

Factory: **Kearney Ice Company** aka Nebraska Ice Company

Location: 2223 Central (office) on shore of Kearney Lake

Years of operation: 1892-3

Oct. 20, 1890 – Kearney Ice Co. cut 9,500 tons of ice last season

Feb 8, 1891 – employing almost 300 men. Cutting has been going on day and night, went until midnight the night before.

Jan 21, 1892 – 50 men putting up ice. Plan to fill ice houses by Kearney Lake and ship 100 tons to Hastings plus more to other surrounding cities. Ice is clear and 15-16” thick

Feb. 17, 1892 – shipped 15 cars of ice to Hastings

Oct 25, 1892 – Ice has traditionally used sawdust for packing ice. Kearney Ice co. has found that straw and hay work better and will use that next to the ice, with sawdust on the outside.

Jan 30, 1894 – Kearney Ice Co. started cutting ice. Should provide employment for quite A number.

Feb. 6, 1894 – has orders from several towns along the UP & B&M. Shipped out 6 carloads. Ice is 18” thick

Feb 16, 1894 – Sidney Wiley has leased the ice business from Kearney Ice Co. for another season and will conduct business on his own account this year. [this would be selling and delivering the ice cut by the Ky Ice Co.?)

Dec. 1896 – O G Smith and W E Jakeway have formed a business corporation known as Kearney Ice co. Got a 3-yr lease on the old ice houses and machinery and will start work as soon as possible. It takes 5,000 lbs of ice to fill the two ice houses. The new company will undertake to supply the needs of Kearney and do outside business as well.

Jan 26, 1897 – Loading ice for both railroads

Jan 28, 1897 – next season’s delivery service in town will be better

Jan 24, 1903 – Ice shipped to Kenesaw

Jan. 1913 – still in business

Comments: UP spur connected it to the main line