

A historical map of Atwell Hill farms, featuring numerous handwritten names and property boundaries. The map is overlaid with a large, stylized title. The names visible on the map include J. Atwell, N. Stanvan, E. G. True, W. Chase, A. Goodlett, J. Eaton, J. D. Bilsby, S. C. Jewett, B. Pillsbury, and E. H. Crosby. There are also labels for 'Pond', 'Mill', and 'Office'. The map shows a network of roads and property lines, with several circular areas that might represent ponds or specific farm plots.

Atwell Hill Farms

**Compiled by
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Atwell Hill Farms

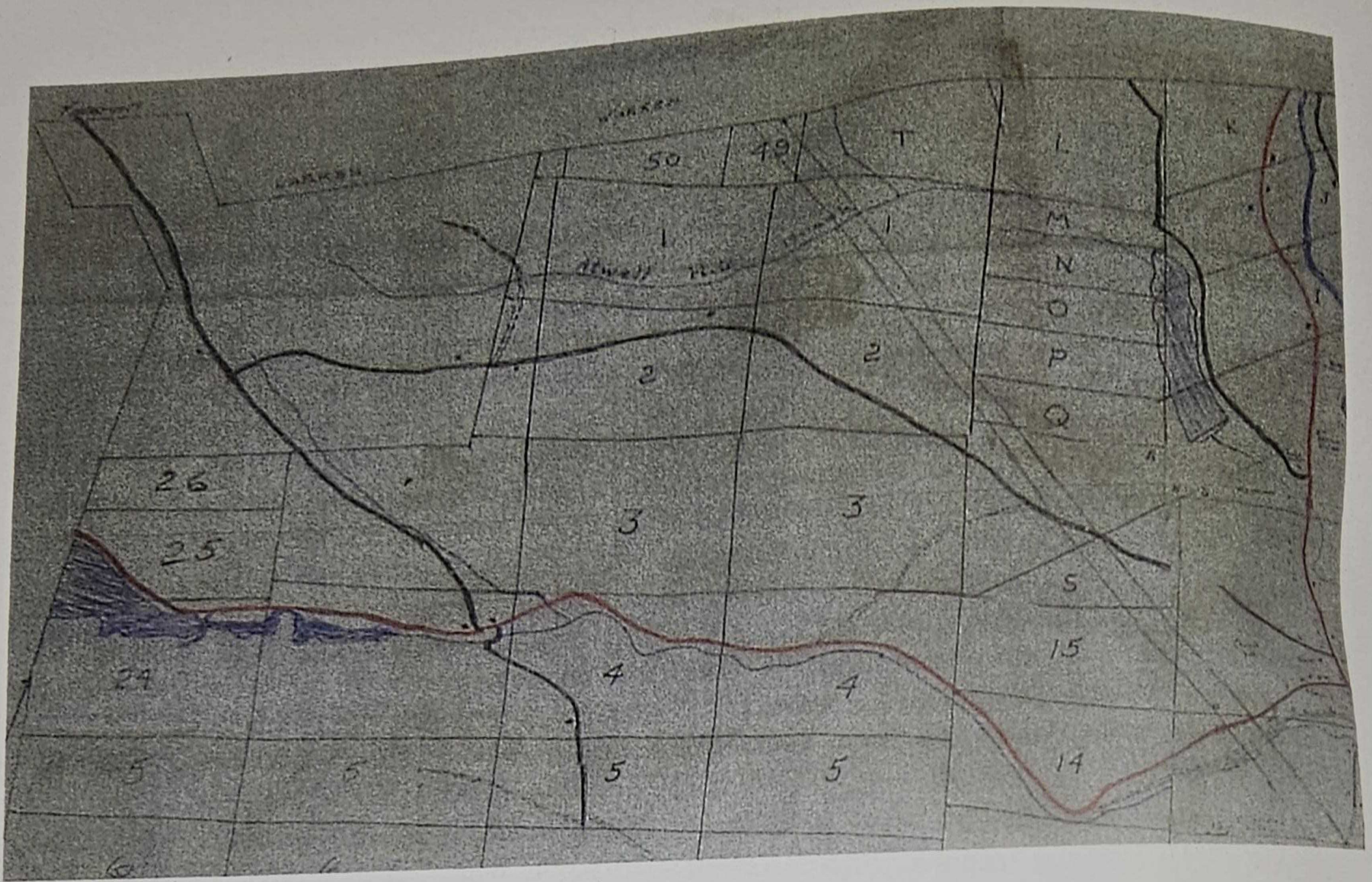
The region known as Atwell Hill lies in the northwest corner of Wentworth and, for the purpose of this compilation, includes the Governors Reservation and outlying areas along the road known today (for 911 purposes) as Cape Moonshine Road. Also included in this compilation will be those homes formerly located along a road known as Webster Road leading north from the Atwell Hill Road.

The Atwell name for the hill and road came from the Atwell family which heavily populated the hill at one time or another. For many years it was thought that this area would become the business center of the town, and at one time going to Atwell Hill was referred to as going to "the City". Those people living on Ellsworth Hill also had high expectation that theirs would become the favored center of business, and great was the rivalry between those living on Ellsworth Hill and those living on Wentworth Hill. The impact of the train in years to come, however, would forever alter those expectations and the population center of the town would no longer be in doubt.

The map on the following page shows the original range and division lines of the town superimposed on a map including roads and streams as drawn by this writer. Some inaccuracy has been noted in this attempt. A copy of a town tax map from about 2005 is included for comparison, the lines highlighted in pink being original lot lines. A map of the town for the years 1860 and 1892 are also included on page 3. The range of properties in this account shall extend from present-day power lines to the east on the lower region of Atwell Hill to the intersection of Atwell Hill Road with Cape Moonshine Road and then northerly to Piermont line. Other compilations by this writer have been written that include *Sanders Hill Farms*, *Ellsworth Hill Farms*, and Browns' Mills on Route 25A, the latter included in a compilation titled *Wentworth Past and Present*.

A summary of the homes to be described in this compilation, with references to the appropriate maps on page 3, is as follows:

<u>1860 Map Name</u>	<u>1892 Map Name</u>	<u>Name Used in This Compilation</u>
J. D. Edson	E. Serwell	Norman Downing Place
J. Eaton	F. E. Libby	Jesse Eaton Farm
J. P. Eaton	J. P. Eaton	John P. Eaton Farm
A. Goodell	W. E. Piper	Asa Goodell Farm
W. Chase	H. Chase	Chase Farm
James Harriman	A. L. Chase	James Harriman Place
L. D. Webster	H. C. Chase	Lorenzo D. Webster Place
E. G. True	E. G. True	Florence Ramsdell Place
J. H. Stanyan	L. Howard	Charles Kenneson Place
N. Stanyan	W. W. Brooks	Rudlin Place
J. Atwell	J. Phelps	James Atwell Place
E. Atwell	C. Howard	Absalom Peters Place
School	School	Atwell Hill School
S. Sargent	None Shown	Samuel Sargent Place
H. Webster	None Shown	Webster Place
L. W. Davis	None Shown	L. W. Davis Home
J. Atwell	F. Harris	James Atwell Place
M. Colby	E. Harris	Moses Harris Place





1892 Map



1860 Map

Chase Farm

The house on this property is shown on the 1860 map as belonging to William C. Chase; the owner on the 1892 map is Henry Chase. Amos L. Chase acquired the farm in later years thus completing three generations of the property in one family and spanning a period of seventy-six years of continuous ownership. Like the Asa Goodell Farm, the original house on this property lie in Lot Two in the Second Range Second Division, which lot was laid out to the original right of Winthrop True. Lot One in the Second Range Second Division was laid out to the right of Colonel Clement Marsh during the Second Division of the town into lots. This farm and the Asa Goodell Farm would soon include both lots and become one of the larger farms on the Hill.

On June 17, 1785, Oliver Noble sold Lot 1 in the Second Range of the Second Division to 'Jirah' Martin¹¹³. In the deed to Martin, Noble simply described the parcel as "*being the Second Division lot laid out to the Original Right of Clement March Esq, be it more or less*".

On January 22, 1788, 'Jireh' Martin sold a portion of this lot to Samuel Worcester¹¹⁴ in a deed describing the property as "*containing fifty acres & being one half of the hundred acre lot No 1 in the second range & second division laid out to the original right of Col Marsh ... said land being the easterly end of said lot*".

On June 25, 1791, 'Jirehe' Martin sold the same lot of land to Oliver Noble¹¹⁵ with the following description: "*a certain lot of land in Wentworth in s^d county of Grafton being the second division lot laid out to the original right of Clement March Esq be the same more or less & being the same lot which I purchased of the s^d Noble*".

On February 19, 1796, Habijah Weld Noble sold this lot to Winthrop and Moses True¹¹⁶ in a deed describing the property as "*being the Second Division Lot laid out to the original Right of Clement Marsh Esquire one hundred acres more or less it being Number one in the Second Division*".

The connection between Winthrop and Moses True's ownership of this sizeable acreage in the area, including the old homestead, and the ownership of Wolcott Dana that follows was not clearly established. On June 1, 1830, Moses True mortgaged the property to Moses Eaton. At Moses True's death, Winthrop True and Moses Eaton appear to have become involved in the affairs of the Estate, perhaps as a result of the mortgage, and the right of Wolcott Dana did not follow directly.

On February 23, 1856, Wolcott Dana sold the property to Alexander S. Moore¹¹⁷ describing the property as "*beginning at a stake and stones standing on the west side of the*

¹¹³ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 9, Page 336. Note: The first name of Martin is uncertain at this writing. Other options from the one given include 'Jerah' and even 'Sarah'. It is expected, however, that this is an abbreviation for 'Jeremiah'.

¹¹⁴ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 10, Page 389.

¹¹⁵ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 16, Page 145. Again the first name of Martin is uncertain.

¹¹⁶ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 25, Page 147.

¹¹⁷ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 239, Page 322.

highway leading from dwelling house of Jesse Eaton to dwelling house of Newell Stanyan and at the north east corner of land owned by Winthrop True heirs; thence westerly and southerly on land of said True heirs to a stake and stones; thence south 72° west twenty-two rods and eighteen links to a stake and stones; thence south 13° east twelve rods to a stake and stones; thence south 79° east two rods to a stake and stones; thence south 35° east twenty-two rods and fifteen links to a stake and stones; thence south 52° west seventy rods and eleven links to land of Stephen A. Aldrich; thence northerly on land of said Aldrich to land of Newell Stanyan; thence easterly on said Stanyans land to land of Elbridge True; thence southerly and easterly on said True's land to the highway above mentioned; thence southerly on said highway to the bound begun at and being a part of the homestead farm on which we now live and containing one hundred acres more or less excepting and reserving the right to pass and repass across said premises, to land of said Dana's south of said premises, with Cattle and Carts, or otherwise, for the convenience of said lands of said Dana".

Less than two years later on April 15, 1858, Moore sold what he referred to as the one-hundred acre homestead farm on which he lived to Jonathan Ramsey¹¹⁸. Ramsey lived here even less time, selling the same one-hundred acre property on August 31 of the same year to William Chase¹¹⁹. William Chase began what would become three generations of ownership by the same family. The name of William Chase would appear on the 1860 map as the owner of the house here and the Chase family name would become a well known and remembered name on the Hill.

William C. and Aurilla Chase sold the property to Henry Chase¹²⁰ on December 1, 1866, describing the property as "the Homestead farm on which said Wm Chase Jr now lives & containing one hundred acres more or less and the same land conveyed to said Wm Chase Jr by Jonathan Ramsey by his deed dated August 31st 1858. Recorded in Grafton County Registry of Deeds Lib. 250 Folio 485 to which deed reference is had & also to Deed as Moore to Jonathan Ramsey recorded in said Registry Liber 250 Page 200". A condition of the sale required Henry to care for his parents and provide a home during their lifetime. Henry Chase was married to Zilpha A. Wright on January 18, 1863, shortly before the above agreement with his father and mother was made.

Henry Dewey Chase, later to be well known in the Town and on Atwell Hill as was all of the Chase family, was the grandson of William and Aurilla Chase and son of Amos L. and Jennie L. Chase. The first name of Henry Dewey Chase was given in honor of his grandfather Henry; his middle name, by which he was most commonly known, was given after Admiral George Dewey.

Henry Chase died January 18, 1926, after sixty years on the farm and the estate was sold by Ada M. Heath and Zilpah A. Chase before the end of the year to Amos L. Chase¹²¹ on December 31, 1926. The property, consisting of four parcels, was described in the deed as "all our respective rights title and interest in and to, all and singular the real estate of which Henry Chase late of said Wentworth died seized ... The first parcel is all the real estate described in deed from William Chase Jr, dated Dec. 1, 1866 and recorded with Grafton County Deeds book 296, page 260. The second parcel is all the real estate in deed from William Chase Jr and others as heirs of Mercy Chase to said Henry Chase dated Dec. 1, 1866 and recorded with Grafton County Deeds book 293, page 468. The third parcel is all the real estate described in deed from Frank E.

¹¹⁸ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 250, Page 200.

¹¹⁹ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 250, Page 485.

¹²⁰ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 296, Page 260.

¹²¹ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 597, Page 400.

Webster to said Henry Chase dated Jan. 15, 1885 and recorded with Grafton County Deeds book 387, page 450. The fourth parcel is all the real estate described in deed from William H. Moore, Admr. of the estate of Newell Stanyan to said Henry Chase dated Nov. 27, 1886 and recorded with Grafton County Deeds book 392, page 129. The interest of said Ada M. Heath is such as she has as co-heir with Amos L. Chase in the estate of said Henry Chase, and the interest of said Zilpah A. Chase is such as she has as widow of said Henry Chase, and having filed waiver of dower and homestead and taking her rights under the statutes of the state of New Hampshire, and this conveyance covers all real estate which was a part of the estate of said Henry Chase, whether described as above or otherwise". Ada Heath, one of the grantors in the above deed, was a sister of Amos Chase. Zilpha Chase, as previously noted was the wife of Henry, thus being Dewey's grandmother.

Of the above four lots, only the first is continued in this account as the Chase Farm. The second parcel is covered under the James Harriman Place. The third parcel is covered in the account of the Lorenzo D. Webster Place, these latter two properties being located on the Webster Road, so called, that leads northerly from the Chase Homestead. The fourth parcel is not continued in this account, being a lot acquired from Stanyan as a part of another lot.

Amos had a hard time making a go of it on the Hill. Land rich but unable to pay taxes, by December 28, 1934, the town of Wentworth had acquired the property for back taxes¹²² and described the property as "taxed by the Selectmen ... in 1933 to H. Dewey Chase, and described in the Invoice Book as 75 acres H. Chase place, located 1 1/2 miles from Wentworth Village on what is known as the Atwell Hill Road ... with the buildings ... known as the Henry Chase homestead farm, containing 75 acres ... and being the same premises conveyed to said Henry Chase by William Chase Jr. and Aurilla A. Chase by deed dated Dec. 1, 1866 ... it being the first parcel of land described in deed from Ada M. Heath and Zelpha A. Chase to Amos L. Chase dated Dec. 31, 1926". The centennial year of the Chase name on Atwell Hill was approaching, but it was not meant to be. For another thirty years the Chase homestead would retain and remember its heritage. Even in a deed of fifty years later, which at that time conveyed a five acre house lot and the original buildings, there would be a reference to the property as being the Chase Homestead.

Eight years after receiving the property, the Town of Wentworth deeded the same seventy-five acre parcel with a house and barn to John C. and Christian M. Houlne¹²³, on January 21, 1943. Christian transferred her right to Robert C. Houlne¹²⁴ on May 28, 1957, by a deed giving the following description and explanation: "all my right, title and interest in and to a certain tract or parcel of land with the buildings situated in Wentworth, County of Grafton, State of New Hampshire, on the Atwell Hill Road, so called, known as the Henry Chase homesteads farm, containing 75 acres more or less. Also all my right, title and interest in and to another tract of land situated in said Wentworth bounded as follows: South by land now or formerly of Walcott Dana Heirs and land now or formerly of Henry Chase; West by land now or formerly of said Chase; North by the highway and East by land now or formerly of Asa Goodell containing 30 acres more or less. Being the premises conveyed to John C. Houlne by deed of the Town of Wentworth dated January 21, 1943, and recorded Grafton County Records Vol. 711 Page 246. My title is derived as widow of said John C. Houlne, late of Manchester, N.H. deceased April 10, 1957".

related to former minister

¹²² Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 673, Page 1.

¹²³ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 711, Page 246.

¹²⁴ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 890, Page 466.

Just over a year later, on September 1, 1958, Robert C. Houlne conveyed the full seventy-five acre property to Henry and Martha Boetel¹²⁵ giving the following history but little detail of the property: "*a certain tract of land with the buildings thereon situated in Wentworth, County of Grafton, State of New Hampshire, on Atwell Hill Road, so called, and known as the Henry Chase homestead farm, containing 75 acres more or less. Being the premises conveyed to Henry Chase by William Chase Jr. and Aurilla Chase dated December 1, 1866 recorded with Grafton County Registry of Deeds Book 296, Page 260; the first parcel of land in deed of Ada M. Heath and Zelfha A. Chase to Amos L. Chase dated December 31, 1926, recorded with Grafton County Registry of Deeds Vol. 597, Page 400; the premises conveyed to Town of Wentworth by Grover C. Breck, Collector of Taxes for the Town of Wentworth by Tax Collector's Deed dated December 28, 1934, recorded with Grafton County Registry of Deeds Vol. 673, Page 1; and the first parcel in deed of the Town of Wentworth to John C. Houlne dated January 21, 1943 recorded with Grafton County Registry of Deeds Vol. 711, Page 246. My title is derived as heir of John C. Houlne, late of Manchester, N.H. deceased, and by deed of Christine M. Houlne dated May 28, 1957 recorded Grafton County Registry of Deeds Vol. 890, Page 456*".

Six years later, on October 22, 1964, Henry and Martha Boetel sold the same seventy-five acres of land with the buildings to Joseph H. Leonard¹²⁶. On November 3, 1969, June L. Allen, daughter and only heir of Joseph H. Leonard, sold the same property to John Theodore Ellis¹²⁷; everybody that knew him called him "Ted".

Ted made several improvements to the property which was beginning to show the neglect of past years. Ted puttered extensively, making a worn-down place look good. He had the property surveyed, discovering eight-three acres instead of the seventy-five acres previously assumed.

A portion of a survey appears on the following page showing abutters at the time. The property was also subdivided during the survey process into a five acre homestead, consisting of the old house and barn, and a seventy-eight acre field and woodlot. Ted sold the five acres with home to Elena Karam Hill¹²⁸ on July 30, 1971, and later on July 31, 1973, he sold the land to Harry and Elsie Hull¹²⁹.

A new home has since been erected on the large parcel of land.



¹²⁵ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 909, Page 420.

¹²⁶ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 1010, Page 472.

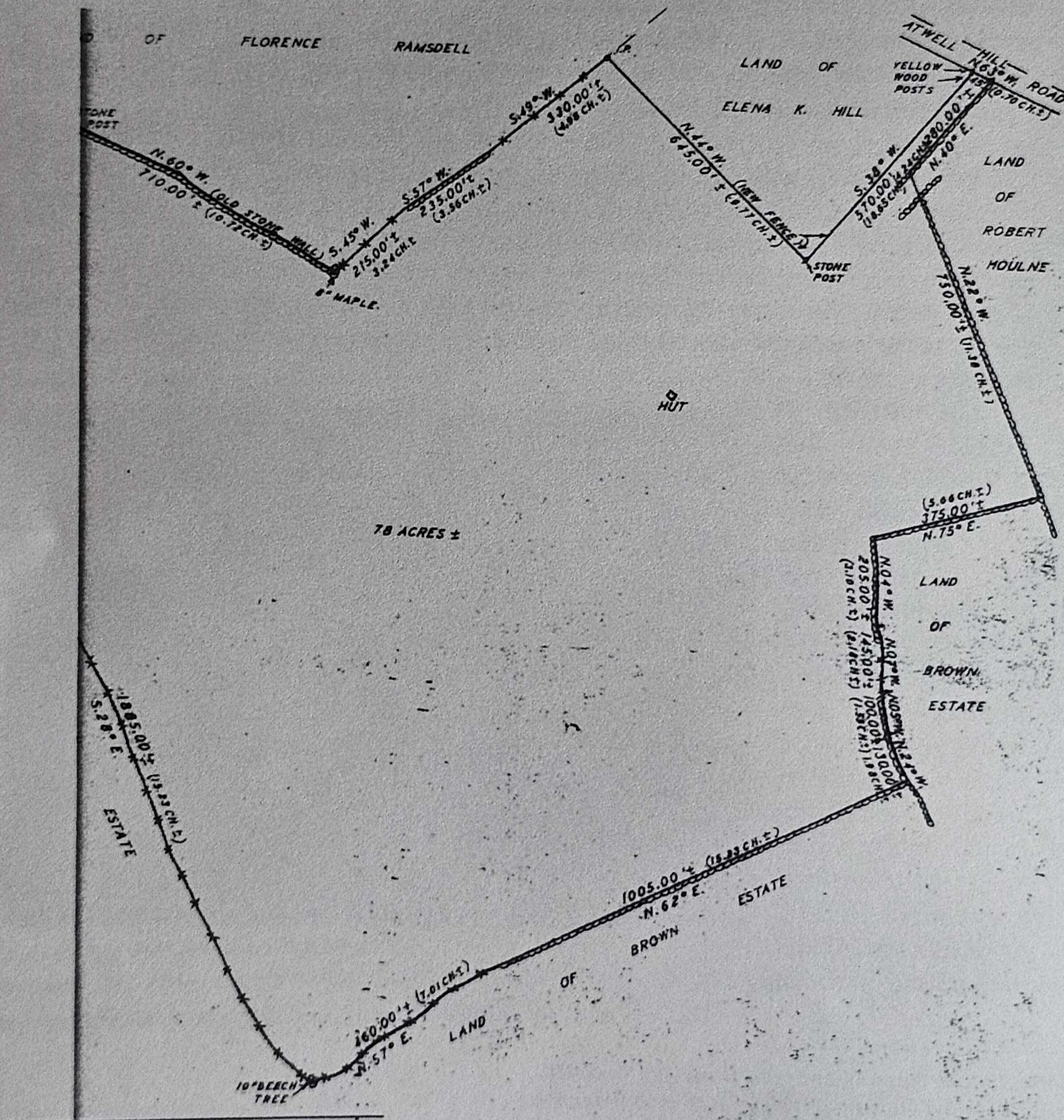
¹²⁷ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 1102, Page 141.

¹²⁸ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 1147, Page 373.

¹²⁹ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 1200, Page 408.

On May 25, 1982, Elena Hill sold the old house, barn, and five acres to David and Linda Michonski¹³⁰. David and Linda soon sold to Vladimir and Ludmilla ("Lucy") Popov¹³¹ on September 14, 1985. The Popov family held onto the property for several years. "Lucy" could decorate a home along with the best of everyone and she made an attractive home, accentuating the old house with a modern flair. A new sun-room was added to the back of the property combining the old cape with the new addition to make a more comfortable and pleasant surroundings. The outside was equally impressive. The picture on the previous page shows the house with the sunroom in foreground at left and the older cape barely visible in the back.

The old house has a renewed charm.



¹³⁰ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 1445, Page 803.

¹³¹ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 1564, Page 282.

Brown & Browns mills?

Florence Ramsdell Place

The house on this property is shown on the 1860 map as belonging to Elbridge G. True. Elbridge lived on the property long enough to have his name also appear on the 1892 map. The house is located in the southeast quadrant of a five-hundred acre parcel known as the Governor's Reservation. The actual acreage of the Reservation was in excess of the original stated amount, each quadrant later said to contain 130 acres. Reference should be made to the full account of the early history of the Reservation as given on prior pages. A summary of the ownership of this particular property to the year 1800 is as follows:

Richard Herbert	1781	
James Herbert	1781	Undivided half of 500 acre parcel
Obededon Hall	1784	East half consisting of 250 acres
Elisha Martin	1786	Southeast quadrant said to contain 130 acres
Peter Martin	1789	Southeast quadrant said to contain 130 acres

On December 28, 1797, Peter Martin sold for \$265 a piece of property to Amos Clark¹⁸² described as "*sixty five acres of land in said Wentworth it being part of the reservation or governors farm & is bounded as follows (viz) beginning at the southeast corner of Absalom Peters farm on which he now lives at a Stake & Stones from thence running northerly by said Peters line one hundred & forty four rods to a Spruce tree marked thence south sixty seventy degrees east seventy five rods to a spruce tree thence south forty one degrees west one hundred & forty four rods to a beech tree thence westwardly seventy five rods to the first mentioned Bound*". Amos Clark appears to have lived on the property for over twenty years and probably built the house presently standing and later to be known as the Florence Ramsdell Place.

Meanwhile, on April 13, 1801, Peter Martin sold the remaining half of his homestead, originally consisting of one-hundred thirty acres, for \$650 to Thomas Clark¹⁸³ by deed describing the property as "*the farm in said Wentworth on which I now live containing sixty five acres of land excepting a piece deeded by me to Aaron Palmer to be used for a public highway fifty or sixty rods in length & two rods in width off of the easterly side of said farm said farm is a part of the Benning Wentworth Reservation and on the southeasterly part of the same*". It is probable that the house to be known as the Rudlin Place was built soon after the date of the above deed.

On January 18, 1802, less than a year later, Thomas Clark sold the property to Joseph Clark¹⁸⁴ for the same \$650 describing the property as "*the farm in said Wentworth on which I now live containing about sixty five acres of land as may appear by deed Peter Martin to me dated April 13th A. 1801*".

On August 28, 1802, Joseph Clark quitclaimed to his "*honored mother Hannah Clark*¹⁸⁵ of said Wentworth Widow" all the "*income use perquisite & profits of what kind, soever which shall arise from the farm in said Wentworth on which she now lives for & during the term of*

¹⁸² Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 88, Page 51 - 52.

¹⁸³ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 88, Page 51.

¹⁸⁴ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 88, Page 50.

¹⁸⁵ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 88, Page 50.

her life & I do hereby relinquish to my said Mother all claims of right of the management of said farm during her life as aforesaid". It appears that Joseph Clark lived on the property for over seven years. Joseph sold the property to Amos Clark¹⁸⁶ on September 28, 1810, at which time the property is described as "the farm in said Wentworth which I now live on containing about sixty acres of land excepting a piece deeded by Peter Martin to Aaron Palmer to be used for a public highway fifty or sixty rods in length & two rods in width off of the easterly side of said farm said farm is a part of the Benning Wentworth Reservation and on the southeasterly part of the same". Amos, by this deed, had reunited the southeast quadrant of the Governor's Reservation.

On November 20, 1821, after over two decades of Clark family ownership, Amos Clark sold the property to Jeremiah Prescott Jr. and Newell Stanyan¹⁸⁷ at which time he described the property as "bounded easterly by land owned by Moses Eaton and northerly by land lately owned by Absalom Peters and westerly by land owned by William M. Morrison and southerly by land owned by Aaron Jewett and Moses Eaton meaning the farm I now live on containing by estimation about one hundred thirty acres excepting a piece deeded by Peter Martin to Aaron Palmer for a public highway fifty or sixty rods in length & two rods in width off of the easterly side of said farm said farm is a part of the Benning Wentworth Reservation". The above deeds of 1797, 1801, and the two deeds of 1802 were recorded together on May 2, 1822, probably as a result of the sale to Newell Stanyan.

On November 13, 1824, Newell Stanyan sold his interest in part of the property to Jeremiah Prescott¹⁸⁸, describing the lot as "the easterly half of the land which was deeded to myself and said Prescott in common which deed was executed to us by Amos Clark and dated the twentieth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty one The line which divides said easterly part from the land which I own runs from a spruce tree standing on the northerly line of said farm & marked southwardly a straight line to a beech tree standing on the southerly line of said farm which is also marked".

Jeremiah Prescott sold his interest on the same day of November 13, 1824, to William M. Morris¹⁸⁹, describing the property as "bounded easterly by land owned by Moses Eaton, northwardly by land owned by said Eaton westwardly by land owned by Newell Stanyan and southwardly by land owned by Aaron Jewett, being the easterly half of the farm which was deeded to myself and Newell Stanyan by deed from Amos Clark bearing date November twentieth in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty one". References to the Governor Benning Wentworth Reservation are no longer found in the deed.

In a period of time of less than seventeen months the farm changed hands five times. On February 3, 1825, William M. Morris sold the property to Winthrop True¹⁹⁰. On November 25 of the same year Winthrop True conveyed the property to John Dana, Jr.¹⁹¹ On April 11, 1826, John Dana Jr. sold the property to Joseph T. Judkins¹⁹². On April 4, 1826, Joseph T. and Nancy Judkins sold the property to Sarah True¹⁹³. The True family name would be attached to this homestead for the next seventy years.

¹⁸⁶ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 89, Page 39.

¹⁸⁷ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 95, Page 372.

¹⁸⁸ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 95, Page 371.

¹⁸⁹ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 95, Page 374.

¹⁹⁰ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 95, Page 377.

¹⁹¹ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 99, Page 157.

¹⁹² Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 99, Page 219.

¹⁹³ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 99, Page 213 - 214. The date of one of these 1826 deeds may be incorrectly dated due to looking at the wrong week on a calendar.

On May 7, 1853, Sarah True sold the property to Elbridge True¹⁹⁴ with similar description describing the property as "a certain piece or tract of land situate in said Wentworth and bounded as follows Easterly by land owned by Jesse Eaton and Walcott Dana, Northerly by land of Jesse Eaton, westerly by land of Newell Stanyan and southerly by land of said Newell Stanyan and land of Walcott Dana containing eighty acres more or less". Over the next forty years Elbridge True added neighboring lands to the property to amass over one-hundred acres. Elbridge would own the property long enough to have his name appear on the 1860 map and his name would also appear on the 1892 map. 227 92?

Amos L. Chase was born May 23, 1866, and on April 7, 1872, he was married to Jennie L. Cutting of Piermont. The young couple settled on the True Place and took care of Elbridge G. True and his wife Abigail in return for the farm. Amos farmed as well as being a lumberman. Elbridge True died October 23, 1896, at the advanced age of 80. On November 9, 1896, less than three weeks later, his wife Abigail Webster True¹⁹⁵ fulfilled the agreement previously made and sold the property to Amos¹⁹⁶ describing the property as "a farm of land in Wentworth & containing some 140 acres being same & all land known as E. G. True home farm see Grafton Co. Registry of Deeds Liber 260 Folio 187 & Liber 222 Folio 569 & Liber 185 Folio 451 for full description & reference".

On September 12, 1912, Amos L. Chase sold the property to his wife Jennie L. Chase¹⁹⁷ describing the property as "a certain tract of land formerly owned by Elbridge True bounded and described as follows, Bounded Easterly by land owned by Jesse Eaton and Walcott Dana; Northerly by land of Jesse Eaton; Westerly by land of Newell Stanyan and Southerly by land of said Newell Stanyan and land of Walcott Dana containing 80 acres more or less see Grafton County Records Vol. 569, Lib. 222. Also another tract of land formerly owned by Elbridge True and situated in said Wentworth bounded as follows, South by the land of Walcott Dana heirs and land of Henry Chase, West by land of said Chase, North by the highway and East by the land of Asa Goodell containing thirty acres more or less. See Grafton County Records Lib 347 Vol 291". Amos was a poet as well as farmer and lumberman. In the first chapter of *The Heart of New Hampshire* by Professor Waygant is a sketch of Amos in which he is referred to as the 'Bard of Atwell Hill'. Amos is remembered, among other qualities, for his long white beard and his memory of "old times".

On April 24, 1953, Jennie L. Chase sold the eighty acre parcel with the home to Florence Ramsdell¹⁹⁸ reserving a life estate. Florence was the daughter of Amos L. Chase and Jennie Cutting Chase, born June 11, 1906. Florence married Kenneth Ramsdell on January 1, 1929, and settled for a period of time in Windsor, Vt. Kenneth and Florence raised two children, Thelma and Richard. Jennie Chase died June 6, 1953, less than two months after the above sale.

Florence lived on the old home place, working hard to make a go throughout her life. Her home made jams and jellies were praised by all who bought them at Old Home Day or Market Day or other festive occasions. Florence's daughter, Thelma, returned to Wentworth in later years and built a home on the opposite side of the Atwell Hill Road

¹⁹⁴ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 222, Page 569.

¹⁹⁵ According to town records, Abigail Webster, wife of Deacon Elbridge True, was born in Concord, N.H., the daughter of Daniel Webster and Abigail Woodman. The relationship to the other Webster families in the town, including Lorenzo D. Webster and Frank E. Webster, near neighbors, is unknown at this writing.

¹⁹⁶ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 432, Page 6.

¹⁹⁷ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 516, Page 403.

¹⁹⁸ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 835, Page 86.

from the old homestead and on a part of the large farm to be near her mother. Thelma has since subdivided the land on the south side of the road.

Charles Keneson Place

The house on this property is shown on the 1860 map as belonging to James H. Stanyan. On the 1892 map the owner is identified as being Leonard Howard. The house is located in the southeast quadrant of a five-hundred acre parcel known as the Governor's Reservation. The actual acreage of the Reservation was in excess of the original stated amount, each quadrant later said to contain 130 acres. Reference should be made to the full account of the early history of the Reservation as given on prior pages. A summary of the ownership of this particular property to the year 1800 is as follows:

Richard Herbert	1781	
James Herbert	1781	Undivided half of 500 acre parcel
Obededon Hall	1784	East half consisting of 250 acres
Elisha Martin	1786	130A SE Quarter of Reservation
Peter Martin	1789	130A SE Quarter of Reservation

For the early history of the lands in this area, reference should be made to the Florence Ramsdell Place as well as to an account of the Governors Reservation made earlier in this compilation. Therein it may be shown that the southeast quadrant of the Governor's Reservation was divided into two parts by Peter Martin and later reunited by Amos Clark. As given under the Ramsdell Place, Amos Clark sold his re-united one-hundred thirty acre parcel, in 1821, probably by this time containing two houses, to Newell Stanyan and Jeremiah Prescott. Newell Stanyan sold his interest in the easterly half of the one-hundred thirty acres of the southeast quadrant to Jeremiah Prescott, and the continuation of that portion of the Governor's Reservation is found under the Florence Ramsdell Place. Newell Stanyan lived for over sixty years on the westerly half of the southeast quarter of the Reservation, selling a parcel in later years to his son on which the son built a new home in 1858. The account that follows is a report of the portion owned by the son, James H. Stanyan, and later by Charles "Dave" Keneson.

On February 28, 1859, Newell Stanyan sold a parcel of land to his son James H. Stanyan¹⁹⁹ in which deed Newell described the property as "*beginning at a stake and stones on the road leading from the Peters farm so called to Wentworth Village; thence southeasterly on said road fourteen rods to land owned by Elbridge True; thence Northeasterly on said True's land thirty three rods to a stake and stones; thence Northwesterly on land owned by Newell Stanyan sixteen rods to a stake and stones; thence Southwesterly on land owned by said Stanyan thirty four rods to the first mentioned bounds*". Hoyt, in his history of the town²⁰⁰, informs us that "a new dwelling house, near Newell Stanyan's by James Stanyan" was built on the land. Hoyt lists the house raising as occurring in 1858, which may mean the house was built before the above sale, which is likely since the house was built for Newell's son. This parcel of land of a little more than three acres would remain as the house lot of a farm that would be seen to

¹⁹⁹ Grafton County Registry of Deeds, Book 252, Page 578.

²⁰⁰ Hoyt's History of Wentworth, N.H., by Peter L. Hoyt, 1976, p. 400.