



Lac du Bonnet One Room Schools

compiled by Terry & Marlene Tottle

Sources: Photos & information from The Lac du Bonnet & District Historical Society Archives, The Manitoba Historical Society, One Hundred Years of the Rural Schools in Manitoba by Mary B. Perfect M. Ed Thesis 1978, Caviar & Venison, Logs & Lines from the Winnipeg River, and Archives of Manitoba School Inspector photos J. E. S. Dunlop.

**shown in order of School District formation*

** school district formation and date that the school was actually built may differ*

1 - Lac du Bonnet #1235

Opened: Oct. 1904 on land donated by John Duncan McArthur

Location: NE7-15-11E SW corner of 4th St. & Park Ave.

1st teacher: Sarah McDougall (1904)

Other teachers were Agnes Curran (1905), J. H. Gallant (1905), Eva Mcrae (1908), Miss M. Grange (1909), F. Carrierre (1909), Bertha Dymond (1909 -12), Mr. J. McGuinness (1912), Miss L. E. Swan (1916), Mrs. G. Hamilton (1921), Miss R. McKenzie (1921), Miss L. Pearlman (1921), Principal Mrs. S. Burridge (1923), Miss Silver (1923), Miss Simmie (1923), Principal K. B. Sigurdsson (1924), Miss A. F. Lachmance (1924), Miss M. Levant (1924), Principal Mr. John Houston (1926), Nellie Abrain, (1926) Miss Feely, (1929) Mrs. Dorothy Blank, (1930) Miss Janet S. Reid, (1930-35) Miss F. Malloy (1930-36), Miss Margaret Scarfe (1930), Principal John Lorne McAllister(1931-33), Principal Laurence S. Smith (1934), Miss J. H. Fletcher(1936), Miss Lenesa Nyznyk (1937), D. L. Cameron (1938), and Henry B. Bees (1938).

1915 - expanded to 3 rooms (later sold to H.G.Park in1931 for \$175.00 and moved off property)

1931 - a new 4 room stucco exterior school with cupola was constructed. This school burnt down Feb. 24, 1945 and was replaced by Park Avenue School which opened in 1947.

Lac du Bonnet & District Historical Society Archives contain donated Lac du Bonnet School #1235 ledgers from its long time Secretary Treasurer William Duncan Halliday.

Here are some highlights:

- **March 7, 1904** - the first meeting was held to form Lac du Bonnet School District #1235 at the home of Mr. Cleophus Bernard with ten attending. Thomas Houston was chair, Louis Bruneau & Alex Spence were trustees, Rev. J. E. S. Thibandeanu was secretary, and Alex Isbister was evaluator.
- **July 9, 1904** - It was decided instead of borrowing money they raised money by voluntary contribution and school taxes levied in the district.
- **July 10, 1904** - Alex Isbister was awarded a contract of \$45.00 to supply logs for the building of the school.
- **July 19, 1904** - William Duncan Halliday is appointed Secretary Treasurer of Lac du Bonnet School District #1235.
- **July 25, 1904** - Contract to built the log one room school house is awarded to Thomas Houston for \$150.00 at the corner of Park Avenue and 4th Street on land donated by John Duncan McArthur. Thomas Houston would also build the St. John's Anglican Church in 1906 just up the Street which still stands!
- **October 22, 1904** - Miss Sarah McDougall is hired as the first school teacher at \$40.00 per month.
- **December 3, 1904** - Lac du Bonnet first school tax noticed are given to property owners.
- **June 24, 1911** - George Park is awarded a contract to fence the school grounds for \$30.00.
- **May 23, 1914** - By Law # 3 is passed to borrow \$1400.00 to build a two room addition onto to the school.
- **June 1915** - the school addition tender is awarded to S. Dorian for \$840.00

Lac du Bonnet School #1235 becomes a three room school

2 - Riverland School #1557 (Manitoba Municipal Heritage Site #337)

Opened: March 1911 1st teacher: Naima Erickson

Location: SE¼15-15-11E (land donated by Swedish Immigrant Gus Anderson)

2nd school *with teacherage* built circa 1925 location- Riverland Road near Tower Road.

Among the teachers of Riverland School were Russel H. Hayter (1926), Jessie Loewen (1950-51), Mrs. Jessie Melquist (1951-52), George Douglas Winstone (1952), Lionel Lochlan Clench (1952-53), John Louis Brown (1953-58), Peter Norman Wiebe (1958-60), Amel Kostynyk (1960-64), and Donald Walter Smith (1964-66).

Closed: 1967 2nd school still stands on original site

3 - Pinawa School #1627

Opened: May 1912

Location: 1st School - WERCo Pinawa main road entrance 3

2nd School - north of WERCo Pinawa Townsite built about 1925 by John Ongman

Known teacher: Pauline Moen

Closed: in 1966

4 - Brightstone School #1646

Opened: Nov. 1912

Location: NE18-15-10E

The first school burnt down in 1947

2nd school built in 1948 (same location) became the only one room school in the district with indoor plumbing

Closed: 1968

(now a private residence on 317)

The Brightstone School District was established in November 1912 and a one-room schoolhouse operated at NE18-15-10E in the Rural Municipality of Lac du Bonnet. In 1968, the district became part of the Agassiz School Division. The former school building was renovated into a private residence. 1st teacher was Leona Gorecki. Among the teachers of Brightstone School was Amel Kostynyk, V. C. Hardy (1925-26), Olga Zaborniak, Ignatius Zaborniak, and Wally Stoyko (1948).

5 - Newcombe School #1716

Opened: Jan. 1914

with teacherage upstairs

Location: NW12-16-11E in Lettonia

1st teacher Naima Erickson

Closed: 1954 when hydro raised the water for McArthur Generating Station, the old school was vandalized and destroyed

2nd Newcombe school location: Wendigo Road

Location: SE12-16-11E

Opened: 1954

Closed: 1968

The Newcombe School District was established formally in January 1914, probably named for provincial Superintendent of Education Charles Kenning Newcombe, and a one-room log

building clad with horizontal siding schoolhouse operated at NW12-16-11E in the Rural Municipality of Lac du Bonnet. In 1954, the site was made inaccessible due to construction of the McArthur Falls power generating station forebay. **A building provided by Manitoba Hydro was moved on to the Wendigo Road location to be used as the 2nd school.** The district was dissolved in 1968 and its area became part of the Agassiz School Division. The concrete steps of the 2nd school remain on the site today.

Among the teachers of Newcombe School were Mrs. Naima Erickson (1916), Jaroslaw Weywera (1917-21), Harry Blair (1921), Sydney Stewart (1921-22), J. Bunzeluk (Burnside) (1922-37), N. Yurchison (1937-39), K. Sosney (1939-42), Mabel McMahon (1942-45), Jacob Warkentin (1945-47), Stella Bilinsky (1947-48), Josephine Richtik (1948-49), John Oberton (1949-51), Verne Parks (1952), Nellie Campbell (1952-53), Joseph Barney Dram (1954), Therese Marchand (1954), Elma Patterson (1955), Hertha Mattern (1955-58), Phyllis Solinsky (1959), Joanne Hirst (1960-61), Elizabeth Etsell (1961-62), Mrs. O'Toole (1962-63), Richard Ferniuk (1963-64), and Helen Lagsdin (1964-65).

6 - Smith Siding School #1847

Opened: Dec. 1916

with teacherage

Location: SE27-13-9E Betker Road off Milner Ridge Road PR214

1st teacher: Mrs. M.M. Roch

Closed: 1964

The Smith Siding School District was established formally in December 1916 and a one-room schoolhouse operated at SE27-13-9E in the Rural Municipality of Lac du Bonnet. Named for a siding on a since-removed Canadian Pacific Railway line, a three-acre school site was purchased on 25 May 1917, with a schoolhouse built in the fall of that year. Classes began before the year's end. An \$800 teacherage was built soon afterward. The school closed in the summer of 1964, after which students were transported to Buchan School. In January 1968, the district was dissolved and the catchment area was incorporated into the Agassiz School Division. The school building is no longer present at the site but a hedge of lilacs and the teacherage remain.

Among the teachers of Smith Siding School were Mrs. M. M. Roch (1917-18, 1928-30), Miss Sansregret (1919), Olive Smith (1923), Plifford James Garvie (1925-26), Alberta E. Jenkins (1927), Mrs. L. A. Brynelson (1927-28), Albina Korman (1930-31, 1932-33), Lillian Nicholin (1931), Harrietta Agnes Higgins (1933-34), Elizabeth Elkin (1934-38), Leslie A. Hamilton (1938-41), Mrs. Nellie Wold (1941-42), Thomas Mackay (1942-47), Susan Letandre (1949-50), Richard Edward Gralk? (1950-51), Gladys Wojciechowski (1952-54), Joan Isabella Lang (1954-55), Elven

Bonikowsky (1955), Nazar Watcyk (1956-58), Jarvis Podolsky (1958-59), Elizabeth D. Parr (1959-62), and Margaret Ann MacInnes (1962-64).

7 - Cedarkine / Milner Ridge School #1859

Opened: Feb. 1917

Location: NW12-14-9E Milner Ridge PR214

Closed: 1967

Known as Cedarkine School District when it was established formally in February 1917, **it was renamed Milner Ridge School District in the early 1930s**. A one-room schoolhouse operated at NW12-14-9E in the Rural Municipality of Lac du Bonnet. The district was dissolved in 1967 and its catchment area became part of the Lac du Bonnet Consolidated School District and later the Agassiz School Division.

Among the teachers of Cedarkine / Milner Ridge School were Miss M. Sanregret (1919-20), C. S. Simonson (1921-22), Ethel Ostry (1922-23), Felix Sauer (1923-24), Elizabeth G. Taylor (1924-25), Helen Green (1925), Gordon Murray Ferg (1927-29), Leo Gunton Fisher (1929-30), Murray Lawrence Holmes (1930-36), Harold John Griffin (1936-40), Helen MacLeod Bees (1941-44, wife of H. B. Bees), Elsie Mary Ketola (1944-45), Helena M. Snead (1945-46), Mary Bazinet (1946-47), Lilian Mary Drysdale (1947-48), Marion Bertha Murray (1948-49), Gladys Wojciechowski (1949-50), Olive Ellen Trask (1954-55), Edward Evanko (1955-56), Alice May Sien (1956-59), Thomas T. Tyler (1959-60), Sandra Edith Lywood (1960), Minnie Jean Glibbon (1961), Mathew Robert Riddell (1961-62), John B. Enns (1962-63), Eugenia Jennie Sopiwnyk (1963-65), and Helen Mae Clark (1965-66).

8 - Buchan School #1883

Opened: Apr. 1917

with teacherage

Location: SE 9-13-9E Buchan PR214

Closed: 1967

The Buchan School District was established formally in April 1917 and a one-room schoolhouse operated at SE9-13-9E in the Rural Municipality of Lac du Bonnet. It was dissolved in 1967 and its catchment area became part of the Agassiz School Division.

9 - Landerville School #1888**Opened:** June 1917*with teacherage***Location:** SW35-15-10E1st teacher Mrs. Henley

Other known teacher: Stanley Pitre (during the May 21, 1921 cyclone)

Closed: 1966

The Landerville School District was organized formally in June 1917 and a one-room, wood frame schoolhouse operated at SW35-15-10E in the Rural Municipality of Lac du Bonnet. The district was dissolved in 1966 and its area became part of the Agassiz School Division.

10 - Woodrow School #1897**Opened:** Jul. 1917*with teacherage***Location:** SW18-15-9E Woodrow Road north of PR317

The teachers of Woodrow School were H. G. Kawecky (1918), John Goodwin (1919), Alice Santmeice (1919), A. Hnatation (1920), Samuel Baxter (1920), Dominic V. Wgrjykowski (1921), Mrs. Lionel Dollingwood Chown (1921-22), Frank D. Row (1922), David Raymond Falconer (1923), Emma E. Lewis (1923), Howard R. Standing (1924-25), Mary E. Kondratuk (1925-26), Hugh Robert McCaw (1926-27), Frank Alexander Wachal (1927-28), John B. Quinn (1928-29), Michael Krepiakewich (1929-30), Gretta Stange (1930), Rod L. MacDonald (1931), Mary Homan (1931-33), Alexander Jack Nickolychuk (1933-35), Casimir Hollinger (1935-38), Robert Bruce Fahrig (1938), James Henry Kiteley (1939), Gladys Wojciechowski (1939-45), Edith Violet Kolton (1945-46), Olga Kiedyk (1947), Edna Matheson (1948-49), Elizabeth Gemmill (1949- 50), Leonard Baumgartin (1950-51), Peter J. Williams (1951-53), Miss Esther Sanderman (1953-54), Mary Jane Pennier (1953-54), Miss Helen Giesbrecht (1954-55), Kathleen Gertrude Buchman (1955-56), Mary Cecile Fortin (1955-56), Florence Bell (1956-57), Joan Warywoda (1956-57), Esther Suderman (1957-58), Mrs. Joan Murash (1958-59), Elizabeth Moroz (1958-60), Harry Hryhorka (1960), Gerald Antymis (1961), Peter Smolarski (1961-63), Gladys Sigurdson (1963-66), and Annie Menard (1966).

Burnt down in ?

2nd school**Location:** Woodrow Road North of the 1st school.**Opened:** ?**Closed:** 1966

11 - Red Deer School #1916

Opened: Mar. 1918

Location: NE27-15-9E Red Deer Road

Known teacher: Joan Wojciechowski (permit teacher)

Closed: 1967

The Red Deer School District was established formally in March 1918 and a one-room schoolhouse operated at NE27-15-9E in the Rural Municipality of Lac du Bonnet. The district was dissolved in 1967 and its catchment area became part of the Lac du Bonnet Consolidated School District and later the Agassiz School Division

12 - Brookfield School #2052

Opened: 1920

Location: SW18-14-11E Brookfield Road in Carl Gustafson's house
new school built 1922

Closed: 1961 due to proximity to AECL

13 - Lee River School #2104

Opened: 1923

Location: waterfront off the Lee River Road

Built by Mr. Fridoff and Latvian Settlers of the district

Known teachers: Olive (Lola) Zeemel, Mrs. John Bietting, Pauline Petrusak, Elnora Sarapu, Olga Pastezenko, Simone Gorge, Elaine Moen, Iris Dokken, Charles Krause, and Fred Busch

Closed: 1966

Now a private cottage

14 - Berryland School #2246

Opened: Jan. 1934

Location: SW6-16-10E Berryland Road N

Closed: 1967

Moved off site & relocated to Champagne's RV Park used as a small hall.

15 - Crescent Bay School #2259 No school building photo on record to date

Opened: 1935 built of logs

Location: 1st school unknown

Location: 2nd school NE9-16-11E Crescent Bay North of Lac du Bonnet

Opened: 1955 in a renovated cottage provided by the school district (\$3000.00)

1st teacher Miss Ann James

Among the teachers of Crescent Bay School were A. M. Jones (1936-37), Marian Costin (1937-38), J. E. Belanger (1938-40), M. Masserey (1940), Mrs. A. Le Roy (1941-43), Mary P. Borowski (1942-42), Emme Massicotte (1943-45), Mr?/Ms? St. Pierre (1945-47), M. Langthorne (1946), Mrs. A. St. Pierre (1947-48), Miss M. Robertson (1948-49), Marie Pereau? [Pereen? (1949 - 1950), Ms. M. Telagues? (1950-51), Therese Marchand (1952), Jerry Hamel (1952-53), Irene Edith Bauman (1953-54), Mrs. N. Campbell (1954-55), Mariette Claire "Marie" Prefontaine (1955-56), Olive Ellen Trask (1956-59), and Mildred Bell (1959-61).

Closed: 1962

The Crescent Bay School District was organized formally in May 1935 and a one-room schoolhouse operated at NE9-16-11E in the Rural Municipality of Lac du Bonnet. The district was dissolved in 1962 and its catchment area became part of the Agassiz School Division.

The school is now used as a private residence.

16 - Maple Creek School #2275

Opened: Oct. 1936

Location: SE26-16-10E in Arthur Lussier log home on Maple Creek Road

1st teacher Alphonsine (Melba) Cool (1936-37)

2nd school school *with teacherage* built in 1937

Location: across the road

Closed: 1966

The Maple Creek School District was established formally in October 1936 and a one-room schoolhouse operated at SE26-16-10E in the Rural Municipality of Lac du Bonnet. The district was dissolved in 1966 and its catchment area became part of the Lac du Bonnet Consolidated School District and later the Agassiz School Division.

List of teachers:

Laura Peltier (1937-38), Isaac Fast (1938-39), Joseph Joubert (1939-40), Bryan Lentowich (1940-41), John Allard (1941-42), Alice Plante (1942-43), Felixine Ouimet (1943-44), Marie Martel, & Gisele Cormier (1944-45), Dorothy Alksne (1945-46), Cyrille Ouimet (1946-47), Samuel Mandzuik (1947-48), Evelyn Turcotte (1948-49), Keith Huss (1949-50), Simone Dufault (1950-51), Mavis Pott (1951-52), Simone Scott (1952-53), Mavis Maslow (1953-54), Rose-Marie Dube (1954-55), Jeanne Lavoie & Mavis Maslow (1955-56), Mavis Maslow (1956-58), Angela Clark

(1958-59), Angela Jarvie & Gail Kochanowski (1959-60), Victor Hardy and Gail Lussier (1960-61), George Reimer (1961-62), George Reimer & Rene Lussier (1962-63), Olga Fosty (1963-64), Mrs. Klassen, Gordon Mcdowell and Victor Hardy (1964-65), Dorothy Marion (1965 to closing)

17 - Overwater School #2349 no school building photo on record to date

Opened: Jan. 1954

Location: NW5-16-9E

Closed: 1968

The Overwater School District was established formally in January 1954 and a one-room schoolhouse operated at NW5-16-9E in the Rural Municipality of Lac du Bonnet. The district was dissolved in 1968 and its catchment area became part of the Agassiz School Division.

18 - Springwell School #2410 no school building photo on record to date

Opened: 1959

Location: Brightstone Hutterite Colony on Red Deer Road
still operating