

University of Nebraska at Kearney

OpenSPACES@UNK: Scholarship, Preservation, and Creative Endeavors

Saunders County Bicentennial Educational History

Schools

1976

District #23

Office of the County Superintendent, Saunders County

Follow this and additional works at: <https://openspaces.unk.edu/saunderscounty>



Part of the [Education Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Office of the County Superintendent, Saunders County, "District #23" (1976). *Saunders County Bicentennial Educational History*. 4. <https://openspaces.unk.edu/saunderscounty/4>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Schools at OpenSPACES@UNK: Scholarship, Preservation, and Creative Endeavors. It has been accepted for inclusion in Saunders County Bicentennial Educational History by an authorized administrator of OpenSPACES@UNK: Scholarship, Preservation, and Creative Endeavors. For more information, please contact weissell@unk.edu.

DISTRICT #23-

Standard School, more familiarly known to its parents as Rural Elementary District No. 23 is located in the NE corner of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 23-15-7. Prior to the autumn of 1871 very few distinct district records were kept in the County Superintendent's office, but it appears that District No. 23 was not always in its present location but had its inception in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 26-15-7.

The ground, a plot 9 rods square, was granted by by George W. and Estilla E. Chase on June 12, 1876. Title bonds for the present location were executed July 2, 1883 and land deeded from B. A. Knapp et husband May 13, 1885.

It is not quite clear what happened to the building located in Section 26, but a former elderly resident does not recall it ever being moved to the present site and seems to recall that it was used as a small granary and animal shelter by an adjacent farmer.

In 1869 the district contained the following real estate: Sections 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36 all in township 15, range 7. On June 11, 1955 District No. 2, located 1/2 mile east of the truck weigh station east of Wahoo, dissolved and part of it joined District No. 23. On November 1958, District No. 53 located 1/2 mile west and one mile south of Colon dissolved with part of the land being attached to District No. 23. The present boundaries encompass the following property: all of sections 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27 with the exception of a small tract in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of 27, the NE $\frac{1}{2}$ and the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ with the exception of 10 acres in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 9 all in township 15, range 7.

In these early days of the 1870's the school terms were three or four months long and salaries were \$25.00 a month. Some of the teachers of that era were Estella E. Chase, Hattie Swanson, Louisa Price, Maria Smith, Mattie E. Blanchard, C.S. Kelley and Josephine Dunn.

Although many of the patrons and the present school are located on the Colon mail route with the remainder having a Wahoo address, it was not always so.

In the early 1870's Noble R. Gregory, who was a director of the district and resided in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 24-15-7 had an address of Eldred. AT that time there were plans to locate the town Eldred in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 26-15-7. There had even been a map drawn with street locations, but it never came to be as records show the address change to Wahoo in 1875.

In February 1936 the frame school building was destroyed by fire. The remainder of the school term was finished in a farm house located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 22-15-7. The present brick building was erected by W. P. A. and was ready for the fall term in 1936. The exact cost is not known but the bond that was issued was in the amount of \$3000.00. The 36' x 26' building, houses a classroom, two rest rooms and library on the ground floor; recreation room, two storage rooms, furnace and small storm shelter in the basement. At a later date, water and electricity were installed and in the summer of 1974 the chemical toilets were replaced with water flush toilets.

The present 1975-76 school board are Francis Divis, President; Mrs. Dennis Swartz, Secretary; and George Simodynes, Treasurer. Arvella Woita is teacher and Lillian Ohnoutka, aide, with 21 pupils.

Section 23, Township 15, Range 7
Center Precinct
2½ miles South, 1/2 mile East of Colon

School Board - Francis Divis
Helen Swartz
George Simodynes

Teacher - Arvella Woita

Pupils

Troy Cada	Charles Noonan
Henry Hrdlicka	Tammi Sanderson
Steven Swartz	Greg Bartek
Jimmy Noonan	Jim Graves
Debby Graves	Ann Noonan
Jean Noonan	Stacey Rohman
Danny Sanderson	Bill Graves
Doug Bartek	Mary Hrdlicka
John Graves	Arland Burge
Nancy Hrdlicka	