

Skipness School

When the first settlers came to this community, the school was on the C Line.

In 1872 a school was built on Morton's Hill on the east side of the "Fifteenth", across from the present home of Bob Byers. One of the first teachers was Miss Margaret McRae from Hall's Corner between Tara and Allenford. This frame school was used until 1892 when a new school was built below the hill on the corner of the Reid farm, now the Davidson farm.

In 1915 the school was burned. The story is told in the school log that a tramp threw a match in the window causing a fire that destroyed the interior of the building. It was replaced the same year.

While the school was being rebuilt, the pupils went to school in an old house. Miss Eva Gowan was the teacher and drove to school in a horse and buggy from her home on the Tenth Sideroad of Amabel.

Miss Heddle from Allenford was one of the first teachers in the stone school house. In 1896 Mr. Eli Kidd from the D line taught school. Other early teachers were Miss Elizabeth Rushton, Miss Annie Gunning, Miss Thompson, Misses Laura and Edna Hunt.

School continued in the stone school house until the township school board was formed.

The Skipness School was closed in 1965. Grades seven and eight were sent to school at Salem School on the County Line near Park Head. Mrs. MacDonald went to teach at Maple Grove School S.S. No. 10 where the lower grades were sent to school.

Teachers From 1918

Grace Holmes, N. Sproute, Agnes Sutherland, Eva Gowan, Vera Sutcliffe, Janet Ward, Elizabeth Hillmer, Jean Geddes, Edith Hodgins, Olive Cruikshanks, Edith Warmington, Margaret McFarlane, Miss Sumpton, Marjorie Blundell, Thelma Dawson, Betty Wilson, Sadie Fenton, Mildred McArthur, Helen McDonald, Willie McDonald, Muriel Blue, Jean Wark, Marie McDonald (the last teacher).



S. No. 9, June, 1905

Back: Dora Hunt, Laura Hunt, Bertha Menary, Emma Edwards, Miss Belmore (teacher), Maggie McDonald, Jack McCullough
Middle: Reta Hunt, Jennie George, May Warmington, Velma Proctor, Ethel George, Florence Webster, James Elliott, Edna Menary, Herman Proctor, Nettie Walker
Front: Irwin Elliott, Willis Hunt, Emma Menary, Maggie Proctor, Stanley McCullough, Tommy George, Maggie Strang, Bertie Hunt, Howard Webster, James George, Earl Morton, Sadie Buckland, Lottie Plante, John Plante, Harvey Plant, Ethel Strang