



## **Something Old, Something New, to be displayed at the River John Library**

*Tuesday, March 14, 2017 (River John, N.S.):* The year, 1841. The original, prepared by Deputy Surveyor John Gauld and drawn on cotton with ox gall ink, shows the area from Seafoam to Tatamagouche indicating land grants and their owners. The ***Plan of the Settlement of River John and Vicinity***, much like a map, has an interesting story to tell and is now able to share it with others as the community of River John welcomes this important piece of history on Friday, March 24 at 1:00 p.m. in the Janice Murray Gill Memorial Library.

Certain to be of interest to genealogists, local historians, and anyone interested in the early settlement of River John and area, The Plan of the Settlement of River John and Vicinity was originally in possession of Clifford Carruthers until his passing, then put up for auction in 1990. Worried this rare piece of Nova Scotian history would end its days in a private collection, community member Janice Murray Gill quickly contacted nine others in the local area, who pooled their funds and purchased the piece for over \$1,500.

After being housed for several years in the local community museum, it was given to the River John Community Access Program (CAP) Society for safekeeping. Working with the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library, and with River John CAP funds, the Plan was sent to Zwickers Art Gallery in Halifax to be reframed to museum standards. While in Halifax, the Public Archives of Nova Scotia made a digital scan for the library as well.

The Plan of the Settlement of River John and Vicinity is now back home and will be permanently displayed in the public library in River John. The River John CAP Society is hosting an unveiling, for the general public, on Friday March 24 at 1:00 p.m. in the library. Everyone is welcome to attend and light refreshments will be served. They will also be selling a limited number of reproductions of the Plan, and the electronically scanned version will be available on the Regional Library's digital collection website, NovaStory.ca found at **[www.parl.ns.ca](http://www.parl.ns.ca)**.

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