

4/5/2023

History of Ownership of the Peter Krusch's Farm at 140 Forge Drive and 779 Pumpkin Harbor Road in Cambridge

Sally Laughlin has the full set of records on the property ownership, since it had to be researched and the survey done documented before the land could be transferred to the Town of Cambridge for the Peter A Krusch Nature Preserve. This work was done by Button Professional Land Surveyors PC, Chris Haggerty.

The information needs to be summarized, scanned, and added to information on the Krusch Preserve on the website (a pending project for Sally).

The Preserve was part of the original land grant to Safford/Spofford.

Peter believed that the house was built in the 1820s from bricks made on the land with the second story added later (perhaps when Chapman purchased it). .

Ownership of the Farm as researched by Peter Krusch

Gilman to Chapman 10/14/1899

Moved from Scott Farm in Fletcher. Ref: Vol 24, p 8 Cambridge Town Records

Chapman to Barsha 7/26/1929

17 cows, 4 calves, 10 shoats (young pigs). Notation: all sales of logs, pulp, and Christmas trees to be applied to the mortgage; Ref: Vol 29, p 170

Barsha to Church, Blodah, and Wilkins. 11/1/1933

(Don Chapman's three sisters purchased the house – Indiana Blodah, Agnes Wilkins, and Delia Church)

30 cows, 10 heifers, 1 bull, equipment, 37 tons of hay, and also assumed \$8000 mortgage
Ref: Vol 34, p 330

Church, Blodah, and Wilkins to Rubado 10/33/1935

Sold for \$6500 with provision that if \$5000 can be paid in 6 months the price will be reduced to \$6000. Provision also states that of any timber sold, ½ is to towards the mortgage.
Vol 40, p 13

Rubado to Morey 6/1/1936

Vol 40, p 26

Morey to Dutton 9/6/1946

25 cows, a bull, 9 young stock, equipment. Reserved potato crop and garden
Vol 40, p 465

Dutton to Carda 9/17/1946

Reserved all growing trees 12DBH and over; right to skid for two years
(*Peter Krusch met Mr. & Mrs. Carda when they stopped by his farm one day. They said that they came to Vermont from Flushing NY and bought the farm for peace and quiet, and had “lost their shirts because we didn’t know farming.”*)

Vol 40, p 469

Carda to Dupis 9/24/1947

Vol 40 p527

Dupis to Rich 3/1/1948

Included 27 milk cows, a bull, 2 horses, and equipment

Vol. 42 p 302

Rich foreclosed to Burlington Savings Bank 7/20/1955

\$7500 mortgage

Vol 42, p 82 and 83

Burlington Savings to Root 8/27/1955

150 acres plus/minus

Vol 42, p 280

Root to Krusch 11/5/1958

130 acres plus 30 acres separate.

Vol 42 p 659

Peter divided the land and sold the old house and the pasture land on the river side of Pumpkin Harbor Road in 2007. He also sold land along North Cambridge Road in a planned development in subsequent years (as income for his retirement). His remaining acres were the 51 acres which would become the Peter A Krusch Nature Preserve in 2020 and the land and pasture around the house c. 18 acres which remains in his wife’s ownership.

Ownership of the Old House 2007 on

Krusch to Schwarz 2007

Peter Krusch sold the old house and the fields on the west side of Pumpkin Harbor Road to Jeff and Jenny Schwarz in August 2007. Peter had owned the property nearly 50 years. After his children grew up and left home, he had rented the “old house” and built himself a house across the road, in the midst of his eastern acres, along the brook beside a waterfall, where he lived from 1988 until his death there, May 2018.

Schwarz to Kempner & Monty – August 2014

Jeff and Jenny Schwarz sold the property to Alan Kempner (Buck) and Madison Monty