

Lawlor Ice Business

Benjamin M. Robinson Ice Pond

Henry E. Tracy Ice Pond



Places – Sites – Monuments History

Benjamin M. Robinson Ice Pond

Henry E. Tracy Ice Pond
Christopher Wendell Lawlor Ice Pond
Chris' Pond
Uncle Bill's Pond

Ice Business
Skating Pond

Address: 17 Chris' Lane
City: Southwest Harbor
State: Maine
Map and Lot: Map 3 – Lot 37
Map: SAN 1921 – LAWLER ICE BUSINESS
Date Founded: Circa 1860
Duration: 1860-1947
Original Owner: Robinson - Benjamin M. Robinson (1826-1901) – Christopher Wendell Lawlor's great uncle.

Subsequent Owners:
Tracy - Henry E. Tracy Jr. (1849-1925)
Lawlor - Christopher Wendell Lawlor (1893-1956)
Sklaroff - William "Bill" Sklaroff (1882-1967)
Town of Southwest Harbor

"Capt. Benjamin Robinson had a pond constructed on his property and established an ice delivery business in the village, which still continues being now owned by Christopher W. Lawlor." - "Traditions and Records of Southwest Harbor and Somesville, Mount Desert Island, Maine" by Mrs. Seth S. Thomson, 1938, p. 92.

"The Lawlor ice house [behind Main Street, Southwest Harbor] was built by Benjamin Robinson, who also dug out the swamp near it making a pond, and established an ice business which he conducted for some years. After his death the business was purchased by Henry Tracy who carried it on for some time and then sold to Christopher Lawlor who still owns and conducts it." - "Traditions and Records of Southwest Harbor and Somesville, Mount Desert Island, Maine" by Mrs. Seth S. Thomson, 1938, p. 155.

Benjamin M. Robinson (1826-1901) was Christopher Wendell Lawlor's great uncle, the brother of Chris' maternal grandfather, James E. Robinson.

The ice house was nearest to Main Street, then the barn, then the pond.

PDF: [https://swhpl.digitalarchive.us/files/original/13261/Benjamin M. Robinson Ice Pond.pdf](https://swhpl.digitalarchive.us/files/original/13261/Benjamin_M._Robinson_Ice_Pond.pdf)

Identifier: 13261

Title: Lawlor Ice Business

Benjamin M. Robinson Ice Pond

Henry E. Tracy Ice Pond

Type: Reference

Subject: Businesses, Other Business

Description: In the 21st Century we may think of ice as something that comes out of the doors of our refrigerator or a nice skating surface in an indoor rink, but, in the 18th and early 19th centuries the ice business produced a very necessary product and employed many people.

See: Ice Harvesting Sampler DVD, produced by Northeast Historic Film, Black & White, NTSC, 33 minutes - 1994. This compilation of newsreel and amateur footage of ice harvesting operations in Maine includes ice-house interiors with massive ice blocks being maneuvered at high speed, and horse teams delivering ice to brownstones in Boston.

Americas Icemen: An Illustrative History of the United States Natural Ice Industry 1665-1925 by Joseph C. Jones Jr., published by Jobeco Books, 1984.

The American Ice Harvests: A Historical Study in Technology, 1800-1918 by Richard O. Cummings, published by the University of California Press, 1949.

Address: 17 Chris' Lane

Place: Southwest Harbor

State: ME

Country: USA

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