



Cate-Yeaton Farm, 219 New Orchard Road, Epsom, NH

William Cate was the original proprietor of lot 99, and it was not settled until he sold it to his son John who moved from Londonderry to Epsom by 1775. John and Abigail had three children in Londonderry and continued to raise a family at their new farm having four additional children. He immediately became active in town and church affairs, and became a Deacon of the Congregational Church where according to an article in the Suncook Valley Times 'He clung with tenacity to his church creed and to old manners and customs. For many years with Dea. Locke he occupied the Deacon's seat and with a huge white wig and long staff by his side would read or deacon off the hymn and sing with a nasal twang according to the custom of "ye olden times." His son, Deacon Samuel, next had the farm and began a small family burying ground across the street from the homestead where he and his wife with two grandchildren are buried.

The property after nearly being in the Cate family for 150 years, shortly was sold to James A. Yeaton, who a few years before married his second wife. The children of this second marriage were raised on the farm, including George H. Yeaton, who wrote much about the history of Epsom and his memories of life in Epsom. One such article relates to life at this farm, which passed from him to his son Johnny B. Yeaton. Both men were active in town and church affairs, and like the Cates, were Deacons.

CHRONOLOGY of owners (not necessarily resident):

1732, Lot 100, original right of William Cate of Greenland; 1773, John Cate of Londonderry from William Cate (father) and Eleaser Cate, yeoman of Greenland; About 1821, Samuel Cate, son of John Cate; About 1862, John S. Cate, son of Samuel Cate; 1871, Frank P. Norris from John S. Cate; 1878, James Yeaton from Frank P. Norris, same 50 acres preserving the burying ground, conveyed to me by John S. Cate, plus 1 acre mill yard formerly occupied by Joseph Moses and John S. Cate conveyed to me by Jeremiah Tripp and others May 2, 1872; 1888, Edwin R. Yeaton from James and Annie R. Yeaton, 1 undivided half with buildings, 50 acres and mill yard, excepting burial ground; 1913, George H. Yeaton from Annie R. Yeaton, 65 acres and mill yard (Edwin previously releasing his 1/2); 1970, John B. and Esther Yeaton from George H. Yeaton by inheritance; 1983, John B. Yeaton & Ann S. Yeaton from John B. Yeaton, premises inherited from the estate of my father George H. Yeaton.

GENEALOGY: William Cate of Greenland married Elizabeth Sherburne and had children: Moses, Hannah, William, Mary, Elizabeth, John and Samuel. Son John married in 1766, Abigail Sherburne, daughter of Samuel and Mercy (Wiggin) Sherburne. Deacon John and Abigail had for children: Abigail who married David Griffin; Ebenezer who married Phebe Gilman; John who married Mary Towle; Martha who married Josiah Knowles; Betsy who married Mark Moses; Samuel who married Abigail Prescott, daughter of Ebenezer and Phebe Prescott; and Mary who died young.

Samuel Cate and Abigail Prescott had for children: John, who died young; John Sherburne Cate who married Jane Moses Sherburne; and Mary who married David Sherburne. John Sherburne Cate and his wife Jane Moses Sherburne had for children: Almon Fifield, John W. who died young, Emma J., Elizabeth A., Annie Lizzie, who died young; Jennie, and John A. who died young.

James A. Yeaton was the son of John Yeaton and Sarah Bickford. He married in 1857, Martha Randall and had children: James Alfred, who died young; Edwin R. who married Ella Eastman; John L. Randall who died young. His wife died in 1869 and he married second, Annie Rebecca Crockett, daughter of John K. and Sally R. Crockett (Sally R. married after the death of John K., William Goss as his second wife). James and Annie R. had for children: John Crockett who married Nellie Perkins; Helen E.P. who married Charles McClary Steele; and George Hill who married Ada Lucy Brown.

George and Ada had for children: Esther Ruth who married Percy Nelson; John Brown who married Anne Sedjo; and Marjorie Annie.

