

LOYALIST HOUSE

Loyalist House, once considered to be a mansion, is located on the corner of Union and Germain Streets and is the oldest wooden building in Saint John. It is one of the few buildings that survived the Great Fire of 1877 and has not been structurally altered since it was built between 1817 and 1820. It was constructed for the family of David Merritt, an American Loyalist from New York who came to escape persecution for his loyalty to the British crown and remained in the possession of the Merritt family for six generations until 1959.



Photo: Steve Rogers – mynewbrunswick.ca

Photo: Loyalist House Video
mynewbrunswick.ca



The house, typically Georgian in style, was constructed of pine (from the upper Saint John River) with cypress shingles on the south and west walls. The front entrance still holds its original fanlight and brass knocker. Its furnishings are prime examples of the work of artisans of the period.

Many unique features have been maintained: the curved doors that open to the back hall, the original fireplace implements, and an iron pressure cooker that dates to 1795. The piano-organ, almost 200 years old, still works. There is a haunting portrait that hangs in the dining room, and the eyes seem to follow you wherever you stand in the room!



Photo: Loyalist House Video - mynewbrunswick.ca

Outside *Loyalist House*, the Union Flag of 1783 is flown to symbolize our heritage with the American Loyalists and the British Crown. *Loyalist House* was designated (1963) by the Government of Canada as a place of national historic significance.

And, by-the-way, we have a retired teacher in New Brunswick who is a direct descendant of the Merritt Family.

While *Loyalist House* normally opens for the season in May, it would be a good idea to confirm the hours before arriving for a visit.

Read more about *Loyalist House* [HERE](#)