

APPENDIX A

801 METLER ROAD Fenwick ON L0S1C0

"North Pelham School, S.S. #7"

Roll No.: 273201000812800

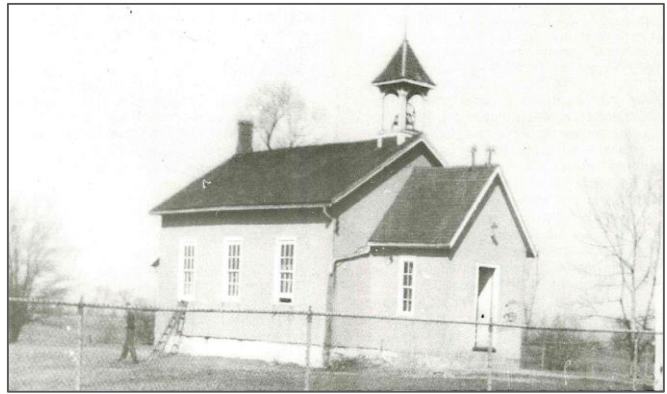
Legal Description: CON 5 PT LOT 16 RP 59R3495 PART 1

Date of Construction: 1855 (MPAC 1900)

Architectural Influence(s): N/A

Historical Association(s): Pelham School System

Heritage Evaluation Grade: B +

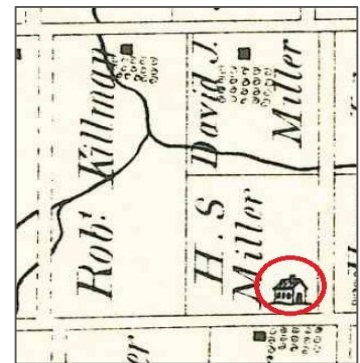


Statement of Design and/or Architectural Value and/or Interest:

This quaint one-storey building is made of light blue clapboard siding as well as a portion done in stone siding. The home has a front gable roof, with a smaller gabled portion projecting from the front that holds the front entranceway. Above the door is a gabled overhang with two classic columns and a tympanum with clapboard siding. The sides of the home have three double-hung windows with wooden semi-circles above. At the rear of the home is another portion done in the clapboard siding with a low pitched roof.

Statement of Historical and/or Associative Value and/or Interest:

It was in 1834 that the village of North Pelham deemed it time to erect a school. The site chosen was opposite the Flour and Feed Mill in the village. The site was changed in 1855, to its location at the corner of Maple and Metler Road. It was decided that the best option would be to construct a new frame building rather than move the log one. The main building measured 11 ½ ft. by 7 ½ ft. by 11 ft. A verandah extended across the front as well which served as a playground on rainy-days.

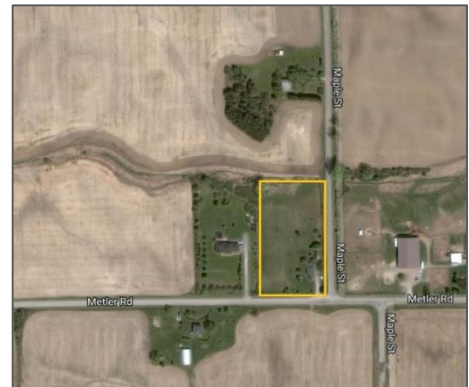


The earliest records that are known are from the annual meeting of the trustees and ratepayers dated December 26, 1912. E.G. Kilman was the chairman at the meeting. J.T Scholfield was named the secretary for the next annual meeting, while A.J. Bea was elected as the new trustee with the additional job of secretary. The chairman for 1913 was Arthur Metler. An important observation that was found in their records was that in 1913, any child from another school section whose parents wished him to attend North Pelham could do so for twenty-five cents a month. In 1914, the Provincial Health Authorities were ordering the installation of septic tanks for use in rural schools. Tenders were issued in North Pelham which resulted in the job being accomplished for the sum of ninety dollars.

In 1920, the annual meeting resulted in the ratepayers deciding to put up lightning rods on the school, and purchase a first aid kit. In 1927, a coal heater for the school was decided upon, putting a finish to heating by wood. The school was stuccoed and painted white in 1928 and in 1939 electricity was installed and a piano was purchased. In 1943, it was decided unanimously to join a "Township School Area". This was known as Pelham T.S.A.I. which included North Pelham, Reece's, and Law's Schools. By 1949, the Welland Library Book Service began its rounds to these schools which were a special occasion for both teachers and students. Finally in 1953, an addition was built at the back, and an oil-burner was installed. Unfortunately, when Miss Jean Davidson was the teacher-principal, the school was closed and the windows boarded in 1965. The building was used for storage and supplies for a time, and was also the site of the Hunters and Anglers Association as well. It is currently used as a private home.

Statement of Contextual Value and/or Interest:

The old North Pelham School is situated on a corner lot at the intersection of Metler Road and Maple Street. The property is 2.51 acres in size. The home is completely surrounded by agricultural lands, as well as a small number of other homes.



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Source: Pelham Historical Calendar, 1981

Additional Photographs of 801 Metler Road:

