

~Kings County Memories~

~ The Newsletter of the Kings County Historical and Archival Society, Inc.~

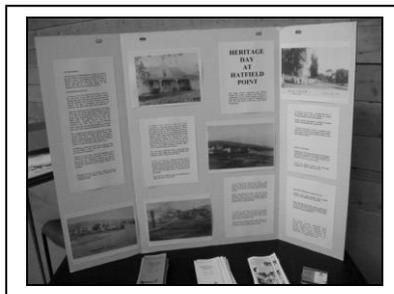
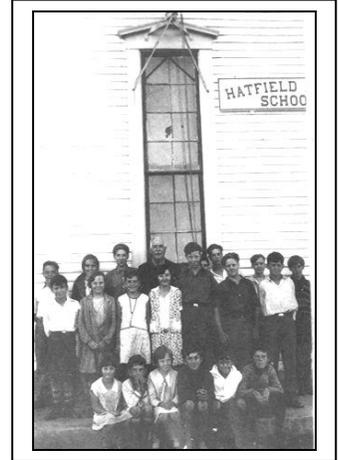
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~Special Summer Edition~

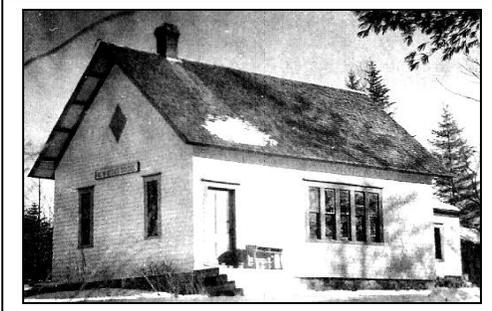
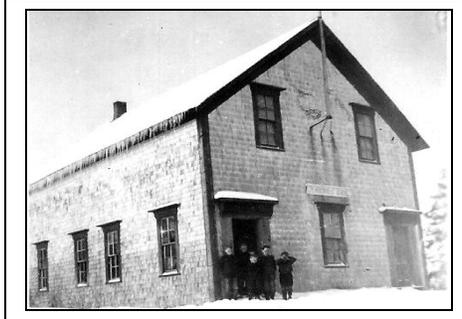
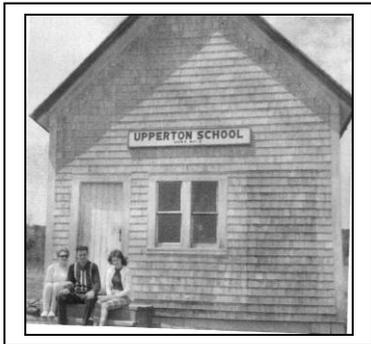
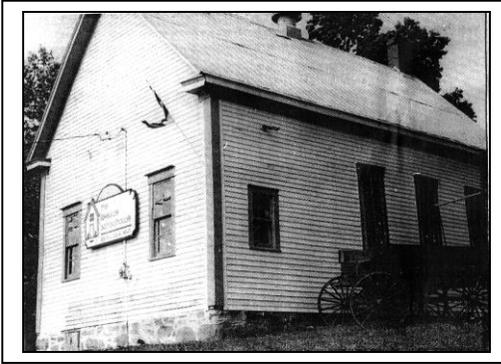
~Heritage Day At Hatfield Point, Kings Co., N.B. Aug.23~



**John Elliott~Capt. Spragg
Student Ghosts~Bayview
Hatfield Point Sch.~1930
Gertrude Morrell
Thorne Treasures
Ghost~Vixtoria~Museum
Sadie Parlee~96 years
Welcome~Brochures
Ron Menzies & W. Howe
Ghost Walk~Bayview
Cem.**



~Images ~ "The One Room School ~ A Kings County Legacy ~"



~The Mission of the Kings County Historical & Archival Society~
 ~To Promote and Preserve the Heritage of Our Kings County Families~

Page ~Feature Articles~

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 Ascension~August 3, 2008~Bev Floyd~
 (Pg.3~Can you name these One Room Schools in Kings County?)

~ **Heritage Day At Hatfield Point, Kings Co., N.B.**~

The Kings County Historical Society celebrated Heritage Day on Aug. 23, 2008 at Hatfield Point 2-7pm. Our chief organizer, Ron Davis, is a descendent of the Loyalist Davis family. The residents of Hatfield Point generously offered their time, gardens, view, Church, Hall, and homes, so that we could honour their historic community. A genealogy workshop was held in the gym, hugely attended. Afternoon tea was served by volunteers in period costume to guests visiting the Pleasant View Hotel. Miss Gertrude Morrell, who worked for the Cain family at age 14, was a special guest. The gardens at the home of Pietie & Frank Vanderlaan were on view from 2-4 pm. Visitors were welcomed to Fred Short's home on the hill above the wharf. The view of the Belleisle Valley from Trevor Ricketson's was available to take a stroll. Ron Davis' workshop presented a display of unique wooden sculptures. The history of the Hatfield Point Baptist Church was presented in the Church. A potluck supper was enjoyed by all! Later we had a Bayview Cemetery Ghost Walk to introduce some of the early settlers of Hatfield Point, (then Spragg's Point), and learn about their lives in those pioneer days.

The Historical Society is well pleased with the interest and attendance to this newest event, and would like to thank everyone for their support. Please send in your comments and suggestions to Faye.

Cynthia Vail In Costume



~ **Feature Article Sources**~

Heritage Day Pictures	Lynn Browne
School Pictures~Don Raynes	Bev Floyd
Hanford Brook School~Anne McEwen	Arnold McKnight
Early Schools of Kings County	Horace Macaulay
All Our Born Days~Doris Calder	N.B. Museum
Sussex & Vicinity~Grace Aiton	Hampton Archives
English Settlement History~Greg Haley	Helen Flewelling
Laura Stockdale~Long Point School	Carol Henderson
Bertha Muir~Pascobac Memoirs	Ella McLeod
The Loyalist Dream~Ann Condon	Lois Bettie

~ Contrasts ~The One Room School in Kings County~ The Early Years~



“From ~ Books and Bare Feet”~Hanford Brook School~1934

“To ~ High School Graduation and High Fashion”~
~Sussex High School Graduating Class ~1914 ~



~After 1783 ~ "The Loyalists Struggle to Educate Their Children"~

For nineteen years after their Arrival in 1783, the Loyalist parents attempted to educate their children amidst their own struggle to build a new home in the New Brunswick wilderness. These parents who arrived in exile from the 13 colonies were men and women from all walks of life. Most were farmers but the range of occupations listed as "freemen" of the city of Saint John included artisans and school-masters. A few were Harvard graduates, but the majority of Loyalists were not well-educated. Basic survival for the family was their prime concern.

The first of the school masters in Kings County of whom any record has been preserved were employed by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. They were supported by a grant from the Society of 10 lb sterling per annum with additional help that the local people could provide.

Governor Sir Guy Carleton urged the provincial government to establish more schools, but it wasn't until 1802 that the first Schools Act was passed in the House of Assembly in Fredericton. The Act allocated 10 lb per parish to the justices of peace in each county to encourage the building of schools. Thus ensued a crude beginning of a public school system. Kings County then consisted of seven parishes. In 1805 a new act provided for the establishment of a grammar school in each county, but Saint John alone was permitted to erect such a school. An allowance was established for eight students to be "free scholars". Until that time, all students, and there were very few, paid tuition. In 1816 other grammar schools were established and in 1818 the first Madras school was opened in Saint John. In this system the teacher instructed the older, and they in turn taught the younger students. This system was encouraged by the Church of England and by 1824 there were 39 Madras Schools operating. This method of teaching proved very successful, and is today !.

After the passing of the School Act of 1826, trustees were appointed in all the parishes, and new schools built in Kingston, Springfield, and Hampton. The children had to travel long distances to school, mostly by walking, in all weather. The parents had to pay tuition, which not every family could afford. Educated parents, such as **Rebecca (Porter) Guiou of Dickie Mountain**, taught her own children at home. After her husband was killed in a tree-frolic, Rebecca took local children into her home to teach. She then taught at **Dickie Mtn.School** . Her pay was 10 lb for 6 months work. In 1841 Dickie Mountain was called Green Hill District #9. Rebecca's children were James, 5; William, 8; Abigail, 7; Prudence, 10; Frances, 11, and Susanna, 12. In all she had 13 boys and 17 girls in her one room school , all at different learning levels.

It seems unreasonable that the very first schools in 1787 were established in Kings County for the "civilizing and educating of Indians". George Leonard, a Loyalist from Massachusetts, was instructed to build a school on public land in Sussex, and employ school-master, Oliver Arnold, as teacher. Loyalist children also attended if they could afford the tuition. In 1826 the Sussex Indian School closed due to accusations of mistreatment. Few Loyalists were trained school-masters, and for 50 years, there were no teacher-training colleges. However, in 1847, a new Schools Act called for a Board of Education to create training and model schools. The first training school, under Master James Marshall d'Avary, was set up in a small building on Regent St. in Fredericton. In 1848 he stated that the supreme purpose of this school was to qualify teachers and finally introduce a system for elementary education. A beginning!

David Bates of Waterborough, Queens Co., received the first certificate after a ten week course in the 'Art of Teaching'. Licenses were granted from highest to lowest; first, second and third. Another training school was then established in Saint John, in 1855, adding to the number of qualified teachers.

James Brown had been visiting and reporting on the condition of the schools since 1844, the progress of the students, and the proficiency of the teachers. The number of schools continued to grow, but generally the model remained the same~one room, with a wood stove surrounded by benches that were miniatures of church pews. (See Hanford Brook , pg 4). The teacher's desk was on a slightly raised platform, and behind it the slate blackboard. Students used slates for their lessons and exams. Parents continued to pay tuition for each child, despite parish and provincial grants. Teachers were boarded in the homes of the parents whose children attended school, the length of the stay directly proportional to the number of children attending school. The Common Schools Act of 1871 provided that all schools would be supplied with trained teachers. By 1884 this had been implemented. By 1895 there were 63000 students enrolled in New Brunswick Schools with an annual cost of education at \$500,000, about \$8 per child. In 1911 Manual Training for boys and Household Science for girls were added to the N.B. School Curriculum. **Miss Bessie Holder, Long Reach, Kingston**, was the first woman to teach Manual Training in Saint John Schools.

~“Long Point School~The Three R’s and More” by ~Laura Stockdale~

One-room schools weren’t all about learning the three R’s. Recess and noon hour could be full of activities that required little organizing, coaching, almost no equipment, and no fees to join in the fun. Many games were played that included children in grades 1 to 8 or 9. Long Point School had an enrolment of 20 students when I (**Laura**) taught there in 1938.

‘**Hide and Seek**’ was always popular. The flag pole was “the bar”, and children would scurry in all directions to hide while “It” counted and announced “here I come”! Everyone might not be found before the bell rang for school to go in, so they would be “free”!

‘**Tag**’ was a good active game but could lead to an argument ~ “I tagged you”~ “No, you didn’t!”
Poison tag was a lot of fun because “It” had to hold on to the place where he/she was tagged while he/she tried to tag someone.

‘**May I?**’ ~We tried to take the longest baby steps or giant steps and bunny hops to reach the goal and how discouraging when we were almost there and didn’t say, “MayI?”

‘**Lemonade**’ may have been called something else at other schools. Teams of equal numbers were chosen. Children had a line on opposite sides of the schoolyard and a line was drawn down the center. One side chose an action to pantomime, such as shovelling snow. They would walk to the center line chanting, “Here we come!”. The opposite side said, “Where from?”~ “New York!”~ “What’s your trade?”~

“Lemonade~give us some!” Then the initials of the action were given~S.S. and the team proceeded to act as if they shovelling snow until the opposite side guessed correctly, chasing them back to their side. Any child who was tagged was taken from their team.

‘**Blind Man’s Bluff**’ could be played indoors or out. **Follow the Leader**, **Red Light**, and **Drop the Handkerchief** were other games all ages could play.

The cedar trees beside the school were where we played “**Pussy in the Corner**” and “**Mr. & Mrs. Busby in the Wagon Upset**”. There were 8 or 10 trees and a child would stand by a tree with one child as “**It**”.

Children would run from one tree to another and “**It**” would try to get to a vacant tree first. When playing “**Mr. & Mrs. Busby**”, “**It**” would call , “**Mr. & Mrs. Busby in the Wagon Upset**” and everyone had to change trees.

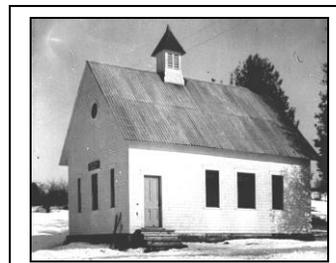
Sometimes, someone would bring a ball for a game of catch, or if someone had a bat we could play soft ball. Some games were too sissy for the boys or too childish for the older girls. These were **London Bridges**, **Hopscotch**, and **Skipping Rope**.

On stormy days, we played quieter games like “**I Spy**”, “**Simon Says**”, or “**Feathers**”. If a blackboard was not in use some children would play X and O or **Hangman**.

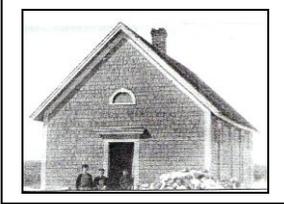
All of our activities provided everyone with educational, as well as safe, active fun!

Laura (Roberts) Stockdale grew up on Pidgeon Hill, went to Long Point School, and taught there in later years. The Long Point district is on the south side of Belleisle Bay, between the Keirsteadville district on the east and the Midland district in Kingston. In January of 1875 the Board of Education listed this district as Bates District #9. In 1900 the name was changed to Long Point District #9. The Long Point School was also known as the Cedar Grove School. There were two buildings, an old one, vacant, and a newer one in use in 1920. In 1948 **Belleisle Regional School** was built, which took away all pupils above Grade Six. In 1949 the trustees of the Belleisle Regional School district decided to close the Long Point School and bus the pupils to Keirsteadville. The school was then sold for a dwelling. By 1955 school population had increased, so the Board moved the vacant Sharp’s School from its location on the O’Neill Road to Long Point and set it up just above the Belleisle Ferry Landing. It was then in operation until June of 1969 when it caught fire and burned. Belleisle Elementary School was under construction and in September all elementary pupils were bussed to that school.

Long Point School
&
Laura Stockdale



East Scotch Settlement



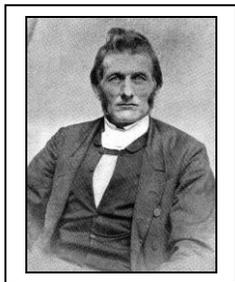
write by

some not considered necessary. Many children lived for some time in more remote areas without a school to attend. Many would only be able to sign legal documents with an X in later years.

Men were preferred as teachers, especially where mathematical instruction was needed. A former teacher, Margaret (Crealock) Ward, who taught in Pascobac School from 1927 to 1930, now aged 97, and living at Belleisle Manor, excelled in algebra and geometry. She tells of ordering Grade 9 books from Normal School so that she could prepare a student for his entrance exams to Normal School. In those years the teachers still boarded in their school districts as the distances were too far to travel by horse and carriage. Although home was in Pearsonville, she boarded with the Gillies family and walked a good mile to the Pascobac School.

However, looking back to the 1850's, the standard of living could be low for the man or woman teacher boarding in homes in lieu of money; one week being lodged in a comfortable farm house, and the next in a miserable log hut. The food could be buckwheat; the washing, little; the lodging, the fourth bed in a corner of the one- room. Cleanliness and decency were difficult. Nowhere to study or do preparations; no privacy; no rest after a hard day at school; the teacher was expected to help with the chores, tutor the children who were needed to run the farm during the day, or babysit. From these rough beginnings there did emerge sons and daughters who became ministers, teachers, lawyers, college professors, and politicians in Kings County.

~ Some Kings County Graduates ~



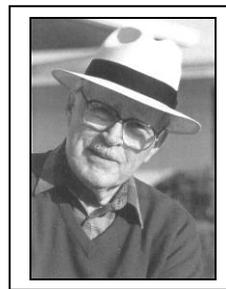
Rev. Ezekiel McLeod
Penobsquis ~b.1812



Hattie M. Smith
Teacher~Smithtown
b.1889~Damascus



Elizabeth E. Gaunce
Nurse & Missionary
b. 1865~ Carsonville



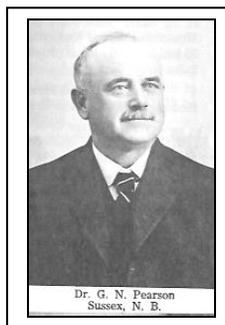
Horace Macaulay
R.C.A.F & Author
b.1921~ Lower Millstream



Joyce Crealock
Teacher~Marriottown
b. 1880~Eng. Settlement.



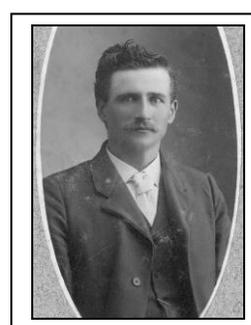
Charlotte McLeod
Teacher & VON
b. 1852, L. Millstream



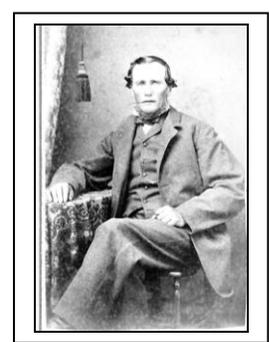
Dr. G.N.Pearson
b. 1857, Sussex



Melvina Mercer, Nurse
Bertha Mercer, Clerk
Wilfred Mercer, Carpenter
b. Collina,, 1871, 76, 82



Archibald Crealock
Farmer & School Trustee
b. 1878, Eng. Sett.

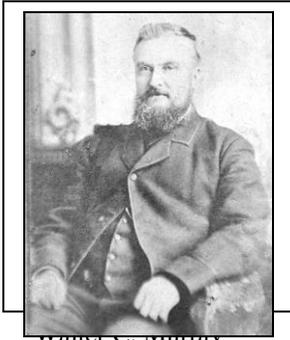


Abraham B. Holder
Ship's Captain &Farmer
b. 1817, Long Reach

~A Family Profile~

~The Dr. Charles Murray Family Of English Settlement, Kings Co., N.B.~

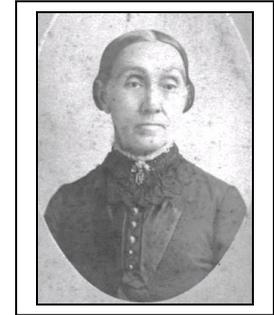
Dr. Charles Murray



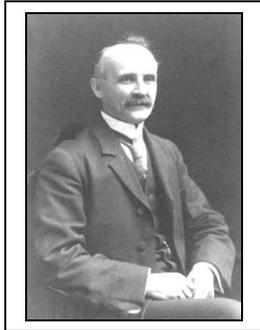
English Settlement School~1844



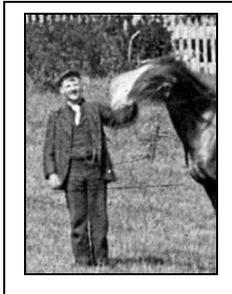
Elizabeth Murray



The first School in English Settlement, Kings Co., was the small building attached to this house. From 1844, according to the James Brown School Reports, until the Pearsonville School was built in the 1880's, the children of the settlement attended this school. Dr. Charles Murray was a student here along with his brothers and sisters, cousins, and neighbors. His mother, Elizabeth Pearson, had married Walter Murray and had a family of 11 children on the farm now occupied by the McCullum family. Her brothers William, and Isaac, living on the farms nearby, had families of seven and four children. Dr. Charles and Elizabeth Murray's eight children also received their early schooling here. The family lived on the present Earl Crealock farm, earlier owned by the Kincaide family. Dr. Charles purchased the farm in 1865 upon his marriage to Elizabeth MacKenzie. Their children attended this school and later sent to Dalhousie University and the Halifax Ladies College. The children were very fortunate to have educated parents and teachers. Thomas Pearson's children had been educated in England before arriving in Kings County in 1823. The Murray family received its education in Scotland before arriving in 1820. Adam Murray, Walter's brother, was the first teacher in English Settlement in 1828. He was followed by Emily (Shaw) Beavan, an educated Irish teacher whose family had come from Belfast, Ireland. Francis Gallagher was teaching in English Settlement, Kings County in the school reports for 1851. Samuel Grimshaw was teaching in English Settlement, Queens County. The Pearson and the Murray families occupied farms in both. Walter C. Murray became a Professor at Dalhousie College in Halifax, later President of the University of Saskatchewan. Lucy graduated from Dalhousie University and then became a teacher at Halifax Ladies College. Lewis Rutherford became a doctor, graduating from Jefferson College in Boston. He came home to take over his father's practice, but took his office to Sussex. Laura and Ella Mabel also attended Halifax Ladies College. Brothers, Adam and Hedley went to Collegiate School in Halifax for boys. All attended the old school in English Settlement, which was renamed Pearsonville in 1897. There is no exact date as yet for the new school which became the Pearsonville School in use until 1969. It is still standing but lost its name sign one night a few years ago! A former student??



Lucy C. Murray



Lewis R. Murray

Ella Mabel



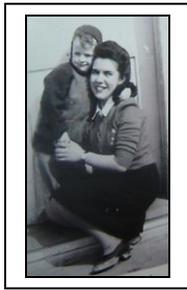
Laura Elizabeth



~The Pascobac School Reunion Held at the Gillies Farm in Belleisle~

~Saturday, August 16th, 2008~

by Lynn Browne



Alice Pearson

Ruby Morrison

Pascobac School ~1874-1969

Elsie Hayes & Annie Ward

The Pascobac Reunion was held at the Gillies Farm at Belleisle Creek. It was organized by Lynn Browne, Cathy Thorne, and Art Keith. It was a huge success in spite of heavy rain most of the afternoon. Over 80 attended, 47 of whom were Pascobac students. Everyone squeezed into the garage, shared memories, and entertainment. Hilda Gillies received a gift and thank you for hosting our celebration. Rolph O'Neill was given a special thanks for preparing many pictures. There was a fantastic display of Memorabilia, including Registers, School Reports, school books from the Keith Collection, a teacher's desk, Rolph's nature study collection, and two school bells, one of which Lynn used to make announcements. Two former teachers were present; Frances (Ketchum) Reicker, and Ruby (MacDonald) Morrison. Two others are still living: Margaret (Crealock) Ward, age 97, residing at Belleisle Manor, and Stella (Carson) Folkins. Ernie Alcorn, at age 90, was the oldest student present, and was presented with a 1931 picture of the school by his niece, Barbara (Alcorn) Burns, also a former student. The oldest living student, at 106 years, is Arvilla (Villa Sharp) Northrup, residing in a nursing home in Plymouth, Mass. In respect to those who had passed away, the class held a moment's silence with prayer. The five Benson girls led a singsong from the old Silver Song Book. Great singing voices! Glenna Hayes then read her school days memories.

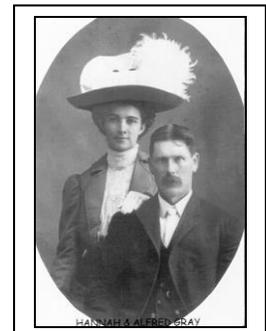
Students who came from afar were: Jean (O'Neil) MacDonald who hadn't been to the Belleisle for six years; Joyce (Hughes) Gero came from N.S.; Mae (Scott) Goodfellow came from Ont. to join her two sisters from Fredericton; Eleanore (Muir) McCafferty came from Ont. to join her sister and brother in Belleisle. Everyone really enjoyed seeing their old classmates. The garage was abuzz with conversation. When the rain let up, a group photo was taken under the Pascobac School Sign!! Then the tables were dried off, the tablecloths put on, and all sat down to a rich pot luck supper. The ladies outdid themselves ~all bringing their favourite recipes. Desserts were scrumptious!

Pascobac School was located at the corner of the Searsville and Harmer Roads. It was in operation from 1874 until 1969 when the 13 one room schools that fed Belleisle Regional all closed and Belleisle Elementary opened its doors. The land for the school had been given by Lemuel Gillies, a grandson of Loyalist Jesse Gillies and Elizabeth Sherwood. The farm was later sold to Alfred & Hannah Gray by Lemuel's son, Almon Gillies in 1909.

Lemuel Gillies~1847-90



Alfred & Hannah Gray



~ School Days ~ Memoirs of Pascobac School ~ by Bertha Muir

"I hated school and made all manner of excuses to stay home~such as being quite ill in the mornings until the others had gone over the hill~and I couldn't go alone. I presume I could have been called the "spoiled brat" as being the youngest, I was rather a privileged character.

One of my first memories included my bumping Leah Gillies and Elsie Bickford's heads together. They were in Grade (Primer No. 1). I was in Primer No. 2 and sat with Lottie Gillies. We had old double seats and desks and a long bench at the back. Our teacher was Mrs. Austin Smith and was unfortunately very cross-eyed and I thought she was looking the other way~and consequently got the long heavy hardwood ruler~so I never liked her. Mart Gillies agreed with me~as she accused him of telling a lie and asked him why, and what did he plan on doing when he grew up~if he started telling lies so young. His answer was ~ " He was going to be a Baptist Minister."

Another day the two biggest girls in school, Edna Gillies and Florence Muir, got down on the floor and walked on their hands and knees across the back of the room, turned, and were almost to their own seat when caught. Of all the characters in the school, "the two Clarences" (Gillies and Muir) led the rest. During the noon hour they went up the old railway track, (to the turn where the old Central Rail Engineer tooted twice if he was going to stop at the old siding), and killed a skunk, dragging it down (Clarence Gillies) carried it, and they hid it under the schoolhouse and the results were the teacher (Mr. Joe Allingham) came back from his dinner hour and it turned him so sick he had to close school and go home. Clarence's mother buried his clothes so he couldn't wear them again. Another prank on Mr. Allingham was to put a nail up through his chair just so the point would tear his pants! A mouse under the Register was a good way to bring shrieks from any of our teachers.

Another of their episodes ~.The boys made a cart out of their own and others' pencil boxes with their jackknives. After it was all complete they had it between them on the seat when discovered. Another day~.They got in trouble and the teacher (Miss Minnie Freeze) sent them out to find a good strong birch switch to use on them. They did not come back so she sent my sister, Minnie Muir after them. She found them down by the railroad bridge on the Harmer Road. When asked why they didn't come back~The answer was~ "They couldn't find one good enough!"

Another day some pupils put pepper on the hot stove and when Gladys Sharp came back from lunch they told her to smell it, with the results it nearly choked her and her eyes pained for days. Another~The teacher, Miss Margaret Marr of Norton came back from lunch, and the boys had gone out and brought in cat tails. They were flying all over the room whenever you moved. Miss Marr had on a very pretty wool suit and was planning to go home on the afternoon train. The suit was so badly laden with fluff she had to go back and change it, but warned the boys to stay and clean up. They carried in pails of water and threw it on the floor where it froze. We carried our water from **Alfred Gray's** well, and we all wanted turns as we might have one or two of **Mrs. Hannah Gray's** special sugar cookies hot from her oven. We all drank from the one tin dipper with no germs spread. We used slates and hard slate pencils that scratched with a shrieking noise as we worked! We cleaned our slates with rags that soon got bad smelling.

Parents never interfered with the teachers, and everyone, as well as the pupils, respected them, despite our pranks. Our Inspectors claimed Pascobac and the Sharp School were their best schools in their area. We took all subjects except French, but we did study Latin. We also knew how to play games without being supervised. We were never taught to go from house to house begging for money for all the modern accoutrements. Our parents built the school, furnished it with their own money, and supplied many of our books." *Bertha Muir ~ (copy as per original)*

"Remember" by Carol Henderson ~Darling's Island School~Unveiling of Permanent Marker~ June 13th, 2006

Remember the schoolhouse on top of the hill
Whose clapboards were grey from the weather.
Remember the one-room with the blackboard and chalk
And Desks that were doubled together.

Remember the stove in front of the desks
That attempted to heat up the room
In sub-zero days of winter ~
It was always as cold as a tomb.

Wet mittens were laid by the stove on the floor
To dry out between recess and noon.
Frozen inkwells were thawed and classes begun,
Oh how we longed for the last days of June!

Remember the spring days and the tamarack trees
Where we'd swing from the branches in glee,
The ball games we'd play in the pastures nearby~
Our set of rules and no "referee".

Remember how we'd line up when the bell rang
To summon us back to our studies
Of primers and readers and time table charts
Where we share slate pencils with buddies.
Remember the water pail back on the bench
With one dipper and used by all,
No thought of E-coli, TB, or strep,
Or infections that might well befall

Remember the lack of no indoor plumbing,
And trips down the lane rain or shine;
Separate stall for the boys and also the girls,
The odour of spruce, cedar and pine!

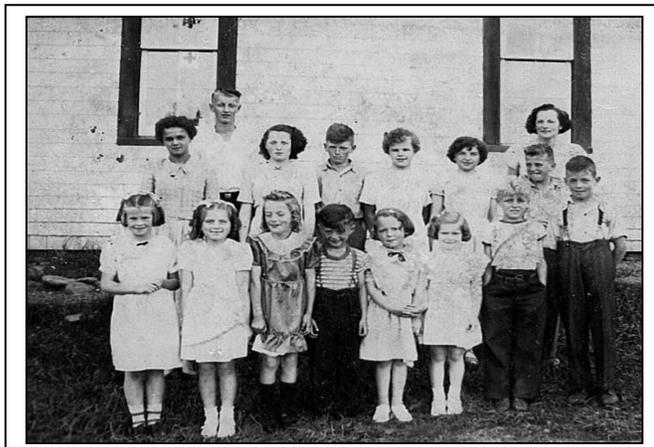
Remember these and many more highlights
Of days long gone past in this zone.
With nostalgic reflections and thoughts

We proudly display our commemorative stone. ~Carol~

~ School Days ~

~ Salt Springs School~1910~Teacher~Helen Reid ~

~Pearsonville School~1952~Teacher~Effie Holder Pearson



L to R

~ Berwick School, Kings Co., N.B.~1908~

Pupils~Teacher, Miss Bertie Leiper

Row 1~Raymond Robinson, Bertha Brundage, Leland Bell, Bessie Caldwell, Boy Brundage, Don Gaunce, Morton Crothers, Walter Caldwell, Fred Caldwell, Ken Gaunce, Grover Crothers

Row 2~Fred Caldwell, Robert Smith, Rutherford Forward, **Bertie (Leiper) Smith~Teacher**, Roland Bell, Cora Brundage, Freda Robinson, Elsie Douthright, Hadassah Caldwell, Bert Robinson, Lottie Gaunce, Marguerite Folkins,

Row 3~Mildred McAfee, Samuel Folkins, Harry Parlee, Clarence Goddard

Row 4~Alice Douthright, Jean Kennedy, Myrtle Crothers, Mary McNair, Herbert Smith, Jean Folkins, Bella McNair, Ivy Crothers, Theresa Robinson, Hattie Folkins **Top Row**~Roy Elison, Walter Gaunce, Palmer Goddard, Pearson Crothers.

Photo~Mrs. Lottie Gaunce (Also have pupil lists for Salt Springs and Pearsonville Schools)

~Memorial Service ~Apohaqui ~The Anglican Church of Ascension~

On Sunday, August 3rd., the Anglican Church of the Ascension, Apohaqui, and its Medley Hall, filled with congregation and guests, observed a special day of remembrance, a Cemetery Memorial Service, with over 160 from various parts of N.B., as well as Ontario and Maine. Rev'd Canon George Akerley conducted the morning prayer service, using The Book Of Common Prayer, 1825 edition. Readings were by Betty Main.

Guest Speaker, Richard Thorne, historian, reviewed, "In 1783 the Loyalists departed from New York and other small communities along the eastern seaboard of the newly created United States. These thousands of young men, wives, young children, and aged parents were refugees from a revolution. Making their way in ships into the fog-shrouded Bay of Fundy and disembarking on the rocks of the south end of the peninsula of Saint John. " They became the settlers who made their way up the river valleys of the St. John, Kennebecasis, Hammond, Belleisle, Washademoak or Cannan Rivers and into places where smaller streams joined the major rivers. Such a place was the Millstream and surrounding areas where it met the Kennebecasis." The first Anglican Church-consecrated 14 Sept., 1841, St. Johns~ was constructed at the wagon road intersection overlooking Apohaqui, accommodating the inhabitants of Millstream

and on the Kennebecasis River. It was replaced by a larger church, Church of the Ascension, built by Bishop Medley in 1872. The earliest death recorded by a stone in the Church of Ascension Cemetery is that of Thomas Pearson who died November 1845, found in John Elliott's "Gone But Not Forgotten", Vol. 1, pg. 16.

All of this brings us to the purpose of this day, to commemorate the faithful departed.

The Cemetery Memorial Service opened with 10 year old Jocelyn Pitcher playing, "When The Saints Go Marching In" on her Grandfather, Austin Stockdale's trumpet. Many of the children involved with the day's service were descendents of loved ones buried in the cemetery. As guests entered the church, Michaela and Bridget Smith (grandchildren of Walter Kyle) passed out 'keepsake bulletins.' Upon leaving the church, Richard Pitcher and Marcus Smith offered carnations for placing on loved one's graves.

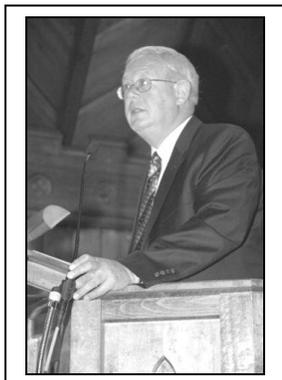
"ONWARD CHRISTIAN SOLDIER", the first hymn sung in the newly built Church of Ascension on Ascension Day, 1872 by 'marching ministers', was again the first hymn for this occasion, sung by the church choir. Guest musician, Ron Mallory, sang an inspirational hymn, "How Long Has It Been." Hymns, sung by our ancestors, "Crown Him With Many Crowns", and "Jerusalem The Golden" (translated by John Neales), were selected and sung by the choir.

Following the church service; viewing in the cemetery and placing of carnations, the congregation enjoyed historic displays in Medley Hall~artifacts, historic memorabilia, picture albums of events etc., researched family histories, hangings and stands once used as our ancestors worshipped.

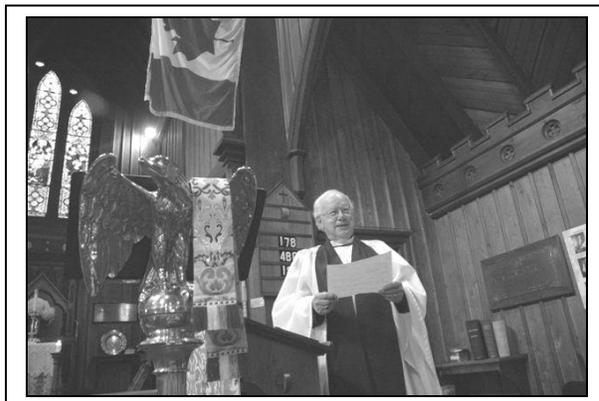
From the Oldest to the Newest! Ending the program for this special event, we moved from Medley Hall, built in 1892, to the 'new' Recreational Council Hall in Jones Park, built this year, 2008. Here food, and a time of fellowship were enjoyed by all. Special speaker, Russell Bartlett, entertained with fond memories of his childhood living near the Church of Ascension Cemetery, Apohaqui.

At the end of the day, we were reminded!

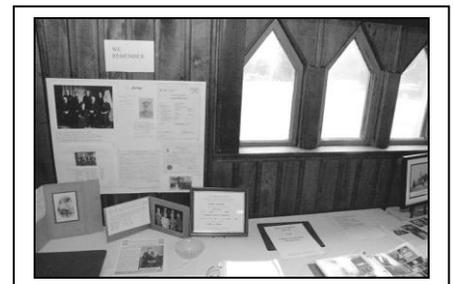
"This village and the Church of Ascension at Apohaqui have stood difficult times, but resilience, willingness to adapt, and the strength of the people who live in the 'community' are a force to reckon with."



Richard Thorne



Rev. Canon George Akerley



Medley Hall~ Church History

~ by Ber Floyd