

HISTORY OF DIBBLE SCHOOL



Dibble School, Summit Township District #2 was built on land donated to the district by Mr. Alanson Dibble. The first school was built of logs but the date of its construction is not known. Dibble School's current amateur historians speculate that it may have been given to help educate his oldest son, Dwight, when he was old enough to attend school. This first school was replaced with a stone building in 1868. At this time Mr. Dibble had three children: Dwight 10, Edwin 8, and Ellen 5. The stone building was replaced in 1885 with a wood structure. This building cost approximately \$650. There were 16 boys and girls enrolled in this one-room schoolhouse. Mr. Francis Dodge was the first teacher with students ranging in grades from one through eight, all learning and studying different things. Mr. Dodge and parents living close by cleaned the building. The eighth graders went to the courthouse in Jackson every spring to take tests and usually one or two of them graduated. A large picnic was held to celebrate the event.

In the early 1950's, a new Dibble School was built, and the older building was used as a library. A new addition which included a new library was built in the 1960's and the Jackson Public Schools donated the old building to Ella Sharp Museum. In 1967, it was moved to its' current location next to the museum. It is used in the Museum's educational living history program, *Pioneer Living*, throughout the school year.