

Ontario County Farms

1940 Awarded to The Webster-Utter Farm

This farm, located alongside what was originally an Indian Trail, has seen that trail evolve through the stages of wheel track, corduroy road, post road with toll gates every few miles, macadam road, and finally the concrete highway that is part of the transcontinental Route 20. There were no racing motors when Israel Webster first came here on foot in the spring of 1795. He had walked all the way from his New Hampshire home, a distance of about 300 miles. With knapsack on his back he overtook and passed the lumbering vehicles that cluttered the trails. Five miles west of the Pre-emption Line he found a site for sale that he liked. He spent that summer and the next clearing his land, and spent the winters in New Hampshire, walking what finally must have become a familiar route. In the spring of 1797, with his goods in a wagon and livestock trailing behind, Israel set out with his family and his father, Asa. The road was so rough that pioneer families like the Websters, who had a cow with them, put the milk in a churn and let the jolting of the wagon churn the butter as they bumped along. At length they came to the spot which Israel had cleared and here they made their home.

The citation awarded in 1940 mentioned the fact that Israel Webster's grandson, Eugene, then 73 years of age, lived with his wife on Springhill Farm. The farm is now owned by their daughter, Lois and her husband, Howard Utter. Howard retired from active operation of the farm in 1970. The farm has since been rented by a neighboring dairyman and processing vegetable grower. The farm grows cabbage, table beets, snap beans, field corn, wheat and alfalfa. (Century Farm Awards Book, January 7, 1982).

1950 – Oaks Farm

1951 – Vanderhoof – Charles Frederick & Cora Bridger Vanderhoof Farm

1953 – Wilson and Jones, Locust Hill Farm

1975 – Robson Farm

1988 – Jerome Farms

2000 – Sunnyside Farms, Salisbury Family

2000 – Reedland Farms

2000 – McElwain Family Farm

2000 – Green Family Farm

2000 – Day Family Farm

2006 – Lightland Family Farm