

Thirteen House History

Early 20th Century—Farm at 13 College St. occupies 0.196 acre lot.

Mid-1990s—Colgate Thirteen students rent 13 College Street in a state of disrepair. Water freezes in winter well inside of the building.

January 2000—House concept raised in Internet chat among alumni on “Crustnet” (www.colgate13.com). Idea surfaced—in jest—that a home for the group or alumni would be great. A few were serious.

February 2000—Honorary Thirteener and realtor Brenda Mason finds 13 College St. owner and mailman Clyde Benedict and arranges sale.

March 2000—Property is purchased just 8 weeks after the idea first surfaced. Tenant to vacate by July.

September 2000—Demolition commences with hope of salvaging parts of the building. Virtually none are saved.

October 2000—New foundation is poured and construction begins.

February 2001—Crusties converge on Colgate for weekend visit with the group, re-teach “Sealed with a Kiss” and hold first gathering at heated Thirteen House. Outdoor temperature: 5 degrees.

June 2002—Reunion weekend dedication ceremony and opening.

Photo: Little original structure survived! (Rear view) October, 2000.



Thirteen House Accommodations

In addition to the facilities provided at Thirteen House directly, guests may enjoy the facilities listed below, absolutely free of charge:*

- ♪ Robert Trent Jones golf course (Fees apply. Call 315-824-1432)
- ♪ Million-volume library (620,000 actually) with great couches
- ♪ Olympic gymnasium facilities open until 9:30pm daily
- ♪ Adjoining football stadium, field house, ice rink, basketball court
- ♪ World-class natatorium (open weekends, 1pm –4pm)
- ♪ Four-lane Brunswick bowl (Shoes: \$0.60. Games: \$1.25.)
- ♪ Boat house with sail, rowboat and canoe facilities
- ♪ Foggy Bottom Observatory: 16-inch, f/4 Newtonian telescope
- ♪ Acoustically spectacular 800-person chapel
- ♪ One mens *a cappella* singing group founded in 1942

* Provided to all Colgate graduates courtesy of nearby Colgate University.

(Please see <http://www.colgate13.com> for more information!)

Photo: Exterior reconstruction complete. February 2002.

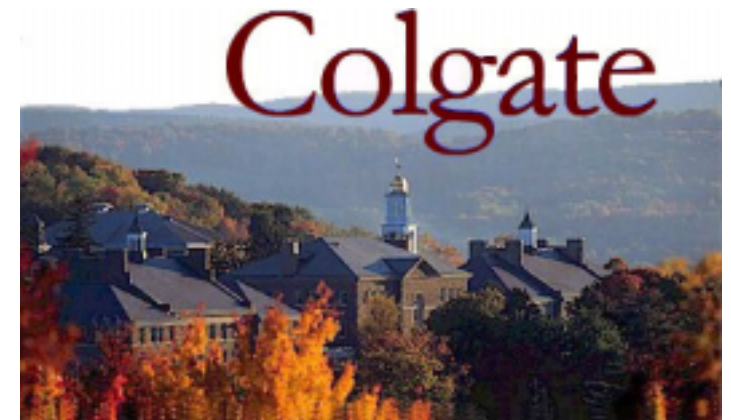


Welcome to... **Thirteen House
13 College Street
Hamilton, NY 13346**



...a B&B for Thirteen Alumni and Parents

Thirteen House will foster interaction among all Thirteeners and provide a permanent, on-campus center of gravity for Thirteen alumni. Return with classmates—bring your family—for spontaneous visits, a hockey weekend, football game, golf or singing with “the boys.”



Background Welcome to Thirteen House! Opened at the Thirteen’s 60th Reunion on June 1, 2002, Thirteen House is a first-class, privately funded B&B for Colgate Thirteen Alumni “Crusties,” parents of current Thirteeners visiting Colgate and University dignitaries.

Rented by Thirteeners in the 1990’s, the original farmhouse at 13 College Street was privately purchased in March 2000, razed and reconstructed from the ground up. 3,500 square-feet of singing and living space was built, doubling the structure’s original size to create a new, 5-bedroom B&B and custom-built alumni house in original, Central New York style.



Thirteen House features 5 bedrooms upstairs (three with private baths), laundry, family-style kitchen, Great Room with fireplace and central heating and cooling. The house accommodates three or more families with children or 10 adults. Crusties and parents of Thirteeners may reserve rooms on a first-come, first-served basis, up to one year in advance.

Purpose Thirteen House is a first-rate accommodation designed to bring Thirteeners and their families back to Colgate. The house will foster interaction among all Thirteeners, provide a permanent center of gravity for returning Thirteen alumni and promote more frequent and open dialogue between students and alumni. Visions of spontaneous visits, reunions with roommates, a hockey weekend, football game, golf or singing with “the boys” were at the root of Thirteen House’s founding. Thirteen House sets a new standard for alumni involvement at Colgate generally, and perpetuates the rich Colgate Thirteen tradition.

B&B Fees Although Thirteen House is *not* a business—it is a private home—modest overnight fees defray weekend cleaning and operating costs and help ensure the proper use of the house: fees range from \$100 to \$175 per room per weekend and a refundable security deposit is required. When not “rented” the house is cleaned and locked, eagerly awaiting its next guests.

Appropriate Uses Alumni: Thirteen House is a first-rate B&B exclusively for Thirteeners and their families; please treat Thirteen House as you would your own home...or mine! Invite in current Thirteeners or faculty if you wish to; proper group singing events or soirées are encouraged. However, damage, abuse or inappropriate usage are prohibited. These or excessive cleaning requirements are guests’ responsibility.

Students: Thirteen House is *not* a student facility but may be used by Thirteen officers for suitable functions such as receptions for prospects, professors or college Presidents, etc. Primarily, Thirteen House is available to parents of Thirteeners for visits to Colgate, Banquet and Graduation weekends, etc.

Please remember that Crusties, parents and Colgate VIPs alike may stay at Thirteen House simultaneously.

Reservations Reservations can be made through honorary Thirteener Brenda Mason at 315-228-7433 or 315-841-8521 (h) and are available up to one year in advance so plan ahead. Last-minute reservations are *encouraged* but last-minute cancellations are *discouraged*.

Room	Weekend Rate (up to 3 nights)	Second Alum (shared room)
Master suite (private bath)	\$175/weekend	+\$87
King (private bath)	\$150	+\$75
Queen (private bath)	\$125	+\$62
Twin room (2 rooms, 2 beds per)	\$100	+\$50
Entire house	\$600/weekend	—

Weeklong visits are welcomed at twice the weekend rate. A \$200 per-person security deposit will be returned upon departure.

What’s Included? Your fee covers private room and bath (shared bath for twin rooms), full use of the house and normal cleaning. Food is *not* included but the full kitchen is yours to use and Brenda can stock basic provisions for a modest fee. Guests are responsible for safekeeping the house and its contents.

Important Rules To ensure Thirteen House remains a permanent resource, please observe *and* enforce these rules:

- ✓ There is **NO SMOKING** allowed in *Thirteen House* and special cleaning fees will apply.
- ✓ **Do not enter** or use bedrooms or upstairs bathrooms other than your own or incremental room rates will apply.
- ✓ **Lock all doors** when leaving the house and at night. Theft or damage to the house or memorabilia is guests’ responsibility.
- ✓ Keep the house **clean** at all times (others may check in after you do!) and report any incidents or damage upon checkout.
- ✓ **No open parties:** Parties are *not* permitted and all University policies must be observed. Proper group events are welcome.
- ✓ **Respect** this new home as if it were your own and treat it accordingly. Please respect our quiet neighborhood.

Fun Construction Features ♪ To reduce noise, the second floor has double-height floor joists and insulated floors, ceilings and walls. ♪ In the ceiling of the Great Room hang two Shure MX202 cardioid choral mics; plug in any recording device for live takes. ♪ A new air conditioning and heating plant delivers on-demand hot water, heat and air conditioning. ♪ All rooms wired for cable television and broadband Internet access.



Owner’s Notes & Legalese Thirteen House is a private home built, owned and made available as described by Robert “Boz” Austrian (’85) and wife Jeanne. The furnishings, contents and memorabilia at Thirteen House are also private property—please treat everything with due respect.

Have a great stay! Have a great visit and please come back often! The dream that gave rise to Thirteen House is only realized through your enjoyment and future return.