

# Calico Creek State School



The Calico Creek School, which was opened officially on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> July 1936 by Councillor Hensen of Widgee Shire, was a one-teacher school. Calico Creek area had been a soldier settlement after World War 1 and the children of the settlers attended Lagoon Pocket School for 5 years until a census of the district showed a list of 23 pupils in the area.

The first School Committee, headed by Mr H. Atherton, applied for a school, pointing out to the department the expense of transporting the Calico Creek pupils to Lagoon Pocket.

The school, to accommodate 40 pupils, was 5.5m x 6.4m (18ft x 21ft) with verandas 2.5m (8ft) wide back and front. The first principal was Miss Daphne Smith from Gympie Central School.

Following is a list of principals:

Daphne Smith	1936 - 1940
Nancy Jones	1941
Ursula Byrne	1942 - 1943
G.T. Bourne	1944
Keith Goldberg	1945 - 1949
Milton Alcorn	1950 - 1953
A. Heiniger	1954 - 1961
B. Miles	1962 - 1966
R. Rosentretor	1966 - 1970
J. Flux	1970

In 1970 the school closed, a victim of better transport and larger centralised schools. The building was acquired by the Gympie and District Historical Society and relocated to its present site at the museum. It is furnished with the old-fashioned desks and long forms. The walls, as in older days, are hung with maps and charts. One of the charts causing much interest is the 'Good Manners' chart. There is an exhibit of ink and inkwells along with slates, which is now unknown to the current generation of students. There are books and other teaching aids on exhibit to give an idea of the furnishings of former small country schools.