

**Orford Historical Society \* East Orford Walking Tour \* 10/1/00**  
**The Mile To Mt. Cube Farm \* Art Pease**

I will review the area from the Sherburn/Pease farm to Mt. Cube Farm by discussing the following themes in 5-8 minutes. Then, questions and comments by the audience will fill out the time. [Don't worry - I can fill the time if there are no questions ;-)]

**FAMILY:**

Six farms along the mile from here to Mr. Cube Farm had family connections from the 1860's to the 1920's. Following is a brief review of those connections:

A. Luther Sherburn farm [Sunset View Farm]

- Luther moved from Blodgett Hill, up back off the Old County Road, to Gilman's Corner, then to this farm in 1866. [8-10 homes on the hill then -some cellarholes still visible]
  - Luther's daughter, Mabel [my grandmother] married Francis Pease in 1887. They moved here to care for Luther and inherit the farm in 1899
  - Glenn [my father] born on 5/17/06, his mother's birthday
    - took over farm on Francis' death in 1925
    - married Theda Howard in 1928
    - they always lived here [except for 7 months after house burned]
- [three house pictures to hand around here]**

B. Gale Farm

- Harry Goodwin, came here to work and married Bertha Gale
  - a cousin of Glenn's, his mother was Francis R. Pease's sister Georgiana
  - became Fish and Game Warden
- house was on left, two barns on right

C. Chase Pease farm [Glenn's great-uncle] {Chase}

- died from a fall while grafting apple tree
  - 2 barns across road
- [mowing pictures to hand around here]**

D. Henry Pease farm [Glenn's great-uncle] [Peter Thomson]

- barn across the road, upper barn on same side as house
- we hayed, pastured, used barn for hay and young cattle
- Mel bought in early 50s

E. Scott Johnson farm [Mabel Pease's sister and husband] [Lester 'Bud' Hook Jr.]

- barns across road, house fell down, Dad remembers playing in cellar

F. Mt. Cube Farm [Norman Currier married Theda's niece Alice Keneson]

- several barns across the road

**FIRES:**

Several barns and houses along this mile of road burned between the late 1800s and 1958.

A. Poor house on Indian Pond Road just beyond Mt. Cube Farm - 1941-42

- B. barns across from Mt. Cube house - early 1900s
- C. barns across road from Scott Johnson house - ??
- D. upper barn on same side as Henry Pease house - ??
- E. house at Chase Pease farm - 1928
- F. house at Gale farm - 1958
- G. house at Sherburn/Pease farm - 1957  
major community rebuilding effort followed this fire

### **FRIENDSHIP:**

There were many connections over the years between people in this area, as their friendships and family ties led to common and constant cooperation in a variety of projects.

#### A. Rebuilding after fires

- At least after Pease fire in 1957 and Perry fire in 1958; Mel helped organize major community assistance for rebuilding.

#### B. Logging

- Glenn Pease/Walter Mack/Charlie Ladd/Oscar Ladd worked on same logging operations over the years
- Glenn and Gerald Pease worked with Don Tatham, who logged around both ponds for many years in 50s and 60s, getting out lumber, pulp, veneer, and firewood

#### C. Farm Work

- often shared machinery owned by only one farmer, worked together on large projects
- giving advice to newcomers
  - Rufus Chase, "hired man" worked for Glenn for years, a mentor to my brothers [Gerald's 'hero']
  - Glenn and Gerald often advised Mel and sons in early years, sometimes taken too literally [story of Gerald and Mel and clothing in the winter]