

## Trout Brook School # 17



Trout Brook School 1899 Edith Wood Boyd, teacher



Edith Wood Boyd's School Bell

Trout Brook School operated until the Colchester Township consolidation in 1938.

### Edith Clark Wood Boyd--Memories of Trout Creek School as told to her granddaughter Sonia Schork.

*"Grammas' first school was Trout Creek, a one room schoolhouse. Though she had to get there early, build the fire, shovel the stoop in winter, clean the room, etc.; it belonged to her and her alone, complete teaching freedom! There were eight grades in one room, and she quietly moved from one grade to another, explaining, and assigning. There were thirteen pupils. The dreaded cloakroom stood, forbidding and ever present, a place of isolation for wrong doers.*

*She "boarded around," this was the 19<sup>th</sup> century way of life for teachers and was considered part of her meager salary. These boarding assignments were not all good. She told me that the poor families saved the poorest meals for the time when the teacher was living with them. She fought with farm hands for biscuits, soppin' (greasy gravy) and baked beans. At night, by oil lamps and candles, she graded papers with a quill pen and ink, and also used that light to sew her own clothes. She was an elegant Victorian and had several beaus, none of whom she married, however. Then, marriage of a female teacher was frowned upon and some places forbidden. Marriage was thought to detract from a "lady's work."*



Edith Wood Boyd, 1900 class