



COLBY CLAN COMMUNICATIONS

Descendants of Anthony and Susannah Colby

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September 2010

From the Editor

We had a wonderful time at the Colby Reunion in Branford. The setting was beautiful, our hosts were very generous, and the group was lots of fun. We sat around the table enjoying our lunch and the beautiful view of Long Island Sound and made our usual inquiries about the people who weren't there. There are many reasons why folks can't attend the reunions, all very reasonable and understandable. However, in case you ever wonder if your absence really makes a difference, be assured that we miss each person who isn't there. We want to know that everyone is well, and that perhaps we'll see you again next year. We already have hosts for next year's reunion in New Hampshire, in the Ossipee/Effingham area. Look for more information in the March newsletter.



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Colby Clan Reunion Branford, CT



The reunion group, gathered outside the clubhouse with Long Island Sound in the background



Ron E. Colby (with the teddy bear)
Award for being the "Connecticut Colby" in attendance



Virginia Colby was the oldest person in attendance.



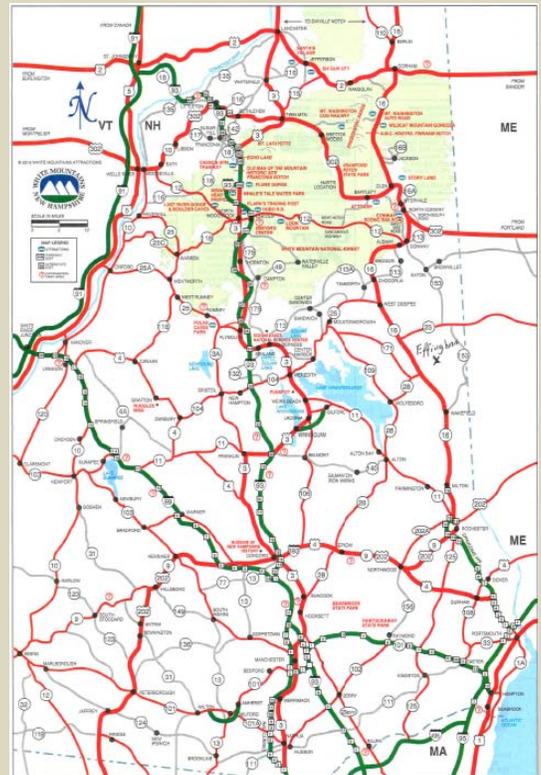
Richmond Browne and Gertrude Stein(way)



Carmino Ravosa performing his own musical compositions



Our New Hampshire host committee
 L to R: Walter Browne, Sis Levesque, Judy Johnson, Alice Volkert, Al Levesque



Look for the X under Effingham in the top right section.
 This is the location for next year's reunion.

A possible venue?



<http://www.castleinthecLOUDS.org/index.html>

Mrs. Chloe McIntire Colby



Chloe McIntire Colby

GREEN TOWNSHIP, OH/WATERFORD - Chloe McIntire Colby, 79, of Green Township, OH and Papoose Pond in Waterford, passed away at her home on December 18, 2009.

She was born in South Paris on December 20, 1929, the daughter of Glenn R. and Marguerite Pearman McIntire. She grew up in Brunswick and graduated from Brunswick High School. After graduation she went on to Tufts, from there to a scholarship to the University of Michigan where she earned a Master's degree in Clinical Psychology.

She met her husband, Edward Eugene Colby, in high school. They went their separate ways for college and were married in 1953. They moved to Cincinnati where they raised four children.

She was an Elder at North Presbyterian Church in Northside and helped to start a daycare center. She was a room mother for the elementary school classes, a Sunday School teacher, a Den Mother for the Cub Scouts and a Girl Scout Leader. Once

the children were grown she and her husband enjoyed traveling to France, Hungary, Norway and a cruise North of the Arctic Circle.

She had a great interest in genealogy and formed Living Roots, a research consulting firm that took her to many places around the country. Her roots were always at Papoose Pond in Waterford where she and her family spent many happy times. It is a place full of memories that her children and grandchildren will continue to visit; the camp has been in her family for over 100 years. She enjoyed visitors at Papoose Pond, especially her five grandsons, in whom she took particular pride and delight. She became an active contributor to the Waterford Historical Society.

Mrs. Colby is survived by her husband, Gene Colby of Green Township, OH and Waterford; children, Edward, Jr. and Jennifer (O'Mahony), Roy S. and Judy, Margaret Ann Colby and Grace Elizabeth Colby; five grandsons, Daniel, Jeffrey, Sean, Seth and Tiernan; a brother, Justin McIntire and Louise of Harpswell; a sister, Sally Richard of Fairfax, VA and Papoose Pond, Waterford. She was predeceased by a brother-in-law, Pete Richard.

A Memorial service will be held on Sunday, June 13 at Noon at Pulpit Rock Cemetery in Waterford. Donations in her memory can be made to the Waterford Historical Society, c/o Bonnie Parsons, P. O. Box 184, Waterford, ME 04088. Arrangements are under the direction of Weston-Chandler Funeral Home, 45 Main St., South Paris. On-line condolences may be shared with her family at www.westonchandler.com.

OBITUARY

JOHN HENRY ERNEST COLBY

Peacefully on October 23, 2009 in Knowlton, Quebec in his ninety-third year. Predeceased by his wife Grace Wickenden. Survived by his loving daughters Jocelyn (J. P. St. Pierre) and Jennifer (Alec Holzgang), stepson Glenn Cranker (Maria), Judith Cranker MacPherson, and Nancy Cranker. Loving grandfather to Tracey Lessard (Matt), Ruth Stanton (Brad), Jeff St. Pierre (Leah) and Steven St. Pierre (Samantha); Brenda, Eric, Monica (Fernando), Rebecca, Laura and Philip Holzgang; Alice and Bobby Cranker, Chris and Matt MacPherson and many great-grandchildren and step great-grandchildren. John will be most fondly remembered by his first wife June, his special cousins, Charles, Robert (Gretchen) and Edward (Sara) Colby, Mary Aikins (Allen Slade) and his godson Michael Martin (Judy).

John met his first wife June in Scotland while serving on loan with the Royal Navy during WWII. After the war he completed his law degree at McGill and practiced law at the firm which still bears his name, Colby Monet Demers Delage & Crevier.

John served for many years on the Council of Trustees of Stanstead College as a director and chairman, created and helped fund a deserving student scholarship and worked tirelessly in fundraising campaigns, for which he received the Trustees Award of Merit. He also supported the Stanstead Historical Society and the Brome Lake Land Foundation.

Many thanks to the kind and attentive staff at Manoir Lac Brome in Knowlton. Funeral will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, November 7, 2009 at the Centenary United Church, 479 Dufferin Street, Stanstead Quebec. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Stanstead Historical Society (the Colby-Curtis Museum, John's home where he was born), the Red & White Educational Foundation of Stanstead College or the BMP Foundation of the Brome Missisquoi Perkins Hospital would be greatly appreciated.





<http://www.remickmuseum.org/>

One of the many possible sites to visit near next year's reunion location

From the President

I really enjoyed our reunion in Branford, Connecticut! Sandra and Richmond provided a beautiful facility and a great lunch for our enjoyment. Friday evening, before the meeting on Saturday, many of us met at their home and enjoyed some fabulous music. Richmond is an awesome pianist and Barbara is equally proficient on the cello. Such talent! They had never even met before – no practice – but were able to play together and entertain us. The Brownes also provided lovely munchies. Saturday, in the clubhouse on Long Island Sound, we had a great time conversing with each other, catching up from prior years, eating yummy wraps and generally enjoying ourselves. Carmino Ravosa provided great entertainment. What a talent!

We are very fortunate that we have volunteers to host our reunion next year. Al and Sis Levesque, along with Walter Browne and Judy Johnson will welcome us to their area of New Hampshire. They have some great ideas of fun things to do in the area; so maybe we should plan to stay longer and take advantage of these activities. There will be more information coming, in future newsletters and on the website www.colby-family-association.org. If anyone is thinking about how much fun it would be to be a host, contact me and let's talk about it. We are all family!!

Alice Colby Volkert

Secretary's Report

On Friday evening of August 20, 2010, we met at the home of Richmond and Sandra Browne in Branford, CT. Several members gathered to enjoy refreshments, and to hear Richmond play his wonderful Steinway piano, which he has affectionately named Gertrude Stein(way). He was accompanied by clan Secretary Barbara Zdravesky on the cello, playing selections by Saint Saens, Mendelssohn, and others.

The group gathered for the annual business meeting on Saturday, August 21 at the Harbor Village Clubhouse in Branford, CT. The meeting began at 12:17 p.m. and was led by our President, Alice Volkert. She began the meeting by introducing herself and welcoming everyone to the reunion. The next item was the Secretary's Report, given by Barbara Zdravesky. The Secretary's Report consists of the minutes of the previous year's meeting, which are published in the annual September newsletter. Walter Browne made a motion to accept the minutes of last year's meeting

as they are printed in the September 2009 Colby Clan Communications, seconded by Al Levesque. Everyone was in favor, none opposed. The motion passed. Jim Colby presented the Treasurer's Report, which is printed on page 4 of this newsletter. There was some discussion about postage expenses, and whether we can transition the newsletter to an electronic publication. Barbara Zdravesky, newsletter editor, explained that more people are reading the newsletter via email or online, which has reduced the number of hard copies needing to be mailed. She explained that many people on our mailing list don't use email, and still request a hard copy in the mail. There was a question about whether one of the three issues (perhaps the March issue) could be an electronic only, as there is less pertinent information about the reunion in that issue. For now, we will continue to mail all three issues to those who request it, but will to ask our readers to opt for an electronic copy.

Alice then introduced our host committee for next year's reunion. Judy Johnson, Walter Brown, Sis Levesque and Al Levesque will host the reunion in the Effingham, NH area. They will provide reunion details and information about nearby activities, to be published in the March and June newsletters. Jim Colby expressed that it is exciting to bring the reunion back to New Hampshire as there are many Colby connections in that area. The next item was the annual donation to the Macy-Colby House. Jim Colby explained that general donations from the membership go into the association's treasury; donations specifically targeted for the Macy-Colby House are added to our annual donation. Ron E. Colby made a motion to donate \$400 to the Macy-Colby House this year. The motion was seconded by Al Levesque, all were in favor and none were opposed. The motion passed. Kathy Colby gave an update on the House; the rock wall outside caved in, but has been repaired and they have started an inventory on the items in the house. Kathy has produced a photo DVD of the House, a fundraiser for the Bartlett Cemetery Association, which can be purchased for \$10.

The annual awards were given to the following: Ron E. Colby for being the "Connecticut Colby" in attendance, Marcia Synott from Columbia, South Carolina for being the person who traveled the farthest to attend, and Virginia Colby of East Greenwich, NY, for being the oldest in attendance (age 87).

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 with a blessing of the food given by Roger Volkert.

Treasurer's Report

CD #1 \$5813.94 (available balance)

CD#2 #1339.09 (available balance)

Savings/Checking account: \$ 368.90 (available balance)

Checking account: \$1189.35 (available balance)

Disbursements to date: September 15, 2010

Reunion expenses – catering, etc. \$566.51

Macy-Colby House donation \$420.00

September 2010 newsletter postage \$119.80

News from the Colby Members

Bill and Bev Whidden, from Weymouth, MA, are doing fine. Bill is unable to do much driving lately, which has prevented them from attending the reunions. (We miss seeing them both!)

Visiting History

By **Mark Colby** of Boothbay Harbor, ME

Recent Motorcycle/Family History Adventure - August 11 and 12, 2010

I, along with my two daughters and their two friends, left Wentworth By The Sea Marina around 7:30 a.m. for the six or so hour cruise to Nantucket via the Cape Cod Canal, Woods Hole, and Nantucket Sound. We arrived at the Nantucket Boat Basin adjacent to Straight Wharf where the Macy building is located near the head of the wharf. I passed this building several times during the weekend stay at the Jarred Coffin House where I resided during non-captain duty hours. I even went on a tour given by Gayle Island Tours. It turns out after mentioning I had gone to high school with many youngsters from Nantucket, Gayle, our tour guide, was one of those students. Although I have been immersed in family history, genealogy, and ancestry for some years, I have not been able to put it all together. However, the pieces are slowly coming together and the dots, too, are getting connected. Something struck my fancy about the Macy building on Nantucket. I wondered what I knew about that name. I started to put two and two together, and upon further research via the internet, found out that the Macy-Colby House in Amesbury was the Macy connection I had forgotten about. I quickly put together an itinerary that I had been thinking about doing for years. I made a reservation at the Exeter Inn in Exeter, NH for Wednesday night, retrieved a copy of the deed of ownership of a pew at the Presbyterian Meeting House in Newburyport, and hoped that the Newburyport Maritime Society Museum would be open for visitors. Furthermore, I have wanted to explore via motorcycle the New Hampshire coast and felt at this time this mode of transportation would be best suited for this adventure. Off I went mid-Wednesday morning, following Route 1 all the way to New Hampshire, dealing with a vast number of vehicled tourists from "away." It took me about five hours to make it to the border. I don't recommend using Route 1 in August for anything other than getting into the middle of a snafu. I found my way to Route 1A in New Castle and followed it to Salisbury where I re-connected with Route 1 for the brief ride over the bridge crossing the Merrimack River and into the pretty seaport town of Newburyport. My first stop was at the Custom House Maritime Museum with which I was somewhat familiar as I had stopped here several times in the off season only to find the museum closed with special off season hours of operation. This time it was open and after paying the small fee I chatted at length with the lady who took my money and ran the small gift shop. I told her of my relation to Captain Isaac Newton Colby, being his great grandson. We talked about the *Sonora's* burning by the Confederate Steamship *Alabama* of which she was quite familiar. She showed me a picture of Captain Colby on a wall with the many other Captains of the Maritime Society. This picture was of a younger Captain Colby than that of the picture in **The History of the Marine Society of Newburyport 1772-1905**. After viewing the exhibits, I purchased two recommended books: one, an account by Capt. Brown and family of the burning of the

Sonora; and two, **New England and The Sea**. Both volumes mention the saga and the destructive force of the *Alabama*. For those of you reading this and not knowing of the connection let me explain that Captain Isaac N. Colby was Chief Mate at the time on the *Sonora* when she encountered the *Alabama* and her Captain Semmes who burned the *Sonora*, put her crew and officers in the ship's boats and set them off near Singapore without water or navigational instruments. It's rather an amazing story of survival and bravery. My next stop was down the street to the Old South Presbyterian Church or Meeting House of 1756. I climbed the steps of this remarkable old building thinking of our ancestors actually worshiping there. Unfortunately, the minister had left and the building was closed. I left a note on the copy of the deed of ownership of a pew (number 21, I think) bought by Caleb Haskell who was the father of Mary Amelia Haskell who later married Captain Isaac N. Colby. That would make Caleb Haskell my great great grandfather. For history's sake, his father was also Caleb Haskell, the one who fought during the Revolutionary War at Bunker Hill and later joined Benedict Arnold for a trek up the Kennebec River in 1775 to attack the British in Quebec. That was a disastrous trip for most, but Caleb survived the ordeal. His diary, which is now located in the Maine State Museum in Augusta, survived as well. I later headed to Amesbury to visit the Anthony and Susanna Colby homestead of 1656. I easily found my way to the Macy/Colby House of 1654. Thomas Macy sold the home to Anthony Colby in 1656. Thomas Macy had given help to some Quakers and thus fell out of town favor. He moved to Nantucket Island to become the first white man to own land there. It became the Colby home for over one hundred years. Many Colby descendants are buried atop the hill overlooking the homestead. I'm not a believer in ghosts but going inside this homestead had just a remarkable feeling for me. A very distant Colby cousin had answered my phone inquiry and came to show me the home. My day of family investigation and history was now complete. I asked for back road directions to Exeter and easily made the ten-plus miles to the Inn. This too was a treat for me as I was tired after all the travel and emotionally spent with so much information gathered. It was time to put it in order and the Exeter Inn was just the place. I made by boat job obligation the next day then rode back to Boothbay Harbor via the Maine Turnpike. One last note. Kathy Colby and her husband were the "cousins" that gave me a great tour of our ancestor's home. Anthony Colby by the way was the first Colby to arrive in the new world back around 1630. Since Anthony started it "all" there have been many Colbys in high places and some in low places. Kathy and her husband, gave me a copy of the Colby Clan Communication dated March 2010. It told of a Colby Reunion in Branford, Connecticut on Saturday, August 21, 2010. I'll miss it this year but if something comes a bit closer to home then I'll probably attend. When browsing through the brief newsletter what should I come across but a picture of my Dad in his WWII Navy uniform under the heading World War II Honoree. Honored by Sarah Sherman Brewer, Friend. I have not talked to Sarah but will so soon. She as you may know lives on Southport and is the author of **Southport: The War Years** of which Dad's Navy days are described. Small world isn't it?



Interesting Colby Facts

Our new Colby Clan Association website is:

<http://www.colby-family-association.org/>

The site was created, and is managed by Alice Volkert. Please check it out and let her know what you think.

It's Autumn in New England,
And the leaves are red and gold.
And the northern lights streak nightly over
Champlain's water cold.
The crops are ripe for harvest,
The flocks are in the fold.
The lynx prowls in the woodlots
And the year is growing old.

From far off tropic countries,
Boys' hearts turn home tonight,
And memory pictures clearer scenes,
Than any known to sight.
Thanksgiving tables loaded,
A hickory fire's warm light
O'er brilliant Indian Summer skies
Cut by tall Church spires white.

A strutting harsh-voiced pheasant,
By a woodbine covered wall,
Windows aglow in village streets,
A mother's supper call.
And the sharp sweet smoke of burning leaves
That hangs low over all.
Earth has nothing nearer heaven,
Than New England in the fall.

This poem was written by Margaret Skinner Rice, former curator of the Macy-Colby House

MIGHT HAVE BEEN AN HEIRESS.

Miss Bessie Colby Was Stage Struck and Left Home.

Special to The New York Times.

CHICAGO, Aug. 13.—Miss Bessie Colby has unwittingly thrown away a chance to become heiress to the millions of John A. Colby, the wealthy furniture manufacturer of Chicago. She is nineteen years old, and strikingly handsome. She was adopted by a brother of Mr. Colby at Exeter, N. H., and after his death was reared by his second wife. She was recently graduated from a Maine academy, and became stage struck. Mr. Colby of Chicago not knowing this asked her to visit him, his idea being to bequeath to her his wealth.

When she discovered that her theatrical ambition would not be fostered by Mr. Colby she left the house last Friday, and the family has not seen her since. She wrote a note saying that she had secured employment. She applied at McVicker's Theatre, but the manager communicated with Mr. Colby. She suspected the trap, and failed to keep her appointment. The police are searching for her.

The New York Times

Published: August 14, 1899

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A tall, quiet and pro

By DON GROSS
Special to The Daily News

AMESBURY — Tall, quick-moving Willard Everett Flanders is big enough to take on most any assignment, so it seems, when you look back on his 85 years of active life.

He is well-known as a local historian, photographer and authority on covered bridges, and it is surprising to learn that this dyed-in-the-wool Amesburyite is a native of New Hampshire.

In his lifetime, the mustachioed, goat-toed gentleman, with the immaculate dress and towering, straight-forward approach, has experienced many jobs, among them farming, automobile body trimming, policing, and selling, somewhat in that order.

He was farming for a living in Boscowen, N.H., at the age of 16 and gave it up to come to Amesbury on the urging of a resident here who had summered with the Flanders family.

"I'd had a bad year on the farm," he recalls, "but I didn't want to leave my father and mother. My father was not well."

He did move to Amesbury, however, and brought his mother and sister here after his father died in 1916. His sister, Mrs. Jennie MacLean, was the mother of James E. (Jim) MacLean, suburban editor for the Haverhill Gazette, who died recently.

Flanders got a job as a trimmer with Biddle & Smart, carriage and auto body manufacturers, in 1913. The depression hit in 1929 and the plant closed, putting him out of work along with some 5,000 others.

He did not remain idle long, however. He had been doing some police work for Salisbury, where he lived while employed by Biddle & Smart. He took on a variety of jobs to help his family span the hard times, among them selling common crackers and brick-oven baked beans for the G.H. Bent Company of Milton, representing a speakers and entertainment bureau, and working in the Heyward-Wakefield furniture factory in Athol.

He is known more recently as a salesman for W.E. Fuller, Clothiers, in Amesbury, where he served for 31 years, retiring in 1971.

Flanders has been in touch with many facets of community life, and is a past member and president of the Newburyport Choral Society, was a chief steward

Amesbury's Willard Flanders has acquired many skills in his 85 years

of the Rocky Hill Meetinghouse, is a member of the Bartlett Museum for which he teaches chair-caning, and is a member of the National Association for the Preservation of Covered Bridges.

He is curator of Amesbury's historic Macy-Colby House, which is open in the summer months, an activity he thoroughly enjoys in his retirement, making many acquaintances with people seeking their genealogical roots.

One of the close friendships he has made resulted in his taking a trip to Omaha, Nebraska, last August. A couple, John and Fran Colby, here on vacation two years ago, found close interests and a possible blood tie with Flanders. At their urging, he flew to Omaha and had an exciting time visiting museums and other points of interest in the area where his father and uncle, Fred L. and George Edward Flanders, had worked on the Union Pacific Railroad.

The Union Pacific Historical Museum is filled with lore of the transcontinental railway line. The track for the U.P. was laid westward from Omaha, was linked with the Central Pacific on May 10, 1869, pushing eastward from Sacramento, Calif.

Flanders boasts, "In 1872, my father, at the age of 18, left his hometown of Boscowen and got a job as baggage master with the Union Pacific, at Omaha. He worked up through braking to conductor. In the meantime, he sent

Newburyport Daily News, Monday, December 27, 1962 A3

Even gentleman

been intrigued with covered bridges since I was a kid. In 1925, when I acquired a decent camera, I began taking pictures of the bridges in the mountains."

In 1951 he began sketching bridges in pastel. "I wanted to establish a record of having the most number of photos or pictures of covered bridges in the U.S.," he said.

His philosophy of life is based on the teachings of Jesus Christ, he said. "I was brought up in a religious atmosphere. My mother was the church organist." He is a member of the Congregational Church, and cited two Bible verses which have had meaning for him: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believes in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life" and "Be not overcome with evil, but overcome evil with good."

Flanders is a widower, his wife, the former Ruth Sheafa, organist for the First Church of Christ, Scientist, having passed away on Feb. 22, 1979. A son, Everett, died this past Aug. 3. There are two grandchildren.

An account of his activities would not be complete without a record of his musical accomplishments. He was a member of the Newburyport Choral Society for 46 years and president of the society in 1951. A baritone, he retains a strong, well-trained voice. "I bowed out when my eyesight became so bad I couldn't read the notes." He plays a French horn and has served also as a bandmaster, reorganizing what had been the Amesbury Cadet Band into the Whittierland Band in 1932.

Among the highlights of his musical career was a request to conduct a chorus at Amesbury High School Stadium, memorializing the death of President Franklin Roosevelt.

Of his many activities, Flanders expresses reluctance about giving the appearance of "looking my horns." "I don't know why I got picked for these jobs. They just came looking for me."

One senses, however, that during this octogenarian's lifetime he has been in touch with people who trust him for his positive attitude and for what he has proven he can do.



Willard Everett Flanders

home for his brother to join him, which he did, and he also worked up to conductor.

"Father was an adventuresome type of person, returned to braking and worked up to engineer. My uncle told me that at one time he was conductor of the same train that father was the engineer of."

Flanders reached into a vest pocket and brought out a handsome gold watch. "This is my uncle's watch," he said, "which started the trains in the West for 50 years."

The year the transcontinental rail link was completed — 1869 — was the year his mother was born in Penacook, N.H., Flanders said. "They met and were married after my father came home from the West in 1895. That was the year his father died."

The Omaha vacation was marked by another interesting experience for Flanders. His hosts, the Colbys, had arranged a television interview for him with two professionals in the midwest city. "I realized I was on television only after the interview commenced. The two people — doctors in their field — were interested in life in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. They were pleased with the outcome of the interview," Flanders said.

One of the subjects which interested them was covered bridges, of which Flanders is an authority. "I'd always



A black and white photograph of a house with three people visible near it. The woman is Elsie Abbott Colby, widow of Moses Colby. The man with a horse is Melvin Colby, Jr. The man with the two oxen is Melvin Colby, Sr. Written on the back of the photograph: "Anthony Colby's house in Hopkinton, New Hampshire. He built it in 1788. Anthony's son James B. Colby inherited it and passed it on to his son, Moses. Moses then passed it on to his son, Melvin. Melvin sold it to D. F. Fisk (date unknown).

<http://archives.colby-sawyer.edu/archives/20720/colby-family-2/>



The view from our reunion site



The room, before we set up



Our host Sandy Browne





L to R: Luther Colby, Kathy Colby, Sandy Browne, Barbara Zdravesky, Ron Colby, Al Levesque, Alice Volkert, Walter Brown, Marcia Synott, Judy Johnson, Virginia Colby, Natalie Cross, Carine Feist, Jim Colby, Dan, Carmino Ravosa, Claire Colby

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