

Though letters of application (see Appendix IV) refer to the Lake District School, this 1885 structure was more popularly referred to as the Royal Oak School. The photograph taken in 1897 reveals a growing school population. Certainly the teachers of the day had their hands full! Enrollment was now over 30, with a great variety of ages for one teacher to handle.

Aside from the variety of ages and the mixture of mischief that early teachers had to put up with, they also had a series of rather unpleasant rules to follow. As Bobbie Kalman states in his Early Schools book:

#### **RULES FOR TEACHERS**

"There were strict rules about what duties a teacher had to fulfill. A teacher was expected to behave properly at all times. Here are some rules that teachers had to obey in the year 1872.

1. Teachers will fill the lamps and clean the chimney each day.
2. Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's session.
3. Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to the individual tastes of the pupils.
4. Men teachers may take one evening each week for courting purposes, or two evenings a week if they go to the church regularly.
5. After ten hours in school, the teachers may spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good books.

6. Women teachers who marry or engage in improper conduct will be dismissed.
7. Every teacher should lay aside from each day's pay a goodly sum of his earnings. He should use his savings during his retirement years so that he will not become a burden on society.
8. Any teacher who smokes, uses liquor in any form, visits pool halls, or gets shaved in a barber shop, will give good reasons for people to suspect his worth, intentions, and honesty.
9. The teacher who performs his labor faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of twenty-five cents per week in his pay." <sup>6</sup>

To be fair, students also suffered from some equally distasteful rules. Again Bobbie Kalman writes:

### **RULES FOR STUDENTS**

"Good students in early schools were expected to earn more than high marks. There were many rules to follow and duties to perform. The schoolmaster really was the "master" of his pupils. Children were told to obey the master of the school even if obedience meant having to stand still while being strapped. Here are some rules for students.

1. Respect your schoolmaster. Obey him and accept his punishments.
2. Do not call your classmates names or fight with them. Love and help each other.
3. Never make noises or disturb your neighbors as they work.
4. Be silent during classes. Do not talk unless it is absolutely necessary.
5. Do not leave your seat without permission.
6. No more than one student at a time may go to the **washroom**.

<sup>6</sup> Page 42 & 43 from Early Schools, part of the "Early Settler Life Series" by Bobbie Kalman, c New York, 1982, Crabtree Publishing Company, Toronto, Ontario.

7. At the end of the class, wash your hands and face. Wash your feet if they are bare.
8. Bring firewood into the classroom for the stove whenever the teacher tells you to.
9. Go quietly in and out of the classroom.
10. If the master calls your name after class, straighten the benches and tables. Sweep the room, dust, and leave everything tidy." <sup>7</sup>

By 1915 life became easier for students with the introduction of the first "school" bus, a buckboard, powered by two horses and driven by H.H. Reed. By the 1920's, the school enjoyed its first motorized bus, a truck with chicken wire sides to keep the children in. Mr. H.H. Reed was also the driver of this vehicle.

By the 1920's the school enrollment had expanded greatly and in 1922 a new brown-shingled schoolhouse was built alongside West Saanich Road. The old 1885 schoolhouse was used for grades one and two, while the new school contained grades three to eight.

By 1922 the old (second) school had also been moved from its original site, and raised with a concrete foundation. Edward Rainaldi of North Park Street was paid \$1,050.00 for the job. He also installed new double windows, steps and handrails, and drain tiles around the building. The windows in this building are very high - no doubt as a precaution to prevent students from window gazing rather than paying attention to the teacher.

<sup>7</sup> Page 42 & 43 from Early Schools, part of the "Early Settler Life Series" by Bobbie Kalman, cNew York, 1982, Crabtree Publishing Company, Toronto, Ontario.

Fred Quick attended the new (third) Royal Oak School in the 1920's. He remembers attending up to grade five. After that he biked to town to further his education. Discipline, he said, was tough - the strap, and no recess being most often used, especially by a teacher described as "a big red-headed dame with a temper to match!"

Physical conditions were also much harsher. Perhaps the out houses - one girls' one boys' - best indicate this fact. Fred said that these facilities were often the target of children's pranks. Though the school did have a furnace Fred does not remember it being used. Instead a cast-iron wood burner was operated. The weekly task of keeping it going was not a favourite of students. Stoking it in such a manner that black ash spewed all over the schoolroom was Mr. Quick's trick of being relieved of this chore.

This unused furnace was located in the basement of the school, where washrooms were eventually added.

**1915. First school bus, driven by H.H. Reed.**



**Photo courtesy of Goddard family album.**

# 1920's CLASSES



BACK  
Miss Anderson

8 Dagmar Fagerberg

7 Evelyn Whitehead

6 Victor Marconi

5 Isabel Thorne

4

3 Jack Scruton

2

1 Harry Dovey

Gordon Thorpe

? Rogers?

Amy Lee

Winnifred Whitehead

Sadie Pillar

Wallace Allison

Aileen Hibbard

Donald Overton?

Walter Fenn?

Shirley Maynard

Georgina Pillar?

Fred Quick

Muriel Booth

Edna Pimlott

Mary Thorne

Fred Webb

Walter Lee?

Violet Keene

Beryl Whitehead

"Scroggie" Hibbard

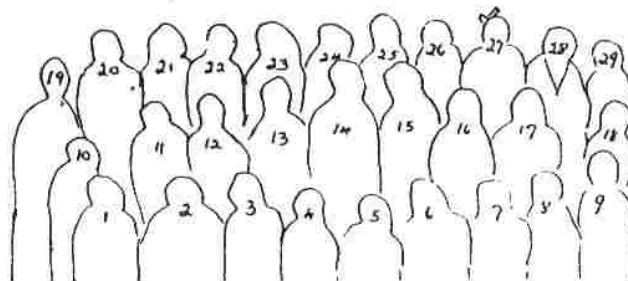
Teddy Exton

Mervin Kingwell?

Dorothy Dovey

Mervin Kingwell?

Photo courtesy of Fred and Tilly Quick.



**ROYAL OAK SCHOOL - 1922 (Principal's Class)**

**FRONT**

1. ? Smith?
2. Justin King
3. Bill Robinson
4. Jim Ferrie
5. William (Buster) Webb
6. Art Songhurst
7. Kneale Quayle
8. Dick Ireland
9. John Quayle

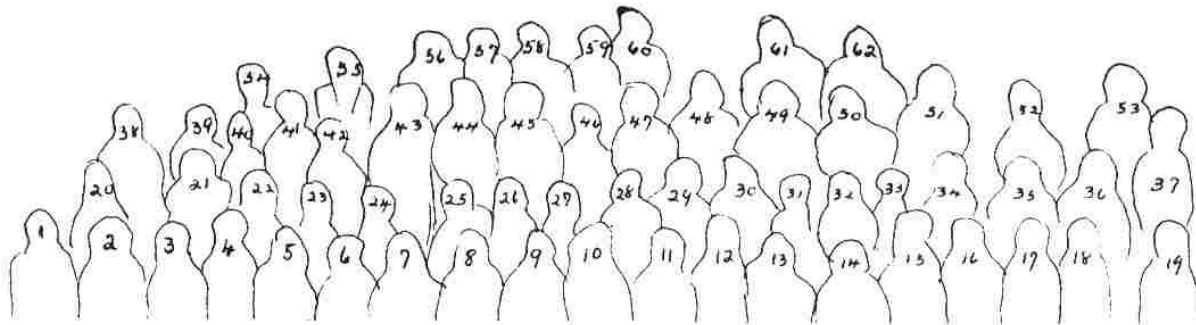
**MIDDLE**

10. Suzie Ferrie
11. Charlie Pimlott
12. George Love
13. Robert (Bob) Thorpe
14. George Davies
15. ??
16. Alfred Pimlott
17. Charlie Smith
18. Lilian Love

**BACK**

19. Miss Pearl Kinnaird
20. Dagmar Fagerberg
21. Jessie Thorpe
22. ??
23. ??
24. ??
25. ? Bull
26. Annie Smith
27. ??
28. Millie Ferrie
29. ??

Photo Courtesy of Mr. Charles Pimlott.



1922 - Both Classes Together  
Royal Oak School

<u>1st Row</u>	<u>2nd Row</u>	<u>3rd Row</u>	<u>4th Row</u>
1. Donald Overton?	20. ??	38. Roland Hibbert	54. Miss Anderson (teacher)
2. Gordon Thorpe	21. Fred Quick	39. John Rankin	55. Pearl Kinnaird (principal)
3. Shirley Maynard	22. Viola Exton?	40. ??	56. Ralph Mawhinney
4. Isabel Thorn	23. Dorothy Dovey	41. Dick Ireland	57. Fred Robinson
5. Percy Blanco?	24. Edna Pimlott	42. George Songhurst	58. John Quayle
6. Jack Scruton?	25. Mary Thorn	43. Trixie Smith	59. William (Buster) Webb
7. ??	26. Bicky True	44. Ethel Bull	60. Alf Pimlott?
8. Wallace Allison	27. Fred Lee	45. Audrey Hibbert	61. Charles Smith
9. Harry Dovey	28. Suzie Ferrie	46. Helen Mawhinney	62. Jim Ferrie
10. Alfred Blanco	29. Georgina Pillar	47. Dagmar Fagerberg	
11. Alice Blanco	30. Aileen Hibbert	48. Annie Smith	
12. Muriel Booth?	31. ? True	49. ??	
13. Violet Keen	32. Sadie Pillar	50. Helen Coton	
14. ??	33. Amy Lee	51. Jessie Thorpe	
15. Vic Marconi	34. ??	52. Lilian Love	
16. ? Robinson?	35. Charles Pimlott	53. George Love	
17. Fred Webb	36. Bill Robinson		
18. Kneale Quayle	37. ? Smith		
19. Art Songhurst			

\*6 Missing

Photo courtesy of Mr. Charles Pimlott.

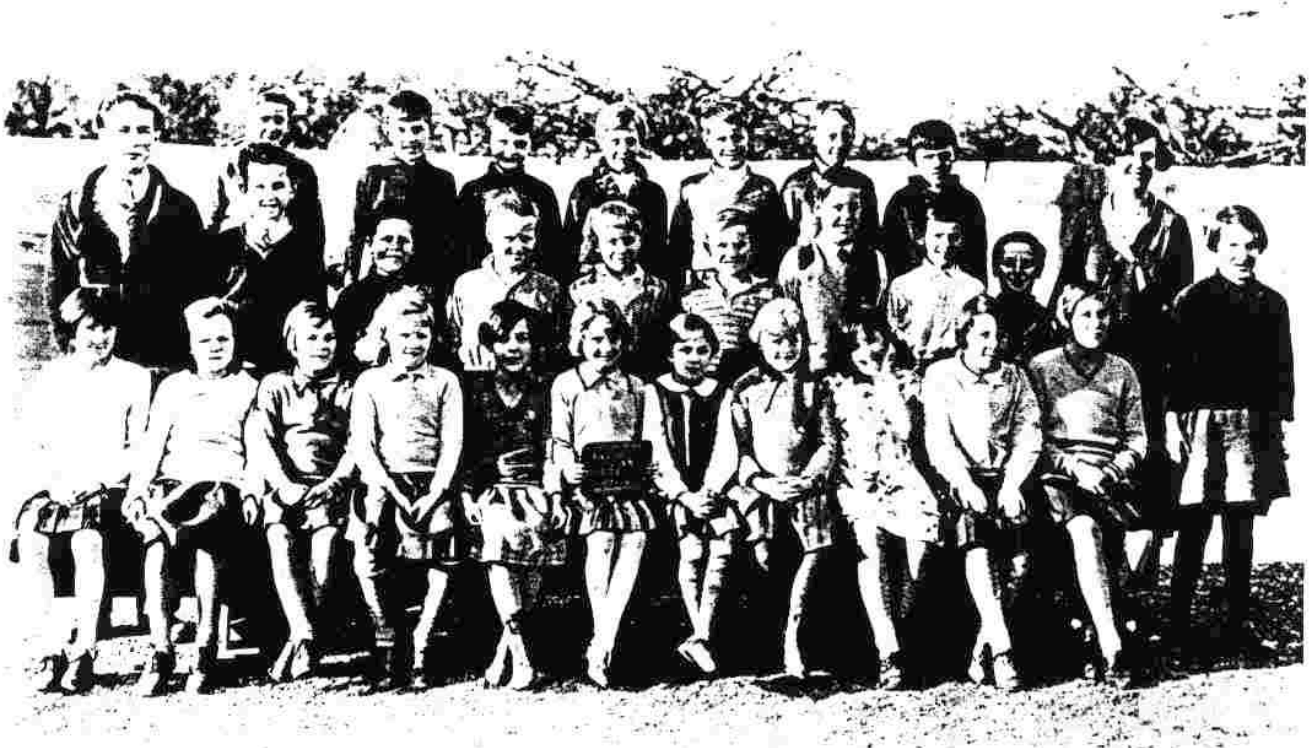
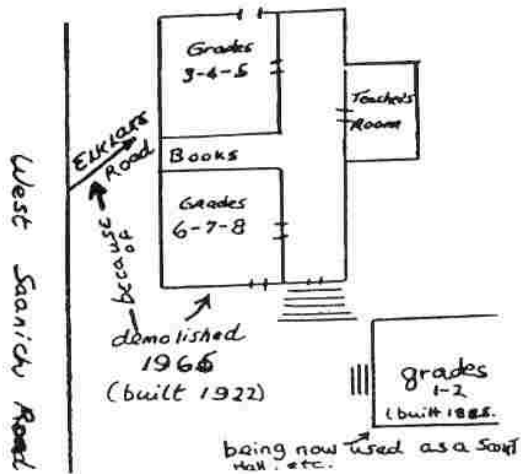


Photo courtesy of Mr. Fred Moss

The Goddard brothers, Gordon and Peter, also attended Royal Oak School in the 1930's and 1940's. Their sketch of the school (see below ) gives a good idea of its physical structure.

A "REMEMBERED" SKETCH OF  
The 1922 two-room school  
- Gordon and Peter Goddard  
c. 1937 - 1941.







Archives Number: 1989-008-033

Title: Royal Oak School

Date: [192-]



Archives Number: 1989-008-023

Title: Royal Oak School

Date: [191-]



Archives Number: 2008-003-002

Title: Royal Oak School class photograph

Date: [190-]

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF SAANICH

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
ON  
HERITAGE AND ZONING BYLAWS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a PUBLIC HEARING will be held in the SAANICH MUNICIPAL HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 770 Vernon Avenue, on **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.**, to allow the public to make verbal or written representation to Council with respect to the following proposed bylaws and permit.

A) i) "HERITAGE DESIGNATION BYLAW, 1982, NO. 4866, AMENDMENT BYLAW, 2008, NO. 8949"

**PROPOSED RELOCATION OF ROYAL OAK SCHOOLHOUSE**

The intent of this proposed bylaw amendment is to designate the new location of the heritage Royal Oak Elementary School as a municipal heritage site.

"HERITAGE REVITALIZATION AGREEMENT AUTHORIZATION BYLAW, 2008, NO.

8950"

**PROPOSED HERITAGE REVITALIZATION AGREEMENT FOR ROYAL OAK SCHOOLHOUSE**

The intent of this proposed bylaw is to authorize an agreement with the owners of the property at 4525 West Saanich Road for the restoration and maintenance of the heritage Royal Oak Elementary School.

iii) "ZONING BYLAW, 2003, AMENDMENT BYLAW, 2008, NO. 8951"

**PROPOSED NEW ROYAL OAK COMMERCIAL / APARTMENT ZONE**

The intent of this proposed Zoning Bylaw amendment is to create a new C-2RO Zone (Royal Oak Commercial / Apartment) with retail sales of goods and services; wholesaling accessory to retail sales; medical services; rental and repair of household items, tools, and appliances; personal service; office; restaurant; apartment; cable hub site; and home occupation office and community care as permitted uses. Regulations with respect to prohibited uses, density, and buildings and structures, are unique to this proposed zone and interested persons are encouraged to obtain a copy of the bylaw.

iv) "ZONING BYLAW, 2003, AMENDMENT BYLAW, 2008, NO. 8952"

**PROPOSED MIXED COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ON WEST SAANICH ROAD**

The intent of this proposed bylaw is to rezone Lot A, Section 9, Lake District, Plan 50921, except part in Plan VIP72706, (**4525 WEST SAANICH ROAD**) from zone P-1 (Assembly) to proposed zone C-2RO (Royal Oak commercial / apartment) for a mixed use development comprising 46 apartment units and a relocated heritage schoolhouse with general office uses.

Council will also consider: a **DEVELOPMENT PERMIT** applicable to the above lands to require the buildings and lands to be constructed and developed in accordance with the plans submitted; a **RESTRICTIVE COVENANT** that will require a \$37,000 contribution to the Saanich Housing Trust Fund be made prior to issuance of a building permit;