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ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEEDS IN DENNIS, MASSACHUSETTS

BAYLES-1950



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEEDS
IN DENNIS, WASSACHUSETTS

BY

JEAN BAYLES

A problem submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Science Degree

University of Massachusetts

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The Problem -- Confronted by an increasing school population, the town of Dennis is debating the necessity of expanding its school facilities. This report will study the population and endeavor to determine the needs of the town for additional school facilities. Also, what would be needed in any such addition according to the school authorities and in the light of what is considered a good school program will be investigated and set forth.

The Procedure -- A study has been made of the needs in the town as far as population growth is concerned, and of the school as far as facilities are concerned. This has been carried out through investigation of population trends and through interviews with the Town Clerk, the School Committee, the Superintendent, the Principal, and the Teachers. Their suggestions have been organized and joined together in this report.

The Community -- Dennis is located in the central part of Cape Cod. According to the 1945 census, there are 2,015 permanent inhabitants in the town. This figure is increased during the summer months due to the influx of vacationists. The town is mainly residential, with no industry and little agriculture. Dennis is divided into five villages - West Dennis, Dennisport, South Dennis, East Dennis, and Dennis. The relative size of the villages is shown by the number of

registered voters in each according to statistics of January 1, 1950. These show a total of 1,773 registered voters in the town: West Dennis, 385; Dennisport, 704; South Dennis, 222; Mast Dennis, 172; and Dennis, 290. Although each of these villages has its own center, they have no governmental power. The villages are combined under one central government with the town offices located in South Dennis.

The New England Town Meeting form of government governs the actions of the town. The School Committee is elected at the annual town meeting in March. It is composed of five members who serve for a term of three years, one going out of office one year, and two each of the two succeeding years. Although there is no law which states where a person shall live within the town in order to be elected, there is a tradition that each village be represented by one person on the school committee.

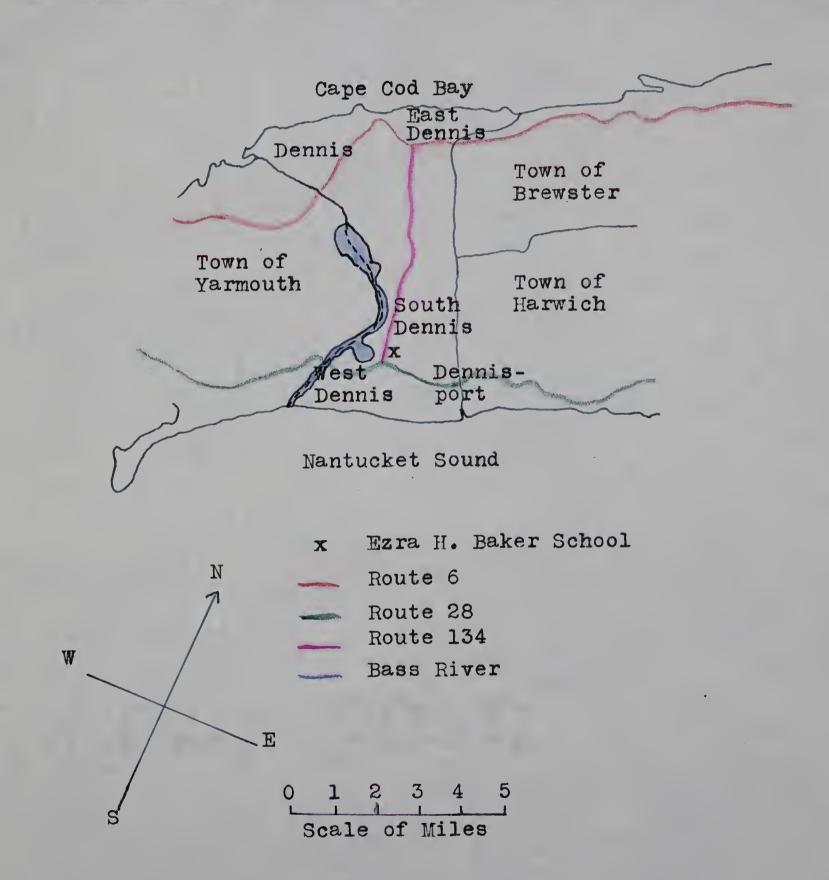
The School System -- At the present time, the towns of Dennis, Yarmouth, and Brewster are combined in a superintendency union. The towns each have their own elementary school which is under the jurisdiction of the individual school committees within each town. The Dennis elementary school pupils attend school in South Dennis for grades one through eight. There is no provision for a kindergarten in the present school system. This school is a consolidation of the earlier elementary schools located in each of the five villages. Dennis stu-

dents are sent to Yarmouth for their high school training.

Figure I indicates the position of the various villages and the location of the elementary school -- The Ezra H. Baker School.

FIGURE I

A map of the town of Dennis, Massachusetts, showing the position of the villages and of the elementary school.



CHAPTER II

PRESENT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PLANT IN DENNIS

CHAPTER II

PRESENT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PLANT IN DENNIS

The Building -- The Ezra M. Baker School, a two-story brick building, was erected in 1931 at an expense of \$50,153.95. On the first floor it contains four large class-rooms, a principal's office, and four boys and girls toilets. The second floor has four large classrooms, two small ones, a teachers' room, and a supply room. The mechanical arts shop, cafeteria, boiler room, and janitor's room are located in the basement.

The Grounds -- The school is located on a plot of land about 11 acres in size. There is ample room for playground facilities, which include, at the present time, a baseball diamond, one set of six swings, another combination set of three swings, a trapeze, a parallel bar and rings. There are also two sets of three seesaws each, and a giant stride. Figure V shows the shape and size of the school grounds.

Maintenance System -- The janitor's room, boiler rooms, fuel storage space and electrical control room are located in the basement. The fuel storage room is no longer used as such since the heating plant has been converted to oil from coal. The oil is stored in a one thousand gallon tank buried in the ground outside the school. The heating system is one of steam. The water supply is obtained from the town water district. Sewage from the school is taken care of by a system of filter beds at the school.

The Classrooms -- The larger classrooms are twenty-one feet by twenty-eight feet, and have a seating capacity of approximately thrity-five students. Bach of these rooms has two sets of two large windows on one side of the room. There are two smaller classrooms on the second floor twenty-one feet by twenty feet, seating approximately twenty-five and thirty pupils. One of these small classrooms has one set of two windows and a single window, while the other room has one set of two windows and a door leading to the fire escape. All of the rooms have two exits from them. The wall opposite the windows in all classrooms has two sets of wardrobes with folding doors, a closet, and a built-in bookcase. There are chalkboards on the other two walls of the rooms. Rach room is equipped with a bulletin board. Of the two smaller classrooms, one was used to house the special class -- those retarded, mentally deficient, or needing remedial work. The other small classroom was used previously by the domestic science teacher as a sewing room. However, during the past year, increased enrollment has made it necessary to use the special class and sewing rooms as classrooms to accomodate the two sections of the second grade.

The Cafeteria -- Located in the basement, the cafeteria has large windows at one end and along a part of one side.

Very small windows are found on the remainder of this wall.

There are two small gas stoves for the use of the Home

Economics classes, and a large gas range for the preparation of the cafeteria meals. There is a large refrigerator, a potato peeler, and ice cream freezer, a steam table, and a dish washer.

Since there is no auditorium, the cafeteria serves this purpose. Also the music instructors, both vocal and instrumental, use this room for their work. As a cafeteria, the room seats approximately 120 children, and about 120 people in its use as an auditorium.

The Administrative Facilities -- The office of the principal is situated on the first floor. It is a single room with no provisions for a waiting room. The supply room is to be found on the second floor, and due to its position has little apparent connection with the principal's office.

These rooms make up the administrative facilities of the present elementary school. As seen, there are no provisions for a health room.

The floor plan of the school may be seen in Figures III through V. Figure III shows the basement; Figure IV, the first floor; Figure V, the second floor.

FIGURE II

Grounds plan of the Ezra H. Baker School of Dennis.

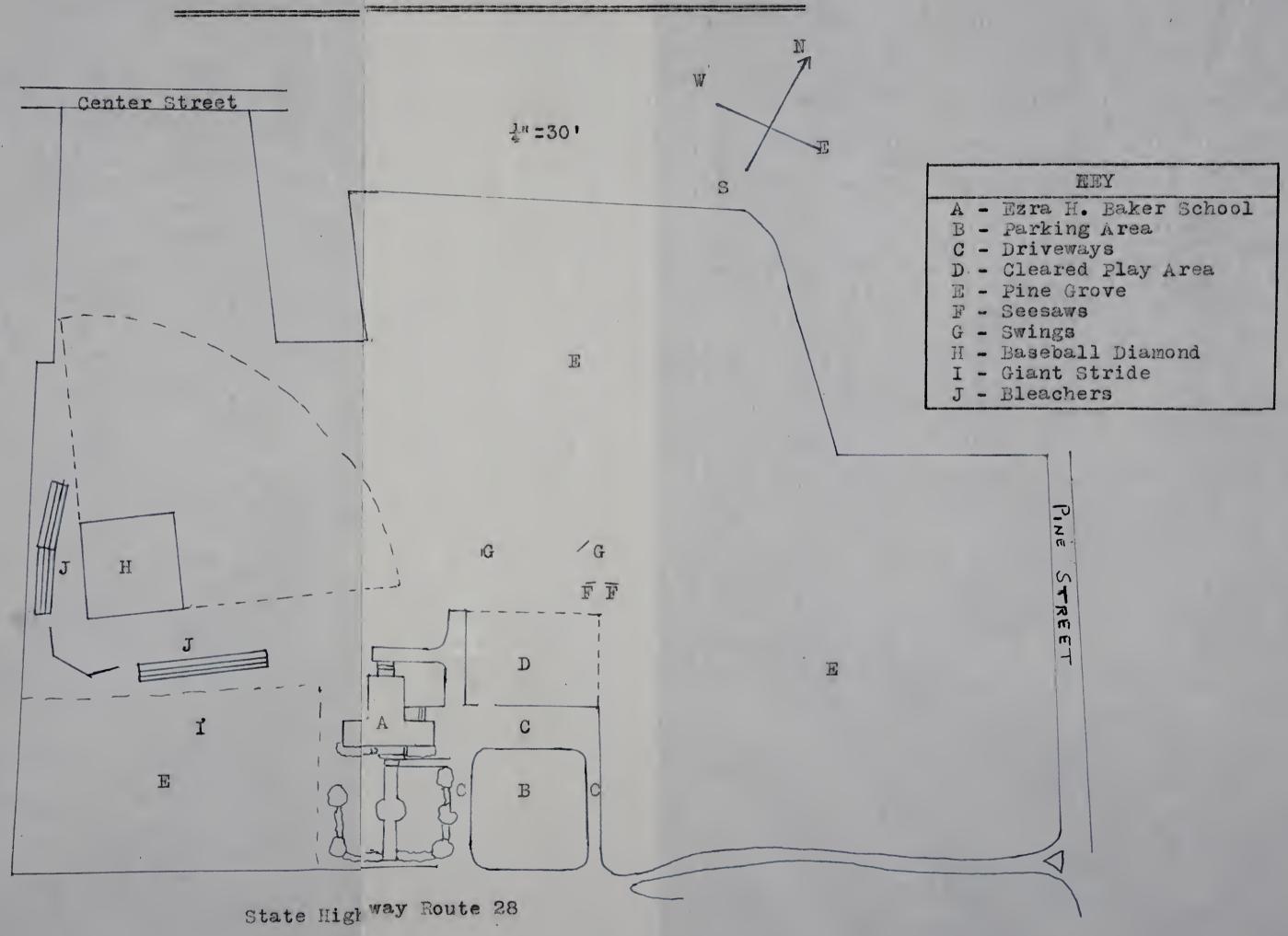
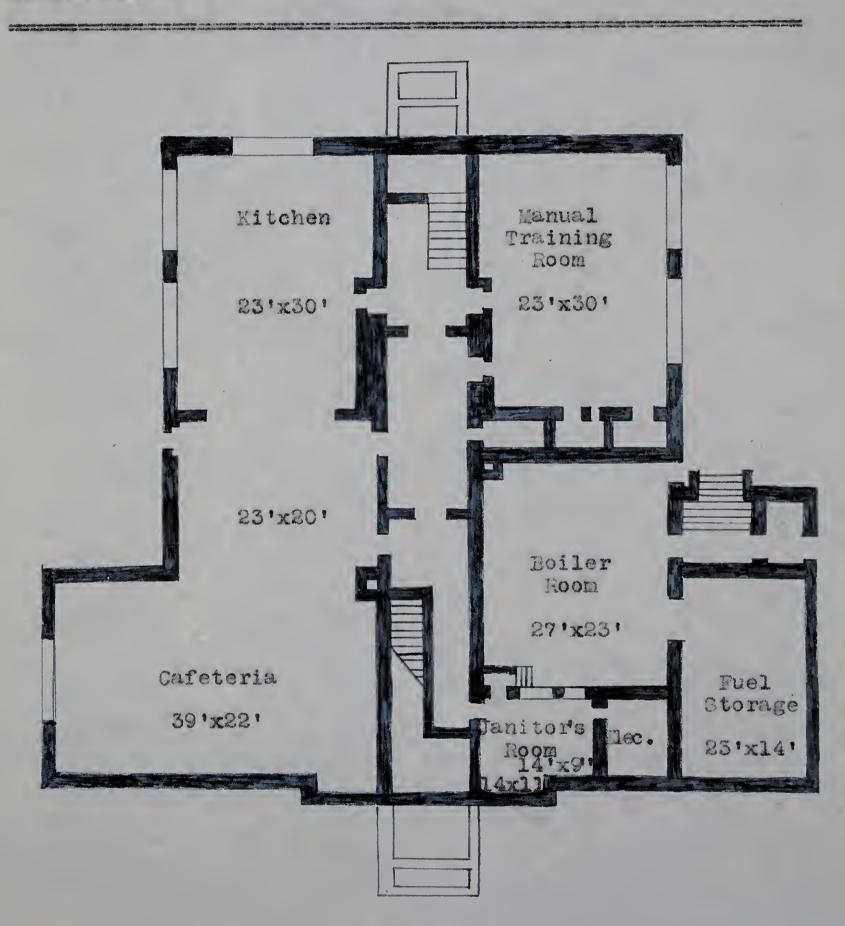


FIGURE III

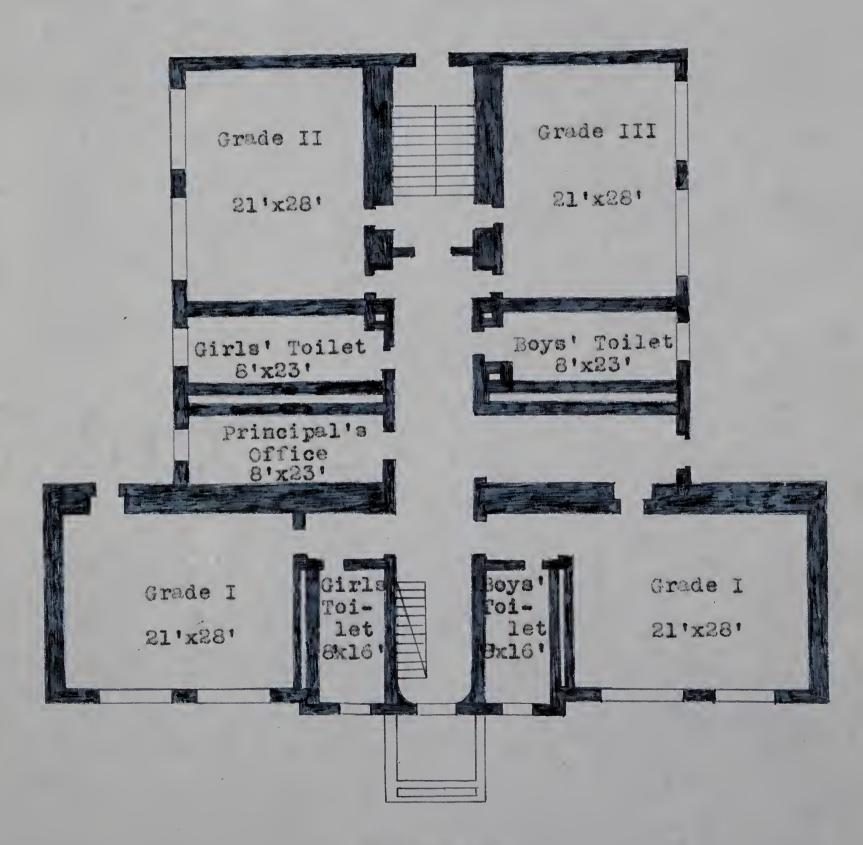
Floor plan of the Basement of the Ezra H. Baker School of Dennis.



1/16"=1'0"

FIGURE IV

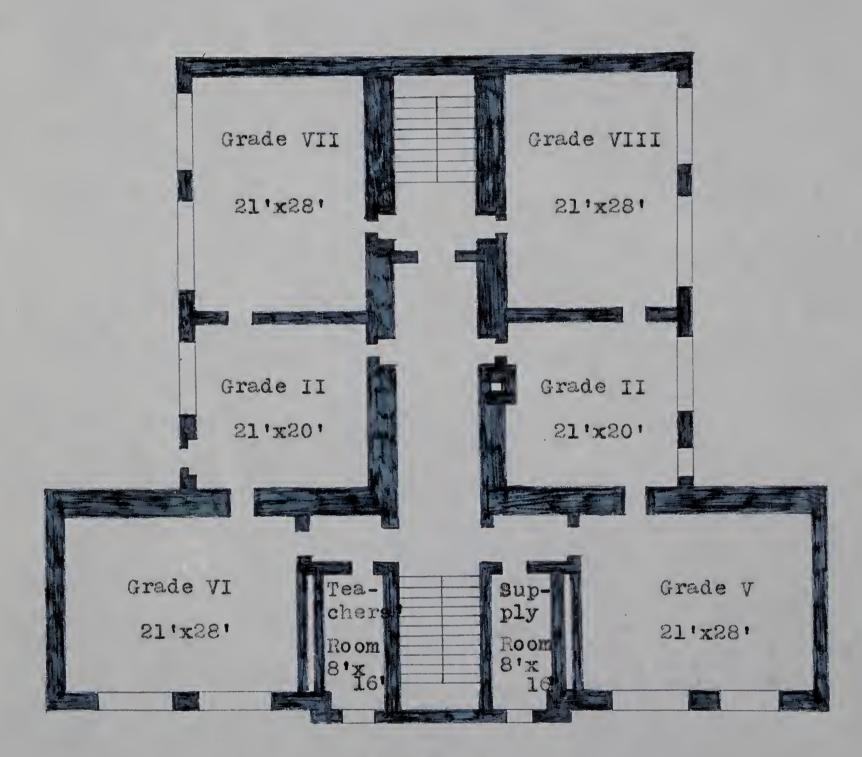
Floor plan of the first floor at the Ezra H. Baker School in Dennis.



1/16"=1'0"

FIGURE V

Floor plan of the second floor at the Ezra H. Baker School in Dennis.



1/16"=1'0"

CHAPTER III

POPULATION AND ENROLLMENT TRENDS

CHAPTER III

POPULATION AND ENROLLMENT TRENDS

Population -- The population of Dennis increased from 1,749 in 1925 to 2,015 in 1945. Table I indicates in more detail the growth.

TABLE I 1.

Growth in population in the town of Dennis from 1925 to 1949.

		A companies of the comp
	Year	Population
uudassiken seringi kuudakun riikakket suudah nomi dikumittiine kettitak	1925	1,749
	1930	1,829
	1935	2,017
,	1940	2,085
	1945	2,015
	1949 2.	2,200

From Table I the following facts are evident:

- 1. In the period between 1925 and 1930, 80 people were added to the population in the town.
- 2. Between 1930 and 1935, there was an increase of 186 people noted in the town.
- 3. An increase of 68 people was seen between the years 1935 and 1940.

^{1.} Taken from census reports in Dennis Town Reports, 1925 - 1945.

^{2.} Estimates of local authorities.

- 4. A decline of 70 people is shown in these figures for the period between 1940 and 1945, due to the war.
- 5. According to the estimates made from the voting lists by the local authorities, there has been an increase of approximately 200 people in the town from 1945 to 1949.

The Marriage Statistics -- As shown in Table II, the number of marriages in the town of Dennis has increased during the past few years.

TABLE II 1.

Marriage statistics for the town of Dennis for the years from 1942 to 1949.

	Year	Number of Marriages
The second revenue delicated reli-	1942	18
	1943	17
	1944	17
	1945	24
	1946	31
	1947	35
	1948	30
	1949	30

^{1.} Taken from the records of the Town Clerk, Dennis, Massachusetts.

Many new families have been added to the population of the town during the past few years due to the increase in the number of marriages. This is seen by the figures in Table II.

The Birth Rate -- The birth rate in Dennis has risen greatly during the 1940's. This is in accordance with the prevailing conditions throughout the country as a whole. Table III shows the extent to which the birth rate has risen since 1940.

TABLE III 1.

The record of the number of births in the town of Dennis from 1940 to 1949.

Year	Number of births
 1940	28
1941	25
1942	21
1943	25
1944	17
1945	24
1946	40
1947	43
1948	47
1949	54

^{1.} Taken from the records of the Town Clerk, Dennis, Massachusetts.

From this table, the following facts are evident:

- 1. A great increase in the number of births is seen after 1945.
- 2. For the five year period from 1940 through 1944 there were 115 children born to Dennis residents. During the period from 1945 to December 31, 1949 there were 208 children born to Dennis residents. This shows how rapidly the birth rate has been increasing.

School Enrollment -- Table IV shows the school enrollment on October 1 for the years 1942 through 1949 inclusive.

TABLE IV 1.

School enrollment for the years 1942 through 1948 on October 1 of each year.

Grade	**	** *** * ***		ear an		5 8	^	
	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
1	16	28	22	21	40	31	42	52
2	34	17	2.4	39	24	37	39	47
3	29	30	21	23	29	28	35	43
4	20	26	31	24	29	34	26	35
5	25	21	28	31	21	28	31	34
6	24	27	20	33	34	25	28	28
7	27	30	28	15	31	35	31	34
8	32	28	27	25	23	33	28	29
rotal Enrollm	207 ent	207	201	201	231	251	860	302

^{1.} Taken from Dennis Town Reports, 1942 - 1949.

The following facts may be seen from Table IV:

- 1. The total school enrollment increased from 207 in 1942 to 302 in 1949, an increase of 95 pupils or 45.9 per cent.
- 2. The primary grade enrollment, Grades I, II, and III, increased from 79 to 142, an increase of 61 pupils or 77.2 per cent.
- 3. The intermediate grades, Grades IV, V, and VI, had an enrollment increase of 28 pupils, from 69 to 97 students. This represents an increase of 40.6 per cent.
- 4. The junior high school grades, Grades VII and VIII, enrollment increased from 59 students to 63, an increase of 4 students or 6.8 per cent.

From these figures it may be noted that the increase in enrollment has not reached the junior high school grades in Dennis as yet. The crowded conditions are in the primary grades at the present time, and to a lesser extent in the intermediate grades. But it may be seen further that the increased enrollment will reach the junior high school grades within the next few years, making conditions here similar to those in the lower grades at the present time.

Relationship of Births to School Enrollment -- In order to determine the number of pupils who enter and continue in the elementary school, Table V has been constructed. This attempts to follow the children from birth through the elementary school system. It may be seen that in the past few

birth rate for the year in which that particular class was born. If the trend should centinue, it will mean that more students will be entering the schools within the next few years than are expected from the birth records in the town. Also these figures substantiate the idea that many people with children of school age have moved into the town during the past few years.

TABLE V 1.

Birth rate compared to corresponding increased school attendance by grades.

Year	Number	of	Births 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1936		21	16	17	21	24	21	25	31	29	haller literatury (nitri (nitri et en en esta esta esta esta esta esta esta esta
1937		33	28	24	23	29	28	28	34		
1938		28	22	29	29	34	31	28			
1939		32	21	24	28	26	34				
1940		28	40	37	35	35					
1941		25	31	39	43						
1942		21	42	47							
1943		25	52			Table to the second					

^{1.} Taken from the Dennis Town Reports, 1936 through 1949.

CHAPTER IV

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING THE SCHOOL PLANT

CHAPTER IV

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING THE SCHOOL PLANT

Interviews with the teachers, principal, superintendent, and school committee have revealed that many changes are needed in the present school as well as adding rooms to the structure.

Classrooms -- The crowded conditions in the classrooms at the present time makes project work very difficult, therefore it is urged that more rooms be added in order to reduce the size of classes.

More closet space is definitely needed, and it is suggested that lockers be built under the windows in the primary grades to store materials. If located here, the children would be able to reach them easily. The top of these lockers could be used as a place on which the room libraries could be kept, and exhibits could be put here.

Better seats should be available, and these should be adapted to the children's age and size. Also, chalkboards should be placed on the children's level. More bulletin boards should be provided within the classrooms.

Lighting facilities are inadequate to satisfy present standards. However, an experiment was carried out during the past year whereby the walls were painted in lighter colors. The conclusion from this is that more light was reflected. Hence, lighter colored walls would be beneficial to the classrooms. During the next year fluorescent lighting is to be installed in one room as an experiment. It is hoped that

this will improve lighting conditions and may be installed throughout the building if successful.

The ventilation and heating systems are not too efficient in many parts of the building. These should be improved in order to make the classrooms more comfortable.

It is felt that new classrooms will be necessary before long to meet the needs of the increasing enrollment. As to the number of classrooms needed the figure varies from four to eight, according to estimates made by the school officials. However, the majority feel that six classrooms would supply ample space for any increase.

At the present time there is a suggestion being considered by the school committees of Yarmouth and Dennis that the seventh and eighth grades of Dennis be sent to Yarmouth to make a six year high school, or a three year Junior High School and a three year Zenior High School. This would be possible when the new elementary school is constructed in the town of Yarmouth, which is expected to a ready for use by the fall of 1950. This new elementary school would make the elementary rooms available to the high school within the present high school building. If this change does take place, there would be two more classrooms available for the use of the elementary grades within the present Dennis elementary school, and such facilities as the domestic science room, workshop, and suggested science room would not

be needed. This is, however, very indefinite now, but it must be considered when and if the school is enlarged to meet the increasing enrollment.

Administrative Facilities -- The principal needs space which would include a private office and a waiting room adjacent to it. Also needed in the school is a health room where first aid may be administered. This would provide a place for children who are ill until they are moved to their homes. Included in these facilities should be a supply room which would be near the principal's office and easily accessible to him. This is not provided in the present school, and has proven to be a great hindrance to efficient administration.

Auditorium-Gymnasium -- At the present time the cafeteria serves as a cafeteria, domestic science room, gymnasium, and auditorium. This has not been at all satisfactory from any point of view. Fire laws prevent seating any more than one hundred and twenty people in the room at any time. This cannot accommodate the audience at many of the school events, and necessitates holding graduation in a nearby theater.

During rainy weather the children have no place to go during recess or the physical education period except to stay in their own rooms, or to use the cafeteria when it is available. The stage in the cafeteria is not designed to satisfy the needs of the school, as far as curtains, depth, height above floor level, and dressing rooms are concerned. And although

the town has a town hall in the former West Dennis School, this is nothing more than a large room. While this has provided ample space for town meetings in the past, it has no stage and could be used for little other than town meetings. Moreover the town has no gymnasium within its limits, and it is felt that the people in the town would benefit from a combination auditorium-gymnasium built in connection with the elementary school.

There are diverging opinions as to the size of such an auditorium-gymnasium. Recommendations have been made by the school authorities as to the size, and the suggested seating capacity of any auditorium ranges from three hundred to seven hundred and fifty. The majority feel, however, that an auditorium which would seat approximately six hundred people would satisfy any needs in the town. This would be large enough to include a regulation size basketball court for the use of the school andef the townspeople.

There should be some equipment included in this gymnasium suited to the use of the elementary school pupils.

In the upper grades such material as horses, tumbling mats,
and bars would be helpful in the physical education program.

There should be a stage of adequate size on which the school could stage dramatic and musical productions. Also dressing rooms on each side of the stage should be provided. If large enough these dressing rooms could contain cabinets

for the storage of the musical equipment, stands, instruments, and also a file for the music.

Music Room -- There is no space in the present school where music supplies, instruments, stands and music, may be stored. Also, cabinets for filing music are lacking. In the present cafeteria the stage is not adequate to make it possible to present musical productions easily and effectively. Furthermore, the cafeteria was not planned to serve as an auditorium, and the acoustics are very poor. This makes any work in music very difficult. The suggestions given for the auditorium-gymnasium would make musical work in the school much easier.

Domestic Science -- Domestic science subjects, cooking and sewing, are confined to girls of the seventh and eighth grades. The cooking classes are held in the cafeteria during the afternoon in order not to interfere with the preparation of meals. While it would be much better to have a separate room in which to teach cooking, this present arrangement will be able to accommodate any increase in enrollment. The sewing classes are held in the cafeteria and in the hallway outside the cafeteria, since the sewing room is now used as a class-room. Need for domestic science facilities depends on the decision of the school committee as to the disposition of the seventh and eighth grades, whether they will be sent to Yarmouth or kept in the Dennis school.

Library -- Room libraries are included in the present school, but no central library is established. While it is felt that libraries in the rooms are better in the elementary grades, it is thought that a central library should be maintained in the building in order to keep the reference books in one place. Thus teachers could bring these books to the classrooms when needed, or the students could do their reference work in the central library. If new administrative offices were constructed, the present supply room is large enough to be used as a library.

Science Room -- For the juntor high school grades it is suggested that a science room be provided. This could mean that any classroom be equipped with a demonstration table which would include running water, sink, gas and electrical outlets, and storage space for the science material. This depends also on the future disposition of the junior high school grades.

Special Class -- A special class was inaugurated in 1935. The following excerpt from the report of William McLin, then principal of the elementary school, shows the philosophy underlying the establishment of this class. "There is a State law requiring that when a town has ten or more children three or more years retarded in mental development in attendance upon its public schools, it must establish a special class for their instruction according to their mental attainments. Examinations are made by means of State clinics held

under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Department of Education and the Department of Mental Diseases.

At a clinic held at our school in September of this fall fifteen pupils were found to be three or more years intellectually retarded and ten pupils at least two years so retarded.

Under these circumstances it became the duty of the School Committee to establish a special class and to provide a teacher trained for this particular type of work.

This instructor is known as the coaching teacher and to her room from their home rooms go the pupils most needing special guidance and drill in work within their abilities. Some pupils who heretofore were making no progress because of being beyond their depth in the regular grades have already shown a noticeable degree of improvement. The spirit of the teaching of this particular group is to adjust each individual to work that is within his capacity and to stimulate in him an attitude of courageous and cheerful endeavor to do his best - whatever the limitations of that best may be."

In 1949 J. Robert Dunn, principal, submitted his report to the School Committee, and the following section shows how the philosophy toward the special class has changed from that set forth in 1935. "The Dennis School Committee approved of making two divisions of the seventh and eighth grades

^{1.} Annual Report of the Town Officers of the Town of Dennis, 1935, pp. 122 - 123.

beginning in September, 1948. We have found that this plan is effective in preparing pupils who have neglected to keep up to standard their regular work, either through behavior difficulties or through lack of ability to comprehend the work of the grade they were in. Several pupils have returned to the first division and a few have been transferred from the first to the second division. It has been my experience that a pupil gains frequently by repeating one grade, but insistance upon repeating more than one grade is of little value. His feeling of discouragement alone gives him a poor attitude. His attitude governs his conduct, and the result is loss of not only his own time but also that of the other pupils. He is a bad example, too. When the classes are large enough to warrant division, as our seventh and eighth grades have become, real help is given the special problems of the children who are not advancing at the desired rate. Our plan to shift pupils from one division to the other as progress or failure of it indicates is offering an incentive to even better work and conduct from the older pupils than I had expected." 2.

At the present time the special class has been eliminated in order to make room for the regular classes. One of the two second grades is now occupying the room used previously by the special class. There are, however, many children in

^{2.} Reports of the Town Officers of the Town of Dennis, 1948, pp. 179 - 180.

the school system who need special attention. The needs of a special class depends on the philosophy of the school authorities toward it. If the second divisions of the seventh and eighth grades are to be those in the special class, only one room will be needed. However, there are many children in the lower grades who need special attention. If these children were included in the class, as was done previously, more equipment should be installed for their use such as looms. In the latter case it would be necessary to provide one extra large room, or two rooms of the present size, twenty-one feet by twenty-eight feet. As said previously, the needs of the special class depends on the philosophy of the school authorities.

workshop -- The workshop includes materials and equipment for wood working. The manual training instruction is confined to boys of the seventh and eighth grades. At the present time there is enough space for the work which is carried on, however, there is not enough equipment. The possibility that the junior high school grades will be incorporated into the high school at Yarmouth makes it inadvisable to recommend enlarging the amount of equipment. However, as far as additional room is concerned, it is thought that the present space is sufficient for the enrollment and will be able to accommodate any increase by staggering the periods which the boys spend in the shop.

<u>Kindergarten</u> -- Although other school systems consider kindergarten important, Dennis has no provisions for one in the town. As it is not an essential feature of the schools, it is not necessary to include this in any proposed addition. Opinions concerning the feasibility of inaugurating such a program vary greatly. Nevertheless, it is felt that in the future a kindergarten may be desired by the people in the town. If at some later date the seventh and eighth grades were sent to Yarmouth, these rooms could be utilized as a kindergarten. But nothing definite on this can be done until the school authorities come to an agreement on the desirability of maintaining a kindergarten within the school system.

Toilets -- Toilet facilities are all located on the first floor, and have proven to be inadequate for the size of the school. It is recommended therefore, that additional ones be installed on the second floor.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

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Conclusions From the Study -- From this study many condusions have been reached concerning the needs of the Dennis elementary school. These are as follows:

- 1. The population of the town has increased.
- 2. The school enrollment has increased as well as the number of marriages and the birth rate.
- 3. The increases will mean that more children will be enrolled in the elementary school in the next years.
- 4. The present school cannot accommodate efficiently the number of students it has at the present time, and will be unable to house the pupils if and when the expected increase reaches the junior high school grades.
- 5. The suggestion that the junior high school grades be sent to Yarmouth to make a six year high school would mean thatonly two additional classrooms would be added for the use of the elementary school plus the workshop. And it is felt that at least four rooms must be added in order to accommodate the increasing enrollment.
- 6. The present school plant is not efficient in that room is needed for an auditorium-gymnasium, music storage space, domestic science, additional toilet facilities, better administrative facilities, and special class space.
- 7. Additional facilities must be provided in order to make the educational system in the town of Dennis efficient and effective.

Location of Additional Space -- Since it has been established that additional space is needed to accommodate the increased enrollment, and to perate the school more efficiently there are several possible ways to acquire this space.

These suggestions are given below:

- l. There are at the present time three of the old school buildings left in the town, located in Dennis, West Dennis, and South Dennis. One of these is being used as a fire station, one as a town hall, and the other to house the High-way Department. To change these back to school buildings would mean installing central heating in some, toilet facilities in others, and classroom equipment in all. The buildings themselves are in very poor condition, and would not provide much additional space. Moreover this would mean that a new fire station would have to be built and also a building for the Highway Department. Furthermore these buildings are not well equipped to serve meals to the students.
- 2. Since the settlement in the town is divided into two distinct parts separated by a large section of woods the North side, Dennis and East Dennis, and the South Side, South Dennis, West Dennis, and Dennisport, it has been suggested that a separate school be built on the North side. This would accommodate the pupils who must now be transported by buses to the Ezra H. Baker School in South Dennis. However, although this would eliminate some bus transportation problems, it would mean that many facilities available in the

present school would have to be duplicated. It would be necessary to provide a cafeteria and a workshop in another school, and the present school facilities are capable of handling the expected increase in enrollment. Also, it would be much more expensive to duplicate these facilities than to build an addition to the present school building.

3. The extensive school grounds have led to a suggestion that an addition be added to the present school building to increase its capacity. The Ezra H. Baker School is so constructed and situated on the plot of land that additional space could be added very easily without injuring the efficiency or the design of the building. This seems to be the most logical suggestion. This would mean that more space be provided within the present school, thereby making it a more efficient and larger school plant.

Number of Rooms Needed -- As set forth in Chapter IV, it has been suggested that an auditorium-gymnasium be constructed and also better administrative offices. As to the number of classrooms needed it is thought that there will be two needed for each grade within the next fewyears. However, it is necessary to decide whatis to be done with the seventh and eighth grades before any definite decision can be made. There are two possibilities here, and it is necessary to consider them separately, as they would have entirely different effects on the construction of additional rooms.

1. The supposition that the seventh and eighth grades are sent to Yarmouth.

This would mean that there would be six grades housed within the elementary school. These grades would not require the use of the sewing room or of the workshop. Therefore, these rooms could be used as classrooms. This would make a total of eleven classrooms available for the use of the grades. Assuming that two rooms are needed for each of the grades and one for the special class, this means that two additional rooms must be added. This, however, makes no provisions for a future kindergarten. Since it is thought that a kindergarten will be desired before too long, there must be at least four rooms added. Since it would be more economical to add these extra rooms at one time rather than two now and two later on, this seems to be the better plan.

2. The supposition that the seventh and eighth grades will remain in the Dennis School.

Under this plan sixteen classrooms for the grades would be needed, one for the workshop, one for a sewing room, and one for the special class. Since there are rooms already provided for a workshop, sewing room, and special class, it would be necessary to add eight additional classrooms in order to give each grade two rooms. To add any other number of rooms would be makeshift, and would have to be changed within the next few years. However, this makes no provisions for a kindergarten, and if wanted later on these rooms would

have to be added.

Summary and Recommendations -- The following recommendations are made to increase the facilities of the Ezra H.

Baker School in Dennis:

- 1. An auditorium-gymnasium should be added to the present school structure. This should include a regulation size basketball court and have a seating capacity of approximately six hundred. There should be dressing rooms on both sides of the stage. These should be large enough so that closets may be included for the storing of musical instruments. The stage should be such a size to accomodate the elementary school productions. Also there must be two sets of shower and dressing rooms.
- 2. Administrative offices must be added. These should include a principal's office, waiting room, health room, and supply room.
- 3. Arrangements should be made with the town of Yarmouth to accommodate the seventh and eighth grades from Dennis in Yarmouth High School.
 - 4. Moilet facilities should be added on the second floor.
- 5. Four additional classrooms should be added to increase the facilities of the Dennis elementary school.



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