

Stratford's History

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The History of Stratford's Earliest Schools *by Carole Dadino, Stratford Historian*



The first floor of this building was the converted Lippincott Farm, Sheep Barn. It was donated to the town by Charles King in 1892, for use as the first school and sat on, what is now, 302 Union Ave. New development necessitated it's move to Kirkwood and Union Aves. The school had one room and all eight grades were taught by one teacher, Mrs. Millicent Smith. The first year it was a "Pay" school, charging 25¢ per week, because Gloucester Township refused to supply a teacher. There were only eight pupils, having to purchase their own supplies. It soon became a public school with about forty pupils. The Stratford Community Center building now occupies the site.



Princeton School May Day, 1936

Earlier schools also attended by children living in what is now, Stratford.



A school was built in 1844 by Ephraim Tomlinson for the children of his farm workers. The children attending were also from farms and few businesses in this section of Gloucester/Clementon Township, that were incorporated into Stratford, in 1925. A church now occupies the site on Laurel Rd., in Lindenwold.



As a new school became necessary, the first Princeton School was built In 1902, replacing the old sheep barn. The building was moved to Harvard Ave., where it remains as a residence.



Luke H. Moore

Stratford pupils had to go to school first On Laurel Road where Community used to be at top of the hill the other side of Francis Hall Military Academy.

Elvira Moore Fink



In 1926, the old Princeton School. replacement included a basement and first floor, with four class-rooms



A second floor with two classrooms and an auditorium, with complete theater-type stage, was added in 1936. The building remains as a Buddhist Temple.

Stratford's archived history mentions a school that was located on the corner of Somerdale & Warwick Roads. It was also attended by children living in, what is now, Stratford. The old building has been remodeled many times, but still remains as a residence.