



Gossville Store, 17 Goboro Road, Epsom, NH

William Goss acquired the lands formerly owned by Daniel Cilley which makes up the area now known as Gossville. In 1858, according to the county map, there are no buildings standing on the familiar v-shaped section of land between Dover Road and Goboro Road. William Goss began to develop the area by moving buildings to it from various parts of Epsom. In 1861 he acquired the Baptist meetinghouse that was built in 1834 and moved it to Gossville. It is unknown for sure what the first use of the building was, but Benjamin Towle in his writings says that the building was formerly a carriage or wheelwrights shop where a Jim McGuire worked, and was later made into a store. With the large sheds attached, it is likely this might have been the case, and this operation later moved to where the Huckins garage stood. By 1870 William and his son John are jointly operating a store, having taken out an advertisement in a local paper making the announcement. Within two years, Andrew Silver and Jacob Robinson are already operating out of the building which they buy in 1873. In the summer of 1883 the store is raised from its single story bay cape to a two and a half story structure, with the store in the newer bottom floor, the second floor being dedicated in September of 1883 as the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Hall. It was likely enlarged at the same time and it had a recessed entry. In November of the same year Jacob Robinson sold his half of the enterprise to Charles S. Hall. Later the recessed portion was enclosed and a new veranda added to the front along with an outside staircase leading to the second floor. The team of Silver and Hall sold to Andrew Silver's son Harry and his partner Burt D. Young, who operated the business until 1946. Somewhere during this time the second floor was made into a residence.

CHRONOLOGY of owners (not necessarily resident):

Original lot of Shadrach Walton Lot #94 in the third range; 1761, purchased by Jeremiah Prescott; 1783, Joseph Cilley from Jeremiah Prescott, land that I bought of my honored father, Jeremiah Prescott; 1799, Daniel Cilley from father General Joseph Cilley by will, land I bought of Jeremiah Prescott; 1855, William Goss from William P. Cilley, heir of Daniel Cilley; May 1861, old Baptist Church moved to Gossville; March 1870, William Goss & son John A. Goss open store; January 1873, Silver & Young from John A. Goss, the southerly half of the store now occupied by the said Silver & Robinson together with the land on which it stands; April 1873, Andrew Silver from William Goss, a certain tract of land with the buildings thereon, the same being the northerly half of the store occupied by Silver & Robinson in said Epsom and the horseshed connected therewith and the land running in a

GENEALOGY: Jeremiah Prescott married in 1741, Jane Sherburne and had children in Epsom including son Jeremiah Prescott. Jeremiah Prescott (Jr) married Molly Sanborn, daughter of Timothy Sanborn and Elizabeth Leach.

William Goss was the son of Jonathan Goss and Sally Yeaton, born 1820 and married first, Maryetta Abbott, daughter of William Abbott and Esther Fowler. He married second, after the death of his first wife, Sally Rebecca Randall. He had for a family sons John Abbott, Nathan Jonathan and Noah William, and daughter Elizabeth J. Son John married Electa Ann Carpenter, daughter of Charles H. Carpenter and Joanna Maxfield.

Jacob Freeze Robinson married Emma Durgin and had children Edith and Charles.

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