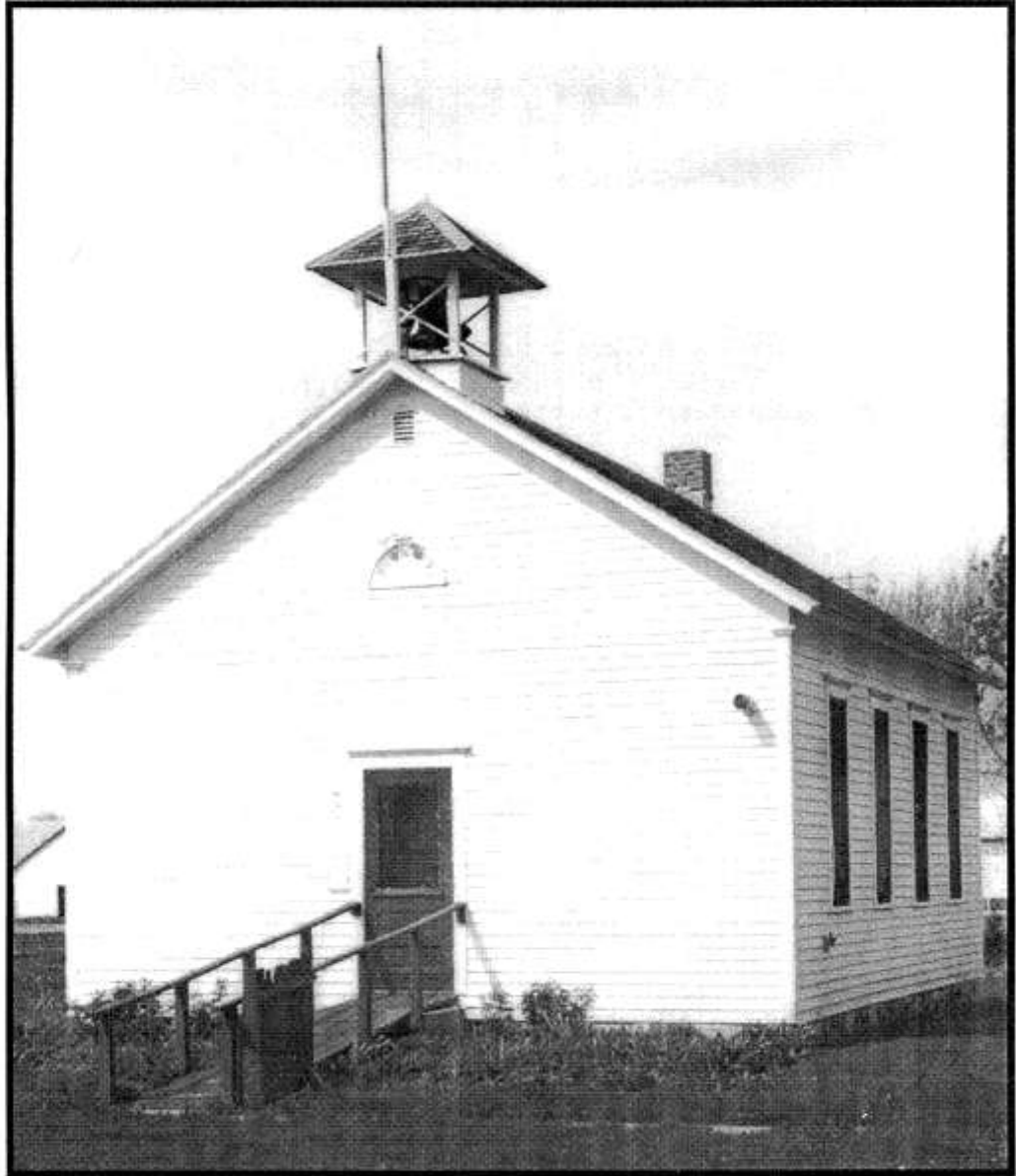


RURAL SCHOOLHOUSES

Of Montgomery County



Elaine Corbin Artlip

RURAL SCHOOLHOUSES

Of Montgomery County, Iowa

More Than One Hundred Years of History of Our
One-Room Country Schools

Elaine Corbin Artlip
Villisca, Iowa
1999

Cover – The Pittsburg School, restored by the Montgomery County Historical Society.
Photo by David Weinstein

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NOTES - Some years ago I compiled a report on the rural schoolhouses of Montgomery County. While researching other projects since then I have collected enough additional material to warrant an expanded history of the schools.

In the past, the cost of including a number of pictures in a publication was prohibitive. Modern wonders, such as computers, scanners and printers have made the process easy and inexpensive. So it seemed desirable to add photos to this account. Like many decisions, that one was made without careful consideration of just what was involved.

Anyone who gave the subject any thought could soon arrive at the approximate number of school districts in the county; there were over one hundred. But almost every district had at least two different school buildings, and some had three or even four structures. So, when a search was started for pictures of the schoolhouses, it was a daunting task.

The search has been moderately successful. Many pictures have been found, and many more have not. The quality of those photos available ranges from excellent to awful.

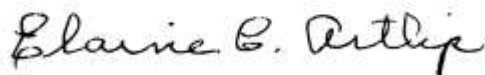
An effort was made to find pictures of the schoolhouses while they were open but when that was not possible, other images were used. Some pictures show a group of children at the school, and there are a few interior views.

It is surprising how many school buildings still exist. Several pictures show schools that have been remodeled into homes, and there are some derelict structures that are no longer usable. Those contemporary photos were provided by my grandson David Weinstein. Many thanks, David.

It has been impossible to date some of the pictures. The style of the buildings offers some clues. Early schools were of a simple box design. Some of the first ones had two windows on a side, but most of the earlier pictures show three windows. Some later, larger buildings had four windows per side. They were called three-window or four-window schools. After 1900 other styles of architecture began to appear, and the buildings gradually began to look more like houses. The buildings erected in the 1920s and 1930s had many windows.

The township maps, which begin on page 121, are from the *Standard Atlas of Montgomery County, Iowa*; by Geo. A. Ogle & Co.; Chicago; 1907.

I am grateful to all who have contributed in any way to this project, and especially so to those who have shared their old pictures. I hope that we have compiled a record of our rural schoolhouses that will be both interesting and useful in the years to come.



Elaine Corbin Artlip

Villisca Iowa

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THE RURAL SCHOOLS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

The pioneer settlers brought with them to their new homes in Montgomery County a firm resolve to provide educational opportunities for their children. This account is a record of the one-room schoolhouses which were built to achieve that goal of education for every child in the county. It seems appropriate to begin with a brief sketch of the structure, both legal and social, within which those schools operated.

In January 1839 the Iowa legislature had authorized the establishment of common schools which should be "open and free for every class of white citizen between the ages of four and twenty-one years..." The school tax was not to exceed five mills on the assessed value of the property in the district, nor more than \$10 in a year for any one person, payable "either in cash or good merchantable produce at cash price". Upon that base the state of Iowa built a tradition of excellence in education which it still enjoys today.

In 1851, there were five white families in Montgomery County. The next year, 1852, saw the first wave of immigration, and the number of settlers multiplied with each successive year. In many early communities the first formal teaching was a subscription school which met in a home or an unoccupied building. Those classes were available only to those pupils whose parents were willing and able to pay for the privilege. At least by 1856, the first subscription school was opened.

The first schoolhouses were also local projects, paid for by the patrons. Tradition says that the first building erected as a schoolhouse was at or near Ross Grove, on Section 25, East Jackson Township. It was built around 1855 or 1856, of hewn logs, and was furnished in pioneer style. The second schoolhouse was also of logs; it was probably built about 1856 or 1857, in the southeast quarter of Section 9, Douglas Township.

W.W. Merritt believed that the Frankfort school, which opened in a new building in 1859, was the first truly public school in the county. Mr. Merritt was the first teacher, and had 60 pupils.

There were no teachers identified in the 1856 census, but by 1860, eleven were listed. There were four in East Jackson Township, three in Frankfort, two in Douglas, and one each in Red Oak and Washington Townships.

Churches were also considered a necessity by the settlers. Like the schools, the earliest religious services were held in homes. As soon as the schoolhouses could be built, church groups moved into them. That became the custom, and some kind of religious service as held in nearly every rural schoolhouse.

History of Montgomery County, Iowa; Iowa Historical and Biographical Co., Des Moines, 1881; page 221: ...the public schools are supported by funds arising from

several sources. The sixteenth section of every Congressional Township was set apart by the General Government for school purposes...The minimum price of these lands was fixed at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. Congress also made an additional donation to the State of five hundred thousand acres, and an appropriation of five per cent. on all the sales of public lands to the school fund. The State gives to this fund the proceeds of the sales of all land which escheat to it; the proceeds of all fines for the violation of the liquor and criminal laws. The money derived from these sources constitutes the permanent school fund of the State, which cannot be diverted to any other purpose. The penalties collected by the courts for fines and forfeitures go to the school fund in the counties where collected. The proceeds of the sale of lands and the five per cent. fund go into the State Treasury, and the State distributes these proceeds to the several counties according to their request, and the counties loan the money to individuals for long terms at eight per cent. interest...The interest on these loans is paid into the State Treasury, and becomes the available school fund of the State. The counties are responsible to the State for all money so loaned, and the State is likewise responsible to the school fund for all moneys transferred to the counties. The interest on these loans is apportioned by the State auditor semi-annually to the several counties of the State, in proportion to the number of persons between the ages of five and twenty-one years. The counties also levy an annual tax for school purposes, which is apportioned to the several district townships in the same way. A district tax is also levied for the same purpose. The money arising from these several sources constitutes the support of the public schools, and is sufficient to enable every sub-district in the state to afford from six to nine months' school each year.

The practice of borrowing from the school fund seemed to be popular with the citizens of Montgomery County. The minutes of the first meeting of the Board of Supervisors in 1861 noted 27 mortgages given to secure county loans of the school fund. There seemed to be some problems in collecting moneys due on such loans. The minutes of the board meeting in April 1862 instructed the Clerk of Court to use diligence in collecting school fund interest and in renewal of notes to the school fund. The April 1867 minutes stated, "Now at this time the Board has under consideration the subject of the proper security of the school fund." Attorneys were to notify the borrowers who were in arrears, and give them until September to arrange for the delinquent payments. (From *A History of Montgomery County*; by W. W. Merritt; 1906; pages 326-7-9)

In August 1853 the first Montgomery county tax levy was signed. It designated money for school purposes. The 1881 History listed it as one-half mill; the 1906 History said one and one-half mill.

The early schools were opened whenever and wherever a community contained the requisite number of children. Then, in March 1858 the General Assembly enacted a measure which declared each civil township a school district and provided that those districts should be divided into sub-districts. Each township elected a Board of Education, consisting of one director from each sub-district. Each township district set its own tax levy, subject to approval of the County Board of Supervisors. A sub-district could request an additional tax on its district for such purposes as repairing a schoolhouse, or erecting a new building.

That structured system became known as the township plan. Each township was divided into nine districts of four square miles. The pattern was disrupted in the areas which contained town schools but elsewhere a schoolhouse was supposed to be located in the center of each district, thus having a school every two miles.

William C. Means was elected as Montgomery County superintendent in 1858, apparently the first to hold that office.

26 August 1859; *Clarinda Page County Herald*: Meeting of the district County Superintendents...was held at Quincy the 17th inst...The Superintendents present (included)...Montgomery...Counties...The plan of building school houses by taxation was denounced...

Teachers' Institutes were held in Iowa from 1850. The first Institute in Montgomery County met at Frankfort in the early 1860s; Wm. T. Reid was County Superintendent. In March 1874 Normal Institutes were established in each county, to be conducted annually by the County Superintendent.

West Township was numbering school districts by 1858. Other districts were slower to adapt, but by 1880, most of the townships had built and/or moved a few schoolhouses in order to comply with the township plan. East Jackson never did conform, and always had irregular districts. Douglas Township had a few aberrations, also.

The Legislature of 1872 provided for the formation of independent districts from the sub-districts of the several townships. By 1874, West Township had adopted that system of organization. The Grant Township schools were independent by 1876. No other township used that plan, but in later years, a few sub-districts were listed as independent after neighboring schools joined consolidated districts.

Probably all schools had a formal name, but West and Grant Townships were the only places where those names were always used. Many of the other schools were identified by the names of the families who lived closest to the schools, and that could change every year or so. Some of the early schools had numbers; others did not. When the township plan was introduced, it included a standardized system of numbering of districts. Most townships adopted that system, whereby the northeast district was Number 1, with the numbers running east and west and ending with the southwest district as Number 9.

However, not all townships followed that plan. Sherman Township didn't renumber until 1897, and Douglas Township waited until 1930 to conform. Grant Township had a system of its own; Number 1 was the southwest district, and the numbers ran north and south to Number 9 in the northeast district. East Jackson districts seemed to be numbered at random for as long as the schools were open.

District Number 5 in most townships was known as the Center school; traditionally those buildings were painted red. One in Douglas Township was always known as the little red school, although it was not in the right place for the Center school.

The 1875 map shows ten schoolhouses in Walnut (Garfield) Township. There are no records to tell us if they were all operating. A news item from September 1876 indicates that the township plan had been adopted, but only eight schools opened that fall. The ninth district would have a schoolhouse "next season". The only other tenth school in the county was in Washington Township; in 1891 the Washington schools were so over-crowded that a tenth school district was added. It was open for nearly 40 years. The only two-room rural school in the county was at Morton Mills; the second room was added in the fall of 1919.

As the population doubled and redoubled, the number of schools increased proportionately. At the Centennial Fourth of July celebration in Villisca, H.G. Thurman spoke on the early history of the county. He stated that there were 75 schools in the county at that time. (17 August, 1876; *Villisca Review*) A few of those were in towns, but most were one-room rural schools.

7 March 1883; *Red Oak People's Telephone*: ...in accordance with the suggestion of Supt. McLean, there will be a meeting of the residents of each of the school districts in Montgomery County, for planting of Trees on the School Grounds on the Sixth of April.

The schoolhouse was the center of the community. All citizens, young and old, participated in events which took place there. Religious services and programs were held. Community improvement projects were offered, such as singing and writing classes, night school sessions and lectures. Box socials and picnics were common. Political meetings were scheduled. Justice of the Peace courts sat in schoolhouses; those trials could have lawyers and juries just as in higher courts. A schoolhouse was the traditional township polling place.

15 March 1901; *Red Oak Republican*: The plan of doing away with the district rural school and instead erecting and maintaining a good graded school at the township centre is becoming quite popular with Iowa educators...The last legislature passed laws making it possible to consolidate districts and to engage in the practice of transporting children from long distances to school at public expense...

From 1880 until the 'teens, about 100 rural schools were open in Montgomery County at any given time. Then consolidation of districts began. Perhaps the first effort toward centralization in the county was in Douglas Township:

21 November 1902; *Sun*; Milford: Miss Mabel Hanna, county superintendent, was here ...to look over the Milford school district before acting on a petition by people living in the southern part of it praying that a separate school district be cut off from it.

Nothing came of that proposal. In July 1907 at the Washington Township annual school meeting a petition requested a vote on whether Washington Township should adopt centralization of schools. All districts rejected the proposal.

Several areas in the county did consolidate. Wales-Lincoln, Stennett, and Coburg erected central structures, and transported the students by bus. Elliott used buses, but the building erected in 1913 was adequate, with the use of three one-room schools. Garfield Township, Pilot Grove Township and Climax were consolidated, but continued to use their one-room schools.

Wales-Lincoln: The consolidation proposal carried by one vote, and that fall, 1916, the new district was organized. It included all of Lincoln Township except Districts 1, 3 and 7; also section 18 and parts of sections 17, 19 and 20 of Sherman Township. District No. 7, Lincoln Township, joined in the spring of 1918. The rural schools were open for a year or two while the new building was constructed.

Stennett: 1919-'20; all of Districts 7, 8 and 9, and parts of Districts 4, 5 and 6 in Sherman Township; plus most of Districts 1 and 2 in Red Oak Township. Eighth grade and high school classes were held in the church while the new school building was under construction; some of the rural schoolhouses were used for the lower grades.

Coburg: 1919-'20; only Districts 1 and 2 of Grant Township. 1920-'21; added District 6 in Grant Township, Districts 6, 7 and 8 in West Township, and the Star school in Page County. The consolidated district approved a bond issue 29 February 1920 and the new school building opened in the fall of 1921.

Elliott: 1920-'21; Elliott Independent, Districts 2, 3 and parts of Districts 4, 5 and 6, Sherman Township, plus District 3, Pilot Grove Township.

Pilot Grove: 1920-'21; all districts except Number 3; the Consolidated district continued to use rural schoolhouses. The original plan included all of Pilot Grove Township; residents of the western part of the township objected, but the county board of education approved the plan. About the last of December 1919 a vote on a bond issue for a school building carried.

Then landowners of District 3 brought court action, and the judge sustained their claim that they were not legally part of the consolidated district; the decision also invalidated the bond issue election. In September 1920 another attempt was made to pass a bond issue, but it was defeated. District 3 joined the Elliott Consolidated School.

Garfield: A consolidation proposal was defeated in July 1916. A new measure passed in June 1920 and the district opened in 1920-'21; included were all districts in Garfield except most of District 7 and the east half of District 6. (Nos. 6 and 7 formed the Independent District of Garfield.) Also included was District 2 of West Township. The district continued to use rural schoolhouses.

Climax: 1920-'21; Districts 4, 5 and 9, West Township; plus Keystone and Union schools, Mills County, and Goff School, Page County. The consolidation proposal was approved in the fall of 1919. The new district continued to use rural schoolhouses. The consolidation was not a success, and in 1924-'25, Numbers 4, 5 and 9, West Township, were back in the township Independent records.

In October 1919 the County Board of Education fixed the boundaries of the Frankfort and Scott Townships consolidated district. In May 1921 a proposal was submitted to the voters for a bond issue to build a consolidated schoolhouse; the measure failed and the plan was dropped. In September 1945 another proposal was offered to the voters; that plan included approximately 48 sections in Scott and Frankfort Townships. It also was defeated.

The consolidation legislation was amended a number of times, with the State continuing to promote centralization. By 1940 the remaining country school districts in the county were beginning to close, paying tuition to send their pupils to town schools. Then, in 1947, a hold was placed on consolidation proposals.

In 1953, the General Assembly repealed the legislation concerning consolidation of the school systems on the county level. Instead, the legislature established the Community School District as the new unit of public school education, with each district offering kindergarten through twelfth grade. At that time the concept was just a recommendation, but Montgomery County adopted the guidelines well before the system became mandatory in 1968. The last rural school in the county, Red Oak Number 7, closed at the end of the 1959-'60 year.

On a Saturday afternoon in June 1920 a graduation ceremony of the rural eighth grade students was held at the auditorium of the Red Oak high school.

21 June 1920; Red Oak *Express*: ...Prior to this year the townships have held their graduating exercises separately and generally closed the ceremonies with a big picnic. The plan of getting all the students together and awarding the diplomas at one time seems to be very successful and will probably be continued in the future.

Perhaps it was in the early 1920s that the state issued guidelines for the erection and furnishing of one-room schoolhouses. Building designs required basements and furnaces. Interior plans stressed windows and bookcases. Specifications even applied to the construction of outhouses.

Schools were graded on a point system showing the degree of efficiency, equipment, attendance and other attainments. The ones honored for their standing were named "Standardized Schools". In 1925 Red Oak District 3 built a standardized schoolhouse; it may have been the first one in the county. By 1928 there were nine such districts. A small amount of state aid was distributed among those schools to be used for school equipment. A "Superior School" rating was also offered, but none has been found in Montgomery County.

In the late 1920s Emil Johnson assembled a crew to do contract construction. To get a business started, he offered to build rural schoolhouses at bargain prices. In 1928, he erected a new house for Red Oak Township No. 4. Then the depression came, and in order to hold his crew together, Mr. Johnson continued to construct schoolhouses at reduced costs. He erected or rebuilt several buildings for the Garfield Consolidated District, including West No. 2 (Centennial)

Garfield No. 5 was built in the summer of 1931. The specifications for the project fill four sheets of paper. The old school was to be wrecked, and the salvaged material was to be used to the greatest possible extent. Each new or rebuilt building had a basement, with a storm cellar under the front porch. Marvin Johnson, son of the contractor, remembers that he and his brother were put to work cleaning lath; he described it as a huge pile. Marvin said that money was so tight that his mother painted school outhouses.

It has been difficult to determine the opening dates for many of these schools; records do not go back that far. There are few deeds recorded for the school land, and some of those were written

years after the schools opened. An interesting note is that for a number of those without deeds, the land was sold after the school closed, and a "special" deed was given.

It is beyond the scope of this report to list the teachers and pupils for the schools; a book could be compiled for each school. The Historical Society holds the records of teachers from the fall of 1903 through the closing of the rural schools. In 1925 an every-pupil card file was started; the cards followed the students through the eight years of country school and most of the cards are now at the Pittsburgh Schoolhouse. There are a few records from earlier times. These sources may be searched by the public.

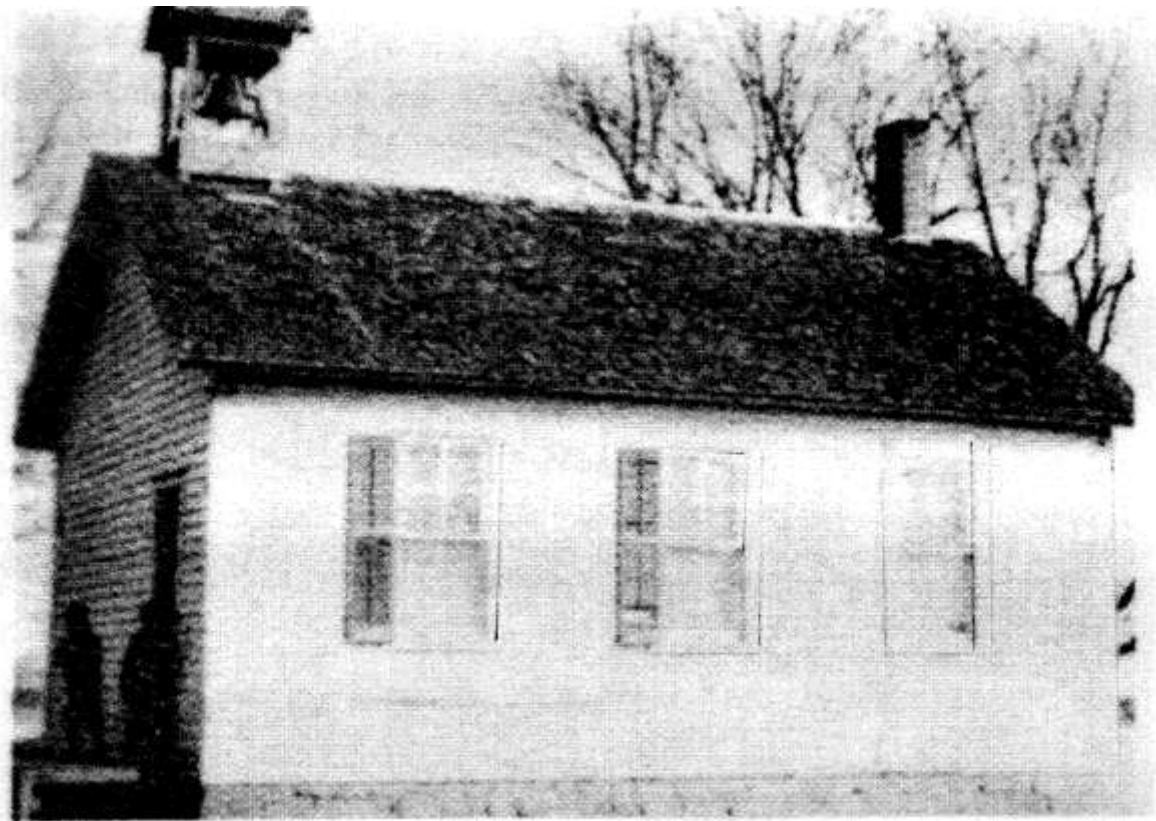
Identification of the schools has been a problem, due to the many changes in names, numbers and locations. The only constant has been the sections, so the schools are arranged by township section numbers. That isn't always dependable; some maps show the schoolhouse in the wrong section. The 1924 and 1930 maps are especially unreliable.

In 1984, Pittsburg School, Grant Township No. 8, was given to the Montgomery County Historical Society by Mrs. Charles Krumme. It was moved into Red Oak, and stands on the county fair grounds. It has been restored, and is used for various events. Usually, special programs are planned for the Christmas season and county fair time. Classes have been given for school children. It is available for educational programs.

The Pittsburg School is a memorial to an important part of Montgomery County history; it proclaims to all our cherished heritage of more than one hundred years of the one-room country school.



Douglas No. 1; Science Vale (1998)



Douglas Township No. 3- Foote (1)



Douglas Township No. 3 - Foote (2)

Douglas Township

Section 1: Pleasant Mound, Science Hill; No. 1. Southwest corner of section.

11 May 1888; Red Oak *Sun*; Milford: E.C. Beals and O.S. Donoho have secured the job of building the new schoolhouse two miles east of Milford.

In 1901 Science Hill received extensive repairs. The building was used until the spring of 1918, when a new schoolhouse was built in the southeast corner of Section 2.

Section 2: Science Hill, Science Vale; No. 1. Southeast corner.

4 July 1918; Grant *Chief*: The regular meeting of the Township board was held last Monday...the contract for a new school house in District No. 1 was let to O.H. Christopher of Grant. The house is to be 24 x 36 feet with 12 foot ceiling.

The new school was called Science Hill for several years, but at least by 1930, the name was changed to Science Vale. No. 1 was named a standardized school. The school was open through the spring of 1946, then closed for two years. It opened again for 1948-'49, then closed permanently. The building has been unused since then.

30 September 1955; Deed Book (hereafter DB) 52:403; Special Deed: ...to Paul William Richards...one acre southeast corner.

The schoolhouse is now owned by the Gerald Schuler estate. The bell was donated to the Montgomery County Historical Society, and was installed on the Pittsburg schoolhouse.

Section 8: Name unknown.

18 April 1862; DB 6:597: Mary White to District Township of Douglas; square Acre in northeast corner southwest quarter...

At that time the road west from Grant crossed Section 8 approximately on the mid-section line. The schoolhouse stood on the south side of the road, and east of the Seven-mile River.

3 (13?) March 1879; DB 13:150: H.A. Lott, President of District Township Douglas to E.J. Lott...

Section 8: Foote; No. 2, No. 3. This was one of two new schoolhouses built in Douglas Township in the summer of 1877. It was on the west line of Section 8, about a quarter of a mile

South of the northwest corner of Section 8.
A new school

building was erected in the summer of 1925. The last year for the school was 1951-'52.

8 September 1955; *Express*; Adv: For sale, schoolhouse, coal shed, oil stove, large fuel oil barrel and outhouses of school district No. 3, Douglas Township.

Alan Hines purchased the building. He used it for grain storage for a few years, and then burned it when it was no longer usable.

Section 9: Stipe. On the east section line, a short distance north of the southeast corner.

1881 History; page 389-90: The second school-house in the county was built on section nine...in 1855 or 1856. It was 14x16 feet in size, and was composed of logs, with a puncheon floor, clapboard roof, etc. It was furnished in primitive style, after approved pioneer fashion. It was warmed by a fire-place. The house was built by Mr. Stipe and a Mr. Whittier, and its cost was about thirty-five or forty dollars.

12 January 1906; *Sun*; Milford: ...The ME church society of Milford is one of the oldest in the county...Services were held for some time in the old log schoolhouse now being used by Mrs. A.C. Miller as a chicken house...

There is no way to prove or disprove that statement. Tradition says that the chicken house was formerly the Stipe residence. The schoolhouse was used until a frame building was constructed in Milford (Grant) in the spring of 1865; the deed for the lot was given in 1861. The cabin is now in the Elliott city park.

The Milford (Grant) Methodist congregation met in the log cabin for as long as it was used as a school, and then moved with the school into Milford.

Section 11 and/or 12: The 1875 and 1881 maps show the school in the northeast corner of the southeast quarter of Section 11, but the 1883 map and tradition place it in the northwest corner of the southwest quarter of Section 12. In 1888 a new schoolhouse was built in the southwest corner of Section 1.

11 May 1888; *Sun*; Houser: William Kreger bought the old school house for \$25.50.

Section 13: Pleasant Valley, Houser; No. 8, No. 6.

11 May 1882; *Villisca Review*: The contract for the schoolhouse in District No. 8 of Douglas township has been awarded to L.C. Houser.

30 September 1915; *Chief*: The new school in district No. 6, two miles east and one south of Grant, must be completed by Dec. 18th.

~~20 April 1960; DB 52:612;~~ Special deed: ...to Stanley Taylor...one acre southwest

20 April 1960; DB 52:612; Special deed: ...to Stanley Taylor...one acre southwest corner southwest quarter...

The school closed in the spring of 1959. The Taylors used the building as a hog house for a few years, and when it was no longer usable, Gary Taylor tore it down.

The numbering system for this school is confusing. In the early days, it was No. 8; in 1915, it was No. 6; in 1920 it was No. 8, and at least by 1930, it was No. 6 again.

Pleasant Valley United Brethren Church met in the schoolhouse from the mid-1880s until 1906. Other religious services were held later.

Section 19: Oak Vale, Berryhill, Patterson, Marsh; No. 3, No. 4. The early maps were a little uncertain as to the location of this school, but it was probably always on the east section line, about a quarter of a mile south of the northeast corner. The 1924 map and the 1935 plat book place the school in the southeast corner of Section 18; that seems to have been an error.



Douglas No. 4 – Patterson

Mid- 1940s : Front – Isaac Claypool, Mary A. Fast, Letha Negly, Ronnie Givan, Douglas Claypool.
Back: Dorothy Hopkins, teacher, Norris Claypool, Janice Fast, Vivian Porter, Joan Fast.

4 July 1918; *Chief*: ...H.C. Goodale of Atlantic secured the contract for the new schoolhouse in district No. 3. The building is to be 24x36 feet with 12 foot ceiling.

The school was closed from March 1937 through the 1937-'38 year, then reopened. It closed permanently in the spring of 1953 and was sold in 1955. It was used as a hog house for a number of years and was torn down about 1986.

Religious services were held in the school from the earliest days until World War I. Some of the denominations were Methodist, Baptist and United Brethren.

Section 20: little red, Chard, Hyde; No. 4, No. 5. Northeast corner of the southeast quarter.

First school: Old-timers reported that the school was open by the mid-1860s. Tradition says that when a new school was erected in 1888, the old building was sold and moved about a mile and three-quarters north, where it was used as a home. It burned in 1931.



Douglas No. 5 – little red (1)

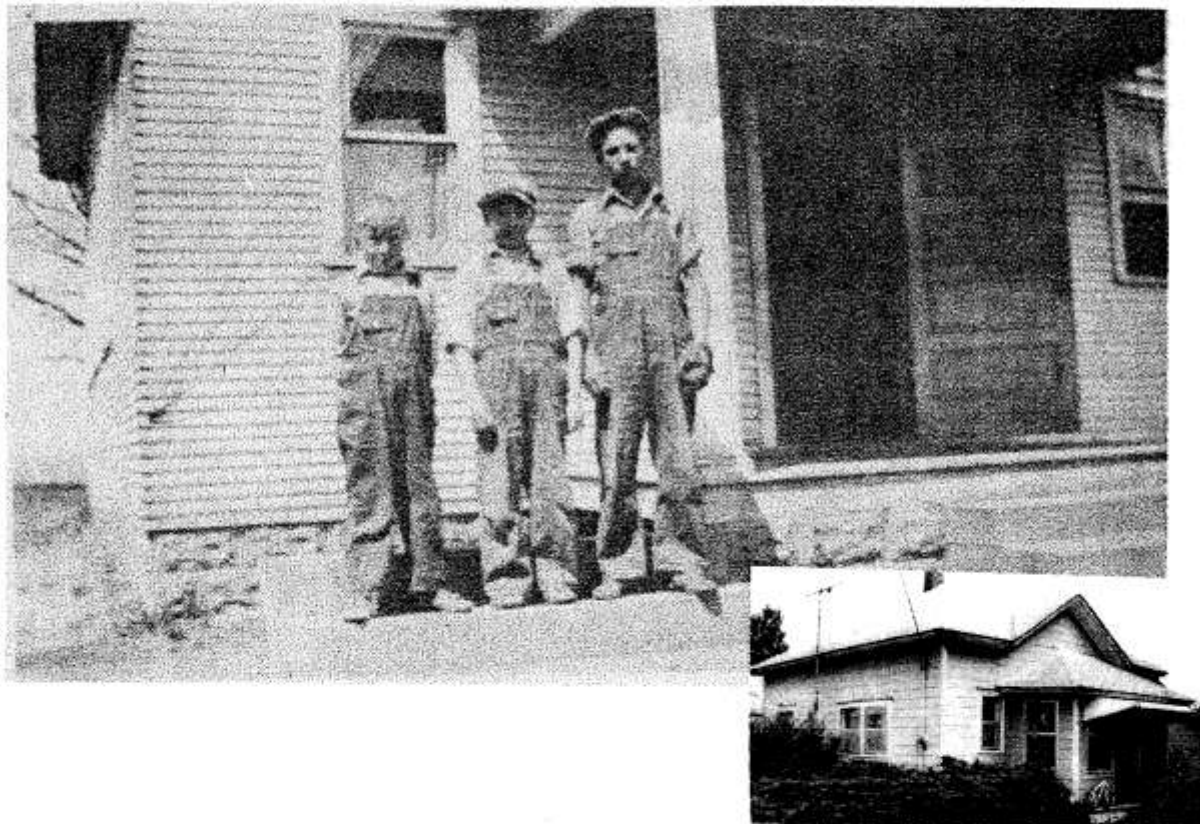
Second school: 17 February 1888; *Sun*: A proposal for building a new schoolhouse in No. 4...

The schoolhouse was a Free Methodist stronghold in the 1880s. Other denominations met there, including the Dunkards in 1896.

Third school: 23 August 1917; *Chief*: School opened in the little red school district last Monday...The old landmark...school house is gone and a fine modern one has taken its place.

The school was closed in 1919-'20 and 1921-'22. The schoolhouse burned about the first of December 1922. The board contracted for a driver to haul the children to the Morton Mills school until the new schoolhouse was built in the fall of 1923.

Fourth school: A new building was erected in the fall of 1923. It was closed for the years 1925-'26 and 1926-'27. It closed in the spring of 1932, opened in the fall of 1936, and closed permanently in the spring of 1938. In 1955 the building was sold to Vernon Claypool, who moved it into Grant, and remodeled it into a home. It is at the west end of Main Street.



Douglas No. 5 – little red (4) 1931

From left: Sammy Noble, Kenneth Gridley and Howard Campbell

Section 26: Mayflower. The 1875 and 1881 maps show the schoolhouse in the southeast corner of the section. It was gone by 1883.

Section 27: No. 5. The 1875 and 1881 maps show the school in the east half of the north section line; it isn't there on the 1883 map. According to the maps there was no road to the school. The schoolhouse was built in the early 1860s. A new building was erected, perhaps in the early 1870s. Probably the schoolhouse was moved about 1882 to the northwest corner of the southwest quarter.

_____ 1940; *Omaha World-Herald*: From an interview with John Focht and Sam Atwood -- ...In those days there were only trails, and the drifts of snow were deep. Neither were there any bridges. The District 5 school house stood in the middle of 160 acres of raw prairie in Douglas township. The school was made of native lumber. The desks and seats were of native walnut and benches were fastened to the wall around the room. Drinking water was from a spring...They played "two old cat" and "town ball". The balls were homemade by the children or their parents...The men told of spelling bees and dancing and sleigh rides...

16 April 1926; *Review*: Obit of Wm.T. Atwood: ...He helped build the first schoolhouse in the district, constructed of native lumber, and there he taught several winters...When a new schoolhouse was built there Mr. Atwood purchased the old building and used the lumber in his first frame residence.

A Disciples of Christ church was organized in the early days in southern Douglas Township; probably it met in the old No. 5 school.

Section 27: Second location: Allard; No. 5. That may have been the school called Mt. Carmel. By 1883 the schoolhouse was in the northwest corner of the southwest quarter. In 1914 the schoolhouse was moved into Morton Mills.

20 March 1885; *Express*; Mortons Mills: M.B. Bird will repair the school. It needs it.

30 April 1897; *Sun*; Morton's Mills: The patrons of the school in Dist. No. 5 have just finished a new cave at the school house, to use during storms...

(Note: In 1886 the township school board passed a regulation requiring each school district to build a storm cave. Did it take 11 years?)

A Christian congregation was meeting in the Allard school in 1896, when the Memorial Church was built west of Morton Mills.

Section 30: Pleasant Valley; No. 9. Southeast corner southwest quarter of the southeast quarter. The old Bean school closed in the spring of 1921 and the pupils attended Morton Mills. By the late 1920s, the district was clamoring for its own school.

13 March 1930; *Express*; Morton Mills: Election was held in Grant Monday in regard to a new school house in...what was formerly known as the Bean sub-district...

The new school opened in the fall of 1930. It closed in the spring of 1943, ran the year of 1947-'48, and then closed permanently. Albert Eshelman bought the building and moved it into Elliott, where it was remodeled into a residence, at 805 5th Street.



Douglas Township No. 9 – Pleasant Valley

Section 32:

9 August 1907; *Sun*: 50th Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. W.T. Atwood - ...Mr. Atwood taught school the first few years of his married life. His first term was taught in an old log house near where Mrs. America Figgins now lives...

(Note: It is uncertain where America Figgins lived in 1907; in 1900 she lived in the Bean school district, and was in the same area in 1910.)

Section 32: Bean, Moffitt; No. 7. Southeast corner of the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter. The schoolhouse was built about 1870, across the road north of the Morton Mills Cemetery. After the school was moved in 1895, the Memorial Church of Christ was built on the site. The school was called No. 7 in 1876.

14 November 1884; *Sun*; Kimel's Mills: Frank Campbell preaches at the Bean schoolhouse every two weeks.

Section 32: Second location: Table Ridge, Bean; No. 7. This was the district which became No. 9 in 1930.

6 December 1895; *Sun*; Morton Mills: That old landmark the Bean school, has been moved from where it has stood for 25 years to a new location, half a mile west...

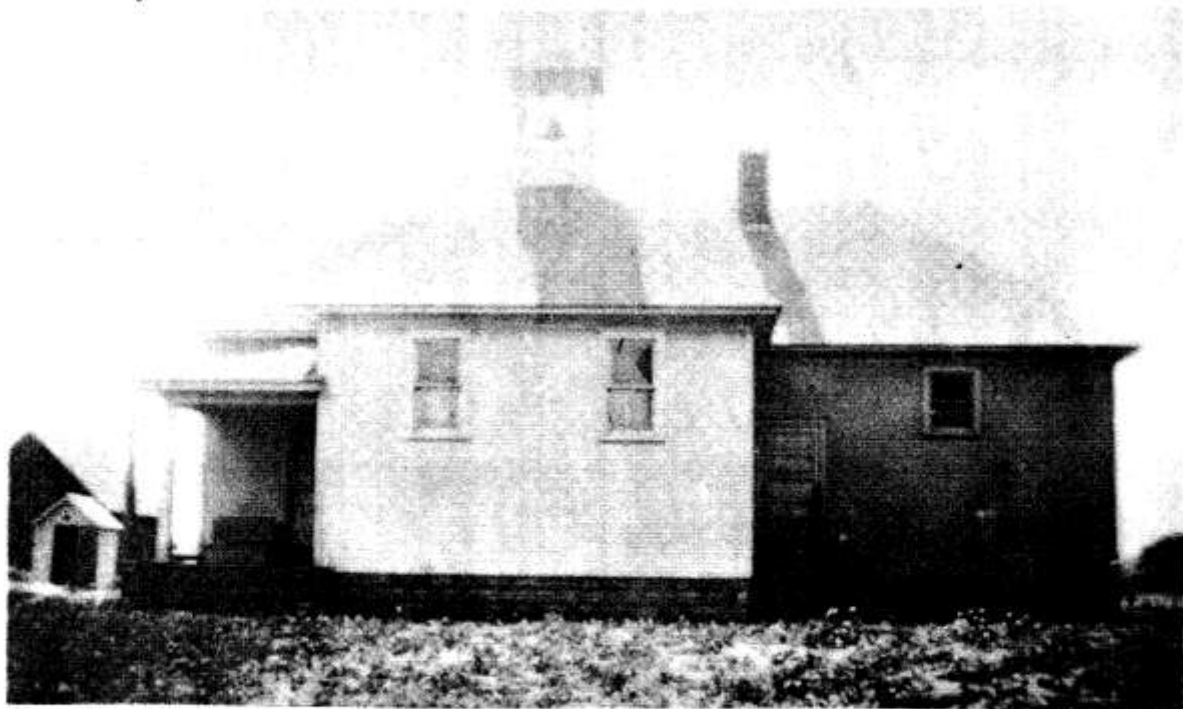
It still wasn't in the right place. The school opened in September 1919 and closed 21 November to join the Morton Mills district consolidation. When that plan failed, No. 7 opened again in September 1920, and then closed permanently 19 November of the same year.

5 June 1925; *Review*; Morton Mills: The schoolhouse known as the Bean school was sold at auction Saturday p.m., A.G. Anderson being the buyer. He paid \$125 for the building.

Different religious denominations met there off and on, but no record was found of a formal organization.

Section 33: Morton Mills; No. 5, No. 8. The school was renumbered in 1930.

In 1914 the Allard schoolhouse was moved to Morton Mills. A new building was erected in 1916. The old school was moved and remodeled into a residence. By 1919 the school was overcrowded, and a second room and another teacher were added, making the only two-room school in the county.



Douglas Township No. 8 - Morton Mills

In June 1913 a proposal to consolidate 16 sections in the Morton Mills area was submitted to the voters; it was defeated by four votes.

The Morton Mills boosters quietly prepared for another try, and in January 1920 a well-organized contingent carried the proposal. In May 1920 a mill levy was approved to add two rooms to the Morton Mills schoolhouse.

(Note: Throughout this report the term "mill levy" indicates a special tax levied in a township or school district for the purpose of erecting, enlarging or repairing a schoolhouse.)

The new district created much ill-will in the township, and at the annual meeting in March 1921, a measure was passed to transfer to the general fund the money levied for the addition to the Morton Mills school. It was, in effect, a veto of the consolidation plan.

Two teachers started in September 1919 and then a third was hired in November, when the neighboring schools closed for the consolidation plan. The next fall the other schools reopened, and Morton Mills started the year with only one teacher, but there were too many pupils, and a second teacher was hired in November. There were two teachers each year until the fall of 1928, when only one room was used. Beginning in September of 1948 the school again had two rooms and two teachers. There was only one teacher in 1958-'59; that was the last year the school was open. The next year the district became part of the Villisca Community School. The schoolhouse was used as a community center for several years. When US 71 was rebuilt about 1970 the land was deeded to the highway commission, and the building razed.

Section 35: Mayflower; No. 8, No. 6, No. 7. It isn't known if the schoolhouse was moved from Section 26, or if a new one was erected, but by 1883 the building was in the northeast corner of Section 35. In 1915, the district was No. 8; in 1920, it was No. 6; and in 1930, it became No. 7.

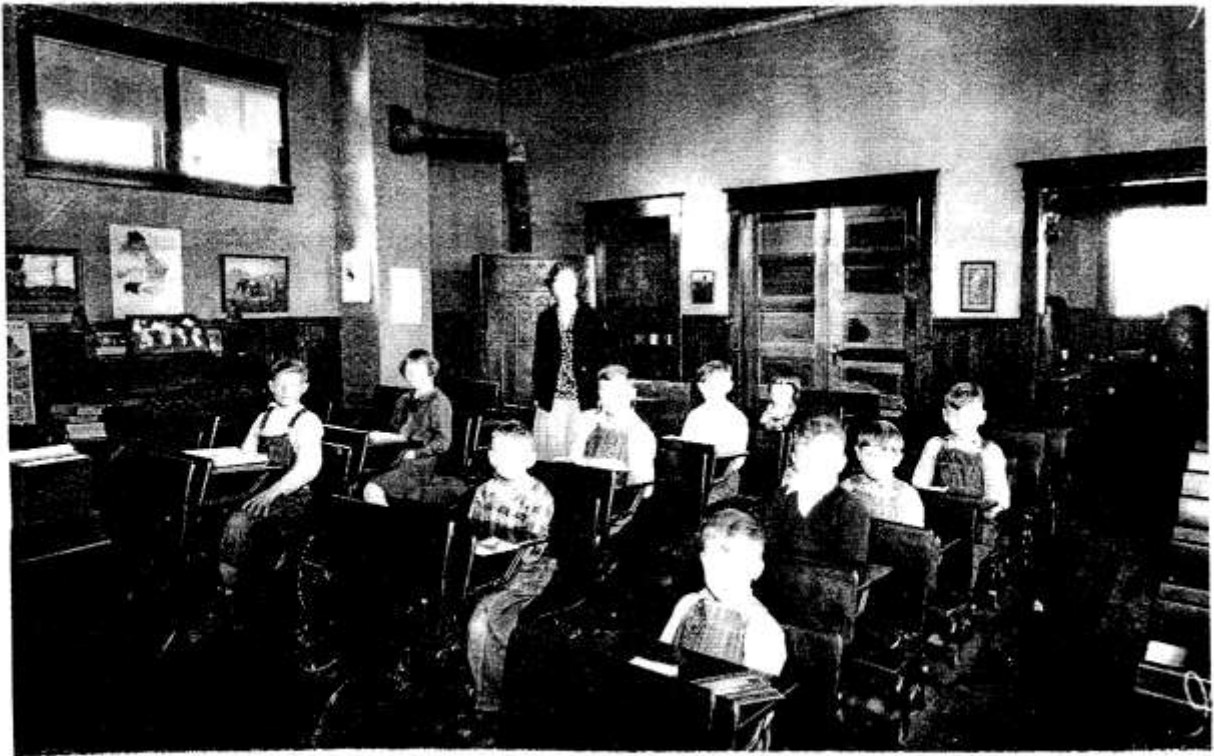
30 August 1901; *Express*; Mayflower: The school house has a new roof and is being replastered and otherwise repaired.

30 September 1915; *Chief*: ...The new school house in district No. 8, or the Mayflower district..must be completed by Nov. 1st. The price is \$1,148.95...

29 March 1960; DB 52:638: Villisca Community School to Erlo Jergenson...northeast corner of section...

The school closed in November 1919 for the Morton Mills consolidation. It reopened in September 1920. It was closed from the fall of 1934 until the fall of 1944; it closed for the last time in the spring of 1956. For several years the building served as a community center. La Dean Jergenson used it for a hog house for a time, and then tore it down.

The United Brethren conducted services at Mayflower in the 1880s. Other denominations met there, especially during the 1890s.



Douglas Township No. 7 – Mayflower (1930)

From left: Delmar Taylor; Bernice Anderson; Lenora Taylor, teacher; Harley Hunter; George DeVoss; Lyle Taylor; Vernita DeVoss; Dean DeVoss; Billy Burdette Hunter; Gerald Jarboe; Burgett Stuvick.



East Jackson Township

Section 2: Ross, Matthaei, Saddler; No. 4. The 1875 and 1881 maps show the building in the center of the west section line. By 1883 the school was a half mile east and a little south of the original site; probably the building was moved.

12 February 1883; DB 16:500: From J.P. Ross...one acre southwest corner northeast quarter southeast quarter...commencing 40 rods north of the southwest corner.

1 June 1893; *Review*: Proposals will be received for erection of a new schoolhouse in District No. 4...

The school closed in the spring of 1921, and reopened in the fall of 1933. It closed again in the spring of 1936, and opened for the spring term in 1940. It closed for the last time in the spring of 1943.

29 September 1955; DB 52:404; Special deed: ...to Walter Mathaei...

Occasional religious services were held at the school. In 1897 a Methodist minister preached every two weeks.

(Page 18) East Township No. 4; – First row: Mary Farlin, Gail Oyster, Elva Stearns, Grace Pershin
Second row: Fred Elliott, Kenneth Oyster, Charley Elliott, Miles Phillips, Mason Phillips
Third row: Snow Phillips, Hazel Farlin, Minnie Matthaei, Mary Miller
Fourth row; Kate Matthaei, Cora Whan, Bessie Farlin, Orley Ross
Fifth row: Ethel Stearns, Ray Stearns, Forest Pershin, Frank Miller.
About 1898 – Lizzie Ely, teacher.

Section 5: The location of the different buildings may have varied slightly, but they all seem to have been near the center of the south section line. No. 5 had high mill levies in the early 1870s.

First school: Dunn; No. 5; a note on the back of an old picture says the first schoolhouse was built in 1857.

Second school: Highland; No. 5, No. 6.

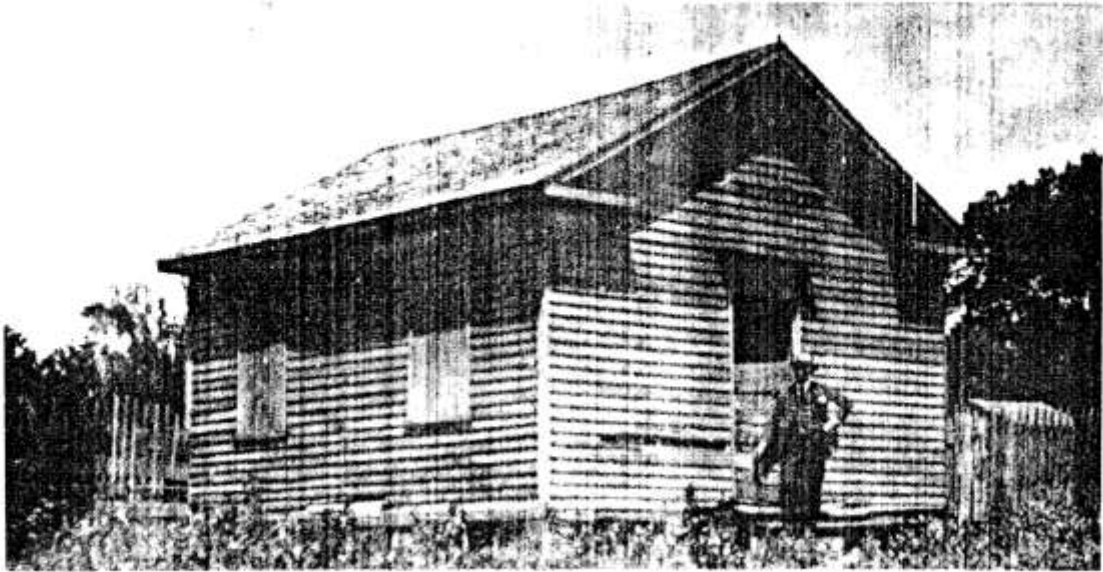
21 November 1875; DB 15:538: ...from John C. Arnold...one square acre southwest corner southwest quarter southeast quarter...

2 March 1876; *Review*: There will be a new No. 5 schoolhouse. The old Dunn school was too small. The new one is called Highland.

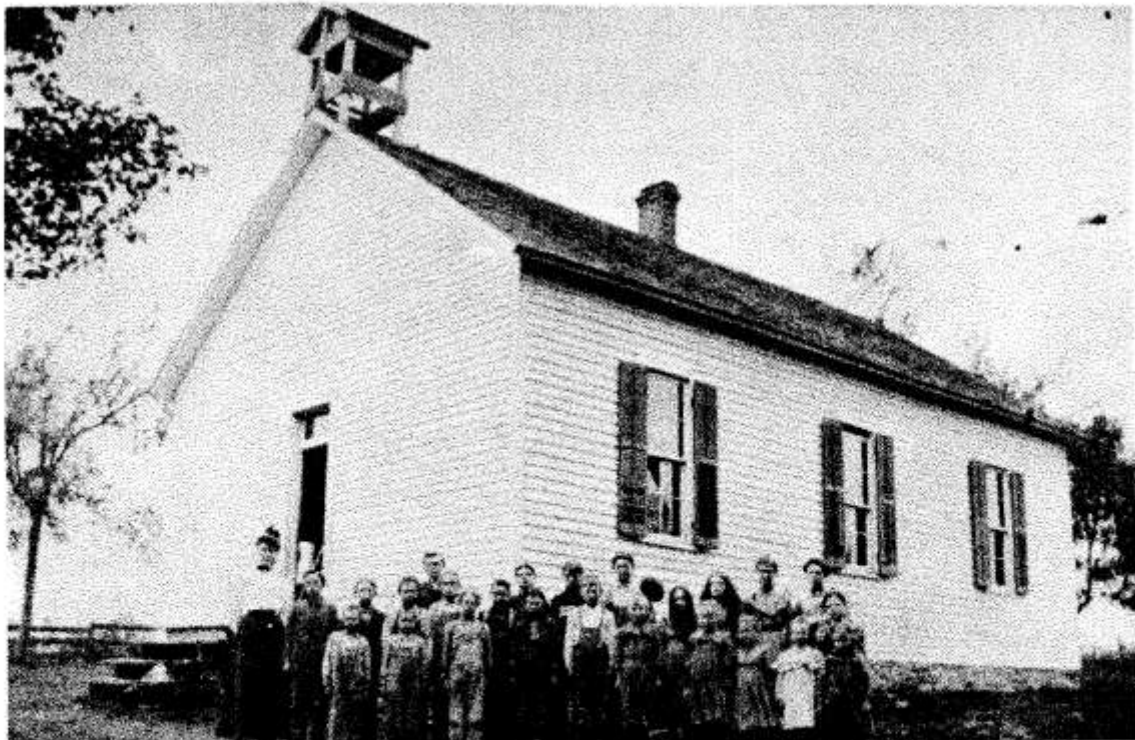
In June 1885 the schoolhouse was blown off its foundation. It burned in the summer of 1916.

Third school: Highland, Christie; No. 6.

5 July 1916; *Review: Adv.* - The Board of Education of East Township will receive sealed bids until July 29...for the erection of a schoolhouse in Sub District No. 6...



East Township No. 5 – Dunn (1)



East Township No. 5; No. 6 – Highland (2)

21 November 1946; *Review*: The six students of school No. 6 in East Township, five miles northwest of Villisca are back in school again today following the fire which destroyed their school building Monday afternoon. Arrangements were made to accommodate the students and their teacher, Mrs. Golda Stewart, in the basement of the Harold Robinson home...and the school was conducted there this morning.

The building which burned was a standardized school; it was not replaced. The school met in the Robinson basement for the rest of the 1946-'47 school year, and then was closed. The students were sent to the Villisca school.

A Methodist congregation met in the schoolhouse from about 1865 until the Arlington Church was built in 1904.



East Township No. 6 – Highland (3)

Section 14: Union Valley, Findley, Means; No. 1. The 1875 and 1881 maps show the schoolhouse near the southeast corner of the northeast quarter of the section.

12 March 1855; DB 1:15: Trustees of School District No. 1 from Wm. C. Means ...Commencing at a Burr Oak Tree marked with the letter A and two Blazes, running 13 rods W thence 13 rods N and thence E and thence S to place of beginning.

10 August 1876; *Review*: ...Union Valley school house, four miles northeast of Villisca, was built in 1859, and was the first frame school erected...

25 September 1882; DB 16:305: from W. H. Findley to district No. 1...one acre, 10x16 rods...Northeast corner southeast quarter northeast quarter northeast quarter...

The district had high mill levies in the early 1870s. Around 1882 the building was moved or a new one erected about a quarter mile north of the original location. No. 1 was a standardized school. The school closed in the spring of 1950. Roy Peterson tore down the building.

29 September 1955; DB 52:470; Special Deed: ...to Charles W. Peterson

Bethlehem Cumberland Presbyterian Church met in the schoolhouse from before 1880 until the church was disbanded in 1901.



East Township No. 1 – Findley, Means

Section 15: Lomas, Victor, Hall; No. 7.

20 December 1872; DB 7:557: ...from James Knox...one acre southwest corner southwest quarter northeast quarter.

7 March 1889; *Review*: M.V. Johnson has moved into town the old schoolhouse from the district north of town and will have it converted into a dwelling...

Presumably, a new building was erected around 1889. The school closed in the spring of 1943. The building was sold at auction in August 1955 and was removed. It is uncertain if it was moved intact, or was torn down.

20 Aug 1888 - asked for bids for a new sch house.
Robbie



East Township No. 7 - Victor

1937-'38 -Front row, from left: Robert Zuber, Donald Eberly; Harry Rubin
Back row, from left: Robert Andrew; Betty Hendrickson; Barbara Victor; Leatrice Hendrickson
Lydia Victor, teacher

Section 20: Pleasant Hill, Brubaker, Butler, Sampson, Hillcrest; No. 4, No. 5. The school is shown on an 1875 map. District mill levies were high in 1870 and 1871.

11 September 1875; DB 8:551: ...from Henry J. Lincoln...one acre northwest corner...

28 September 1882; *Review:* The old school building situated in school district No. 5...known as the Brubaker School House, will be sold to the highest bidder...It must be moved off the grounds inside of ten days.

7 November 1914; *Review:* Sampson schoolhouse East No. 5 burned to the ground Wednesday a.m. The schoolhouse was a wooden building 26x36 and was built in 1884. Work was commenced immediately to rebuild on the site.

18 August 1955; *Review:* District No. 5 schoolhouse was sold last week to the Izaak Walton League for \$343.

The Villisca Waltons became the Villisca Community Conservation Club around 1960. They disbanded and the property was sold in June 1966. The school was remodeled into a home.



East Township No. 5 - Hillcrest

Section 25: Ross Grove.

10 August 1876; *Review*: ...the first schoolhouse was built in Ross Grove east of Villisca in the year 1857 or 1858. It was a hewed log house and served for several years.

Other sources say the school was built in 1855 or 1856. John Ross had the contract to build it; the cost was \$80. According to early maps, Ross Grove was in the center of Section 25, although some sources say that the schoolhouse was in Section 26.

A Cumberland Presbyterian congregation met in the Ross Grove schoolhouse from the time it was built. It isn't known when the church moved to the No. 1 schoolhouse.

Section 25: Ross Grove, Baker; No. 3.

22 May 1871; DB 7:558: Samuel Baker to District Township of Jackson...nine rods square in northeast corner southeast quarter southwest quarter...

Presumably a new frame schoolhouse was built about 1871; mill levies were high for 1871 and 1872. About 1887 a new building was erected in Section 36.



EastTownship No. 8 – Fort Necessity, Gridley, Wendling

Section 30: Fort Necessity, Gridley, Wendling; No. 8. The 1883 map shows the schoolhouse in the southeast corner of the section. The school closed in the spring of 1952.

13 February 1913; *Review*: H.W. Gridley's house burned. For the present the family will live in the old schoolhouse which they recently purchased...to use as a granary.

29 September 1955; DB 58:241; Special deed: ...to Mary Opal Focht...

Rick Anderson bought the schoolhouse and tore it down.

Section 31: Nessley; No. 8. Northeast corner of the section. It was there before 1875. By 1883 the school had moved across the road to Section 30.

Section 34: Carlisle; No. 2. In May 1866 Sub-school District No. 2 of Jackson Township purchased Lot No. 404, original Villisca plat, "for school house purposes". (2:484) No further information was found. The 1875 map shows the school at the center of the west section line of Section 34. At least by 1892, the school was moved to Section 35.

Section 35: Carlisle, Stillinger; No. 2.

22 August 1892; DB 25:390: District Township of Jackson from J.T. Stillinger...one acre southeast corner northwest quarter northwest quarter...

10 July 1901; *Review:* Proposal for erection of new No. 2 school...

The school opened in the fall of 1920, then closed three weeks later; it was open for the spring term of 1921. It closed for the last time at the end of the 1928-'29 year. The building was sold.

28 January 1963; DB 56:45; Special Deed: One Acre Southeast corner of Northwest quarter of Northwest quarter...Villisca Community Schools to Harold Smith...

Section 36: Baker, Baker's Cut, Poston; No. 3.

6 October 1887; *Review:* ...to build new school in No. 3...

24 November 1887; *Review:* The old schoolhouse in District No. 3 will be sold...

7 December 1887; DB 22:431: District Township of Jackson from I.N. Poston...one acre...part of northeast quarter northwest quarter...

The school was closed for the 1917-'18 year, and the 1928-'29 year. It closed permanently after the year of 1953-'54. The building was used for various farm purposes, and finally became just an eyesore, so Dwight Lewis burned it in 1989.



Frankfort Township

Section 1: Pleasant Prairie, Robinson, Robertson, Heilman, Monk, Wallin; No. 1. The first school house may have been moved there from Section 12.

10 September 1877; DB 11:167: ...from J.W. Steele...one acre southwest corner southeast quarter southwest quarter...

A new schoolhouse was built in 1907. The old one was sold to the Wallin Lutheran Church; they attached it to the rear of the church and used it as a social hall. It was torn down when a new hall was built in 1937; part of the salvaged lumber was used in the new structure.

The school was closed during the years 1917-'18 and 1918-'19. The final year was 1948-'49. David England bought the school building; he partially dismantled it and used two walls in the construction of a garage at 4th and Market in Red Oak.

19 March 1886; *Express*; Frankfort: This should be a righteous community as four preachers expound the gospel at school No. 1.

That was more or less normal. Many denominations met there, from the time the school was opened. The list included Dunkard, Swedish Lutheran, Evangelical, and Advent Christian.



Frankfort Township No. 1 - Wallin

Section 3: No. 2. The 1875 and 1881 maps show the building in the southwest corner of the section. By 1883 the school was moved across the road west into Section 4.

From 1877 until the early 1880s a Winebrenarian or Church of God congregation met there.

Section 4: Sunshine Hill, Sample, Urn, McKeeman; No. 2. The 1883 map shows the school in Section 4.

23 April 1887; DB 22:336: ...from C.H. Lowe...one half acre ...northeast corner south 20 acres of southeast quarter...

23 May 1887; DB 22:350: ...from Jennings family...one half acre southeast corner North three-fourths southeast quarter southeast quarter...

12 April 1901; *Sun*; Stanton: The contract for erection of a new schoolhouse in District No. 2 Frankfort Twp. will be awarded...on May 1.

27 August 1951; DB 52:182: ...to Alvida A. Urn...(both parcels given above)...

The school closed after the 1943-'44 year. In November 1951 the building was moved to the Elliott schoolgrounds where it was used for a band room. A few years later the structure burned.



Frankfort Township No. 2 – Sunshine Hill, Urn

Section 5: Dodd; No. 3. The 1875 and 1881 maps show a school in the southwest corner, but if it was ever there, it must have been moved to Section 6 by 1876.

Section 6: Dodd, Pleasant Lawn; No. 3.

20 November 1875; DB 9:462: ...from George M. Warrick...one acre 10 rods by 16 rods...Southeast corner of section...

2 April 1897; *Sun*: The schoolhouse in Dist. No. 10, Washington township, is said to be the best arranged country school house in the county...The new schoolhouse that is to be built at Pleasant Lawn, Frankfort township, this summer, will be patterned after it.

The school was closed from the fall of 1938 until January 1942. Its last year was 1954-'55.

8 October 1962; DB 56:23; QCD: Red Oak Community School to Basil U. Altaffer...

The schoolhouse was moved a mile south, to the east side of the road, where it was used as a granary. It was torn down several years ago.

The Pleasant Lawn United Presbyterian Church met in the schoolhouse from 1884 until the church was built in 1890.



Frankfort Township No. 3 – Pleasant Lawn

Section 12: Both the 1875 and the 1881 maps show a schoolhouse in the northwest corner of the southwest quarter, but it was probably gone before 1880. The building may have been moved to Section 1 to become Frankfort No. 1.

Section 17: Frankfort; No. 4. The 1906 History (page 150) tells us that a Miss Lawrence taught a subscription school for a few months at Frankfort. In 1857 W.H.M. Fishback opened a school in the then new courthouse. The 1881 History (page 450) states that in 1858 the first Fourth of July celebration in Montgomery County took place at the schoolhouse on the public square in Frankfort. Probably that building had been erected for some other purpose.

7 June 1859; DB 2:142: Enos Lowe and wife...One dollar...to District Township of Frankfort...Lot 12 in block 21 in the Town of Frankfort...for a district school...

That location was not on the square. W.W. Merritt thought the schoolhouse erected in 1859 was the first truly public school in the county. In 1873 Lot No. 12 was sold for taxes. Probably the building was moved to Lot 40.

From 1861 through 1864 the Montgomery County Methodist churches were called the Frankfort Circuit. There was a Methodist congregation at Frankfort from about 1859 or 1860; it was still a member of the circuit in 1863 but seemed to be inactive. It met in the schoolhouse.

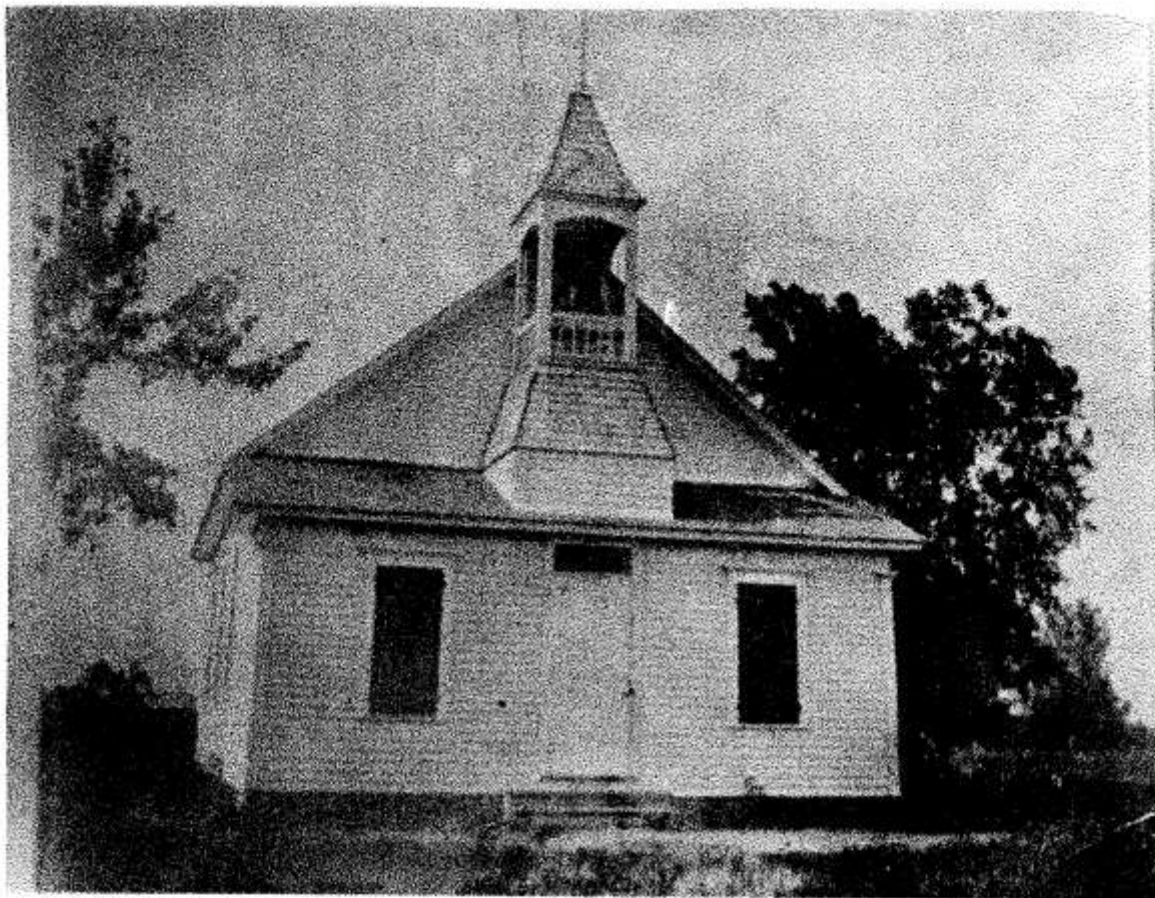
History of Frankfort; by Oscar F. Tidberg: ...The first Frankfort school house #4 was in the south end of section line between sections 17 and 18, about 100 feet north of corner of the four sections 17, 18, 19 and 20. This would be on lot between 5 and 6 on block 40 on the town of Frankfort map. The road going north...on the section line had to make a step on the road on account of the school house which was right on the section line. I think the school built 1859 could have been moved...to block 40 several years after it was built...In 1899 they built a new Frankfort #4 northwest of the corner of sections 17, 18, 19 and 20. The old school house was sold to E.I. Ogden. He moved it to one of his farms just south of Frankfort cemetery and made a dwelling of it.

At least by 1884 another Methodist church was organized at Frankfort; it met in the Frankfort schoolhouse until the Frankfort church was built in 1890.

Section 18: Frankfort, No. 4. The schoolhouse stood slightly west of the southeast corner of the section.

History of Frankfort; by Oscar F. Tidberg: ...The new school house built in 1899 was around 100 feet farther west of the old one...It was sold in 1954 to Olson Brothers for around \$300. It was torn down that same year.

The Supervisor's Minutes of 1915 called the school the Independent District of Frankfort. It earned the title of standardized school. The school was closed for the year 1935-'36. The last year it ran was 1947-'48.



Frankfort Township No. 4 - Frankfort

Section 22: Center, Buss; No. 5. The deed is dated 1887, but the school appears in the same place on the 1875 and 1881 maps.

28 February 1952; *Review*; Grant: ...In 1871 the Buss schoolhouse was built.

31 August 1887; DB 22:389: ...from Adam Vetter...one acre northwest corner...

31 July 1903; *Sun*: The new Frankfort center schoolhouse is nearing completion.

No. 5 was a standardized school. The last year it was open was 1947-'48. Delaine Isaacson moved the school about a quarter mile south, and used it as a farm building.

Various religious denominations met there, including Methodist, Evangelical, and Advent Christian.

Section 24: Garden Prairie, Burke; No. 6.

18 April 1877; DB 11:156: ...from John Newlean...one acre northeast corner...

1 May 1908; *Express*; Stanton: Saturday the School board of Frankfort twp. met to let the contract for the new No. 6 schoolhouse, to cost \$1,200. This is the seventh new school house erected in the township...since the board adopted the plan of erecting a new building each two years until the needs be supplied...poor condition of No. 6 required the departure from schedule...No. 1 last year...old buildings left No. 8, 1876, and No. 8, 1884. (sic)

28 August 1908; *Sun*; Frankfort: ...the old building will be sold at public sale...

The policy of constructing a new building every two years was begun in 1897, with No. 3.

No. 6 was closed for three years, beginning in the fall of 1931. It reopened in the fall of 1934, and ran until the end of 1947-'48 school year. The school was moved a half mile west, to the Garland Lewis farm, where it is used as a farm building.

This may have been the school called Oaks. If so, a Swedish Sabbath School Association was meeting there in 1879. In 1898, Rev. Noren preached at No. 6; he was Swedish Evangelical.



Frankfort Township No. 6 – Burke (1998)

Section 25: On the 1875 map, there was a schoolhouse in the northwest corner. It may have been moved to become No. 6.

Section 25: Maplehurst, Nelson, Wilson; No. 7.

27 September 1877; *Express*: Mr. Geo. Stonehouse recently completed a large and convenient school in district No. 7...

11 October 1877; DB 11:294: ...from L.P. Nelson...one acre southwest corner...16 rods north and south by 10 rods east and west...

A new No. 7 was built, probably in 1905. The school was closed the year of 1920-'21. The last year it ran was 1954-'55. The schoolhouse was sold at auction 14 October 1957. Ellery Peterson of Stanton bought it for \$335. It was moved about one-quarter mile south, and it is now owned by Duane Dekay, who uses it for a hog house.



Frankfort Township No. 7 - Maplehurst

Section 27: Sunnyside, No. 8.

27 September 1877; *Express*: Mr. Geo. Stonehouse..is now at work on (a new schoolhouse) in district No. 8...

That may be an error. The 1881 History states that Frankfort Township had eight schoolhouses and old maps indicate that No. 8 wasn't built until 1882 or 1883. The 1881 map shows a schoolhouse in District No. 9, so perhaps the item referred to that district, or No. 9 may have been called No. 8 at that time.

13 September 1887; DB 22:387: ...from Charles Johnson...one acre northwest corner northwest quarter southwest quarter...

No record was found for the erection of a new schoolhouse in this district. The school was open for only the fall term in 1919. It closed again after the 1927-'28 year. It opened for the 1935-'36 year, and then closed permanently. It was torn down when highway No.120 was built.



Frankfort Township No. 8 - Sunnyside

Front row, from left: Erick Olson, Stanley Olson, Lillian Thoren, Paul Carlson, Myrtle Olander, Paul Hogberg, Mabel Shodeen, Swan Fahleen, Harriett Hogberg, Hazel Carlson, Esther Olson.

Back row, from left: Elvera Carlson, Carl Olander, Ellen Shodeen, Walter Thoren, Mayme Johnson (teacher), Harry Olson.

Section 29: Cedar Grove, Cram; No. 9. Maps indicate that the school was opened between 1875 and 1881. The item from the 1877 paper shown in Section 27 may have meant this school.

31 August 1887; DB 22:388: ...from Charlotte Buss...one acre southwest corner...

In September 1900 the school acre was sold and another one purchased, identified as Lot 1 in Section 29; it was about a quarter of a mile east of the original site. Probably the existing building was moved.

6 May 1910; *Express*: There will be a new school in Dist. No. 9, Frankfort township...

In July 1911 the *Express* reported problems with the proposed school. The township board wanted to build a model schoolhouse on the corner where the Blue Grass Road turned south. A contract was let, and then another contractor sued because his bid had been \$30 lower than that of the one who received the contract; the suit was later dropped. But a nearby land owner sued to stop the plan, claiming that a schoolhouse located just across the road from his home would be a nuisance and would depreciate his property. A temporary injunction was issued, and the matter appeared in the October term of court. There the judge continued the temporary injunction, and it is uncertain when a new No. 9 was built.

The school was closed the year of 1923-'24, then reopened. Its last year was 1938-'39. In the early 1950s, Don Lundgren and Carl Levine dismantled the building, and used the lumber to build a machine shed on the Lundgren farm.

5 March 1954; DB 52:341; Special deed: ...to Carl G. Peterson...Lot 1 southwest quarter southwest quarter.

In the early 1890s, an Evangelical church met in the schoolhouse.





Garfield Township No. 3 – Indian Creek

Garfield Township

County Supervisors Minutes:

1871 - 2 mills, north half of township; 10 mills, south half of township.

1872 - 10 mills for whole township.

13 December 1877; *Express*: There have been built in Walnut the past year three new school houses, each a little better than the one that preceded it; all nicely painted, blinded and furnished with patent seats. The township now has a good school house at the center of each of the nine districts.

Section 4: Heckert, Long, Rankin; No. 2.

20 June 1873; 8:349; QCD: Joseph Long to District township of Walnut...\$15...one acre southeast corner...12 1/3 rods by 13 rods...

A new schoolhouse was built in 1929, on the same design as Garfield Nos. 5 and 8. The school closed after the 1950-'51 school year. The building was sold to Ernest Harold. He kept bees in it in the winter. The floor collapsed, and the building was burned.

28 June 1960; DB 52:628; QCD: ...to Clarence C. Long and Blanche L. Brown...

In 1878, an Evangelical society was conducting services in No. 2.

Section 6: Indian Creek, Hatswell, Bass; No. 3. The 1875 map shows the schoolhouse in the northeast corner of Section 7.

2 April 1877; DB 52:36; Henry W. Kemp to School Township of Walnut...one square acre southeast corner...

12 April 1877; *Express*: ...proposal to build a school house in sub district No. 3...

The school was closed in 1932-'33, then ran for one more year, closing after the 1933-'34 year. The building was sold to Bill Buehler; he moved it about a quarter mile east, and used it for a barn.

5 April 1954; DB 52:327; QCD: ...to George Lindner...one acre in southeast quarter...

The religious groups which met in the schoolhouse in Section 7 may have moved across the road with the school. Probably the Indian Creek United Presbyterian church was organized in the new schoolhouse in 1882.

Section 7: Indian Creek, Hatswell; No. 3. The school was there before 1875. In 1877, land for a schoolhouse was purchased in Section 6.

10 May 1877; *Express*: Sub-district No. 3 Walnut township offers a school house for sale.

Various denominations met at the Indian Creek school. In the 1870s, Methodist and Congregational ministers were preaching there.

Section 8: No name or number has been found. For a time during the 1870s, Walnut (Garfield) Township had ten schoolhouses; this one didn't fit the township plan, and was gone before 1877.

1 July 1870; DB 5:394: ...from Thomas E. Brown...one acre southwest corner southeast quarter...

31 October 1878; DB 14:294: ...to Robert W. Lownes...one acre southwest corner southeast quarter...



Garfield Township No. 1 – Excelsior, Buehler (1998)

Section 11: Excelsior, Buehler; No. 1. A 1920 map and a 1935 plat book show the schoolhouse across the road north in the southeast corner of Section 2, but that seems to be an error.

20 March 1873; DB 7:325: ...from S.T. James to Garfield Township...one acre northeast corner northeast quarter...

No record was found of a new schoolhouse until one was built in the summer of 1939; the contractor was paid \$2,851.55. The building had a basement with a furnace. Apparently the school closed at the end of the 1940-'41 school year, after only two years in the new building. The property was sold to Jim McKee. The schoolhouse has been remodeled and enlarged. Charles McKee lives in it at the present time.

5 April 1954; DB 52:326; QCD: Garfield Consolidated to James E. McKee...one acre northeast corner...

A Methodist congregation met in the schoolhouse from the time the building was erected. No closing date for the church has been found, but it was gone before Merritt's history was written about 1905.

Section 13: Taylor.

1881 History; page 538: The first school house was built by P.P. Johnson on section 13 in 1866, and cost \$650.

--Page 535: ...Walnut Township was organized in 1871 at the Taylor school house.

The schoolhouse does not appear on the 1875 map. Perhaps it had been moved south to the center of Section 24.

Section 16: Center; No. 5.

20 February 1875; DB 10:326; QC: ...from Wm. Barnes to Garfield Township ...commencing 39 rods west of southeast corner, north 10 rods; west 16 rods; south 10 rods; east 16 rods...

The school was closed 1907-'08, and again in 1916-'17. A new schoolhouse was built in the summer of 1931, but the furnace wasn't installed until August 1939. In 1938 the well was tested, and the water found unsafe for drinking. The school closed for the last time at the end of the 1952-'53 year. The schoolhouse was burned when new US 34 was built.

28 June 1960; DB 52:627; QCD: Garfield Consolidated to Ruby Wood...one acre tract for the #5 school which has been permanently closed...

Religious services were held at the schoolhouse in the 1870s, but no record has been found of an organized church.



Garfield Township No. 5 – Center (1)



Garfield Township No. 5 – Center (2)

Section 17: Crawford; No. 4. This may have been the school called "Peerless" in 1878. The 1881 map shows the school still in Section 18, but probably the new schoolhouse was built in Section 17 in 1877.

29 March 1877; *Express*; ...sub-district No. 4, Walnut Township, has advertised in this week's paper for proposals to build a school house...

The school was closed in 1903-'04 and again in 1907-'08. It closed in the spring of 1928, and didn't open again until the 1937-'38 year; the school had been rebuilt that summer. The well was tested, and the water was found to be unsafe for drinking. The school closed for the last time in the spring of 1948. It was remodeled into a home for Harold Hossle.

5 April 1954; DB 52:327; QCD: ...to James Marsden Cheney ...one acre out of west half southwest quarter...



Garfield Township No. 4 – Crawford (1998)

Section 18: Crawford; No. 4. Southeast corner of the section. The school was there before 1875. A new schoolhouse was erected in Section 17, probably in 1877.

Religious services were held in the schoolhouse in the 1870s.



Garfield Township No. 6 – Pioneer, Dennis

Section 24: Pioneer, Dennis, Selser, Cozad; No. 6. The 1875 map shows the school in the southwest corner of the northeast quarter.

10 November 1877; DB 11:394: ...from Chester H. Albert...one acre northwest corner...

16 November 1877; *Express*: A very fine school house is just reaching completion, in district No. 6, size 24x36 feet, with twelve foot posts...

The school was closed in 1907-'08. When Garfield Township consolidated, the east half of No. 6 and most of No. 7 joined in the Independent District of Garfield with one board. No. 6 was closed 1920-'21, the first year of the union, but then reopened. Half of the No. 6 district was in the Garfield consolidation, and the consolidated district drew tax funds for the whole district; half the money was then paid to the independent district.

A modern schoolhouse was built in the Independent No. 6 district, probably in 1927. The final closing was at the end of the 1940-'41 school year.

9 May 1955; DB 52:388: Consolidated Independent District to Ray A. Cleaver...

Religious services were held in the schoolhouse, but no organized church was found.



Garfield Township No. 7 Pleasant Dale, Buchanan (1)

Section 26: Pleasant Dale, Buchanan; No. 7. In 1873 No. 7 levied extra money for teachers, so presumably a school had opened at least by then.

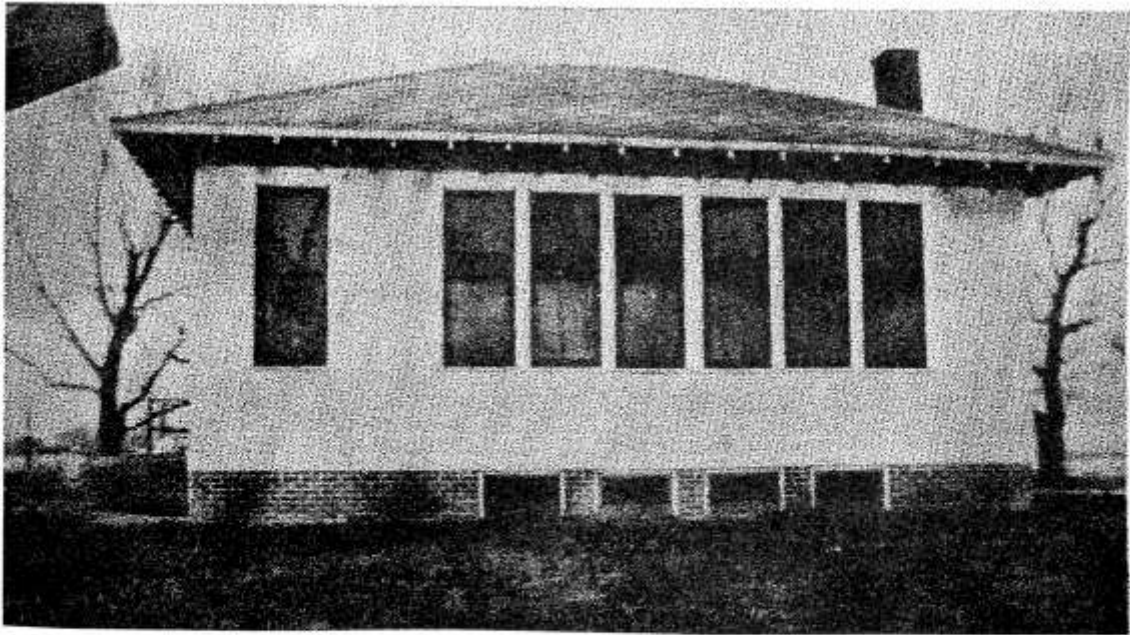
30 August 1901; *Sun*: The Buchanan schoolhouse is being remodeled.

31 August 1928; *Sun*: There is a new schoolhouse in Garfield No. 7.

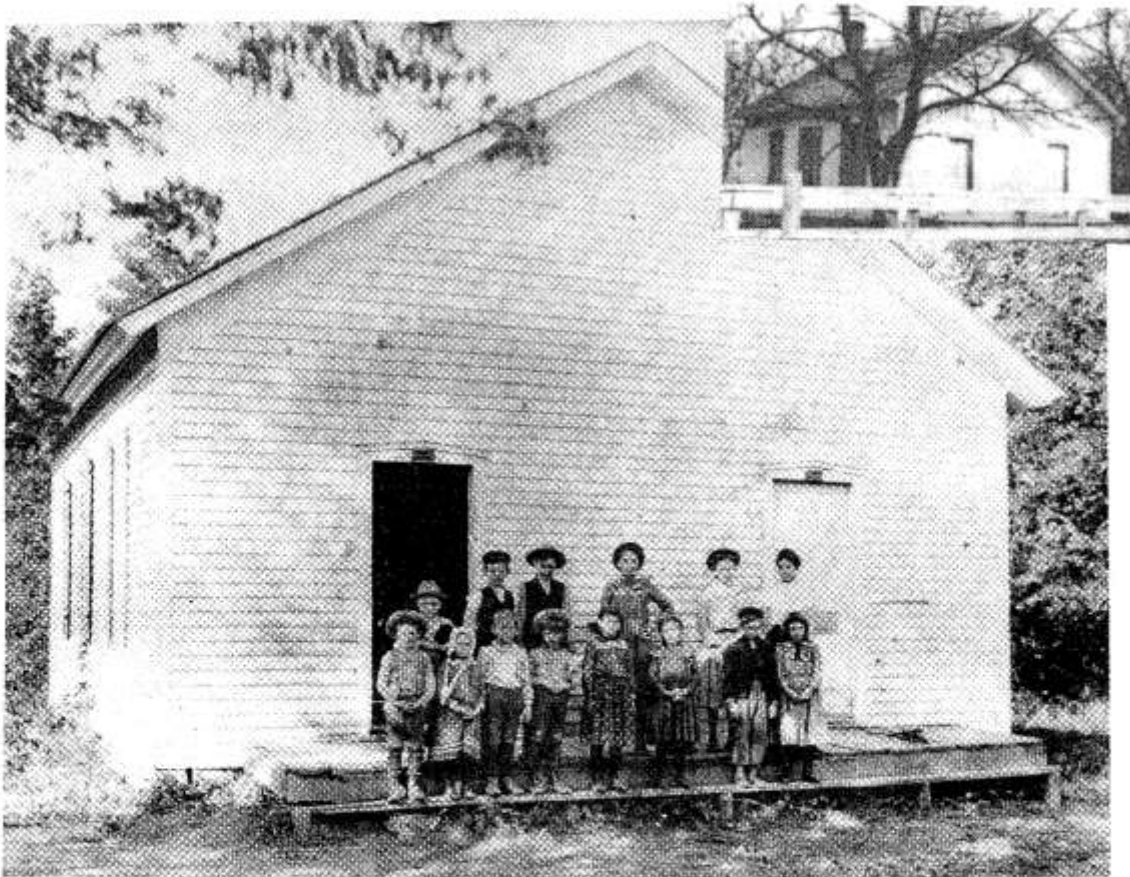
The school was closed in 1907-'08. When the rest of Garfield Township consolidated in 1920, part of No. 6 and most of No. 7 formed the Independent District of Garfield, with one board. The school closed at the end of the 1946-'47 school year. After the school closed, it was moved to the Wallace Buchanan farm, about a half mile west on the south side of the road. The building was used as a garage.

30 June 1960; DB 55:510: Garfield Independent School District...to Merwin W. Viner...one acre tract in southeast corner...for schoolhouse known as Pleasant Dale #7...which has been permanently closed...

In 1874, a Sunday School was running at Pleasant Dale.



Garfield Township No. 7 – Pleasant Dale, Buchanan (2)



Garfield Township No. 8 – Hawthorne (1)

Section 28: Hawthorne; No. 8. The first school was on the south section line, on the west bank of Walnut Creek. It was there at least by 1870, when a Methodist congregation moved there from the Carr school in West Township. The mill levy was high in the early 1870s, indicating that a new schoolhouse may have been built at that time.

22 March 1901; *Express*; Hawthorne: The schoolhouse is undergoing extensive and much needed repairs on the inside.

The school was closed in 1907-'08, then reopened. The old schoolhouse was closed in the spring of 1939. A new building was erected in Hawthorne that summer.

The Methodist church met in the schoolhouse from 1870 until the Hawthorne church was built in 1889. A Congregational church met there from 1884 until 1889, when it merged with the Methodist church.



Garfield Township No. 8 – Hawthorne (2)

Section 28: Hawthorne; No. 8.

1 June 1939; *Express*: Voters of Garfield Consolidated school district will go to the polls Friday p.m..."Shall the board be authorized...to provide a suitable site, and construct and equip a new school house in district No. 8?"

The old schoolhouse stood on the bank of Walnut Creek. In order to have a basement in the new building, it was necessary to relocate. The land for the new Garfield No. 8 lay in two sections, 28 and 33. The school was built in the summer of 1939; it was modern, with a furnace. The contractor was paid \$2,870.97.

1 June 1939; DB 49:104: ...from A. Anderson...part of Lot 4 East Half South East quarter South West quarter Section 28-72-39...

The school was closed in 1945-'46, then ran one more year, closing after the 1946-'47 year. It reopened in the fall of 1951, and ran until the spring of 1955. The property was sold to Garfield Township, and is maintained as a community center.

23 July 1959; DB 52:586: Garfield Consolidated to Garfield Township Trustees...one acre in Lot 4...East half southeast quarter southwest quarter, Section 28...



Garfield Township No 9 – Elder Grove

Section 30: Elder Grove; No. 9.

30 March 1875; DB 10:514: ...from J.N. Baldrige...to School District No. 9 in Walnut Creek township...commencing at southeast corner, west 164 feet; north 264 feet; east 164 feet; south 264 feet...and the said district is to fence the said land with a good and substantial post and board fence...

No. 9 was closed in 1940-'41 and again in 1946-'47. The school closed permanently after the 1950 -'51 year. The building was moved into Emerson, remodeled into a residence and painted pink.

5 April 1954; DB 53:327; QCD: ...to Volney V. Tubbs estate...southeast corner...

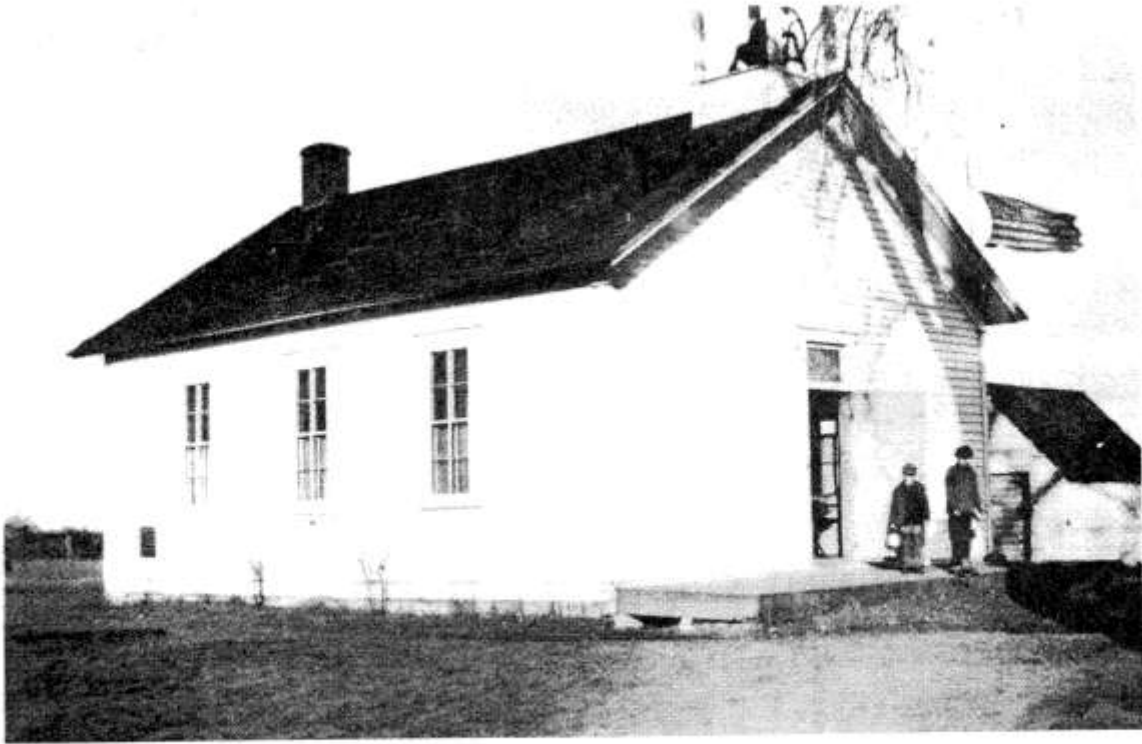
Section 31:

1881 History; page 538: The first school is reported...to have been taught at the residence of Jacob Libby on sec. 31, in the year 1864...

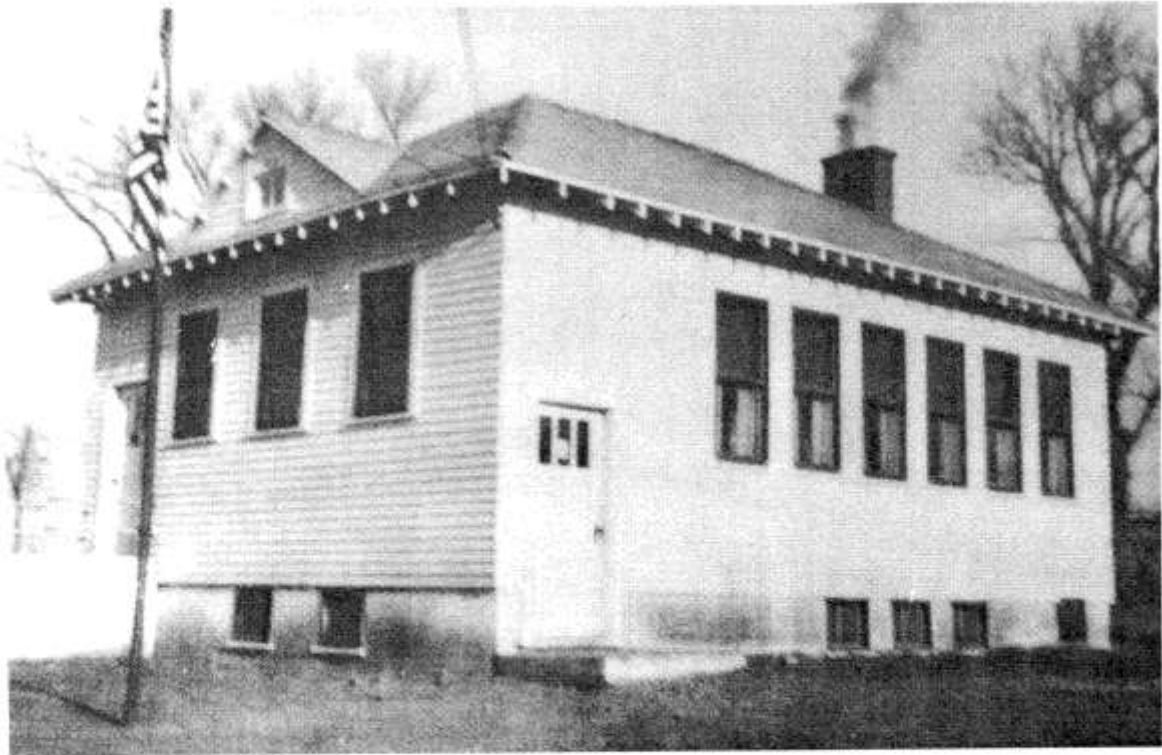
Section 33: The land for the new Hawthorne schoolhouse No. 8 lay in two sections, 28 and 33.

1 June 1939; DB 49:104 Garfield Township Consolidated School board...from A. Anderson...part of Lot 3 Northeast quarter Northwest quarter...

23 July 1959; DB 52:586; QCD: Garfield consolidated School district to Garfield Township Trustees...Lot 3 of northeast quarter northwest quarter...



Grant Township No. 9 – Centennial



Grant Township No. 4 – Mt. Pleasant

Grant Township

Section 2: Centennial; No. 9. The Cook brothers told a story about the beginning of the school. The community wanted a school, but was one short of the required number of eligible pupils. The Cook's Grandmother Moore was married, but she was only 20. She registered for school, so there would be enough students to start it, but she never attended. That was probably in 1872. No mill levy for the district was found until 1876.

16 April 1874; DB 9:35: ...from John A. Roche and wife...one and one half square acres southeast corner...

1 June 1876; *Express*: ...proposal for building a school house in Dist. No. 9...

It seems likely that there would have been a new schoolhouse at some time but no records have been found. The school was closed after the 1949-'50 year. Some of the desks were sold in 1954. The buildings, equipment and remainder of the contents were sold at auction 28 September 1959. T.C. Darnold paid \$290 for the schoolhouse, and salvaged the lumber from it. The material was hauled across the river and piled, but nothing was ever done with it. Dan Looker bought the bell.

A school reunion is held annually. There is a complete list of teachers at No. 9; it may be seen at the History Center.

A Methodist congregation met at the school from the very early days until 1891, when they moved Binn's Chapel to the community.

Section 4: Mt. Pleasant, Latimer; No. 4. The district had a high mill levy in 1871.

29 September 1883; DB 16:620: Independent District of Mt. Pleasant from Robert T. Mount...one acre southeast corner...

16 March 1939; *Express*: WPA projects in Montgomery County... The old school building in District No. 4, Grant township, was razed in July, 1937, and construction began on a new frame structure 24 feet by 32 feet with basement. Construction was completed in October...

The school was closed for the fall and winter terms of 1905-'06, then opened in the spring. It closed after the 1953-'54 year. It was sold 20 September 1956, to Roy C. Anderson, who remodeled it into a dwelling.

Religious services were held in the school at various times, but no record of an organized church has been found.

Section 5: Hickory Grove, brick, No. 3.

1881 History; page 483: ...according to Wm. Cozad's recollection, the first school house that there was in the township was one that was moved from Red Oak down onto section 5 in Grant township, in 1863.

The district had a high mill levy in 1871; perhaps the brick schoolhouse was built then.

14 February 1876; exception: school house and graveyard in southeast corner northeast quarter northeast quarter...

Before 1860, there was a small settlement called Hickory Grove a mile and a half south of Red Oak. In 1863 and 1864 B.W. Coe of the Frankfort Circuit was preaching in the schoolhouse moved from Red Oak; perhaps that was the Liberty Church listed as a member of the Frankfort circuit in 1863. By the early 1870s the Hickory Grove Sunday School met in the brick school.



Grant Township No. 3 – North Grant

Section 5: North Grant, Hines; No. 3. In 1876 North Grant had a levy of 10 mills.

24 August 1876; *Express*: ...proposal for a schoolhouse in the North Grant district...

23 December 1876; DB 11:103: Independent North Grant from Theodore Reifel...one square acre southwest corner southwest quarter southeast quarter...

In July 1938 the schoolhouse was extensively damaged by vandalism. The school closed after the 1938-'39 school year.

A Methodist organization was meeting in the brick schoolhouse before 1874. They moved to the new schoolhouse, and continued to meet into the 1890s. Other denominations held services there at various times.

Section 16: Grant Center; No. 4, No. 5. In 1871 the district levied 15 mills schoolhouse tax.

6 October 1871; DB 10:309: District No. 4 Grant Township from David S. Ashby...one acre southeast corner...

21 April 1880; *Telephone*: ...The Centre School House, Grant Township, has been repaired, repainted, and supplied with new blinds. The committee has also set out 150 shade trees on the school grounds...

28 December 1881; *Telephone*: An oyster supper will be given at the new Centre School House, Grant Township, Dec. 30th. The proceeds are to be used in replacing chandeliers and Sunday School books which were destroyed last summer when the school house was burned...



Grant Township No. 5 – Grant Center (ca 1912)



Grant Township - Grant Center (1938-'39)

Grant Center had a levy of 4 or 5 mills from 1889 through 1893, but no reason was found for a new schoolhouse at that time. The school closed after the 1946-'47 school year.

29 December 1952; DB 52:227: Independent School District No. 5, Grant Township, formerly No. 4...to Gertrude W. Perryman...

A Christian church met in the schoolhouse from the early 1870s until past 1900.

Section 17: Round Grove; No. 2. The 1875 and 1881 maps are unclear as to the precise location of the schoolhouse. By 1883 it was in the southwest corner of the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter.

5 March 1874; *Express*: proposal to build a school house in district No. 2...

The Round Grove school was closed most of the time from the fall of 1903 through the spring term of 1908.

3 September 1915; *Sun*: The new schoolhouse at Round Grove is a modern structure and was built at a cost of \$995...24x36... two new blackboards 16 feet in length...A heating and ventilating plant of the latest model...

The old school was sold at auction. In 1919-'20, Round Grove and Coburg were listed separately from the other schools, so apparently they were running as consolidated; other districts joined them in 1920-'21, but the rural schools were still used. In the fall of 1921, school opened in the new building in Coburg.

An auction was held 14 February 1922, and the contents of the Round Grove schoolhouse were sold. The directors placed a bid of \$500 on the building and it didn't sell; in July and September, warrants were written to several men for labor in tearing down the schoolhouse.

A Sunday School met in the school house in 1885, and in the late 1890s, an Evangelical congregation met there.

Section 19: From 1881 History; page 483: ...But it would seem that Miss Mary Etta Barker had taught a school still earlier (than 1863) in a log house belonging to Robert Davis, on section 19, and that she received \$13 per month...

Page 480; 1868 – (Grant Township's) first election was ordered to be held "at the little house now used as a school-house near the old residence of Robert Davis"...



Grant Township No 8

Pittsburg

Section 23: Pittsburg, No. 8. The school was built on railroad land. It was there by 1870; minutes of the Pioneer Mutual Insurance Association state that the company was organized in the school house in 1870. The company was originally Swedish Mutual, and the minutes are in Swedish.

25 October 1887; DB 13:626; Exception...one acre near northeast corner for school...

Tradition says that the schoolhouse was built on the northeast corner of the section. The site was prone to flooding and the school was relocated about an eighth of a mile south of the corner. In 1886 and 1887 the district had levies of 9 and 10 mills; perhaps a new building was erected then. The school was closed from the fall of 1943 through the spring of 1946. It closed finally at the end of the 1952-'53 school year.

In September 1955 the property was sold at auction. Charles Krumme acquired the schoolhouse and used it to store wood, hay and straw. In 1984, Mrs. Krumme offered the building to the Montgomery County Historical Society. It was moved to the county fair grounds in Red Oak. The foundation stones were numbered, and reassembled in the new location. Some of the windows were replaced with ones from the Lombardy Grove schoolhouse in Scott Township, and other restoration work was done.

Religious services were held in the schoolhouse during the late 1890s.



Grant Township No. 7 – Mt. Hope

Section 25: Mt. Hope; No. 7. Originally, the school was in the southeast corner of Section 26; by 1883 it had been moved across the road east. No record was found of a new schoolhouse. The school was closed most of the time from the fall of 1903 through the spring of 1907. It was closed again from the fall of 1935 through the spring of 1943; the final closing was at the end of the 1950-'51 school year.

The building was moved about one quarter mile north to the Darold Swanson home, where it was remodeled into a guest house.

Section 26: Mt. Hope, No. 7. The district appeared in the schoolhouse tax levy of 1872. The building was in the southeast corner of the section. By 1883 it had been moved across the road to the southwest corner of Section 25.

Section 28: Laurel Hill, Chenoweth; No. 6. The district had a schoolhouse tax levy in 1872; an 1893 exception says one acre in the southeast corner. The district had a high mill levy in 1899 and again in 1912.

The school closed at the end of the 1920-'21 school year, to join the Coburg Consolidated District.

14 February, 1922; original auction list:
Closets - \$5.75 and \$1.00
Bell and cupalo - Chas. Zelif; \$5.50
School house - Joe Johnson; \$120.00

The Good Hope Methodist Protestant congregation met in the schoolhouse from the time it was built until the early 1880s. By the late 1880s, a Methodist Episcopal group met there.

Section 29: Coburg, Burr; No. 1. The school district appeared on the schoolhouse tax levy of 1871; in 1872, the levy was 12 mills.

25 May 1885; DB 21:123; Exception: ...one acre southwest corner...

23 October 1891; *Sun*: The schoolhouse at Coburg burned a few days ago.

18 December 1891; *Sun*; Coburg: Our new school house is almost completed...It is a large one...

In 1911 a proposal to build a new schoolhouse in Coburg resulted in a controversy which was heard by the county superintendent, who ruled against the plan. Early in 1912 a resolution was adopted authorizing the building of a new schoolhouse in Coburg and the repair and remodeling of the old building, with school to be held in both places. Again an objection was filed with the county superintendent and the proposal was dropped.

Coburg Independent District closed at the end of the 1918-'19 school year. The next year, it and Round Grove were paired, apparently as the beginning of the consolidation. In 1920-'21, other districts joined in the Coburg Consolidated organization, but the one-room schools were still used. In the fall of 1921, school opened in the new building in Coburg.

14 February, 1922; Auction list, Coburg Consolidated:

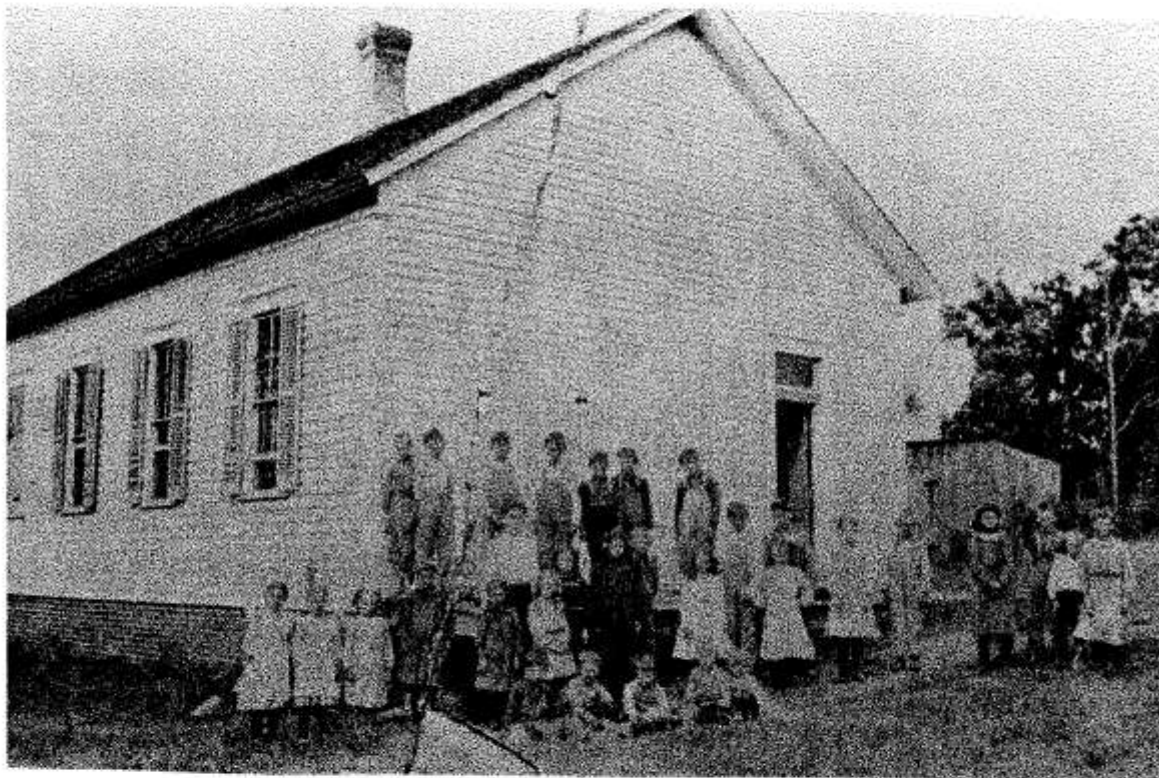
Bell and cupola - O. R. Byers; \$9.00

School house - A. L. Burr; \$137.00

1 closet

Burr moved the schoolhouse across the road south and a little east. He remodeled it into a home.

A Methodist congregation met in the schoolhouse from early days until 1880 when a church was built in Coburg.



Grant Township No. 1 - Coburg

Section 31:

1881 History; page 483: ...the first school house was built by D.N. Cook, in 1869, and cost about \$800...

Lincoln Township

Section 1: Center Ridge; No. 1.

22 June 1872; DB 7:249: ...from P.P. Johnson...one acre southwest corner...

28 August 1915; *Review*: No. 1 Lincoln Township will build a new building.

The school was closed much of the time from the spring term in 1907 until the winter term of 1915-'16. When the schools around it consolidated, No. 1 became an independent district. It was closed in 1934-'35, then ran through the 1943-'44 school year.

18 November 1955; DB 523:461: ...to Mabel A. Nelson...

The building was sold to Gustave Nelson, who tore it down for the lumber. The door and some windows from the school are in the Dean Hunt farm home.

A United Presbyterian congregation started meeting at the schoolhouse in 1880; they met there until a church building was erected late in 1882.



Lincoln Township No. 2 - Bellview

Section 4: Bellview, Powell, McMullen, Morgan; No. 2. The 1875 map shows a school in the southwest corner of Section 4. A new schoolhouse was built in the southeast corner of the section, probably in 1878.

11 April 1878; *Express*: ...to have a new schoolhouse in district No. 2, known as Powell's district...

2 November 1894; *Sun*; Lincoln: ...No. 2 has a beautiful tower and bell...

In 1916, No. 2 joined the Wales-Lincoln Consolidated District. It remained open for two years while the new school was built. The building was torn down, and the bell was placed on the new schoolhouse.

11 March 1919; DB 41:33; QCD: ...to R.W. McMullen...southeast corner...one acre...



Lincoln Township No. 3 – Pleasant Valley, Triplett

Section 6: Pleasant Valley, Triplett; No. 3. The date "1876" was displayed on the front of the schoolhouse.

19 July 1895; *Express*; Wales: Schoolhouse No. 3 will be remodeled and fitted with new seats and slate blackboard...

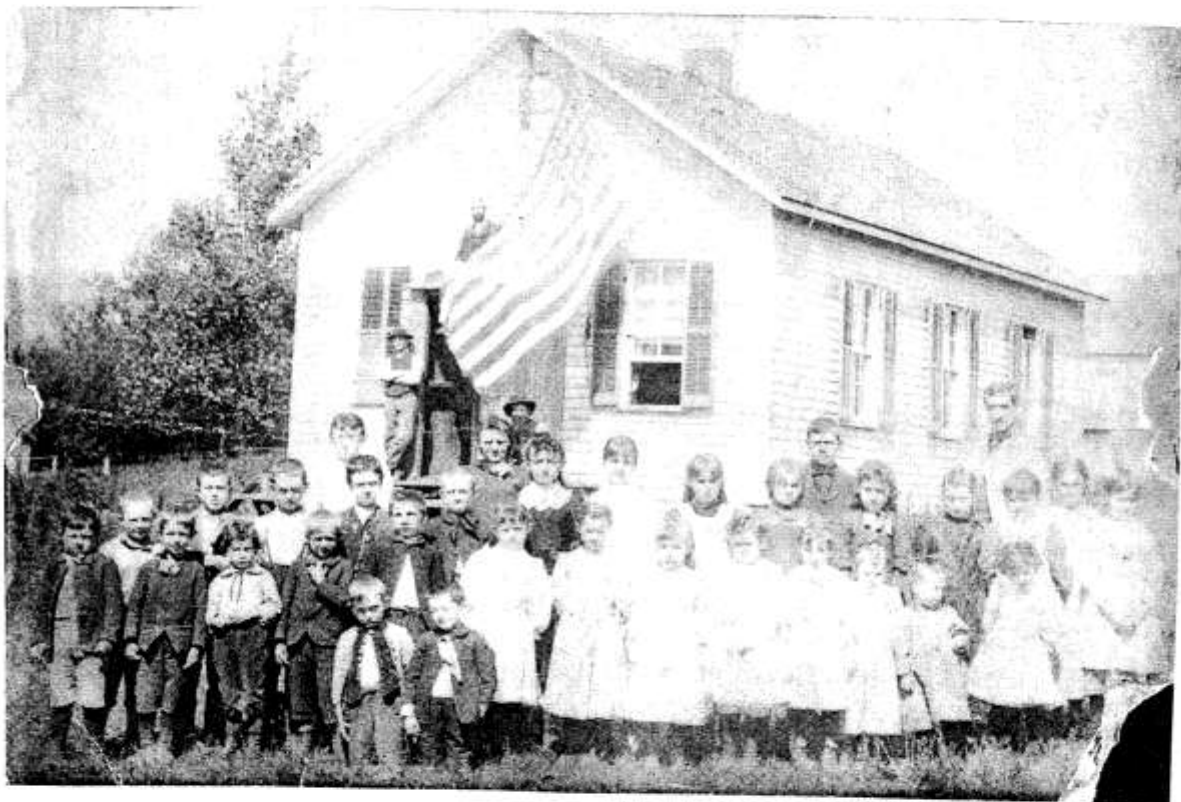
30 Aug 95. Sun. The furniture for the new Triplett school house came here five days ago.

No. 3 became an independent district when neighboring schools consolidated. It closed at the end of the 1935-'36 school year. The building was sold at auction to Chris Myers, who salvaged the lumber.

22 June 1960; DB 52:623; QCD: ...to Carl Isaacson...one acre southeast corner...

Baptist services were held in the school in the late 1880s; a Christian congregation met there in 1895-'96. A few Mormon meetings were held. The Assembly of God church met in the school house from 1941 until 1945 when the congregation built a church in Macedonia.

Section 8: 1881 History; page 498: ...The first school house (in the township) was built on sec. 8, in 1870, and cost \$800; the house is now occupied by Mrs. Evans as a private dwelling.

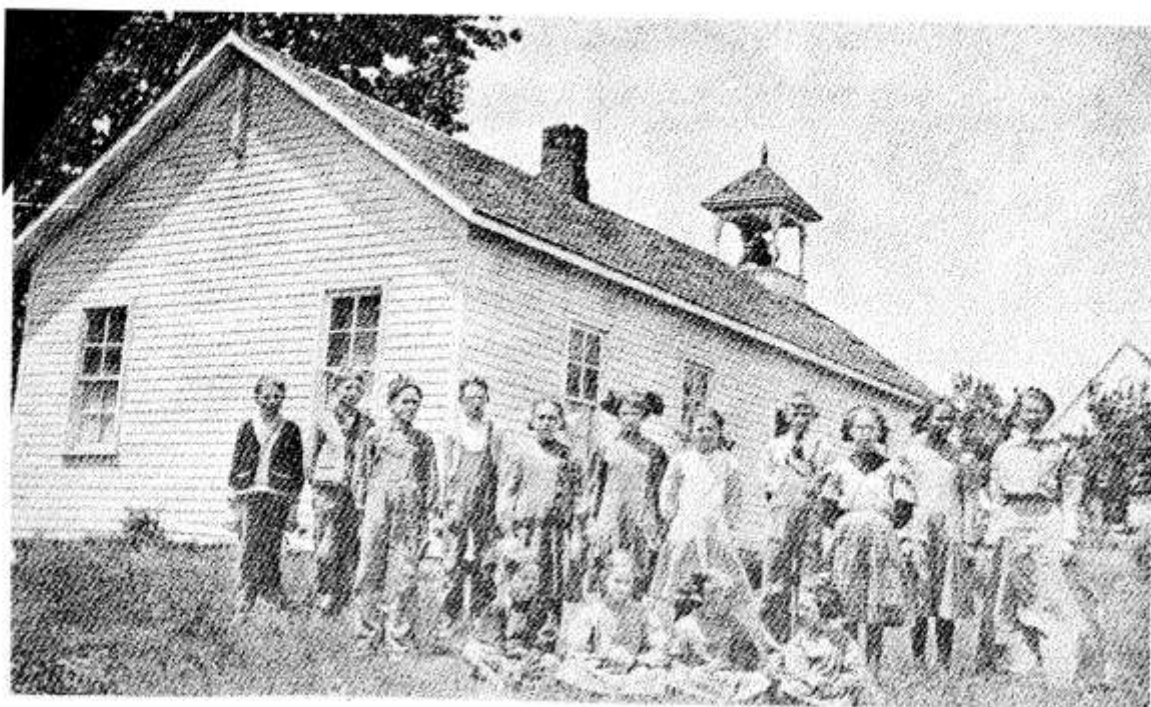


Lincoln Township No. 5 – Wales; Center (1871-1894)

Section 16: Wales; Center; No. 5.

1 June 1871; DB 7:82: ...T.W. Crandall...sum of Twenty Dollars...to District Township of Lincoln...one square acre southeast corner...

3 August 1894; *Express*; Wales: ...a contract was given for a new school at the center.



Lincoln Township No. 5 – Wales; Center (1894-1918)

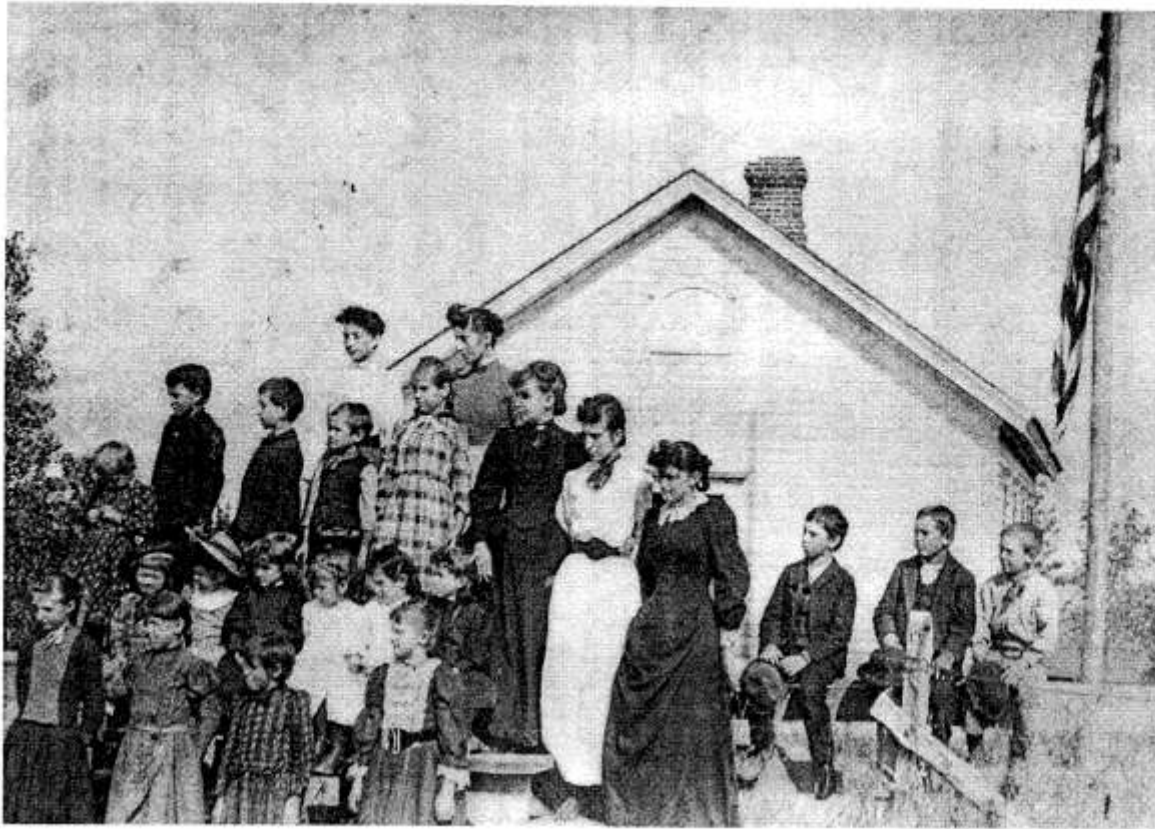
17 August 1894; *Sun*; Wales: John Davis is remodeling the schoolhouse here and enlarging it. The entrance is to be changed from the south end to the east side.

Wales-Lincoln Consolidated District was formed in 1916, but No. 5 was open for two years while a new building was erected. After the school closed, it was moved to the west side of the school property, and used as a bus barn. It burned in 1930 or 1931.

Ghomer Congregational Church was organized in 1872; it met in the schoolhouse until a church building was erected in 1876.

23 April 1874; *Express*; Lincoln: We have preaching at 10 every Sabbath a.m. in the Welsh schoolhouse...

Section 17: Taylor; Evans; No. 4. The schoolhouse was in the southwest corner of the section; apparently it wasn't built until about 1880. No. 4 entered the Wales-Lincoln Consolidated District in 1916. The school remained open for two more years, until the new schoolhouse was built, and then it was torn down.



Lincoln Township No. 4 – Taylor, Evans

Section 24: Shepherd, Swede; No. 6. The school may have been called Rainsberg. The building was in the northwest corner of the section.

11 April 1878; *Express*; Lincoln: We are to have (a) new schoolhouse built this season...in district No. 6, known as Shepherd's District...but one more is needed...

In 1916, No. 6 joined the Wales-Lincoln Consolidated District. The school ran two more years, until the new schoolhouse was ready.

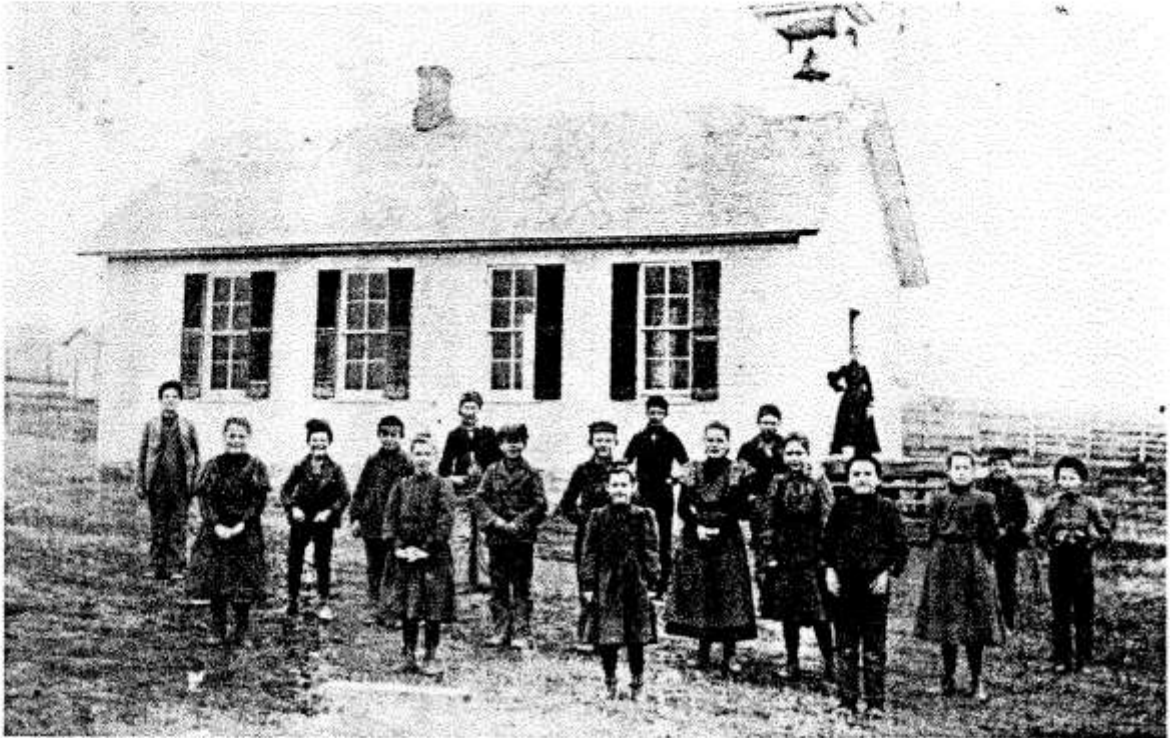
11 March 1919; DB 41:35; QCD: ...to Humphrey Evans...one acre northwest quarter northwest quarter...

The Swedish Evangelical Mission church met in the schoolhouse from 1878 until 1912, when a church building was moved to the southeast quarter of the section.

Section 27: Buehler; No. 8. The school was built about 1880, in the southwest corner of the section. In 1916, No. 8 joined the Wales-Lincoln Consolidated District, but the school was open for two more years, until the new building was ready.

20 March 1919; DB 52:584; QCD: ...Wales-Lincoln to Louisa Buehler...

Albert Buehler bought the schoolhouse, moved it a half mile east, and used it as a chicken house.



Lincoln Township No. 8 - Buehler

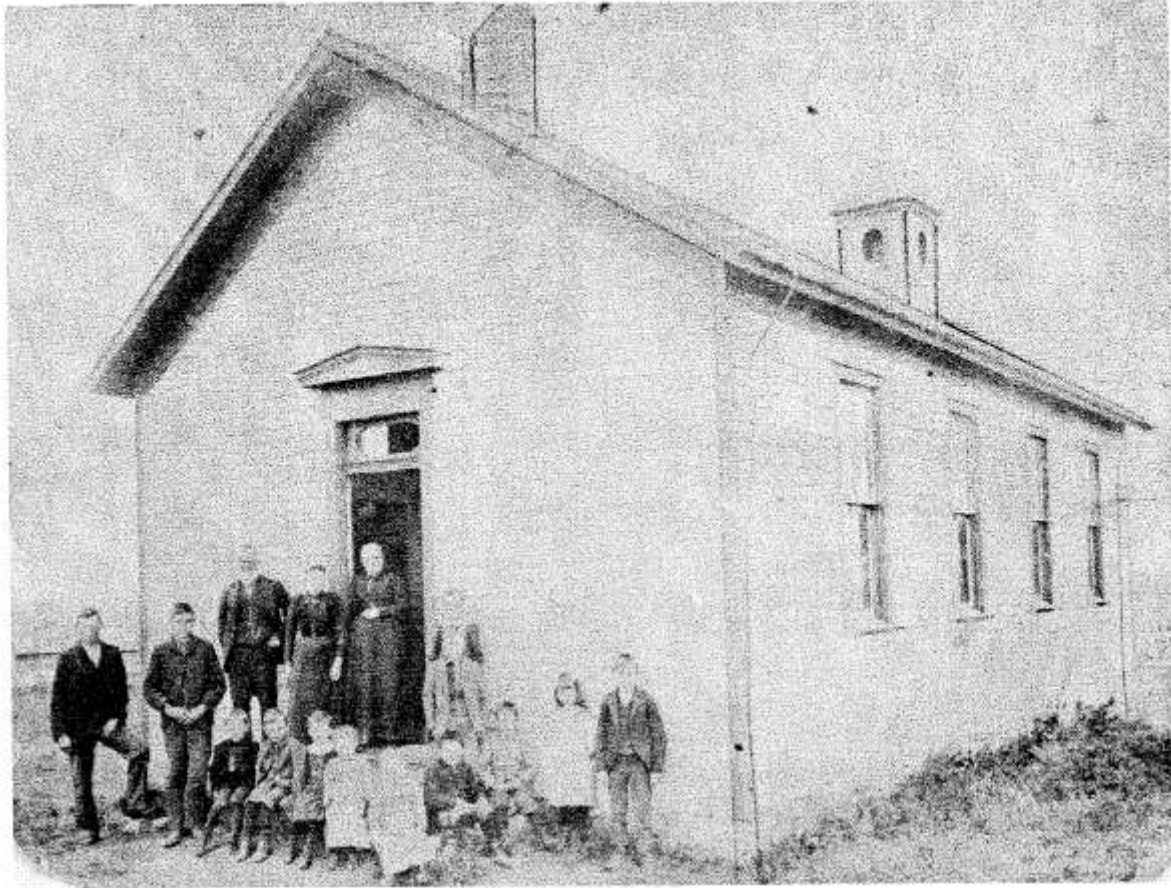
Section 29: Steiner, Maynes; No. 9.

4 September 1872; DB 8:119: ...J.B. Packard to District Township of Lincoln...one square acre southwest corner...for school purposes only...

Lincoln Township, Then and Now; 1989; by Dale Williams, Ben Jones and Dell Wiedeman: Steiner or Maynes School - There were two graves on the north edge of the school yard...People lived in the old schoolhouse until their new house was built near the school...

12 December 1921; DB: one acre, southwest quarter to Vern Steiner...

The school ran through the 1918-'19 school year, then joined the Wales-Lincoln Consolidated District. For a time, the schoolhouse was used as a dwelling, and was then torn down.



Lincoln Township No. 7 – Fairview (1891)

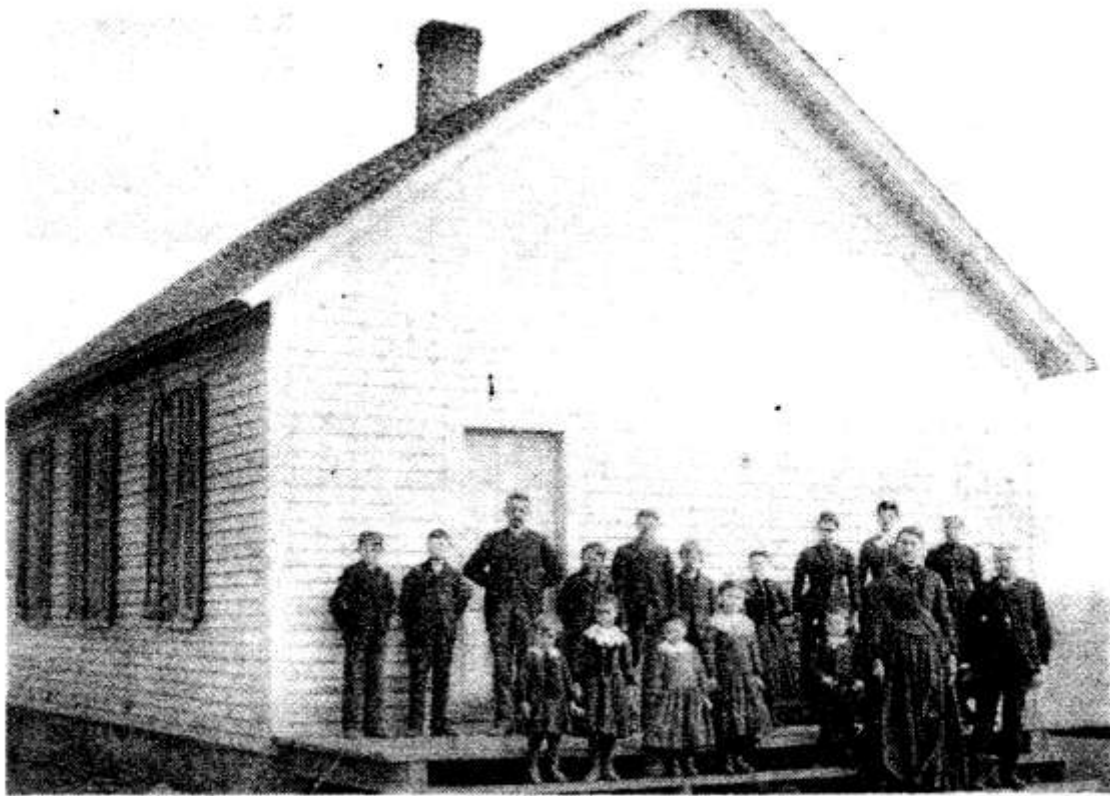
Section 36: Fairview; No. 7. The schoolhouse was built in the early 1870s in the northwest corner of the section.

21 September 1917; *Sun*: Sealed bids will be received for erection of a schoolhouse in Independent School District No. 7...

It is doubtful that the new schoolhouse was built. In March 1918 No. 7 became part of the Wales-Lincoln Consolidated District.

From *Americans From Wales*, by Edward George Hartmann; Boston, 1967; page 172; Churches in the Post-Colonial period; Montgomery County: Wales, Welsh Baptist (1870-1880)

The Baptist church met in the schoolhouse. It is said that a German church met in the school building after it closed.



Pilot Grove Township No. 1 – Botts (1) 1893



Pilot Grove Township No. 1 – Botts (2)

Pilot Grove Township

25 May, 1899; *Sun*: Storm caves have been built at the Pilot Grove school houses.

Section 1: Pleasant Ridge, Botts; No. 1. At least by 1883 the school was moved from Section 2 to Section 1. In 1920, it became part of Pilot Grove Consolidated District.

8 September 1927; *Express*; Pilot Grove: ...No. 1 rebuilt...

No. 1 was closed the years of 1942-'43 and 1943-'44, then was open until 1948-'49, which was the last year for the school.

31 October 1953; DB 52:306; QCD: ...to Anna Heller...one acre southwest corner...

After the school closed, the building was moved two miles north, and about two miles east on Swede Street, to a site on the west side of the Seven-Mile. It was remodeled into a residence, and is still used.

Pleasant Ridge United Brethren Church met in the schoolhouse from about 1884 until 1895 or 1896. Other denominations held services there from time to time.

Section 2: Botts; No. 1. The schoolhouse was in the southeast corner of the section before 1875; at least by 1883 the school was moved across the road east to Section 1.

Section 4: Plowman; No. 2. The school was in the southeast corner of the section by 1872. Before 1883, it had moved across the road south to Section 9.

A Christian Church congregation met in the schoolhouse from 1872 until 1878. It later became the Elliott Church of Christ.

Section 6: Wilson, DeWitt; No. 3. The 1875 map shows the schoolhouse in the southeast corner of the southwest quarter. It was near the Wilson post office and store.

19 May 1877; DB 11:190: ...from James Taylor...one square acre southwest corner southeast quarter...

4 October 1877; *Express*: This, the Wilson district, has just finished building a first class schoolhouse...

15 March 1889; *Express*; Pilot Grove: the school house in District No. 3 will be moved a half mile east, it being the center of the district.

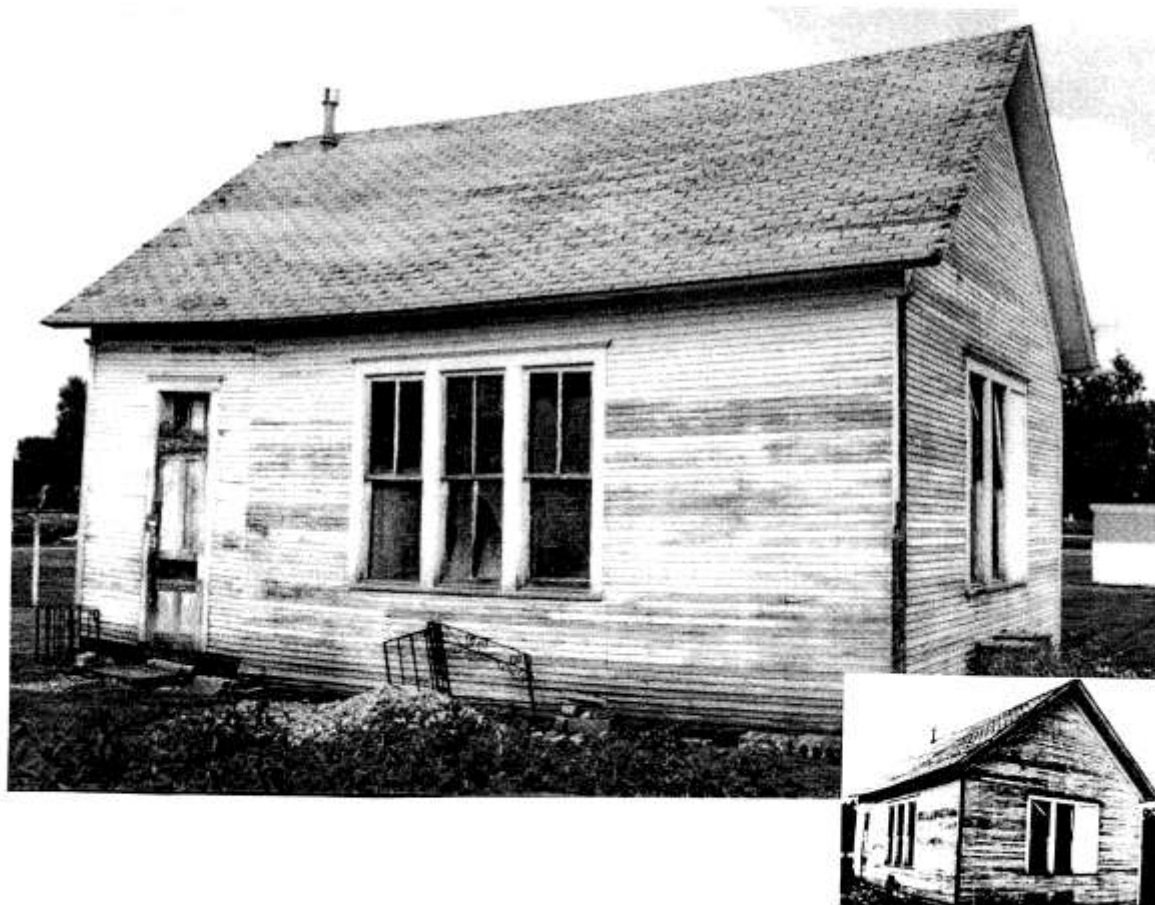
15 September 1896; DB 26:401: ...from James Taylor one square acre southeast corner southeast quarter...

15 January 1897; Elliott: Chas. Hubbard, who bought the old DeWitt school house, has had it moved to town.

26 February 1897; DB 29:153; QCD: ...to James Taylor...one square acre southwest corner southeast quarter...

No. 3 became a part of the Elliott consolidation in 1920. The schoolhouse was moved into Elliott, and was used as a class room. No one seems to know if it was the one in Elliott, owned by Pat Lewis, or the one on Swede Street, a mile or so east of No. 48, owned by Joe Rush.

The Christian congregation moved to this school from the Plowman school in 1878. In 1880, the church moved into Elliott and became the Church of Christ.



Pilot Grove Township No. 3 – DeWitt (or Sherman Township No. 6 – Shires) 1998

Section 9: Plowman; No. 2. The schoolhouse was originally in the southeast corner of Section 2. By 1883 it had been moved across the road south, to the northeast corner of Section 9.

21 August 1885; *Express*; Pilot Grove: The schoolhouse in district No. 2 has been enlarged, remodeled and generally repaired...

30 August 1928; *Express*: ...Sunday night's tornado swept away the Plowman school in Pilot Grove township. The school board meets tonight to discuss rebuilding plans. It is presumed that a new building will replace the destroyed structure and that school will be held in the basement of the Center church until the new building is completed. The building was the only old school house in the township...

31 October 1953; DB 52:305; QCD: ...Pilot Grove consolidated district to Carl L. Peterson...one acre northeast corner...

The school closed at the end of the 1946-'47 school year. Harley Willoughby moved the building to his parents' farm north of Griswold, where he remodeled it into a dwelling. When Howard Rush bought the place, he had no need for a second house, so he gave it to the Hitchcock House project, and about 1988, it was moved to the grounds west of Lewis. It is the residence of the caretaker for the Hitchcock House.



Pilot Grove Township No. 2 – Plowman (1998)

Section 13: Barr; No. 6. The schoolhouse appeared on the 1875 map.

5 March 1874; DB 8:549: ...from W.J. Jordan...one acre southwest corner...

15 August 1890; *Sun*: The Barr school house is being remodeled and made larger.

5 September 1924; *Sun*: ...will receive bids for the tearing down, rebuilding and erection of one-room schoolhouse in district 6...on Sec. 13...

No. 6 and No. 5 schools met in the basement of the Pilot Grove church for the year of 1925-'26. The classes were combined, with one teacher taking the first four grades, and the other instructor having charge of the older students.

30 August 1928; *Express*: ...The Barr school in Pilot Grove township was damaged by the tornado. A telephone pole was rammed through one wall and timbers damaged the roof...

In 1920, No. 6 became part of the Pilot Grove consolidation. The school closed at the end of the 1941-'42 school year. About 1950, the schoolhouse was sold to M.E. Marsh, who moved it two miles east and a little south, and remodeled it into a residence.

30 November 1954; DB 52:366; QCD: ...to Alfred Adams, Jr. ...one acre southwest corner...

An Evangelical church was organized in the school in the late 1880s; it met there until 1893 or 1894.



Pilot Grove Township No. 6 – Barr (1)



Pilot Grove Township No. 6 – Barr (2)

The tree was planted in 1888. The picture was taken perhaps in the 1930s.

Section 16: Pilot Grove Center; No. 5.

16 September 1872; DB 8:241: ...F.W. Maker...one square acre in southeast corner...

26 March 1874; *Express*: Proposal for building a school house in district No. 5, in Pilot Grove Township...

29 March 1901; *Sun*; Pilot Grove: Material is on the ground for a belfry for Center school.

5 September 1924; *Sun*: ...will receive bids for the tearing down, rebuilding and erection of one-room schoolhouse in district 5...on Sec. 16...

No. 5 and No. 6 schools met in the basement of the Pilot Grove church for the year of 1925-'26. The classes were combined, with one teacher taking the first four grades, and the other instructor having charge of the older students.

In 1920 the school became part of the Pilot Grove consolidation. It was closed from the fall of 1938 through the spring of 1942. It reopened for two years, closing permanently after the 1943-'44 school year. It was moved about two miles south to the Vic Bergren farm and was remodeled into a home.

30 November 1954; DB 52:371; QCD: ...to Lisle Downey...one square acre...

Shortly after the schoolhouse was built, a Methodist congregation moved in, and met there until the Pilot Grove Methodist Church was built in 1887.



Pilot Grove Township No. 5 – Center (1998)

Section 17: Glenn; No. 4. The school may never have been in this section. The 1883, 1900 and 1920 maps show it in the southwest corner of Section 17, but maps before and after that time show it in the southeast corner of Section 18.

Section 18: Baer, Redman, Glenn; No. 4. The school was in the southeast corner of the section before 1875. It was there in 1881, but the 1883 and 1920 maps show it in the southwest corner of Section 17. The maps of 1924 and 1935 place it back in Section 18.

10 November 1916; *Sun*; Pilot Grove: The new schoolhouse at the Glen District...is completed.

In 1920, the school became part of the Pilot Grove Consolidated District. It closed after the 1943-'44 school year. Ardeth Mellott remodeled the building into a dwelling. It is still there.

27 September 1954; DB 52:373; QCD: ...Pilot Grove Consolidated District to Frank R. Mellott... one acre southeast corner

United Presbyterian services were held in the schoolhouse in the mid-1880s, but no organized church was found.



Pilot Grove Township No. 4 – Glenn (1998)

Section 30: Sunny Dale, Baird; No. 9. The schoolhouse was originally in Section 32. An exception of 1891 places it in the south half of the southeast quarter of Section 30. The 1903 map shows the building in the southeast corner of the section.

8 August 1881; *Telephone*: Pilot Grove to let a contract for a new No. 9...

28 December 1894; *Sun*; Pleasant Lawn: Geo. Lathrop is building a new school house just over the line in Pilot Grove township.

This suggests that the school may have moved to Section 30 in the fall of 1881, but why was another schoolhouse needed in 1894?

In 1920, the school became part of the Pilot Grove Consolidated district. A new building was erected before 1921, probably in the late 'teens. The school was closed in 1943-'44 and 1944-'45, then opened again for two years. It was closed for 1947-'48, then closed for the final time at the end of the 1958-'59 school year. The area then became a part of the Red Oak Community School District.

Marion Selser moved the building a quarter of a mile south, to the east side of the road. He used it for grain storage.

15 March 1961; DB 55:272; QCD: ...Red Oak Community School District to Neal Buss...one Acre southeast corner southeast quarter...



Pilot Grove Township No. 9 – Sunny Dale, Baird (1998)

Section 32: Pilot Grove, Sunny Dale, Baird; No. 9. The schoolhouse was in the northwest corner of the south half of the section. It was there before 1875. The school was moved to Section 30, perhaps in the fall of 1881.

Cavalcade of a Century; 1953; Pilot Grove Township; page 42: The first schoolhouse was called Pilot Grove and was located in the district which is now No. 9. It was on what is now the J.D. Baird farm, in the crossroads.

A tradition states that a Methodist congregation met in the Baird schoolhouse until the Center school was built, when the group moved there. The congregation became the Pilot Grove Methodist Church.

Section 33: McIntyre; No. 8. The 1875 map shows the schoolhouse in the northeast corner of the section.

26 August 1898; *Sun*; Pilot Grove: Work on the new school house in District No. 8 is going ahead lively.

22 March 1901; *Express*; Biddick: A belfry has been built on schoolhouse No. 8 and the bell that swings in it can be heard for a long distance.

23 January 1914; *Express*: There is a new school house in Pilot Grove No. 8.

The district became part of Pilot Grove Consolidated in 1920. A new building was erected in the summer of 1928. The school closed after the school year of 1947-'48.

18 January 1951; *Review*: Pilot Grove Farm Bureau has asked for the use of the McIntyre schoolhouse which has been closed for some time, for a meeting place...The school will be used also for 4-H club meetings, community parties and other activities.

3 January 1967; DB 57:534; QCD: Pilot Grove School District No. 8...to Darwin Alm...one acre northeast corner...

Alm remodeled the school into a home, and lived in it for a time. A few years later it burned.

Section 35: Deming, Olson; No. 7. Probably in 1898, the school moved from Section 36 to Section 35. The 1907, 1920 and 1924 maps show the schoolhouse in the northeast corner of the section. A 1915 exception says one acre north half of northeast quarter.

6 July 1928; DB 43:251: John W. Deming to Pilot Grove Consolidated School District...one acre center of section...

That was the former site of the Pilot Grove Presbyterian Church building, which was sold in 1926. It is uncertain if the schoolhouse was moved to the new location, if it was dismantled and rebuilt, or if a new building was erected.

The school became part of the Pilot Grove Consolidated District in 1920. The school was closed in 1936-'37 and 1937-'38. It closed permanently after the 1952-'53 school year.

12 September 1956; DB 52:507: Pilot Grove Consolidated to John W. Deming...beginning at center of Section 35...north 9 rods; east 13 rods; south 12 rods; west 13 rods; north 3 rods.

21 March 1957; *Express*: The former Olson schoolhouse of near Stanton has been moved to Stanton and attached to the Mission Covenant Church, at the south of the church, to provide additional worship space and Sunday School quarters upstairs, and more social hall room in the basement...



Pilot Grove Township No. 7 - Olson

Section 36: Hart, McCracken; No. 7. The 1875 map shows the schoolhouse in the southwest corner of the northwest quarter of the section. In 1881, it is shown in the northeast corner of the northwest quarter. The school moved to Section 35, probably in the fall of 1898.

The Pilot Grove Presbyterian Church probably met in the schoolhouse from 1874 or 1875 until the church was erected in 1878.

Red Oak Township

18 September, 1924; *Express*: Mrs. Charles Bolt (Margaret Hewitt) Recalls First School - ...On the third day of July, 1859, the first Red Oak Township school was organized at the old George Martin place near North Mill. A simple three room log cabin served as the school house. But before Mrs. Bolt could teach she took an examination under the Rev. W.C. Means, who was Montgomery county superintendent...For three months she taught this school and was paid \$40 for her services...The first Red Oak school was opened then and the North Mill school was discontinued...

Section 1: Leach, Culver; No. 1.

13 September 1882; DB 16:289: John A. Levin to District No. 1...south one acre of East 6 1/2 acres of West 27 1/2 acres Southwest quarter Southeast quarter...

The school was closed at the end of the 1918-'19 school year, when it joined the Stennett Consolidated District.

6 May 1922; DB 41:234: Stennett Consolidated to F.M. Culver.

Section 3: Johnson, St. Clair, Hunter; No. 2.

8 March 1869; DB 4:257: ...exception; one acre southwest corner southeast quarter...

12 June 1879; *Express*: The location for the new schoolhouse to be built in sub-district No. 2, Red Oak township, has been decided. The site is on Mr. Reynolds' farm...nearly the center of the district.

28 March 1883; *Telephone*: Notice is given for bids for erection of a new school house in No. 2 Red Oak Township.

--- For sale the J.V. Johnson schoolhouse...No. 2...

18 August 1893; *Express*: ...extensive repairs on Red Oak No. 2...

2 October 1893; DB 27:93: Benjamin A. St. Clair to Trustees of Red Oak Township...sub lot 1 of Lot 3, Southwest quarter...

26 April 1907; *Sun*: The St. Clair schoolhouse was seriously damaged by fire Friday.

The school was closed at the end of the 1918-'19 school year, when it joined the Stennett Consolidated District.

9 June 1967; DB 58:17; FCD: Stennett Consolidated to Doyal Mellott...one acre in Southwest quarter Southeast quarter...

Religious services, including Methodist and Presbyterian, were held at No. 2 during the 1890s.

Section 6: Otto, Victor; No. 3. Apparently the schoolhouse was built about 1875. It was a short distance north of the southeast corner of the section.

29 July 1920; *Express*: The interior of the Victor school house, two miles south of Stratton, presented a scene of ruin and destruction...last Monday... (vandalism)

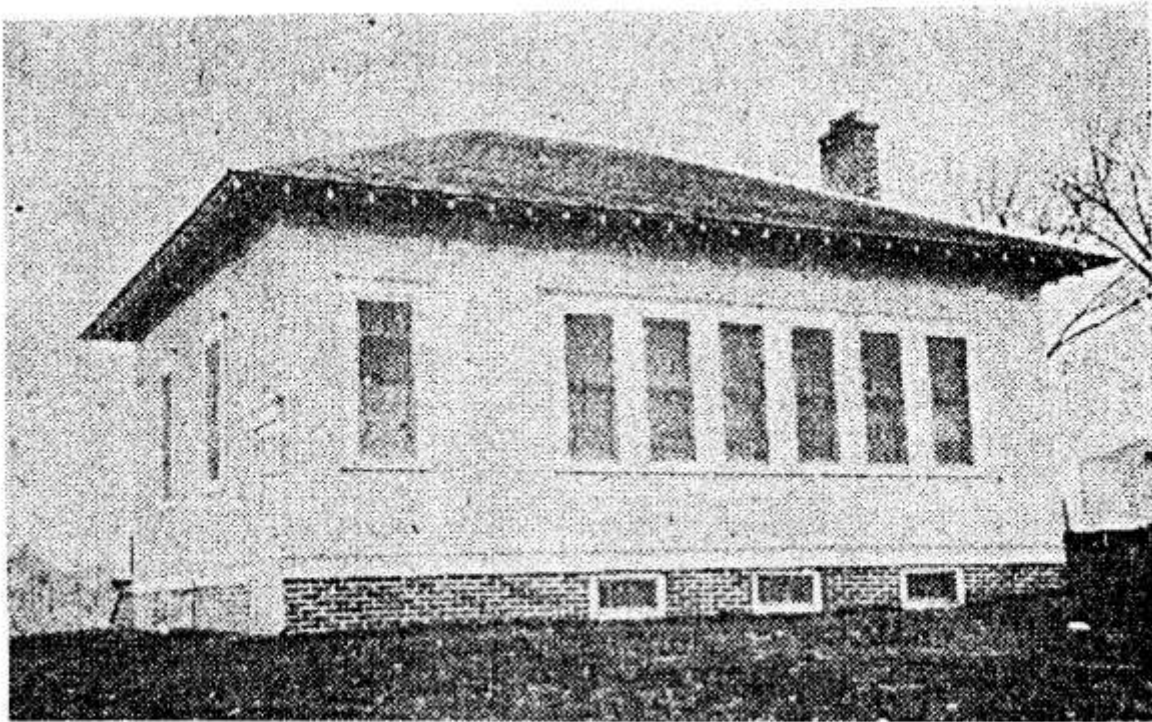


Red Oak Township No. 3 – Victor (1)

19 November 1925; *Express*: A STANDARDIZED SCHOOL - The famous little "red" schoolhouse which stood on the site for fifty years has been replaced by a distinctly modern one-room school...It is so complete in detail, arrangements and equipment that the United States Bureau of Education is obtaining photos and plans of the institution to place on file at Washington, D.C...

The school was closed at the end of the 1939-'40 school year. The township board expected it to reopen, and didn't sell it. After many years it was razed.

Various denominations met in the schoolhouse during the 1890s, including Christian and Advent Christian.



Red Oak Township No. 3 – Victor (2)

Section 15: Center, Ratliff; No. 5. The 1875 and 1881 maps show the schoolhouse in the northwest corner of the southwest quarter.

Section 16: Center, Ratliff; No. 5. The 1903 and 1907 maps show the school in the southeast corner of the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter.

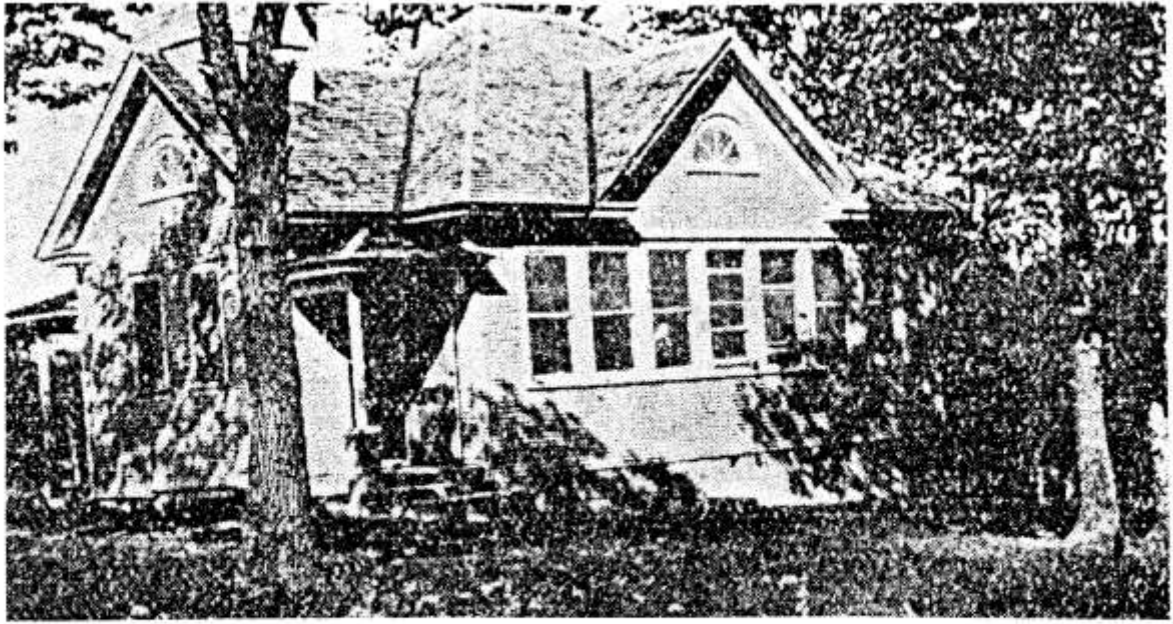
4 June 1910; DB 35:510: ...from J. Amelia Sandell and husband...one square acre southeast corner southeast quarter...

2 June 1911; *Express*: ...the new schoolhouse built last fall in the Ratliff district...is considered a model of convenience and has the "homey" effect...getting away from the angular and unattractive style of architecture which has so long prevailed...

The school was damaged by a tornado in June of 1925. The building was remodeled and a basement furnace installed; it was named a standardized school. The school was closed the year of 1938-'39. It closed permanently at the end of the 1949-'50 school year.

25 March 1954; *Express*: Russell Lloyd moved the old Ratliff schoolhouse to 103 Linden Street and remodeled it into a home.

20 December 1954; DB 57:1; Special deed: ...to Clarence M. Ratliff...



Red Oak Township No. 5 – Center, Ratliff (2)



Red Oak Township No. 5 – Center, Ratliff (3)

Section 17: Name unknown.

10 April 1871; DB 6:183: P.P. Johnson to District Township of Red Oak...one square acre northeast corner northwest quarter...

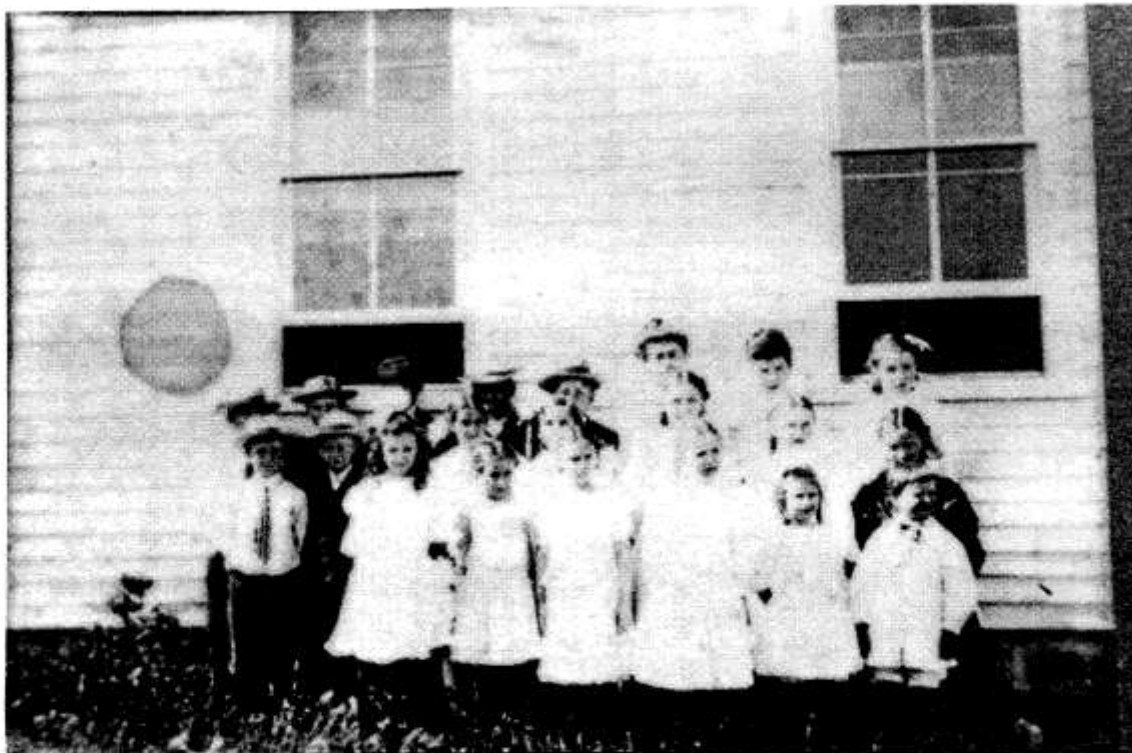
1881 History; page 505: ...On sec. 17 there is a limestone quarry...there is also a school house near by, built of (limestone).

Told to Nellie Medhurst by Wm. Melton shortly before he died in 1938: *I came to Montgomery County with my parents December 18, 1868 and moved to Red Oak Township for that winter...My sister and I went to a stone schoolhouse which stood less than a half mile west of the North Mill...*

Section 19: Summit Hill; No. 4. A schoolhouse was built about 1882.

25 February 1893; DB 27:11: exception...one acre northeast corner...

17 May 1928; *Express*: The independent school district of Summit Hill No. 4 in Red Oak township will construct a new school house this summer and raze the old one. With the completion of the new one Red Oak township will have five standardized modern rural school buildings. The school will be patterned after the others previously built.



Red Oak Township No. 4 – Summit Hill

The school was closed for the year of 1938-'39. The final year was 1958-'59. The building was sold to Luther E. Anderson. It was torn down; Willard Anderson probably used the material in the house he built on the schoolhouse site.

29 April 1960; DB 52:614; QCD: ...to Luther E. Anderson...

A Congregational Sunday School met in the schoolhouse during the late 1890s.

Section 23: Pleasant Valley, Milner; No. 6.

30 August 1871; DB 11:456: District Township of Red Oak from John Watson...one acre southwest corner southeast quarter of southeast quarter...

28 March 1883; *Telephone*: Notice of sale of school buildings: Armstead Milner Sub-district No. 6...

The Pleasant Valley Presbyterian Church was organized in 1859, probably in that area, but it isn't known if there was a schoolhouse at that time. A Presbyterian Sunday School met in the school house during the late 1870s.

Section 23: Bleak Hill; No. 6. The schoolhouse is on the 1881 map.

8 September 1927; *Express*: ...new schoolhouse in Red Oak Township No. 6...

12 September 1927; DB 43:174: Anders Lown to Red Oak Township School District...one acre northeast corner...

15 December 1960; DB 52:658; QCD: ...to B.B. Simmons...

In June 1925, Bleak Hill was severely damaged by a tornado. It was replaced in 1927 with a standardized school. No. 6 was closed 1933-'34 and 1934-'35. It closed for the last time at the end of the 1958-'59 school year. B.B. Simmons used the schoolhouse as a storage building for his construction business. Some years later, it burned.

Section 26: Fairview, McMillan; No. 7.

6 June 1882; DB 19:21: ...from J.R. Horton...one square acre in southeast corner of southwest quarter southeast quarter.

30 April 1884; *Telephone*: Proposal for a new school house in No. 7 Red Oak Township.

20 May 1908; *Express*: The Fairview schoolhouse...was burned last Friday morning.

8 September 1927; *Express*: Red Oak No. 7 was remodeled...

No. 7 became a standardized school. It was the last rural school in the county. It closed after the 1959-'60 school year. The building was remodeled into a residence.

15 December 1960; DB 52:653; QCD: ...to Ray A. Schenck...

From the mid-1880s through 1900, various denominations conducted religious services in the schoolhouse.



Red Oak Township No. 7 - Fairview

Section 32: No. 8. The 1881 map shows a schoolhouse in the southeast corner of the northeast quarter.

28 December 1881; *Telephone*: At a meeting of the "Independent School Board" last night, a petition was presented by the residents of sub-district eight, of the Red Oak district, praying that their district be made a part of the Independent district. A vote was...carried unanimously.

Section 35: Stover Hills. The 1875 and 1881 maps show a schoolhouse on the north line of the northwest quarter of the section. It probably closed in 1884 when the Fairview school was built in Section 26.



Scott Township No. 1 – Larson (1)



Scott Township No. 1 – Larson (2)

Scott Township

Section 1: Larson; No. 1. The 1875 map doesn't show a schoolhouse for District 1. The 1881 map places a school in the northwest corner of Section 12. By 1883 the building was in the southwest corner of Section 1. No deed was found, but an 1888 exception confirms the location.

20 August 1915; *Sun*: ...The schoolhouse near Joe Larson's or Scott No. 1...will be in readiness before school starts this fall, and will be a modern, up-to-date building.

The old schoolhouse was moved to the farm just west of the schoolhouse corner, on the south side of the road where it is used as a shop.

Scott No. 1 closed at the end of the 1950-'51 school year. The building has never been moved; it was used for farm storage for many years, and now is too dilapidated for any purpose.

23 October 1953; DB 52:322; QCD: ...to Lud Pierson...one acre southwest corner...

Section 4: Stanton. The school was started in the early 1870s. In 1880, the town of Stanton became an independent district, so there was no No. 2 school in Scott Township.

23 April 1874; *Express*; Stanton: Our pleasant and attractive school house on the hill will be occupied to its fullest capacity hereafter, for a season, by a day school, a writing school, a music class and debating society.

History of Stanton; 1990; page 35: ...In 1881 it was decided to build an addition to the old school house.

4 February 1886; *Review*; Stanton: Bishop, the hardware man, have moved the old school to the west side of Main and after it is "revamped" will move his business into it.

Section 5: Blade; No. 2, No. 3. The school opened in the early 1870s.

19 September 1890; *Sun*; Stanton: The new Blade schoolhouse...is a larger and better one than the old one was...The old Blade...building was bought by G.A. Ossian, who has torn it down and hauled the lumber to his homeplace.

The school was closed from the fall of 1927 through the spring of 1930. The final closing was after the 1951-'52 school year. Lee Sellergren tore down the building, and used the material in the construction of an implement shed and garage.

23 October 1953; DB 52:305; QCD: ...to Florence Falk...one acre southwest corner...

Section 16: Center; No. 5. The 1875 and 1881 maps show the school in the southwest corner of Section 16, but there is a school deed of 1871 for the land in Section 21 where the schoolhouse stood for many years, so perhaps the school never was in Section 16.

Section 17: Lombardy Grove; No. 3, No. 4. The school isn't on the 1875 map, but a Lutheran Sunday School was started there in 1875, so probably it was built about that time. That may have been the district called the Ossian school.

18 August 1893; *Sun*: The new Lombardy Grove schoolhouse is to be completed by October 1.

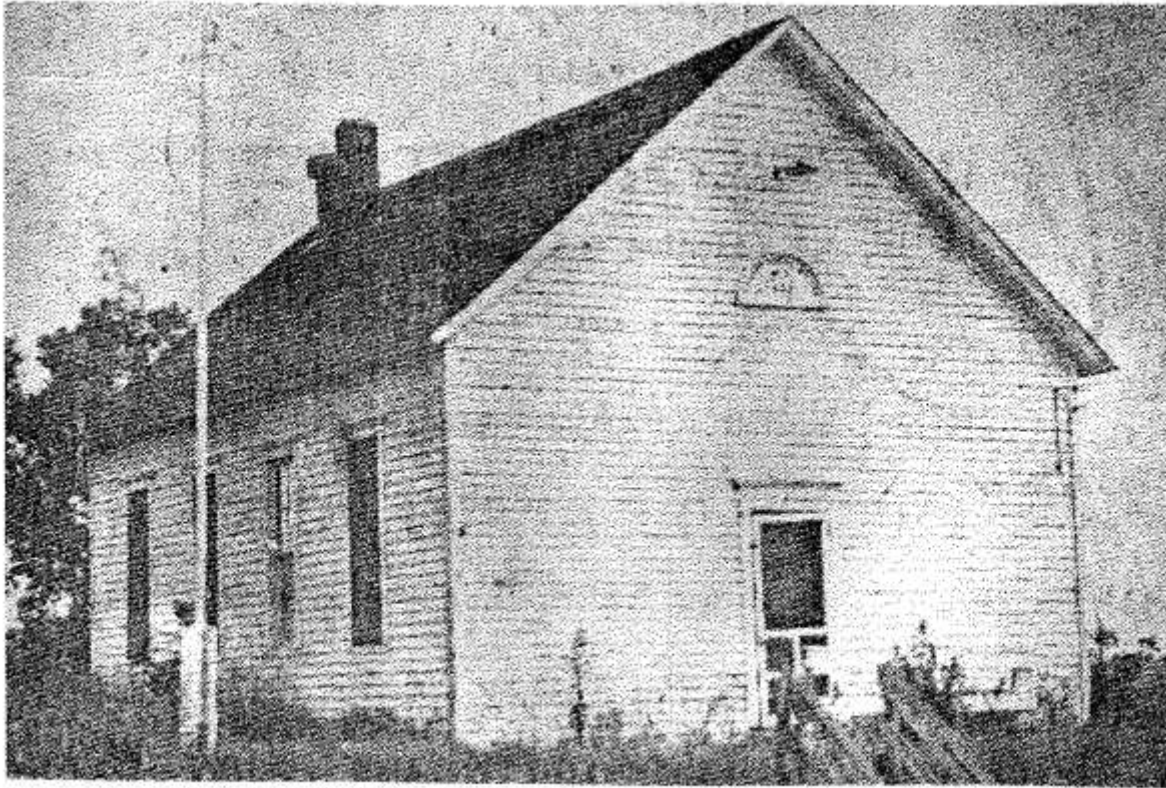
23 October 1953; DB 52:307; QCD: ...to Carl Lantz...one acre in southwest corner...

The school closed after the 1951-'52 school year. Lombardy Grove was still standing in 1984, when the Pittsburg school was moved into Red Oak. Some windows and siding were removed from the building to repair Pittsburg. Lombardy Grove was torn down in 1990.

Swedish Lutheran meetings were held in the schoolhouse for over 20 years, beginning in 1875. Parochial school was held at various times.



Scott Township No. 4 – Lombardy Grove



Scott Township No. 5 - Center

Section 21: Center, Wigstone; No. 5. The 1875 and 1881 maps show the schoolhouse in the southeast corner of Section 16, but it may never have been there.

2 September 1871; DB 6:518: Matthew T. Scott to School Board of Sub District of Scott Township...one square acre in northeast corner of section...

8 February 1900; *Review*: The bell on the Center schoolhouse in Scott twp. broke loose from its fastenings while being rung Friday and fell to the walk, barely missing several school children.

27 April 1916; *Stanton Call*: An election was held Monday out at Center school house for the purpose of authorizing the board to levy taxes not to exceed \$1,800 for the purpose of building a new edifice at Scott No. 5...This is the second election held for this purpose and the proposition has been turned down both times.

The school was closed during 1945-'46 and 1946-'47. The final closing was after the 1950-'51 school year. The building was torn down.

23 October 1953; DB 52:518; QCD: ...to Elmer Nimrod...

A Methodist church was organized there in 1877. It may have been the predecessor of the Stanton Methodist church.



Scott Township No. 6 – Hausen (1)



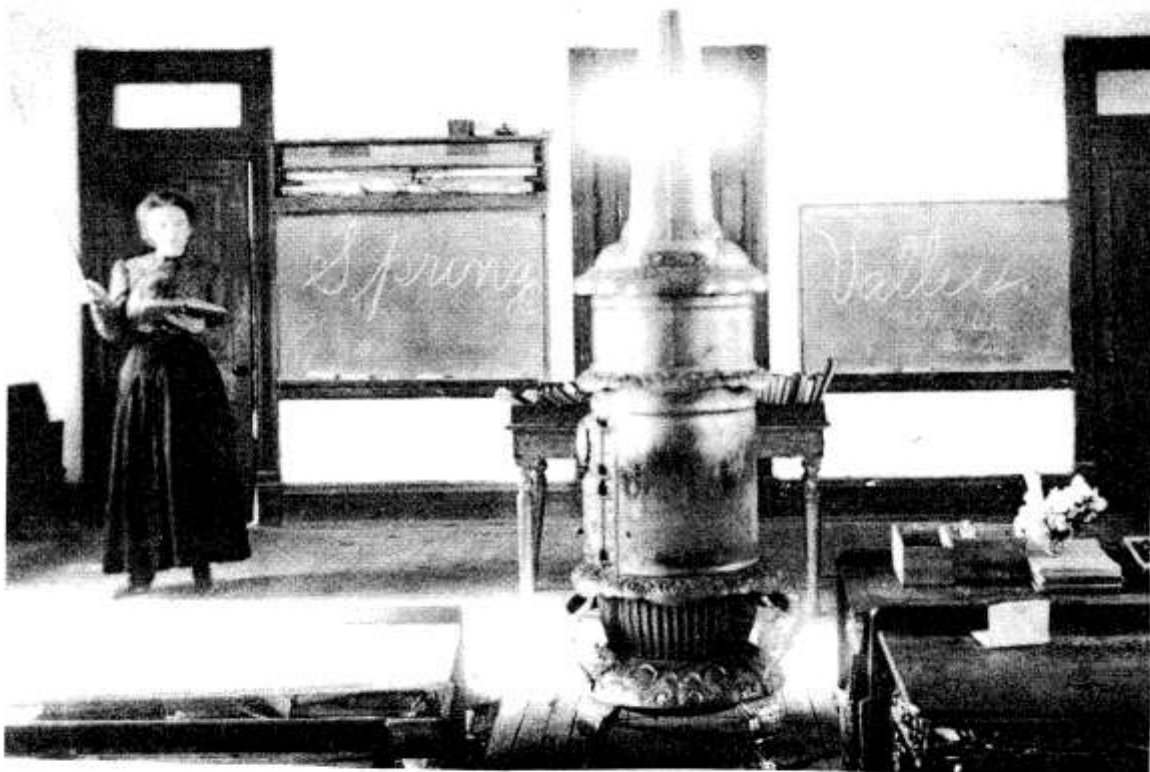
Scott Township No. 6 – Hausen, Bluegrass (2)

Section 24: Sohler, Bluegrass, Hausen; No. 6. The schoolhouse was in the northwest corner of the section. It isn't shown on the 1875 map.

21 March 1878; *Express*: Number 6 Scott Township is to build a new school house.

23 January 1914; *Express*: One of the best...country school houses in the county is No. 6 in Scott twp. which has just recently been completed.

The school closed at the end of the 1937-'38 school year. Harry Hausen bought the building and salvaged the lumber.



Scott Township No. 8 – Spring Valley (1)

Section 28: Spring Valley; No. 8. The school appeared on the 1875 and 1881 maps, although there was no deed until 1888.

25 April 1888; DB 22:545: John Weaver to District township of Scott...one square acre southeast corner...

10 May 1895; *Sun*; Stanton: A new schoolhouse is to be built in district No. 8...

The school closed after the 1943-'44 school year. The schoolhouse was moved to a farm about one half mile east, where it is used as a hog house.

23 October 1953; DB 52:306; QCD: ...to Arthur A. Anderson.

14 February 1902; *Sun*: A Swedish Sunday School was organized last Sunday at the Spring Valley school house.



Scott Township No. 8 – Spring Valley (2) (1998)

Section 31: Prairie Home, Gasson, Lundquist; No. 9. The 1875 map shows a schoolhouse in the northeast corner of the section.

25 March 1892; *Sun*: There will be a new school house in Dist. No. 9, Scott Township, during the summer.

The school was closed from the fall of 1937 through the spring of 1945. The final closing was after the 1953-'54 school year. No. 9 was the last school in Scott Township. The building was bought at auction by Elmer Lindgren and two other men. They salvaged the lumber from it.

7 January 1956; DB 52:461; QCD: ...to Eidner R. Peterson... one acre northeast corner...

Around 1890, the Christian denomination was active at Prairie Home.



Scott Township No. 9 – Prairie Home (1)

The ears at the bottom of the picture belonged to "Bill"



Scott Township No. 9 – Prairie Home (2)



Scott Township No. 9 – Prairie Home (1931)

Teacher, Ethel Gasson Pettison

Front from Left: Vernon Larson; Faye Peterson (Kirby); Muriel Gustafson (Kirby); Mary Houser (Bishop).

Back from left: Wayne Kirby; Ferne Gasson

Section 35: Pleasant Valley, Powers, Neal, English; No. 7. The school is shown on the 1875 map, in the northeast corner of the section.

23 October 1953; DB 52:302; QCD: ...to Floyd A. Davis...one acre in northeast quarter...

The school ran only for the spring term of the year 1905-'06. It was closed in 1933-'34 and 1934-'35. The final closing was after the 1952-'53 school year. Robert Gillespie used the building as a hog facility for several years. It has since been torn down.

An Advent Christian congregation met in the schoolhouse for many years. Beginning about 1880 a Methodist church met there for 25 years or more.

Sherman Township

Tradition reports two schools which met in cabins, about 1858 or 1859. They were both near Stennett; one was taught by Thomas Jack, and the other by D.C. Powell.

1881 History; page 530; Supervisor's minutes: September 6, 1870...Sherman district township was then divided into three sub-districts...

Section 6: Goltry; No. 8, No. 3. Maps for 1875 through 1883 show a schoolhouse in Section 8; it was probably moved to Section 6 about 1885.

3 March 1885; DB 19:408: ...School Board of Sherman township...Seventy Dollars ...from R.S. Hopkins...two acres southeast corner to be used as a schoolhouse site for District No. 8.

The school was closed in the spring of 1908, and the fall and winter of 1911-'12. It closed again for the winter and spring terms of 1916-'17. The final closing was at the end of the 1919-'20 school year, when it became part of the Elliott Consolidated District.

9 December 1922; DB 41:285: Elliott Consolidated to E.L. Goltry...

Edwin L. Goltry bought the school building. It stood for a few years, then Mr. Goltry tore it down and used the material in the construction of a dwelling on the school grounds. Some years later the house burned.

Section 8: Maps from 1875 through 1883 show the schoolhouse in the northeast corner of the northwest quarter. It was probably moved to Section 6 about 1885.

Section 10: Eureka, Kurtz; No. 7, No. 2. This was probably the school which began in Section 11; the building may have been moved to Section 10 about 1882.

26 September 1882; DB 16:306: ...from William Ellis and P.P. Johnson...to the School Board of Sherman Township...one acre northwest corner...

The school was closed the winter term of 1917-'18. The final closing was at the end of the 1919-'20 school year, when it became part of the Elliott Consolidated District.

28 April 1927; DB 41:557: Elliott consolidated to Fred T. Ellis...

A Union Sunday School met in the schoolhouse from about 1895 to about 1905.

Section 11: The 1875 and 1881 maps show a schoolhouse in the northwest corner of the section. It may have been moved to Section 10 about 1882.

Section 13: Maps from 1875 through 1883 show a schoolhouse about a quarter of a mile north of the southwest corner of the section. A new schoolhouse was built in Section 23 in 1898.

Section 18: Walnut Valley, Archer; No. 4. The school was open before 1875.

2 August 1875; DB 1:98: Exception; one acre in southeast corner...

10 January 1896; Express; Sherman: The rebuilding of the Walnut Valley schoolhouse will begin soon. The insurance was \$375...burned last Friday night...

In 1919, the school became part of the Wales-Lincoln Consolidated District. The schoolhouse was moved a half mile east, where it was used for a farm shop. It was torn down in 1990.

21 March 1925; DB 41:404: Wales-Lincoln Consolidated District to Farmers National Bank, Red Oak...

After the new schoolhouse was built in 1896, various denominations held services there.

Section 21: Center; No. 5. The 1875 and 1881 maps show the schoolhouse in the northeast corner of the section. Before 1883, it had been moved to the northwest corner of the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter.

The school closed after the 1918-'19 school year to become part of the Stennett Consolidated District. A small portion of the north part of the district became part of the Elliott Consolidated School district.

6 May 1922; DB 41:240: Stennett Consolidated to C.F. Turner...Lot 1 northeast quarter northeast quarter...

Harry Turner bought the schoolhouse for \$100. It was used for a time as a dwelling for a hired man. Then it was moved a half mile south of the corner, and used for farm storage. Later, a barn was built around the schoolhouse and the old structure was made into self feeders for hogs.

A Christian church was organized in the schoolhouse in 1875. In 1880, the church became part of the Elliott Church of Christ. Evangelical services were held at the school in the late 1870s.

Section 23: Powell, Shires; No. 6. The school was in Section 13 at least by 1875. In 1898 a new schoolhouse was built in the southeast corner of the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter, Section 23.

9 September 1898; *Express*; Stennett: There is to be a new No. 6 school in Sherman Township.

29 January 1899; *Express*; Elliott: The old Powell schoolhouse will be sold at auction.

The school closed at the end of the 1918-'19 school year. The north portion of the district joined the Elliott Consolidated School, and the south part became part of the Stennett Consolidated district. The schoolhouse was moved to Elliott, where it was used as a classroom. No one knows if it is the one in Elliott, owned by Pat Lewis, or the one on Swede Street, a mile or so east of No. 48, owned by Joe Rush.



Sherman Township No. 6 – Shires (or Pilot Grove No. 3 – DeWitt) 1998

The Frankfort No. 2 schoolhouse was moved to the Elliott school grounds, and became the band room. That structure burned and then this building was used. A metal plaque over the door says, "Music Room".

Section 25: Milner; No. 7. On the 1881 map, the schoolhouse was in the northwest corner of Section 36.

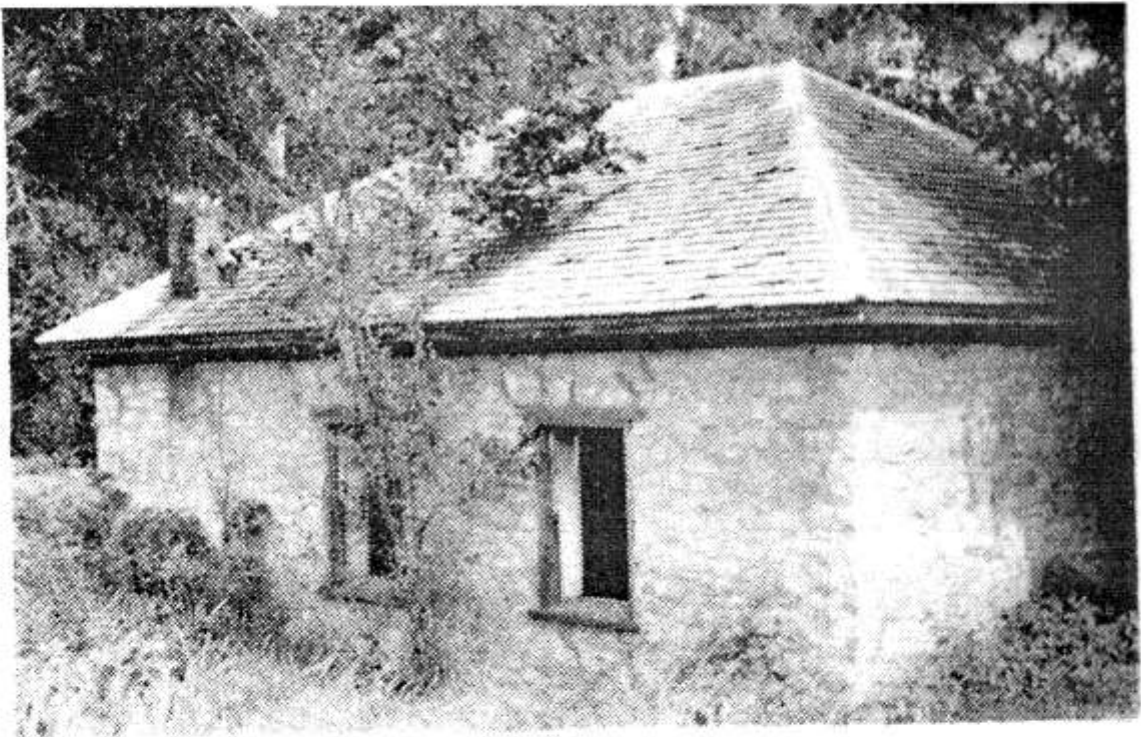
10 May 1895; *Sun*; Stennett: Jesse Rupp is laying the foundation for the new schoolhouse.

8 June 1895; DB 27:316: H.P. Light to School Board of Sherman Township...one square acre in northwest corner southwest quarter southwest quarter...

4 August 1906; *Sun*; Stennett: a large belfry is being added to the Stennett schoolhouse.

The school was closed the fall and winter terms of 1907-'08. The final closing was at the end of the 1918-'19 school year when No. 7 became part of the Stennett Consolidated District.

19 September 1921; DB 41:206; QCD: ...to H.P. Light...one square acre in the northwest corner southwest quarter southwest quarter...



**Old School House Where First Town Meeting
Was Held, Stennett, Iowa.**

Sherman Township No. 1 - Stennett

Section 26: Stennett; No. 1.

1881 History; page 532: The first school house was built by Anthony Binder on sec. 26 in the year 1861, and cost \$550...

14 March 1890; Sun: Art Rice has moved the old stone school house on Wayne Stennett's land...

For many years the schoolhouse stood on the north side of the curve north of Stennett. It was used as a dwelling, and then abandoned because of the frequent flooding of the river.

Section 29: Sunny Hill, Kneedy; No. 6, No. 9.

9 May 1873; DB 7:434: ...from G.W. Wilder...to School Board of Sherman Township ...one acre in southwest corner...

The school closed after the 1918-'19 school year, to become part of the Stennett Consolidated District. Nothing was done with the schoolhouse, and it just rotted away.

9 April 1923; DB 41:281; QCD: Stennett Consolidated to D.G. and Clement Jones...

A Methodist congregation met at the schoolhouse from the time it was built until 1890, when Stratton Church was erected.

Section 34: No. 3, No. 8. No name has been found. It was one of the three original districts, organized at least by 1870, when No. 3 had a tax levy of 10 mills.

4 June 1873; DB 7:387: ...from Ben B. Clark...one acre in Northwest corner of section...

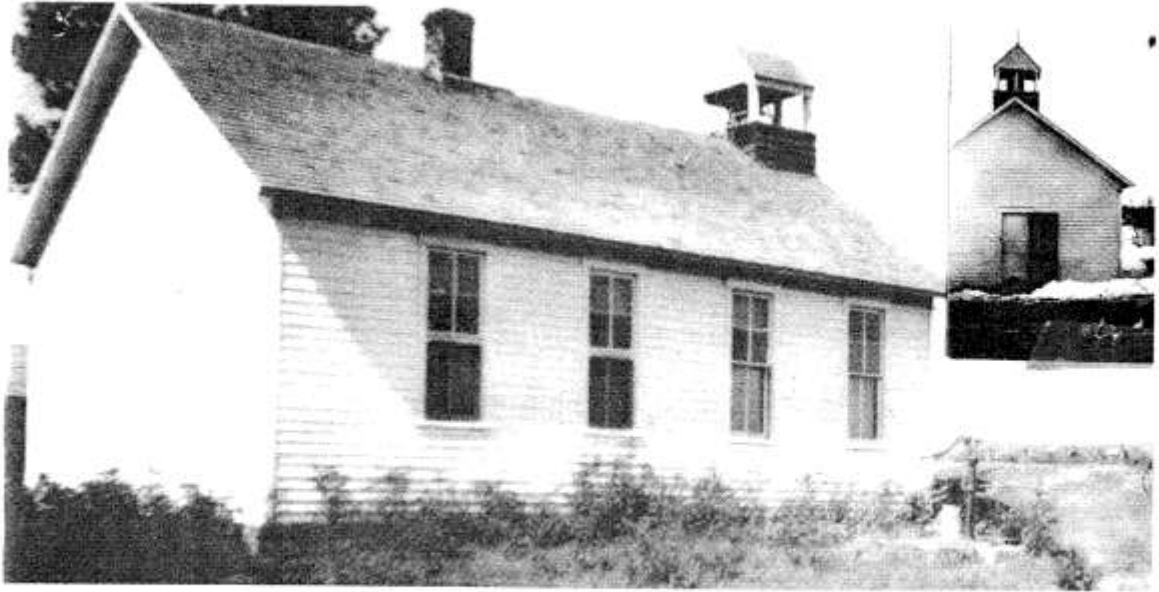
The school closed at the end of the 1918-'19 school year, to become part of the Stennett Consolidated District.

Section 36: Mt. Pleasant, Milner; No. 2. No. 2 was one of the three original districts, and in operation by 1870, when it had a tax levy of 13 mills. but it doesn't appear on the 1875 map. It was in the northwest corner of the section.

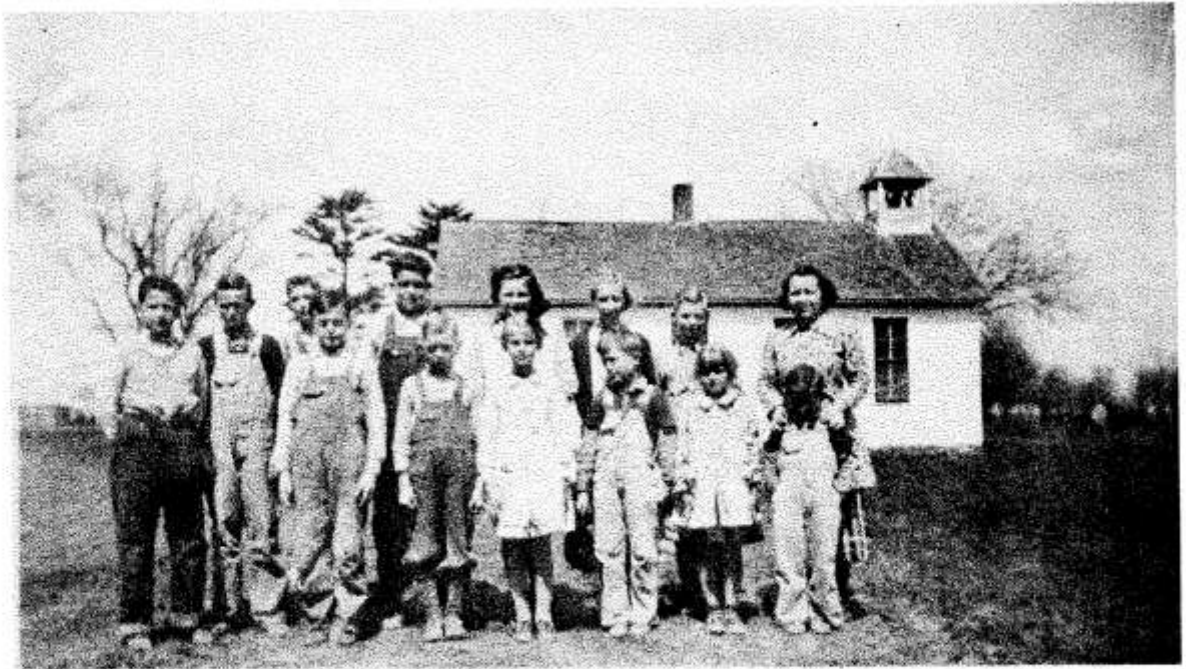
28 December 1894; *Sun*; Stennett: In place of the Milner school house which was burned Tuesday evening a week ago, school will be held in one of H.P. Light's houses.

The new schoolhouse was built on Section 25, and became No. 7.

Many different denominations held religious services in the schoolhouse. It was the predecessor of the Union Church at Stennett.



Washington Township No. 2 – Hobson, Kimel



Washington Township No. 3 – Fairview, Beaver, Nelson

Washington Township

Section 1: Long Branch, Nutting; No. 1. The building was originally in Section 2; in 1892 it was moved to the southwest corner of Section 1.

12 August 1892; *Independent*; Sciola: School House No. 1 has been moved in the center of the district, on the southwest corner of Mr. Butler's farm.

In the summer of 1902, a new building was erected across the road south, in the northwest corner of Section 12.

Section 2: No. 1. The school was built before 1875. It stood on the west bank of the creek, about a third of a mile west of the southeast corner of the section. In 1892, it was moved to the southwest corner of Section 1.

Section 4: Hobson, Kimel; No. 2. The schoolhouse was built in the early 1860s but no exact date has been found. The 1875 map shows it on the south section line, west of the river.

24 April 1882; DB 16:344: ...from George Hobson...one acre southeast corner...

The schoolhouse was moved onto the new site. In 1889 a new building was erected, at a cost of \$410. The old school was sold to James Whitney for \$44.

The school was closed for a few terms off and on between 1907 and 1913. It opened in the fall of 1943, then closed in November. It was closed in 1946-'47, then ran for one more year, closing after the 1947-'48 school year.

The building was sold 4 October 1956, for \$275, to Clifford Howell, who tore it down and took the lumber to his home south of Grant. Bill Marsh bought the bell.

11 April 1957; DB 52:515; Special Deed: ...to Willis McAlpin...

A Methodist congregation met in the schoolhouse from the early 1860s until Holmes Chapel was erected in 1889. A United Brethren appointment met there in the 1880s.

Section 7: Fairview, Beaver, Nelson; No. 3. The schoolhouse was built in 1880 in the northwest corner of Section 8.

4 February 1890; DB 23:386: George Sams to District Township of Washington ...northeast corner of east half northeast quarter...

11 March 1910; *Express*; Holmes Chapel: Sub District No. 3 voted a tax not to exceed \$1200 for a new schoolhouse.

In September 1911 a news item said that repairs were being made on the No. 3 schoolhouse. No record was found of the construction of a new building. In September 1921 No. 3 again underwent repairs.

The school was closed the year of 1929-'30. It didn't open until November in 1942, then was closed 1944-'45. It ran one more year, closing finally after the 1946-'47 year.

11 April 1957; DB 57:339; Special Deed: ...to Axel Lantz...

In the early 1970s the schoolhouse was given to David Dekay. He cut 12 feet from one end and moved the building to his home, where it was remodeled into a garage.

Religious services of various denominations were held in the school, but no organized congregation was found.

Section 8: Beaver; No. 3. The school house was built in the summer of 1880, in the northwest corner of the section. About ten years later, it was moved to Section 7.

Section 10:

1881 History; page 544: As to the first school within the township, one account says it was in James Robertson's house on sec. 5, and that it was taught by James Rogers, who afterward went to Dakota and was killed by the Indians. But another account says the first school was taught in Mr. Goble's house on sec. 10, in 1857, by Thomas Stockton, who now lives at Sidney, in Fremont county; and that he had about twenty-five pupils, and received \$30 per month.

9 August 1907; *Sun*: 50th anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. W.T. Atwood...Mr. Atwood taught school the first few years of his married life...The next term (1858?) was taught in a frame house on the farm now owned by H.H. Benware, (Section 10) the family then living in it giving up part of the house for the school.

Section 12: Long Branch, Nutting; No. 1. The school started in Section 2, and was then moved to Section 1. In 1902, a new building was erected in the northwest corner of Section 12.

3 December 1902; *Review*: Washington No. 1 has a new school house. The old one has been torn down.

26 April 1958; DB 52:542; Special Deed: Villisca Community School District to Kenneth Cartwright...

No. 1 closed after the 1956-'57 school year. The building was remodeled into a home. After several years, it was torn down.

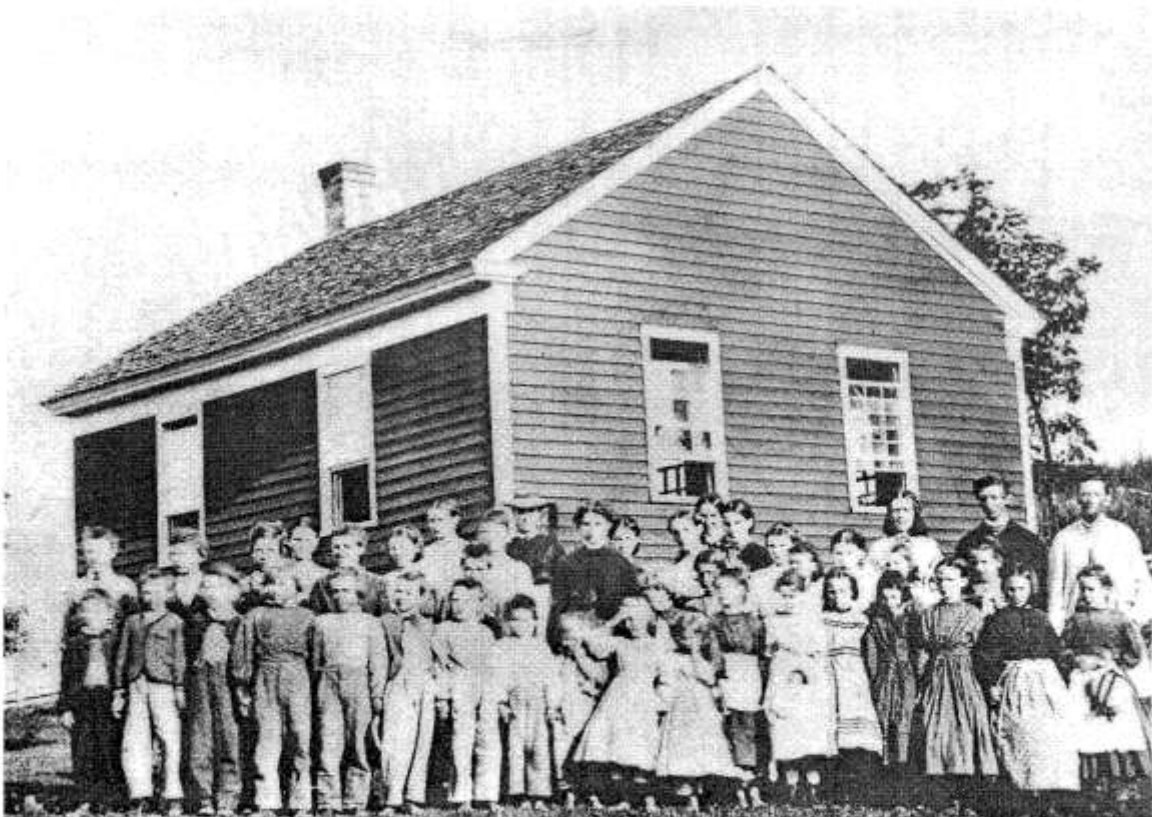
Several different denominations held religious services in the school. During some summers, the pastor from the Strand church taught parochial school there.

Section 15: Center, Sciola, Saylor, Long; No. 5. The schoolhouse was built before 1870; it was painted red, which was traditional for a center school. An early account said there were two doors on the front (east) of the building, with a blackboard between them.

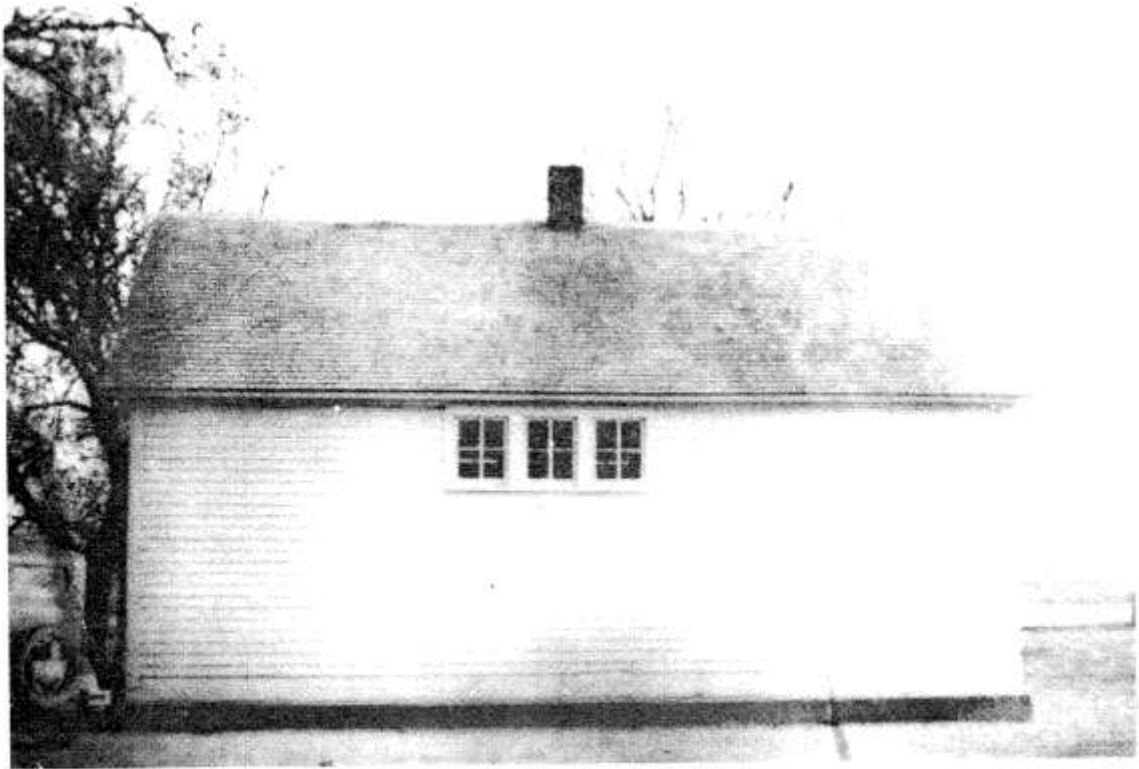
When Washington Township adopted the township plan about 1880, No. 5 was in the wrong place. It was moved to Section 22, but was there only two or three years. It was then moved back to the original site.

31 March 1892; DB 25:327: T.M.A. Bolt to School Board of Washington Township ...one acre with school house on it...northeast corner southeast quarter southwest quarter...

10 April 1896; *Express*; Sciola: No. 5 schoolhouse is being repaired. It was found to be in a very bad condition in frame as well as the flue being dangerously cracked.



Washington Township No. 5 – Center, Sciola, Saylor, Long (1) 1871



Washington Township No. 5 – Center, Sciola (2)



Washington Township No. 5 – Center, Sciola 1908

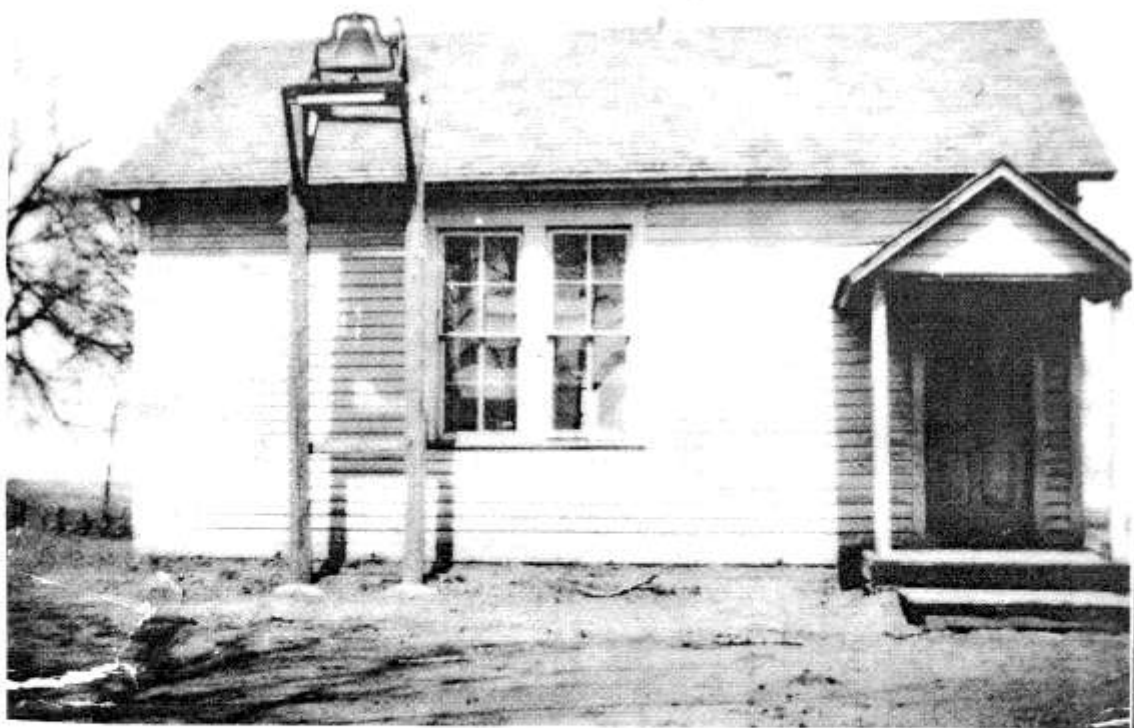
11 July 1907; *Review*: Lightning struck the Center schoolhouse north of Villisca and did considerable damage. Part of the belfry was burned and the flag staff and blackboard on the east end of the building were torn off...

No record has been found for the erection of a new schoolhouse but probably it was just after the 1907 lightning damage. There seemed to be a new building by May 1908. The old school was moved to the farm across the road east where it was used as a farm building.

The school closed at the end of the 1948-'49 school year. The building was sold 5 October 1956 for \$265, to C.A. Danielson, who moved it to his farm, where it still stands. It is used as a farm building.

11 April 1957; DB 52:517; Special Deed: ...to Ward Cooper...

A Free Methodist congregation met in the schoolhouse from about 1890 until 1904.



Washington Township No. 4 – Greenwood, Larson

Section 17: Greenwood, Larson; No. 4. The school was in the northwest corner of the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter. It was the old Bolt schoolhouse, which had been moved in 1880, from Section 21, to the "old Adkins place". Tradition says it was painted red.

In the fall of 1897, a new schoolhouse was built. It stood a short distance south of the old school site. School met in Judd Mayhew's home while the new building was constructed. The school was closed from the fall of 1932 until the fall of 1942. During those years it served as a community center, with square dancing as the principle entertainment.

The final closing was after the 1951-'52 school year. The building was sold 4 October 1956, for \$320, to Axel Lantz. He moved it, probably to the northwest corner of Section 8 where it was used for farm storage.

11 April 1957; DB 52:514; Special Deed: ...School District of Washington to Paul Smith...School site...one acre northwest corner of south half of southwest quarter...has not been used as a school for more than two consecutive years...

Section 21: Sciola, Bolt. The 1875 map shows the schoolhouse in the northwest corner of the section. The 1881 History says that it was built in 1861, by David Discombus. The location didn't fit the township plan, and in 1880, the building was moved to the southwest quarter of Section 17 and became No. 4.

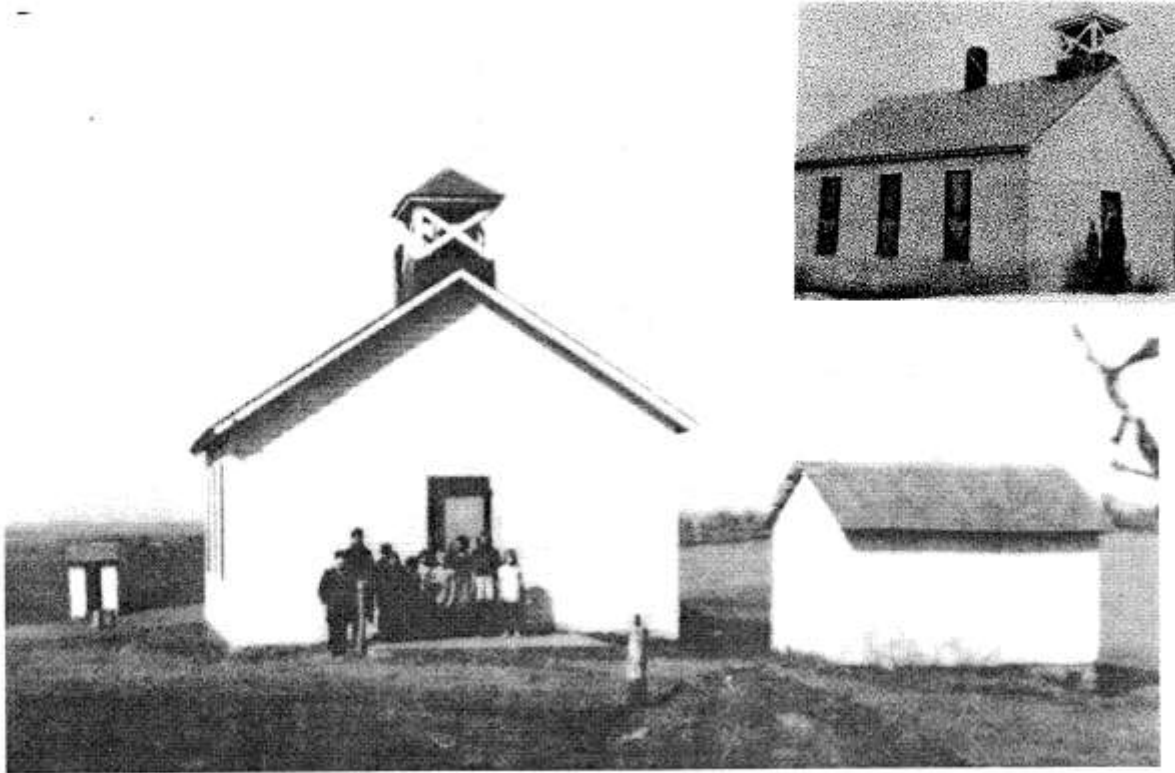
Section 22: Center, Sciola; No. 5. When the township plan was adopted No. 5 was in the wrong place. It was moved in 1880 to a site a half mile south of the Sciola corner. It stood on the east side of the road, and on the north bank of the creek. The location was unsatisfactory, and after only two or three years, the schoolhouse was moved back to the original site.

Section 23: Grub Ridge; No. 6. The formal name of the school may have originally been "Pleasant View". The schoolhouse was built in 1880. The 1881 map shows it in the northwest corner of Section 24, but that may have been an error. The 1883 map places it in the northeast corner of Section 23.

29 October 1920; *Review*; Pleasant View: A new foundation was put under the Grub Ridge schoolhouse last week.

The school was closed the year of 1936-'37. The last year that it was open was 1953-'54. In 1956 Jack Brenton paid \$300 for the school. It was never used for much of anything, and was a wreck when it was bulldozed in 1990.

A Community Church met in the schoolhouse, probably from the time it was built, until about 1940. Pastors from several denominations, as well as lay preachers, conducted services there. During the 1920s a Baptist minister held services in a tent on the school grounds. Many converts were baptized in the Nodaway River at Sciola.



Washington Township No. 6 – Grub Ridge

Section 26: Stewart. The schoolhouse was a log cabin and was running at least by the mid-1860s. There is no record that it was called Stewart, but it was on William Stewart's land, and it was the predecessor of the Stewart school which was a half mile south. It was gone by 1870.

25 November 1921; *Review*: 50th Anniversary Edition - J. H. Horton...and his brothers walked two miles each day to attend school in a log school house which was located on the farm now owned by Alfred Hedstrom...

Clyde Ingersoll said that he had been told by old-timers that there was a schoolhouse in the southeast corner of the northwest quarter of Section 26; the building burned. The Ingersolls have plowed up rubble there.

Section 28: Pigpen; No. 10. It was just south of the northwest corner of the section.

By 1890, some of the Washington Township schools were crowded, with as many as 40 pupils in one room. At the annual township meeting held the first of March 1891, it was decided to form a tenth district. As soon as it was warm enough, a spring term was held in John Gourley's granary. That fall, John fixed up another building which could be heated, and school met in it.

The structure stood in the Gourley hog lot, and became known as No. 10 Pigpen. The 1891-'92 school year was finished in the Pigpen school, and in the fall of 1892 the new No. 10 building was ready.

In January 1892 the Presbyterian minister from Villisca started preaching in the Pigpen school.



Washington Township No. 10 1903-'04

Front row from Left: Virgil Smith; Earl Cooney; Ocie Minard; Clarence Conklin; Bertha Copelin; Ostie Minard; Elmo Focht; Beulah Cooney; Lester Farlin; Lawrence Focht; Dean Conklin; John Copelin; Thad Cooney.
Back row: Blanche Copelin; Myrtle Copelin; Clint Cooney; Jesse Minard; Golda Focht; Mae Minard; Jennie Copelin; Mae Neill, teacher.

Section 28: No. 10. That seems to be the only name it ever had. The new No. 10 schoolhouse opened in the fall of 1892. It was about a quarter of a mile east of the southwest corner of the northwest quarter of the section.

The school was closed the year of 1911-'12. In 1929 it was decided to abandon the school but it ran for one more year, closing in the spring of 1930. The John Baker family lived in it for a time, and then it was used as a farm building. During World War II it was sold for \$300 to Erlo Jergenson, who tore it down and used the lumber to construct a machine shed and shop. That building burned several years later.

Presbyterian services started in the Pigpen School. The congregation moved to the new No. 10 as soon as it was finished, and continued to meet there until the church was disbanded in 1913.

Section 28: Hazel Grove; Hazel Dell; Patterson; "Woodtick"; No. 8. The schoolhouse was built in the summer of 1880. It stood on a triangle of land between two ditches, half in Section 28 and half in Section 33.

1 July 1958; DB 52:549; Special Deed: Villisca Community School District to Ralph F. Arnott...North half acre of old Sub District No. 8 of Washington Township school site, located in the Southeast corner of Section 28...

Section 29: Arlington.

9 July 1860; DB 1:403: John W. Patterson to District Township of Washington...Lot 1, block 1 in the town of Arlington...

2 March 1877; DB 6:378: Washington Township to Alex Hedges...

Probably the school was running by the spring term of 1860; the census dated June 1 of that year listed a teacher, Anna Dolbell, age 16, living in the John W. Patterson home in Arlington. The schoolhouse was moved about 1876 or 1877 to the south side of the road, in the northwest quarter of Section 32.

Section 30: Happy Hollow; No. 9. The Arlington schoolhouse was moved about 1884 to the southeast corner of Section 30. In the fall of 1894, a new building was erected.

The school was closed from the fall of 1910 until the spring term of 1911. It was closed for the winter term of 1911-'12. The school was closed in 1921-'22 and 1922-'23. It closed for the last time in November 1943. Rick Anderson bought the schoolhouse and salvaged the lumber to build a corn crib. While tearing down the school, he noticed that many of the boards had extra nail holes in them. Old timers told him that after the framework was erected, it blew down in a storm, and had to be rebuilt.

11 April 1957; DB 55:295; Special Deed: to John Pete Rodstrom ...one acre southeast corner...

Section 32: Arlington; No. 9. The school was moved to the north line of the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter about 1876 or 1877. It was moved to Section 30 about 1884.

24 April 1884; *Review*: Geo. Hunter and T.S. Thorson, vs District Township of Washington. -

You are hereby notified that there is on file in this office a transcript of a meeting of the directors of the township of Washington...in relation to the

removal of the school in district No. 9, from which appeal has been taken, and that said appeal will be heard...on 27th of April...

J.A. McLean, County supt.



Washington Township No. 8 – Hazel Grove, Hazel Dell

Section 33: Hazel Grove, Hazel Dell, Patterson, "Wood Tick"; No. 8. The schoolhouse was built in the summer of 1880. It was on a triangle of land between the road and two ditches, with half in Section 28 and half in Section 33...

27 May 1880; *Review*: Mr. I.N. Branson has just completed the new schoolhouse in the Patterson district...

18 February 1892; *Review*; Dunnville: A festival was given at Hazel Grove Friday night, the proceeds to be used to purchase a bell for the school...

13 March 1896; *Express*: ...defeated a proposal for a new No. 8 in Washington township...

22 April 1897; *Review*: Washington No. 8 has been enlarged and rebuilt.

The school closed at the end of the 1956-'57 school year, and the district became part of the Villisca Community School District. The building was sold to Jerry Cooper; he tore it down and used the material in constructing a small house for his mother.

1 July 1958; DB 52:549; Special Deed: Villisca Community School District to Ralph F. Arnott...South Half acre of old Sub District No. 8 of Washington Township school site located in (Northeast corner) of Section 33...

An Advent Christian church met at the schoolhouse during the 1890s. Union Sunday School was held off and on for many years.

Section 35: Pleasant Grove, Hacklebarney, Stewart; No. 7. Probably the first Stewart schoolhouse was a log structure in Section 26. It is said to have burned.

5 May 1870; DB 6:18: District Township of Washington from Horatio King...one acre northwest corner northeast quarter...

30 September 1898; *Review*: There is to be a new school for Washington No. 7.

12 August 1943; *Review*; Sciola: The Glen Jackson family has been living in the schoolhouse this summer...The Jackson house burned last Christmas day.

The school closed at the end of the 1951-'52 school year. The building was not moved. Glen Archer used it for a hog house, and eventually bulldozed the structure.

11 April 1957; DB 52:514; Special Deed: ...to Ralph McKee... \$365...

The Pleasant Grove United Brethren church met at the schoolhouse from about 1875 until about 1900. A Methodist congregation met there from about 1905 to about 1917, and a union Sunday School ran off and on for a number of years.



Washington Township No. 7 – Stewart

West Township

Section 2: West Riverside; No. 1. The schoolhouse was in the southeast corner of Section 2 prior to 1875. The school closed at the end of the 1935-'36 school year.

8 September 1893; *Sun*; Salem: There will be no school at West Riverside on account of building the new schoolhouse.

5 March 1951; DB 52:152: West Riverside School District to Kate and George V. Roach... southeast corner of Section 2...

An Evangelical church was organized and met in the schoolhouse from 1878 until 1884, when Salem church was built. After a denominational split in the church, a United Evangelical congregation met in the schoolhouse from 1892 until 1897, when the congregation acquired the Salem Church property.



West Township No. 1 – West Riverside



West Township No. 2 – Centennial (1947)

Section 3: Centennial; No. 2. The school was in the southwest corner of the section. The first No. 2 was at Carr's Point in the southwest corner of Section 4.

29 March 1877; *Express*: Centennial Ind. School District, West Township...has advertised in this week's paper for proposals to build a school house.

The proposal for a new schoolhouse was first advertised in March 1876; the delay was not explained. The school was closed for several terms between 1906 and 1914. In 1920, it joined the Garfield Consolidated District. The schoolhouse was rebuilt in 1929. The last year for No. 2 was 1947-'48; it closed in March.

The schoolhouse was sold to Johnson and Dahlquist. It was moved to the west edge of Red Oak, and used as a warehouse for J D Oil Company. It has since been razed.

9 May 1955; DB 52:389; QCD: ...to Theo. A. Powles...one acre southwest corner of section 3...

A Methodist Protestant congregation met in the schoolhouse for a few years.

Section 4: Carr; No. 2.

27 February 1858; DB 2:207: Thomas Preece to District No. 2... seven rods square in the southwest corner...\$5...

1881 History; page 548: The first two school houses were built in 1858, on sec. 4 and 30, both by a man named Bundle, and each cost \$537.

No record was found for the sale of the school ground. In 1861 Preace sold the land to T.W. Crandall, who sold it to Perry Carr in 1868. There was no mention of a schoolhouse in either deed. The 1875 map shows a schoolhouse in the southwest corner of the section.

29 March 1877; *Express*: ...Centennial Ind. School District ...will receive bids...for a new school...a schoolhouse occupied at present will be sold to the highest bidder.

At least by 1863, a Methodist group was meeting in the schoolhouse. Around 1870 most of the congregation moved to Garfield No. 8 school, and eventually became the Hawthorne church.

Section 7: Walnut, Champion Hill; No. 3. A road runs north and south on the mid-section line through Section 7. The 1875 and 1881 maps show the school on the east side of the road on the north section line, but probably it was relocated to the west side of the road around 1877 when No. 3 levied 9 mills schoolhouse tax. It was there at least by 1883.

1 March 1893; DB 27:86: Matthew Spears to Independent School District No. 3...one square acre northeast corner northwest quarter...

No. 3 was closed 1936-'37 and 1937-'38. It closed for the last time at the end of the 1950-'51 school year. The building was sold to Adrian Wookey. He moved it a half mile east to his farm, where it was used as a combine shed. About 1985, a strong wind damaged the structure so much that it was torn down.

13 March 1958; DB 52:539: ...to Charles E. Lakin...

A Cumberland Presbyterian congregation met in the schoolhouse from 1878 to 1880, when a church was built in Mills County.

Section 15: Center; No. 5. The 1875 and 1881 maps show the school in the southwest corner of Section 15, but it may have been moved about 1876, when the district had a high mill levy. The 1883 map shows it across the road west in the southeast corner of Section 16.

Section 16: Center; No. 5. The first Center schoolhouse was in Section 15. A high mill levy indicates that a new schoolhouse was built about 1876-'77; probably it was built in the southeast corner of Section 16.

17 April 1879; *Express*: School district No. 5 in West township has a double set of directors. Both are determined to regulate school matters and each set is acting independent of the other. Two teachers have been employed, to teach the same school, and they are now we understand both at work and under pay teaching in the same room,

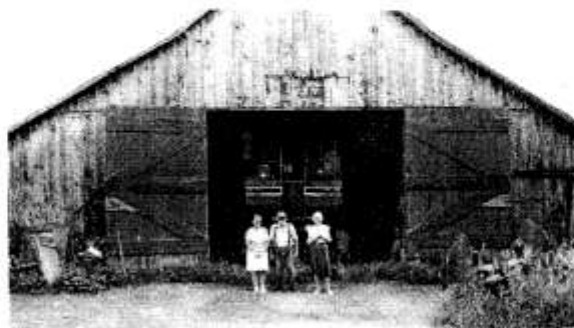
one occupying one end of the room and the other the opposite end. One has about a dozen scholars and the other something less. It is supposed that a lawsuit will be the result...

17 July 1879; *Express*: ...by a sort of compromise between the directors both teachers were disposed of soon after the school commenced and a third one hired...one sued the directors...

1 July 1904; *Sun*; Salem: The schoolhouse in district No. 5 is for sale. The school board will let the contract for building a new schoolhouse on July 18...

The old schoolhouse was moved to a farm south of the original site. A few years later it was moved again, to the northwest quarter of Section 22. A barn was built around the schoolhouse; a slab of concrete thought to have been run at that time is dated October 1909.

In 1920, No. 5 became part of the Climax Consolidation. By 1924, it was back in the township records. The last year for the school was 1941-'42.



West Township No. 5 – Center (1) 1998



West Township No. 4 – West Lynn, Sutton

Section 20: West Lynn, (Linn), Sutton; No. 4.

6 July 1874; DB 9:213: Stephen Glandon to Independent District No. 4...one acre northwest corner...30 rods east and west by 5 1/3 rods north and south...

West Lynn had high mill levies from 1904 through 1907. No. 4 became part of the Climax consolidation in 1920. By 1924, it was back in township records. The school closed at the end of the 1951-'52 school year.

A Methodist congregation met in the schoolhouse from 1871 until the Methodists bought the Climax church in 1890.

Section 24: IXL; No. 6. No one knows what the name means.

25 June 1874; DB 11:453: David Birbeck to Independent District No. 6...one acre in northwest corner Section 24...

3 March 1899; *Sun*: There will be a new IXL this summer.

The school closed in 1920 and became part of the Coburg Consolidated District.

14 February 1922; clerk's auction records:
School house; Henry Bruce: \$160
furnace; J.W. McGreer: \$5.

Henry Bruce moved the building to the southeast corner of Section 30, Grant Township, and remodeled it into a home. Lawrence Bruce lived in it. It is now owned by a Josephson.

Several denominations held religious services at IXL. In 1892, Bethany Presbyterian church was organized there, and continued to meet in the schoolhouse until the church was disbanded in 1904.



West Township No. 6 – IXL (1998)

Section 29:

1906 History; page 192: Mrs. Sophronia Dean Shank...taught the first school in the county in August 1856...The school was in a log cabin near Climax. The day of opening the school, there was absolutely no furniture whatever. A new sawmill had just commenced operation and the school had to wait until some slabs could be obtained for seats...

Section 29: Fairview, David; No. 9. By 1875, No. 9 was in the northwest corner of Section 32. The district had high mill levies in 1881 and 1882. Probably a new schoolhouse was built in Section 29 before 1883.

13 October 1884; DB 21:547: J.B. David to Independent District No. 9...one square acre southwest corner...

In 1920, the school became part of the Climax Consolidation. By 1924, it was back in the township records. It closed in the spring of 1941, was closed several years, and then ran one more year, 1946-47.

Climax Consolidated School District planned to build a central facility, but the district didn't last long. See the following records.

25 April 1921: DB 39:264: C.A. Hush to Independent Consolidated School District of Climax...northwest corner of section...

17 April 1924; DB 41:335: Climax Consolidated to C.A. Hush...Northwest corner...

A Methodist congregation moved with the schoolhouse, about 1883, to Section 29. It met there until they bought the Methodist Protestant Church in Climax in 1890.



West Township No. 9 – Fairview, David (1998)

Section 30: David.

1881 History; page 548: The first two school houses were built in 1858, on sec. 4 and sec. 30, both by a man named Bundle, and each cost \$537.

History of Climax; 1922; by Clinton E. Klepinger: A little later (than 1857) a school house was built out along the present road nearly one half mile south of Climax on the west side of the road and on the south bank of the creek.

11 April 1863; DB 3:9: Isaac Vanhorn to District Township of West...part of southeast quarter northeast quarter, Description 47...commencing at the branch north of Isaac Vanhorn's house on the Section line thence south 14 rods. Thence west 10 rods thence North 14 rods thence East to the place of beginning...

A Methodist Protestant church was organized in 1856. The congregation moved into the school house when it was built, and met there until the Walnut Creek Methodist Protestant church was constructed at Climax in 1876.

Section 32: Fairview, David; No. 9. It isn't known when the schoolhouse moved there from Section 30; it was in Section 32 by 1875. About 1883 it moved to Section 29.

A Methodist congregation was organized at the schoolhouse about 1875. It moved with the school to Section 29 about 1883.

Section 33: Illinois, Clawson; No. 8. No date has been found for the opening of the school. It was in the northwest corner of the section by 1875.

From the minutes of the School Board, Illinois West No. 8:

10 March 1879; voted to levy a tax to dig a well at the school.

6 April 1899; Special meeting: Shall the Board of No. 8 be authorized to bond the said District for \$700 for the purpose of building a schoolhouse ? - for, 14; against, 2.

March 1903; It was determined to build a new Privy. Lew Norris took contract for \$2.50 and bill for lumber.

The school was closed for the fall term of 1917, and was closed for the fall and winter terms of 1919-'20. It was open for the spring term of 1920, and that fall it became part of the Coburg Consolidation.

14 February 1922; clerk's auction list:

closets

school house; E. C. Roach \$100

furnace; \$16

Brick in cave \$1

29 April 1922; 41:239; QCD: Coburg Consolidated to Selma A. Swanson...one acre in northeast corner...

The schoolhouse was moved to Ed Buxton's place about 1 3/4 miles east of the original site. It was used for a dance hall.

24 October 1927; *Express*: The schoolhouse on the Ed Buxton place will be sold at auction...24x36...

Section 35: Pleasant Valley; No. 7. The 1875 and 1881 maps show the schoolhouse in the northwest corner of Section 36, but it was moved across the road west to Section 35 perhaps as early as 1879.

2 October 1879; DB 15:470: ...from Amasa J. Garnett...one acre northeast corner.

24 November 1899; *Express*; Coburg: The new schoolhouse west of Coburg is now completed.

The school was closed the year of 1903-'04. It closed in 1920 to become part of the Coburg Consolidation.

14 February, 1922; clerk's auction records:

1 closet
school house; G.E. Anderson: \$120
furnace
Flag pole

G.E. Anderson moved the schoolhouse to his farm where a Carlson lived. It was used as a farm building.

24 February 1954; DB 52:314: Coburg Consolidated to Gordon E. Anderson... one acre northeast corner...

Section 36: Pleasant Valley; No. 7. The 1875 and 1881 maps show the schoolhouse in the northwest corner of Section 36, but it had been moved, perhaps as early as 1879, across the road to the northeast corner of Section 35.

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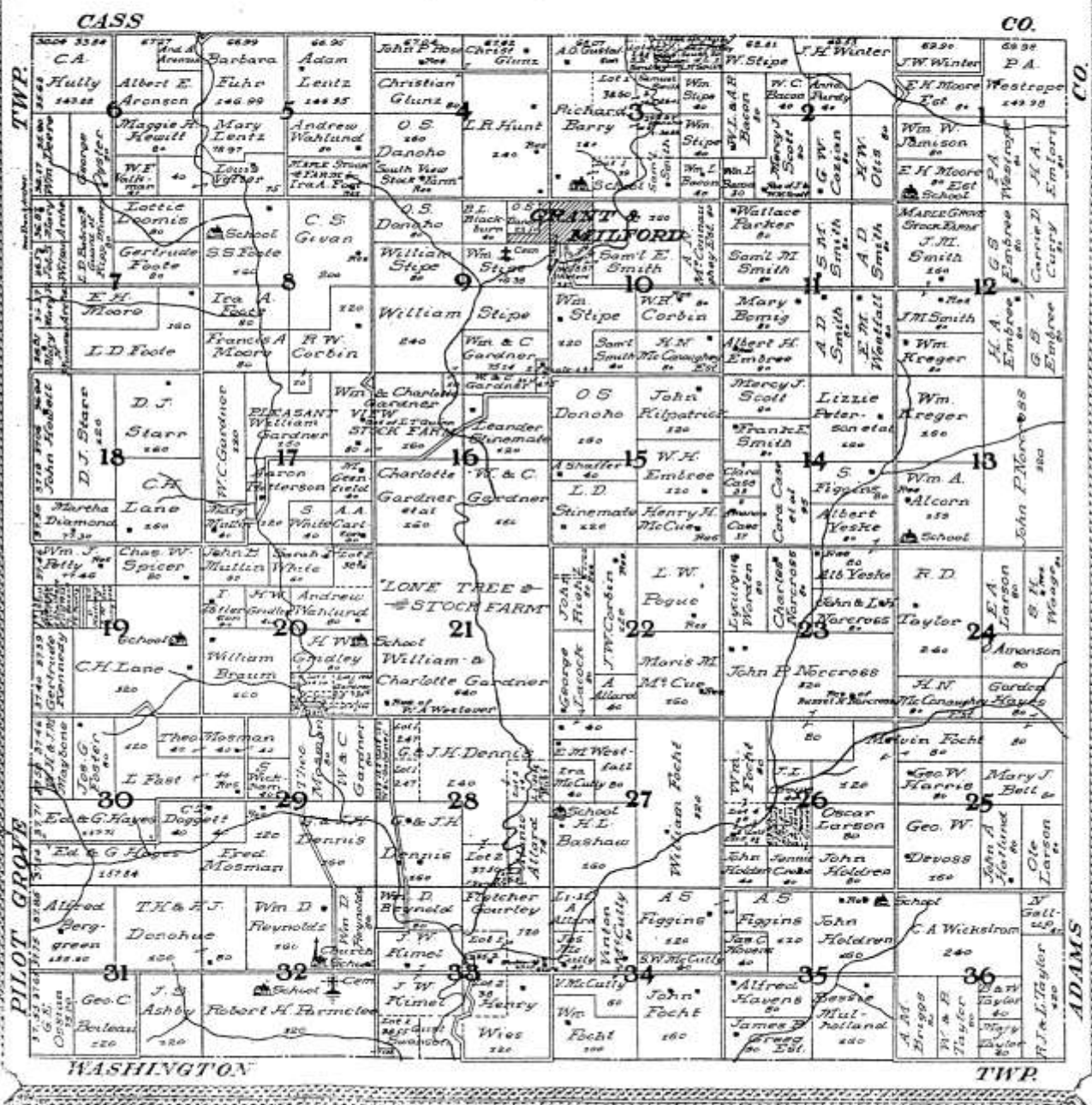
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MAP OF DOUGLAS TOWNSHIP

Township 73. North Range 36 West of the 5th P.M.

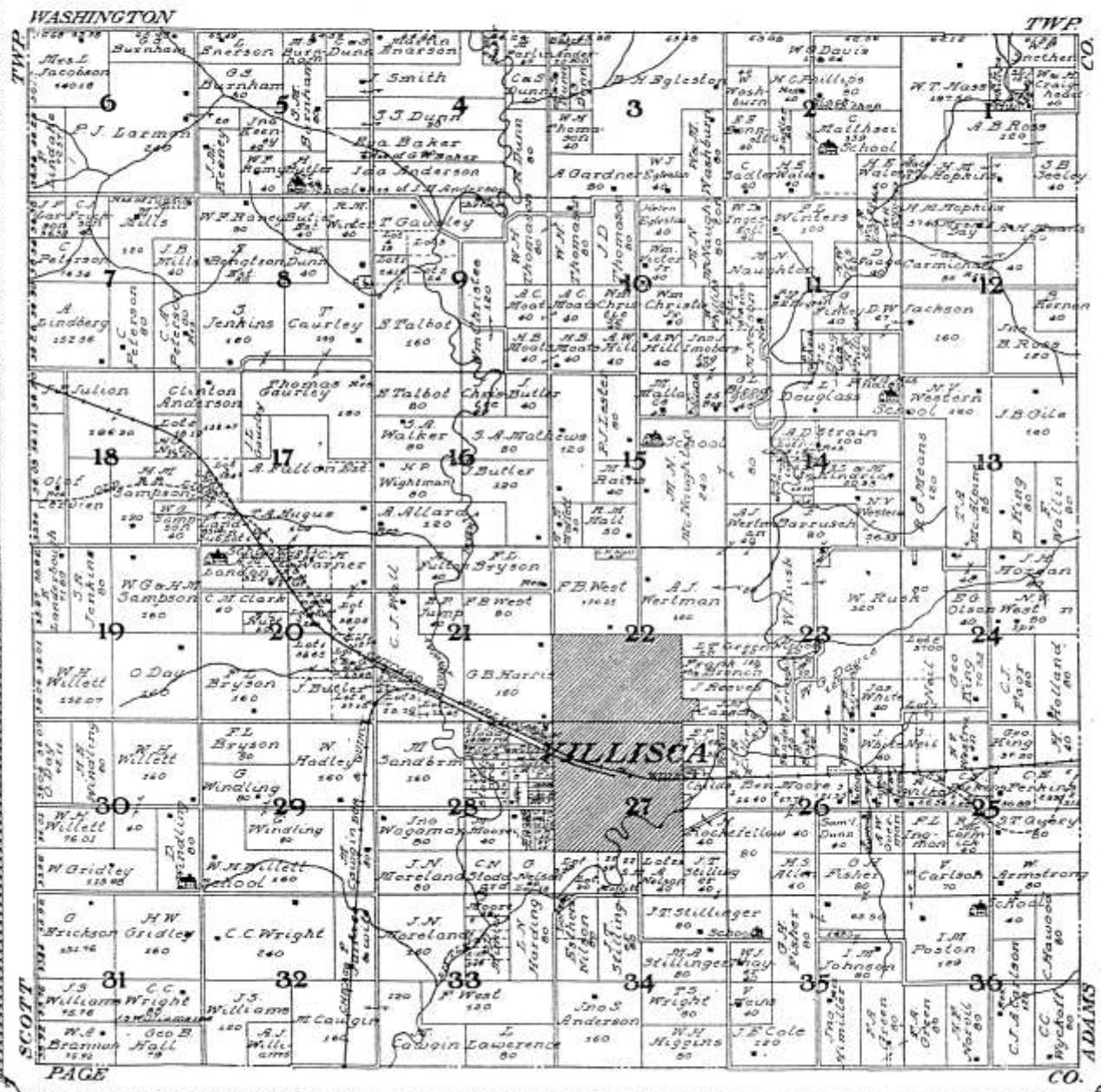




JACKSON

 TOWNSHIP

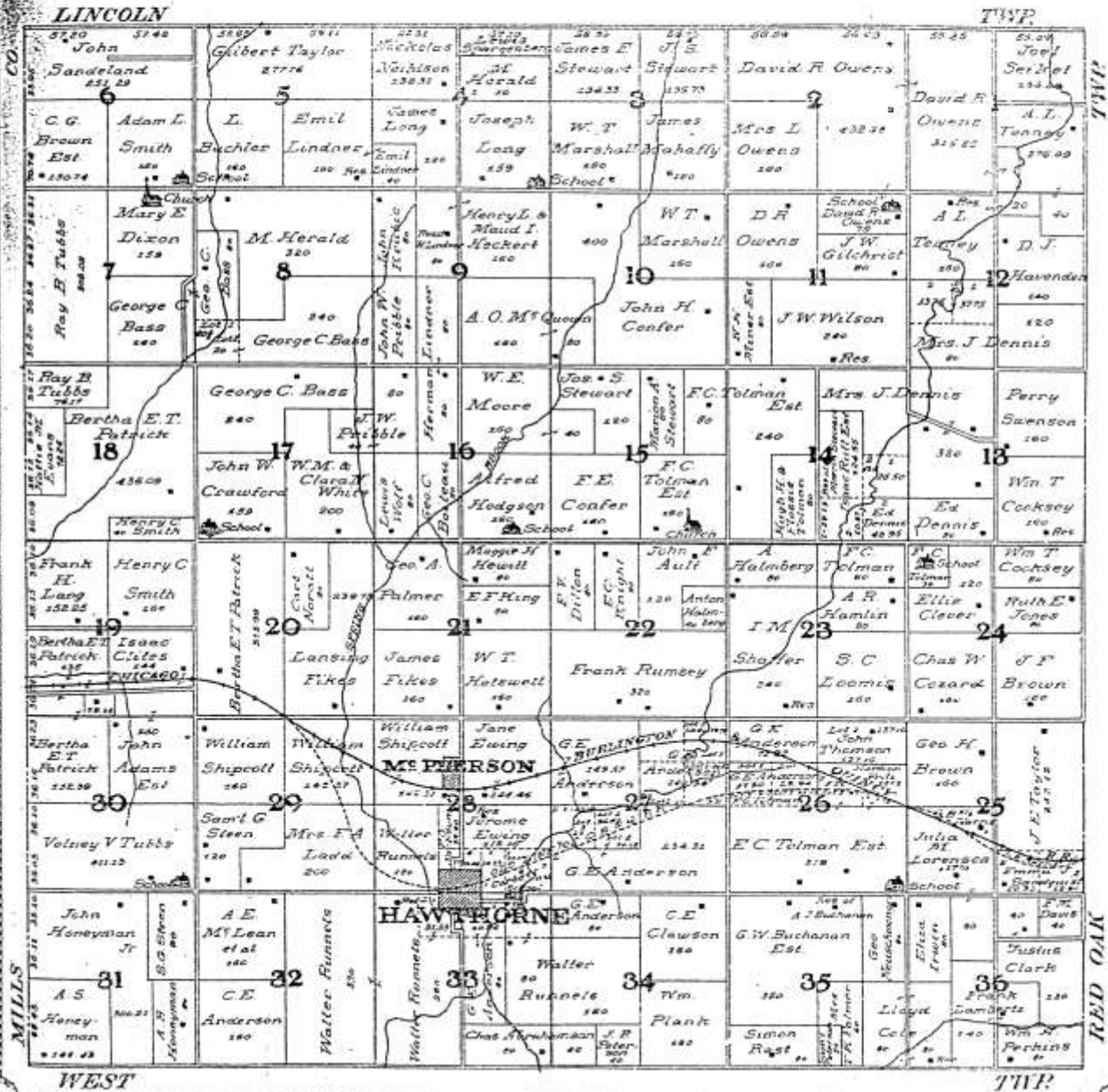
Township 71 North Range 36 West of the 5th P.M.



GARFIELD

TOWNSHIP

Township 72 North Range 29 West of the 5th P.M.

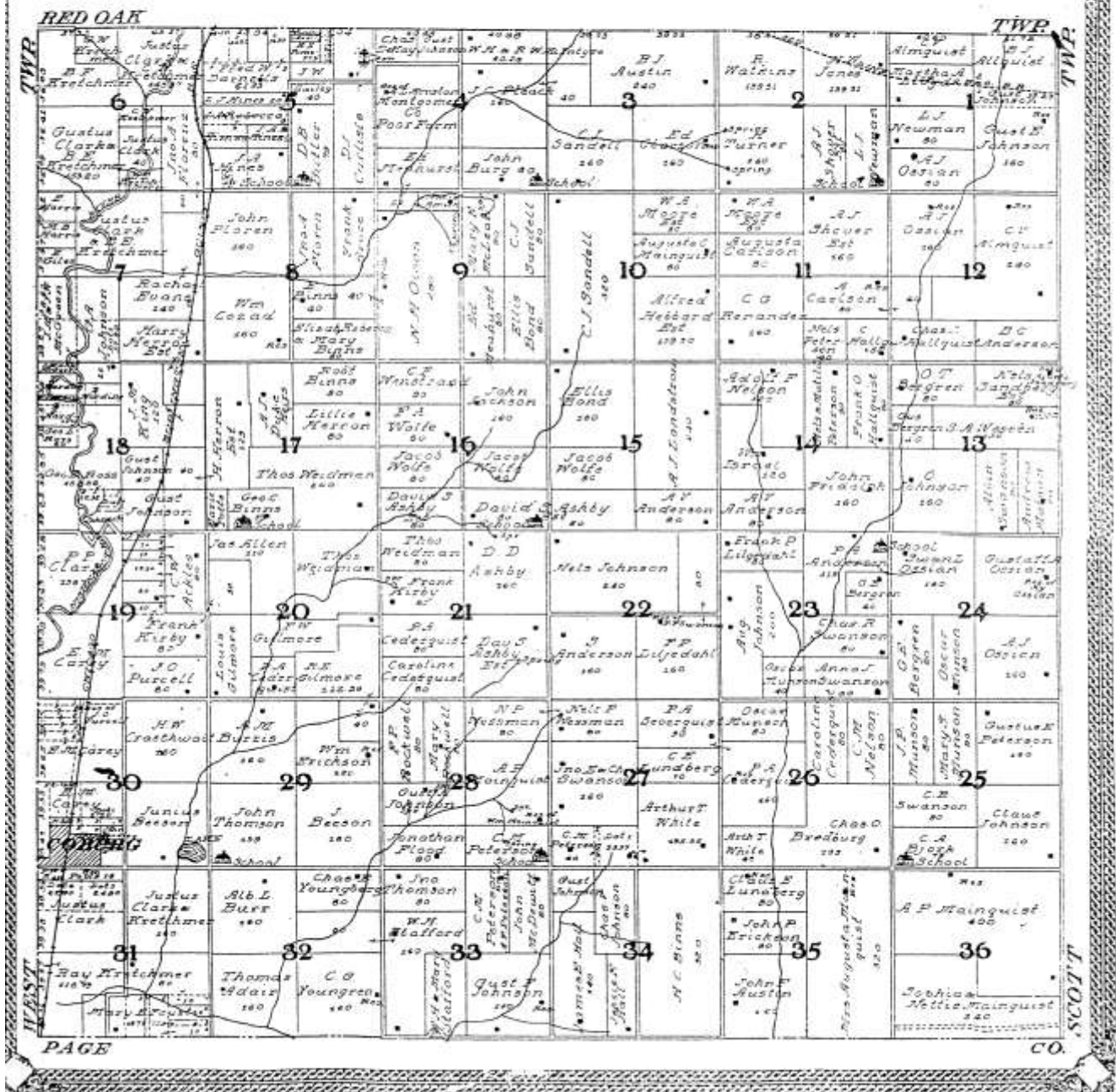




GRANT

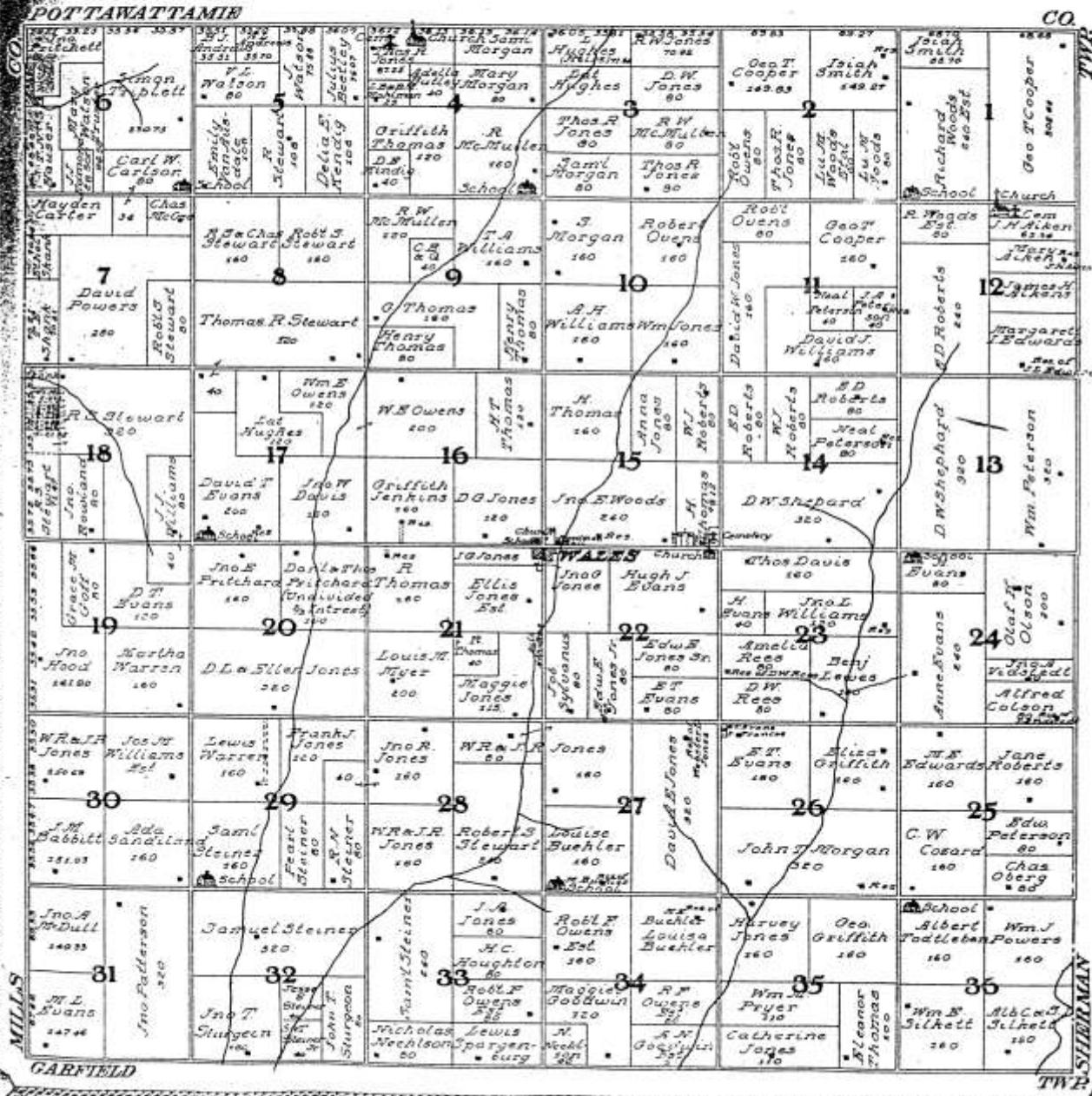
 TOWNSHIP

Township 71 North Range 38 West of the 5th P.M.



MAP OF
LINCOLN
 TOWNSHIP

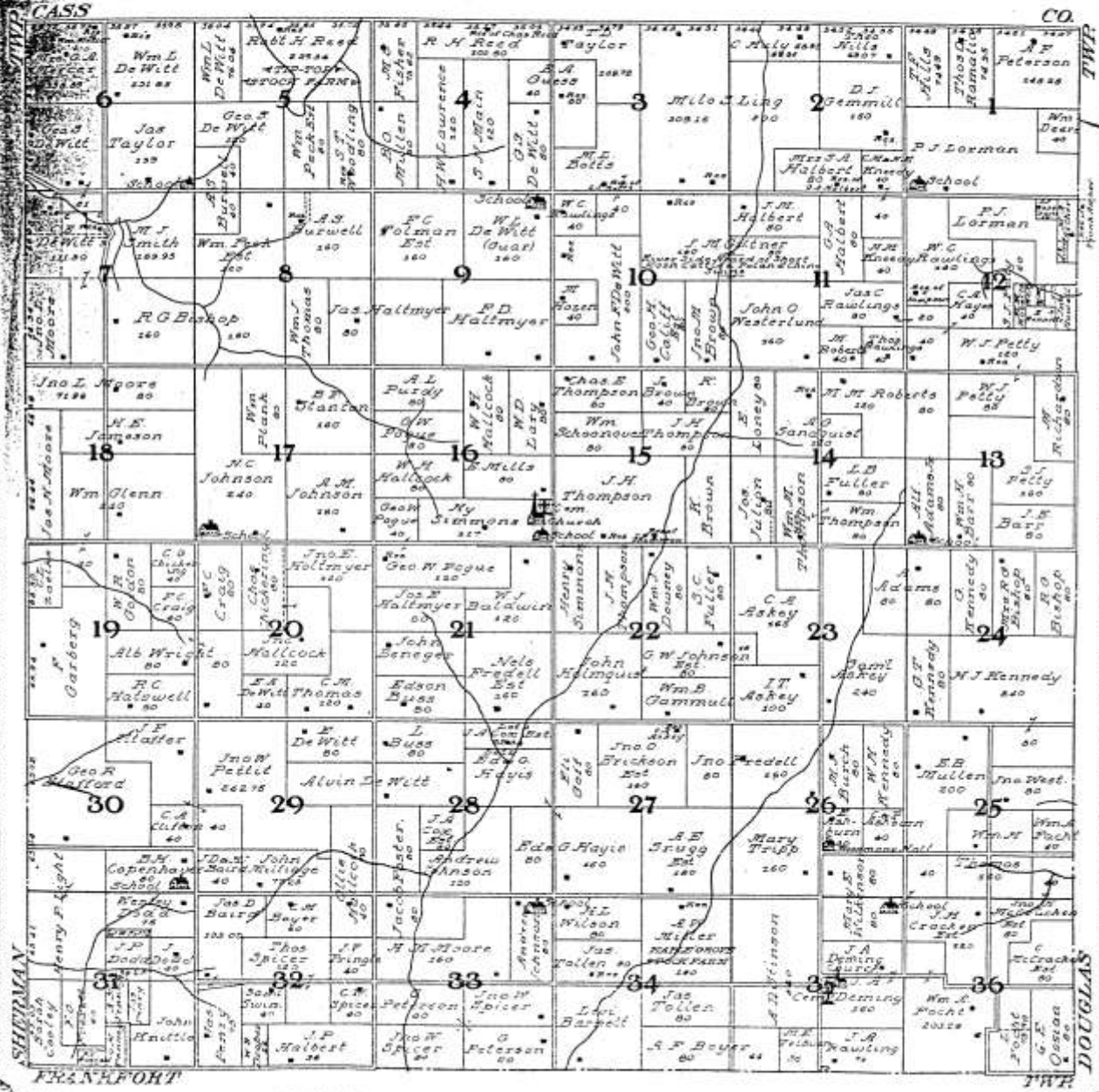
Township 73: North Range 39 West of the 5th P.M.





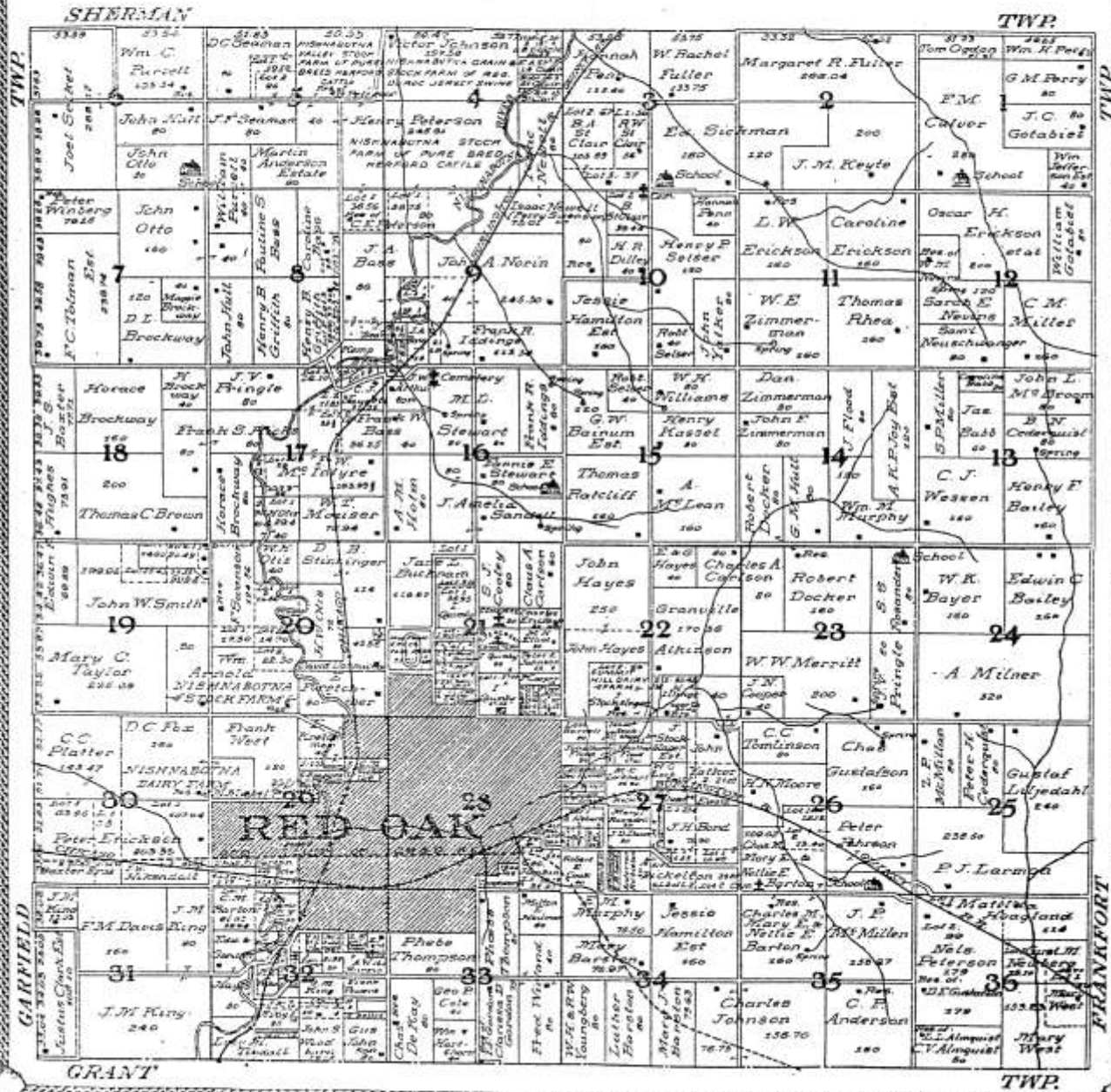
MAP OF
PILOT GROVE
TOWNSHIP

Township 73 North Range 37 West of the 5th P.M.



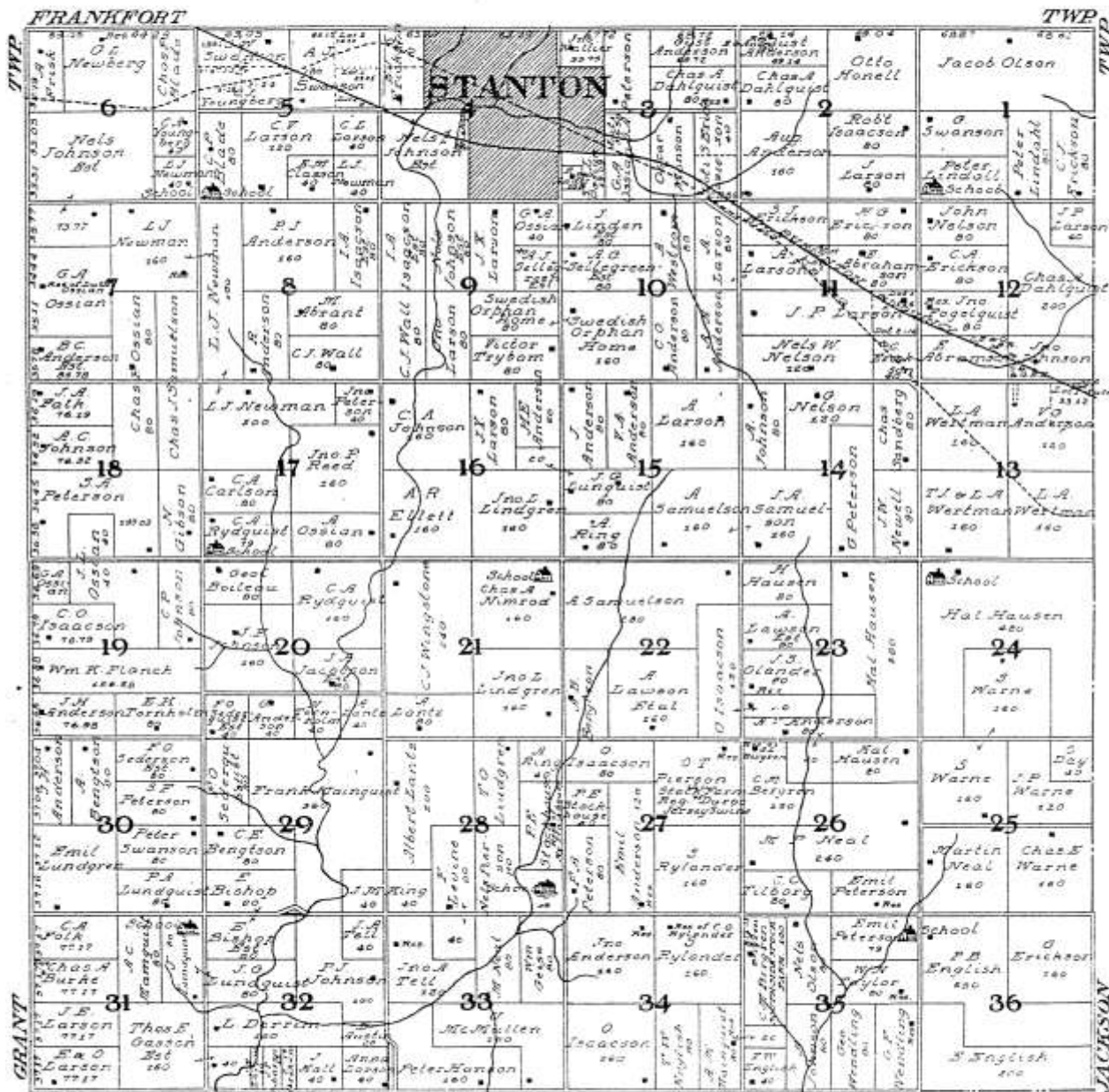
MAP OF
RED OAK
 TOWNSHIP

Township 72 North Range 38 West of the 5th P.M.



MAP OF
SCOTT
TOWNSHIP

Township 71 North Range 37 West of the 5th P.M.

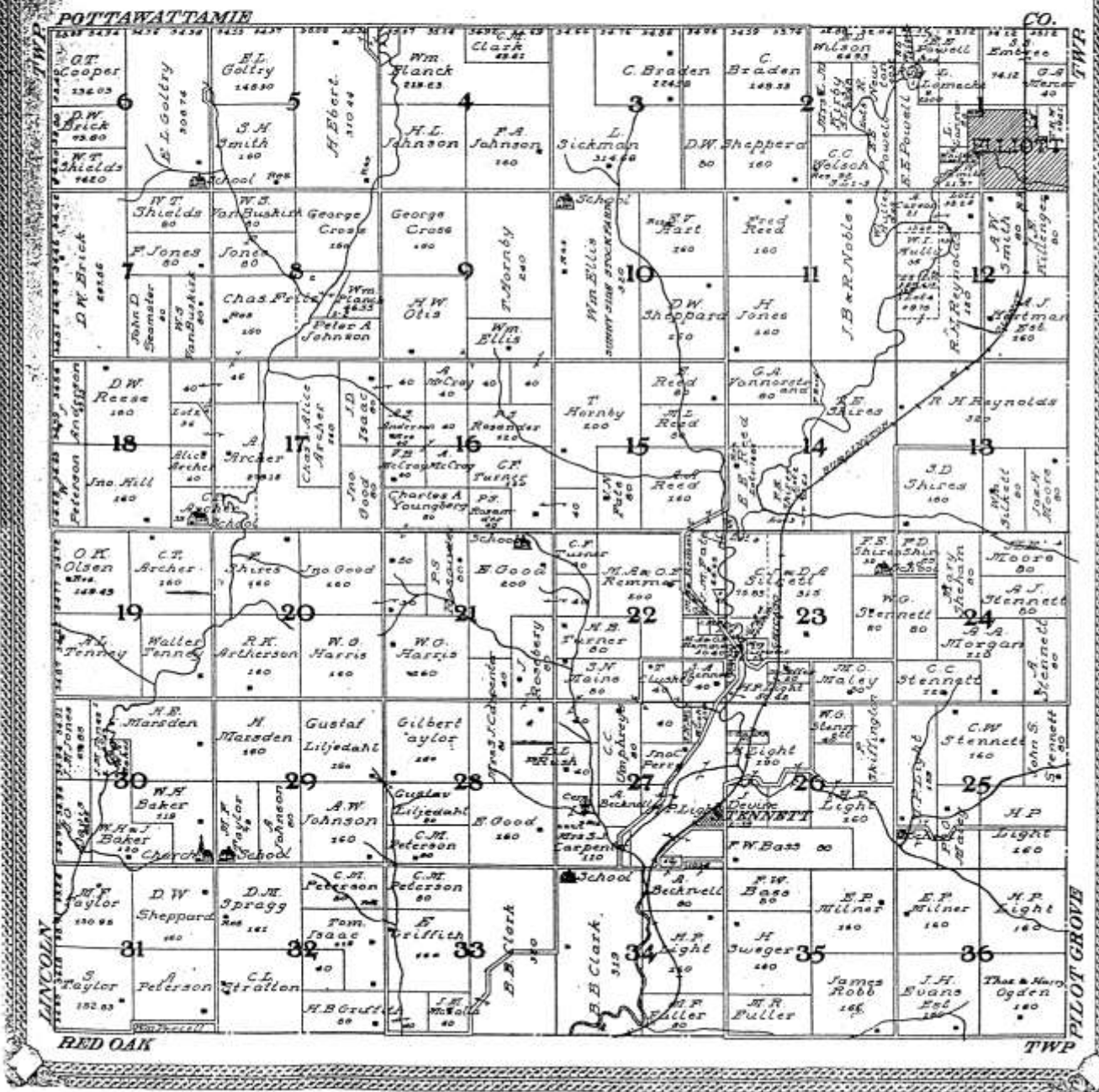




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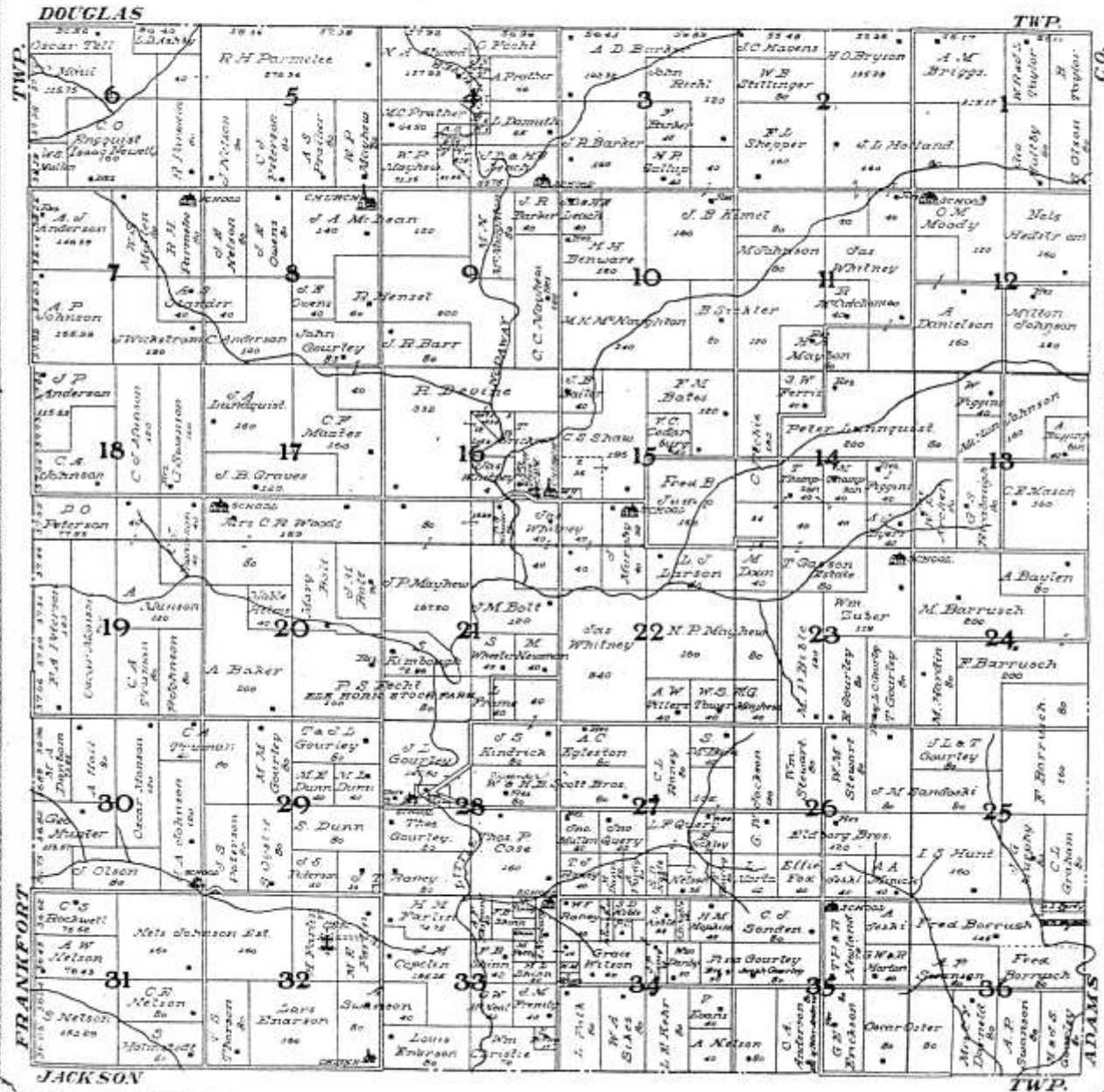
 TOWNSHIP

Township 73 North Range 38 West of the 5th P.M.



MAP OF
WASHINGTON
TOWNSHIP

Township 72 North Range 36 West of the 5th P.M.



ENLARGED MAP OF S.E. 1/4 OF S.E. 1/4 OF SEC. 19 TWP. 71 N. R. 39 W.



MAP OF WEST TOWNSHIP

Township 71 North Range 39 West of the 5th P.M.

