

A Huron Valley Area Bicentennial Project

**COMMON SCHOOL TO CONSOLIDATION
A History of Huron Valley Schools
1832-1946**

By

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PREFACE

This history has been sponsored by the Huron Valley Bicentennial Committee as an effort to gather into one source materials on the ways education has developed in the area from the log school era to the final consolidations in 1946. The Committee felt this was an appropriate way to honor this milestone in our country's history.

Two paragraphs from "A Family Record" done by Mary J. Burch in 1880 and printed in Windsor, Ontario, seemed so perfect to express in an old-fashioned way what our sentiments are that we quote:

"My labors have been tedious but altogether pleasant and enjoyable for in pursuing them I can safely say that I have spent some of the pleasantest hours of my life. By them I have been brought into direct communication with many whom, under other circumstances, it might not have been my good fortune to meet and they may rest assured that the time spent amongst them will always be among my most pleasing recollections.

One of the characteristics of the present age is an earnest desire to revive the memory and live over, in mind, the days that are past, to collect the scattered relics of bygone years, to search among the old, faded records of the long ago and eagerly catch and preserve all the knowledge thereby obtained."

Since this paper was done to serve as a reference for young students of our schools we have chosen to give sources throughout the body of the history.

The Board of Education and board office personnel of Huron Valley Schools who let us read the old school officers' record books, the staff at the Milford Public Library, The Oakland County Historical Society, the County School Commissioner's Office, the Bentley Historical Library and the Michigan Archives all were most helpful.

Special thanks are given the management and staff of the The Milford Times who let us search back issues of the paper that gave facts that would not otherwise have been available. Drawings of things and people of education by a former student, Valerie Edwards Dicks, and a sketch of my first school at West Highland by my daughter, Sue Bourns McColl, have added much to this history.

Lastly, I thank my family who always were sure we could finish the history.

Chapter I - The Historical Setting

The area that became known as Huron Valley School District on September 25, 1946, according to the Board of Education Minutes of that date, is made up of all of Highland Township, all of Milford Township except a small piece on the southern boundary, over 1/2 of White Lake Township, part of the NW 1/4 of Commerce Township, and small parts of Rose and Brighton Townships. This area had 28 districts at various times prior to consolidation with Milford #4 Frl.

Because of the many lakes, streams and swamps, pupils sometimes had a long walk to their assigned school. Parents on the edge of a township could petition to be "set over" into a district that was easier for Abel and Annie to reach. This created what was called a "fractional district", commonly abbreviated Frl. Two fractional districts, Clyde and Pickett, took in three or four farms in Rose and Brighton Townships. Another example that was within the area was Stone, #5 Frl., which was in the center of our four townships - Highland, Milford, White Lake and Commerce.

Our pioneers came from New England, New York or England in the early 1830's. Next to providing for the necessities of life in the wilderness, the worship of God and the education of their children were their main concerns.

These settlers' school background was that of the "common school", meaning school for the masses. When the log school was opened they turned to the New England system as their model. The tight Prussian educational philosophy that first Superintendent of Public Instruction, John D. Pierce, admired so much also had a great influence on the way our schools developed. In his first message to the State Legislature he outlined these ideas. Much of the set patterns in our schools, such as desks bolted to the floor in exact rows, came from this philosophy.

When families in an area had their log homes built, they would gather on an appointed day to build a duplicate cabin that was to be the school. This log building also served as a meetinghouse for church services, for social gatherings such as spelling bees, lyceums, box socials, and a voting place. The first school on Main Street, Milford, was used for these purposes.

Most early settlers were farmers, although a farmer could also be a teacher, a preacher, or a blacksmith. Since the area had such a plentiful source of water power available from either the Huron or Clinton Rivers and Pettibone Creek, there were a number of mills in operation. The earliest was one built in 1832 in south Milford by the Ruggles Brothers, Milford's earliest settlers.

The area also had a plentiful supply of both trees and rocks. Clearing land meant that all hands, even small ones, were useful and it was a sacrifice to let Abels and Annies attend school even during a winter term. But such was their interest in education that parents kept their children in school as much as family finances would allow.

Boys came at ages seventeen, eighteen and nineteen. However, we must add that it was not always because of a burning desire for education on the boys' part, but sometimes because they looked forward to pranks that might be played on an inexperienced teacher. On opening day there were cases where a fight between the largest boy and "teacher" occurred and the outcome decided whether the man teacher remained. Young ladies also had their testing on occasion. One teacher we were told of in the Granger district was taken by sleigh some distance from school and put out to walk back. She also was released from her job.

Today the law requires 180 days of school and compulsory attendance. It is difficult for us to realize the meager nature of pioneer education. Black and Hillel, in their book The American Schoolbook, page 75, say that in 1840 the total average time that children had in school was only 10 months and 8 days, which is about one year of formal education by today's definition of a school year.

Several conditions were responsible for poor attendance. Fever and ague were prevalent in summer, especially in the Milford area, while in winter there were many types of respiratory ailments. From early spring to late fall, children were needed for farm work. Children who lived some distance from the school were kept at home during the worst parts of our Michigan winters. Poor families lacked the cash to pay the Rate Bill assessment and so kept Abel and Annie at home.

As this paper continues we want to pull together facts about the things of education as well as the people of education. We include a Teachers Chart with names going back into the late 1880's. There is a list of dates that were significant to education, both statewide and in our own district. Dates in our district came from old school record books that are at the Huron Valley Board of Education Offices and from our reading of back issues of The Milford Times. The final section will tell the story of each of the twenty-eight public and ten private schools that have been identified.

SCHOOL NAMES (OR NAMES)	NUMBER	TOWNSHIP	DATE OF		LOG SCHOOL	EARLIEST TEACHER	*DATE OF CONSOLIDATION
			ORGANIZATION	1837			
West Highland (Highland Corners, Tenny)	1	Highland		1837	Yes	C.H.R. Warren & Miss A.E. Tenny in 1849	1921
Hickory Ridge	2 Frl	Highland		1837	No	L.L. Wells in 1865	1921
Clyde	3	Highland		1837	Yes	Josephine Newton & James Butler in 1867	1921
Excelsior (A-rab)	3 Frl	Highland		1842	Yes	Helen Hawthorn in 1842	1921
Highland Station Highland	4	Highland		1837	Yes	Mr. Bradley in 1837	1921
Grubb	4 Frl	Highland		1872	No	Elizabeth Bailey in 1872	1921
?	5	Highland		1837	Yes	Louisa Mudge (St.John)	
Lyman	6	Highland		1837	No	Wm. Johnson in 1858	Closed around 1909
Beaumont	7 Frl	Highland		1938	No	Willard Dennis in 1938	1946
<hr/>							
Townline	1 Frl	Milford		1838	?	Mr. M.B. Wilsey in 1838	1921
Footte (Bourns)	2	Milford		1840	Yes	Mr. Wright in 1840	1921
Bird (Padley, 5th Avenue)	3	Milford		1840	Yes	Mrs. Kesby in 1840	1940
Milford Union	4 Frl	Milford		1837	No	Mr. Newcomb	1921
Ward	5	Milford		1838	?	Mary VanValkenburg	Closed about 1916
Stone	5 Frl	Milford		1838	Yes	James Lynch	

SCHOOL NAMES (OR NAMES)	NUMBER	TOWNSHIP	DATE OF		LOG SCHOOL	EARLIEST TEACHER	*DATE OF CONSOLIDATION
			ORGANIZATION	ORGANIZATION			
Tuck (Vincent)	6	Milford	1833	Yes		Rosetta Albright in 1833	1921
Taylor (Middaugh, Hoyes, Soulbey, Bridgeman)	7	Milford				Charles Soulbey in 1877	United with South Lyon
Welch (Palmer, #8)	8	Milford	1850	No		Grace Knapp in 1898	1940
Pickett	9	Frl Milford		Yes		Louisa Cosart in 1860	1946
Hale (Gamble)	13	Milford	1851	No		Margaret Wells in 1851	1921
Granger	3	White Lake	1832	Yes		Florence Brayman in 1903	1921
Porter (White Lake Center)	4	White Lake	1837	Yes		Edith Fletcher in 1867	1946
Gibson	5	White Lake	1837	No		C.M. Richmond in 1881	1946
Thompson	6	White Lake	1837			George Wager in 1876	1946
Sugden Lake	3	Frl Commerce		Yes		Delphine Barret in 1849	Closed 1910?
Stephens	4	Commerce				Miss Stephens in 1869	1944
Sleeth	5	Commerce				Leona Holmes in 1893	1921
Burch	6	Frl Commerce				Abbie Steel (Pittenger, 1880)	1921

Names of earliest teacher we could verify is given, but there were earlier ones in many cases.
 *Dates of consolidation taken from paper "Historical and Statistical Research of Huron Valley School District" done by William P. Golden and Clifford A. Scherer on January 10, 1966.

DATES OF IMPORTANCE

- 1804 - Act of Congress grants monies from sale of Section 16 of each township to go into a Primary School Fund for use of schools of the township therein.
- 1805 - Territory of Michigan established
- 1827 - Act passed to establish common schools - Michigan's first public school law
- 1832 - First schools held in Huron Valley area
- 1835 - Michigan adopts first constitution
- 1837 - Michigan becomes a state. Primary school law becomes effective since financial aid is now given to districts that comply with provisions of this law. Official boundaries for schools set in White Lake and Highland Township
- 1849 - Opening of Michigan State Normal College at Ypsilanti, Michigan
- 1850 - Grading of textbooks begun by age, but no standards set
- 1852 - Michigan Education Association formed
- 1859 - High schools sanctioned by law
- 1869 - Milford Union School formed - Later to be only high school in area until 1975 - Rate Bill abolished
- 1871 - First compulsory school attendance law for pupils aged 8-14 to attend 3 months
- 1877 - First class graduated from Milford High School
- 1879 - Reform schools and schools for handicapped authorized
- 1880 - Physiology and hygiene added to curriculum due to pressure by WCTU
- 1881 - County Board of Examiners established
- 1883 - First Baccalaureate at Milford High School
- 1889 - First free textbook law. County Board of Examiners to administer teachers' examinations and grant certificates.
- 1892 - Milford High School on approved list of Michigan State Normal College. First Milford High School Alumni Association formed
- 1893 - Milford High had graduated its first one hundred students
- 1896 - New compulsory school attendance law
- 1897 - Uniform textbook law passed. Also compulsory vote on free textbooks
- 1909 - High school tuition to be paid by local districts
- 1910 - High school program meets accreditation standards for University of Michigan
- 1912 - Agriculture as a subject compulsory in each school that has grades 1-8
- 1918 - Parent Teacher Association begun in Michigan
- 1921 - Highland Township Schools vote to consolidate their rural schools under one Board of Education
- 1921 - October 7 - First consolidation of Milford area schools when Townline, Foote, Stone, Tuck, Hale, Sleeth and Burch vote to consolidate with Milford, No. 4 Frl.

DATES OF IMPORTANCE (CONTINUED)

- 1927 - New Milford Rural Agriculture School opened as a separate building for the high school students
- 1928 - January 13 - First P.T.A. organized in Milford
- 1940 - Bird and Welch consolidate with Milford
- 1944 - Stephens consolidates with Milford
- 1946 - Thompson, Granger, Porter, Beaumont and Pickett consolidate with Milford

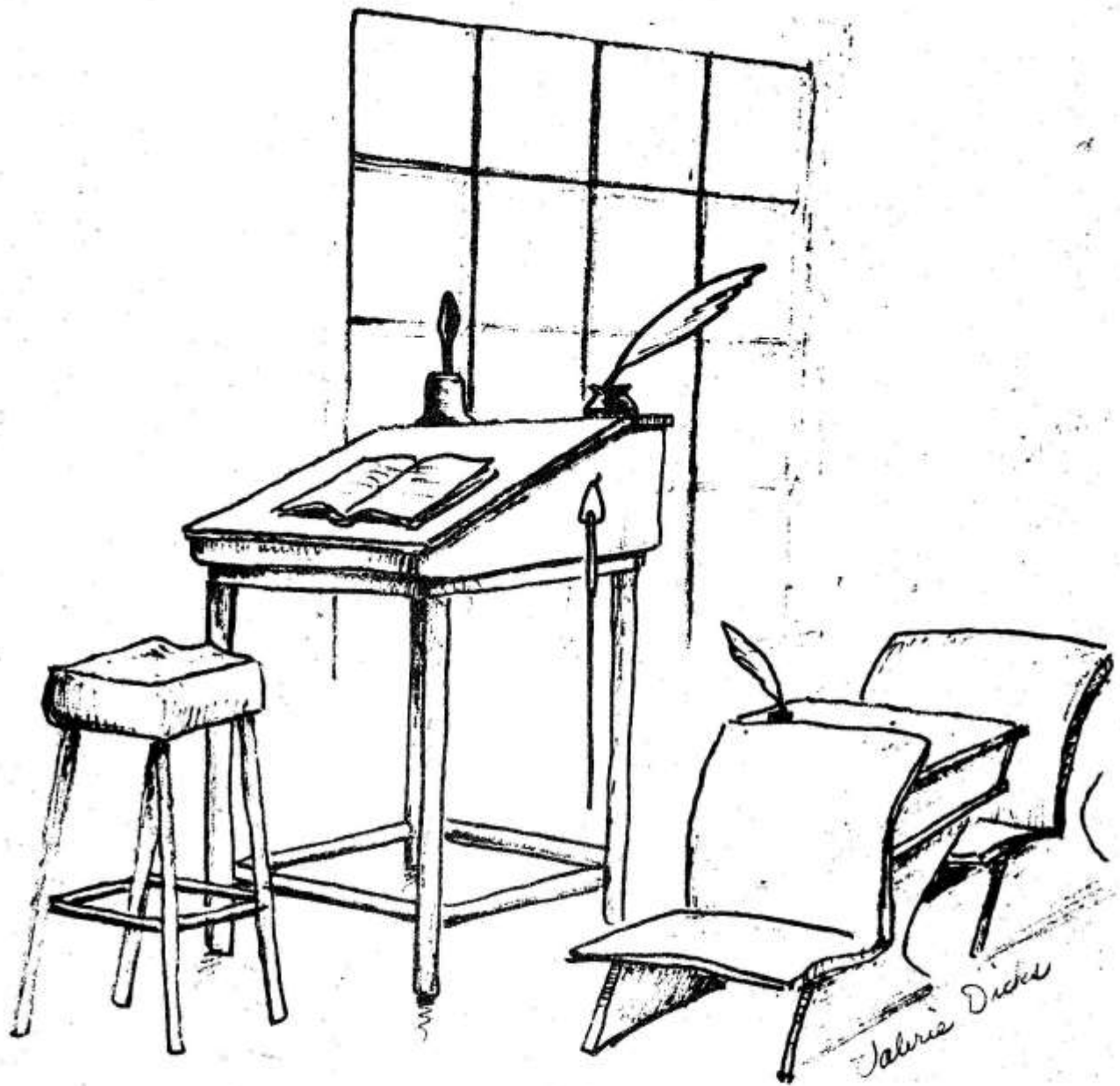
Notice is hereby given to the taxable
inhabitants of School District No 13
in the Township of Millford that a
special meeting of said district will
be held at the house of David Stephens
on the 18th day of January at 8 O'clock
P.M. for the purpose of establishing
a site for school house and to take into
consideration the building of a school
house and such other business as may
come before the meeting
Jan. the 9th 1851
By Order of the District Board
William Potts Jr. Director
At a special meeting of the quallific
voters of school District No 13 of the
Township of Millford held at the
house of David Stephens on the 18th
day of January 1851 pursuant to public
notice the Moderator providing and
Ralph Taylor was appointed clerk in
the absence of the Director

Resolved that the site for the school house
be six rods square on the north east
corner of the south east quarter of section
eleven in Township two north range
seven east on land now owned by
William Waller the above resolved
carried by a unanimous vote

Resolved that the district build upon
school house eighteen feet wide and
twenty two feet long on the above
site carried unanimously

Resolved that the District raise one
hundred and fifty dollars for build
ing a school house carried unanimously

Resolved that the district officers be
instructed to let the building of said
school house to the best advantage
for the benefit of the district
carried unanimously



Chapter II - The "Things" of Education

Boundaries

Michigan's first public school law, passed in April 1827, was known as "An Act for the establishment of common schools". Townships were authorized to call a special township meeting to set up school district boundaries and number them in accord with other districts within the township. The "superintendence" of each district was to be done by the inspectors of the township. However, even though this was a landmark decision it brought about little change as townships were given a choice of compliance or non-compliance with the law.

In 1828, the Territorial Legislature made provisions for the election of five persons to act as commissioners of common schools. They were to "lay off" their township into districts and give notice of the boundaries of each district to the residents thereof and to call a meeting of taxable inhabitants for the purpose of organizing their district. (Material in the above two paragraphs is a resume of material found in Floyd R. Dain's book Education in the Wilderness, published by the Michigan Historical Commission in 1968, Chapters eight and nine. This is an excellent study of Michigan schools from territorial Michigan to 1850.)

In our area the earliest boundaries found were those drawn in 1835 in the Vincent District, later known as Tuck. Unfortunately records for Milford Township's ten other schools were not located. The best evidence as to what may have happened to them was information in The Milford Times for April 16, 1898. The office of Township Clerk, N.E. Stephens, was in the Milford Produce Company Elevator, which caught fire April 11, 1898, and the records and other properties of the township were badly damaged.

Supervisor Janes Reid of White Lake Township supplied copies of the original hand written records for the boundaries established for districts 3, 4, 5 and 6 of our Huron Valley district and 7 and 8 now a part of Waterford Schools. We include the wording from the Granger record:

"School Districts in the Township of White Lake"

We the undersigned inspectors of common schools in the township of White Lake have this day set off a school district in said township bounded and described as follows, vz. containing Section No. 5, 6, 7 and 8 in said township to be known and distinguished as district No. 4 in township of White Lake. Done at White Lake this 22nd day of July A.D. 1837.

Erastus Hopkins
John B. Howland
John B. Watson

Inspectors of Common Schools

Additions and withdrawals were found through the year 1846. Other signers were Embre Ferguson, J.D. Standish, Robert D. Voorheis, Harrison Parker and Sebring Voorheis.

In Highland Township The History of Oakland County - 1877 lists School Inspectors Daniel M. Lockwood and W.B. Wright as the men who set the original school boundaries in 1837.

In 1837, a new Primary School Law forced many areas in Michigan to either reorganize their established school districts or organize new ones. Non-compliance meant loss of payments that were to finally come to them from the interest on monies the State had received from either sale or rental of section sixteens that were designated as school lands by the Ordinance of 1785.

Comparison of boundaries set in 1837 with those in 1872 in White Lake Township shows that the township completely reorganized its districts. For example, the original Granger District cited above became the area of White Lake #2 while the Granger we know of today was originally the Gibson School District.

Highland Township boundaries, however, had only minor changes made and these were so that pupils need not cross Pettibone Creek to get to their school.

School Sites and Buildings

The original law allowed for two methods of financing: (1) the sum necessary to buy a site and build on it was raised by taxes, but (2) patrons who could not pay this tax were allowed to work or supply building materials in lieu of the tax. Hale, Bird and Pickett Schools are examples where patrons helped in the construction.

School sites varied in size from some just large enough to put the building and the outhouses and yet have space to walk around the building to the acre sites found at West Highland, Clyde, Grubb and others. In 1925, just 15 years before the school was closed, Bird bought extra land. Welch decided in 1920 to move the building back from the road the length of the school and buy extra play area. Where playgrounds were limited, children played in the road or used adjoining land by permission of the owner, as in Highland #4.

One State School Superintendent, John Gregory, said that schools were never near an Arcadian grove, but rather close to the road and on ground too damp for cultivation. This was true of four schools we recall - Welch, Pickett, Bird and Taylor. Thompson was built over a mile from the center of the district because a farmer would not allow a piece of his land to be used for a school site. In only one case - Clyde in 1868 - did we find a school board going to condemnation to assure having a site a committee had chosen.

There were log schools in at least the following districts:

Milford Township -

Bird, Foote, Tuck, Pickett and Stone

Highland Township -

West Highland, Highland, Clyde, Excelsior and district #5.

White Lake Township -

Granger and Porter

Two of our buildings were of field stone - Hickory Ridge and Stone. We know of only two early brick buildings - Milford #4 and its Ward School. All other buildings were frame ones. Whatever material was used, the design was similar. Schools were rectangular with evenly spaced windows on both long sides. Some had a cupola or belfry, and entry and possibly a covered porch. The West Highland and Hickory Ridge buildings of 1928 and 1930 had in addition to the regular classroom a library, (our first media center!), a fuel room and an area for two indoor toilets.

We were surprised to find that Grubb School used a bid system in 1871 and we quote their specifications from the Moderator's Minute Book:

"The school is to be boarded up and down and battened, ceilinged inside and have an entry 8' x 12' be shingled with #1 shingles, be painted with pure lead and oil, have flooring lined with good cull lumber and topped with good common lumber and the seats shall be modeled after the seats in the Stone School. Sealed proposals will be received by D. H. Calkings."

Robert Stiff was awarded the bid for \$1,000 on June 2, 1871.

Heating

In our pioneer schools, fireplaces were used. Today we prize a fireplace as a cozy spot in our homes, but when it was the only source of heat in frigid weather it could not do the job. In a book, Popular Education, published in 1850 by Harper we found this quote:

"Fireplaces were bad as 1/5 of the heat is radiated from the front of the fire to the room. Four-fold more is needed. When a fireplace is used cold is constantly running through every crevice at one end to supply combustion at the other.

From L. D. Ruggles of Highland we have a description of the log schoolhouse fireplace that was put in a building at Highland in 1839: "It had an old-fashioned Dutch chimney, stone hearth and back and rest built with sticks and mortar. This fireplace took almost 1/4 cord of wood to make a fire."

Parents were to furnish wood according to the number of pupils they had attending. Hale in 1852 included the following in their minutes: "Each person sent to school is to provide 1/2 cord of wood fitted for the stove for each scholar. It is to be delivered by the first day of December next and if anyone neglects to furnish wood the Director shall furnish and charge the delinquent." Ten years later Director Wm. Potts was authorized to collect \$1.25 for each cord of wood supplied for those delinquent. After a few years this procedure was dropped in favor of having all fuel purchased and paid for by taxation.

Wood was usually green and so hard to light. The Milford Times for February 24, 1900, told about a near fire at Thompson School where wood and kindling laid on top of the stove over night to dry and it ignited. Only the prompt action of Mr. Thompson's people saved the building. Other disadvantages of green wood were that it took twice as much to produce the same amount of heat as dry wood and it also created steam as it burned which tended to rust stove pipes.

Older boys frequently had to cut the wood to the proper size. Bringing in wood was used as punishment at West Highland in the early 1900's, according to Lucius Lyon and Foster Gaunt. Pupils carried in ten blocks of wood for each misdemeanor. Live coals were necessary to light fires in pioneer days as matches were not in use until some time after 1850. The stoves that were put in later buildings were described as huge, made of cast iron, and having metal panels put along two sides to deflect the heat. Children were often allowed to come to a bench to get nearer the heat.

Furniture

In the pioneer school, furniture included a plain table for the teacher with an ink stand, quill pen, ferule (a limber rod about three feet long which was used to punish as well as to pound on the window to call pupils in), and in some schools a quantity of blue beech or birch switches.

A long board was put on pins driven into two or three walls where pupils sat on backless wooden benches to do their lessons. When they recited they faced the room which allowed them to rest their backs against the board.

Some schools had double desks made so that the top of one had the seat for the next in front. This kind of furniture was in use for a considerable time. At Hale we found that the first commercial desks came from the Northville Furniture Company in 1885. Since this school began in 1851, these early desks served for about 35 years. Lighting at first came from candles fastened to the wall with a knife. Lamps came later and then electric lights in the 1920's and 30's.

Equipment

Miss Carrie Krell in a paper prepared for the Western Oakland Historical Society said of early schools: "No bells, no maps, no globes, and no school apparatus." In the earliest official reports made by the School Inspectors in 1858 they noted that most of our rural schools had no teaching equipment.

In his 1899 Public Schools Manual for Oakland County, H.H. Snowden, then County School Commissioner, said in the Preface:

"We can truthfully say that the rural schools have improved a great deal during the past five years. Scarcely a school but what has a nice globe, dictionary, flag and maps. Those who are not yet supplied, soon will be, even if the teachers and pupils have to do, what many of them have done, go out into the fields and byways and labor diligently for necessary dollars to get the supplies."

Some teachers had already done that. In 1838 Mr. M.B. Wilsey, at his own expense, bought for Townline a blackboard which was then considered a novelty. Bradley Thompson in the 1850's gave Tuck a Webster's Dictionary as a parting gift. (From Mrs. Chas. Pittenger's history written for the Oakland County Historical Society.) As late as 1914, we found in the Oakland County School Directory specified top amounts to be spent for equipment: wall maps, \$12.00; globe, \$8.00; dictionary, \$10.00; and a library case, \$10.00.

By 1917, our area had only two of 25 buildings that met the criteria for a Standard School. Sleeth and West Highland Schools were given a brass plaque for their front door to certify this award. The twelve requirements set by the State for this designation were:

1. School year of nine months
2. Suitable salary
3. Proper lighting
4. School grounds at least 1/2 acre
5. Schoolhouse in good repair
6. Well or sanitary drinking fountain
7. Hardwood floors
8. Heating and ventilating system
9. Library of 80 volumes
10. Seats and desks suitable for all ages
11. Good blackboards with some for small children
12. A dictionary, flag, maps, charts, globe, organ and pictures

We believe that items 6, 9 and 12 were ones most often deficient. These qualifications are included because today they seem to be such obvious needs.

Libraries

In the School Inspector's Reports 1858-59, all buildings in Highland and Commerce and two in White Lake reported they had a library. The Inspectors in Milford failed to answer the questions.

This same question on the 1908 Director's Reports was answered in the negative by the same districts that had had a library in 1859. Books do wear out or are not returned and as the years went by, evidently they were not replaced nor the library continually built up. As we read available Treasurer's Record Books we found that library monies were received but often no amount was listed as spent for books.

In all of Michigan schools one hundred years ago there were about 58,000 library books, according to the pamphlet Michigan's Search for Educational Standards. This is less than we have today in our ten elementary buildings.

Magazines for children, other than Sunday School papers, were not available until the late 1800's when St. Nicholas appeared. No rural school that we read about subscribed to children's magazines.

Finances

Buildings take dollars to operate. In pioneer days a form of barter helped keep cost down. We refer to the wood supply already discussed and to "boarding around" that will be found under the section on teachers. The money that came to qualifying schools after 1837 from the Primary School Fund has been explained.

Prior to 1843, a school district had a choice as to whether to levy taxes on the "resident inhabitants". The Act, on March 6, 1843, changed this so that by 1845 and each year thereafter a one-mill tax was to be levied on all real and personal property of each district. This became known as "mill money" and was continued for some time even though these funds and the Primary Money were not enough to support schools for the required three-month minimum.

This brought about the Rate Bill. The amount needed for operation above the money mentioned was divided by the grand total of days pupils had attended. This gave a per day cost and each parent was billed according to the days his children had come to school. To assure collection, the law allowed any household good, horses or other property to be seized for non-payment of the bill.

At the Milford Public Library there is a copy of a Rate Bill for Ward School in Milford for the summer term of 1848. The cost per day worked out to \$.07 per pupil and it raised a total of \$66.02. This also gave a clue to early attendance when we found that Della Northrop came only two days while Charlie Andrews had been in school for 65 days. Twenty-one pupils out of the thirty-eight enrolled came less than one-half the time.

Rate bills had several poor features. Parents with large families and those most faithful in sending children to school paid the most. Those with no children paid only the mill tax and a voted tax to pay for the site and building. If many pupils came, the rate was lower, but we can also assume that the quality of education (a well known phrase today!) would be less as attendance figures increased. Children were sometimes taken from school when the Primary Money share of the budget was exhausted and it was time to institute the Rate Bill.

Figures that show the tax levied, the number of pupils enrolled in Milford Township Schools for 1894, and the Director's name are of interest.

<u>Rank by pupil Enrollment</u>	<u>Tax Levied</u>	<u>Pupils</u>	<u>Directors</u>
1. Bird	\$172.04	29	Watson Bourns
2. Taylor	\$170.24	28	Charles Howes
3. Stone	\$100.26	20	William Bunn
4. Foote	\$ 75.00	18	J. Pearson
5. Townline	\$100.39	17	Darwin Bennett
6. Tuck	\$ 75.00	15	L.S. Crawford
7. Pickett	\$ 71.31	12	Barney McCullough
8. Welch	\$ 71.31	11	Charles Ogden
9. Hale	\$110.84	10	John Gamble

The tax levied, of course, was spread over the entire district so each individual taxpayer's share would seem very small to us today. Milford #4 is not included as they employed more than one teacher.

Rate Bill - Ward School

Name	Macays.	Amount	Address	Macays.	Amount
Charlie Gourd	34	2.42	Bella Northrop.	2 1/2	18
Charlie Andrews.	62 10	4.10	Barnard Birdell.	24	1.50
John Truemp.	53	3.34	Marion Gordon.	41 3	2.58
Phillip Wells.	19	1.10	Nellie Chappell	4	20
Maria Wells	53	3.46	Charlie Barber	24	1.50
Eliza Truemp.	54	3.40	Paula Ballou.	10	6.50
Edwin Riley.	42	2.65	George Pearson.	30	31
Frank McNeill.	11	71	Emma McLean.	9	56
Frank Birdell.	5 53 1/2	3.34	Charlie Booth.	17 1/2	1.06
Billie Tenney.	14 1/2	3.99	George Walker.	18	1.13
Clara Andrews.	56 3	3.53	Thomas Walker.	17 p	1.06 1.0
Freddie Andrews.	58 53	3.65	Emma Gordon.	24	2.40
John Vandusen.	45	2.84	Mary Cutting.	38 3	2.40
Willie Vandusen.	44	2.77	Nelle Crawford.	7	46
Martha Vandusen.	38	2.40	Edgar Hopkins.	15	92
Ella Lebring.	17 1/2	1.12		36 5	2.25
Ella Spence.	7	.46	Scholar attending school in Dist No. 5 during summer of 1898 with out number of days present.		
Delphia Ellsbaugh.	30	1.90			
Roxana Barber.	46	2.90			
Ella Chappell.	11	50			
Daniel Cutting.	20	1.25	38 pupils Attford - Ward School		
Ada Mendenhall.	1 50 15	1.46			

Chapter III - The Curriculum

For many years the curriculum was the textbooks used. Pupils came to the ungraded common schools and began where they had left off the previous term. They used the book or books available in their family. Since almost every child had a different book, education was necessarily much more individualized than it became when a common text was mandated in 1897. Although grading was begun in 1850, there were no set standards to guide authors.

When looking at early books it is important to remember that the word denoting the number did not mean "grade" but only the number of that book in the series. In my father's family all eight children eventually used the National Fifth Reader, but this was the fifth, and last, in the series and was really a college level text.

Contrary to the popular saying, "Reading, Writin' and 'Rithmetic", spelling came before reading. Abel and Annie learned the alphabet which may have included saying it backward. Then letter combinations were sounded out--ab, ad, etc., through all possible combinations. These were then put together to form words, but no thought was given as to whether these words were part of the vocabulary of pupils. After this, children used the easiest reader their family owned. If there was no reader, the Bible could be used.

Knowledge was important in the eyes of people of the 1800's only as it helped one toward material success. Elson's book Guardians of Tradition (page 5) said that in a Baldwin Fifth Reader in 1898 one article contained this: "To read a book for enjoyment is to misuse that book." In a 1900 County Teachers Association meeting that was reported in The Milford Times one of the people on the program said, "Do not encourage pupils in indiscriminate reading."

Someone has said that we declared independence from England, but this did not mean a cultural independence. It is no surprise to find that our early texts came from England. Ruth Freeman's study in Yesterday's Schoolbooks said that when we finally began to produce our own books they were done by either ministers or Latin professors. It was not until after the Civil War that teachers and other professional educators began to write textbooks. They dropped woodcuts, used natural illustrations and improved writing methods.

Content also changed. The moralism, heroism and death themes were dropped and stories about pets and nature replaced them. In the U.S. News and World Report for September 29, 1975 John Nietz's "Study of Textbooks" was reviewed on the editorial page. He found that early school readers had 90% of their materials on religion or morals. By 1926, the figure was 6% while now it is difficult to find any such materials in readers. (See example on next page.)

Students began ciphering (using numbers to figure) as soon as they entered school. They began with addition and in the first year may have learned some of the multiplication tables. By the end of the second year they might be as far as vulgar (common rather than decimal) fractions or perhaps the Rule of Three. This rule, the dictionary says, is finding the fourth term in a proportion when the three terms are given. Ability to work all the difficult problems at the end of an Advanced Arithmetic was a noteworthy achievement that few accomplished. We found a rhyme that probably expressed children's frustrations rather well.

"Multiplication is a vexation
Subtraction is bad
The rule of three it puzzles me
And fractions make me sad."

Children learned to write from a copy set by the teacher on a slate, a box of damp sand or paper that was ruled by the teacher with a plumb line and ferule. Homemade quill pens were in use until the steel pens came in about 1850. Sharpening quills was another job for the teacher and it was said that ladies appeared to be wearing an Indian feather headdress as their long hair was full of quills awaiting that spare moment to make them useable again. Ink was made at home. One recipe called for the use of maple bark and copperas. Some inks, particularly browns we found, had faded badly. Much work was done at blackboards, particularly in arithmetic.

Ruth Freeman has listed the order in which subjects came into the curriculum. Mental arithmetic came in the 1850's, a more factual geography and grammar in the 1860's history after the Civil War, and, as an offshoot of geography, we began classes in geology and zoology.

Two subjects were mandated by law. In 1880, physiology and hygiene were added as a result of pressure from the Women's Christian Temperance Union. In 1912, agriculture was to be taught in each building that had grades one through eight.

Since our high school was ungraded until 1875, when Professor and Mrs. G.A. Brown were hired specifically to produce a graded course of study, our pupils had three choices if they wished to attend college. They could go to a private academy or one of the graded high schools in the area such as Pontiac or Ann Arbor, or they could take an entrance examination.

Milford High School's first class, four young ladies, were graduated in 1877. By 1896, the University of Michigan had still refused accreditation because there were only two teachers and no English history or drawing classes at the high school. One teacher was willing to accept the history assignment, but no one felt they could teach the drawing classes.

By 1910, the Milford Board of Education had approved the money to meet the cost of another teacher, but we read a number of reviews of board meetings that were published that year in The Milford Times where there were heated discussions as to whether spending this extra money was wise.

The famous (or infamous) eighth grade examinations were given at least by 1893 when our pupils went to South Lyon in May to take their tests in arithmetic, geography, civil government, U.S. History, grammar, physiology, writing, reading, spelling and orthography.

Several people told us that their parents had to make arrangements for them to either stay overnight or take the train to Pontiac. Our own two day ordeal was spent at a table facing the assembled students (we were late in arriving and all desks were filled) gathered in Miss Lottie Lamb's room at Milford #4 Frl. She was a well known disciplinarian and we had heard much about her. The place and the person were enough to scare away all our accumulated knowledge, but somehow the test was done.

Teachers were urged to spend extra time with their eighth grade students. The entire year was spent in drilling on facts such as the names of the presidential cabinet officers. Somehow we have never had a need to recall President Wilson's Cabinet!

The failure rate was very high. In 1900, only 78 were successful in all of Oakland County. In our area, only Highland Township had students that passed. Owen Nacker, Ashley Morse and Wilbur Holdridge from Highland, Grace Atchinson of Highland Corners and Myrtie Bruno and Minnie Charlick of Clyde were listed in H.H. Snowdon's Public School Manual of 1900, page 17. Things were not better in 1914, when the Oakland County Directory reported that 311 wrote and only 191 passed, which was close to a 40% failure rate.

LESSON II

school shall all grow when teacher

wise man mind grow when while shall mother



1. I am a little boy I shall grow to be a man.
2. When I am a man I will be kind to my mother.
3. She is good and kind to me, and I will try to please her.
4. I will try to please her now, while I am a boy, or I may not try to when I am a man.
5. I will go to school; I will mind the teacher, and I will learn all I can while I am a boy.
6. By and by, I will be a wise man—if I can, and—I can.

American Book Co.

Copyright 1896-1895

LESSON III.

love these very their
some write of books

1. My name is John. I go to school. I like to go to school.
2. At school I learn to read and write. I love my teacher. She is very kind to me.
3. I will not make a noise in school. I will read in my book.
4. I will mind the teacher and try to please her; then she will love me.
5. Some of the boys do not mind the teacher. They do not try to please her.
6. These boys do not learn their books. They do not even try to learn them.
7. Are they not bad boys? I will not do as they do.



Chapter IV - The "People" of Education

The Township school inspectors, already mentioned in Chapter II in the discussion on school boundaries, also made annual reports to the State Superintendent of Instruction. Their reports from 1858 on have now been put on microfilm and are available for research at the Michigan Archives in Lansing, Michigan. To compile their reports, the inspectors usually visited each school at least once a year. They also examined teachers and granted one-year certificates.

Locally there were three elected Board of Education members - a director (secretary), a treasurer, and a moderator (chairman). They are among our unsung heroes of education as they served for the most part without pay, some for as long as twenty, thirty and even forty years. Since many records are fragmentary or non-existent, we chose not to try to list those with long service. We hope their descendants will pass on this bit of family history to their children.

These three officers were given much authority by law. In The Milford Times of January 20, 1912, the County School Commissioner wrote "School Boards have full powers as to raising money, hiring teachers, making repairs, and arranging a course of study. Any district meeting votes are void as having any authority contrary to that passed by the Board."

There was a fairly uniform pattern for the agenda for the annual meeting. Topics were:

1. Election of one or more officers
2. Vote on length of school term (or terms when there was a winter and summer term)
3. Vote the amount of tax to be levied for the coming year
4. Vote as to whether a male or female teacher should be hired (dropped in most schools by 1880)
5. Vote on amount of fuel to purchase (or who was to furnish it in early days)
6. Vote on repairs or alterations to the building
7. Vote on course of study or list of texts to use (rarely done!)

At one meeting in Highland Township the weighty topic was to inform Mr. _____ to keep his bull out of the road. It seemed to take a catastrophe such as occurred when a building burned to call for a special meeting.

The director usually hired the teacher, expelled unruly students and acted as mentor and guide to the teacher. This was usually done in consultation with the other two board members. Some board members were almost too officious, as the one who told a teacher she couldn't teach the names of the presidents as they would consider that she was teaching "politics".

Although the County School Commissioner had a number of roles, the one for which he is probably best remembered was his visits to the rural school. We well recall how our school reacted when the majestic A.L. Craft appeared. Everyone was on his best behavior! Mr. Craft taught one year at Clyde and five in Highland and we wish we had information on how his classes were operated.

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction was in charge of educational planning at the state level. The Reverend John D. Pierce was not only our first State Superintendent but was also the first to hold such an office in the U.S. We want to emphasize our debt to this far-seeing and dedicated man because it was his work that laid the pattern for education that we enjoy in Michigan today. His successors also worked diligently and worried much over the progress we were making toward (1) a truly free educational system and (2) improvement of the quality of teaching in the days when, at best, teachers had only a high school education when they went to teach in our rural schools.

The Teachers

In pioneer times there were three requirements to get a teaching certificate - some education, a reputation for good moral character, and the ability to pass a test given by the township inspectors. Since, according to Dain in his book Education in the Wilderness (page 196) teaching was thought of as only temporary employment, there was little incentive to further one's education unless one wished to teach in a city school. This is borne out by our teachers chart at the end of this history which shows that in many schools, teachers came and went in rapid succession.

There was no minimum age qualification and often, particularly in the case of young ladies, quite young people were known to have taught. The youngest we read of was fifteen-year old Jeanette Fifield who taught in District #2 of White Lake Township. We also had a Miss Bradley who taught at Sugden Lake at age sixteen in the 1870's.

The earliest Teachers' Examinations were oral and the difficulty depended upon the educational background of the inspector giving the test. We were amused to see that in 1860, according to the microfilm records of School Inspectors Reports for White Lake Township, twenty-one prospective teachers were examined but only eleven certificates were granted. Was this a 50% failure rate? Probably not that at all, but rather that the canny inspectors knew how many job openings there were and didn't flood the market with applicants.

Almost fifty years passed before there were written examinations given by a County Board of Examiners. Those who wished to teach but who had no college credits could try for certification by writing a test in arithmetic, reading, writing, geography and spelling.

There was considerable criticism of these teachers' examinations by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. In 1890, Joseph Estabrook said that certification had been far too desultory for many years and that beginning with the test of August of that year, and exact knowledge of Theory and Art of Teaching would be required. His outline for study is reproduced. It quite overwhelms us in scope and intent.

"The Mental Faculties"

Define and explain:

1. Presentative power
2. Representative power
3. Thought power.

(Above taken from The Milford Times of July 5, 1890.)

The dissatisfaction continued and in 1900, the State Superintendent said "50% to 80% of teacher applicants are failing the examination. Are they inefficient or is the state asking too much?" Teachers probably lacked opportunities to prepare themselves for the theoretical questions.

At both the state and county levels, however, great effort was put into improving the classroom teaching. A favorite idea seemed to be strict scheduling of classes. In the 1914 School Directory for Oakland County, most explicit directions were given: "The number one duty of a teacher is to put upon the blackboard or wall within three days after the beginning of school a program of the daily work." In 1923, a similar Directory wording was, "See that the Recitation Program is on the wall. Keep it there and follow it."

One room schools in the 1930's still had to operate on about a ten minute recitation periods. During this short time, a teacher had to review, evaluate progress, teach a lesson and motivate the group to make good use of their time until they came for their next recitation. There were no special teachers or parent volunteers to share the teacher's class load.

We have heard how younger pupils were taught by the older girls and also how much the younger ones learned from hearing the other recitations. We were in a rural building for eight years as a student and two as a teacher and we feel this system was usually boring. After all, only the beginners and eighth graders heard new lessons.

In an attempt to make college more accessible for the prospective teacher, Milford had its own Normal College. The Milford Times for March 23, 1872 announced that a course to prepare teachers for work in rural schools would begin on April 8, 1872, under P.M. Parker, assisted by Lydia C. Hopkins, Preceptress. Tuition was \$3.00 for the term of four weeks.

An outgrowth of this college was the Milford Business College, which opened on January 7, 1884. Bookkeeping, business correspondence, commercial law, etc., were listed. Heading this college was F.M. Harding. Penmanship instructor John M. Swaim was said to be able to execute marvelous birds and flourishes. We are not quite sure how this would make business reports more readable. The southwest room on the second floor of Milford #4 was outfitted with little cubicles to simulate offices. This college ran for several years.

The demise of our "college" came after Fenton Normal College was opened in 1884 on Thurber Street. Tuition here was \$8.00 a term, but the term was 10 weeks. In 1889, another Normal College was opened in the same building under a Professor Palmer. Here both teachers and office workers were trained. A number of local people, including Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood, Frank Coe, and Lottie Lamb, studied here. (Information from The Independent for February 6, 1875. Copy supplied by Aroline Lockwood Needham of Highland.)

Graduates of Milford High School could attend Eastern Michigan University, as it is now known, without special examination as early as 1892. Professor J.M.B. Sill notified our Professor A.P. Cook of the approval according to a notice in The Milford Times for January 23, 1892.

After high school graduation, young men and women could go into teaching the following fall. To encourage summer school attendance, the 1914 Oakland County Directory said that teachers would be excused from writing four parts of the teachers examination when they sent proof of such attendance. This procedure was an inducement to get prospective teachers into a program that gave them an introduction to teaching methods.

The County Normal, a one year's training in the art and practice of teaching, was begun in Oakland County in 1903 in one of the Pontiac elementary buildings. Successful completion of this one year of training gave the prospective teacher a certificate good for three years in a rural school. This type of teacher training was most practical and inexpensive and it continued until some time in the 1930's.

There were also various types of institutes which were mini-training courses designed to improve the education of both school officers and teachers. Among the Rowe Family Papers that are part of the Michigan Historical Collections, Bentley Historical library, The University of Michigan, we found an invitation for Mr. Rowe, a school officer, to attend such a meeting.

"Annual meeting of the Oakland County Education Society will be held in Pontiac Village January 30, 1849, at 2.p.m. The purpose is to discuss Common School Education. Make preparations to stay 2 or 3 days or more. Let us do all we can to encourage education. It is confidently believed the County Society is one of the best means of encouraging and elevating the cause."

Z.B. Knight
Secretary of Oakland County
Education Society.

Teachers institutes were sponsored by the Michigan Education Association for many years. The state was divided into districts. A two-day fall institute was held to discuss methodology in various subject areas and display new teaching materials. These finally were discontinued because teachers were better trained at the college level before being certified and also because the great numbers of teachers made it difficult to find a meeting place.

Meetings were held in various schools throughout the county by a group known as the County Teachers' Association. In The Milford Times for February 10, 1890, we found a review of one held at Milford. Participants were Miss Kate Muir who spoke on libraries, Professor Morrison of Milford High School and County School Commissioner Elliot who talked about problems of teaching and salaries.

In 1910, a State Teacher's Reading Circle was organized by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Teachers were urged to participate by reading and reviewing the prescribed "classics" and were rewarded by being excused from writing the tests on reading and also on theory and art of teaching. "Classics" included such books as Hoosier School Boy and Silas Marner.

Emil J. Lederle, Oakland County School Commissioner in the late 1920's and early 1930's had taught in northern Michigan with only an eighth grade education. He never forgot the problems of that first year and in his position as School Commissioner he felt challenged to do something to help teachers. He knew of a plan that Dr. M.S. Pittman of Michigan State Normal College had used in Brown County, South Dakota. Mr. Lederle adapted Dr. Pittman's idea of the Helping Teacher for use in Oakland County.

Quite briefly stated, the plan included having four master teachers who supervised the four quarters of the county. This meant that each had about 45 rural buildings to work with. The Helping Teacher visited each building at least once a month, made written comments, did demonstration teaching upon request and on one Saturday a month held a "Zone Meeting" where methods were discussed, materials reviewed and more demonstration lessons given.

To check the value of this effort, tests were prepared by the State Department of Education and given to paired schools in Oakland County and an adjoining county. The results after two testing periods 150 days apart, showed an amazing improvement by pupils in our county while the cost was only 5% of a rural school's budget.

During two of the years this plan was in use, we were teaching under the guidance of Helping Teacher Ethel O'Connor and never once did we hear anything but high praise from our fellow teachers for the program. (From an article by Carroll P. Streeter in the September 1929 issue of Farmer's Wife loaned to us by Mrs. Bert McKeechie.)

Teacher Contracts

The earliest contract located was the 1851 contract between District #1 of Highland, (West Highland School), and Sophia Griffing, who agreed to teach a primary school from the 17th day of November, 1851, for a sum of \$20 a month to be paid on or before the 15th day of May 1852. This was signed by the teacher and J.C. Morse, Assessor. This contract took about 1/4 page in longhand, while our present Huron Valley Master Contract has 70 typewritten pages. (West Highland Contract is among the Rowe Family Papers, Michigan Historical Collections/Bentley Historical Library, The University of Michigan.)

Contracts could be very precise as to a teacher's duties, as was the 1906 Clyde School Contract with Miss Gertrude Shelters (Jackson). She was to do the necessary janitor work, remain in the building during the noon intermission, and teach a ninth grade. None of these were unusual duties. Other provisions often included time off for potato digging in October and a stipulation that there was no compensation when a school was closed because of contagious disease. During the early 1930's, Milford #4 Frl. had a provision that allowed dismissal of a female teacher as of the day she married. (Such a contract is in the writer's personal papers.)

Pupil Load

Microfilm of the School Inspectors Reports for the year 1858-59, showed a total census figure for our area of 1468 pupils. This gave an average of nearly 50 pupils per teacher. However, this is misleading as five schools had over 60 pupils. One teacher in one room could have from 45 to 80 pupils, with an age span of six or seven to nineteen. We have heard much about overcrowding over the years, but these figures show that it is not a new problem for us.

Salaries

Teachers for many years received part of their pay in barter form - "boarding around." This meant living in the homes of their students for a time period that was determined by the number of pupils coming from each home. This was probably a hardship for all concerned. Mrs. Bert Holden gave the view of the mother as, "The housewife had three hard jobs a year - butchering, making soft soap and boarding the teacher." Miss Carrie Krell, a teacher in Milford High School for some years, viewed it this way:

"Whether the teacher gained sufficient knowledge of human nature in his forced acquaintance with the patrons of his schools to make him feel rewarded for being a homeless wanderer is not known. Doubtless, some teachers enjoyed being the guest of the house to whom every honor was shown, while others may have dreaded the week to be spent at the home of an unfriendly pupil, or in the quiet hours of the night may have looked through the openings in the roof to the silent stars and shiveringly wondered if they were cold."

Methods of payment were casual for many years - quite often the treasurer's oldest child brought the pay in his dinner pail! In the 1914 Oakland County Directory we read: "It should not be necessary for a teacher to run around the district to get the pay." As already mentioned in pioneer times, teachers may have had to wait until the close of a particular term to get the wages earned. The school month in pioneer schools could be as long as 22 days since classes were held either 1/2 day every Saturday or all day on alternate Saturdays.

The Depression of the early 1930's probably had the greatest effect on salaries of any single event. Two typical examples are: White Lake Center went from \$115 a month in 1930 to \$50 in 1933 while Welch went from \$90 in 1931 to \$40 a month. In the Highland secretary's book of minutes for January 16, 1933, we found that teachers were asked to forfeit their contracts on May 1 and accept new contracts with a 20% cut in salary for the last three months.

The following chart compares salaries and length of the school year by township for about one hundred years.

<u>Township</u>	<u>Months in School Term</u>		
	1858	1908	1958
Highland	6 2/3	9.1	10
Milford	8.2	9	10
White Lake	6 3/4	8.25	10
Commerce	7.25	7.75	10

<u>Township</u>	<u>Salary Per Month (Average)</u>		
	1858	1908	1968
Highland	\$14.83	30.97	570.00
Milford	14.92	29.18	570.00
White Lake	9.90	30.25	570.00
Commerce	9.45	29.70	570.00

Discipline

Today's young people picture the pioneer log school in terms of the switch, the dunce cap and the tall stool. That is about all they know about early education. Teachers were often hired because they appeared to be able to maintain order, rather than for their teaching skills. Men were thought to be a "must" in certain districts for the winter terms. However, both of the above statements are generalizations and can be refuted. For example, Mr. J.D. Rowe told of an early woman teacher, Sophia Griffing, who taught at West Highland and used moral "suasion" rather than the blue birch switch. There were many beloved

teachers like Mrs. G.A. Brown, Preceptress of Milford High School. Former pupils gathered to honor Mrs. Brown each year for as long as she was well enough to attend.

However, that nebulous state called "order" was often referred to in lists of teachers' duties found in directives from the County School Commissioners Office. Order also was on the minds of both the patrons and the teachers and we give examples to prove the point. At the organizational meeting for Highland #4, L.D. Ruggles recalled that punishment was decided as "only with a whip and that around the calf of the leg." Mrs. Fred Crawford recalled (at age ninety-three) that the supply of birch switches that Mr. Wheeler had by his desk at Taylor School. He was fond of alluding to his helper "Dr. Birch" as a promoter of education.

Report Cards

On the first report cards, number grades were used for both school subject and conduct (deportment). Such grading leads to questions about how a mark of 74 rather than 79 was given. When letter grades were substituted things were little better. True an "A" stands for "Excellent", but excellent in relation to what?

Truant Officers

After the compulsory attendance laws were enacted, teachers were required to report truants (pupils of the prescribed age for attendance but who were not in regular attendance without reasonable excuse). Until 1905, truancy was handled by the chairman of the Board of School Inspectors of each township. The law was changed in 1905 to make the Truant Officer a deputy sherriff.

One aspect of this job was quite unusual: "When requested by the County Commissioner of Schools he shall inspect the outhouses of primary districts and order repairs on same and if not done said Truant Officer shall have the work done at the District's expense." (Quote from the 1914 Oakland County School Directory).

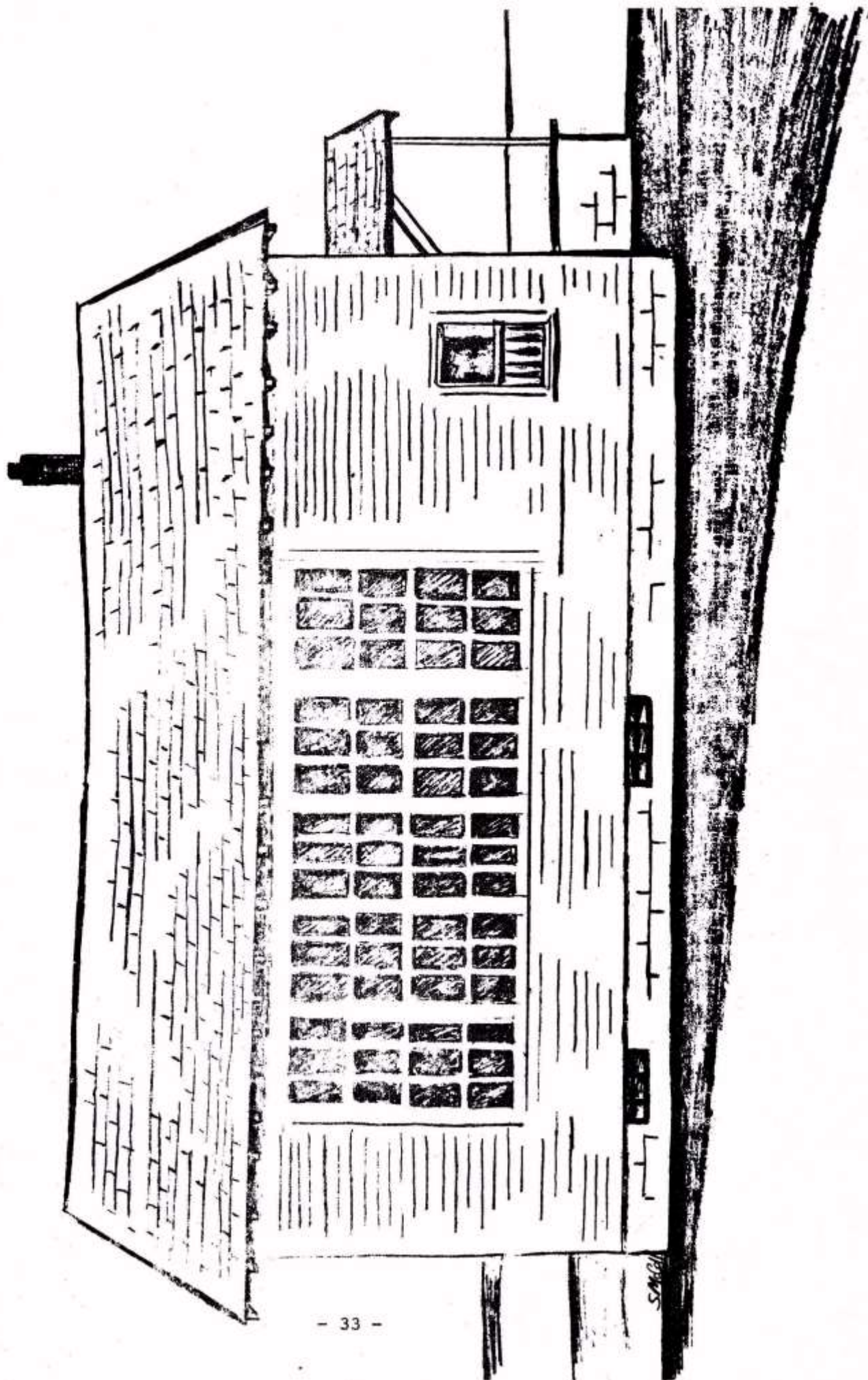
The problem of truancy has never really been solved. One method used in the past was quite drastic - demotion to a lower grade. The ultimate penalty came to be a summons for a court appearance for the parents of truants.

Conclusion

Some districts were generous in their support of schools while others seemed to have little pride in the building, its equipment, length of school term or quality of education their low salary would provide. There were differences in the earning capacity of farms in the area and other opportunities to earn extra money may not have been available. Size of a district made a difference. Then, education was not equal in our rural schools.

The early schools had features that we are turning back to today - cross age grouping, team teaching and individualized instruction.

Parents and children did many things together at the social center - the schoolhouse. Parents believed then, as now, in the value of education. We believe that teachers were and are hard working and caring persons.



II - Individual School Histories

BEAUMONT #7 Fr1.

This District, at a special meeting on September 1, 1938, voted to float a bond issue for the purpose of building another school building. At the same time John F. and Harry S. Beaumont offered to donate the site.

The building was opened in January for all eight grades with William Dennis as teacher. This two-room building at the corner of Duck Lake Road and Jackson Boulevard hired two teachers - Aileen Squire for teacher for lower and William Dennis for upper grades the following fall.

Early in 1946, the District voted to divide its area. The Beaumont School, composing approximately 2/3 of the valuation of the original district, voted to join Highland Rural Agricultural School District. Later this was consolidated with Milford.

The building has been used by church groups and as a day care center since the time it was closed as a school.

BIRD (PADLEY, FIFTH AVENUE) #3

A log school built with the help of men of the district, particularly Henry Padley, John Atkin, Wm. Bucknell and Thomas Bourns, was put on the farm of Mr. Atkin on the southwest corner of Buno and Hickory Ridge Roads in 1843. This was first known as Padley, probably for Henry Padley, a Methodist minister who held services in the building. It became known as Bird School around the late 1800's for the Michael Bird family who lived across the street. Mrs. Kesby was the first teacher. Others in the log school were Mr. Wright, Mr. D.M. Fox and Mr. Dodge, who was the last teacher in this building. Early teachers in this school were Dinah Bird, Alfred Bourns, Stafford Woodsill and Margaret Bourns Hoisington.

Bird School had one of the best known and longest running of the Lyceums. These were held during the winter months for some forty or fifty years. This had a rather imposing name - the Fifth Avenue Lyceum, hence the name "Fifth Avenue" which the school was sometimes affectionately called. Musical selections, prose and poetry recitations or readings, and a debate on a timely topic were the order of the evening at all the Lyceums. Participants were mainly people who lived in the area. The Milford Times for February 12, 1898, said that 195 people crowded into the building and quite a few were turned away. The admission fee went to buy such things as the organ and library books.

County School Commissioner Snowden, who came to a School Board Meeting in 1896, was quoted in The Milford Times, February 12, 1898, as giving high praise for the way the meeting was conducted. The Director's Book that covers 1873-1940 was a pleasure to read as the penmanship was very legible and the meetings were clearly written.

On the 1912 Census taken by C.W. Bennett, the following families were listed: Bourns, Bucknell, Cottrell, Crawford, McCullough, McLaughlin, Mahoney, Mitchell and Potter. Total number was 16 pupils.

At a Special Meeting held July 30, 1940, on a motion by Mr. Kruger, seconded by Harry Lane, the people voted 16 to 6 to consolidate with Milford. The building was sold and relocated on the north side of Buno Road where it is now a part of a private dwelling.

(Much of the data for this history was taken from one done by Mrs. Porter Bennett who had materials supplied by Margaret Bourns Hoisington and Esther Bucknell of Hardy, Nebraska.)

BURCH #6 Fr1.

A frame building made of wide planks was built (date unknown) near the present trailer park on Wixom Road. This was not well insulated, was about 20' x 36', and had the usual platform in front.

Early teachers were Charles Wesley Gordon, Mrs. Harms, Grace Lockwood and Alice Decker.

It was a large school in 1859 with forty-five on the Census. By 1908, there were only seven pupils. Families on the 1914 Census were Burch, Hartland, Sanders, Decker, Stowe and Thornton.

This district had a "first" as it was the first to send its pupils by bus to Milford #4 Fr1. The district did not buy a school bus, but used a converted Model T Ford Truck. Webb Wilson and Frank Sanders built wooden seats padded with straw along the sides and put a canvas over the top. Mr. Wilson was the driver.

The school was sold after the consolidation in 1922 and the building was completely remodeled into a home that is still on the former school site. Mr. and Mrs. Heintzelman lived in the home for some years.

(We received much of our information about this school from Margaret Sanders Bourns and Joseph Wessinger.)

CLYDE #3

This district was established on October 7, 1837 and was double the minimum area as it included sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11 and 12. This made for a large enrollment at this school over its entire existence.

The first school was held in the home of Morris Wheeler in the town of Clyde, according to the History of Oakland County Michigan, 1877. Several people said they recalled a log building on the south side of White Lake Road just east of Grass Lake Road.

There may have been a "little red schoolhouse" on this site also. At any rate there was a building there when the Oakland County Atlas of 1872 was compiled.

In 1878, condemnation proceedings were begun that cost \$67.50. Six jurors were also paid for their work in choosing a school site. This was the only instance we found in our area where land was so carefully selected and condemnation used. The tax levied about this time was double what it had been, which further leads us to believe that the building that is now at the corner of White Lake Road and Milford Road was built at that time.

For several years in the early 1900's a ninth grade was taught here. Names we found on the 1914 Census will be familiar to residents of the area - Baker, Bullard, Chase, Disbrow, Hutchings, Fullam, McGrain, Matthews, Mascho, Flynn, Predmore, Parks, Rosell, Rogers, Wheaton, Westerby, Wickens, Winn and Savory.

Teachers prior to 1870 were: 1867, James O. Butler and Josephine M. Newton; 1868, Mary Seeley, C. Seavor and R. Britton; and 1869, C. Seavor, R. Britton and Willard Fullum.

In the 1920's and 30's two teachers taught in the one room (Team Teaching). The building underwent extensive remodeling just prior to consolidation.

There is an interesting plaque mounted on a large stone near the road that was a gift from Clyde School Alumni to honor the area young men who fought in the Civil War, Spanish American War and World War I. A fraternal order owns this building, our best remaining example of a century old school.

DISTRICT #5 OF HIGHLAND TOWNSHIP

The Township School Inspectors established boundaries of this district to include the W 1/2 of sections 24 and 25, all of sections 23, 26, and 35, and much of sections 22, 27 and 34 that lie on the east side of Pettibone creek and lakes, on December 11, 1837. A log schoolhouse was built on Pettibone Lake Road north of Reid Road on the property of Daniel St. John some time after 1837. Later this passed to the ownership of Charles Yerrington, then to Leonard Beaumont, and now is state park land.

From her obituary we found that Louisa Mudge (Mrs. Issacher St. John) taught in the school some time before her marriage in 1846. (From The Milford Times for December 31, 1905)

EXCELSIOR (A-RAB) - #3 Fr1

This district has had three different buildings on two different sites. The first was located on the George Potts farm, in his woods. According to a history done by Mrs. Charles Beatty and published in The Milford Times for July 1, 1932, this was a log school. Mrs. Janet McCall Loree, in the same issue of that paper, recalled attending this building at age five. This should date it back to at least 1840. Her teachers were Helen Hawthorne, Laura Dunham, Delia Elridge and Betsey Fisher.

Alexander Findley gave land, according to Mrs. Beatty, for the next school. This was to be school property as long as it was used for school purposes. This was before 1850 and we wonder if Findley heirs were around to claim the land in 1936 when the last building was sold. Early teachers in the "little red schoolhouse" with the unusual name of A-rab (with accent on the A) were Manda Markham, Muriel Ruggles and Webster Wells.

Mrs. H.C. Andrus of Aberdeen, South Dakota, recalled that in 1851 and 1852, Martha St. John taught two summers, Elizabeth Openo, a summer, and Webster Wells and Andrew Tagget had the winter terms. After 1858, teachers included Miss Haner, Miss Newsom, Miss Sheppard and Laura Ruggles.

L.D. Ruggles, who taught several winters around 1880, had a school paper called "Youth Gems" that had prose and poetry written by his pupils: Amanda and Almeda Lanning, Lorena and Charles Ruggles, John and Sara Boutell, Marietta and Lucinda Armstrong, Julia McCain and Delia Newton. The last teacher in the old A-rab school was Will House.

In 1874, a new frame building was erected by a Mr. Bartlett. This building came to be known as "Excelsior." This old building was sold to Mr. Burnett who moved it to a place behind his home, where it was used as a woodshed for many years. About 1/4 mile north of the Reid Road corner of Pettibone Lake Road, may be that old A-rab School.

The first teacher in the new building was the well known disciplinarian, Mr. Wheeler who probably brought along "Dr. Birch." It is known that he had 40 pupils.

The building was completely renovated in 1934 and a woodshed was built over the pump, all done with W.P.A. funds. School records show that the school was sold to attorney D.F. Noble on September 1, 1936, for \$305. It was made into a home that only recently was torn down to make room for a hardware store.

All that remains to remind us of the school are a small row of pines at the west edge of the former playground that were planted as a windbreak by A.J. McCall and George Gordon when they were pupils there many years ago.

FOOTE (BOURNS) #2

Classes were held in a house owned and occupied by Mr. Allport and afterward by Robert Pearson, Senior. The second school was a log building built in 1840 on Martindale Road where Kensington Park now has a tree farm. The school grounds were known for the picnic area called Foote's Grove which was often used by Milford groups. The second school was known as Bourns School, for George Bourns, who was a land owner in the area.

The log building was described by Massam Pearson and quoted by Carrie Krell in her address to the Pioneer Society. Her description was, "Standing upon the threshold with two jumps I cleared the entire length of the building." Miss Krell's observation was "Since there were anywhere from fifty to seventy-five pupils we are at a loss to know just how each person had requisite elbow room or space for brain expansion except on the theory, that Mr. Pearson was a remarkable jumper."

In an article in The Milford Times of March 24, 1894, an unknown writer said, "Last Friday was the close of the winter term with Mr. White as teacher. This writer found a seat as he had 50 years ago within those same walls. A picnic lunch followed the pieces spoken by the children." This dates the third school, a frame building, at about 1845. Mrs. Margaret Bourns Hoisington in a letter to Miriam Johnson written the 16th of March 1930, listed some of the teachers who taught at Foote (Bourns) before the Civil War, (Mrs. Hoisington's teachers.) She says:

"in the order named: Wellington Walker, one winter term; Rebecka Haner, daughter of a blacksmith whose shop was in south Milford; Esther Ogden, daughter of another blacksmith in Milford, but who was much interested in knitting and socks and mittens grew in her hands, even while she taught the children. The following summer, Sarah Walterhouse who opened the school session each morning with a short bible reading and prayer which left a strong impression upon at least one pupil. After her, Joshua Lane, a stylish looking fellow about 20 years of age.

As the farmers of that day needed all their help at home in summer the older boys and girls got most of their education in the winter terms, often attending until 18 years old.

Probably the next teacher Miss Clarinda Seeds, of Brighton Township. Afterward, Alfred Barrett of Highland, another teacher who improved the opportunity to teach from the Bible as well as from schoolbooks, and had a fine influence on our young people. He later gave his life to wipe out the curse of slavery.

The only teacher I remember later was Mary Bourns (my sister) who taught here in 1868."

Mrs. M.E. Hoisington

Albert Johnson described this building as the usual size without an entry and with a well out in front. Heat came from a big old stove that teacher Inez McCullough used to bake potatoes for the pupil's lunch.

Early families included those of Pearson, Bamber, Robson, Johnson, Eno, Ogden, Phillips and three branches of the Foote family - W.K., Charles and Will.

So few pupils were in the district in the 1920's that the school district consolidated with Milford in 1922.

GIBSON #5

This school dates back to at least 1881. It was located at the end of Hill Road. While being thoroughly renovated with W.P.A. funds in the 1930's, it was destroyed by fire. A new brick building was built that faces north. It is still used by our school system.

Pupils attending in 1908 on the Census taken by David McKee included the Brendel, Fournier, McKee, Shotwell and Welberry families.

(Mrs. Bert McKeechie gave us permission to read the Treasurer's Record Book that gave us most of the history for this building.)

GRANGER #3

The original boundaries for this district, set in 1837 by the Township School Inspectors, were altered after the Primary School Law began funding in 1838. According to a history of the school done by Ephraim Howland and published in Flashbacks of '47, the first school may have come as early as 1832. This was a primitive log cabin with no windows and a dirt floor. This building was about 1/2 mile east of the present Granger Cemetery on what was known as Mead Lake farm.

On September 30, 1852, a site of 3/5 acres just opposite the Granger Cemetery was bought from Mr. and Mrs. William Granger and from this came the name. A school costing \$500 was built. This crude building was so cold that pupils had to huddle around the wood heating stove to keep warm in cold weather. The stove pipe ran the length of the school, and when it got clogged with soot the occupants were smoked out. There was no well so water was carried from a farm house 1/4 mile away.

In 1910, extensive remodeling was done that cost \$4,500. The building was stripped down to the frame and new siding, plaster and shingles were put on. Also a septic tank and a modern furnace were installed.

Microfilm records for the 1908 Census showed the following families: Dinnan, Kennedy, Howland (both John and Alfred), Teggerdine, Ainde, Teeples, Hitchcock, Mills and Boice. Three post office addresses were shown - Milford, Pontiac and Davisburg.

Teachers after 1932 included Marjorie Skelly (1 year), Norma Sellers (2 years), and Maude McComb (8 years). After consolidation in 1946, the building was moved beside Porter School on M59 and both schools were used for one grade each. Later the building became a print shop and the past five years served as Sunday School. Even though it is over 125 years old it is still in good condition.

(The facts about the early years of Granger came from a history written by Ephraim Howland for Flashbacks '47.)

GRUBB #4 Fr1.

A special meeting to establish a schoolhouse site, decide what way the house was to be built and how much money was to be raised, was held at the home of D.M. Calkins on January 24, 1871. The building voted was to cost not more than \$800 and a bid system was to be used. (See section under Buildings and Sites for specifications.) They did exceed the bid as Robert Stiff received the bid at \$1,000 on June 2, 1871. The one-acre site was on the corner of Duck Lake and Grubb Roads.

Over the years a reading of the Minutes showed evidence of much thought and interest in the school. They voted to pay off the school cost in five years, had the building cleaned three times a year, added lamps in 1874, a dictionary in 1875, adopted a policy for use of the building by outside groups in 1890, adopted texts in 1894, and reviewed them several times thereafter, built a porch and purchased new desks in 1918 and repaired the building frequently.

The school boundaries were altered to include part of the land from the discontinued Lyman District after 1908. The 1912 Census taken by George Potts showed these families: Beaumont, Dahn, Davis, Dean, Calkins, Delaford and Lewis.

Edsel Ford bought the building on August 21, 1936, for \$800 in order to keep picnickers away from his estate. It was later moved to M59 and LaSalle Boulevard where it can be seen as the house on the corner. This district is one of two for which there are complete records presently available - the other being the Hale District.

HALE (GAMBLE) #13

This school, located in the corner of what is now the Milford Memorial Cemetery, was organized at the home of William Potts, Senior, January 16, 1851, with Elizur Ruggles as Chairman. William Potts was elected Director; William Hale, Assessor; and Elizur Ruggles, Moderator.

The land for the school site was given by William Hale. Plans called for a building 18' x 22' and \$150 was voted for its construction. However, they had a cost overrun of \$13.65 which was about 10%, in spite of the help they had from patrons of the district.

Thomas Gordon, who was in charge of the work, received \$57.13 while Elizur Ruggles got \$35.06. On September 29, 1851, the Board agreed to raise \$15 for painting the school by Allen Stephens and \$7 for building a backhouse by G.M. Tenney. (Bathrooms were a bargain then!)

The building was completed in time for a winter term in 1851, by H.T. Weavers and a summer term by Margaret Wells. Weavers received \$13 for a four-month term and Miss Wells was paid \$6 for her term of the same length.

In the Minutes for 1862, it was agreed to have a four month term with a male teacher "if one can be obtained at a reasonable price." Evidently no one else was "reasonable" so Elizur Ruggles was the teacher. Rate Bills through the 1850's ran about \$16 a term.

By 1885, the building was found to be in need of considerable repairs as \$164.65 was expended, which was about the cost of the original building. They also spent \$40 for seats from the Northville Furniture Company and \$3 for a table from Bennett and Tenny.

In the 1900's, the school came to be called the Gamble School. By 1909, so few pupils were in the district that their tuition was paid to Milford #4 Fr1. In 1919, the building was sold to Charles Gamble for \$25.00. Mr. Gamble saved the old Director's Book and a large brass key for the front door.

We found it both interesting and sad to see a complete history of a school. These people began with so much enthusiasm and carefully kept books and ended with only one person present at the final board meeting. We are glad to report that the school was not allowed to become a public eyesore. (We extend thanks to Robert Gamble for the loan of the old Director's Book which made it possible to reconstruct the complete history of a pioneer school of the area.)

HICKORY RIDGE #2 Fr1

This stone building on the southwest corner of Hickory Ridge and Clyde Roads got its name for the hill and grove of hickory trees on which it was built. Thick walls of fieldstone made this 30' x 40' building easier to heat than most rural schools. There was a woodshed at the back that was 16' x 20' and built in 1908.

The school site and also that for the church nearby was given by Edmund Lockwood. Records are available from a Treasurer's Book for 1865-1921 and a Director's Book for 1898-1917. These showed consistent efforts to keep the building and grounds up as a few facts taken from these books will show. In 1889 both free and uniform textbooks were voted in, in 1903 a hard maple floor was put in, in 1904 the roof was repaired, a flag staff erected and a nine month school voted in. In 1908 the roof was shingled with the best shingles available, in 1909 closets installed and in 1915 a major overhaul was undertaken.

Of interest also are the 1866 financial figures that show that they were willing to tax themselves to support their school. The Rate Bill came to only \$49.07, the mill money was \$100 while they taxed themselves \$170.04.

A 1910 Souvenir Program with Margaret M. Taylor as teacher and George Auten, Director, had the following names among the 30 pupils - Eddy, Skinner, Gordon, Jones, Lockwood, Charlick, Westphal, House, Middleton, Bruno, Steinbaught, Love, Stark, Chase, Maxfield and Savery.

The stone building was destroyed by fire during the night of November 7, 1930, from causes unknown. The State advised that pupils be transported to Hartland, but when Mr. Barrett offered the use of a nearby house, it was decided to put the \$2,000 of insurance money toward rebuilding. Bids were put out for a school that would be a duplicate of the West Highland School built two years before. Lawrence Lemmon's bid of \$2,285, although not the low bid, was accepted by a sixty to six vote on November 19, 1930, in a meeting at the Highland Town Hall. The building was to be ready by January 1, 1931. (One month to get a building ready!)

The building was in use until pupils were transported to Highland in the late 1930's. The school was moved to the back of the Highland Methodist Church where it is used as an educational center and social hall.

(Thanks are given to Mrs. Wilbur Spoor and Ray Charlick for their help in compiling this history.)

Highland #4

Although boundaries were established on December 9, 1837, this school was not organized until the summer of 1839 at a meeting held in the home of Michael Beach. According to the History of Oakland County, Michigan 1877, the first school was probably one or two terms taught by Miss Eliza Sessions in the Jonathan Stratton home located on the south 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of Section 27 with three pupils - Jonathon Stratton and Rebecca and George Beach.

At the log building on the Frank Kelly corner, the first teacher, Mr. Bradley, had sixty boys and three girls in the first term. Mr. L.D. Ruggles who described this building, said: "Mr. Bradley must have had a picnic." We can make several guesses as to what Mr. Ruggles meant, such as Mr. Bradley enjoyed teaching boys, or he had so many pupils it was chaotic.

A frame school was built on the NE corner of Milford Road about where M59 now crosses. At first this was a one-room school, but about 1880 it was necessary to add a second room. Since the playground area was very small, Mr. A.D. Degarmo allowed the children to use the land east of the building to where the railroad tracks are.

We found there were as many as sixty pupils in the small room that was used by the lower grades. The upper room had a ninth grade and for a year or so even a tenth grade. Some people wanted a new school but for many years a board member would say, "What we need is better teaching, not a new school."

In the early 1920's, there was an effort made to promote a high school for Highland Township and committees were sent to places like Grand Blanc where Township High Schools had been built. However, they later joined with Milford and the high school was built in Highland Township but was named Milford High School.

When it was decided to improve the road to Pontiac, the route was to bypass Highland. The layout showed that traffic would make their already small playground unsafe. After considerable negotiations, in 1936, the State agreed to give \$5,250 and \$25,000 was raised by bonding, which went toward a new brick building that is now a part of Highland Junior High. In 1938, the size of the building was doubled by \$10,000 bond issue and W.P.A. Help. Some time after 1940, ninth grade classes were added to that building and there was a definite identification of a Highland Junior High School.

LYMAN #6

This school was on the C.Lyman farm on Wardlow Road just west of Duck Lake Road. The district was established on March 25, 1838. According to information from Harold Wardlow, whose grandfather attended the first

school, a frame building was put up around 1840. This was at the time so many other schools were built as a result of the Primary School funds which came after 1838. Children that came to this pioneer school who did not have shoes took a board with them when snow was on the ground. They ran a ways, stood on the board, ran again, and so on. This building was sold to Mr. Blackmon who moved it to his property where it was used as a shed.

Some time before 1858, another white frame school was erected that was valued by the Township School Inspectors in 1858 at \$200. In that year they had a winter term taught by William Johnson who received \$13.50 a month for a four month term and a summer term of equal length taught by Elizabeth Newsome who was given \$6 a month. There were sixty names on the Census that year. The Director for some years was John O. Lockwood whose address was Spring Mills.

Eventually the number of students was so small that tuition was paid to Clyde or Grubb. We found that Clyde reported in 1904 that they received \$30.10 from Lyman for tuition. The decision to have school was made on a yearly basis as we found that in 1909 Beth Beaumont was teacher for five months at \$30 a month.

Families on the last Census (1909) included the A.W. and L. Deans, Saylor, Ford, Wardlow, Culver, Slack and Stiff with John R. Shaylor as census taker.

The next year the building was closed and the area divided between Clyde and Grubb Districts. Lewis Treat, who was building a new home on Lone Tree Road, bought the building and used the good lumber from the old school in it. This is now the home of the Martin Boyle family.

(Special thanks to Harold Wardlow for his recollections.)

MILFORD UNION

The first school, commonly known as the "old red schoolhouse", built in the Village of Milford was on Main Street about where Breen's parking lot now is. This school served both the north and south sides of town for a year. In 1838, the Township School Inspectors set apart the land across the Huron as District #5.

In an article in the Centennial Edition of the The Milford Times, Mable Jackson listed early teachers as

1837 - 1838	Winter term	- Mr. Bassett
1839, 1840, 1841		- W.B. Wright
1840	Summer term	- Louilla Gardner
1846 - 1847		- Wm. Nelson
1850		- James Gamble
1849 - 1850		- Mr. Slade
1859		- Reverend Mr. Johnson of the Milford Baptist Church

Others she listed without dates but who belong in this period are: Leroy Armstrong, Miss Dunham, Miss Kinsman, H.H. Van Leuvan, Judge Moore, Mrs. Luman Fuller, Miss Mudge, Samuel Mudge and Mary Gregory who was remembered by her pupils with the thought of perfection.

In either 1851 or 1852 a brick school was built on Detroit Street. This was our first two-story building and an addition was put on in 1867. The first principal in this building was Mr. Newcomb or Mr. Sidney Whitcomb followed by Mr. Montgomery, Mrs. Johnson, L.D. (Dow) Ruggles and Lucy Lee.

In 1869, the north and south sides were again united. Trustees at that time were John Andrews, Wm. Greig, P.F. Wells, H.H. Van Leuven. The first principal after the consolidation was G.A. Brown, whose wife was a teacher in the building.

After several years the Browns left Milford, but were invited back in 1875 to undertake the grading of the high school curriculum. The first graduation class of four young ladies, Mary Harper, Susie L. Browne, Linnie B. Hutchinson and Lizzie Thomas, was in 1877.

The graduation exercises, with essays given by each class member were held at Ferguson's, later Thornhill's, "Operry" house. The girls wore white dresses that were much ruffled and trimmed and with a long train as a finishing touch. Original gifts to graduates were bouquets from either a friend's garden or from Mrs. Luce's greenhouse. The first baccalaureate was held in 1883. In the early 1890's, the G.A.R. Hall began to be used for graduation exercises. It may surprise younger readers to learn that there was an admission charge of ten cents. The Milford Times for September 9, 1893, reported \$45.83 among the school revenues from the graduation. Four hundred fifty eight came and somehow an extra three cents slipped in!

On January 22, 1883, the building burned and the school was moved to the Opera House. At an alumni reunion, Mrs. Grant Rowe said a few billion TB germs were destroyed in this fire. She also told of chapel exercises that were held on the second floor with participation by the entire school. Children marched in to such music as Clayton's Grand March played on the organ by Clara Arms, Minnie Grow, Florence Kingsley and others. Mrs. Rowe also told of a glass partition that separated the two upper rooms so that it was possible for one teacher to supervise the entire high school although there was a faculty of two!

A brick building that was very similar in appearance to the one that burned was built and ready for occupancy in the fall of 1883. This school cost about \$12,000 to build and around \$13,000 to tear down around 1970. The Board authorized the construction of a large cistern just west of this building to be done by D. LaVanseler and West Crawford. This was to be a source of water in case of fire. (From The Milford Times of September 10, 1892.

The first building designed solely for high school use was built beside the 1883 school and was opened for classes in the fall of 1926. It was known as the Milford Rural Agricultural School and was needed to provide for an expanding high school curriculum and to relieve the overcrowding of the older school that had come about after the consolidations of the early 1920's.

As early as 1922, the Board had wished to have another building and had authorized an election on a \$90,000 bond issue. This was defeated 311 to 18 - probably the most decisive vote in the District's history.

Two "firsts" came to this school in the 1920's. A hockey club was organized in 1922 but it is not known where games were played. Basketball also came to Milford at this time. Since there was no place other than the G.A.R. Hall, the boys had to practice on an outdoor court that was laid out on the playground to the right as you entered the school. Lionel Grant, who had played the game in Detroit before he came to our area, was the coach and Superintendent Tripp acted as sponsor. Home games were played at the G.A.R. Hall. (From remarks made by Dr. Lionel Grant at the 50th Reunion of the Class of 1922.)

Very little mention has been made of the grade school housed in the same building on Detroit Street. Two grades per teacher were the rule through to the late 1920's. A kindergarten was added in 1914. Several teachers were there for a number of years - Etta Hayes Taylor, Julia Freeman, Lottie Lamb and Elizabeth Welch. One of the teachers, Susie Bird, was killed in a tragic accident at the south side railway crossing and all of the pupils attended her funeral. Much more can and should be written about District #4. It had an interesting past.

PICKETT #9 Fr1.

The first school was a log building located up the entrance road to the General Motors Proving Ground. It was built around 1836.

The Board on January 31, 1855, authorized payment of \$5 to David and Huldah Pickett for use of the land on the NE corner of section 18. The Abstract stated that the land was, "Designed for school purposes and no other purpose whatsoever." A frame building was constructed by the labor of the patrons and the lumber was for the most part contributed. For some years a plank fastened to the wall on two sides formed a writing area and homemade benches were used. There was no woodshed and the school was so close to the road there was only a path on the school's site that led to the outhouses.

This District added three farms that were in Brighton Township some time in the 1880's. This was land purchased in 1922 by the General Motors Corporation and it was our good fortune that the laboratories and other buildings of the General Motors Proving Ground were located on this addition to our district. The dollars that came from the valuation here have been most helpful in financing education both in the Pickett School days and after the consolidation with Milford.

By 1890, the only equipment was a globe and some maps. In 1903, fourteen library books were purchased costing \$6.75. The original painted boards served as blackboards until 1917 when slate boards were installed. In 1928, the building was wired for electricity by Perry Ellis at a cost of \$29 and in 1936, indoor toilets were added.

The first teacher known was Miss Louisa Cosart (later Mrs. Isaac Crawford) who taught for 10 years previous to 1863. After 1864, her half-sister, Marietta Cosart, was the teacher. Another early teacher, Carrie Vroom (later Mrs. George Johnson and whose mother was the Huldah Pickett mentioned about the school site), received the lowest salary we located - one dollar a week.

This district never had a large number of pupils and in some years pupils went to Bird School. John Muir recalled that in 1868, he and the other pupils walked the three miles to the Bird District.

School terms were short in the early days. By 1890, one term of five months was held. Seven months was available by 1899, by 1904 it changed to eight months and in 1907, they had the first nine month term.

In addition to Miss Vroom's salary, we found that Etta Hayes Taylor recalled that in 1885 she received \$10 a month and was "boarded around." Ada Bird in 1890, received \$20 a month and one of our informants recalled that the neighborhood was shocked at the high cost of education. By 1907, Laura Fuller was paid \$30 a month for the first nine month term.

The building was used by the Wesleyan Methodist for a number of years. A preaching service was held by a circuit rider once in two weeks the year around. There were occasional revival meetings such as the one held by D.D. Martin for a long period in the winter of 1884. Between 1873 and 1888, Mrs. Judson Phillips and Mrs. Isaac Crawford, Jr., held Sunday School in all but the winter months. Mr. Wells, owner of the Cultivator Factory, was Sunday School Superintendent for many years. We were told that people came not only from Bird School area, but also walked or drove from Milford to attend these services.

In the year 1951-52, twenty-four first graders used the building for the last time with Margaret Muir as their teacher. After this, pupils took a bus to Milford and the old white Pickett building was torn down.

SLEETH

The first school in this district was located at the corner of Sleeth and Duck Lake Roads. Some time later, another school was built further west on land owned by the Sleeth family. In the 1860's, the Lynch and Gordon families attended this school.

In August of 1916, a new program was proposed that was to have a building with drinking fountains, sanitary toilets and other up-to-date features and with a large school site. It was necessary for more funds to be authorized to complete the building that was dedicated on April 20, 1917. James Lynch, mentioned above, gave the address while others on the program were Arlene Allen, Oscar Lenz and Irene Church, who gave recitations, Mrs. Morgan, the teacher, Miss Fullmer and A.L. Nique who gave musical solos. Mr. A.L. Craft, County School Commissioner, presented a Standard School plaque and W.D. Allen, the Director, accepted it on behalf of the district. (The Milford Times, April 27, 1917).

This building, which cost \$2,500, was used only until 1921 when the district voted to consolidate with Milford. Mr. Schoenrock was the driver of their first bus to Milford. The building was sold and incorporated into a home that is now owned by the Phillip Winterhalter family.

STEPHENS

Mr. Leonard Field believes this school, which was on Commerce Road just west of Carey Road, may have been built at about the same time as the Commerce Methodist Church in 1840.

On the 1858 microfilm records, we found that the Census taken by H. Nickle, Director, had forty-four pupils listed.

We had access to the Director's Book for 1869-1944, so have a long list of names for the teachers chart for this district. Mr. James Phillips was Assessor for at least twenty years in the late 1800's up until at least 1911.

The building was described as small, white and without a well. For years pupils carried water from the Sam Stephen's home. About 1895, they went to a one-term school. Heat was furnished by a pot-bellied stove. They meant to keep warm in those early days as we found they paid \$30 for 14 cords of wood in 1869.

On a Souvenir Program for 1906, there were ten pupils attending from the Bailey, Carey, Teeple, Stephens, Field and McNulty families.

In 1943, the school consolidated and the building was sold to a Mr. Fadie who in turn sold it to someone who moved it to Waterford. By then it would have been almost one hundred years old and it would be interesting to know how it was then used.

STONE #5 Fr1.

In a family history, Dona Boyle mentioned a log building on Cooley Lake Road near Ford Road. Later a stone building with very thick walls was put a little further west on the south side of Cooley Lake Road. This school had deep window sills due to the thick walls, a platform across the front and a wood box about six foot long that pupils filled at recess time.

This school for some years had a Mother's Club which was unique at that time. The boundaries of this school are unusual in that they include land from all four of the townships that are part of Huron Valley area. Families that attended here include Boyle, Van Leuvan, Buell, Ruggles, Wells, Mendham, Gamble and Garner.

After consolidation the school was sold and remodeled into a home that may still be seen. An entry for Ripley's "Believe It or Not" could be that people living there sleep in one township and eat in another as the line between Milford and Commerce Township bisects the house.

(We thank Mrs. Chester Arms, Emil Bouchart and Herman Westphall for their help on this history.)

SUGDEN LAKE (LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE) #3 Fr1.

If you looked west from Cooley Lake Road just at the bend in Bogie Lake Road you would have seen this frame school on the south side of the road. Unofficially, it was known as the "Little Red Schoolhouse" although those who recall it say it was painted white.

From the 1861 microfilm records at the Michigan Archives, we found that Henry Sugden was Director, 38 pupils were on the Census, a seven-month school was kept with the teacher receiving \$10 a month, and there was a library of 20 volumes.

By 1908, there were only five pupils to attend a six month school where a teacher was paid \$30 a month. Although Mr. Lederle included Sugden Lake in his 10-18-46 A Brief Record, tuition was paid to the nearby Thompson School by this time.

Mr. Hale Garner told us a story about the time his mother, Eurette Sugden, attended this school. She was thirteen and the only pupil of a Miss Bradley who was sixteen. One afternoon a shot was fired through the schoolhouse door. The girls peeked out the window and saw a young man walk across the road and sit down upon the bank where he remained for some time. For many years after, the bullet hole in the door was a reminder of a most frightening experience.

When Bogie Lake Road was widened it was necessary to tear down the building.

TAYLOR #7

The area of this school included Milford's first school - the private school held in the Bigelow home (see Private section.)

Six different names have been mentioned for the school in this district: Fielding, Middaugh, Soulby, Hoyes, Bridgemen and Taylor. The first school on the Oakland County Atlas of 1872 was on the NE corner of Milford and Buno Roads.

Later a frame building was put diagonally across from this one. Since this was built very close to the road, children used the road as a play area. Fortunately Milford Road in the early days was not the main route to Grand River.

For many years this was a very large school - 65 on the school census in 1859. Charles Soulby was director for some years and after his marriage he taught for eight winter terms.

There was a woodshed and farmers furnished wood for a large round oak stove. Pupils recall that hot water had to be poured over the outside pump in the winter term. Helen Hudson Graves, in a letter, told of the duties the pupils had before and after school to keep everything neat and tidy.

Families on the 1910 Census included Arthur, Armstrong, Baldwin, Brock, Canfield, Dickie, Hudson, Lennox, Long, Bridgmen, Birdsall and Flaishans. Children were sent into Milford or New Hudson around 1920 and the building torn down.

THOMPSON

The original school, a frame building about 18' x 20' with thin siding and boarded up inside with wide pine boards, was built about 1840 at what is now the corner of Bogie Lake Road and Cedar Island Road. There was no playground as the field fences attached to the building. Like several other schools mentioned, this school had the wide board fastened to the side of the room to use as a desk while pupils sat on a backless bench. A wide board between the windows was painted black to serve as a blackboard. Chalk came in large chunks with small pieces broken off as needed. The large stove that burned the head and froze the feet used three foot wood. When it was decided to build another school, this one was sold for \$10.

Just one hundred years ago, James Thompson gave the school a fifty year lease on 1/2 acre of land for a school site that adjoined the original one. This school should have been a mile further west but the owner refused permission to take enough land for a school.

After many arguments, a contract was let to Thomas Darlong of Commerce to put up a building for \$500, including labor and materials. When the school was completed, William Dickie and James Thompson drove to Northville with a team and wagon to buy a new teacher's desk and chair and the desks for the pupils from the Northville Furniture Company. The first teachers were George Wager, Charles Flynn, James Lynch and George Thompson who taught the school term of five months for \$100 in 1881.

This building appeared to have been both poorly constructed and poorly equipped. The 35 volume library that was reported in 1860 had disappeared by the year 1912 when the Director's Report said there was no library.

Families on the 1910 Census were Farrell, Thompson, Graves, Brendel, Geesen, Howden, Fisk and Stowe.

In 1934, under a W.P.A. Project, the school was remodeled - ceiling lowered, a basement and entry added, and a furnace and electric wiring installed. When teacher Reta Halsey joined the Waves in 1942, the children were sent by bus to Highland. After consolidation in 1946, the building was moved to Milford where it was used as a band house for some time. Now the Huron Valley grounds crew use it for storage of their equipment.

(Much of the information on this District came from a history done by Beulah Thompson for Flashbacks '47.)

TOWNLINE #1

Located on the NW corner where Old Plank joins Pontiac Trail, this school went into New Hudson, although part of the land is now part of Huron Valley.

In 1923, Romanzo D. Hall filed a suit against the Milford Board of Education as he considered he had been engaged as teacher for the coming year before the district was transferred to New Hudson. The Milford Times for September 21, 1923, reported that the Milford Board disclaimed knowledge of the suit and no further mention was given about this action by Mr. Hall.

Various events listed in The Milford Times over the years show that this was a school that had numerous community activities. They had a Townline Lyceum that met in the 1890's and debated such issues as "Free Silver" and had the usual recitations and musical numbers. They had spelling bees with Tuck and Taylor, their two nearby schools. The Milford Times for May 2, 1896, said that residents had planted a large grove of maples and also flown a new flag on a newly installed flag pole. We hope the widening of Pontiac Trail did not mean those maples were cut down.

The earliest teacher, Mr. M.D. Wilsey in 1838, was paid by an unusual salary scale. If he had not over 15 pupils he was to receive \$15 a month, but if the school averaged over 30 pupils he would get \$17 a month. Miss Carrie Krell said, "His ability and success as a teacher was so marked that it did exceed thirty, greatly to the satisfaction of both teacher and district undoubtedly." This was about a 13% raise, but would today's teacher wish for double the number of pupils to get such a raise?

Attendance was not a problem, at least in 1886 when seven pupils - Myrtle and Lewis Leadley, Lottie Lake, John and Charles Sanders, Ora Renwick and Earl Childs had perfect records.

In the earliest records - 1858-59 year on microfilm, there were nearly seventy pupils on the Census. At that time they were one of only a few schools in the area to hold a nine or ten month school, ususally in two terms.

Throughout the years, this continued to be a large school as we found sixty-five names on the 1911 Census that was taken by Fred Childs, Director. Excluding the names of those over sixteen, there still were over fifty students to house in a building that Clara Childs Bartell recalled as not being unusually large for a rural school.

Families on that 1911 Census included Childs, Chafy, Carpenter, Decker, Canfield, Holden, Heatley, Moore, Oldenburg, Rick, Varden, Bowers and Hopkins.

Since they were so close to New Hudson it seemed logical that they should have consolidated with New Hudson, which they did some time around 1923.

Tuck (VINCENT) #6

This was the first district to organize and build a school in Milford Township. A log building was put up in either 1833 or '34 with Rosetta Albright Phillips as the teacher of eighteen pupils. They were from the Henry and Stanley Ruggles families, the Issiah Hudson, Morris Andrews and Moses Newman families. Some of these children had over two miles to walk one way to school. Known then as the Vincent School it was on the west side of South Hill at Dawson Roads.

In 1843, a frame building, another "old red schoolhouse", was put farther south on South Hill Road. It was said by Mrs. Charles Pittenger in her history written for the County Pioneer Association that the golden age of this school was between 1850 and 1860 when three university men taught, each for two years. They were a Mr. Knox, Bradley Thompson and Mr. Jones. Mr. Thompson, the best remembered, taught later at the University of Michigan Law School.

The "old red schoolhouse" was described by Robert Crawford as having a small entry with a girls' cloakroom right and one left for the boys. It had the usual cast iron stove with a long stove pipe. The recitation seat was a mill slab with four legs made of small trees fitted into 2" auger holes. Water came from a deep stone-up well on John Vincent's land about 1/4 mile away. It was considered a treat to be chosen to go and use the old oaken bucket and windlass. This old building, used as a toolshed, collapsed in 1908.

By 1880, people felt the need for a new building. Some felt it should be put nearer the center of population while others wanted it on the corner near the old one. Much bitter quarreling followed, lawyers were hired by both sides and it ended up with the building site being back at the original location.

The third building was called Tuck since it was on the Milton Tuck land. Like so many of our other schools, Tuck had a large enrollment in the early days - 40 or more. By 1912, it was down to ten. The families listed on the Census taken that year by P.J. Heath were Pittenger, Tuck, Gordon, Howie, Heath, Phillips, Armstrong and Grimes.

There was no school from 1913 to 1915 and consolidation with Milford came in 1922.

WARD #5

The south side of Milford Village was set apart as District #5 in 1838. Here, yet another "old red schoolhouse" was built at Washington and Clinton streets. Since it was to be used for a school and church, it was necessary to have a center aisle which ran half the length of the building with seats on either side. The teacher's desk on the south end served as a pulpit on Sundays. In 1844 or '45 this building was remodeled.

Early school board members included Deacon Hubbell, Judge Baldwin (later of Pontiac), John Armstrong, Lester Chappel, J.A. Wendell and David M. Ladd. Early teachers were Mary VanValkenburg, Mr. Thorn Pudney, Jonas G. Potter, a Mr. Jones, Carrie Edgington and Huldah Peck who taught the winter term of 1841-42. (All names from Miss Krell's History.)

Henderson Crawford rented the building for his private school for two year in the late 1840's.

In a letter to The Milford Times in 1925, Mrs. Emma Palmer Neffer said that Harry Wheeler taught at the Ward School in 1869 while his obituary told that he was the first teacher in the Ward School. In 1877 the Board moved to have a four-month winter school on the south side provided a suitable room could be obtained. Ward and District #4 had been consolidated as one district in 1869.

The Milford Times for July 16, 1881, reported that work was progressing on the new brick building so that it would be ready for the fall term. For many years, grades 1-3 were taught at the Ward building for pupils living south of the Huron. In 1898, there was talk of closing this school. At a meeting in July it was said in The Milford Times that "South siders are solid to a man against sending pupils to the north side." Many arguments for this stand were advanced. The main one was that they would never get their school back if it was closed even temporarily.

The last term was taught by Zadie Wheeler in the 1915-16 school year. Not until Johnson School was opened did the south side again have a school.

WELCH (PALMER SAND) #8

Nelson Hunt had the original 1835 deed to a farm where the school was later built by the father of Reed Giddings. Located on West Commerce Road about 1/2 mile west of Garner Road, it was the usual frame building with a cloak room that had a shelf for a large earthen pot that held the drinking water which was brought from an outside well.

We find that a John Welch was director in 1897 and Bert Welch held the same office in 1906, which may account for the name "Welch." Three generations of Sherwoods attended here and the present Mr. Sherwood sent word that this school was always known as Number Eight in its own area.

Early teachers included Charles Wesley Gordon (From the Pontiac Press 10/2/40) who taught in the 1870's when the school was known as the Sands District. Miss Minnie Wells (Watkins) also taught here.

Around 1900, there were only three pupils to attend, all from the Sands family. Arrangements had been made for them to attend the Ross School in Livingston County when the owner of the land where the school was located, Aaron Palmer, came to Director Philo Prior and called attention to the fact that he was entitled to the land if it was not used as a school. The Board took immediate steps to get a teacher and get the Sands children back attending Palmer. (From a letter written by Alton Sherwood to The Miford Times, n.d.)

Improvements were made to both site and building over the years. From 1897 on, they had a least an eight-month school with a nine-month year beginning in 1906. From 1907 to 1922 they had school for ten months each year. In 1915, they voted to build an entry 8' x 12' at a cost of \$105, with work to be done by men of the district. The building was moved back from the road by the length of the school in 1920, again with men of the district hired to do the work.

We mention these things because they are examples of what was mentioned earlier - the support given education when people felt close to their school.

After consolidation in 1940, the school was made into a home. American Aggregates bought the land and about three years ago the building was torn down.

WEST HIGHLAND (TENNY) #1

The first school in Highland Corners (later known as West Highland) was in a log house on Jenny Tenny's farm on Lone Tree west of Hickory Ridge Road. In 1834, a two-room log building was built about 1/2 mile south of the present Baptist Church. One room was paid for by the school district. On Sunday a moveable partition was removed and the entire building was in use for the church service. During the week the partition was put back so the school used their own room.

Early teachers included Nelson Tenny who taught for some years, Miss A.E. Tenny who taught in 1849 and C.H.R. Warren who taught a winter term in that year. They received \$8 and \$15 per month. Sophia Griffing came in 1851 and had a seven-month school for \$20 a month (a very large sum for that early time.) Sarah M. McCormick (Bullard) came in 1853 and Dr. Samuel Dickie, later President of Alma College, was there through 1868-1870. In 1860, the log school was abandoned - the last log building that was in use in Highland Township. An acre site was given by Mr. Tenny across from the West Highland Cemetery and a frame building was erected.

This school became so crowded in the late 1870's that a room was added at the back and two teachers were employed, probably until some time around 1910. We know of only one teacher by name for the "little" room - Julia Hedden. M.J. Reed taught sometime in the 1880's. Teacher Morgan Andrews was killed in 1872 when the steam engine powering a threshing outfit blew up during work at the Morse farm. After 1910, the backroom was used as a storage place and for morning exercises in warm weather only, as the room was not heated in winter.

This building was honored with the award of Standard School in 1917, which meant that it had met the twelve criteria for this honor. We were told by several people who attended here that it had a great deal of blackboard area, a 50-book library, a fine set of maps and a Webster's Unabridged Dictionary. There were double desks with two rows on each side of a huge stove that took 1/2 cord of wood at a time. West of the building was a well and a woodshed. The maple trees that were set out by B.F. Davison, a board member, are still beautiful today.

This building burned January 10, 1928, and classes were moved into the West Highland Baptist Church with Mrs. Gladys Lyon as teacher. On June 18, 1928, a meeting was held to consider what kind of school should be built. \$3,000 was voted to build an exact duplicate of the Bird School located across from the west gate of the General Motors Proving Ground. This building had a "first" for it had a separate room built to house a library - our first media center as we call these areas today! After consolidation, the building was moved across from the Highland Junior High where it served as the Kindergarten Cottage for some years. It is now our H.E.L.P. Center. It is still in excellent condition, certainly not showing its age of almost fifty years.

(We extend our thanks to Mrs. Henry Longfield; Lucius Lyon and G. Foster Gaunt for their help in reconstructing the history of this pioneer school of Highland Township.)

WHITE LAKE CENTER (PORTER CENTER) #4

Known in the early days as White Lake Center, this district was set off by the Township School Inspectors on July 22, 1837. The district covered all the territory that surrounded Oxbow Lake and extended west over 12 miles.

The first school, a small unpainted frame building, was on Elizabeth Lake Road just west of Teggerdine, according to the Oakland County Atlas of 1872. This was then the route to Pontiac. As there was no township hall, most of the township business was done "in the school in the center of the township" according to the old records. This is where the district got its first name.

In 1866, area residents all felt the need of a new building, but there was a great disagreement as to where it should be. Many meetings were held with speakers for one side extolling the virtues of having the school centrally located for the students by using a site on M-59. Those who lived on the east edge of the district wanted the new school put near Oxbow Lake somewhere near the location of the old building. This resulted in "Considerable activity to determine who had a legal right to vote. If a woman owned property, money in the bank, or owned a sewing machine or an organ she was allowed to vote." (Quote from Lee O. Brooks history written for Flashbacks '47) This could be called a victory for Women's Lib 110 years ago!

The west contingent won the election for a site and in 1867, the present school on M-59 was built. However, those "east siders" didn't give up! They kept their old school open by private subscription through the year. But when their tax statements showed that they had to help pay for the new school whether they used it not not, they sent their children to the M-59 building.

The school began to be known as Porter School around 1900 for George Porter, a prominent citizen of the locality. The name change saved confusion with the other school with nearly the same name - White Lake #2.

On the microfilm records for 1858, the school showed a very large enrollment of over fifty on the Census. The teacher at that time was paid \$10 a month for a seven-month school. By 1909 there were only eleven pupils from these families: Austing, Edmonson, Ingamells, Bailey, Warden, Stockwell and Teggerdine. They had no library in either 1858 or 1909, according to the reports on file for those years.

Early teachers in the second school included Edith Fletcher, Maggie Hunt and James Lynch who was also a school inspector at one time in White Lake Township. On July 8, 1946, the electors decided with only two dissenting votes to join Milford. The building continued to be used by Huron Valley at least through 1953 for one grade. Later it was sold to a group that now uses it as a Sunday School.

PRIVATE OR "SELECT SCHOOLS"

There were at least ten private or "select" schools as they were called. Parents may or may not have paid for the privilege of having their children instructed, but the students were a special or selected group. None of the schools were long-lived nor had many students except for the one kept by Henderson Crawford in South Milford.

Thankful Bigelow (Mrs. Job) taught the earliest select school in her log home on Moore Road west of Milford Road in 1834-35. (From Miss Krell's Address.)

In Highland Township, the earliest one was taught by Miss Eliza Sessions in the house of Jonathon Stratton located in Section 27 west of Lower Pettibone Lake. Her pupils were Josephan Stratton, Rebecca Beach (Everts) and George Beach. (From History of Oakland County Michigan, 1877.) This school was kept for only two terms.

White Lake Township also used a home for its first school in 1835. The next year Erastus Hopkins built a log school somewhere just west of Oxbow Lake that his wife's sister, Mary Parker, taught. (From History of Oakland County Michigan, 1877.)

In the 1840's Dr. Henry K. Foote persuaded his friend, Attorney Henderson Crawford, to come from Farmington to teach in Milford. Mr. Crawford kept a well attended select school in three different locations in south Milford over the years. He rented the "old red school" of District #5. Later he leased the Presbyterian Church located at the end of Dean Street at Washington (Ansley Arms' Presbyterian Church.) After

about ten years here he purchased the building and had it moved to Main near the Huron River. He fixed it into a "first class school" according to several accounts. Here he had school for at least another five years. A long list of his pupils attested over the years to his great ability as a teacher. After this he held several public offices including terms in the Michigan Legislature. (From Miss Krell's Address and recollections written by Mrs. John Dawson.)

One of the most fascinating accounts of select schools is the one written by E.F. Albright in The Milford Times for January 18, 1896, about Mrs. Worthington's select boarding school for young ladies. She was the wife of the Reverend Alfred Worthington, who was the first Congregational minister in Milford. Their home was located where Milford Road turns toward Highland as it passes the Kroger Store. Mrs. W. was so anxious to get her school opened she was willing to sacrifice almost anything to get the plastering done. The story was that they had the needed lime and sand but no hair. It was said that the Reverend W. sheared the mane and tail from his pony and his wife's hair also.

When the school opened a Miss Bronson from New Hudson and Miss Platt, who married Dr. Ten Eyck and later lived in Brighton, were two of the pupils. Mrs. W. kept faithful watch over her pupils and it was considered a great feat for a young man to get the lady's consent to take a pupil of the school to a village social gathering or a sleighride (on rides at least two girls had to go.)

On the south side of Milford, across from the early cemetery, which would put it just across from the present Johnson School, Mrs. Morrell kept a similar school. It was said that the cemetery was the girls' playground. The most notable feature of this school was that each Wednesday was set apart for instruction in sewing, embroidery and "ornamentals". Even though it was for girls, it was noted that a few boys did attend, perhaps because of the penmanship instruction! We believe the boys would meet girls even if it meant attending their school. (information from Miss Krell's address)

Two other private schools in Milford were kept by a William Webber and a Mrs. Shephard sometime around 1849-50. Mr. Webber's school was in an old building that was later a part of Jewett's Foundry on Center Street. Miss Krell told that Mr. Webber gave an educational talk on Friday afternoons with topics such as physiology and an explanation of cube root that was accompanied by the "block method" of illustration. We do not know what that involved. Mrs. Shephard's school was in the Eaton House.

Mrs. White had a select school in the Henry Mowrey House on Union Street (the former Jennie Crawford home). The location of this came from Mrs. John Dawson's recollections.

Miss Eliza Trump Reed in a talk before a Milford-Detroit Club Picnic told of the Anna Coombs School for little folks.

Other schools that might come under the heading of private schools were the Singing Schools and the Writing Schools. For a small fee one could be instructed in classes which were usually held in the evening (a forerunner of today's adult education classes). Although we found no specific instances in this area, there were warnings in the newspapers that this could be a racket where the man who organized the school promised twenty or so lessons for .50, collected his fees in advance, gave one lesson, and then was called to visit a sick relative and was never seen again.

In our cities many people received their entire education at private schools, but there never were enough that this could have been true here. With the exception of the Henderson Crawford School, they had very little impact on education.

	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875
<u>Milford Twp</u> Bird #3						
Millford Union #4 Fr1	Miss Hopkins P M Parker				Miss A Ruggles Nettie Bourns	Emma Stephens Adelia Stephens
Pickett					Edith Fletcher J McIntyre	Mrs. G A Brown G A Brown
			Mrs Watson Bourns Eliza Trump			
<u>Highland Twp</u> Clyde #3	Jennie Wittrell M L Dunham	Jennie Wittrell M L Dunham	Devere Hall	Jennie Wittrell	C L Chandler Mary St. John Della Parker	Alice Chandler Mary St. John Abram L Craft
Grubb #4 Fr1		Miss Tratt	Francis Lawrence	Mary Hurley		
			Elizabeth Bradley (1st Tchr.)	Julia McGrave Lydia Stratton	Kate Doherty Lydia Stratton	Kate Doherty Lydia Stratton
Hickory Ridge #2 Fr1	Mary Lyon Mary Shook Bella Kipp	Lilly Bates Mary Shook B Herrick	Mary Shook James J Stark	Mary Shook James J Stark	Carrie Smith James J Stark	Nora Dunlap A A Collins

	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880	1881
<u>Milford Twp</u>						
Bird #3	Mary Thompson Maria Wells	Mary Thompson L H Lockwood	C E Wheeler John Wheeler Linnie Hutchinson	Andrew Keary Annie Palmer	Dora B Clements Minnie Skeman	Marguerite Wells Minnie Skeman
<u>Millford Union</u>						
#4 Fr1	Mr and Mrs G A Brown	Mr and Mrs G A Brown	Mr and Mrs G A Brown	E M Wheeler	Miss Hutchinson Mrs Wheeler E M Wheeler	Mary Thompson E M Wheeler
<u>Pickett</u>						
Taylor #7					Belle Stobart Charles Soulbey	Charles Soulbey
<u>Highland Twp</u>						
Clyde #3	Alice Chandler Lotta Garner	J N Collins Cora Huston Harry Elliott	Nettie Dennis Harry Elliott	Mary Duilum Nellie Simpson	Nellie Simpson Harry Elliott	Nellie Simpson Harry Elliott
<u>Grubb #4</u>						
Fr1	Maggie Hunt	Maggie Cratty	Maggie Cratty	C P Waterman	Ella Richmond Susie Bailey	Ormon Kennedy
<u>Hickory Ridge</u>						
#2 Fr1	Clara Rundell A A Collins	Ella Irving James Callard	Ella Irving James Callard	Ella Irving James Callard		G W Thompson
<u>Commerce Twp</u>						
Birch #6					Abbie Steele (Pittenger)	Abbie Steele (Pittenger)
<u>White Lake Twp</u>						
Gibson #5					C M Richmond	Mary Ogden E L Armstrong

	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886	1887
<u>Milford Twp</u>						
<u>Bird #3</u>	Ella Vessey	Carrie Wilkinson	Carrie Wilkinson Lizzie Lience		Mamie Atkin Kate Muir	
<u>Milford Union</u>	Mary G Thompson	A P Cook	E M Russell	Susie Harper	Carrie Krell	Carrie Krell
<u>#4 Frl</u>	E M Wheeler	E M Russell	A P Cook	A P Cook	A P Cook	A P Cook
<u>Taylor #7</u>	Charles Soulbey	Charles Soulbey	Charles Soulbey			
<u>Pickett</u>						
<u>#9 Frl</u>			Minnie Watkins	Etta Hayes(Taylor)		
			Charles Gordon	Charles Gordon	John Gibson	Alden Palmer
<u>Highland Twp</u>						
<u>Hickory Ridge</u>	Mrs A Burlingame			J Barrett (1 mo)	Lottie Rivenburg	George Irving
<u>#2 Frl</u>	G W Thompson	Jason B Fuller	Jason B Fuller	Jason B Fuller	Jason B Fuller	Jason B Fuller
<u>Clyde</u>	Anna Allen	R M Cotten	R M Cotten	Harry Wheeler	Harry Wheeler	
	Harry Elliott	Harry Elliott				
<u>Grubb #4 Frl</u>		Freely Calkins	Freely Calkins	Mamie Kipp		
	F Armstrong	Jennie Mugge	Jennie Mugge	Carrie Marshall	L Bush	John Galbraith
		Idele Burt	Idele Burt			
<u>Commerce Twp</u>						
<u>Sugden Lake</u>						
<u>#3 Frl</u>			Joanna Boyle	Hugh McCallum		
<u>Stephens #4</u>	John McKibben	Nellie Harper	Freely Calkins	Freely Calkins	May Stobart	Nettie McColl
	E L Kennedy	Charles Richmond	Charles Richmond	Charles Richmond	(Vincent)	Jerry Sheldon
<u>White Lake Twp</u>						
<u>Gibson</u>	E Armstrong				Lizzie Rush	Emma Webster
	Anna Halley	Anna Halley			Freely Calkins	Freely Calkins

	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893
<u>Milford Township</u>						
<u>Bourns(Foote) #2 Fred Ruggles</u>						
<u>Bird #3</u>	Nettie McColl					Miss White
	Margaret Davidson	Kate Muir	Kate Muir	Ada Bird	Ada Bird	Mina Davis
<u>Milford Union</u>	Carrie Krell	Carrie Krell	Carrie Krell	Carrie Krell	Carrie Krell	Carrie Krell
<u>#4 Fr1</u>	A P Cooke	A P Cooke	A P Cooke	A P Cooke	F E Burkhead	R Nethercott
<u>Ward #5</u>			Myrtle Wilsie			Mae Johnson
<u>Stone #5 Fr1</u>					Aggie Gage	Anna
					Lena Hale	Schoenneman
<u>Tuck #6</u>			Mae Chandler	Laura McCormick	Laura McCormick	Ada Bird
<u>Pickett #9</u>		William Hurley	Margaret Davidson		O B Palmer	
		Mr. Taft		Ada Bird	Lizzie Turner	George McCullough
<u>Highland Twp</u>						
<u>W Highland #1</u>			A C Hill		Lena Gordon	George Safford
<u>Hickory Ridge</u>	George Irving	Elsa Herrington	Elsa Herrington			
<u>#2 Fr1</u>	James Gordon	E P Root	Ida C. Andrews	Albert Hill	Albert Hill	Albert Hill
<u>Clyde #3</u>		F S Bennett		Clare Bennett	Clare Bennett	
<u>Excelsior</u>					Bertha Davidson	
<u>#3 Fr1</u>						
<u>Grubb</u>	John Galbraith	Anna Powers	Ida Yarrington	Bertha Butterfield		
<u>#4 Fr1</u>				Aggie McPherson	Nellie Yarrington	Nellie Yarrington
<u>Commerce Twp</u>						
<u>Stephens #4</u>	Ethel Decker		Carrie Bryson	Carrie Bryson	Julie Keith	
	Jerry Sheldon	Jerry Sheldon	W Smith	Nina Clark	Aggie McPherson	Aggie McPherson
<u>Burch #6 Fr1</u>			May Chandler	Charles Soulbey		
<u>White Lake Twp</u>						
<u>Gibson #5</u>	Emma Webster	Anna Haley	Annie McDonald	Wm Lynch	Hattie Richardson	Blanche Wood
	Ida Cole				Belle Foote	Belle Foote
<u>Thompson #6</u>						
<u>Highland Twp</u>						
<u>Highland #4</u>			Mr & Mrs Holmes	Miss Durfee	Miss Silvernail	Mr. Galbraith
			Mr. Durfee	Mr. Durfee	Mr. Galbraith	Mr. Galbraith

	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899
Milford Township						
Townline #1	Gertrude Palmer		Bessie Vowles			Richard Tucker
Footc (Bourns) #2			Anna Schoennemann		Nina McCain	
Milford Union	Carrie Krell	Carrie Krell	Miss Howell	J J Travis	J J Travis	J J Travis
#4 Frl	E R Nethercott	E R Nethercott	W J Morrison	W J Morrison	W J Morrison	W J Morrison
Ward #5	Ida McCain	Ida McCain	Ida McCain	Ida McCain	Laura McCormick	
Stone #5 Frl	Anna Schoennemann			Florence Davis	Florence Davis	Florence Davis
Tuck #6			Elizabeth Welch	Hester Palmer	Lula Bowers	Lula Bowers
Welch #8		Lizzie Francey		Grace Knapp	Belle Foote	Bella Hood Clara Major
Pickett #9 Frl	Harriet Turner	Kate Duffy			Orpha Bilton	Orpha Bilton
Hale #13	Nina McCain Ada Bird	Mary Gamble Bertha Gleeson	Ina Jo Duckering	Ina Jo Duckering	Anna Schoennemann	Bertha Gleeson
Highland Twp						
W Highland #1	Charles Maxfield			Celia Harrison	Orpha Bilton	Charles Stark
Hickory Ridge						
#2 Frl	Albert Hill	Albert Hill	Fred Donaldson	G W Keller	G W Keller	O L Deake
Clyde #3			Miss Fahey Albert Hill	Albert Hill	Anna McDonald Albert Hill	V S Bennett Albert Hill
Highland #4	C S Johnson		Ida Yarrington (replaced by Ida Waterbury)		Elsie Morrison	
Excelsior						
#3 Frl	Lena Hale	Mr Perry	Orpha Bilton	Ulysses S Beach	Nina McCain	Grace McColl
Grubb #4 Frl	Edith S. Pence Nina Clark	Ivy Sinclair	J Morrison	Kate Duffy	Katie Davis	Sara St. John
Commerce Twp						
Sugden Lake						
#3 Frl	Harry Holmes			Belle Foote		Miss Hamilton
Stephens #4	Aggie McPherson	Lois Curtis	Anna Schoennemann	Anna Schoennemann	Laura McCormick	Mary Barber Oliver Kult
White Lake Twp						
Gibson #5	Anna Schoennemann	John Boardman	L E Bentley	John Boardman Anna Ormond	John Stison Anna Ormond	
Thompson #6	Belle Foote	Belle Foote (Hitchcock)	Mabel Craft	Mary Farrell	May Walton (Ricks)	Bessie Lamb

	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905
Townline Foote	Russell Dunlop	Josie Duffy	Edith McKinley Josie Duffy		Clara Crawford	Maude Duncan Mary Mahoney
Bird	Kate Muir	Kate Muir	Kate Muir	Edna Padley	Edna Padley	Edna Padley
Milford #4	Mabel Jackson W J Morrison	Mabel Jackson W J Morrison	Mabel Jackson W J Morrison	Mabel Jackson F T Aldrich	Mabel Jackson F T Aldrich	Mabel Jackson F T Aldrich
Ward				Miss Black	Clara Major	Clara Crawford
Stone	Bertha Gleeson	Bertha Gleeson	Jane Charlick	Jane Charlick	Allice Ferrigan	Anna Schoennemann
Tuck	Delia Palmer	Susie Bennett	Miss Sdunck	Miss McKinley		Miss Lawrence
Taylor	Grace Knapp		Miss Gibson			
Welch	Clara Major	Vivian Curdy	Ruth Hedden	Catherine Reuham	Pansy Perrigs	Pansy Perrigs
Pickett	Edna Padley	Edna Padley	Edna Padley	Jean Bilton (4 mo) Edna Padley (4 mo)	Inez McCullough	Maude Duncan Inez McCullough
Hale	May Gamble	May Gamble	Delia Palmer	Bertha Gleeson	Jessie Gamble	Closed
W. Highland	Albert Hill	Albert Hill	Albert Hill	Albert Hill	Albert Hill	Minnie Charlick
Hickory Ridge	O L Deake	O L Deake	George Irving	George Irving	Ida Leonard	Jane Charlick
Excelsior	Fred Donaldson	Anna Schoennemann				Miss Chadwick
Clyde	Fred Culver		Anna Schoennemann	Charles Lackwood	G G Irving	G G Irving
Highland #4	Ella Keller Mr. Kelley Margaret McDonough	Jessie McLeish J G Travis	Jessie McLeish J G Travis	Jessie McLeish J G Travis	Ida Lewis J G Travis	Ida Mugdrige J G Travis
Grubb	Grace Beaumont	Minnie Charlick	Minnie Charlick	Minnie Charlick	Grace Davenport	Alma Marshall
Sugden Lake	Helen Hudson	Miss Hamilton				
Stephens	Olive Kult Sara St. John	Dollie Webster Sara St. John	Dollie Webster	Inez McCullough	Anna Schoennemann	Ruth Beaumont
Sleeth	Anna Schoennemann	Gertrude Ferrigan	Rachel Benham			
Burch	Edith Wilsey		Susie Bennett			Irene Gordon
Granger				Florence Brayman	Ina Green	Rene Boice

	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911
Townline	Hazel Furman	Hazel Furman	Maude Sherman	Maude Sherman	Maude Sherman	Pearl Woodworth
Foote	Inez McCullough	Goldie Shelters	Goldie Shelters	Goldie Shelters	Mildred Foote	Ethel Potter
Bird	Mary Mahoney	Bernice Muir	Ethel Potter	Mabel Potter	Mabel Potter	Ethel Lauray
Milford #4	Nora Dake	Nora Dake	Nora Dake	Miss Gillett	Bertha Goldammer	Anna Elliott
	F T Aldrich	F T Aldrich	C B Chaffee	C B Chaffee	C B Chaffee	C B Chaffee
Ward	Clara Crawford	Mae Charlick	Clara Wortman	Miss Potter	Harriett	Harriett
					Slaughter	Slaughter
Stone	Bertha Stanley	Maude VanLeuvan	Pearl Newcomb	Ernest Farrell	Grover Bromley	Walter Wooley
Tuck	Miss Anthony	Leah Judson	Lillian Anthony	Fern Mackey	Mary Agnes	Francis Heath
					Welberry	
Taylor		Lila Hathaway	Maude Duncan	Lucile (Celia)	Lucile	Lucile
				Woodworth	Woodworth	Woodworth
Welch	Pansy Perrigo	Pansy Perrigo	Miriam Buell	Miriam Buell	Miriam Buell	Mahlon Buell
Pickett	Laura Fuller	Laura Fuller	Gertrude Jackson	Gertrude Jackson	Eva Lahring	Pearl Newcomb
West Highland	Grace Beaumont	Bendert Leestma	Bendert Leestma	A R Davis	Floyd Fillingham	Floyd Fillingham
Hickory Ridge	Mina Buell	Pearl Westerby	Albert Bennett	Hilda Merrett	Gladys Linsley	Eva Abbott
Clyde	Gertrude	J B Fuller	J B Fuller	J B Fuller	J B Fuller	J B Fuller
	Shelters					
Excelsior	May Charlick	Irene Gordon	Carolyn Morrison	Hazel Paro	Lydia Cole	Lydia Cole
Highland #4	Minnie Charlick	Minnie Charlick	Mrs Dora White	Dora White	Dora White	Mamie Ruggles
	Claude MacGregor	Claude MacGregor	W D White	W D White	W D White	Charles Gold
Grubb	No School	No School	No School	Harriett	Mamie Ruggles	Zadie Wheeler
				Slaughter		
Lyman	No School	No School	Beth Beaumont	School Closed	School Closed	
Sugden Lake		Margaret	Florence Roselle			
		McDowell				
Stephens	May Field	Leona Mendham	Irma Highfield	Maude McDonald	Ina Highfield	Eva Lahring
Sleeth	Leona Mendham	Sarah Frisch	Anna Reisman	Anna Reisman	Grace Newcomb	Ferne Beaumont
		Ruth Beaumont				
Burch	Irene Gordon	Maude Duncan	Lula Mendham	Lula Mendham	Gladis Angell	Ella Decker
Granger		Eva Seamark	Rena M Tucker		Bert McKeechie	Bert McKeechie
Porter		Abigail Michael	Eva Seamark	Pearl Newcomb	No School	No School
Gibson		William Carr	William Carr	Grace Esler	Eva Seamark	Blanche Disbrow
Thompson		Orva Osborne	Goldie Shelters			
			(1½ mo.)			
			Wm Farrell (7 3/4 mo)	Wm Farrell	Olive Dewey	Allie Graves

	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917
Townline	Pearl Newcomb	Cora Wortman	Asa E Talley	Adeline Simmons	Alice M Decker	Sybil Broughton
Foote	Cecil Black	Sarah Foote	Carrie Strange	Elizabeth Foote	Kate Meehan	Lucile Woodruff
Bird	Eliz Mahoney	Eliz Mahoney	Harold Foote	Mary Muir	Mary Muir	Mary Muir
Milford #4	Augusta Laux C B Shaffer	Augusta Laux R S Dixon	Augusta Laux George Spotts	Helen Townsend George Spotts	Helen Townsend George Spotts	Edna Mathens George Spotts
Ward	Lydia J Cole	Lydia J Cole	Zadie Wheeler	Zadie Wheeler		
Stone	Leah House	Grace Carey	Elmer Parks	Helen Heath	Helen Heath	Charlotte Talcott
Tuck	Francis Heath	No School		No School	Ivy VanLeuven	Ivy VanLeuven
Taylor	Lucile Woodworth	Zadie Wheeler	Pearl Woodworth	Mrs Frame	Zadie Wheeler	Clara Hazenfeld Lucile Woodworth
Welch	Mahlon Buell	Esther Mehlberg	Eva Calkins	Eva Calkins	Ruth Newcomb	Ruth Newcomb
Pickett	Gertrude Jackson	Gertrude Jackson	Charlotte Gittens	Ruth Newcomb	Josephine Messinger	Elizabeth Foote
West Highland	Paul Dewing	Paul Lockwood	Rene Augell	Travis Vergin	George Harvey	George Harvey
Hickory Ridge	Eva Abbott	Eva Abbott	Leah House	Leah House	Irene Berry	Alva Gordon
Clyde	J B Fuller	J B Fuller	J B Fuller	J B Fuller	Edward Alger	Edward Alger
Excelsior	Ferne Beaumont	Olive Lockwood	Gladys Darling	Monica Kelley	Monica Kelley (7 mos)	Helen Levine Florence Becker (2 mos)
Highland #4	Mamie Ruggles Jay C Leavenworth	Edna Curtis Jay C Leavenworth	Edna Curtis Jay C Leavenworth	Irene Berry O C Hood	R Calkins O C Hood	Helen Cole Elmer Parks
Grubb	Francis Heath	Mildred Skarritt	Mildred Skarritt	Gertrude Robinson	Gertrude Robinson	Gertrude Robinson
Sugden Lake	No School	Margaret McDowell	Myrtle Lee	Zadie M Spears	Linnier M Graves	No School
Stephens	Adelman VanLeeuven	Adelman VanLeeuven	Grace Carey	Burnak Wortz	Ruth A Foote	No School
Sleeth	Allie Graves		Sara Gleeson	Leta Baker	M Fullman	Anna Ruth Foote
Burch	Mary Caswell	Josephine Messinger	Josephine Messinger	Alice Decker	Grady Lockwood (5 1/2 mos) Herbert Bower (3 1/2 mos)	Hazel Robinson (3 mos) Myrtle Osborne (5 mos) Miss Durdison (1 mo)
Granger	Hazel Seymour (3 mos)					
Porter	Beulah Osborne (5 mos)	Jane Cuthbert	Clara Cline	Elmer J Parks	Elmer J Parks	Francis G Crover
Gibson	Sara Gleeson	Linnie Graves	Linnie Graves	Linnie Graves	Matie Lovell	Hazel Nichols
Thompson	Florence St John Mattie Millon (feb) Olive Dickie (3 1/2 mos) Helen Foley (4 1/2 mos)	Mary Flynn	Edith Welberry	Marian Hines	Marian Hines	Mary McKeechie
		Viro Hall	Viro Hall	Sara Geeson	Sara Geeson	F Russell Smith

	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
<u>Milford Township</u>						
<u>Townline #1</u>						
Bird #3	Leah Darling	Mary Muir	Mary Muir	Lois Rowe Margaret Muir	Romango Hall Margaret Muir	Margaret Muir
Milford Union #4 Pr-1	Edna Watkins George Spotts	Edna Watkins George Spotts	Edna Watkins George Spotts	Edna Watkins Douglas Ferraby	Edna Watkins Walter Tripp	Edna Watkins W J Tripp
Stone #5 Pr-1	Edna Simmons	Carlotta Takott	Louise Fisher	Edna Simmons	Louise Fisher	Lela Knapp
Tuck #6	Iva VanLeeuwan	Harriet Holden	Harriet Holden	Esther Crone	Frances Benson	Gladys McCullough
Welch #8	Cora Allen	Eva Jackson	Dwight Fisher	Georgia Beuman	Georgia Beuman	Louise Fisher
Pickett #9	Anna Swayze	Gertrude Jackson	Gertrude Jackson	Gertrude Jackson	Gertrude Jackson	Gertrude Jackson
<u>Highland Township</u>						
<u>West Highland #1</u>						
Hickory Ridge #2 Pr-1	Charles Bowers	Florence Cameron	Ruth Squires	Ruth Squires	Ruth Squires	Ruth Squires
Clyde #3	Celia Cameron Edward Alger	Leah Darling Elsie Collins	Hazel Holland Elsie Collins	Hazel Holland Elsie Collins	Lawrence St John Elsie Collins	Verna Jones Bertha Harvey
Excelsior #3 Pr-1	Elsie Harkinson	Marion Rowe	Eva Jackson	Iva Bensett	Laura Donaldson	Lola Knapp
Highland #4	Beatrice Arthur Mrs W D White	Ethel Bamber Roy C Preston	Zetta Bush Edward Alger	Zetta Bush Clarence Ennis	Zetta Bush Roy Preston	M Bingham Louise Beach Lawrence St John
Grubb #4 Pr-1	Gertrude Darling	Marion Herfurd	Maude Hutchinson	Iris Otis (died) Irene Jarrett (Oct on)	Elizabeth Dean	Elizabeth Dean
<u>Commerce Township</u>						
Stephens #4	Lottie Richardson	Olive Roselle	Marle KlyKlyo	Mrs Carey	Rosella Wessinger	Alice Patterson
Gibson #5	Mildred Skarrett	Edna Combs		Mary Buifmeyer	Ruth Miller	Ruth Miller
Thompson #6	Gladys Gillick			Mary McKeechie	Eugene Carey	Eugene Carey

	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
<u>Milford Township</u>						
<u>Bird #3</u>	Margaret Muir	Margaret Muir	Margaret Muir	Margaret Muir	Margaret Muir	Margaret Muir
<u>Milford #4Pr1</u>	Edna Watkins	Edna Watkins	Edna Watkins	Edna Watkins	Edna Watkins	
	Walter Tripp	Walter Tripp	Walter Tripp	Walter Tripp	Walter Tripp	E R Bristol
<u>Welch #8</u>	D Drury	Gladys Buell	Gladys Buell	Elsie Perry	Elsie Perry	Elsie Perry
<u>Pickett #9 Pr1</u>	Gertrude Jackson	Gertrude Jackson	Catherine Lawlor	Alvilda Peterson	Marguerite Charlick	Elsie Bamber
<u>Highland Township</u>				Florine Krenz		
<u>West Highland #1</u>	Randolph Merrill	Verna Lyons	Verna Lyons	Gladys Lyon	Marjorie Jackson	Marjorie Jackson
<u>Hickory Ridge #2 Pr1</u>	Verna Jones	Ethlyn Mehlberg	Ethlyn Mehlberg	Ethlyn Mehlberg	Ethlyn Mehlberg	Aroline Lockwood
<u>Clyde #3</u>	Josephine Baker	Irma Albee	Irma Albee	Eleanor DeMode	Florence Jones	Florence Jones
		Dora Doctor	Dora Doctor	Margaret Wiles	Kathryn Newbound	Katherine Newbound
<u>Excelsior #3 Pr1</u>	Clara Mae Beach	Clara Mae Beach	Gertrude Jackson	Gertrude Jackson	Gertrude Jackson	Gertrude Jackson
<u>Highland #4</u>	Ruth Squires	Edith Massey	Edith Massey	Edith Massey	Ruth Helmboldt	Marguerite Charlick
	Mrs Bertha Harvey	Clayton Best	Clayton Best	Wesley Soott	B K Weston	B K Weston
<u>Grubb #4 Pr1</u>		Lela Jeffrey	Hildreth Cascadden	Gladys Buell	Gladys Buell	Jeannie Smith
<u>Commerce Township</u>				Hilda Peterson		
<u>Stephens</u>	Irene Slaughter	Irene Slaughter	Hazel Johnson	Beth Card	Mary Jackson (Dec on)	Edith Cameron
<u>White Lake</u>						
<u>Porter #4</u>	Miss Crawford			Mary L Muir	Mary L Muir	Clara Dardison
<u>Thompson #6</u>	Margaret Sanders	Mabel Powers	Mabel Powers	Mabel Powers	Francis Laffery	Marguerite Wiles
<u>Granger #3</u>				Murlin Vaughn	Murlin Vaughn	Dorothy Thoman
						H Lempingar (Jan on)
<u>Gibson</u>	Joe VanLeeuvan	Mary Combs				

	1930	1931	1932	Last School Year
<u>Milford Township</u>				
<u>Bird #3</u>	Margaret Muir	Margaret Muir	Margaret Muir	1939-40 Consolidation
<u>Welch #8</u>	Chloe Caillomette	Elsie Bamber	Elsie Bamber	1939-40 Consolidation
<u>Pickett #9 Pr1</u>	Allene Spencer	Ruth Bourne	Ruth Bourne	1945-46 Consolidation
<u>Highland Township</u>				
<u>West Highland #1</u>	Alma Sands	Alma Sands	Alma Sands	Consolidation 1921 to Highland Rural Agric. Milf Cons. 1946
<u>Hickory Ridge #2 Pr1</u>	Florence Jones	Florence Jones	Florence Jones	Consolidation 1921 to Highland Rural Agric. Milf Cons. 1946
<u>Clyde #3</u>	Roseltha Frier	Roseltha Frier	Roseltha Frier	Consolidation 1921 to Highland Rural Agric. Milf Cons. 1946
<u>Excelsior #3Pr1</u>	Gertrude Jackson	Gertrude Jackson		Building sold to D F Noble 1936 Consolidation 1921 to Highland Rural Agric. Milf Cons. 1946
<u>Highland #4</u>	Doris Green Fred Green	Doris Green Fred Green	Doris Green Aroline Lockwood	Consolidation 1921 to Highland Rural Agric. Milf Cons. 1946
<u>Grubb #4 Pr1</u>	Jeanne Smith	Eliz Oldenburg	Eliz Oldenburg	Building sold to Edsel Ford 1936 Consolidation 1921 to Highland Rural Agric. Milf Cons. 1946
<u>Commerce Township</u>				
<u>Stephens #4</u>	Rose Jeanette from Feb Ione Messinger	Ione Roach	Edith Cameron	1943-44 Consolidation
<u>Granger #3</u>	Olive Hoggard	Olive Hoggard	Olive Hoggard	1945-46 Consolidation
<u>Porter #4</u>	Clara Dandison	Clara Dandison	Clara Dandison	1945-46 Consolidation
<u>Gibson #5</u>				Still in use in 1976
<u>Thompson #6</u>	Marguerite Wiles	Helen Hogan	Allene Spencer	1945-46 Consolidation
<u>Milford #4</u>	Edna Watkins E R Bristol	Herbert Carter	Herbert Carter	

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