

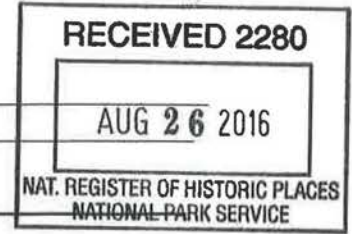
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

713

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: District No. 4 School
Other names/site number: First East School, Ledgeville School
Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)



2. Location

Street & number: 191 East Street
City or town: Petersham State: MA County: Worcester
Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local
Applicable National Register Criteria:
 A B C D

Brona Simon August 19, 2016
Signature of certifying official/Title: Brona Simon, SHPO Date
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of commenting official: Date
Title: State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

District No. 4 School
Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts
County and State

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

For Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

10.11.16
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

District No. 4 School
Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts
County and State

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	buildings
<u>1</u>	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
<u>1</u>	_____	objects
<u>3</u>	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION/Schoolhouse

SOCIAL/Clubhouse

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/Museum

District No. 4 School
Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts
County and State

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MID-19th CENTURY, Greek Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

Foundation: STONE/ Granite; Walls: WOOD/ Clapboard; Roof: Asphalt Shingle.

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The District No. 4 School, also known as the First East School or the Ledgeville School, is a Greek Revival-style, one-room schoolhouse that retains a high level of integrity. The schoolhouse is located at the eastern edge of rural Petersham in western Worcester County. The wood-frame structure has a center entrance, and is clad with clapboards. The building features characteristic Greek Revival details, including a simple architrave with cornerblocks, overhanging eaves with gable-end cornice returns, and pilasters. The interior of the building has seen few changes to its original 1846 appearance. Of special note are four layers of wallpaper that range in date from the bottom layer applied in the 1870s to the top layer applied in the 1960s. The approximately 28-foot-by-32-foot building is located on a diminutive .03-acre lot, atop a large rock outcropping. These rocky ledges are characteristic of the neighborhood, which is called Ledgeville. The lot is surrounded by woods on the north, west, and east elevations; the south elevation faces rolling, open fields that characterized much of Petersham at the time of the school's construction. In addition to the schoolhouse, the nomination includes two contributing resources: a **stoop** composed of two stone slab steps, the top one of which is incised with the school name, and an **outhouse site**, which is located at the school's northeast corner. A set of four **granite steps**, made from locally quarried granite, recently (2016) replaced concrete steps and pipe railings that had been installed in 1963. As a new addition, the granite steps are noncontributing (Photo 9).

District No. 4 School

Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts

County and State

Although the school has been known by three names, it will be referred to as the District No. 4 School throughout the nomination.

Narrative Description

Exterior

The District No. 4 School is a single-story, one-room schoolhouse of pegged wood-frame construction. The building is located along a rural road and faces south toward open fields (Photo 9). The north, east, and west elevations abut woods. A late 18th-century dwelling is located on the adjacent lot to the east. Low, dry-laid stone walls run east-west along the roadside at the south elevation. The stone walls are not included in this nomination because they are located on an abutting property, but their presence reinforces the school's rural setting. Road re-grading in the 1950s included removal of much of the large rock outcropping that gave the neighborhood of Ledgeville its name (Figure 1).

The building measures 28 feet, five inches in width and 32 feet, five inches in length. The building is clad in wood clapboards with a four-inch exposure (Photo 2). The eaves of the front-gable roof overhang the east, west, and south (front) elevations. The roof was re-covered with asphalt shingles in 2009. An interior brick chimney is located at the north elevation roof peak. Pilasters are located below gable-end cornice returns at the southeast and southwest corners of the building. The north (rear) elevation has flush eaves, flush cornerboards, and is unfenestrated (Photo 3). The building rests on a split granite-slab foundation. At the northwest corner of the building, where the site slopes, the granite-slab foundation is supported by rubblestone. The school does not have a basement.

A center entrance is located in the south elevation. A simple architrave with plain cornerblocks surrounds the doorway and the eight-light, fixed transom. The four-panel, mortise-and-tenon door was constructed in 2015, and modeled after the door in ca. 1900 photographs of the school. Two stone slab steps lead to the entrance. The top **step** is incised with the words "Ledgeville District No. 4"¹ (Photo 4). These were added in 1937. A large flagpole is approximately 25 feet in height and attached with a bracket above the entrance. The flagpole, likely dating to the first quarter of the 20th century, was made from a tree in the neighborhood. Three bays of 6/6, wood-sash windows with rolled-glass lights and narrow wood muntins are located on the east and west elevations. These windows replaced 12/12 sash in 1915² (Figures 2 and 3).

Interior

A coatroom is located inside the entry and extends the width of the building (Photo 5). A scattering of cast-iron coathooks remain on the walls. The coatroom walls are finished with wide flushboards, painted light blue. Some boards appear to be handplaned, and others show vertical saw marks. Incised graffiti is located throughout the coatroom (Photo 6). A wood cupboard, shelf, and an attached metal box, perhaps once used for a first-aid kit, are located beside the entrance. The ceiling, dating from ca. 1915, is covered with nailed metal panels, hammered or cast in a "popcorn" pattern. A center, four-panel, wood interior door and a wood-framed screen door lead from the coatroom into the classroom. The interior wood door is a 2015 reproduction of the damaged door, removed earlier that year for repair. The earlier door's hardware was removed and placed on the reproduction. A four-light transom is located over the interior door. A painted wood plaque above the transom on the classroom side of the doorway reads, "Dist. No. 4 Built 1846/Cost \$437.75."

¹ In 1937-1938 the Petersham Historical Society identified each of the school districts with an incised stone doorstep. Minutes of the Secretary, August 12, 1936, Petersham Historical Society.

² The 12/12 windows are visible in a ca. 1900 photo of the school. Petersham Historical Society. The 1915 School Committee report states that new windows had been installed and the ceilings "put in good condition."

District No. 4 School

Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts

County and State

Tongue-and-groove fir floors, laid in 1899, are located throughout the building. Circular marks and screw holes in the floor show the location of the round, cast-iron bases of seats and parallel marks of desk supports. The iron and wood desks, which could be adjusted to fit the child, replaced original wooden plank desks (see below).

The classroom has a sheetrock ceiling, covered with a plaster skim coat. Completed in 2015, the current ceiling replaced a dropped ceiling that had been installed in 1946. Removal of the dropped ceiling exposed the original plaster, which was in poor condition. A ca. 1948 cove molding circles the room (Photos 7 and 8). The wainscot is constructed of three or four wide boards with beaded edges, laid horizontally. Metal coathooks attached to wood boards are located throughout the room. Blackboards along the south wall are constructed of Masonite-type boards, painted black. Blackboards along the north wall are wood planks, also painted black. A shallow wood shelf to hold chalk is located along the base of the boards.

A plaster-covered chimney with a stovepipe opening remains at the north elevation, although the stove has been removed. The stove was a wood/coal heatolator that had been installed ca. 1946. An earlier heat source was a large, cylindrical drum stove.

The upper walls are covered with four layers of wallpaper over plaster. The wallpaper layers have begun to separate from the wall and from each other at the northwest corner of the classroom, allowing inspection of all four layers (Photograph 8). The bottom layer is a green and pink foliate design that may date from 1874.³ The second layer is a brown paper capped by a matching border paper with a geometric design. The third layer is a scenic wallpaper featuring trees, couples in rowboats, and red-roofed white houses on what may have been a white background. This wallpaper likely dates from 1933⁴ (Figure 4). The top layer features a yellow, pink, and green floral design on a white background, installed after 1960.⁵ Although uncommon among schoolhouses in general during this period, the use of wallpaper was not uncommon in Petersham. A Petersham School Committee report of 1868-9 states that three schools had been papered in the previous year.

Archaeological Description

While no ancient sites are recorded on the District No. 4 School property or in the general area (within one mile), sites may be present. Environmental characteristics of the school property indicate the presence of some locational criteria that are favorable for the presence of ancient sites. The school is located on a well-drained, level to moderately sloping topography; however, the property is located more than 1,000 feet from the nearest wetlands, a negative locational characteristic. Moccasin Brook lies more than 1,000 feet to the south and east, and a tributary stream of that brook is located a similar distance to the east of the property. Most drainage in the area is through the Swift River and its many tributary streams, located to the south and west. Given the above information, the size of the nominated property, levels of historic-period disturbance to the site, and our knowledge of Native American subsistence and settlement patterns for northern Worcester County and the central Massachusetts uplands, a low potential exists for the recovery of significant ancient Native American resources. Any potential resources that were present were likely destroyed by the removal of ledge prior to construction of the school.

³ School Committee report indicates that work on the schoolhouse that year included wallpaper and paint. Town of Petersham, School Committee Report for 1873-74, Petersham Historical Society.

⁴ School Committee report indicates that the schoolhouse walls were repapered that year. Town of Petersham, School Committee Report for 1932-33, Petersham Historical Society.

⁵ The scenic wallpaper appears in 1960 interior photographs of the school. Petersham Historical Society.

District No. 4 School
Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts
County and State

A low potential also exists for locating significant historic archaeological resources on the school property. The boundaries established for this site, essentially the drip line for the building, preclude the location of most potential archaeological resources that may be associated with the site. The immediate area includes the site of an existing outhouse or privy that may be archaeologically sensitive. The sites of additional outhouses may also exist. Potential structural evidence of the first two District No. 4 schools may be located beyond the boundary of the present school. Any evidence of the two earlier schools might have also been located on the site of the existing school. In that instance, the evidence of those schools was likely destroyed by the destruction of the ledge outcropping that originally stood on the site, giving Ledgeville its name. The ledge was removed during a period of regrading in the 1950s. While the school does not have a basement, anything originally located within its walls was likely totally destroyed by the demolition of the ledge originally located on the property.

District No. 4 School
Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

District No. 4 School
Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts
County and State

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
EDUCATION

Period of Significance
1846-1966

Significant Dates
1846 (construction)
1915 (formation of Ledgeville Association)
1943 (school closure)

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Charles Gates

District No. 4 School

Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts

County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Greek Revival-style District No. 4 School in Petersham, MA, retains integrity of location, setting, materials, design, workmanship, feeling, and association, and meets Criteria A and C with a local level of significance. Remarkably well-preserved, and one of two extant one-room schoolhouses in Petersham, the District No. 4 School meets Criterion A for its association with the district system of education. The building, which operated as a school from its construction in 1846 through its closure in 1943, is the oldest extant school in Petersham. Also known as the First East, or Ledgeville, School, the building also meets Criterion A for its association with community activities, including lyceum lectures, dramatic performances, 4-H club meetings, social events, and whist parties hosted by the Ledgeville Association. During World War II, the school became a gathering place to make bandages for the Red Cross. District No. 4 School meets Criterion C as a well-preserved example of a wood-frame, gable-end, Greek Revival-style, one-room district school building. The period of significance begins with the construction of the building, and ends 50 years prior to the date of listing.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Petersham Community Development

In 1733, a six-mile-square grant was made to a group of 72 proprietors. As it came to be known, "Volunteers Town," or "Voluntown," is said to have been granted to reward veterans of Captain John White and Captain John Lovell's raids during the Wabanaki-New England War of 1722–1725. Each proprietor received a 55- to 100-acre lot along the three high ridges, and a small meadow lot in an outlying area. Present-day Main Street runs north-south along the central ridge. Settlement began in 1735, and the first meetinghouse was constructed in 1738. The population grew to at least 47 families by 1754, when the township was incorporated as Petersham.

After the Revolutionary War, Petersham began its greatest period of growth, which continued through the 1830s. As cities and mill towns in eastern Massachusetts grew, their demand for farm products was met by central Massachusetts towns such as Petersham. By 1840, 80 percent of the town was in agricultural use, and the town had reached its peak population of 1,775 residents. Small industrial operations were located in Petersham villages, including small tanneries, flour mills, sawmills, and small factories producing boxes, chairs, plows, tinware, and wagon boxes. The "putting out" system of work, taking place in homes and workshops, existed for production of palm-leaf hats, boots, and shoes. With the 1873 opening of the Springfield, Athol & Northeastern Railroad in the nearby town of Dana (now extinct), the focus of transportation and industry shifted away from Petersham. After 1840, population steadily declined, with farms being abandoned. As former farm fields grew in with stands of white pine, commercial logging for the manufacture of boxes provided industry from 1880 to 1910. The town became attractive for summer visitors in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, but their numbers failed to lead to an increase in year-round residents.

Over the last century, the population has risen very slowly to 1,234 in 2010, a number smaller than that during the Colonial period. Throughout the 20th and into the 21st century, Petersham has retained its rural character, especially in the East Street agricultural area in which the District No. 4 School is located. The

District No. 4 School
Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts
County and State

land along East Street is one of the last intact working farm landscapes in Petersham, and retains its 19th-century agricultural appearance.

Early Schools in Petersham

Preparation for a school was included in the town warrant soon after the incorporation of Petersham in 1754. At the second town meeting in 1755, two school articles were to be voted upon: “to see if the town will build a school-house” and “to see if the town will grant money for a school and how much.” Residents voted not to act on the first option. However, it was voted that ten pounds would be raised for the use of a school.⁶

On May 5, 1756, a three-person committee was chosen to divide the town into districts, or squadrons. Each squadron would be responsible for building its own schoolhouse, with each squadron receiving an amount of money from the town in proportion to the number of residents. In 1791, the thirteen squadron boundaries were formalized, and a prudential committee consisting of one elected representative from each squadron was created. The squadron representative’s responsibilities included hiring the teacher, arranging for the teacher’s board during school terms, disbursing funds, and schoolhouse maintenance. Each district constructed a one-room schoolhouse in which the teacher was expected to teach children ranging in age from five to eighteen. School sessions were limited to only a few months a year during seasons when children were not needed to help with farm work at home, and the length of term varied from district to district, and from year to year. This continued to be true for Petersham district schools built in the early to mid 19th century as well. For example, until 1877, District No. 4 School held two terms of about 10-12 weeks each, in winter and summer.⁷ Beginning in 1878, District No. 4 School had three terms: April to late June or July; September to November; and December to February.⁸

The design of the first generation of schools in Petersham is unknown. However, it is believed that several of the second-generation schools, built in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, were of wood-frame construction and square in plan with shallow, pyramidal roofs. Floors were elevated in such a way that the rear seats were higher than those in the front row, allowing the teacher an unrestricted view of all students and vice versa. Windows, the major source of light, were located on all elevations and placed high on the wall so that students would not be distracted by passersby on the nearby road.⁹ Constructed at the turn of the 19th century, the ca. 1800 District No. 1 (PET.87), District No. 2, and District No. 13 schools took this form. The No. 1 School was later moved, converted to residential use, and vastly altered. The No. 2 and No. 13 schools are no longer extant.¹⁰

A third generation of schools, constructed during the mid 19th century, reflects the influence of Greek Revival forms popular during the time. The forms of District No. 4 (1846) and District No. 5 (1849; NRIND pending) schools are nearly identical to those of the demolished District No. 9 and District No. 13 (ca. 1867) schools. All four were constructed of clapboard with gable-front roofs, and featured simple architraves and corner pilasters.¹¹ The third District No. 12 School, constructed after 1855 and before 1870, was also Greek Revival in form. The school was also a gable-front building clad with clapboard, in

⁶ Mabel Cook Coolidge, *The History of Petersham, incorporated April 20, 1754: Volunteerstown or Voluntown, 1730-1733, Nichewaung, 1733-1754* (Petersham: Petersham Historical Society, Inc., 1948), 210.

⁷ An exception to this pattern occurred in the year 1872, when all Petersham district schools held three terms: summer, fall, and winter. Petersham Historical Society.

⁸ First East School Registers, 1871-1879, Box: District school registers, Petersham Historical Society.

⁹ C. K. Wilder to Bessie Doves, 1914, Folder: District Schools – Reminiscences, Petersham Historical Society.

¹⁰ Coolidge, 211, 215, 217. Also, photographs in the collection of the Petersham Historical Society.

¹¹ Coolidge, 217. Also, photographs in the collection of the Petersham Historical Society.

District No. 4 School

Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts

County and State

this instance with a recessed entry. The 1812 District No. 10 School was altered ca. 1866 with the addition of a vestibule and coatroom on the south, gable end of the building.¹² The third District No. 1 School (PET.19), constructed in 1848, differs from its contemporaries in that it was constructed of brick and is much larger than the other schools. However, it does feature pilasters at the building corners, gable-end cornice returns, and overhanging eaves.

Of the thirteen district school buildings, three remain standing. The 1848 District No. 1 School (PET.19) is a two-story brick building, constructed in the center of town as an elementary and high school. With the construction of a new center school in 1907, the brick school became the town office building in 1908, a use that continues into the present day. The District No. 4 and District No. 5 schools are the only single-room district schoolhouses remaining in Petersham. Located approximately a mile distant from one another on East Street, the two wood-frame buildings are representative of the ten other single-room schoolhouses once constructed in Petersham. Of the others, several still exist, but in vastly altered form—moved from their original locations, and incorporated into houses, barns, and workshops.

District No. 4 School History

District No. 4 constructed its first schoolhouse on this site atop a large stone outcropping prior to 1788. In 1780, Daniel Ward purchased the seven-acre property represented as lots 404 and 405 on present-day assessor's maps. A late 18th-century residence is located on lot 404. In 1788 Ward sold all of the property, except for the parcel he reserved for "the small building standing on the premises erected for a schoolhouse," i.e. lot 405.¹³ Ward continued to own the schoolhouse property until 1803, when he formally granted "the spot of land on which the schoolhouse now stands" to the Fourth District school committee for the price of one dollar.¹⁴ Plans for a second schoolhouse on the site were already underway by the time that transaction occurred.¹⁵

This second District No. 4 School was in need of repair within 40 years. In March 1842, a building committee of five members was voted to "examine the schoolhouse... and make an estimate of repairs also an estimate for a new house." The committee recommended a "thorough repair... [I]n making some small repairs, the school might be kept but very far from comfortable and what should be for the good of the school, they also believe if a thorough repair is not now made it must soon be done."¹⁶

By 1846, district residents, representing approximately 21 households, voted to build a new schoolhouse.¹⁷ On April 24, 1846, the committee entered into a contract with district resident Charles Gates to construct a new school. Gates was given the old schoolhouse as part of his payment. He moved it across the street and used it for his palm-leaf hatmaking business. That building is no longer extant.

After completion of the building, the committee reported on February 13, 1847, that the \$420 set aside for the building was insufficient. According to the 1847 building committee report: "... in order to have a

¹² Arthur Foster Johnson, "Some Reminiscences and Recollections," Folder: District Schools – Reminiscences, Petersham Historical Society.

¹³ Worcester County Deed Book 141, Page 231. Recorded Worcester County Register of Deeds, 1788.

¹⁴ Deed: Daniel Ward to Fourth School District, 1803. Deed not recorded in Worcester Registry of Deeds, Bryant Family Papers, and Petersham Historical Society.

¹⁵ "Copy of a School Tax or a Tax for the purpose of building a new school house in Dist. No. 4," 1802, Bryant Family Papers, Petersham Historical Society.

¹⁶ "An estimate of repairs to School Dist. No. 4," March 12, 1842, Bryant Family Papers, Petersham Historical Society.

¹⁷ School District No. 4 Minutes, February 28, 1846. Also, Tax records, Town of Petersham, 1846. Bryant Family Papers, Petersham Historical Society.

District No. 4 School

Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts

County and State

good and substantial roof, purlin plates were necessary and your Committee caused them to be put in, the amount of which was \$6.37. Your Committee also furnish'd zinc, stove pipe, wire, staples, settees, clothes hooks & screws which is together with the purlin plates \$14. 97 which sum added to said contract makes \$434.97 and will meet all demands for the completion of said house."¹⁸

There is no accurate record of the size of the student body when the new District No. 4 School opened, but according to the 1850 Federal Census, 34 children in the district were of school age, and they likely attended District No. 4 School in 1849.¹⁹ Among those students were five children of the school builder Charles Gates, one teenage daughter of tannery owner Artemus Bryant, four children of carriage maker Chauncey Hapgood, two children of farmer George Gates, four children of farmer and blacksmith Josiah White, the five-year-old daughter of miller Joseph Brown, and seven-year-old Mary Hapgood. Stonemason Joseph Upton, whose property abutted the school, also enrolled his six-year-old daughter.²⁰

The new school's first teacher was Miss Lydia Y. Kendall. A resident of Phillipston, Miss Kendall was paid \$15.00 for the summer term. The following winter, Nathan Kendall, also of Phillipston, was paid \$66.00 for the winter term. Annual reports and minutes of the District No. 4 School Committee reveal that there was a distinct salary difference between the summer and winter terms and between salaries for women and men. During the 19th century, the school's teachers often changed from term to term. However, in contrast to neighboring District No. 5 School, District No. 4 had greater success in rehiring teachers for consecutive or subsequent terms. For example, Lydia Kendall taught the summer terms in 1846 and 1847 and the winter term in 1852. Nathan Kendall taught three successive winter terms in 1846, 1847, and 1848. Mary Parmenter taught in 1852, Josephine Gates in 1858, Warren Fairbanks taught the winter session in 1860, and Abbie Wheeler taught the summer terms in 1861 and 1862 and the winter term in 1864. Eliza Morrison taught two terms in 1869, the summer term of 1870, and the winter term of 1872.

Enrollment also fluctuated between summer and winter terms, sometimes dramatically. This was the case in the summer of 1854, when the school was forced to close due to the illness of students. The following winter, enrollment reached 40 students, the highest in the history of District No. 4 School.

In the 19th century, some women began teaching when they were seventeen years old. This was the case with Lydia Kendall, Mary Parmenter, and Josephine Gates. More often, however, the teachers were in their early twenties when they taught at District No. 4 School (they may have begun teaching elsewhere at an earlier age).

In 1851, Lydia Kendall attended the Teacher's Institute, which was a weeklong training that attracted 203 students from neighboring communities, and was held in Petersham in October. Six other teachers who taught at District No. 4 between 1851 and 1856 also attended this institute.²¹ By 1900, all teachers in the town were expected to have attended a Normal School. In District No. 4, Miss Catherine M. Connor of Petersham studied at the Fitchburg Normal School and subsequently taught at District No. 4 for three years, 1900-1903.

¹⁸ Building Committee's Report," February 13, 1847, Bryant Family Papers, Petersham Historical Society.

¹⁹ United States Census, 1850.

²⁰ Town of Petersham School Division for Districts, 1849, Folder: School Taxes, Petersham Historical Society.

²¹ Source: *Catalogue of the Teacher's Institute, held at Petersham, Commencing October 6th, 1851 ending October 11, 1851.*

District No. 4 School

Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts

County and State

During the 20th century, teacher turnover decreased dramatically. Elizabeth Coolidge, who lived on a nearby farm, taught all terms from 1920 through 1932. Petersham native Agnes Duane taught ten consecutive years from 1932 to 1942.

Educational Practice in the Mid 19th Century

District No. 4 School served all children residing in that district, ranging in age from four to 18, in a single room, with a single teacher. This inefficient method required the teacher to conduct multiple lessons at various levels to meet students' needs, thereby ensuring that no child had the teacher's attention for more than a small portion of the school day. Under the district system, each district was responsible for all aspects of funding and education under its purview, rather than the municipality overseeing curriculum and other issues for all its schools, in a single program. The school session was brief and the district school's funding was limited, restricting the quality of education received by the students.

In the mid 19th century, educational reform, led by Horace Mann, began to take hold in Massachusetts. Horace Mann, often called the Father of the Common School, became the first Secretary to the newly created Board of Education in Massachusetts on June 29, 1837. Mann traveled throughout Massachusetts and provided yearly reports on the state of education in the Commonwealth, convincing the public of the benefits of school reform and the need for common standards. Although Mann could not mandate change, his ability to persuade the public that political stability and social harmony depended on the methods promoted by the common school movement did bring about reform. Under his influence, Massachusetts became the leader in educational reform during this time.

The common school movement reforms were based in a belief in universal education, graded schools, professional standards for teachers, and centralized authority over school systems rather than separate districts. The reforms proposed a system that created separate classes of students based on their ages. Students at each age level would be taught using standardized textbooks. With the age-grading system, all students were engaged in a lesson throughout the entire classroom session. This approach would allow more efficient and effective educational content. The approach had the added appeal of curbing misbehavior because the teacher's attention was not divided among disparate teaching duties.

While Petersham retained the district school system into the 1860s, education reforms slowly began to appear in the town. Lower grades were separated from upper grades as early as 1850 at the District No. 1 School in the center of town. By 1866, Petersham had formed a three-member school committee for the town, doing away with the district approach. In 1867, Massachusetts formally abolished the district system statewide, moving to a more equitable, municipal model for education.

Gradually, a consolidated school system with graded classrooms took hold in Petersham. By 1879, the brick school at the center of town contained classrooms for the intermediate and primary grades on the first floor, and the high school grades on the upper level. Until the 1890s, District No. 4 students of high-school age generally chose to remain at their school rather than travel to the town center. Petersham graduated its first high school class in 1891. By the end of the 19th century, enrollment in Petersham High School had steadily increased. Students over fifteen years of age continued their education at the high school or went to work. After 1890, District No. 4 generally educated students in grades one through six.

At the time District No. 4 School was constructed, Petersham's population was in decline from its 1840 peak of 1,775. The school's enrollment followed a similar path. Thirty-four students were enrolled in District No. 4 in 1849. Between 1853 and 1879, enrollment in District No. 4 remained fairly constant,

District No. 4 School

Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts

County and State

and averaged 23 students.²² District No. 4 School was renamed the First East School in 1870 with the abolishment of the district system.²³

In 1879, a decision was made to combine the two East Schools—District No. 4 (First East) School and District No. 5 (Second East) School. The following year, in 1880, District No 4 students attended the District No. 5 School. After that year, it was reversed and District No. 5 students attended District No. 4 School (except for one final year, 1888, when the two schools were again separate). Even with the combined districts, between 1880 and 1890, the student population at District No. 4 School declined to a low of five students in 1884. Enrollments rebounded in the following decade, resulting in an average student population of nineteen students.

By 1904, only two district schools, No. 4 and No. 7, remained open. By that time, students from all other districts were being transported to the Center School. A new, consolidated Center School was constructed in 1906, and the school committee stated that it would be preferable if all Petersham students could benefit from the new school, and that the expense of teaching these additional students was not significant. However, the cost of transporting these students proved to be prohibitive.²⁴ In 1921, District No. 7 School closed, leaving District No. 4 School the only operating district schoolhouse. Among the students at District No. 4 School were boys who were wards of the state, living with foster families on nearby farms. Students attended District No. 4 School until 1943. That year, as an economic measure and due to the wartime shortage of teachers, the school committee voted to close the school and send the nine remaining pupils to the Center School.²⁵

District No. 4 School as Community Center

The District No. 4 School building has served many uses other than education. In the early years after its construction, the community gathered there for lyceum lectures. In the 20th century, the building hosted dramatic performances, holiday celebrations, and 4-H club meetings.²⁶ The Ledgeville Association was formed in 1915 with the purpose of fostering community fellowship, supporting the school, benefiting the students both socially and economically, and promoting the welfare of the community.²⁷ The association held socials throughout the winter, and sponsored a fall supper fundraiser. Funds from the supper were used to purchase Christmas gifts for all children in the district. During World War II, the school became a gathering place to make bandages for the Red Cross. Into the late 1960s, Ledgeville Association members made Memorial Day wreaths at the schoolhouse to place on veterans' graves.²⁸

After the school closed in 1943, an informal agreement with the town allowed the Ledgeville Association to continue using the schoolhouse so long as the association committed to the care and maintenance of the building. In the 1940s, the Ledgeville Association installed a dropped ceiling over a deteriorated plaster

²² District No. 4 School Registers, 1867-1872, 1874-1878. Folder: School District Registers, Petersham Historical Society, and Annual Reports of the School Committee of the Town of Petersham for the School Years 1857-1858, 1865-1867, 1869-1882, 1887-1888.

²³ Town of Petersham, *Annual Report of the School Committee of the Town of Petersham for the School Year 1869-1870*, 1870: 4.

²⁴ Town of Petersham, "Report of the Superintendent of Schools" in *Annual Report of the School Committee of the Town of Petersham for the Financial Year Ending February 1, 1907*, 1907, Petersham Historical Society.

²⁵ Town of Petersham, *Annual Report of the School Committee of the Town of Petersham for the year ending February 1, 1944*, 1944, Petersham Historical Society.

²⁶ Delight Gale Haines, "Ledgeville School," ca. 1967, Petersham Historical Society.

²⁷ *Athol Transcript*, October 25, 1922.

²⁸ Delight Gale Haines, "Ledgeville School," ca. 1967, Petersham Historical Society and Minutes of the Petersham Historical Society, 1959, 1963, 1977.

District No. 4 School

Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts

County and State

ceiling, added ceiling lights, installed a wood/coal heatolator, placed coathooks around the classroom, and removed the wood and cast-iron desks, which were replaced by card tables so that whist could be played one evening a week. The proceeds from whist, along with membership fees, were used to preserve the building. The weekly whist tradition continued for more than 50 years (figure 4). In the 1960s, the association replaced an outhouse, visible in figure 3, with a smaller one that was removed in 2015. In 1963, when the road was regraded, concrete steps and pipe railing were added (Photos 1,2).

The Ledgeville Association disbanded in 1998, and was officially dissolved in 2010. Former members donated the remaining association funds toward replacement of the roof covering, which was undertaken by volunteers in 2009. Since the disbandment of the Ledgeville Association in 1998, the Petersham Historical Society has hosted numerous events and tours of the building. These tours are often offered along with tours of District No. 5 School (NRIND 2016).

Architecture of District School No. 4

District No. 4 School is architecturally significant as a well-preserved example of a Greek Revival-style, one-room district school. The gable-front form and Greek Revival style were the most common choice for school design at the time District No. 4 School was constructed. Architectural historian Talbot Hamlin has stated that Greek Revival was, in effect, the only style of the period. Hamlin wrote that there was "hardly an architect of the first water in ... nineteenth-century America who did not ... strive to design buildings of a new type, ... American buildings ... inspired by the classics."²⁹

Among the most influential educational reformers during the period in which District No. 4 School was constructed were Horace Mann, first Secretary of Education for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and Henry Barnard, Commissioner of Public Schools in Rhode Island and an influential author of books and journals about school design. The supplement to Mann's 1838 "First Annual Report of the Secretary of the Board of Education" presented model school designs and their furnishings. One-room schoolhouses were the most frequently built school type of the period, particularly in rural communities. Mann addressed the question of school size, appropriate furnishings and their placement in the room, and the best ventilation and heating systems, as well as the need for an open schoolyard and play area.

Mann's designs are similar to those recommended by Barnard. In his 1848 *School Architecture; or Contributions to the Improvement of School Houses in the United States*, Barnard set forth that:

The style of the exterior should exhibit good, architectural proportion, and be calculated to inspire children and the community generally with respect to the object to which it is devoted... Every schoolhouse should be a temple, consecrated in prayer to the physical, intellectual, and moral culture of every child in the community, and be associated in every heart with the earliest and strongest impressions of truth, patriotism, and religion.³⁰

Barnard spared no words in his opinion of district school buildings in his 1851 *Practical Illustrations of the Principles of School Architecture*. The school should have a "design in good taste and fit proportion, in place of the wretched perversions of architecture, which almost universally characterize the district school-houses of New England."³¹

²⁹ John Rothfork, "Transcendentalism and Henry Barnard's 'School Architecture,'" *The Journal of General Education* 29, No. 3 (Fall 1977): 178, citing Talbot Hamlin, *Greek Revival in America*, 1948, 24.

³⁰ Henry Barnard, *School Architecture; or Contributions to the Improvement of School Houses in the United States* (New York: A. S. Barnes and Co., 1848), 41.

³¹ Barnard, *Practical Illustrations of the Principles of School Architecture* (Hartford, CT.: Cast, Tiffany and Company, 1851), 23.

District No. 4 School
Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts
County and State

Barnard's work served as "pattern books" for common school reformers, and provided examples of schools in which "the great principles of school-architecture are observed."³² Some features of these model schools are shared by District No. 4 School. The design of District No. 4 School contained features designed to instill order and promote health and good behavior. For example, the building was sufficiently large to accommodate students. Windows were placed at a lower height that allowed light and airflow across the school room; prior to the 19th century, school windows were often placed high in the wall so that students would not be distracted by outside stimuli. The centrally located stove that could evenly heat the room replaced the open fireplaces of earlier years.

The attention to detail was demonstrated in both interior furnishings and exterior details, particularly in the gable-front form and the Greek Revival-style pilasters, cornice and returns, and entryway surround. In other ways, however, District No. 4 School reflected more traditional approaches to schoolhouse design, with its single entryway and common vestibule/cloakroom (Barnard recommended separate entry doors for girls and boys, and separate cloakrooms, to promote modesty.)

District No. 4 School is an exceptional representative of mid 19th-century schoolhouse construction, reflecting a period of transition in education and the design for educational facilities.

Present-day use of the schoolhouse

Through funding provided by the Massachusetts legislature in 2014,³³ preservation efforts began in late 2015. Work has been undertaken to return the building to its appearance as a district school. The foundation has been leveled and stabilized. Window sash were restored and the 1915 (6/6) window panes returned to the frames. Electrical service and wiring, installed in 1930 as a gift from Will Gates, the son of builder Charles Gates, have been removed for safety purposes and to return the classroom to its appearance during the majority of its life as a school. The dropped ceiling and light fixtures installed in 1948 by the Ledgeville Association were also removed in 2015. An outhouse, constructed during the 1960s, was removed as well. The concrete stairs and pipe railings were removed, replaced by four granite slab steps, quarried from the Ledgeville neighborhood (Photo 9).

Future plans for the school include collaboration between the Petersham Historical Commission and the Petersham Historical Society to create a small museum in the schoolhouse. A number of items, many of which were once in the District No. 4 School, have been collected for display and interpretation. Among these are a plank desk, a bench/settee (figure 5), a ca. 1900 Seth Thomas gallery clock, a square piano that was in the school in the 1920s, and a small wooden stepladder with the name "Ledgeville School, District No. 4" stenciled on the side by William C. Smith in 1956.³⁴ In addition, a drum stove, similar to the one that would have originally heated the building, is being refurbished for placement in the classroom. These items and others will be used to tell the story of the life of the school and its importance to the community from 1846 to 1998.

³² Barnard, *School Architecture*, 90.

³³ Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Session Law, Acts of 2014, Chapter 165, Section 2, line item 1599-0026, "...that \$75,000 shall be expended for the restoration of the 1-room school house in the town of Petersham."

³⁴ The bench was donated to the Petersham Historical Society in April 2016 by the grandson of Emma Brunelle Barnes (1895-1978), who attended the school (along with her 9+ siblings), as did her own children. In her 1948 book, *Old Schools of Petersham: District No. 4 - First East - Ledgeville School*, Barnes wrote that the bench was manufactured in 1846 at the mill on Moccasin Brook, located directly south of the school. She also described the seats and desks as graduated in size and "built with the seats and desks in separate parts and for two pupils to each seat."

District No. 4 School
 Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts
 County and State

Archaeological Significance

Historic archaeological resources described above may contribute information related to the construction of the school, the students, and their activities. Additional documentary research, combined with archaeological survey and testing, may indicate the temporal span of the outhouse site, and whether or not an additional one may have been present. Detailed analysis of the contents of that outhouse site may contain evidence of the social, cultural, and economic lives of the students at the school, their families, and the residents of the District No. 4 School neighborhood. Important evidence may also be present related to the activities conducted at the school, including educational methods and techniques, and school maintenance. Much of the historic archaeological potential for the District No. 4 School, if it exists, may lie off the present site. Barns, stables, outbuildings, and other school-related features, structures, and objects may have been built in the area immediately surrounding the nominated problem.

DATA SHEET

<u>Resource</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Materials</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Type</u>
District No. 4 School	1846	wood frame, clapboards	C	B
Doorsteps	1937	stone, incised	C	O
Outhouse site	ca. 1846		C	Si
Stairs	2016	granite	NC	St

Totals: 1 contributing building, 1 contributing object, 1 contributing site, 1 noncontributing structure

District No. 4 School
Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Barnard, Henry. *School Architecture; or Contributions to the Improvement of School Houses in the United States*. New York: A. S. Barnes and Co., 1848.

Beers, Frederick W. *Atlas of Worcester County, Massachusetts*. New York: F. W. Beers and Co., 1870.

Black, John D. *Planning One Town: Petersham, a hill town in Massachusetts*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1952.

Coolidge, Mabel Cook. *The History of Petersham, incorporated April 20, 1754: Volunteerstown or Voluntown, 1730-1733, Nichewaug, 1733-1754*. Petersham, MA: Petersham Historical Society, Inc., 1948.

Mandel, Christine. "Fourth District School," PET.88. Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Form, 2014.

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Massachusetts Heritage Landscape Inventory Program. *Upper Quaboag Watershed and North Quabbin Region Landscape Inventory: Petersham Reconnaissance Report*. Boston: Massachusetts Division of Conservation and Recreation, 2008.

Massachusetts Historical Commission. *Historic & Archaeological Resources of Central Massachusetts: A Framework for Preservation Decisions*. Boston: Massachusetts Historical Commission, 1985.

Massachusetts Historical Commission. *Massachusetts Historical Commission Reconnaissance Survey Town Report: Petersham*. Boston: Massachusetts Historical Commission, 1984.

Minutes of the Secretary. Petersham Historical Society. 1941.

New Topographical Atlas of the County of Worcester, Massachusetts. Philadelphia: L. J. Richards and Co., 1898.

Petersham Historical Society Collections:

- Bryant Family Papers
- District Schools – Photographs
- District Schools – Registers
- District Schools – Reminiscences
- District Schools – Taxes

Town of Petersham – Tax records.

Petersham, Town of. Annual Reports of the Town of Petersham, 1857-1950.

District No. 4 School
Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts
County and State

Petersham, Town of. Annual Report of the School Committee of the Town of Petersham. 1857-1944.

Rothfork, John. "Transcendentalism and Henry Barnard's 'School Architecture.'" *The Journal of General Education*. Vol. 29, No. 3 (Fall 1977): 173-187.

Woodford, E.M. *Map of the Town of Petersham, Worcester County, Massachusetts*. Philadelphia: Richard Clark, 1855.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): PET.88

District No. 4 School
Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property less than one acre

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 42.48828 | Longitude: -72.15285 |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 18 | Easting: 735984 | Northing: 4707930 |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The property is identified as parcel 405 on the Town of Petersham Assessor's map Sheet 7. The precise boundaries are clearly delineated on a ca. 2006 plot plan (figure 6).

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The property is defined by the legal boundaries of the property as created through property transactions in 1788 and 1803. In 1788 Daniel Ward sold what is present-day lot 404, except for the parcel he reserved for "the small building standing on the premises erected for a schoolhouse" (Worcester Deed Book 141, Page 230-1). In 1803, Ward sold the schoolhouse property to the Fourth District School Committee. The property boundaries were clarified through a 2006 property survey

District No. 4 School
Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts
County and State

(Worcester County Plan book 840, Plan 30) as a 30.5-foot-wide lot that extends to the school's eave line. The lot is approximately 48 feet deep, and extends from the road right-of-way at the southern boundary northward to a point 12.9 feet beyond the north wall of the school, as marked by a drill hole in the stone wall that terminates at said point. The north boundary is drawn to encompass the outhouse site at the northeast corner of the school. Two outhouses are known to have been on the site at separate times. Figure 3 shows the outhouse that was present in 1933. Figure 6 shows a smaller replacement (labeled "shed") that was on the site until 2015.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Stacy E. Spies, Preservation Consultant, with Christine Mandel, Petersham Historical Society, and Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director
organization: Massachusetts Historical Commission
street & number: 220 Morrissey Blvd.
city or town: Boston state: MA zip code: 02125
e-mail betsy.friedberg@sec.state.ma.us.gov
telephone: 617-727-8470
date: July 2016

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

District No. 4 School
Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts
County and State

Photo Log

Name of Property: District No. 4 School

City or Vicinity: Petersham

County: Worcester State: Massachusetts

Photographer: Stacy E. Spies

Date Photographed: August 10, 2015 and February 1, 2016

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 9. Setting of District No. 4 School, camera facing west. (February 2016)
- 2 of 9. West elevation (left) and south (front) elevation (right), camera facing northeast. (February 2016)
- 3 of 9. Schoolhouse north elevation and west elevation (right), camera facing southeast. (February 2016)
- 4 of 9. Incised step. (February 2016)
- 5 of 9. Coatroom, camera facing west. (February 2016)
- 6 of 9. Coatroom, graffiti detail, south wall. (August 2015)
- 7 of 9. Classroom, camera facing southeast. (February 2016)
- 8 of 9. Classroom, camera facing northwest. (February 2016)
- 9 of 9. South (front) elevation, camera facing north. New granite steps replace concrete stairs. (June 2016)

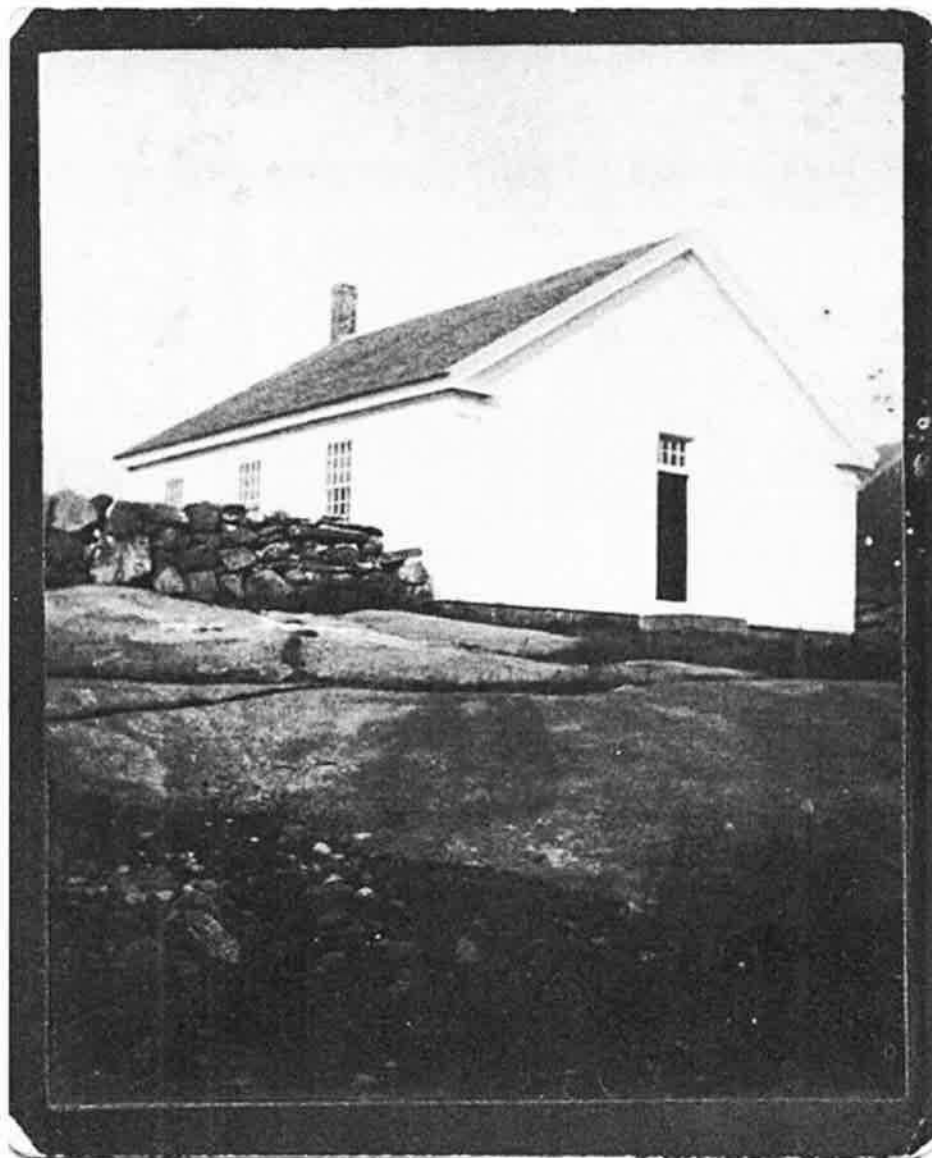
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

District No. 4 School
Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts
County and State

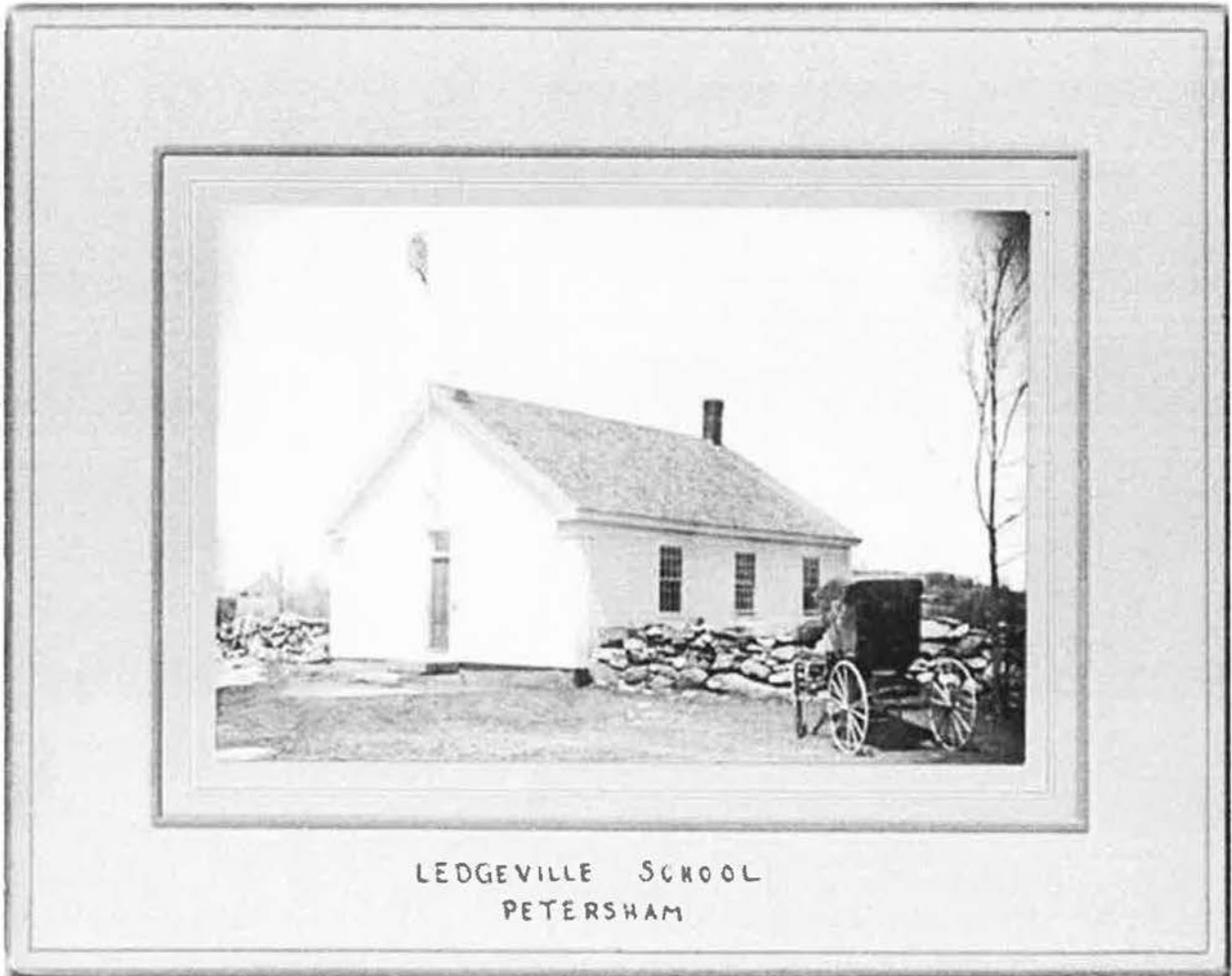
Figure 1.
District No. 4 School, n.d. (pre 1915) Collection of Petersham Historical Society.



District No. 4 School
Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts
County and State

Figure 2.
District No. 4 School, ca. 1910. Collection of Petersham Historical Society.



District No. 4 School
Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts
County and State

Figure 3.
District No. 4 School, ca. 1933. Collection of Petersham Historical Society.
Note outhouse at rear of building. Outhouse no longer extant.



District No. 4 School
Name of Property

Worcester, Massachusetts
County and State



Figure 4. (above)
District No. 4 School, Whist party ca. 1957.
Collection of Petersham Historical Society.

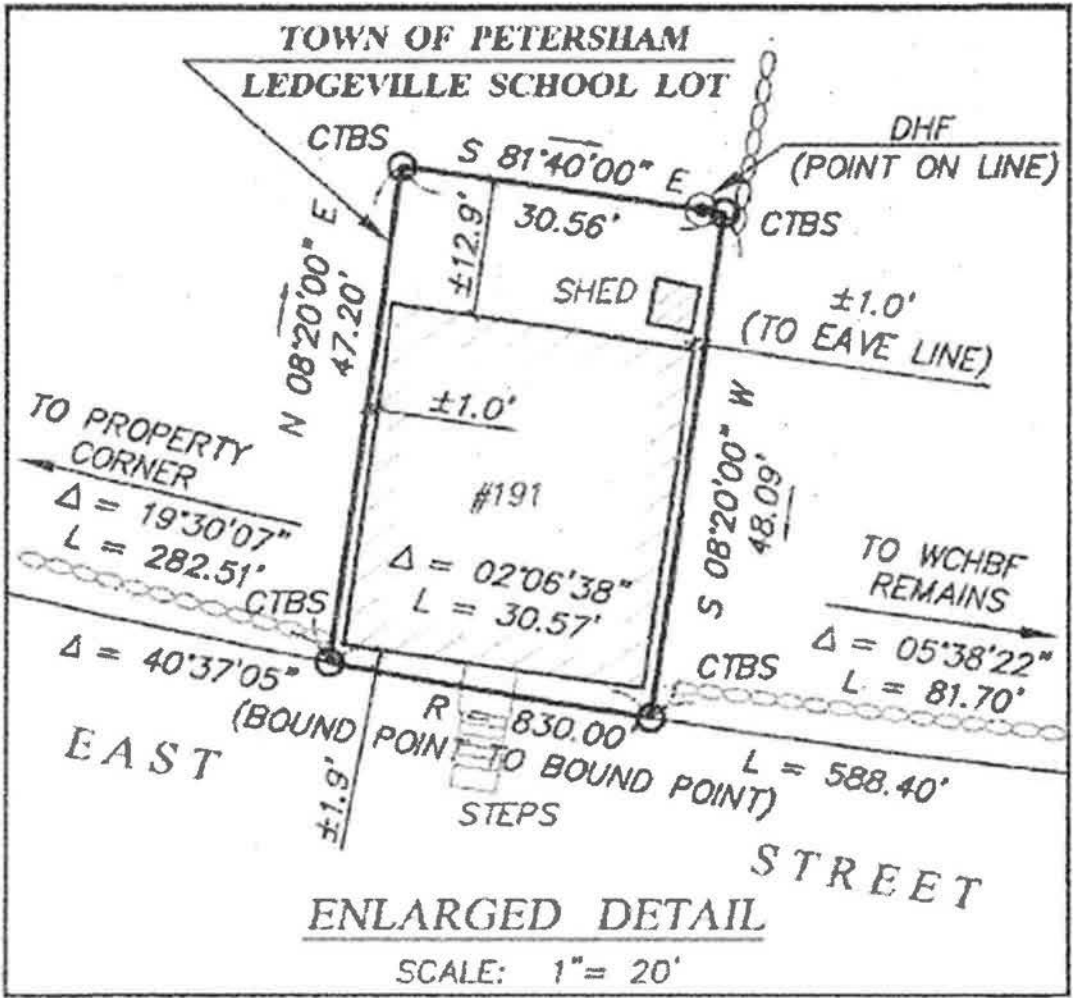


Figure 5.
Original District No. 4 School bench/settee
donated to Historical Society by
Brunelle/Barnes family in April 2016.
Collection of Petersham Historical Society.

District No. 4 School
Name of Property

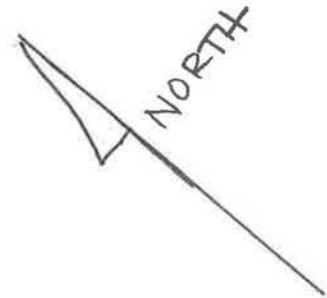
Worcester, Massachusetts
County and State

Figure 6.
Plot plan, ca. 2006.





Town of Petersham
 Tax Map
 FY-2006
 8/4/2006
 1"=1000'



DISTRICT NO. 4 SCHOOL
 WORCESTER COUNTY
 PETERSHAM.

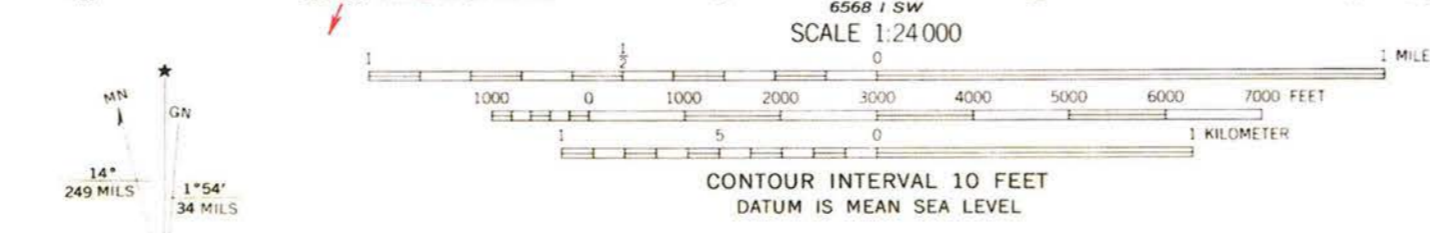
Sheet 7

- HARVARD LAND
- TOWN LAND
- MDC LAND
- OTHER STATE LAND
- EXEMPT LAND
- CHAPTER 61 LAND

DISTRICT No. 4
School
WORCESTER COUNTY
PETERSHAM, MA
UTM ZONE 18
E 733984
N 4707930



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, Massachusetts Geodetic Survey, and
Massachusetts Harbor and Land Commission
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1939. Topography by planimetric surveys 1943-1944
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1968. Field checked 1969
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Primary highway, all weather, hard surface	Light duty road, all weather, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface	Unimproved road, fair or dry weather
	State Route



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

PETERSHAM, MASS.
N4222.5—W7207.5/7.5
1969
AMS 6568 I NW—SERIES V814

USGS
HISTORICAL FILE
TOPOGRAPHIC DIVISION

JUL 3 1972



MA - WORCESTER COUNTY - DISTRICT NUMBER 4 SCHOOL - 0001

PHOTO 1

DISTRICT No. 4 SCHOOL

PETERSHAM (WORCESTER) MA

STACY SPIES FOTO FEB 1, 2016

SETTING of DIST. 4 SCHOOL FACING W



DISTRICT NO. 4 SCHOOL

PHOTO 2

PETERSHAM (WORCESTER) MA

STACY SPIES PHOTO FEB 1, 2016

WEST ELEV. (L) and SOUTH [FRONT] ELEV. (R) FACING NE



MA - WORCESTER COUNTY - DISTRICT NUMBER 4 SECTION 1 - 0003

DISTRICT NO. 4 SCHOOL

PHOTO 3

PETERSHAM (WORCESTER) MA

STACY SPIES PHOTO

FEB 1, 2016

NORTH ELEV. (L) and WEST ELEV. (R) FACING SE

EDGEVILLE DISTRICT NO. 4

MA - WORCESTER COUNTY - DISTRICT NUMBER 4 SCHOOL - 0004

DISTRICT No. 4 SCHOOL
PETERSHAM (WORCESTER) MA

STACY SPIES PHOTO

FEB 1, 2016

INCISED STEP

MA - WORCESTER COUNTY - DISTRICT NUMBER 4 SCHOOL - 0005



DISTRICT NO. 4 SCHOOL

PHOTO 5

PETERSHAM (WORCESTER) MA

STACY SPIES PHOTO

FEB 1, 2016

COATROOM FACING W



MA - WORCESTER COUNTY - DISTRICT NUMBER 4 SCHOOL - 0006

DISTRICT No. 4 SCHOOL
PETERSHAM (WORCESTER) MA

STACY SPIES PHOTO

AUG 10, 2015

COATROOM, GRAFFITI,
SOUTH WALL

PHOTO



MA WORCESTER COUNTY - DISTRICT NUMBER 4 SCHOOL - 0007

DISTRICT NO. 4 SCHOOL
PETERSHAM (WORCESTER) MA

STACY SPIES PHOTO

FEB 1, 2016

ROOM, FACING SE



MA - WORCESTER COUNTY - DISTRICT NUMBER 4 SCHOOL - 0008

DISTRICT NO. 4 SCHOOL

PETERSHAM (WORCESTER) MA

STACY SPIES PHOTO

FEB 1, 2016

FACING NW



PETERSHAM (WORCESTER) MA

PHOTO 9

DISTRICT NO. 4 SCHOOL

STACY SPIES PHOTO

JUNE 2016

SOUTH (FRONT) ELEV. CAMERA FACING N

New granite stairs replace concrete.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY District No. 4 School
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester

DATE RECEIVED: 8/26/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/23/16
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 10/11/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/11/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000713

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 10.11.16 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



RECEIVED 2280

AUG 26 2016

NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

August 19, 2016

Mr. J. Paul Loether
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW 8th floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

District No. 4 School, 191 East Street, Petersham (Worcester), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of the properties in the district were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 45 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Robert Clark, Petersham Historical Commission
Nancy Allen, Petersham Board of Selectmen
Henry Woolsey, Christine Mandel, Petersham Historical Society
Stacy Spies, consultant
Fraser Sinclair, Petersham Planning Board