Adams Academy
North Morningside Drive

Picture this . . . students in Ebenezer Adams’ Academy try to stay warm by the log-fueled stove while listening to lectures on reading, writing and arithmetic as well as philosophy, navigation, surveying, botany, Greek and astronomy. Algebra problems are computed on slates with slate pencils. Parents have paid good money (around $20 per year) for an education that will enable their child to attend a fine college.

As time went by . . . this building was given to the town as part of the West Long Lots school district, and Dorothy Ripley Adams, Ebenezer’s granddaughter, held her first teaching job in this same building. In 1930, during the Great Depression, Adams Academy was used to house needy families. In 1961, it was restored again for use as a museum.

When you visit . . . imagine yourself as a student carrying logs to a one-room schoolhouse where punishment for being foolish or lazy might be a slap with a ruler on the palm of your hands, and where recess might find you watching a blacksmith shoeing a horse, playing in a nearby barn’s hayloft or getting a drink from a well. Add the missing part to the drawing.

A Picture of Me at Adams Academy