

had 103 pupils enrolled. Mr. John Garton, who attended both the Union School at Townline, on his farm, and the new school on Silver Street, can remember one day when there were 97 pupils present.

Among those who helped to control the affairs of S.S.No.1 during its early history are found the following names: James McGregor, Norman Ford, James McEwin, John Morningstar, William Moore, Martin Dubs, D.D. Gillies, Philip Schleihauf, Alex McColl, Peter and John McKellar.

The following have been Secretary-Treasurers:

1874-1877	--Mr. Norman Ford	1929-1933	--Mr. Earl Huffman
1877-1879	--Mr. Alex McColl	1933-1945	--Mr. Norman D. Buchan
1879-1918	--Mr. Thomas N. Ford	1945	--Mr. Donald Kelly
1918-1921	--Mr. Blake Buchan	1945-	--Mr. Vincent Black
1921-1929	--Mr. George Little		

TEACHERS SINCE 1874:

The School year, at this time, began in January and ended in December.

1874-1876 Miss Hattie Potts, who afterwards became Mrs. Reaume. Her salary was \$20.00 per month.

1877- Mr. Neil Shaw, son of Donald Shaw, Rodney, who afterward became a Presbyterian minister.

1878-1879 Mr. Malcolm McColl

1880-1881 Miss Catherine Macdiarmid, grand-daughter of Finlay G. Macdiarmid, who settled at New Glasgow in 1816. She was a sister of Hon. F.G. Macdiarmid, M.P.P. for Elgin for many years.

1882-1883 Mr. James McNicol, son of John McNicol, New Glasgow.

1884- Miss Florence Ross, of Fingal, who afterward went as a missionary to China or India.

1885- Miss Annie McColl, daughter of Alexander McColl in this section, who for many years was a well-loved teacher in St. Thomas.

1886-1887 Miss Sarah Macdiarmid, another sister of Hon. F. G. Macdiarmid.

1888-1889 Miss Olive Ward, from Wardsville.

1890-(4mo) Mr. George Hicks, Watford, who later became a druggist.

1890-(6mo) Mr. Charles Wimmer, St. Thomas.

During 1890, the section was divided and Section No.15 was formed, leaving S.S.No.1 covering the area it now occupies. After this division, a new location for school was desired, so that it might be more

central, and an acre of land was purchased from Donald Gillies, Lot D, Con.12, at the corner of Black's Lane and Talbot Road. The cost was \$125.00, and the school-house was moved from Silver Street by Robert Morrison for \$350.00.

1891-1893 Miss Lissa Crane of Tyrconnell.
 1894-1895 Miss Maggie McColl, another daughter of Alex McColl Sr.
 1896-1897 Miss Sarah Munroe, grand-daughter of Squire Munroe.
 1898- Miss Mary McArthur, Ridgetown, whose Mother was Jane Kelly.
 1899-June 1901
Miss Alma Johnson, Highgate.
 1901(June)-(Dec.)
 -1902 Miss Emily Blott, Wardsville.
 1903- Miss Kate E. McMillan, Kintyre.
 1904(June) Miss Jessie M. Honor, Amherstburg. About this time the
SCHOOL YEAR WAS CHANGED TO AUGUST TO JUNE
 1904-1905 Mr. Urbian R. Moore
 1905-1906 Miss L.J. Davenport, Sparta.
 1906-1907 Miss Nellie Coles, Palmyra.
 1907-1908 Miss Isobel McMillan, Kintyre.
 1908-1909 Miss Florence Buchan, daughter of Dan Buchan, Talbot St.
Married Floyd Sifton, Palmyra.
 1909-1910 Miss Bessie McGuire, Dresden.

During 1910, a new modern brick school was built on the same site, costing \$2320.00, and the old school was sold to Mr. John Buchan.

1910-1911 Miss Eva Leith, St. Thomas; married Dempster Havens.
 1911-1912 Miss Mary Belle McLean, Rodney; Married Gordon Kelly.
 1912-1913 Miss Helen Cornforth, St. Thomas.
 1913-1914 Miss Evelene Stinson, Rodney.

In December 1913, the school was burned and much valuable information was lost. A new more up-to-date brick school was built in 1914, at a cost of \$4200.00, and is still in use. While the new school was being built, classes were held in the house of James A. Kelly, across Talbot Street from the school.

1914-1915 Miss Norma Gilbert, St. Thomas.
 1915-1918 Miss Tena McLean, Rodney.
 1918-1923 Miss Margaret Kelly, daughter of Alex Kelly, who married James McGregor.
 1923-1924 Mr. Alex B. Currie, Kintyre.
 1924-1925 Miss Alma Campbell, St. Thomas
 1925-1927 Miss Blanche McGregor, great grand-daughter of Gregor McGregor, one of the early settlers.
 1927-1930 Miss Kathleen Lamont, Kintyre; married Dr. O.J. Davies.

1930-1938 Miss Elva Grey, daughter of George Grey, New Glasgow, fisherman; married John Milner, West Lorne
 1938-1939 Miss Isabel Carswell, Iona; married Gordon Attridge, Highgate.
 1939-1942 Miss Bessie Morrison, Wardsville.
 1942-1944 Miss Carolyn Grey, another daughter of George Grey.
 1944-1947 Mrs. Harold Mills (Doreen Murray) Rodney.
 1947-1948 Miss Katherine Fletcher, Mitchell.
 1948- Mrs. William Anderson, (Clearville) Palmyra.

THROUGHOUT the years, the threads were laid,
 Of Wisdom, Right and Truth;
 To guide, along life's rugged paths,
 The minds and lives of youth;
 In and out the strands were woven,
 In weakness and in strength,
 Some dark, some bright, some short
 And others quite a length;
 The work is still unfinished,
 The design we cannot see,
 But in the Master Weaver's hands,
 A perfect pattern, some day, there'll be.

The information given in this report was received from the following

sources:

"Historical Atlas of Elgin County" published in 1877

"The Pioneer Days in Aldborough" edited by J.H. McIntyre

"The early minute books of S.S.No.1" kindly loaned by Norman A. Ford

"The present minute book of S.S.No.1" kindly loaned by Vincent Black

I wish to record my thanks to both the above gentlemen for all the help received; also to Mr. John Garton and Mrs. John Milton, Rodney, for giving me much information about the early school life of S.S.No.1. Mr. Garton is, I believe, the oldest resident of Aldborough who attended both the Union school on his farm Lot A, Con.13, and the first school on Silver Street on Lot C, Con.12. Mrs. Milton is a descendent of Thomas Ford, and among the first pupils to attend the school on Silver Street.

My thanks also goes to Mr. Charles Black, the present clerk of Aldborough Township, for all his trouble in looking over some of the old minutes of Aldborough Council, for me.

Written by: Mrs. Philip Schleihauf

SCHOOL SECTION NO. I ALDBOROUGH

PART II

The earliest record I have been able to find of a school-house in this section was in the minutes of Aldborough Council for December 1853, where it stated that the voting for Municipal Officers for 1854 would be held for Ward 4 in the school house on Lot 1, Con 10, then owned by Dugald McLarty.

As voting was held before this time in a home, we may infer that this school must have been built in 1853. In the council minutes for October 1854, the treasurer was ordered to pay Six pounds Five shillings to have a site for school cleared in Aireyville (now New Glasgow), on Lot 6, Con. 13, just south of the present New Glasgow Presbyterian Church. In 1855, and for some years after, the voting for Ward 4 was held in Airey's School, as this school was then called.

Up to this time there were no definite boundaries for school sections, but in 1856 the sections were legally defined as follows:

S.S. No.1 Aldborough and S.S. No. 8 Orford were united.

S.S. No. 1--Lots A,B,C,D, and 1 in Concessions 12, 13, and 14.

The school was built on Lot A, Con 13, at the townline, on the farm of William Garton. There is no record of exact time of building.

All of these lots are still in S.S. No.1.

S.S. No.2 was composed of Lots 2-12 in Concessions 12, 13, 14, and S 1/2 of same lots in Con 11. Their school was the Airey school at New Glasgow. Lots 2 and 3 of this section now are in S.S. No.1.

S.S. No.4 was composed of Lots A,B,C,D, and 1-5 in Concessions 8, 9, 10, and N 1/2 of Lots 1,2,3,4,5, and all of Lots A,B,C, and D in Con 11. Their school was the red schoolhouse on Lot 1, Con 10, over which there was quite a controversy in 1874 when the school sections were rearranged after the School Improvement Act of 1871 came into effect. At that time Lots A,B,C,D, and 1,2,3,4,5 in Con 10, 11, and S 1/2 of same lots in Con 9 were taken into S.S.1. But when S.S. No. 15 was formed in 1890, only those on S 1/2 of Con 11 were left in S.S. No.1, leaving the section composed of same lots as it now occupies.

This little red school was built about 1853 on the Dugald McLarty farm, on the East corner of Lot 1, facing Middle Street. The first teacher

S.S. No. I Aldborough continued

was Archibald Buchanan born near Clearville. Other teachers were Margaret Paterson, daughter of Duncan and "Auntie Grace" Paterson, who was born on the 5th Concession Aldborough, and later married James McPherson of the 4th Concession. One was Miss Agness McLean, native of Rodney, and another Miss Mary E. Leitch, last teacher in 1874.

S.S. No. 1 is on the corner of Black's Lane and Talbot Road, now No. 3 Highway. Black's Lane was named after the first settler, James Black who settled some distance north of the Talbot Road on the sideroad. At first there was only a trail to his home, but in 1853 the roadway was cleared. It was not made into a real road until 1855.

Among the early settlers who helped to mould the character of life in S.S. No. 1 and some of whose descendants still carry on the work were the Gillies, Fords, McGregors, McKellars, McLartys, McDougals, Ruthvens, Patersons, Buchans, McColls, McEwins, Henrys, MacFarlanes, Schleihaufs, Moores, Forbes, Haggarts, Kelly, and others. These families, as will be noticed, were mostly of Scotch origin. There were a few German settlers around 1850, but to-day it is a very cosmopolitan district, for we include immigrants from Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Holland, as well as Germany, England, Ireland, and Scotland.

The present trustees are: Vincent Black (secretary-treasurer) Jack Buchan, and James S. Kelly.

It may be interesting to many to record here the story of one of the apt pupils S.S. No. 1 had, whose history we happen to have: Colin McDougall, K.C., and M.P. for East Elgin, was born in 1834 on Lot 3 Con 12, where his father Lachlan McDougall had settled. He had a real liking for the rough and tumble life of bushland.

S.S. No. I Aldborough concluded

His first teacher was a Mr. Currie, and later on one of his teachers was Archibald McLaughlin, who had come from Scotland in 1843. After teaching a few years he was appointed the first Superintendent or Inspector of schools in Elgin, where he labored hard to bring in many reforms and improvements in sections and schools.

Colin McDougall was an apt pupil. After leaving school, he was engaged in the Mercantile business in New Glasgow and was Reeve of Aldborough township from 1857 to 1861. Afterward he studied law and as a lawyer he was quite brilliant, and very successful, owing no doubt to his untiring zeal and industry, candor and integrity of purpose, clearness of perception in mastering all the details of a case, as well as to a fearless, earnest and convincing eloquence in addressing a jury.

He was always interested in politics and in 1874 he was elected to represent the riding of East Elgin in the Dominion Parliament, where he always strongly befriended the causes of temperance and education.

Another name that is interesting to note is that of Archibald McColl, who lived on Lot 3, Con 13, and who was one of the best historians of his day.

Written by: Mrs. P. Schleihauf