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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Eagle Harbor schools

BY C.W. LATTIN

This picture, taken in 1900, shows the two schoolhouses at Eagle Harbor. The prominent wooden school in the center was built in 1900 as a two-room educational facility.

The first two teachers in this building were Frank Tripp (advanced pupils) and Miss G. Fern Brooks (primary pupils).

This was known as District No. 7 of Gaines and in 1963, was the last district school in Orleans County to close its doors following centralization.

These schools were known as the common schools and located in the geographic center of a four-square-mile area. Hence, students walking to school shouldn't have had more than two miles to travel.

This wooden school was built in the Colonial Revival style and was an improvement over the earlier cobblestone building behind it. This older, one-room school made of small field stone was built around 1840.

In the foreground, we see School Lane, which led from the Eagle Harbor-Waterport Road back to the schoolhouse. Shortly after this picture was taken, the cobblestone school was torn down and the site was graded off for a play yard.

The school, built in 1900, remains today as a residence. This follows its use as the Eagle Harbor Community Center for three decades.