

SCHOOL DISTRICTS ESTABLISHED

The following is taken from an article written by D.H. Carson and published in the Nashville Journal many years ago.

"Prior to 1856 Illinois did not have free public schools. It was subscription schools before that time and those who could not afford to pay by subscription could not send their children. Many could not afford to send their children and only some communities had school houses and log houses at that, with one log on each side cut out, and the opening filled with panes of glass set end to end which served for windows. Seats made of split logs hewed down to about four inches thick and four auger holes bored in each piece and four wooden pieces driven in the holes and sawed off the proper length formed legs for the seat.

After the free school law went into effect, each township was divided into public school districts (usually four). Directors were elected and authorized to levy taxes and hold elections for making a decision about where to locate the school. Many schools were named for property owners, who lived near them."

Mr. James Ramsey recounts the formation of the four districts in Oakdale in his account of District N. 4.

I have been unable as yet to secure the exact location of District No. 1. Mrs. Fred Klingenberg, the former Lydia Brammeier, recalls that her father, Louis Brammeier once told her that there had once been an old school by a clump of trees along the road which ran by the east side of their home. The location was north-east of the home.

I remember of a Fred Coulter, a cousin of my father, visiting us from Kansas when I was a child. He had been a teacher at this school long before.

Among my Grandfather Coulter's papers we found two old papers which I believe were related to this old school. One was a note dated June 14, 1874 in which he promised to pay District No. 1, forty dollars with ten per cent interest from June 14, 1874. His name was torn off the corner indicating it was paid off.

Another paper was a printed form required by law to be filed with the County Clerk annually before the first of September. It contained a list of taxpayers in the district. A corner below the instructions was cut out, probably was left with the clerk.

The following names were listed: Andrew McClurkin, Aaron Shephard, Benjamin Bush, Behr Zacheis, Charles Young, David McClurkin, David McNair, David McClay, Fred Shumaker, Fanny McClay, George Reichman, Ernest Lachtrup, Deidrick Zacheis, Henry Dintelman, Henry Hillman, Henry Grennerman, James Godard, Herz Osborn, James McClurkin, James Sample, Joseph Torrens, John McAfee, James H. Hunter, J. M. Wylie, John Snider, James Beal, Louis Snider, Mary Washburn, Mary Auld, Martin Tool, Peter Bower, Robert Smith, Rachel Matson, Robert Ardrey, Samuel Coulter, Samuel Kemps, Samuel McLean, Thomas Walker, Thomas Crane, T. D. McClurkin, William Eigenrauch, William Smith, William Bailey, William Ardrey.

Several of these same names appeared on the list of people who had blacksmith work done by my Grandfather Smith in 1874.

ELKTON SCHOOL

Mrs. Mollie Kinyon Rezba gives this information of the early school:

"The first school house in Elkton was built about two years before the village was laid out, which would make it about 1835. This building could have been of brick as the school building that stood where the present frame building now (1969) stands, consisted of one brick room and one frame room with a long hall between the two rooms. At this time there were several brick kilns nearby. " George Talbot is reported to have been the first teacher.

Mrs. Lavina Anderson Sterrett who was reared between Elkton and Oakdale gives this information about the Elkton School in an article published in the NASHVILLE JOURNAL many years ago.

"The school house was and has been a very great asset to the town, and while the first schools were of a more forceful nature, in governing the pupils, the school of later years has been under efficient teachers who have taught the youth to take their place of responsibility in the world. Maggie Auld taught here in 1872-1873. When a second room was added, Mr. Charles Gudgen of Ashley taught the higher grades and Lavina Anderson taught the lower grades. Of later years the older school was replaced by a one room school, and after completing the eight grades the children are taken by bus to near by high schools.

The Misses Carrie and Eva Luke of Nashville recalled early school days in the Elkton School:

" A man was always hired to teach the higher grades. However the older boys did not start to school until the fall work was done up, so the man teacher started school in the fall with all pupils in the frame room. After about two months, when the big boys were ready to start to school, a woman teacher was hired, who took the lower grades to the brick room and the man teacher with the older children stayed in the frame room.

Miss Carrie Luke had started school to Mr. Gudgen and had then gone to Miss Anderson, while Miss Eva started to Miss Anderson. They also named Miss Mattie Carter and Mr. Jim Driskill as teachers who followed Mr. Charles Gudgen."

Mr. Roy and Miss Nora Carr remembered Miss Ethel Miller, Miss Libbie Wheelles, Miss Bessie Sawyer and Miss Forcade.

Mr. John Reinhardt remembered Henry Stroh, Polly Laney, _____ Holman, W.F. Hagebush, Melvin Potter, and Luke McDowell as his teachers. He also related that he was on the school board when the new building was built and that Mr. Jimmie McClellan was the first teacher in the new building. This was in 1913-1914.

Mr. Thomas Dahncke and Mr. Joe Kubik built the school house.

The following information about the Elkton School was taken from the School Registers stored in the office of the Co. Supt. of School, Mr. Kenneth Frieman, who also was a former pupil in the Elkton School.

This listing gives the teachers ,when they taught and the family names of the children in the first grade classes between the years 1916 and 1960 when the school was consolidated with the Oakdale Consolidated Grade School # 1.

1916-'18	Clara Fox	Adams, Giacomo, McClay, Shubert
1921-'22	W.C. Harper	Averbeck, Harrington, McKae, Simpson
1922-'23	Floyd Patton	Bennett, Hart, Mazander, Smith
1923-'24	Olive Boyle	Brammeier, Hays, Mitchell, Thomas
1924-'25	Elizabeth Rohde	Campbell, Heggemeier, Patton, Thompson
1925-'30	Florence Schaeffer	Carmen, Helbig, Petrashek, Voss
1930-'31	Gena Torrens	Carr, Hill, Pruitt, Walls
1931-'32	Perry Ward	Collier, Hoepker, Queen, Walta
1932-'34	Norme Elrich	Dahncke, Hylla, Reitz, Ward
1934-'44	Irene Shubert	Dintelman, Juenger, Reuter, Wileman
1944-'46	Evelyn Kroener	Engelman, Kinder, Rezba, Williams
1946-'48	Nelda Kroener	Enleman, Klingenberg, Robinson, Wichenski
1948-'51	Marjorie Patton	Fox, Kroener, Rohde, Winuski
1951-'54	Lorraine Koenig	Frieman, Lunceford, Rountree, Yanczak
1954-'55	Gene Graves	
1955-'57	Ida Bell Voss	
1957-'60	Nelda Emert	

HISTORY OF DISTRICT NO. FOUR

by James Arthur Ramsey

It is not the history of a country, nor even of a state or county that I wish to preserve in this record.

The district was formed from Sections 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 34, 35, and 36; nine sections in the southeast corner of Township No. 3, Range No. 4 West, Washington County, Illinois. This township had not been divided into school districts until the year 1856, when it was divided into four districts with equal territory. On January 15, 1856, the Township Board met and proceeded to divide the township as the following taken from the original records will show:

"January 15, 1856, the Board of Trustees for Twp. 3, Range 4 West met: J.P. Hibbard, G. Rountree and Robert Ramsey, who proceeded to district said township by the following lines: Dividing north and south by the line dividing sections 3 and 4, 9 and 10, 15 and 16, 21 and 22, 27 and 28, 33 and 34: and east and west commencing at the township line on the east and the line dividing Sections 24 and 13, 23 and 14, 22 and 15, 21 and 16, 20 and 17, 19 and 18, so as to quarter the township to form four districts. The northeast division to be District No. 1, the north west division to be District No. 2, the southwest division to be District No. 3, and the southeast division to be District No. 4. The Board of Instruction was organized by appointing J.P. Hibbard, president and L. Rountree, treasurer. Wherefore it was ordered that elections for directors in each district to be held Monday Jan. 28, 1856. Ordered also that the treasurer make ready a bond for approval."

District No. 1 included all the territory around the present town of Oakdale, extending north to the township line; District No. 2, all the territory around Elkton, mostly south of town; District No. 3, all the territory around the Brick Church and the little brick school, known as the McLean School, or the Temple School, after a new school was built to the southwest.

Of late years the name of the District No. 4 has been changed to 73 and the school is known by the name of "Pleasant Hill."

The election for directors provided for by the Township Board to be held on Monday, January 28, 1856 was held at the house of "Hill Thomas" McClurkin and resulted in the choice of the following persons: Clark Gordon, John McClay, and Thomas McClurkin.

Linville Rountree, who was on the day of organization appointed township treasurer, continued in that office until J.P. Hibbard was appointed and he continued in that office until 1881, when John S. McKean was appointed and he served for 37 years.

The first school taught within the boundaries of the district was in a log school house one-fourth mile north and one-fourth mile east of the present site. It was a subscription school taught in the summer of 1855, closing late in the fall of that year. Mary McAfee Ramsey, wife of Robert Ramsey, and the mother of the writer was the teacher and the pupils were the older children of the early pioneer settlers in the district.

The first school house was built on the present site during the summer of 1856 by a man named John Robinson and it was completed that year. This building served the district as a school house until 1875 when Amos Snyder was given the contract to build an addition to the west end, thus increasing the capacity about one-third.

This building was frame and set upon wooden blocks about a foot above the prairie. It was weather-boarded on the outside and ceiled on the inside with tongue and grooved lumber, the walls served as blackboards for the school. This old building served until some time after 1885, when it was torn down and the present commodious school was built on the same site. Then the name was changed from District No. 4 to "Pleasant Hill."

But I have been writing too much about the buildings and territory as these do not form the essential part of District No. 4. It was the early pioneers who settled in the territory that gave character to the district and make its history interesting and important. The history of the district will be best written in the doings of these early settlers.

Nearly all of the early settlers of the district chose to locate their homes near the edge of the timber which skirted the small prairie on a hill on which they located their school house.

Possibly the earliest home established was that of Archibald Hood in the extreme southwest part of the district. A little later John Steele established his home on a hill in the prairie in the northeast part of the district. Southeast of his home in the edge of the timber came Frank Maxwell with a rather large family of boys. Possibly about 1840, came the large settlement in the southeast part of the district, consisting of the families of Clark Gordon, William Adams, William Piper, Gilbert Rennie, James and John Kirkpatrick with large families, and a little farther east were the homes of the McClurken brothers with their father "Hill Thomas" McClurken, who had come from South Carolina on account of their hatred of slavery.

Nearly all of these early settlers in the district were Covenanters who were intensely loyal to the government and opposed to slavery. One of the ancestors of the McClurkens, Archibald McClurken, a young man, on home on furlough because of a fever was taken from his sick bed by General Tarleton and hung in his own yard as Tarleton was on his way to fight the Battle of Cowpens, South Carolina where he was defeated two days later.

Later came James Edgar and James Christy, with large families and established their homes away up on the virgin prairie. The Harton Brothers, Joseph and Samuel settled in the timber in the southwest part of the district at a much later day.

All of these early pioneers were well-to-do, thrifty and provident people. They provided well for the comfort and well being of their families. However they failed to plant any trees on the acre of land on which the school was located. Another thing these early pioneers neglected was the digging of a well or cistern to furnish water for the school. It was the custom for two of the older scholars to ask for the privilege of bringing a bucket of water from the Archy McClurkin's, now Ray Boyle's, nearly a half mile distant. The water boys often "killed time" on the way, then

the little ones would have to "pass the water" when it came.

Possibly the largest and most compact settlement in the district was made during the war when John Thomas and Adam Boyle and Richard Semple located on the road leading east from the site of the old "Log School."

The school house in District No.4 has always been a great social center. I can remember when the dim lights in its windows were as beacons guiding the whole population of the district to the entertainments held there. The principal entertainments were the spelling-matches where the pupils of other districts were invited to contest with the local district. The textbook was always the old "Blue Sacked Spelling -Book", and many a pupil in the old school could spell every word in it and tell right where the word was on the page. In the earlier days Wannie J. Ramsey and later Tom Chestnutt were considered the champion spellers.

At these matches the spellers were chosen by two captains who were in opposite corners of the room, and the spellers arranged themselves along the walls facing one another. Then the battle of words would begin and the spellers would go down one by one until perhaps only two on opposite sides would remain to spell all the words shot at them by the man or woman in the center of the room with a tallow candle in one hand and the "Blue Back" in the other. Then when one missed and the other spelled the word, pandemonium would break loose to be stilled by the announcement of the date and place of the next match.

The the Literary Society with its debates had its place as a social function and often have I seen in that old school-room people from Lively-Grove, Elkton, Pilot Knob taking the part of debaters and elocutionists. Previous to the debate we little folks spoke our pieces and sang our songs, and the literary paper with the jokes and the news of the district was read. The debates were on slavery, etc., and often became very warm and interesting, but the debaters never came to blows, for the debaters were gentlemen and neighbors and friends. The champion debaters as I remember them were "Billy" Miller and Knox Finney, and either of them could defend his side of the question and, incidentally, "kill time" to lengthen out the program. The "anonymous box" was always kept to the last to hold the crowds and in it were anonymous shots at various persons in the neighborhood who needed a "taking down" as some thought.

Then there were the singing-schools where more select crowds paid the teacher, admitting no outsiders, and the outsiders never disturbed the school either, for these early pioneers would not have allowed it. And these early pioneers and their children were singers and could carry all the parts and read the notes to any selection. The singing school was not any play party, and the singing teacher was very exacting and rigid as to his instruction and discipline.

The game that came the earliest and stayed the longest at the old school was "anty-over". In this game the sides were chosen and took their positions on either side of the house and a ball was thrown over the school house which seemed to be better adapted to anty-over than it was for a school building. If those on the opposite side caught the ball they would run around to the other side and hit some one there, winning them to their side until one of the sides was broken up, I have often heard the scholars shout-

and yelling as they played anty-over at the old school when I was distant over a mile.

Another winter game when the large boys were in school was "Town Ball" the forerunner of the more modern baseball. Sides were chosen and there was a catcher and pitcher as in baseball, but there were more bases and the player was either caught-out or crossed-out by throwing the ball between him and the next base while he was running around the large circle. The paddle used was a board about six inches wide whittled down to a handle, and it was almost impossible to miss the ball.

A good running game was "stink base" in which sides were chosen and the principal bases were placed about fifty yards apart, and off to the side about forty feet was placed the two stink bases and the persons caught were placed on the stink bases until touched or rescued by some good runner on his side. It was counted a great disgrace to let your best girl stay on the stink base very long, and it was mortifying to have your rival take her off.

Then there was the "roly-hole" in which game holes in a row were cut in the solid play-ground, each boy choosing a hole, and a ball was rolled over the holes, and if stopped in yours you were to grab the ball and paste some other boy, and if he was hit he must take his place at the home and hit some other boy.

Then there was "bull pen" where four boys on the corners of a square would throw at the group of boys in the center, and when a boy was hit he had to take his place on the corner of the square. It gave a fine chance for you to "sock" a boy in the center you didn't like and get away with it as only play.

A favorite winter sport with the boys was building monuments of snow when the snow would pack. As a winter sport of course we had skating and shinny and sledding on the ice on Morrison's or James Boyle's ponds, but they were quite a distance away, and we had to promise to be back when the bell rung, which we did not always do, and were punished by forbidding us to skate there.

Almost all of the time in summer was spent by the girls in playing house in the fence corners and under the shade of the immense hedges on both sides of the school. There with broken dishes and discarded china were from the home, and pieces of old furniture they made home quite respectable. It was a favorite sport of the boys to ask to "go out", and they would "wreck these homes" or fill them up with debris and trash from the roads and hedges. Of course they were caught at times by the girls who kept tab on the boys who went out during school.

I remember some teachers better than others; one, my first teacher was Lizzie Hair who I thought was a most beautiful woman. Another, Andrew Kennedy, who tried to keep my older sister in after school, but I cried so long and howled so loudly that he let her go. Another I remember was Dick Todd with the wooden leg who rode to school on a yellow mare. Another I remember was Blanchard Kennedy, who had been employed by the school board to "straighten out" the school along in the seventies when some new families had moved in and demoralized the school. He played ball with the boys at noon, but when the bell rang he came into the school room and woe to the boy, large or small who violated the rules there.

I have searched the records until a complete list from 1856 to 1914 follows in about the order in which they were employed:

Mary McAfee, 1855; Elizabeth Auld, 1857; Eliza McKean, James J. Stevenson, Jane McAfee Faris, Lizzie Hair, Andrew Kennedy, Mary J. Sterrett, Mary Ann Pierson, Richard Rodd, William J. Love, Libbie Beall, Rennie, 1866; Mary Mathews, Rosana Miller, Nannie J. Ramsey. S.R. McClurkin, Maggie T. Ramsey, Joseph Wylie, Robert McLean, Ellen Marshall, Blanchard Kennedy, Sarah Russell, Lizzie Morrison, Renwick Keady, Nannie McClay, Lizzie Henderson, John C. Kerr, Maggie Boyle, Joseph Strahan, Lean Speer, Lottie Edgar, James C. Thompson, David Duguid, John P. McClurkin, Lottie Edgar, James A. Ramsey, 1884; John G. Klene, Nellie Neill, Anna Anderson, Anna Boyle, Sadie Beggs, Effie Edgar, Dan Vernor, Frank Maxwell, John Murphy, Anna Smith Coulter, Eva Murray, Lena McCormick, Tillie Boyle, Nannie Piper, Ada Auld, Williard Boyle, Laura Maxwell, Gertrude Boyle, Melissa Boyle, 1914.

(Mr. Ramsey gave a list of all pupils who had attended the school from 1856 to 1914, but since there were as many as twenty-eight children bearing the same family name, I have included only the family name of former scholars. I thought it more interesting historically to note the families who have come and gone as well as the families who have stayed in the community.)

Adams, Anderson, Andrews, Auld, Avery, Bailey, Beall, Beggs, Boyle, Brown, Caruth, Chestnut, Christy, Combs, Cook, Dale, Donahue, Donnelly, Dougherty, Edgar, Elliott, Evans, Ewing, Fox, Freeman, Fulton, Gordon, Harton, Hemphill, Hood, Hunter, Huff, Kelly, Kidney, Kirkpatrick, Klene, LaWall, Livesay, Logan, Love, McAuley, McClay, McClurkin, McConaghie, McCormick, Watson, Maxwell, Moore, Morrison, Ottweaky, O'Neil, Owens, Piper, Ramsey, Rennie, Rodgers, Rohde, Semple, Sloane, Smith, Strong, Torrens, Weaver, Wessel, White, Wylie.

Mr. James A. Ramsey was born near Oakdale, Illinois on Jan. 16, 1856 and was married to Miss Harriet McClurkin on May 10, 1881. He was a school teacher in Illinois and went to Kansas where he was again a teacher for many years also served as County Supt. of Schools in Anderson Co., Kansas. For twenty years he was Reader of the Kansas State Senate, retiring from that position, served as Chief Sanitary Officer and was employed by the city of Topeka when the State Birth Registration Law took effect. He was survived by his widow and two sons, Major Norman Ramsey of Washington, D.C. and Lester Ramsey of York, Penn. and a daughter Mrs. O.E. Frisbie of Powell, Wyoming when he died in 1934.

His son, Norman was promoted to the rank of General before World War II.

KERR SCHOOL # 56

Kerr School District is located in Pilot Knob Township, but is included, since it is now part of the Consolidated District. Its first Deed was recorded in Bk.M-p.41 June 16, 1856. No.#56 Districts were numbered in the county in the order in which they were formed, or in the order in which deeds were recorded for new locations or when names were changed.

I happen to know that prior to 1900, Al Torrens, W.S. Coulter, and Lena Coulter taught in this school and that between then and 1939 when the records in the Co. Supt. Office begin, Miss Nannie Piper, Melissa Boyle, Olive Boyle, Williard Carson, Willard Torrens, and Venice Brink taught in the school.

THIS IS IN ERROR, I DID NOT TEACH AT KERR, Venice Brink

1939-'41	Lyle Soeteber	McRae, Frieman, Wiese
1941-'46	Eileen Carson	Reidelberger, Zacheis, Eigenrauch
1946-'47	Joan Carson	Williams, Brammeier, Hogshead
1947-'48	Eileen Fox	Zurwicks

LUNEY SCHOOL #57

Lune School, also located in Pilot Knob Township has a Deed recorded in Book P -p.393 . No.# 57

From old School Registers stored in the Oakdale School, I found this information:

1909-'10	Fannie McConnell	J. Brammeier, H. Schaeffer, H. Guenter
1910-'11	Etta McClay	R. Torrens, Esther Schaeffer
1915-'16	Roy Carson	Boyd, Brammeier, Campbell
1916-'17	Constance Potter	Car, Carle, Carrick
1917-'18	Charlotte Edgar	Corpening, Fox, Glenn
1918-'21	Nell Todd	Grote, Harland, Ibendahl
1921-'41	Charles Roling	Klingenberg, Ladendecker, McConnell
1941-'42	Margaret Heggemeier	Maxwell, Roling, Schaeffer
1942-'44	Helen Woodrome	Scholar, Stern. Todd
1944-'45	Dorothy McClay	Torrens
1945-'47	Viva Dempsey	
1947-'48	Joan Carson	

BLACK JACK SCHOOL # 69

Black Jack School is located in Plum Hill Township.
Deed recorded Book 40 p.577 May 12 1871 ; Book 49-p.498 3-19-1877
Book 83-p.466 Oct.17, 1891

1939-'41	Hazel Patton	Schaeffer, Daniels, Schuessler
1941-'43	Eleanor Thompson	Prater, Wulf, Walta
1943-'44	Marcella McClay	Kolweier
1944-'50	Elizabeth Hille	
1950-'51	Juanita McClay	
1951-'52	Joyce Robinson	
1952-'53	J.H. Hillyard	

OAKDALE SCHOOL #70

We have record of the Grade school being established in Oakdale in 1875, but the Deed was Recorded Book 49-p.603 Sept. 1877. We do not know who the teacher was in 1875, but we do know that Mr. J.C. Thompson was the teacher in 1877. Fifty pupils enrolled.

The school seemed to have grown, for in 1882 Mr. W.R. Maxwell and Miss Lizzie Ramsey were the teachers.

Mr. David Duguid was an early teacher also.

Mr. Ray Kirkpatrick gave us this information:

Oakdale School 1896-1897

Teachers

Frank Maxwell	-	Upper Grades
Sadie Smith	-	Intermediate Grades
Lottie Edgar	-	Primary Grades

Pupils

Kate Kennedy	Frank McQuilkin	Allie Guthrie	Bertha McClurkin
Lottie Smith	*Raymond Kirk	Edna Smith	Joe Maxwell
Anna McLean	Ella Thompson	Edith Guthrie	May Belle Kemps
Eleanor Auld	Lizzie Coulter	Inez Keady	Mollie Borcharding
Willie Kemps	James Boyle	Sam McConaghie	Thomas Fulton
Waldo Thompson	Bert Piper	Ethel Kemps	*Walter McClurkin
*Ethel McKean	Pearl Murphy	*Anna Bell Kirk	Annie Laura Kennedy*
Willie Kennedy	Luther Wylie	Venton Snyder	Myrtle McClurkin
Richie Kirk			

* Those known to be living in 1969.

Miss Lottie Edgar may have taught the lower grades before 1896, but she taught there continuously until 1911 when the third room was closed. That year she taught the upper room.

John Miller taught the upper room some time before 1904 and Lena Coulter taught the middle room in that time span also.

In 1904, H.H. House taught the upper grades, Margaret Smith, the middle grades.

Some of those who taught the upper grades between 1904 and 1948, were a Mr. Rayburn, Mr. Edwin Carson, Miss Tillie Boyle, Miss Mary Parlier, Mr. J.W. Washburn, Miss Mary Griese, Miss Beth Carson, Miss Ella Carson, Mr. Willard Torrens, Miss Thalia Patton, Miss Elizabeth Rohde, Mr. Kenneth Frieman, Stanley Coulter, and Mr. Bruce McLean.

Some of those who taught the middle room between 1904 and 1911 when it was closed, were Miss Ada Auld and Miss Eva Murray.

Some who taught the lower grades after 1911 were: Miss Eva Murray, Miss Claudine Coulter, Miss Lucile Coulter, Miss Gladys Carson, Miss Fern Carson, Miss Gena Torrens and Miss Viva Dempsey.

* Miss Margaret Smith was given a Vanity Case in 1905-'06 by her class in the intermediate grades. The following names are signed:

Eyelle Brown	* Florence Smith	Esther Borcharding
Fordie Torrens	Louise Jackson	* Grace Torrens
Madge Kirk	Wm. Middleton	Dan Kaufman
Oscar McClay	Floyd McClay	* Leola Murphy
Lester Guthrie	Ella Mae Beattie	

A picture taken down in the woods northwest of town on the last day of school in 1908 shows * Miss Lottie Edgar, the teacher. Children in the picture are :

Carl Martin	Kenneth Luney	* Charlie Kaufman
* Willie Kleinschmidt	Charlie Smith	Ralph Hunter
French McClay	Merwin Williamson	Henry York
Sinda Patton	Patton	Edgar Donnelly
Patton	Louis Beggs	Gail Boyle
Dorothy Winters	Fern Boyle	Calvin Donnelly
Lizzie York	Florence White	Gertie Kleinschmidt
* Ella May Williamson,	Claudine Coulter	Wilson Miller
* Deceased		

A picture taken the same day as the one mentioned above shows Miss Ada Auld as the teacher and the children in the picture were in the middle grades.

Cinda Kaufman	John Beggs	Loyd Torrens
Lee Winters	Renzo McClay	Harry Logan
Floyd McClay	Gladys Carson	Cautius Choate
Nannie Patton	Ward Auld	Anna Bulan
Florence Smith	Libbie Beggs	Louise Jackson
Helen Griese	Jessie Borcharding	Lawrence McClay

Five of the children and the teacher are dead as of 1969. Mrs. Ada Torrens, the teacher; Loyd Torrens, Gladys Carson Sommers, Ward Auld, Florence Smith Hoffman, Helen Griese.

A picture taken during the year 1920-'21 shows Miss Beth Carson and Miss Claudine Coulter, teachers. The children were part of each room.

The children included Zenas Reuter, Joe Bulan, Henry Ibendahl, Rolland McClay, Paul Adams, Dalton Rohde, Marjorie Auld, Beth McConaghie, Louise Torrens, Genevieve McClay, Elvira Decker, Florence Carson, Melba Guthrie, Mildred McClay, and Leontine Decker.

Families having children in the first grades in the Oakdale School between 1939-1948 were:

Huff,	Schaefer	Shubert	Buettner
Markham	Mayer	McClay	Richmond
Ward	Glenn	Alfeldt	Frieman
McIlrath	Wisely	Rohde	Woodside
Grote			

Some additional Teachers serving KERR School

from 1915 on : -

Frank Stewart

Eleanor Auld

Lois McClay

Robert Kerr

Elsie Gilbert

Lester Gilbert

Velma Piper

Some additional info. on Elkton:

(My Grandparents) Fred(H.F.W.)Dunnermann and his wife Mary (Heggemeier) lived in Elkton from the time of their marriage in 1865 - to 1878. They lived in the small tan brick vanover covered house on the north side of the road near the church. Mr. Dunnermann was a blacksmith, they also maintained a large truck garden and small orchard. Had a Negroe couple as one of their neighbors, whom they regarded very highly. They sometimes borrowed Mr. D's horse and wagon to go and visit other negroe families living out of walking distance in Washington County. On these rare occassions they were finely dressed in black silk and black wool broadcloth with considerable gold jewelry and the traditional red bandana the lady usually wore did not appear. I've been told that a Steve foundry was in operation in Elkton during those years. Gertie Hogshead