



The Daniels family built a campground on their historic farm in 1971. It's now run by the seventh and eighth generations.

Francis Daniels—purchased 53 acres in Foxboro in 1759 and established a farm. In 1971, in response to declining profitability of family farms, the sixth and seventh generations of the Daniels family established a campground on the site. The campground and RV park is now run by the seventh and eighth generations.

19 1761

Great Brook Farm*
Graves family
Dairy farm/Walpole, NH

tion members George and Robert Graves are still active. The family operates a farm store that sells raw cow's milk, ice cream and cheese, as well as ground beef. The farm's sugarhouse provides maple products for the store.

The dairy farm was established in 1761 by John and Lydia Graves and has been an ongoing commercial operation ever since. Ninth-generation member Peter Graves is the farm manager; eighth-generation

20 1769

Bachman Funeral Home
Bachman family
Funeral Services
Strasburg, PA/ www.bachmanfuneral.com

funeral director, eighth-generation member John D. Bachman.

Swiss Mennonite Johannes Bachman came to Pennsylvania to avoid religious persecution and began as a cabinetmaker. He later transitioned to coffin production and funeral services. His original business ledger (in German), dated April 1769, has been passed to the present

21 1774

Stuart Land & Cattle Co.
Stuart family
Cattle/Rosedale, VA

tion proprietor William Alexander (Zan) Stuart died at age 85 in 2008; his widow, Lynda, now runs the operation. Zan Stuart's children and grandchildren own stock.

Henry Smith started Clifton Farm in 1774. When his great-granddaughter Mary Taylor Carter married William Alexander Smith, she brought a dowry of 80,000 acres, which Stuart added to his own large land holding. Eighth-generation

22 1776

Westcroft Gardens*
de Beausset family
Nursery/Grosse Ile, MI
www.westcroftgardens.com

son David Macomb sold the central part of Grosse Ile, which included Westcroft, to his cousin John Anthony Rucker II, who in 1835 built a large white house that still stands. Rucker's cousin Robert Lee Stanton purchased the farm and house to bring his widowed mother, Alexandrine Macomb Stanton, back to Grosse Ile. Stanton's main product was hay for horses that pulled the Detroit trolleys. With the advent of the automobile, his son Ernest Newman Stanton changed Westcroft into a nursery specializing in acid soil plants (rhododendrons, azaleas, laurels, dogwood). Connie Lee Stanton de Beausset inherited Westcroft in 1984; her daughter, seventh-generation member Denise de Beausset, is now owner/manager. Niece Erica Mesedahl works with her. Over the generations Westcroft has shrunk to 27 acres in the middle of a bedroom community.

Brothers William and Alexander Macomb purchased the island of Grosse Ile from the Pottawatomie Indians on July 6, 1776. William purchased Alexander's share of the property in 1791. After getting into debt, William's

23 1780

Laird & Co.
Laird family
Brandy distiller
Scobeyville, NJ
www.lairdandcompany.com

first distilled AppleJack in 1780 to serve at the inn and gave his recipe to George Washington. In 1812, Robert's son Samuel took over the inn. The distillery flourished until it was

America's oldest licensed distiller and importer of wines and spirits produces Applejack, Apple Brandy and other spirits under the Lairds, Banker's Club, Five O'Clock and Senators Club names. In 1717, an ancestor opened Colts Neck Inn. Robert Laird, a Revolutionary War soldier,

21 businesses on the list were founded before 1776.

destroyed by fire in 1849. In 1851, Samuel's son Robert moved the distillery to its present site. The company survived Prohibition by selling cider, applesauce and other apple products. Since 1990, it has imported wines and spirits from Europe and Canada. Eighth-generation member Larrie W. Laird, daughter Lisa Laird Dunn and nephew John E. Laird III now head the company.

24 1783

Juanita M. Joiner Farm
Joiner family
Agriculture/Millen, GA

Robert Joiner now runs the farm and hopes to start a new commercial venture on the site.

The Joiner family farm, between Augusta and Savannah, survived Sherman's march. The family has produced cotton, peanuts and timber. Ancestors include a chaperone of Henry VIII's wife Catherine of Aragon.