



### **Philbrick - Cass Home, 15 Cass Road, Epsom, NH**

Although a very picturesque scene with its waterfall through the years, the property was probably more noted for the mill privileges associated with it. Hiram A. Holmes, who owned the property for nearly 40 years, wrote about that as follows. "With a fall of 55 feet is the Cass Dam where there is seven feet head. In 1803 Francis Locke entered into a contract with John Chesley, Daniel Philbrick, John Downes and Philip Stevens to build a saw and grist mill to be leased to them for 20 years. Soon after the contract closed the mills were allowed to go down. July 13, 1830, Ephraim Locke sold the right to run a carding mill to Dearborn Lord who sold the same right to Joseph B. Cass in 1846, together with a right which he had bought of Bennett Lawrence, who was running a hat factory with water across the road from the Dam. J.B. Cass took out the machinery and put in a lathe for making bobbins for the Lowell cotton factories. In 1846 the saw mill privilege was bought by George Batchelder and sold to Hiram A. Holmes in March 1865.

George Bixby, husband of Elizabeth M. Cass, was a prisoner in the Civil War, and he relates that experience in an entry in the GAR book available at the Epsom Historical Center.

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

Before 1747, Original right of Samuel Dowst; 1747, Ephraim Locke of Rye from Joseph Baker of Durham, Home Lot on northside of West Street #7/Joseph Baker, Durham from Nathaniel Huggins of Greenland, 50 acre lot #7; 1789, Francis Locke of Epsom, son, from Ephraim Locke of Epsom, one of the home lots on the northside of West Street and is the same where I now dwell; 1813, Francis Locke Jr., son, of Epsom, from Francis Locke of Epsom, all the land I own in Epsom with mill privileges with all the buildings thereon; 1844, Edwin Dearborn from Francis Locke of Epsom; 1847, George W. Batchelder from Edwin Dearborn of Epsom, all the land I own in Epsom located between the turnpike road so called, and the old Canterbury Road, same land and buildings conveyed from Francis Locke in 1844 with all my mill privilege on said land; 1865, Hiram A. Holmes of Concord from George W. Batchelder of Epsom, land and buildings on Cass Pond; 1905, Elizabeth M. Bixby, Epsom, from Hiram A. and Sarah M. Holmes; 1905, Elizabeth M. Bixby, Epsom, from Hiram A. and Sarah N. Holmes; 1938, Ellsworth B. Philbrick from Maurice C. Philbrick and wife Mary P. Cass as heirs-at-law of her sister the late Elizabeth M. Bixby; 1956, Doris Philbrick from Ellsworth B. Philbrick being the same premises being conveyed by Hiram Holmes to Elizabeth M. Bixby, part of a divorce settlement between Doris and Ellsworth; abt 1980, Maurice Philbrick from Doris Philbrick, probably by will.

**GENEALOGY:** Ephraim Locke was born in Rye about 1731 and married in 1752, Comfort Dowst, daughter of Ozem Dowst and Elizabeth Seavey. They had for children: Orsam, Prudence, Francis, Ephraim who died young, Samuel, Ephraim who died age 10, Asa, Comfort, Hannah, Olive and Betsey. Son Francis married Mary Abigail Katherwood (Catherwood) and had children: Comfort, Martha, Abigail, Margaret, Ephraim, Mary, and Francis T. This last son Francis married Mary Philbrick, daughter of Daniel Philbrick and Ruth Merrill. They had for children: Daniel Philbrick Locke who married Abigail Fowler, Emaline who died young, Lovie Chase, Arthur Caverno who married Salina O. Bickford, and Sarah Emaline who married a Veasey.

Edwin Dearborn was the son of Samuel and Mary (Batchelder) Dearborn.

George W. Batchelder was the son of Dearborn Batchelder and Sally Nealley, who in 1836 married Abigail B. Wells, daughter of Samuel Wells and Hannah Brown.

Joseph Blake Cass married Mary Lucy Brown, daughter of William Brown and Lucretia Billings Gray. They had for children: Katherine A. who married George B. Cook, Elizabeth McClary who married George S. Bixby; Mary Parsons who married Maurice Crawford Philbrick son of Jackson Philbrick and Eliza Crawford, Alice J. who married a Philbrick.

Maurice Crawford Philbrick and Mary Parsons Cass had for children: Blanche C., Ellsworth Blake who married Doris A. Batchelder daughter of Alonzo and Laura Haynes Batchelder, and Hazel A. who married James M. Steele.

