

Eberwhite Memories

Written by:
Alumni

First Students at Eberwhite
1951

In honor of the:
65th Anniversary - 2016

DEDICATION

When we are young, we don't realize how all the experiences we have will affect who we are and who we will become. This booklet is dedicated to all the lifelong friends who attended Eberwhite Elementary School. We may not have talked to each other or seen each other for years, but we have a bond.

That bond of friendship grew when we were children and will continue always. We are a "family". We grew up together, learned together, and experienced life together. All the experiences and learning that happened at Eberwhite have bonded us together like a family.

Friendships do last a lifetime.

For more pictures and history of Eberwhite Elementary School go to: <http://oldnews.aadl.org/taxonomy/term/57815>.

Lawry Dolph Eberwhite Memories

I came to Eberwhite Elementary when it opened in the second semester. Previously, I had walked a half-mile from my home to Arabelle Wagner School during my first semester of kindergarten. It was a “one-room” country brick school that housed kindergarten through third grades in the basement and grades four to six on the main floor. The school was set across from a very large gravel pit, which meant that its basement classrooms were full of radon gas, but no one knew to measure that in those days. I liked Arabelle Wagner because I could take my cap guns—toy guns that fired little gunpowder caps that made a noise like a small firecracker—and I was disappointed that these were forbidden at the new Eberwhite.

The walk to the country school passed an unfenced deep lake and a gravel pit full of discarded “iceboxes” which is what refrigerators were called in the 1950s, even after they converted to electric motors and refrigerant gas. To keep an icebox cool, your parents had to drive to the ice store and buy big blocks of ice that were then put in the insulated box and closed with a strong latch. Your food stayed cold and fresh. But children of the day used to crawl into these, particularly when they were discarded in open dumps, and the door would close and they would be locked in and never be found. This is why the refrigerator in your home today is kept closed by magnets and is easy for even a small child to push open. But in those days I was constantly warned constantly iceboxes and made a wide path going around that dump, lest they grab me and pull me in.

The 1950s was an era when parents let their five-year-olds walk unaccompanied to school, and otherwise would let them play outside with their friends, unsupervised and far from home, and still expect to see them alive for dinner. As a child then, the dangers were probably far greater than they are today, and children had to learn survival skills almost as soon as they could walk.

At Eberwhite, we were allowed to go outside to play for recess, and I remember encountering a small girl on the climbing bars. “Watch out, little girl,” I said. “I’m not a little girl,” she replied. I couldn’t have my cap guns but I did have a really cool miniature spaceman with a clear helmet that could be removed. There was a mean kid in my classroom and he grabbed the spaceman out of my hands and wouldn’t give it back. I still had the removable helmet, and I did my best to look like it was more important than the spaceman. I remember looking out the window of the classroom in late April and seeing it snow sideways, and it may have been the first time I ever felt depressed. We carried little blankets into Eberwhite in kindergarten and we were told when to lie down and take a nap, and that made me feel better about the snow and the lost spaceman.

My father was a naval officer and an assistant professor of mathematics at the University of Michigan, and we did not have much money. Homes were simple in those days: no television or computers, just one radio, maybe one record player, and one electric fan—there was no air conditioning. We had just one telephone on a party line, so that when you picked it up you could often hear the neighbors talking on it, and you



could just sit and listen to them. We had just one car, a 1947 Oldsmobile that frightened me as a child because the rubber seal around the floor gearshift was missing and I could see the road moving beneath the car, and I thought the floor might fall out. Many homes in those days were still heated with coal furnaces, which meant that your father had to get up at 2 in the morning and shovel in more coal to keep the house from freezing. But my father was a scientist and we heated with fuel oil.

My father may have gotten a promotion or some consulting money soon after I started kindergarten at Eberwhite, and he purchased a new Dodge two-door that was advertised as "a hardtop convertible." This meant that the middle pillar was missing between the front and rear side windows, giving it the appearance of a convertible with the top up. Three years later, my father added a 1954 Desoto with a "Firedome V8" engine, which is what Chrysler Corporation called a Hemi engine at the time. The Desoto had a "passing gear" and the engine made a huge noise when the throttle was floored and the car accelerated much faster than the Dodge. I found out later that the Desoto had just a two-gear automatic transmission and that "passing gear" was simply the car downshifting to first gear, which was good for some sixty miles-per-hour. Your parent's SUV or car today has somewhere between six and nine gears.

Clothes were simple in those days and everything was made out of cotton or wool as there were no synthetics. Wool kept you warmer when you played outside in the rain—and our parents let us play outside in the rain—but cotton when wet makes you very cold. Our parents expected us to come in when we got too cold to play.

Our family had a washing machine but no one had driers, so everything that was washed, from shirts to sheets, and from napkins to pants, had to be hung outside on the clothes line to dry in warmer months, or inside in the basement in the winter. I had a swing set near the outside clothesline, and I would swing and watch my mother hang up the wet laundry with wooden clothespins.

Eberwhite School was named after the old farmer, Mr. Eber White, who had cultivated the land on which it was built along with all the houses around it. The Eberwhite name confused me when I enrolled because there was an Eberbach drugstore downtown and a Bach School from where all my Eberwhite classmates had transferred. As a small child, the relationships between the German names Eberwhite and Eberbach and Bach School were unclear. But Ann Arbor was a predominantly German town in those days, with a German language newspaper along side the *Ann Arbor Daily Times News* and German was commonly spoken on Main Street and in the stores along it. Just outside town was a German Park, and downtown there was the Schwaben Hall and German-American Day was a big celebration every year in Ann Arbor. People think my last name, Dolph, is a German name, but it is actually French, being an evolution of De Wolf, where the French do not pronounce the "W" and so the name contracted to Dolph. Still, it was helpful to be thought of as another German kid in those days.

Lawry Dolph Eberwhite Memories

My next door neighbor and best friend was a kid named Kenny and he walked with me the half mile to Arabelle Wagner but the 2.3 miles to Eberwhite was considered too far, so we carpooled with other neighbor children. At home, Kenny and his sister Marguerite entertained themselves when their parents were gone by calling up the coal company that supplied the heating furnaces in Ann Arbor and ordering that a ton of coal be dumped on the front lawn of someone's home with the address picked at random out of the phone book. Neither Kenny nor his sister were ever caught, but after awhile they began to feel guilty about the problems they were causing and moved on to other things.

I was a very fast runner as a little kid, and I wondered how fast I was. At Eberwhite, there was a sixth grader who looked to me to be about ten feet tall. He was a very good baseball player and famously very fast running the bases. I quietly shadowed him on the Eberwhite playground for several days, and since I seemed able to keep pace with him, I challenged him to a race. He grinned and accommodated me, leaving me so far in the dust that it remains the best lesson in humility I ever had. Later on, I ran track at Pioneer High School, and I matched the sprint records of the school, but I always believed that kid at Eberwhite could beat me no matter how fast I got.

My father was always working, including after dinner at night, but some nights he taught me to play ping pong and also to fence with swords he had gotten when he went to college. He taught me one move in particular that was very much like something a movie star playing "Game of Thrones" would do, and I used that move to win the Michigan High School State Fencing Championship. Later on, I was the lead saber fencer on the Big Ten Fencing Championship Team for the University of Wisconsin.

I graduated with a degree in history from the University of Wisconsin with a minor in literature. I then volunteered for the Vietnam War and served as an infantryman in combat before the Army made me a war correspondent. The news stories I wrote from Vietnam were published around the world.

I came home from the war unwounded and became a newspaper editor in Ann Arbor. As an investigative reporter, I ran a sheriff out of office and forced a county executive to resign. I then went to work in television and ended up running a station. Then I switched to advertising, making ads for the banks in Ann Arbor before going to work for the world's four largest advertising agencies. During this time, I managed to create the most award-winning advertising campaign in history, "The Heartbeat of America" for Chevrolet. In those days, I was given one million dollars to film a thirty-second commercial—that would be some three million dollars today. If the sun was in the wrong spot during the filming, I would move it. Just kidding, but that was a lot more money per second than any movie company has today, even if it is filming "Batman Versus Superman."

I quit the big corporations and set up my own company, thinking I would work in advertising but very quickly I found that I had become a business consultant, working for the largest company in the world. My expertise was in cars and trucks, and I was a consultant who helped design seventeen vehicle programs, including the best-selling truck in North America.

It is always interesting to think about what you know now and when you didn't know it. One day during that first year at Eberwhite, the teacher told me to "get a couple of drumsticks" out of a box. As the son of a mathematician, I had no idea what "a couple" meant, and I was fumbling in the box trying to hide my embarrassment and fake it when the teacher said, "A couple means two."

My life just proves that you can be a total dork at Eberwhite and go on to do just about anything.

Mary (Lou) Denhouter Clark

I remember the nice classrooms we had. We had a boys and a girls bathrooms at the back of our classroom. There was a tiled area perfect for doing art projects and a sink to wash up our paint brushes and wash our hands. We also had a mini library in the back of the room with a cozy place to sit and read. They were really nice classrooms!

Beverly Greey Farrer

I remember, so well walking to school through the cut-thru sidewalk between the houses in our subdivision. When we were in Ann Arbor a few year's ago we went by it and it is still there. We looked at the school from the path and it hasn't changed much. Where did the time go?

Jane Worden Skerritt

I live in Massachusetts now, so I won't make it to the reunion. I moved to Ann Arbor when I was entering the 6th grade, so I only went to Eberwhite for a year, but I do remember it well. Everyone was so nice to me...new girl in the class. And I made some longterm friends there. Please tell Marti Woodruff I said Hi. Woodruff and Worden...we spent lots of time in lines together along with Johnny Wood.

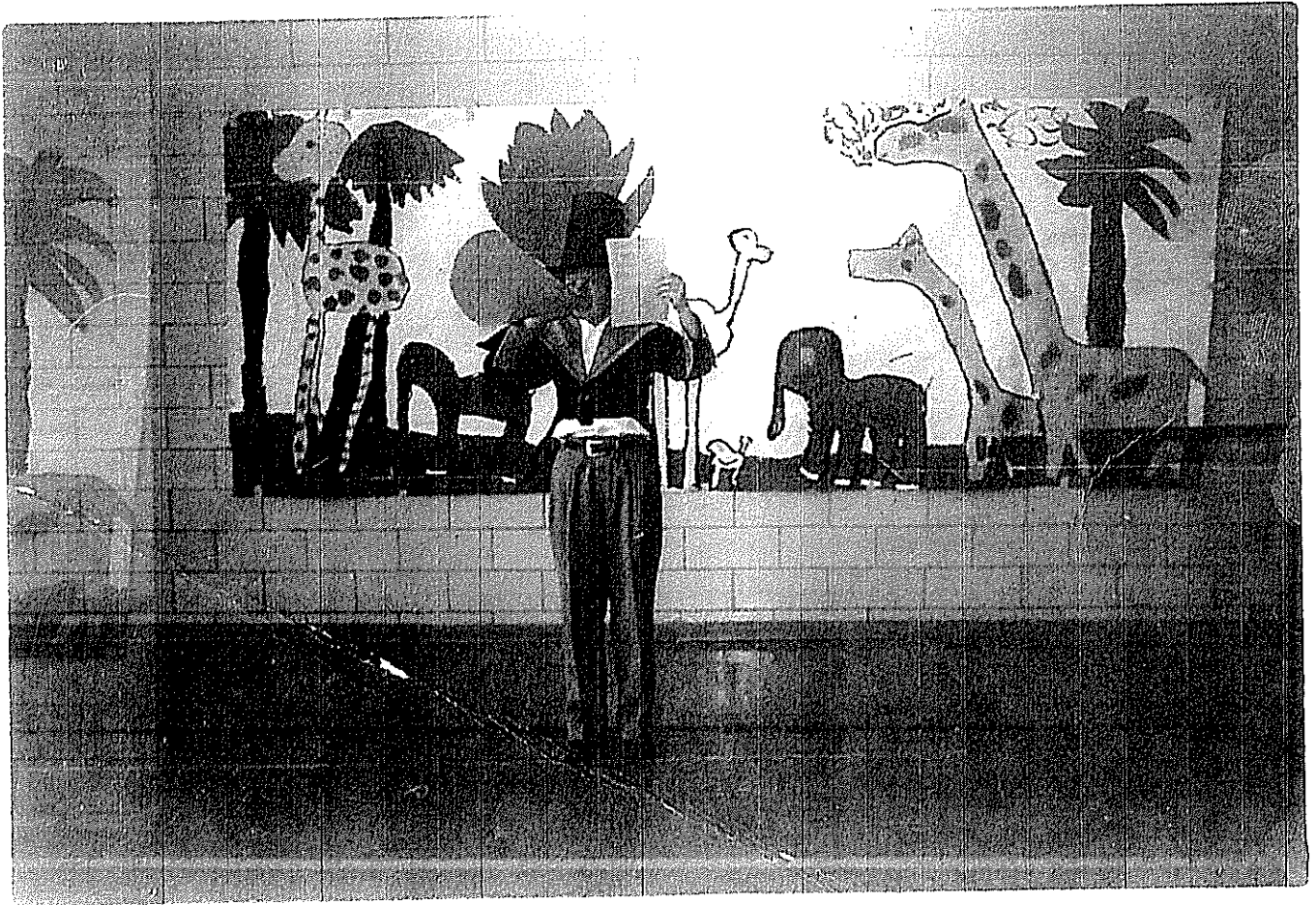
Barb Stanley Kramer

One of the biggest memories associated with Eberwhite is having been selected for the Children's Chorus at May Festival when I was in the 6th grade. What a thrill to be on the stage of Hill Auditorium with the Philadelphia Orchestra! So that, and learning to play the flute in 4th grade. I continued playing into adulthood, but it all started at Eberwhite. It was really fun to have my kids go to Eberwhite as well and having the opportunity to volunteer in their classrooms. Most of the school was as I remembered it.

Forrest (Frosty) Graves

Eberwhite Memories

I was MC of the Eberwhite Circus. (see picture) The Eberwhite Circus was a class program held in the gym when we were in the 4th grade. I designed the program with Ron Westrum. I had a copy of it for many years but have misplaced it. I was on Safety AAA Patrol. I played soccer and wrestled. I sang in the School Chorus. My favorite teacher was Mrs. Hughes.



Martha (Martie) Woodruff Weldon

In remembering Eberwhite, do you remember in sixth grade singing in the Ann Arbor's May Festival? It was with the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra with Eugene Ormandy as the conductor and music director. We sang "The Walrus and the Carpenter" from either "Alice in Wonderland" or "Through The Looking Glass". I remember we were bussed to Hill Auditorium for at least a semester in the afternoon to rehearse to sing with the orchestra in May. The Ann Arbor May Festival lasted a week every May.

I have many good memories from Eberwhite. They used children's time well. It seems to me all that strict training didn't ever serve us badly. We were easily chosen for many privileges and they didn't need to worry about melt downs, or bad behavior from us. They were insistent that we all sit quietly and wait for the last person to learn the math reading and writing lessons.

Can anyone explain Dick and Jane? (Our reading book series) their parents never talked, went anywhere, didn't have any relatives except Grandma, who visited once in a while. And no friends visited. How did we ever learn to read with this literature?

See Dick run

Run Dick run

See Jane run

Run Jane run

See baby sister Sally run

Run Sally run

See Spot run

Run spot run

They did have a nice red car. Those were good years.

The only thing I can remember carrying with me from Eberwhite to Slauson Junior High School were my ballet slippers for after school lessons and my clarinet for 7th grade band. Jean Gallagher sat next to me in band. She was also in Girl Scouts in Eberwhite.

Dave Taylor and others who lived around Allmendinger Park, came to my house every afternoon and we played kick ball in my front yard. Why didn't we use the park?

My brother was seven years ahead of me in school and he went to Bach. We lived on Eighth Street. I walked to Eberwhite from Eighth Street. The logical walk was to go up Eighth Street to Liberty, but a family had a big Collie that ran across the street barking at me and scared me. My parents asked if they could tie up the Collie during the hours when the children walked to school. They said they couldn't. So I went across the street, crawled under the hole in the fence and walked across Slauson's playing field over on the other side where Jane Stenzel lived and walk to Eberwhite that way to avoid Liberty for Kindergarten. We moved to Pauline by the time I started 1st grade. Then I walked down Pauline to Redeemer Lutheran and cut through to Eberwhite, both morning and at lunch. It set up for me a system of : if one way doesn't work, maybe another way works somewhere in the general direction. I was never late for school, unless I had a note from my mother.

I remember having to put up one or two fingers to ask permission to go to the bathroom in the back of the room in our classroom. I guess with the close proximity the teacher wanted to know what to expect.



Did you ever have to stay for lunch at Eberwhite? There wasn't a lunch room. You brown bagged it and sat quietly in the gymnasium on the floor.

I remember Girl Scouts, Art, Musical instruments, the movie Heidi in the auditorium, the music teacher, the art teacher, and the gym teacher. When you think of how much money was spent on all of us with all those special privileges, do you think that was possible because we weren't disruptive, troubled, or fighting? It was a strict atmosphere, but we all learned to read, write, and learned our multiplication and long division. No homework until junior high school and that gave us time to play and be children. Weren't we the most fortunate children?

Were you in the class of the teacher, maybe 1st, 2nd, or 3rd grade, who was an ardent Eisenhower supporter? I came home and said "Look Mommy, my "I LIKE IKE" button. The teacher told us all day about IKE." She never even looked around and said, "But does Ike like you?" I felt foolish and thought, he doesn't even know who I am.

I lived two blocks from the Michigan Stadium, and for \$1 children and students could walk to the games and sit in the end zone. Peggy Reed and I went to all the home games and the end zones were full of kids from all over Ann Arbor.

All the pictures and memorabilia my parents brought out here to New Jersey may be somewhere. How many of us went to summer camp at Camp Takona? Remember the Washington Club trip in high school? By high school I was working on U of M Training Table with Sue Lund and Ann Katzenmayer and figure skating all winter in Ann Arbor and all summer in East Lansing.

Were you one of the exchange students with "Youth For Understanding" under The Council of Churches in June of 1963 when we graduated from AAHS? It seems to me when we got together to have our photograph taken there were many students in it who had gone to Eberwhite. We went to Europe, various countries, for the summer. Many students went to Germany, England, and only a few to France.



Martie - 5th grade

Rick Weid

I Remember Eberwhite

Our first grade classroom was right next to the Kindergarten room and it always looked like they were having more fun than we were. The "Redeemer" subdivision was not built yet so the open fields backed up to the narrow woods. Some of the boys would sneak into the tall grass and create a maze in the tall grass. One day we got caught and all the boys went to Miss Hedrick. I don't remember the penalty.

One year our classroom was not on the main hall but next to the Auditorium down a short hall. I don't remember the teacher but we set up a postal system from drop boxes, sorting, and delivery. Valentine day was a big delivery day.

Dick and Philip were in charge of the building and kept everything working. Their room was right off the hall cross roads. They had every tool and part in the world and could fix anything. They would use a curry comb and shave smart flakes of paraffin wax on to the floor. The students would walk on the floor and grind the wax in then during class Phil would then buff it and the floor would shine.

Halloween and Easter there would be great displays Jack landers and decorated Eggs. So creative and well done I would envy the creativity and skill. Halloween there would be a parade that snaked through all the classrooms. When the end of the line came to our classroom we would follow and when we returned we would drop out.

5th grade was different than the other classes' school seemed to get harder. There were ink wells at upper right corner of each desk. We had to write with pens we dipped into the well. My handwriting was bad before but with the pen it got even worse. I was asked to extend my school day to work on my penman ship and spelling. They both got worse. I found my spelling improved because she could no longer figure out what letters I was writing. I still have poor penmanship and cannot spell. One of my sessions after school the teacher was called from the classroom in the middle of filling the ink wells. She would never let anyone fill them. I stepped in while she was gone and spilled the ink in the process. I bet the stain is still on the floor. It was there at the end of the school year.

6th grade was special. We did things. Smart people from the University came and put on demonstrations in our class. Rockets shot across the room on a wire. Fire was created and bridges were tested and crashed. We build a working model of the Soo Locks. Mr. Oddo was the teacher. I still remember him. I wanted to be as good as he was. Still trying. Harry French finally arose as the smartest student. Never before had a boy taken that spot. He was a math whiz but never let anyone know unless forced to do a problem on the board or called on for an answer. He was always quiet. He became a Math professor at MIT. Chris Van Den Broch was also very smart but he was social. Everyone knew he would be something special. He seemed to be good at everything.

I was not very good at Gym. Gordy Levingson was our teacher. He was a Gymnast at the university when he was a student. We had a High bar in the Gym and he could do amazing things on the

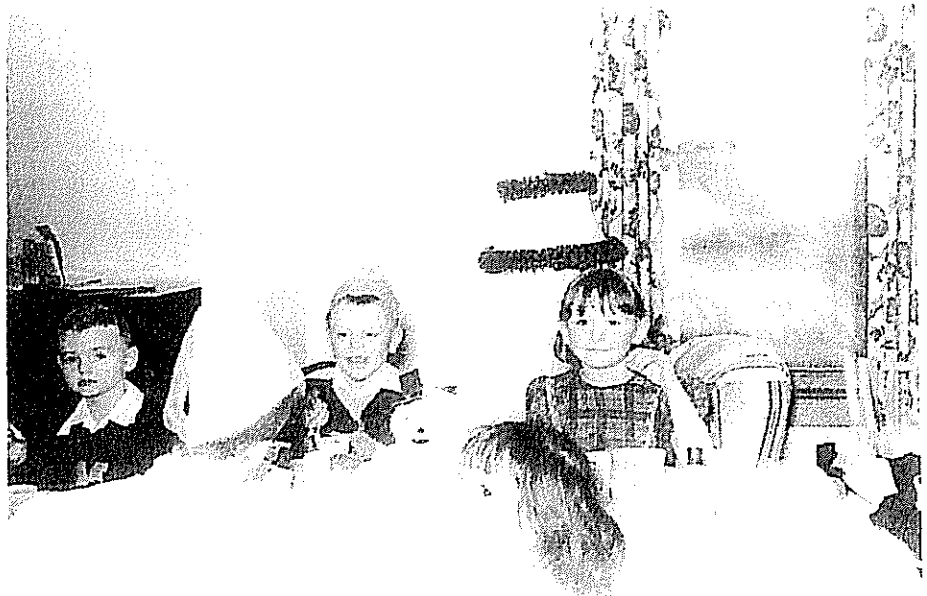


high bar. Mr. Levingson set up an obstacle course which was fun but I could not do the rope climb or the pullups. Jerry Gibson was small but was the best when concurring the obstacle course.

I am not sure when but we used to go to the clinic for health screening, shots and other things. I remember Scoliosis evaluation, Polio Sugar cubes, and other immunizations. Dr. Pierson was the school Doctor and he followed us through High School. He was the team doctor all through High school.



5 years old



Birthday Party

Facing camera:

Neil Stehle, Rick Weid, Sandy Schneeberger

Michael (Mike) Munn

I lived at 1600 Arbordale (The street did not even come close to going to Stadium Blvd. then). Stadium was two lanes at the time. When we move into our new home in 1951, we were the 8th house in the subdivision. The entire area was basically mud – and it had been a former cornfield, so isolated stalks of corn sprouted up periodically. We ate the ears of corn. Arbordale and Pauline were not paved until 1954. We periodically got stuck in the mud.

There was a farm on the backside of Eberwhite Woods that had a bull in a fenced in area. We loved climbing the fence and waiting for it to charge us – then scrambled back over the wire fence to safety.

The playground was not grass. It was mud. It was finally sodded in the summer, and a walk was laid from the cut through from Northwood to the south doors. There were teeter-totters and swings near the south door. There was a burn area near the swings where trash was burned daily by the custodians. Just over the hill in Fritz Park was a deep ditch that had previously been used as a firing range. We loved digging in the hillside to recover all the lead bullets that remained – which was substantial. We melted down the lead and made molds to make various figures.

I did play the clarinet in the band. Mr. Roth was the teacher. My favorite teachers were Mrs. Josephine Brokaw and Mrs. Marion Maddox.

Mrs. Brokaw taught me to read very well. I became the top reader in class at the end of 3rd grade. She also taught our class a lot about Mexico and Social Studies. This stayed with me my whole life.

Mrs. Maddox taught me to write more clearly, improved my script, and I learned math quite well. She also taught me compassion and caring for others. I now am a volunteer with Hospice, visiting many people who are at the end of their lives and need a caring person to walk with them at this time.

I went on to become a teacher (K-9) for 30 years, teaching Reading , English, Math, Science and Social Studies, using much of what I first learned at Eberwhite Elementary School.

I also used much of what I learned to become an officer in the U.S. Army, spending two years as a combat infantryman (leaving as a Captain) in Viet Nam.

We all loved Mr. Gordy Levinson, the gym teacher, who taught us sports and folk dancing.

Finally there was Mrs. Nelson, the vocal music teacher. I owe her quite a bit of thanks! She instilled a love of singing in me, and I still sing today. I was in A Capella Choir, Choraliers, and the three musicals at Ann Arbor High School and was selected for the Youth for Understanding Michigan Chorale that toured Europe for 8 weeks in the summer after our graduation from high school. I have sung at Hill Auditorium, Cobo Arena, and several temples and churches throughout Detroit. I have been a member of numerous church choirs and currently sing in the Ypsilanti Community Choir. I also sing in the Grosse Ile Chorale. And have toured with that group to China, Greece, Turkey, Israel, New Zealand, Australia and Europe. Our next trip is this coming summer and is to Spain for two weeks.

I'd love to play soccer again on the fields of Eberwhite with my 3 daughters and 12 grandchildren. I have many fond memories of games there with my classmates.

So as one can see, my early education at such a fine elementary school has enabled me to live a fine life and be a productive and contributing citizen in our community.

Lance (Mike) Gillingham

In 1955 our family moved from Midland, Michigan back to Ann Arbor (where I was born in 1945). While attending 5th and 6th grade at Eberwhite Elementary, my desire to travel was born. I would draw pictures of sports cars and airplanes which I showed to Ron Westrum and Nancy Zugich and others in my classroom. My ceramic white glazed seagull gliding over a blue spot in a puddle was put in the display case by the principal Ethyl Hedrick. I guessed she liked my artwork. It was all about traveling.

After that, I formed the "Blue Jets" soccer team with my classmates. I was the goalie and we won almost every game against the other homerooms. I earned enough Ann Arbor News paper boy money to buy a fast Schwinn Continental racing bike with twin lights and generators.

On to Slauson Jr. High from 1958 to 1960 my interest in Vespa motorscooters was paid for by lawn mowing and paper route management with the Stalkers and Patty Natalie and 3 others working for me. My 176 customers Ann Arbor News route was divided by Wayne Alber into 5 routes. In 1961 I bought and fixed up and sold used American and foreign (mostly sports) cars, while attending Ann Arbor Pioneer High School until graduation in 1963. My desire to travel preceded my attending graduation diploma ceremony with a trip to Bermuda. There at the Navy base, I yearned to be a U.S. Navy man and "see the world".

I returned to Ann Arbor in September of 1963 and joined the Navy. After boot camp in Great Lakes, Illinois, I was stationed at the Davisville Rhode Island CB base waiting to board the U.S. Investigator AGR 9 (an Atlantic ocean radar picket ship) for temporary duty. My Navy Electronic Technician "A" school position opened up back in Great Lakes. By then I had acquired my '63 Stingray to enhance my travel. After ET school I put in for a Navy Destroyer going to Viet Nam (talk about traveling!) My Stingray got sold by my dad.

My ship, the U.S.S. Ingersoll DD 652 stationed at San Diego, California, left for Honolulu, Hawaii, Midway Island, Guam, Subic Bay, Phillipines, Okinawa, Yokosuka and Osaka Japan, and then to aircraft carrier escort in the sea of Japan. The excitement really began off the Viet Nam coast late 1964, where we did shore bombardment, jet plane, man overboard and helicopter rescue. From there we went to the Tonkin Gulf for much the same. Finally up the Saigon River to rescue the river boats from shoreline cannon fire. That is where we contacted "Agent Orange" exposure all in 3 tours back and forth.

I was accepted to Eastern Michigan University upon my honorable Navy discharge in September 1967. I bought a Triumph Bonneville motorcycle in '68. My dad gave me a new maroon '66 Chevy Corvair convertible for inclimate weather, (which I still have today in my Tucson, Ariz. Garage with 35,000 actual miles on it.)

In 1969 I moved to Iowa City, Iowa to help my brother remodel his home in Oxford, Iowa. I worked as an auto mechanic at Volkswagen in Iowa City and Harwig Dodge/Plymouth/Datsun. I married Joyce and became the father of Todd. We managed the Carriage Hill Apartments, rent free. I took flying lessons and soloed on a Piper Cherokee PA 128 and a Beechcraft Musketeer. I purchased a new '69 Dodge Charger and a new Datsun 240Z in '72. I became a service manager of Coralville, Iowa Chrysler/Plymouth. I wasn't seeking a career, I was looking for experiences and travel.

We came back to Ann Arbor and Joyce managed Greenbriar Apartments rent free while I bought and sold used cars while working for Howard Cooper VW/Porsche/Audi in Ann Arbor. I then worked for Serbay Chrysler/Datsun in Ypsilanti, Mich. That's where I traded the 240Z for a new '74 260Z 2+2. Joyce and I divorced. I attended Washtenaw Community College and helped Bruce Bachman fix his transistor ignition on his VW Bus (aced that course) I went to work at National Bank & Trust Co. down town Ann Arbor as an installment loan/credit card collector. I helped Gregory Millar (The Grand Rapids, Mi./Tucson Symphony Conductor) to move his & a Greenbrier tenant's furniture with a u-Haul truck from Grand Rapids & Ann Arbor to Tucson, Arizona late 1974. I applied for and got the collector's job at 1st National Bank of Arizona in 1975.

I married Sherry in '77 and moved into our new home in May and have been living here ever since. I had joined Continental Airlines as a ramp & freight assistant in '79. Sherry and I traveled to England, Hawaii, and New Zealand. That's a long travel experience!

I then started up a collection agency (L.I.N.C.) linking investigators with nationwide computers. I got my Arizona Private Investigator's license by corporate waiver. That was for helping local law enforcement from the private sector. My next car was an '83 Nissan 300ZX2+2 for Sherry. She offered me a used '76 Singray for quitting smoking. I've been smoke free ever since 1985. I sits next to the '66 Corvair in the garage. I ended up owning a mobile home park, a couple of mobile homes, and a '63 Winnebago Chieftan as a result of selling my corporation. I also drove a delivery stake-bed truck for a heating/ air conditioning contractor in Tucson up until 2006.

2006 is when the latent Agent Orange cancer (non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma) kicked in. the VA hospital couldn't solve the problem and I ended up in Palliative Care with a prognosis of 6 months to live with a broken hip bone (both sides) also. With computer searching, Sherry found a cancer cure and I went into remission. The the VA attempted to fix my hip 7 times on one side and 1 time on the other side and paid an outside hip replacement surgeon to fix my left side in 2010. I've been in a wheel chair since and recovering. I believe I have gotten my early wishes by traveling, experiencing much and happily having a profitable good life. I can't ask for much more.

Carol Schonberger Spears

I believe that I got a very very good education at Eberwhite. We moved into the neighborhood behind the school (Northwood St.) in December of 2nd grade. I remember my teacher Ms. Carlson introducing me and asking everyone to make me feel welcome. My very first friend in Ann Arbor was my classmate Judy Eibler. We remained best friends into adulthood. She was a bridesmaid in my wedding. We used to walk to Slauson and AAHS together.

Walking home for lunch everyday was a unique experience. Many times I would eat lunch with Soupy Sales on t.v. Occasionally my mother would actually fix me grilled cheese and tomato soup for lunch...just like Soupy. What a treat. The walk home and eating lunch out of the building was a good break for us all.

There were so many activities available to us at Eberwhite. I remember having Art in our classroom because they had to take the Art room for a regular classroom. We had a male art teacher who was very tall and handsome. This was when I was in 5th grade. One day two of the boys (who shall remain nameless to protect their identity) were misbehaving and not listening to the art teacher. He picked one of them up (the smaller boy) and held him over his head for about 5 seconds. Needless to say there were no more problems in our class.

Music was also a very important part of my learning. I learned to play the trumpet at Eberwhite. I remember the instrumental music room was in the basement. It seemed like it was a storage room. We seemed to be very crowded and in need of classrooms in every space they could find for us by the time we were in 4th grade. Vocal music was upstairs in a room near the auditorium room. I didn't continue the trumpet after Eberwhite, but I continued singing all the way through college. I really enjoyed being in the May Festival. What a fantastic experience we had. Can you imagine singing with the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra with Eugene Ormandy conducting? What a lifetime experience. I still remember the words to "The Walrus and the Carpenter." I enjoyed being in the Music Man production at AAHS too.

Many of us were in Girl Scouts. We formed life long friendships in our troupe. My mother and Jean Gallagher's mother were the leaders and I can remember doing all kinds of projects and crafts. I think that is where I got my love for doing those kinds of things and why, to this day, I decorate my house inside and out for various holidays. My neighbors love the outside decorations. It is not a Chevy Chase décor, but something to commemorate the holiday.

At Eberwhite we had a lot of special activities for students. In the spring we had a Decorate an Easter Egg Contest. (Yes, in those days we could call it an Easter Egg Contest and not worry about being "Politically Correct") We had to take fresh eggs and decorate any way we wanted. My dad had to poke two pin holes, one in each end of the egg and blow out all the insides of the egg. It was very difficult to do and I think he broke 3 eggs doing it. With the help of sequins, glitter, pipe cleaners and some paint I transformed that egg into Cinderella's Coach. Mine was chosen to be in the showcase in the front hallway. I was so proud of it. I tried to walk by it as often as I could to see it in the showcase. I carefully carried it home in a shoebox with lots of tissue to keep it from breaking and kept it on my shelf for a very long time. I think it eventually fell apart. But it was a great experience for those of us who entered the contest.

In those days, (1950s) girls did NOT wear slacks. We all wore dresses or skirts to school. In the winter we wore snow pants or slacks under our dresses or skirts. We had coat hooks in the classrooms that were covered by folding doors. This became our "changing" area. We would go into the coat racks and close the doors then slip off our snow pants. I remember doing it as fast as I could so no boy would accidentally open the door on me.

My fondest memories were of my teachers. I always felt they cared about us and were really interested in helping us learn and be our best. In third grade I had Mrs. Brokaw who was a real sweet lady. In fourth grade I had Mrs. Kreeg who was not as pleasant as Mrs. Brokaw had been. Then in 5th I had Mrs. Hughes who went to AAHS to be a counselor when we were there and she remembered us. In 6th grade my teacher was Mrs. Maddock. I remember being upset about some problems with the girls in the class being mean to each other. Mrs. Maddock sat us down and gave us some very good advise that I have used to this day with my own children, and all the children I have taught. Yes, I became an Elementary School Teacher. I taught 3rd and 4th grades and taught the Academically Talented class after school. I was an educator for 22 years and I still volunteer in an elementary school reading to 2nd and 3rd grade classes trying to teach them a love for reading. I know that my education from the Ann Arbor Public Schools helped me to be a better person, a good mother, and a good teacher.

Eberwhite was the start of all of it and was a great foundation.

Carol
4th grade



Jon Ladd

I remember Eberwhite.

On our lunch break I used to watch Soupy Sales.

I was the shortest boy in the class and Neil Uphaus was the tallest.

Neil was Best Man at my wedding (August 1968) and we're still in touch occasionally.

I graduated from U of M in 1967.

I served in the infantry in Vietnam. (68-69)

Becky McArtor

I was only a student at Eberwhite for kindergarten, but I do remember one thing especially.

My mother told me that at age 5, after having been in Miss Robinson's class in kindergarten, having been a messy child previously, I became very neat – and have remained so ever since! Even today when Laurie Beuhler comes down to Charleston to visit she comments that “You have the least clutter of any place I've ever been!” ‘Course, I *do* tidy up for visitors. I wish you all the best. I will be with you in spirit as I live in Charleston, South Carolina now.

Barbara Huffman Tanner

A couple of things I remember about the school is a room off to the left when entering through the front doors, which was a school store that sold things like pencils, erasers, and paper. I also went to that room for speech class. I remember going to a music room upstairs which was off the main hallway.

I know I sang in the May Festival at Hill Auditorium when I was in 6th grade. I don't remember having sports at school other than what was played in gym or at recess.

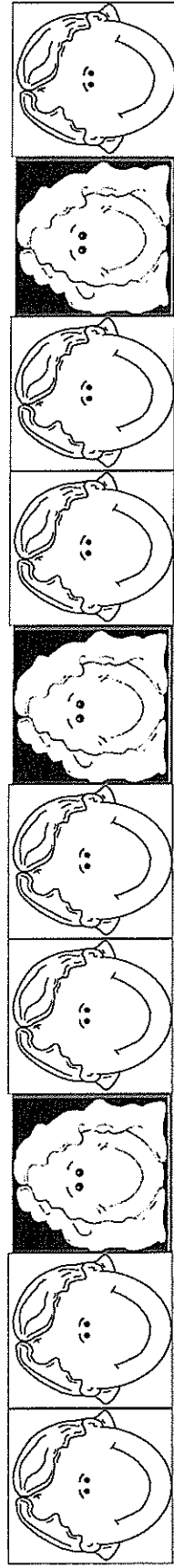
The Boy Scouts used to have pancake suppers in the gym several times a year.

I had a male 6th grade teacher by the name of Mr. Otto, pronounced Otoe. One day Miss Hedrick (the principal) came into the room and accidentally called him Mr. Dodo. Of course the whole classroom roared!

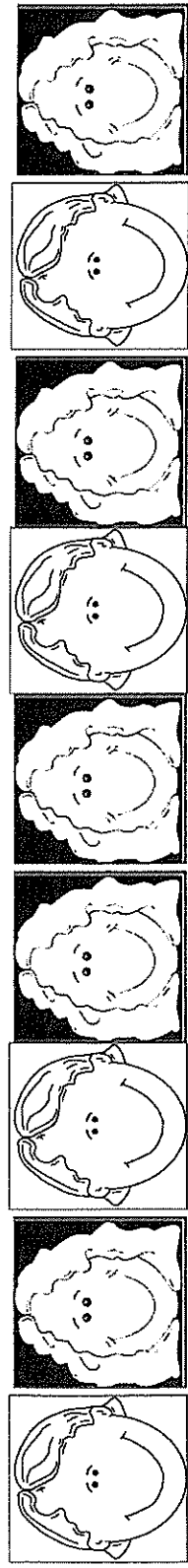


Eberwhite Elementary 1951 Morning Kindergarten Class (Miss Robinson)

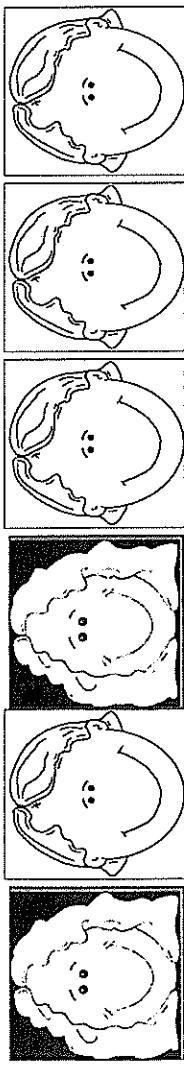
Eberwhite Elementary 1950 Morning Kindergarten (Miss Robinson)



Steve Hedenskoog Richard Otto Ann Lewis John Buss Van Batsakis Barb Huffman Bill Lampe Steven Koelz Betsy Kirchen Lawry Dolph



Frosty Graves Sandy Ingram Dave Taylor Judy Eibler Jean Gallagher Jimmy Muehlig Diane Lindemann Malcom Greer Nancy Rae



Lee Stone Gerry Bowles-Pike Mary Lou Covert Jed Pendorf Gerry Gibson Ed Zwinck

Miss identified or not pictured

- Beuhler, Laurie
- Cranmer, Sue
- Grignon, Dan
- Howell, Linda
- Kulenkamp, Carol
- Lewis, Ann
- McArtor, Beckey
- Miller, Judy
- Page, David
- Thompson, Ken

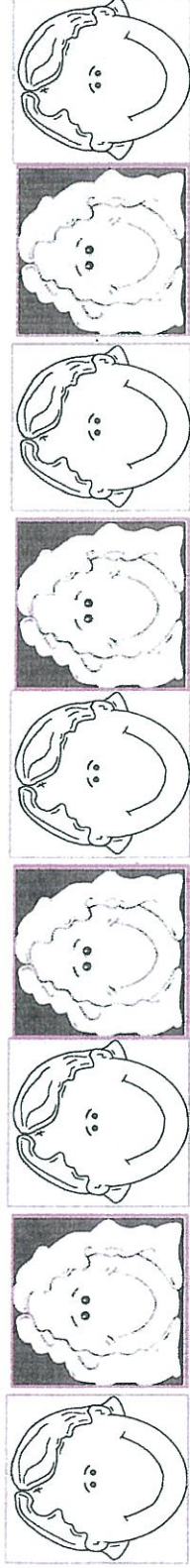


Eberwhite Elementary 1951 Afternoon Kindergarten Class (Miss Robinson)

Eberwhite Elementary 1950 Kindergarten (Miss Robinson) (P.M.)



Sandy Schneberger John Albreiht Diane Gilbertson Neil Uphause Kathy Coniway Michael Jewell Charlotte Borden Dick Sutton Martha Woodruff



Billy Kruse Penny Goch Tommy Francisco Carol Kulenkamp Neil Stehle Carol Ostricker John Ladd Jane Stentzel Doug Leirette



Jerry Koch George Mummer Barbara Maddack Richard Weid Mary Simpson Chris VanDen Brock Suzanne LaRoe Tommy Scott Vern Scott

Eberwhite Elementary 1st Grade Class 1951-1952



Van Batsakes

Steve Hedenskoog

George Menner

Dave Taylor



Dick Pineger

Sue Hedlesky

Barb Burd

Diane Gilbertson

Jane Stenzel

Diane Lindeman

Barb Stanley

Danny Grignon

Lee Stone

Carol Kulenkamp

Ann Lewis

Mickey Lepke

Jackie Schiede

Acceptance Of Land Gift Voted By School Board

THU. APR. 11 1946

University Donates

34 Remaining Acres
In Eber White Woods

Acceptance of a University gift of approximately 34 additional acres in Eber White Woods, making the school district the owner of all of the Woods, was voted by the Board of Education last night.

The board also voted to require all school voters to re-register after the June election; increased the tuition for pupils from outside the district; joined with the city council on a plan to return city and school-owned lands to the State Land Board for sale, and approved a program of ninth grade driver education.

Public Use Planned

Superintendent Otto W. Haisley said today that the board of education plans to use the approximately 34 acres in the new Eber White gift for parks and other public purposes, and plans erection of an elementary school on the eight acres of Eber White received from the University a few months ago.

The University's offer of the remainder of Eber White Woods to the school district followed a withdrawal last week of a University offer to trade the approximately 34 acres of the woods for 25 acres

at the municipal airport.

Action to require re-registration of school electors in June and July after the election was prompted by a recommendation from Assistant Superintendent Richard Warren that re-registration would be the best way to bring the school poll book up to date as to qualified voters and required information about the voters.

Out-District Fees Raised

Tuition for out-of-district pupils will be \$65 for the kindergarten through the sixth grade, and \$75 for the seventh and eighth grades, as compared to the \$50 and \$65 now charged.

As a result of the board's decision to join with the city council in returning land to the state land board, approximately 60 school and city owned lots will be placed on sale by the land board. Revenue from the sale will be returned to the local units.

The ninth grade driver education program, slated to start next school term, will provide classroom instruction for all ninth-graders. It will make behind-the-wheel driving training available to those who pay a \$6 fee and receive parental consent.

APRIL 11, 1946

Eber White Woods Saved To Ann Arbor

EBER WHITE WOODS, 344 acres of native woods on West Liberty St., at the city limits, is to be preserved for public recreation and nature study. That is assured by the Board of Education's acceptance of the tract as a gift from the University.

Previously the University had offered the woodland to the City Council in exchange for 25 acres at the city airport. That offer was given the silent treatment by the aldermen, supposedly because of the exchange provision. There were reasons to believe that had the City Council appeared in a receptive mood, the University might have withdrawn the trade proposition and made the city a free gift of the woods, as has now been done through the acceptance of its offer by the Board of Education. In any event, despite the lack of enthusiasm on the part of the council, this remnant of the native timber that once covered the hills of Ann Arbor will remain in the ownership of the people and be saved for their pleasure and profit.

Possession by the municipality might have been more satisfactory than possession by the Board of Education. The woods would fit admirably into the city park system. The Board of Education, on the other hand, has no established park administration machinery.

It will have to set up maintenance facilities as well as means of policing the tract.

But, Eber White Woods will remain an attractive part of Ann Arbor. It will be a smaller companion piece on the west side of the east side Arboretum which serves both the University and the community as an outdoors resort—for hiking, picnicking, and communing with nature.

* * *

SOME DAY, when Ann Arbor has grown outward and become more thickly settled, Eber White Woods may attain values unseen by many of us today. Then we may be particularly grateful that the University's offer was accepted in a way that keeps the woods in public possession. Just as the people of Grand Rapids are grateful that hesitant aldermen many years ago did not turn down the gift of the John Ball Forty, a hilly, wooded area comparable in size to Eber White Woods. That Forty, accepted most reluctantly and with much debate, has been developed into John Ball Park, which through the years has been a popular and much prized playplace of the Furniture City and long the envy of other communities far and wide.

A growing community must look to the needs of the future as well as of the present. Ann Arbor cannot have in reserve too much park land.

Construction Continues on Eberwhite School, June 1950

Submitted by oldnews on Fri, 01/22/2016 - 2:42pm



No Bound Volume

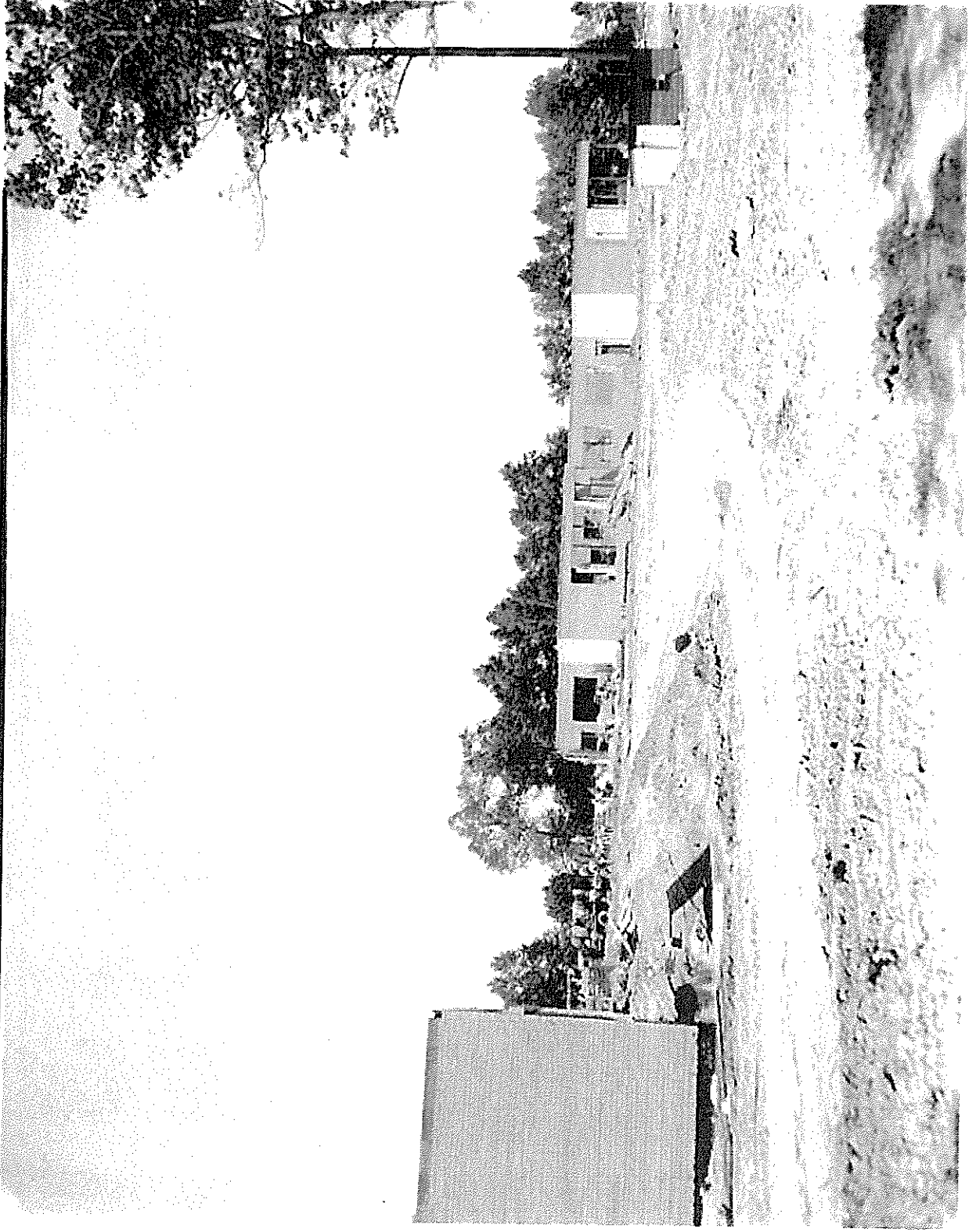
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Basement

Construction Progresses on Eberwhite School, June 1950

Submitted by: oldnews on Fri, 01/22/2016 - 2:42pm



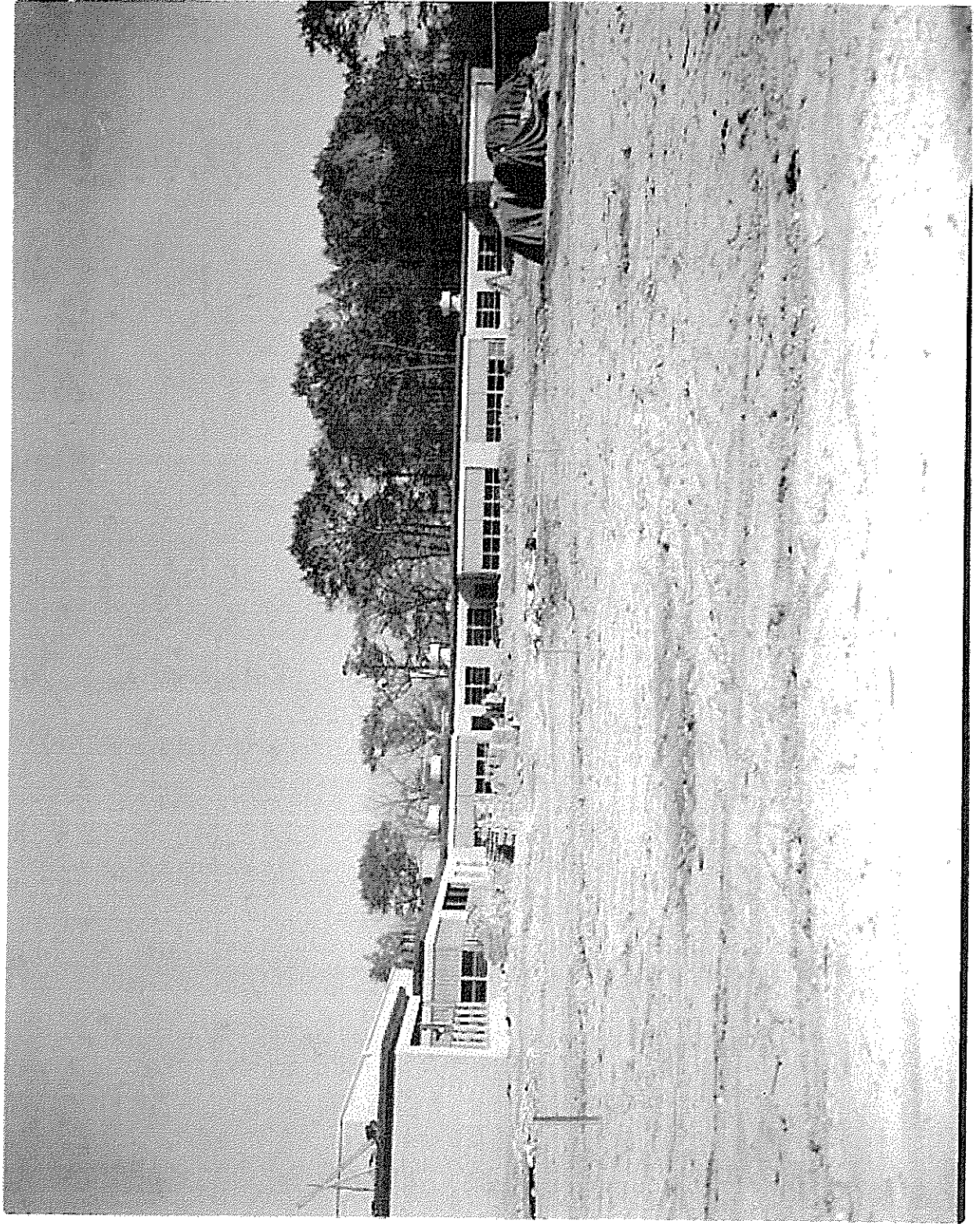
Cornerstone Placed for Eberwhite School, August 1950

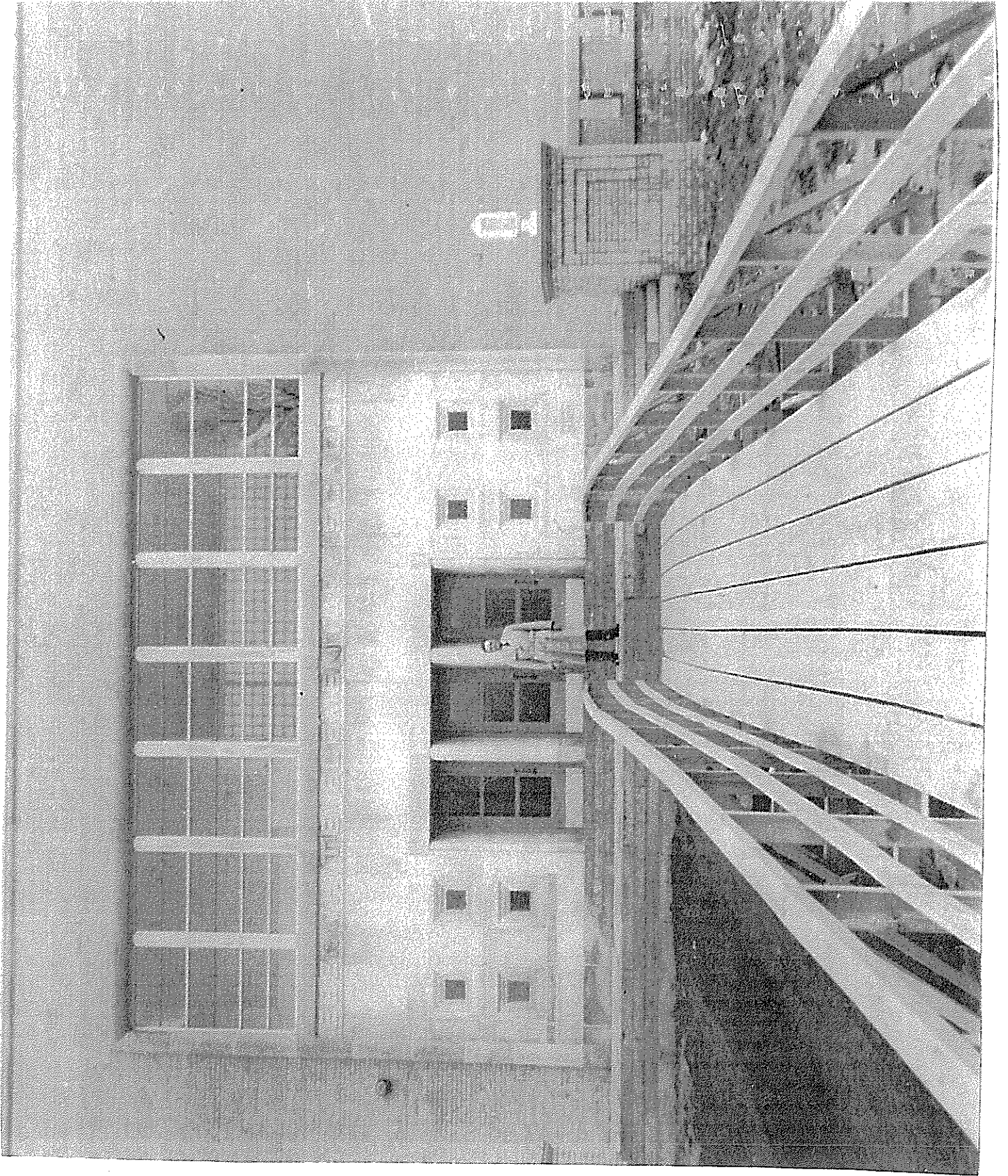
Submitted by: oldnews on Fri, 01 22 2016 - 2:45pm



Eberwhite School Takes Shape, October 1950

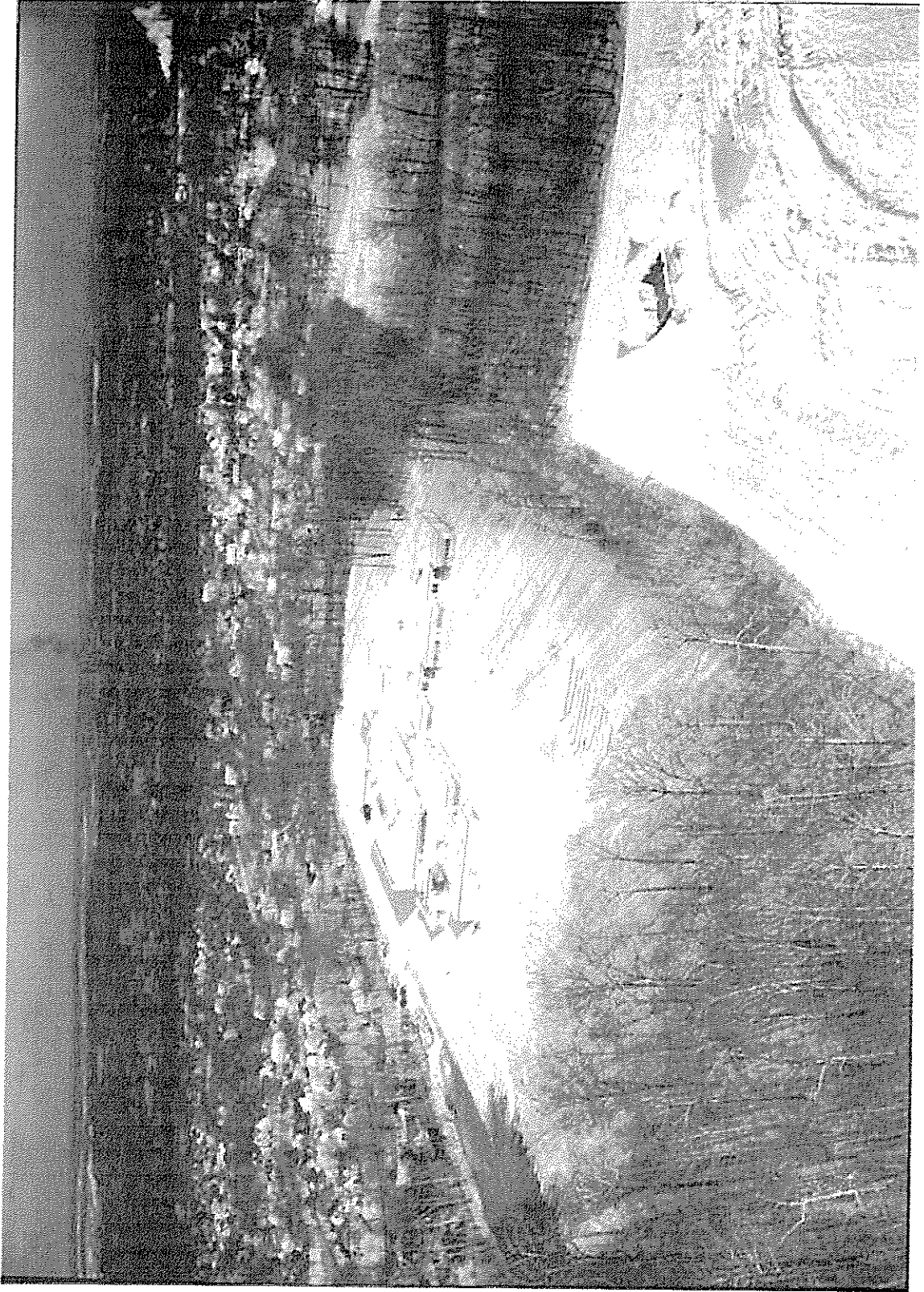
Submitted by: oldnews on Fri, 01 22 2016 - 2:42pm





Eberwhite School, From Air, December 1950

Submitted by: oldnews on Fri, 01/22/2016 - 2:42pm



Pupils Begin Classes At Eberwhite School

By Alice Brinkman

The first unit of Ann Arbor's multi-million dollar school building program became a reality this morning, when 525 west side youngsters trooped into the new Eberwhite Elementary School.

The \$500,000 building, at the south end of Soule Blvd., is the first completed since a \$7,075,000 bond issue for schools was voted in April, 1949. The bond issue, ap-

(A page of pictures on the new Eberwhite school is on Page 20.)

proved by a 3 to 1 margin, also provides for a \$1,750,000 junior high school, a \$4,600,000 senior high and \$525,000 in repairs to existing buildings.

The new Tappan Junior High School near the intersection of Stadium Blvd. and Washtenaw Rd. is expected to be ready by next fall. The Board of Education is now consulting architects for the high school, to be erected in Stadium Hills.

Scheduled Last Fall

Eberwhite School, originally expected to be occupied last fall, was finally opened for classes today, the beginning of the second semester.

Overcrowding at Bach School, which housed 670 students during the first semester, was relieved by the move.

The building, of cinderblock, was erected by Henry McKinnis Construction Co. It houses 38 classrooms, two of which are now being used for playrooms, a gym, an auditorium seating about 400, a library, a music, art and crafts room, and a club room for Boy and Girl Scouts.

Modern in every detail, the building features radiant heating, and plenty of light. Making classrooms as homelike as possible and adapting the building to use as a community center were the dominating principles in planning. Otto W.

Haisley, superintendent of schools, explained.

Each room is a complete unit, with its own lavatories, coat closet, adjacent work room, and a door leading directly to the playfield outside.

Outside walls are almost entirely of glass, with windows below and directional glass brick above. The brick casts the light to the far sides of the rooms, and also cuts heating costs and sun glare.

Rooms are painted in different pastel shades, while natural finish birch is used for woodwork. Green plastic glare-proof blackboards will be used.

Learning from past experience, the planners incorporated such features as a level auditorium floor, which is more adaptable to different uses. They placed the principal's office and the clinic side-by-side, with a common outer office.

Gym Extra Large

The gym was made extra large to accommodate community activities. The auditorium was located across a corridor from the gym to allow activities to go on in both at the same time, without noise interference.

The move from Bach School was completed last week with the aid of a number of parents, as well as teachers and custodians. Miss Ethel Hedrick, Eberwhite principal, said.

At an assembly of students this morning in the main corridor, Miss Hedrick coined the move "a dream come true." Trustee Albert Elashfield of the Board of Education said a few words, and then the students were off to a tour of the school, room by room.

Classroom windows picture nearby Eberwhite woods, which the Board of Education plans to develop as a park. The site was obtained from the University as a gift.

Although some finishing touches remain to be completed — such as a playfield and sidewalks — principal, teachers, pupils and parents all seemed to agree: "It's wonderful to be here."

525
students
opened
school

January 29, 1951

Pupils Begin Classes At Eberwhite School

Ann Arbor News, January 29, 1951



SCHOOL BEGINS AT EBERWHITE: Some of the 525 West Side children, who began their first day at the new Eberwhite School at the south end of Saule Blvd., are shown above. In top picture, Miss Ethel Hedrick, principal, welcomes the pupils in their first assembly in the school. Mrs. Virginia Johnson, a second-grade teacher, is at left. Below, the pupils, loaded with bags of books and gym equipment, pause on the front steps to remove their overshoes, and incidentally, pose for the camera men. Workmen continued making finishing touches this morning. Note workman with wheelbarrow. (Other pictures on page 20)

Photos by News Photographer Rick Stanger

Modern School Opens For Eberwhite Pupils

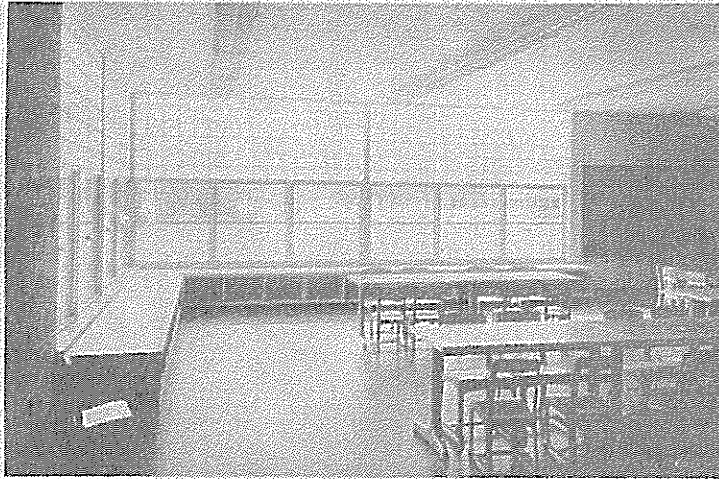
Ann Arbor News, January 29, 1951

PAGE TWENTY

THE ANN ARBOR NEWS, ANN ARBOR, MICH.

MONDAY, JAN. 29, 1951

Modern School Opens For Eberwhite Pupils



NEW EBERWHITE SCHOOL CLASSROOM. Typical of 13 classrooms of the new school building, this room is brightly lit and modern. It has a large window on the left side of the room. There are several rows of desks and chairs, and a teacher's desk at the front.

NEW EBERWHITE SCHOOL CLASSROOM. This room is brightly lit and modern. It has a large window on the left side of the room. There are several rows of desks and chairs, and a teacher's desk at the front.



LOCKER ROOM IN EBERWHITE SCHOOL. The lockers in this room are modern and brightly lit. They are arranged in rows along the wall, and there is a doorway at the end of the room.



CLASSROOM IN EBERWHITE SCHOOL. This room is brightly lit and modern. It has a large window on the right side of the room. There is a desk and chairs, and a teacher's desk at the front.

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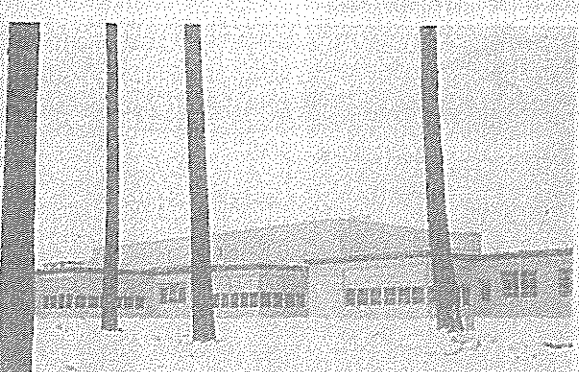


LOCKER ROOM IN EBERWHITE SCHOOL. The lockers in this room are modern and brightly lit. They are arranged in rows along the wall, and there is a doorway at the end of the room.

LOCKER ROOM IN EBERWHITE SCHOOL. The lockers in this room are modern and brightly lit. They are arranged in rows along the wall, and there is a doorway at the end of the room.



CHILDREN IN EBERWHITE SCHOOL. A group of children are sitting at a table, possibly in a library or reading area. They are looking at books and talking to each other.



EBERWHITE SCHOOL. This is the school of the future. It is a modern, single-story building with many windows. It is located in the center of the city, and it is a very beautiful building.



CHILDREN IN EBERWHITE SCHOOL. A group of children are standing together, possibly in a hallway or classroom. They are looking at each other and talking.

New Turnarounds at Eberwhite School, August 1951

Submitted by oldnews on Thu, 01/21/2016 - 10:44pm



Published in Issue: [Ann Arbor News, August 14, 1951](#)

Caption: Finishing Touches At Eberwhite ~ Workmen are completing curbing around two drives at Eberwhite School this week. The drive at left circles from Soule Blvd. to the main entrance facing north. The drive at right approaches from Park Dr., permitting easier access to the school from the south and east. Parking space for 152 cars will be provided. The drives will be graveled. Sidewalks are started, and bids for sodding all the school grounds except the big athletic field to the west will be taken Thursday. School officials expect the work to be completed when school opens Sept. 7.

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