



### **Wilcox - Sanders House, 238 New Rye Road, Epsom, NH**

On the 1858 County Map there is a blacksmith shop on this lot, though it is not mentioned when this small tract of land is sold to Benjamin R. Fife. Benjamin Fife likely built the house about the time he purchased the lot in 1863 from Daniel Clough, who owned what was later the Eldon Howard Farm. Benjamin R. Fife had married the daughter of Joseph Chapman, who lived almost across the street on New Rye Road. They occupied the premises for almost ten years, and it was occupied in 1873 by Jesse C. Smith, who later moved to Short Falls, with the house being occupied by 1883 by Charles F. Haynes. It was sold by Haynes to James S. Straw, and sold by his heirs in 1904 to Pauline D. Smith, who by will passed the property to Calvin Chapman who held the property until 1930.

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

1770, Dowst Rand from Solomon Dowst, 60 acres, my original right; 1798, Bickford Lang Jr. from Dowst Rand, original right 60 acres where Dowst Rand now resides; 1820, David Lang (son of Bickford) of Epsom, David and family moving to Ohio; circa 1833, Land and buildings sold to James Wiggin; 1839, Daniel Clough from James Wiggin, land and buildings, Lang farm; 1863, Benjamin R. Fife from Daniel Clough, 48 square rods on New Rye Road, no buildings; Sept. 1872, James B. Tennant from Benjamin R. Fife, 48 square rods with buildings; Nov. 1872, James M. Dickey from James B. Tennant; 1873, Jesse C. Smith from James M. and Abbie E. Dickey; 1883, Charles F. Haynes from Jesse C. Smith; 1899, James S. Straw from Charles F. Haynes, beginning at the northeasterly corner of New Rye School house lot to land of Ellery C. Straw, thence northerly by Ellery C. Straw's land to the North Westerly corner of land conveyed to me by Jesse C. Smith; then easterly by said Ellery C. Straw's land to the New Rye Road so called. thence southerly by said road to the point begun at, containing one acre, together with the buildings thereon; 1904, Pauline D. Smith from heirs of James S. Straw; 1923, Joseph J. MacGregor from Calvin A. Chapman, rights from last will and testament of Pauline D. Smith, allowed Feb. 26, 1918; 1930, Alice E. Foster from Joseph J. MacGregor; 1943, C. Lovell Bean and Evelyn A. Bean of Concord from Alice E. Foster, single person of Epsom, two tracts; 1944, Lloyd W. and Edith C. Sanders from C. Lovell Bean and Evelyn H. Bean, 2 tracts; 1951, Arthur H. & Joyce C. Fowler from Lloyd W. & Edith C. Sanders; 1952, Harry and Eleanor Banfill from Arthur H. & Joyce C. Fowler; 1961, Harold and Shirley Thompson from Harry G. and Eleanor Banfill; 1972, H. Roy and Patricia Wilcox of Concord from Harold F. and Shirley R. Thompson, 2 tracts, 1 with buildings.

**GENEALOGY:** Benjamin R. Fife was the son of Stephen Fife and Mary G. Fife, and he married in 1863, Clara Etta Chapman, daughter of Joseph Chapman and Sarah Maria Davis. They had one daughter, Ella M. Fife, who died age 4. Both had second spouses.

James M. Dickey was the son of Robert Dickey and Miriam Nelson. He married Abba Richardson and had two children, Viola and Mary.

Jesse C. Smith was the son of John Smith and Rachel Prescott. He married in 1864, Sarah A. Brown, daughter of Jonathan Brown and Maria Libbey. They had for children: Maroa, who died young; Willie Leon who died age 18; Alvah Eugene who died young and Elmer J. of whom nothing is known.

James S. Straw married in 1863, Mary Ellen Wells, daughter of Samuel Wells and Mary S. Locke. They had for children: Ellery C. who married Maggie Bernard; Leola Mary who married Joseph Cochrane; Lucinda who married George Emerson; Edson A.; and Oscar W. who married Agnes McPherson.

