

Maude Louise Jodrey

Although many teachers passed through the Tupperville School, perhaps none made as big of an impression on the community as Miss Maude Jodrey. Both the longest lasting and the final teacher of the school, Miss Jodrey taught for over twenty years between 1946 and 1970. Even now, she is still remembered as a strict but fair teacher who rarely missed a day, and always made attending school a joy.

Born around 1915 in New London, Connecticut, Miss Jodrey grew up in Bridgetown and graduated from its high school in 1935. She later attended the Nova Scotia Normal College in 1940, where she studied to become a teacher and obtained a Class A license. This was the highest qualification available at the time, and one that was rarely achieved by women. Miss Jodrey taught in schools around rural Nova Scotia, including West Dalhousie, East Victory, Falkland Ridge, Auburn (Kings Co.), Newport Station (Hants Co.), Paradise, Tupperville and Annapolis Royal. Overall, she is believed to have taught for around forty years. In 1970, she fought to keep the Tupperville School open, arguing that a one-room schoolhouse developed morals and formed strong bonds between the students that multi-room schools lack.

Outside of teaching, Miss Jodrey pursued a number of other passions as well. According to family members, she loved gardening and raising animals, and even ran the highly regarded Juniper Kennels for years. Several of the Collies, Boston Terriers, Brittany Spaniels, and Shetland Sheepdogs that she bred went on to win awards across North America. Many students also fondly recall her artistic talent, still speaking in awe years later of the time she drew a beautiful horse on the chalkboard to accompany her reading of *Black*

Beauty. Throughout her life, Miss Jodrey remained an independent woman. She never married, happy in the knowledge that she could do anything a man could do.¹

¹ References: Melanie Ballard and John N. Grant, intro to *Mary Kaulbach's Normal School Diary 1892-1893*, (Truro, NS: Little White Schoolhouse Press), 2021.; Discussion between Niece of Maude Jodrey and the Museum, July 2024.; Everett Fredericks, *Once Upon a Time in Tupperville*, n.d.; Nancy Kopulos, "A History of the Tupperville School," 2001.; Tupperville School Registers, 1946-1970.; "Maude Louise Jodrey Obituary," *Find a Grave*. July 2, 2017, https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/180943346/maude_louise_jodrey ; Bernard Young, "Canadian Collies Coast to Coast," *Kennel & Bench*, January 1953, https://www.ckc.ca/magazines/1953/1953_01_Kennel_And_Bench.pdf