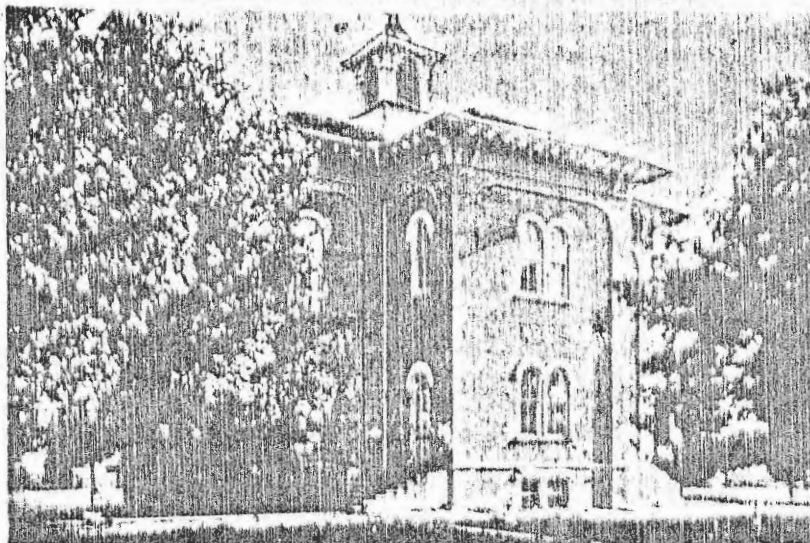
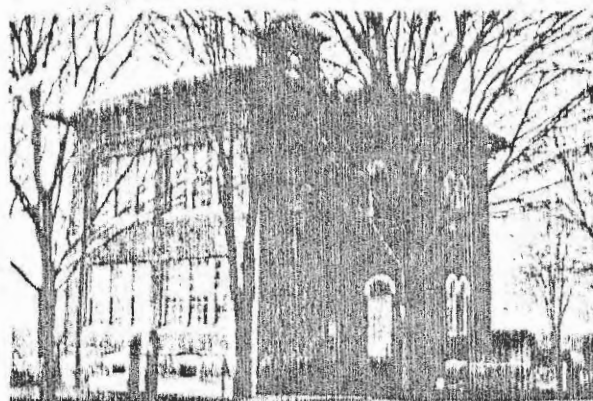


DeWitt-- Yesterday and Today

By Faye Hanson



TWO VIEWS OF THE OLD DEWITT SCHOOL

The earliest school building was a log structure erected on Sec. 7, upon the farm of Alanson Goodrich and known as the "Goodrich School House". This school stood at the foot of what is now Schavey Road. Miss Betsey Gooch was the first teacher.

The second school was built in district 2 in the village of DeWitt in 1840 on the site of the Fuerstenau school. Both Dr. Seth P. Marvin and J. H. Adams are given as early teachers. This building was replaced by one of more extended proportions, in which the sessions of the court were held for a time, it having been at that time the most pretentious structure at the County seat.

In 1870 the brick school pictured here was built with Prof. Coriel as principal, Miss Edith Williams as assistant and Miss Josie Holmes as intermediate principal.

This school burned in 1936 just before the main part of the Fuerstenau building was ready for occupancy.

One picture was given to the library by the late Helen Dills Stampfly and the other by Joyce Carey Miller, now a teacher in Hastings.

ENTERTAINMENT!

A Musical ^{and} Literary Entertainment

Will be given by the members of the

De WITT UNION SCHOOL,

For the purpose of raising funds which are to be used in procuring pictures, etc., for decorating the rooms of the School building,

Friday Eve, Dec. 4, '74.

THE FOLLOWING AMATEURS WILL TAKE PART IN THE MUSIC:

Sopranos--Nellie Scott, Frank Averill, Jean Webber, Ida Worden, Allie Topping, and Florence Holmes.

Altos--Agnes Pike, Huldah Foreman, Irene Lewis, and Carrie Randell.

Tenors--H. S. Holmes, J. E. Fair.

Bass--By Webb C. D. Foreman.

Organist--Lydia Brinkerhoff.

All are Most Cordially Asked to Respond by their Presence in this Laudable Cause!

ADMISSION 20 Cts. Children under 12, 10 Cts.

RESERVED SEATS

May be procured, without extra charge, from Ida Averill or Josie Holmes.

J E. FAIR, Principal.

TEACHER'S THIRD GRADE CERTIFICATE.

No. _____

Clinton

County.

Public Schools of Michigan.

TEACHER'S THIRD GRADE CERTIFICATE.

Office of Township Superintendent, *Duflain* Township,

Duflain Apr 22 187*8*

This Certifies, That *Miso Josie Holmes* is a person of good moral character, and has passed a satisfactory examination upon all the branches required by law to entitle *her* to a **Third Grade Certificate.** *She* is therefore deemed qualified to teach in School District No. *Eight* in this Township, for six months from this date, unless this Certificate shall be sooner revoked.

Orthography *90* Reading *90* Penmanship *85* Geography *90* Grammar *95* Arithmetic *80*

S. C. Shelly

Average Standing, _____

Township Superintendent of Schools.

W. B. George & Co., Printers, Lansing, Mich.

TEACHER'S THIRD GRADE CERTIFICATE.

No. *2*

Clinton

County.

Public Schools of Michigan.

TEACHER'S THIRD GRADE CERTIFICATE.

Office of Township Superintendent, *DeWitt* Township,

November 10th 187*7*

This Certifies, That *Josie Holmes* is a person of good moral character, and has passed a satisfactory examination upon all the branches required by law to entitle *her* to a **Third Grade Certificate.** *She* is therefore deemed qualified to teach in School District No. _____ in this Township, for six months from this date, unless this Certificate shall be sooner revoked.

Orthography *95* Reading *98* Penmanship *90* Geography *95* Grammar *85* Arithmetic *85*

Mark Pencil

Average Standing, _____

Township Superintendent of Schools.

W. B. George & Co., Printers, Lansing, Mich.

TEACHER'S SECOND GRADE CERTIFICATE.

No. 24

Clinton County.

Public Schools of Michigan.

TEACHER'S SECOND GRADE CERTIFICATE.

Office of Township Superintendent, R. M. T. Township,

Dec 31 1874

This Certifies, That Josie Holmes is a person of good moral character, and has passed a satisfactory examination upon all the branches required, to entitle her to a **Second Grade Certificate**. She is therefore deemed qualified to teach in any School District in this Township, for one year from this date, unless this Certificate shall be sooner revoked.

Orthography Reading Penmanship Grammar Written Arithmetic Mental Arithmetic Geography Algebra U. S. History Physiology Civil Government Book-keeping Theory and Art of Teaching

Average Standing

E. A. Williams

Township Superintendent of Schools.

W. B. George & Co., Printers, Lansing, Mich.

TEACHER'S THIRD GRADE CERTIFICATE.

No. 30

Clinton County.

Public Schools of Michigan.

TEACHER'S THIRD GRADE CERTIFICATE.

Office of Township Superintendent, R. M. T. Township,

Apr 12 1874

This Certifies, That Josie Holmes is a person of good moral character, and has passed a satisfactory examination upon all the branches required by law to entitle her to a **Third Grade Certificate**. She is therefore deemed qualified to teach in School District No. in this Township, for six months from this date, unless this Certificate shall be sooner revoked.

Orthography 85 Reading 90 Penmanship 85 Geography 80 Grammar 85 Arithmetic 85

Average Standing

E. A. Williams

Township Superintendent of Schools.

W. B. George & Co., Printers, Lansing, Mich.

NOTES TO TEACHERS.

A teacher's contract (of which the teacher must have a copy), must require the teacher to keep a list of all the pupils, with their ages, and the number of days each pupil is present; and to furnish a copy of the same to the Director at the close of the school.—*Section 39, School Code of 1873.* The Director may refuse to draw an order for wages, unless such list is kept.

A teacher must be governed by all rules formally adopted by the Board. Refusal to do so amounts to a forfeiture of the contract,—unless the rules are grossly unreasonable.—*Section 58.*

The District Board is bound to keep the school-house in repair, with necessary conveniences, and a failure to do so works a forfeiture of the contract on their part.

A contract with a teacher not "legally qualified," is null and void.—*Section 39.*—But such contract will become valid if the teacher becomes "qualified" before commencing school. No school moneys can be paid to an unqualified teacher.—*Section 60.* School inspectors can in no case grant certificates.

Higher courts have decided that the teacher's jurisdiction over pupils going to and from school, is concurrent with that of the parents.

The District Board can decide the sex of teachers, and length of school, unless the annual meeting decides.—*Sections 24, 25.*

The Township Superintendent may revoke a certificate for any reason that would have justified him in withholding it when given; but he must first give the teacher an opportunity for a defense against all charges. His jurisdiction extends to all districts whose school-houses are in his township.

The Superintendent has a right at all times, to visit the school, and give advice to the teacher and the school; but he can exercise no legal authority over either.

A certificate of the first grade is valid for two years, throughout the township.

A certificate of the second grade is valid for one year, throughout the township.

A certificate of the third grade is valid for six months, in some one district therein named.

Teachers are recommended to make themselves familiar with the school law, which they will find in the hands of the Director.

BOX
LOCAL HISTORY
COLLECTION
FILE

DeWitt-- Yesterday and Today

By Faye Hanson

No. 38
1881
Clinton County.

Public Schools of Michigan.
TEACHER'S THIRD GRADE CERTIFICATE.

Office of Township Superintendent, DeWitt Township.
Jan. 3rd. 1881.

This Certifies, That Josie Holmes is a person
of good moral character, and has passed a satisfactory examination upon all the
branches required by law to entitle her to a **Third Grade Certificate**.
She is therefore deemed qualified to teach in School District No. 246
in this Township, for six months from this date, unless this Certificate shall be sooner revoked.

Orthography... 90 Reading... 98 Penmanship... 96 Geography... 90 Grammar... 95 Arithmetic... 95

Average Standing.....
Al. Gunnison
Township Superintendent of Schools.

THIS IS A TEACHING CERTIFICATE issued to Miss Josie Holmes in January, 1881. Miss Holmes was in charge of intermediate education for DeWitt School from 1870 until the turn of the century. Can you imagine teachers of today standing still for a phrase in their contract reading "of good moral character"?

In 1880 the DeWitt School District (all of DeWitt Township) was divided into one fractional and five whole districts (DeWitt, Hurd, Lott, Gladden, Gunnisonville and the sixth district escapes me) with the following board of directors: Robert McConkey, James Hath, A. A. Woodruff, Christian Kraus, A. S. Weste and Edgar Hurd. The value of school property in DeWitt Township at that time was \$11,900, embracing one brick and five frame buildings. Three male and eleven female teachers were employed, 326 scholars resided within the township.

The certificate was given to the library by Helen Kraas, daughter of the late Merle Walker Burns, daughter of early DeWitt pioneers.