

African Nova Scotian LEARNING

INFO

The history of African Nova Scotians on Cape Breton Island is a rich and integral part of the region's cultural tapestry, spanning over 400 years.

In the early 1900s, the industrial boom in Cape Breton, driven by coal mining and steel production, attracted African Canadians from other parts of Nova Scotia and Canada.

The Maroons and other early African settlers maintained distinct cultural practices, including music, dance, and oral storytelling, which have become integral parts of Cape Breton's cultural mosaic.

Whitney Pier, a neighborhood in Sydney, became known as a multicultural hub where African Nova Scotians lived alongside immigrants from Eastern Europe, the Caribbean, and other regions. This community was known for its rich cultural diversity and strong sense of solidarity.

PLACES TO VISIT

Whitney Pier Historical Museum
Whitney Pier

Menelik Hall
Whitney Pier

St. Philip's African Orthodox Church
Whitney Pier

Universal Negro Improvement Association
Glace Bay

Old Sydney Society
Sydney

Glace Bay Heritage Museum
Glace Bay

Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Site
Louisbourg



This project is funded in part by the Government of Canada's Sectoral Initiatives Program

