

## Walter E. M. Seekins Family

Compiled by Bruce A. Fowler

Hartland Historical Society ~ 2013 (Updated January 1, 2024)

With additional details from Brenda Seekins & Carrie (Nichols) Nadeau

William Seekins, Sr  
b. 1786 Stratford, Vermont  
d. 1835 Swanville  
m. 1807 Windsor  
Lydia Hallowell  
b. 1790 Windsor  
d.

### Ch. SEEKINS:

1. Lucy Seekins  
b. 1809 Windsor  
d.

2. Nancy Seekins  
b. 1810 Windsor  
d.

3. William Seekins, Jr  
b. 1811 Windsor  
d.  
m. 1832  
Hannah Skates  
*d/o Simeon Skates & Lydia Clark*  
b. 1812 Berwick  
d. 1918 **at 107 yrs**

4. Hannah Seekins  
b. 1812 Windsor  
d.  
m. 22 Dec 1832  
Samuel Ward

5. Margaret Seekins  
b. 1816 Windsor  
d.  
m. 16 Oct 1836  
Samuel Ward (widower of her older sister, Hannah)

6. Sarah Seekins  
b. 1819 Windsor  
d.

7. Charles Seekins  
b. 1825 Windsor  
d. 1881 St Albans  
m. 8 Oct 1848 Belgrade

Nancy S. Taylor  
b. 1831  
d.

*They moved from Belgrade to St Albans by 1860.*

Ch. SEEKINS:

I. Charles Franklin Seekins  
b. 11 June 1852 Belgrade  
d. 1921 Hartland  
m. 12 Nov 1872  
Lilla Dale Seekins  
They had 9 known children.

II. William A. Seekins  
b. 1854 Belgrade  
d. 16 Oct 1882 Hartland (Ireland Cemetery) at 28yrs

III. Herbert Leslie Seekins  
b. 1856 Belgrade  
d.  
m. Julia Brown  
They had 6 known children.

**IV. Walter E. M. Seekins**

b. 1860 St Albans  
d. 1910 Hartland

V. Elsie Seekins  
b. 1861 St Albans  
d.

**IV. Walter Ernest Mebroy Seekins**

b. 26 Aug 1860 St Albans  
d. 26 July 1910 Hartland (St Albans Village Cemetery w/Alice) at 49yrs  
m. 22 Oct 1877 St Albans  
Alice Hewie Waldron

*d/o Stephen G. Waldron & Hannah Badger (Pine Grove Cemetery)*

b. 4 June 1861 Hartland  
d. 15 Jan 1933 Hartland (St Albans Village Cemetery) at 71yrs

*They settled on a farm in St Albans after they married and, except for a very brief time in Camden, New Jersey around 1880, lived in St Albans until 1892 when Walter built a dry goods & groceries store on Commercial Street in Hartland and the family moved into the 2nd floor of the new 3 floor building.*

*In June of 1900, Walter purchased the first of his lots on Blake Street and in June of 1901, he purchased two more lots next to the new Methodist Parsonage from Calvin Blake, Jr and soon began building the first of his houses on the newly developing Blake Street. He then built their eventual residence on Blake Street which they moved into in August of 1903.*

*Following his purchase in May of 1902 of additional land on or around Blake Street from Calvin Blake, Jr, Dr. Charles A. Moulton and the widow Louisa Webb, Walter began a westerly extension of his Blake Street residence driveway, commonly referred to as West Court, where he built at least two more houses*

soon after. By late 1902, West Court had been extended along the entire northern border of the late Seth Webb Commercial Street homestead as a new throughway to Commercial Street connecting to the driveway entry of the Methodist Church. In 1903, the first of several attempts to pass an article to recognize the new street as a public way failed but by 1910 voters finally passed the article adopting it as Seekins Street.

In 1906, owing to a serious lingering illness, Walter sold his Commercial Street Store Block however in 1907 he purchased a farm in Harmony where he and Alice and several of their children and their spouses spent much of their time for the next few years while still maintaining the Blake Street residence. Walter suffered an attack of acute bronchitis in November of 1909 which severely aggravated his other long standing illnesses and his condition weakened further. He was recorded in the 1910 Census in Harmony taken in April, but returned to Blake Street in late June where he passed away. Alice then remained at the Blake Street residence with some of her children & their families living with her at various times over the next few decades until her death.

Ch. SEEKINS:

- 1. Ernest Leroy Seekins
- b. 24 July 1878 St Albans
- d. 3 Oct 1937 Hartland (Pine Grove Cemetery)
- m. 27 Sep 1900 Hartland
- Carrie Victoria Ackerly
- d/o Leonard Ackerly & Mary LaPoint of St. Leonard New Brunswick, Canada
- b. 1879 St. Leonard, New Brunswick, Canada
- d. 16 May 1961 Gray (PG)

*They would eventually live in one of the houses her father built on Seekins Street near the corner of Blake Street next to her parents' home. She was still living in Hartland when she passed away while visiting her daughter Eileen in Gray.*

Ch. SEEKINS:

- A) Nina Alice Seekins
- b. 24 May 1901 Hartland
- d. 18 Mar 1970 Clinton, Massachusetts (PG)
- m. 23 June 1921 Hartland
- Carroll Henry Webber "Jake" **(See Webber & Littlefield Family)**
- s/o Edward A. Webber & Laura Littlefield of Hartland
- b. 3 June 1899 Hartland
- d. 7 May 1959 Framingham, Massachusetts (PG)

*They resided in Hartland in C/1930 & C/1940 then moved to Wellesley, Massachusetts by 1946 and living there in C/1950. He was a Construction Engineer and worked throughout the country. He had been working in Massachusetts when he passed away at a hospital in Framingham.*

Ch. WEBBER:

- I. Alan Edward Webber
- b. 4 Oct 1928 Portland
- d. 2 Oct 1983 Marlborough, Massachusetts (North Cemetery, Berlin, MA)
- m. 17 Feb 1953
- Ethel Eunice Nevins
- b. 30 July 1934 Newton, Massachusetts
- d. 19 June 1975 Berlin, Massachusetts (North Cemetery, Berlin, MA w/Alan)

*Listed as Harland Webber in C/1930 but usually as Alan in most records including his WWII Draft Card, Mason Membership and parents' obituaries. His mother's 1970 obituary notes 5 (unnamed) grandchildren. They were living in Fairbanks when their 2 oldest children were born where he worked as a Construction Inspector for Alaska Public Works.*

Ch. WEBBER:

a) Christina Lynn Webber  
b. 17 Mar 1954 Fairbanks, Alaska  
m1. David J. Bickford (widowed)  
m2. James Sheridan Lavoie (divorced)

b) Glenn Alan Webber  
b. 3 May 1956 Fairbanks, Alaska

c) Dana Webber  
b. 1958 Wellesley, Massachusetts

d) Karol Webber  
b. 1959 Worcester, Massachusetts

e) Christopher Webber  
b. 1961 Worcester, Massachusetts

B) Maebelle L. Seekins  
b. 26 Nov 1902 Hartland  
d. 9 Mar 1980 Hartland (PG)  
m. 7 Feb 1923 Hartland  
Willis Merlin Nichols  
*s/o David Nichols & Clara Marcia*  
b. 24 Sep 1901 Detroit  
d. 16 Dec 1966 Hartland (PG)  
*Willis worked at the Hartland Tannery. Maebelle worked for Baxter Canning and later as a Telephone Operator for Hartland & St Albans Telephone Company.*

Ch. NICHOLS:

I. Marion Nichols  
b. 1934 Hartland  
d. 1935 Hartland (PG w/parents)

II. Lucile Evelyn Nichols  
b. 30 Dec 1924 Hartland  
d. 4 May 1996 Hartland (PG)  
m. 26 Jan 1942  
Phillip Arthur Libby I (**See Libby Family**)  
*s/o Elmer Bela Libby & Dora Emmergene Hazelton*  
b. 14 Aug 1921 St Albans  
d. 29 Nov 1988 Hartland (PG)

**WWII U. S. Army**

Ch. LIBBY:

a) Linda L. Libby “Dee Dee”  
b. 15 Aug 1942 Hartland  
d. 31 Mar 2014 Hartland (PG)

b) Patricia Libby  
b. 6 Feb 1947 Hartland  
m. David Sinclair

c) Phillip Arthur Libby II  
b. 9 Dec 1956 Hartland  
m. Anita \_\_\_\_\_

d) Penny Libby  
b. 1957 Hartland  
m. Earl Godsoe III

III. Donald Ernest Nichols I

**WWII U. S. Marine Corps**

b. 4 Nov 1926 Hartland  
d. 24 Mar 2001 Brewer (PG)  
m. 6 May 1950

Rennie Doris Tidwell

*d/o Thomas Jefferson Tidwell & Mattie Crowder*

b. 8 Dec 1925 North Carolina

d. 8 Oct 1990 Hartland (PG)

*She married 1<sup>st</sup> to Clyde W. Dodds, 2 children; Carl Lee Dodds 1944-1946 & Gerald Ervin Dodds 1946-2015 (PG). Don joined the Marine Corps his Senior Year at Hartland Academy. He was awarded numerous awards as a Sharpshooter. He worked for Clair Currie at his store and later worked at the Hartland Tannery before becoming CEO at Hartland & St Albans Telephone Company.*

Ch. NICHOLS:

a) Carrie Ann Nichols  
b. 1951 Hartland  
m. Duane Richard Nadeau of Fort Kent

*Duane's Great-Great Grandfather Jose Nadeau was an original settler of Fort Kent.*

b) Brenda Sue Nichols  
b. 1952 Hartland  
m. Richard “Buddy” Vittum of Bryant Pond

**Vietnam U. S. Army**

c) Donna Jane Nichols  
b. 1957 Hartland  
m. Patrick Doody

d) Donald Ernest Nichols II  
b. 17 Apr 1962 Hartland  
d. 9 Jan 2003 Hartland (PG)

IV. Richard Arthur Nichols  
b. 26 Mar 1931 Hartland  
d. 7 Dec 1995 Hartland (PG)  
m. 3 Dec 1955

**Korean War U. S. Army**

Natalie Irene Brown  
*d/o George & Frances Brown*  
b. 27 May 1929 Weymouth, Massachusetts  
*He graduated from Hartland Academy Class of 1949.*

Ch. NICHOLS:

a) Bruce Nichols  
b. Aug 1957 Hartland

b) David Nichols  
b. Dec 1959 Hartland  
m. Cheryl \_\_\_\_\_

C) Eileen Ackerly Seekins "Neenie"  
b. 28 Aug 1909 Hartland  
d. 10 Sep 1986 Livermore Falls (PG w/her parents as Eileen Strout)  
m1. 25 Feb 1925 Hartland (divorced)  
Schuyler LeRoy Merrow  
*s/o George Merrow Sr & Bertha Eliza Johnson*  
b. 1907 Sangerville  
d. 1976 (PG w/his parents)  
*His sister Vivian Merrow married Lloyd V. Cookson (See Cookson Family)*

Ch. MERROW:

I. Robert Eugene Merrow  
b. 25 Sep 1929  
m. Joanne \_\_\_\_\_

II. Philip Merrow  
b. 4 Nov 1934

m2. 20 June 1948  
Jack Strout of South Portland

D) Mary Antonette Seekins "Nettie"  
b. 31 Oct 1921 Hartland (4<sup>th</sup> child as noted by Dr. Charles Moulton)  
d. 1 May 1993 Palmyra (Mt Pleasant Cemetery, Palmyra)  
m. 1946

Donald Maurice Rice (See Rice Family)

**WWII U. S. Army**

*s/o Ordway Rice & Mazie Edna Dyer*  
b. 29 Aug 1920 Palmyra  
d. 23 Jan 1984 Palmyra (Mt Pleasant Cemetery, Palmyra)

Ch. RICE:

I. Ronald Maurice Rice  
b. 21 Feb 1947 Hartland  
d. 28 July 2018 Greene

**U. S. Army**

m. Claire Morrisette  
*He graduated from Hartland Academy Class of 1965.*

II. Dianne Dawn Rice  
b. 10 Apr 1950 Hartland  
d. 1955 Palmyra (Mt Pleasant Cemetery, Palmyra) at 5yrs  
*She was killed when she was hit by a car.*

III. Doreen Rice  
b. 20 Oct 1955 Hartland  
m. David Roberts

IV. Carolyn E. Rice  
b. 12 Nov 1962 Hartland  
d. 19 May 2016 Shawmut (Mt Pleasant Cemetery, Palmyra)  
*She never married.*

2. Ella May Seekins  
b. 3 Aug 1879 St Albans  
d. 7 Aug 1879 St Albans (St Albans Village Cemetery w/Parents) at 4 days

3. Nancy Lucy Seekins  
b. 7 Aug 1880 Camden, New Jersey  
d. 29 Nov 1958 Portland (St Albans Village Cemetery)  
m. 25 Jan 1902 Hartland (divorced)  
Leigh Monroe Leadbetter  
*s/o James Winfield Leadbetter & Flora Anna Martin*  
b. 1 Dec 1875 St Albans  
d. 17 Apr 1941 Hartland (PG)  
*They resided on Seekins Street after they married in a house her father built before moving to Harmony with her parents. She was living with her widowed mother on Blake Street in C/1930 with her son James before moving to Portland soon after where she opened Leadbetter's Bakery on July 4, 1931 and her hearty English Muffins soon drew a loyal following. She later became a self-taught artist and operated a studio at Chapman Arcade and was well known for her oil paintings of Maine scenes.*

Ch. LEADBETTER:

A) Lawrence Leadbetter  
b. 22 Mar 1909 Hartland  
d. 21 Jan 1910 Hartland (St Albans Village Cemetery) at 9mos

B) James Winfield Leadbetter  
b. 3 Feb 1915 Harmony  
d. 3 July 2010 Portland (Calvary Cemetery, South Portland)  
m. 25 Oct 1941 Portland  
Ruth Eliota Gilman  
b. 28 Oct 1919 Portland  
d. 9 Mar 2012 Portland (Calvary Cemetery, South Portland)  
*Following graduation from Deering High School in 1933, he began working at Leadbetter's Bakery with his mother then owned the bakery until 1970. In 1969 he and Ruth started a second family business, The Lobster Shack at Two Lights, which remained*

*a popular summer destination for over 30 years earning the Maine Small Family Business of the Year Award in 2009.*

Ch. LEADBETTER:

I. Leigh Francis Leadbetter

U. S. Navy

b. 1 Aug 1942 Portland

d. 31 May 2014 Auburn

m1. Rita Marie Grendin

m2. Sharon \_\_\_\_\_

*Leigh served as a Navigator on the 'USS Shangri-La' and was present at the Bay of Pigs Invasion. After his honorable discharge in 1962, he came back to the family bakery started by his grandmother becoming the third generation of family bakers at Leadbetter's Bakery. He took over the business in 1970 when his father retired from the bakery business and operated it until his 2003 retirement.*

*Leigh's son Jamieson Leadbetter continued as the fourth generation of family bakers when he started his own wholesale manufacturing baking company in 2007 based out of San Francisco operating as Leadbetter's Bake Shop reproducing his great-grandmother's famous English Muffins as the company's flagship item. In 2014, the company discontinued producing English Muffins to pursue allergen-sensitive food manufacturing and co-packing and changed its name to Better Bakeries, Inc.*

II. Martha Ruth Leadbetter

b. 17 Oct 1944 Portland

m. Herbert Thomas Porch

4. Edda Alice Seekins

b. 15 Nov 1883 St Albans

d. 31 Mar 1939 Hartland (PG)

m. 17 Feb 1903 Hartland

Wendell Phillips Annis (See Annis & Woodbury Family)

*s/o John Morrill Annis & Susan Woodbury*

b. 17 Jan 1880 Hartland

d. 28 Feb 1943 Lewisburg, Pennsylvania (PG)

*They resided with her parents in Hartland after they married then lived with them in Harmony in C/1910 before returning to Hartland to live with her widowed mother on Blake Street in C/1930. Following her mother's death in 1933, Edda & Wendell took over the house and were living there at the time of Edda's death in 1939. Wendell was living at the Blake Street house in C/1940 before moving to Pennsylvania in 1942 living there with his daughter Audrey and her family at the time of his death.*

Ch. ANNIS:

A) Donald Francis Annis

b. 18 May 1903 Hartland

d. 10 Oct 1951 Bangor (PG)

m. 15 Oct 1927 Bangor

Selina Mary Tardy

*d/o Edward Tardy & Elizabeth Martin*

b. 1907 Presque Isle

d. 3 Mar 1982 Brewer (PG)



B) Audrey Adelma Annis  
b. 24 Sep 1912 Harmony  
d. 17 Mar 2003 Revere, Massachusetts (PG)  
m. 16 Apr 1933 Hartland  
Leland Robb Libby  
*s/o Ralph Ellison Libby & Annie Ida Robb*  
b. 13 Apr 1910 Pittsfield  
d. 9 Apr 1965 Montour, Pennsylvania (PG)

C) Walter M. Annis  
b. 24 June 1914 Harmony  
d. 14 Feb 1917 Harmony (PG) at 2yrs, 6mos from Whooping Cough

5. Mary Abbie Seekins  
b. 22 Jan 1886 St Albans  
d. 20 Feb 1964 Monson (PG as Mary A. Merrill)  
m. 8 Sep 1909 Hartland (divorced)  
Andrew D. Merrill  
They had no children.

6. Walter Earl Seekins  
b. 6 July 1891 St Albans  
d. 28 Nov 1962 Portland (Maple Grove Cemetery, Mechanic Falls - Unconfirmed)  
m1. 11 Oct 1911 St Albans (divorced)  
Mollie Marie Harding  
*d/o Samuel F. Ricker & Myrtle Harding (PG)*  
b. c1893 Palmyra  
d. 9 Mar 1935 Waterville  
*He operated a restaurant in Hartland at the Linn Block on Commercial Street in the late 1920s located between the Hartland Drug Store and the Library. Mollie was raised in the household of her maternal grandparents Leroy & Harriet Harding in Hartland. She was living with her parents in Waterville in C/1930 noted as their daughter Mollie Seekins before she remarried to Leon H. Hooper in 1931. Her death notice as Mrs. Mollie M. Hooper following a major operation noted her parents' names.*

m2. 26 Apr 1930 Portland (divorced)  
Elizabeth M. Archer "Betty"  
*d/o William Archer & Grace Mayo of Fairfield*  
b. 17 Mar 1910 Fairfield  
d. 26 Dec 1980  
*They were living in Portland in C/1930 before they married at a local boarding house and were living in Portland when their son Walter was born. They were living with her widowed father in Fairfield in C/1940 with their 2 children. They divorced in 1947 and she was living in Waterville in C/1950 with their 15yr old daughter Nancy with her. Their son Walter moved to Michigan.*

Ch. SEEKINS:

A) Walter Richard Seekins  
b. 1931 Portland

B) Nancy J. Seekins  
b. 1936 Portland?

m3.

Hannah \_\_\_\_\_

b. 1888

d. 26 Aug 1970 (Maple Grove Cemetery, Mechanic Falls - Unconfirmed)

*They married by C/1950 and were living in Portland. She is noted as his widow in his obituary. Find-A-Grave lists her and Walter at this cemetery but no confirming photo or documents.*

7. John Franklin Seekins, Sr

b. 27 Nov 1894 Hartland

d. 29 Aug 1957 Rockwood (PG)

m. 12 Aug 1916

Stella Adella Salisbury

*d/o Abbott Ernest Salisbury (Slab City) & Clara E. Lancaster (PG)*

b. 5 June 1897 Canaan

d. Oct 1984 Bangor (PG)

*He operated a store for a few years on Commercial Street in the early 1920s at the future Gowen-MacCormack location. He had been operating a sporting camp in Rockwood for 11 years at the time of his death. Her mother remarried to Guy H. Wellington in 1918 and is interred at Pine Grove Cemetery as Clara E. Wellington.*

Ch. SEEKINS:

A) Alice Maxine Seekins

b. 12 Feb 1918 Hartland

d. 12 Aug 2002 Cayce, South Carolina (PG)

m.

Richard Earl Dodge

*s/o Clifford Raymond Dodge & Beatrice Roberts*

b. 1 Aug 1909 Rochester, New Hampshire

d. 8 Dec 1997 Harvey, Louisiana (PG)

B) Rita Mae Seekins

b. 23 June 1919 Hartland

d. 12 Jan 2012 Bangor (Mt Hope Cemetery, Bangor)

m. 17 July 1941

Frederick Lowell Youngs

b. 28 Feb 1918 Bangor

d. 25 Nov 2001 (Mt Hope Cemetery, Bangor)

*They owned and operated Youngs Photo Service of Brewer, Youngs Camera Center of Bangor and Youngs Ceramics of Brewer and Bangor.*

C) John Franklin Seekins, Jr

b. 12 June 1931 Hartland

d. 17 Dec 2002 Las Vegas, Nevada (PG)

m. Shirley Barbara Tibbets

*They resided in Winterport. He was in Las Vegas at the time of his death. He owned and operated Seekins Fence Company in Hampden for many years. In 1976, he established his own log brokerage company, which he ran until he retired in 1990.*

8. Ella Blaisdell Seekins

b. 15 May 1898 Hartland (noted as 8th child by Dr. Charles A. Moulton)

d. 6 Feb 1982 Lawrence, Massachusetts (PG)

m. 25 Feb 1918 Hartland

Harold Clair Getchell

*s/o Charles Trustin Getchell & Delia Lena O'Heir of Pittsfield*

b. 24 July 1898 Pittsfield

d. Dec 1969 Florida (PG)

Ch. GETCHELL:

A) Charles H. Getchell

b. 30 Oct 1918 Hartland

d. 30 Mar 2006 Dover, New Hampshire

m. 17 July 1938 Dexter

Ruth Worthen

B) Robert Waldron Getchell

b. 12 Nov 1921 Hartland

d. 21 Sep 1994 Goldsboro, North Carolina

m. 20 June 1942

Elaine Gilbert