

Campton Chronology

- 1761 Charter to Gen. Jabez Spenser
- 1762 Isaac Fox and nephew, Winthrop Fox arrive from Connecticut
- 1767 New charter – settlement of town
- 1772 First Town Meeting
- 1773 First church organized
- 1779 House of worship and town house constructed
- 1780 First teacher arrives, Mr. Rawson
- 1802 Present Congregational Church built on the west side of the Pemigewasset River
- 1811 Baptist Church organized (Campton Village).
- 1826 Baptist Church built
- 1829 First Blair Bridge constructed
- 1853 Free Baptist Church erected in West Campton
- 1854 Town House built in Campton Hollow
- 1858 Congregational Church moved from across river
- 1860 Section of town ceded to Plymouth
- 1867 Section of Thornton annexed as part of debt
- 1868 First bridge at Livermore Falls
- 1870 Blair Bridge replaced after having burned
- 1878 Campton Grange established
- 1885 Iron bridge constructed at Livermore Falls
- 1886 First telephone service arrives
- 1890 Log dam built at Campton Pond
- 1898 First electric lights
- 1906 Town water system developed
- 1917 Beebe River Village established
- 1925 Draper Corporation buys Beebe River
- 1927 Great Flood of 1927
- 1934 Present Campton Dam built by the CCC
- 1952 Dial phone service comes to Campton
- 1956 Campton PTA established
- 1962 Consolidated Campton Elementary School opened
- 1963 Route I93 Changes the landscape
- 1997 New Post Office built on Southmayd Road



This informational brochure was produced by the Campton Historical Society, founded in 1991 to preserve the community's heritage, and to recognize and protect significant historic structures and sites.

The Society's headquarters is the 1855 town House, located one mile north of Blair Road and Route 175.

For further information, write to us at PO. Box 160, Campton, NH 03223, or log on to our web site page www.CamptonHistorical.org.

Town of Campton, New Hampshire HISTORIC SITE SERIES

Site #11



Located on Town Pound Road,
off U.S. Route 3, just north of exit 27
of Route I93

This brochure is underwritten by:

The Town Pound

Campton, New Hampshire

The Town Pound is a public enclosure for stray or unlicensed animals. In earlier times, family farms were more common, and stray farm animals were common. Most towns had at least one Town Pound to keep these animals on a temporary basis. The Town of Campton has had several, in different locations dependent upon the shifting population. At one time there were two, one on either side of the Pemigewasset River. The center of town was on the east side, where the 1855 Town House is now located on N.H. Route 175. But there was also a sizable community here on the west side of the river, and no bridge between them. The solution, 2 pounds.

The owners of the strays were required to pay a small fee to reclaim their stock. A person was appointed Pound Keeper to assist in administering this process. The town records of 1776 show that Mr. Jonathon Cone was appointed to this position on the east side of the river, and Mr. Daniel Wyatt on the west side. In 1795, the town paid John Southmayd, 2 pounds, eight shillings for building a pound. In 1816, the town paid Deacon David Bartlett \$50 for building a town pound on the west side of the river. The keeper was Benjamin Coleman, followed by Dudley Palmer, and Theodore Palmer.

Identification of an owners stock was accomplished by specific “marking”. Milton Homan’s mark was a slit in the underside of each ear. Joseph Bickford’s mark was a crop of the end of each ear and a hole through the left ear. And so was the animal reunited with the proper owner.

Reconstruction of this Town Pound was coordinated in 2005 by Christopher Pitts as part of his candidacy for Eagle Scout.

