

888 Falls Road, Shelburne, VT

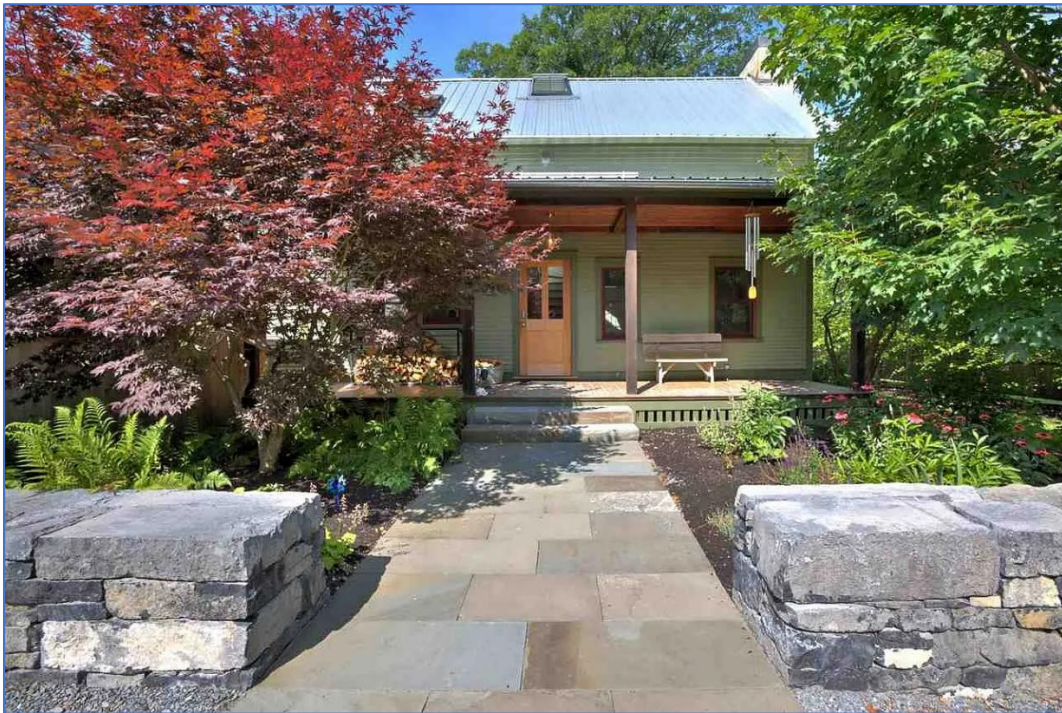


Figure 1 Images taken from Zillo.com 7 September 2026

Much of the land south of Falls Road originally belonged to Joshua Isham and then his descendent, George Bliss. William and Casandra Lawrence purchased the land in 1866.

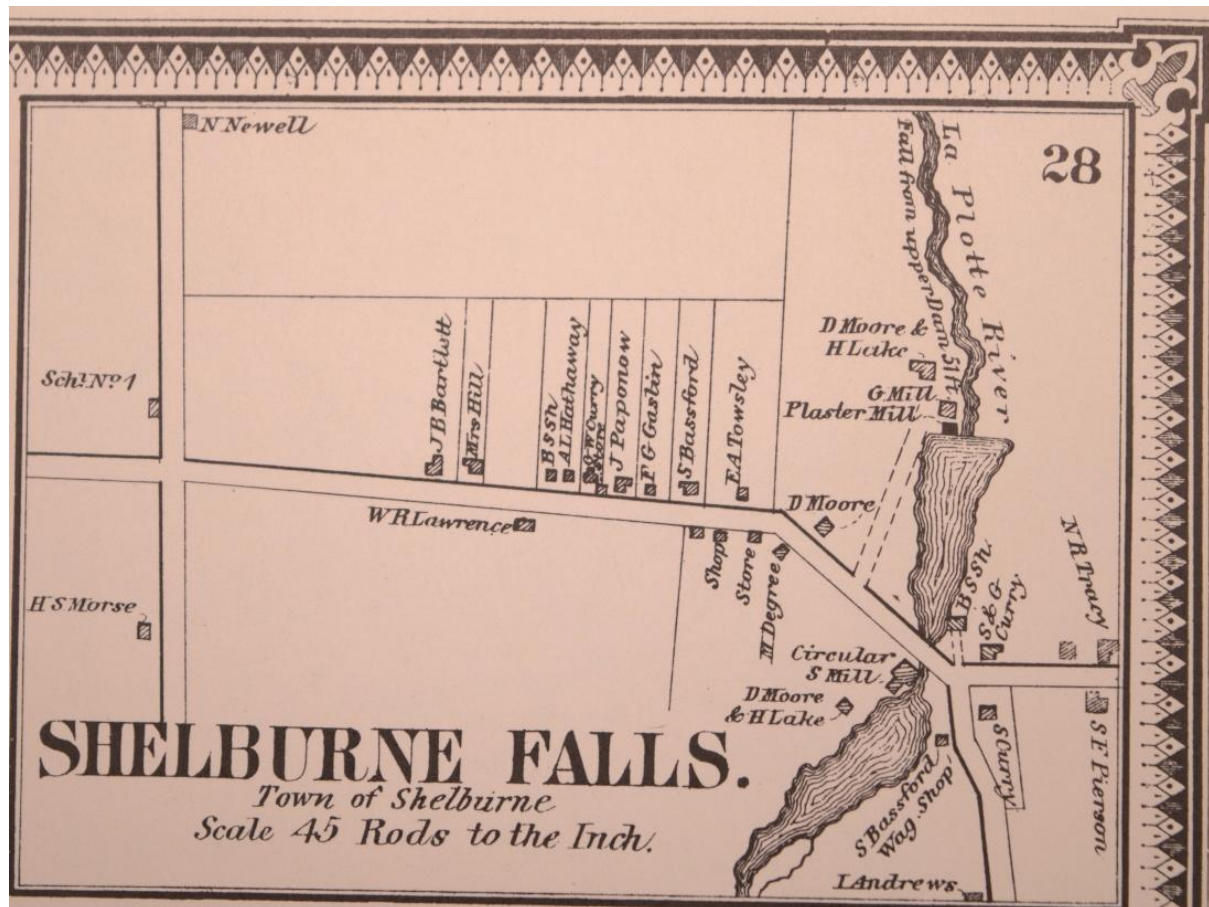


Figure 2 F.W. Beers, Atlas of Chittenden County Vermont, Page 28, 1869, top right portion of page. Note W H Lawrence in center of image and extent of property shown by property lines.

Lee Tracy was the next owner and he broke up the large parcel into smaller lots. In 1891, Tracy sold this piece to Edward G. and Ellen Burbo. In 1894, “among the improvements around town are those on the residences Edward Burboat Shelburne Falls.”¹

Edward’s parents, Joseph Godefroid Burbo and Marie Matilda Tatro², were from Quebec, Canada and moved to Charlotte, Vermont around 1850.³ Edward’s sister, Philomen was born in

¹ *Burlington Clipper*, April 27, 1894

² Vermont U.S. Vital Records, 1720-1908, VT State Archives and Records Administration, Death-Male, Burbo, Edward.

³ Ancestry Family Tree of Joseph Godefroid Bourbeau. (<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/181254916/person/422379487306/facts>)

St. . Hyacinthe, Quebec, Canada. ⁴ (The original French surname spelling is Bourbeau and Tetreau.)⁵ Edward was born in Charlotte 10 Jan 1860.⁶

On 20 September 1880, Edward, then a 21 year old farmer in North Ferrisburgh, married Ellen Lasore who was born in Shelburne, VT 20 April 1861 to parents who were from Quebec, Canada.

The couple moved to Shelburne where Edward worked as a thresher (harvesting and then separating grain from the stalk) and a wood sawyer.

His probate record inventory listed among other items:

1 Share of work horses	75.00
1 Work Wagon	20.00
1 Buggy Wagon	20.00
1 Buckboard Wagon	5.00
1 Old two-seated Wagon	5.00
1 Threshing Machine	50.00
1 Circular saw	20.00
1 Drag Saw	15.00
1 Mowing Machine	8.00
Assorted tools	3.00
1 Cow	12.00
1 set work harnesses	8.00
Debts due and owing	15.00
Household Furniture	50.00

Located just down the road within walking distance from his home was the town grist mill and sawmill.

⁴ Vermont, U.S. Death Records, 1909-2008, VT State Archives and Records Administration, Death-Female Philomen Bedor.

⁵ Ancestry.com, Joseph Godefrroid Bourbeau. (<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/181254916/person/422379487306/facts>)

⁶ Find-A-Grave Memorial 157456483, Edward Burbo. (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/157456483/edward-burbo>).



Figure 3 Sawmill located at Shelburne Falls, VT. Note the covered bridge (left) which spans the La Platte River. Shelburne Historical Society Archive No. 2023.00.32.1.

After the death of Edward Burbo in 1898 at the age of 38 from heart Failure⁷, “an auction sale of farming equipment and personal property of the late E.G. Burbo was held at his former home.”⁸

Widow Ellen Burbo lived there with her three daughters and two sons.⁹ The Burbo family lived in the house until the death of Ellen Burbo in 1950. At that time, the “homestead premises of the late Ellen Burbo” sold to Robert O. Coleman.¹⁰

Before the circa 2000 alterations of the house, it was a 1½ story, gable-front house clad in wide board. A small, enclosed porch with a shed roof contained the primary, north-facing entrance. The garage is c. 1960 and the Studio C. 2000.

⁷ Ibid. Death record, Burbo, Edward.

⁸ *Burlington Clipper*, August 6, 1898.

⁹ *Burlington Daily News*, Dec. 1914.

¹⁰ Shelburne Land Records, Shelburne Town Office, Shelburne, Vermont

Both Edward¹¹ and Ellen¹² are buried in St. Catherine's Cemetery, Shelburne, Vermont.



Figure 4 Edward Burbo Memorial, St. Catherine's Cemetery, Shelburne, Vermont

For additional information see Shelburne Historical Society Archive No. 2023.00.109
“The Rise and Fall of A Vermont Village: Shelburne Falls, 1785-1996.”

¹¹ Ibid. Find-A-Grave Edward Burbo.

¹² Find-A-Grave Memorial 118661396 Ellen Lassar Burbo
(<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/118661396/ellen-burbo>)