



COLBY CLAN COMMUNICATIONS

Descendants of Anthony and Susannah Colby

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From the Editor

Greetings! Back in the fall, many people said, "It's going to be a harsh winter." Maybe I'm becoming less and less concerned about the weather, or my New England skin is getting thicker, but I think we've had a pretty mild winter. Here in Rhode Island, we've had many forty-degree days and my snow shovel made it through another season since there wasn't nearly as much snow as I'd anticipated. I have no complaints! Especially since oil prices are at least 50% higher than last year. But, it is funny that I've heard so many comments about the weather not being "cold enough for winter." I'll take the mild temperatures. I hope that the winter season hasn't been too much of a bear on the rest of you. Maybe I'm not quite ready to trade my warm and rich comfort foods of winter for the cold soups of summer, but I am anxious to get my boat back on the water and row my stiff body back into shape. Well, it's March and we all know that spring is only weeks away. We'll soon be gardening, picnicking, driving to the beaches, making room in the closets for summer clothes, and making our hotel reservations for the Colby Reunion in August. This year's reunion is sure to be an enjoyable one. There's no place like Maine for a New England family reunion and I know Jim will make it a great one. I'll look forward to seeing you all there!

53rd Annual Colby Clan Reunion

The next Colby Clan reunion will be held on Saturday, August 19 at Verillo's Convention Center in Portland, Maine. Verillo's is attached to the Howard Johnson's hotel at exit 48 off the Maine Turnpike.

The Howard Johnson's hotel is reserving a block of rooms for the reunion attendees at the rate of \$135/room, single and double occupancy. This rate will be available until July 29. Other nearby hotels are a Motel 6, Ramada Inn, Holiday Inn, and Travelodge. Specific hotel information will be listed in the June newsletter.

The reunion cost will be \$20/person. This will cover the buffet meal and non-alcoholic drinks. The buffet will include tossed salad, cold slaw, beef sirloin tips, chicken cacciatore, fresh haddock, penne pasta, the vegetable and potato of the day, and dessert.

Interesting Colby Facts



ALBERT L. COLBY
INSTRUCTOR IN CHEMISTRY 1883-86

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"All people have a responsibility to preserve our architectural heritage, so it can be passed on to future generations."

EDWARD REDDING
HISTORIAN

Historian Edward Redding and the Colby/Benet House on Bishopthorpe Street in Fountain Hill which Redding says could become an impressive administration building, visitors' center and Benet museum.

PRESS PHOTO BY GEORGE TAYLOR

Restored Colby/Benet House could benefit community, hospital, says town historian

By GEORGE TAYLOR
gtaylor@tnonline.com

When searching for "Stephen Vincent Benet" on the Internet, most likely you'll run across a short biography that tells you that Benet was born in Bethlehem, and while inaccurate that was almost the case.

According to Fountain Hill historian Edward Redding, the Pulitzer Prize winning poet and author's mother was with child and soon to give birth when one day she

and her cousin Agnes Colby struck up a conversation while at the market.

St. Luke's: 'No plans'

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A good neighbor?

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Francis Neill Benet lamented the fact that she and her family were living in the Eagle Hotel located on the site of the current Hotel Bethlehem while awaiting transfer orders for her military hus-

band who had been assigned to the ordinance department of Bethlehem Steel. New orders were expected so the family had left the home they had been living in and occu-

pied several rooms in the hotel.

Mrs. Benet did not want to give birth in a hotel room. Mrs. Colby offered her home to the Benet family since the Colby's would be leaving for the Adirondacks for the summer months.

And so on July 22, 1898, Stephen Vincent Benet was born at 827 Bishopthorpe Street in Fountain Hill. The Benets remained in the Colby house for three months until moving to Buffalo, N.Y.

While Stephen Vincent Benet's attachment to Fountain Hill is not deeply rooted,

Redding, the author of "The History of Fountain Hill," says there are other important reasons why the Colby/Benet House ought to be preserved. St. Luke's Hospital, owner of the property, last week applied for a demolition permit for the property.

First, is Albert Ladd Colby, the man who had the home built in 1894. Colby's family dates back to Anthony Colby who arrived in America just 10 years after the Mayflower landed. Albert Ladd Colby was a renowned metallur-

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HOUSE

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gist, listed in Who's Who in America, a chemistry professor at Lehigh University and later a chemist at Bethlehem Steel. His expertise was sought around the world, and at one time, Albert Ladd Colby served on St. Luke's Hospital's board of directors.

Another reason to save and restore the Colby/Benet

home is its architecture, Redding explains. It's an example of colonial revival architecture which was inspired by the 1876 United States Centennial celebration.

"All people have a responsibility to preserve our architectural heritage," Redding said, "so it can be passed on to future generations."

In 1995, St. Luke's purchased and demolished Bishopthorpe Manor, built in 1848 as the Fountainbleu Mansion.

Redding is hopeful that the Colby/Benet House can be saved and restored. He admits the structure needs some re-pointing, some painting, and some of the wood needs to be replaced.

"But the building is in fairly pretty shape," he said.

"I hope there's a member of the hospital's board of directors who understands the significance of this building," Redding said. "It can be an asset to the community. It could be an asset to the hos-

pital. It is such a great building. Just look at it."

Redding recalls his pharmacist talking to him recently about the Colby/Benet House after news of St. Luke's applying for a demolition permit for the building hit the media.

"He said how strange it is that in the USA we spend millions of dollars building monuments, and we have a place like this and want to tear it down."

This article was submitted by Steve Gauss, the newsletter editor for the Harriman Family Association (www.harriman-family.org).

Murder Most Foul

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Bradstreet Harriman, subject of this article and murdered by David Colby, was born on 15 June 1773 the son of Joel and Mary (Bradstreet) Harriman of Haverhill, Massachusetts [Joel⁴, Richard³, Matthew², Leonard¹ Harriman]. Joel and Mary had six children: Dudley, who died soon after birth, Sarah, who died 18 January 1828, Dolle, who married Zebediah Silver and died 29 February 1784, and Simon, True Worthy, and Bradstreet. Joel died on 18 May 1823. So by the time son Bradstreet was murdered in November 1828, at least the father and two children were dead. Joel and son, Simon, were among the men of Haverhill who fought in the French and Indian War in 1757 and contributed or loaned money to the revolutionary cause in 1778. In 1828 Bradstreet Harriman traveled to Plaistow, NH, to cut some wood. On Friday November 21, 1828, he arrived in Plaistow, where he intended to board at the home of the Widow Jeffers. She already had a boarder, David Colby of Warner, NH. After having met Colby and observed "some very disorderly conduct in Colby", Bradstreet Harriman told Mrs. Jeffers that he would not board there after all and, in fact, "would rather board in a hornet's nest." Mrs. Jeffers became

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frightened of Colby and left with her friend Mrs. Burrell. Bradstreet followed after them. At that point David Colby came out of the house, found a large stick like a club in the woodpile and followed them. Harriman and Colby had some words and shortly after the two women turned to see Colby attacking Harriman with the club. He continued hitting him, then dragged him to a stone where he used another stone to crush his skull, killing him. Soon afterwards, Colby was arrested by "that vigilant officer, Benjamin George, Esq., who arrested him and carried him before Isaac Webster, esq., for examination, who ordered him to be committed to Exeter gaol, for trial in the Supreme Court." A complete account of the incident, apparently, came from the *Essex Gazette*. Several newspapers of the time carried the story in almost identical words, both in New Hampshire and Massachusetts, and over the time period from November 29, 1828 to January 6, 1829. Interestingly, by the end of December his name had changed from Bradstreet to Benjamin. In one early December account it was Harryman. Yet most of the stories read the same, indicating that they all came from the same source. The newspaper accounts state that Harriman was 56 years old and an "inoffensive man". Colby was said to be about 45 years of age. Several accounts state categorically that the "cause of the murder is alleged to be RUM!!". None of the articles further identify the Widow Jeffers or David Colby. David Colby was committed on February 18, 1829 for murder, probably at the February term of the Superior Court, and was held in the Exeter jail throughout most of 1829. On the first Tuesday in August, 1829, "The Jurors for the State of New Hampshire on their oath present, that David Colby of Plaistow in the county of Rockingham, aforesaid Yeoman, not having the fear of God before his eyes but being moved and seduced by the instigation of the Devil..." did feloniously, willfully and with malice aforethought assault "Broadstreet Harriman". "The said David Colby with a certain large stick of the value of one cent..." beat Harriman to death. In the August 1829 term of the Superior Court, David Colby pleaded not guilty (no reason given) "and therefore puts himself on God and his country for trial" A grand jury found him not guilty of murder by reason of insanity, stating "...we were satisfied from the evidence produced before us that the said Colby was Insane when he assaulted & destroyed the life of the said Harriman..." He was then transferred from the Exeter to the Portsmouth "gaol" where he appears on the list of prisoners for October 6, 1829. He remained until his death on the Monday April 10, 1834. The obituary notes that he was never sane enough to permit a trial. In the lists of prisoners he is always shown as "awaiting trial". An extract of a "Copias" State vs. Josiah Colby, charges the sheriffs of all the counties with apprehending Josiah Colby, who is in contempt of court for not presenting himself at the trial of State vs. David Colby as ordered by the court. In the early 1800's there was considerable interest in improving conditions of the insane (as well as the blind and the "deaf and dumb"). There were calls in the legislature for the creation of asylums (remembering that asylum meant a shelter from danger or hardship) for those who were at the time being cared for as town wards (often in terrible conditions) or held in the jails for lack of any other place. It was the custom for each town to care for its own paupers and they were often auctioned off to people who agreed to take care of them in exchange for payment from the town. The insane, blind and deaf were sometimes handled in the same way. During the 1830's a campaign began to create a "lunatic asylum" in New Hampshire, similar to what had been done in states such as Massachusetts. In 1838 the New Hampshire Asylum for the Insane was chartered and in 1842 it opened its doors. In 1901 the

name was changed to the New Hampshire State Hospital. So at the time of David Colby's imprisonment, there was no alternative but to keep him in jail. Had he lived a few more years he might have been transferred to the new asylum – one newspaper article noted that "his case was one which called loudly for the privilege of an Insane Hospital." Who, then, was this David Colby? We are told that David Colby was from Warner, N.H., and that he was 45 years of age in 1828, so born in 1783; but how accurate is the age? There is mention of Josiah Colby, presumably a relative. This is everything we know about him. In Warner there were numerous Colby families. There were a father and son named David, but the son was born in 1790 and was still alive in 1850. He is mentioned in the History of Warner. There is no Josiah Colby listed in the History of Warner, but Ron Colby, who has researched this family, finds Captain Josiah Colby and his family. However, there was no son named David and he was married ten years after David was born. Aside from the father and son mentioned above, there is no David Colby found in the census in Warner for the time period 1790-1830, nor in Exeter or Portsmouth. In fact all the David Colbys in the state are shown with families. There is no record for a David Colby at the Vital Records bureau in Concord, nor in the files of the Warner Historical Society. Of course, it may be an incorrect assumption that the newspapers got his age and home correct. They only say that he was "from" Warner, not that he was born there. So the family of this David Colby remains a mystery for now. Any hints as to who he might be can be sent to Stephen Gauss, editor of the Harriman Family Newsletter, at astro@erols.com.

Sources for this article are found in the following:

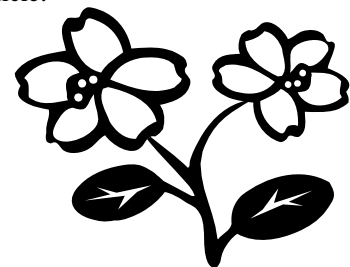
Lois Ware Thurston, *The Harriman Family: Research In Progress*, (privately printed: The Harriman Family Association, 1992) gives the family of Joel and Mary Harriman.

George Wingate Chase, *The History of Haverhill, Massachusetts: from its first settlement, in 1640, to the year 1860*, (Haverhill Mass.: The author, 1861) shows the participation in the French and Indian War.

Newspapers including the *New Hampshire Gazette*, *Farmers Cabinet*, *Providence Patriot* and *New Hampshire Sentinel*, from November 1828 through January 1829. Most of the stories of the crime duplicate each other and seem to come from the *Essex Gazette*. These were viewed at Early American Newspapers, on-line at the Godfrey Library at www.godfrey.org. Colby's death is recorded in the *Portsmouth Journal of Literature and Politics* of April 12, 1834.

During his incarceration, there are numerous entries found in Court Documents of the State of New Hampshire, Rockingham County, unearthed by Sue Bixby for this article during a long day at the New Hampshire State Archive.

Walter Harriman, *The History of Warner, New Hampshire*, contains references to the "other" David Colbys in Warner and the Federal Census records make clear that none of them are the subject of this article.





IN MEMORIAM

Priscilla Hanson, 69



LYNN — Priscilla (Colby) Hanson, age 69, of Lynn, died Monday, Aug. 22, 2005, at her home after a brief illness.

She was the wife of the late Robert F. Hanson.

Born in Lisbon Falls, Maine, she was the daughter of the late Louis and Emma (Pohle) Colby.

She graduated from Lynn English High School, Class of 1953, and lived in Lynn for the greater part of her life.

Mrs. Hanson worked for the Lynn Area Chamber of Commerce for 25 years and retired last December.

She also served as a volunteer at Lynn City Hall, Miss Information.

She was an active member of Bethany Congregational Church, Lynn, and formerly served as

church treasurer.

She was also an active member of the Lynn English Alumni Association.

She leaves two sons, Richard and his wife, Cheryl, and David and his wife, Kathleen, all of Lynn; two granddaughters, Shannon and Stephanie Hanson; several nieces and nephews; companion, Lennie Sogoloff of Salem; and many devoted friends.

She was also the mother of the late Jonathan Hanson.

ARRANGEMENTS: Her funeral will be from the Cuffe-McGinn Funeral Home, 157 Maple St., Lynn, on Thursday at 9 a.m. A funeral service will be in Bethany Congregational Church, 410 Eastern Ave., Lynn at 10 a.m. Burial will be in Pine Grove Cemetery, Lynn. Visiting hours are Wednesday from 4 to 8 p.m. Donations may be made to Bethany Congregational Church, 410 Eastern Ave., Lynn 01902 or Hospice of the North Shore, 10 Elm St., Danvers 01923.

Verlyn Lavier Colby of Broken Arrow, OK died on September 20, 2005 at the age of 82. He was the cousin to Billy Colby of East Hartford, CT and Carolyn Mohun of Redwood City, CA. He was a veteran of WW II and flew 35 missions over Germany and Holland. He leaves behind 4 daughters and 1 son, and numerous grandchildren. He never made it to the reunions due to health reasons, but was always so interested in anything and everything concerning the Colbys. His line was Anthony(1), Thomas(2,3), Abraham(4), Jonathan(5), Elijah(6), Sullivan Wheeler(7), Edwin(8), Samuel(9) and Paul Lavier(10).

Nelda H. Petersen (83) peacefully left this world on 3 January 2005 in Salt Lake City, Utah due to natural causes. Nelda will always be remembered for her unselfish willingness to help anyone who asked, her remarkable inner strength and her ability to turn sewing into an art form. Thank you, Nelda, for your lessons and your love. You will always be missed and deeply cherished. It was an honor to have known you. Nelda H. Petersen was born 19 February 1921 in Redmond, Sevier County, Utah to Delbert Peter Hansen and Annie Margaret Watts. She married Murvin L. Colby, Calvin Sylvester "Vic" Vickers and William Wayne Petersen. Nelda is being welcomed home by her parents, two brothers, a daughter and two grandchildren. She is survived by her children Ronald (Elaine) Colby, Kent (Nicole) Colby, Marie (Fred) Christensen and Glenn Ray (Jeri) Vickers, 12 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, one great-great grandchild, her sister Marva Andersen Olsen and Nelda's beloved niece and dearest friend, Marcia Ann Christensen. Burial services were held Saturday, 8 January 2005, at Redmond Town Cemetery in Redmond, Utah.

Alfred R. Hildebrand died on pneumonia in February 2005 at age 80. He was the son of Evelyn Colby Hildebrand and the brother of Adelaide Burns.

John Colby Green died on October 2, 2005. He was the son of Eleanor Colby Green and the cousin of Adelaide Burns. Both Evelyn (above) and Eleanor were daughters of Charles Currier Colby.

January 25, 2006

Dear Adeline,

It is with great sadness that I'm writing this letter today. Dave's father, Lynn Colby, passed away January 11, 2006 in Phoenix, AZ. He was the last of Ray W. and Minnie (Huntley) Colby's children to go. All the spouses of his brothers and sisters have also expired.

That is with the exception of one hearty person! Gladys (Carstens) Colby, wife of Lynn's oldest brother, Glenn is still with us. She celebrated her 100th birthday November 15, 2005. She was born in Roseburg, OR and married Glenn 15 Sept 1929. They had one child, Jerrold Glenn b. 14 Feb 1933 and d. 8 Sept 1998. Unfortunately, Gladys' memory has diminished drastically and no longer remembers anything more than a day or two. She was able to see everyone and enjoy our reunion in 1996 which was a blessing!

As Always,

Renee' Colby

Hilda Sargent, 102, of Bow, NH, where she lived for the past 99 years, died on Sunday, Dec. 25, 2005, at her home. Hilda Morgan Sargent was born in Bow, on June 19th, 1903 on Bow Bog Road. She was the oldest living native in Bow. Her parents were Bertrand S. Morgan and Matilda (Terrier) Morgan. She married Philip James Sargent on February 14, 1925, and enjoyed 54 years of marriage before he died on March 6, 1979. She had four brothers, all deceased, named Roy, Lee, Parker, and Percy. She had a sister, also deceased, named Eldora. Hilda graduated from Pembroke Academy in 1922. Hilda has a surviving son, Lee Morgan Sargent, living in Frederick, MD, with his wife Shirley. She had a daughter, Lyle Sargent Stone, who died on May 1, 1992. Her son-in-law lives with his second wife, Dana, in Sauquoit, NY. She had 7 grandchildren, one deceased (Anne Elizabeth Stone). The others are Daniel Stone, Michael Sargent, Laurel Marrs, and Anna Strobel. She has had the assistance of her grandchildren, Susan Schiffer and Philip Stone, and her great grandchild Dana Schiffer to remain in her home of many years as her age has made living alone harder and harder. She has many nieces and nephews and great- and great-great nieces and nephews, with very special nieces Patricia Goodwin and Cilla Ordway, here in Bow. Hilda belonged to the Bow Methodist Church on South St. since 1917, was a charter member of UMW and also a former WSCS member and held many offices through the years. She was a choir member for over 50 years. She was a charter member of the Bow Ladies Fire Auxiliary and was one of the first women to belong to the Bow Volunteer Fire Dept (in 1955) Hilda was a charter member of the Bow Talkalot Club for 50 years (now disbanded), and a member of the Bow Grange (now the Pineconia Grange), the Pomona, the State Grange and the National Grange for over 80

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Carolyn Mohun and Bill Whidden



Carole Colby (seated), Kathleen and Luther Colby

From: Ronald Colby (rmcolby@micro-net.com)
I was informed of the National Archives site of England. This site has a section for wills, WWII medals, etc issued by England I did a wills search for Colby and got 57 hits. Yes, the will dated 22 Nov 1588 for Thomas Colbye of Beccles is listed and can be downloaded.

<http://www.documentonline.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>



THE MORNING CALL
SATURDAY, MAY 3, 1924
Page 16, Column 3

**FOUNTAIN HILL MAN
SUCCUMBS IN ENGLAND**

**Albert Ladd Colby Suffers
Fatal Relapse of
Influenza**

Word was received by cablegram Friday by his family of the death in Torquay, England, of Albert Ladd Colby, of 827 Bishopthorpe street, Fountain Hill, well-known consulting engineer, who for many years maintained an office and laboratories at 447 Brighton street, west of the offices of the Lehigh Valley Railroad. His death occurred Thursday morning and was due to influenza.

Several weeks ago, Mr. Colby was called to London on business and while there was stricken with illness. Convalescing nicely, he proceeded to Torquay, where he suffered a relapse, which resulted in his death, despite the best of medical attention.

The deceased held a high position in the engineering world, not only in America but in Europe. He specialized on steel and steel products, and was a pioneer authority on by-products of coke ovens and later-day creations in steel business.

He was for some years chief chemist of the Bethlehem Steel Company, prior to the Schwab ownership. He resigned the position of chief instructor in chemistry at Lehigh University in the middle 80's to accept the Steel Company position. He left the company to enter into chemical and laboratory research work for himself and erected the West Brighton street building for that purpose.

He leaves to mourn his loss, his wife, Agnes Lee Colby; a daughter, Mary Lee Colby; a son, Richard Lee Colby; and a sister, Mrs. CL Haines, of Norfolk, Va.

The news of his death was a sad shock not only to the members of the bereaved family, but to all who knew him.

The Town of Nunda, a 24 by 12-mile tract of land within the Morris Reserve, was founded in 1808 as a part of Allegany County, located in the southern tier of Western NY. The name is from Nunda-wa-ono, a Seneca Indian tribe that once lived in the beautiful hills and valleys along the Genesee River and Keshequa stream within the Township of Nunda. In the Seneca language, "Nunda" relates to hills and a popular translation is "Where the valley meets the hills".

News from the Colby Members

Dr. Ray and Mrs. Andrea Newman of Slidell, LA wrote to say that they have been displaced by Hurricane Katrina. Their home suffered major damage by flooding and falling trees, forcing them to leave their home for at least six months, perhaps even a year. They evacuated to the Houston area and were able to find apartments. They lost nearly everything they had.

Betty and John Scott of Milford, PA have a new great granddaughter. They now have fourteen grandchildren and 4 great granddaughters.

Sue Harnden of Groveland, MA sent in the following story: "I work in a quilt shop owned by two sisters, Helen and Linda. One day, their father visited and said he was going to a Colby reunion. I spoke up and said I have Colbys in my family too. He offered to take my information and see if could 'hook us up.' Sure enough, we have a common ancestor twelve generations back. The next day, Helen's 9 year old son asked, 'Is it true that we're cousins?' His family has dark hair and dark eyes while I am blonde and fair-skinned, so he was quite skeptical. I said, 'yes, we are kissing cousins.' He took a giant step backwards

and said, 'No way!' I am still chuckling over it."

Norma Fischer of Holland NY wrote that she and Don are in good health and doing well. They are helping to care for their three grandchildren who live next door. They keep a large flower and vegetable garden and help maintain an 1884 Colby family homestead where six generations of Colbys lived.



Can Anyone Help?

Bryce Moulton of Rutland, VT is looking for information on his great grandfather Seth Noble Colby, a son of Thomas Colby and Nancy Cilley. He married Sarah Ann (Moulton) Quimby in 1846 in Weare, NH. Sarah was born in 1820 in Weare and died Nov. 2, 1897 in Manchester, NH. Sarah's father was Anson Moulton, her mother's name is unknown. Bryce is specifically looking for information on Anson's father's mother.

Gordon Crooks of Cockeysville, MD wrote: The union of the Colby, Gift and Crooks families came via Ephraim Colby's marriage to Catherine Gift and their granddaughter to William Washington Crooks (my great grandfather). The Gifts were Palanite Germans in Franklin Co., PA at a very early date (even before my UlsterScots Crooks) who arrived in 1741. I have always found it interesting that the Presbyterian Convenators embraced these Germans who were original Lutheran's and later some became United Church of Christ (German Reformed) even with the original language difficulties they became neighbors and friends. So what we have is a Colby (puritan) marrying a German (Lutheran) and joining her church, their son George Colby was baptized and buried at St. Paul Evan Lutheran Church, Fayetteville, Pa., Georges wife Anna Fox was a member of this church before marrying him and her monthly donations of 30 cents are recorded month after month. But she isn't buried there but both George Colby and her grandson are buried there. The other children of them are shown living in Chambersburg, which is about 10 miles from Fayetteville. I have searched every Lutheran and UCC church burial ground and can't find them, however I think they are buried in Chambersburg and have inquiries out about them and will do actual cemetery searches next week. Dear old J.E.B. Stuart passed thru in 1863 and sacked and burned Chambersburg because those tightwads wouldn't pay a ransom, so records for that period of time are very scant. I am looking for Ephraim Colby, his wife Catherine Gift Colby, Anna Fox Colby, and Mary Ellen Colby (wife of Wm Washington Crooks).

Ruth Colby Reed writes: I would like information about Josephine L. Miller born c. 1899 in Colorado(?). She married Irvin Ray Colby in 1920 in Denver. In 1925 Marjorie Kay Colby was born to Josephine and Ray. I can not find any reference to mother or daughter. Irvin Ray Colby remarried c. 1934 and Josephine may have remarried. I am Ruth Colby Reed born to Irvin Ray Colby and his 3rd wife.

From: Ronald Colby [<mailto:rmcolby@micro-net.com>]

Who is Levi Colby b. abt 1814 NH who married Caroline Lee? Levi Colby m. Oct 9 1839 Wayland, MA to Caroline Lee. They had two children I'm aware of. James W. Colby b. 1842/45 Waltham, MA and Albert Benton Colby b. Oct 31 1847 Waltham, MA d. Feb 19 1848 Waltham MA. Levi and Caroline are listed in 1850, 1860, 1870 census for Waltham, MA. 1850 census James W. Colby age 8 is living with them. 1860 census no children listed. 1870 census James W. and his wife, Nellie L. age 20, are back living with them. 1880 census Levi and Caroline not found, James W. is listed and wife is Ellen M. age 26. Any help in identifying Levi would be greatly appreciated.

From: Shelley Cardiel [<mailto:familia@sprintmail.com>]

I've "rescued" an old photograph identified as "Uncle" Charlie Irwin, which was taken at the Collier Studio in Denver, CO. I believe the photograph was taken in the 1880s with Charlie appearing to be in his 30s at the time. Based on limited research, I believe that this might be a photograph of Charles Allison Irwin b. 20 Jan 1858 at Shabbona, IL to parents William W. Irwin and Elizabeth S. Colby. Charles Allison Irwin married Marguerite Hutton in 1884 at Buena Vista, IA and 2nd marriage to Susan Hutton in 1890 in CO. I don't know if these were two separate marriages or a variation on names and dates. Charles Allison Irwin died 27 October 1929 in Denver, CO. I'm hoping to locate someone from this family so this wonderful old photograph can be returned to its rightful place with family. If you are a member of this family or know someone who might be, please contact me.

From: Ronald Colby [<mailto:rmcolby@micro-net.com>]

Does anyone know if Joshua Colby s/o Joshua Colby and Abigail Currier ever married? I have a Joshua Colby b. abt 1826 m 6 Mar 1855 Hannah A. Hill. Joshua died Jan 9 1898 (72) Hannah died May 12 1884 (50y 10m) both are buried in Pine Grove Cemetery in Gilmanton, NH

From: Jane Colby Emerson (emerso1471@aol.com)

Joshua Colby, son of Joshua Colby and Abigail Currier did not marry. He died on December 1, 1848 in Lowell, MA. He had been living in Lowell with his brother Harlow where they both worked in the mills. The body was shipped to Claremont, NH where he was buried on December 4, 1848. I have a letter written by Joshua Colby Sr. to his son Horace describing Joshua Jr's illness, death and burial. The letter states that, "he was intending to be married in about 2 months. His intended went as first mourner." The letter does not name the intended but states that "This morning Harlow, Aunt Rhoda, Fae, Sarah and Sarah Smith returned to Lowell." Perhaps Sara Smith was the intended. The letter also contains news about two of Joshua's other sons. "Henry has a son two weeks and 2 days old and is a smart little baby. Harlow has also a son 3 weeks old bright and smart. I must close this to write to Hubbard." My note: Henry was farming in NH with his father. Harlow worked in the mills in Mass. Hubbard lived and worked in Ohio. Horace was a farmer in Michigan. All but Joshua married and had children.

From: Ronald Colby [<mailto:rmcolby@micro-net.com>]

Does anyone know who Hannah Colby b. Dec 26 1760 is? Hannah married Phineas Sargent Aug 15 1793 in Hill, NH. Phineas Sargent and Hannah had 7 children:

Cont. from page 4

years (joined in 1921). She held offices in the Bow Grange and was a co-founder of the Bow Young at Heart Senior Citizens Club. Hilda worked at the Bow School cafeteria at 10 Grandview for several years. Hilda was a member of the Bow Historical Society and during WWII was a member of the Ground Observer Corp, Air Craft Warning Corp. She received a Certificate from the First Fighter Command and Award of Merit from the Army Air Force. Hilda's grandfather served in the Civil War. Her son served in the Korean War. She has a granddaughter who was in the army, a great-grand-daughter who served in the Marines, another great-grand-daughter serving in the Navy, and a great-grandson serving in the Air Force. Hilda was the holder of the Boston Post Cane for Bow and received a commendation from the New Hampshire Legislature for good citizenship on her 100th birthday. Known for her love of the color purple, her house has a purple door and a purple mailbox in Bow. Her passing also marks the end of anyone who has spoken directly to Mary Baker Eddy, the founder of the Christian Science Movement (she died in 1910). Burial took place in the spring at Alexander Cemetery in Bow. Memorial donations may be made in Mrs. Sargent's memory to the Bow Methodist Church, 505 South St., Bow 03304.

B6 Portland Press Herald/ Wednesday, February 15, 2006

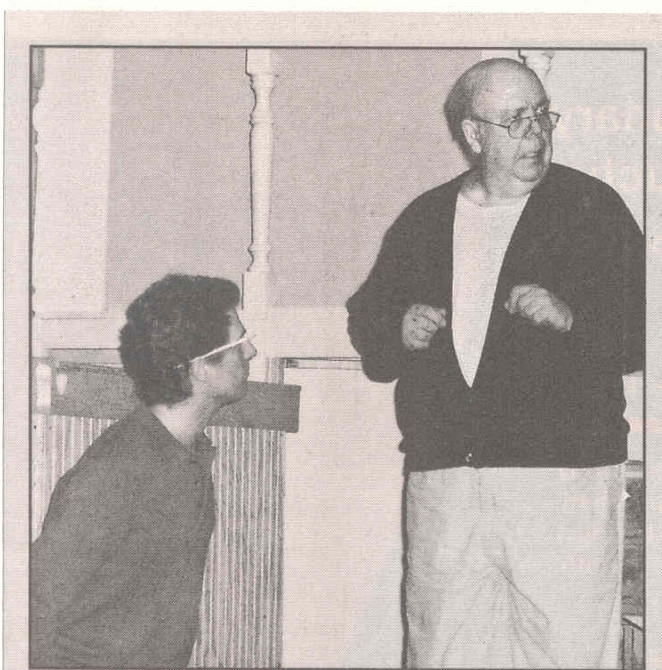


Photo courtesy Denise Knue

Christopher Benoit, left, and Jim Colby rehearse for "Best Little Whorehouse in Texas," opening Friday at the Lyric Music Theater.



Cont. on page 7

Cont. from page 6

Betsey Sargent b. May 2 1794

Hannah Sargent b. Dec 19 1797

Roxana Sargent b. Dec 2 1799

Ephraim Sargent b. Sep 18 1801

Charlotte Sargent b. Nov 7 1803

Sally Sargent b. Aug 29 1811

George W. Sargent b. Dec 12 1814

Hannah was born in 1760/1761. Her last child was born in 1814 That would make her 53 years old when he was born. This makes me question Hannah's date of birth. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

From Alice Volkert: She is probably the daughter of Nathaniel & Elizabeth Clough Colby. Sometimes this person shows up with the 26 December 1760 birthday and sometimes with 13 July 1761 birthday. The spouse is consistently Phineas Sargent. Phineas had previously been married to Rebecca Wells and had 8 children before she died. Both his parents were Sargents, tracing back to William and Elizabeth Perkins Sargent's sons William and Thomas. William married Anthony's daughter, Mary. There is a connection to Susannah North Martin.

From: PBDunfield [<mailto:pbdunfield@hotmail.com>]

Looking for information on Helen Ruthford Colby died 11 June 1934 Newport, VT. Daughter Ruth Colby married Edward Day Collins. Ruth Collins died 30 May 1942 Newport, VT. Edward Day Collins died 18 May 1940 Newport, VT. Son Enoch Clifford Colby died in Cleveland, OH but buried 6 August 1927 in Newport, VT. Another brother Joseph Colby b March 1880 VT. In the 1880 census Helen is listed with her children living with her father Dr. Ruthford. She is buried in Newport, VT with her daughter and son as well as son-in-law Edward Day Collins - I have not checked the Vermont censuses for the early 1900's yet.

From: sandrarich@aol.com

Looking for any information and or pictures of Miss Colby's Gymnasium for Women of Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, MA from the 1800's era. Unable to find anything online.

From: Alice Volkert [<mailto:alice@volkertservices.com>]

Charles G. Colby enlisted 13 September 1862 age 39 in Hillsborough, New Hampshire. He died 20 June 1863 of disease in New Orleans, LA. Whose child is he?





Ed Redding sent this list of Colby houses. Of course, we'll add the Macy-Colby House in Amesbury, MA!

1. **COLBY, SAMUEL, HOUSE** 74 Winthrop St., Bristol County, MA (Taunton) Listed on the National Register
2. **COLBY, ERNEST S. and CLARA C.** 1219 Columbia Ave., Hood River County, OR (Hood River) Listed on the National Register
3. **COLBY TAVERN** Jct. Of Colby and Becknerville Rds., Clark County, KY (Winchester [vicinity]) Listed on the National Register
4. **COLBY MUNICIPAL SWIMMING POOL and BATH HOUSE** 200 E. 5th St., Thomas County, KS (Colby) Listed on the National Register
5. **COLBY MANSION** N of Waterbury on VT 100, Washington County, VT (Waterbury [vicinity]) Listed on the National Register
6. **COLBY HALL** 141 Herrick Rd., Middlesex County, MA (Newton Centre) Listed on the National Register
7. **COLBY LOG HOUSE** L. R. 62096, 1 MILE North of Junction with Rte. 231, Blaine Township, Washington County, PA National Register Status: Undetermined

8. **COLBY RESIDENCE** ~~Middlesex County, MA (Newton Centre)~~

Barbara J. Zdravesky
123 Mulberry Street
Pawtucket, RI 02860

