



Jim & Hazel Steele Home, 4 New Orchard Road, Epsom, NH

The home on the corner of New Orchard and Dover Road was owned by Maurice C. Philbrick and built in 1930 and occupied by his daughter Hazel, who had married James Steele October 26, 1929. This corner lot had a house on it as early as 1842 when Benjamin L. Locke sold a lot of about 30 square rods with “the building on the same” to the widow Abigail Libbey. Locke had acquired a lot of about 40 square rods from Samuel B. Knowles in 1835, with no mention of any buildings. It is likely that Locke built the earlier house, as he owned several surrounding lots, including running what was later Knowle’s store. According to the 1858 map, a J. or I. Cilley was living in the house, which was owned by Samuel P. Cilley, whose son Joseph R. Cilley (1831-1865) was the likely inhabitant. By 1892, according to the map of the time, the house was owned by Mrs. Emily A. Hoyt, who, being of Northwood, bought it in 1868. She sold it to Maurice Philbrick in 1900.

CHRONOLOGY of owners (not necessarily resident):

1819, Daniel E. Locke sells parts of his father, Capt. Samuel Locke’s, estate, a parcel of which is sold to Abel Brown; 1821, Abel Brown, land to John Ham Jr. at the junction of the Turnpike and New Orchard Roads; 1823, John Ham Jr. to Jeremiah Prescott, same land deeded to Abel Brown in 1821; 1831, Jeremiah Prescott of Meredith to Dearborn Batchelder of Meredith, 46 acres, part of which begins at the junction of the Turnpike and New Orchard Roads; 1833, Dearborn Batchelder of Epsom to Samuel B. Knowles, beginning at the junction of the Turnpike Road and of the New Orchard Road to contain 40 square rods and no more; 1835, Samuel B. Knowles to B.L. Locke, same 40 square rods, no buildings; 1842, B.L. Locke to Abigail Libbey, widow, 30 square rods with the buildings on the same; 1844, heirs of Abigail Libbey to Robert Knox Jr., of Epsom, 30 square rods, same that was conveyed to B.L. Locke; 1854, Sarah L. Knox of Boston, spinster, to Stephen Quimby of Hopkinton, land with buildings bounded southerly by the Portsmouth Turnpike and westerly by the New Orchard Road, premises conveyed to my former husband Robert Knox; 1857, Stephen Quimby of Concord to Samuel P. Cilley of Chichester; 1859, Samuel P. Cilley of Chichester to Moses Chamberlain of Chichester and Moses Chamberlain to George W. Batchelder of Epsom; 1868, Abigail Batchelder, wife of George W. Batchelder to Mrs. Emily A. Hoyt of Northwood; 1900, Emily A. Hoyt of Nottingham to Maurice C. Philbrick of Epsom, a tract of land with buildings thereon bounded southerly by the Portsmouth Turnpike road, westerly by the New Orchard Road; 1933, Maurice C. Philbrick to Hazel P. Steele.

GENEALOGY: Capt. Samuel Locke, son of Ephraim and Comfort (Dowst) Locke, ran a tavern, parts of his estate was sold by his son Daniel E. Locke.

Abel Brown was the son of Levi and Lydia (Thompson), married Betsey Locke, daughter of Capt. Samuel Locke, born Epsom.

Jeremiah Prescott, son of Jeremiah and Molly (Sanborn) Prescott, married Betsy Chesley, removed to Meredith Village, NH.

Dearborn Batchelder was born in Northwood, son of Henry and Sally (Reynolds) Batchelder, resided in Gilford and moved to Epsom. He and wife Sally (Nealley) had children Sally, Ira, Neally, Betsey, Henry, John, Gordon, George W., Charles N., Adaline and Samuel B.. Son George W. married Abigail B. Wells and they had children: Lucetta, Orison, Charles C., Elbridge G. and Alonzo.

Benjamin L. Locke, son of Levi and Hannah (Prescott) Locke, married Hannah P. Moses, and ran a tavern at the site of the old Knowles store.

Robert Knox Jr., son of Isaac and Sally (Wiggin) Knox, married an unknown Sarah, and were divorced. A son Harrison died age 4 and is buried in the McClary Cemetery.

Samuel P. Cilley, son of Col. Daniel and Hannah (Plumer) Cilley. They had children, Joseph R., Daniel Thomas and Hannah Plummer. Joseph R., was a Civil War veteran and died in 1865 in Epsom as a recruiting officer.

Emily A. Hoyt, was the daughter of Samuel and Susan (Demeritt) Bennett of Northwood, she married Nathan B. Hoyt in Northwood Nov. 19, 1835. Probably either separated or divorced as he remarries. She was born 1816 and died 1900 in Nottingham.

Maurice C. Philbrick was the son of Jackson Clark Philbrick and wife Eliza Crawford. He married in 1890, Mary Parsons Cass, daughter of Joseph Blake and Mary Lucy (Brown) Cass. Maurice and Mary had three children, Blanche C., Ellsworth Blake, and Hazel Alice.

