

A New Era

1890-1934

1896

Serious discussion of building 2 new school houses.

- 1. Near the bridge**
- 2. Vicinity of Hudson Center**

Further closing of district schools was not possible until new buildings were built.

1896

Woman Suffrage added women to the checklist which grew by 700 voters.

It was voted to appropriate \$8000 to build each school.

\$5000 for 4 rooms near the bridge.

\$3000 for 2 rooms near Hudson Center.

A building committee was chosen for each school.

School by the Bridge (Webster School)

Committee for this school:

George A. Merrill

Willis P. Cummings

William F. Chase

This school was built by E.J.Thompson, carpenter on land donated by William F. Chase on Sanders St. (now Library St.)

The building was to be two stories – two rooms on each level and a basement.

Rooms on the second floor were not used right away but needed soon after.

Kimball Webster placed a bell in the tower and purchased 13,000 feet of land on the north side of the school.

The school was named for Kimball Webster in honor of being the oldest resident in town.



Vicinity of Hudson Center (Smith School)

Committee for this school:

Nathaniel Wentworth

Elmer D. Clement

Henry O. Smith

This school was built by Isaac Newton Smith, carpenter, on land donated by David O. Smith located near 42/44 Windham Rd. The building was to be one story with two rooms.

Dr. Smith presented the school with a bell.

The school was named in honor of Dr. David Onslow Smith for his leadership with the schools, and for his involvement in all walks of public and private life.



1896

Both schools, **Smith and **Webster** officially dedicated.**

1898

House and lots for #4, 5, 6, and 8 were closed and sold. Only districts #1, 2, 3, 7, and 9 remained. They were used depending on enrollment, cost to transport, and age of scholars.

1899

Town voted \$1,500 to complete the second floor of Webster School and improve the lot.

Webster connected to town water. There were serious problems obtaining safe water for Smith School.

1902

Hudson joined a supervisory union with Salem, Epping and Hampstead. *Mr. Edgar E. Hulse* chosen as first superintendent.

Goal for Hudson schools:

Upon graduation from its school system, scholars are able to enter any High School or Academy in NH. Town was responsible for tuition.

1905/1906

Webster School connected to the sewer system – it received modern sanitary arrangements.

1907

22 students enrolled at Nashua High, and 1 at Colby Academy.

1907 – December

Smith School was consumed by fire.

The building and contents were insured for \$2,200.



1908

Hudson Center School on Kimball Hill Rd. was built to replace the Smith School with approximately \$900 and insurance money. Land donated by Wentworth and Hamblet families.



1908 – September

Hudson Center School furnished and ready for occupancy.

Henry C. Brown donated a new bell to replace the one destroyed in the fire. (This bell now sits on the lawn of the Hills House on Derry Rd.)



1917 –

100F (Odd Fellows Hall, now American Legion) on Central St. was hired to relieve crowding.



1918

Contracted with Nashua for Hudson pupils to enter 2nd year Junior High (grade 9) upon graduation from Hudson schools.

1921 -

Four rooms were added to the rear of Webster.

Rooms in 100F Hall were continually used for grades 4, 5, + 6 whenever the schools became crowded.

1922

**School houses #1, #9 were kept in repair
for when needed.**

1924

**81 students tuitioned to Nashua - \$76
per student.**

1925

**Schools at capacity including the use of #1,
#9 and 100F buildings.**

1928

Basement of Center School remodeled for domestic and manual arts.

1929

Fire at Webster School. Orderly evacuation and quick response of fire departments of Hudson and Nashua minimized damage.

SCHOOL TO
OPEN AGAIN
NEXT WEEK

Loss in Fire at Webster
Building Estimated
at \$10,000

1930

Portable classrooms were used to cover space needed while repairs were made to Webster. Webster School reopens.

