

MRS. CALLIE LOGAN (former Miss Callie Black) Shady Nook

INTERVIEW ON JULY 26 1982 AT MRS. LOGAN FARM IN SHADY NOOK

I was very lucky to have Mr. Harvey Fraser drive me out to Mrs. Logan's farm. Mr Fraser knows Mrs. Logan quite well so when we arrived at her farm Mr. Fraser made the introductions. Mrs. Logan had been waiting for us and she was ready for the interview. She had some pictures and newspaper articles out on the table for me to look at. Mr. Fraser went into the living room and we started the interview.

From talking with Mrs. Logan I found out that her first teaching job was in Petawawa at what is now known as Victoria Street Public school. While she taught in Petawawa she boarded at Mr. and Mrs. McInerys.

Mrs. Logan starts off the interview by talking about the good old days. She tells what it was like growing up in Stafford. She tells about the schools she went to in Stafford and how she got hired at the Petawawa school.

From my interview with Mrs. Logan it was quite obvious that she enjoyed teaching in Petawawa. She talks about some of the people in Petawawa that she taught or that she worked with.

I found Mrs. Logan very interesting and very easy to talk to. Once you listen to tape of this interview you will know what I mean.

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File: Interview Mrs. Callie Logan  
Item #X

DONNA BOWES  
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Conversation on this tape is clear, but there are curious, unexplained gaps in the narrative....

Callie was one of a large family at Micksburg; there were 2 brothers and herself at first and the brothers were teasers. She left home to attend school at Eganville. "You didn't go to school just for the sake of going to school. It was decided that I should be a teacher". I only went home for the long holidays - roads were bad in those days. More children had been born, so there were 6 kids in all and with the hired hands there were ten of us around the old dining-room table. Lots of dirty dishes to do, as Mrs. Logan explains, because meat and potatoes seem to have served at each meal. Her younger sister seemed to have the urge to play the piano after meals and a brother ensured her privacy by taking the knob off the door. Her earlier education had been at #1 Stafford Township, which is half-way between Micksburg and Hwy. 17. I graduated from high school at the age of 13 and went to Ottawa Teachers' College

When she came out from the teachers' college, teachers were "a dime a doze but I was lucky because two of my uncles were Reeves". One was Reeve of Stafford Twp. and one was Reeve of Petawawa Township. Her first teaching job was in 1928 at Victoria Street Public School in Petawawa. At that time, S.S. #1 had 3 rooms, Junior, Intermediate and Senior. The Junior or Kindergarten had 54 pupils. That was Grades 1 and 2.

Where she had gone to school as a child, there had been no indoor plumbing no lights, no furnace.

At Petawawa, there was a wood furnace underneath the kindergarten room which was just a dugout. One of her jobs was to send a child down to put a log on the fire and she recalled that one child (now her neighbour) had burned his hand on the furnace door.

Furniture consisted of wobbly tables and chairs.

Mr. Moncrieff's book says that S. S. #1 was built due to Mr. Giesebrecht. Callie spent 4 years in the junior room and 6 years in the intermediate, so some children were with her all through their schooling. Under the two rooms where there was a hall, dances were held there and she remembers some good times. Asked where she lived as a teacher, Mrs. Logan replied that she lived with Mr. and Mrs. MacInerny; all the teachers stayed there - a beautiful brick house behind the C.P.R. station, it burned down recently. She remembers Selkirk's store, a dry goods store with a post office at the back; "I played cards there until 4 o'clock in the morning" she said. One day Mrs. MacInerny sent her to Giesebrecht's to pick up milk, for they had a cow; on her way back, holding the pail of milk, she slipped on the ice and the light she was holding flashed on. It was seen by the Flyer (presumably a train? B.) and the Flyer stopped because they thought that a distress signal had been given by a torch. She was teased about the time she stopped the Flyer.

..... Several families lived at Petawawa in those days including the Mohns, the Gusts, etc....

There were three trustees on the school board - Mr. Collins the chairman, Mr. Hunter the straight man and Billy Mohns. The secretary was a man called Nieschke.

I started off with a salary of \$900 a year, then it went down to \$800 a year, then \$700 a year, then \$600 a year. In my last year it was \$60 a month. That was quite a lot of salary those days and when she went home her father would ask her what she had done with her money. She had paid \$30 a month for her board in Petawawa.

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Mrs. Logan left the teaching profession in 1938, went home and married shortly after.

The streets of Petawawa were named after members of the MacInerny family, e.g. Hilda, Florence, Doran (for someone had married a Doran), Frances? Mr. MacInerny was a section foreman and his second wife was named Rebecca. Later some of the streets were named after the Henry Mohns family - his first wife had eight kids. Others here were the Turcottes ? Des Kennedy of Ottawa was the principal of Petawawa's school when I was there and the other teacher was Cluanie Miller. The next principal was Jack Macercher, then Earl Taylor from Chalk River, then Les Woodruff. Another teacher mentioned is Helen Laceley????

There was no winter camp at the army camp then. In May it was thrilling to see the infantry sitting on the horses as they rode through. (Maybe she means cavalry! B.) The soldiers were there from May until September, but in early spring and late fall there would only be about 3 families left at the camp and one Mountie. There was a Mr. Carmody who looked after the ammunition stores.

There was an exciting time when the log drive came down the river. One day I took my class down there and we shared a meal of pork and beans with the men. Behind the present medical centre you can see the remains of the third chute. The 1st chute was father up the river, the second one was near the railway bridge.

Joe Montgomery and I could see the fish going down the chute clearly and we could spear the fish - it was not illegal then.

Mrs. Logan is retired and now lives at Shady Nook.