

FOCUS ON SHORT POINT

Short Point is three and a half miles north of Lyndhurst on Lower Beverly Lake. Opposite Short Point is Fox's Point, formerly known as Warner's Point. If you turn left on the town line a short distance from the lake you will go through Briar Hill Corners to Morton.

The early settlers were Moore, Wood, Kendrick, Danby, Godkin, Jacob, Warner, Dawson, Sly, Gamble, Mattice, Middleton, and Halliday. At present, Omer C. Wood and his wife, formerly Margaret Kendrick, are the only descendants of the older families now living on Short Point. These families were mostly Irish, Scottish, or English descent.

Farming was the mainstay of the community. Nearly every farmer raised turkeys and chickens which were sold at the Annual Turkey Fair at Lyndhurst in December. It was always a cold day to sit and await the highest bid on your fowl. Milk cows were the real mainstay for income. Every morning there was a rush to beat the other chap to the cheese factory. Some went to Lyndhurst to Bresee's Factory, which was just west of the village; others to the one at Briar Hill. These factories have vanished except for the one at Briar Hill, now a residence. Everyone had their driving horse for Sunday and rested the work horses.

Now there are no turkeys and only beef cattle on the farms. The first steam engines were drawn by a heavy team of horses, followed by teams hauling the water wagon and grain separator. Then came the self-powered steam engine which would travel from farm to farm. Wood and water were supplied for these mach-

ines by each farmer where they worked. The last steam engine was drawn by the late Jim Hudson, who owned a nice team of "blacks". The driver would often blow the whistle of the black steam engine which would excite the children. It would take two to four days with ten to twenty men helping to thresh the grain. It kept the ladies busy cooking their meals. Now a few men using combines harvest in a short time.

In the winter there were many teams drawing stove wood and pulpwood across the lake to Delta. Pulp wood was used for the Lime Kiln near the old B & W railway tracks. There is the story that one man forgot his warm mitts. When his wife found them, she called to her husband, then gave the mitts to their police dog who delivered them in his mouth. In winter people from Lyndhurst, Morton, and places west took the short cut across the lake by cutter, sleighs, or car. It was necessary to know the lake for safe driving and at night they would use a bright light shining in front of them.

In the summer people went by rowboat to Lyndhurst station or Delta. It is about three miles across the lake and about eight miles to go by road via Lyndhurst. Delta Fair was always a big event. The Halliday brothers from Delta owned a large white motorboat. They would come to Short Point where a crowd of fifteen to twenty people would be waiting to go to "The Fair". They would make two or more trips. The horses and buggies could be left at Kendrick's or Jacob's. At four o'clock sharp they would be at the dock for the return trip. That was a big event in the lives of the people.

There are many cottages and some permanent homes surrounding the lake which is a pretty sight when the lights are shining at night.

At Kendrick's Bay there is a lovely sandy beach which has always been popular. Since it was difficult to find a beach that wasn't private, Jess Kendrick donated the park to the Township of Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne. For thirty years now many



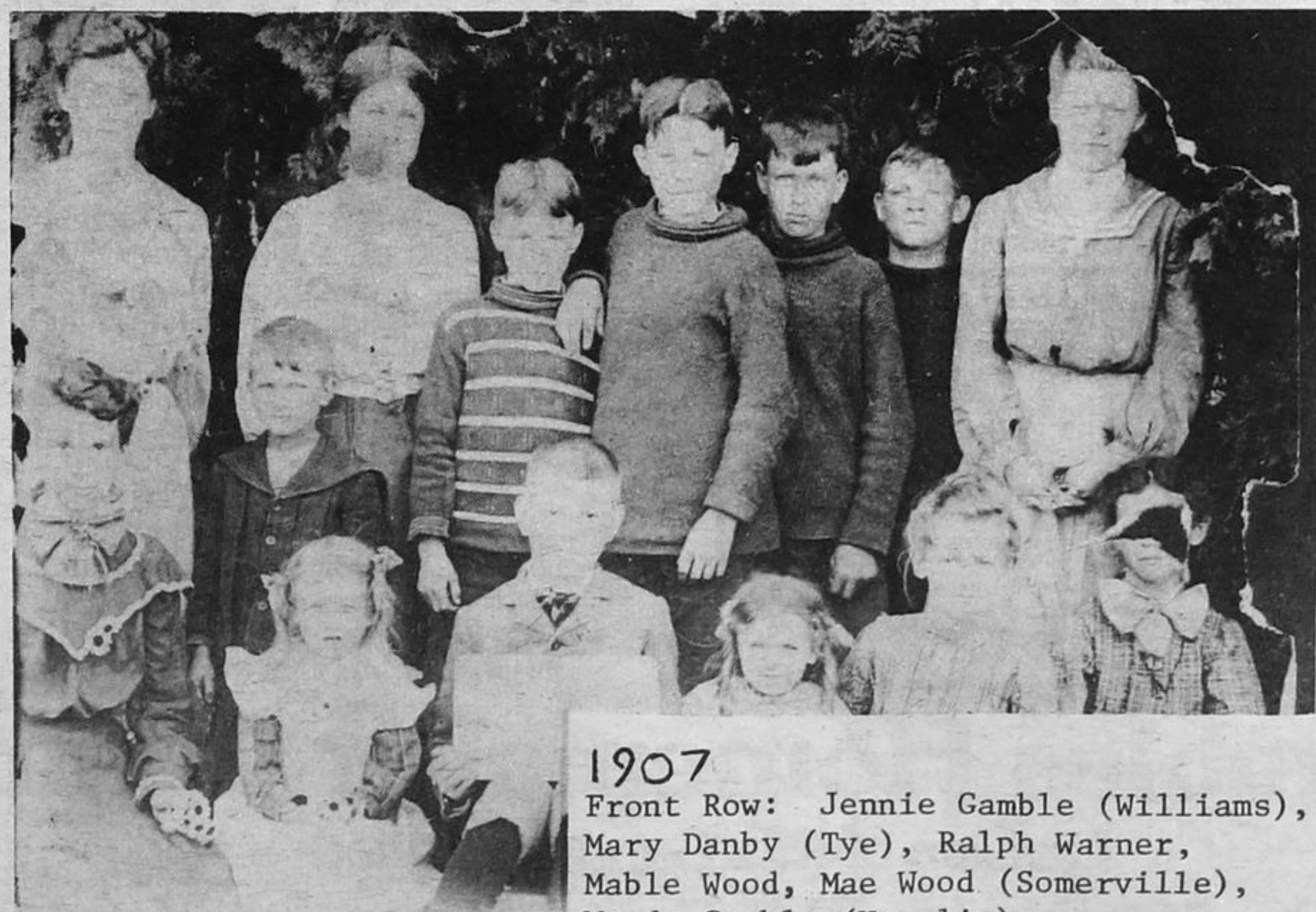
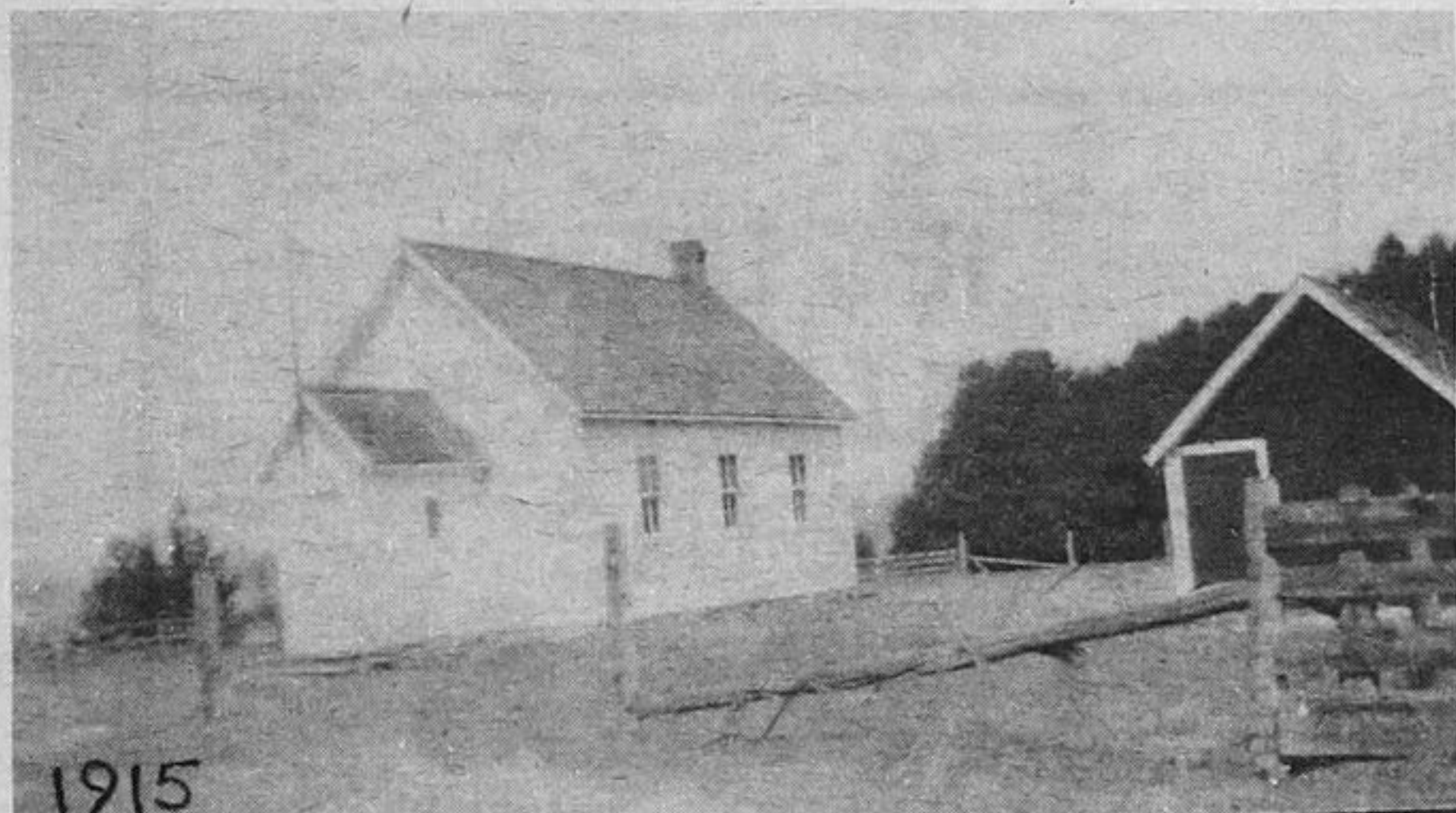
Mr. Les Kendrick, who donated the land for the Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne Township Park (Kendrick's Park)

families have enjoyed Kendrick's Park. The old school was made available as a dressing room. A well was drilled and a canteen has been established. Later the Park Board purchased more land for a ball diamond.

The first Short Point School was a log building situated on the southwest corner of the lot. The present building was built about 1890. It was very pleasant to study by looking at the lake during warm weather and towards the high snow-covered hills in winter. We were really lucky that we didn't break our necks as we slid down hill on our handsleighs. We would lie flat as we went under the rail fences. The teacher eventually put a stop to that. At one time there were thirty to forty students. June 1950 the school closed and the pupils were taken by bus to Lyndhurst and now to Sweet's Corners School.

Some of the teachers who taught at S.S. 14 Short Point were Susan Jacob, Sadie Berry, Mary Fowler, Elsie Townsend, Bell Morris, Harold Wiltse, Maud Webster, Kenneth Blancher, Ernie Harvey, Blanche Singleton, Susan Dollen, Helena Singleton, Luella Wing, Muriel McKay, Ruby Webster, Bessy Foley, Madeline Wing Glover, Hazel Young Harvey, Vera Townsend, Pearl York, Anna Roantree Smith, Geraldine Kelly Cheatham, Lily Wiltse, Luella Freeman, Alma Graham, and Hilda Jeffry.

submitted by Mrs. Margaret Wood



1907

Front Row: Jennie Gamble (Williams), Mary Danby (Tye), Ralph Warner, Mable Wood, Mae Wood (Somerville), Maude Gamble (Heaslip).
Middle Row: Omer Wood.
Back Row: Blanche Carley (Anglin), Maude Webster (teacher), Ernie Dawson, Roy Danby, Jim Middletown, Elmer Wood, Pearl Danby (Reed).

Elgin & District Co-op Nursery School

REQUIRES AN ASSISTANT
TO START: SEPT. 8/80
PREFERABLY SOMEONE
WITH EXPERIENCE WITH
YOUNG CHILDREN
HOURS 12:45-3:45
MON., WED., FRI.,
CONTACT: HEATHER GREEN
359 5892. JO STEW 359 5426