



### **Babb-English House, 251 North Road, Epsom, NH**

The house was probably built by John Babb shortly after he acquired the property in 1789. According to notes written by Neil and Leigh English (owners of the house 2005): "The house is a typical center-chimney cape, with keeping room running across the back and with the stairs leading up and alongside the chimney from opposite the front door. It was originally half-a-cape, and as the Babb family grew, it added, probably around 1820, a dining room, quite formal with its wainscoting and Indian shutters, another - "the west" - bedroom, raised from 2 steps higher than the other rooms, either to accept the warmth rising from the adjacent keeping room or to accomodate the high-ceilinged dairy cellar beneath, and a pantry, thus completing the full cape. Still later - 1845 or so - the family added an upstairs bedroom, leaving the rest of the upstairs unfinished. Probably the house's most important features are the feather-edged pine sheathing found in 3 rooms, the subtly elegant woodwork of the dining room, and the fact that with the exception of the "modern" windows installed in two rooms in this century, and the new chimney with 3 fireplaces, the house is virtually unchanged from the way it was at the time of its construction.

The Kelley family remained in the house for another century dating from 1869 through 1971 going from Trueworthy, to Edward M., whose wife was a Babb descendant, to Roscoe Kelley. Neal and Leigh English bought the house in 1973.

#### **CHRONOLOGY of owners (not necessarily resident):**

1732, Original lot drawn by George Keniston of Greenland; 1735, Enoch Clark from George Keniston, both of Greenland; 1759, Daniel Clark minor child from father Enoch Clark, deceased, brother Joseph, guardian; April 1780, Capt. Thomas Babb from town of Epsom, land sold for non-payment of non-resident taxes; 1785, Moses Osgood of Epsom from Thomas Babb, 36 acres; 1789, John Babb, cordwainer, from Moses Osgood; about 1831, Philip Babb, from inheritance from father John Babb with son John Babb (Jr.) to stay in the house (where he now lives) along with daughter Elizabeth the "Privilege of the west bed room and furniture" etc. as long as she choose to reside in the familly, Philip Babb Executor; 1869, Trueworthy Kelly from Philip Babb; abt. 1915, Edward M. Kelly by inheritance from Trueworthy Kelley; 1934, Edward 'Roscoe' Kelley from Edward M. Kelly by inheritance; 1971, Lewis P. Barton from the estate of Roscoe Edward Kelley; 1973, Neil A. and Leigh English from Lewis P. Barton.

**GENEALOGY:** Philip Babb married Grace Lang and had children: Rachel Babb who married George Wallace; Sarah who married Neal McGaffey; Philip who married Sarah Holmes; Thomas who married Elizabeth Wallace; Aaron Babb married Hannah Tarleton; Mary married William McGaffey; John Babb married Anna Holmes; and Hannah married John Grant.

Son John Babb who married Anna Holmes in 1795, had for children: Lydia Ann who married David Locke Lang; Doctor James Babb who married Anna Maria Lang; John who married Salome Rand; William who died young; Elizabeth 'Betsey' who did not marry; and Philip who married Susan Morrill. John Babb and Salome Rand had for surviving children: William Pickering Babb who married Rebecca Heath, widow of Henry Tarleton; and Lydia Ann Babb who married Daniel Thomas Cilley.

Philip Babb who married Susan Morrill had for children: Ann Susan who married Robert C. Brown; Leon who married Mary White; Lucinda Holmes who married Clarence Gerrish and John Horace who married Lizzie B. Brown.

Trueworthy Fowler Kelley, son of John Kelley and Phebe Stevens married Gulielma Chesley, daughter of Jonathan Steele Chesley and Abigail Hoyt. They had two children: Edward M. Kelley who married Sybil Brown, daughter of Robert C. Brown and Ann Susan Babb (who was the daughter of Philip Babb and Morrill); and Emma Maria who married Edward Drew.

Edward M. Kelley and Sybil Brown had for children: Edward Roscoe who married Jessie Gertrude Ambrose, daughter of Albion N. Ambrose and Susie Coburn; Trueworthy who married Flora Veilleux; and George Peabody Kelley who married Edna Esther Rowe.

Roscoe Kelley and Jessie Gertrude had for children: Dorothy Frances, Florence, Albion Roscoe and Harriet June.

