

**James, “Jimmy,” Rodney
Hicks**



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Date	Age	Life Event
04/17/1951	0	James Rodney Hicks was born in Etna, Maine. His family was described as being poor and the father left when Jimmy was young. James, “Jimmy,” was reported to have displayed acts of cruelty toward animals throughout his childhood.
1969	17-18	Meets Jennie Cyr (future wife and victim) on a school bus in Carmel, Maine.
1970	18-19	James Hicks marries Jennie Cyr. The couple moves in with Jennie’s parents in the Carmel-Etna area
1971	19	Jimmy and Jennie have a daughter, Veronica. During this time, the couple struggles financially and people describe the marriage as being strained.
1973	23	Jimmy finishes senior year of high school and begins working at a local wood mill.
1973	22-23	Jimmy ends work at the wood mill and begins working in construction and joins a labor union.
1974	22-23	The couple applies for divorce. According to <i>Tragedy in the North Woods</i> , one of the primary reasons was Jimmy’s infidelity. The couple decided to stop the divorce proceedings after discovering Jennie was pregnant.
10/1974	23	Jimmy and Jennie’s son, Seth, is born.
1974-1977	23-26	Jimmy works different jobs in construction from Bangor, ME to Newport, ME along present-day Interstate 95. The couple eventually moved out of Jennie’s parents’ house. Jennie is employed as a kitchen worker for the Penobscot Nursing Home in Brewer, ME.
07/16/1977	26	Jennie and Jimmy have an argument after Jimmy is accused of making sexual advances toward Susan Matley (15), a live-in babysitter.
07/18/1977	26	While Jimmy is at work, Jennie Hicks leaves with her children to visit her sister and then to visit Bangor, ME for a shopping trip. After returning from Bangor, she calls a close friend named Linda and asks if she wanted to go back to Bangor tomorrow, but Linda says she is unable to go. This is the last time anyone claims seeing her.
07/19/1977	26	At around 2:00 a.m., a neighbor hears Jimmy and Jennie arguing in the couple’s home. Susan Matley, the live-in babysitter, comes home late that morning and notices that Jennie is lethargic and Jimmy is staring at a scrambled TV. Susan goes to her bedroom and pretends to be asleep. After unsuccessfully locating Jenny, Susan asks Jimmy if he knew where Jennie could be, after arriving home from work. Jimmy

		begins searching for Jennie at her parents and close friends in the Carmel-Etna area.
07/19/1977	26	James Hicks strangles his wife, Jennie Hicks (WF, 23) to death with a belt.
07/19/1977	26	Denise, Jennie's sister, claims Jennie never picks her up for a scheduled dentist appointment.
07/19/1977	26	Jimmy goes to Denise's house to look for Jennie. While he is there he states Jennie left her purse and glasses at the couple's home. He also states that Jennie said she was leaving him and moving to Florida.
07/19/1977	26	Jimmy calls Denise that afternoon claiming Jennie's glasses and purse weren't at the couple's home and said he thought Jennie came back and took her glasses and purse.
07/19/1977	26	Jimmy reports Jennie missing.
07/19/1977	26	In the 2000 confession, Hicks admits to have dismembered Jennie's body and dispersed her remains throughout the wilderness in the Carmel area.
07/23/1977	26	Myra Cyr, Jennie's mother, reports Jennie missing.
07/23/1977	26	Deputy Timothy Richardson goes to Jimmy and Jennie's home and questions Hicks. Richardson claims Jimmy admits to "pushing" his wife around but never hurting her. Jimmy leaves to go to work and Richardson unsuccessfully finds any evidence of foul play.
07/23/1977	26	After deputy Richardson investigates the apartment and Jimmy leaves for work, he begins to question Susan Matley, the live-in babysitter. The babysitter claims Hicks had not allowed her to leave the trailer since 07/19 (four days earlier).
07/23-08/10/1977	26	Susan Matley leaves Maine to live with a friend in Ohio. Susan's friend encourages her to call the police about any information; however, Matley refuses to do so.
08/15/1977	26	The investigation into Jennie's disappearance is described to have gone cold. Investigators find no evidence of foul play nor locate Jennie's whereabouts.
02/1978	26	Myra Cyr, Jennie's mother, writes a letter to Maine's secretary of state requesting information regarding whether or not Jennie had renewed her driver's license. Cyr claims Jennie would have struggled if she renewed her license in Maine or another state since Jennie's glasses were left at the couple's trailer.
10/16/1982	30	Jimmy Hicks introduces himself to Jerilynn Towers at the Gateway Lounge bar in Newport, ME and offers to buy her drinks.
10/16/1982	30	Later that night, the Gateway's bartender claims she saw Towers leave the bar with Hicks, but did not actually see Towers go into Hicks' car.
10/16-10/17/1982	30	After leaving the Gateway Lounge, Hicks sees Towers walking out of a convenience store. Hicks offers Towers a ride and the two go to the Newport swimming hole. After finishing swimming, Towers enters Hicks's car in the front and Hicks strangles her to death from behind. Based on Hicks' confession in 2000, he claims he kept Towers' remains in the trunk of his car for two weeks and then dismembered and buried her remains in a field on his property.
10/17/1982	30	Towers, mother of three children, does not return home.
10/18/1982	30	Jerilyn's mother, June Tibbetts, contacts the Newport police stating her daughter had not been seen since October 16.
10/18/1982	30	Officer James Ricker responds to the call. After interviewing Jerilyn's mother and stepfather, officer Ricker discovered Towers had been known to leave unexpectedly for short periods of time; however, she would always let someone know where she was going.
10/18/1982	30	Towers' mother and stepfather run a local ad in the newspaper seeking information about Jerilyn's whereabouts.
10/20/1982	30	Two days after Jerilyn's disappearance, Corporal Eugene Robinson joins officer Ricker in the investigation. Nathan Small of Skowhegan responds to Towers' parents' newspaper ad and claims to have a special ability of finding missing people, contacts Robinson. Small also claimed Towers was dead and her body was floating in the river

		in Bingham in Somerset County. After a plane surveyed the river, no body was found.
Mid-November 1982	30	Officer Robinson receives an anonymous phone message claiming "Gary" Hicks was the last person seen leaving with Towers at the bar. After interviewing bar patrons, Robinson discovers the individual was James Hicks.
Mid-November 1982	30	Officer Robinson questions James "Jimmy" Hicks at Hicks' home in Etna, Maine. Hicks denies being at the bar on October 16 and says he knows nothing about Jerilyn's disappearance.
11-20-1982	30	Officer Robinson meets with the bartender after hearing rumors that the bartender recalled seeing Hicks leave with Towers on the night of the 16 th . The bartender confirms Hicks being at the bar on the 16 th by providing a physical description. T
November, 1982	30	Officer Ricker goes to Jimmy Hicks' residence in Etna to question him again, following the interview with the bartender. Before going to Hicks' home, the officer discovers Hicks' first wife had been missing for more than five years after talking to the Etna postmaster. During the interview Hicks is uncooperative and denies being at the Gateway Lounge on the night of October 16 th . Hicks' live-in girlfriend returns home from work and calls Hicks' attorney. The police leave Hicks' home.
		Det. Dick Reitchel, Maine State Police (Ret.), is contacted by Ricker since there were no leads in the Towers case and the possibility of a single or double homicide.
03/22/1983	30	Detective Dick Reitchel, Maine State Police (Ret.) discovers Susan Matley, Jimmy and Jennie's live in babysitter is living in Massachusetts. Since there were no apparent leads in Jerilyn Towers' disappearance, the local and state police begin to re-examine Jennie Hicks' disappearance.
03/22/1983	30	During the interview, Matley recalls the night of 10/19/1977 claiming she saw Jennie lying in an awkward position in the Hicks' living room. Matley also claims to have heard shoes being dragged across the floor and hears Jimmy (presumably) drive away in the pick-up truck.
10/04/1983	31	Detective Reitchel takes case to the grand jury and an indictment is issued for the murder of Jennie Cyr Hicks against James "Jimmy" Hicks.
10/07/1983	31	Hicks is arrested and charged for the murder of Jennie Cyr Hicks.
10/07/1983	31	Hicks is arraigned before a Penobscot County Judge in Bangor, ME and denies murdering his wife Jennie, and pleads not guilty. The court appoints counsel.
11/08/1983	31	Hicks changes counsel.
03/12/1984	31	Jury selection begins.
03/15/1984	31	Opening statements for murder trial against Jimmy Hicks for the murder of his wife, Jennie Hicks. Susan Matley is the only witness. No body is ever produced. Hicks does not confess and a murder weapon is never discovered.
03/22/1984	31	The jury deliberates for nine hours and returns a verdict of guilty in the fourth degree (present-day manslaughter).
08/22/1985	32	James Hicks marries Linda Marquis in the Thomaston State Prison in Thomaston, Maine. Linda asserts James' innocence according to <i>Tragedy in the North Woods</i> . They have known each other for seven years.
1990	36-37	Hicks is released from prison and is described to have displayed model behavior.
1991-1992	37-38	Karen Gomms is introduced to James Hicks through James' brother Steve who was married to her sister Melinda and begins a relationship. James and Linda file for divorce during this time. Following the divorce with Linda, James marries Karen and the couple moves in with her parents. The couple then separates three times and files for divorce. During both marriages, Hicks also has an affair with Louise Robertson the two meet while being employed at the Twin City Motel.
1992	38-39	James and Louise have a daughter. Hicks initially denies paternity, however, a blood test confirms otherwise.
1994	41-42	The affair between James and Louise ends. Louise claims Hicks never said anything about his first wife or acknowledged having four other children
1994	41-42	The Maine State police are still actively investigating Jerilyn Towers' disappearance and interview Hicks' ex-wives and girlfriends. The police are also contacted by Vance Tibbetts, Jerilyn's brother, who served time in the same prison with Hicks for

		attempted murder. Tibbetts confronts Hicks and Hicks claims Jerilyn left the Gateway Lounge with a trucker.
1994	41-42	Lynn Ann Willette meets James Hicks when she begins working at the Twin City Motel in Brewer, Maine – the same place James Hicks worked.
1995	42-43	Hicks moves into Willette’s apartment in Brewer.
August 1995	43	Hicks feels Tibbetts is stalking him and files a complaint against Tibbetts with the Brewer Police Department. The case is turned over to the Maine State Police.
February 1996	43	Detective Zamboni (Maine State Police) interviews Hicks about the possibility of a polygraph. Hicks is reluctant to do so and suggests doing the test at a later time.
05/25/1996	44	James Hicks murders girlfriend, Lynn Willette (WF, 39) in the couple’s apartment in Brewer, Maine following an argument about Hicks’s past. The method of murder is strangulation.
05/26/1996	44	Hicks reports Lynn Willette missing to the Brewer Police Department. Hicks claims he does not know where she is that he has done no harm to her. After discovering inconsistencies with Hicks’ alibis, the police become increasingly suspicious
05/31/1996	44	Lynn’s car is discovered off of interstate 95 at a truck stop in Herson, Maine.
1996	44	After interviewing numerous people who knew both James and Lynn, police have not discovered any evidence that suggests Lynn is dead or that James killed her. It is reported James moved into another woman’s apartment, months after Lynn disappeared. Despite being unable to find specific information, police still remain highly suspicious and continue the investigation.
09/1996	44	Hicks moves in with 18-year old girlfriend, Brandie Mayo. Detective Zamboni interviews Mayo’s mother in Maine and discovers strangers have reported James abusing Brandie.
1997	44-45	Hicks and Mayo have a daughter.
1998	45-46	James Hicks and Brandie Mayo marry and move to Bangor, Maine.
06/15/1999	47	The FBI’s Critical Incident Reponse group assigned to the National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime (NCAVC) analyzed Hicks’s behaviors and activities and concluded that he most likely some responsibility in the disappearances of Jerilyn Towers and Lynn Willette.
06/1999	47	James Hicks and Brandie Mayo move to Levelland, Texas. Maine’s Department of Human Services assumed custody of the couple’s daughter.
April 2000	47	James and Brandie have another child in Texas. Levelland’s Police Department received information from Maine about Hicks’s nature and potential danger. After discovering the couple had a child in Texas, the State of Texas recommended removal of the child within days after being born. The child is removed from the couple’s home.
04/08/2000	47	Hicks, working as a handyman, contacts customer June Moss (WF, elderly). Hicks had been working at her house and claimed the check she wrote to him was a closed account. June tells Hicks to come back to her house in Levelland in order to pay him for his services. Hicks points a gun to her head and threatens to kill her. Hicks forces the elderly lady to write a \$1,250 check and give him the title to her car. He also forces her to write a suicide note and drink an entire bottle of cough syrup. While Hicks is in the rear of the home, June escapes to a neighbor’s house, where the neighbor calls the police. That same neighbor notices Hicks leaving June’s home in his van and follows Hicks to his home in Levelland, TX. Police arrive at Hicks’ home and arrest him. June survives the attack.
04/10/2000	47	Hicks is taken to Lubbock County jail and charged with aggravated robbery of an elderly person – a very serious crime in Texas. His bond is set at \$250,000.
04/12/2000	47	Hicks is indicted and faces life in prison, the maximum sentence in Texas, considering Hicks is a convicted felon and used a gun to rob an individual.
04/27/2000	48	Hicks’s brother Steve contacts Detective Zamboni and requests a deal in exchange for extradition to Maine for information regarding the disappearances of Jerilyn Towers and Lynn Willette instead of almost imminently serving a life sentence in Texas.
06/27/2000	48	Hicks writes a letter to Zamboni stating he will only cooperate if he can be extradited

		to Maine and have things go “his way.”
09/28/2000	48	Hicks confesses to murdering Lynn Willette in 1996 in Lubbock, Texas and offers to lead Detective Zamboni to Willette's remains. Zamboni then informs Hicks that he is investigating five murders instead of three – as a strategy to receive information about the other two victims. Hicks then admits to killing Towers and his first wife, Jennie.
09/29/2000	48	James Hicks pleads guilty in Lubbock County, Texas to aggravated robbery. The judge recommends a 55-year sentence; however, Hicks waives extradition to Maine pending an arrest warrant is issued.
10/06/2000	48	Detective Zamboni obtains an arrest warrant for Hicks and returns to Texas to extradite Hicks to Penobscot County, Maine.
10/09/2000	48	Hicks is extradited to Penobscot Country, Maine
10/10/2000	48	Hicks agrees to locate the remains of his victims and goes to Hainesville Woods, the outskirts of Houlton, Maine adjacent to Route 2 and Interstate 95. The remains are discovered to be dismembered and in a bucket buried in a shallow grave. The other remains of the victims were found buried near Jenkins Beach in Bangor, Maine. Hicks then elaborates on how he murdered Jerilyn Towers. Hicks admits to keeping Towers’ body two weeks after her murder and then dismembered her remains and buried them in a field on his property. Hicks then admits to killing his first wife Jennie and dismembering remains and dispersing them in the wilderness throughout the Carmel area.
10/26/2000	48	Hicks discloses the methods used in his killings.
11/06/2000	48	Hicks is indicted for the murders of Jerilyn Towers and Lynn Willette in Penobscot County, Maine. He pleads guilty.
11/16/2000	48	Texas Governor George Bush and Maine Governor Angus King sign an executive agreement transferring Hicks to Maine to serve his sentence for criminal homicide.
11/17/2000	48	Hicks appears in court at Penobscot Country Superior Court. Hicks pleads guilty to two counts of murder for the slayings of Jerilyn Towers in 1982 and Lynn Willnette in 1996. He also cut a deal with authorities in Maine whereby he agreed to direct them to the bodies of the three missing women in exchange for serving time in Maine instead of Texas.
12/04/2000	48	James Rodney Hicks is found guilty for the murders of Lynn Willette and Jerilyn Towers. The judge states Hicks shows no remorse for the crimes and sentences Hicks to two life sentences without parole plus restitution to be awarded to the Towers and Willette families.
01/05/2001	49	James Hicks is sent to Texas for sentencing in the assault of June Moss. Hicks is issued a 55-year sentence. Hicks is serving all sentences in the Maine State Prison in Warren, Maine
11/17/2012	61	James Hicks is still incarcerated in the Maine State Prison

General Information

Sex	Male
Race	White
Number of victims	3 suspected, 3 convicted, 3 admitted
Country where killing occurred	United States
States where killing occurred	Maine
Cities where killing occurred	Carmel, Newport, and Brewer
Counties where killing occurred	Penobscot
Type of killer	Serial Killer
Height	6’0”

Childhood Information

Date of birth	04/17/1951
Location	Etna, Maine
Birth order	Unknown
Number of siblings	2 Brothers

XXX?	Unknown
Raised by	Mother. Father left during early portion of childhood
Birth category	Unknown
Parent's marital status	Divorced
Did serial killer spend time in an orphanage?	No
Did serial killer spend time in a foster home?	No
Was serial killer ever raised by a relative?	No
Did serial killer ever live with adopted family?	No
Did serial killer ever live with a step-parent?	No
Family event	Father left during early childhood
Age of family event	Early childhood
Problems in school?	No
Teased while in school?	No
Physically attractive?	Yes
Physical defect?	No
Speech defect?	No
Head injury?	No
Physically abused?	No
Psychologically abused?	No
Sexually abused?	No
Father's occupation	Unknown
Mother's occupation	Unknown
Father abused drugs/alcohol	Unknown
Mother abused drugs/alcohol	Unknown
Cognitive Ability	
Highest grade in school	12
Highest degree	High School Diploma
Grades in school	Unknown
IQ	Unknown
Source of IQ information	Unknown
Work History	
Served in the military?	No
Branch	n/a
Type of discharge	n/a
Saw combat duty	n/a
Killed enemy during service?	n/a
Applied for job as a cop?	No
Worked in law enforcement?	No
Fired from jobs?	No
Types of jobs worked	Manual labor, construction, wooden mill
Employment status during series	Changed jobs often.
Relationships	
Sexual preference	Heterosexual
Marital status	Married. After his first wife's disappearance, Hicks was in numerous relationships and two marriages during and following his first prison sentence. Both marriages following Hicks' prison sentence ended in divorce. Hicks then married again in 1996.
Number of children	7
Lives with his children	Yes, until conviction of first murder in 1984
Living with	Lived with first wife until her disappearance. Hicks was then married while serving his first prison sentence and then divorced. Following his divorce, Hicks marries

	again, and third marriage ends in divorce. Hicks then married again in 1996. Hicks had numerous relationships throughout his life and his girlfriends would live with him.
Triad	
Animal torture	Yes
Fire setting	No
Bed wetting	No
Killer Psychological Information	
Abused drugs?	No
Abused alcohol?	No
Been to a psychologist (prior to killing)?	No, only after killings
Time in forensic hospital (prior to killing)?	No
Diagnosis	None
Killer Criminal History (Prior to the series)	
Committed previous crimes?	No
Spent time in jail?	No
Spent time in prison?	No
Killed prior to series? Age?	No
Serial Killing	
Number of victims (suspected of)	3
Number of victims (confessed to)	3
Number of victims (convicted of)	3
Victim type	Wife, acquaintance, and girlfriend
Killer age at start of series	26
Killer age at end of series	44
Date of first kill in series	July 19, 1977
Date of final kill in series	May 26, 1996
Gender of victims	3 Female
Race of victims	3 White
Age of victims	23, 39, and 39
Type of victim	Wife, acquaintance, and girlfriend
Method of killing	Strangulation – all victims
Weapon	Victim #3 - rope
Was gun used?	No
Type	
Did killer have a partner?	No
Name of partner	
Sex of partner	
Relationship of partner	
How close did killer live?	Murder #1 occurred in the couple's home, Murder #2 occurred in Hicks' car within five miles of murderer's home. Murder #3 occurred in the apartment Hicks and Willette share.
Location of first contact	Murder #1 - High School, Carmel, Maine Murder #2 - Gateway Lounge, Newport, Maine Murder #3 - Twin City Motel, Brewer, Maine
Location of killing	Murderer's home and murderer's car
Killing occurred in home of victim?	Murder #1 - Yes, the home of James and Jennie Hicks Murder #2 - No Murder #3 - Yes, the apartment James and Lynn shared

Killing occurred in home of killer?	Yes, (Murder #1, the home of James and Jennie Hicks)
Victim abducted or killed at contact?	Yes
Behavior During Crimes	
Rape?	No
Tortured victims?	No
Intentionally went out that day to kill?	No
Overkill?	No
Quick & efficient?	Yes
Used blindfold?	No
Bound the victims?	No
After Death Behavior	
Sex with the body?	No
Mutilated body?	Yes
Ate part of the body?	No
Drank victim's blood?	No
Posed the body?	No
Took totem – body part	No
Took totem – personal item	No
Robbed victim or location	No
Disposal of Body	
Left at scene, no attempt to hide	No
Left at scene, hidden	No
Left at scene, buried	No
Moved, no attempt to hide	No
Moved, hidden	Yes
Moved, buried	Yes
Cut-up and disposed of	Yes
Burned body	No
Dumped body in lake, river, etc.	No
Moved, took home	Yes
Sentencing	
Date killer arrested	Murder #1, 10/07/1983 Murder #2, 09/29/2000 Murder #3, 09/29/2000
Date convicted	Murder #1, Murder #2 Murder #3
Sentence	Murder #1 – Manslaughter, sentenced 10 years Murders #2 and #3 – Murder, two life sentences plus 55 years for armed robbery
Killer executed?	No
Did killer plead NGRI?	For Murder #1, Hicks pleaded not guilty.
Was the NGRI plea successful?	No
Did serial killer confess?	Murder #1 - Confessed many years after conviction Murder #2 - Yes, in exchange for extradition to Maine Murder #3 - Yes, in exchange for extradition to Maine
Name and state of prison	Murder #1 - Thomason State Prison - Thomason, Maine Murder #2 - Maine State Prison - Warren, Maine Murder #3 - Maine State Prison - Warren, Maine
Killer committed suicide?	No
Killer killed in prison?	No
Date of death	Still living as of November 17, 2012
Cause of death	N/A
Victim 1	

Name	Jennie Lynn Hicks
Date killed	07/19/1977
Date body was found	10/10/2000-10/18/2000
Gender	Female
Race	White
Age	23
How killed	Strangled
State killed	Maine
City killed	Carmel
County killed	Penobscot
Type of target	Wife
Did killer confess to this murder?	Yes, in 2000
Was killer convicted of this murder?	Yes, fourth degree murder (present day manslaughter).
Victim 2	
Name	Jerilyn Leigh Towers
Date killed	May 26, 1996
Date body was found	10/10/2000 - 10/18/2000
Gender	Female
Race	White
Age	34
How killed	Strangled
State killed	Maine
City killed	Newport
County killed	Penobscot
Type of target	Acquaintance
Did killer confess to this murder?	Yes, in exchange for extradition to Maine
Was killer convicted of this murder?	Yes
Victim 3	
Name	Lynn Willette
Date killed	05/25/1996
Date body was found	10/10/2000 - 10/18/2000
Gender	Female
Race	White
Age	39
How killed	Strangulation
State killed	Maine
City killed	Brewer
County killed	Penobscot
Type of target	Girlfriend
Did killer confess to this murder?	Yes, in exchange for extradition to Texas
Was killer convicted of this murder?	Yes

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