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Madison Monroe Tracy (1869 – 1952)

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Madison Monroe Tracy (1869 – 1952)

Madison Tracy was born to Foster Tracy on July 24, 1869 in Stacyville. Foster Tracy had made his name in the 1800's working for T.H. Todd from St Stephens New Brunswick in his families lumbering business. After purchasing the land to the west of Stacyville Todd brought Foster J. Tracy and his son-in-law Hugh Love from St Stephens, New Brunswick because he had worked with them before lumbering. They arrived in 1881 ready to clear the stream and to cut long log spruce on the Wassataquoik Stream. Foster Tracy built a home in Stacyville, it is assumed at the location of the Madison Farm, which was considered to be the



Katahdin Lake Camps built in 1896 by John Cushman and Madison Tracy to serve recreational sports. Courtesy of Avery Collection MSL

outer edge of civilization within a short distance from the Hunt Farm along the river further into the wilderness. After working in the woods in 1884 Madison Tracy headed into the wilderness with John Cushman a neighbor to build a sporting camp on Katahdin Lake, now known as Katahdin Wilderness Camps. The camps were well located to be used by hunters for both moose and caribou. Tracy sold out to Cushman in 1900 and soon after Maine changed the law to stop killing the moose and caribou as they were disappearing from the mountain and the use of the camps

went downhill quickly.

In 1901 Ed Whitehouse and Frank Cram of Stacyville built a set of sporting camps at the mouth of Little Spring Brook. The camps had a small open field for growing potatoes. They sold the camps in 1902 to Charles McDonald who had a camp across the river. This would become the location of a fish hatchery that operated from 1903 until it closed in 1916. In the 1920 William F. Tracy and Prince A. Tracy of Stacyville, both first cousins of Madison Tracy, purchased and operated sporting camps that became known as Hathorn Pond



Looking west from the Tracy House toward Mount Katahdin on the Stacyville Tote Road around 1900 as it passes along the edge of the field. The view today is very much the same as you drive down the Swift Brook Road toward the monument. Courtesy of the Patten Lumbermen's Museum

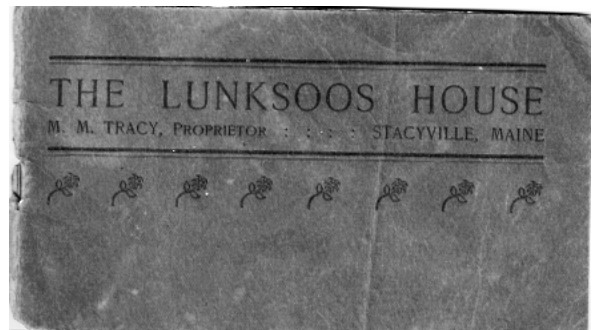
Madison Monroe Tracy (1869 – 1952)

Camps at the mouth of Little Spring Brook while Madison Tracy ran pack trips across the mountains for them to Robar Brook then up the Wassataquoik into what would become Baxter State Park via a wagon trail along the Little Spring Brook over the ridge and down Robar Brook. The camps would later become known as the Wassataquoik and Hathorn Pond Camps. By this time logging had ceased with William Tracy using many of the logging camps built by the Tracy's and he also built a new set of camps at Russell



The wagon used to take people into the wilderness were built somewhat different. They generally had two rows of seats and no springs. The body was flexible so the ride was a bit more comfortable but still allowing the wagon to be picked up over boulders or easily pulled out of the mud. Courtesy of Lucius Merrill Collection Bangor Public Library Dated September 31, 1894

Pond. In 1926 William Tracy became the sole owner of the camps at Russell Pond. He continued working on the trails, clearing and cutting up Katahdin while expand the camps with more buildings. He had worked for many years clearing and using the trails with the most importance one known as the North Peaks Trail so that he could take his pack horse teams up the mountain with guests. He was still working on the family dream of horse trips to the top of Katahdin. The dream had started earlier in 1885 when Foster Tracy, Madison's father, had built a two story building at New City for recreational sports and with a plan to use the camps in the summer for sports taking them by pack horse to the top of Katahdin and during the winter for the loggers. The owners of a camp, Lang and Jones, on Katahdin Lakes got wind of the scheme, realizing the potential offered one hundred dollars toward the construction and the up keep of the trail. It was reported that by the end of the 1885 season Madison Tracy had taken a horse to the summit. The Tracy Family dream was to build a hotel/resort on the north slope of Katahdin to be accessed by buckboard from the Wassataquoik Tote Road. As close as they would come was the camps at Russell Pond known as W.F. Tracy Camps or simply Tracy's Camps.



*Lunksoos Advertising book from 1905
Courtesy of Kala Rush*

Madison Monroe Tracy (1869 – 1952)

But Foster Tracy quickly realized that few guests wanted to stay his sporting camps after the winter crew of loggers left their mess behind.



The Madison House was located close to the rail station in Davidson and a built further away from both Sherman and Stacyville. It was located at the beginning of the Stacyville Tote Road that was established in 1883. Courtesy of Lucius Merrill Collection Bangor Public Library Dated September 31, 1894

When Foster Tracy died in 1909 Madison Tracy took over the family farm which also acted as a stagecoach stop for Simon Gates of Winn. Gates operated hotels in Winn, Mattawamkeag and owned the Hunt Farm where he had built a hotel called the Matagamon House. By this time the railroad passed by the area with train stations in both Stacyville and Davidson. After the wildfire of 1903 Tracy leased the Matagamon House located at the Hunt Farm from Gates and rebuilt it, then operating it only until 1912 when Irving Palmer took over the lease for the Hunt Farm and Matagamon House. In 1905 Madison Tracy leased the Lunksoos Camps from Charles Adams which he operated until the camps burned in 1908. It was then that Tracy realized the potential for a boarding house at his location near the entrance to the Stacyville Tote Road (Swift Brook Road). While it was a bit away from the Stacyville or Sherman train station it was ideally located for travelers headed toward Katahdin or the East Branch of the Penobscot River. The station at Davidson was just over two miles from the house and had only the Summit Farm as a place for traveler to stay. Tracy had special wagons for travelers flexible but without spring to smooth the ride and could easily be lifted over rocks or pulled through the mud by the guests.

Madison Monroe Tracy (1869 – 1952)

In the 1920s with all types of rumors and efforts for a future park in the Katahdin region, either state or national, people were becoming excited about the business it would bring to the area. Madison Tracy had the house at the beginning of the road while William Tracy had the camps at Little Spring Brook and Russell Pond more them giving them control to the eastern access to Katahdin and the future park. This was a time when development of the area as a park seemed very possible with hotels in the Katahdin Lake area being proposed. So, in 1920, Madison Tracy blazed and cut a new trail just to the south of the Hunt Farm to the south shore of Katahdin Lake where there were sporting camps. The trail started at the Hunt Farm and travelled downstream along the eastern edge of the river until just below Whetstone Falls where it crossed the river in a shallow section below Whetstone Falls. The trail then followed along the Sandbank Brook, crossing it several times then over the ridge tops to the west finally reaching Katahdin Lake. The purpose of the trail was to position Stacyville and the Tracy House, which had good railroad access, as the gateway community to the future park should it materialize. The Great Northern Paper Company was strongly opposed, not only to the concept of a park but to eastern access to Katahdin doing everything they could to disrupt the use of the trail. So, while the Sand Bank trail was short lived it did still show up on the 1954 USGS for Stacyville showing its importance.

When Baxter became a park Harold Dyer, then head of the park, hired William Tracy to work as a patrol fire ranger at either Chimney Pond or Russell Pond but Dyer decided to have him work at Russell Pond where he had built a set of camps and maintained horses which would be included in his wage. With Dyer departure in 1934 Fred Pitman was placed in charge of the park and realized Tracy had been hired without the Authority approval so he was terminated. He finished working the season but was never paid for the work that he had done. The Tracy Camps at Russell Pond would remain under the lease until 1941 making it the only private sporting camps in the Katahdin region that would remain under a single ownership for its existence. In 1941 Percival Baxter purchase the land to be included in Baxter State Park. William Tracy was fully compensated for the buildings. But it was not a happy exchange between Baxter and William Tracy when he left the camps he demolished them to the point that no one was allowed to use them or camp at Russell Pond until there was a new campground built there in 1950.



Theodora Tracy at Lunksoos camps in 1905
Courtesy of Debra Crosier Family Collection

Madison Tracy's wife Helen Stone Tracy died in 1926 leaving him alone while Madison Tracy died in 1952. They had two children Theodora that live until she died in 1976 and Henry who was born in 1892 and died a year later. All that remains of the once huge farm on the edge of the wilderness is a few artifacts where the buildings were location and fruit trees that surrounded the farm. It has been reported that about a mile to the southwest where they had a hunting camp on the edge of the field there were rare pear trees. Most of the family is buried in a small cemetery at the back of the property known as the Tracy Cemetery once owned and built by Prince Tracy.

Madison Monroe Tracy (1869 – 1952)

Bibliography

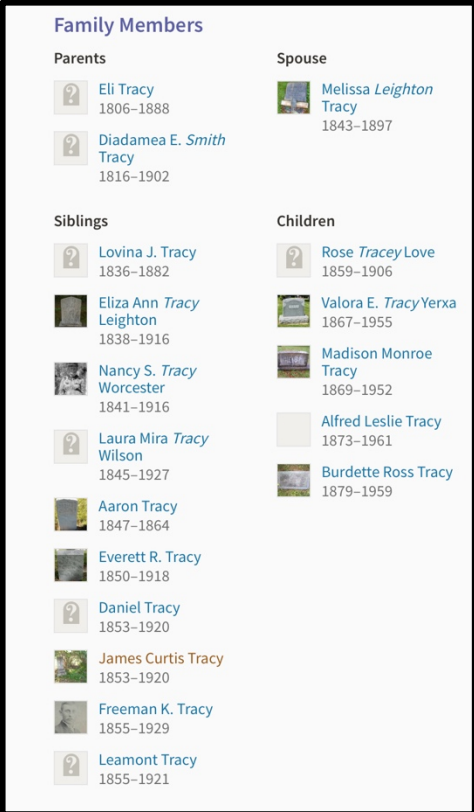
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Tracy Cemetery – Stacyville Maine




Annie Dudley Allen (1879-1904)
Burleigh F Black (... - 1883)
Catherine F Black (1840-1903)
Coriden Black (1829-1910)
Joshua E Black (... - 1885)
Harold Mitchell Boulrier (1890-1959)
Theodora Leighton Tracy Boulrier (1890-1976)
Charles Buttitta (1956-2016)
Zelma Cameron (1874-1946)
Charles O Davis (1889-1956)
Sarah L Davis (1893-1958)
Abigail H Sibley Dudley (1822-1888)
David Henry Gerald (1874-1909)
George Newell Gerald (1895-1940)
Orrin F Gerald (1837-1903)
Rose Ellen Gerald Gerald (1854-1919)
Barbara Salomie Gullow Guiggey (... - 2003)
Howard Maxwell Guiggey (1922-2004)
Helen Marie Boulrier Johnson (1914-2006)
Grace E Mcarthur (1905-1907)
Infant Mcarthur (1904-1904)
Jessie E Hunt Mcarthur (1880-1909)
Eunice S Mitchell McClure (1852-1941)
Robert Nesmith McClure (1838-1925)
Francis Willard McNally (1924-2008)
Clara M Mitchell (1868-1868)
Harold "harrey" Mitchell (1880-1881)
Sarah A Stacey Mitchell (1834-1914)
Sarah M "sadie" Mitchell (1872-1880)
Silas Ripley Mitchell (1828-1911)
Silas R "baby Sy" Mitchell, Jr (1874-1881)
Charles E Morrill (1849-1910)
Grace E Morrill (1880-1901)
Louie E Morrill
















Emma I Simpson O'hara (1862-1894)
Matilda A Stacey Stone (1841-1892)
Sally G Stone (1867-1891)
Helen D Stone Tracy (1865-1926)
Henry A Tracy (1892-1893)
Madison Monroe Tracy (1869-1952)
Melissa Leighton Tracy (1843-1897)
Albert P Walch (1943-1943)

Foster J.
Tracy
Family







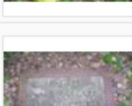










Family Members

Parents	Spouse
 Eli Tracy 1806-1888	 Melissa Leighton Tracy 1843-1897
 Diadamea E. Smith Tracy 1816-1902	




















Siblings	Children
 Lovina J. Tracy 1836-1882	 Rose Tracey Love 1859-1906
 Eliza Ann Tracy Leighton 1838-1916	 Valora E. Tracy Yerxa 1867-1955
 Nancy S. Tracy Worcester 1841-1916	 Madison Monroe Tracy 1869-1952
 Laura Mira Tracy Wilson 1845-1927	 Alfred Leslie Tracy 1873-1961
 Aaron Tracy 1847-1864	 Burdette Ross Tracy 1879-1959
 Everett R. Tracy 1850-1918	
 Daniel Tracy 1853-1920	
 James Curtis Tracy 1853-1920	
 Freeman K. Tracy 1855-1929	
 Leamont Tracy 1855-1921	

Madison Monroe Tracy (1869-1952)

	<p>Madison Monroe Tracy 24 Jul 1869 – 1952</p>
	<p>Melissa Leighton Tracy ✨ 7 Apr 1843 – 4 Jul 1897</p>
	<p>Mina M Tracy Tracy 25 Dec 1877 – 20 Aug 1933</p>
	<p>Nellie B McGrath Tracy 20 Aug 1895 – 22 Jul 1979</p>
	<p>Prince Alton Tracy 14 Apr 1888 – 1949</p>
	<p>William Freeman Tracy 3 Apr 1881 – 26 Nov 1947</p>
	<p>Laurel Vain "Gee Gee" Speed 9 Aug 1895 – 5 May 1985</p>

	<p>Theodora Leighton Tracy Boulier 29 Jun 1890 – 1976</p>
	<p>Bessie L Tracy McClure ✨ Jun 1879 – 7 Jan 1940</p>
	<p>Burdette Ross Tracy 7 Nov 1879 – 18 Aug 1959</p>
	<p>Earl Archer Tracy ✨ 12 Nov 1895 – 2 May 1917</p>
	<p>Helen D Stone Tracy 1865 – 1926</p>
	<p>Henry A Tracy 13 Aug 1892 – 19 Jun 1893</p>
	<p>Ida E Morse Tracy 19 Mar 1858 – 2 Nov 1928</p>
	<p>James Curtis Tracy ✨ 5 Oct 1853 – 26 Sep 1920</p>

Family Members

Parents		Spouse	
 Eli Tracy 1806-1888	 Diadamea E. Smith Tracy 1816-1902	 Ida E Morse Tracy 1858-1928	
Siblings		Children	
 Lovina J. Tracy 1836-1882	 Eliza Ann Tracy Leighton 1838-1916	 Mina M Tracy Tracy 1877-1933	 Bessie L Tracy McClure 1879-1940
 Foster Jacob Tracy 1840-1909	 Nancy S. Tracy Worcester 1841-1916	 William Freeman Tracy 1881-1947	 William Freeman Tracy 1881-1947
 Laura Mira Tracy Wilson 1845-1927	 Aaron Tracy 1847-1864	 Prince Alton Tracy 1888-1949	 Earl Archer Tracy 1895-1917
 Everett R. Tracy 1850-1918	 Daniel Tracy 1853-1920		
 Freeman K. Tracy 1855-1929	 Leamont Tracy 1855-1921		

James C.
Tracy
Family