANCE

B. EVOLVING

- ###### B.4 Migration, Outmigration, Exodus
- Planters & Pre-Loyalists: Planters; who were they and why did they come to Nova Scotia?

C. EXPLOITING

- ###### C.4 Commerce
- Colonial Business and Trade
 - Nova Scotia/New England Trade: Nature of Perkins' business as representative of the period.

D. RELATING

- ###### D.2 Governance and Politics
- British Colonial Government: Context for Perkins' political career.
- ###### D.3 War and Defence
- Privateering: Perkins lived and worked in a town of privateers. What was privateering and what role did it play in the two British/American wars?
- ###### D.7 Social Equality
- Slavery: History of, and reactions to, slavery in Nova Scotia to 1800 with reference to Perkins' slave/indentured servant.

E. LIVING

- ###### E.1 Life at Home and Work
- Childhood Experiences: Explore late 18th century childhood.
- ###### E.2 Communities
- Coastal Towns/Villages: Early history and the development of Liverpool.
- ###### E.4 Cultural Expression
- Heritage Preservation: The Liverpool experience.
- ###### E.5 Social Development and Organizations
- Justice: Crime and punishment; the law and dispensing of justice in early colonial Nova Scotia.

III. NEW CONTENT TO DEVELOP

B. EVOLVING

B.4 Migration, Outmigration, Exodus

- French Colonization: Acadia
- Black Experience: Black indentured servants; their relationship with the Perkins family.

B.5 Response to Place

- Building Technologies/Materials

B.6 Agents of Change

- Human Activity and the Environment

C. EXPLOITING

C.2 Resource Development

- Forestry: The lumber industry and trade in Liverpool.

D. RELATING

D.1 Peoples of Nova Scotia

- Indigenous

E. LIVING

E.1 Life at Home and Work

- People in the Workplace
- Social Value of the Workplace

E.3 Recreation

- Informal Play: What children did for fun – marble games.
- Leisure-time Activities: Seasonal past-times from evidence in Perkins' diary.

E.5 Social Development and Organizations

- Health Care

CONCLUSIONS

Present a more inclusive picture of colonial Nova Scotia by discussing the black experience in Liverpool. Establish more context for Perkins' role in the community as merchant (commerce in the colony), politician (nature of early colonial government), and judge (administration of justice).