

Amherst building named for War of 1812 participant Enos Collins, ship co-owner

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A federal government building in Amherst has been named the Enos Collins Building, in recognition of Collins's contribution during the War of 1812.

The building at 38-40 Havelock Street is a landmark in Amherst. Built in 1975, it is used by Canada Post, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, and Natural Resources Canada for office, industrial, warehouse, storage and workshop purposes, a federal government release said.

Scott Armstrong, the MP for Cumberland-Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley, made the naming announcement Friday on behalf of Rona Ambrose, the minister of public works and government services.

"Collins contributed greatly to the war by disrupting American supply routes and depleting their merchant marine capacity," Ambrose said in a release.

Armstrong unveiled a plaque that will adorn the building.

The event is one of several marking the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812.

As a young boy, Collins went to sea aboard his father's ship. His ambition led him to become part owner of several vessels trading out of the thriving seaport of Liverpool, the release said.

During the War of 1812, Collins was a co-owner of the Liverpool Packet, which became famous for capturing 50 American merchant vessels for the British.

At that time, Collins also founded the Halifax Banking Co., known today as the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

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