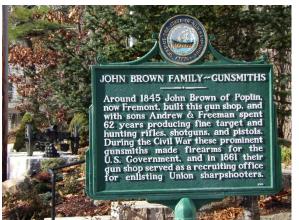
John Brown Family Gunsmith Historic Site

The 2017 cover photo was taken at the John Brown Family Gunsmith Site, currently the home of Barbara Gebauer and Al Hutchins at 390 Main Street. Homeowners installed the cannon this summer at the property.



John Brown was born in Poplin, NH in January 1806. John married 3 times and had 5 children, he built his home which still stands at 402 Main Street, in 1830. Around 1845, John Brown of Poplin built this gun shop at 390 Main Street and with his son Andrew spent many years manufacturing pistols, shot guns, rifles and doing repair work. They manufactured a gun that was very interesting, it was a "side by side" with a rifle barrel and a shotgun barrel. Some rifles made by John where inlaid with silver.

John and his son Andrew became very highly

respected gunsmiths in the mid to late 19th century. Andrew Brown became one of the best Gunsmiths

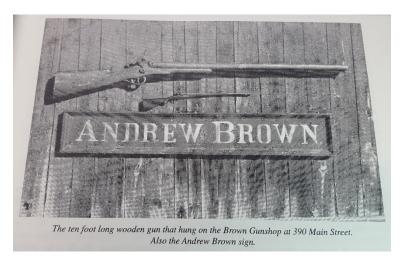
in New England and he won medals at the National Rifle Shoot held annually in Waltham, Massachusetts. (*This Historic Marker erected in 1988*).

In 1861 John Browns Rifle Factory was used as a recruiting office for enlisting shooters into service for the Union sharpshooters. John and Andrew were employed by the Federal Government to manufacture guns for the Civil War.

After John's death in 1895 Andrew kept the business and in 1899 built a new gun shop in the center of town at 291 Main Street, where he continued to operate until his death in 1907.



Photos Courtesy of Bob Meade



Compiled by Kathy Clement with assistance from Town Historian Matthew Thomas and History of Fremont NH Olde Poplin, An Independent New England Republic 1764 - 1997

This photo reprinted from the History of Fremont NH Olde Poplin