

To accommodate education of the children of the civil servants who moved to the countryside, the Ministry of Education established many primary schools near the seats of various governments. The one near the Justice Department was the Xiaowan Primary School. It was in the village of Little Mill 小磨滩. The school was originally a temple, situated on a mill over a running brook. It had six grades and twelve classes, total about four hundred students. When I went back to visit in 1980, it had even an attached middle school. The buildings were all new, and only one old building was left standing. Not too far from Little Mill, there is Big Mill 大磨滩. It is a scenic spot, with a huge waterfall, and was a favorite place for outing.

Almost immediately after our arrival at Xiaowan in March 1942, I enrolled in the fifth grade at Xiaowan Primary School. The school was about a mile from our house. At that time, my two oldest brothers were already in college, at the National Central University in ShaPingBa 沙坪坝. My oldest sister who came with me from ShengXian went to study in the middle school in QingMuGuan 青木关. My second sister and third brother had just graduated from primary school and were waiting to go to middle school in the Fall. They were at home. So in the beginning, my second sister accompanied me to go to the Xiaowan Primary School every day.

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为安排转移到乡下的公务员的子弟念书，教育部在各个政府部门所在地的附近，办了许多小学。司法行政部附近的是小湾小学，位于小磨滩。校址原来是座庙，在一个溪流上的磨坊那儿。校里有六个年级十二个班，大概总共四百名学生。1980年我重返那儿时，小学还设了个附属中学，除了一个旧楼外，其它的都是新房子。小磨滩不远处有个大磨滩，有大瀑布，是我们远足最喜欢的地方。

1942年三月我们一到小湾后，我就进了小湾小学就读五年级。学校离我们家大概一英里。那时，我的大哥二哥已经在沙坪坝的国立中央大学读书，跟我一起从岷县来的大姐到青木关的中学上学。我的二姐和三哥刚刚从小学毕业，等着秋季上中学。因为他们在家呆着，所以开始的时候，我二姐每天陪我走到小湾小学上学。