

Salisbury's Ice Houses

You normally encounter old ice houses when you go to a stately home. However Salisbury had three of its own. They were all situated near the Milford Hill area. Ice houses were frequently built on a slope or next to a ditch to allow water to run off from the base.

Three ice houses are recorded in Milford in 1844, two at the top of Milford Hill and one near Southampton Road. Of the two mounds at Milford Hill, one was 7.5 metres by 2 metres and the other was smaller 4 metres by 2 metres. At least one of these ice houses was still in use in 1872.

They were used by business people for keeping and freezing items as well as setting jellies etc.

WWI saw the decline and end of ice houses because of the lack of staff to maintain them.