

SCHOOL ONE, SCOTCH PLAINS

As Scotch Plains grew, the Parish House was too small to take care of all the children living in Scotch Plains. School One was built in 1890.

The original part of School One was built by White and Meade, the architects, and cost \$18,000. It was two stories high and had five rooms. There were three classrooms and the principal's office on the first floor and two classrooms and an auditorium upstairs. Today, this is the front part of the school. The maximum capacity of the school was 250 pupils.

When the school opened, it was just an elementary school with the primary, intermediate, and grammar departments. There were three teachers and a principal. The average salary of the teachers in 1890 was \$515 a year. The first principal of School One was Louis R. Goodenough. One of the first teachers was Miss Harriet Squier. Miss Squier is retired and now lives in Rahway, New Jersey.

In 1899, a new teacher was added to teach high school subjects. The principal at this time was Mr. Howard D. White. Mr. White is now Assistant Commissioner of Education in New Jersey.

By 1909, the school was too small for the number of children who had to attend. Two more rooms were added to the north east side of the building. These rooms are now numbers one and fifteen and are used by Miss Gore-Kelly and Miss Berkheimer. The primary and intermediate grades used the lower floor and the grammar grades and high school the upper floor.

The pupils in the elementary school studied the same subjects as the children had in the earlier schools. In 1917, physical education was added to the studies.

Still the school population continued to grow. Before another addition could be built, the school had become so crowded that the auditorium and office were used for classes and more teachers were added. The principal had to use the stage for his office. We do not imagine it would have been very easy to study during this time. The high school students were transferred to Westfield and Plainfield.

In 1917, eight rooms were added at a cost of \$47,800. Frank Bower was the architect. This forms the north west wing of our building. The school was now able to take care of 500 pupils.