



Knowles-Langley House, 79 Center Hill Road, Epsom, NH

The Libbey family was among the earliest settlers of Epsom and heavily involved with the founding of the first church in Epsom. Samuel and John Libbey were among the first, with Samuel perhaps living on this Lot #8 up to 1759. The house currently on this lot was most likely built by Nathan Libbey, who married in 1791, and began a family. He died in 1814, leaving his wife and young children. It is not clear how the property next changed hands, but it is most unlikely that the widow Abigail Libbey stayed long after the death of Nathan. The Marshalls occupied the home for at least twenty years, with a John Marshall, who by 1860 was living with Thomas D. Marshall and wife in Pittsfield, and his wife Martha. In 1850 it would appear Joshua Marshall, probable son of John and his wife Sarah, owned the house. They appear in the 1850 census living next door with Nathaniel True who held the mortgage. It is surmised that Nathaniel was the father of Joshua's wife Sarah. John Marshall lived to be near age 90 in Pittsfield, and there is a Nathaniel True buried in Chichester. There appears to be no further record of Joshua Marshall.

Andrew M. Heath lived at what is called 'Echo Valley Farm' which he sold in 1855, giving up the large farm for the smaller house in the same year. This passed to his daughter in 1860, and she, along with her husband William P. Babb, bought a larger farm and sold the house to Josiah D. Langley. The Langley family also owned the house across the street for a time. The house stayed in the Langley family until 1930.

CHRONOLOGY of owners (not necessarily resident):

Original lot #8 drawn by Zachariah Berry who sold it to Richard Sanborn; 1742, Samuel and John Libbey of Rye from Richard Sanborn, Samuel residing on the lot until 1759; 1759, Isaac Libbey from Samuel Libbey, passing to Isaac Libbey Jr.; 1810, Isaac Libbey Jr to son Nathan Libbey, the homestead, Nathan died 1814; 1814-1830, unable to trace the property in this time period, and by 1830 it is the home of John and Martha Marshall; August 8, 1850, Joshua Marshall of Epsom from John Marshall of Epsom, cordwainer, 3 acres land and buildings; August 9, 1850, Nathaniel True of Epsom from Joshua Marshall, mortgage, 3 acres land and buildings; October 23, 1850, Abiel E. Boynton of Massachusetts from Nathaniel True, land and buildings; 1851, April, Abiel E. Boynton, Grafton, MA from L. W. Peabody, Epsom, mortgage deed, 3 acres, land and buildings; 1852, Leonard W. Peabody of Epsom from Abiel E. Boynton of Grafton, MA, Quitclaim; 1855, Andrew M. Heath from Leonard W. Peabody, 3 acres land and buildings, north side of road; 1860, Rebecca J. Babb of Epsom from Andrew M. Heath

(father) of Epsom; 1864, Josiah D. Langley from William P. Babb, both of Epsom, 4 acres land and buildings; 1867, additional 2 1/4 acres to Josiah Langley from Henry Knox; 1896, Timothy B. Langley from Josiah D. Langley, father, by will; 1930, Charles E. Longa of Manchester from Timothy B. and Laura A. Langley, 6 1/4 acres, passed to Grace Longa, widow of Charles Longa; 1952, George and Madeline Knowles from Grace L. Longa; 2002, Norma Greene to John & Corrine Burke.

GENEALOGY: Isaac Libbey married first Anne Symmes and had children: Mary, Isaac, Elizabeth, Bennet, Abigail, Job, Susannah, and Anthony. He married second Margaret Kalderwood and had children: Nathan, Lucy, Joshua who died young, Abraham, Margaret and Joshua. Several of his sons were some of the Stanstead, Canada, founders. Son Nathan remained in Epsom and married in 1791, Abigail Fowler, daughter of Symonds Fowler and Hannah Weeks. They had for children: Nathan who died young, Abigail who died young, Lucy, Hannah who died young, Margaret who died young, Nathan who died young, Nathan and Benjamin Fowler. Of these, Lucy married John Sherburne Haynes and was the only one of the children who remained in Epsom.

Not much is known of the Marshall family, though it would appear that John Marshall and his wife Martha had at least a son Joshua, who may have married a Sarah True, daughter of Nathaniel; and a Thomas D., who with wife Esther, lived in Pittsfield. The father John was in Pittsfield at age 89.

Leonard Wood Peabody was a Doctor in Epsom and married Louisa Learned Kelley.

Andrew McClary Heath was the son of Simon Ames Heath and Elizabeth McClary. He married in 1832, Jane Cram Cass, daughter of Levi O. and Mehitabel Osgood Cass. They had for children: Rebecca J. who married first Henry Clary Tarleton who died in 1855, and married second about 1858, William Pickering Babb, son of John Babb and Salome Rand. They had for children: Charles W., Annette, Elbra and Grace May..

Josiah Dow Langley married Elma J. Locke and had children: Charles A., Josiah T., Eliza J., Emma B., Maurice L., Hettie E., Timothy Bryant, and Nellie G. Son Timothy married first Bertha T. Cotterell, who died 1903, and he married second, Laura Abbie Haynes.

George W. Knowles was the son of William Henry and Elsie Green; he married in 1927, Madeline R. Greene, no children.

