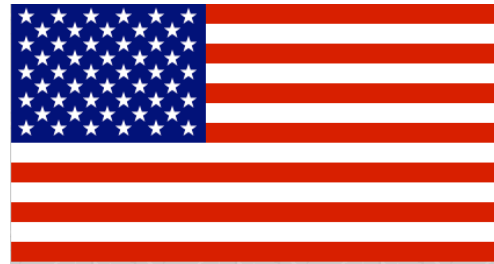


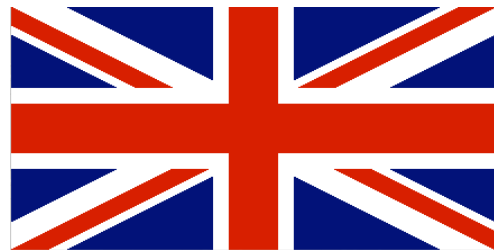
*A Pictorial  
History*

*of the*



*First Two  
Generations*

*of the*



*Hannant  
Family in  
America*



## *Preface*

Many people have been involved in the preparation of this pictorial history.

Carolyn Silva Gorden, Kathleen Silva Gannaway, Mary Silva Dwyer, Jeanette Dwyer Holmes and Norrine Dwyer Carlson, (Mary Silva Dwyer's daughters), Earle Hannant Jr., Arnold Andre, Paul Silva, Edward Silva and I have combed through our albums and walls for photos and spent time identifying people as well as to collect stories.

Robert Gannaway who scanned several photos, and Marguerite Perry, of Taunton, gave information on 20 Wilbur St.

Rev. James Tilbe, whose Tilbe relatives also came from Sittingbourne, has provided scans of antique maps of the area.

Alice E. Pilcher of Canada who sent a family history to Grace Hannant Silva many years ago.

Irene Reeves who was enabled us to locate Dorena (Pierce) Walton in California.

Dorena (Pierce) Walton who gave much needed information on the Reeves family.

Julie Coelho, who researched records in Warren, RI.

Jacqui Lever of the Hannant One-Name Study in England who has a website for all Hannants and has been most helpful in checking Hannant family dates and places in England. <http://hannant-one-name.mysite.wanadoo-members.co.uk/>

Richard Tetley of England, who has been helpful with information on Brightside/Grimesthorpe and the Reeves.

Because of the connection with the Hannants and the Silvas, there is more information on the Silvas than on other family members.

Compiled by:  
Margaret Phillips Silva, wife of Edward Earle Silva and daughter-in-law of Grace Hannant Silva

55 Leonard St.  
Raynham, MA 02767  
2006

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*A Pictorial History of the First Two Generations  
of the  
Hannant Family in America*

*The Early Years In England*

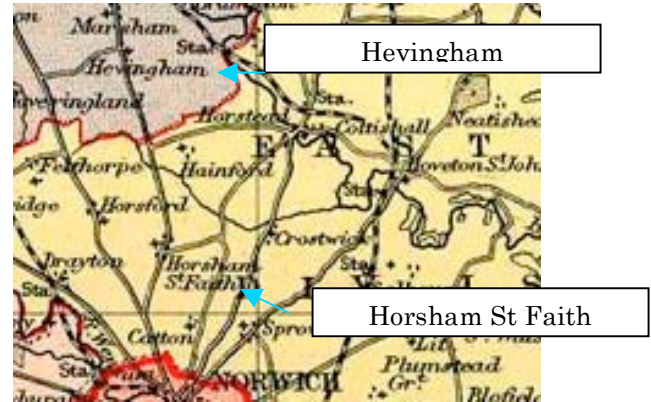
Our Hannants, Hewitts, Reeves, Jarretts and Elliots were all born at the beginning of the Victorian Era. Queen Victoria ascended to the throne in 1837, and then married her cousin Prince Albert. Charles Dickens began publishing his works, and the Crimean War broke out. Florence Nightingale organized nursing during this war. The telephone and phonograph were invented as was the first automobile built by Karl Benz. Queen Victoria died in 1901.

*The Hannant Family  
In England*

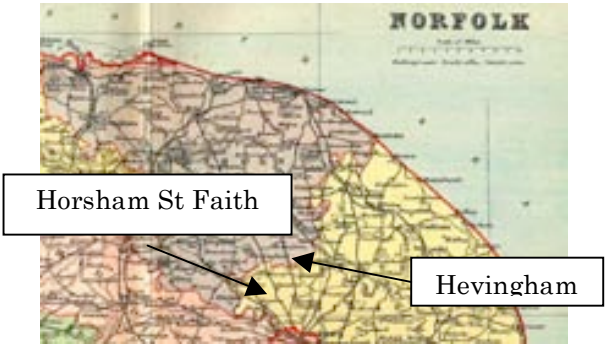
According to Jacqui Lever, it is thought that the Hannants originally were weavers who came from Flanders (which is now mainly in Belgium) to Norfolk County in the 1500s.



Hevingham, birthplace of Thomas Hannant, was a village in Norfolk county about six miles from the village of Horsham St. Faith, where Mary Ann Hewitt, future wife of Thomas, was born.



Birthplaces for Thomas and Mary Ann (Hewitt) Hannant



Map of Northeast section of Norfolk showing the relationship of Horsham St Faiths and Hevingham to the North Sea

St Mary the Virgin & St Botolph Church, the Anglican Church of England in the

village of Hevingham is a 14<sup>th</sup> Century church in the north east of the village. This is probably the church in which Thomas Hannant was baptized.



Hevingham Parrish Church

Horsham St Faith is a village just north of Norwich where there was a mill farm. Mary Ann Hewitt lived on Mill St. according to the 1841 census. (map below)



The mill and mill house c.1910

It is also thought that Mary Ann Wilby was baptized at the Church of St Mary and St Andrew.



Mill Pond Horsham



Church of St. Mary and St. Andrew

### 1881 England Census Record about Thomas Hannant

Name:	<b>Thomas Hannant</b>
Age:	44
Estimated Birth Year:	abt 1837
Relation:	Head
Spouses's Name:	Mary A.
Gender:	Male
Where Born:	Hevingham, Norfolk,
Civil parish:	Murston
County/Island:	Kent
Country:	England
Street address:	69 Murston Rd
Condition as to marriage:	Married

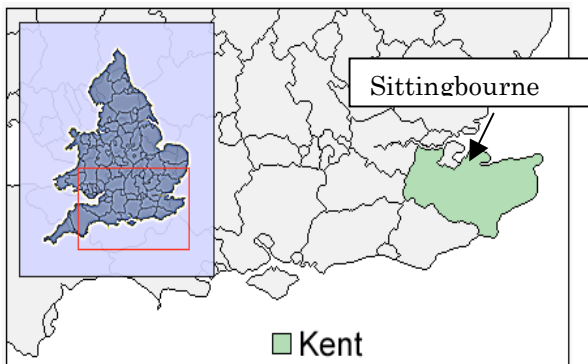
Occupation: Brickfield Labor  
 Registration district: Milton  
 Sub registration district: Milton  
 ED, institution, or vessel: 20  
 Others in Household

Name	Age
<a href="#">Alice Hannant</a>	6
<a href="#">Anna E. Hannant</a>	17
<a href="#">Blanche Hannant</a>	1
<a href="#">Charles Hannant</a>	15
<a href="#">Mary A. Hannant</a>	40
<a href="#">Sydney Hannant</a>	9
<a href="#">Thomas Hannant</a>	44
<a href="#">Thomas D. Hannant</a>	4

terbury Rd. It crosses the railroad tracks just below Murston.



**Thomas (1835-?) and Mary Ann (Hewitt) Hannant (1841-?)** lived in a parish of Sittingbourne called Murston, in Kent County, England. As shown in the census record, Thomas was listed as a Brickfield Laborer.



Thomas and Mary Ann Hannant in England

It is thought that the Thomas Hannants never came to the USA and were buried in England.

Sittingbourne is a small city south of the east end of the Isle of Sheppey in Kent County. Murston is just to the east of Sittingbourne, and Murston Rd. runs north to south from Tonge Rd. to Can-



Church Rd.. Murston

The above picture is of the post office and village shop on Church Rd., Murston. The house next to the post box used to be Murston's first schoolroom. The building was demolished in 1964.

*"Sittingbourne & Milton Regis, Past and Present", by John Clancy*

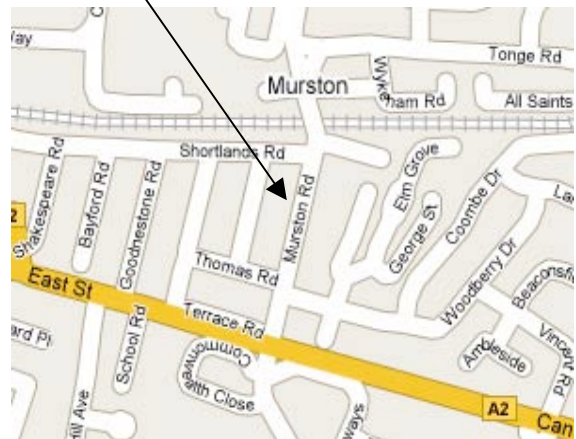
*Travel to and from Sittinbourne in the 19th century was supplemented by Milton Creek, which became a major highway for transporting bricks and cement to London as the capital grew in wake of the repeal of the Brick Tax in 1850. Kentish stock brick was said to be the most durable brick in the world, and with it were built such notable London buildings as Tower Bridge, Buckingham Palace, the Law Courts, Kings Cross Station and Westminster Cathedral, to name but a few.*

*Take a brick from any of these buildings, and you're sure to find it stamped "SD" standing for SMEED DEAN, although some will tell you it stands for Strength and Durability.*

*At its peak of production over 6,00 people were employed in the local brick-works, making the brick-fields and cement works one of the largest industrial complexes in southern England.*

*It was during the brick-making boom that Murston emerged as a separate part of Sittingbourne. It was the center of operations for George Smeed who employed a large labour force, building over 200 cottages for some of his workers on Murston Road.*

The parish of Murston, bordering the east bank of Milton Creek in Sittingbourne was the centre of brickmaking in this area in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The building of Victorian London created a vast demand for bricks and the materials were available to manufacture the yellow Kent Stock Brick more cheaply than the traditional red brick.



Brick makers in Murston

Brickmaking was hard work in a harsh environment and partly seasonal. In winter the clay was dug by hand and built into piles known as Kerfs about 3ft. high and 20ft. square. Chalk and cinders along with other rubbish were then mixed in and the pile left to weather. The cinders were the secret of the Kentish Stock Brick because the bricks, when placed in the kiln provided much of the fuel themselves thus reducing the cost of fuel. The "fuel" for the bricks came from London rubbish brought to Milton Creek in barges. Moving the rubbish was dirty smelly work.



Loading bricks at the dock  
At Milton Creek



The Creek, Sittingbourne

In the spring the process of making the bricks began. The work was organised in gangs paid by piecework. Lumps of the weathered clay were taken to the moulder's table often by women and children. The moulder shaped the clay into bricks making close on 1000 every hour for an 8½ hour day and a 58 hour week. One brickie is on record as having made 986,091 bricks between April and September. In 1880 the Murston brickfields were producing some 50 million bricks a year. After moulding, the bricks were moved in barrows to the drying racks. One man said that as a child he was required to carry about 40lbs of clay at a time to the moulder's table and then move the shaped bricks to the drying boards. After drying, the bricks were moved to the kilns by Crowders who pushed loads of 80 bricks in a barrow, total weight some 400 pounds. When the kilns were fired, the burning rubbish gave off fumes and unpleasant odours.



The same barges that brought the rubbish were used to transport the bricks to London. Loading the barges was a skilled job. Bill Shilling, an old brickie, said he could load between 40 and 50,000 bricks in a day. The coming of the railway in 1858 also provided a source of transport for the finished bricks. The great entrepreneur of brickmaking in Murston was George Smeed (b.1812 d. 1881) He was described as a man of strong purposes and stronger language. He began brickmaking in 1846 and by 1860 owned expanding brickfields, barges and shipyards along the creek. But he helped to build the present Murston Church, constructed houses for his workers and when he died left a bequest to help the needy.

In the 1881 census Reeves was spelled "Reaves". Other censuses listed it as "Reeve". The Reeves, James and Eliza, had a daughter, Sophia, who married Thomas Hannant's son, Sydney.

**James (1835-?) and Eliza (Elliot) (1840-1925) Reeves** lived in a parish of Sheffield called Brightside Bierlow, in Yorkshire County, England. As shown in the census record, James, as well as Thomas Hannant, was listed as a Brick Yard Laborer.

Sheffield is a city east of Liverpool in Yorkshire County. Brightside appears to be a village just to the northeast of Sheffield. Botham Rd. runs northwest to southeast from Grimesthorpe Rd. to Petre St. and is actually in Grimesthorpe.

According to Richard Tetley, *there was quite a bit of movement around England in the mid 1800s. All sorts of people migrated long distances to find work. Moving from London to Sheffield to find work, was quite possible.*

### *The Reeves Family In England*



Sheffield, England



Botham St., Grimesthorpe,  
Sheffield, England



Botham St. goes to the left

*Sheffield was expanding rapidly in the early to mid 19th century, as the industry started to expand. Large steelworks were being set up, and folk came from far and wide for the jobs that went along with that. Of course with the expanding population of Sheffield, came an increase in all the trades that went to support a larger population, and support the expanding industry as well. Many small businesses were started, and houses and other buildings constructed, which would mean a demand for bricks! This probably attracted those with brick making skills.*

Sheffield was known for making armor, swords, knives, scythes, etc. There were, however, a few brick yards in the area. Sheffield is depicted in the late 1800s as a typical factory town with few amenities.



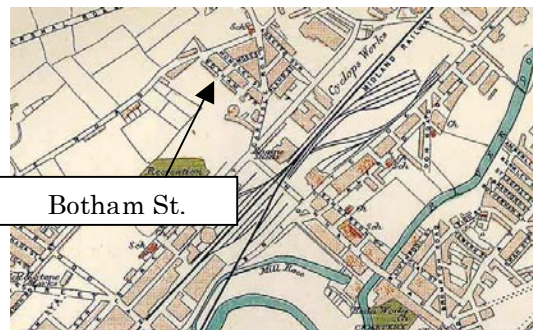
View from Botham St. looking over the Don Valley where the large steel works can be seen. The Don River runs by Grimesthorpe.

## 1881 England Census Record about James Reaves

Name:	<b>James Reaves</b>
Age:	46
Estimated Birth Year:	abt 1835
Relation:	Head
Spouses's Name:	Eliza
Gender:	Male
Where Born:	Campsall, Yorkshire
Civil parish:	Brightside Bierlow
County/Island:	Yorkshire
Country:	England
Street address:	44 Botham St
Condition as to marriage:	Married
Occupation:	Brick Yd Lb
Registration district:	Sheffield
Sub registration district:	Brightside
ED, institution, or vessel:	48

### Others in Household

Name	Age
<a href="#">Annie Reaves</a>	16
<a href="#">Eliza Reaves</a>	41
<a href="#">Herbert Reaves</a>	10
<a href="#">James Reaves</a>	46
<a href="#">Jim Reaves</a>	6
<a href="#">Joe Reaves</a>	3
<a href="#">Sinns Reaves</a>	13
<a href="#">Sophia Reaves</a>	4
<a href="#">Thomas Reaves</a>	18



Botham St.

Antique Map of Brightside



One Horse Tram Car  
Brightside



Sheffield canal

The family was associated with Episcopal Churches in RI and MA. Therefore it is quite possible that they were associated with the Church of England in Brightside, St. Thomas.



Abandoned St. Thomas  
Church in Brightside

In each of the British and US census, all of the immigrants listed that they could read and write, so it is known that all of the children in each of the families had attended school in their local parishes.



Eliza Elliot Reeves  
Picture taken in Raynham, MA

*Move to America*

On the ship's passenger list, Eliza and Sophia Reeve(s) arrived in Boston, MA, in 1889 on the "Catalonia".

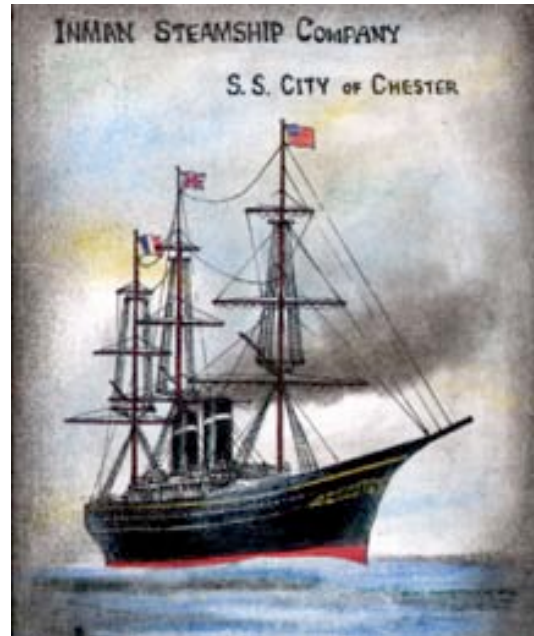


SS Catalonia

Sophia was about 13 years old when she arrived in the US. There is no record of her father, James, on that passenger list. James may have immigrated to the US on an earlier ship.

According to the 1900 US census, all of the Reeves family (spelled Reeve on that census) had immigrated to the US in 1889 and settled in RI. James was about 55 years old when the family moved. His occupation was listed as “laborer”.

Name:	<b>James Reeve</b>	
Home in 1900:	Barrington, Bristol, Rhode Island	
Age:	65	
Estimated Birth Year:	abt 1835	
Birthplace:	England	
Relationship to head-of-house:	Head	
Spouse's name:	Eliza	
Race:	White	
Occupation:	<a href="#">View Image</a>	
Immigration Year:	1889	
Neighbors:	<a href="#">View others on page</a>	
Household Members:		
	Name	Age
	<a href="#">James Reeve</a>	65
	<a href="#">Eliza Reeve</a>	60
	<a href="#">Joe Reeve</a>	22
	<a href="#">Philip A Talbot</a>	3
	<a href="#">John W Lloyd</a>	39



Chalk rendition of the City of Chester

Philip A Talbot (age 24 on the original document), and John W Lloyd age 39 were listed as “boarders” with the Reeve(s) family.



Sydney, a quiet man who was noted for his bright blue eyes, began his gardening business in Providence, RI, as noted on his business card.

It appears that a neighbor of the Hannants, Samuel Jarrett (1867-1945), from 55 Murston Rd., Murston, England, traveled to New York with his wife, Emma (1869-) and daughter, Maud in April of 1887 on the steamship, “The Berlin”. The family settled in the Providence, RI area.

Sydney Hannant also moved to the USA in 1891, arriving in New York on the steamship, “The City of Chester”, and settled in RI near the Jarretts and the Reeves families.



Green arrow points to Calhoun Ave. Providence, RI



Sydney Hannant  
Photo taken in England  
1871-1945



Sophia Hannant 1876-1929  
Photo taken in England

Sydney and Sophia met and were married at St. Mark's Church in Warren, RI, on August 8, 1895.



St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
Warren, RI 2006

While in RI the couple had three sons, James, Arthur and Earle. James died at

five years and was buried in Barrington, RI.

The family moved to Taunton, MA, where Sydney first appeared in the 1903 street directory as living at 10 Maple St., and working as a gardener.



10 Maple St. in 2006

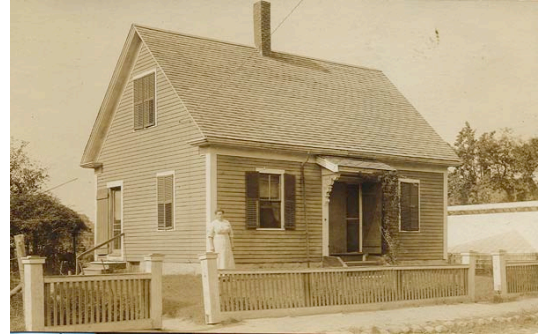
In 1905, he was still listed as living on 10 Maple St. when his son, Lester, was born.

The 1906 listing has Sydney living on 84 Dean St., which is now (2006) a woodland lot, and in both 1907 and '08, he was listed as living at 40 Winter St.



40 Winter St., which is just around the corner from Wilbur St. 2006

From 1909-1923, he was living at 20 Wilbur St. where the last two girls, Grace and Helena (Lena) were born.



Sophia at left -Greenhouse on right

The house was built in the 1800s by Maria Wilbur, and looks essentially as it did when Sydney and Sophia lived in it.



20 Wilbur St in October, 2006

Sydney grew prize dahlias and fields of asters behind the house. He also worked as a landscaper/gardener for several local families.



Back of house showing flower fields  
Grace, Sophia, & Lena



Back of house in 2006



Lena Hannant 1<sup>st</sup> Prize with Sydney's fresh asters



Lester, Grace and Earle Hannant



Lena and Grace Hannant by the Taunton summer house



Compliments of S. Hannant,  
Aster Specialist, Taunton, Mass.

Hannant's Post Card Back of 20 Wilbur St.

## *Early Family Members*

### *The Jarretts*

Of the original families from Murston, the Jarretts, Samuel and Emma, had four children, William S. (Bill), Lillian May, Elizabeth M. (Betty) and Maud E. (Jarrett) Smith. Maud was born in England and the rest were born in the USA.

The Jarrett and Hannant families remained friendly, and eventually, Lillian and Sydney's son, Earle, were married.

In the 1920 US census Samuel Jarrett was listed as a mason. The family had been renting, but he eventually bought a house in Providence. He sold his house on 263 Swan St., Providence, RI, to his daughter, Betty and her husband, Bernie, when he retired from Goff Construction Co. Then the Jarretts went to live with each of their children for a few months at a time.

Samuel used to work at a gas station when they lived with William (Bill) Jarrett in Putnum, CT.

When they visited Earle's family in Taunton during WWII, Samuel worked at Camp Miles Standish.



Samuel Jarrett with Sydney's sister  
Rose Rogers and Sydney

The Jarretts are buried in Prince's Hill Burying Ground in Barrington, RI.



Jarrett Family Stone



## *The Reeves Family*



Grace Hannant, Eliza Reeves  
and Lena Hannant

James and Eliza Reeves had eight children.

**Thomas Reeves**, (1863-?) the oldest, married Clara and had six children, James, married to Nellie who lived in NY, Agnes, Fannie, Alice, Ada and Edwin.

Of **Annie Reeves**, (1865-?) the second child, there is no information. She appears as a sixteen year old on the British 1881 census, but is not listed with the family in the 1900 US census.

No information is available for the third child, **Sims** (1868-?). Sims is listed as "Sinns" in the 1881 British census as thirteen years old. He does not appear again.

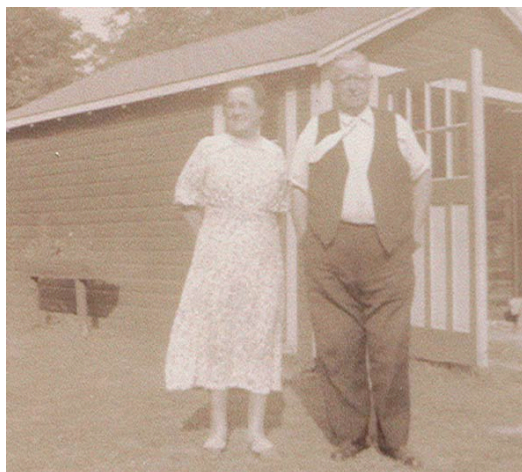
**Herbert William**, (1871-1943) the fourth child, came to the US in 1889 on the "Cephalonia". He married Martha Orr and was listed as living at 50 Tyler St., Providence, RI. on the 1900 census. In 1910 they were living at 31 Center St., Providence and in the 1930 census they were on Whittenton St., Taunton, MA. In the 1940s they lived across the street from Sydney and Sophia Hannant on Pleasant St. in Raynham. Herbert died while living in Raynham. They had one son, Herbert Jr., who died young.



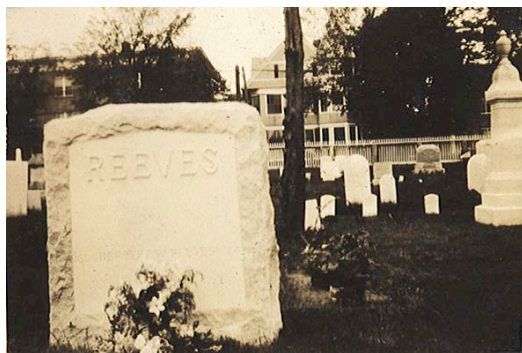
Standing: Herbert, Sophia & Sydney

Seated: Martha & Herbert Jr.

The Herbert Reeves family is buried in Locust Grove Cemetery in Providence, RI.



Martha & Herbert Reeves  
Pleasant St., Raynham, MA



Herbert Reeves Family Stone  
in Locust Grove Cemetery, Providence, RI

**James** (1875-1897)(Jim) died unmarried at the age of 23 of typhoid. He was a silversmith in RI.

**Sophia** (1876-1929) was the sixth child. She married Sydney Hannant.



Three generations of Reeves  
Eliza Reeves (seated) with Sophia,  
and daughters Grace  
and Lena Hannant  
20 Wilbur St., Taunton

**Joseph Reeves**, (1877-1929 the seventh child came to the US in 1900 on the “New England”. He married Edith (Edie) Grant. In the 1900 US census, Joseph was listed as working as a hoister on a coal dock and living with his parents in Barrington, RI.

In 1910 Joe and Edie were married and living at 178 Sherbourne St., Providence, RI. In 1920, the family was living on James St., East Providence, RI. When Joseph died in 1929, he was listed as living on Cobb St., East Providence. In 1930, Edie and son, Alvin, were living on Mary Ave., East Providence, RI. Dorena (Pierce) Walton said that when she was sixteen she lived with Edie on County Rd. in Barrington.

Joe and Edie had two children, Alvin Joseph who married Flora (Webb), and Evelyn who married Lloyd Pierce of the Raynham Pierces.

Alvin had one son, Alvin, Jr.

Evelyn had one daughter, Dorena. Evelyn died when Dorena was thirteen. She then lived with her grandparents, the Albert Pierces, on King Street in Raynham for about three years.

When Dorena was about sixteen, she moved to RI with her grandmother, Edie Reeves.



Lena with kitten and  
Edith and Joseph Reeves  
At 6 Pleasant St.



Edie & Joe Reeves



Alvin and Edie Reeves by summerhouse on Johnson's Pond Raynham



Joseph's daughter Evelyn with her dog, Patsy, and granddaughter Dorena Pierce with Sydney Hannant at a clambake in Barrington, RI

Edie was known for her great sense of fun. Ed Silva tells of Edie chasing his father, Nonny, around their house with a broom. Nonny climbed up into the rafters of the porch, and when Edie finally found him, she attacked with the broom until he came down.

Edie died at the age of 99. At the time she was the oldest member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Warren.

The Joseph Reeves family is buried in Prince's Hill Burying Ground in Barrington, RI.



Reeves Stone Including Evelyn Pierce

According to cemetery records and Dorena Walton, James and Eliza along

with Sydney and Sophia's first son, James, are buried on the back side of the stone shown in the picture.

After James died (before 1920), Eliza lived with her daughter, Sophia, in Taunton for a while. She then moved to 21 James St., East Providence and was living there when she died. Both she and James are buried in the Reeves plot in Barrington, RI.

**John Reeves** was the eighth child and nothing is known of him.

### *The Hannants*

Thomas and Mary Ann had ten children. The eldest child, **Eliza**, (1859-?) married Robert or John Grainger. She was not listed in the 1881 census nor in Alice E. Pilcher's notes. She was listed as having nine children in a note written to Earle Hannant Jr. in the 1990s.

The second child, **Rose Anna Hannant**, (1862-?) married Robert William Rogers and they lived in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. Rose had five children, Christopher, Bert (Bertie), Ely, Louise, and Evelyn. All lived in Ontario, Canada.



Sydney Hannant  
and sister  
Rose Rogers

**Anna Elsie**, (1864-?) the third child, (listed in the 1881 census), is not mentioned in Alice E. Pilcher's notes.

**Charles**, (1866-?) the fourth child, moved to Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, and had two children. William (Bill) who married May and Herbert Sydney (Bert) who died in Hamilton, Ontario.

**Sydney** was the fifth child. He married Sophia Reeves.



Sydney Hannant

**Alice**, (1873-1945) the sixth child, married William Frank Pilcher, and they also lived in Canada in Toronto. They had five children, Hilda, William Thomas (Bill), Arthur Frank (Art), Albert Ernest (Bert) and (Matilda) Blanche. Of the five children, four lived in Canada and Blanche lived in Florida.

**Thomas D. (Douglas) Hannant**, (1877-?) the seventh child, lived at home in England and never married.

**Blanche**, (1880-?) the eighth child, and **Maud**, (1881-?) the ninth, married the Rogers brothers, Sydney and William John. They remained in Essex, England. Blanche had two children, Ivy and Sonney. Maud had three children, Elsie, Sonnie, and Evelyn. Elsie lived in Africa.

Sydney's tenth sibling, **Daisy Hannant** married Albert (Ted) Whitnell and moved to Toronto, Canada.

Daisy had three children, Albert Jr., Doris and Marion. They lived in Toronto, Canada. Albert's daughter, Barb Whitnell, tells that her grandfather was in a wheelchair. He had lost his legs possibly in the war.

### *Raynham, MA*



Earliest Picture of Hannant's House  
1908, Raynham Center  
showing the Trolley Tracks

The house that Sydney bought was originally built in 1773, by the Hall Family.

Sometime in 1923, the Hannant family with their children, Arthur (1898-1928), Earle (1902-1944), Lester (1904-1974), Grace (1909-1984) and Helena (1910-1990), moved to Raynham Center where Sidney built his seed house. He also grew dahlias and other flowers in the fields.

He continued his work as a gardener and florist and sold some arrangements from the room at the east end of the house.

The picture below shows the first of four signs for Hannant's Florist's business. Sydney was responsible for the

first two, Isabelle Hannant--the third, and Kathy Gannaway--the fourth.



2 Pleasant St., Raynham Center  
corner of Pleasant & North Main  
(before house numbers were  
changed)  
Sign reads: "Hannant and Son  
Florist Flowers for Every Occa-  
sion"

It appears that Sydney built two brick walls that extended from the front door and added latticework at the end of the brick wall. Two large urns were placed on brick pillars past the latticework.



Early photo showing latticework by  
front door.



Another view of brick wall and  
latticework by front door with a  
bench around tree  
Lena Hannant



Sydney's garden with Carr 's  
(Silva) House in Background



Sophia by urn in front of house  
On Pleasant St.

Sydney's pet name for Sophia was  
"Tootles".



Earle's dog, Tessie, on his motorcycle  
in front of the barn at the back side  
of the house

Sydney bought a used greenhouse, and  
put up a fifty-foot greenhouse where he  
started seeds and sold plants and  
shrubs. He also established several gar-  
dens on the property.



Seed House and Greenhouse

Sydney landscaped for the Willard family  
on South Main St., Raynham. Below is a  
picture of the frame that held Sydney's  
arrangements for sale. It is thought  
that there was a greenhouse behind  
Sanborn's house that Sydney used be-  
fore he moved to Raynham.



Sydney's display in front of San-  
born's house on South Main St.



Sydney's parrot, Polly, in the head  
house



Plants in Sydney's greenhouse

The family held picnics in their summerhouse behind the house by Johnson's Pond. The Hannants, Reeves, and others attended. The picture below shows Lester with Lena on the bench. Others in the photo are not identified, but may be of Grace Hannant, Alvin Reeves and Martha Reeves.



Picnic at the Summer House  
On Johnson's Pond



Herbert Reeves cutting wood for the  
cook stove  
Johnson's Pond in background

Picnics involved cooking meals by the summerhouse. Carolyn Silva Gorden tells that the above picture showed Uncle Herbert's old worn pants with holes in them.

Sydney also built cold frames to hold the seedlings after taking them out of the greenhouse. This process "hardened" the plants so that they could be planted outside.



This later picture shows Isabelle and  
Paul Silva uncovering the plants in  
the cold frames in front of the green-  
houses.





Sophia by Johnson's Pond  
Weonit Hall is across the pond.

Sometime in the late 1920s or early 30s Sydney planted three rows of spruce trees, one along the property line to the east and two parallel to Johnson's Pond. The picture below shows Lena in the snow before the trees were planted. The summerhouse is visible on the right.

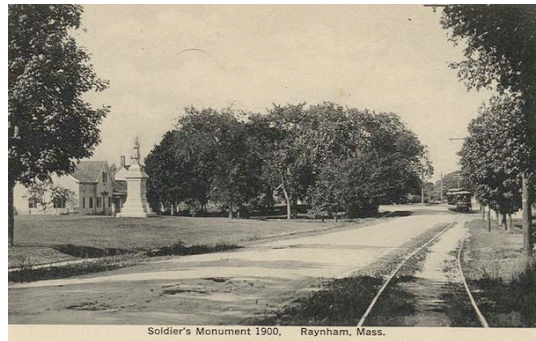


Lena and dog in back yard overlooking Johnson's Pond

The Hannants sold flowers from what is now (2006) the meeting room of the Raynham Historical Society. For at least one season the family also sold ice cream to folks when the trolley came to Raynham Center. History has it that the family ate most of the profits, so the "ice cream parlor" was eliminated from the shop.



Flower Shop c1940



Trolley at Raynham Center  
c1900

Sophia developed diabetes and died in 1929. Grace and Lena continued to live at home for a short time until Grace married in 1930, and Lena moved to an apartment at the John Silva's on Pleasant Street. Lester took over the house and Sydney lived with Lester and Isabelle until his death in 1945.



Sydney and Sophia are buried  
At the Pleasant St. Cemetery, Rayn-  
ham, MA 2006

The picture below shows Sydney, Lena,  
Lester and Grace by the cold frame.



Sydney with his three younger  
children



Sophia Hannant  
By front entrance



View of Hannants from Silvas

### *Second Generation Of Hannants*

This generation lived through two World Wars, Prohibition, the Roaring Twenties and the Great Depression. Penicillin and the Salk vaccine for polio were discovered, the Bra was designed as well as

panty hose and the bikini. The automobile became popular, television was introduced and the cold war loomed over the western world.

The Hannant children attended the Cohannet School in Taunton, which was a Grade 1 to 8 school.



Cohannet School, Taunton, MA in 2006

The younger children later attended the Center School in Raynham shown behind the “new” fire truck. When Grace attended it was a three-room building. Later the wings of the building were added.



The driver of the fire truck is James “Cliff” Williams, Isabelle’s father

Because Raynham had no high school all of the Raynham students attended Taunton High School so the Hannant children all attended Taunton High.



Taunton High School, Taunton, MA early 1900s

Sydney and Sophia had five children.

James Hannant (1896-1901) died at age five. It is believed that James either had MS or CP that took his life. It is also believed that he is buried in Barrington, RI. (The 1900 US census lists him as being born in Massachusetts, but there is no known record of Sydney in MA. The family may have rented in MA before moving to Taunton.)

Arthur D. Hannant (1898-1928) died unmarried at the age of 30 of influenza. He is buried in family lot on Pleasant Street.



James and Arthur Hannant

Earle Russell Hannant (1902-1944)



Lena and brother,  
Earle Hannant

After high school, Earle was a part time Raynham Police officer and worked for the telephone company.



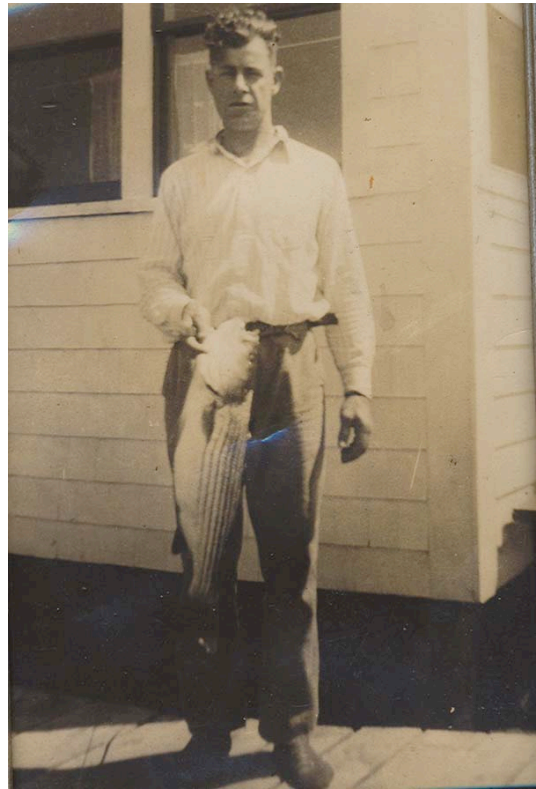
Earle Hannant



Earle and sister, Grace Hannant

Earle was an avid hunter and fisherman. He instilled this love in his two sons.

Earle and Lill had a summer cottage in Pocasset where they went on weekends.



Earle Hannant

Earle Jr. says that Lillian never went to high school. She was listed in the 1920 US census as living with her parents in RI

and working as an “enameller” at a local jewelry shop.

Earle married Lillian Jarret (1904-1986) in 1928, and had two sons, Earle Russell Jr. (1932-) and Robert William (1936-1979).

Earle and Lillian lived on Orchard St. Raynham when they were first married and were there when Earle Jr. was born in 1932.

Next they rented an apartment on Co-hannet St., Taunton, MA, where there were lots of cats. When Earle Jr. would visit his grandfather, Sydney would ask him where he wanted to go. Earle Jr. would respond that he wanted to go to the cathouse--then everyone would laugh.



Earle, Lillian and Earle Hannant Jr.

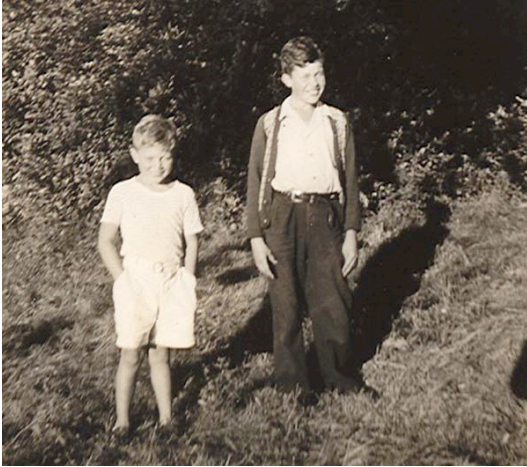
The family bought a house and moved to 15 Whitehill St., Taunton.



15 Whitehill St. in 2006



Lillian and Earle Hannant Sr.  
The florist sign is on the right.  
Pleasant Street is behind them.



Robert and Earle Jr.

When Earle died of a heart attack at age 42, Lill survived on Social Security checks and strong discipline for her boys. After the Earle Jr. and Bob grew up, Lill worked briefly in the kitchen of the Taunton Inn.



Robert and Lillian Hannant  
At Robert's 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation

Lill married Leon Hart of Taunton many years after Earle Sr. died and continued to live at 15 Whitehill Street.

In the '60s and '70s Lena, Grace and Lill often went grocery shopping together and then stopped for "lunch". The grocery shopping consisted of going from store to store for "bargains".

Both Lillian and Earle Sr. are buried in the Jarrett family lot at Prince's Hill in Barrington, RI.



Lillian and Isabelle Hannant

Lester Reeves (Red) Hannant (1905-1974)



Lester Hannant by Johnson's Pond

Lester was a flatware foreman for many years at Reed & Barton Co., Taunton, MA, as well as owning and operating Hannant's Greenhouses.



Lester in the chicken yard  
behind the house



Lester in back of the house in his  
Raynham Police Uniform

Lester worked as a special policeman as well as a call fireman for the town.



Lester by the touring car

He married his neighbor, Isabelle May Williams in 1936. They lived at 6 Pleasant Street with Lester's father, Sydney Hannant.

After a few years Lester expanded the greenhouse to 100 feet. Lester, Earle, Sydney, and Nonny Silva added another fifty feet of used greenhouse to the original built by Sydney.

He grew geraniums, mums, carnations and other flowers in the greenhouse.



Lester by greenhouse



Isabelle Mae Williams Hannant



Isabelle watering flowers  
In the greenhouse

Isabelle was born on Jan. 18, 1912, on Orchard St. in Raynham. Her parents, James (Cliff) and May Williams, also had a son, Walter, and another daughter, Mildred. Isabelle's father moved the family to North Main St., where he owned and operated Williams' Garage. After his death, Isabelle's brother, Walter, continued to run the garage and operated a Ford dealership there as well.



Cut flowers to be put in arrangements  
by the fireplace in the florist shop

Isabelle's parents had separated, and later May lived with her daughter and Lester until her death.



Isabelle & Lester Hannant

Lester disliked making flower arrangements, so when his father was no longer able to do floral work, he got his sisters, Grace and Lena, to help.

When Isabelle married Lester, she began to take on more of the floral work and decided to concentrate more on the flower shop while Lester was more involved in the greenhouses. She still occasionally called on Grace and Lena to help.

Lester and Isabelle were associated with the First Congregational Church of Raynham, which is diagonally across the intersection from Hannant's house, and Isabelle supplied the weekly flowers for the altar—even when no one signed up to pay for them.





First Congregational Church  
Of Raynham



Business Card for  
Hannant the Florist

The family often gathered at Lester and Isabelle's home on Christmas night.



Isabelle Hannant



Left to Right Back Row: Nonny Silva,  
Earle & Lillian Hannant, Henry Dol-  
hain, Isabelle & Lester Hannant  
Left to Right Front Row: Robert Han-  
nant, Grace, Edward, Kathleen and  
Paul Silva and Mildred Dolhain,  
Isabelle's sister

In 1954, Isabelle installed the third sign changing the name from "S Hannant and Son Florists" to "Hannant the Florist".



Hannant the Florist Sign



Lester with geraniums

Isabelle ran the shop until 1986, when she turned it over to her niece, Kathleen Silva Gannaway who continues the operation, which is in its 82<sup>nd</sup> year as a family owned flower business. (2006)



Greenhouse with flowers



The Flower Shop  
1960s

One of Isabelle's dreams was to build a freestanding flower shop. In 1996, her dream was realized when Kathy built the current building. Kathy tore down some of the original greenhouse and added the shop on the east end. Zoning re-

quirements dictated the size of the latest sign for the shop.



Flower Shop and remaining section of greenhouse 2006



The Fourth Sign with Hannant's house in the background 2006

Lester and Isabelle had no children, so after her stroke and subsequent disability, she decided to give the Hannant's House to the Raynham Historical Society upon her death in 1999.

Isabelle and Lester are both buried in the family lot in the Pleasant St. Cemetery in Raynham, MA.



Grace Hannant

Grace Irene (Hannant) Silva (1909-1984)

Grace married Joaquin (Nonny) Silva (1909-1963) in 1930, at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Taunton shown below.



They had five children, James Ronald (1931-1932), Carolyn Margaret (Sister) (Gorden) (1933-), Edward Earle (Brother or Eddie) (1934-), Paul Richard (1942-) and Kathleen Grace (Gannaway) (Kathy) (1944-).

When Grace and Nonny were first married, they lived briefly with Sydney, and then moved to 24 Pleasant for a few months. While they lived at 24 Pleasant Street, their first child, James, died of pneumonia.



James's stone in Pleasant Street Cemetery, Raynham

They next rented an apartment from Nonny's aunt and uncle, Virginia and Manuel Fernandes on East Water St., Taunton for about a year.



Joaquin (Nonny) and Grace Silva

## *Nonny's Family*

John and Mary (Perry) Silva lived in the Weir section of Taunton. They had five children, Joaquin (Nonny), William (Billy), Mary (Mame), Louis (Louie) and Francis (Bub).



Nonny as a young boy "down the Weir"

One Sunday in 1921, John Silva took his family for a ride to Raynham. He saw a house for sale on Pleasant Street, stopped, went in, and bought it! His daughter, Mary Helen (Mame) Silva who later married Norris Dwyer, also of Pleasant St., said he got back into the car and asked the kids if they would like to move to Raynham. Mame was 11 when she moved.



John and Mary Silva



Nonny and his mother Mary Silva  
at the back Silva's house



Mamie Silva (Dwyer) in front of her father's hen yard



Carolyn Silva and a friend of Nanny's brother, Louie, in front of John Silva's garage and hen yard



Louis & John Silva with "Pit" the goose



Edward (Brother) and Carolyn (Sister) Silva at the side of John's house

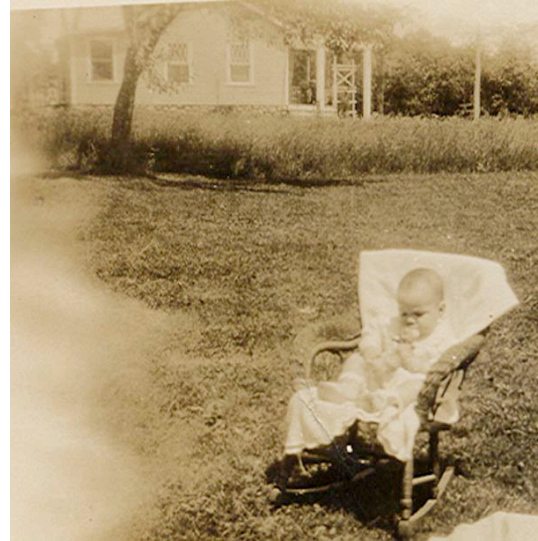


Carolyn Silva at John Silva's house with car in background and cesspool pump on right side

John, Nonny's father, who lived on Pleasant St., had bought a small house beside the cemetery from the Evans family. Grace and Nonny moved there from Sydney's house. After the death of their son, they moved to Taunton. John, then rented the house to his aunt, Laura (Burgess) Cabral.

When "Aunt Laura" left, Nonny and Grace bought the house from John and stayed there until the family outgrew the small bungalow.

The house at 24 Pleasant St. was between the Pleasant St. Cemetery and John Silva's.



The house at 24 (old numbering) Pleasant St. with Carolyn Silva in the chair

One of Nonny's many jobs during his lifetime was selling firewood. During the depression, he cut and sold wood using the truck shown below.



Carolyn and Francis (Bub) Silva (Nonny's brother) in front of truck used for wood delivery



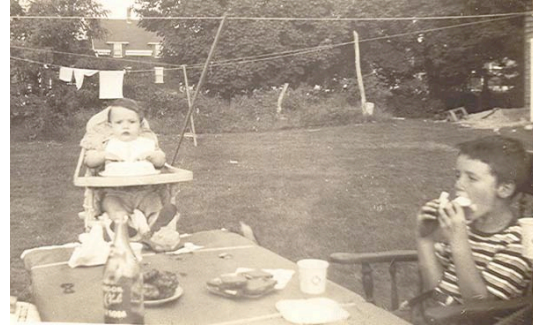
Kathleen and Grace Silva

### *Move to 12 Pleasant Street*

In 1910, David Carr built the house at 12 Pleasant St. His son, (David) Frank, lived there until his death. Frank, known for his beautiful voice, sang with a choir in Taunton.

Lucy Turner Carr lived with her brother, (David) Frank Carr at 12 Pleasant Street (old numbering). After Lucy's death, Grace occasionally cleaned house for Frank.

In the spring of 1942, the Silva family moved to 12 Pleasant St. and became caretakers for Frank, who was a bachelor. In return for caring for Frank, the family inherited the house (with the mortgage) upon his death.



Paul and Edward Silva in backyard



Grace and Nonny's house at 12  
(52) Pleasant St.

Frank was a call fireman, and joked at the fire station that when a call came, he often found small toys in his boots where the young Paul Silva had placed them. Frank was also a custodian at the local schools until he died.

Upon Frank's death, John Silva, who was retired from New Bedford Copper Works, took on the job of school custodian.

Frank Carr had operated a small business in which he manufactured oilcans for factory machinery. The shop was behind the house on the edge of Johnson's Pond.



The Carr Can Co.  
12 Pleasant St., Raynham

The Carr Can Factory was taken over by the Silva's and continued in operation until automatic oilers eliminated the need for manually oiled machinery in the mills. Also after WWII many of the northern mills were closed and workers were relocated to the South.



Nonny with Carolyn and Buddy



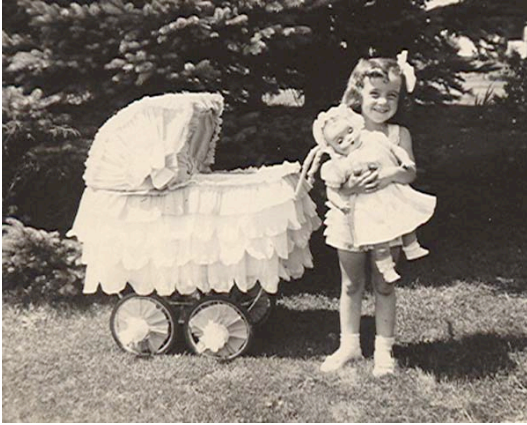
Oilcan from Carr Can Co.



Nonny, Carolyn, Edward and  
Grace Silva by the cold frame at  
Hannants

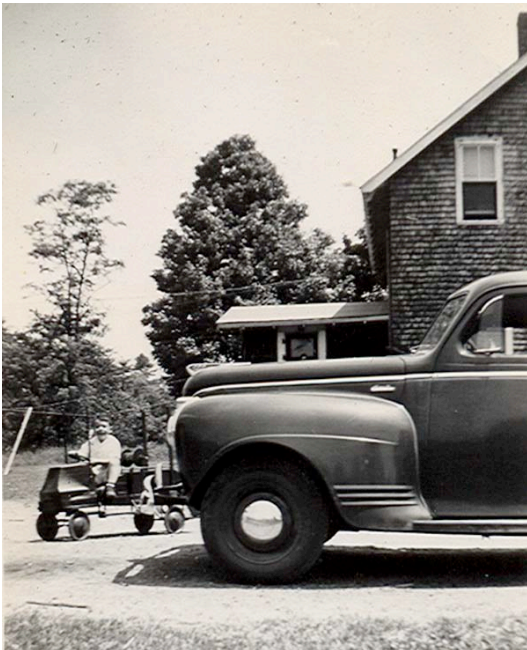
Grace worked briefly at the Bleachery and then stayed at home with her children. She occasionally did some floral work for Isabelle as well as some house-cleaning. Grace was very creative. She loved to design flowers, hats, and costumes and make dolls clothes. Below is youngest daughter, Kathy, in the doll carriage parade. Any time there was a new baby, she would crochet booties, a sweater and a bonnet.





Kathy Silva

The vegetable garden was a necessity for the family. Grace canned much of the produce for the family for their winter meals.



Paul Silva at 12 (52) Pleasant St.

During WWII, Nonny worked for the New Bedford Copper Works, in Taunton until it closed. He then worked at the Raynham Bleachery on Gardiner Rd., Walter Williams Garage on No. Main St., painted houses with Erving Groves and was

working at Reed & Barton Co. Taunton, when he died in 1963.



Eddie and Nonny Silva at Reed & Barton Co.



Nonny and Grace Silva

After Nonny died, Grace worked in the cafeteria at the Merrill School for a short time. In her retirement years, she amassed a large doll collection.

Grace and Nonny are buried in the Silva family lot in the Pleasant St. Cemetery in Raynham, MA.



Lena with basket of flowers

Helena Margaret (Lena) Hannant (1910-1990)



Lena, Sophia and Grace Hannant



Lena and Sophia Hannant, Cousin James Reeves' wife, Nellie, from NY and Grace Hannant

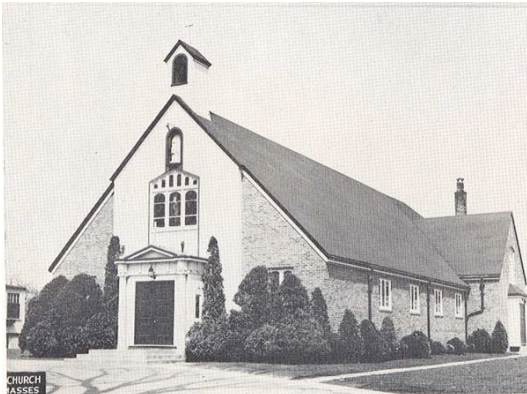
About the time of Lester's marriage, Lena moved to an apartment on the

second floor of Nonny's father's house for \$10 a month. She and Mame Silva (Dwyer) became friends. They used to do many things together. Since Lena had a car, they took several day and a few overnight trips.

A few of the local women used to meet once a week at Lena's apartment for the Sewing Circle.

Lena also worked at The Bleachery.

Lena met John (Johnny) Andre (1914-1994) one day when the Silva's took her to visit the Andre's in West Bridgewater. Tia Fliomena, sister to Mrs. Mary Andre who was Johnny's mother, was Mame's aunt as well as Johnny's aunt.



St. Ann's Church  
West Bridgewater, MA

Because Johnny was Catholic, Lena and John were married at St. Ann's Church in West Bridgewater. For a few months Lena and John lived in the Silva's apartment in Raynham. Their next apartment was on Pleasant St. in West Bridgewater.

Lena and John rented DeVito's house at 238 Elm St., Bridgewater for a while, and then they had a house built up the street at 252 Elm Street. Lumber for the house came from Andre's wood lot in West Bridgewater. Eddie Silva tells of

going with his Uncle John to cut the logs into lengths to take to the mill.

Johnny liked to raise turkeys and chickens and had poultry yards in back of his house. He also had a small garden.

Lena was known by the family as a wonderful cook. If family came, Lena could go to her freezer and come up with a meal on the spot!

The picture below shows Grace Silva with Paul and Lena Andre with Arnold. It was taken at Hannant's with Pleasant St. in the background.

The sign reads "S Hannant and Son" and is the second sign. The house in the background was torn down to establish Gem Circle.



Grace and Lena with their boys in  
the early 1940s

Kathy Silva Gannaway tells of taking the bus from Raynham Center to the corner of Rt. 104 and Elm St., Bridgewater. Then she and Grace would walk to Lena's for a visit.

After many years in Bridgewater, they sold the house and moved to Michael Rd in Raynham where they lived for several years. They then moved to an apartment in Brockton for about a year, and finally settled on West Centre St. in West Bridgewater where they lived till their deaths.

Lena loved to play the piano. For a while after her marriage, she gave piano lessons. Years later she also worked as a clerk for Berks on Rt. 44 in Raynham.

Johnny and Lena had one son, Arnold Francis (1942-).



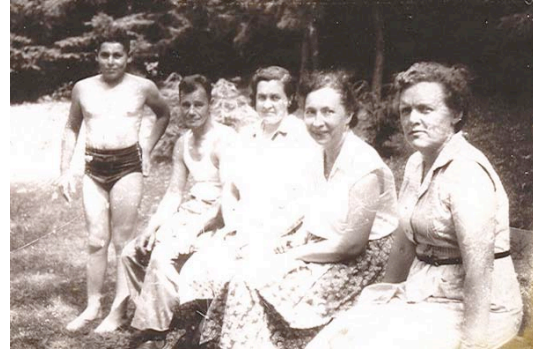
Arnold and John Andre

John Andre drove truck for White's Trucking in West Bridgewater for years. Next he drove cross county for Kemp Trucking also in West Bridgewater. Finally he drove an oil truck for The Southeastern Mass Oil Company of Brockton.

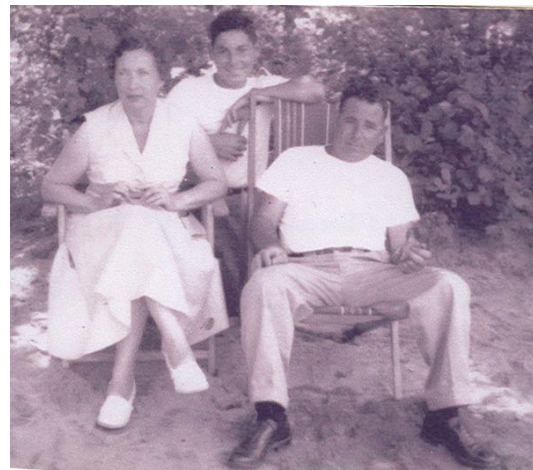
The family still gathered for picnics at Johnson's Pond behind Hannant's house. The summerhouse was no longer in existence, but Lester had a screen house built in approximately the same place.

The cook stove was no longer used and the family brought food in coolers instead. Pictures were still taken and conversation continued as in days past.

The younger generations swam in Johnson's Pond and still went out in the boats.



Arnold Andre, Nonny and Grace Silva, Lena Andre and Isabelle Hannant



Lena, Arnold and John Andre

John and Lena are buried in Pleasant St. Cemetery in Raynham.



Andre's Stone