

# *A History of* **The Maples**



In 1851, Edmund Kemble, Esq, built, on the hill back from Main Street, a 2-story, brick house, in the elegant English Georgian style. Photo courtesy of Wenham Museum.

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Jack E. Hauck



The Maples property has a long and interesting history. Photo J. Hauck, 2009

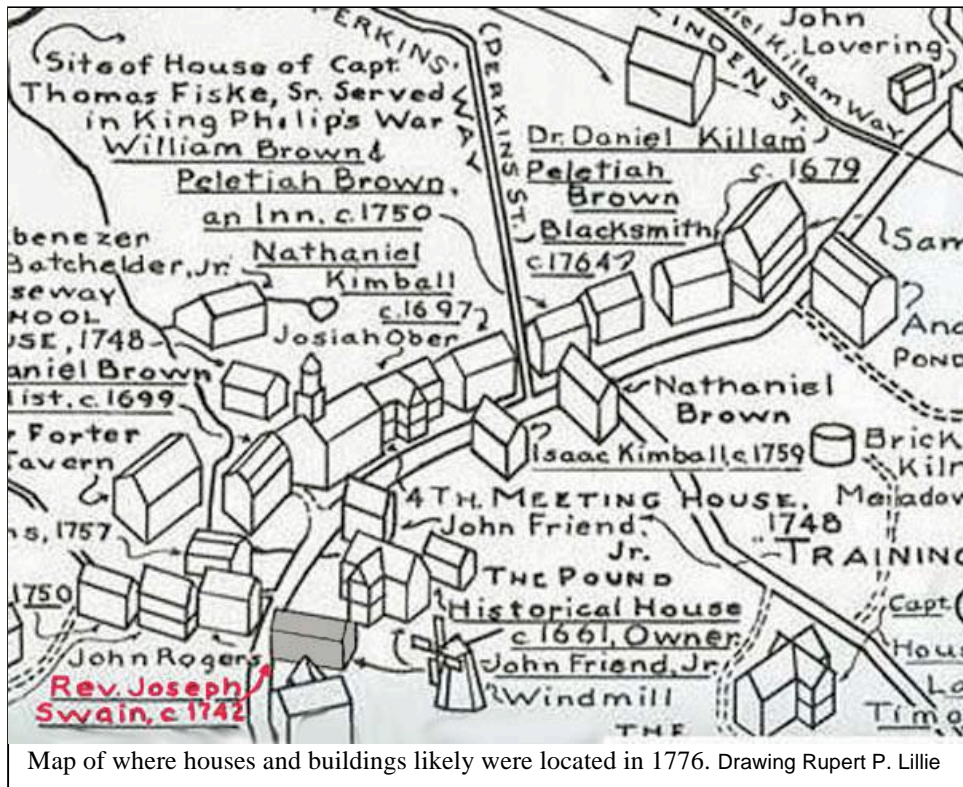
## The Maples

The first people who lived on what is now called The Maples were Agawam Indians. As for the first Europeans, there are very few records of the early years of Enon, and what records do exist are vague.

For example, here is how boundaries are described in the 1676 will of John Ffiske, one of Wenham's first residents: "Rev. John Ffiske's bounds, etc., according to the evidence of Samuel Moulton, then Dec 1, 1698, is a rock now placed near ye house, which was formerly ye said Deponents (*person testifying*), from thence northward to a red oake, which was formerly ye said lands of Mr. John Ffiske & James Moulton."

What is now The Maples property likely was part of 200 acres of land, in Enon, which was given to Samuel Smith, in 1638, by the Townsmen in Salem. The Smith land was on the southeast side of The Country Road to Wenham. Samuel and his wife, Sarah, lived on the property, in a house he built until 1642.

Sarah and Samuel Smith had a son, Thomas, while they lived at the property. Thomas may have been the first child born on the property.



Samuel Smith died in 1642. Sarah, who next married Daniel Rumball, reportedly lived at the property, until she died, in 1670. Thomas Smith inherited the property and leased it.

### The Friends on Main St.

Subsequently, the property was acquired by John Friend, Sr., of Essex. He initially leased it for farming. John Friend married Sarah Dodge, in 1708. They had two children: James, in 1711, and John Jr., in 1718.

There was a large house on the property that consisted of two adjoining, bi-level structures, and a large barn, all probably built by John Friend, Sr., a deacon of the First Church.

The typical house, of the time, had a large kitchen, with a huge fireplace. A trammel bar, in the open-faced fireplace, provided a place to hang pots, kettles and spits. Kitchen furniture consisted of a trestle table, benches and chairs, chests for clothing and a cabinet for tableware and dishes. There was a bedroom off the kitchen, and sometimes a small parlor at the front of the house. Alongside the house, there often was a lean-to shed for storing firewood.

Some houses had a second floor, with extra sleeping rooms. The houses were made of wood beams and finished boards. Most roofs were thatched. Very early settlers, in the area, reportedly lived initially in wetues, like those of the local Indians.

One of the earliest families, after the Smiths/Rumballs, recorded to have lived at what is now The Maples property, likely was Rev. Robert Ward, 4<sup>th</sup> pastor at the Wenham congregational church.

In January 1721/21, the church rented the property as a parsonage for their new pastor, Rev. Robert Ward. He and his family lived there until he died in 1732.

In January 1732/33, when Rev. John Warren became the 5<sup>th</sup> pastor at the Wenham Congregational Church, the church again rented the large house and barn from John Friend, Sr.

When John Friend, Sr. died, Feb. 25, 1735, in his will, he specified, "Mr. Warren Shall have the Privileg of Living in the house as Long as he wants to; he paying the rent,-." Rev. Warren continued living here, with his wife and children until he died in 1749.

Around 1742, the property was inherited by John Friend, Jr. and his wife, Martha (*Conant*). They, too, lived in Essex, and continued to lease the property.

During the time Pastor Warren lived at the property and the giant Copper Beech, which majestically stands along Main Street, likely was planted around 1750.

*(Copper Beech leaves once were used to make poultices. The noted English advocate of homeopathic medicines, Doctor Edward Bach, wrote, in the early 1900s, that the Beech remedy was for those "who are arrogant, critical and intolerant of others.)*

In 1750, John Friend Jr., leased property to the Rev. Joseph Swain, who replaced Rev. Warren as pastor of Wenham's Congregational Church. Shortly after becoming pastor, on Jul. 3, 1751, Rev. Swain married Elizabeth Chipman Warren, the former wife of the deceased Rev. John Warren.

They had six children: Mary, Sarah, Joseph, Daniel, Benjamin and Hannah. His wife, Elizabeth, died in 1765.<sup>21</sup> The Swains lived there until Nov. 18, 1761, when they purchased the house and land of John Warren, a schoolmaster, in Gloucester.<sup>73</sup>

At the close of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, 1790 to be exact, the town fathers again changed the name of the central street running through Wenham: Country Road was renamed Main Street.





Kemble house, 1906, Photo courtesy of Wenham Museum.

In 1690, the central road through Wenham was called Country Road. Before then, the road may have been called “Old Bay Road,” by some (*and today, in Hamilton, the name is ‘Bay Road.’*) There also was a short period of time, when the name was changed from “Main Street” to ‘Elm Street,’ only to be changed back to ‘Main Street.’ To this confusion, can be added that there are some who say the name was ‘County Road,’ a name that now applies to the road in Ipswich.

The Friend family may have continued to own, what is now The Maples, until 1798. Israel Friend, son of Hannah and John Friend, Jr., likely lived at the property for several years. He married Sally in 1794, and they had a daughter, “Sopha,” born in 1795. (*Her name, more likely, was “Sophia,” and the birth record a misspelling.*)

As the 18<sup>th</sup> century ended in New England, Wenham, had a population just under 500. Like many other towns, Wenham was becoming quite prosperous. Much bigger and extravagant homes became the vogue, with many built in English Georgian style. To build these mansions, there came a wave of masons, carpenters, and joiners from England.

### **Coming of the Kimballs (Kembles)**

In the early 1800s, Captain Edmond Kimball owned the Main Street property. Captain Kimball, son of Thomas Kimball, and his wife, Mary (*Cross*)

did not live at the property: their home was in Newburyport. (*Captain Kimball received his commission during the War of 1812.*)

Some Kimballs may have lived at the Main Street property. There are, however, no records of who lived there until 1834. That year, the son of Captain Kimball, Edmond Esq. and wife, Mary (*White Beckford*), moved to 116 Main Street. The house still had the adjoining, two-floor structures, in which Reverend Swain had lived for over 40 years.

Eight Kimball children were born at 116 Main Street: Edward (1835), Edmund (1837), Arthur (1839/40), Mary (1841), Frank (1843), Annie (1846), Walter (1848) and Elizabeth (1850).

In 1845, Capt. Edmund Kimball in poor health and, his wife, Mary, having died several years earlier, moved in with his son and family: he died two years later.

Edmund Kimball, Esq. owned a shipping company, Kimball & Company. One of his ships was the 'Anna Kimball,' an 848-ton, two-decked ship built, in 1852, in Marblehead, and sailed from Beverly.

Following his father's death in 1847, Edmund Kimball, Esq, changed the family name to "Kemble." (*He may have gone back to what he believed was the original spelling of the family name. A Richard Kemble settled in Ipswich in 1634.*)

In 1851, Edmund Kemble built, on the hill back from Main Street, a 2-story, brick house, in the elegant English Georgian style. (*It was located to the left of where building one now stands at The Maples.*) The new and larger house likely was needed, since there were 10 members of the Kemble family.

Both sections of the old house, where Reverend Swain had lived, and which were at the front of the property, were moved, by horse-drawn carts, to 20 Arbor Street. Elmer Clarke purchased both of the houses. One section is still there. Fire destroyed the other section, sometime around 1870. Clarke descendants still live in the house moved from Main Street.

Thanks to Edmund Kemble, there is a virtual apothecary at the front of The Maples Property. He probably planted:

The Indian Bean, also called a Catalpa (*catalpa speciosa*): Tea made from its bark has been used as an antiseptic, an antidote to snake bites, a laxative, and a sedative.

The Maidenhair, also called a Ginkgo Biloba (*originally from China*): Seeds from the Ginkgo were used to treat various ailments including cancer, respiratory and circulatory problems, and even impaired hearing.

Other medicinal trees on the front lawn are:

The Norway spruce (*picea abies*): Tea made from it can ease respiratory troubles, such as influenza and coughs.

The maples (*acer saccharum*): Maple syrup has been used as a medication for bronchial ailments.

The American Chestnut (*castanea dentate*): Colonists made a tea from its bark, which when mixed with honey was a soothing cough syrup.

The Kemble property also had a large flower garden, with many resplendent rose bushes and other fragrant and flowering shrubs. In 1900, Sarah (*Bradbury*) Merrill, reminisced about “the happiest days of my childhood being spent playing beneath the huge nut trees and amid bowers of roses.” While there may have been previous gardens at the property, this is the first mentioned, and the forerunner of what are the beautifully flowering grounds at The Maples, which provide endless enjoyment to the residents.

In 1859, Edmund Kemble, Esq died. His wife, Mary, continued at the Kemble Mansion, until she died in 1888. Her daughter, Mary (*Kemble*) Robbins (*she married Alden, but separated from him*), lived at the Kemble mansion until she passed away in 1921. While there, she raised her twin granddaughters, Mary and Margaret Batchelder. Their parents, Dr. John and Louisa Batchelder, had died in a 1907 epidemic.

As the 20th century began, the population of Wenham still was not a thousand (847), and Main Street was still a dirt road. In 1885, however, the Naumkeag Street Railway system began running horse-drawn trolleys along Main Street, right past the front of the Kemble Mansion.

The part of this house, closest to Arbor Street, is the oldest. This portion of the house goes back to the eighteenth century and was part of the house, which stood under an old beech tree which is still standing about 33 feet south of the north drive of “The Maples” on Main Street.

The house was owned by John Friend, Sr., in 1785. In his will, he designated this house, with a barn and one acre of land where “the Reverend Joseph lives in Wenham, near the meeting house – that Mr. Swain shall have the privilege of living in the house as long as he wants to, he paying the rent.” Captain Edmund Kimball of Newburyport and Wenham later owned the property and lived in this house when it was on its –original site. His son, Squire Edmund Kemble, had the house removed in 1851. It was divided in two parts, and the smaller section became the west end of the Clarke house on Arbor Street.

The house has original eighteenth century trim. In particular, the first and second rooms from the street are original to the house. The rooms in

the rear have been added. The stair appears to have been added, about 1890.

### **Return of the Proctors**

In 1921, the Main Street property was purchased by John Proctor, and his wife Ida (*Huckins*).

About 230 years earlier, in 1692, a Salem court convicted John Proctor's ancestor, John Proctor, as being a witch. (*Convicted as the first male witch: he was hung. A witness against him was Elizabeth Hubbard, daughter of William Hubbard, to whom Samuel Smith had given land in Wenham, in 1645.*)

John Proctor, the descendent, who was a very successful building contractor, moved from the elite Eastern Point section of Gloucester. The Proctors had five children: Melba, Viola, Laila, Joseph, and Alice: however, none were born at the Main St. property.

John Proctor had the 70-year old Kemble house torn down. Nearby, he built a new, 3-level, brick home, which is now building one at The Maples. Proctor designed the house, in the English Georgian style. He also designed the landscaping of the property, including the planting of many pine trees, in the area facing the golf course.



Proctor estate, 1925. Photo Philip Boynton.





The entrance to the Proctor house had a large circular drive, which was where the swimming pool now is at The Maples. Photo Philip Boynton

An interesting feature of John Proctor's design, for the grand house, was that the back of the house faced Main Street, and the front entrance faced the back of the property. The entrance, which had a large circular drive, was where the swimming pool now is at The Maples. (Some 68 years later, the back of the Proctor house would be made the front.) There was a brick-walled courtyard on the left side of the Proctor house: this was the entrance to the kitchen and an area for hanging laundry to dry. (Today, t The Maples, the courtyard is en closed and is a residence.)

John Proctor had several other buildings erected on the property, including: a large dog kennel for his daughter's Pomeranians, a large barn for a couple of horses he owned, and a combination garage and water-pump plant (now the community center at The Maples).

While now called "The Carriage House," the only carriages the garage ever housed were the 4-wheel, horseless type of the 1920s, and dashing carriages they were.

The entrance to the garage was at the rear of what now is the Carriage House Community Center for The Maples. As can be seen in the aerial

photo, originally, the driveway to the garage connected to the large circle behind the house and to the driveway connected to Main Street.

There was an apartment above the garage, which John Proctor rented to his grounds keeper, Horace Killam. His ancestors (Austin Killham) were one of the first families to live in Wenham, in 1640. Horace was an expert

horticulturist, who without any of today's power equipment maintained the property's expansive lawn and its many flowerbeds. Horace continued caring for the grounds until 1941, when he left to look after various town properties, including the Commons and the cemetery.

The dog kennel, located on the Proctor property, was as well constructed as many a home in Wenham. (Some 17 years later, the kennel would be converted into *an attractive caretaker's cottage*.)

Viola Proctor was a well-known breeder of Pomeranian show dogs. She won many trophies at dog shows, including "Best in Show," at several events. One of Viola's more-famous dogs was "Sealand Career," which won best in breed, for Pomeranians, at the 1931 Westminster Kennel Club Show, held in New York City.

John Proctor thoroughly enjoyed walking about the property, with its beautiful gardens, trellis covered walkways, and flowering, shrub-lined pathways.

The Proctors lived at 116 Main for 10 years. During this time, Laila Proctor married Englishman Edwin Wykes, and moved to India, where Edwin managed a shoe factory. Alice married Bradford Edmands, and moved to Newton Center.



The garage, on the Proctor estate, was called the Carriage House. The only carriages the garage ever housed were the 4-wheel, horseless type.  
Photo The Maples



Back of Carriage House looks onto swimming pool behind building 1. Photo The Maples



John Proctor enjoyed walking about the property, with its beautiful gardens, trellis covered walkways, and flowering, shrub-lined path-ways.  
Photo Philip Boynton

Melba, in 1923, married Philip Boynton. They traveled extensively, living for a short time in England.

Philip Boynton, son of Melba Proctor Boynton, lived, with his mother, at the Proctor estate, for a couple of his early years. He says the latter years at the 116 Main Street property were turbulent. In 1929, there was the great stock market crash. Also that year, John Proctor's wife, Ida, died.

Early in 1930, John Proctor put the property up for sale. Viola moved to a house, at 16 Perkins

Street. Viola also moved her "Radiant Kennels," to a much smaller structure behind the Perkins Street house. Apparently, the move did not bother Sealand Career: he won best in breed at the 1931 Westminster Kennel Club Show. Also that year, Melba Boynton and her son, returned from England, and moved to the Perkins St. home.

In August 1931, John Proctor married, Corrinna Clark. Unfortunately, a few months later, John Proctor died.

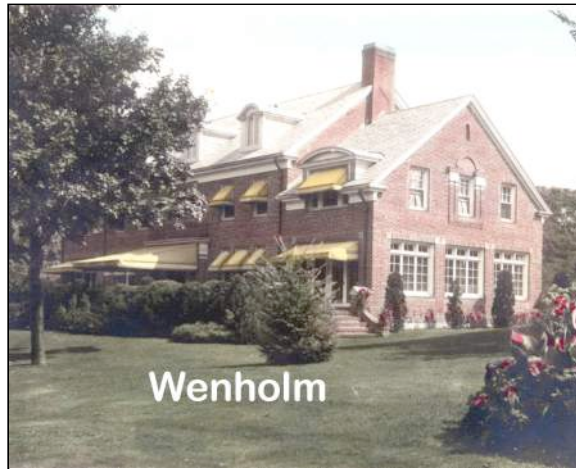
### **The Meads at Wenholm**

In early 1932, Edmond and Edna Mead officially purchased, for about \$30,000, the Main Street property from the Proctor estate. Town records, for 1931, show the Proctor property, as having: a house, valued at \$43,000; a garage and water pumping plant, at \$6,000; caretaker's cottage, at \$2,300; a barn at \$1,000; and 9.5 acres of land, at \$7,500. *(In 1989, the property would be sold for \$1.3 million to The Old Country Realty Trust, and listed as having 7.8 acres: there is no record of what happened to the missing 1.7 acres from the 9.5 listed in 1931. Or, for that matter, nothing is known of what happened to the rest of the 200 acres given, in 1638, to Samuel Smith.)*

The Meads may have acquired the property, in 1931, with Edna taking about a year to redecorate, before the family moved in. They called the property "Wenholm," a play on the name "Wenham." The name

“Wenholm” came from a family expression, “When father’s home.” (*Holm is an Old Saxon word meaning low rising hill, which aptly describes the location of the Mead home.*)

Edna Mead refurbished and redecorated the home’s interior, a task that took her the first 3 years the family was at Wenholm. Edmond Mead placed iron gates at the entrance. His initials, “EM,” were on the gates (*current Maples resident, Edna Mullen, jests that they are her initials*). The gates were removed in 2004, after being damaged.



Edmond and Edna Mead purchased, in 1932, the Main Street property from the Proctor estate.  
Photo The Maples

At Wenholm, The Meads raised 8 of their 9 children: Edmond, Jr., Donald, Ellen, Edna (*Polly*), Robert, Janice, Carol, Peter and Faith. Carol (1933), Peter (1939) and Faith (1940).

Faith says her name came about from the time when her mother learned that her son, Peter, had died of SIDS. Polly, just 12 years old at the time, told her mother to “have faith,” not knowing that her mother was one month pregnant, with a little girl.

Both Polly (1950) and Ellen (1951) Mead were married, while living at Wenholm. (*The most recent marriage, at The Maples, was in 2003, when Ruth Smith and Bob Shaw became newlyweds.*)

Indirectly, there is a connection between The Maples and President John F. Kennedy. Ellen Mead married, in 1950, Joseph O. Eblan. His grandfather, Mansur Eblan, a diamond merchant, who had immigrated to this country from Lebanon, in the 1840s, wrote a letter home to his cousin, in which he said that people living in America, “should not ask what their country could do for them, but what they could do for America.” The cousin was the noted author Jubran Khalil Jubran. He included Eblan’s proud declaration in his renowned book, “The Prophet.”

However, the “ask not” excerpt is best known, as eloquently asserted by President Kennedy, in his 1961 inauguration speech: “My fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country.”





The barn and caretaker's cottage, at right, were located about where building two now is located at The Maples. Photo The Maples

Edmond Mead maintained hunting hounds at the kennels, which were originally built for Viola Proctor's Pomeranians. He used the hounds, while he was an associate member of Myopia. However, he sold them off, at the request of his wife, Edna.

The dogs, which often ran free on the property, were a bane to golfers at the adjacent Wenham Country Club. Anyone,

who dared come over the stone wall, to retrieve an errant shot from the 7th tee, would likely be chased off by the Dobermans and the Briards.

In 1948, Edmond Mead had the dog kennels converted into a caretaker's cottage. It was altered to become a 6-room, 2-level building, with 3 bedrooms, a kitchen, and pinewood-paneled dining and living rooms. What once was Radiant Kennels became very quintessential quarters for dog's best friend.

### **The Tersolos at Pine Acres**

In 1952, Charles and Helen Tersolo purchased the Mead property. They moved to Wenham from Beverly. They called the property "Pine Acres." There was a large stand of pines at the back of the property, in the area now occupied by buildings 7 and 8, and which the Meads called Pine Grove. Thirty years earlier, John Proctor planted the many pines.

Sections of Pine Acres were changed, by the Tersolos, to allow for riding of their horses, which were their pride and joy. At the rear of the property, about where building 4 is now located at The Maples, they made a horse riding ring.

The Tersolos had three children: Douglas, Robert and Marsha, none of whom were born at Pine Tree.

In 1966, at Pine Acres, Marsha Tersolo married Ernst Faulkner. Their wedding photos included one showing the couple standing inside a gazebo, located behind the main house. Today, the gazebo stands in the Garden-for-All Seasons at The Maples.

Marsha and Ernst Tersolo lived, for a short time, in what had been the maid's quarters on the second floor of the main house. They left, in 1968, for North Carolina. Today, Marsha and Ernst nearby live in Beverly.

Charles Tersolo, who owned an Oldsmobile dealership in Beverly, was a very generous person. For many years, while living at Pine Acres, he gave a new ambulance to Wenham's fire department.

During their stay at Pine Acres, the Tersolos placed several stone deer statues on the front lawn. They were an amusing attraction to people driving past Pine Acres. At Christmas (*below*), the deer were set in front of a sleigh with Santa Claus.

In 1968, a fire destroyed the horse barn, and five horses died, including Pepper Flash, the horse Charles had often rode around town, and Sylvana, Marsha Tersolo's horse. The horses were buried in the riding ring, which was at the back of the property, near Friend Court. A new barn was built in the same location as the original structure, and 8 horses were brought in. The fire did not damage the nearby caretaker's cottage.

In June 1972, Charles Tersolo died. Later that year, his wife, Helen, left Pine Acres. The property remained vacant, for a year.

### **The Malkemus at Swan Song**

In 1973, the year that a cease-fire was signed ending the Vietnam conflict, Charles M. and Christina (*Thompson*) Malkemus, who had just married, moved to 116 Main Street: what a great first home it was! He was an oral surgeon, with his practice in Boston (*where it is at present*).

The Malkemus named the property "Swan Song," perhaps after Anton Chekov's one-act play of the same name.

While living at Swan Song, three children were born to Charles and Nancy Malkemus: Christina Delight (1975) – she won many swimming titles; Cherish (1977); and Charlton Granger deMondfort Heath (1980). For their children's amusement, the Malkemus installed a carousel on the first floor, at the left front of the building (*the area is now unit 102 at The Maples*).

In 1980, the caretaker's cottage on the property was rented to Nancy Spofford. (*She is a descendant of John Spofford, who settled in Rowley in 1638.*) Nancy lived at the cottage for the next nine years, until the property was sold to build a senior housing complex, The Maples.

From her 9 years at Swan Song, Nancy has many fond memories. She recalls the horses, which were stabled at the large barn behind her cottage, walking about the grounds. Often, Christina and Charles Malkemus would hitch a horse to a carriage and ride around Wenham.

Nancy says that Christina Malkemus kept two large swans, as pets, in a cage, which was near the swimming pool. The birds often would wander about the property and they were an attraction – or perhaps distraction –



The wetues and longhouse of the time of the Agawam have been replaced by multi-unit residences and a community center. Drawing, The Maples

to many people driving along Main Street. Nancy says she never heard the swans sing, so that cannot be the origin for the name "Swan Song."

Two significant additions built by Charles Malkemus were a swimming pool and tennis courts. The pool was behind the house, in the area that had been a circular drive. (*The pool was enlarged when the property was purchased in 1989 by Old Country Road Realty.*) The tennis courts (2) were located behind the barn, about where the Meads had a riding ring.

In 1988, the Malkemus family left the Swan Song property. The property was vacant for about a year.

### **It's Maples Time**

In 1989, Old Country Realty Trust, formed by James Brady and James Manzi, purchased the Malkemus estate (7.8 acres) to develop what is now "The Maples." Their plans were for the construction of a senior housing complex, having 8 buildings (*with 55 residences*), along with garages and a community center. (*James Brady Sr., father of Jim Brady, had been, for many years, a close friend of earlier owner Charles Tersolo.*)

That same year, 1989, the Wenham Fire Department, in a controlled fire it set, burned the caretaker's cottage. Further, the barn was taken



Construction of The Maples was completed in 1993. Photo The Maples

down. Both were done to clear the property for the new buildings to be erected.

The developers chose the name "Old Country Road," when they saw an old map, called, "Beverly in 1700, No. 1." The map shows the road coming out of North Beverly and into Wenham as being "The Country Road to Wenham."

Since there were many maple trees on the property, most notable the great maple at the front of the main house, it was only natural to call the property, "The Maples." Today, there are over 70 maple trees on the property, as well as 24 other types of trees.

The idea for establishing a senior housing complex began in 1984, when a group of Wenham and Hamilton people formed LOFE (*Living Options for Elders*). They considered many locations in the area, before agreeing upon the Old Country Realty Trust site. In 1989, at a Wenham Town Meeting, the towns people approved, by two thirds of the voters, the construction of The Maples, a senior housing complex.

The Maples is not a condominium. It is a cooperative, in which a corporation owns all the land and buildings, and the residents own a share of the corporation, and a right of occupancy to the unit, in which they live. Originally, residence at The Maples complex was to be restricted to peo-



ple 60 years and older, with a limit of two people in each unit. Later, this was revised to people who are 55 and older.

Plans for The Maples included seven new buildings, with multiple living units, a remodeling of the Proctor House and the garage, five new multi-unit garages, a roadway connecting the buildings and extensive landscaping, with many new trees and shrubs.

Construction of The Maples began in September 1990, with the remodeling of building one. The single-family building was converted to have five residences, two elevators were installed, and the swimming pool made larger, and the side courtyard was made into a residence.

In March of 1991, building two, with its 8 residences, was the first to be occupied: the first resident was Margaret Irving, who was described as “a lady among ladies.”

Also in 1991, Lucia Clemenzi was the first resident in building one.

Behind the remodeled Proctor house, there now was a new and larger swimming pool, as well as a whirlpool.

Building four's first resident, 1991, was Dorothy (*Dotty*) Fontaine. Doty, called the “pool lady,” would arrange the chairs around the pool, and was often there, with her teacup dog, Sweetie, in her shoulder bag.

Phoebe and Allen Dewing, who moved from Manchester, were the first residents in building five; which has four residences.

Ginny and John Kimball moved into building five, soon after the Dewings. John was a descendant of Richard Kimball, one of the first settlers in Wenham. While at a social at the Carriage House, John heard the grandfather clock chime, and from this came the idea of writing the “Maples Melody.” At the end of the song, he wrote, “Now hear the chime, it's Maples time.”

Peg and Ken Premo, in 1991, were the first residents in building six: they moved from Hamilton. Peg was a member of the LOFE committee, and Ken was the first president of the Board of Directors for The Maples.

Charlotte Marinelli, in 1991, was the first resident in building seven, which has 4 residences. She was a very generous person and donated draperies to the Carriage House.

The foundations for buildings 7 and 8 were blasted from the rock shelf, that runs along the boundary with the golf course. The rock is called Wenham Monzonite, which is a type of granite. Rock blasted from the area was used to make the many stonewalls erected on The Maples property.

An interesting side note concerning the Maples' units that border the golf course is that Old Country Realty Trust paid to have the 7<sup>th</sup> fairway



moved away from the wall separating the two properties. No, they were not concerned about dogs of residents chasing golfers coming over the wall. The old 7<sup>th</sup> green is now a practice hole.

Edna Mullen, 1992, was the first resident in building eight. She moved in before the building, which has 10 residences, was fully-completed in 1993. The rock blasting had stopped, but not the hammering.

In February, 1993, construction of The Maples was completed. Building three, which has 10 residences, was the last to be finished. The first resident in the building was, in 1992, Phyllis Leavitt. She moved to The Maples from Everett, after her husband, who was a doctor, died.

The old garage was remodeled and expanded to become the community center at The Maples, and given the name, "The Carriage House." However, as with the main house, the garage was turned around: the front was made the back and the back the front. There is still an apartment on the top level, but it is not used as a residence.

On March 1, 1993, The Maples Corporation, consisting of all the residents, and stockholders, assumed control of managing the property. A Board of Directors was established: initially, it included members of the LOFE committee and residents.

However, it was not until Aug. 11, 1994 that the last original resident moved to The Maples. This was Hank Schroeder, in unit 408.

The total initial purchase price for the 55 shares of The Maples came to about \$9.5 million.

Looking back over the last 400 years, there have been over 300 people who have lived at what is now The Maples.

The Maples property has a long and interesting history. There are few remaining signs of the earlier buildings – other than the Proctor Mansion and the garage. However, through the people, reminders of Wenham's past continue to come forward.

In 2001, Marilyn and Stuart Corning moved to The Maples, unit 703: Stuart is a descendant of Samuel and Elizabeth Corning, who lived in Salem Village in 1638.

In 2003, Dorothy Maciejowski moved to The Maples, unit 803: she is a Dodge descendant: one of the first families to settle in Enon, in the early 1600s.

There is another rewarding reminder of the past. The residents at The Maples do not own the land, on which they live. They are members of a caring community that gives to each the right to live on the land and walk the beautiful grounds, just like the Agawam, of 400 years ago.

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- 05 "Maples at Old Country Road (The)," Information Summary, 1991 (sales brochure)
- 06 Friend (John) Genealogy
- 07 Kimball Family Online
- 08 Edmund Kimball Genealogy
- 09 Wenham Museum
- 10 Rev. Mansfield Sermons, On the Two-Hundredth Anniversary of the First Church in Wenham, 1845
- 11 Horses Perish in Wenham Fire, Hamilton-Wenham Chronicle, Apr. 20, 1968.
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