

# THE BAGDAD PUBLIC SCHOOL.

School began at Bagdad following a successful petition by district parents dated May 22, 1884. By year's end land had been acquired, a building constructed and schooling began early in 1895 with 35 pupils enrolled.

The Secretary of Lands approved the permanent dedication of the site in February 1886, the area being 2 acres, Portion 36, Parish of Walladilly, County Bland. A temporary reservation of an adjoining 8 acres for a school paddock was included. It was designated a Public School in July 1886. As the area was part of a Travelling Stock Reserve, cattle often grazed close to the school, possibly endangering the children's lives. A petition to the District Inspector in May 1890 to have the area fenced was eventually successful.

In 1902 a move to have a residence constructed was unsuccessful. On July 20, 1910, classes opened in the new school building constructed by Henry Butler for the sum of 170 pounds.

Around 1920 the school was closed for a period, and following a petition in 1923, it reopened as a Provisional School. It remained open until the commencement of the school bus runs to Temora in 1948.

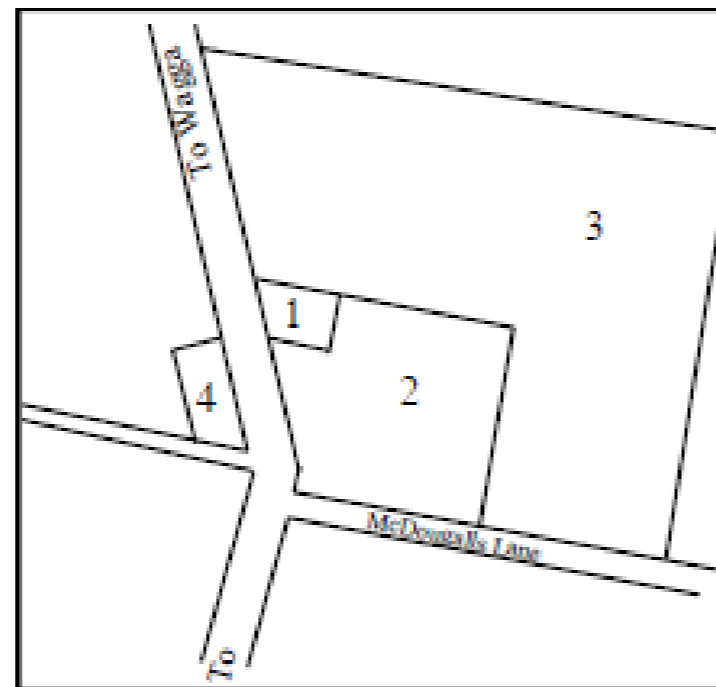
During World War 2 many former students served in the Armed Services. Two who did not return and will always be remembered were Milton Reid and Noel Wallace.

From 1949 the building became the home of Mr. Bill Ball, a school bus operator, until he died in 1971.

The building was burnt to the ground in late 1971. All that is left to memory are the old brick chimney and the pepper trees planted in 1930.

## Teachers:

1886	William Gibbons
1887	Henry Peck
1889	William Evans
1901	Georghe Spillane
1907	W.C. Wentworth
1908	Ethel Porter
1909	William Hatter
1923	L. Lambert
1925	H.A. Burge
1928	S.C. Fouracre
1929	E. Cook
1931	J. A. McMillan
1932	William Neave
1934	J. H. Coventry
1936-48	S.C. Fouracre



1. School 2. School yard 3. T.S.R. 4. Wimbledon Courts.



BAGDAD SCHOOL PUPILS—About 1937

Left to right (standing): Allan Crawford, Stan Pike, Max Wallace, Ken Wallace, Dorothy Bartel, Arthur Wallace, Veronica Cooney and Arthur Grock. (kneeling): Baden Drummond and Barney Cooney.

## THE WIMBLEDON TENNIS CLUB.

A group of residents met on 10th April, 1934 on the Bagdad School tennis court and resolved that a Tennis Club, to be called Wimbledon, be formed and two courts be erected opposite the school on Crawford's property "Pine Vale". The club was active until shortage of equipment and players forced it into recess in 1943. Following the War, the club reformed, functioning stronger than before. However, as more sports became centred in town, the club began to decline, eventually closing in 1966. Its funds were donated to the Bagdad Hall committee.

Erected by ex-students and the Temora Heritage Committee, 2007.