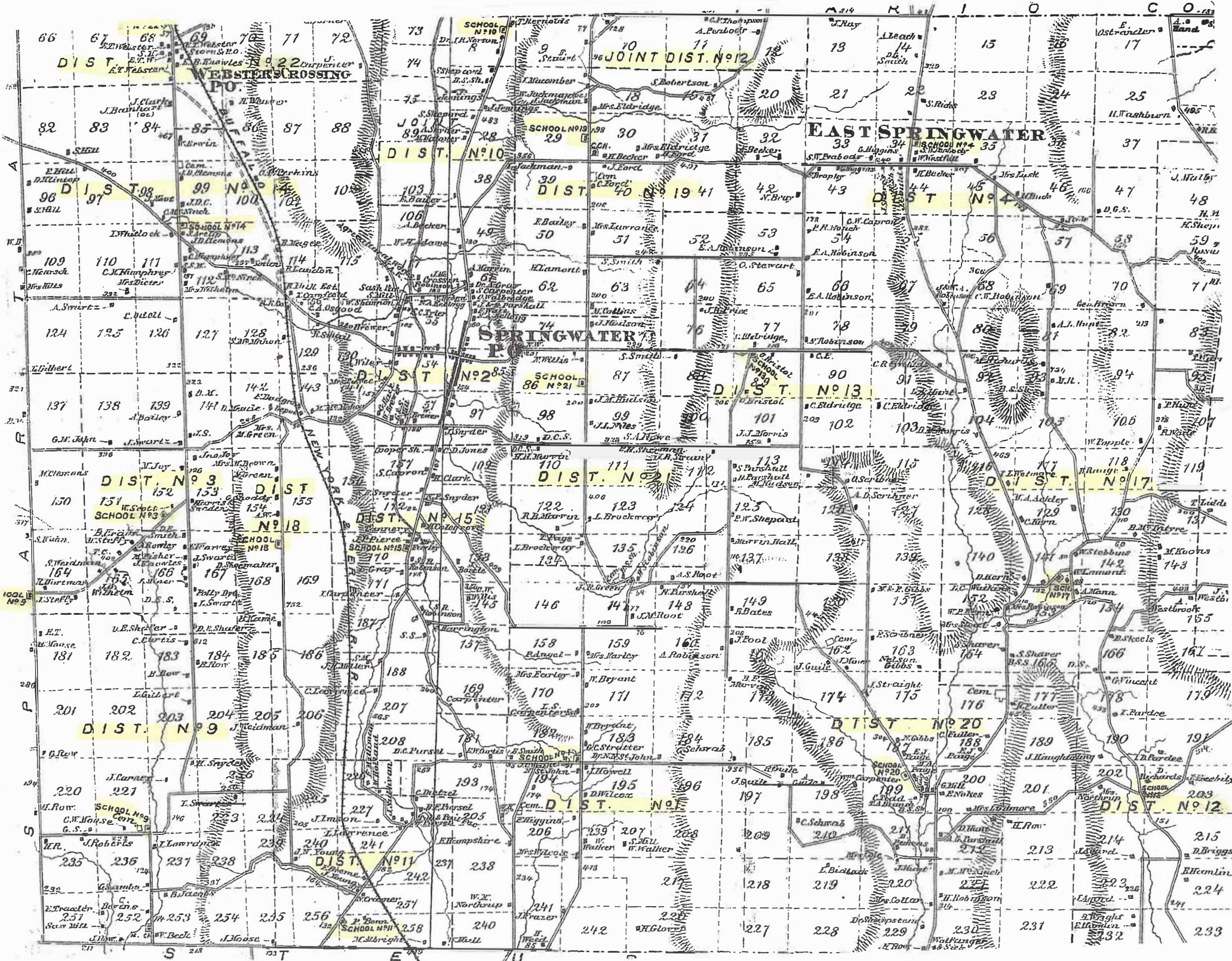
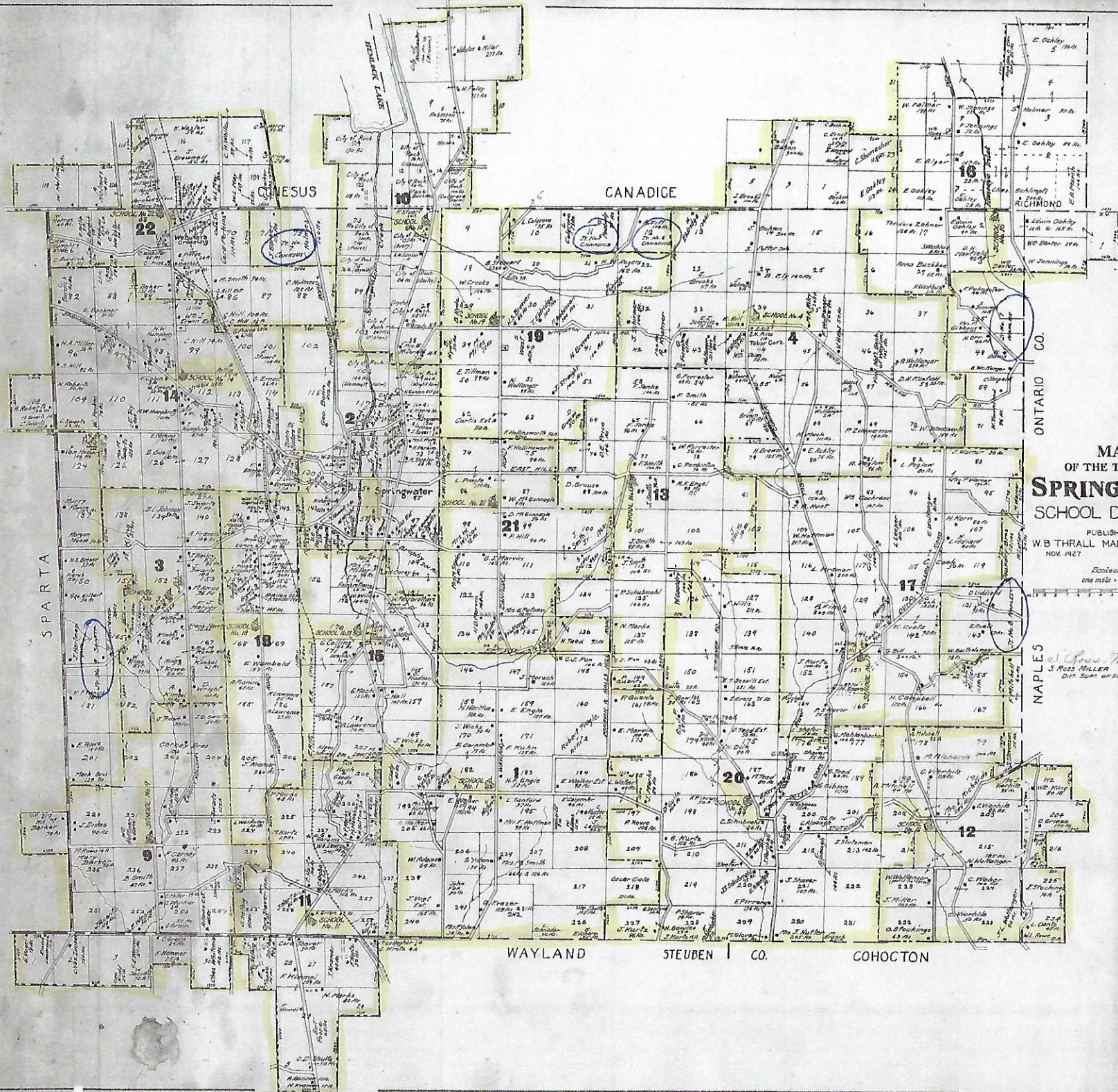


Springwater School Districts





MAP
OF THE TOWN OF
SPRINGWATER
SCHOOL DISTRICTS

PUBLISHED BY
W.B. THRALL MAP & SURVEY CO.
NOV. 1927 PERRY, N.Y.

Scale of Miles
one mile = 3 inches

J. Ross Miller
J. ROSS MILLER
DIST. SURV. OF SCHOOLS

SCHOOLS IN THE SPRINGWATER TOWNSHIP

The first arrivals in the Springwater Valley and surrounding area were not long here before they began to establish school districts.

The population of the Springwater Township increased rapidly from the time when Seth Knowles, the first settler, built a log house about one mile south of the head of Hemlock Lake in 1807. By 1850, the township had a population of two thousand eight-hundred seventy of which number about eight hundred were in attendance at school.

The school year was divided into three terms: the fall, winter and summer terms.

There were many large families in the area. My grandfather was born in 1834 and was one of a family of fifteen children. More than thirty percent of the population were in school in 1850.

All of the schools before 1850 had but one room in the school where the pupils were seated.

The teachers were hired for each term and were required to teach all subjects in all grades. The curriculum was very narrow compared with those of today. It consisted of reading, ciphering, writing. After a few years, the curriculum was expanded to include history and geography. The teacher boarded around the district, that is, she boarded with the families that sent children to school. The first of the teachers received fifty cents per day and often had as many as forty to fifty pupils ranging from five years to eighteen years.

There were occasions when the older pupils were known to have gathered up the teacher and carried them bodily out of the school house.

The District No. 10 school house, where I first attended, was built in 1869. This building replaced a log one built nearly fifty years earlier.

I began attending District No. 10 school in the autumn of 1901. My first teacher's name was Edith Partridge, an aunt to Elizabeth Bomstad.

The school house was a frame building. In dimensions it measured twenty-four feet by thirty feet. It had a porch, which extended across the front that faced the east. The school house was entered by two doors. The north one was for the boys and the south one for the girls.

At the rear of the building on the south side was an outside toilet for the girls. It was separated from the boys' toilet, located on the north side by a high board partition.

Inside the building at the right of the girls' entrance was a room some six feet by twelve feet that provided shelves as a place for the pupils to store their lunch pails. A trap door from this room by stairs lead to the basement where cord wood for the box stove was stored. The boys often filled the wood box, which was located in the partition between the so-called anteroom and the main room. The desks had iron frames which held the seat rigid so that a pupil must slide out whenever he had to leave his seat. The desks were made for two pupils. They had tops made of white pine which were so much carved when I first attended that one could not write on them without some support under the paper. I had a slate bound by a wooden frame, but did not use it often. We spit on the slate when we wished to erase writing on it.

A class in any subject but writing was called to the front of the room, nearest the teacher, to the front seats, by a tap bell sounded by a teacher.

The teacher's desk was placed on a raised platform which extended across the back or west end of the room. Along the north and south sides of the room was a wide board seat which was used as a seat for those pupils who enrolled too late to get an assigned desk.

There was a block of six desks in the center of the room separated by a low partition a little higher than the desk tops. Either side of the block of desks was an aisle which separated the block of desks from the outside row of desks.

All the girls were seated on the south side of the room and the boys on the north side.

The room was heated by a cast iron stove shaped like an oblong box with legs. The stove was located in the anteroom, which made it handy to get wood from the wood box. The stove burned two foot lengths of wood, which were put into the stove through a door in the end of the stove. The stove had on griddle.

Some of the one-room district schools had a cellar for wood storage. Some had a woodshed and a few had no storage place for the wood.

One of the duties of the teacher was to build the fire and see to it that it was kept burning during the day. Sometimes one of the older boys could be hired to do this chore. The teacher was also expected to keep the room clean. The girls often would dust the desks after the room had been swept with a broom.

The black board was part of the back wall near the teacher. The chalk was very soft. The pupils always liked to dust the chalk erasers by striking them together or striking them against the side of the school house.

The school bell rang at nine o'clock. District No. 10 had a hand bell. A few districts had larger bells placed on top of the school house.

The school program always provided for a fifteen minute recess in the midmorning and mid-afternoon. At twelve o'clock, all classes were stopped for lunch and play. Classes began again at the sound of the bell at one o'clock and continued until four o'clock in the afternoon.

The school had no well, but did have a tin pail, and at a spring near the school house they would get a pail of water. Most often there were two pupils who were quite willing to do this chore. At the school house, the pail sat on a shelf about eighteen inches above the floor and beside it, from a nail driven in the board wall, hung the tin dipper. Beside the pail on the same shelf was a *wash desk* to put water in for washing hands.

At noon, after lunch, there were several different games which the pupils played.

In the winter, they played Blind Man's Bluff, Pussy Wants a Corner, Hide the Chalk and Clap Out. Outside games were Hide and Seek, Pom-pom Pull You Away, Tag, Bull in the Ring and Needle's Eye. Outside games in the winter when there was snow on the ground were Fox and Geese and Snap the Whip.

At Christmas time, each pupil learned a *piece to speak*. The afternoon of the last day of school before the Christmas vacation was an exciting one. The parents were invited to visit the school and listen to the program and many times help control the pupils.

The Christmas tree was decorated with popcorn balls and popcorn strung on a string. Some of the pupils exchanged presents. The teacher gave each pupil some inexpensive gift. The mothers usually brought some cookies to have after the program was concluded.

Arbor Day was another day of special interest to the pupil. It was a day dedicated to the planting of a tree on the school grounds. The whole group usually went on a field trip to find a suitable tree for planting. On the school grounds, the older boys dug up the hole in the ground for the tree and covered the roots with soil.

The last day of school was also a day for much rejoicing for the pupils. The afternoon was usually spent by playing games and enjoying a picnic, to which some of the mothers brought the younger members of the family.

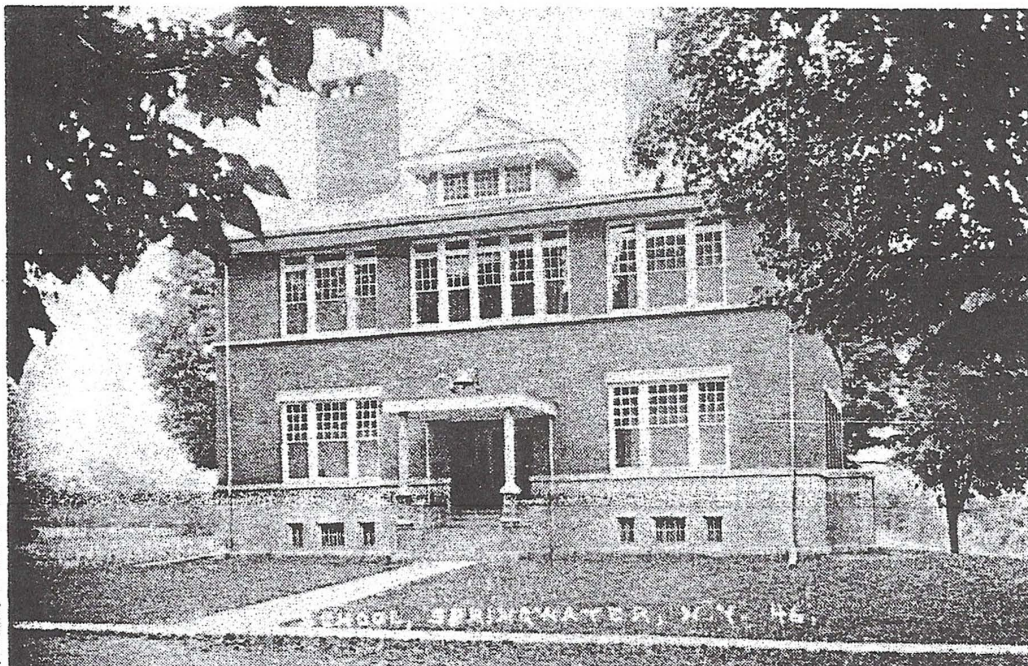
Hand signals were used by the pupils for certain requests. One finger was a request to leave the room. Two fingers meant the pupil wished to get a drink. Three fingers asked to leave one's seat to speak to another pupil. All four fingers meant the pupil wished to ask the teacher a question when seated in his own seat. If he were in class, it meant the pupil would like to answer the question.

To maintain discipline in the one room school, the teacher used three or four common forms of punishment for minor offenses. One was to have the pupil stand in the corner with his back to the others or on the platform for fifteen minutes or more. Another teacher might deprive the pupil his recess period for a day or more. Yet others might have the pupil sit in a front seat near the teacher.

The above forms of punishment were for such offenses as whispering, note passing and tripping a pupil passing to a class or any offense that might disturb the school routine. Teacher's in the one room school did not hesitate to use the rod if it seemed to be the best means of chastising the offenders.

As late as 1905, there were seventeen one room school houses located in as many rural school districts, each employing one teacher. The pupil population varied in numbers from ten or twelve to as many as forty-five or fifty. Each district had a number and some had a name.

District No. 1 was located on the northwest corner of Walker Road and Strutt Street and was commonly called the Bell School House. This district was organized about 1820.



District No. 2 was located in the valley. The first school house was located on the main road about where the Cooper house stood (now burned). In 1874, a new building was erected on School Street. This was a two story wooden building which was used until 1912 when it was replaced by the present brick building.

High School, Springwater;
1946

Former Fremont Dist. #6: Probably one of the schools located farthest from Wayland Central School. It was purchased in 1945 by William Holmes at a cost of \$150; the schoolhouse was located on his property. This school is located on the Hornell Road just beyond the Meyer Farms Inc. - on the right side of the road; it was renovated into a home.

Former Cohocton Dist. #1: Located on the Sawdust Road beyond the Wallace Farm. It is now a home owned by Neale Stephens. The Wallace families and Mary Quantz's mother (Margaret Blackrick) were on the school roll.

Former Springwater Dist. #3: Located on Wright's Road and sold in 1951 to Rev. G. W. Gibbons for \$805. It is presently owned by William & Leona Fitzpatrick. Leona's mother (Mabel Gilman Grein) attended this school. Leona and Bill use the former school for storage and the grandchildren sometimes have a loom set up for weaving their prize winning wool from the sheep raised on the Shamrock Farms.

Across from the Springwater #3 school - a Baptist church; not used today.

Former Springwater Dist. #4: This schoolhouse was purchased in 1946 by Maxine Marks (Tabors Corners School) and her sister for \$600. Maxine was a commercial artist from Rochester but worked in New York City. Both ladies have died and Maxine's niece now owns this lovely place, but the grounds are unkept because no one has been in residence for several years.

Former Springwater Dist. #14: Located on the Carney Hollow Road, it was sold in 1947 to Erwin Wemett for \$745. It now belongs to Peter Callahan

Former Springwater Dist. #15: Located on the Springwater-Wayland Road, just beyond the Nazarene Church. Karl Plail purchased this schoolhouse in 1946 for the amount of \$100. His daughter, Cornelia, lived there for several years; then it was rented. It now belongs to Michael and Kathleen Cassota.

Former Springwater Dist. #17: Built in 1875 and located on the Pardee Hollow Road is the Punky Hollow School. The first owners were Ralph and Hazel Lindsay and we called it the Turkey Farm at that time; they purchased it in 1950 for \$800. Gene Miller, the recent owner is restoring the school house back into a one room school house. He took the loft out that the Lindsay's had for bedrooms; replaced one window that was out because of the loft; has the stove, blackboard, old desks, etc. that were familiar to the one room school. The woodwork around the room - wainscoting. Outside - playground equipment of yesteryear. One home returning to a schoolhouse.

Visitors are welcome - when the flag is up on weekends, the door is open for visitors; they are requested to leave a message.

Former Springwater Dist. #18: Located in Harpers Ferry and purchased in 1946 by Olivia Magin for \$100. It now belongs to Nick & Jane Fono - beautifully redone. They added on a wing to the original schoolhouse.

Former Springwater Dist. #20: Located on Schribner Road and purchased in 1948 by Russell Hanna for \$900. It remains in the Hanna family - Mike and Hazel use it as a guest house. Some of the school houses also served as a church on weekends - the ones with long windows as in Spr. #20 sort of indicated it was used by both, school and church.

Along with a lovely living room with fire place, this home has a kitchen, bathrooms, several bedrooms and much storage space.

Former Springwater Dist. #21: On the Canadice Road, purchased in 1949 by Marion Capron (deceased) and Gladys Dunton for \$690. Marion Capron was from the Leonard Capron family in Springwater. She worked for Social Services in Hornell but spent weekends and summers at the school house.

Former Springwater Dist. #22: The Websters Crossing School was sold to Kenneth VanScooter for \$400. He lived in Rochester and anticipated making this into a home but never followed through. It was sold again but later on, James VanScooter (who lives next door) purchased it for unpaid taxes. Jim told us he went to school here before it closed and before he went to Wayland Central. At that time, he lived on the other hill and walked quite a distance to school. He noted that the land around it was prime farming land and at that time, during recess or after school, the teacher would let the youngsters pick potatoes or help the farmer in harvesting crops. On the side of the woodshed are several names carved into the wood - very obvious was the name of Herbert White.

Former Canadice Dist. #5: On the corner of Johnson Hill Road and County Road 37 is located former Canadice #5 schoolhouse - now the home of Michael & Tina Dougherty who moved there from Williamsport. The first owner was Fred & Katherine Giles; the property was a part of their farm so they paid \$150 for various legal fees..

Former Canadice Dist. #6: Jean Walroth, a newspaper correspondent from the Rochester Gannett Papers purchased this schoolhouse and remodeled it into a home in 1949; the price was \$1050. It is located on Ross Road.

SCHOOLS OF YESTERYEAR..

Located in the Wayland-Cohocton Central School District..

FORMER WAYLAND DIST. #2:

The Patchinsville School, purchased in December, 1951 by Albert Ellinger for \$875; later sold to Peter Shults and now owned by Joseph & Sally Fox. Both Mr. Ellinger and Mr. Shults anticipated making this into a home, but neither followed thru. It's one of the typical schoolhouses that has two separate doors opposite one another - a door for the girls to enter and one for the boys entrance; quite customary in the one room schools.

The Patchinsville School was the "site of the First Home Bureau." Mrs. Sally Patchin organized a handicraft class for girls/ladies of the neighborhood that met on Saturday afternoon. She taught sewing during the first hour followed by instruction in crafts. The girls and teacher never heard of a home bureau, but that's what it was; a leader, a group of pupils and instruction of the many things the home bureau engage in today. This lasted for a period of 40 years;

The first Patchinsville school was located across the road but about 1865, James Totten donated the present site. In 1865, the teacher received \$1 per week.

Today, the building is used for storage.

FORMER WAYLAND DIST. #3:

Located on the Road to Hornell in the Look Lake Area. It was purchased by Peter Shults; the school was located on his property and there had been no deed. The fee paid was \$152 to cover the legal fees. This home now belongs to James and Katharine Crossett. It's a very comfortable home including kitchen, livingroom, dining room, bath and several bedrooms. Jim and Katie added the breeze-way and garage and recently added an inclosed porch.

FORMER WAYLAND DIST. #4:

Known as the Bowles Corners School, sold in 1957 to Frank & Loretta Yohon for \$1800. The Yohons sold the school to Carl North who oived there about 35 years; the recent owners are Ronald & Barbara Conrad and their three daughters. This schoolhouse in another lovely home - remodeled and added on by Carl North. It included a living-family room, kitchen, bath, bedrooms, laundry room, Ron's workroom and a large attic area upstairs for storage or more remodeling.

Mrs. Yohon indicated this school was not used in the 1930's; later, when Wayland had a migrant population, they used this building for a migrant church.,

FORMER WAYLAND DIST. #5:

The Perkinsville School purchased in 1956 by Herbert Weiland for \$360. A quit claim deed was processed for this sale. This school was one of the last to close because it remained open after the fire of the Wayland High School along with the Robinson District School (located in Springwater and recently burned).

The school was located across from St. Peter's Church.

It now belongs to John Malter who is renovating it.



Springwater
School District
#1, Bell School
House



48 Years Ago They Turned Out Thus For Reunion With Former Teacher

Above is a scene at Bell school, taken in 1903 by Frazer the Photographer. Occasion was to honor visit of a former teacher at school, Sarah Stillson. Many of the former students attended in their families.

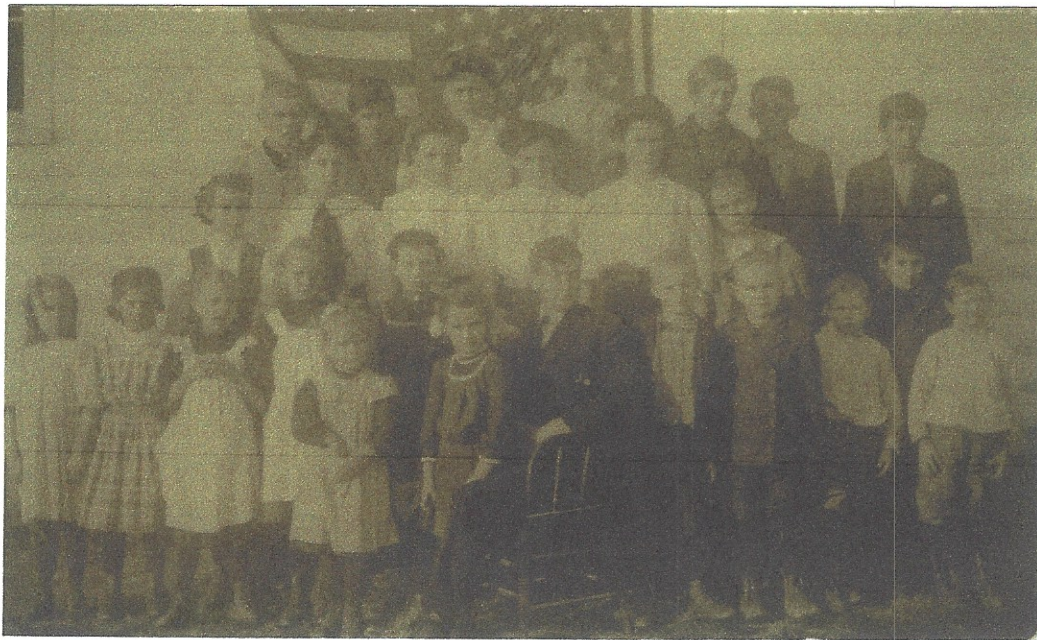
While not grouped in definite rows, some partly hidden and otherwise obscured, the lineup has been deciphered by some of those

present at the event, and others may be able to do likewise with a little study, as follows:

Starting at left rear: Frank Salter, Edwin Carpenter (partly hidden), Murry Doughty, Charles Capron, Eva Rogers Capron, Allie Howe, Myrtie Walker Smith, Marietta Wilcox, Mrs. Daniel Wilcox, Mr. Bates, Cora Walker Shaver, Alvira Whitman, Jennie Parshall,

Lucy Stratton, Clara Wilcox Carpenter, Clara Doughty Pierce, Sarah Walker, John Walker, Second row: Lola Salter, Gertie Artip, Belle Dunkleburg, Emma Walker Abrams, Sarah Stillson (with veil, which she wore all day), Bina St. John, Alvira Walker, Sarah Carpenter Hoffman, Maude Rogers Uetzmann, Charles Rogers, Carrie Leaper, Dora Rog-

ers, Harry Rogers, Lewis Walker, Sitting: Hannah Willis, Stratton Doughty, Maude S Walker, Bert Fuller, Ella der, Lucretia St. John, Mil Walker Harvey, Beulah B Rose Carpenter Green, John I ell, Addie Harter Lander, Walker Rogers, John Howe, win Walker, sons Alex and Fred Hoffman, Dorothy Dori



Springwater School District #1
Bell School House



Springwater School District #1
Bell School House

SCHOOL DISTRICT # 2

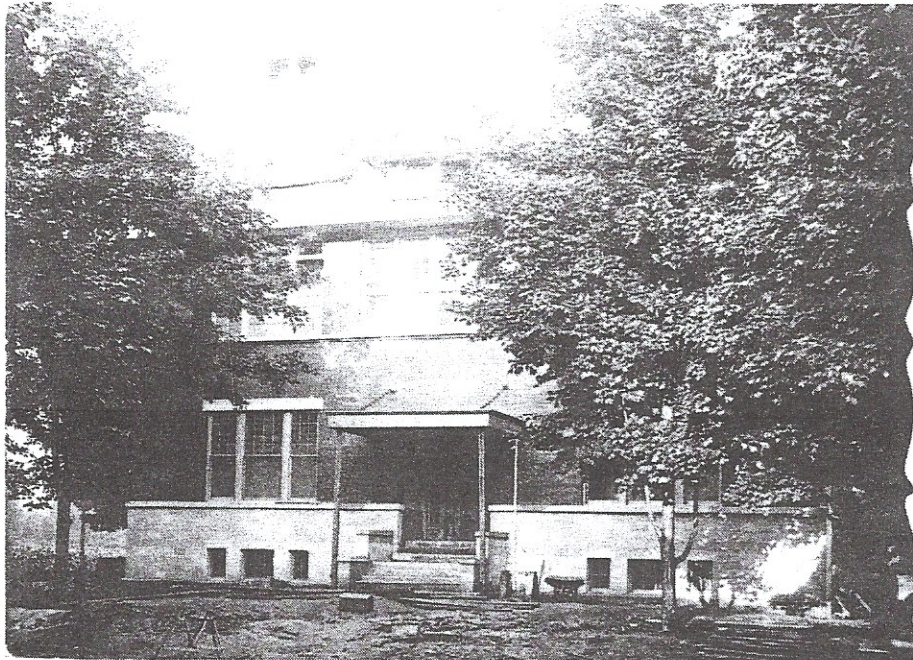
THE FIRST SCHOOL HOUSE WAS LOCATED ON MAIN RD.

1874 TWO STORY WOODEN STRUCTURE WAS BUILT ON SCHOOL ST. AND USED UNTIL 1912 , WHEN REPLACED BY PRESENT BRICK STRUCTURE.

KERN ROBINSON POST 905 / AMERICAN LEGION WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1919 AND USED THE BRICK BUILDING , FOR MEETINGS, PROGRAMS, DINNERS, ETC.

DAVID WHITE FOUNDER & FIRST COMMANDER ASSISTED BY JAMES DUFFY, REID ROBINSON & MAHLON BOMBSTEAD.

THE LEGION IS STILL PRESENTLY VERY ACTIVE AND A LEADER IN THE BOYS STATE PROGRAM.



THIS LOOKS LIKE IT IS IN FRONT OF SCHOOL DISTRICT #2

FRONT ROW: GLEN HYDE, ERNEST MILLER, ROY SAWDEY, GLEN PERKINS, CARL PERKINS, ART SEWARD (?)

MIDDLE ROW L TO R.:

ROSS MILLER (PRINCIPAL) , ANDREW OR JOHN SOVIET, ART SNYDER, KEN HIGGINS, RICHARD BARNHARDT, KEN FISHER, CURTIS SCHWAB, MARION SNYDER, JINNY HAYNES

3RD ROW L TO R :

MARJORY SWICK, LUCILLE ARTLIP, MADGE HANSON, RUTH WEBSTER, (?) , LUCILLE HOLMES, SARAH FISHER, ELSIE ZIMMER, (?) , ETHEL PARKER, MYRTIS WOLFANGER





Dist. #2

High School class 1929-30

TOP ROW LEFT TO RIGHT

DON GELLETTE
KEN INGERHAM
ELMER SMITH
EARL STONE
JON PROCTOR
ALBERT SMITH
ROBERT MAY
HAROLD HOLMES

ROW 3

GLADYS ODELL
DOROTHY MILLER
LILLIAN BEAMAN
ELLEN PRESTON
THELMA PUTMAN
SADIE DONOVAN
GEORGE FISHER
MARY HOMLES
MYRTIS WOLFANGER
PEARL SLOAT

ROW 2

DORIS PECK
EVELYN ROBINSON
BELLA SMITH- (TEACHER)
HILDA WOLFANGER
RAYMOND OSTRANDER - (TEACHER)
JANE SIMPSON
DOROTHY PERKINS
LUCILLE GROUSE
GEORGIA MINER
MARILYN WAMSLEY- (TEACHER)
FRANCIS HOLMES

FRONT ROW

CLIFFORD MACK
JOHN STONE
CLAIR STOCKING
ART FISHER



Back Row, left to right

Irene Miller, Audrey Perkins, Dorothy Richardson, Margaret Donovan, Robie Stuart, Ada Speers

Middle Row, left to right

Andrew Soviet (or John?), Art Snyder, Ken Higgins, Richard Bernhardt, Ken Fisher, Curtis Schwab, Marion Snyder, Tinny Haynes

Third Row, left to right

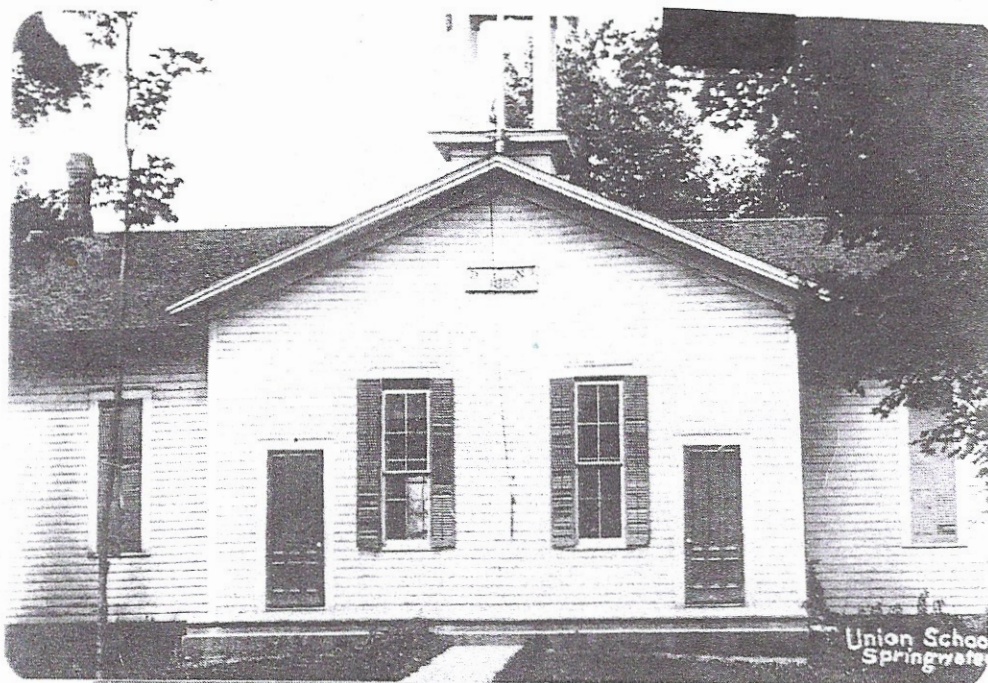
Marjorie Swick, Lucille Artlip, Madge Hanson, Ruth Webster, ??? Lucille Holmes, Sarah Fisher, Elsie Zimmer ??? Ethel Parker, Myrtis Wolfanger

Front Row, left to right

Glen Hyde, Ernie Miller, Roy Sawdey, Glen Perkins, Carl Perkins, Art Seward

SPRINGWATER UNION SCHOOL

ESTABLISHED 1880



UNION SCHOOL CLASS PICTURE 1907
ARCH MOORE IN MIDDLE OF BACK ROW (WITH HAT)

Wooden school
district 2



SPRINGWATER SCHOOL DISTRICT #3

LOCATED ON WRIGHTS ROAD AND SOLD IN 1951 TO REV. G.W. GIBBONS FOR \$805. IT IS PRESENTLY OWNED BY WILLIAM & LEONA FITZPATRICK. LEONA'S MOTHER (MABEL, GILMAN GEIN) ATTENDED THIS SCHOOL. LEONA AND BILL USE THE FORMER SCHOOL FOR STORAGE AND THE GRANDCHILDREN SOMETIMES HAVE A LOOM SET UP FOR WEAVING THEIR PRIZE WINNING WOOL FROM THE SHEEP RAISED ON THEIR SHAMROCK FARMS.

LEONA FITZPATRICK RECALLS HER PARENTS HELP BUILD THE LITTLE CHURCH ACROSS THE ROAD FROM THE SCHOOL,

MRS. JOHNSON WAS THE LAST TEACHER AT THE SCHOOL.

HER MOTHER SAID THE STUDENTS WOULD FETCH WATER FROM THE HOUSE NEXT DOOR (PRESENTLY THE FITZPATRICK HOME), WHERE MRS. SMITH LIVED, AND THEY LOVED TO BE CHOSEN SO THEY COULD SEE HER WITH HER CORN COB PIPE.



ACROSS FROM THE SPRINGWATER #3 SCHOOL: A BAPTIST CHURCH NOT USED TODAY.





Wright School
1916-1917

Back Harry Johnson
 Ruby Harvey ~~Kimball~~
 Dorothy Wright
 Edgar Harvey
 Burdette Moose
 Edward Wright
 E.
 Meliaud Kimball
 Kenneth Kimball
 Kimball



Harry Johnson
 Edgar Harvey
 Kenneth Kimball
 Ruby Harvey
 Kimball

Burdette Moose
 Millard Kimball
 Dorothy Haight
 (Edward) Wright

Wright School
 1916-1917



POST CARD

A A A A
A PLACE
A STAMP
A HERE
A A A A

NAME AND ADDRESS HERE

Wright School

Millard Kimball
Burdette Moore
Wright
Ruby Harvey

CORRESPONDENCE HERE

District #3
on Wrights Rd

Donatibby!
Ross Kimball
Oriskany, N.Y.

SPRINGWATER SCHOOL DISTRICT #4

THIS SCHOOLHOUSE WAS PURCHASED IN 1946 BY MAXINE MARKS AND HER SISTER FOR \$600.

IT IS LOCATED ON THE CORNER OF TABORS CORNERS ROAD.

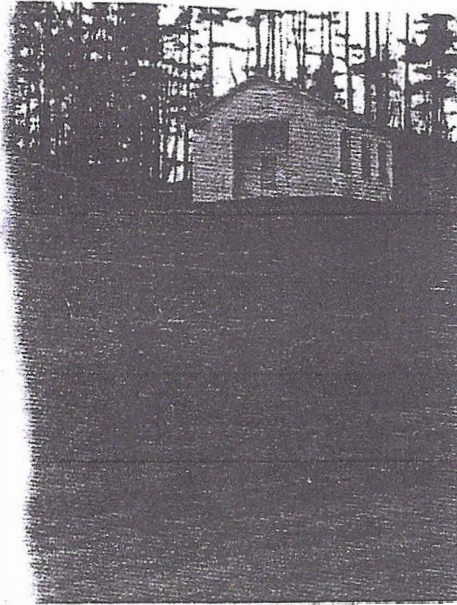
MAXINE WAS A COMMERCIAL ARTIST FROM ROCHESTER BUT WORKED IN NEW YORK CITY. BOTH LADIES HAVE DIED AND MAXINE'S NIECE THEN OWNED THIS LOVELY PLACE, BUT THE GROUNDS WERE UNKEPT BECAUSE NO ONE WAS IN THE RESIDENCE FOR SEVERAL YEARS.

MR. & MRS. DANIEL LOFURNO OF ROCHESTER NOW OWNS THE BEAUTIFUL SCHOOLHOUSE AND IS PRESENTLY TRYING TO RESTORE THE PROPERTY.



SPRINGWATER SCHOOL DISTRICT #9

ON CARNEY HOLLOW RD.
NO LONGER THERE



SPRINGWATER SCHOOL DISTRICT #10

LOCATED WHERE THE ROAD GOES TO HEMLOCK LAKE.
MAY 1920



May 1920

A BRIEF HISTORY OF BUFFALO STREET SCHOOL
DISTRICT NO. 11 SPRINGWATER & WAYLAND.

On April 17, 1816, five and one-half miles were taken from the west side of Naples and three miles from the east side of Sparta and formed into the town of Springwater. When Livingston County was taken from Ontario and Genesee, February 23, 1821, no change was made in the boundaries of Springwater. Thus we see that Springwater, as a political subdivision, is older than the county of which it forms a part.

There stood in what is now George Fisher's dooryard a log building in which was taught the first school in the town in 1813-14 by James Blake. This was more than three years before the organization of the town and probably before the division of the town into school districts. In this building the meeting was held for the organization of the town government, April 9, 1817, then a part of Ontario County.

So far as I have been able to ascertain, no change has been made in the boundaries of this school district since its formation from parts of Springwater and Dansville in Steuben County. Later the said town of Dansville was divided and Wayland formed therefrom.

This district was organized at a meeting held (to quote from the first Districts Clerk's book) "at the house of Jesse Hyde in the town of Springwater by an order from the school commissioners of the town of Springwater and Dansville on the 4th day of 1836". At this meeting the trustees were authorized

to purchase a site for, and to have erected a school house
26 x 24, near the dwelling of John Carpenter. A tax of \$125 voted to
be applied on the erection of the house. Those trustees did not
perform either of those acts. The district never had a title
to this school site, except that gained by long possession or
occupancy until about 90 years later.

At a meeting on the 22nd of September of the same year
the prospective edifice was changed from ~~26 x 24~~ 26 x 24 to
21 ft. square to be built of 3 inch plank and provided with a stove,
but it wasn't built that year.

The district father next met in a house-- presumably vacant--
then owned by Andrew Spafard on May-day of the next year 1837.
That meeting voted a tax of \$7.00 to repair the house--in which the
meeting was being held--for school purposes, and that a school be kept
six months. As to who the teacher of the first six months of school
was, the records available do not disclose. We learn from a copy of a
report to the school commissioners that he or she received \$30.00
for the six months; that there were 58 children of school age
in the district, 46 of whom attended school.

That May-day meeting of 1837 repeated its command to the trustees
to build a school house 21' Square, this time specifying "a good
framed" building, to be finished by Oct. 1 and increased the
tax thereon from \$125.00 to \$150.00.

At a subsequent meeting the size of the edifice was again
changed to 20 x 22 feet and the \$150.00 tax reaffirmed. We may
assume that this was the size of the first building on this site, as
the annual school meeting of Oct. 1837 was held in the school house.

It is worthy of note th t in the year 1838 there were 25 familie with 71 children, 70 of whom attended school, and no doubt some families without children or with children under/school age ^{or over} . That was an increase of 13 pupils within one year.

Wee wonder what kind of a school was conducted with 70 students in a house 20 x 22- a space about 2½ ft square for each boy or girl.

Allow me to quote directly from the record of a meeting held April 25, 1838:

" 1st. Voted that Ashbil R. Grover serve as moderator.

2nd. That the trustees may hire Moses Coleman to teach the summer school " (Th_{is} is the first teacher ^{name} mentioned by

" 3d Voted that the lumber paid to said teacher be divided according to each inhabitants school bill.

4th Voted that the lumber that is paid to the teacher be delivered at Farnsworth & Thayer's mills."

5t . Voted that the district bear an equal proportion according to their tax in suing Arnold Gray provided the trustees cannot get it without.

6th Voted that the trustees shall buy a book for the district and charge it to the distr~~ict~~ suitable to copy the records of the district."

In the fall of 1871, the school house burned. At a meeting held Dec. 30 of that year this building was authorized 20 x 24. The late James Cook, then of Wayland, took the job at \$449.

In 1896 in complianee with xxxx the flag law, a pole was erected and a flag purchased at an expense of \$ 6.75.

The next year our first globe appeared. I remember it well. It cost 40 cents and was worth it. In 1898, the old long seats and desks were replaced by more modern furniture, some of which are not in place.

In 1919 a further attempt was made to modernize the school plant by the instillation of chemical toilets. These cost \$160.00

Although the district, as has been stated, held undisputed possession of the ~~same~~ school site for 90 years, no conveyance of the same had been made to the district. In 1926 the site was purchased of the late Jacob Hartz with the reservation of the right of way across the northeast corner in favor of Henry Grein. The next year an additional amount of land was deeded to Mr. Grein by the district in exchange for a like amount on the south side of the school lot which Mr. Grein purchased of Mr. Hartz, and for which the District has a deed from Mr. Hartz.

The last improvement of importance, the drilling of a well, was accomplished in 1931 at a cost of \$110.00.

The noveliest can, and usually does, give his story a happy ending. The historian is often denied that privilege. My closing paragraph is a bit sad.

Finally in 1936, after having completed just a century of honorable existence and useful work our school was closed.

xxxxxx

SPRINGWATER DISTRICT SCHOOL # 14

LOCATED ON CARNEY HOLLOW ROAD, IT WAS SOLD IN 1947 TO ERWIN WEMETT FOR \$745. IT NOW BELONGS TO PETER CALLAHAN.

IT IS THOUGHT TO BE BUILT ABOUT 1875-86 , WAS A LOG BUILDING PRIOR TO PRESENT STRUCTURE, LAND MAY HAVE BEEN DONATED BY HUMPHREYS.

WATER WAS PIPED ACROSS ROAD FROM THE SPENCER PROPERTY .

THE CALLAHAN FAMILY HAS LIVED THERE SINCE

MRS. HELEN WRIGHT SCHOOL THERE AT ONE TIME AND WILL BE THERE TO SHARE SOME OF HER STORIES.

HERB HUMPHREY SAID HE WENT TO FIRST GRADE AT THAT SCHOOL ABOUT 1944 AND THAT WAS THE LAST YEAR THE SCHOOL WAS OPEN.

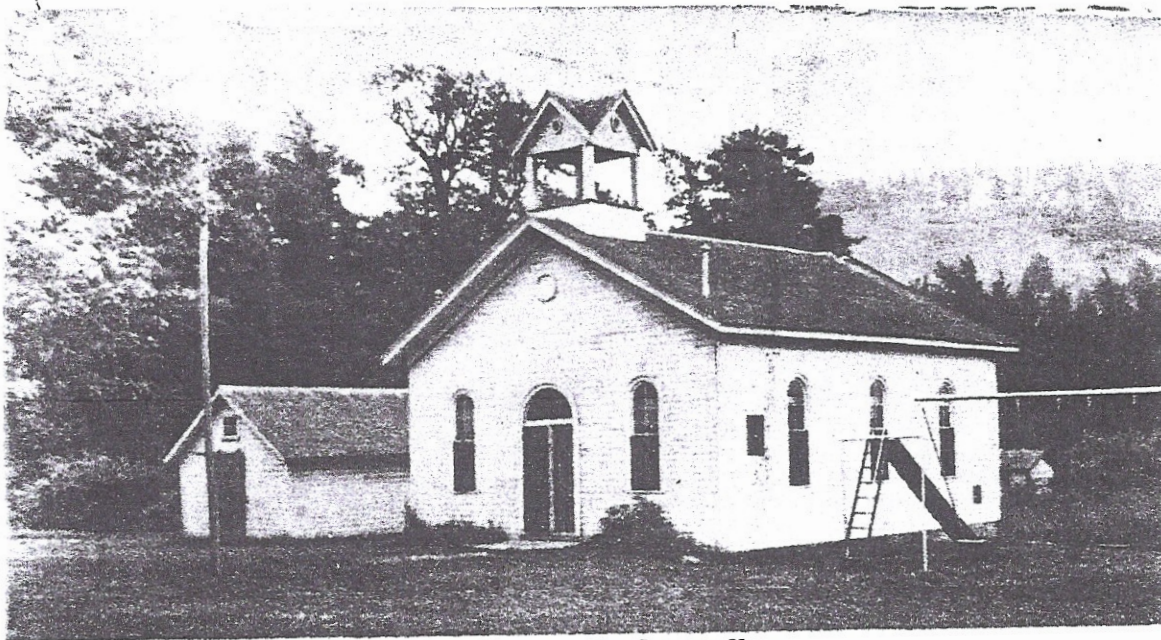
HE RECALLS ONE AUTUM DAY THE TEACHER LET THE STUDENTS OUT OF SCHOOL EARLY, SOMEONE HAD DROPPED OFF A BUNCH OF ONION BAGS, AND THE STUDENTS SPENT THE DAY PICKING MILKWEED PODS FILLING THE BAGS , WHICH WOULD BE PICKED UP LATER AND USED AS FILLING FOR LIFEJACKETS DURING WORLD WAR II.



SPRINGWATER SCHOOL DISTRICT #17

BUILT IN 1875 AND LOCATED ON THE PARDEE HOLLOW RD. IS THE PUNKY HOLLOW SCHOOL. THE FIRST OWNERS WERE RALPH AND HAZEL LINDSAY AND WE CALLED IT THE TURKEY FARM AT THAT TIME. THEY PURCHASED IT IN 1950 FOR \$800. GENE MILLER, THE RECENT OWNER RESTORED THE SCHOOL HOUSE BACK INTO A ONE ROOM SCHOOL HOUSE. HE TOOK THE LOFT OUT THAT THE LINDSAYS HAD FOR A BEDROOM, REPLACED ONE WINDOW THAT WAS OUT BECAUSE OF THE LOFT, HAS THE STOVE, BLACKBOARD, OLDDESKS, ETC. THAT WERE FAMILIAR TO THE ONE ROOM SCHOOL. THE WOODWORK AROUND THE ROOM- WAINSCOTING. OUTSIDE, PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT OF YESTERYEAR.

VISTORS ARE WELCOME - WHEN THE FLAG IS UP ON WEEKENDS, THE DOOR IS OPEN FOR VISITORS, THEY ARE REQUESTED TO LEAVE A MESSAGE.



ALMA MATER... FOR SOME OF US

Twentieth
Annual Old Home Day
Twentieth Annual Old Home Day

OF EAST SPRINGWATER

AT PUNKY HOLLOW SCHOOL HOUSE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 1942
NOTICE CHANGE OF DAY

PLEASE BRING DISHES AND SILVER FOR YOUR FAMILY
SANDWICHES AND A DISH OF FOOD TO PASS

HISTORY OF OLD HOME DAY

The first Old Home Day, at East Springwater, was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cook, August 18, 1923. One hundred sixty-six were present. The first officers were Hugh Campbell, president, Wirt E. Wetmore, vice president and Jennie L. Wetmore as secretary-treasurer.

The second meeting, August 9, 1924 two hundred and fifteen were present. A committee was appointed to purchase lumber for tables and seats. Those appointed to this committee were Miles Branch, Gordon Gibson, Henry Pries, Karl Becker and Harry Shaver.

The third annual Old Home Day was held right here at the Punkey Hollow School House, August 8, 1925 with 239 present. \$35.64 was paid out to Harry Shaver for lumber used in making the tables and benches and the Ladies Aid insured church sheds, tables and benches.

A letter written by Oscar Ray and recorded in the minutes of 1924 reads as follows: "In the middle of the 1840's I commenced to attend school at Tabors Corners. Then it had mail by the Canadaigua-Dansville route."

"The first master and others openly dealt out intoxicants in three places near the school house. Dances were frequently with some fights. The old wood colored school house soon burned. While the new red one was being built, school was held in an old log house, that stood back of the old Hausen shop." Signed: Oscar and Sarah Thompson Ray P.S. "I forgot to quote the price of whiskey, which was twenty five cents a gallon."

In 1932 a play called "The Morning Callers" was put on by Lizzie Cook, Margaret Peglow, Grace Wolfanger and children and Helen Wolfanger. Rev. Montgomery Branch, a missionary of India surprised everyone with his presence and gave a very interesting

Talk.

A motion was made and seconded to buy an organ from Mrs. Slingerland to use at community gatherings in 1934.

275 were present August 1, 1936, coming from Wayland, Springwater, Atlanta, North Cohocton, Rochester, Canadaigua, Livonia, Naples, Fairport, Macedon, Waterloo, Red Creek, Andover, LeRoy, Ithaca, Hornell and Angelica. \$5.00 was sent to the EUB Church in Wayland toward the chimes, in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cook in 1956. The Cooks were members of this church. Old Home Day was held on their lawn for many years.

We have a complete secretaries book filled with happenings from Old Home Day's in years past. If anyone would care to read through it, I'm sure it would bring back many pleasant memories to the older members and acquaint new members with the past.

Maxine Averill

Historian

PUNKY HOLLOW SCHOOL HOUSE

Welcome to the Punky Hollow School House! The history of the site and this building is slowly being pieced together. Originally constructed on this site in 1838, the current building replaced a burned structure in approximately 1875. Used as a school until almost 1950, the Punky Hollow School House celebrates its rich history during an annual gathering in August of all former students and teachers. The collection of school desks and other time period pieces includes a teacher's desk, many varieties of student desks, lamps, lunch pails, writing implements, books, and pulleys. The teacher's desk was bought at auction and its roots are traced to the Tabors Corner School House, a few short miles away. At the same auction, the double desks filing the majority of the school house were acquired. Below are a collection of time period newspaper articles discussing the school house and its history.

Couldn't Change Name of Punky Hollow School

Wayland, NY - Thursday, August 3, 1950

Punky Hollow schoolhouse, now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Lindsay, has been the scene of annual reunions for over half a century. Last spring members of the district voted to sell the property, thus ending its last formal tie with education.

This building was erected in 1875, built by Seth Foster, and Arthur Hunt. It replaced a building which was burned. Wesley Guile was the first teacher.

The story goes that the school and hollow got their name from a family living in the hollow district. After it had been known by the Punky Hollow title for some time, a few residents objected and tried to fasten the name of East Springwater school onto it. The new title didn't take and Punky Hollow it was in the last century, and Punky Hollow it remains today.

Title Unknown November 1939

I was greatly pleased to receive the following card, dated October 8, 1939:

Mrs. Clara Mack -

"Punky Hollow was named after a man by the name of Punky, an early settler. Across from the school house the place passed from him to Peter Y. Purcell, from Purcell to Reckford, his son, father of Ella Partridge, Libbie Hyde, and Frank Purcell. The present owner is Charles Cook.

I went to school there seventy-four years ago and could name every family in that school district that far back. My father remembered the old man Punky. -- Harvey Robinson

Wayland R.D. 1

It is remarkable that a man who went to school seventy-four years ago is able to write so clearly and just as remarkable that he was sufficiently interested to send this writer a card. Thank you Mr. Robinson.

Mrs. George Thorpe of Wayland informs me that Punky Hollow was so named because of a family of Richardson's who resided in that section.

A male head of the house was, for some unknown reason, saddled with the title of "Punky," hence Punky Hollow.

When a new school house was erected the good citizens wanted to change the name. They felt that the term "Punky" was too questionable and lacking

in dignity. Consequently, a big sign reading East Springwater district was put above the blackboard so the students would get the notion of dropping the old name. But regardless of these efforts, district number 17 continues to be designated by the romantic and colorful words, Punky Hollow. Personally, I hope they never try to change it again.

Old Home Day at East Springwater (August 20, 1923)

An East Springwater Old Home Day and Community Picnic was held Saturday, August 18, at Punky Hollow schoolhouse. The day was ideal and over 150 friends were present from India, Union, S.C., Philadelphia, Pa., Boyne City, Mich., Rochester, Lima, Scottsville, Livonia Center, South Livonia, Canadice, Macedon, Mt. Morris, Sonyea, Hornell, Pultney, Arkport, Avoca, North Cohocton, Rushville, Middlesex, Wayland and Springwater. At 1:30 a bountiful dinner was served to which all did justice. After dinner an impromptu program was given which included short talks by R.P. Moulton and daughter, Mrs. Grace Wood, of Rushville, Rev. E. Fulcomer of Wayland, Rev. E.D. Chapman of Avoca, who attended school in that district nearly forty-five years ago, and Clarence Gray of North Cohocton, a former teacher; also several readings by Miss H. Card of

Rochester and a recitation by Miss L. Wetmore, and several songs by the entire company. It was all greatly enjoyed by those present. The day had been so well enjoyed that it was decided to hold another day at the "Holmes" school on the second Saturday of August, 1924. Officers elected for the coming year were: President, H. Campbell; Vice President, W. Wetmore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. W. Wetmore.

We all join in thanking Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cook for the use of their lawn and other accommodations.

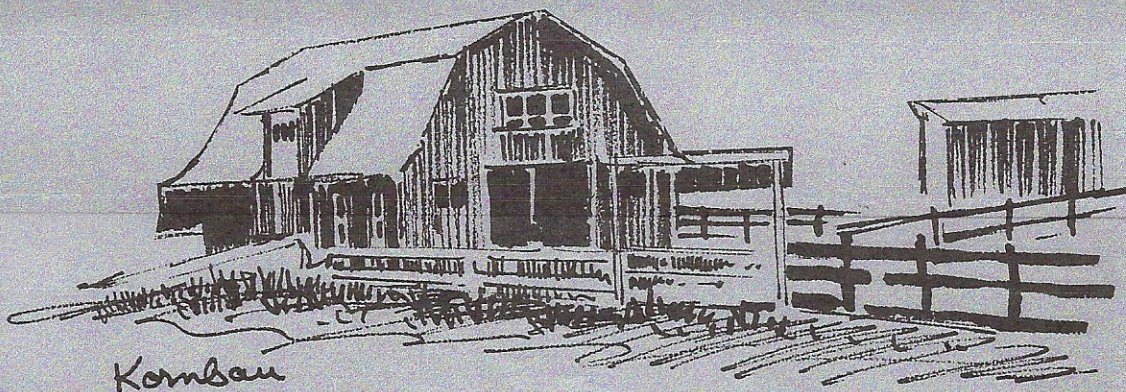
Old Home Day (August 1924)

The second Old Home Day at East Springwater was held at the "Holmes" School House, Saturday, August 9th, about 175 being present. After dinner a short program was given.

The following officers were elected for the coming year: President, J. Foster; Vice President, H. Shaver; Secretary and Treasurer, J. Wetmore.

The following committees were appointed: Committee to purchase lumber for tables and seats, M. Branch, G. Gibson, H. Pries, H. Shaver and K. Becker; Committee for dinner, Mrs. Z. Bowles, Mrs. C. Shaver, and Mrs. N. Foster.

The next Old Home Day will be held at Punky Hollow School House the second Saturday in August, 1925.



Punky Hollow November 1992

As of December 31, 1988 the ownership of the 1838 school house transferred to the Millers from Bill & Carol Kent. Renovation on the building began in late 1989 and includes a variety of interior and exterior changes. The changes made to the building are an attempt to restore the building to its original condition. The support beams under the original school house were refurbished and the sun porch added in recent years to the back of the house has been removed. One small outbuilding to the left of the school house will be removed. The remaining garage was the original woodshed and is being restored in 1992 and 1993.

The anticipated completion date of restoration efforts will be 1994. The completed project presents a unique opportunity for the community and our immediate Punky Hollow neighborhood. The main building, may be used for religious, charitable and educational activities. It is also possible, with proper interest, from the community that the Punky Hollow school house might be declared a Historical Preservation District or building. However, completion of the school house renovation is first and foremost on the priorities list. Also, the old woodshed next to the schoolhouse is being converted to a caretakers residence building.

It is with sincere thanks to Gene Joseph, our contractor, that this project is ahead of schedule and has made a significant contribution to the Hollow.

The bunk house next to the log cabin (Hedges) is entering final stages of completion with siding having been applied in the middle of October. The garage to the Hedges is now the carpenter's workshop.

Trail development and clean-up from the 1991 ice storm continues. Approximately 1 mile of trails has been added to the retreat center property on the north side of the Punky Hollow Road. The fir and spruce forest next to the log cabin has been pruned and cleaned. Much firewood has been cut over the summer and is curing behind the log cabin. The Bill Stevens trail was dedicated this summer and is on the east side of the log cabin in the fir and spruce stand.

• PUNKY HOLLOW •

TO: EFM
FROM: DRW
DATE: 11/6/94
RE: History of Punky Hollow School District #17

Here is a chronological history of the land on which Springwater School District #17 sits. For the purposes of this memo, I will put it in fairly dry facts, adding more detail where necessary.

- The first inhabitants of this area in recorded history were the five nations (Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas and Senecas). There were Senecas at the top of Canandaigua Lake, which would suggest that if any Native Americans lived in Punky itself, they were Senecas.
- On December 16, 1786, New York ceded to Massachusetts (subject to the claim of the natives) that part of New York lying west of a line beginning at a point in the northern border of Pennsylvania, 82 miles north of the northeast corner of Pennsylvania, running due north through Seneca Lake to Lake Ontario. This cession reserved to New York a strip of land east of and adjoining the eastern bank of the Niagara River.
- The New York Constitution stated that one could not purchase lands from an Indian; only the State could have that power. However, there were the New York Genesee Land Company and the Niagara Genesee Land Company (Canada) which leased land in this area from the Indians for 999 years; this transaction was later declared illegal by the State of New York.
- In the late 1780's, the natives ceded eastern parts of New York to the State. (Done tribe by tribe)
- In April 1788, Phelps and Gorham made a deal with Massachusetts to purchase land west of the pre-emption line created by New York's cession to Massachusetts to a line at the north boundary of Pennsylvania, due south of the confluence of the Genesee River and Canascraga Creek. Then north to the confluence, up the Genesee to a point two miles north of Canawagus Village, then west twelve miles, then north to a point twelve miles from Lake Ontario. This area of land included 2.6 million acres.
- Most of Phelps' and Gorham's deal fell through, because they had counted on being able to purchase Massachusetts dollars at half of face value. However, that was impossible, so Robert Morris stepped in and purchased from Massachusetts what Phelps and Gorham had not been able to sell off. This was called (I believe) Morris' Reserve. The natives' rights to Morris' Reserve were not extinguished until 1797, when a treaty was formed at "Big Tree", what is now called Geneseo.

(The next few paragraphs are guesses suggested by other transactions which are

in the deeds at the Ontario County Clerk's office in Canandaigua; the guesses are in italics. I have to guess at this point because the chain of title in the County Clerk's office dried up.)

- *Thomas Olden purchased the land at a forced auction held to cover the debts of Robert Morris. (This is suggested by a deed referring to other land, at Liber 6, p. 413 of Deeds, Ontario County)*

- *Olden then sold to Charles Williamson, an Englishman who represented investors in England.*

- *Williamson sold half the land to Sir William Pultney and half to William Hornby*

- *Pultney sold to Sir John Lowther Johnstone and Hornby willed land to John Hornby*

- *Johnstone willed to Ernest Augustus, Duke of Cumberland, David Cathcourt, Lord Masterton and to Charlotte Johnstone. (John Hornby left some land to school district, by William Hornby, executor).*

- On February 26, 1817, Ernest Augustus, David Cathcourt and Charlotte Johnstone conveyed (at least in writing) to John Grieg of Canandaigua, certain lots in Township # 7 in Range #5 (now Springwater). These lots included (I believe) the lot on which Punky Hollow School District #17 sits. (Recorded at L. 31 p. 301)

- September 16, 1818: John Grieg and wife of Canandaigua conveyed to John Hornby land in Township #7, Range #5: Lots 102-108, 114-120, 125-132, 137-144, 149-156, 161-168, 173-180, 185-192, 197-204, 209-216, 218-225, 227-234. This included 9,655 acres. (Interestingly, the deed was not recorded until 1848):

- October 6, 1847: William Hornby, as trustee for the estate of John Hornby, by his attorney, John Grieg, sold land to William Arnold, Isaac Skeets, and Mosey Richards, as Trustees of Springwater School District No. 9. Consideration was \$9.50. Probate was on December 22, 1832. This deed was not recorded until October 24, 1864, at L. 67 p. 439.

- June 17, 1950: Guy B Bennet, Victor M. Kimmel, Lola B. Wemmet and Sally N. Patchin, as Trustees for Wayland Central School District No. 1, pursuant to a resolution of Common School District No. 9 of the Town of Springwater, sold the land to Ralph W. Lindsay and Barbara K. Lindsay. L. 304 p. 243 of Deeds.

- June 26, 1956: Ralph and Barbara Lindsay sold the land to Robert A. Lindsay and Anne Lindsay. L. 341 p. 574 of Deeds.

- April 19, 1960: Robert and Anne Lindsay sold the land to Ralph and Hazel Lindsay. L. 364 p. 351 of Deeds.

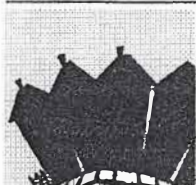
- March 19, 1976: Hazel Lindsay sold the land to James and Katherine Vernam. L. 486 p. 133.

- August 12, 1985: James and Katherine Vernam sold the land to William E. Kent and Carol L. Kent. L. 668 p. 112.

- December 30, 1988: William and Carol Kent sold Punky Hollow School House and the land to Mikaul. L. 749 p. 246 of Deeds.

THE PHF NEWSLETTER

*The Punky Hollow
Newsletter
Volume #1 Issue #1
October 1996*



EARLY SCHOOL DAYS AT PUNKY HOLLOW

COLONIAL HISTORY

In 1647 the government of Massachusetts enacted the first statute in America providing for the establishment of a school system. The law specified that students gain the ability to read and understand the principles of religion and the capital laws of the country.

Gradually, as the population increased in colonies, subscription schools evolved, supported by well-to-do parents who could spend a few pennies a week on their children's education and spare their children between seasons on the farm. Financial support for these schools came from subscriptions, tuition, land rental fees and taxes. Rarely was the school teacher paid more than a subsistence wage and payments frequently took the form of gifts of barley, grain and Indian corn. Teachers in colonial schools taught reading, writing, arithmetic and scriptures from the Bible.

As the frontier moved westward, each new settlement, once it had provided for its winter's needs, turned its attention to education. A schoolhouse identical to this one was built in 1798 in Harper's Ferry, New York. It is now used in Bennington, Vermont as part of the Grandma Moses Museum.

Research suggests that the PHF schoolhouse was built in the early 1860's. Maps of the period locate the original 1838 building on the hill behind the pond. Fire destroyed the original building and the current one was built.

About 1860 the town relocated the school to a acre of land a little north of the original site. Although the early records for this schoolhouse are not available, excerpts from the ledgers of similar schools of the

period illustrate the financial concerns that faced the trustees:

Building Expense...\$5.50
Account Books, 1 Broom, 1 Tin
Cup....\$1.75
Teachers Salary for winter school
1879.... \$96.00

EDUCATIONAL REFORMS

Before the Civil War the American education system, if it could be called that, suffered from a lack of standardization and direction. In 1840 one fourth of the adult population was illiterate. Progressivism did not affect American education until the 1890's and did not take hold in rural areas until after the turn of the century. As urban schools began to improve and provide a curriculum relevant to the needs of their students, country schools began to decline in the opinions of American educators. Caught up in the new spirit of progressivism, educators sought to standardize textbooks and learning skills.

When the school year ended in 1944, the era of the one room schoolhouse at Punky Hollow came to a close. This old schoolhouse had fulfilled its purpose as a beacon of learning in the community. Soon, students would begin to attend the new central school in Wayland and this building would become would become a private residence for a price of \$700.00.

As of December 31, 1988 the ownership of the schoolhouse transferred to the Miller's from Bill and Carol Kent. Renovation on the building began in late 1989 and includes a variety of interior and exterior changes. The changes made to the building were an attempt to restore the

building to its original condition. The support beams under the original schoolhouse were refurbished and the sun porch added in recent years to the back of the schoolhouse has been removed.

The anticipated completion date of all renovations is 1997. The completed project presents a unique opportunity for the community and our immediate Punky Hollow neighborhood. The main building is now used for religious, charitable and educational activities. It is also possible, with proper interest from the community that the Punky Hollow schoolhouse might be declared a Historical Preservation District or building. However, completion of the schoolhouse renovation is first and foremost on the priorities list. Also, the old woodshed next to the schoolhouse is being converted to a caretakers office.

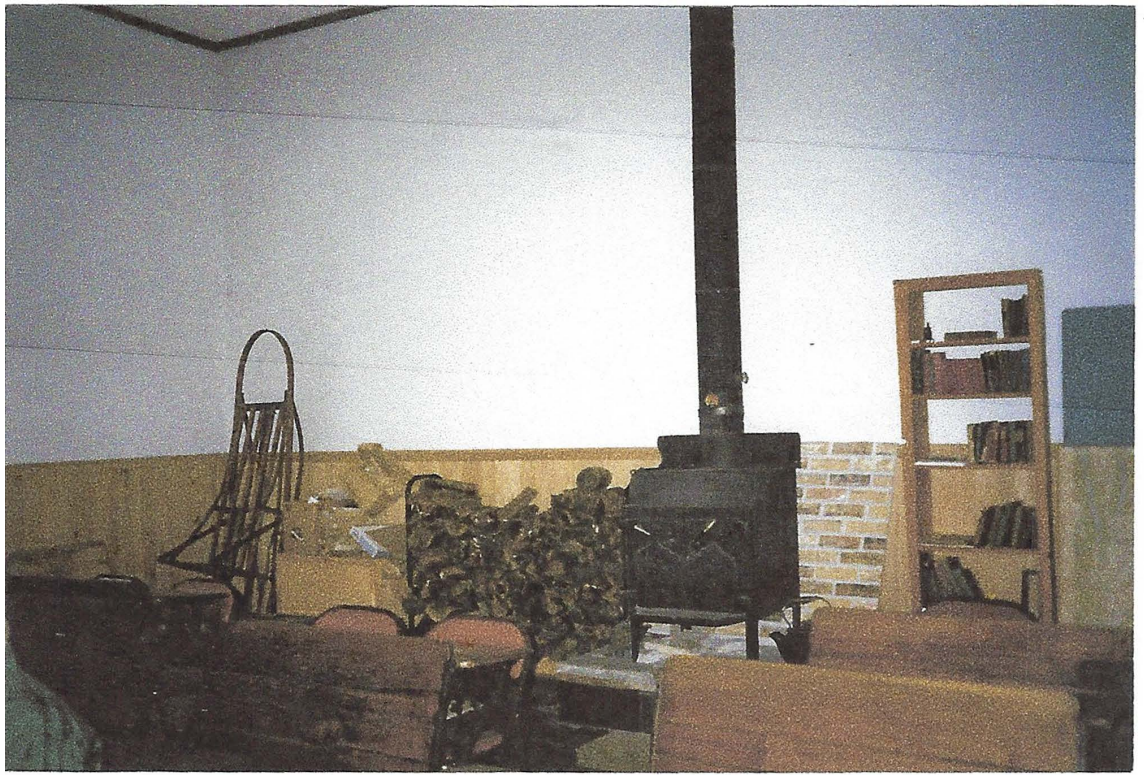
It is with sincere thanks to Gene Joseph, our contractor, that this project is as far ahead as it is. Mr. Joseph has since passed away but he has left a lasting impact on the community.

Trail development on the property continues. Approximately one mile of trails has been added to the retreat center property on the north side of the Punky Hollow Road. The fir and spruce forest next to the log cabin has been pruned and cleaned. Much firewood has been cut over the summer and is curing behind the log cabin.

During the development of the trails, the original water supply to the schoolhouse was found across the road. Real estate abstracts indicated an easement for Punky Hollow #17 school to use this water supply. The pond behind the schoolhouse was used by local farmers to cool milk until it was processed at the dairy.

PUNKY Hollow / inside restored / 1997 pictures





Summary Paragraph

Built in 1875 and in use up until the early 1940's the Punky Hollow schoolhouse is a prime example of a late 19th century simple frame construction one room school. During this period of history in rural America a single teacher taught academic basics to several grade levels of young students. The schoolhouse was often one of the first buildings erected by a new community and served as a local meeting place for town activities and events. Post WWII, when transportation improved and students were able to travel longer distances, most one room schools were abandoned for larger centralized schools with separate classes for each grade level. The one room schoolhouse played a pivotal role in early education and is an important part of American history.

Description

Setting-

This one room colonial schoolhouse located in rural Livingston County at 8238 Pardee Hollow Rd, Wayland NY 14572. Sitting on a parcel of 1.5 acres in what was then school district #9, is schoolhouse #17, now known as the Punky Hollow Schoolhouse, and what was originally the school's woodshed. The property is mostly flat lawn with a few trees and a swingset to the side of the school. South of the buildings lies a small pond, to the east a wooded hillside. Pardee Hollow Rd is to the north and a stream marks the property boundary between the school and a residence which sits to the west. The immediate area consists of mostly woodland and agricultural properties.

Features-

This wood frame, white clapboard, one room, one story schoolhouse is approximately 28 feet wide and 36 feet long, sitting on a rubble stone foundation. This simple building's architectural style is best described as country vernacular. The building features a cupola that houses a working bell sitting atop a moderately pitched gable roof, which is sheathed in asphalt shingles. Fenestration is symmetrical and regular; six arched windows, three on both the east and west walls of the schoolhouse provide plentiful natural light in the main classroom area. Two square windows, one on both the east and west sides of the building furnish light for the storage room and bathroom. Two arched windows on the front of the building provide light for the entryway vestibule/cloakroom. The building's lone entrance consists of one double door centered on the north facade. Above the door is a half round window. Inside you will find a teacher's lectern sitting atop a wooden stage platform, a slate blackboard and 15 "fashion desks" for students. The building has beech hardwood floors throughout. Oak wainscoting covers the lower portion of the interior lath and plaster walls. In the front vestibule there is a storage room and a small bathroom along with the pull rope for the aforementioned bell. At the back of the building sits the only source of heat, a small box wood stove.

Next door to the schoolhouse is what was originally the schools woodshed. This building was since been renovated into a one room caretaker's residence in the early 1990's. The building is constructed of the same white clapboard as the neighboring schoolhouse and is roughly 17 feet wide and 20 feet long. Inside there is a small kitchen, a wood stove and one window.

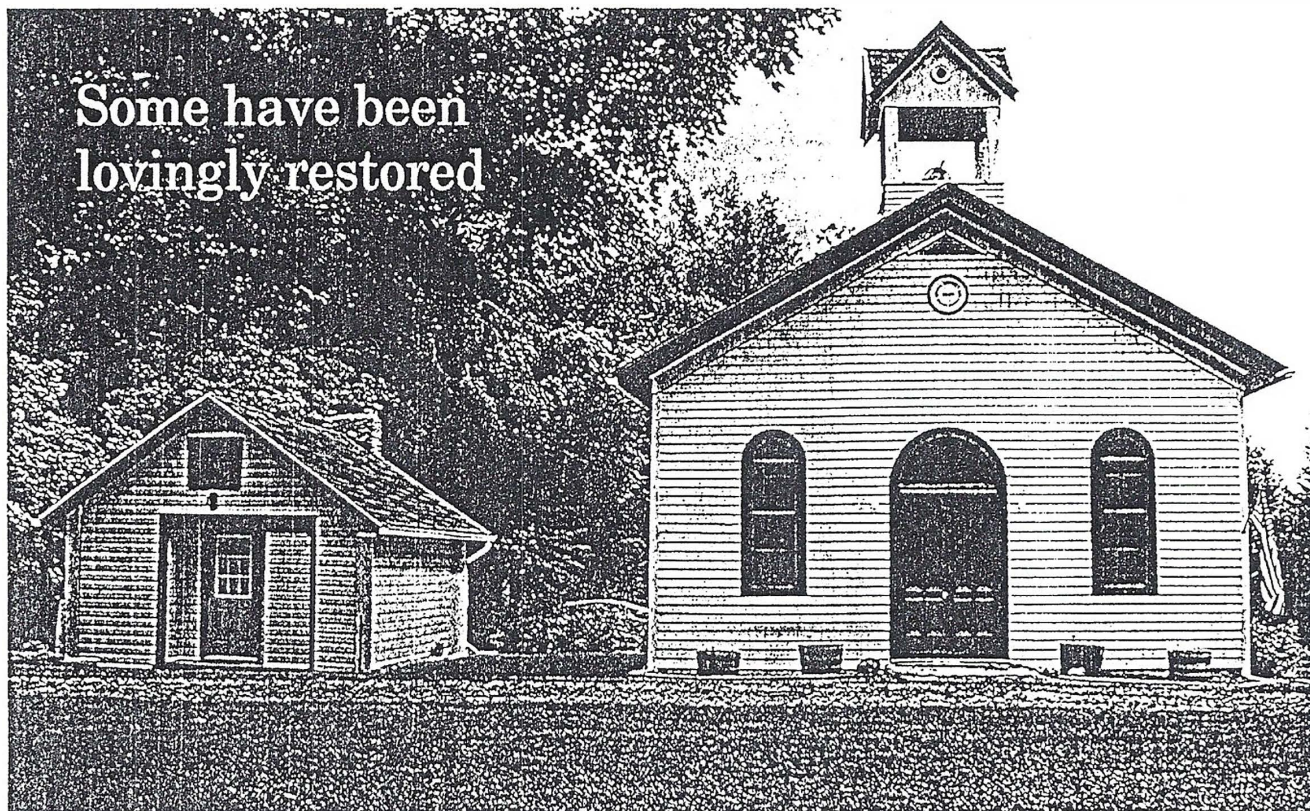
Integrity-

In October of 1847, William Hornby, acting as trustee for the estate of John Hornby, sold land to William Arnold, Isaac Skeets and Mosey Richards who were trustees of Springwater school district #9. In 1875 schoolhouse #17 was constructed and used until ca. 1947. In 1950 Ralph and Barbara Lindsay converted the building into a private residence, the building remained a home for the next 38 years. In 1990 Gene Miller made the decision to restore the building back to a one room schoolhouse. The wainscotting was removed and flipped so that the unexposed, unworn side was facing out. The main support beams were refurbished back to their original condition.

Statement of significance

The Punky Hollow Schoohouse is architecturally and historically significant at the state and local levels as a very good example of a one-room school built in the last quarter of the 19th century. Its level of architectural integrity - both exterior and interior - is outstanding. This is quite rare for a property type that was commonly sold as private homes, stores or offices after 1945, and as a result significantly altered to accommodate new uses. In 1939, there were 150,000 one room schools in America. Today that number is less than four hundred.

Some have been
lovingly restored



Springwater's Punky Hollow School

The Punky Hollow School in Springwater was rescued by an old carpenter as his last gift to the woman he loved.

When Gene Miller bought the school in 1989, 64-year-old Gene Joseph was the first and only carpenter he called to repair it. Miller said the carpenter was normally very quiet, but Joseph had some strong ideas about the schoolhouse because his wife, Lucille, had fond memories of her childhood there.

"Gene Joseph told me, 'You've got an original building here, don't mess with it,' Miller said. "He made the decision to restore it Dec. 10, 1990, and from the day he made that decision, we never questioned what he was doing."

Punky Hollow was in bad shape. The foundation was weak and the walls were collapsing. It had been

built in 1875 and converted to a house after it closed in the early 1940s. The last 50 years as a house had taken its toll.

Joseph attacked the problem with ingenuity and experience. "He had the chance to do what he always wanted—to do a complete restoration without any interference from the 20th century," Miller said.

Joseph hunted down and removed all but the most essential switches and outlets. He pulled all four walls in with cables and reinforced them. He had difficulty finding boards to match the battered oak clapboards inside, so he decided to turn the boards over, so the unweathered surface showed. This was so successful that now Miller is encouraging visitors to scuff up the woodwork because it looks too new.

Joseph died soon after the restoration was complete, but his name is never far from Miller's lips when he talks about the Punky Hollow schoolhouse.

"This building will always be a last-

ing memorial to a great carpenter," Miller said. "He turned an eyesore into one of the best historic preservations I've seen. He was an old world carpenter...He thought it was a service to the community."

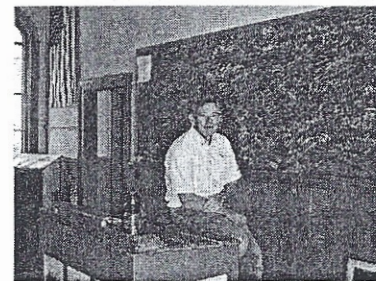
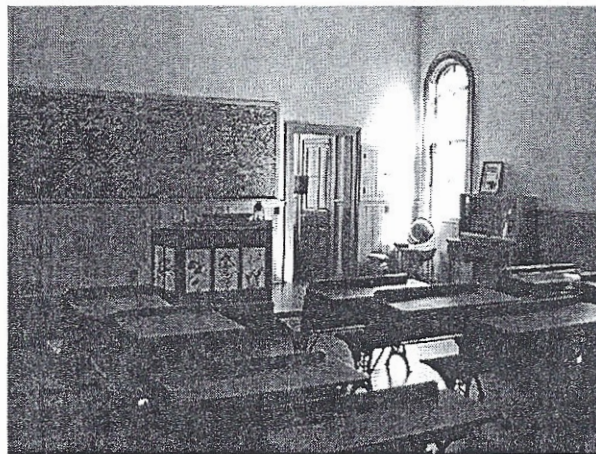
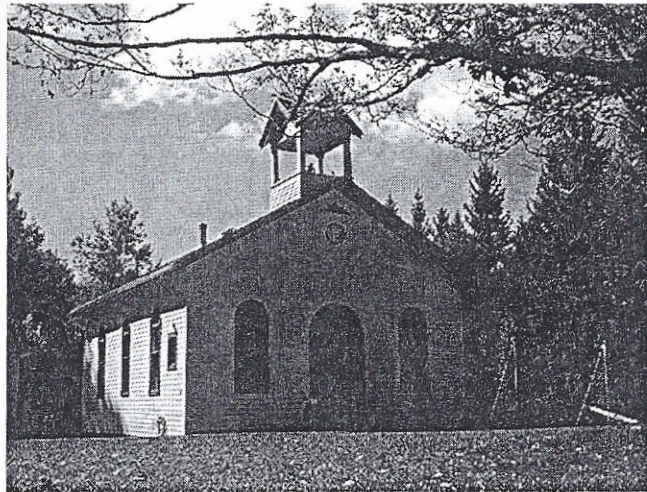
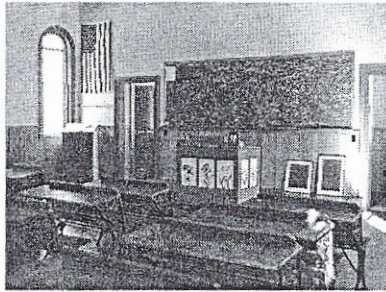
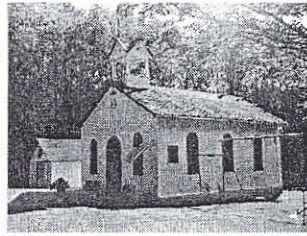
"He did a lot of the restoration for Lucille, so that it would be part of his family history," Miller said.

Lucille still comes to the school to plant flowers.

If you go: Punky Hollow schoolhouse is open to the public on Sundays whenever the flag is up. It is located in the Naples hills, so it is best to call the Miller family, (716)728-3859, for directions. The school is tough to find, but worth the effort.

Above: Former students of the Punky Hollow School have held annual reunions for 71 years in the Livingston County town of Springwater. The school was used as a house for 50 years, and the alumni had to meet at other locations, but in 1990 it was lovingly restored. Now, the former students can sit in their old classroom and argue over delightfully small details, like who sat where, and where the woodstove was.

Punky Hollow School Springwater, Livingston County

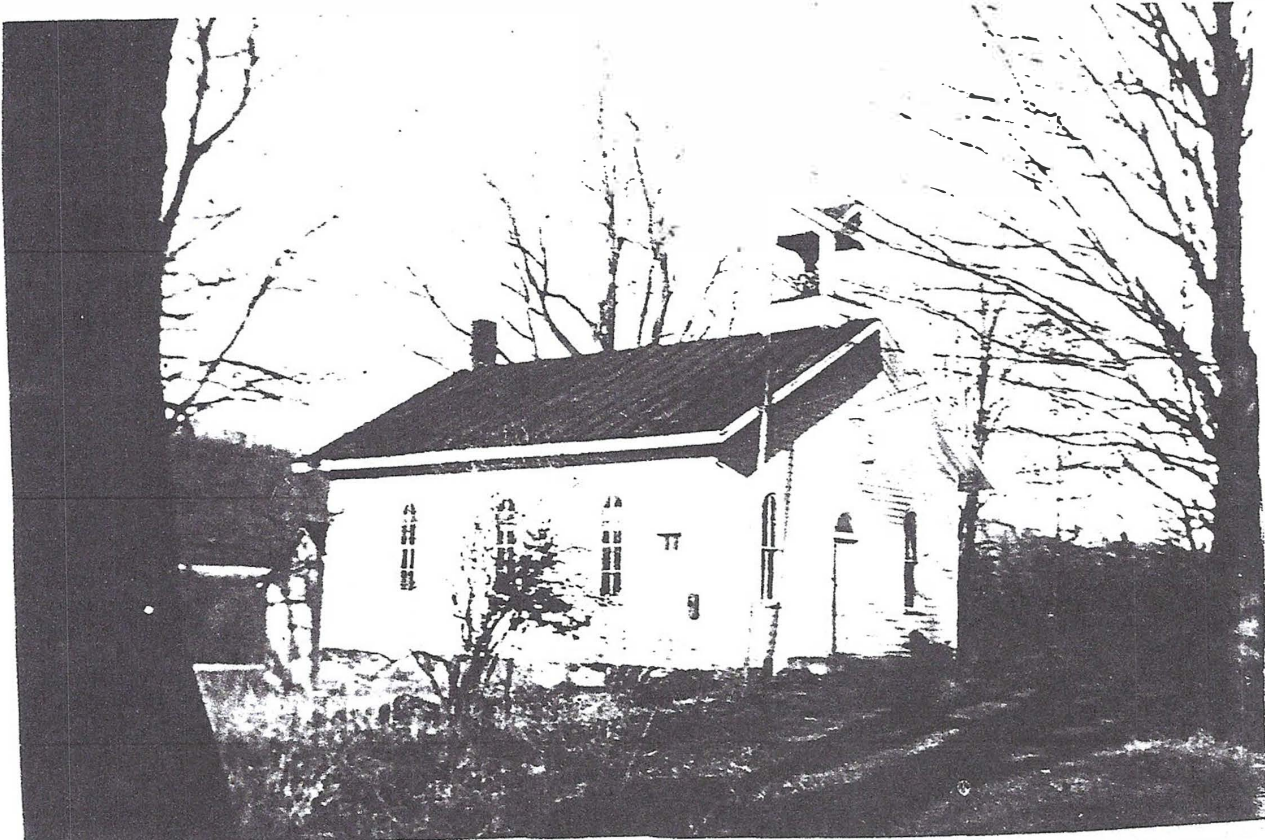


The Punky Hollow Schoolhouse sits high in the hills above Conesus Lake in the southeast corner of Livingston County. Built in 1864 and used until 1947, the schoolhouse was converted into a private residence and remained a family home when current owner Gene Miller purchased it in 1988. Convinced by his carpenter, Gene Joseph, to restore the building his wife had attended as a child, Miller allowed Joseph free reign in completing the project and has become enamored with the results himself. Miller has expanded his interest in the schoolhouse and the history of the community into an additional new building adjacent to the schoolhouse constructed as a local history museum and privately funded by Miller and his family. The alumni of the Punky Hollow District have met regularly for an annual reunion each August since 1921, and have returned now to the old schoolhouse itself for their event, pleasing Miller and his family to no end. The schoolhouse is open on weekends during the summer and fall. For more information contact Miller through his caretakers at ~~607-728-2528~~ 585 5846

SPRINGWATER SCHOOL DISTRICT #20

LOCATED ON SCHRIBNER ROAD AND PURCHASED IN 1948 BY RUSSELL HANNA FOR \$900. IT REMAINS IN THE HANNA FAMILY. MIKE AND HAZEL HANNA USE THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE AS A GUEST HOUSE. SOME OF THE SCHOOL HOUSES ALSO SERVED AS A CHURCH ON WEEKENDS. THE ONES WITH LONG WINDOWS AS IN SPRINGWATER SCHOOL #20 SORT OF INDICATES IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN USED FOR BOTH.

IT IS THOUGHT THE SCHOOL MIGHT HAVE BEEN BUILT ABOUT 1850-60 AND WAS A WORKING SCHOOL UNTIL 1947.

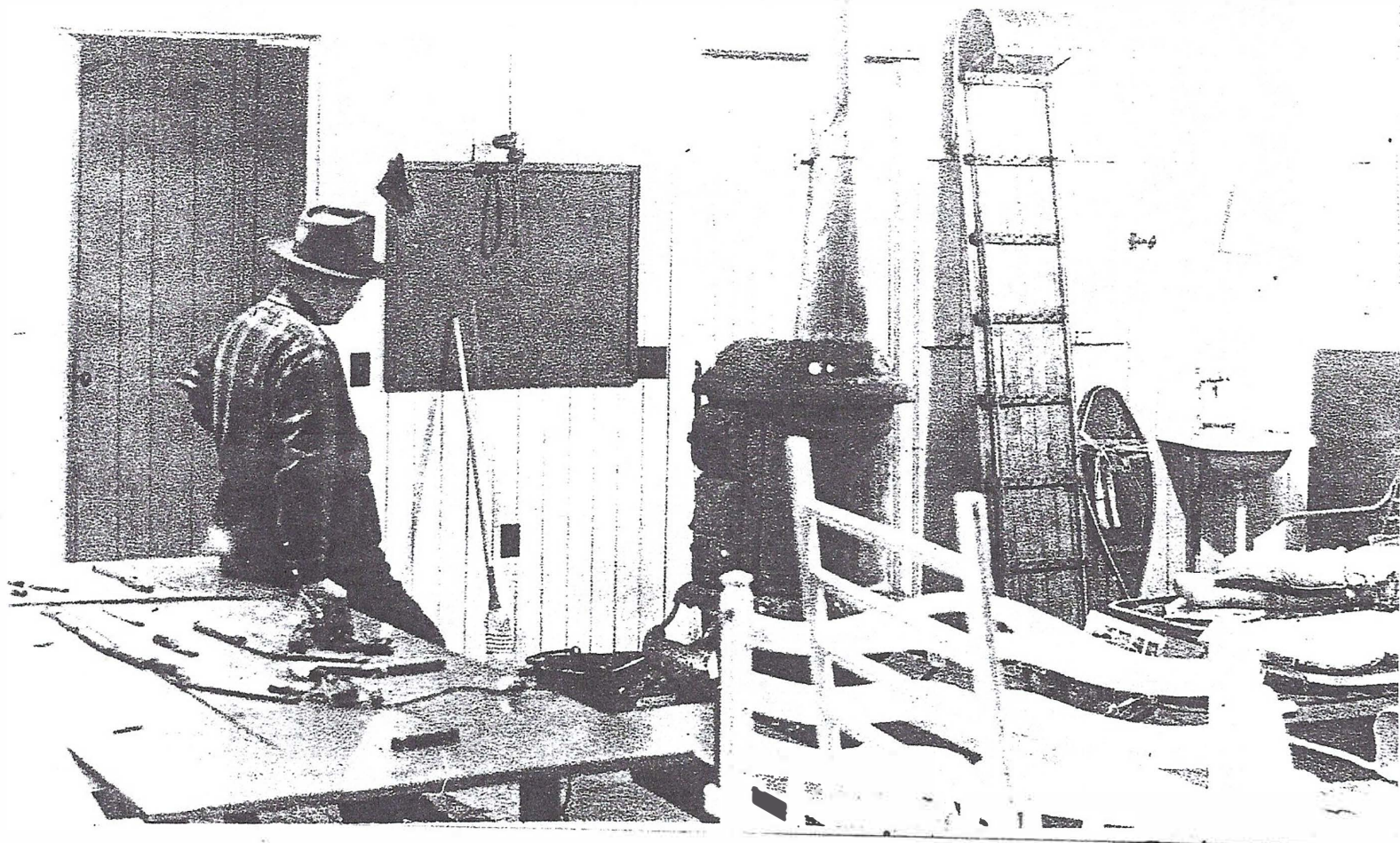


1946



1990

INSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT #20
1940'S



SPRINGWATER DISTRICT SCHOOL #22

THE WEBSTER CROSSING SCHOOL WAS SOLD TO KENNETH VANSOOTER FOR \$400. HE LIVED IN ROCHESTER AND ANTICIPATED MAKING THIS INTO A HOME, BUT NEVER FOLLOWED THROUGH. IT WAS SOLD AGAIN BUT LATER ON, JAMES VANSOOTER (WHO LIVES NEXT DOOR) PURCHASED IT FOR UNPAID TAXES. JIM TOLD US HE WENT TO SCHOOL HERE BEFORE IT CLOSED AND BEFORE HE WENT WAYLAND CENTRAL. AT THAT TIME, HE LIVED ON THE OTHER HILL AND WALKED QUITE A DISTANCE TO SCHOOL. HE NOTED THAT THE LAND AROUND IT WAS PRIME FARMING LAND AND AT THAT TIME, DURING RECESS OR AFTER SCHOOL, THE TEACHER WOULD LET THE YOUNGSTERS PICK POTATOES OR HELP THE FARMER IN HARVESTING CROPS. ON THE SIDE OF THE WOODSHED ARE SEVERAL NAMES CARVED INTO THE WOOD , VERY OBVIOUS WAS THE NAME OF HERBERT WHITE.

THE LAST TEACHER AT THE SCHOOL WAS SADIE JACOBS



SCHOOL DISTRICT #22 CONTINUED

BERTHA BAKER PRELTIJOHN, SISTER OF JOTHAN CLARK BAKER, AUNT OF JUNE B. PERKINS (OF WEBSTER CROSSING) TAUGHT SCHOOL AT WEBSTER CROSSING IN THE LATE 1890'S. SHE MARRIED LOUIS PRELTIJOHN, IN LIVONIA IN 1902

CHARLES AUBREY JAY, SON OF EXIELONA & MICHAEL JAY TAUGHT 1 YEAR THEN ENTERED MEDICAL SCHOOL. HE SPENT MANY YEARS ON THE MEDICAL STAFF AT CRAIG COLONY IN MT. MORRIS. CHARLIE WAS THE BROTHER OF WINNIFRED J. PERKINS, THE JAY FAMILY RESIDED ON SWARTZ RD. IN TIMES PAST. HOME NOW BELONGS TO PHILIP & JESSICA WEST.

PICTURE AND INFORMATION CONTRIBUTED BY JUNE PERKINS.

