

[Eric Weber](#)

Admin · July 13 at 10:43 AM

July 13: The birth date of Thomas W. **Meekins** (1855-1935), never married. His will left "good wishes" to his nephew Wendell Clary and all of his small estate to the town, the principal item being the "Gravel Bank Lot" at the SW corner of Petticoat Hill Road — the former Ephraim Fisher farm.

Meekins had also owned (inherited from his parents) a 104-acre farm on the west side of Gere Hill Road south of the hilltop, and must have turned it over before his death to Forrest "Pete" Payne (1908-1991), who cared for Meekins in his last years. Payne lived alone on it until his own death 56 years later. Cheryl Brooks and Michael Long bought the farm in 1993 and renovated the house beautifully.