



DISTRICT No. 2 CILLEY & GOSSVILLE SCHOOL

There are no chronological records for the succession of the building of school houses in Epsom following the establishment of the first one room school on East Street in 1765. By this time the town had already expanded up into New Rye and down Black Hall Road. There are a few hints and mentions in the town record books which help to identify one room schools in other parts of the town. The town did not appropriate any funds for teaching at their annual meeting in March of 1778, though voted 300 dollars the following year. What action was taken in 1780 is unknown, but there was some dissatisfaction among members of the town which were expressed to Ephraim Locke for not keeping a stated school in the same. A few months later, the town was asked if they would take charge of a new schoolhouse that was built near Capt. Jeremiah Prescotts's, to which they voted not to do so. This certainly indicates that a schoolhouse was built about 1780 in the area of the current Black Hall Road and Route 4, which would later become the Cilley, and later Gossville School District. What became of this first schoolhouse in District No. 2 is unknown. Perhaps the area residents continued to use the school for a time. At some point it was abandoned, and the town was facing a crisis of sorts with its schools by 1793. It appears in the records for that year, that the town needed to take action to complete 'the schoolhouses that are not finished in the town of Epsom.' Once again, the voters refused to raise the money which prompted a plea from citizens in what was called the Western District. A letter to the selectmen was drafted as follows:

To the Selectmen of the town of Epsom

A number of the inhabitants of the Western district in Epsom humbly shew; That we have been and still are desirous to promote public schools in said town for the instruction of our children and of late we have used every excitation in our power to have a suitable schoolhouse in the district completed for that design, but every such effort proves abortive owing (as we humbly conceive) to some among us who from their conduct seem to demonstrate a total disregard to the best interests of their families by depriving their children of the means of instruction thereby rendering them in a great degree useless members of society and by such conduct of theirs we being classed with them are debarred of that for our children which we esteem as inestimable blessing.

This our grievance and in this situation we cannot rest easy, to see our numerous offspring which are instrumental of bringing into existence trained up like so many heathens or brutes, in a civilized world would, and for such neglect we cannot answer neither to God nor our consciences and for which they well have good reason to curse rather than bless us. We therefore seek to the town of Epsom for redress as we know no other remedy and pray that a meeting of said town may be warned as soon as may be that this grievance may be duly considered and some method adopted and put in execution, that shall remove the A pan out of the camp and give us speedy relief in finishing the schoolhouse already begun that a school may be had seasonably for the purpose aforesaid.

James Gray, Geo. Yewin, Simeon Towle, Samuel Bickford, Reuben Yewin, Thomas Bickford, Sylvanus Moses, Richard Rand, John Prescott, Jonathan Prescott Junr, Abraham Wallace.

It is clear from those who signed the letter that they resided from Black Hall Road and up Goboro Road. The letter of July 1793 resulted in a warrant presented at a town meeting on August fifth of the same year. The article seeks to have the town remedy and speedily finish the schoolhouse in the Western district, agreeable to their petition by raising ten pounds from the residents in the district. An additional warrant to complete schoolhouses in other districts was dismissed. At the very least, it is known that there were several school districts in 1793 looking to build schoolhouses.

With the Western District with their schoolhouse of 1793, their population continued to grow, though disproportionate to the proximity of many families to the schoolhouse. This prompted another petition to the town on February 8, 1804.

A number of the inhabitants of the western district in Epsom humbly shew: That we are and ever have been willing to pay our several portions towards the support of a school in said District – but we labor under a grievance which we wish remedied which is the non-central situation of the schoolhouse – whereby many of us are much incommoded and prevented from giving that education to our children which we should otherwise do; were we admitted to participate equally with the Eastern and Southern District – We think it our duty to remove every obstacle to the due education of our offspring and consequently to fervently pray that the school house be removed to the Center of the District as soon as may be, thereby we may receive some benefit for the money which we annually pay for the support of our schools. We request the Selectmen of Epsom to insert the prayer of this petition in the warrant calling the annual town meeting, that at said meeting it may be considered and acted upon.

William Rand, James Wood, Joseph Wood, Richard Rand, Richard Rand Jr., Sylvanus Moses, John Moses, Benjamin Towle, John Prescott, Joseph Marden Jr., Samuel Marden, David Howe, Joseph Saturley, Samuel Rand, Samuel Rand Jr.

The names on the petition are families from upper Goboro Road and Brimstone Hill, west of the present day traffic circle. A warrant article of March 13, 1804 was approved that *'the Selectmen be authorized to examine into the situation of schoolhouses in Epsom and those they shall judge non-central to remove to a central location'*. The committee chosen included James Gray, Benjamin Moody and Samuel Morrill, probably Epsom's first school committee. The following year, 1500 dollars was voted to building and repairing schoolhouses, with the Selectmen having the power and are directed to centralize schoolhouses in the districts.

It would not appear that the Western District School was moved, as in 1808, the town reviewed the division of the districts and decided to keep them as they currently stood. This was a total of six districts given as Districts 1-6, with the Western District becoming No. 2. Dolbeer in his Epsom History, gives the description as follows:

District No. 2 contained all on the turnpike from the east side of the New Orchard road to Chichester line, and all north of the turnpike; also from the shoe-factory to "Cyder Brook" (so called), just south of the house of John Spurlin.

This included all of Black Hall Road, Goboro Road, and the traffic circle towards Concord. The major land owner in the area was Col. Daniel Cilley, and the district took on his name. The school building was located on Goboro Road, likely near the Gossville Cemetery and the entrance to Sherburne Road. This schoolhouse and land was sold in 1852 to Benjamin Ferrin, who also bought additional land in the area from William P. Cilley. Cilley, for ten dollars, sold land for a new schoolhouse to be built where the current old Gossville School stands. It was built by Joseph Robinson for a cost for three hundred and twenty one dollars. The only recorded names of instructors in the early schoolhouse from from the Selectman's accounts for 1827, paying Jane M. Critchett and Capt. B.L. Locke for keeping school. In the 1847 school committee report for 1846 named Henry F. Sanborn teaching a term with 55 students, and Nathaniel J. Pinkham teaching the second term with 63 students.

Instructors in the school at its new site are mentioned in a few school reports:

1860

Amount of school money assigned to district, \$71.06

Number of scholars, summer and winter:

First term, 26

Second term, 31

Length of school in weeks:

First term, 8

Second term, 9 1/2

Wage per month, including board:

First term, \$12

Second term, \$16

Summer Term. Eliza D. Bickford, Teacher. This school prospered under Miss Bickford. She had had some experience in teaching, which is an advantage. Order commendable to scholars and teacher.

Winter Term. Abbie A. Blanchard, Teacher. We were unable to visit this school at the close, but judging from the appearance of the teacher and scholars at our first examination, and from what we have learned concerning the school since that time, we conclude without hesitancy that this was one of our best schools in town. We felt sorry that Miss Blanchard was obliged to leave before the money was expended; but news came her mother was dangerously ill, and she was under the necessity of going.

1863

Teacher summer term Miss Anna W. Baker, winter term, Mrs. Mary C. Campbell

Whole number of scholars, summer 21, winter 21

Average attendance, summer 18, winter 15

Length of school, summer 8 weeks, winter 9 weeks

Miss Baker has had but little experience in the art of teaching. But as well qualified in a literary point of view, the discipline of the school, however, was so lax as to seriously obstruct its progress.

Mrs. Campbell fully sustained her former reputation as an instructor and disciplinarian in her method of governing, yet decided and resolute. The scholars present acquitted themselves at our two visits.

Town reports starting in 1879 continued similar reports through 1886, adding students names with near perfect attendance. Starting in 1887, School Board reports were printed in favor of the individual district reports. From these reports in 1890 it is stated that *the Gossville has good desks and seats, the building is "wholly unfit for its 23 scholars, the room is dark and gloomy, the windows are just able to hold soul and body together by means of nails and putty and it stands in sad contrast with the well lighted and painted temple of worship a few rods distant.* The news was not much better in 1894, where it was reported that *somewhat extensive repairs should be made to the Gossville schoolhouse, or else (what would be better, perhaps) a new one should be built in its stead.* That year the old school was removed and a new school built, that which stands today. The school house was painted in 1898, and in 1902 appeared the following incident:

"There was a case of insubordination in the Gossville school, wherein one of the boys refused, as we were told, to comply with a reasonable request of the teacher. Miss Rand is a first-class teacher and disciplinarian, but thought at one time she would have to call upon the school board to expel the disobedient youth from school. But the matter was adjusted without the intervention of the school board, and the school became orderly and prosperous again; we hope the scholar will never again stand in the way of a favorable report."

The ceiling was repaired and painted in 1903, and the interior in 1906. Both the exterior and interior got fresh paint in 1911. All the school houses received shades and were thoroughly cleaned, and the Gossville school got its floor oiled. In 1923 an addition was added to the

building, sometimes called 'Helen's room' for Helen Rand, a member of the school board and the prime mover towards the addition. It is described in the school board report of 1924:

The Gossville school house was shingled, Hyloplate blackboards were placed in the Gossville school house.

Messrs. B. M. Towle and George E. Huckins were chosen by the school board to assist in the work of re-modeling the school building at Gossville. Mr. James N. Pringle, Deputy Commissioner of Education visited Epsom, where he inspected and approved plans for an addition to the school house. The plan as followed reduced slightly the size of the original room by cutting off a space at the left for a corridor. A door at the upper end of this opens at the rear of the school house. Each school room has two doors opening into the corridor. Windows for lighting are on one side only as provided in the specifications for approved school houses. Ventilating windows are places at the right side of the new and at the rear of the old room, respectively. For sanitary reasons it was thought best to provide modern toilet facilities. Consequently, closets installed in the basement are connected with a septic tank. Twenty-four adjustable single seats were purchased for the new room in which the four lower grades are being taught.

Through the generosity of Mr. C. S. Hall the playground is to be considerably enlarged by additional land at the rear of the building. This will be available as soon as the land can be enclosed by a suitable fence. We hope this may be done early in the coming spring.

We wish to take this means of publicly expressing our appreciation and gratitude to Mr. Herbert W. Colby, who furnished plans for the building, also to the many citizens and out-of-town friends through whose interest and loyal co-operation we have secured much help.

By 1925 the town continued to consolidate its use of schools. The pupils living in the North Road and Center districts were assigned to Gossville. Miss Katherine Chase taught the four lower grades. The school was painted and the playground area fenced in. In 1937 the school was wired for electricity, compliments of the Parent-Teacher Association, Community Club and interested citizens. By 1944 the school had grades 1- 3 being taught by Katherine Knight (30 pupils) and grades 4 – 6 taught by Ethel Murch (36 pupils). The last year of its use, 1954, the school house 53 pupils. Teacher Ethel Murch went on to teach in the new Epsom Central School.

First School in the area on land of John Prescott 1780

Western District School 1793

Cilley District School 1808 near former Huckins Oil Company

New Cilley District school built spring 1852 at current Gossville School location

1894 old school removed and new school built.

Second room added on 1923.

Closed 1955.

Still standing and used as a residence.

Warrant Article March 11, 1823

No. 8 – To attend to the request of certain inhabitants of the Town of Epsom being part of districts No. 2, 3 and 4 respecting a new school district. At the meeting, voted that Richard Webster and other petitioners for a school district have leave to withdraw their petition.

Warrant Article April 21, 1823

No. 3 – To attend to the request of certain inhabitants in Districts No. 2, 3 and 4 respecting a new school District in said town. Voted that the inhabitants of Epsom who have petitioned for a new school district taken from No. 2, 3 & 4 have leave to withdraw their petition.

1826 Selectmen Accounts in the town on Schools

1826 District No. 2 \$90.24

Amount un-appropriated in the hands of Winthrop Fowler
Treasurer for Selectmen 90.24

1827 Selectmen in the town of Epsom report on schools - \$522.77

1827 District No. 2 \$98.01

Money not expended in 1826, 90.24

Amount of assessment of said district for a school house tax \$219.66

Paid Jane M. Critchet for keeping school 32.00

Paid Benjamin L. Locke for keeping school 59.61

Paid William Marden Jr. for a lock for school house .63

Paid John Cate for services for said district 2.50

Paid Albert A. Marden for hand irons and tongs 9.71

Paid Winthrop Fowler for services 2.00

Paid William Tarlton Jr. for services 1.34

Paid John Prescott, William Marden Jr. and Samuel G. Cilley
for building school house for said district 210.00

Paid Capt. B.L. Locke for keeping school 4.39

Paid Capt. James Sanborn for wood 3.75

1828 Selectmen in the town of Epsom \$409.28

1828 District No. 2 \$195.82

February 13, Paid Robert Knox for expenditures in said district 95.82

1829 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

1829 District No. 2 \$90.56

Dec. 12, 1829 paid Benjamin M. Towle in full said districts proportion of school money, 90.56

1830 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

The whole to assessment \$410.27, Interest, 81.56, total \$491.83

1830 District No. 2, \$94.94

November 27, 1830 paid John Yeaton in full said districts proportion of school money, 94.94

1831 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

The whole to assessment \$492.05

District No. 2, February 11, paid Daniel Cilley the proportion of district No. 2, 87.65

1832 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

The whole to assessment \$494.36

District No. 2, February 23, paid John Yeaton 88.44

1833 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

The whole to assessment \$457.61

District No. 2, paid John Yeaton 81.61

1834 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

The whole to assessment \$474.629

District No. 2, paid Jacob Howe, 92.11

1836 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

Paid Jonathan L. Cilley, District No. 2, 92.18

1837 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

Paid John Yeaton, District No. 2, 97.47

1838 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

Paid James Sanborn, District No. 2, 85.13

1839 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

Paid Simonds Fowler, District No. 2, 95.93

1840 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

Paid James M. Sherburne, District No. 2, 93.50

1841 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

Paid James H. Sherburne, District No. 2, 92.78

1842 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

Paid A. W. Marden, District 2, 84.60

1843 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

Paid A. W. Marden, District No. 2, 95.38

1844 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

Paid B. M. Towle, District No. 2, 74.78

1845 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

Paid B.M. Towle, District No. 2, 76.20

1846 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

District No. 2, 63.63

A pre-printed chart was filled out by the superintending school committee of Epsom for 1846, and listed the following:

District No. 2, Henry F. Sanborn, teacher, first term 55 students. Nathaniel J. Pinkham, teacher, second term, 63 students

1847 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

William Ham, school committee

B. L. Locke

Henry F. Sanborn

District No. 2, 71.65

1848 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

District No. 2, 70.17

1850 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

William Ham, Superintending School Committee

Nathan Griffin

Paid A.C. Locke & John Yeaton 3rd, District No. 2, 90.50

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. 2, 64.08

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

Henry F. Sanborn, Superintending School Committee

Amount of assessment of school district No. 2, 41.67

Paid William P. Cilley, District No. 2, 67.94

Paid William P. Cilley for School District No. 2, 40.00

In 1852, the District No. 2 schoolhouse and land was sold to Benjamin Ferrin. This was the Cilley District school, and it was relocated on land bought from William P. Cilley for ten dollars. The school was built by Joseph Robinson at a cost of three hundred and twenty one dollars.

From the District No. 2 records, copied by George H. Yeaton

At District No. 2, Cilley District

Sold the schoolhouse and land to Benjamin Ferrin for \$19.25, April 3, 1852

Joseph Robinson was to build a new school house for the sum of \$321.00. Paid William P. Cilley ten dollars for new location to build school house on. Said land to revert back to said Cilley when District ceases to use same for a school.

1853 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

Paid William P. Cilley, District No. 2, 50.12

1854 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

Paid James M. Sherburne, District No. 2, 68.12

1855 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

Benjamin Towle, School Committee

Paid James M. Sherburne, District No. 2, 70.30

1856 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

Paid James M. Sherburne, District No. 2, 79.86

1857 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

B.L. Locke, Superintending school committee

Paid Benjamin Bickford Jr., District No. 2, 76.26

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 Horace Bickford, District No. 2, 67.82

1859 Selectmen in the town of Epsom to the several School Districts in said Town

B.G. Howe, Superintending School Committee

Paid William Goss, District No. 2, 68.51

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

District No. 2 – William Goss, Prudential Committee

Amount of school money assigned to district, \$71.06

Number of scholars, summer and winter:

First term, 26

Second term, 31

Length of school in weeks:

First term, 8

Second term, 9 ½

Wage per month, including board:

First term, \$12

Second term, \$16

Summer Term. Eliza D. Bickford, Teacher. This school prospered under Miss Bickford. She had had some experience in teaching, which is an advantage. Order commendable to scholars and teacher.

Winter Term. Abbie A. Blanchard, Teacher. We were unable to visit this school at the close, but judging from the appearance of the teacher and scholars at our first examination, and

from what we have learned concerning the school since that time, we conclude without hesitancy that this was one of our best schools in town. We felt sorry that Miss Blanchard was obliged to leave before the money was expended; but news came her mother was dangerously ill, and she was under the necessity of going.

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

Paid William M. Baker, District No. 2, 76.01

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. 2 – Wm. M. Baker, Prudential Committee

Teacher summer term Miss Anna W. Baker, winter term, Mrs. Mary C. Campbell

Whole number of scholars, summer 21, winter 21

Average attendance, summer 18, winter 15

Length of school, summer 8 weeks, winter 9 weeks

Miss Baker has had but little experience in the art of teaching. But as well qualified in a literary point of view, the discipline of the school, however, was so lax as to seriously obstruct its progress.

Mrs. Campbell fully sustained her former reputation as an instructor and disciplinarian in her method of governing, yet decided and resolute. The scholars present acquitted themselves at our two visits.

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

Paid Andrew J. Goss, District No. 2, 74.09

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

Paid Benjamin Bickford Jr., District No. 2, 60.64

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

Paid Sylvester D. Edgerly, District No. 2, 62.95

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. 2, 17 boys, 18 girls

Town Report 1870

Paid William Goss for School District No. 2, 78.78

Town Report 1879

Paid Charles W. Leighton for School District No. 2, 88.00

1879 DISTRICT No. 2.

Charles W. Leighton, Prudential Committee.

Summer term.—Miss Arabella Chesley, teacher. Wages per month, \$24.00 ; length of school, 5 weeks ; number of scholars.

Your committee discovered in this teacher a faculty for securing good order and regularity in everything connected with school duties with few words and little effort. The consequence was there was no whispering or playing in school to be noticed, and everything in this large school moved along smoothly and pleasantly, and considering the length of the term, good progress in studies was made.

Winter term.—Mr. Horace Wheeler, teacher. Wages per month, \$32.00; length of school, 6 1-2 weeks; number of scholars.

At our first visit we found the school far from satisfactory ; with a teacher anxious and abundantly able to render it a first class school. Subsequently, there was a decided change for the better in the order and discipline of the school, and the closing examination gave evidence of more than ordinary improvement in the branches studied. The per cent, of average attendance in this school is the highest in town during the winter, it being a fraction over 96 per cent. Such constancy in attendance, is praiseworthy in parents, pupils and teacher. This was Mr. Wheeler's first experience in teaching.

DISTRICT No. 2. Roll of Honor

First Term—Myra L. Doe, Mary M. Twombly, Emily F. Twombly, Isabella S. Warren, Minnie E. Warren.

1880 DISTRICT No. 2.—CILLEY.

Length of schools : summer, 8 weeks ; winter, 13 weeks.

Number of scholars : summer, 38; winter, 39. Average attendance: summer, 36 1-8 ; winter, 33 1-3.

Wages per month : summer, \$19.50 ; winter, \$24.

Summer Term.—Mrs. Lizzie M. Warren, teacher. Mrs. Warren is a teacher of high reputation and possesses keen mental attainments acquired by long experience in teaching. With so many classes as this school contains and so difficult to govern, great improvement cannot be secured, and if scholars make fair progress, what more is required of a teacher? The advancement of all her classes equaled my anticipations.

Winter Term.—Miss Ella F. Chesley, teacher. This teacher has had much experience in teaching, both in this and other towns. She realized the amount of labor required of her to govern and instruct this school, and by her physical power and determination she secured the one, and in a good measure imparted the other. Her reading classes were made to understand what they read and then taught how to read, for the art of reading is the absence of art. Miss Chesley states that if this school could be classified with uniform books, four times the progress might be made in less time.

1881 DISTRICT No. 2.—CILLEY.

Summer term, 7 weeks; scholars, 29; wages per month, \$20.

Winter term, n weeks; scholars, 36; wages per month, \$32.

Summer Term.—Mrs. Lizzie M. Warren, teacher. The lack of proper teaching heretofore in the elementary branches is sadly evident, and there must be much hard work done here before there can be much real advancement or the school brought up to an average with other schools. Mrs. Warren brought to her work past experience, and an earnest desire and effort to succeed, yet but little was accomplished in government or teaching. A few classes made some progress.

Winter Term.—Miss Mina H. Quimby still teaching. An experienced, well qualified and energetic teacher. We noticed with pleasure the great improvement in order and attention, and that discipline was meted out impartially to all. Few teachers could have done better in this school, and it is not her fault that the results are small. The best classes in this school are those in geography, and the poorest those in reading. Classes in arithmetic are doing good work with slow progress.

1881 REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The interior of the Cilley school-house calls for immediate repairs in floor, seats and desks. The general appearance of this room is chilling and repulsive. CYRUS O. BROWN, C. W. TARLTON, Superintending School Committee. Epsom, March 1, 1881.

1883 DISTRICT No. 2.

Amount of school money, \$104.86. Benjamin Towle, prudential committee.

Summer term, Miss Nellie J. Pickering, of Portsmouth, teacher. Wages per month, \$22.00; length of school, 7 weeks; number of scholars, 24; average attendance,

This is a school that requires a large amount of energy and skill in its management. The teacher labored hard and diligently for the proper discipline and improvement of her pupils, and had all the parents in the district sustained the school until they became acquainted with the teacher, it is believed they would have appreciated her services as a teacher, and the school would have prospered well. Scholars that attended constantly made good progress in their studies.

Winter term, Miss Adelaide Veasey, of Deerfield, teacher. Wages per month, \$30.00 ; length of school, 7 weeks ; number of scholars, 31 ; average attendance, 26.

A much better feeling prevailed this term than during last term, the scholars were more constant in attendance, and classes generally made good improvement. An advanced class in written arithmetic deserves especial mention. A goodly number of the parents and friends of the scholars were present at the closing examination of each term.

DISTRICT No. 2. Roll of Honor

First Term.—Cora Rand, Ella Lougee, Alfred Yeaton.

Second Term.—Cora Rand.

1884 District No. 2.

Amount of school money, \$147.26. J. Freese Robinson, prudential committee.

Miss Cora A. Emerson, of Pittsfield, taught both terms. Wages per month, summer, \$26 ; fall, \$30.

Length of school, summer, 8 weeks; winter, 10.8 weeks.

Number of scholars, summer, 23; winter, 31. Average attendance, summer, 20.5 ; winter, 24.

The time usually lost by changing teachers was here saved by employing Miss Emerson to keep both terms. She is a painstaking, conscientious teacher, and her success here was good. The declamations and dialogues, etc., and the exercises on the complete school chart, recently furnished this school, were very interesting to the visitors present at the closing examination. The comfort of the scholars was greatly augmented by the substitution of new seats and desks for the old ones, and by other improvements made to the school-room previous to the commencement of the fall term. The teacher reported one scholar as not being cheerfully obedient at all times.

District No. 2. Roll of Honor

First Term.—Myra L. Doe, Jennie E. Holmes, Alfred D. Yeaton.

Second Term.—Myra L. Doe, Cora Rand.

1885 DISTRICT No. 2.

William Goss, Prudential Committee.

Summer Term.—Whole number of scholars attending school, 18; average attendance. 16; length of school, 7 weeks ; wages of teacher, \$24 per month.

Winter Term.—Whole number of scholars attending school, 19; average attendance, 14 ; length of school, 10 weeks; wages of teacher, \$28 per month.

Both terms were taught by Mrs. Lizzie Warren, whose reputation as a teacher is too well known to need any comment. Good progress was made in this school during the year. Some of the classes showed marked improvement. One class in Colburn's arithmetic is especially worthy of mention. There was evidence of an earnest effort on the part of the teacher to inspire interest and enthusiasm among her scholars.

DISTRICT No. 2. Roll of Honor

First Term.—Ora E. Goodwin, Annie Mullen, Minnie E. Warren, Bert E. Holmes, Waldo A. Holmes, Tommy Mullen, George E. Warren, Alfred E. Yeaton. Minot K. Yeaton.

Second Term.—Alfred E. Yeaton, Minot K. Yeaton, E. Norine Warren.

1886 DISTRICT NO. 2.—GOSSVILLE.

First term taught by Miss Lillie M. Bickford of New Durham. Fall and winter terms by Miss Hattie M. Brown of Deerfield. Miss Bickford evidently tried to make this, her first term, a successful one, but met with obstacles which discouraged her. Perhaps a little more energy on her part would not have been amiss. We consider it no disparagement to her to add that she has not the tact to deal with unruly boys. Her successor, Miss Brown, was of a different type. She showed by her whole bearing that she could and would govern, and her subjects must obey. Her scholars evinced no disposition of rebellion and consequently they were terms of profit.

DISTRICT NO. 2. Perfect Attendance

First Term.—Arthur L. Pinney.

Second Term.—Minnie E. Warren, Waldo A. Holmes, Arthur L. Pinney, Herbert P. Giles.

Third Term.—Alfred D. Yeaton, Minot R. Yeaton, Walter Quimby, Bert E. Holmes, Waldo A. Holmes, Nettie B. Douglas.

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, and Epsom's part of the Dowborough school with the North Road school. D. GILMAN CHESLEY, SAMUEL MARTIN, ROBERT C. BROWN

1887 ROLL OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE GOSSVILLE.

First Term—Alfred D. Yeaton, Minot R. Yeaton.

Second Term—Nettie B. Douglas, Edgar E. Doe.

1888 ROLL OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE. GOSSVILLE.

First Term. Minot R. Yeaton.

Second Term. Guy S. Pike, Willie G. Cobb

1889 ROLL OF HONOR. GOSSVILLE.

First Term.—Maud Critcherson, Nettie B. Douglas, Willie G. Cobb, Alfred W. Burnham.

Third Term.—Alfred D. Yeaton.

1890 SCHOOL REPORT.

the Gossville has good desks and seats, the building is "wholly unfit for its 23 scholars, the room is dark and gloomy, the windows are just able to hold soul and body together by means of nails and putty and it stands in sad contrast with the well lighted and painted temple of worship a few rods distant.

JAMES H. TRIPP.

ANNIE M. WELLS,

CYRUS O. BROWN

1890 ROLL OF HONOR. Gossville.

James Robinson, Alfred D. Yeaton, Minot R. Yeaton, Harry Silver, Estella L. Fllansbee, Lizzie E. Fellows, Maud E. Kuowles, Alice F. Sargent, Guy T. Pike 2, Nettie B. Douglass, Maud S. Critcherson, Alfred W. Burnham, Eugene E. Doe.

1892 ROLL OF HONOR. GOSSVILLE.

Maud Critcherson*, Maud Knowles*, Ada Marden, Ethel Marden, Alice Sargent*, Alice Yeaton, Walter Marden, Harry Silver, Albert Warren, Guy Pike.

1893 ROLL OF HONOR. GOSSVILLE.

Maud E. Knowles, 2 Ada F. Marden, 2 Alice F. Sargent, Alice B. Yeaton, Walter L. Marden, 2 Harry Silver, 2 James M. Robinson, Ethel A. Marden. Joseph A. Warren

1894 SCHOOL REPORT

Somewhat extensive repairs should be made to the Gossville schoolhouse, or else (what would be better, perhaps) a new one should be built in its stead.

D. G. CHESLEY,

DANIEL YEATON

1894 ROLL OF HONOR. GOSSVILLE.

James M. Robinson, Albert J. Warren, Maud S. Critcherson, Guy T. Pike. Charles A. Munroe

1896 ROLL OF HONOR.

GOSSVILLE.

Maude S. Critcherson, 2 Ethel A. Marden, 3 Harry Silver, 2 Ethel Goss, 3 Nettie A. Fellows, Hazel B. Edwards, Nellie Sherburne, Walter L. Marden, Alice B. Yeaton, 3 Ada F. Marden, 3 Augustus Palmer, 3 Amy E. Etheridge, Mabel Dow, Ira D. Stokes, Grace F. Leighton, Alfred Eastman.

1897 REPORT OF SCHOOL BOARD

The one (school) at Gossville could be improved by painting, and some of the others would be benefited by paint and whitewash upon the inside.

1897 ROLL OF HONOR.

GOSSVILLE

Ethel Goss, 3 Ethel A. Marden, 3 Alice B. Yeaton, 3 Nellie F. Sherburne, 2 Alfred P. Eastman, 2 Eva J. Davis, Mabel Dow, Ada Brown, Walter Marden, Arthur Brown, Harry Silver, Leland Edwards. Ada F. Marden, 3 Lena A. Marden, 3 Grace F. Leighton, 2 Iva D. Stokes, 2 Maude S.

Critcherson, Helen G. Towle, Florence M. Dow, Amy E. Etheridge, Fred Bickford, Arthur Friel, Fred Davis

1898 SCHOOL REPORT

The Gossville school house has been painted the past year.

1898 ROLL OF HONOR

GOSSVILLE.

Lena Marden, Ada L. Brown, Arthur Friel, Arthur Brown, Helen Towle, Walter L. Marden, 2 Fred A. Davis, 2, Ethel Marston, 2, Alfred Eastman, 2, Ada F. Marden, 3, Olin Pierce, 3, Ira D. Stokes, 3, Arthur Etheredge,,Alice B. Yeaton, Elmer Palmer, Ada Brown, Elsie White, Grace F. Leighton, 2, Eva J. Davis, 2, Nellie F. Sherburne, 2, Ethel Goss, 2, Ethel A. Marden, 3, Amey Etheredge, 3

TEACHERS

1898

GOSSVILLE: Chapin H. Osgood

1899 ROLL OF HONOR

GOSSVILLE

Ethel Goss, 2, Eva D. Stokes, 2, Grace Leighton, 2, Ethel A. Marden, 2, Alice Yeaton, Ada M. Marden, Florence Dow, Lena A. Marden, Nellie Sherburne, Elsie White, Ethel Marston, Eva Davis, Alfred Eastman, 3, Walter Marden, 2, Harry Silver, 2, Gussie Palmer, 2, William Davis, Elmer Palmer, Rodney Leighton, Fred Davis, Arthur Etheridge

TEACHERS

1899

GOSSVILLE: Grace E. Rollins

1900 PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Gossville.—Helen Bickford, Fred Bickford, Ethel Goss, Ethel A. Marden, Nellie Sherburne, Iva Stokes (2), Helen Towle (2), Elsie White (2), Harold Bickford (2), Amy Etheridge (2), Alfred Eastman, Arthur Etheridge, Clarence H. Hart, Stacy Hart (3), Clay Hart, Gussie Palmer, Elmer Palmer (2), Irving White (2), Rodney Leighton.

1901 ROLL OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE

GOSSVILLE.

Harold Bickford, Iva D. Stokes, Helen Bickford

TEACHERS

1901

GOSSVILLE: Effie A. Stone

1902 REPORT OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF THE TOWN OF EPSOM,

There was a case of insubordination in the Gossville school, wherein one of the boys refused, as we were told, to comply with a reasonable request of the teacher. Miss Rand is a first-class teacher and disciplinarian, but thought at one time she would have to call upon the school board to expel the disobedient youth from school. But the matter was adjusted without the intervention of the school board, and the school became orderly and prosperous again; we hope the scholar will never again stand in the way of a favorable report.

DANIEL G. CHESLEY,
MARY JOSIE RAND,
JAMES M. BLUE

1902 ROLL OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE.

GOSSVILLE.

Harold Bickford, 2 Helen Bickford, Marion S. Burnham, Maude A. Burnham, Alfred Eastman, Ethel Goss, Lena A. Marden, Gerald L. Marden, Ethel M. Marston, 2 Elmer H. Palmer, Nellie F. Sherburne, 2

Kelsey Smith, Helen G. Towle, Elsie S. White, Irving E. White. 2

1903 REPORT OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF THE TOWN OF EPSOM.

At Gossville, the ceiling was repaired and painted.

M. JOSIE RAND,
CHARLES A. BROWN,
FRANK L. SEAVEY.

1903 PERFECT ATTENDANCE.

GOSSVILLE.

Nellie F. Sherburne, Ethel Goss, Alfred Eastman, Ethel Marston, 2 Gladys Chesley, Earl White, Marion Burnham, Arthur Brown, Rodney Leighton, Irving White. Elsie White, 2

1904 REPORT OF SCHOOL BOARD.

Needed repairs at the other schools have been made and more would have been done at Gossville and the Centre if the weather had been less severe in the fall.

Chas. A. Brown
Frank L. Seavey
Helen G. Yeaton

1904 PERFECT ATTENDANCE

GOSSVILLE SCHOOL:

Lena A, Marden, 2, Elsie S. White, Gladys M. Cheney, 2, Etta N. Davis, Irving E. White, 2, Earl V. White, Gerald L. Marden, 2, Francis Marden, Philip H. Pennell, 2, Alfred P. Eastman, Ethel Marston.

TEACHERS

1904

GOSSVILLE: Mattie B. James, Bessie A. Smith

1906 REPORT OF SCHOOL BOARD

The Center school house has been painted on the outside and the Gossville school house on the interior. Very few repairs other than these have been necessary.

Helen G. Yeaton

Walter H. Tripp

John H. Dolbeer,

1906 PERFECT ATTENDANCE

GOSSVILLE SCHOOL:

Esther L. Waterhouse, Gerald L. Marden, 3, Earl V. White, 3, Leon M. Waterhouse, Irving E. White, Carl Y. Holmes

TEACHERS

1906

GOSSVILLE: Bessie A. Smith

1908 REPORT OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

The winter term was badly interfered with by sickness and difficulty in obtaining teachers.

At Gossville, Mrs. Edmunds declined to accept the position of teacher, much to our regret, yet very kindly consented to teach as a substitute until one could be secured, and after teaching three weeks Miss Brown of Deerfield came and finished the term.

John H. Dolbeer

R. Estelle Hall

Walter H. Tripp

1908 ROLL OF HONOR

GOSSVILLE SCHOOL.

Olin L. Davis, Philip H. Pennell, Leon M. Waterhouse, Earl V. White, Maude A. Burnham, Doris E. Burnham, Hazel M. McKenzie, Edith M. Ordway, Gladys M. Ordway, Esther L. Waterhouse.

TEACHERS

1908

GOSSVILLE: Florence L. Bennett, Sadie Edmunds, Etta M. Brown

1909 ROLL OF HONOR

GOSSVILLE: Nathan J. Goss, 2, Lester B. Young, 2, Leon M. Waterhouse, 2, Gerald Marden, Maude Burnham, Myrtie Davis, Della M. Mason.

TEACHERS**1909**

GOSSVILLE: Etta M. Brown

1911 REPORT OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

During the past year the Gossville school house has been painted both inside and outside Charles A. Brown

Lizzie F. Fowler

John W. Cox

1911 ROLL OF HONOR

GOSSVILLE SCHOOL: Maud Burnham, 2, Oscar W. Davis, Kelsey Smith, Helen C. Ordway, Marie E. Warren, Emil Zinn, Matthew F. Yeaton, Rachel F. Pennell

TEACHERS**1911**

GOSSVILLE: Mittie J. Smith, Anna M. Kemp, Anna M. Scott

1912 ROLL OF HONOR

GOSSVILLE: Hazel MacKenzie, 3, Oscar Davis, 2, Matthew Yeaton, 2, Ernest Duguay, 1, Harris Mason, 1, Helen Ordway, 1, Clara Tallman, 1, Hester Bickford, 2, Doris Waterhouse, 2, Ida Davis, 1, William Etheridge, 1, Leon Ordway, 1, Amelia Spiess, 1, Marie Warren, 1, Millard Yeaton, 1.

TEACHERS**1912**

GOSSVILLE: Anna M. Scott

1913 ROLL OF HONOR

GOSSVILLE: Hazel M. MacKenzie, 3, Helen C. Ordway, 3, Leon A. Ordway, 2, Dean Ordway, 1, Hester E. Bickford, 1, Marie E. Warren, 2, Arlin B. Warren, 1, Matthew F. Yeaton, 3, Fred W. Yeaton, 2, Robert Zinn, 1, Emil Zinn, 1

TEACHERS**1913**

GOSSVILLE: Anna M. Scott, Charlotte E. Burnham

1914 ROLL OF HONOR

GOSSVILLE: Edward A. Duguay, Leon A. Ordway, Hazel M. MacKenzie, 3, Hazel M. Young, 2, Fred W. Yeaton, Matthew F. Yeaton, Marie E. Warren, 2, Alvin Zinn, Walter Zinn, Arthur Zinn, Leslie H. Warren, Josephine A. Warren.

TEACHERS

1914

GOSSVILLE: Nancy A. Walker

1915 REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

GOSSVILLE: Gladys M. Annis, 2, Ernest O. Duguay, 3, Fred W. Yeaton, Ida M. Davis, Josephine A. Warren, Doris E. Burnham, Hazel M. McKenzie, C. Clayton Mason, Augusta E. S. Heacock.

TEACHERS

1915

GOSSVILLE: Myra E. Smith, F. May Deckman

1916 REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

For repairs we have painted the Gossville school house on the inside. Other minor repairs have been made when practical.

Samuel R. Yeaton

Harold S. Bickford

Grace E. Marden

1916 ROLL OF HONOR

GOSSVILLE: Hester E. Bickford, Curtis W. Ordway, Leon A. Ordway, Hazel M. McKenzie, 2, Kenneth J. Yeaton, Clayton Mason, 2, Ethel E. Mason, 2, Dean E. Ordway, Luella M Perkins, 3, Hazel M. Young, 2, Alvin Zinn

TEACHERS

1916

GOSSVILLE: Edith M. Towle (Jennie M. Cass, 2 weeks)

1917 REPORT OF SCHOOL BOARD

During the year five schools have been maintained for thirty two weeks, with the exception of the Gossville school, which it was considered prudent to close at the end of the twenty eighth week, owing to several cases of scarlet fever among the pupils.

Walter H. Tripp

Grace E. Marden

Samuel R. Yeaton

1917 ROLL OF HONOR

GOSSVILLE SCHOOL: Annie C. Bartlett, Clara M. Bickford, Claude H. Huckins, Kenneth M. Huckins, 2, Arthur G. Huckins, 2, Walter B. Huckins, 2, Paul Muller, Hazel M. McKenzie, Leon A. Ordway, Dean E. Ordway, Hazel M. Young, Alvin Zinn, 2, Walter Zinn, 2.

TEACHERS

1917

GOSSVILLE: Margaret M. Clark, Sidella G. Fish

1918 ROLL OF HONOR

GOSSVILLE SCHOOL

Edward A. Duguay, Kenneth M. Huckins, 3, Claude H. Huckins, 3, Dean E. Ordway, Leon A. Ordway, Clayton F. Mason, Ethel E. Mason, Annie Bartlett, Elsie Bartlett Arthur G. Huckins, Roscoe G. Warren, Ruth Southwick.

1918 TEACHERS

GOSSVILLE; Margarot M. Clark, Thelma E. Dutton

1919 ROLL OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE:

GOSSVILLE

Annie Bartlett, Elsie Bartlett, 2, Arthur Huckins, 2, Claud Huckins, 3, Curtis Ordway, Ruth Southwick, Kenneth Huckins, Ethel Mason, Agnes Zinn, Alvin Zinn, Ellen Zinn, Walter, Zinn, Roscoe Warren

1919 TEACHERS

GOSSVILLE: Thelma E. Dutton

1920 TEACHERS

GOSSVILLE: Thelma E. Dutton

1921 REPAIRS TO SCHOOLHOUSES

All five school house are now suitably equipped with shades, which are of the light tint color specified by law.

Somewhat more effort was expended on the Gossville and Short Falls school houses than on the other three, partly because these seem certain to be the buildings which will be the most extensively used in the future; partly, too, because in the case of the former, extensive repairs were sorely needed, while at the later a spacious supply room, (not a closet) was partitioned off from one corner of the school room. Equipped with numerous roomy shelves, this supply room ought easily to permit of ample space for all books and supplies that is necessary or convenient to store there.

Prior to any other operations, the interiors of all the school houses were thoroughly cleaned. Wood work and walls were painted a light color. Ceilings were white-washed, and plastered where necessary. All seats and desks were varnished. Blackboards were painted. Glass was reset

in windows. Stove funnels were cleaned. Floors, platforms, and other woodwork were patched or entirely replaced with new lumber, and the floors at Gossville and Short Falls were oiled. Outhouses were repaired and painted, and vaults were cleaned. The net result has been to make the school buildings much cleaner, more attractive and more serviceable.

John Chesley

Samuel R. Yeaton

Walter H. Tripp

1923 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (excerpt)

There were maintained during the year, five schools for a school year of 36 weeks. The State Program of Study was well carried out. Number of students Gossville, 29 .

1924 SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

During the summer vacation various minor repairs were made at all the school houses. The Gossville school house was shingled, Hyloplate blackboards were placed in the Gossville school house.

Messrs. B. M. Towle and George E. Huckins were chosen by the school board to assist in the work of re-modeling the school building at Gossville. Mr. James N. Pringle, Deputy Commissioner of Education visited Epsom, where he inspected and approved plans for an addition to the school house. The plan as followed reduced slightly the size of the original room by cutting off a space at the left for a corridor. A door at the upper end of this opens at the rear of the school house. Each school room has two doors opening into the corridor. Windows for lighting are on one side only as provided in the specifications for approved school houses. Ventilating windows are places at the right side of the new and at the rear of the old room, respectively. For sanitary reasons it was thought best to provide modern toilet facilities. Consequently, closets installed in the basement are connected with a septic tank. Twenty-four adjustable single seats were purchased for the new room in which the four lower grades are being taught.

Through the generosity of Mr. C. S. Hall the playground is to be considerably enlarged by additional land at the rear of the building. This will be available as soon as the land can be enclosed by a suitable fence. We hope this may be done early in the coming spring.

We wish to take this means of publicly expressing our appreciation and gratitude to Mr. Herbert W. Colby, who furnished plans for the building, also to the many citizens and out-of-town friends through whose interest and loyal co-operation we have secured much help.

Eleanora C. Nutter

Grace E. Marden

Helen T. Rand

1924 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (excerpt)

There were maintained during the year five schools, for a school year of thirty-six weeks. There was one change in the teaching force. Miss Edith Robinson resigned and Miss Scribner too her place. The teachers and school boards of the Union have formed a Teacher's Association and have already held one meeting and have voted to have at least four meetings a year.

Several boys and girls who have graduated between the ages of 14 and 16 have been denied the privilege of working in manufacturing establishments because they did not attend school three hundred half-days as required by law. Number of registered pupils: Gossville, 33.

1925 REPORT OF SCHOOL BOARD & SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (excerpt)

The addition of another school room at Gossville has greatly improved the school condition of the district. Two teachers are now employed, each having four grades instead of, as formerly, one teacher having eight grades.

During the summer various minor repairs were made. The Gossville school building was painted. A wire fence was placed around the playground at Gossville in accordance with the agreement with Mr. C. S. Hall. This lot, extending northerly 200 feet with its width approximately that of the original school lot, provides an ample playground that is much appreciated. By the removal of a stone wall and by grading the bank a source of danger has been removed.

Five schools are maintained this year. The pupils living in the North Road and Center districts are assigned to Gossville. Miss Katherine Chase teachers the four lower grades again this year. Miss Olga H. Peterson was transferred from New Rye to Gossville and has charge of the higher grades.

Grace E. Marden

Helen T. Rand

Eleanora C. Nutter

1928 ROLL OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE

GOSSVILLE

Lucille Demers, Goldie Zinn

1929 ROLL OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE

GOSSVILLE GRAMMAR

Clifford Osborne

1931 ROLL OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE

GOSSVILLE

Ralph Skinner

1932 ROLL OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE

GOSSVILLE

Ryley Osborne, Celia Mason

1933 ROLL OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE

GOSSVILLE

Marion Campbell, Arlene Clark, Doris Clark, Dorothy Bartlett, Mary Fife, Ethel Osborne

1935 SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS REPORT (excerpt)

Graded schools of primary and grammar organization were maintained with four grades each at Short Falls and New Rye respectively. There were also three mixed schools. Following is the list of teachers, their respective schools and pupils enrolled:

Katherine C. Knight Gossville 29

1936 ROLL OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE

GOSSVILLE SCHOOL

Amos Carson, Charles Carson, Raymond Fife, Leon Palmer, Dorothy Campbell

1937 SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS REPORT (excerpt)

The adequacy of our school buildings: All four buildings now in use have been wired for electricity through the kindness of the Parent-Teacher Association, the Community Club, and other interested citizens.

1937 ROLL OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE

GOSSVILLE

Albert J. Yeaton, Myra Palmer, Phylis Yeaton

1941 SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS REPORT (excerpt)

At the current time, schools are being maintained in Epsom as follows, including:

Gossville	Grades 1-4	Mrs. Katherine C. Knight	20 students
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1942 SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS REPORT (excerpt)

.The present organization of the schools is as follows, including:

Gossville	Grades 1-4	Mrs. Katherine Knight	24 students
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1943 SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS REPORT (excerpt)

Student population, 113, boys 48, girls 53

Gossville	Grades 1-4	Mrs. Katherine C. Knight	27 students
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1944 SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS REPORT (excerpt)

To the School Board and Citizens of Epsom:

Distinct educational progress has been made in Epsom during the present year by a further reorganization of the schools into three rooms instead of four, so that no teacher has over three grades, and the two "junior high" grades have a building by themselves.

Gossville Primary	Grades 1-3	Mrs. Katherine C. Knight	30 pupils
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Gossville Grammar	Grades 4-6	Mrs. Ethel F. Murch	36 pupils
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Both schoolhouses were made attractive by the refinishing of their interiors. The unused room at Gossville was modernized by electric lights, improved window shades, and adequate blackboards.

1945 SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS REPORT (excerpt)

At the annual school district meeting held March 10, 1945, a special committee was elected, consisting of Henry L. Stevens, Eleanor C. Nutter, John P. Yeaton, Warren T. Fowler, and Ralph E. Towle, and the Superintendent of Schools in an advisory capacity, to work with the School Board in investigating the needs and possibilities of a new central schoolhouse after the war. Mr. Stevens was designated chairman, and Mr. Towle secretary. This committee has held meetings and collected information by conferences and trips. It will doubtless report more in detail at the school meeting this year.

Tardinesses increased, due mostly to extreme weather which hampered bus travel.

Gossville Primary	Grades 1-3	Mrs. Rebecca Williams	31 pupils
Gossville Grammar	Grades 4-6	Mrs. Ethel F. Murch	31 pupils

1946 SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS REPORT (excerpt)

The present organization of the schools is as follows:

Gossville Primary	Grades 1-3	Miss Anne Sejo	21 pupils
Gossville Grammar	Grades 4-6	Mrs. Ethel F. Murch	32 pupils
Short Falls	Grades 7-8	Mrs. Verna W. Hunt	22 pupils

The opening of school last September was deferred for four days as a health precaution. Due to the widespread shortage of teachers, another week elapsed before a regular teacher was found for the primary school.

1947 SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS REPORT (excerpt)

The present organization of the schools is as follows:

Gossville Primary	Grades 1-3	Mr. Cory E. McAllister	25 pupils
Gossville Grammar	Grades 4-6	Mrs. Ethel F. Murch	31 pupils

1948 SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS REPORT (excerpt)

Epsom is carrying on a complete lunch program again this year, under the sponsorship of the Parent Teacher Association, with federal aid, both in cash and commodities.

An "opaque projector" for showing printed matter, pictures, or objects has been purchased at a great saving. Other visual equipment could be used to good advantage.

Gossville Primary	Grades 1-3	Mrs. Charlotte R. Noyes	28 pupils
Gossville Grammar	Grades 4-6	Mrs. Ethel F. Murch	25 pupils
Mrs. Mabel E. Reed, Music			

1949 SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS REPORT (excerpt)

The school lunch program has become an established feature, thanks to the efforts of the Parent-Teacher Association and the devotion of those individuals who bear the main responsibility for organizing the project.

Committees planning for a new school building in Epsom are still functioning.

Gossville Primary	Grades 1-3	Mrs. Charlotte R. Noyes	30 pupils
Gossville Grammar	Grades 4-6	Mrs. C. Ethel F. Murch	24 pupils
Music, Mrs. Madleyn-Loy Davis			

1950 SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS REPORT (excerpt)

The present organization of schools is as follows:

Gossville	Grades 1-2	Mrs. Charlotte R. Noyes	27 pupils
Gossville	Grades 3-5	Mrs. C. Ethel F. Murch	25 pupils

Music, Mr. Bertram Colter

Next Year's first grade is estimated at 8 pupils. In September 1952, however, the entering class is expected to number around 25.

1951 SUPERINTENDENT SCHOOL REPORT (excerpt)

Schools in Epsom are now organized as follows:

Gossville	Grades 1,2	Mrs. Katherine C. Knight	26 pupils
Gossville	Grades 3-5	Mrs. C. Ethel F. Murch	34 pupils
Music		Mr. Bertram Colter	

The first grade next September is expected to number 25 pupils, or more than grades six, seven, and eight put together. The district is fortunate enough in having the Center Hill school building available. This building will have to be re-conditioned and refurnished, although certain improvements were made shortly before it was discontinued.

1952 SUPERINTENDENT SCHOOL REPORT (excerpt)

Gossville	Grade 1	Miss Una G. Dearborn	24 pupils
Gossville	Grade 2,3	Mrs. Ethel C. Murch	24 pupils
Music		Mr. Salvatore Viggiano	

Mr. Viggiano, a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music, was engaged to replace the late Bertram Colter (deceased during the summer), who had endeared himself to all the school children.

1953 SUPERINTENDENT SCHOOL REPORT (excerpt)

Gossville	Grades 1,2	Miss Una G. Dearborn	26 pupils
Gossville	Grades 2,3	Mrs. C. Ethel F. Murch	26 pupils

A new building of 4 classrooms and a general purpose room with size of 2 classrooms and the un-partitioned corridor, with a smaller room for the use of the nurse and other administrative purposes, together with toilet facilities, lunch kitchen, and rooms for storage and for heating equipment, would be none too large for 4 classrooms of pupils.
visited. The school board of Nottingham has been helpful in consultation.

1954 SUPERINTENDENT SCHOOL REPORT (excerpt)

Gossville	Grades 1,2	Miss Margaret Coll	22 pupils
Gossville	Grade 3,4	Mrs. C. Ethel F. Murch	31 pupils

At the annual meeting held March 6, 1954, the School District of Epsom voted to construct and equip a new Central School, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$67,500.00 for this purpose, \$7,500 from the capital reserve and \$60,000 from bonds or serial notes.

The school board engaged Mr. Arnold Perreton of Concord as architect and accepted his plans and specifications for a four-classroom building with a general purpose room the size of two classrooms, together with supplementary rooms. The general contract was awarded to the successful bidder, Hillsboro Construction Co., Inc.

This building is now under construction, on the northwest side of Black Hall Road, on a six-acre lot given by Mr. Robert E. Cutter who also did the preliminary grading (gratis). As in any project of this kind, the committee has been constrained to forego some desirable features. However, the essentials of health, comfort, and educational convenience have been maintained. A few more weeks will see the building occupied and classroom activities under way.

Mr. Andrews, now teaching upper grades at Short Falls School, has been designated by the school board as principal of the new school.

TEACHERS:

Jane M. Critchett
Benjamin L. Locke
1846
Henry F. Sanborn
Nathaniel J. Pinkham
1860
Eliza D. Bickford
Abbie A. Blanchard
1863
Miss Anna W. Baker
Mrs. Mary C. Campbell
1879
Miss Arabella Chesley
Mr. Horace Wheeler
1880
Mrs. Lizzie M. Warren
Miss Ella F. Chesley
1881
Mrs. Lizzie M. Warren
Miss Mina H. Quimby
1883
Miss Nellie J. Pickering
Miss Adelaide Veasey
1884
Miss Cora A. Emerson
1885
Mrs. Lizzie Warren
1886
Lillie M. Bickford
Miss Hattie M. Brown
1889
Cora A. Emerson
Mary A. Seavey
1898
Chapin H. Osgood
1899
Grace E. Rollins
1901
Effie A. Stone

1904
Mattie B. James
Bessie A. Smith

1906
Bessie A. Smith

1908
Florence L. Bennett
Sadie Edmunds
Etta M. Brown

1909
Etta M. Brown

1911
Mittie J. Smith
Anna M. Kemp
Anna M. Scott

1912
Anna M. Scott

1913
Anna M. Scott
Charlotte E. Burnham

1914
Nancy A. Walker

1915
Myra E. Smith
May Deckman

1916
Edith M. Towle
Jennie M. Cass (2 weeks)

1917
Margaret M. Clark
Sidella G. Fish

1918
Margaret M. Clark
Thelma E. Dutton

1919
Thelma E. Dutton

1920
Thelma E. Dutton

1935
Katherine C. Knight

1941
Katherine C. Knight

1941
Katherine C. Knight

1943
Katherine C. Knight

1944
Katherine C. Knight 1-3
Ethel F. Murch, 4-6

1945
Rebecca Williams, 1-3
Ethel F. Murch, 4-6

1946
Abbe Sejo 1 – 3
Ethel F. Murch 4 – 6

1947
Mr. Cory E. McAllister 1-3
Ethel M. Murch, 4-6
Mrs. Mabel E. Reed, music

1948
Charlotte R. Noyes 1-3
Ethel M. Murch, 4-6
Mrs. Mabel E. Reed, music

1949
Charlotte R. Noyes 1-3
Ethel M. Murch, 4-6

Mrs. Madelyn-Loy Davis, music

1950

Charlotte R. Noyes, 1-2

Ethel F. Murch, 3-5

Mr. Bertram Colter, music

1951

Katherine C. Knight, 1-2

Ethel F. Murch, 3-5

Mr. Bertram Colter, music

1952

Miss Una G. Dearborn, grade 1

Mrs Ethel C. Murch, 2 – 3

Mr. Salvatore Viggiano, music

1953

Miss Una G. Dearborn, grade 1 - 2

Mrs Ethel C. Murch, 2 – 3

1954

Margaret Call 1-2

Ethel F. Murch, 3 - 4