

HANOVER BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY

YOUR
HOME LOAN
FRIEND
FOR
A CENTURY
1893-1993

The Hanover Benefit Building Society is a testimony to what the people of Hanover have achieved over the last 100 years. ■

Growth of the Hanover Benefit Building Society

By Sharon Earle
Staff Reporter

fit at the time to provide freehold houses for its members and improve dwelling for the working class.

History

The history of this mutual society is seeped in the Jamaican tradition 'partnership' saving and had its genesis among members of the Hanover Parish Church.

Its objective was to give them the opportunity to borrow money to start their own homes and improve their condition of living.

The Morant Bay Rebellion in 1865 was what highlighted the need for housing as the population saw a significant growth after slavery and so the concept

of a building society was adopted from England. The church became the regular meeting place where advice and instructions were given.

The Hanover Parish Church, then known as the Episcopal schoolroom, became the meeting place for members of the Hanover Benefit Building Society.

The Society was governed by a committee of directors led by chairman and rector, the Rev. C. Henderson Davis. The other directors were A. J. Salmon, G.A. L. Sanftleben, I.D. Kirk lady, F.G Miller, Walter W. Hogg and G.R Davis.

Own office

Over a year later, the Society moved to its own office at its present location on Moseley Drive in Lucea. The H.B.B.S., then second oldest building society in Jamaica, is an integral part of the historical landscape of Hanover and is viewed as a relevant savings and loans institution which is still serving its purpose in developing the concept of saving among citizens.

In 103 years, the HBBS had succeeded in providing excellent service to its members and fellow Hanoverians by assisting them, whether big or small, to own their homes.

On February 29, 1996 the humble HBBS merged with the giant of the island's building societies, Jamaica National and with the stroke of a pen became part of a network of 18 branches of Jamaica National Building Society with an asset base of \$8.4 billion and a membership of more than 4,400

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