



History Comes to Life

New Era School welcomes visitors of all ages year round. Springtime yields the presence of over 1000 4th graders from all over Wood County. These children come to experience school in the way of their grandparents and great-grandparents. Their activities include schooling in reading, writing and arithmetic under the stern tutelage of the resident School Marm. At recess they can try their hand at marbles, stilts, and other timeless activities.

- Free admission.
- Open by appointment year round.
- School groups encouraged.
- Informed docents are available for your visit.
- Scheduled classes with the School Marm may incur a fee.

Directions

- 1838 Elizabeth Pike, Mineral Wells, WV 26150
- I-77 to Mineral Wells Exit #170
- Travel 2 miles on State Rt. 14 South
- Location: Mineral Wells Elementary School Campus

Contact Us Today

Phone: (304) 489-1670 Fax: (304) 489-2637

E-mail: NewEraOneRoomSchool@gmail.com

Website: NewEraOneRoomSchool.com



New Era One Room School
Living Heritage Museum
 1838 Elizabeth Pike, P. O. Box 340
 Mineral Wells, WV 26150



New Era

One Room School

Living Heritage Museum



**WHERE HISTORY
 COMES TO LIFE**

Imagine attending school in one room with children from 1st to 8th grade — where the only heat in winter is an old potbellied stove in the middle of the room — where you write your answers on slate because paper is too expensive and go to the privy out back because there is no indoor plumbing. This was school life in West Virginia under the free school system adopted in 1863. Conditions in one room schools improved some with the 1933 adoption of the county unit system, but these facilities continued much as they had until being phased out in the 1950s.



The time of one room schools has long past, but their memory remains an integral part of American heritage. **New Era School**, originally built in 1884, is a current reminder of our roots. The white clapboard building retains its slate roof and is furnished with original wooden desks, potbellied stove, slate blackboard, #20 bell and numerous artifacts that tell of a time long past.

New Era School served grades 1-8 until 1956. Through this time period the building saw over 35 teachers and many students pass through its doors. Schools of this



era were built within walking distance of the students, and the buildings themselves were often moved when population shifts occurred.

New Era School

was located in at least two different locations before being moved for the last time in 1991, from Missouri Run in Wood County, seven miles to the **Mineral Wells Elementary School** campus. After many volunteer hours, the building was restored and opened as a **Living Heritage Museum** with demonstration classroom. The building also houses the history of schools in Wood County, West Virginia in over 22 albums with various photos and artifacts.

New Era One Room School *Living Heritage Museum*

