

"New Scotland School"

In 1846, as the newly settled farm area developed, the need for a school became evident.

The first school house of log or plank was built by settlers on the 16th Sideroad between the 7th and 8th Concession roads.

It derived its name from new settlers most of whom had emigrated from Scotland.

By 1891, a new larger frame school stood on the same spot, complete with wooden desks and seats and the much remembered pot bellied stove. During the cold weather the students were responsible for carrying the wood and keeping the fire going during school hours. They carried pails of water from the well in a field some eighty rods away.

By 1898, the old school was bricked and modernized to the standards of the day.

Arbour Day, which fell on the 1st of May, each year was set aside for the purpose of piling wood in the shed, cleaning school room blackboards, desks and general tidying up.

Later in the day, after the pupils had cleaned the yard and planted flowers, a reward for their efforts was a picnic lunch.

Many residents will recall with nostalgia these days as well as their beloved teachers, a few of whom were, Deila Potter (1891), Mr. W. Cunningham, Austin Graham, William McTaggart, (uncle of the present mayor of King Township), Alla Lynn and Mrs. Deitt (1961) and many others.

This school functioned until June of 1961, moulding the eager minds of the young, at which time the property was sold to Mr. L. J. Mc Guinness.

Mr. Mc Guinness offered the school to any boys' organization wishing to utilize its facilities.

The Boy Scouts took advantage of this for a time, but eventually as years went by, it was left to stand only as a bleak deserted monument of Days Gone By.

Its last school board consisted of Dalton Flatt, Earl Scott, William Honey, and James Spence.

For more than, three quarters of a century such names as White, Hilliard, Douglas, Redfern, Egan, Ross, Sodden, Jarvis, Ireland and their descendants, can be found on the old school roll call.

Pauline Maher