

Souvenir Program

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY
SCHOOL DAY

ROMNEY, WEST VIRGINIA
MAY 23, 1953

EDUCATION
MOLDS OUR
FUTURE



BETTER SCHOOLS MAKE
BETTER COMMUNITIES

NEW SCHOOLS
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY
WEST VIRGINIA

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY
1753 - 1953

EVENTS DURING DAY May 23, 1953

- 9:30 A Twelve Year Music Program
(High School Auditorium)
- 1:00 Parade of School Pupils
- 3:00 Hampshire Review Spelling Contest
(County Court House)
- 3:00 Athletic Events (Boys Only)
(High School Athletic Field)

All beginning bands will play as a combined group (120 pupils)
at the intersection of Routes 50 and 28 immediately after the parade.

Drive Carefully - Protect The Children

The people who bought advertising space in this program
made possible its publication.

It is with the support of such people that good schools are
built.

They know that education is the basis of genuine production
of wealth.

They know that the cultural level of the masses of the people
is the foundation of good business.

2,000 of these programs were printed. They have been dis-
tributed to the homes in Hampshire County by the pupils from every
school.

MUSIC PROGRAM ROMNEY HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM 9:30

- Unit
- 1 Romney Senior Band—Mr. Sadler
Star Sapphire March - Northern Pass Overture - Why Don't You
Believe Me
 - 2 Chorus—Augusta and Grassy Lick—Miss Wilson and Mr. Moton
Fairest Lord Jesus - When Chestnut Leaves Are Falling
 - 3 Scandinavian Folk Dance—Romney and Augusta—Mrs. Woods
and Miss Ritz—Chimney Sweep Dance
 - 4 Springfield Beginning Band—Mr. Sadler
Abide With Me - Music In the Air - Steam Roller March - Theme
By Mozart - America
 - 5 Chorus—Romney and Capon Bridge High School—Mr. Currier and
Mrs. Spangler—Serenade In Vain - Greensleeves
 - 6 Springfield Rhythm Band—Miss Dolan—Country Gardens - Rhy-
thm Band Review
 - 7 Augusta Beginning Band—Mr. Salder
Springtime Waltz - Diligence March - Auld Lang Syne - Circus
Day March
 - 8 Norwegian Folk Dance—Green Spring, Three Churches and Levels
—Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Billmeyer and Miss Staggs—All of Diamonds
 - 9 Chorus—Romney, Mill Creek and Rio—Mr. Shawen, Mr. Hott and
Mrs. Nealis—Gypsy Song - Seeing Nellie Home
 - 10 Capon Bridge Beginning Band—Mr. Currier—Toonerville Trolley
March - Selection from "Southern Roses" Waltz - Choral - Varia-
tions on "Carnival of Venice" - Easy Steps March
 - 11 American Square Dance—Bethel, Capon, Hor, Union and Willow
Chapel—Mr. Oates, Mr. Hahn, Mr. Myers, Mr. Haines and Mr.
Nesmith
 - 12 Romney Beginning Band—Mr. Sadler—Crusade Hymn - Toyland
Parade - The Spook Parade - Andantino - Boy Meets Girl
 - 13 Chorus—Slanesville and Springfield—Mrs. Pugh, Mrs. Bradfield
and Mrs. Blue—May Song - Carmen - Carmelia
 - 14 Norwegian Folk Dance—Springfield and Capon Bridge—Mrs. Loy
and Mr. Gardner—Handkerchief Dance
 - 15 Romney Rhythm Band—Miss McKeever—How D'ye Do - The
Little Drum Major March
 - 16 All County Tonette Band and Autoharp—Whispering Hope -
America
 - 17 Folk and Modern Dances—Capon Bridge and Romney High
Schools—Mr. Watach and Mrs. Hott
 - 18 All County Chorus and Band—Mr. Sadler—Medley: America The
Beautiful - Battle Hymn of the Republic - Chimes of Spring

The following is a report to the board of education and the people of
Hampshire County on the school construction project authorized by
special election December 16, 1949. With the exception of a few minor
adjustments to some of the buildings and some small bills yet to come
in, the program is completed.

Advertising and Printing	434.55
Architect and Engineers	28,957.63
Land, Surveying and Grading	3,716.86
Capon School (not voted)	24,412.30
Building (Augusta, Capon Bridge, Grassy Lick, Mill Creek, Romney Elementary, Romney High, Slanesville, Springfield) ..	501,853.31
Water to Buildings	4,280.30
Buses (for consolidations)	9,886.87
Furniture	20,793.24
Green Spring, Romney Colored, Three Churches, Willow Chapel (improvements)	5,912.82
TOTAL	600,247.82
Appropriation: State Building Aid	80,000.00
* Bonds	285,000.00
* Special Levy	130,000.00
TOTAL	495,000.00
Applied to program in addition to special appropriation	105,247.82
Sources of extra funds:	
Premium resulting from special handling of bonds, approximately	15,000.00
Taxes from increased property values, approximately	25,000.00
Accumulated balances Board of Education, approximately	65,000.00

* This was all that could be raised on our valuations under the
law at that time.

All the buildings are completed and occupied and with the con-
struction at Romney High in 1948 and Capon Bridge High and Ele-
mentary in 1949 gives the county fifty classrooms constructed in the
past five years in addition to the numerous other improvements to
school services.

The bonds are serviced and paid off from funds which up until that
time were used as current operating funds and would be now had they
not been set aside for that purpose. This means that no extra taxes re-
sulted from voting them. The special levy increased school rates fifty
percent for three years. It expired with the payment of taxes in No-
vember, 1952. In so far as extra taxes are concerned, the costs of the
buildings are paid.

The completion of this program made possible the elimination of the
one-room schools in the county. At the advent of the county unit school
system in 1933 there were seventy-three such schools in the county.
There are now twenty community-centered schools scattered over the
641.44 square miles in Hampshire County and all are located on im-
proved roads. Fifteen of them have kitchens and serve school lunches.

A. CLINTON LOY, Superintendent
Hampshire County Schools

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE COUNTY OF HAMPSHIRE:

HENRY W. CAMPBELL, President
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ISABELLA MILLER
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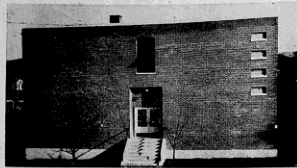
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ROMNEY HIGH SCHOOL ADDITION 1952



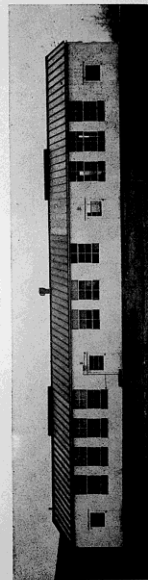
Two classrooms, large kitchen, enlarged library, two toilets, extra stairway.

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CAPON BRIDGE SCHOOL LUNCH AND HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL HOME ECONOMICS BUILDING 1950



Classroom, kitchen, dining hall, supply room, toilets, etc.
Oil burning warm air heat

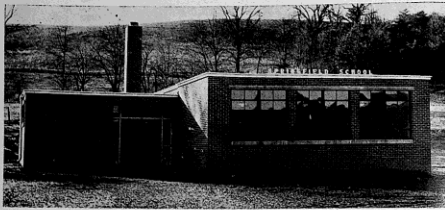
Bud Sumner's Insurance Agency

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Romney Coca-Cola Bottling Works, Inc.
East Main Street
ROMNEY, WEST VIRGINIA

SPRINGFIELD PRIMARY UNIT
1952



Two classrooms, toilets, etc.
Painted block walls, asphalt tile floors
Hot water heat
Lockers in classrooms

CONGRATULATIONS!

To all who helped to consolidate our schools and developed the method of transporting our school children.

We should all be very proud of the rapid advancement in Educational Facilities in Hampshire County.

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Dodge & Plymouth - - Cars & Trucks

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Romney, West Va.

AUGUSTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
1952



Three classrooms, office, kitchen, toilets, etc.
Painted block walls, asphalt tile floors
Hot water heat
Lockers in classrooms

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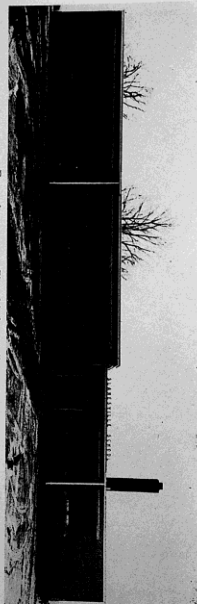
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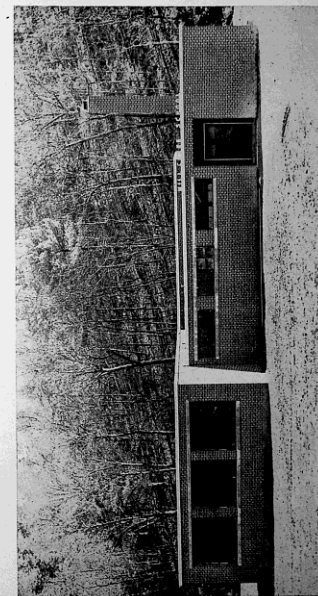
Romney, West Va.

SLAVESVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
1952



Four classrooms, office, kitchen, toilets, etc.
Painted block walls, asphalt tile floors
Hot water heat
Lockers in classrooms

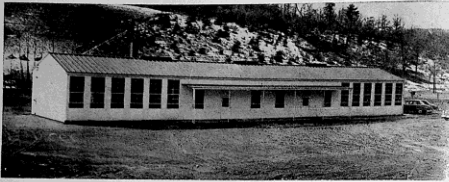
MILL CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
1952



Three classrooms, office, kitchen, toilets, etc.
Painted block walls, asphalt tile floors
Hot water heat
Lockers in classrooms

Join Your Own School Parent Teacher Association

GRASSY LICK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
1951



Three classrooms, kitchen, cloak rooms, toilets, etc.
Asphalt tile floors
Oil burning warm air heat

Spic & Span

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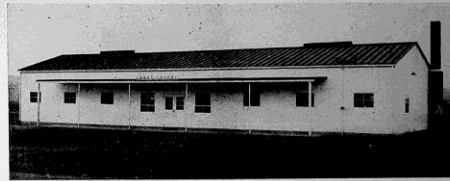
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CAPON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
1951



Two classrooms, small office, kitchen, cloak rooms, supply room, toilets, etc.
Asphalt tile floors
Oil burning warm air heat

Houser's Hatchery

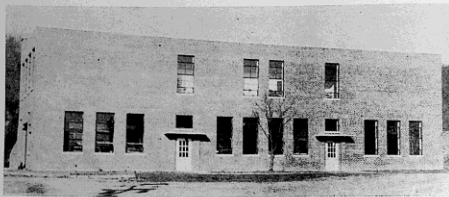
U. S. - W. VA. APPROVED

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**CAPON BRIDGE ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL
VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE BUILDING**
1949



First floor—High school classroom, shop, office, toilet, etc.
Second floor—Four elementary classrooms, toilet, etc.

Pictures By
Appointment

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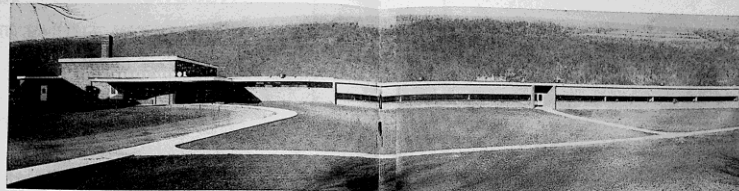
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ROMNEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 1952



Fifteen classrooms, multiple-purpose room 55 x 90 with 20 foot stage and folding tables, office, kitchen, first aid and health room, teacher lounge, off stage dressing room, store room, toilets, etc.
Glass block and ventilator-type window lighting, smooth plastered walls, asphalt tile floors with quarry tile in toilets, acoustical tile ceilings, built in cabinets and book shelves.
Classrooms have wash lavatory and drinking fountain, teacher wardrobe, full length mirror and primary rooms have toilets.
Hot water heat with stoker fired furnace.
Built in lockers in corridors.
Entrance canopy with loading ramp for transported pupils.



Inside Classroom View



Inside Classroom View

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Congratulations on the successful completion of your fine school building program.
We have been in all your new schools and equipped most of the kitchens.

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Support Your High School Band

The Romney High School Band is in the midst of a drive to buy uniforms.

The Capon Bridge High Band is off to a good start but needs funds for music, instruments, etc., and will need uniforms soon.

If you care to help out mail your contribution to either of the following:

THE HAMPSHIRE REVIEW,

JAMES R. SADLER, Romney

ROBERT N. CURRIER, Capon Bridge

EARLY HAMPSHIRE COUNTY SCHOOLS

The first school in what is now Hampshire County was in existence 200 years ago at Pearsall's Fort (Romney 1763). George Washington mentions, in writing of his travels to the Ohio in 1763, a log structure near Pearsall's Fort, which served as both school and church. He described the building as being of rough logs, chinked with clay; the floors of puncheons, hewn side up; the doors of clapboards and its one window was of paper greased with lard. An eight foot fireplace, piled high in winter with flaming logs, warmed the room and supplemented the light that filtered through the small window. This first school of which we have any record was typical of those that were to follow for the next hundred years in Hampshire County.

The furniture of the early schools consisted of seats made of split logs, hewn smooth on the surface, which were placed upward and supported by legs thrust into augur holes on the under side. They had no backs. Writing was done with quill pens on a slab supported on pins driven into the wall to serve as a desk.

The first teachers were hired by having a paper passed around the community and each parent indicated how many children he would send and whether the teacher could expect remuneration, produce, or board.

Schooling depended upon subscription until 1810 when the General Assembly of Virginia created what was known as the Literary Fund to be apportioned among the counties for the education of poor children. This was the first step toward free schools as we know them today.

In 1818 the General Assembly of Virginia passed an act providing for the appointment of school commissioners. Commissioners appointed in Hampshire County were: John McDowell, David Gibson, John Pierce, John Randall, Elisha Thompson, Charles Keller, Frederick Sheets, James Abernathy, and Robert Sherard.

In 1845 an act was passed by the General Assembly of Virginia authorizing the county court to redistrict the counties and appoint a commissioner for each district. These commissioners were to appoint a county superintendent of schools. The next year 1846 saw the passage of an act giving the people the right to build and operate a district school if two-thirds of them voted for such. It was to be operated by three trustees and to be supported by a property tax. There is no evidence that any great advantage was ever made of either of these acts in Hampshire County.

Romney Academy was established in 1820 and became the first school of higher education in this section. This became the Romney Classical Institute in 1846. In 1850 the Potomac Seminary was organized. Both were closed during the War Between the States. Potomac Seminary opened again after the war and was later named Potomac Academy which operated until 1916. Springfield Academy opened about 1854 but closed at the beginning of the Civil War.

A very old school house with dirt floor and a chimney built of mud and sticks was standing as early as 1845 three miles from Forks of Capon near North River. School houses were built on Sandy Ridge and at Forks of Capon about 1835. One was built near Levels in 1840. At the close of the War Between the States there were not more than eight or ten small, crude, and poorly furnished public school buildings in the county.

After West Virginia became a state and at the first meeting of the West Virginia Legislature, which convened on December 20, 1863, an act was passed establishing the public school system. The voters of each township were to elect a board of education, and the voters of each county were to elect a county superintendent. William Head was elected the first superintendent of the free schools of Hampshire County. School terms were from two to four months.

An act of 1872 provided for a board of education to be elected for each district and three trustees appointed for each school. Very much the same system existed after sixty years when in 1933, the county-unit school system was created in West Virginia.

County Superintendents tested all candidates for teaching and granted certificates to those who were competent, visited the schools at least three times during the term, and were expected to secure as far as practicable, uniformity in textbooks used in the schools throughout the county. Teachers were granted five grades of certificates and were paid accordingly, from \$10.00 a month for the lowest to \$30.00 for the highest grade. It was said that if a teacher could write his name and knew the date of his birth he could qualify for a certificate to teach.



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One-Teacher Schools Closed Between 1933 And 1953

Cornwell	Denver	Pleasant Grove
Deep Run	Donaldson	Poland
Falling Water	Ell Ridge	Purgitsville
Hannas	Forest Hill	Queen of Gore
Hendricks	Forks of Capon	Rada
Indian Rock	Grassy Lick	Red Bud
Loom	High Knob	Ridgedale
North River Mills	High View	Riverside
Rock Dale	Hopkins Lick	Romney Colored
Slanesville	Horn Camp	Sandy Hollow
South Branch	Imboden	Sandy Ridge
South Texas	Kedron	Sedan
	Kerna	Shiloh
	Marshall	Sugar Grove
Bethel	Middle Ridge	Taylor
Black Lick	Mill Brook (C)	Timber Ridge
Bloomery	Mill Brook (G)	Union
Bradlock	Mt. Airy	Venita
Brights Hollow	Mt. Union	Victory (B)
Broadway	Mt. View	Victory (G)
Bryan	New Junction	Victory (S)
Burg	North Texas	Walnut Grove
Capon Bridge Colored	Number Eight	Watson
Central	Number Six	Willow Chapel
Cold Stream	Oak Grove	Willow Tree
Crittren	Parker	Woodrow
Davy		

Schools in bold type were the last to be closed after the '51-'52 term

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EARLY HAMPSHIRE COUNTY HISTORY

The history of Hampshire County dates back to 1725 when the first explorers, Indian traders, and hunters traversed the area. It was their glowing reports of fertile valleys, spreading forests, and navigable rivers that encouraged the first families to settle along the South Branch River before 1735, near the present town of Springfield.

By 1748 nearly 200 persons had moved into Pearsall's Flats and surrounding neighborhoods. All this section was a part of Frederick County, Virginia, with the nearest courthouse at Winchester.

In November, 1753 the General Assembly of Virginia passed an act creating Hampshire County from the counties of Augusta and Frederick. The formation of the county was not effected until May 1, 1754. In 1777 the boundaries of the county were extended to include all of the present counties of Mineral, Hardy, and Grant and portions of Morgan and Pendleton. Tradition relates that Lord Fairfax had suggested the name of a county in England, Hampshire, for the territory west of Winchester.

During the Indian wars which began in 1754 George Washington was placed in command of those defending the frontier and made many trips into what is now Hampshire County. During the bloody years that followed Fort Pearsall (Romney) and Fort Edwards (near Capon Bridge) were built and defended.

When peace came Lord Fairfax began making plans for establishing a town. Surveyors were sent into the county and Pearsall's Flats was selected and named Romney for one of the Cinque ports of the English Channel. On November 18, 1762 a bill for establishing the town was introduced into the House of Burgesses. On December 17, the bill was approved by the council and on December 23, 1762 the Governor's signature was affixed to the act.

With the close of the Revolutionary War the State of Virginia confiscated the Fairfax estate because it was owned by a Tory. All who owned Fairfax grants were given clear titles and the State-owned lands were thrown open to the public. This precipitated a great inrush of home seekers and speculators and within a short time every acre of land had been bought and nearly 200,000 persons had found homes in an area which had formerly been controlled by one man. In the 22 years between 1788 and 1810 a total of 1,986 land entries was made in Hampshire County.

School Day was first held in Hampshire County
May 21, 1933.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

Romney, West Virginia

A postoffice was established in Romney in 1796.

In 1830 a road to Romney through Hampshire County was built by way of Capon Bridge, Hanging Rock, Pleasant Dale and Augusta. Col. Claude Crozet, French officer and engineer, who built the road over which Napoleon Bonaparte led his troops into Italy was the principal engineer for the State of Virginia and made the original survey for a road, which followed the most moderate and easy grade through Hampshire County.

Hampshire County's first Court House was built in 1833.

In 1833 Romney contained 60 families and was described as a place of considerable business, with a bank, printing office, several stores and taverns.

In October, 1787 the Town of Watson (Capon Springs) was established with twenty acres of land to be laid off in lots and streets.

Springfield was laid off and established in October, 1790.

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Good Place To Eat

Chicken In Basket Our Specialty

Dining and Dancing

U. S. 50 AUGUSTA, W. VA. Phone Romney 16-P-57

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Winchester, Virginia

This county once abounded in the larger kinds of game. The buffalo, elk, deer, panther, wildcat, wolf, fox, beaver, otter and all other kinds of animals, wild fowl, etc., common to forest countries, were abundantly plenty.

One famous warrior path used by the northern (Delaware) and southern (Catawba) Indian tribes crossed near Cumberland and proceeded up the South Branch Valley through Hampshire County.

There is considerable evidence that in what is now Hampshire County two furious battles were fought between the Catawba and Delaware Indian tribes. These took place one and one-half miles up from the mouth of the South Branch of the Potomac at Slim Bottom and Indian Rock and at Hanging Rocks north of Romney.

Numerous raids were made against the white settlers in this area by Indians between 1764 and 1767. Many settlers were murdered and many skirmishes with the Indians resulted. Encounters of battle-size proportions took place at the Trough above Romney and at Edwards Fort on Capon River near Capon Bridge.

Kill-buck was a famous Shawnee Indian chief who led war parties against the white settlers in this section during the Indian uprisings after 1764.

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Hampshire County has 18 elementary and 2 high schools. Eleven new buildings have been erected since the close of World War II. The elementary schools are a 15 room, two 8 room, two 4 room, six 3 room, six 2 room and one colored school. The total elementary enrollment is 1947. Romney High has 22 teachers and Capon Bridge has 10. The total high school enrollment is 781.

The county owns and operates a fleet of 36 buses which haul 2,159 pupils to and from school every day. They cover 1,717 miles daily. \$1.17 pupils out of every hundred ride to school in Hampshire County.

Hampshire County employs 105 teachers and with the 2,728 pupils enrolled this makes an average of fewer than 30 pupils for each classroom. The county is rapidly reaching its goal of having every teacher with a bachelor or masters degree.

Both high schools are members of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. Romney High and the business men of the Town of Romney, by working together, have an outstanding work-experience program. Both schools have outstanding vocational agriculture programs.

Fifteen of the 20 schools have school lunch programs. Every school in the county has a school-community organization and in practically all cases they are working hard to better conditions for the boys and girls.

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