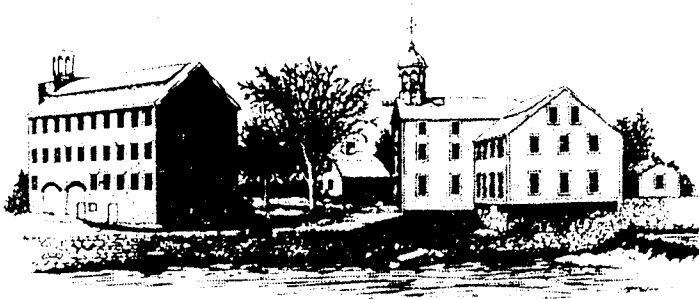


SLATER MILL HISTORIC SITE



Dr. Thomas P. Almy (1233-4657-11) wrote me the following on October 1, 1989.

"Yesterday at a meeting in southern Massachusetts I met an industrial historian temporarily connected with the Slater Mill National Historic Site in Pawtucket, RI. When I identified myself as uncommonly interested in the mill as a member of the Almy kindred, he promptly asked what help I could provide with respect to Almy genealogy. The curators of the site are interested in the (was it William?) Almy of the original partnership with Moses Brown and Samuel Slater that founded the first textile mill in America, and I believe have some information about others of our kindred who were involved in early manufacturing in the area. I had always thought that our ancestor's role in the Slater Mill had been quite transient, and perhaps even as a silent partner--but I learned that he had been the wood-working craftsman who, together with Wilkinson's metalworking skills, created the original machinery. I told him of your fine genealogical work and available data base; and promised to pass on his request, made on behalf of the permanent Curator at the Site, whose name and address are below. Would you kindly contact him and advise him how to obtain the information he will want from your registry?"

"I quickly learned more about the plans they have, and wondered whether they would not be of wide interest to those on your mailing list. I learned that the whole Blackstone River valley is soon to be designated a National Historic Area (or something like that) because it was the birthplace of much of the

earliest manufacturing in the infant republic. Several other places will be connected with the Slater Mill in a series of historic sites. They plan a three-year celebration in 1991-1993 in this region, to culminate in the 200th anniversary of the founding of the textile industry in Pawtucket. It occurred to me that you might want to consider holding one of the summer gatherings of the Almys at or near the Mill at the time of one of the planned events in the Historic area."

Dr. Thomas Almy gave me the name and address of the Curator of the Slater Mill Historic Site. I wrote this person and furnished the article I wrote and included on the front page of Newsletter No. 24 (October 1980) which has the genealogical information on William Almy (1408-9) and his family.

I received a very nice reply from the Curator, thanking me for the information which they added to the files on the family histories of the founders of Slater Mill. He stated that in cases where they could not answer questions about the Almy founder, it was reassuring to have me available for further inquiries.

ALMY BLANKETS

John Berg of Tiverton, Rhode Island, wrote me last Fall to inform me that the Tiverton Historical Society had received two Almy blankets to be added to the Society collection at the Chase-Cory House in Tiverton. These blankets were given to the Society by Mrs. Louisa Almy Barclay (1235-5792-21) of Montague, Massachusetts, who wrote that the blankets, made of wool from sheep raised on the farm of Otis Almy (1235-57) had been in the family for many years. She believed that Otis' wife spun the wool and wove the blankets. One blanket, crib size, has "OA" cross-stitched in black in the corner. Otis died in 1837. His first wife Lucinda died in 1817 and his second wife Alice died in 1852. So these truly Almy blankets are probably more than 130 years old. Those of you visiting the Tiverton Historical Society should make a point of looking at these Almy memorabilia.

FREDERICK ALMY, "COWBOY MILLIONAIRE"

Kenneth J. Almy (1408-6612-12) sent me a newspaper article from the April 22, 1965 edition of the New York Times about the death at age 77, of Frederick Almy. Herewith is a synopsis of that article.

Frederick Almy, a rodeo performer who went to England in 1926 and married a wealthy British noblewoman, died on April 20, 1965 at his residence in the Alpine Hotel in New York City. After his marriage, Frederick became known as the Cowboy Millionaire, but this was not entirely accurate. He was the son of well-to-do Long Islanders and his lust for adventure had taken him to the West, where he became a rancher. Even before going to England, he had accumulated a sizable fortune.

In 1926 he persuaded Tex Austin, the rodeo promoter, to stage his show in Wembley, England. Frederick himself performed in the show, and he was said to have attracted the attention of the Dowager Lady Michelham, widow of a banker, when he gallantly doffed his 10-gallon hat to her while bulldogging a steer. They were married a month later. The new Mrs. Almy died a few months later, leaving the bulk of her fortune, estimated at \$50 million, to Frederick. In February 1927, Frederick married a June Dibble, daughter of a British general, who was a model at a Paris salon where his first wife had shopped. The

second Mrs. Almy sued successfully for divorce in 1939.

Frederick Almy was born at Lawrence, Long Island. As a youth he worked as a fireman on the Long Island Rail Road. He served in the Navy in World War I, and then went West. He was said to have lost the bulk of his fortune in the 1929 stock-market crash. In later years he was in business for himself transporting race-horses from one country to another. He traveled extensively, but made his headquarters in New York City. He left two sisters at his death; Mrs. Millicent Warner of Salisbury, Connecticut and Mrs. Walker of West Orange, New Jersey.

I have attempted to determine who this Frederick was and how he ties into the Almy Family Tree. If the above Frederick was 77 when he died in 1965, he must have been born in 1887-88. I found this Frederick, age 12, in the 1900 census for New York living in Lawrence, Nassau County, with his father Frederick, age 50, born June 1849 in Massachusetts; his mother Millicent, age 43, born July 1856 in the District of Columbia; sisters Elizabeth and Millicent, ages 14 and 9, born in New York, and brother William M., age 11, born April 1889 in New York. I then attempted to find Frederick, the father, in the Massachusetts censuses as a child, but I had no luck. If anyone reading this can shed any light on these two Frederick Almys, please write.

JULIE ALMY (1252-950E-112) IN BEAUTY CONTEST

Julie Ann Almy, 26 year old daughter of John J. and Doris (Walcott) Almy, was one of three Petaluma, California, women among ten contestants vying for the 1990 Miss Sonoma County crown. The winner goes on to compete in the Miss California pageant

with that winner representing that state in the Miss America contest. Julie is a senior at Sonoma State University, majoring in music. The Sonoma contest was March 3, but I do not know the winner.

DOROTHY LEAVITT ALMY (1233-5143-222)

Dorothy L. Almy of Daytona Beach, Florida, died on 2 January 1989 at age 84, after spending almost two years in a nursing home. She was born 29 January 1904 in Simmonsville, Rhode Island, the daughter of Howard O. and Dorothy (Cutts) Almy. She was a

graduate of the University of Vermont and went to Daytona Beach in 1932 where she taught 2nd grade students at Volusia Avenue Elementary School for 43 years.

RUTH FARLEY ALMY (1233-5143-224)

Ruth F. Almy, sister of Dorothy above, died at Daytona Beach, Florida, on 13 October 1989 at age 81. She was born 28 August 1908 in Simmonsville, Rhode Island, and grew up in Woodstock, Vermont. She moved with her parents to Daytona Beach in 1930. Neither of the above sisters married and they lived together most of their lives.

Veda and I had a lovely visit with Dorothy and Ruth in May 1985. Their nephew, John G. Almy, in informing me of their deaths wrote "I will cherish the many special memories of these two ladies. The holidays were made extra special by their presence in our home or our visits to theirs which was only one block away."

JOHN ALMY RUMSEY (1233-5147-222)

John Almy Rumsey, 71, of Petaluma, California, died 12 February 1988 after a courageous 2½ year battle with cancer. John was born at White Plains, New York, on 13 July 1916, the son of William L. and Maud E. (Almy) Rumsey. He married Virginia Hoagland on 12 December 1942 in Cambridge, Massachusetts. They had four children, all of whom now live in the San Francisco Bay area.

Aging helping senior citizens of the community with their health/Medicare forms, and also preparing annual state and federal tax returns for the elderly. Our first year in Petaluma he even renewed his love for horses by volunteering with a 4-H group near our home. In return for teaching youngsters 2 hours per week, he received compensatory time riding which he did every Saturday for a year."

His wife Virginia wrote "After our move to California from New Jersey in 1982, he spent his retirement years until incapacitated by his illness, volunteering through AARP and the Sonoma County Council on

Virginia also wrote that their son, John Almy Rumsey, Jr. (1233-5147-2221) was married on May 6, 1989 to M. Michelle Scantlebury and that they now live in San Rafael, California.

OLIVE ALMEY OF CANADA

I have been informed by Olive's nephew that Olive passed away on 1 November 1989. She was 88. Her husband, James Robert Almey, passed away on 17 July 1988 at age 93. James and Olive traveled from Winnipeg, Canada, to attend the 1986 Almy Family

Reunion and many of you will remember them from that happy occasion. Bob, as he preferred to be called, was the developer of the Almey Crab Apple Tree (see Newsletter No. 12, page 3, of October 1977) that many of you have in your yards.

ALMY DESCENDANT IS A SIGNER OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

The parents of William Ellery, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, were William and Elizabeth (Almy) Ellery. Elizabeth Almy (1283) was born 3 January 1723 at Portsmouth, Rhode Island, the daughter of Job and Ann (Lawton) Almy. William's father William Ellery graduated from Harvard in 1722 and returned home to marry

Elizabeth Almy. Their son William graduated from Harvard in 1742, only twenty years after his father. He went on to have a very illustrious career, both in politics and in law. Those interested in colonial history will find the life of William Ellery, Almy descendant, most interesting reading.

EVOLUTION OF THE ALMY FAMILY NEWSLETTER

It is interesting to see the changes that have taken place with the publishing of the Newsletters during the past fifteen years. Following are the major changes.

January 1975. First issue typed on my portable typewriter. I wrote the articles and through the cut-and-paste procedure, arranged them to fit on the pages.

January 1979. Issue No. 17. I wrote the Newsletter articles in Virginia as before, but sent them to my son Tom in Oregon where he typed and arranged the order of the articles on his computer. With this issue the right margins were justified (all lines end at same place). Tom would print the master of the Newsletter on his computer printer and mail it to me where I would make copies on my old copier.

July 1981. Issue No. 27 was written on my own computer -- a Radio Shack Model III -- with a word processing program and printed on my new daisy wheel printer. This saved a great deal of time between drafting the material and having a master copy of the Newsletter to copy and mail out.

October 1981. In July 1981 I bought a better copier and the quality of the Newsletter was greatly improved for the October 1981 and subsequent issues.

January 1989. Issue No. 57 was the first issue written on my new and much more powerful IBM compatible computer here in Oregon. After writing the Newsletter and copying it to a floppy disk, my son would have the master copy printed on a laser printer. I would then use the master and my copier for producing the Newsletters to mail out.

Issue No. 57 was the first issue done totally on the computer. Up to that time the mast head on page 1 and subsequent page headings were a cut-and-paste job by me.

My son, Thomas Arthur Almy (1408-3312-1122), has been of immeasurable assistance in improving the quality of the Newsletters. Without his computer expertise and backup assistance, I would still be typing the Newsletters on my little portable typewriter. I thank him very much for his support.

NEED ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING MRS. FROTHINGHAM

My great-great-grandfather Joseph Almy (1408-331), according to Smithfield, RI, records, married a Susan Herd. I have been searching for 20 years for her parents. This past summer I found reference to a journal written by Lydia Hill Almy, Joseph's mother. The journal was submitted to the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society about 1980 by a Mrs. Theodore Frothingham. It would seem likely that this Mrs. Frothingham, having had the journal, was descended from Lydia Hill Almy and may have information that would be of assistance in my search. I had a genealogist in New York City review the

journal to see if it gave a clue to Lydia's daughter-in-law's parents, but it did not. The Society either could not, or would not, furnish me the address of Mrs. Frothingham who submitted the journal to them.

I would like each of you receiving this Newsletter to look in your phone book(s) and send me the name, address, and phone number of any Frothingham listed. Any Frothingham found might be able to identify and help me locate this Mrs. Theodore Frothingham.

GENEVIEVE O. ALMY (1232-1218-311W)

Genevieve Ora (Davis) Almy, 81, wife of Glen F. Almy of Middleburg Heights, Ohio, died in January of this year. Genevieve was born 24 May 1908 in Cleveland

and she and Glen were married there on 17 August 1929. They have one son, Richard of Aurora (Denver) Colorado.

CORRECTION

On page 4 of Newsletter No. 61 (January 1990) I misspelled the names of both of Constance M. Price's daughters. Their correct names are Madeleine and Diana.

REPLIES NEEDED

I still have not received replies to many of my inquiries for needed genealogical information. To make sure we know who owes replies, I will start listing those members in the next Newsletter.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Following is a listing of those cousins who have sent in contributions since the last issue of the Almy Family Newsletter to help defray the costs of printing and mailing. This help is most appreciated. I thank each and everyone of you.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Residence</u>
Gordon Connelly	1222-3763-243	Maryland
Donald Mathison	1232-4151-382	Massachusetts
Millie Almy	1233-4666-21	California
Marian (Durbin) Bower	1233-4668-123	North Dakota
Harold D. Almy	1233-4668-132	Washington
Mrs. John Almy Rumsey	1233-5147-222	California
Richard Almy	1233-8618-151	Connecticut
Donald J. Ingram	1239-2147-1412	California
Katherine Cheatum	1252-9134-1611	Texas
John J. Almy	1252-9532-7421	New York
Patricia Almy Forte	1407-1426-122	Rhode Island
Philip W. Almy	1407-1532-1	Rhode Island
Lois B. Almy	1407-1532-3	Rhode Island
Richmond Almy Day	1407-2551-2	Arizona

Your cousin (1408-3312-112),



Merwin F. Almy
17835 S.W. Shasta Trail
Tualatin, OR 97062