

The local Turpentine Industry provided work for many of our ancestors from about 1860 into the 1900's. Our forest was blessed with an abundance of pine trees. A 10 inch wide, wedge type cut would be made in them about three feet off the ground. A metal container would be connected to the tree below the wedge cut. The pine sap would flow into the containers where workers would periodically empty them into a wooden barrel. It was then hauled to the Bolton Turpentine Steel for cooking. Many of the local farmers augmented their farming income by being temporary employees of the industry. After the crops were laid by they would work until harvest time. After the crops were harvested they would return and work until planting season. Unlike farming the Bolton turpentine processing still was not seasonable.

