

Robbinston in the old days

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Perhaps the Robbinston readers would like for an old timer to write a short account of days gone by. Robbinston had its first settlers in 1800. There still stands some of the old settler's homes, for instance: The Martin Byrne home, The Almond Harwell home, The old Gates home (just below the Congregationalist Church) That structure is over one hundred years old. It was built by a man from Deer Island, N.B. by the name of Thomas Calder a grandfather to the Thomas Calder there now. He was a year finishing this house. It was all done by his own hand work. You couldn't buy finishing material in those days. The old Brooks Bluff home ~~was~~ is another old landmark. It was built one hundred and seven years ago. It has passed through three generations of Brooks 1st. Abel Brooks, next John Brooks, lastly Abel Brooks deceased. That home was all finished by hand, but has since been remodelled, but some of the original doors and window sashes

This letter  
written by a  
old time  
Robbinston resident  
born in 1875 -  
no name -  
probably a  
Brooks

(2) are still in it.

The first doctor in Robbinston was a Dr. Carpenter from Milltown, Maine.

Some of his descendants are there now.

This Dr. had a distillery over the Brooks Valley Brook and there is where he made his medicine. Some of his mint and flagroot still grow there.

The land for the cemetery up on the hill was given to the town sixty eight years ago by John Brewer, one of the first settlers in town, and the first one buried there was Mr. Caler, father of the late Emory Caler now deceased. Their lot is just at the left from the main

avenue. His grave was dug by Archie Johnson the father of Malcolm Johnson now living in the town. In those days they used to bury their dead in their fields and back of the churches and school houses. A number of dead are still lying there.

The first church of Robbinston was a Methodist Church. It was near the Hume home and was bought a few years ago by Howard Fisher and

(3) moved, and is now used as a store and moving picture hall.

The first schoolhouse in the village still stands. It has been remodeled over and is now owned by Hon. Harrison Hume. Seventy years ago Roffinston was a great ship-building town. As many as fifteen vessels would be building at one time. And the industry was continued until fifty years ago. The last vessel constructed in town was built by a Mr. Carter from Pembroke Maine. She was burned before she was launched. signed

An Old Timer from the Old Town,  
no date was added as to when  
this was written or no name.

"The Mansion House"  
In Robbinston, Maine

Built by General John Brewer in Robbinston, Me.  
on a bluff on St. Croix River about 1824.

Gen. John Brewer came from Roxbury, Mass.  
to Robbinston before 1798. He was a ship  
builder. He died in the "Mansion House"  
in Robbinston, Me. March 5<sup>th</sup> 1832.

James Shepard Pike a national figure in  
politics and diplomacy. He settled in the  
town of Robbinston around 1865.

Mr. Pike bought the "Mansion House" and  
equipped it with furnishing from Europe.  
He was a writer. He died in 1882. An  
outstanding man.

In 1776 Col. Jonathan Eddy chose a township #4  
and named it Robbinston for Edward H.  
Robbins of Milton, Mass.  
The town of Robbinston was incorporated  
on Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> 1811.