

## *Overview:*

If the walls of this Federal-style home could talk, it would speak of over 170 years of New England hospitality. It all began in 1835 when John Adams, said to be a distant cousin to the Massachusetts Adams', and his wife Sally Currier Adams built this beautiful home in their twilight years. Here, they ran a large and prosperous farm, living out the remaining years of their long lives and passing it on to their youngest son, Thomas Jefferson Adams in 1860.

Like many homes on stagecoach routes, the Adams' would welcome weary travelers when hotels were filled to capacity. In fact, stagecoaches and mail carriers regularly stopped here, as a Tavern and Post Office existed directly across the street.

The family and their descendants owned and occupied the property until it was purchased in the 1970's and refurbished to become a Bed and Breakfast known as the Crab Apple Inn. Along the way, the name has changed but the tradition of hospitality continues, as weary travelers, vacationers, & guests continue to flock to the Federal House Inn.

## *The Occupants:*

John Adams born in Salisbury, MA in 1771. In 1796, he married Sally Currier (b. 1777) from Newton, NH shortly after moving to Salisbury, NH along with several of his family members. Several of them, including John and Sally in 1798, relocated to Plymouth, NH and settled at what was known as Adams Hill. They had a total of 12 children\*\* from 1798-1822, nine surviving to adult-hood .

Over the years, John worked at several different trades in addition to farming including collector of taxes from 1817-1819, post-rider from Plymouth to Portsmouth from 1821-1823 and deputy sheriff from 1831-1836. He and Sally along with three or four of their remaining children moved into the home now known as Federal House Inn at the ages of 65 and 59 respectively. Old photographs and maps indicate that it was a farm of some size that extended further South and West than today, incorporating an additional lot over the border in Rumney and the stream that still runs along the property's border to the East known as Adams Brook.

Sally Currier Adams passed away in 1858 followed by John in 1863.

\*\* 1- John Jr. (1798-1850) also known as Captain John Adams Jr., he married Cordelia Bailey and settled locally. 2-Bartlett (1799-1869) married May Kimball in 1806 and settled in St. Louis, Mo. 3-Philena (1803-1879) married Jonathan G. Cummings in who died leaving Philena a widow with children. She and her son, Charles Henry Cummings lived here at the Adams farm for several years. Charles Henry (later Colonel) had an illustrious railroad career and is responsible for building Spindle Point Lighthouse on his estate on Lake Winnepesaukee in his later years. 4-Mary C.(1805-1881) never married and lived here at the Adams farm. 5-Almira (1807-1826). 6-James Madison (1803-1841) worked the farm until his early death. 7-Joseph (1811-1864) married Mary Call and was a cabinet maker in Boston. 8-Sarah Jane b.1815 died at the age of 3. 9-George Washington b.1815 lived only 6 months. 10-Sarah Jane (1817-1880) married Thomas Bradford and lived in Boston. 11-Emily Grace (1819-1878) married Alvin Hill of Rumney. 12-Thomas Jefferson (1822-1900) married Mary Jane Remich from Maine and settled here at Adams farm, taking over ownership in 1860. He and his wife lived here until their death. Mary Jane died in 1901.

John and Sally Adams and their children welcomed various members of their family into their home over the years that including a widowed daughter, Philenah Adams Cummings, 2 of her children (Charles Henry and William Harrison). Thomas Jefferson Adams, John and Sally's youngest son, continued on at the farm after old John's death and housed his own small family here along with everyone else and his unmarried sister Sally. William Harrison Cummings married distant cousin Sarah Holden, and the union produced two boys, Winfred Harrison and Charles Henry Cummings.

When Thomas J. and Mary J. Adams passed in 1900 and 1901, the property was bequeathed to have gone to their nephew, the oldest son of Sarah and William Cummings, Winfred H. Cummings. Winfred (aka "Fred" or Grandpa Cummings) and his wife Iva lived here with their children, Doris and Winfred H. Jr (AKA "Bud"), until their deaths. Over the years from 1901-1940, the farm gradually decreased in size. Winfred and Iva supplemented income by opening the "Old Homestead Antiques" shop in the house and a single-pump filling station across the street, where they sold hot dogs, ice cream, snacks and, of course, gasoline, to passing travelers along this tourist and trucking route. It seems that the house ceased to be occupied by family after 1960 and that it may well have been vacant for some years before being sold to the first owner outside of the original family who purchased and renovated it extensively, and, later to Mrs. Janene Davis who converted it to a B & B in 1979.