



Batchelder-Hall House, 171 Center Hill Road, Epsom, NH

This property consisted of the lot on which the house stands, and a smaller lot which held the location of the store. It would not appear either building was present when the property was bought by Thomas D. Merrill, and he sold his own homestead, plus this property to John Griffin Jr. in 1849. The Griffin's ran a store at this location, which they may have built, and the house erected probably about the same time. In 1853 the house is sold and occupied by John Wells, though it appears from town records that he did not pay any taxes during that time. Some problem developed as the property ended in the hands of Joseph Lawrence in 1858, his daughter being the wife of John M. Griffin. Lawrence appears to have retained the store for some time, and it is known that John C. Hall operated a store as well, but it remains uncertain whether they are one in the same. John C. Hall bought the house in 1859 and it was occupied by his son James (Jim) Hall. Work was done on the house during 1860 by neighbor Charles J. P. Brown, including siding the barn. James married and moved shortly thereafter to Pembroke. The barns burned in 2004 when owned by Charles and Ruth Batchelder. It is not until 1869/1870 that the entire property was in the hands of the same person when it was bought by Daniel Clough. Clough previously lived in what was later the Eldon Howard farm, and in advanced age gave up the large farm for the smaller property. It would not appear likely that he would manage a store at this time. It certainly is conceivable that the store was rented off and on through the years. The Clough property came into the hands of his daughter, Rosilla Clough Heath, and passed to her daughter Rosilla Estelle Hall. Her husband was Charles 'Cobbler' Hall, and he ran his shop out of the old store. It is also mentioned by Gilbert Knowles that during the time that George Batchelder owned the old Tavern adjoining property, that a part of the old parsonage across the street was moved and attached to part of the house. This would have been between 1864 and 1889.

CHRONOLOGY of owners (not necessarily resident):

Original Parsonage Lot, bought by John Tucke; 1797, Simon Ames Heath from estate of John Tucke; abt 1830, Andrew M. Heath from Simon Ames Heath; 1832, Benjamin M. Heath from Andrew M. Heath, homestead of Simon A. Heath; 1834, Thomas D. Merrill from Benjamin M. Heath, 15 acres east of burying ground; 1849, John Griffin Jr. from Thomas D. Merrill; 1853, John Wells from John Griffin Jr., John F. Griffin & David Knowles); 1858, Joseph Lawrence from Sheriff and John Griffin Jr.; 1859,

John C. Hall of Epsom from Joseph Lawrence, Abigail Griffin and Lucy Lawrence, 7 1/4 acres, small frontage with larger backland; 1863, John C. Hall from James W. Hall of Manchester, & aux & wife Sarah E., eastern tract land and buildings, 96 sq. rods; 1864, Andrew J. Hall from John C. Hall, eastern tract of land with buildings; 1866, Andrew J. Hall from John M., James M., & Abigail Griffin, western part of land, 7 acres; 1867, Horace Robinson from Andrew J. Hall, land and buildings, 2 tracts, excluding the store owned by Joseph Lawrence; 1869, Daniel Clough of Epsom from Horace Robinson of Epsom, building on one piece; 1870, Daniel Clough from Joseph Lawrence of Epsom, 1/2 acre east of cemetery; 1881, Rosilla W. Heath of Epsom from C. Jenney Swain and husband Charles Swain of Barrington and Sarah E. Leighton & husband of New Jersey, estate of Daniel Clough; 1917, R. Estelle Hall from Rosilla W. Heath (mother), land and buildings, all the real estate she owns in Epsom; 1939, Roland S. Hall by inheritance from R. Estelle Hall (mother), Ernest P. Roberts, Executor; 1947, Edward & Pauline Seguin from Roland S. Hall, husband of R. Estelle (Heath) Hall; 1947, H. V. Higley from Edward and Pauline Seguin; 1957, Roland and Louise LaFleur from H. V. Higley as Administrator for Veterans Affairs; 1970, Charles and Ruth Batchelder from Roland LaFleur.

GENEALOGY: Joseph Lawrence married Lucy M. Philbrick and had children: Emily A. (Abigail ?) who married John M. Griffin; Mary F., Helen M., who married Andrew O. Carter; Augusta, who married John Sargent; Eldora, Sophia S. who married Charles Bulfinch; Abbott who married Justina Davis; and Joseph who married Luella Cilley.

John Griffin married Fanny P. Wiggin and had children: Sarah Jane, who died unmarried; John Manson who married Emily A. Lawrence; Mary E. who died unmarried; and James M. who appears to have remained single.

John C. Hall married Martha E. Rand and had children: Sarah Ann, Martha Ellen, James W. who married Sarah Emery of Pembroke; Amanda, John H. who married Nellie Farnham; Deborah, Georgie, Luther, and Charles S. who married Ellen Dolbeer.

Daniel S. Clough married Mehitable Watson and had children: Rosilla Winslow, who married Christopher S. Heath; Sarah Elizabeth who married Rev. John B. Leighton; Cynthia Jennie who married Charles Swaine; and Daniel Ansel who married Emma White. Daughter Rosilla Winslow and Christopher Heath had for children: Rosilla Estelle who married Charles Hall; Clarence who died young; Alonzo who married Isabel Fifield; Fred Sherman who married Harriet L. Tripp, daughter of William Tripp and Nancie Preston; and Ansel Clough who married Edith G. Batchelder, daughter of Elbridge Batchelder and Vienna Yeaton.

Charles Hall and Rosilla Estelle had one son, Roland S. Hall who married Olive F. Sullivan, daughter of John F. and Martha O. Sullivan. Her brother was Arthur Sullivan who married Flora Hall, daughter of Hollis Hall and Mabel Sanders.

