



Ronald Bedford's Farm - 1982

This land, Lot 21, Concession 10 of Dunwich Township, belonged in 1850 to Sir Richard Airey, a nephew of Colonel Talbot. It was sold to John Malcolm in 1873, to James Sloan in 1880 and then to Daniel B. McPherson, who was married to Catherine Sloan, a daughter of James Sloan, in 1901. The McPhersons built this one and a half storey brick home about 1904 and raised their family of three girls and two boys there. They sold the farm to William Sloan in 1919, a son of James Sloan.

Following William's death, the land was purchased by Harold Sloan, grandson of James Sloan, in 1937. Harold was married in 1938 to Gertrude McArthur of Wallacetown and they resided here, with their four daughters until 1961, when they moved to Wallacetown to become Postmaster there.

The farm was sold in 1963 to Ronald and Margaret Bedford and their two girls. The Bedfords have remodelled the kitchen, built a utility room at the back, an extra bedroom, with balcony upstairs. The living room has been modernized with a spiral staircase, patio doors leading to a deck and in 1982 a garage has been built on to the east side of the house and a verandah built across the front.





Kenneth Holland's Farm - 1982

This farm home is on the south side of the 10th Concession, Dunwich Township, just east of Willey's Sideroad. Some of the earlier owners were Wm Hunter, Anthony Crane (1869), Wm Sloan in 1886, Thomas McLachlin in 1888, Percival and Mary Jones in 1893; they had owned 50 acres on the east side of the home place in 1879, and now had 100 acres. In 1909 their son Percival married Florence Shearing and in 1911 they purchased this 100 acres from his mother. They lived in a frame house until 1931, when this two storey brick house was built. They had four daughters and two sons. Percival passed away in 1945 and his two sons Foster and Lyle farmed this land, as well as land east of this and also across the road, which they purchased the same year. Lyle moved to this home in 1951, following his marriage and Foster continued to live with his mother until her death and then with his wife Geraldine until 1970 when they moved to St. Thomas and Kenneth Holland purchased the farm. A side verandah has been removed and the kitchen built on, modernizing the kitchen and other rooms in the home. Part of the older frame house is now a garage attached to the rear of the house. Kenneth is married to Elaine Luxton of St. Thomas and they have three daughters.





Lawrence Holland's Farm - 1982

This older farm home is situated on the 10th Concession of Dunwich and the northeast corner of Willey's sideroad. The farm was owned by Joe Bobier in 1875 and the house built in 1879. In 1902 the farm was sold to James Lackey who lived in a log house on the 9th Concession, behind this property. James Lackey married Lillian Granger in 1896, who had been raised by the Bobiers in this home. The Lackeys lived in the log house, where their son Lloyd was born in 1898 and moved to this farm in 1904 where the other children were born:- Iva (Mrs. Allen Crawford); Berneice (died at age 16); Lillian (Mrs. Spence Bobier) and Murray. Mr. and Mrs. Lackey lived on this farm until Mr. Lackey's death in 1948. Mrs. Lackey moved to Wallacetown and the farm was sold to Lawrence and Grace Holland, who still reside there. They had one son and four daughters. Their son, Kenneth, resides on a farm nearly across the road from his father's.

This older home was built of 70,000 bricks; the lath is nailed to brick and plastered on  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch air space, so cannot be insulated. The walls are 17 inches thick. It has a slate roof, bricked right through to the top and one cannot go from one side of upstairs to the other upstairs. The house remains the same except for the sun porch being closed in and a family room built on the back part where an old summer kitchen was in earlier years.





Lyle Jones' Farm - 1982

In 1863 Thomas Sloan purchased fifty acres on 10th Concession, Dunwich Township, from George and Anne MacBeth for the sum of \$400.00. An additional one hundred acres was purchased across the road between 1871 and 1875.

A large red brick house was built on the first fifty acres in 1876 for the reported sum of \$600.00.

The farm was owned by Thomas Sloan until 1904 when it was purchased by Percival and Mary Jones and their sons. They continued to farm this land until 1945 when it was purchased by Foster and Lyle Jones, grandsons of Percival Jones. Lyle and Mary Jones moved into the house in 1951 following their marriage. They have one daughter and four sons.

The house remains much the same as it was when originally built. It consists of a double row of brick with a limestone foundation. A frame summer kitchen and woodshed were removed in 1957. There once was a verandah across the front and down the side of the house that has been removed. It is one and a half stories high. There are five rooms upstairs and four rooms downstairs. There is pine woodwork throughout the house. Three rooms on the main floor have very ornate plaster mouldings around the ceilings.

There has been very little structural change done on the inside or the outside of the house with the exception of the relocation of the kitchen and the installation of a bathroom. In 1979 renovations were done on the basement. Drainage was installed all around the outside walls and a cement floor was poured. The house is now heated by a wood stove in the basement which is proving to be very efficient.





Duncan K. McKillop's Farm - 1982

The original history of this farm is on a previous page under "Century Farms, 1969."

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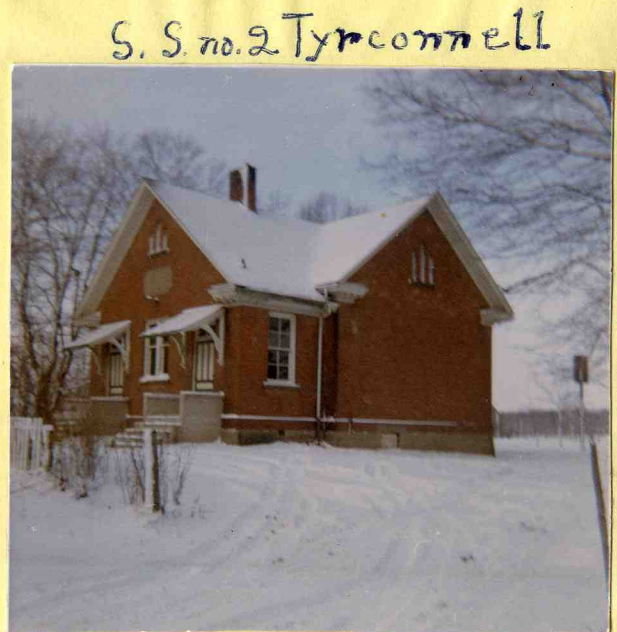
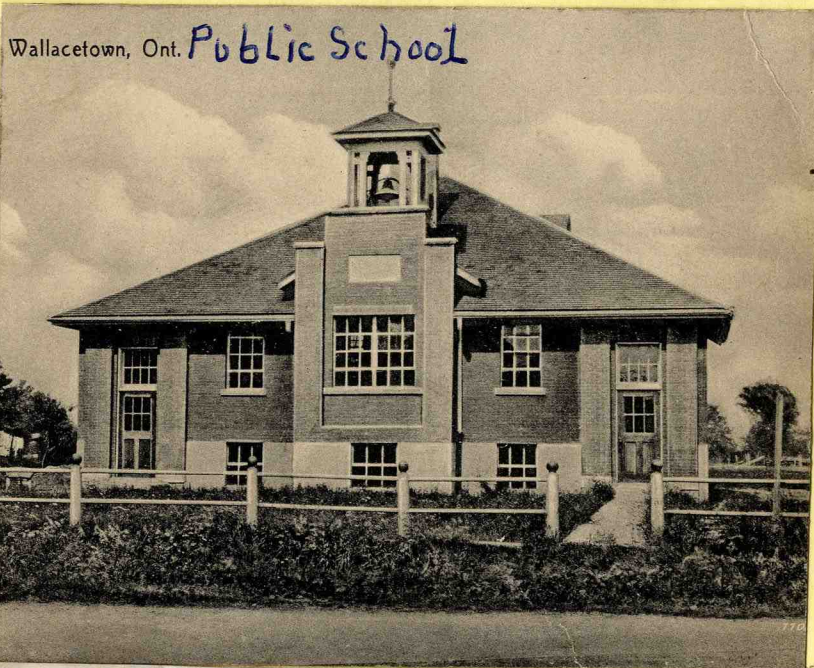
School, to be known as the Dunwich-Dutton Public School would be completed by Sept. 1, 1965. However, obstacles appeared, the chief being the carpenter's strike which took place in the summer of 1965.

The Board decided to close the five schools having the smallest attendance. They purchased two buses and transported these pupils to the Dutton Public School. At the time of writing it is almost a certainty that the renovations and addition will be completed by Sept. 1, 1966. *Pictures of the five schools are below*

Last traces of the little red school are disappearing as farmers buy the empty school buildings to rebuild them as dwellings, implement sheds and garages.

It is farewell to an era.

All schools in Elgin centralized by 1967  
enrollment 5-50

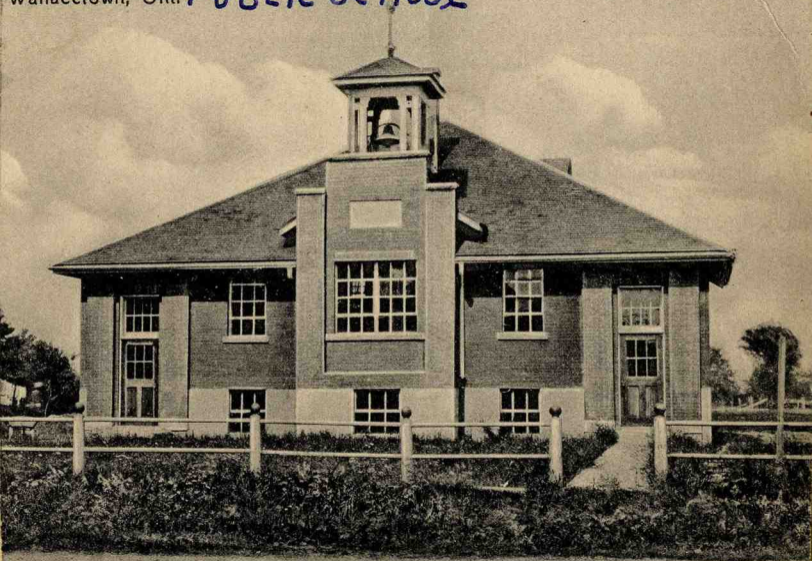


*S.S. # 4. Willeys*

over  $\rightarrow$  more schools



Wallacetown, Ont. Public School







Coynes



Nol. Pt. Talbot



FIRST SCHOOL HELD AT TYRCONNELL  
IN 1822; REUNION ON AUGUST 13, 1966

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Saturday, August 13th, will be the date of another school reunion -- that of S.S. 2, Tyrconnell. As with others in this area, it was closed as of the end of June and students from there will attend the Central School here in the future.

Registration will commence at Tyrconnell School at 2 p.m. on Saturday. There will be a short program followed by a picnic lunch, served smorgasbord at 5 p.m.

History of S.S. 2, Dunwich

Tyrconnell at one time was called Little Ireland because of the number of Irish people who settled there. It was also called No. 9. Later it was given its proper name, Tyrconnell.

The first school held in Little Ireland was in John Pearce's house in 1822 (now John S. Pearce's home). It was held for a term of six months and was taught by Thomas Gardiner.

In 1824, John Miles Farlane kept school in a house of his own on Concession 11, Lot 15 (now Charles Ford's place).

As the school held by John Miles Farlane was at one side of the settlement, the people joined and erected a schoolhouse on land owned by Andrew Backus in 1824 (now the home of Morley Page). The size of this school was 18x22 feet. It was frame, the sills and sleepers laid on the ground, and plank nailed to the beams and plates, there being no posts. It was weather-boarded on three sides and planked double on the other. It was shingled with home-made shingles. Boards were roughky laid overhead on the beams for ceiling, and none of the walls were plastered. There was a door made of rough boards, three windows, and in one end a large fireplace and chimney which gave out its smoke to the scholars so freely, that a hole cut in the roof would serve the purpose as well. Along one side and across one end were benches which were made of slabs brought from the mill. A hole was bored in each corner into which legs were inserted. Along the side in front of the bench was a large chestnut slab, fastened up by means of four legs, the same as those of the benches. This was used for a desk. The teacher had a small desk and chair of his own.

Books used were the old speller, English reader and copy books. For copy books they bought common unruled paper by the quire at the store, sewed the sheets together, and pasted on a paper cover, or sewed on a sheepskin or buckskin cover. For a pencil with which to rule the paper, they pounded a lead bullet flat and sharpened it, and with a ruler, drew lines at whatever distance they wished. They made their pens out of goose quills, and ink from the bark of the maple and copperas (sulphate of lime). To keep it from freezing in winter they put whisky in it. Slate pencils