

Comer's Ice House

By Cliff Austin

The Comer Ice House was down there where the rest home is. We'd go down there and skate a lot. We would go, and Jimmy, they had this big reservoir and they would fill it up and it would freeze over. They would cut the ice and have ice in the summertime.

We would have an icebox in your house and we would go and buy it, but I don't remember them delivering it. And you'd have that in your house. And when you made ice cream or anything you had to go down to the Comers. About where they have the 5th Ward church, they had a place where you could go and get the ice—they would sell it.

That was a little store on the corner of that and in later years they sold ice cream in that there. They used to make ice cream and Dad told me. On the fourth of July, Dad and these kids would get that ice and always have a celebration down the road in that old dance hall. Tommy Jones would haul a bunch of these ice cream things down there, dishes and all that, in a wagon with a pair of mules.

Some Indians come along and these mules were scared of the Indians. They could smell them or something, and they run away. Dad says, "Stop 'em, stop 'em, Tom!" He said, "Stop 'em. Hell, stop 'em!" They run clear down by the Sugar Factory. There weren't any roads. They went through the sagebrush and he lost all of his dishes and we didn't have any ice cream for the 4th of July. So that was sure powerful. He was probably trying to hold those mules back while trying to hold those ice cream things in the wagon.

They built that little shop there and us kids used to go there to get ice cream. You could get a big dish for a nickel. Bishop Goodly told me to watch my Dad. We went over to the barber shop and my Dad got a bunch of hair up off the floor and took it over and put it in the ice cream. He didn't sell much of it, but...[laughter].