



The Minnie Williams Quilt School Section #5 (Malahide) Dunboyne

Loan, The Williams Family

In 1917, the teacher at SS#5 Dunboyne, received this quilt from her class as a wedding present. Minnie Williams, as she was to become, was born Mary Elizabeth Baker in 1892. A granddaughter of a north Yarmouth (Central Elgin) settler named William Baker, she was raised in the house he built of clay in the 1850s which still stands near the corner of Ron McNeil Line and Highbury Avenue.

Minnie, who only taught at Dunboyne for a few years in the World War One era, would have had her hands full. A photograph from this period shows an incredible 48 students of all ages attending the school. She likely left the school following her marriage. Not long before this time, it was required that female school teachers be single and board at a farm within the school section. Following their marriage, Minnie and her husband Cyril Williams had 6 children among them Ray and his brother Don, a founding member of the Kettle Valley Pioneers.

A process of centralization that has continued up to the present caused the systematic closing of rural one-room schools beginning in the late 1950s. Dunboyne School itself was closed in December of 1964 and the building was eventually demolished, though some of the bricks were used in the construction of the house that is now on the site. Though the Dunboyne school house is gone, a number of former students hold an annual reunion keeping the spirit of the school alive. Among them are Vivian Liddle and her sister Carole Bowen who supplied the material for this panel.



Thomas Baker and his children, c. 1910

From *The Family of William Baker and Margaret (Hicks) Baker*

Left to right:
Margaret, Roy, Mabel and Mary Elizabeth (Minnie)



SS #5 Malahide, 1910



SS#5 Malahide, Spring, 1930

Back row, left to right:

Mrs. Warren, Barbara Van Patter, Hazel Jackson, Helen White, Elsie Boxall, Gwendolyn McKnight, Vera Tate, Beatrice Esseltine, Norma Williams, Jean White, Ruth Kent, Hazel Percy, Marjorie Prideaux

Middle row: Edsel Potts, Donald Williams, Geoffrey Prideaux, Wesley Jackson, Howard Tate, Alan Van Patter, Percy Liddle, Fred Kent, Frank Empey, George White, Ross Van Patter

Front row: Paul Boxall, Harold Carter, Clare Esseltine, Jean Boxall, Doris Williams, Evelyn Kent, Ilene Carter, Helen McTaggart, Dorothy White, Beatrice Percy, Ivy Jackson



Mrs. Cline and students, 1954-55

Front row, left to right:

Shelia Draper, Robert Liddle, Karen Ashton, Carole Liddle
Second row: Butch Creed, Kathleen Creed, Donald Draper, Sandra Draper

Third row: Russell Crosby, David Peters, Rosemary Liddle, Linda Lindsay, Alene Liddle

Fourth row: John Ungar, John Creed, Shirley Ashton, Vivian Liddle, Marion Jibson