



Waterford graded school history.

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Waterford Graded School



HISTORY

FOREWORD

The Waterford Graded School District has undergone many changes throughout the years.

I had the privilege of being on the Waterford Graded School board from April, 1989 through April, 1992. During that time the district experienced much growth and its share of problems to overcome.

While working on three different building projects, I had started to research the past history of the District to see where it was that we had come from and hopefully help to direct where we might go.

This is a collection of articles, pictures, and narrative accounts from many people. I felt it was necessary to assemble a history of those almost forgotten one-room school houses and other places of learning that shaped so many of our lives. Their time is past but we should not forget the scope of their importance.

I want to thank everyone who shared their time and stories. I hope that this small effort will enlighten as well as amuse!

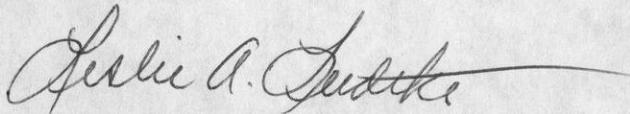

Leslie A. Ludtke

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WATERFORD GRADED SCHOOL HISTORY

The History of Racine and Kenosha Counties, circa 1879, states the following: The first school (in the area) was established in 1840, of which Miss Caldwell was the teacher. She served one term. In those days of early education, no salaries were paid, it being the custom for teachers to "board out" the tuition furnished by ambitious pupils. It was not until after the State took charge of the schools in 1858 that a money consideration was offered teachers. The first school house was built in District #2 (Webster District, also known as the Rice or Grove District), about one mile west of the village of Waterford, near what is now the intersection of State Highways 20 and 83. That was first taught by Mrs. D. Newhall; she also "boarded" for her pay.

According to Stories of Waterford and it's Busy Life, circa 1923, it is not known whether the schoolhouse preceded the school, or the school the house. "A man by the name of Sherwood was among the earliest and best teachers of the district," stated Capt. Rice, "And pupils came out to the school (at Rice's Corners) from the village."

Old papers from the Chapman family home give more accurate information.

On September 22, 1845, Samuel Chapman deeded to the trustees of District No. 9, Town of Rochester, (Waterford at that time was part of the Township of Rochester), 40 feet running north and south by 30 feet east to west off the northeast corner of lot 3, block 9, Waterford, to be used as a school house site.

Another paper found by Miss Stone gives the specifications of the school house which the district proposed to build the "little red brick schoolhouse." It was to be "26 feet long, 22 feet wide, a 13 foot 6 inch panel door was to be placed in the center of the front end with transom sash over the door with 1.15 light windows on each side of the door leaving equal spaces." This describes the first schoolhouse, but not the first school. A Mrs. Jordan related a story her mother told about the first school in the village. It was held in the "Old Ark" - the old log house, the first to built in the village, which served as home to the Chapman and Barnes families. It was also the stopping place for all new comers and served as the "community center" of this new settlement. Mrs. Martha Short, a sister of Mrs. Samuel Chapman and a daughter of Levi Barnes, it is thought, was the first teacher.

An item taken from The Racine Advocate of May 1, 1844, quoted in one of the early issues of the Waterford Post, says: "The village of Waterford contains 150 inhabitants, has a good school, a good state of society, moral and religious, and now and then an abolitionist!"

A school was held in the basement of the old Congregational Church (erected in 1859) for several years. According to the reports of those who attended, it was at one time used as an overflow when "the little red brick schoolhouse," was out of commission, and again after that had been repaired, it was used as the "high school."

The "little red brick schoolhouse" was not the only home of the public school, but for years was used for public gatherings in the village. It served as the town hall, and impartially opened it's doors to the various denominations of the community for church services, too.

The time came when a new building was needed. Accordingly at the annual school meeting held September 30, 1867, an appropriation of \$1000 was made for a new stone schoolhouse. Ole Heg was chairman of the meeting and James Iverson clerk.

The stone building, erected on the site of the little red brick schoolhouse) and the site of the present Graded School at Center and Main Streets) was begun the following year, and at the annual meeting that year, September 28, 1868, \$1,600 was voted to complete the project.

In the summer of 1902, a large brick addition was added. This was in front of the 1869 stone building. The contract was taken by Noll & Auterman, their bid being \$3,785. They in turn, sublet the mason and plaster work to Pressmen & Zerneke.

A new course of study was prepared for the school by the state superintendent. The tuition was \$1.50 per month.

In 1910, Mrs. Kehler (granddaughter of Levi Barnes) visited Waterford and offered to donate \$5000 to be used to build a new high school building. This offer was supplemented by Miss Imogene Chapman, (also a granddaughter of Levi Barnes) who donated campus grounds, the only condition being that it be called the "Levi Barnes Memorial". District No.1 accepted this generous offer. It was not until May, 1914, however that the district turned over to the Union Free High School, the old Congregational Church property which had been deeded to it along with the \$5,000 donated by Mrs. Kehler and the \$5,000 appropriated by the district for the school rebuilding funds.

The high school was erected in 1916 just north of the present high school's oldest section. Its first session was held in the fall of that year.

Waterford's state graded school was said to be the best of its class in the county.

Waterford didn't experience too many growing pains until 1948 when the lunch room was added at a cost of \$85,000 to the 1869 and 1902 building. The addition of the boiler room, additional toilets and four classrooms took place in 1951. In 1955 four more classrooms and the library were built. The gymnasium, stage and two more classrooms were erected in 1959. On June 4th, 1963 a referendum was passed for the amount of \$205,000 for the demolition of the original 1868 schoolhouse, and the addition of the seven classrooms fronting Main Street, a teacher's prep room, office, sick room, toilet areas and basement storage.

As of 1960 the Waterford Graded School District had rented the old agricultural school in Rochester to use as a junior high school. After the additions to the graded school in 1964 and the failure to consolidate with other schools in the Union High School District, a study was made to look at what steps to take next.

The graded school purchased a 30-acre parcel from the high school and started construction on the Fox River Middle School in February 1968. Doors opened for the students in January of 1969 and a dedication celebration was held Sunday, March 5, 1969.

Our village seemed quite peaceful for a number of years. Then in the late 1980's many people began to rediscover Waterford as a great place to live and grow.

A referendum was held Tuesday, April 3, 1990 on whether or not to borrow six million dollars to build Evergreen Elementary School, and it passed narrowly 963 yes to 934 no.

A ground-breaking ceremony was held on Friday, October 19, 1990. School children and teachers from the district, Administrators, and School Board members joined architects from PSI Design, and construction managers from Voss-Jorgensen-Schueler Co. to celebrate the occasion. After the ground was broken, a reception was held in the library of the Graded School where cake, punch and coffee were served.

Construction went smoothly and the doors of Evergreen Elementary School opened on Monday, August 26th, 1991 precisely on time and 10% under budget.

On Sunday October 20th, 1991 Evergreen's dedication ceremony was held.

April 3, 1992 was another red-letter day in the history of the Waterford Graded School District. Ground was broken for the addition and renovation of the old graded school. This building will house 4th and 5th grade and in June of 1992 the Board of Education changed its name to Maple View School. Construction proceeded on schedule and Maple View School opened on time to students on Monday, August 24th, 1992.

Register of School Officers and Term of Office.

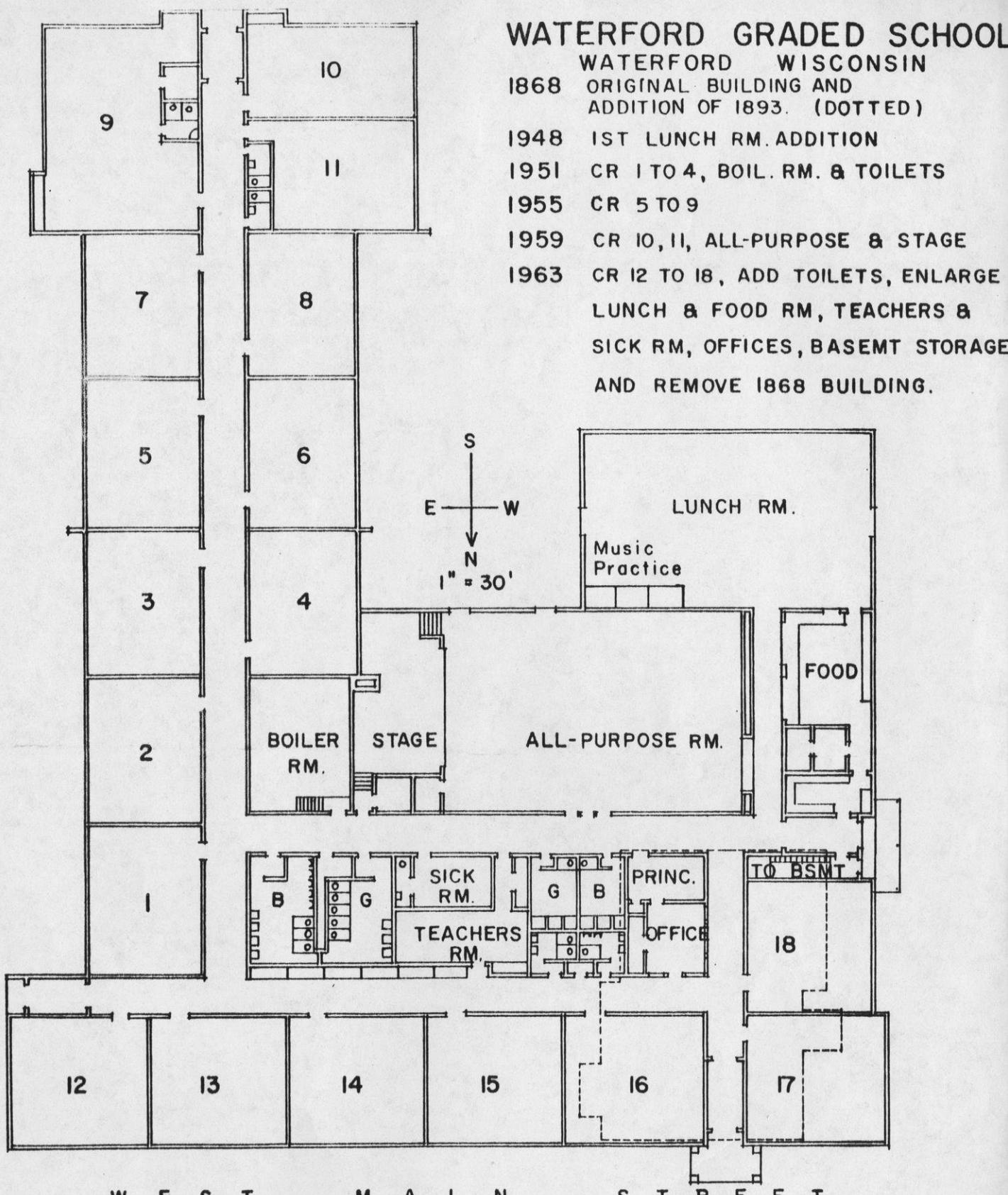
NAMES OF OFFICERS.	OFFICE.	ELECTED OR APPOINTED.				OFFICE EXPIRES.		
		ELECTED OR APPOINTED.	MONTH.	DAY.	YEAR.	MONTH.	DAY.	YEAR.
C. M. Levens.	Clerk	app.	Oct.	22	1866	Sept.		1867
Charles Moe	Treas.	Elected	Sept	24	"	"		1869
Ole Heg	Dircc.	app.	Oct.	22	"	"		1867
James Iverson	Clerk	app	April	8	1867	"		1867
J. J. Hoover	Treasurer	app			1867	"	30	1867
James Iverson	Clerk	Elected	Sept	30	1867	Sept.	30	1868
J. J. Hoover	Treasurer	Elected	"	30	1867	Sept	30	1869
Ole Heg	Dircc	Elected	Sept	30	1867			
Charles Moe	Dircc	Elected	Sept	28	1868	Aug	"	1870
James Iverson	Clerk	Elected	Sept	28	1868	Aug		1871
W. Shenkhenley	Clerk	Elected	August	27	1877	August		1879
W. C. Nevell	Treas.	Elected	August	29	1877	August	26	1878
William Voss	Director	Elected	August	26	1878	August	27	1879
Solen Cook	Treas.	Elected	August	26	1878	August		1881
A. A. Pierce	Clerk	Elec ^d	July	10	1880	July	13	1883
N. H. Palmer	Treas.	Elec ^d	July	11	1881	July	14	1884

Special School Meeting
was held ^{at the school house in Dist.}
No 1 ^{Watertown.} Monday Sept. 18 1882
To hear reasons for nonattendance in
the public school in said District
of children between the age of seven
and fifteen years. There was no
attendance

A A Pierce
Dist Clerk



WATERFORD GRADED SCHOOL (bottom floor) WATERFORD HIGH SCHOOL (top floor) circa 1910



W E S T M A I N S T R E E T

REFERENDUM JUNE 4TH, 1963

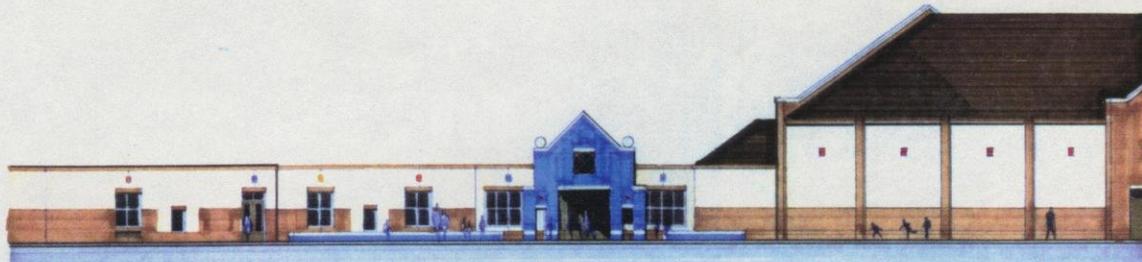
POLLS OPEN 7AM to 8PM at SCHOOL 405 W. MAIN ST.
ON \$205,000 BOND ISSUE TO BUILD AND EQUIP
FINAL 7 CLASSROOMS etc. ABOVE.

VOTE HELP THE PRESENT AND FUTURE
STUDENTS of WATERFORD GRADED SCHOOL **VOTE YES**
YOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION AND YOUR BUILDING COMMITTEE

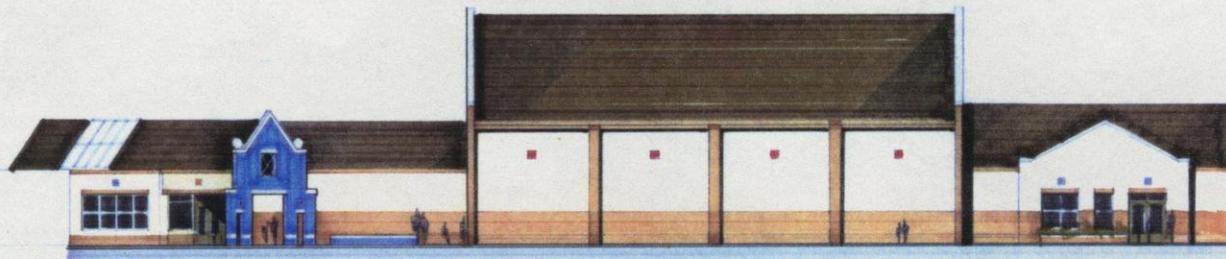


WATERFORD EARLY LEARNING BUILDING





ENTRANCE ELEVATION
Sept 24, 1990



DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION/GYM ELEVATION
Sept 24, 1990



NORTH ELEVATION
Sept 24, 1990

ELEVATIONS SEPT 24, 1990

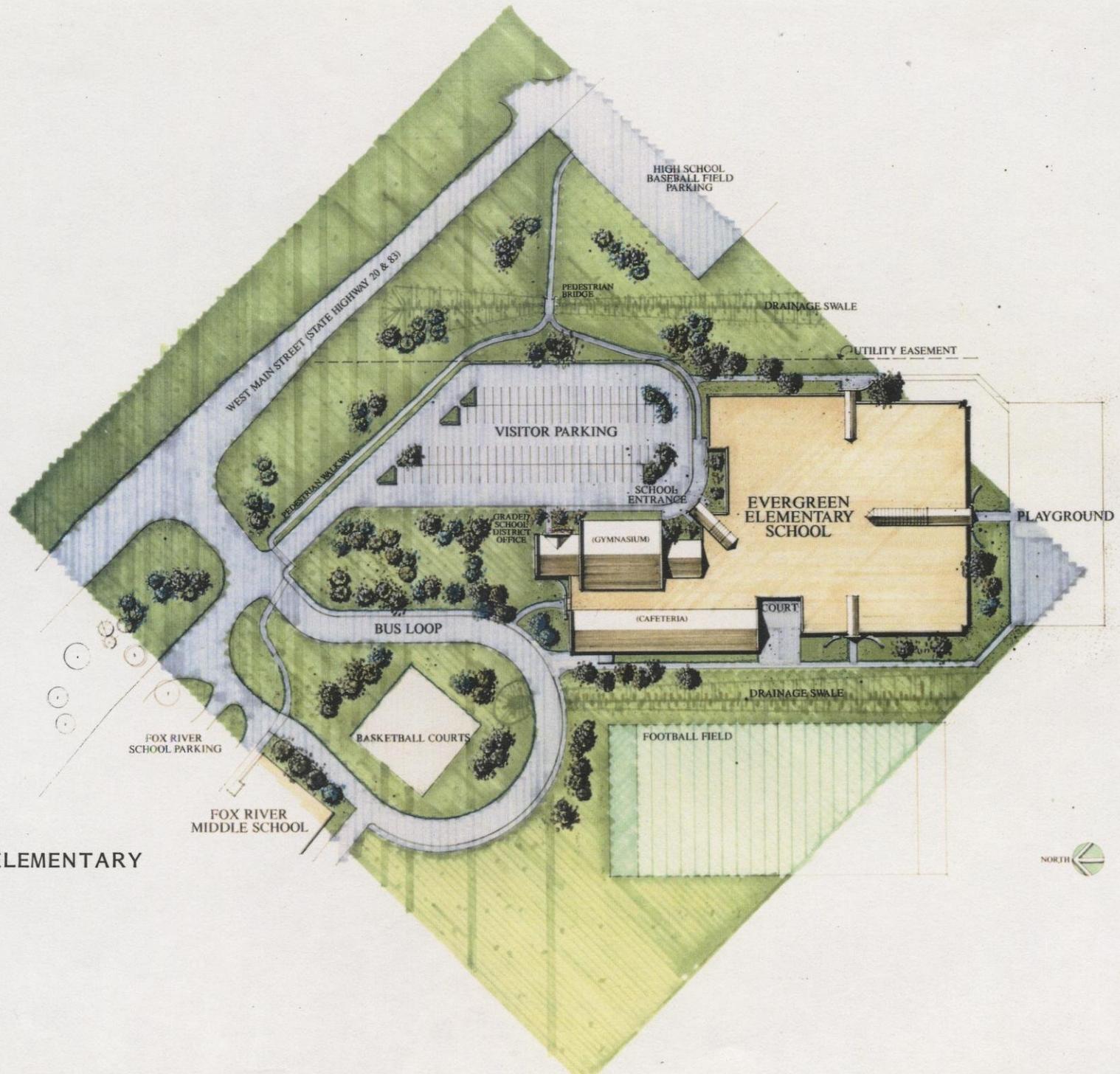
Waterford School District #110, IL

Early Learning
Building

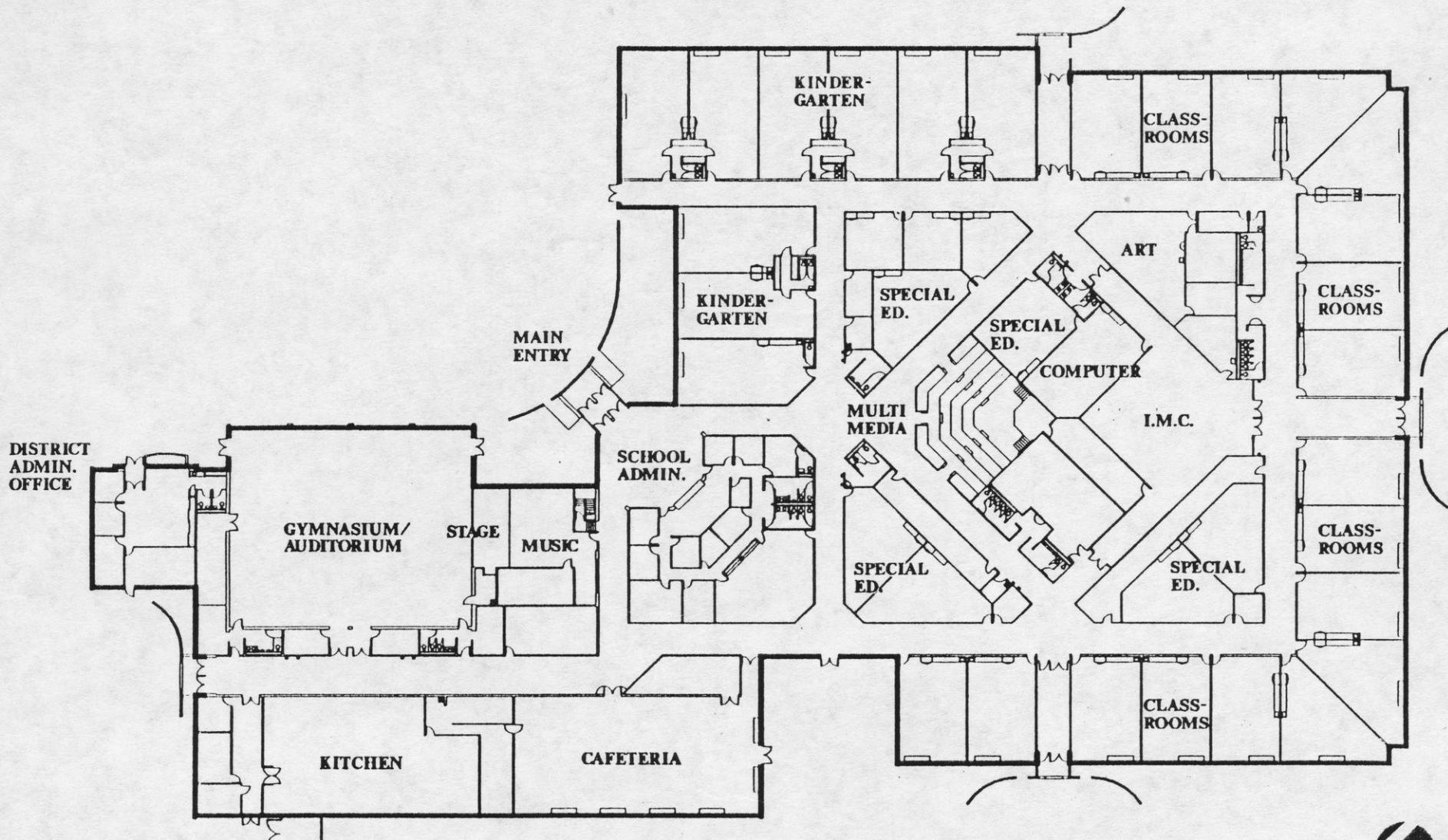
Le Sueur



PSD Design, Inc.
Architects
800-322-0000
800-322-0000
800-322-0000



EVERGREEN ELEMENTARY
SITE PLAN



NORTH

EVERGREEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

DEDICATION - EVERGREEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - OCTOBER 20, 1991

Welcome & Introductions Douglas C. Robbins, Principal
Invocation Reverend Dell Sailer
Presentation of Flag Maxine Hough, State Representative
Acceptance of Flag Gary D. Tilleros, Ass't. District Administrator
Presentation of Thanks to:
The Facilities Study Committee Mark Faust, School Board Director
The Citizen's Committee Robert Goetsch, School Board Treasurer
The Building Committee Mary A. Wessel, School Board Vice President
Community Commitment Award Leslie A. Lutke, School Board President
Acceptance Terry J. Alby, Alby Materials
Guest Speaker Dr. Beecham Robinson, U/W Parkside
Presentation of Building Daniel P. Christiansen, PSI Design, Inc.
. Thomas S. Schueler, VJS
Acceptance of Building Richard D. Marta, District Administrator
Cutting of Ribbon Douglas C. Robbins
Benediction Reverend Dell Sailer

We gratefully acknowledge the generous donations from the following area businesses:

Uncle Harry's	Ice Cream
Hardee's of Waterford	Orange Drink, Cups, Sugar & Cream
Carr's Floral	Plants for Stage
The Country Florist	Boutonnieres & Corsages

Thanks to the PTO for supplying the cake and people to serve it, and to Sentry's of Waterford for providing it at a reduced cost.

Citizen's Committee

Shirley Allesee
Marcy Damaschke
Mark Faust
Jody Goff
Robert Graf
Don & Rae Grisius
Barb Hanson
Tina Heil
Steve & Jennie Hensgen
Linda Hughes
Gary Johncox
Julie Johnson
Tom Johnson
Rob & Nancy Jorgensen
Rich & Bev Kojis
Claudia Kovara
Bob & Sue Kwasigroch
Leslie A. Ludtke
Kay Lukas
Gary Malcolm
Jan Malcolm
Mr. & Mrs. Lindor "Skip" Maletzke
Richard D. Marta
Ray Moyer
Wendy Muller
Jeanne O'Connell
Tom Polakowski
Douglas Robbins
Avis Schaal
Dean Schrader
Gary Tilleros
Kathy Wiesend
Jane Willard

Building Committee

Terry Alby
Phyllis Bixler
Jan Christiansen
Sue Kwasigroch
Leslie A. Ludtke
Richard D. Marta
George Neumueller
Douglas Robbins
Earl Steinke
Gary Tilleros
Matthew West
William White

Facilities Study Committee

Steven Bell
Virginia Boglitsch
James Graff
Tom Johnson
Judith Karweik
Leslie A. Ludtke
Richard D. Marta
Ray Moyer
George Neumueller
Douglas Robbins
Gary Tilleros

Beating the Odds

BY

Leslie Ludtke

Critics said it couldn't be done, but community leaders in Waterford were determined to provide the district's children with the educational facilities they needed.

Ludtke is retiring this month as president of the Waterford Jt. 1 School Board.

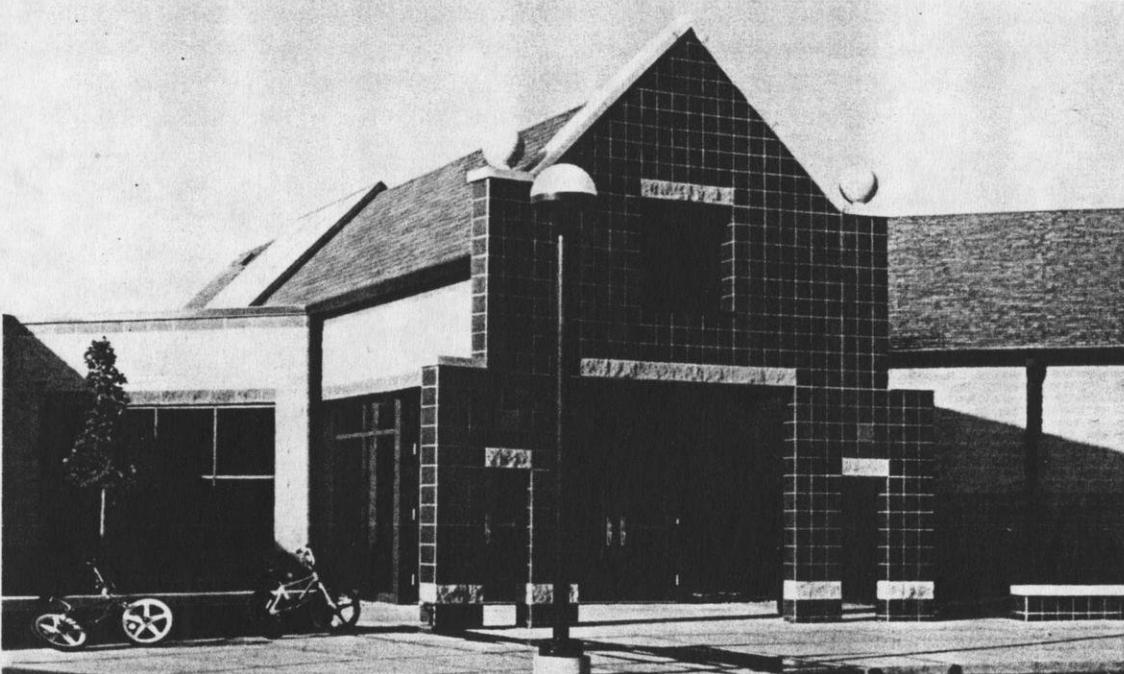
Some people say the age of miracles is past, but many in the Waterford Jt. 1 School District do not subscribe to this philosophy. The new 90,000 square foot Evergreen Elementary School is proof of this. Passing a building bond referendum on the first try is a difficult task, but not an impossible one.

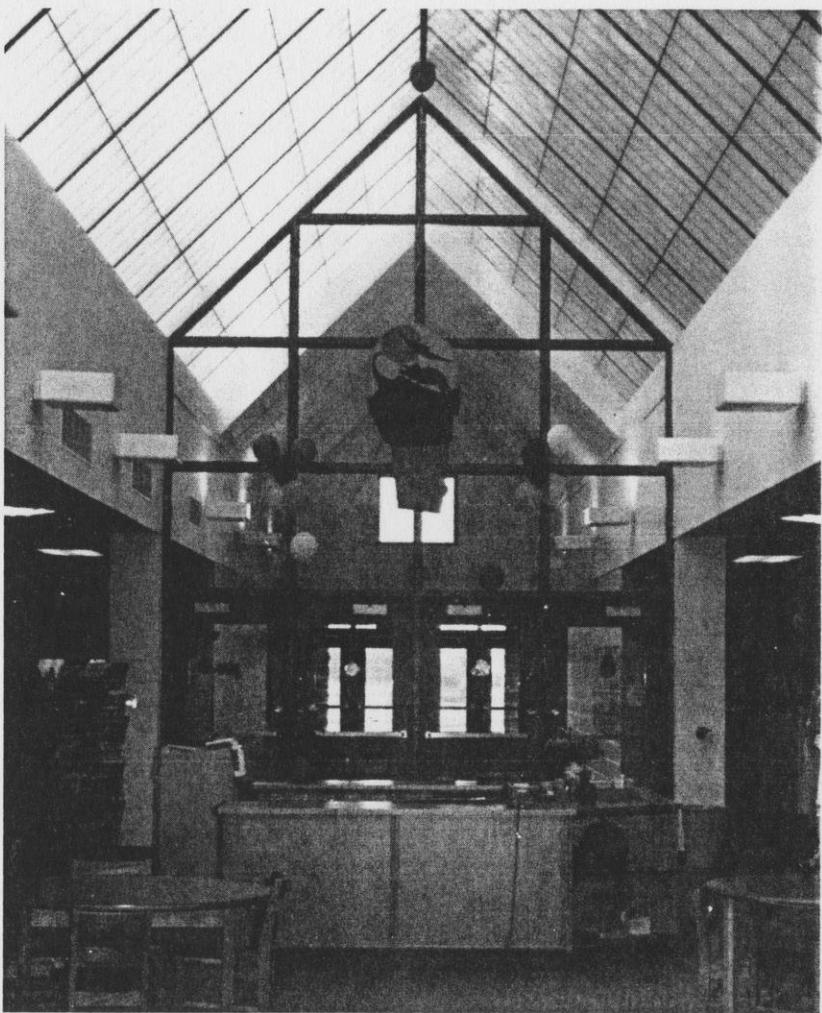
The community. The Waterford-Rochester region in the 1980s underwent a dramatic transformation from a collection of quiet, rural villages to an area of fast-paced

growth. A newly completed sewer project, the availability of comparatively inexpensive development property, and an easy commuting distance to several industrial and urban areas made the Waterford area attractive to potential residents. By 1988 residential construction was booming.

The local K-8 population mushroomed from 775 students in the 1985-86 school year to 1,075 students in the 1989-90 term. There had not been any additional classroom space provided since 1968. Waterford's aging schools were crowded beyond limitations. Students were

Main entrance of the Evergreen Elementary School.





The Instructional Materials Center.

being instructed in converted shower stalls, storage rooms, the basements, and even a stairwell landing.

The dire situation was underscored by an article in a local newspaper citing the Rochester kindergarten building as one of the worst physical plants in the state. It had been built in 1908 and had a 1950s addition with no self-contained heating or plumbing and inadequate electrical outlets.

In the fall of 1988 the school board assembled a facilities study committee, comprising board members, administrators, teachers, and concerned local citizens, to examine the existing buildings and make recommendations for steps the district should take.

After careful study of the district's facilities and needs, the committee made the following recommendations:

■ Close the antiquated kindergarten build-

ing. Bringing it up to code would be more costly than to build equal square footage from scratch.

- Section the middle school's two large team-teaching areas into eight conventional classrooms.
- Move the fifth grade out of the middle school and into the existing graded school, which would become a fourth- and fifth-grade intermediate building.
- Build a new K-3 facility with eight sections of kindergarten and six sections each of grades one through three.

In the spring of 1989 the board went through the process of interviewing and selecting an architectural firm. More than a designer of buildings, the architect must have good communication skills, look at all possible options, and help educate the community as to what steps are being taken at all times, the board decided. Good public relations is just as critical to the project as competent design. PSI Design, Inc., of Big Bend was chosen as the firm that could best meet the district's needs.

PSI's evaluation of the situation brought the board face to face with harsh reality: site preparation, building costs, and other expenses would total approximately \$6 million.

A project of this magnitude would have been difficult to complete under the best of circumstances, and we were faced with several other hurdles.

Due to the increasing student population, the district had been forced to raise school funding from property taxes 61 percent over the previous year. Also, controversy developed over the site for the proposed building. The best parcel of land owned by the district was being used as an environmental center in conjunction with the high school district.

To complicate matters, the district's standing as a K-8 district was confusing to many constituents. Some people who had lived in the area for many years were unaware that the high school district was a separate domain and its land was not the same as the graded school district's. What's more the board was not united behind the project.



“The board had fulfilled its role as community leader and had successfully orchestrated a majority vote.”

The word around town was, “It’s simply impossible!”

The campaign. In November 1989 the board asked to borrow the needed funds and hoped, like many boards, that a petition for referendum would not occur.

Opponents of the project were able to gather the necessary signatures, however, and a referendum was set for the regular election the following April.

A citizens committee met and determined that a vigorous effort would have to be made if the referendum was to pass. Committee members decided not to complicate the referendum drive by presenting detailed drawings or picking a site. Energies were spent emphasizing the need. In this way all options were kept open and prevented additional electors from joining the opposition.

Most community residents had not been inside the district’s facilities in many years. The buildings had always been well-maintained, and the extent of the overcrowding was not apparent from the outside. Clearly, area citizens needed to be educated about Waterford’s situation.

In January 1990 the board held a special meeting to listen to citizens’ concerns and help clear up any misconceptions. A slide presentation showed code violations, overcrowding, and teaching stations being used that were never intended for student use. The architect also presented slides that explained design and location options.

In February school board members who were part of the citizens committee, along with the district administrator and the architect, attended a “Get Out the Vote” seminar sponsored by the WASB. Everyone came home pumped-up and ready to go with many basic, easy-to-follow tactics essential for success. We used the following strategy:

- Educate first, then campaign.
- Above all else, emphasize the need for facility.
- Identify supporters and remind them to vote.
- Do not try to change minds — never argue with opponents. It’s like asking people to change political parties.

■ Act like a winner. Many people will vote “yes” because they want to be on a winning team.

■ Maximize personal contacts — do not become complacent.

■ Don’t rush — don’t burn yourself out. Four to six weeks is a good length of time to campaign.

■ Be honest and stick to your convictions. The motivation for the campaign should be what’s best for the children and not any political advantages or disadvantages.

■ Be united — if possible.

The committee collected supporters’ names through surveys, door-to-door canvassing, phone canvassing conducted from voting records of the last election, networking with family and friends, and gathering census records of households with preschoolers.

These names were entered into a data base. The evening before the election phone banks were set up at area businesses and volunteers called 1,600 voters and reminded them to vote.

Victory. On the evening of April 3, 1990, the final tally came in: 963 yes; 934 no — not exactly an overwhelming victory, but all that was required.

Against the odds, gossip, and the opposition of two of three local newspapers, the impossible task was accomplished! The board had fulfilled its role as community leader and had successfully orchestrated a majority vote.

By putting political priorities and egos aside, all groups had worked and triumphed in a common goal. Finally, plans could be made to meet the needs of the future, as well as correct the inadequacies of the past.

The euphoria of passage was exhilarating but short-lived. Still the vexing problems of choosing a site and completed design existed.

Getting ready to build. From the time the referendum passed until mid-August, the architect worked on a detailed site study comparing the three possible locations. Available area, immediate needs, future

“Evergreen Elementary School was a labor of love for many dedicated people.”

growth, vehicle and pedestrian access, safety, building security, site ownership, utilities, water tables and weight bearing capacities were taken into account. Soil borings were made and analyzed from all sites and added to the equation. After careful evaluation, the strengths and weaknesses of each site were presented. The board was now able to reach a decision based on all available facts.

Not everyone was in agreement. Citizens expressed passionate arguments either for or against all sites for a variety of reasons. The difficulty lay in agreeing on a location that would best serve the needs of the entire community.

The graded school board and the high school board spent many long hours in meetings, and two special annual meetings were held (one in each district) for members of the community. Finally the two boards agreed to a land trade, which resulted in an acceptable site at a minimal cost to taxpayers and preserved the environmental center.

A building committee, made up of board members, administrators, teachers, custodians, and local citizens, was formed in May 1990. Along with the architect, the committee toured 12 newer schools throughout the state and collected slides and notes to aid in design concepts.

The tours proved to be essential to the design process. They also strengthened our communications with the architect.

Since the district had built no new facilities recently we believed it was necessary to observe what other districts had done — to study all types of structures, good and bad.

During the tours we interviewed custodians, teachers, aides, and cooks, as well as administrators to find out what they liked and didn't like about the building, what they would do differently, and what should be avoided.

After several trips, meetings, and scheme presentations, a final design was approved.

Other questions remained, however. Would it be possible to complete construction by start of the 1991-92 school year? Should we hire a general contractor or a construction manager to oversee the job?

A construction manager serves as an extension of the owner and is a part of the team early on, offering expertise in cost estimating, construction scheduling, and design feasibility. This early involvement often brings substantial cost savings to the project, which are returned to the owner.

In contrast, a general contractor is brought on board well after architectural decisions have been made and completes the contract to the minimum requirements established by the bidding documents. Cost savings, if any, are disclosed to the owner, but are held by the general contractor.

We decided the only way to get into the new building on time would be to use the fast-track design/construction method. Therefore, it made sense to hire a construction manager. We selected Voss-Jorgensen-Schueler Co. of Waukesha who has a reputation of being on time and budget and working well with clients and subcontractors.

A ground-breaking ceremony was held on Oct. 19, 1990, after site preparation had been completed and the footings were ready to be poured.

Bid packages went out in four different stages. When bidding was completed, 50 out of 52 separate bid contracts came in well under budget. The construction went very smoothly throughout the year and on August 26, 1991, the doors opened to Evergreen Elementary School for the first day of classes, as scheduled. There were still some loose ends to tie up, but the building was substantially completed for student use.

On Oct. 20, 1991, one year and one day after the ground-breaking, our beautiful new building was dedicated. Because it had finished about \$600,000 under budget, we were able to add a stage in the gymnasium, air conditioning, playground equipment, bleachers, computers for the new lab, and many other items.

Evergreen Elementary School was a labor of love for many dedicated people. Because they refused to listen to warnings of “it can't be done,” Waterford's children have the educational facilities they need and deserve. ☺

RANKE SCHOOL

Shortly after Wisconsin became a state, the need for public education became a top priority. In 1866 the state sent record books to every school to make sure accurate records would be kept. Thankfully many of these books still exist.

At that time hundreds of one-room school houses dotted the landscape and our present district was no exception. These one-room school houses were the center of many rural communities. They served as Town Halls, places for various church services, and were a gathering place for all occasions.

Ranke School, Waterford District #5, a tiny stone school was the first school in the existing district to consolidate with the village school.

We don't know exactly when it was built, as early records could not be located, but it is estimated to have been erected about 1866.

This sturdy structure is still standing at it's original location on the north side of Ranke Road.

Mr. Harold Ranke submitted this picture of the school. It was probably taken in the 1890's. You will notice the school teacher sits in the middle of the picture, girls to her right, bare-footed boys to her left, which was the practice of segregation in those days.

Ranke school held classes in this school until 1911 when it was decided by their school board to tuition the students to Waterford or Buttles schools. Parents of the students took turns for many years taking and picking up their children from school.

From the minutes of the annual meeting, August 20, 1931, the Ranke school district authorized the purchase of a Chevrolet school bus from Oscar R. Graf. This was the first rural route in Racine County. The bus seated up to 14 pupils and cost a total of \$1,180.00.

This arrangement continued for many years until 1951. At that time the Waterford Graded School was considering expansion. The Ranke School minutes read as follows:

"July 25, 1951"

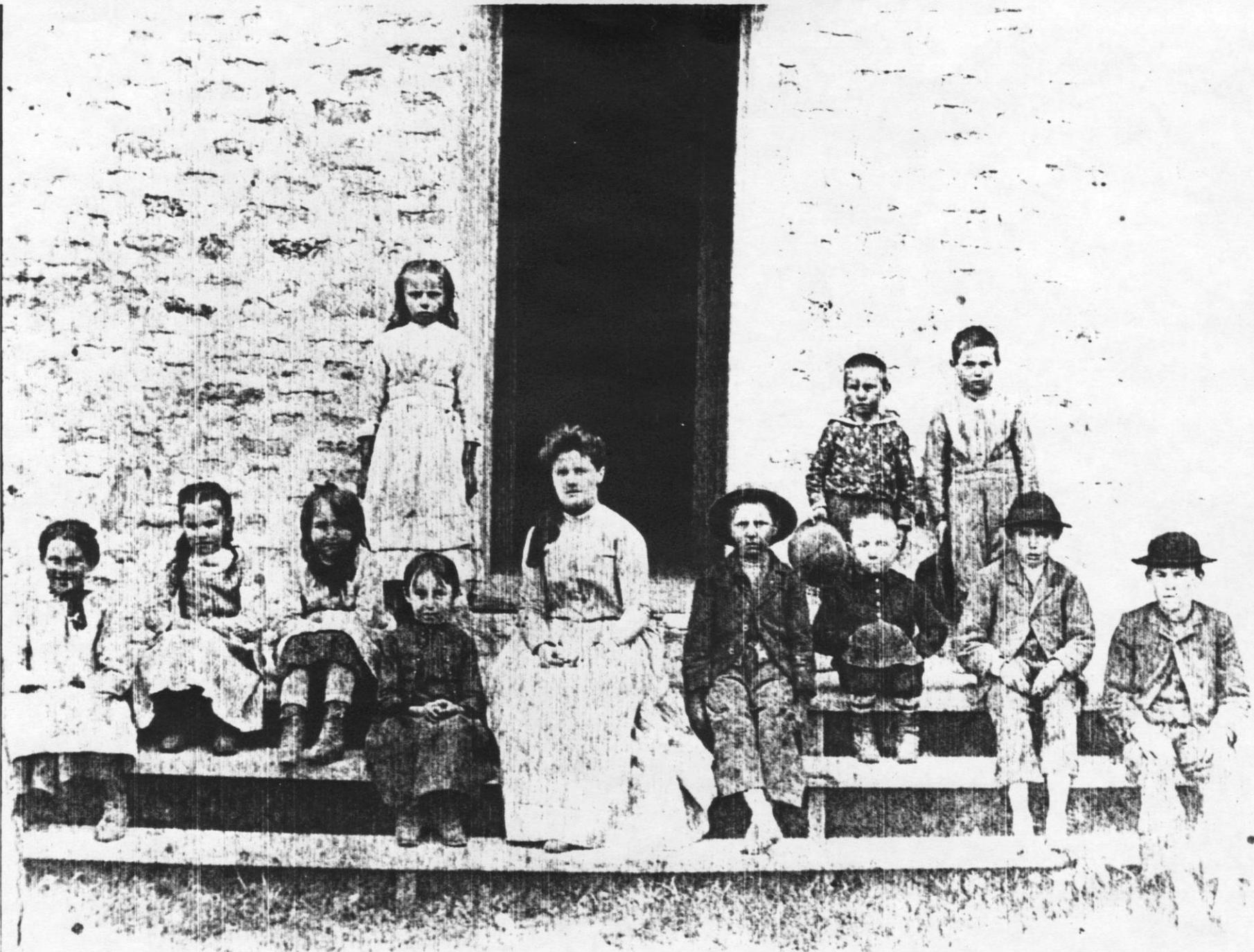
"Meeting was called to order with 10 members present. The Waterford State School Board of District # 1 were asked to give us what information and figures they had and also show us plans for the proposed new building.

After some discussion it was decided to vote on whether or not District #5 wanted to consolidate with Waterford State Graded School #1.

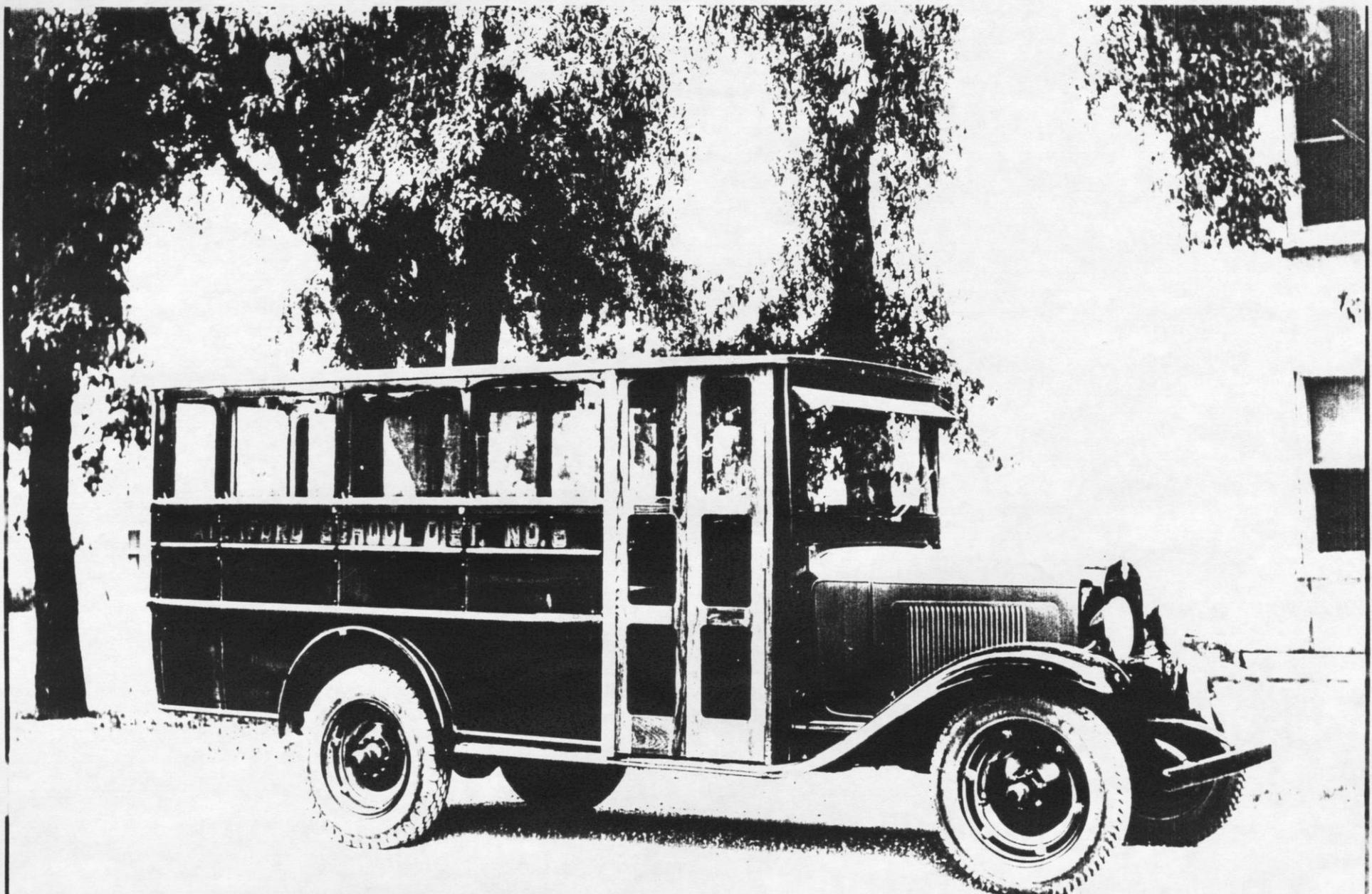
Ten ballots were cast and all were in favor of consolidation.

Motion was made by Herman Ranke and seconded by Robert Startz that we file a petition with the Town Board to take such action as was necessary to consolidate with District # 1. Motion was carried.

Signed, Mrs. Henry Krueger, Clerk"



RANKE SCHOOL CIRCA 1880



FIRST SCHOOL BUS IN RACINE COUNTY
WATERFORD DISTRICT #5 RANKE SCHOOL CIRCA 1932

WEBSTER SCHOOL

The Webster School's ledger book has this entry:

October 10, 1899, \$5.50 was paid to George Brooks for building a chimney. Mr. Brooks must have been a fine mason as his chimney is all that remains of Webster School.

Webster School was built on the north side of Highway 20 (High Drive), approximately one block west of the intersection of State Highways 20 and 83.

In November of 1872 Theodore Hardin, district treasurer wrote:

November 18, 1872, William Sproat-\$50.00
November 28, 1872, School District tax-\$200.00
July 29, 1872, State School Money-\$24.36
July 29, 1872, County School Money- \$22.90
August 17, 1873, William Sproat-\$50.00
School Funds-\$347.26

Materials were purchased in December of 1872 to build the school as follows:

Paid to: L.J. Albee for wood-\$16.00; J. Bennett & H. Cooper for sawing wood-\$2.00; Thomas McFarland for building fence, lumber, and hauling-\$10.54; A. Cooper for Sundries-\$6.50; Thomas McFarland for lumber and nails-\$10.04, totaling \$45.08.

January 11, 1873, paid to: Groat & McKenzie for glass, putty, a broom, a pail & nails-\$2.31.

February 10, 1873, paid to: Groat & MacKenzie for a stove-\$25.00.

Total cost to open the school - \$72.39!

The first teacher hired was Roscoe A. Hoyt who started February 14, 1873 and was paid \$152.00 for teaching the first school term and other odd jobs at the school.

In addition to teaching, teachers were expected to clean the school and start fires and keep them burning.

There is no mention of school furniture being purchased until October 10, 1877, this being \$110.00 paid to the Racine Hardware & Manufacturing Co.

The first light bill occurred in December of 1930 and was \$1.90 for a 3-month period.

Classes were held in Webster School through the spring of 1943 when Miss Dorothy Ludwig is listed as the last salaried teacher.

Starting in the fall of 1944 the children of Webster, Waterford District #2 were tuitioned and sent to Waterford District #1 in the village. Petition was filed July 21, 1953 for District #2, (Webster) to become part of Waterford District #1.

Sealed bids were taken for the sale of Webster School and opened at 8:00 p.m. August 7, 1953.

The balance of funds from the Webster School, \$2,309.95, was turned over to Waterford Graded School in August of 1953 by the last District #2 treasurer, Mrs. Grace H. Ludtke.

THE HIGH STREET SCHOOL - WATERFORD DISTRICT # 3

The High Street School was a charming white clapboard building located on the north side of State Highway 20 (High Drive), about 2-3/4 miles west of Waterford near what is now Green Meadows Farm. This building was erected in 1910 to replace an older one that was on the same site.

When the church in Honey Creek celebrated their 100th anniversary in 1941, they printed a pamphlet about their area which included the following...

"Mrs. Odella Cooper informs us that the High Street neighborhood got its name from its main road being higher than the roads on either side. During the pastorate of Elder Hubber, he alternated Sunday services with Rev. Griswold from Waterford in holding divine services in the schoolhouse. This was the gathering place for the neighborhood. Parties, basket socials, dances, worship and at least one funeral were held in the school building we are told.

"Today (1941) this neat and clean building has a total of 6 pupils. Mrs. Caroline Behrend is the efficient and conscientious teacher.

"Former teachers - Mrs. Eliza Groat, Bingham Stetson, Albert Perkins, George Skewers, Ellis Healy, Judge Coffin (who we are told, took great pride in teaching all the boys to chew tobacco) and Mrs. Hettie Cooper."

Classes continued at High Street School only a few more years. Due to low or non-existing enrollment, it closed its doors forever in the spring of 1945.

In 1946 an auction was held where all school properties were sold. The building was purchased and moved to a new location on Hill Valley Road, where it is still in use as a private residence.



HIGH STREET SCHOOL CIRCA 1915

PILGRIM SCHOOL - WATERFORD DISTRICT # 7

The first Pilgrim School was built in 1867 and was known as " the old red and green school " as some settlers called it.

It was built on a hill about 2-1/2 miles north of the Village of Waterford on the west side of Highway 164 (Hwy F). The site of 1/2 acre was purchased from Hogan Anderson for the sum of five dollars.

Some purchases from 1879 were as follows:

Chalk - 25 cents

Broom - 20 cents

Salary for the teacher - \$110.00, (which was probably for the year)

In 1890 the clerk entered \$15.00 to Celia E. Warren for "tetchin" school! October 15, 1891, \$20.52 was paid to Dan Foat for plastering the school.

In 1910, the present schoolhouse was erected for which \$2000.00 was voted. This was built on the site of the original building. The loan was arranged through the Noll's Bank in Waterford.

Records show that 43 pupils were enrolled in the first school in 1867. That total was never reached again. It dropped to as low as 9 in 1915. From 1915 to 1919 students were tuitioned to Waterford District #1 in the Village. Classes were held again in 1920 and continued until 1954 when a petition was filed to attach to Waterford District # 1.

The children moved to Waterford Graded School November 17, 1955, according to Mrs. Maurice Bucholtz.

The school was sold on Monday, November 11, 1957 for \$1900.00. A balance of \$3,326.85 was paid by check #236 to the treasurer of Waterford District # 1.

The Pilgrim School still stands in its original place and is currently used as a private home.

ROCHESTER SCHOOL WAYS

In "A Grass Roots History of Racine County" Mary Ela related the following: "Education has been one of Rochester's constant and major loyalties and involvements. A stone building, erected in the 1840's, on the southwest corner of State and Main Streets, was the setting for several educational ventures which deeply affected Rochester and Southeastern Wisconsin. It was built as a hotel to serve teamsters who stopped overnight in the village on their grain hauling journeys between Janesville and Racine. (It was no uncommon site to see 40 or 50 loads pass through together.)"

When transportation via Racine and Southern Railway and its Burlington route diminished the need for this third hotel in the village, it found other uses in three different eras of the community's development. For a time it housed "a select school" which attracted students from the same, Milwaukee, and neighboring areas. In 1866 it was purchased jointly by residents of Rochester and the Honey Creek Free Baptist Quarterly Conference.

Much history of this "select school" was obtained from Mrs. Donna Zabler of Burlington. Excerpts from her family journals, which belonged to her great grandfather, Alma Aldrich, follow.

SEPTEMBER 28, 1854: "Monday morning I went to Rochester to commence going to school. Father and Mr. Lincoln went with me and I secured (room and) board at Mrs. Wades."

OCTOBER 5, 1854: "Father started for Milwaukee, there being no school today, the schoolmaster having gone to Milwaukee to the State Fair. I came home."

NOVEMBER 2, 1854: "There was no school Tuesday as the election was held at the school house. We all had to write a composition that day."

DECEMBER 10, 1854: "I was at a party at Rochester Friday night and danced for the second time in my life."

FEBRUARY 14, 1855: "I went to Rochester in the morning and went to school. I settled for my tuition \$14.25, my board was \$13.00. There is a masqued ball in Burlington tonight!"

FEBRUARY 20, 1855: "School was kept till about 10 o'clock a.m. when it was dismissed for us to get ready to go to Honey Creek to the funeral of Miss Rosette Russel, one of the scholars (students) who died of Pulried Erysifilis and typhoid fever on Monday morning after an illness of little more than a week. I rode with W. Norton and was one of the bearers."

MAY 6, 1855: "My birthday, - 18 years old today!"

JUNE 8, 1855: "I was somewhat amused today, reading a letter that I wrote 9 years ago today, in Whitefield, N.H. which I intended to send to a friend in Keokuk, Iowa. I was 9 years, 1 month and 2 days old when I wrote it, but it is written in a good hand, but the spelling is bad."

JULY 4, 1855: Independence Day -- "At Rochester a ball at Peter Campbell's (now Chance's) the room is new and 30' X 62' and there were 206 tickets sold at \$2.50 each. I joined and got supper also--50 cents--I didn't have the best of times, there were too many (people) there I did not know."

JULY 5, 1855: "I got back from the ball about 5:00 a.m. and then I plowed corn on the Kennedy place."

NOVEMBER 27, 1855: "I commenced going to school--Algebra, Arithmetic, Geography and Grammar."

DECEMBER 19, 1855: "Paid taxes--\$40.68 this year."

JANUARY 1, 1856: "I hitched the horses to the sleigh and went to Burlington and then to Rochester to the ball and Oyster Supper . I was well pleased--130 couples and all agreeable!"

Mr. Aldrich's meticulous records have given us all a view into a slice of life in this area 136 years ago. Thank you Mrs. Donna Zabler for sharing this with us!

Continuing with "Grass Roots" is Ms. Ela's account of the following history of the Rochester Academy: "The Baptists, with wholehearted cooperation from the Rochester people, established Rochester Seminary, a secondary school which functioned significantly from 1867 to 1890, when uncertain attendance and lack of funds forced it to close.

In 1894 Wisconsin's Congregational Conference established Rochester Academy in this building they had purchased from the Baptists.

It was a great success in the terms of service to the area, and enthusiastic and loyal support of the community.

With teachers of distinction, and college preparatory work as well as general courses it flourished until 1910. Dependent upon tuition, gifts and the support of Wisconsin churches, its performance was effective.

In 1907 Rochester people and their neighbors subscribed \$47,600 toward an endowment fund to keep the school alive, but in 1910 changes in Congregational Church procedures on a national level, and public high school procedures on a state level ended "the old academy" chapter in Rochester. The building was dismantled in the 1930's."

Today at the southwestern corner of State and Main Streets stands a private home, but if you watch carefully when passing, you can still see the academy's steps on the north side of the lot.



ROCHESTER ACADEMY

ROCHESTER ACADEMY CIRCA 1880

THE RACINE COUNTY SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AND DOMESTIC ECONOMY

Mr. Louis Paetsch, a teacher at the Fox River Middle School, wrote his Masters of Science in teaching Paper about the history of the "Old Ag" School in Rochester. The following ia a synopsis of his paper.

Early in the twentieth century the state of Wisconsin contained eight independent county schools of agriculture which carried out a two-fold purpose: keeping the rural youth of the county on the farm and providing extensive services to farmers of their respective areas.

This trend in education, which was geared toward rural students, was not unique in Wisconsin, or even the United States. Several years previous to the founding of the first county agricultural school in Wisconsin, and two decades before the agricultural school was built in Racine County, European countries experimented with such education in schools lower than the college level.

The county schools of agriculture have left the scene of modern education, but their founding and existence did establish a new trend of financing education by receiving funds from the local, state and national governmental agencies.

L.D. Harvey, Wisconsin Commissioner of Education, recommended in 1091 that the state set up county schools of agriculture and domestic economy. People in rural areas felt that the local high schools did not address the needs of future farmers. Girls who lived in rural areas were completely disregarded in the public education in Wisconsin.

On May 7, 1901, an act was passed which provided for the establishment of these schools.

These schools were to be tuition free to county inhabitants. Winter courses were also to be organized for farm students who could not attend regular classes in the fall or spring seasons because of farm work.

After the Rochester Academy closed its doors in 1910, George Ela used his position as a member of the Racine County Board of Supervisors to begin proceedings to bring an agricultural school of Racine County and specifically to Rochester. Ela was the former owner of the company purchased by J.I. Case. Educated for the practice of law, George Ela instead chose farming for his profession.

George Ela's public service not only included terms on the county board and the Academy, but also as a trustee for the new agricultural school and was in the State Assembly.

Supervisor Ela proposed to the Racine County Board that a school of agriculture and domestic economy be established at Rochester in accordance with Chapter 313 of State Statutes of 1909. Action was deferred for a short time before the board approved \$2000.00 for the initial costs of the school. Supervisor Ela further proposed that a committee be appointed to make arrangements for the organization and establishment of the school. The committee was composed of Ela, W.E. Tucker of Union Grove, and John A. Anderson of Racine.

In January 1911, the committee met with Dean Russell of the University of Wisconsin School of Agriculture and State Superintendent of Instruction Casey, both of whose support was favorable to the site at Rochester, but provision for an additional tract of land was necessary for the proper instruction in agriculture. The committee visited county agriculture schools in Winneconne, Menomonie, and Onalaska to observe their operation.

The committee reported in March, 1911, that eighty percent of the students attending these schools would not have attended any school had it not been for the presence of a county agricultural school. The committee further recommended that with the use of the Rochester Academy property and \$30,000.00 the school could be established. Finally, in accordance with the State Superintendent's report, a plot of 128 acres should be purchased at \$100.00 per acre with the minimum purchase being 40 acres. Ela concluded the report with a proposal that the county board appropriate \$30,000.00 for the organization and equipping of the new school. The motion was carried by the board later that day. Guilbert and Funston of Racine were selected as architects and on April 20, 1912, bids were opened for the construction of the new school. Warner and Bauman of Monroe were low bidders with \$22,463.00. Construction was to be completed by November 1, 1912, with a \$10.00 per day fine for each day after the proposed completion date.

Ground was broken for the building in May of 1912. Through the late summer and early autumn it became evident that the school would not be finished by its proposed completion date. The agricultural school set a precedent as the first building in Rochester to have electricity, with the result that twenty business places and residences soon applied for the installation of electricity in the fall, as well.

The agricultural school opened its doors for classes on Monday, Nov. 4, 1912.

The next problem facing the school was inadequate housing for its students. Rochester was a village of only 220 residents, and many students could not commute daily from most parts of the county and surrounding areas.

Olaf Hoganson was awarded a building contract for \$16,500.00 for a dormitory to be erected 60 feet south of the main building. It was hoped that the two story structure, with a capacity for fifty students, would be finished by Christmas of 1918. Boys would occupy the second floor and the girls dormitory matron would occupy the first floor. The basement would contain a kitchen and a dining hall.

The early years of the school were unquestionably its pivotal years, and without Rochester's support in its customary tradition, the school probably would never have survived to become a four-year high school, which existed for 35 more years.

Original courses were as follows:

Fall Term: Carpentry, mechanical drawing, dairying, agricultural botany, farm arithmetic, English, chemistry and general science, music.

Winter Term: Carpentry, forge work, dairy, bacteriology and sanitation, types of animals, agronomy, English, arithmetic, chemistry and general science, music.

Spring Term: Carpentry, types of animals, agronomy, horticulture, English, chemistry and general science, music.

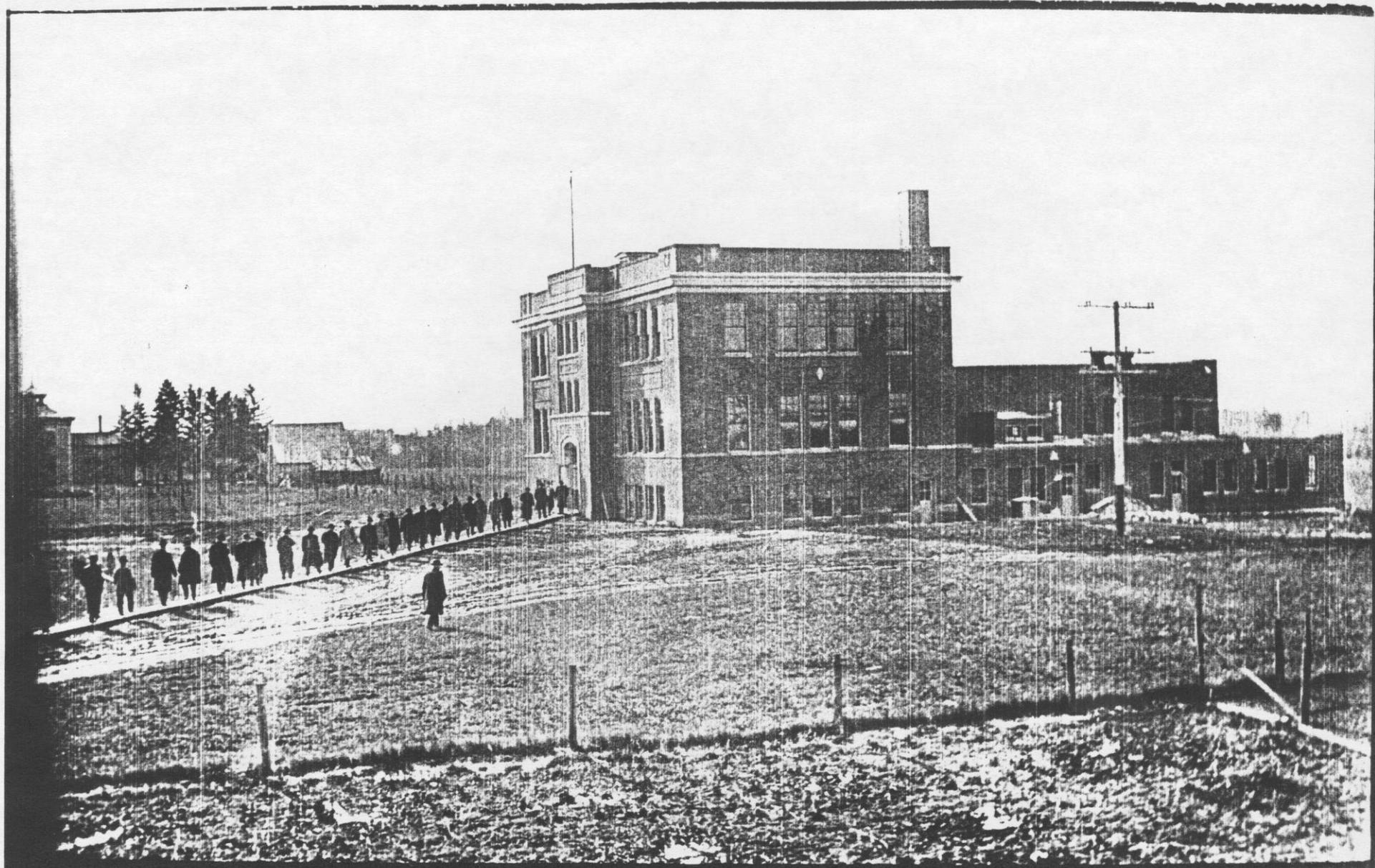
Other courses offered in following years were: farm mechanics, soils and fertilizers, stock judging, history, farm management, feeds and feeding, cookery, veterinary science, civics, bacteriology, household sanitation and architecture, dietetics, sewing, dressmaking and melanuria arts. The Racine County Agricultural School became the "home away from home" for many students for various reasons. Some had already finished high school and desired attending a school away from home, some were graduates of elementary schools who now wished to obtain vocational training, the age of students varied from 14 to 23 with an average of 18.

Although football was not begun at the school until 1932, the school remained a "power house" in its athletic programs until it closed in 1959. They had a basketball team the first year which had a 10 win, 1 loss record. There was also a girl's basketball team. They won their first game, it was told, but their uniforms were so cumbersome, it was difficult to play properly.

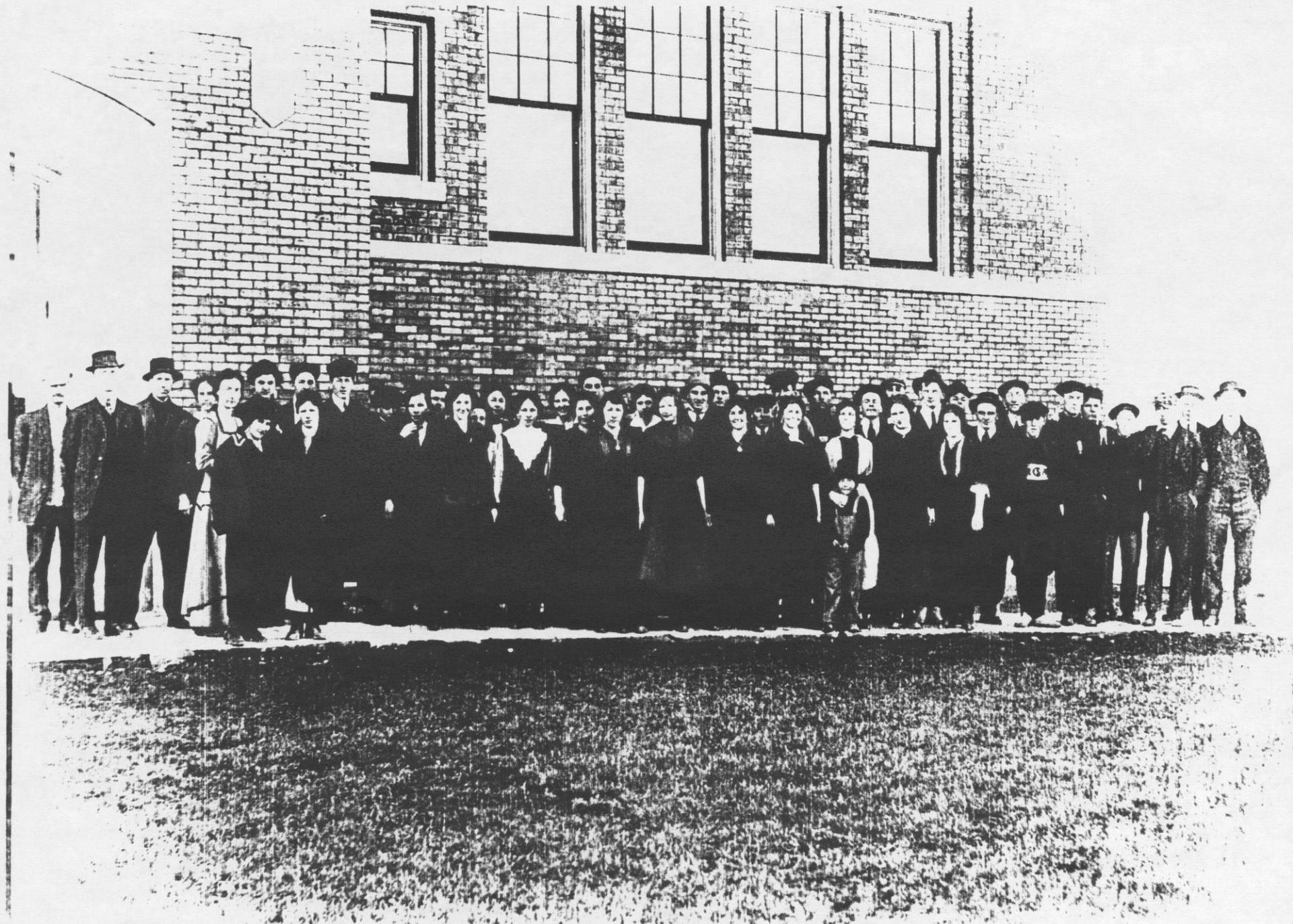
The Agricultural School in Rochester was the last in the state to close in 1959. The buildings were purchased by the Waterford Graded School District in 1960 and the facility was used as a middle school until the Fox River School was built in 1969.

The old "Ag" school was razed in 1970, but there is a reconstructed portion in the park next to the Rochester Volunteer Fire Department building.

I've heard many stories from area residents that attended the "Old Ag School" with many a smile and twinkle in their eyes.



THE RACINE COUNTY SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AND DOMESTIC ECONOMY CIRCA 1912



THE OLD AG SCHOOL CIRCA 1916

ROCHESTER SCHOOL

According to The History of Racine and Kenosha Counties circa 1879 by C. W. Butterfield:

"The first school building was raised in 1840, but the first school opened was that taught in 1837 by Miss Dyer, a sister of Dr. Dyer, of Burlington."

School District No. 2 (East of the Fox River), a wooden building was erected in 1848. Mrs. Kathleen Ela told me this was located on the hill near the intersection of what is now State Highway 36 and Country Trunk D. The first teacher at District Number 2 was Miss Sarah Whitman, the wife of Mr. Henry Cady, the genial Postmaster of Rochester. The building itself was A-frame and cost \$700. Miss Whitman had charge of about 100 pupils. Mrs. Ela told me that in 1894, after District #2 had merged with the school on the west side of the river, the District #2 school house was moved across the ice of the Fox River on runners to be used as a town hall. While on the ice, the building fell through, and after great difficulty recovering it, was placed on the north side of Main Street between what is now the library and the residence on the northwest corner of Front and Main Streets (formerly a store and gas station). It served as the town hall for many years.

A teaching certificate belonging to a Miss Mary E. Hewitt and a picture of her and some of her students was found. She taught in Rochester in 1869. Mrs. Donna Zabler contributed these items and little else is known. Looking at the photograph poses the questions "Why are there only girls in the picture?" and "Where might it have been taken?" Also, west of Rochester is Pleasant View School, also known as Hewitt School. Is there a connection there?

After Rochester Districts #1 and #2 merged on the west side of the river, a higher department was authorized. Mrs. Ela said she had heard that the school on the hill (near the current schoolhouse) was originally a single story, and after the merger a second story was added.

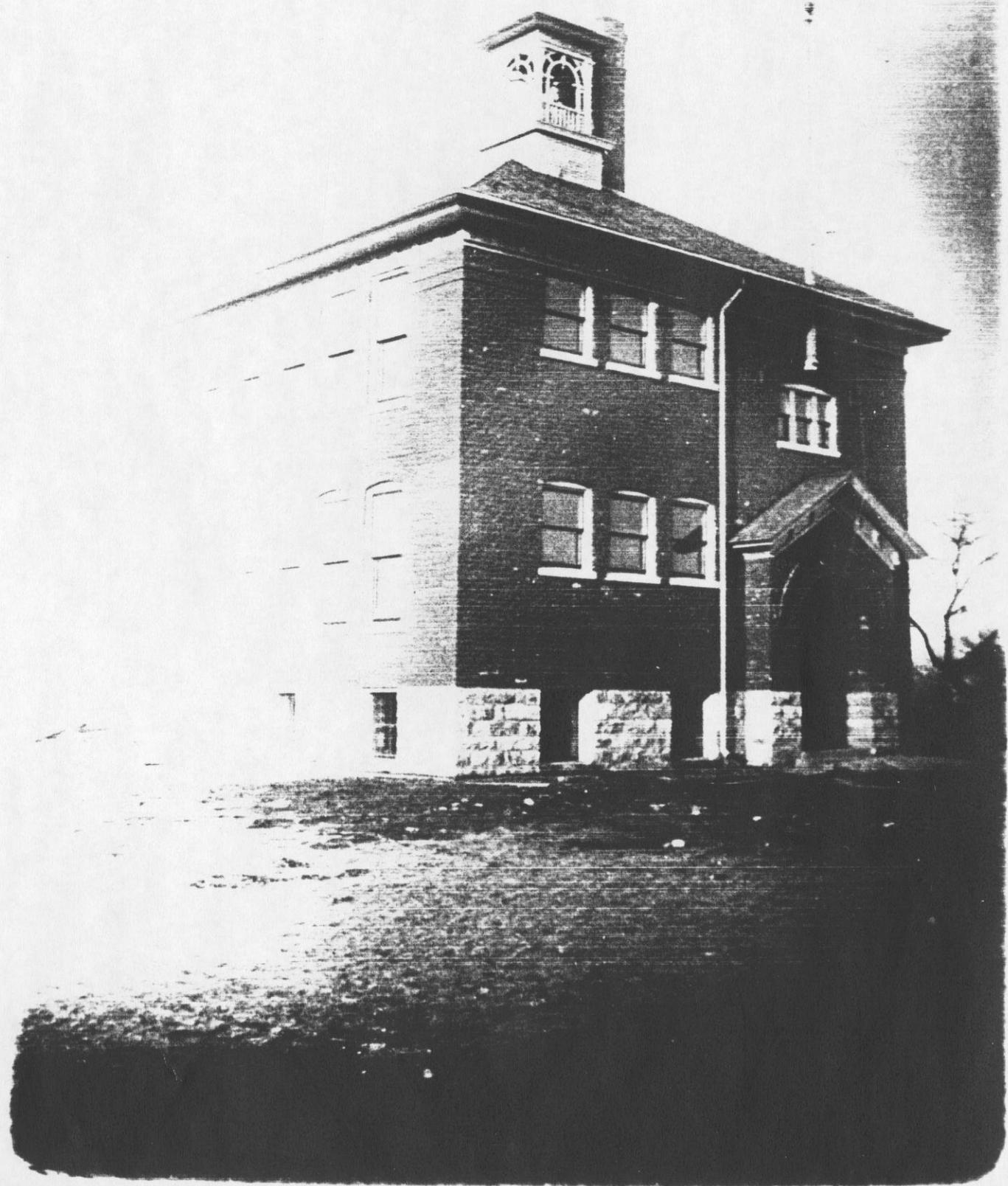
In 1906 a new Rochester State Graded School was built on the hill.

About 1908 the two-story white clapboard schoolhouse was moved down the hill and set up a lot on Front Street adjacent to the river. It still stands there today, being the second structure north of the bridge and is currently used as a house.

In 1954 four classrooms were added to the two-story red, brick schoolhouse. In the early 1960's the Grant School in Dover consolidated with the village of Rochester.

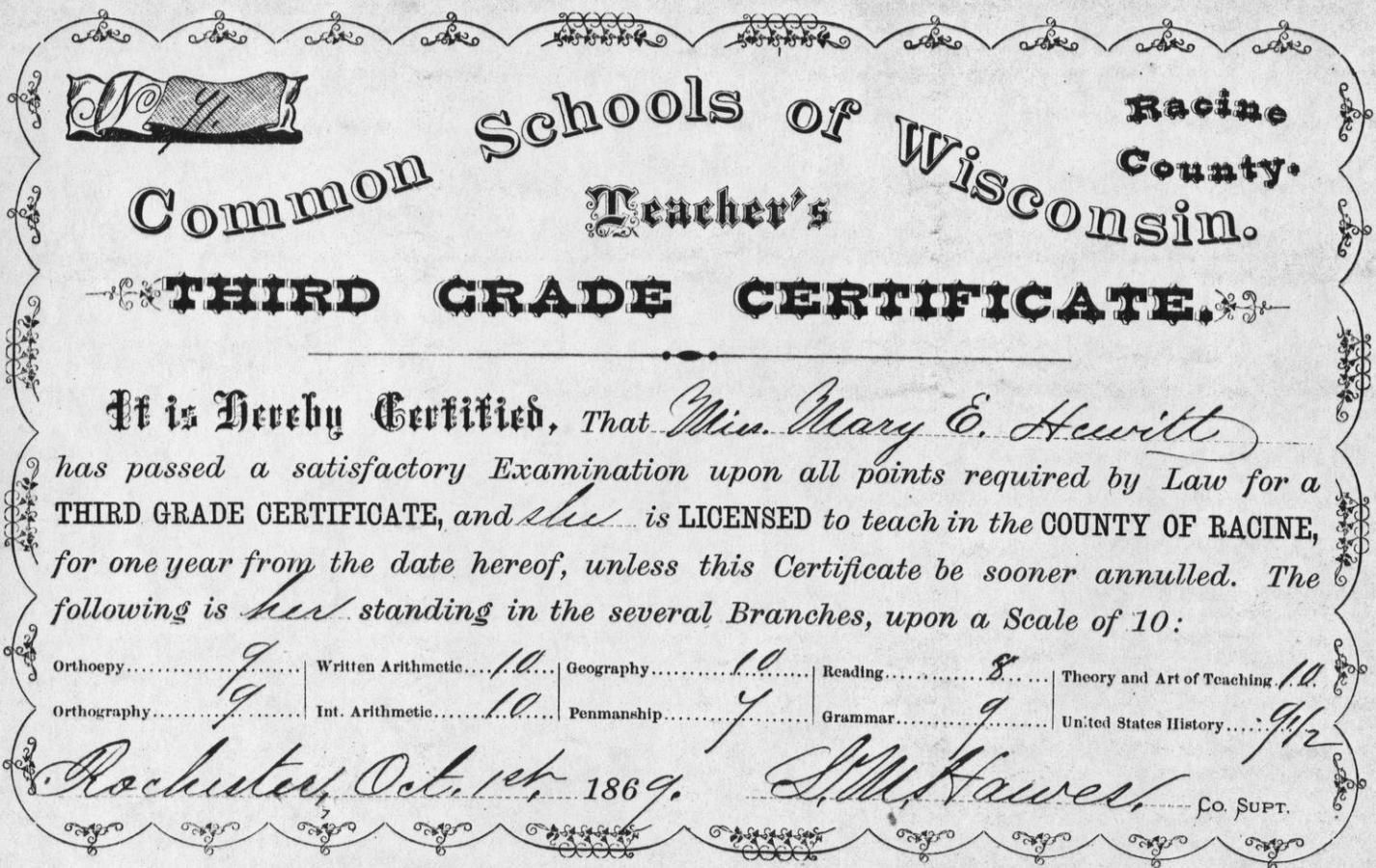
In the fall of 1968 Rochester consolidated with Waterford Graded School. Children in first through fourth grade went to Waterford Graded School. Students in the 5-8 grades entered the newly completed Fox River Middle School. Kindergarten students were housed in the Rochester red brick schoolhouse. This continued until the spring of 1991 when that facility closed its doors when the new EVERGREEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL opened its doors August 26, 1991.

ROCHESTER GRADED SCHOOL CIRCA 1906



MISS MARY E. HEWITT ON A FIELD TRIP WITH THE GIRLS, CIRCA 1870





MARY E. HEWITT'S TEACHING CERTIFICATE

PLEASANT VIEW SCHOOL (Rochester District #3)

A brief history of the Pleasant View School was on record at the Racine County Historical Society:

The Pleasant View School, perhaps better known as the Hewitt School, is located on the Rochester-Honey Creek road, County Trunk D, in the Township of Rochester.

The present school site was purchased from Mr. Dixon White in 1866.

It has been related how the Indians would come to the schoolhouse to warm themselves or get a drink of water during the school sessions. They never harmed anyone. These Indians were probably members of the Potawatomie Tribe, who were inhabiting this section of the country years before.

Very few changes have been made in the school building since it was built in 1866. The walls were made of large stones and was one of the finest buildings in the county for its time.

The first teacher, according to records, was C. W. McFarland, who had started teaching school on December 2, 1861, in an earlier structure in the district.

One of the teachers, of note, was Charles Hute. He served as a judge in a Minnesota court for several years.

Some teachers had no special training, while some had a full course at Rural Normal or State Normal Schools.

The number enrolled in 1861 was 50, while during the year 1927-1928, only 15 were enrolled.

Classes were held at Pleasant View until the early 1960's, when it consolidated with the Waterford Graded School.

The Pleasant View School is now used as a private home on its original site at the southeast corner of the intersection of Hwy D and Heritage Road.

ENGLISH SETTLEMENT SCHOOL

The Racine Journal Times June 29, 1975 read:

English School Had Long History

A one-room schoolhouse was built in 1845, the first in the English Settlement, east of Rochester. Richard Rehberg and his mother, Mrs. Nellie Rehberg, were former pupils and presented a history of the school July 12, 1945, revealing 73 teachers had taught at English Settlement School during its 100 year history.

Part of the "settlement" is in Rochester, but it is mostly in Dover, dating back to 1842 when emigrants from England settled there. Names included Noble, Squire, Spriggs, Rowntree, Ellis, Sheard, Hinchcliffe and others.

Racine Journal Times July 4, 1945

Former Pupils Gather to Celebrate English Settlement School Centennial

The 100th anniversary of the first schoolhouse in English Settlement was observed on the fourth of July. The gathering was to have been held in the grove adjoining the school but because of inclement weather it was held in the dining room of the church. The dinner tables were decorated with flowers and the centerpiece was a three tiered cake, the third layer being in the shape of a schoolhouse and belfry.

History of the school, written by Mrs. Nellie Rehberg, was read by her son, Richard, both of whom were former pupils. Records available show 73 teachers taught English Settlement School during the 100 years. Ten former teachers were present. Mrs. Alice Stenhouse Hankinson, the oldest of the ten, taught in the school 60 years ago. A large bouquet was presented to her and bouquets also were given to Mrs. Carolyn Behrend, who taught four years, to Mrs. Ada Banks Wagner of Burlington, teacher for three years, and to the last teacher, Miss Elaine Legge of Racine.

A paper on her recollections of school days, prepared by Mrs. Edith Noble Jackson of Big Bend, was read by Walter Hinchcliffe.

Coming from a distance were Mr. and Mrs. David Tidgewell of Elma, Iowa, Miss Eunice Matheson, Elgin, Ill., and many former pupils from Milwaukee, West Racine, Waukesha, and Lake Geneva. Mr. Tidgewell and Mrs. Alice Mealy of Waukesha were the oldest pupils present.

Pictures and pamphlets of the past 100 years of the English Settlement School are being compiled and will be preserved for the next generation.

The English Settlement School continued to have classes until 1960 when it closed its doors. Most of the students became part of the Burlington School district but some then traveled west to Rochester, and a few went to The Grant School in the Dover area.



THE ENGLISH SETTLEMENT SCHOOL CIRCA 1916

THE GRANT SCHOOL, DOVER

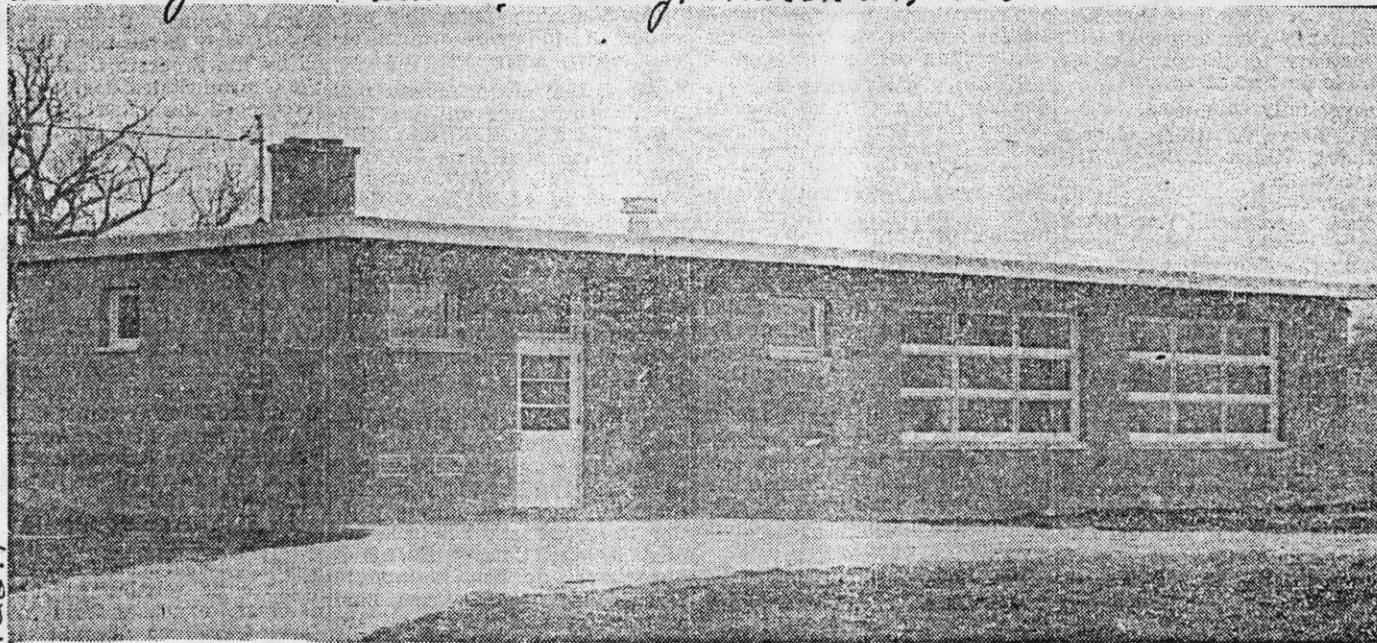
The Grant school in Dover was the last one room school house to be built in the state of Wisconsin. In 1958 a new school was erected to replace a structure that was too close to state highway 20.

The original schoolhouse was built in 1856 on a plot of land purchased from Charlotte Klagg.

Although the new building was only a few years old, it was deemed more economical to merge with the Rochester School District in 1964.

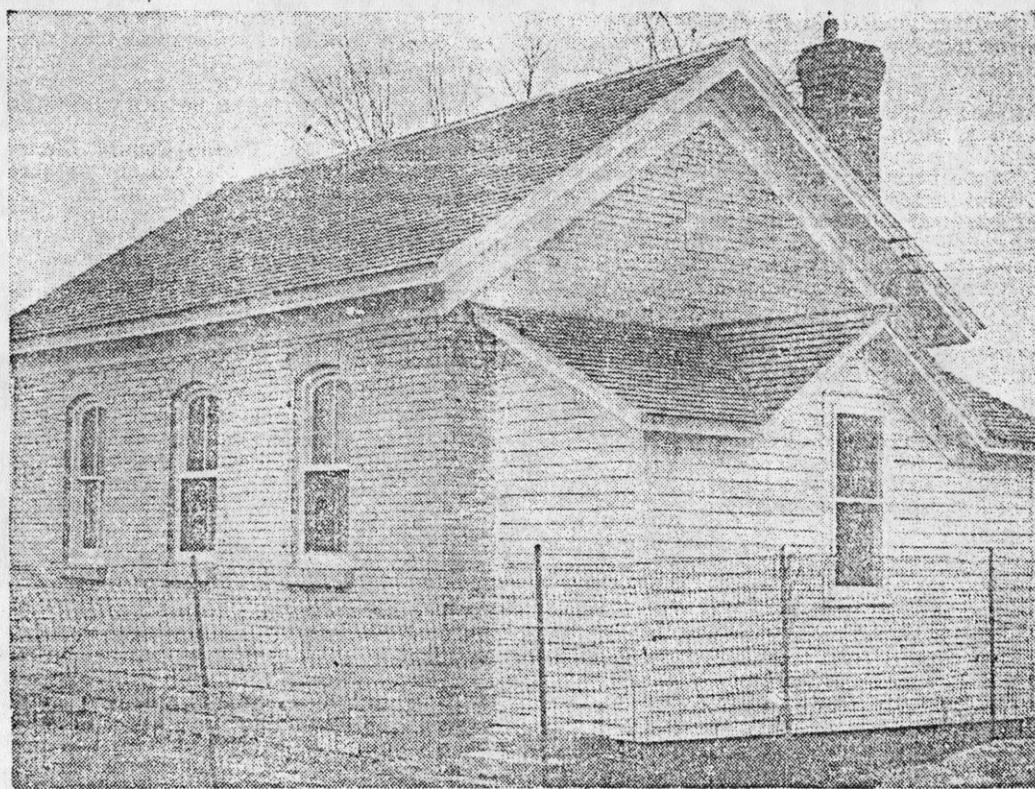
The 1958 structure is now used as a private residence.

Rainier Journal-Times, Monday, March 24, 1958



—Journal-Times Photos

STITCH IN TIME—Voters of Grant School District (No. 2, Dover) didn't wait until they "had to" before building a new school. Only 18 pupils attended when classes were moved into the new building, above, but about 50 are expected in five years. Zoning regulations prevented building an addition to the old school building, photo at right, which stands "too near" Highway 20. Land for the original school, later used as a woodshed, was purchased from Charlotte Klagg in 1856.



HILLCREST SCHOOL

Hillcrest- Riley, District 2

This school district was established by an act of the Town Board on December 4, 1847. The first school was of log construction and was located on the John Nelson farm. Water was carried from a spring northwest of the school.

The second school was erected at a site purchased in 1862 from Christian Christianson. This building was called the Riley School. It cost, with site, about \$200. School was taught in three sessions. The older children and adults, including immigrants, found the winter sessions convenient because the field work was finished. This session was taught by a male teacher at a salary of \$26 per month. Fall and summer sessions were usually taught by a female teacher who received a salary of \$18 per month. At that time, a school month consisted of 22 weekdays and every other Saturday.

In 1880, the Canada thistle must have been a problem as the district paid \$1.00 to have the "Kanady Tisle" cut on the school grounds.

In 1884, the term of the school year was changed to 8 months; 5 months in the winter and three months in the summer. By 1889, the teachers salary had reached \$35 and the tax levied was \$125.

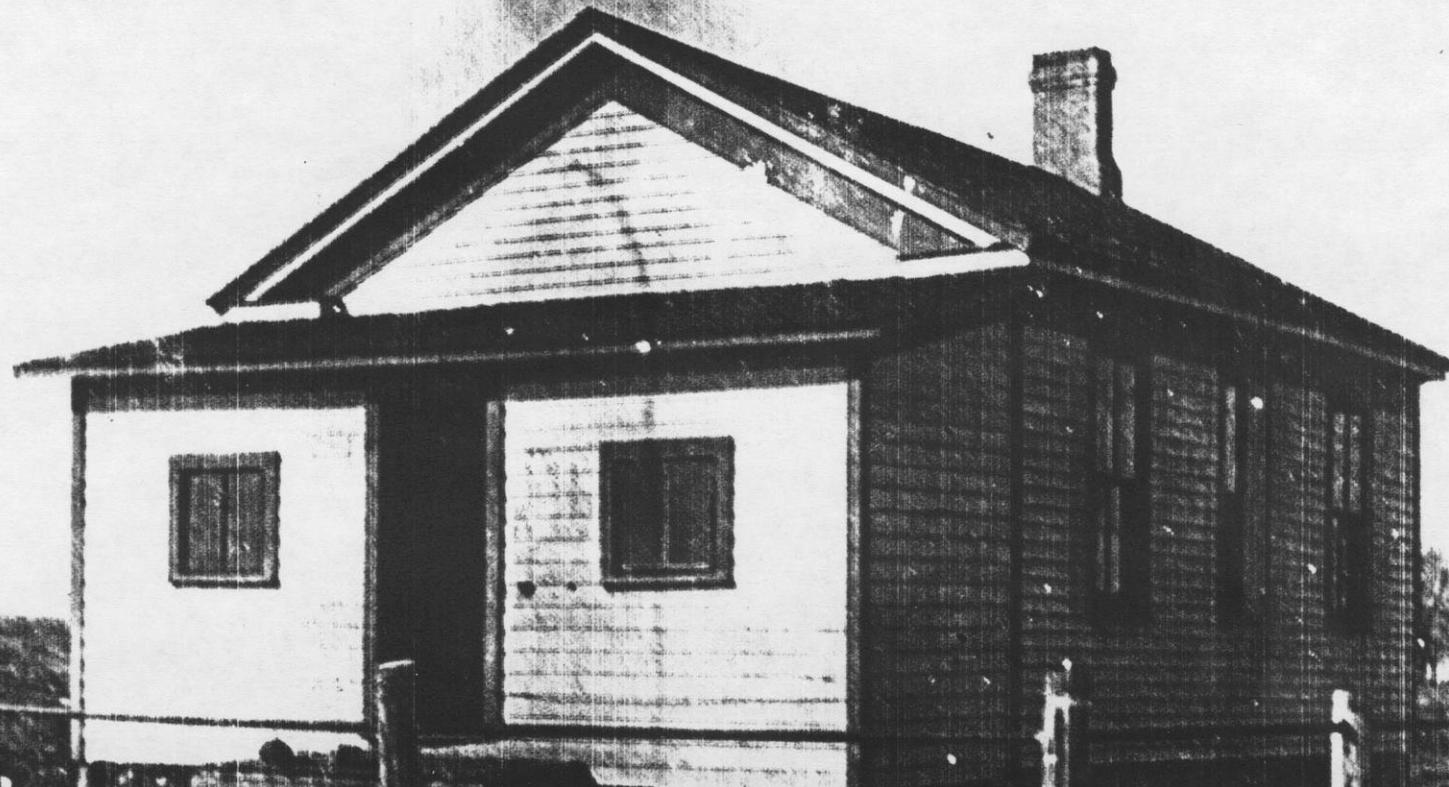
The third school building, which is still standing, was built in 1915. This building, of brick construction, cost \$2,450. In 1918, the name of the school was changed to the Hillcrest School. The old wooden structure was moved and is still in use as a garage on the Alton Hansen farm.

At a special meeting on September 24, 1928, the voters turned down a proposal to install electricity, but four years later approved a similar measure.

In 1960, the district voted to send the seventh and eighth graders to the Waterford Junior High in Rochester. (formerly the old Agricultural School)

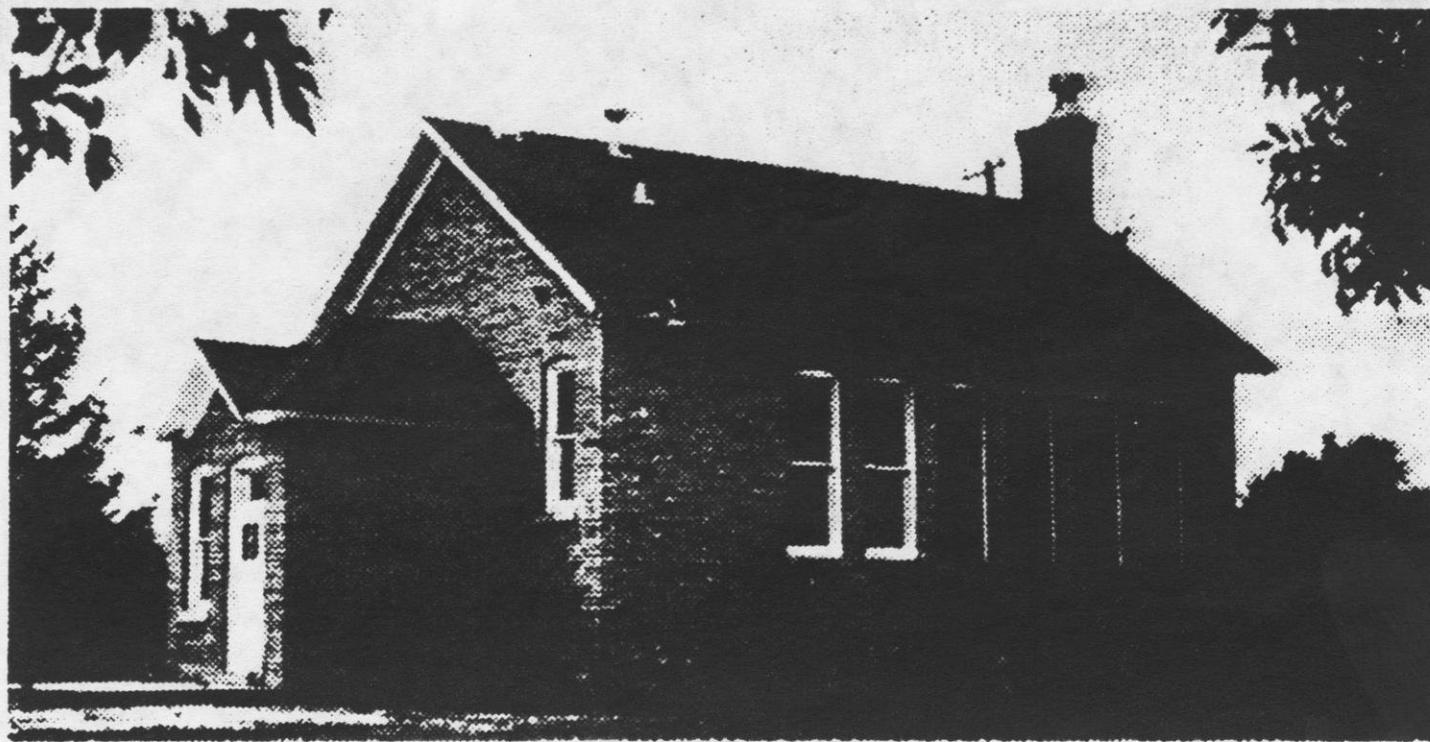
After defeating an attempt by Waterford to dissolve Hillcrest district and attach it to Waterford, the District voted to consolidate with Apple School effective July 1, 1963. The Hillcrest School has since been sold for use as a residence. It is located at the northwest corner of the intersection of County Highway K and Larson Road.

HILLCREST SCHOOL
CIRCA 1900





HILLCREST SCHOOL 1926



Hillcrest School, now used as a residence

APPLE SCHOOL

The Apple School District was organized on January 28, 1848, at the home of George Waltermire. The school was built just west of the Waltmire's house and became known as the Waltmire School. About 1856, the name of the school was changed to the Apple School in honor of Adam Apple, who had bought the farm on which the school was located.

In the winter of 1886, adults of the district were invited too attend night school. Mathematics was one subject taught at the night school sessions.

In 1954, due to the large enrollment, another room was added to the original school house. This addition cost \$22,500 at that time, the school became a state graded school. In 1963, the district joined with the Hillcrest District, and then later in the same year with the North Cape District in the Town of Raymond.

When the redistricting came about most students went to North Cape, but a number of residents attached to the Waterford Graded School District.

The Apple School property was sold and is now a private home on the north side of Overson Road.



Apple School, built in 1848

BUTTLES SCHOOL

No records can be found of the original Buttles school building which was probably located on the west side of what is now Highway 83 north of Rice's Corners near its present site. The building was sold to D.W. Buttles and moved to a different location to be used as a blacksmith's shop.

A second wooden clapboard structure was erected about 1858 on a site leased from a Mr. Rockafellow. The building was remodeled in 1916.

A new brick schoolhouse was built in 1922 and remained in operation until sometime in the early 1960's when it consolidated with the Waterford Graded School District.

Here is a picture of the student body in the 1858 structure taken in 1911 or 1912.

Back Row

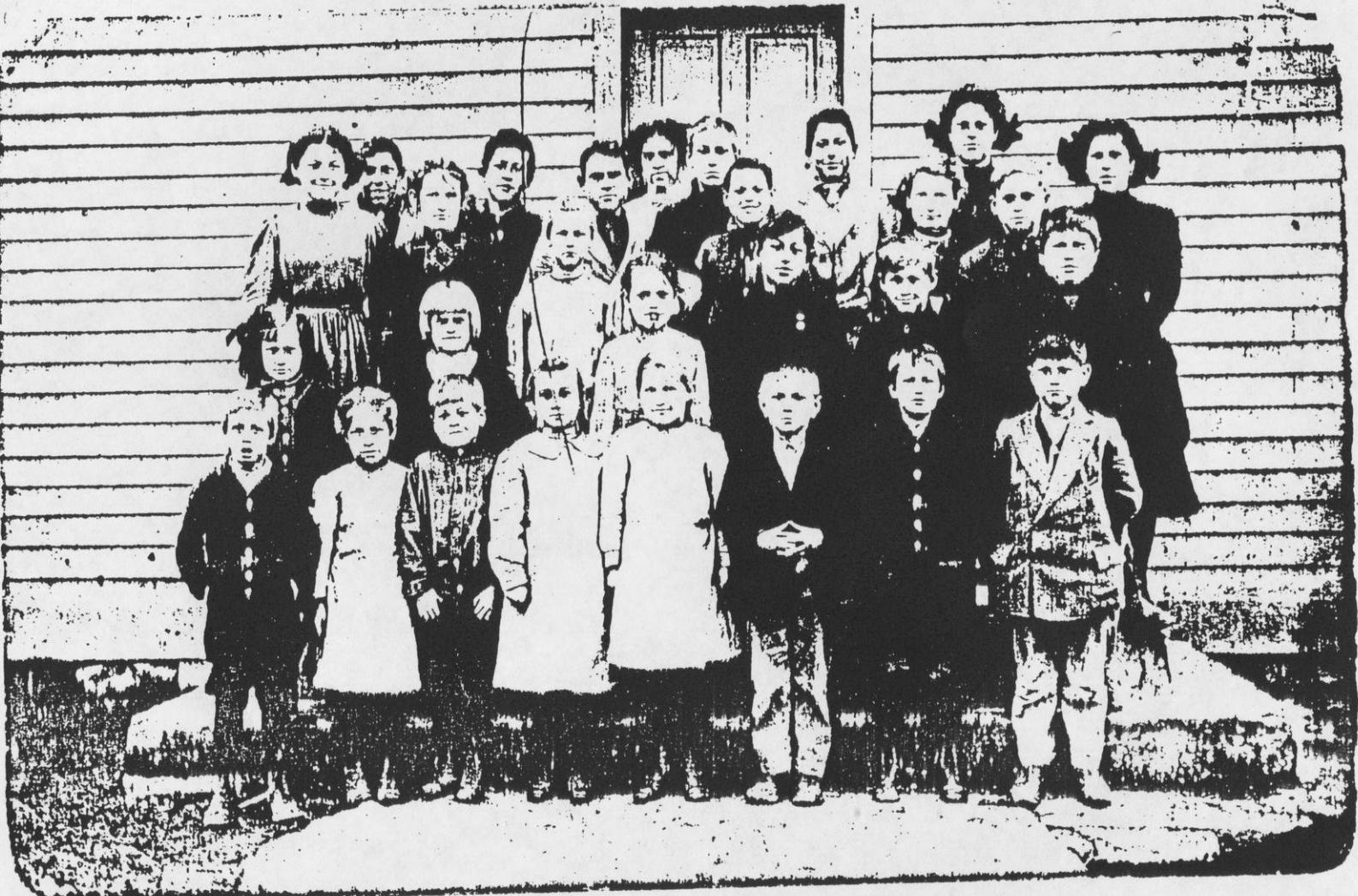
C. Warren, R. Clemens
O. Mitch, W. Levine,
C. Glueck, L. Alleman
M. Glueck, M. Greely
Glueck

2 Clara Hoppe, B. Park
A. Behling, E. Ringer
A. Park, B. Hoppe
G. Park, M. Sodke
Mabel Sodke, A. Mitch
O. Behling, H. Glueck

A. Clausen, E. Behling
E. Buttles, U. Behling
F. Behling, J. Glueck
E. Clausen, E. Greely

Picture Taken by
B. Butke Fall of 1909

1911 or 1912



Buttles School

Teacher in center back row - Lottie Warren

NORWAY - COL. HEG - LAKEVIEW, DISTRICT 1

The first schoolhouse of record was a small 19 by 19 foot log building. It had one room and was located on Loomis Road, a short distance south of Waubeesee Lake. This was the first public school in District #1 and was built in 1849 or 1850. It is known that around 1845, a private school where both English and Norwegian were spoken was conducted by a young man named John Tvedt.

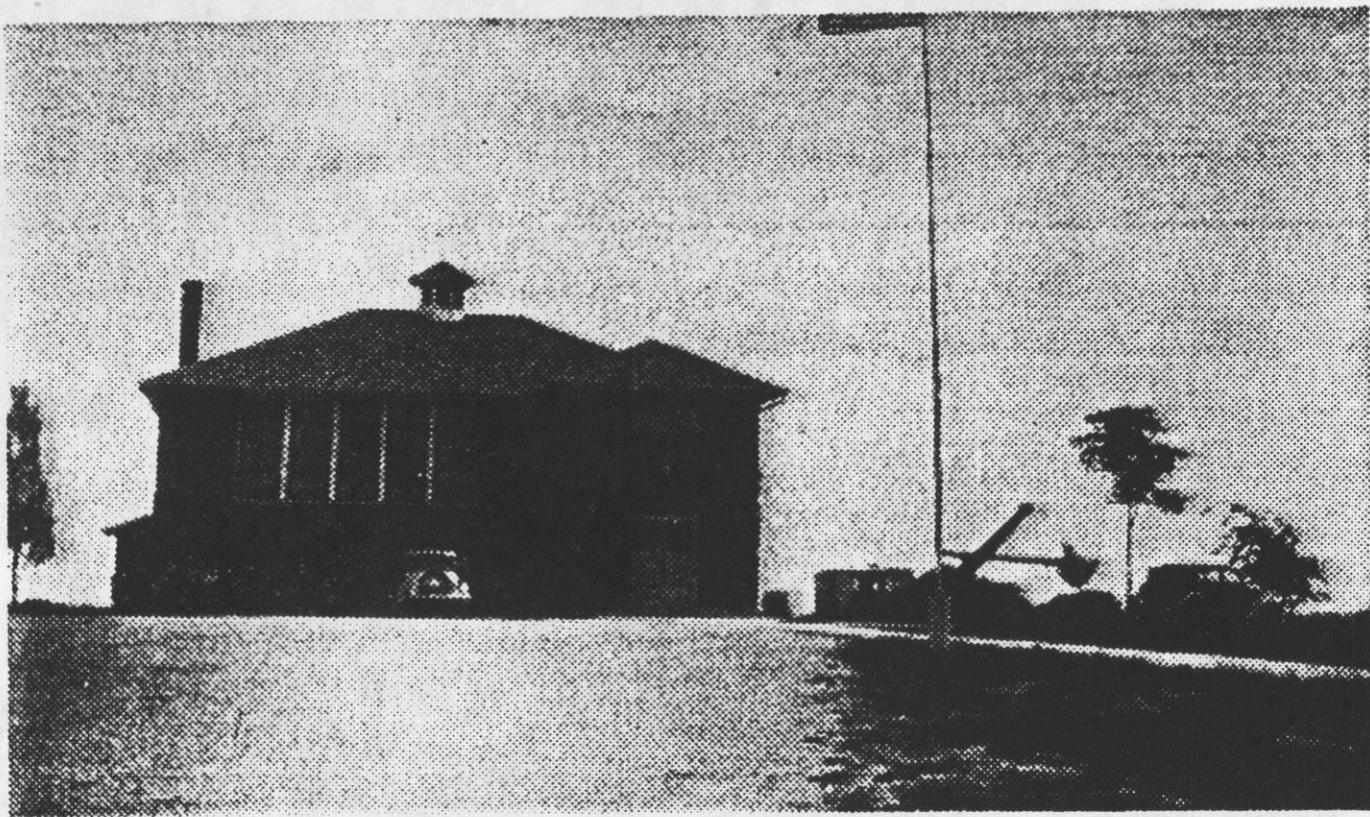
Due to yearly increases in enrollment, this building again became overcrowded and in 1939 an addition equal in size to the original building was built.

A more centrally located 6-room school was built in 1953 between Wind Lake and Waubeesee Lake. At that time the name of the school was changed to Lakeview. The building became too small for the entire enrollment even before it was completed and rooms still had to be used at the Colonel Heg School. Additions were made to the Lakeview School in 1955, 1960, and 1968.

In 1960 this district consolidated with the Muskego-Norway School District, but a small portion of it constituents in the western part of their district opted to join the Waterford Graded School District.



Norway District No. 1 school, built in 1874



Original Col. Heg School. Construction of addition in process.