

Bert L. and Jennie D. Blake in front of their home in Old Hill Village (photo from the plaque at the Jennie D. Blake School in Hill, NH)

Jennie Dickerson Blake

Jennie Lind Dickerson was born on July 16, 1878 in Brockton, MA. Her parents were Frank G. and Sara Merrill Dickerson. They owned a farm on Dickerson Hill, toward the Danbury end of Hill. Jennie had a brother and a younger sister.

Jennie Dickerson grew up on the family farm and attended Dickerson Hill School, a small one-room schoolhouse (now located on Murray Hill Road)

Jennie's teaching career started in that small schoolhouse in 1896 when she was 17. She taught four weeks of the spring term. The next few years, she taught in Hill Village. Classes were held in "the Academy" or later, in "the Village School".

Jennie and Bert Blake were married on July 16, 1899, and lived in the village of Hill. They had one daughter, Madeline, born in 1905.

In 1909, a modern elementary school was constructed in the village of Hill. Mrs. Blake was a teaching principal until the village moved in 1940-41.

A new school was built in the "new" village of Hill and named the Jennie D. Blake School for Mrs. Blake, honoring her for the many years of dedicated teaching in Hill. Mrs. Blake continued to teach there until she retired in 1945.

Jennie Blake died on August 11, 1958 at the age of 80. She had taught for fifty years in Hill and Sanbornton. She was well-loved by her former students and residents of Hill

For those fifty years that "Mrs. Blake" taught school in Hill, yearly photos pictured her with her class.

In front of the "New School" in the Old Village around 1912

(Teachers' note: Jennie Blake lived in the house now located at 23 New Chester Rd. Jennie and her husband, Bert, sold it before it was moved up from the Old Village in 1941. Bert died in 1940. Jennie then built a new house at 37 Mountain View Dr.)

