

Students of S.S. No. 1, South Monaghan, Bailleboro's original one room school, posed with their teacher Maurice Wooldridge for this 1920 picture.

South Monaghan one-room school days recalled

BY JANET BAAL Examiner Family Editor

Ten classes were crowded into old one-room South Monaghan School, recalls Evelyn Darling, who was a student there in 1920 when this picture was taken.

Those 50 students were undoubtedly a handful for the young teacher,

Mr. Wooldridge, she says, although she was only 11 at the time, and recalls it all being good fun.

The school was known as S.S. #1
South Monaghan, and had both children from the village and from farms in the area.

The school picture identifies the

teacher as Mr. W. Wooldridge, but Mrs. Darling says his first name was Maurice.

The school was located on the top of a hill on the east side of the village, and it has since burned down. It was replaced by a newer school actually inside village limits off Highway 28, says Mrs. Darling.

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The old brick schoolhouse had no indoor plumbing, and just a water pump outside in the schoolyard. It was heated in winter by a box stove, and a load of wood was delivered to the school every year.

The children were all dressed in their Sunday best for the picture, which Mrs. Darling thinks was taken in the spring. A few guests of honor were students who had graduated but returned for the picture; to make their lofty status clear, they were hats for the event!

One of those grads was Ethel Falls, who later was the wife of well-known auctioneer Gordon Hancock.

Many of her classmates from the picture have since died, says Mrs. Darling, who is 80 herself. But in gathering information, she was helped by Mrs. Irene Kelly (Irene Dawson in the picture) and by Frank Barnard, whose brother Charlie Barnard is in the picture.

Top row, left to right, are Archie Deyell, Reggie Williams, Donald Lang, Carl Lang, Myrtle Guyett, Viola White, Neva Jenkins, Ethel Falls.

Second row from left are Frank Dawson, Lilliam Mason, Ethel Taylor, Kathleen Barnard, Edna Byers, Mary Panter, Irene Dawson, Vera Lang, Margaret Seens, Evelyn Mason, Herb Dean, Rollie Johnston, Loretta Barnard, Mildred White, and Maurice Wooldridge, teacher.

Third row from left, (believed to be) Bill Golding, Keith Barnard, Vincent Jewison, Aylmer Dawson, Harold Barnard, Charlie Barnard, Emma Taylor, Helen Dawson, Ruth Dawson, Dorothy Falls, Kathleen Bateman, Esther Lang and Vina Dawson

Fourth row (front) from left are Joe Barnard, Ray Barnard, Marie Barnard, Bessie Barnard, Berdena Morton, Edna Jewison, May Gainer, Eva Campbell, Mary Tanner, Dorothy Dawson, Frank Barnard, Roy Dawson, Arthur Bateman, Norman Gainer, Bert Gainer, Walter Guyatt, Stanley Johnston, Alfred Dawson and George Dean.

Mrs. Darling says she would love to hear from anyone with more information on the school and the people in the picture, and asks people with information to call her at 292-7582 or write her at RR #1, Omemee.

She recalls that in those days many families in the area kept a cow, so they would have fresh milk, and everyone turned out their cows to pasture along the roadside, and kept their milk in the ice box.

Mrs. Darling's family owned the village store, Mason's Store, which was renowned in the area for its great ice cream.

A double dip cone sold for 10 cents, and there was a one cent baby cone available, too, she says.

Every winter her father cut ice in big blocks from Rice Lake and brought them home with a team and sleigh. The ice blocks were stored in an old shed behind the house and store, and were covered with sawdust.

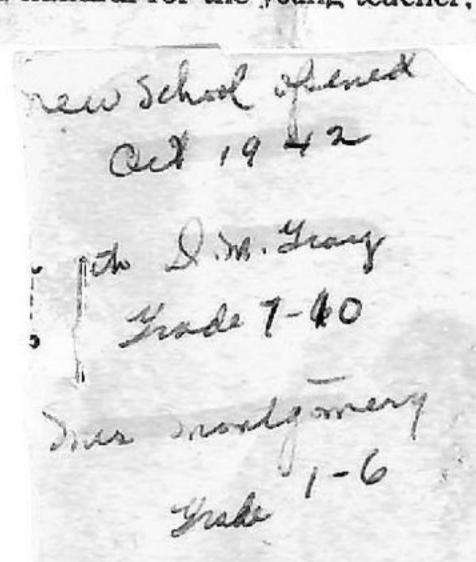
That supply was used to keep the ice cream cold all the next summer, Mrs. Darling says.

The Mason's ice cream came in three flavors: vanilla, strawberry and maple walnut. Mrs. Darling says it was made from a custard prepared by her mother, using milk, eggs and lots of creams, and was hand turned in the cellar downstairs.

Their ice cream was well-known in the area, and she even remembers some being sent to Springville for a big party.

On warm summer evenings, people came into the village to do their shopping, and the ice cream parlor was filled. Mrs. Darling still has one of the little wooden tables with a scalloped edge that were used in the ice cream parlor.

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Bailieboro's new Continuation School housing classes up to Grade 10, consists of a large basement and two classrooms with wide, safe corridors, and modern lighting. The structure of brick veneer and fireproof roof is shown at TOP LEFT. At TOP RIGHT are students in Grades 7 to 10, as follows: Front Row, LEFT to RIGHT: John Malcolm, Kenneth Feeley, Gwen Beebe, Yvonne Lee, Kathleen Falls, Eric Beebe. Back Row: David Dawson, Edward Lee, Ralph Barnard, Budd Sorg, John Challice, Ross Johnston, and Mrs. D. M. Gray, teacher. In the LOWER picture are the pupils of Grades 1 to 6, which are taught

by Mrs. W. Montgomery. Front Row, LEFT to RIGHT: Malcolm Syre, Wm. Montgomery, Roy Butler, Douglas Johnston, Ray Feeley, Kenneth Falls, Thomas Feeley, 3 Jack Keller, Earl Keller, Donald Danford, ? Charles Danford. Second Row: Betty Rutherford, Betty Joan Howson, Vaulda Alldred, Violet Keller, Jean Keller, Betty? Gallipeau, Arnell Wood, Thelma Syre, -Helen Keller, Margaret Dawson, Eileen Gainer, Verna Falls. Back Row: Alex. Jackson, George McDonald, Bill Sorg, Merrill McMahon, Barbara Campbell, Shirley Campbell, Clarence Eagleson, Arthur Rutherford, Jack Sorg, Bob Greer, Donald Lee. (Staff Photos)