

Fifth Home: Cole's Drug Store #2



In 1887, Clarissa Cole moved both the drug store and the library to her residence on South Main Street, next to the Eno Law Office. The reason for the move is lost to us, but certainly with a small child it probably made her life easier to manage.

The library now entered a period of about eighty years where its home was in one of the two Cole family dwellings. The town paid Mrs. Cole rent for the use of her home for the library

as part of her overall compensation. By the turn of the century this amounted to \$100 per year, equivalent to \$2,340.32 in 2018.

This building was one of the earliest in Pine Plains. About 1821, a family by the name of Chamberlin, a cabinet-maker, lived there. At some point the property was acquired by the Eno family, and it was from them that Dr. Charles Cole, Clarissa's husband, had purchased it around 1876. After the pharmacy and library moved in here it became known as the "Cole Building."

In 1902, Mrs. Cole built a new residence to the immediate north of this building and moved the pharmacy and library into the new house.



Clarissa Cole

The older building continued to be used by various businesses and at one point was the headquarters of the local suffragettes. The last business here was that of Vincent Peppe's tailor shop. In 1937, the Coles decided to tear the building down to extend their yard and garden.

As it was being demolished, it was discovered that the building had hand-hewn timbers with wooden pegs and some of the flooring was 24 inches wide.