



### **Maurice C. Philbrick House, 3 New Orchard Road, Epsom, NH**

The town of Epsom owned some common land at the end of the home lots which it was given permission to sell to raise money for the building of a meetinghouse and hiring a minister. Some of these lots were purchased in 1765 by Samuel Bickford, and portions sold by his son Thomas. One section, on the corner of New Orchard Road and the Turnpike was sold to John Batchelder who probably established a home there about 1806. He sold the land seven years later to Richard Webster who was there for two years before selling it to Alexander Salter. Salter settled in New Rye, selling the property to Robert Knox in 1818. Robert Knox and McCutcheon were granted a license to sell liquor in 1813.

Robert Knox opened a store and tavern at this location January 22, 1821 and here raised a family with his second wife, Polly Dole Cilley. Epsom records show he paid to have a tavern from 1821-1827. Entries in the diary of James Babb mentions a couple items taking place at the Knox place. "F.D. Johnson fell from Knoxs' shed and broke his leg - staging let go." On February 7th - "This morning at 1 o'clock a child of Robert Knox died aged 1 year - occassioned by tripping a basin of hot fat into its bosom 2 weeks since." In 1842 the Congregational Society voted to erect a new meetinghouse on land given by Robert Knox, and in 1850, he sold for \$25.15, land to the town for their new town house.

Knox sold the business to John Wallace in 1851, and according to the 1858 County Map, was at that time also the location of the Epsom Post Office. In 1864 it was sold to Arthur Caverno Locke, a well known Epsom Civil War Soldier. He died in 1884 and his son Dr. Daniel Lincoln Locke owned the property, he passing away in August of 1889, his widow sold to Maurice C. Philbrick in 1889. Maurice Philbrick was town clerk for a record number of years, which office was carried on by his daughter Hazel P. Steele.

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

1765, Samuel Bickford from the Town of Epsom (John McClary, George Wallace and Ephraim Locke), sale of common land Lot No. 3; 1808, John Batchelder from Thomas Bickford, part of the estate of the late Samuel Bickford, included one quarter of an acre which said Batchelder bought of Col. J.H. McClary in March 1806 and took a deed from said Thomas Bickford for the same it being at the south-east corner of the said tract where said Batchelder now lives, containing 10 acres more or less; 1815, Richard Webster from John Batchelder, 14 acres with the buildings thereon; 1817, Alexander Salter from Richard Webster, 20 acres; 1818, Robert Knox from Alexander Salter (R. 217-401); 1851, John Wallace from Asa Fowler and heirs of Robert Knox, a certain tract or parcel of land with the buldings thereon bounded as follows: Beginning at the Turnpike road at the entrance of the New Orchard Road (so called) thence running on said turnpike westerly as said turnpike runs to the range,

thence southerly on said range to the New Orchard road aforesaid, thence southerly by said New Orchard road to the first mentioned bounds containing twenty acres, being the same premises conveyed to the late Robert Knox by Alexander Salter, excepting and reserving from said tract a houselot of the southwest corner conveyed by the late Robert Knox to Albon Perkins, and the town house lot - also the carriage house and land being upon the southerly side of said Turnpike road opposite the dwelling house on the first ascribed tract, the land said carriage house being believed to have been conveyed to Robert Knox by the late Abel Brown; 1864, Arthur C. Locke from John Wallace; 1888, Otis W. Gove from Daniel L. Locke, heir of Arthur C. Locke, all real estate inherited from my father and Lizzie Locke from Otis W. Gove of Pittsfield (same day); 1889, Maurice C. Philbrick from Lizzie L. Locke (3 pieces, 1 with buildings); 1987, Hazel P. Steele from Louise B. Philbrick, executrix of estate of Ellsworth B. Philbrick, son of Maurice C. Philbrick; 1998, Mary E. Frambach, quitclaim, trustee of Hazel Steele Revocable Trust.

**GENEALOGY:** Robert Knox was the son of William Knox and Elinor McDaniel, and Robert married an unknown Sarah and had son Harrison W. who lived but to 4 years of age. His wife died and he married second, Mary Dole Cilley, daughter of Daniel Cilley and Hannah Plumer. Robert and Mary Dole had for children: Mary Dole Cilley who married Asa Fowler; Sally C., who died young; Sarah who married Lewis Little; Robert William who removed to California and died unmarried; and Eliza Jane who married Joseph Bristol.

John Wallace, son of John Wallace and Mary True, married Nancy Sanders in 1839 and had children: Mary A., Eliza J., Abby G. who married James McAllister; and William F. of which nothing is known. Nancy died in 1852 and John Wallace married second, Sarah Huse Towle, daughter of Benjamin M. Towle and Hannah Sanborn. They had one daughter, Sarah N. Wallace who married Hiram Holmes. Arthur Caverno Locke was the son of Francis T. and Mary Philbrick Locke. He married Salina O. Bickford, daughter of Nathan Bickford and Eliza Dickey. They had for children: Truman Ransom, who died young; Frank T. who died in Colorado, unmarried; Sarah E., who died young; and Dr. Daniel Lincoln Locke who married Lizzie L. Hoyt, of Weare, NH.

Maurice Crawford Philbrick was the son of Jackson Clark Philbrick and Eliza Crawford. Maurice married Mary Parson Cass, daughter of Joseph Blake Cass and Mary Lucy Brown, daughter of William Brown and Lucretia Billings Gray. Maurice and Mary had daughter, Blanche C., who did not marry; son Ellsworth Blake who married Doris A. Batchelder, daughter of Alonzo Batchelder and Laura A. Haynes; and Hazel A. who married James Steele. James Steele and Hazel had one daughter, Mary E. who married Richard Frambach.

