



DISTRICT No. 10 MARDEN DISTRICT

The actual date of the formation of the Marden School District is unknown. It is mentioned in a report of the superintending committee for 1846 as united with a District in an adjoining town, 3 scholars. The surviving minutes of district meetings opens with a vacancy of the office of clerk, the date being August 29, 1851. Mark Marden was sworn and took the office. The next month on the 15th of September, the district meeting was held at the home of Jonathan Marden, where the district approved to build a schoolhouse and wood shed, and purchase a lot for them. A building committee was chosen consisting of Jonathan Marden, William P. Silver and David Marden. The committee reported back a few days later, and the job was given to Mark Marden for \$220.00, with the district raising 250 dollars to also include an out building and other expenses. The land was bought from Moses W. Perkins for five dollars, by deed dated December 30, 1851 and was on Brimstone Hill, just west of the Epsom traffic circle. The Selectmen's accounts for 1851 is the first time District 10 is mentioned receiving its portion of town school money for the year.

Prior to its formation, the inhabitants of District 10 were part of the Cilley District No. 2. As such, they voted at their 1852 annual meeting to sell the proportion of the old schoolhouse in that district and chose Stickney Robinson as agent for the same. The proportion they received was added to the cost of the district schooling for 1853. At an adjourned meeting the next month, it was decided to add a post and slat fence around the schoolhouse. Few repairs were made, and in 1881 money was set aside to clean the school house, and to spend what the law would allow for the year 1885.

The district records do not include any annual budgets nor many names of teachers. The records usually give accounts of who provided the wood and when and how many terms would be taught each year. The records also indicate when repairs were made to the facility. These repairs included plastering in 1858. One interesting vote in 1859 was to have the school house open for religious meetings by anyone in the district. Repairs were done to the fence in 1860, and the

school was painted (with 2 coats on the east end and back side) and shingled the summer of 1861.

The Superintending School Committee in their 1863 report described the school as 'an easy one to keep for one of its size. The scholars show good improvement at home for they are polite at school. Good improvement was made each term.

Teachers mentioned include Sarah E. Wells, Mary G. Wallase, A. Augusta Prescott, Margaret Chesley, Lorette Sherburne, Abbie Chesely, Benjamin Towle and R. S. Marden.

The information from the school district in 1879 showed 16 students in the summer term, and 15 in the winter. Sadie Carpenter was the instructress that year and received a good report:

The teacher was very much interested in her work—that her duties should be well performed. Mutual good will and kindness appeared to exist between the teacher and scholars, and there was great interest on the part of nearly all the pupils in their work. We received notice of the close of the winter term too late to be present at the close ; but from the appearance of the school at the commencement of the term, and the progress made during the summer term, we shall venture to report good improvement during the year.

The following year the number dropped to nine each term. The committee, according to the report in 1881, visited the school twice. The second visit 'found no school, on account of the greater attractions of a circus.' How discipline was handle can be found in the record from the annual town report for 1886: 'At our first visit to the school, we feared that one little lad by his noisy movements, wry faces, and innumerable questions, would attract too much of the scholars attention, and prove a source of annoyance to the teacher. Fortunately an effective remedy for this "evil " grew in the school yard, which Miss M. obtained and discreetly applied.'

From 1883, the annual town report for the district noted 'the school here may be thought to be "backward," but whoever has watched its course for the past two years must have observed a growing zeal for study and a progress unusual to it. Scholars have been more constantly present and manifested more than usual interest in the exercises of school, which have resulted in a very commendable improvement, giving the school a high rank.'

New additions of the school law gave the school boards power to provide schools within the limits of the town as would best serve the interests of education. As such, the Marden School was closed at the end of 1886 and the students from the Marden District were once again united with the Gossville District.

The school was sold in 1893 to George H. Burnham who moved it to the site of his mill for use as a blacksmith shop. The mill was later Huckins mill who used it as a shop. The site was later a restaurant. The building stills stands as of this writing.

DISTRICT No. 10 MARDEN DISTRICT

Established as a District in 1851, located on Brimstone Hill, just west of traffic circle.

Closed 1886.

Sold to George H. Burnham about 1893 and moved to his mill, now known as ‘the old mill’. Still standing.

A pre-printed chart was filled out by the superintending school committee of Epsom for 1846, and listed the following: (prior to the organizing of the Marden District)

District No. 10, united with Pittsfield, 3 students.

The minutes of the meetings for District No. 10, the Marden District, show they voted in September of 1851, to build a schoolhouse and wood shed and buy one acre of land of Moses W. Perkins near the milestone on the turnpike road, and the job was undertaken by Mark Marden. The location of this school would have been just west of the Epsom Traffic Circle, heading towards Concord.

1851, September 15 (Records of Minutes of School District 10)

Voted to build a schoolhouse and wood shed and fix upon a location for the same

Voted to raise money necessary to build said schoolhouse and wood shed and purchase a lot for said location

Voted to buy one eighth of an acre of land of Moses W. Perkins near the milestone on the turnpike road so called for said location

Chose Jonathan Marden agent to buy and locate a schoolhouse lot and received the money and pay out

Set up at auction the building of house and shed struck of to Mark Mardin for two hundred and twenty dollars

Voted to raise two hundred and fifty dollars to build a schoolhouse and out building and other expenses

1851 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

William Ham, Superintending School Committee

Nathan Griffin 2nd

H.F. Sanborn

District No. 10, 27.48

1852 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

Henry F. Sanborn, Superintending School Committee

Paid David Marden, District No. 10, 33.00

1852, March 20 (Records of Minutes of School District 10)

Chose David Marden Prudential committee

Voted to build a post and slat fence

1853 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town
Paid George W. Marden, District No. 10, 28.64

1853, March 19 (Records of Minutes of School District 10)
Chose G.W. Marden 1st Prudential Committee

1854 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town
Paid Jeremiah Bennett, District No. 10, 37.32

1854, March 18 (Records of Minutes of School District 10)
Chose Jeremiah Bennett Prudential Committee

1855 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town
Benjamin Towle, School Committee
Paid Aaron Marsh, District No. 10, 41.00

1855, March 24 (Records of Minutes of School District 10)
Chose Aaron Marsh Prudential Committee

1856 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town
Paid Jonathan Marden, District No. 10, 44.56

1856, March 12 (Records of Minutes of School District 10)
Chose Jonathan Marden Prudential Committee

1857 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town
B.L. Locke, Superintending school committee
Paid William S. Prescott, District No. 10, 45.43

1857, March 9 (Records of Minutes of School District 10)
Chose William S. Prescott Prudential Committee

1858 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town
George W. Gardner, School Commissioner
William Ham, Superintending School Committee
Paid Aaron Marsh, District No. 10, 40.38

1858, March 9 (Records of Minutes of School District 10)
Chose Aaron Marsh Prudential Committee

1859 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town
B.G. Howe, Superintending School Committee
Paid S. B. Bartlett, District No. 10, 40.15

1859, March 15 (Records of Minutes of School District 10)

Chose Stephen B. Bartlett Prudential Committee

Voted to have the school house opened for religious meeting by anyone in the District

July 15 paid to Miss Sarah Stearns for five weeks teaching 6.25

15 paid to Jonathan Marden for boarding Sarah Stearns five weeks 7.50

February paid Mary G. Wallace for teaching six weeks and three days 9.75

Paid to Jonathan Marden for boarding the teacher 9.75

November 5 paid for two lb. Nails to repair school house seats .09

1860, March 17 (Records of Minutes of School District 10)

Chose Jonathan Marden Prudential Committee

Voted that each man find half foot of wood for each scholar to be pit into the shed in September

Voted to sell the repairs of the school house yard fence sold to Samuel H. Dolloff for forty two cents

September 28 Paid to Sarah E. Wells eight dollars seventy-five cents for teaching school in Des. No 10 seven weeks

Paid to Mark Marden for seven weeks board eight dollars seventy-five cents

1860 – Annual School Report Year ending Feb. 25, 1861 [NH Historical Society]

District No. 10 – Jona. Marden Jr., Prudential Committee

Amount of school money assigned to district, \$40.52

Number of scholars, summer and winter:

First term, 41

Second term, 44

Length of school in weeks:

First term, 8

Second term, 9 1/2

Wage per month, including board:

First term, \$8

Second term, \$10

Summer and Winter Term. A. Frances Perkins, Teacher. No. 10 ranks among the hardest schools in town. Miss Perkins is a kind, amiable and affectionate teacher. The school demands the assistance of a rugged, kind and decided male teacher in the Winter season, but *nevertheless* the teacher managed the school with a good deal of prudence, and some of her pupils laid fast hold on instruction. Miss Perkins has the ability, (health sustaining it,) to become one of our very best teachers.

1861, March 23

Chose Mark Marden Prudential Committee

Voted to shingle the school house No 10 with 2nd growth heart shingle dipped in lime

Voted to paint the school house No 10 with 2 coats on the east end and back side, 1 on the front and west end

1862, March 22

Chose Curtis W. Bennett Prudential Committee

February 5, 1862 Paid to Sarah E. Wells ten dollars thirty-three cents for teaching school in District No 10 five weeks x four days
July 8 Summer Term Paid to A. Augusta Prescott Eight dollars seventy-five cents for teaching school in District No 10 seven weeks
November 28 Paid Stickney Robinson for seven weeks board eight dollars seventy-five cents

1863, March 14

Chose Nathan Marden Prudential Committee
Voted to have the school yard fence repaired.
January 12, 1863 Winter term Paid to A. Augusta Prescott eleven dollars seventy-nine cents for teaching school in District No 10 six weeks
January 12 Paid Mrs. Stickney Robinson seven Dollars fifty-cents for six weeks board
Summer Term Prudential Committees Expenses for the year 1863
July 24 Paid to Margaret Chesley twelve dollars fifty cents for teaching school in District No. 10 ten weeks

1863 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

Paid Nathan Marden, District No. 10, 39.74

1863

Annual report of the superintending school committee of the town of Epsom, New Hampshire, 1864 from the NH Historical Society, 379.778b E641 [manuscript]
District No. 10 – N. Marden, Prudential Committee
Teacher summer term, Miss Addie L. Chesley, winter term Miss Clara S. Hoyt
Whole number of scholars, summer 32, winter 38
Average attendance summer 28, winter 33
Length of school, summer 6 weeks, winter 6 ½ weeks

This is an easy school to keep for one of its size. The scholars show good management at home for they are polite at school. Good improvement was made each term.

1864 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

Paid Nathan Marden, District No. 10, 38.59

1864, March 5

Chose Nathan Marden Prudential Committee
Nathan Marden agreed to keep the fence in good order until fall
Winter Term January 9, 1864 Paid to Margaret Chesley fourteen dollars for teaching school in District No 10 eight week
Paid Nathan Marden for eight weeks board nine dollars forty one cents
Prudential Committee Expenses for the year 1864
Summer Term August 13 paid to Abbie Chesley seven dollars fifty cents for teaching school in District 10 six weeks 7.50
Winter Term Paid to Clara Hoyt eleven dollars twenty cents for teaching school six weeks x two days in District No 10 \$11.20
Paid Nathan Marden for twelve weeks and two days board \$16.89

Received seventy-five cents for Miss Bickford going to school.

1866 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

Paid David Marden, District No. 10, 35.47

1867 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

Paid David Marden, District No. 10, 35.54

The State of New Hampshire – In compliance with the provisions of Chapter 955 of the Pamphlet Laws, approved July 12, 1850, the Superintending School Committees of the Town of Epsom submit the following Report of the condition &c of the Schools in said Town the past year. 1867 submitted by D. Gilman Chelsey.

School District No. 10, 20 boys, 16 girls

Annual Town Report 1870

Paid Joseph L. Robinson for School District No. 10, 41.84

Annual Town Report 1879

Paid Steven B. Bartlett for School District No. 10, 40.00

1879 DISTRICT No. 10.

Stephen S. Bartlett, Prudential Committee.

Miss Sadie Carpenter taught both terms. Wages per month, \$14.00; length of school: summer term, 6 weeks ; winter term, 5 weeks; number of scholars: summer term, 16; winter term, 15.

The teacher was very much interested in her work—that her duties should be well performed. Mutual good will and kindness appeared to exist between the teacher and scholars, and there was great interest on the part of nearly all the pupils in their work. We received notice of the close of the winter term too late to be present at the close ; but from the appearance of the school at the commencement of the term, and the progress made during the summer term, we shall venture to report good improvement during the year.

DISTRICT No. 10. Roll of Honor

First Term—Hattie L. Tripp, Hattie E. Gordon. Guy C.

Marden, John C. Tripp, John T. Carpenter, George F. Mason, Charles W. Mason.

Second Term—Flora B. Gordon, John T. Carpenter, Charles W. Lake, George F. Mason. Charles W. Mason, Earnest R. Marden.

1880 DISTRICT No. 10.—MARDEN.

Miss Emma G. Drake, teacher of both terms. Length of school in weeks: summer, 7; winter, 9. Number scholars: summer, 9 ; winter, 9. Average attendance : summer, 8.96; winter, 8. Number scholars in district, 12. Wages: summer, \$12 ; winter, \$14.

Miss Drake possesses an energy and an indomitable perseverance, that is indispensable to a successful teacher. Herself a good reader, she is most interested in reading classes, in which all improved. The classes in arithmetic are most all dull, but by continued drilling appeared well. Geography classes made excellent progress. With so persevering a teacher as Miss Drake, this school would soon show some very good scholars.

1881 DISTRICT No. 10.—MARDEN.

Summer term, 6 weeks; scholars, 9; wages, per month, \$19.

Winter term, 10 weeks; scholars, 13; wages, per month, \$23.

Miss Grace D. Edmunds, teacher of summer term. This was her first school. Our first visit found the order good and the prospect fair for a profitable school. Our second, found no school, on account of the greater attractions of a circus. At our final visit only three scholars were present, consequently cannot report progress.

Mrs. Lizzie M. Warren taught the second term. This school being smaller, she succeeded better than in her larger and more difficult summer school. The classes in geography made good improvement; in mathematics fair; in reading poor.

1883 DISTRICT No. 10.

Amount of school money, \$50.68. William Tripp, prudential committee.

Miss Georgia Osgood, of Concord, taught the summer term, and Mrs. Lizzie M. Warren, the fall term.

Wages-per month, summer, \$———; fall, \$16.00. Length of school, summer, 5 weeks; fall, 8 weeks. Number of scholars, summer, 13 ; fall, 16. Average attendance, summer, 12.6 ; fall, 14.

The school here may be thought to be "backward," but whoever has watched its course for the past two years must have observed a growing zeal for study and a progress unusual to it. Scholars have been more constantly present and manifested more than usual interest in the exercises of school, which have resulted in a very commendable improvement, giving the school a high rank.

DISTRICT No. 10. Roll of Honor

First Term.—Guy Marden, Ernest Marden, Johnnie Tripp, Leon Gordon, Flora Gordon, Hattie Gordon, Hattie Pike, Emma Knowles, Phenie L. Marden.

Second Term.—Augusta H. Pike, Flora B. Gordon, Hattie E. Gordon, Leon S. Gordon, Charlie H. Pike.

1884 District No. 10.

Amount of school money, \$78.36. William Tripp, prudential committee.

Mrs. Lizzie M. Warren taught both terms. Wages per month, summer, \$16 ; fall, \$20. Length of school, summer, 6 weeks ; winter, 11 weeks. Number of scholars, summer, 14 ; winter, 17, Average attendance, summer, 13; winter, 15.

Mrs. Warren has had large experience in teaching ; had taught here before, and was the right teacher in the right place. More of the higher branches were taught in this school than in any other in town. It is suggested to the scholars here, that in their zeal to learn the "higher branches," they do not neglect any of the common branches.

District No. 10. Roll of Honor

First Term.—Susie A. Bickford, Addie E. Bickford, Flora B. Gordon, Hattie E. Gordon, Hattie L. Tripp, Leon S. Gordon, Forrest Leighton, Guy C. Marden, Johnnie C. Tripp.

Second Term.—Leon S. Gordon.

1885 DISTRICT No. 10.

Horace Leighton, Prudential Committee.

Summer Term.—Whole number of scholars attending school, 8 ; average attendance, 4 ; length of school, 6 weeks.

Winter Term.—Whole number of scholars attending school, 12; average attendance, 3 ; length of school, 9 weeks; wages of teacher, \$4 per month each term.

Both terms were taught by Miss Jennie A. Thompson, of Deerfield. Miss Thompson was young in experience, this being her first school. The attendance was very irregular, and that lively zeal necessary to make a good school was lacking. Some scholars made fair advancement.

DISTRICT No. 10. Roll of Honor

Second Term.—Hattie A. Pike, Guy T. Pike.

1886 DISTRICT NO. 10.— MARDEN

Miss Nellie B. Marden teacher of both terms. — This teacher was young and did not profess to “ know it all,” but she passed an examination which would have been creditable to a veteran in the cause. At our first visit to the school, we feared that one little lad by his noisy movements, wry faces, and innumerable questions, would attract too much of the scholars' attention, and prove a source of annoyance to the teacher. Fortunately an effective remedy for this "evil " grew in the school yard, which Miss M. obtained and discreetly applied, and at our subsequent visits, we were pleased to notice that "All was calm, as summer evenings be."

Miss Marden intends to make teaching her profession and is fitting herself to become a thorough instructor of the young. The school made good improvement. A little miss of seven summers cannot be excelled in reading by any of her age in town.

DISTRICT NO. 10. Perfect Attendance

Second Term.—Hattie A. Pike.

1887 REPORT OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

Section 6 of the new school law says : " The said school board of each town shall provide schools within the limits of said town at such places and times as in their judgment shall best subserve the interests of education, and as shall give all the scholars of the town as nearly equal advantages as may be practicable." Under this law we deemed it expedient to unite the Marden school with the Gossville. D. GILMAN CHESLEY, SAMUEL MARTIN, ROBERT C. BROWN

1890 SCHOOL REPORT.

The Marden (District) still continues with the Gossville. Under this arrangement we only support seven teachers.

JAMES H. TRIPP.

ANNIE M. WELLS,

CYRUS O. BROWN

START SUP INT REPORT 1863

Use supt reports for list and check against this one:

For 1859, paid Sarah Stearns for 5 weeks of teaching, and Mary G. Wallace for six weeks and three days.

For 1860, paid Sarah E. Wells for teaching seven weeks

For 1861, paid Sarah E. Wells for five weeks and for days teaching.

For 1862, paid A. Augusta Prescott for six weeks of teaching one term and again for the winter term six weeks

For 1863, paid Margaret Chelsey for a ten week term and again for an eight week term

For 1865, paid Lorette Sherburne for six weeks and Abbie Chesley for eight weeks

For 1874, paid Benjamin Towle teaching school nine weeks three days

1876, R.S.. Marden for teaching school eight weeks

TEACHERS

1858

Miss Sarah Stearns

Mary G. Wallace
1859
Sarah E. Wells
1860
A Frances Perkins
1861
Sarah E. Wells
A Augusta Prescott
1862
A Augusta Prescott
Margaret Chesley
1863
Margaret Chesley
1864
Addie L. Chesley
Clara S. Hoyt
1865
Loretta Sherburne
Abbie Chesley
1874
Benjamin Towle
1876
Rufus S. Marden
1879
Sadie Carpenter
1880
Emma G. Drake
1881
Grace D. Edmunds
Mrs. Lizzie M. Warren
1883
Georgia Osgood
Lizzie M. Warren
1884
Lizzie M. Warren
1885
Jennie A. Thompson
1886
Nellie B. Marden