

An error in number  
#5 Augusta is on County Rd 26  
#25 Augusta - Union & Edwardsburg

Augusta  
Edwardsburg

SCHOOL SECTION NO. 25-19 -  
ROEBUCK

VILLAGE OF ROEBUCK SCHOOL

Concession 7 lot 1

Inspected: September 27, 1955.

By: M. Weeks & G. Dowker

Built  
1870.

General Construction

Exterior: One storey stone (40%) and frame (60%) building with metal clad roof. There are two brick chimneys, each forming part of the building wall, not rodded.

Interior: There are two classrooms, the larger having a hardwood floor, metal veneer walls and ceiling. The small classroom has a hardwood floor, metal veneer and wood lined walls and a wood lined ceiling. Two childrens' toilets have been recently installed in the hallway adjoining the two classrooms. There are two blackboards in each room.

A frame metal clad roof extension is used both as entrance porch and storage of wood logs.

Heating

There are two wood burning stoves exposed to each classroom, neither of which are set on a metal base.

Water Supply

Water is obtained for fire protection from a house approximately 100' away.

Exposures

None.

Lighting

Hydro with B. X. and conduit cabling.

Attendance

At present time, 50 children.

Recommendations

See General Comments and Recommendations at beginning of report.

Valuation

School

|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| Replacement Cost New | \$23,040 |
| Actual Cash Value    | \$18,200 |

Outhouse

|                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| Replacement Cost New | \$ 486 |
| Actual Cash Value    | \$ 389 |



SCHOOL SECTION No<sup>25</sup>-19

VILLAGE OF ROEBUCK



# To the School Children

## Of Union School No. 5 & 19.

Augusta and Edwardsburgh, on parting with them, December 24th, 1861, after spending two years happily in teaching them.

Our school is done, our studies o'er,  
And now young friends we part—  
We part, perhaps, to meet no more;  
What thronging mem'ries start!

My eyes are dim with many tears  
As these few lines I trace,  
From mem'ry's tablet, scenes so dear,  
Time never can deface.

Since first with you dear friends, I met,  
Two years have come and fled,  
Those years I never can forget  
Till numbered with the dead.

A gentle train shall mem'ry raise  
When I am far from you;  
Fond looks and smiles of cherished days  
In fancy I'll review.

I lov'd your laugh, I lov'd your glee,  
Did often with you play;  
No more your bounding steps and free  
Shall meet me day by day.

At home or school, your studies mind,  
And wisdom's store increase;  
Be to each other, gentle, kind,  
And always live in peace.

And O, dear children, shun I pray  
All bad and evil ways,  
O, never leave the "narrow way"  
For sin's destructive maze.

Let virtue be your chief delight;  
'Tis that, and that alone,  
Can guide you to those realms of light  
Round God's Eternal Throne.

Amid your studies, at your plays  
One thought, O, let me claim;  
'Twill make you think of bye-gone days,  
To pause and list my name.

The tear-drops now do thickly fall,  
My heart is aching too;  
And now, dear Children, one and all  
I bid a fond adieu.

WILLIAM HILL.



To

Thomas Connell, born 1851  
son of John Connell  
lived on what is now the  
Chas. Whitley farm, Roebur

John

Thomas 1851

↓  
Gordon John b.

↓  
Bruce Robert b. 1918

↓  
Thomas John b. 1944

↓  
Robert John 1976





- 25+19 Roebuck -

1870





This is a picture of the old Roebuck School in 1925, when teacher of the junior room was Mrs. Ruby McGuire, and teacher of the senior room was Miss Marion Adams. Front row, left to right are Eleanor Attridge (Smith), Harle Lawrence, Garnet Lawrence, Robert (Bob) Attridge, Stewart Knapp, Herbert Knapp, Basil Johnston, Charlie McSorley, Harper Johnston, Bruce Attridge, Margaret McSorley, (Keith Weir, Homer Neddo behind Harper Johnston). Second row: Enid Lawrence (McGuire), Bert Lawrence, William

(Bill) Richards, Joseph Laverty, Donald Alkerton, teacher Marion Adams, Kenneth Alkerton, teacher Ruby McGuire, Rattie Johnston (Vancamp) Doreen Henry (Stewart), Eleanor Lawrence (Horgan), Edna Goodin. Third row: Beryl Weir (Glenn), Loretta McSorley, Bessie Weir (Reynolds), Jean Henry (Beveridge), Donald (Don) Toppin, Dorothy Alkerton, Arthur (Art) Kingston, Jack Goodin, Iola Richards (Abel), Irving Robinson, Dorothy Toppin (Whitehorne), Marion Goodin, Luva Scott (Taylor).





### ***Jim Anderson hanging up his hammer***

Prior to the closing of his blacksmith shop in Roebuck after 48 years, Jim Anderson does some last minute work in his forge. Although he hasn't shod a horse in over 20 years, Mr. Anderson says there is still ample

work available for a blacksmith to keep himself busily employed. The blacksmith shop, the last full-time one in the area, was founded by Mr. Anderson's father, Alfred, in 1903.

-photo by Kummer-



The present school building was erected in 1870 to replace an older one which had become delapidated. The site was the same, on land given by Peter Drummond. The first teacher was a Miss Brown, at a salary of \$150 per annum. Attendance in winter reached 100 pupils, ranging in age from 5 to 20 years.

In the first recorded minutes that can be found, we see that in January 1874, the trustees were Wm. Weir, Matthew Kelso, J. Fraser. The Chairman was James Keeler, and Robert Johnston was secretary. Teacher then was Maria MacDonald. The trustees each took an oath of office. Cost of making fires was 50¢ per month, and the sweeping and dusting was done by the pupils. Wood cost 65¢ per cord, and chalk was 5¢ per pound.

In 1877 the school tax was 1 and 1/10 mills on the dollar. This was collected by two trustees, one in Augusta township, one in Edwardsburg. They were each paid \$4 for so doing. In 1878, the value of the school and site was listed at \$1200.

December 1889 minutes state "A lengthy discussion then ensued on the question of division of the section", a question that came up on several occasions, in both townships. A vote was taken with the following results:

Against the division -- 35  
For the division ----- 0

We see from this that there was a good attendance at such meetings. It was not until 1964-65 that the Edwardsburg pupils were sent to school in Spencerville, and Augusta ones to Maynard Public School, thus completing the division. At various times, pupils were bussed into the school, or out of it, according to the accommodation needed. This school was closed finally in June 1965, and all pupils bussed to larger institutions.

*Beth Conlin with Grade 2 (overflow)  
from Maynard  
1 year -*



# OUT OF THE PAST 7/8/81



Here is the Roebuck Public School, S.S. No. 5 and 19, Augusta and Edwardsburg, in the spring of 1925. The present school (now used as a residence) was built in 1870. It became a two-room school in 1896. In 1962 the school was closed and the pupils of Augusta township remained in Augusta and Edwardsburg went to Edwardsburg. Seen here are the pupils of the Junior room (teacher - Mrs. Ruby McGuire) and Senior room (teacher - Mrs. Blanche Mundle), over 55 years ago. Back row, (left to right), are: Bill Dunbar, Donald Toppin, Jack Goodin, Bessie Weir (now Reynolds), Beatrice Johnston (now Sutton), Irving Robinson, Pearl Attridge (now Kirkby), Arthur Kingston, James Connell; fifth row: Dorothy Alkerton, Annie Gill (now Dunbar), Jean Dunbar, Maria Dunbar (now Kerr), Earl Attridge, Eloda Winters (now Connors), Harold Dunbar, Luva Scott (now Taylor), Edith Kingston (now

Hall); fourth row: Edna Goodin, Viola Ellis, Donald Alkerton, Bertram Lawrence, Joseph Laverty, William Richards; third row: Harold Henry, Blanche Mundle (now Kelso), teacher; Keith Weir, Robert Attridge, Enid Lawrence (now McGuire), Millar Connell, Ruby McGuire, (teacher); Kenneth Alkerton, Margaret McSorley; second row: Loretta McSorley, Margaret Robinson, Jean Henry (now Beveridge), Luva Winters (now Emery), Charlie McSorley; first row: Eleanor Lawrence (now Horgan), Marion Goodin, Lila Lawrence (now Henry), Freda Johnston, Beryl Weir (now Glenn), Bernadette Laverty (now Dake), Harle Lawrence; front row: Eleanor Attridge (now Smith), Rattie Johnston (now VanCamp), Iola Richards (now Abel), Margaret Brown (now Dutfield) and Homer Neddo.



TEACHERSSECRETARY

|           |                                      |                               |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1891 -    | R. B. Thomson                        | Patrick Travis                |
| 1892 -    | same                                 | Wm. Weir                      |
| 1893 -    | John Patton                          | Richard Connell               |
| 1894 -    | George H. Tomlinson                  | Wm. Wood (1st part)           |
|           | A. W. McAllister                     | Arch Fraser (filling in)      |
| 1895 -    | same                                 | George Dunbar                 |
| 1896 -    | Desta Brown                          | James Bennett (1st part)      |
|           | Loretta Wilson                       | Andrew Dunbar                 |
|           | School was enlarged, with 2 teachers |                               |
| 1897 -    | John McDiarmid                       |                               |
|           | Loretta Wilson                       | G. Connell ( <i>London</i> )  |
| 1898 -    | Norman Bayne                         |                               |
|           | Jean Fraser                          |                               |
| 1899 -    | Norman Bayne                         |                               |
|           | Jean Fraser                          |                               |
| 1900 -    | J. Norman Bayne                      | Elias Lawrence                |
|           | Wm. Martin                           |                               |
| 1901 -    | Norman Bayne                         |                               |
|           | Rose Swain                           | John Spero                    |
| 1902 -    | Fred Smith                           |                               |
|           | Ella Weatherhead                     | Matthew McGuire               |
| 1903 -    | Fred Smith                           |                               |
|           | Maggie Eward                         | James Kelso                   |
| 1904 -    | Fred Smith                           |                               |
|           | Maggie Eward                         | Joseph Goodin                 |
| 1905 -    | Claude Ferguson                      |                               |
|           | Estelle M. Beal                      | Nathaniel White               |
| 1906 -    | Fred Smith                           |                               |
|           | Sarah W. Fraser                      | Lewis Brown                   |
| 1907 -    | Annie McElroy                        |                               |
|           | Sarah Fraser                         | T. Thomson ( <i>Thomson</i> ) |
| 1908 -    | Annie McElroy                        |                               |
|           | Gertrude Fairbairn                   |                               |
| 1910 -    | Violet E. Newman                     |                               |
|           | Christina McDougal                   |                               |
| 1911-12 - | Violet E. Newman, Florence McDougal  |                               |
| 1912-13 - | Violet Newman, Gertrude Fairbairn    |                               |
| 1913-14 - | same for first part,                 |                               |
|           | Bessie Waterson, Jessie Holmes       |                               |
| 1914-15 - | Ella Newman, Gertrude Fairbairn      |                               |
| 1915-16 - | Ella Newman, Gertrude Fairbairn      |                               |
| 1916-17 - | Kedith Holden                        | Andrew Dunbar                 |
| 1919-20 - | Blanche Mundle                       |                               |
| 1922-23 - | Blanche Mundle, Ruby McGuire         | Richard Hutton                |
| 1925-26 - | Marian Adams, Ruby McGuire           |                               |
| 1927-28 - | Marian Adams, Mabel I. Froats        |                               |
| 1928-29 - | Alice Gardiner, Mabel Froats         |                               |
| 1929-34 - | Alice Gardiner,                      |                               |
| 1935-36 - | Helen Fielding                       |                               |
| 1936-39 - | James McGuire                        |                               |

TRUSTEES included: Thomas Weir, Charles J. McGuire, Elias Lawrence, Richard Hutton, Freeman Toppin, Arnold Goodin, Ezra Knapp, W. Cuning, James Bennett

Other teachers, later, Ruby E. Levere, I. Luella Bouck, Mrs. Willis Drummond, Mrs. Horton Tanney, Miss Margaret Keyes, Mrs. Greta Whitley,

*abcloring* - Mrs. Goldie A. Connell, Mrs. Alwilda King.  
*Grade 5* Mrs. Beth Conlin



-taken from an old Account book...

1874 - Paid Elizabeth Dunbar for kindling fire for 4 months .....\$2.00  
 Samuel Bell, sawing 3 cords wood ..... .75  
 Postage ..... .06  
 Broom ..... .30

RECEIPTS 1875

|  |         |              |
|--|---------|--------------|
| County assessment for Educational purposes Edsbgo... | \$21.36 |              |
| .....Augusta   | 31.30   |              |
| Clergy Reserve fund payment Edsbgo .....             | 21.25   |              |
| .....Augusta..                                       | 25.04   |              |
| Legislative grant ...Augusta.....                    | 27.32   |              |
| Edsbgo   | 20.43   |              |
| Fee for non-residents.....                           | 2.00    |              |
| Collector Augusta.....                               | 36.00   | Mathew Kelso |
| Edsbgo.....  | 74.00   | John Fraser  |
| Augusta.....   | 17.84   | M. Kelso     |
|  |         |              |
| Maria Macdonald, teacher --                          | \$6.81  |              |
|  | 15.00   |              |
|  | 72.02   | "by orders"  |
|  | 15.00   |              |
|  | 50.00   |              |

1883 Paid to teacher \$4 for Superannuated fund...(Superannuation)

1885 - Ralph Fairbairn, teacher, ran to 4 brooms per year, @ 25¢ each.  
 Also 1 dust pan, 1 tin cup and pail....50¢  
 Crayons, chalk, panes glass and putty.  
 Wood was \$1 per cord

1890 Lumber for making benches and desks.....\$5  
 Blackboards were first mentioned - alcohol, emery powder, paint, brushes  
 and plaster.

1892 - We, the undersigned, find books all right - George Dunbar  
 George A. Brummond.  
 They carried insurance on building and contents at \$6 per year.  
 Paid for a lamp --55¢

1893 - John Patton, teacher. Noted that the "School floor was fixed " annually!  
 Blackboards were painted, and stovepipes received cleaning, as well.

1896 - Freight on desks for schoolhouse \$5.10 R. W. Ross  
 James Bennett - 2 dozen hat hooks .....50¢  
 4 blackboard brushes ...60¢  
 5 window shades.....2.25

Robert Weir cleaned the school yard for 70 cents.  
 Miss Brown and Miss Loretta Wilson were teachers.

1898 - Rubber strap cost 25¢ J. Norman Bayne was teacher, with Jean Fraser.  
 R. W. Ross sold 5 model desks to school for \$20.55  
 George Dunbar, for repairing and replacing seats...\$1.25



- 1899 - Purchased a tin dipper for 10¢. This was used by all pupils, dipping into pail of water, which sat, uncovered, at the back of the room, and was filled by pupils when emptied.
- January 1900 - A globe map and slate for blackboard purchased for \$50  
 Dictionary and gazeteer cost \$5  
 2 chairs for \$3 Painting and whitewashing the interior  
 Stoveblackening for stove and pipes
- 1901 - 2 clocks were purchased for \$10.50  
 Noted is repair to privy, sometimes called closets, or parliament
- 1903 Fred Smith, Ella Weatherhead, Maggie Eward, Clarissa Fairbairn listed as teacher  
 9 window curtains (shades, possibly) were purchased  
 20 cords of wood were required as usual.
- 1903 - At the school meeting, Thomas Thomson was to drill a well on the line of school lot, if trustees put a pump in and cover the well. Carried.
- More desks and seats were needed.
- 1905 - This year 9 brooms were purchased! Teachers Miss Whitney and Miss O'Neill were running a clean operation.
- 1907 - Forms were printed for library - 500 - Thomas Alkerton was paid \$18.40 for building shelves, J. Elliott, \$2.75 for lumber, and Norton Miller & Son, Prescott \$34.75 for library books. They received a grant of \$5 for having a library...Miss McElroy and Miss Fraser, teachers.
- 1908 - Special grant for library was \$6.80. Also a grant this year labelled "Special grant for qualification of teachers" ...\$10
- 1909 - A flagpole was put up, the pole was peeled, painted, and a hole dug \$3.00  
 Ball made by Keeler, Irons made by A. Anderson.  
 Flag cost \$2.
- 1910 - A bad year for glass breakage - In April, 15 panes put in at \$1  
 In August, 8 more  
 They purchased sewing cards, needles, red cotton and plasticine that year.  
 A screen was built in front of the closets.  
 Advertising was done in Toronto Globe for teachers, evidently a scarcity.
- 1912 - Noted "Disinfecting of School" C. McLean \$5 ...scarlet fever epidemic,
- 1906 - purchases - 1 map of hemisphere; North America; Europe; Asia; Africa; Australia; British Empire; Ontario - wall maps, no doubt.  
 - set forms and solids; protractor; triangle; compass; pointers; straight edge; pair scales; liquid measures; linear measures; square and cubit measures; clock dial and 2 thermometers.



Roebuck became a 2-room school in 1896, following special meetings when discussions were held. Either the section union must be dissolved, or an additional room built. Since that time, the Junior room, a frame addition to the north side of the stone structure, was closed at various times when attendance was low, and all could be accommodated in one room. One reason for dissension over division was that children would have a further distance to walk to other schools, parents wanted them nearby, a situation which arose when School Boards started to bus children around the area. In 1960-1, the Junior room was enlarged by removing a partition, and washrooms and furnace room added. The woodshed then became storage space, with a cement floor and shelving for boxes.

1965  
The school closed, with all students going to Maynard Public School, and the building and site were sold to Mr. Lorne Dickson whose home adjoined the school. He had it converted to 2 apartments, which are rented to various tenants.





R. B. THOMSON  
(1892, teacher)



J. N. Bayne  
1898-1901