

Welcome to the Prospect Farm Town Forest

Jackson, NH

Managed by the Jackson Conservation Commission

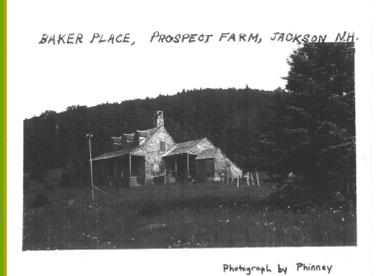


Monument Rock

Legend

	Prospect Farm		River
	100ft contours		Brook
	W.M.N.F.		Gate
	Private Land		Foundation
	NH Route 16		Beaver Pond
	Town Road		Apple Orchard
	USFS Roads		
	Hiking/Ski Trail		
	Parking		

0 400 800 1,600 Feet



BAKER PLACE, PROSPECT FARM, JACKSON, NH.

Photograph by Phinney

Prospect Farm History

- In 1774, NH Governor Benning Wentworth granted 8,740 to Rogers, Wentworth and Treadwell, including the area that became Prospect Farm. The area became known as Rogers, Wentworth and Treadwell Location.
- At some point in the late 1700's or early 1800's, the grant was divided, with R.A. Mason getting the western division and J.B. Mason acquiring the eastern division.
- In 1830, a partnership of David Pingree and Ebenezer Coe purchased the western division for the timber. The eastern division was sectioned into lots, with lots 14 & 15 making up the bulk of what is now Prospect Farm. The Hall lot was added to these, making up the 500+/- acre Prospect Farm.
- In 1831, William Johnson was the first settler with town records showing 100 acres of land (lot 15). The Johnson foundation can be found just uphill of the apple orchard.
- The Hall, Baker, Johnson and Garland families settled portions of Prospect Farm and the foundations of their homesteads dot the landscape. Tracking land ownership has been a challenge as these records have been found in Grant, Coos and Carroll Counties. A major void in the records is a result of a fire in the Coos County Courthouse in Lancaster.
- The various lots changed hands several times until 1891, at which time the Baker family had acquired all of the original Prospect Farm except for a single 100 acre lot.
- In 1942, Edith Baker grants the Prospect Farm lands known as "Camp Wildcat" to the Town of Jackson in her will. Her son Ezra Baker had life tenancy until his death at which time title to the land would pass to the Town of Jackson.
- In 1980, the Town of Jackson acquired the 800 acres Prospect Farm.
- In 1981 and 1982 the majority of the timber was harvested off the lot.
- In 2003, a detailed Forest Management Plan was developed for the property. A series of timber harvests, access improvements, vista development, and apple orchard renovation have occurred under the guidance of the management plan.

Information compiled by George Howard using:

- 1) Alice Warwick Pepper's Book, "A History of Jackson, part One 1771-1865", which is available at the Jackson Historical Society. Part Two is being written or a planned release at a later date.
- 2) Margaret B. Garland's manuscript "History of Prospect Farm" of August 1886. It is available at the Jackson Public Library.
- 3) Town of Jackson Town Clerk letter of November 27, 1943 with attachments.