



COLBY CLAN COMMUNICATIONS

Descendants of Anthony and Susannah Colby

Editor: Barbara J. Zdravesky 123 Mulberry Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860 401-724-2827 Barbara.zdravesky@gmail.com
Treasurer: James Colby Box 6663, Scarborough, ME 04070 james.colby@anthem.com

March 2010

From the Editor

Our next reunion will be held in Connecticut with a slightly different format. The activities will begin slightly later (specific times will be determined); instead of having lunch before the meeting, we'll follow our meeting with dinner. We understand that this might prevent many people from being able to attend, but we decided that it was better to go with the change in schedule, or cancel the reunion altogether. Better to get a few people than none at all. On this subject, we desperately need members who are willing to host a reunion. There have been about five people taking turns hosting for the past several years and we're (frankly) getting worn out. Please consider whether you could host the group in the next two years and let either Alice or myself know. We'd be thrilled!

I hope everyone was able to survive all of the snow this winter. We didn't have much here in Rhode Island; just got lucky I guess.

We need your news for the newsletter!



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Colby Clan Reunion Branford, CT Saturday, August 21, 2010



Sandra and Richmond Browne have graciously offered to host our reunion this year at the Harbour Village in Branford, CT.

Sandra and Richmond will host a welcoming reception at their unit on Friday, August 20 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in unit 30 D in the Harbour Village.

Harbour Village Condo Association
120 Short Beach Rd.
Branford CT 06405
Sandra's phone is (203) 315-1237

Specific activity times and an RSVP form will be printed in the June newsletter.

Branford is a shoreline town on the north side of Long Island Sound, founded in 1644 through an arrangement with the Totoket Indians. With a strong maritime heritage, seafood and shellfish are menu items at many restaurants. Yale University and New Haven are but 12 miles to the west (about 15 minutes drive or you can take the commuter train!) and offer many gourmet restaurants, art galleries and museums. Consider staying an extra day to enjoy them!

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Harbour Village is a condo association in Branford on a bay leading to Long Island Sound. Sandra Colby Browne, (first cousin of our president Alice Colby Volkert) and her husband Richmond own a unit there. They have booked the Clubhouse where we will meet on Saturday, August 21st. (Times to be announced.)

Branford Days Inn

375 East Main Street | Branford, CT

"TOLL FREE RESERVATIONS - 800-808-7841

Renovated in 2008, easy on/off access to I-95 and Route 1, beaches only 1 mile away, New Haven downtown 10 miles.

For other hotels in the area, try www.connecticuthotels.com

News from the Colby Members

Barbara Nichols of Lacey, WA writes that she and her cousin **Cal Colby** are both doing fine. Barbara continues to travel; she went to Machu Picchu, Peru, the Galapagos, Ecuador, British Columbia, and made a two-week train ride Canada.

Ron Colby of Page, Ariz. caught the biggest limit of the tournament – a 28-pound, 14-ounce effort. The largest one was 9 lbs 8 oz and the smaller was over 8 lbs. They are allowed 5 fish at weigh in and this is two of them.



Ron Colby of Kearns, UT has a new great granddaughter; born Sept 17, 2009 at 4:58 pm; weight 8 lbs 1 oz; length 20.5 inches



Family Research Help

Anne Silloway (asilloway@myfairpoint.net) of Randolph Center, VT is looking for information on the Colby cemetery just north of Montpelier, Vermont, in Berlin, Vermont. She visited that cemetery a few years ago in 2004, and noticed there were a number of Silloways buried there also. Are there any connections between Silloways and Colbys? Her family is donating a Silloway family 1840 quilt to the West Newbury Historical Society on Nov 14, which has led her to do some extra research on the family around that time.

Heather (Lehr) Pagel (heatherp@knology.net) found her name, and her family's name listed under the website of Colby Generations. Are there any contacts with Colby relatives in South Dakota or North Dakota? She would like to have a mailing address or an n email address if someone is willing to share with her. A few of her aunts and other family members would like to be in touch with them.

Interesting Colby Facts

New England's Dark Day refers to an event that occurred on 19 May 1780, when an unusual darkening of the day sky was observed over the [New England](#) states and parts of [Canada](#). The primary cause of the event is believed to have been a combination of [smoke](#) from [forest fires](#), a thick [fog](#), and [cloud](#) cover. The darkness was so complete that [candles](#) were required from noon on. It did not disperse until the middle of the next night. According to Professor Samuel Williams of [Harvard College](#), the Darkness was seen at least as far north as [Portland, Maine](#), and extended southwards to [New Jersey](#). The Darkness was not witnessed in [Pennsylvania](#). The earliest report of the darkness came from [Rupert, New York](#), where the sun was already obscured at sunrise. Professor Samuel Williams observed from [Cambridge](#) that: "This extraordinary darkness came on between the hours of 10 and 11 A. M. and continued till the middle of the next night." Reverend Ebenezer Parkham, of [Westborough, Massachusetts](#), reported peak obscurity to occur "by 12", but did not record the time when the obscuration first arrived. At [Harvard College](#), the obscuration was reported to arrive at 10:30 AM, peaking at 12:45 PM, and abating by 1:10 PM, although a heavy overcast remained for the rest of the day. The obscuration was reported to have reached [Barnstable, Massachusetts](#), by 2:00 PM, with peak obscurity reported to have occurred at 5:30 PM. For several days before the Dark Day, the [sun](#) as viewed from New England appeared to be red, and the sky appeared yellow. While the darkness was present, soot was observed to be collected in rivers and in rain water, suggesting the presence of smoke. Also, when the night really came in, observers saw the moon as red as blood. For portions of New England, the morning of 19 May 1780 was characterized by rain, indicating that cloud cover was present. Since communications technology of the day was primitive, most people found the darkness to be baffling and inexplicable. Since science could not explain it, they applied religious interpretations to the event. The Dark Day of 1780 was, and still is, regarded by many as a supernatural event caused by [God](#). In [Connecticut](#), a member of the legislature, [Abraham Davenport](#), became most

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IN MEMORIAM

Barbara Colby Rooney, 83, died Wednesday morning, January 6, 2010, at the Hanover Hospital. She was the wife of Walter R. Rooney for 61 years. Born September 17, 1926, in Washington, DC, she was the daughter of the late Isaac Newton and Margaret (Hitchcock) Colby. Barbara was a graduate of Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School in Maryland and was a homemaker. In addition to her husband, she is survived by three daughters, Mary M. Rich of Olney, MD, Beth A. Bohrer of Monson, ME and Katherine J. Rooney of McSherrystown, MD; three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by a brother, Lawrence Colby. A funeral service was held at Little's Funeral Home, 34 Maple Ave., Littlestown, with the Rev. Timothy J. Kielley officiating. Interment was at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Silver Spring, MD, with Rev. Msgr. Robert G. Amey, of Saint Mary's Church, Rockville, MD, officiating. Published in the Evening Sun from 1/7/2010 - 1/8/2010

John P. Colby Sr., 83, of Pleasant Street, died Friday, Oct. 2, 2009 surrounded by his family at Lakes Region General Hospital after a period of declining health. Jack was born Nov. 2, 1925, in Suncook to the late Shirley (Paine) and Solon Colby. He left Pembroke Academy in his senior year to enlist in the U.S. Marines, serving in the Pacific during World War II. He graduated from Tilton Prep in 1946 and then served for three years as an officer in the Concord Police Department. He became an insurance agent and in 1957 purchased the Ralph Moore Insurance Agency (later John P. Colby Agency) in Lakeport Square. It was at this time that he, his wife and children moved from Pembroke to Laconia. In 1972, his agency merged with the Melcher and Prescott Agency, where he worked as an agent until his retirement in 1985. Jack is survived by his wife of 63 years, Anne Estelle (Lugg) Colby; sister and brother-in-law Janice and Robert Slater of Whitefield; sister Carolyn Brouillette of Exeter; brother and sister-in-law Solon B. and Eleanor Colby of Groton, MA; daughter and son-in-law Ann E. and Raymond Talton of Greece, NY; son John P. Colby Jr. of Laconia; son and daughter-in-law William B. and Patricia Colby of Laconia; son and daughter-in-law Curtis G. and Renee Colby of Meredith; grandchildren William A. and Jennifer Colby Talton, Jacob, Leah, Stephen, Hannah, Chelsea and Trevor Colby, and Chrisanne and Allie Grise; great-granddaughter Taylor Talton; and several nieces and nephews. He will be missed for his kindness and sense of humor. There were no calling hours. A family memorial service was held. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Community Health & Hospice Inc., 780 N. Main St., Laconia 03246. Wilkinson-Beane-Simoneau-Paquette Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 164 Pleasant St., Laconia, was in charge of arrangements.

Eleanor C. Gardner

Tuesday, August 18, 2009, Caledonia Record
Long time Littleton, NH, citizen Eleanor Jean Colby Gardner, 83, passed away Thursday, Aug. 13, at Lafayette Center in Franconia, NH, after a long illness. She was born in Littleton on July 8, 1926. She was the daughter of Ethel (Berry) Colby, former teacher at the Aphthorp School, and Charles Colby former Littleton Fire Chief, and member of Littleton Police Department. Preceding her in death were Reginald, John (Jack), sisters, Margaret (Bennett), Dorothy (McLaughlin), Marion (Petty), Barbara (Bragg). Eleanor married Mark T. Gardner on Aug. 9 1947. Eleanor is survived by her children Keith, Mark (Ted), Diana, Scott, Holly; daughter-in-law Elynor; grandchildren Brent, Jennifer, Hannah, Lori, Sheena; and great-

grandchild Madison. Eleanor and her husband Mark were local business owners of a two ESSO service stations in Littleton in the 1960s. Later Eleanor started working at the Littleton Courier with her brothers Reg and Jack. She worked as an editor, and later, reporter for special events, and food columnist. In 2003 she retired from the Courier, but later started her column again in the Ammonosuc Times. Then in 2004 she had a cookbook published, and had a large book signing in Littleton. The book is still being sold today online and in local bookstores. Eleanor was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Also was a member of the NH Republican State convention. Eleanor finished raising her family after her husband died in 1974. All her children finished college with degrees. Eleanor loved to cook for her family, and ride in her red Chevrolet she proudly owned. She was always interested in Littleton, and making it better. The family would like to thank the Lafayette Center staff, for the incredible job they did for Ellie, over the two year stay. And making family access, especially on holidays so much easier. Services were held at the Methodist Church Main Street Littleton on Friday, Aug. 21, 2009 followed by a service at the Glenwood Cemetery. The Ross Funeral Home, Littleton Chapel, had the privilege of these arrangements.

Frank Parker Colby, 85, of Havenwood Health Services Center, Concord, died on Thursday, Aug. 13, 2009, of complications of Parkinson's disease. Born in Waban, MA, he was the son of Clara Parker Colby and J. Tracy Colby. He lived in Bronxville, NY, attended Culver Academy in Culver, IN, and graduated from Harvard College and Harvard Business School. Parker served in the U.S. Army, 97th Division, in World War II, first in the European Theater and then in the Occupation Army in Japan. Parker is survived by his wife of 62 years, Eleanor Hayeslip Colby; his daughter, Margaret Colby Bittner and her husband, Robert, of Camarillo, Calif.; his son, Frank P. Colby Jr. and his wife, Beverly, of Lexington, MA; his daughter, Claire Colby-Hielscher and her husband, Raimund, of Dortmund, Germany; and seven grandchildren. He was predeceased by his parents, and brothers James Tracy Colby Jr. and Henry Stark Colby. Parker's business career was spent in Detroit, MI, as a merchandising manager at The J.L. Hudson Co. (now Target) and as a vice president in the trust department at The National Bank of Detroit (now J.P. Morgan Chase). Volunteer work, as part of giving back, was an important part of Parker's life as a director of both Goodwill Industries of Detroit and the Detroit YMCA. Later, in retirement, Parker's greatest interest was in the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) branches in Portsmouth and Dover. He also worked with handicapped adults in Dover and Concord. Sailing was Parker's lifelong passion, both on Lake St. Clair, Mich., and on the Seacoast. He also enjoyed golf, squash and bowling. A memorial service was held in the Havenwood Auditorium at Havenwood Heritage Heights, Concord. Memorial donations may be made to the Residents' Fund, Havenwood, 33 Christian Ave., Concord 03301; or to the Unitarian-Universalist Church, 274 Pleasant St., Concord 03301. Bennett Funeral Home in Concord handled the arrangements.



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famous for his response to his colleagues' fears that it was the [Day of Judgment](#):

I choose, for one, to meet Him face to face, No faithless servant frightened from my task, But ready when the Lord of the harvest calls; And therefore, with all reverence, I would say, Let God do His work, we will see to ours. Bring in the candles.

Davenport's courage was commemorated in the poem "[Abraham Davenport](#)" by [John Greenleaf Whittier](#). Today, some Christians, especially those among [Seventh-day Adventists](#) citing extracts of Biblically sequential events, "... the sun will be darkened, the moon will not give its light, the stars will fall from the sky..." ([Matthew 24:29](#) are signs preceding the return of Christ) and interpretations of the event as cited by [Ellen G. White](#), believe that the Dark Day was a fulfillment of Biblical and [end-times prophecy](#). Also see [Revelation 6:12-13](#) "... and there was a great earthquake. *The sun became black as sackcloth made of hair, and the whole moon became as blood.* The stars of the sky fell to the earth, like a fig tree dropping its unripe figs when it is shaken by a great wind." The likely cause of the Dark Day was smoke from massive forest fires. When a fire does not kill a tree and the tree later grows, scar marks are left in the [growth rings](#). This makes it possible to approximate the date of a past fire. Researchers examining the scar damage in [Ontario, Canada](#), attribute the Dark Day to a large fire in the area that is today occupied by [Algonquin Provincial Park](#). (from Wikipedia.org)

Non Omnis Frangar



World War II Honoree

World War II Veteran



Robert Colby

BRANCH OF SERVICE
U.S. Navy

HOMETOWN
Southport Island, ME

HONORED BY
Sarah Sherman Brewer, Friend



The Colbys of Stanstead, Québec

A casual stroller in Stanstead Quebec, a small village across the line from Derby Line, VT, could not avoid encountering the name Colby, either for the street name Colbycroft, the name of the administration building of Stanstead College, Colby House rebuilt in 1939, or looking at the stately granite Carrollcroft home of the Stanstead Historical Society, or even the many tombstones of Crystal Lake cemetery. There are no Colbys living in Stanstead today, the last one, Helen Lovat Colby died in 1998 but she had donated Carrollcroft and all its furnishings to the Stanstead Historical Society in 1992. Two of her sons, Charles and Robert, are still active supporters of the Historical Society and Stanstead College, and their uncle John is an active supporter of the College, the Historical Society and its museum and Centenary United Church with which the Colbys have been closely related for a good part of its two hundred year history. The story of the Colbys of Stanstead starts as we will soon see in 1831.



The border region of Stanstead was first settled in late 18th century by immigrants who came through the New-England corridor into the Eastern Townships of Quebec. Today, more than 200 years after the first settlements, Stanstead still presents unique characteristics that reflect its specific history. This exhibition highlights the history of the Colby family, who left New England to settle in the Townships, and the contribution of five generations of Colbys to the social, political, economic, educational and cultural life of the

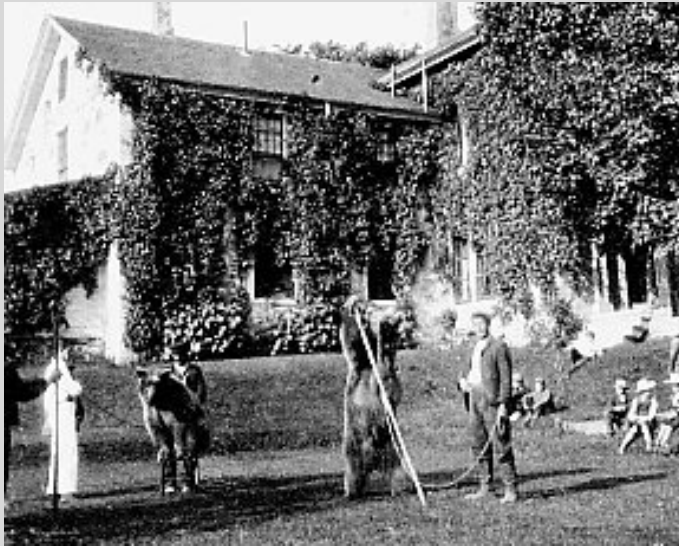
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Stanstead area. Using a rich treasure trove of period photos, documents and art work and archival material, the virtual exhibition shows how development in this border region differed from that of other regions in Canada and how a strong and determined spirit animated the pioneering population and their descendants and to a certain extent how the generations of the Colby family can be viewed as a protagonist of this spirit.



In 1859, newlyweds Hattie Child and **Charles Carroll Colby** moved into a stately granite house on Stanstead's main street. Apart from a brief absence, successive generations of the Colby family lived in "Carrollcroft" until Helen Colby donated the building and its furnishings to the Stanstead Historical Society in 1992. Today, Carrollcroft houses the Colby-Curtis Museum (http://www.colbycurtis.ca/eng/colby_curtis_museum.html) and the SHS Archives. Permanent displays give visitors a glimpse of the gracious lifestyle the Colbys enjoyed as local English-speaking gentry. Temporary exhibitions feature other fascinating aspects of regional history.



As photographs in their family albums attest, the Colbys loved to spend time outdoors on the grounds of Carrollcroft in fine weather. They tended their garden, played tennis and croquet, ate picnics, and watched visiting entertainers, including performing bears.



For the Colbys, afternoon tea was a pleasurable ritual. During the summer, they often had it in the garden.



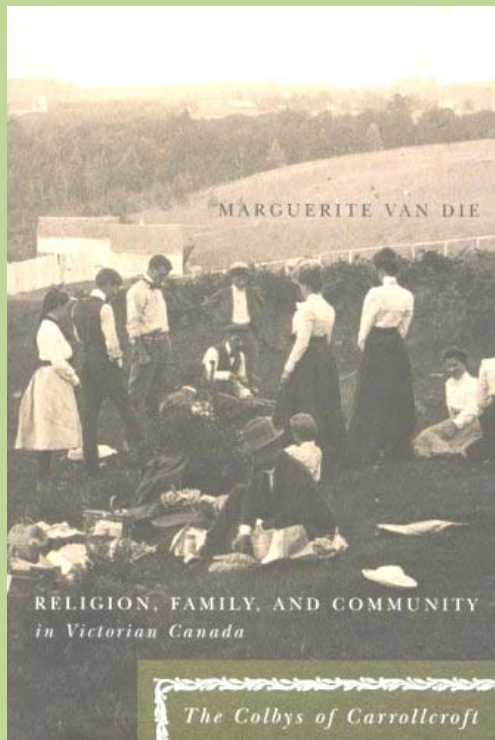
Charles Carroll Colby I and Mary Aikins
1892
Stanstead, Québec



Carrollcroft, breakfast on the verandah
1897
Stanstead, Québec



Charles Carroll Colby (December 10, 1827 – December 10, 1907) was a Canadian lawyer, businessman and politician. He was born in Derby, Vermont in 1827, the son of **Moses French Colby**, and came to Stanstead, Quebec with his family in 1832. He studied at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire. He studied law, was called to the Quebec bar in 1855 and entered practice at Stanstead. In 1858, he married Harriet Child. Colby was elected as a Liberal-Conservative MP in the Canadian House of Commons in 1867 representing Stanstead and remained in parliament until his defeat in 1891. He served as President of the Privy Council under Sir John A. Macdonald from 1889 to 1891 and was previously Deputy Speaker and Chairman of Committees of the Whole of the House of Commons. Colby supported the introduction of tariffs to reciprocate against those imposed by the United States. He was a trustee of Stanstead College and a director for several railway companies. Colby served as vice-president of the Quebec Temperance and Prohibitory League. Colby was the author of *Parliamentary government in Canada*, published in Montreal in 1886. He died in Montreal at the age of 80. In 1859, Colby built Carrollcroft, his residence at Stanstead, which now serves as the site of the Colby-Curtis Museum. (from Wikipedia.org)



When the **Colby Mansion** was constructed around 1870 it was described as possibly the finest in the State outside Montpelier. It was designed and built by local Waterbury industrialist **George J. Colby**. The mansion was the execution of Colby's ideas on proper house construction. Although Colby had no known architectural training, he was a self-educated innovator, attempting to improve upon healthy ways of living through architecture and modern conveniences. The house is not only a well-designed, well-preserved upper class home from the Victorian era, but it also reflects the philosophy of a local, influential individual whose ideas were shared by many Americans at the turn of the century, and eventually found widespread application throughout the country. Colby was well-known locally for his financial empire, which included a print shop, machine shop, the manufacture of willow ware and wringers, and the invention of a bark-peeling machine. He also wrote political pamphlets and helped organize the local library and cemetery association. In 1871 he published his ideas on domestic architecture in a series of eight articles in *The Household*, entitled "Household Architecture." The Colby Mansion was the embodiment of these ideas. It was symmetrically designed (promoting circulation), with forced hot air heat, a well-lit and ventilated basement, natural-finished interior woodwork, shallow hipped roof, and indoor plumbing. The marble sinks originally installed in each bedroom are still in place. In addition to these basic features, to promote healthful living, Colby also accentuated his home with features typical of the Victorian era, including a lavish degree of decorative detail, a projecting entrance bay, porch, and two bay windows. The Colby Mansion is located north of Waterbury on Vermont Rt. 100. It is currently the Colby Mansion Home for the Aged, and not open to the public.

Biography of Carlos W. Colby - Illinois farmer and Civil War soldier

Carlos W. Colby was born on May 15, 1837 on a farm in Merrimack County, New Hampshire, ten miles north of Concord. Colby moved with his family from New Hampshire to a farm near Alton, Illinois, in 1850. Colby was a farmer until, at the age of 25, he enlisted in Company G of the 97th Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment on August 11, 1862 and was mustered in as a second corporal at Camp Butler in Springfield, Illinois. The Illinois 97th was assigned to participate in the Vicksburg Campaign, and as the Union Army moved south, Colby recorded his military experiences in regular letters to his family. Reaching Memphis, the regiment became part of Major General Ulysses S. Grant's organization of forces for a two-pronged assault on the strategically-placed city of Vicksburg, Mississippi. Arriving in December 1862, the 97th stayed in the Vicksburg area, took part in the continual assaults upon and the

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final surrender of Vicksburg in early July of 1863, and thence was moved south to New Orleans. The regiment stayed in Louisiana, Alabama, and Florida, joining in several expeditions and campaigns until April 1865. Colby was wounded in the leg at the charge of Fort Blakely in Alabama on April 9, 1865. After several months in the hospital, he was mustered out on August 18, 1865 as a first sergeant. After the war, Carlos Colby returned to the farm in Alton and married Anne E. Rowe, the sister of a company friend, in December 1866. He then settled down to farming and raising a family. Carlos Colby and Anne Colby had eight children, four of whom survived to adulthood. Colby lived in Alton until 1883 when he moved to a farm near Buckley, Illinois. His wife Anne died in 1899 and in 1900 he retired from farming and moved to Peoria, Illinois. Colby died in Peoria, Illinois in 1922 at age 85. It was during the siege of Vicksburg that Colby was a member of a volunteer storming party that made an assault on the enemy's works. He received a Congressional Medal of Honor in 1896 "...for most distinguished gallantry in action at the battle of Vicksburg, Miss." Excerpts of many of Colby's letters pertaining to the Vicksburg Campaign were edited and annotated by his great-grandson, John S. Painter, and published under the title "Bullets, Hardtack and Mud: A Soldier's View of the Vicksburg Campaign," in the Journal of the West, Vol. IV, No. 2, April 1865.

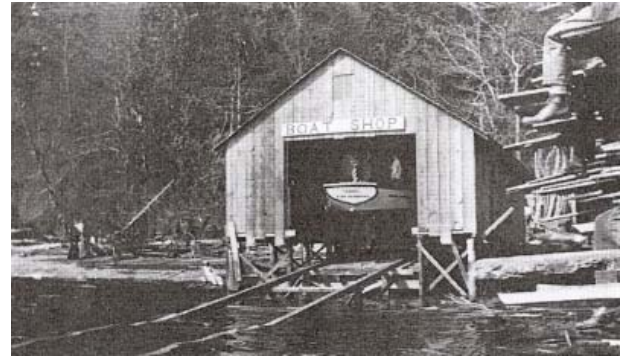
The Newberry Library in Chicago, IL owns the Carlos W. Colby personal papers -- primarily correspondence (129 letters) written between 1862 and 1865, to his sisters, brother, brother-in-law, and niece, plus a dozen Civil War letters written by Colby's future brother-in-law James Rowe. The inventory also includes Colby's reminiscences of his boyhood and his service in the 97th Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment, some family correspondence, genealogical material and a few photos.

<http://www.newberry.org/collections/FindingAids/colby/Colbypr.html>

Brief History of Yukon Harbor and its ties to the Mosquito Fleet of Puget Sound.

Colby, Harper, and South Colby were settled on the Western side of Puget Sound, on the East shore of the Kitsap Peninsula in the area known as Yukon Harbor, in the early 1880's, almost simultaneously with the creation of nearby Port Orchard and Bremerton. Colby, in particular, lived — and died — with the Mosquito Fleet and the need to mill lumber. The first Post Office in that portion of Yukon Harbor was officially established on November 13th, 1884 — even before post offices were placed in Port Orchard (Sidney) and Bremerton — and the small town's economy was centered around the lumber mill located right at the water's edge, with a smattering of farms and ranches lending to the effort. There was also a shingle mill further inland as well as a few fruit orchards. At the time, virtually all travel was by boat, so the Puget Sound "Mosquito Fleet" was an essential component of the livelihood of Colby and the surrounding small towns. The original settlement of Colby occupied the area south and east of the present intersection of Yukon Harbor Road and Cole Street. Three houses originally belonging to members of the Grant family survive, as well as the former office and bunkhouse of the Colby Mill Company, converted to a residence. A few hundred feet offshore a pair of pilings are the last vestige of the former Mosquito Fleet pier. In its prime, Colby was home to as many as three grocers, a lumber mill, hotel, blacksmith shop, livery stable, ice cream parlor, barber shop and a one-room school. It served a population of farmers and loggers living and working as far away as Long Lake. In addition, a sandy beach and grassy picnic ground between Colby and the mouth of Curley Creek was a popular recreation area that attracted large crowds of picnickers from Seattle on the 4th of July. The so-call Mosquito Fleet was an unofficial title given to the huge array of steamers that served the hundreds of harbors and landings throughout the region, and it was the lifeblood of all commerce from the middle of the 19th century through to the 1920's. Early Mosquito Fleet service was provided by such boats as *Alta*, *Swiftsure* and *Grace*, landing passengers and cargo either on the beach or on a float made of cedar logs from which they were rowed to the beach. *Grace* ran from Chico to Sidney, Colby and Seattle. *Sentinel*, *Hattie Hansen* and *Advance* — larger ships that could carry more freight — served Colby after a pier was constructed in about 1900 on a route from Poulsbo to Brownsville, Manchester, Colby, South Colby, Harper and Seattle. *Reliance* held down the Colby run from 1901 to 1925,

and made special cargo runs delivering direct to the Grant & Son warehouse on high tides after the scheduled runs. Colby was also served from time to time by *Squamish*, *Donacella*, *Athlon* and *Inland Flyer*.



Meanwhile, a second township began to blossom. The South Colby area was also settled in the late 1880s and was connected to Colby first by a rope-hauled raft across the mouth of Curley Creek and soon thereafter by a plank and log bridge. A steamship pier was constructed in 1911, and the South Colby Post Office was established on August 27, 1913. South Colby had the White Ranch Pure Food Products fruit cannery, a sawmill, the Curley Creek Grange, and served the Harper Brick & Tile brickyard at nearby Harper. Colby's Mosquito Fleet service ended in 1925, with the expansion of the auto and truck road network. The final blow came with the opening of San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge; ferry operators who could no longer compete in that region moved their auto-carrying ships to Puget Sound in search of new markets, and only towns with piers capable of handling that traffic could survive. With people no longer passing through the pier, the Colby's businesses withered away. The mill and stores were taken down and hauled away, and much of the timbered lots were cleared for more modern houses. The Post Office was dis-established on Dec 31, 1954. Only traces of the surrounding communities of South Colby and Harper remain.

Colby History Timeline—

- 1884 – The first store was built by William H Morgan, who also becomes Postmaster.
- 1885 – Joseph Squire Grant, Sr., Morgan's brother-in-law, establishes Grant & Sons General Merchandise, taking over the log store from Morgan. Grant previously had built a similar store/post office in Olalla.
- 1888 – John N. Anspaugh, who had lived in the area for four years, builds a hotel and a store, becomes the postmaster, and builds a structure that becomes Grant & Son Groceries.
- 1880 to 1900 – Steamboat service by *Alta*, *Swiftsure* and *Grace* is offered via a float landing at Colby. A formal, permanent pier is built at Colby in 1902, and another is constructed at Harper and South Colby in 1911.
- 1900 to 1926 – Steamboat service by larger ships, including *Sentinel*, *Advance*, *Reliance* and *Kitsap*, is provided at a Colby pier.
- 1954 – Grant & Son general store and adjacent post office is closed.
- 1967 – Grant & Son general store and Squire Grant confectionary store is demolished.
- 1977 – Georgina Harding Grant, dies at age 101. She was married to Tom Grant, Joseph S Grant's oldest sons. She is one of the last connections to the original founding family living in Yukon Harbor.
- 2006 – Brick store building, long since empty and beyond saving, is torn down to make room for a beachfront home.

Interesting websites:

www.findagrave.com

<http://colbyclan.pbworks.com/>

<http://lpoplin.com/Colby/index.htm>

http://kalloch.org/surname_pages/colby.htm

<http://www.volkertservices.com/colby.htm>

Barbara J. Zdravesky
123 Mulberry Street
Pawtucket, RI 02860

