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# Linwood Historical Society Newsletter

## Let's Go Back to Belhaven



Ten years ago we celebrated the 100th birthday of Belhaven School. This time we are looking at graduation pictures from over the years to see how the 8th grade classes grew over time. In the early years students were photographed at their desks like the one below. The 1925 class picture is the only formal graduation photo from the 1920s. The theme here will inventory the collections from the 1930 graduations to the 21st century.





## Photos From Belhaven's Early Years



Beginning in 1930 formal graduations were held in Adams Hall at Central ME Church. Photos of the 1930s in our collection includes 1930, 31, 33, 34, 36 & 37. Pictures of 8th grade in 1938 and 39 are on the school's front steps. There are no photos of the 8th grades of 1932 & 1935.



Formal ceremonies were not held during World War 2. There is no photo for 1940 but there is a 1941 formal graduation photo taken at the school. Programs at Adams Hall returned for graduations in 1947, 48 and 49.



The graduations in the 1950s were first held in Adams Hall as usual but beginning in 1957 a new addition to the school included a gym that could be used as an auditorium. The 1950s graduation pictures at the museum are from 1951, 52, 53, 55, 56, 57 & 59. The 1952 picture is a very poor size photo. Missing photos for that decade are 1950, 54 & 58.

Graduations in 1960, 61 & 62 were held in the gym. There are no photos of 1963, 64, 65 & 67 but there are roll-up photos taken outside for 1966, 68 and 69. The roll-up for 1966 is in poor condition but it's a clue that the 1967 graduation photo was probably a roll-up. Roll-up pictures are featured in the Photogravure for classes of 1968 & 69 and 1970 & 71.

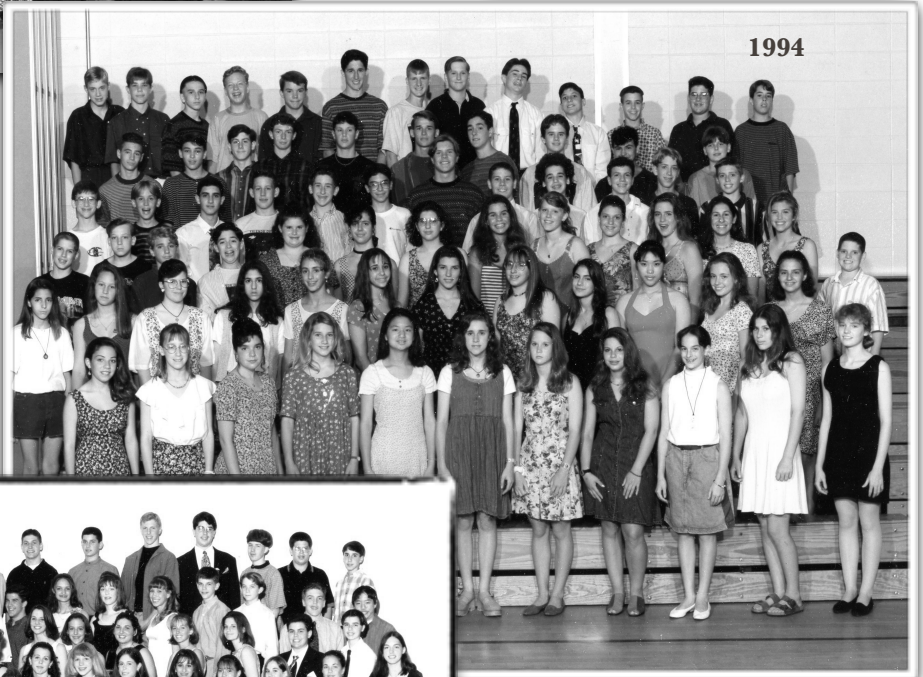




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From what we have at the museum, there are no class pictures from 1971 until the class of 1994. There are photos from 1994, 1997, 1998, 1999 and then stops at year 2000. Big changes for the 21st century?







Was the class of 2000 the end of dressed up class photos and replaced by cap and gown at formal graduations?



Looking back at groups of full graduation pictures, most came from the three decades of the 1930s and the 50s & 60s.

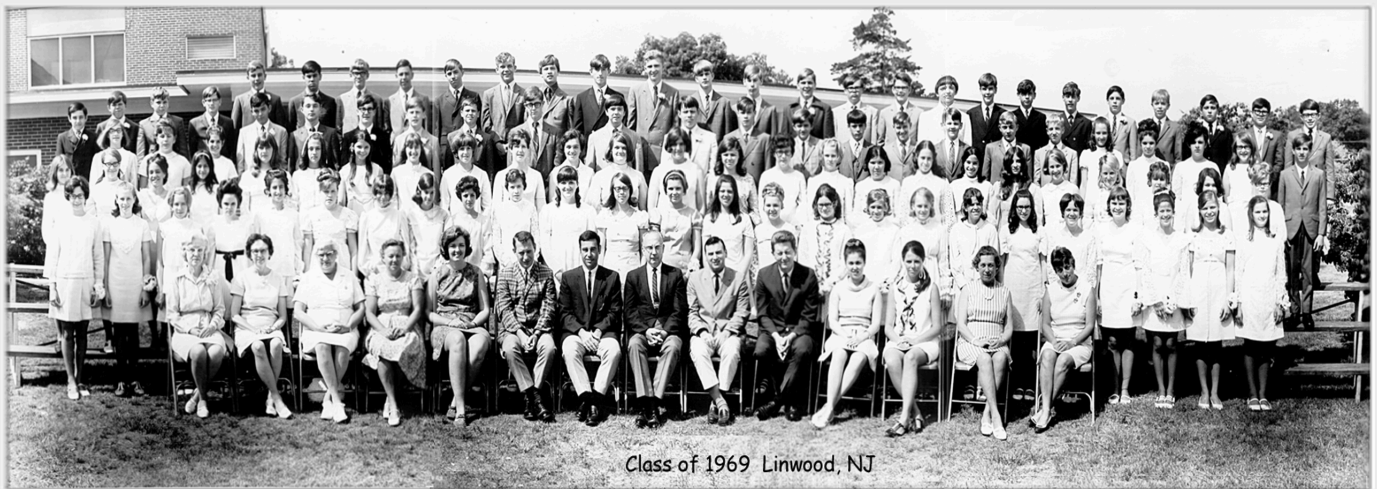
We hope to acquire copies of all Belhaven graduations for the collection of Linwood's history. We hope graduates from over the years will join us in this effort.



# Photogravure . . . Outdoor Roll-ups



**1968 & 1969 8th Grade Graduates**



Graduating class photos from the 1960s and 70s used roll-up pictures that included faculty members. We have roll-up pictures for the years 1966, 68 & 69 along with 1970 & 71 at the museum.





**1970 & 1971 8th Grade Graduates**



Are there more class photos from the 1970s? These are the only from the 1970s in the museum files and there are no pictures from the 1980s. Was this because the days of large class photos began to decline or was it that a new style of graduation activities was created? All of this is part of the history of Belhaven School and we look forward to be certain that graduation activities are still recorded for the families of the future.