



### **Gov. David L. Morrill House, formerly Center Hill Road, Epsom, NH**

Though this house no longer exists, it does have some town historical significance. When the town was set up, a lot was set aside for a parsonage, and another for a school. When the first minister arrived, John Tucke, he bought the parsonage lot. When the town's second minister, Rev. Hazeltine was hired, the town elected to build a parsonage on the school lot. Not long after, to raise money, a small part of the parsonage lot with frontage on East Street, was sold at auction to James Harvey McClary. He turned the property over to his brother William, who constructed a house and buildings on the property. This small, roughly half acre was again divided, and the half on the western side (adjacent to the Center Hill School) was bought by David Lawrence Morrill. David L. Morrill was the Doctor in Epsom, married Jane Wallace, and removed to Goffstown in 1801, selling the house to his brother Samuel. In 1825, David L. Morrill was the Governor of the State of New Hampshire. Samuel Morrill was also a physician and was town clerk in Epsom. He was the second postmaster in Epsom, with the postoffice likely being in his home. He moved to Concord in 1819 and later was Treasury Secretary for the State. The house was later occupied by the family of Benvolio Sanborn, and he sold the property to Benjamin L. Locke in 1851. Edwin Sanborn, son of Benvolio, bought the property back from B.L. Locke in 1854. Edwin moved to Lynn, MA and sold the property to John H. Hall who briefly made it his home before heading to California and selling the property to his brother Luther T. Hall in 1872. Sometime after it was purchased by Luther Hall, the house was either torn down or destroyed. The picture above shows the John C. Hall home and the Center School, and on or between these two buildings is where the Morrill house was situated.

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

Original School House Lot; 1795, James Harvey McClary from vendue Town of Epsom, and given to William McClary; 1796, William McClary to David Lawrence Morrill, a part of the parsonage land on which Mr. Hazeltine now lives, reference being had to said deed dated at Epsom the fourth day of April 1796; 1801, Samuel Morrill from brother David L. Morrill; 1821, Thomas D. Merrill from Samuel Morrill; 1833, Daniel Merrill from Thomas D. Merrill, with buildings, westerly half of 1/2 acre sold to William McClary; 1847, Benvoli Sanborn from Daniel Merrill; 1851, Benjamin L. Locke from Benvolio Sanborn; 1854, Edwin Sanborn (son of Benvolio) from Benjamin L. Locke and Benvoli Sanborn from Edwin Sanborn (leased) that which I purchased from B.L. Locke Jan 11, 1854; 1870, John H. Hall from Edwin Sanborn; 1872, Luther T. Hall from John H. Hall (brother); 1927, Bernice Piper from Luther T. Hall.

**GENEALOGY:** Andrew McClary married Elizabeth McCrillis and had children: James Harvey who married Elizabeth Dearborn; Margaret who married Rev. Ebenezer Hazeltine; Andrew who married Polly Allen; John who married Abigail Pearson; William who married Isabel Dickey; Elizabeth who married Simon Ames Heath; and Nancy who married John Stevens.

David Lawrence Morrill was the son of Samuel Morrill and Anna Lawrence. He married 1794 in Epsom, Jane Wallace, daughter of Ebenezer Wallace and Sarah McGaffey. She died in 1823 at Goffstown, no children. He married second, Lydia Poor. His brother Samuel married Elizabeth Kimball in 1802 and had children: Anna Maria, Sarah Kimball, Elizabeth Jane, Clarissa Parker, Hannah Dana, Samuel Lawrence and Priscilla Hazen, all born in Epsom.

Benvolio Sanborn was the son of Deacon Ira Sanborn and Mary Page. He married in 1823, Ann Lane and had children: Samuel Wallace, Charlotte M., Susan P. who died young, Elizabeth M., Joel Libby, Edwin A., Austin E., Mary, Clara M., Moses and Drusilla.

John Clark Hall married Martha E. Rand, daughter of Richard Rand and Anna Lake Rand. They had for children: Sarah Ann who married James Kendall Taylor; Martha Ellen who married Joseph Morrill Emery; James Wheelock who married Sarah E. Emery, no children; Amanda, who did not marry; John Hamilton who married Nellie Farnham; Deborah Jane who married Frank Gilbert Stebbins and second a man named Raymore; Georgie Ann who married first William J. Desilets, and second Charles S. Chapin; Luther Taylor who did not marry; and Charles Sumner Hall who married Ellen Dolbeer, no children.

John Hamilton and his wife Nellie had for children: Alice, Howard, John H. and George M.

