



# Education

## Upton Lovell

In 1794 John Crouch, the rector, endowed a capital sum of £500 the annual interest of which i.e. £15 was to “employ an able schoolmaster to teach and instruct six poor children to read and write” and every Sunday, for three hours, to instruct all children sent to him to learn their catechism. The six children were to attend lessons every weekday throughout the year except in the harvest month.

At first the schoolmaster taught the pupils, together with some private pupils, at his own home but in 1847 William Gray, the rector, agreed to cede glebe land, “40 perches or thereabouts adjoining the garden of The Rectory” for the erection of a school.

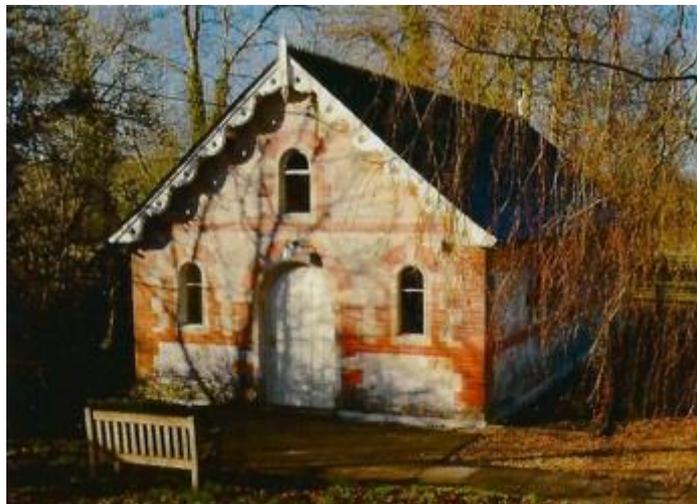
A few years later the school became united to the National Society for Promoting the Poor in the Principles of The Established Church, thus becoming a so called “National School”. The School House, which stands opposite the church, was erected in 1871.

Although from 1903 central and local government shouldered more of the financial burden of the school, allowing the employment of an assistant teacher, the £15 per annum, the Crouch Charity, was still being donated to the school and the day-today- running of the school fell to the “local managers”, who were the rector and his churchwardens.

The school was inspected annually by the Diocesan Inspector of Schools, who in July 1925 reported:

*Remarkably good work is being done in this tiny school. The questioning was of the right type and was in well-chosen language. The expression work of the children was neat. Some clay modeling by the infants was really beautiful. The signing was sweet and natural. The prayers were well chosen and reverently said. In fact if there is fault to find at Upton Lovell I have not yet found it. The school is fortunate in its Head Mistress and her young assistant and they seem to be in no lack of recent books.*

The school was closed in 1934 due to a fall in the pupil toll and was later acquired by the Parish Council and used as a village hall.



*(Information transcribed from Church brochure)*

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