



Colchester Historical Society Winter 2025 Trivia Game

The Answers

Multiple Choice:

- (1) **(c)**. It was located on **Coates Island** and was a camp for young women. "Winnahkee" is a Native American word meaning "Camp of the Birch Grove." The cost was \$300 for the season. From the camp's 1916 brochure: "Cost of a girl's summer in camp should be considered an investment, not an expense, for the benefit she receives there is one which will continue with her throughout her life."
- 2) **(d) The Merrill Hotel** was sold in 1877 to Frank Dunbar who changed the name to Dunbar's Hotel. In the deed from the seller was the stipulation that the hotel be used as a hospital.
- (3) **(a)** American Legion Post 91 first began in **Winooski** at the Regular Veterans Association (RVA) in 1999. They raised enough money to lease the former Zachary's Pizza building across from Fanny Allen Hospital. Four years later, they purchased the former Pierre Restaurant building and completely renovated it. Disaster struck in 2009 when a fire burned the building to the ground. Today, however, Post 91 is the second largest in Vermont and provides an amazingly broad array of services to veterans.
- (4) **(b) J. Kevin Graffagnino** was Curator of the Wilbur Collection of Vermontiana in the UVM Libraries (1978-1995). He taught Vermont history courses at UVM and was Executive Director of the Vermont Historical Society (2003-2008), and a board member of the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, American Association for State and Local History, Committee for a New England Bibliography, and National Historical Publications and Records Commission. He was Director of the William L. Clements Library at the University of Michigan (2008-2019). He has written or edited a dozen books on Vermont, including "The Vermont Difference: Perspectives from the Green Mountain State" (2014).
- (5) **(c)** This drive-in originally opened in the summer 1949 with Peggy Cummins in "Green Grass of Wyoming" and Joe E. Brown in "The Tender Years". It was operated by Gordon Jarvis & Affiliated Theaters in 1955. **It switched to an adult policy in 1974** and placed advertisements as far away as Montreal.

Fill in the Blank:

- (1) **Blocks of ice.** Malletts Bay ice was much more desirable in the days of ice harvests because ice from Burlington harbor was highly suspect due to the tremendous discharge of raw sewage. Malletts Bay had no such issues and was considered pure ice. Even though it was much more work to get it to Burlington from Colchester, it was worth it, because it was much more appealing to customers.
- 2) **Chimney Corner got its name from an old chimney that stood at that spot for a number of years after the building it belonged to burned to the ground.** The chimney was such a landmark that it appeared on maps and in tourist guides.
- (3) **The Annual Colchester Winter Carnival.** The event features performances, face painting, pony rides, arts and crafts, ice skating, and lots more fun for families.
- (4) **Four.** The living space for the lighthouse keeper and his family also included a kitchen, sitting room, and toilet room. There was also a basement, and a four-foot-wide walkway around the entire building.
- (5) The book details **an intensive study about an alleged UFO sighting and abduction that occurred in 1968 on the dock at Buff Ledge Camp on Clay Point Road.** The subjects of the study were eye-witnesses/victims who were teenage camp counselors enjoying a quiet evening on the dock when they noticed strange lights in the sky. For years, the two did not discuss their experience. However, the young man, known in the book as Michael, remembered many of the unsettling details, and ten years later reported the incident. He and the other witness/victim, Janet, underwent a series of hypnosis sessions in an effort to further explore what had happened.

Winter 2025 Trivia Game – Colchester Historical Society
The Answers - Page Two

True or False?

(1) **True.** That's why there is a cemetery located behind the firehouse. The cemetery was affiliated with the Methodist Church, which disbanded in the early 1900s. The building was purchased in 1906 by Murray W. Thompson. Then, in 1909, the Modern Woodmen of America purchased the building and made many repairs. Unfortunately, in 1921, the building was destroyed by fire. The site eventually became the new home for the Colchester Center Volunteer Fire Department.

(2) **True.** Congratulations to WVMT Radio, celebrating 100 years! Music lives on in this building at Fort Ethan Allen that once served as home to the military band and is now the home of WVMT and the musical offerings of its sister stations.

(3) **False.** The racetrack ran both stock cars and modified cars.

4) **False.** This beautiful, peaceful place of prayer and reflection is located on the Fanny Allen Campus of the UVM Medical Center. A plaque reads "Tribute to Fanny Allen Sisters for 110 years of service to the sick and poor, 1894-2004."

(5) **True.** It is known as the "Colchester jar" and was donated by Luther Loomis to the University of Vermont in 1827. It remains preserved there today at the Robert Fleming Museum.

Matching:

- (1) (e)
- (2) (c)
- (3) (d)
- (4) (a)
- (5) (b)

Thank you for participating in this Colchester History Trivia Game! We hope you enjoyed it and learned about some of Colchester's significant local history.

For more information about Colchester's history, please visit the Colchester Historical Society's website at <https://www.colchestervt.gov/422/Colchester-Historical-Society>. You are cordially invited to become a member.

And, please visit our popular Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ColchesterVermontHistoricalSociety>.