

## WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

History tells us that the first church in Newton County was a log structure built by the United Brethren denomination in Washington Township and that it was also used for school. This was undoubtedly the first school in the township but no record can be found as to when any of the twelve frame buildings were built which served the children for many years.

Number 1 was located in the southwest corner of the town of Beaver City and was known as the Beaver City School.

Number 2 or Rabbit Ridge as it was called, is now a part of Highway 41. As you cross that highway on Road 700 South and look north you will see the ground occupied at one time by the school and playground.

Number 3 was called Pull and Haul because it was moved so many times. Pupils might go home one evening and find the school in a different location the next morning. When last used it was on the northeast corner of Roads 700 South and 600 West.

Number 4 or Pfrimmer was no doubt named for Will Pfrimmer who was at one time County School Superintendent. It was on the northeast corner of Road 800 South and 675 West.

Number 5 or Victory as it was called during the last few years it was in use was on the north side of Road 1000 South and just west of Road 675 West. At one time it was called Buzzard's Glory and by people a few miles east it was called the West School, no doubt because it was west of them.

Number 6 was known as the Spitler School. It was built on land owned by Zachariah Spitler and he also taught there. The name was not changed when the school was moved east and across the road on Buswell property, at the southeast corner of Roads 1000 South and 575 West.

Number 7 was first called Center no doubt because it was near the center of the Township but when moved to the southeast corner of Ade, it became known as the Ade School, the only one of the twelve frame buildings that was replaced by a brick structure.

Number 8, the Miller School, was at the northwest corner of Road 100 West and State Road 16. Number 9, the Franklin School, was on Road 100 West about one-half mile south of Road 1000 South.

Number 10, the Roberts School, was located on what is now U.S. Highway 41 about one-half mile north of 1150 South.

Number 11 was built on land owned by George Rider and was known as the Rider School until it was moved a mile south and west to the southeast corner of Roads 1150 South and 450 West on property owned by the county farm, and it was then called the County Farm School.

Number 12, located on the north side of Road 1125 South about 80 rods west of Road 675 West, was called Possum Trot, and was the last of the one-room schools to close, in 1927. A second story was added to the brick building in Ade that summer which made room for all of the school children in Washington Township, who were in grade school and the high school students were taken to Brook.

In the Fall of 1966 South Newton was opened so Junior and Senior High school students were taken there and Ade closed as the first six grades were taken to Brook.

"PULL-AN'-HAUL"

Nearly every place has its local name,  
 And some of them grow to a wider fame.  
 It's rather strange how a name will stick  
 To a man or neighborhood, like a tick.  
 The place, for instance, where I was born,  
 Is known as Egypt--the land of corn,  
 By the natives; but outsiders said,  
 From the cloud of ignorance that overspread  
 The men and women and girls and boys  
 Of the whole south end of Illinois.  
 But the place of which I was going to speak,  
 Was called to my mind the other week,  
 By seeing in court about forty, in all,  
 From the neighborhood known as Pull-an'-Haul.  
 Just how it happened to get the name,  
 What was the trouble, and who was to blame,  
 Traditions differ; but I think I am right  
 When I say it began with the school-house site.  
 Just where to put it they could not agree,  
 So instead of one place they fixed on three.  
 They pulled the lumber to number one;  
 And the work of building had fairly begun,  
 When they hauled it over to number two;  
 And then decided that wouldn't do,  
 Then they pulled and hauled it to number three,  
 And all parties agreed to disagree.  
 The opposing factions ceased to contend,  
 And it seemed the trouble was at an end;  
 And it might have been, I since have learned,  
 But the house took fire, one night, and burned.  
 Then the old trouble broke out anew,  
 And from that time on it steadily grew.  
 They built a house where the old one stood;  
 But that didn't seem to do any good.  
 They moved it again; and when that was done,  
 Next year moved back to site number one.  
 Thus they pulled and hauled it about,  
 Till the poor old house was about worn out.  
 And I have been told a petition was read  
 To the trustee, to build a mammoth sled  
 And put the house on it, for it was plain  
 They soon would want to move it again.  
 But the opposition went on to prove  
 That the house wouldn't stand another move.

Here the case rested; but when it was found  
 They couldn't haul the school-house around  
 Someone discovered he was badly in need  
 Of a public highway. And his friends agreed  
 That was the case; and it may be true  
 (But that doesn't matter to me or to you).  
 Others opposed, with such firmness and zeal  
 That it landed in court upon an appeal  
 From the court below, and had you been there  
 At the trial, and heard how men will swear,  
 Good, honest men as ever we see,  
 Most of them Christians--or claim to be,--  
 Yud'd have learned how easy the mark we miss,  
 When reason is clouded by prejudice;--  
 How the best of judgments will sometimes fail  
 When self-interest rests in the other scale.  
 With me you'd thought it passing strange  
 That truth could have so wide a range.  
 The law-suit is over, but the trouble still grows;  
 Where it will end, there's nobody knows.  
 Like the burdock-root, you may grub it out,  
 But the troublesome thing is sure to sprout;  
 And in years to come our children will  
 Find of this trouble some traces still.  
 When those now living shall pass away,  
 When their little children are old and gray,  
 When their children's children their children call,  
 That place will be known as "Pull-an'-Haul."

From

DRIFTWOOD

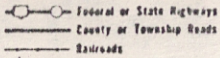
by Will W. Pfrimmer

## WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP'S TEACHERS

1907-1924

Ethel Smart	Ruth Purdy
Maude Smart	S.H. Freeman
Ada Camblin	Ruby Russell
Walter Atchinson	Opal Padgett
Blanch Bash	Hilda Hitchings
Francis Shoud	Ethel Bunyan
Myrtle Scott	Ruth Corbin
Lula Spalding	Gertrude Guinn
Clara Pfrimmer	Marie Lymon
Grace Park	Mary Thompson
Mabel Bair	Iva McCartney
Jennie Harry	Leta Bridgeman
Esther Ewalt	Bertha Mustard
Louvisa Clarkson	Coralie Franklin
Estella Clarkson	Rocoe Protsman
Leatha Miller	Vera Agate
May Goodacre	Jean Archibald
Dale Besse	Ferral Potts
Cecile Musselman	Mary Brown
Ruth Handee	Marie O'Reilly
Mai Kessler	O.G. Harms
Margaret Silvers	Ferral Pitten
Henry Carrothers	Mary Paer
Lenora Winters	Ruby Hartle
Bertha Kennedy	Madge Bunn
Gladys Keitzer	Ruth Nelson
May Goodacre	Cassette Winget
Hazel Cameron	Nina Sargison
Mildred Miller	Opal Boughner
Kenneth Deardurff	Lorita Birswell
Georgia Peterson	Vera Ramey
Ross Hagen	Cecile Hagen
Charles Burnside	R.A. Conn
Pauline Hall	Sydney Carlson
Hallie Barnett	Mabel Sherman
Hallie Wolf	C.G. Robertson
Lena Cameron	Allie Odle
Maude Alvey	Gladys Brewer
Alice Carlson	Bethel Murphy
Ruth Purdy	Helen Bauer
Leota Woods	Velva Bartlett
Beulah Potts	Wesley Heistand
Mildred Miller	
Burdie Pierce	
Elizabeth Higgins	
Ross Padgett	

TOWNSHIP 27 S. 28-N. RANGE 9 & 10-W



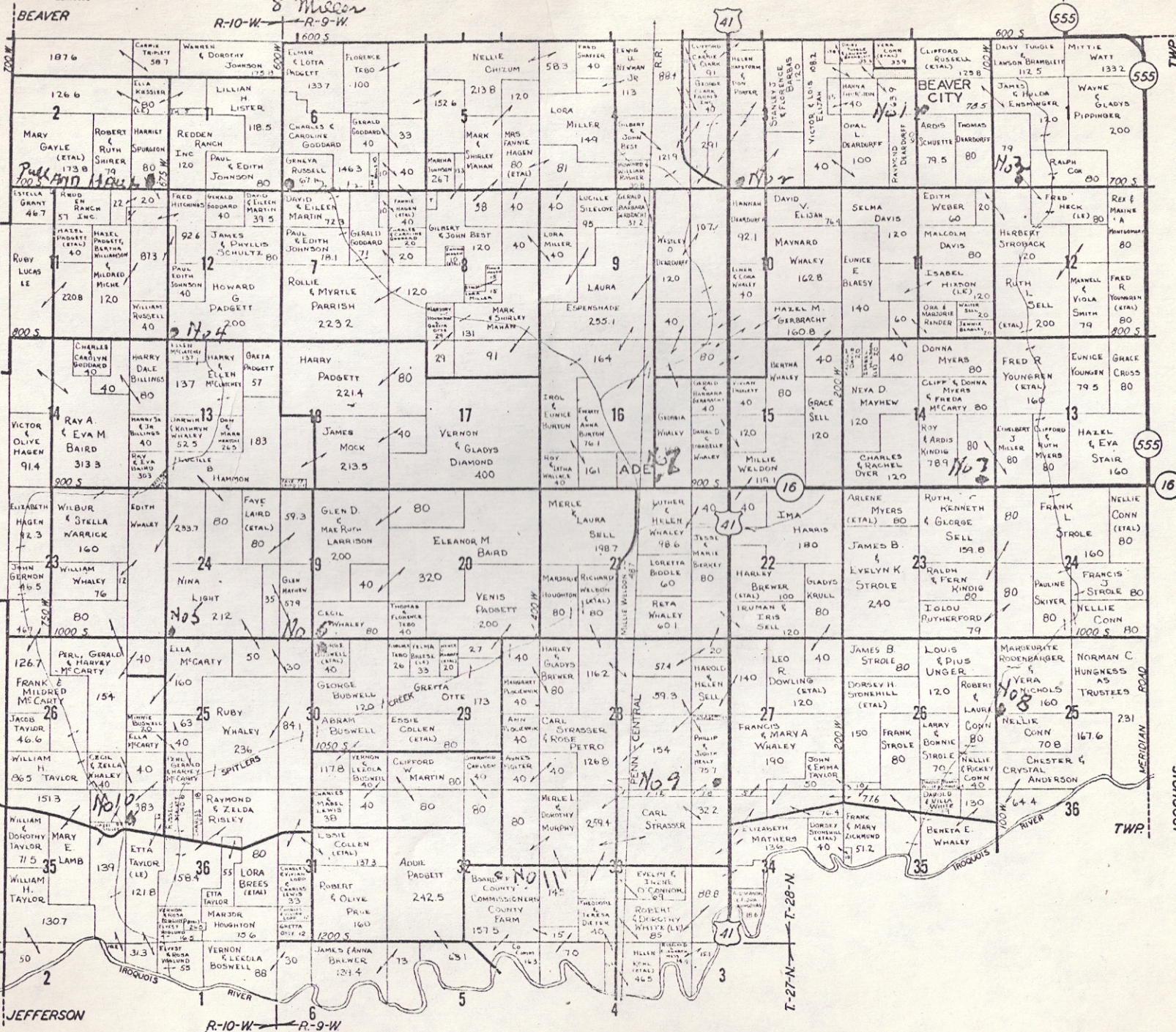
WASHINGTON

TWP. JACKSON TWP.

ILLINOIS

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