

Genealogists of the
Clinton County Historical Society

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Clinton County Trails

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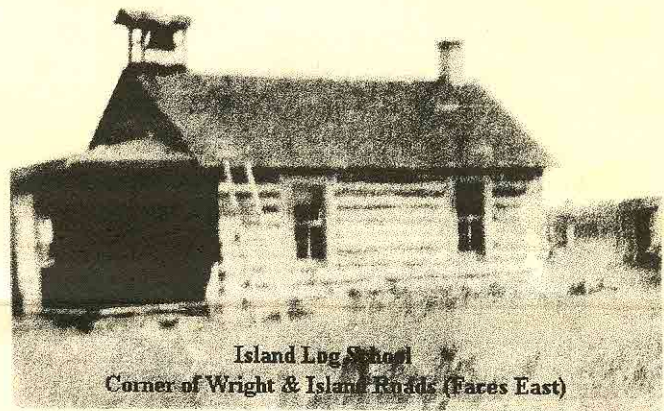
Myrna Van Epps

NEWSLETTER

Co-Editors
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ISLAND LOG SCHOOL

Dist. No. 7, Lebanon Twp., Clinton Co., MI



I will endeavor to give a short history of the Island School. The district records that we have date back to 1866 in the old log school house which stood on the corner west of here. But we have some names of teachers who taught before that. My own mother, **Eunice Randolph [Pinkney]** taught in 1864. We have her school record, also her certificate and contract to teach at that time. Her certificate was for 6 months and was signed by Albert H. Burch and Pliny Moore, School Inspectors. The contract was for 3 months for \$3 a week and was signed by J. F. Owen, Director; Jacob Handsby, Moderator; Tiras Terwilliger, Assessor.

The log school house was square with two windows in north and south sides each and door in east side. There was a row of seats all around the wall except in front where there was a short seat and desk for the teacher. In front of these seats was a row of

desks and attached to these desks in front was a row of seats for the little folks. Back of the door were shelves for the dinner pails.

The school was conducted very much different than it is now. The money raised by direct tax was \$1 a scholar. The number of scholars was from 35 to 49. The wood was furnished by the people who had children attending the school. They furnished from one-quarter to one-half cord of wood a scholar. I have here the report of the director, J. F. Owen, in 1866: (They had 7 months school.)

Amount on hand, Sept. 2, 1866	\$12.79
Received from two mill tax	19.88
Primary Fund	17.55
Direct Tax	39.00
Dog Tax	6.99
All other Sources	<u>2.50</u>
	\$98.71
Paid Teacher	\$67.78
Contingent Expenses	<u>3.90</u>
	\$71.68

In 1869 they voted to buy 15 cord of hard body wood. **Tiras Terwilliger** furnished the wood at 60 cents a cord. In 1870, '71, and '72 they voted to raise \$100 each year for building fund. In 1872 they voted to build a school house the next year (1873), the cost of the school house not to exceed \$600. The building committee was:

John Pinckney, Jerome Delong, and **John P. Castler;** and they voted to raise \$50 for a building site; and as they could not agree where to buy a site, they voted to have the school commissioners establish the site for the school house. In August 1873 the district hired [borrowed] \$350 of **E.G. Bement** at 10 percent interest. The

old school house sold for \$8. I could not find out just what the school house did cost as so many of the orders did not state what they were for. The bell was \$13.50.

In 1880 they voted to have 8 months of school and the next year went back to 7 months. In 1888 there was 8 months school until 1903 when the vote was for 9 months; and we still have 9 months.

Teachers' wages varied from \$10 to \$42 until the year 1889. From then on no record was kept of teachers' wages. They usually hired a man teacher in winter when the larger scholars went to school and a woman teacher in summer as they could hire them cheaper.

The school year of 1914 and 1915, the number of scholars enrolled was 4 through the winter and 5 in the spring. We now have 13. In 1921 this school district voted to raise \$1,000 by direct tax.

In 1881 I found where **Frank Lamphere** furnished 10 cords of body wood, 2 feet long, at 75 cents a cord. In 1885 the job of cleaning school house was let to **J.A. Jaquish** to clean it twice for \$2.

Note: This essay was unsigned but was probably written by **Anna (Pinckney) White** for a school reunion after 1921.

ISLAND SCHOOL STUDENTS - Sept. 3, 1900

Name	Age
Baxter, Herman	5
Baxter, Loyal	15
Baxter, Willie	13
Chapman, Bernice	8
Chapman, David	9
Charleston, Alzine	15
Charleston, Viola	10
Feazel, Howard	8

Feazel, Loyal	6
Finlay, Asa	18
Finlay, Dicky	9
Finlay, Jeanie	13
Finlay, John	15
Finlay, Maggie	19
Jaquish, Clyde	12
Jaquish, Earl	9
Jaquish, Nellie	5
Lambie, Hattie	18
Lamphere, Fred	18
Lamphere, Hugh	14
Leonard, Fred	6
Leonard, Lizzie	11
Lewis, Grace	7
Lewis, Hudson	11
Lewis, Naomi	7
Lewis, Roger	9
Randolph, Edna	15
Randolph, Jennie	19
Randolph, Lee	5

Sheldon, Cora	15
Sheldon, Maud	18
Terwilliger, Ethel	15
White, Glen	6
Winans, Elva	5

ISLAND SCHOOL TEACHERS

Eva Harris	1900
Velma Smith	1903
Isabel Findlay	1903-4
Nina Webster	1908-9
Mabel Hart	1910-13
Lilian Dobson	1914
Eva Hart	1915-18
Marion Jones	1920

ISLAND SCHOOL STUDENTS



