

REDNERSVILLE SCHOOL (S. S. 2 AMELIASBURGH)

The first school in the Rednersville area was a log schoolhouse built close to the Bay on the north-east corner of the John Post property, lot 60, concession 1. It was 12 feet by 10 feet with two windows on the east side, two on the west, and a door facing the road. The furniture consisted of a table and chair for the teacher and benches for the pupils. The blackboard was made of boards painted black. This log school was built in the early 1800's. The first teacher was Mr. Abrams, a retired sergeant of an English regiment. As the custom was, he 'boarded round'. Children only attended school in the winter months when there was no work to keep them at home. Philo Nobles also taught in this school. Fire destroyed this first log school.

In 1836 a frame schoolhouse was built in the village of Rednersville. It was located south of Spurgeon Dempsey's on what was designated as East Street on early plans of Rednersville. Its dimensions were 20 by 24 feet. It served as a school until 1855 when a larger school was built east of the village. The old building fell into disrepair and eventually was torn down.

In 1855 a stone schoolhouse was erected on lot 73 on the south side of the road. The first teacher in this school was Lucy E. Morden who had an enrolment of 80 pupils - 35 boys and 45 girls. Rednersville was always a large school. In 1895 this stone schoolhouse partially burned. Another school was built on the same site, using much of the stone and timber of the former school. Like the former, it consisted of one room with two windows and a door facing the road and two windows on each side. A small front porch was added later. A box stove provided heat. A slate blackboard was installed in 1918 and a belfry in 1919. George Moore, the teacher at that time, had 60 pupils.

In 1935 the school was remodelled in accordance with the new idea of having the windows all on one side, and stucco was applied to the outside of the building. Hydro was installed in 1936. In 1937 new hardwood flooring was laid. In 1938 a flag-pole was added and a flag purchased.

In 1900 the teaching year began at the start of the calendar year. Miss Augusta B. Saylor of Bloomfield was paid \$300.00 per annum, in two instalments, June 30th and December 22nd. The care-taker was paid \$15.00 per year for sweeping out the school twice weekly and looking after the fires. In 1903 the salary was up to \$500.00 per annum. Mr. J.L. Benson was the teacher. In 1920 the teacher's salary was \$1000.00 but in 1934 during the Depression Miss Helen Roblin received only \$400.00.