



Carter Place, 327 Center Hill Road, Epsom, NH

The Carter Place was much photographed and labeled the 'show place' of Epsom and has a long history. The earliest to live on the property was John Blake, born in 1689, and resided on the property prior to 1759 when he passed the property to his son Thomas 'on which my Now Dwelling house stands'. Besides son Thomas, son Dearborn, Benjamin and John were in town about this time, and son Sergeant Samuel Blake remained a resident. Most all the brothers had some of their families born in Epsom. Augustus Lord, a descendant of the McClary's who owned the property 1771-1790, built the current house, and it is said to be on or near where the McClary Garrison stood. He was a prosperous and well known Portsmouth business man and never married. In 1858, the occupant of the house was Enoch Fogg, and may have rented the property from Thomas Curtis who was living there when he sold the property to Andrew Batchelder.

Andrew O. Carter hailed from Lynn, MA and married one of the daughters of Joseph Lawrence, one of the more successful business men in town. The property passed to the husband of his wife's sister, Charles F. Bulfinch.

CHRONOLOGY of owners (not necessarily resident):

Original Proprietor Thomas Berry and passed or was sold to John Blake Sr who built a house on this lot; 1759, John Blake passed the house to his son Thomas Blake, about 50 acres at about the time the lot numbers changed, originally called 3, later lot 4; 1771, Andrew McClary from Thomas Blake (Black) of Chichester, old lot #3, 50 acres; 1790, Amos Morrill of Epsom from widow Elizabeth McClary, two fifty acre home lots, old 3 & 4; 1795, William Locke of Rye from Amos Morrill of Epsom, three 50 acre home lots; 1811, John Chesley of Epsom from William Locke of Epsom, 3 fifty acre home lots, excepting what I have heretofore sold to Henry C. Shapley, John Locke (1806), Benjamin Moody and William Tucker (1798) and his wife Olive; 1806-1816, John Wallace purchases from Henry C. Shapley, Thomas Babb, John Grant, Michael McClary and Sarah Babb; About 1840, John Wallace buys out from 10-11 children of John Wallace, deceased to own the lot; 1850, Levi Wiggin of Stratham from John Wallace 3rd of Epsom, 50 acres; 1855, Thomas Curtis of Epsom from Levi Wiggin of Epsom, 50 acres more or less; 1861, Andrew Batchelder of Chichester from Thomas Curtis of Epsom, 50 acres where Curtis now lives; 1864, Varnum Fisk from Andrew Batchelder, 50 acres where said Batchelder now lives; 1867, Augustus Lord of Portsmouth from Varnum and Dolly Fisk of Epsom, tract of land bounded southerly by road from Epsom to Deerfield and land of A. Lord (across the street), westerly by land of A. Lord and Jos. Lawrence, northerly by Jonathan Chesley and the heirs of John

Yeaton, easterly by Joseph Lawrence, 50 acres where Varnum Fisk now resides; 1884, J.B. Tennant, Warren Tripp and James Fellows from Mary E. Morrison, single woman of Portsmouth, 100 acres; 1885, Myron H. Ray of Boscawen from J.B. Tennant, Warren Tripp and James Fellows, land and buldings, 100 acres including land on Mountain Road; 1886, Andrew O.Carter, Lynn, MA from Myron H. Ray; Before 1930, Fred L. Bulfinch from Helen M.Carter, wife of Andrew Carter deceased (by will); 1930, Diane Bosivert of Manchester from Fred L. Bulfinch of Pembroke, land and buildings, no land on Mountain Road; 1932, John M. Mellardy from Diane Boisvert, widow of Epsom; 1935, A.L. Hodges and Elvira Hodges from John F. Mallardy of Manchester; 1948, Arthur and Neil Wallace of Manchester from Elvira W. Hodges, widow of Epsom; 1950, Paul F. and Gertrude Theim of Londonderry from Arthur and Neil Wallace of Manchester; 1955, Gertrude F. Theim of Epsom from Paul F. Theim of MA, land and buildings, generated by a divorce stipulation; 1959, Eugene A. & Elsie M. Baldi from Gertrude (Theim) Warren, land and buldings, both sides of road; 1982, John A. Baldi of Melrose,MA from Eugene A. and Elsie M. Baldi.

GENEALOGY: John Blake of Hampton married in 1714, Mary Dearborn and had the following children: John who married Jemima Locke and had the first male child born in Epsom, according to tradition; Samuel Blake who is regarded as one of the first settlers in Epsom arriving as a young man; Mary Blake; Thomas Blake who married Hannah Dearborn; Dearborn Blake who settled in Epping; Benjamin Blake who married Molly Connor and resided in Epsom a short time having 3 children here before moving to Wolfeboro; Mehetable; and Mercy who married Joseph Goss. Son Thomas who married Hannah Dearborn had for children: Dearborn, John, Miriam, Nancy; and born in Epsom, Olive, Hannah, Thomas and Sarah.

John Wallace was the son of George Wallace and Rachel Babb and in 1806 married Mary True and had the following children: Rachel B., John, Emma Y., Mary T., Lois P., Jacob T., George Benjamin, William, Ebenezer True, Dorothy Y., and Sarah E. Son John married in 1839, Nancy Sanders.

Varnum Fisk married Dolly Cloudman and had children Frank L. and James O..

Augustus Lord, born Henry Augustus Lord in 1822, was the son of Samuel Lord and his first wife Nancy Dearborn McClary, daughter of Michael McClary and Sarah Dearborn. Augustus Lord had a sister Mary Elizabeth who married Horace Morrison.

Andrew O. Carter married Helen M. Lawrence, daughter of Joseph Lawrence and Lucy Philbrick. She had a sister Sophia S. who married Charles F. Bulfinch

