

Extract From interview with former pupil of Belvoir School

Recorded 1985

Student attended Belvoir NS from 1915

For full interview please email education@shannonheritage.com

Q. When was Belvoir School built?

A. 1829 - before the Famine.

Q. Who built the school?

A. A man called David Wilson Lynch.

Q. Where did he live?

A. He lived in Belvoir House - he was the landlord. Well he wasn't the best of landlords and he wasn't the worst I suppose as it went at the time. He was a curious kind of man but he could evict a person at a moments notice.

Q. Why did he build Belvoir School?

A. Well I suppose he had a certain amount of wealth and he also had regard for the tenants. Of course some of them didn't worry about education at that time and were more backward than ever. It seems that in his own way he cared about the tenants and wanted them educated.

Q. So he started off the school in 1829.

A. Yes he did. He built it in 1829. I don't know whether he got a Government grant or aid. He also built the model farm. The pupils who went to the school had to work on the model farm if they could not pay their school fees.