

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 12 1977
DATE ENTERED SEP 22 1977NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC



Milford Town Hall

AND/OR COMMON

Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

52 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Milford

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
3rd

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE

01757

COUNTY

Worcester

CODE

027

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☒ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Town of Milford

STREET & NUMBER

52 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Milford

VICINITY OF

STATE

Massachusetts 01757

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Worcester County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

2 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Worcester

STATE

Massachusetts 01608

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE

1976

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Boston

STATE

Massachusetts 02108

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT ☐ DETERIORATED
☐ GOOD ☐ RUINS
☒ FAIR ☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Milford Town Hall is located in the center of the business district on Main Street in downtown Milford. The building is situated on a small plot of land (7/8 of an acre) and is bounded by the sidewalk area in front, and parking lot areas on the side and rear. The landscaping within these borders is grass and shrubbery.

The Renaissance Revival Town Hall was designed by Thomas W. Silloway, and was built between 1853 and 1858. It is a two story structure which sits on a brick foundation. The walls are sheathed with clapboards, now painted white. A wide molded water table defines the ground and main floors, and acts as a continuous link at the heads of the ground floor windows. The building's wide entablature is ornamented at the frieze by alternating triglyphs and patera motifs, and by a modillioned cornice on the overhanging eaves. Throughout the building, each bay is separated by a pilaster. These pilasters are doubled around each corner of the structure. The pilasters on the ground floor are rusticated horizontal blocks. On the main floor the pilasters are decorated by molded bases, fluting, and ornamented capitals supporting the building's flat architrave.

The three bay facade faces northwest toward Main Street. In the center of the facade is the recessed entrance to the ground floor, which is flanked by two wide segmental arched bays. Directly above the entryway, on the main floor is a round topped window with a twisted balustrade beneath, and a molded arched panel above. To either side of the central window are identical 15/15 windows framed by molded architraves, headed by a full entablature with a keystone, and crowned by a projecting triangular pediment. The gable pediment is distinguished by Palladian window with Baroque detail.

Both of the side elevations are identical. They are ten bays deep, including the fire bay projecting section of the cross axis. This 1900 rear section contains a recessed entrance, and a round window in the gable pediment on both elevations. Fenestration is 10/10 on the ground floor, 15/15 on the main. The ground floor windows are headed by a semi elliptical entablature with a large keystone. The elaborate main floor windows are headed by a complete entablature with keystone, and by alternating triangular and arched projecting pediments. The treatment of the elevations is continued on the 5 bay rear elevation.

The elaborately ornamented cupola which surmounts the building is nearly 50 feet in height. There is a round clock with Baroque scroll trim on each of the four sides of the base whose corners are quoined. The overhanging cornice is dentiled and gracefully molded. The taller, narrower bell housing has four arched openings, each with a delicate balustrade. Each arch is flanked by a composite pilaster, and is headed by a molded architrave, dentiled cornice, and broken scroll pediment. The third and final stage of the cupola is a hexagonal gold dome with a metal replica of the original handcarved eagle standing on top.

The basement of the Town Hall houses the local jail cells. Town offices are located on the ground floor, and there is a large meeting room with a stage and balconies on the main floor.

The cross axial rear section of the building was added in 1900 to meet the needs of the growing town. The building was originally painted yellow and sanded to imitate stone.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
☐ PREHISTORIC	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION
☐ 1400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE
☐ 1500-1599	☐ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☐ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE
☐ 1600-1699	☒ ARCHITECTURE	☐ EDUCATION	☐ MILITARY	☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☐ 1700-1799	☐ ART	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER
☒ 1800-1899	☐ COMMERCE	☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ 1900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☐ INDUSTRY	☒ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)
		☐ INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1853

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Thomas W. Silloway

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Milford Town Hall is significant as one of the most outstanding landmarks in town not only for its rich architectural style, but also as a building which has played an integral part in the history of Milford's government. The Town Hall has served as a meeting place for all branches of local government for approximately 125 years.

The Town Hall is the most prominent building in the Main Street area. Construction began in 1853, and was completed in 1858. The building replaced the old Town House formerly located at the rear of the present structure, which for eight years had been the public meeting house. The basement of the Town Hall originally housed a market.

The use of wood rather than granite makes the Town Hall's construction unique to the other town buildings. Milford's pink granite has played an important role nationally as a source of beautiful yet durable building material. All of the other main public buildings are constructed out of this granite. The exception of the Town Hall is important, as the building is a fine example of a wooden Renaissance Revival style.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ballou, Adin, History of Milford, Franklin Press, Boston, 1882.
Mr. Anthony DeLuca, Milford Building Commissioner, interview.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	9
---	---

2	9	1	9	9	0
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4	6	6	8	4	4	0
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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

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B

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--	--	--	--	--	--	--

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D

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--	--	--	--	--	--	--

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Blaine Mallory and Joseph Orfant, National Register Editor
(Robert A. Samiango, Milford Historical Commission)

ORGANIZATION Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE January 11, 1977

STREET & NUMBER 294 Washington Street

TELEPHONE 727-8470

CITY OR TOWN Boston

STATE Massachusetts, 02108

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ☐

STATE ☐

LOCAL ☒

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Elizabeth Reed Amadon

TITLE Executive Director, Mass. Historical Comm.

DATE 3/16/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER.

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: *Walter W. H. Cole*

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 9-22-77

DATE 9-22-77

Property Milford Town Hall

State Massachusetts Working Number 4.12.77.581

Worcester

TECHNICAL

Photos 3
Maps 1

CONTROL

OK ^{pl} 4.18.77

Minimal info to support politics/government

HISTORIAN

*accept
Franklin
7.7.77*

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

*accept
Kovach
5.25.77*

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

*Accept
Cole
9.20.77*

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

*Huntington
9.22.77*

National Register Write-up _____

Federal Register Entry 11-1-77

Send-back _____

Re-submit _____

Entered SEP 22 1977

INT:2106-74



Worcester County

APR 12 1977

Milford Town Hall
Milford, Massachusetts
1976

SEP 22 1977

Morin's Studio
Milford Historical Commission
42 Court Street,
Milford, Mass., 01757

Photo #1073

Looking east toward facade and southwest
elevation.

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Worcester County

Milford Town Hall
Milford, Massachusetts
1976

APR 12 1977

SEP 22 1977

Morin's Studio
Milford Historical Commission

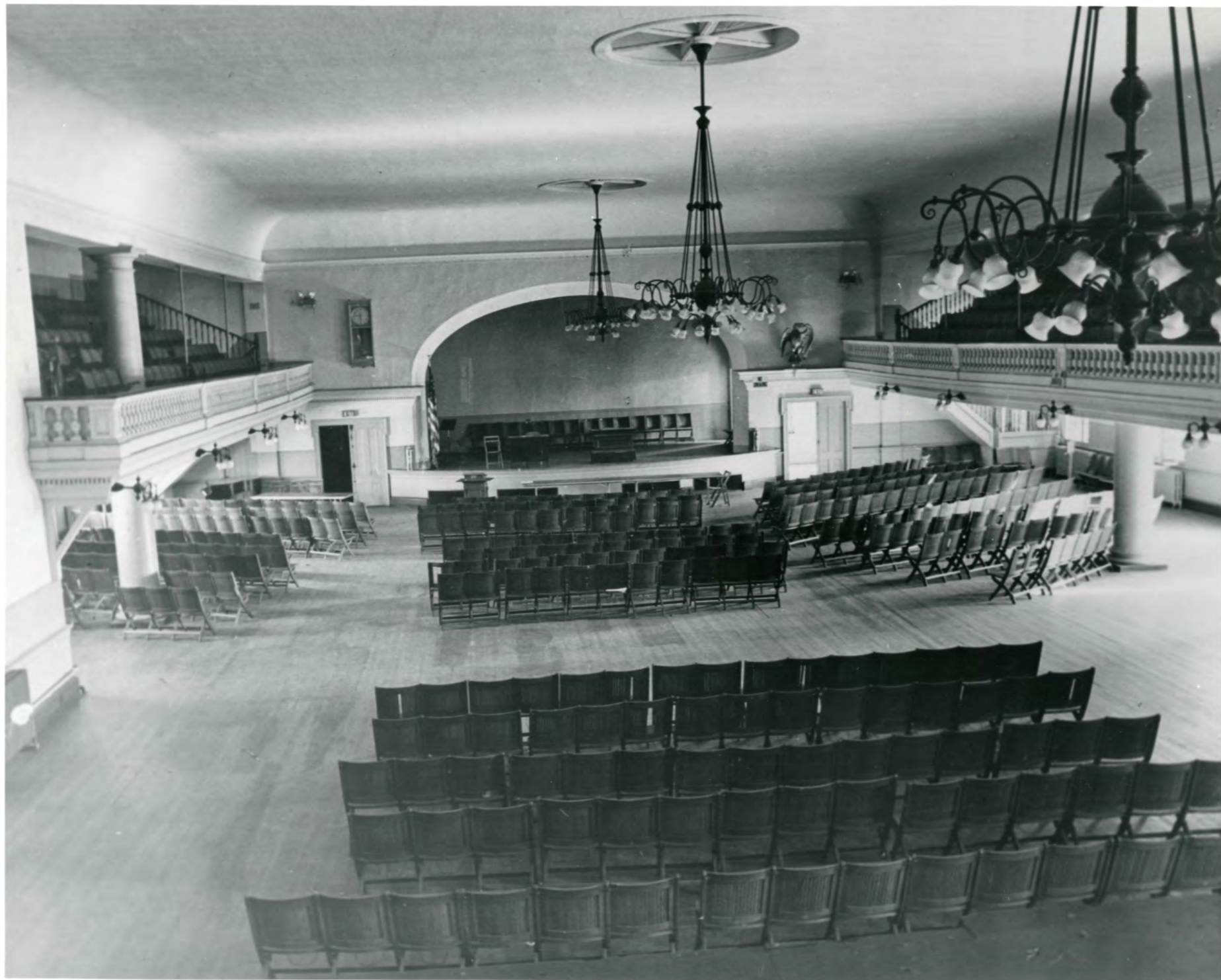
42 Court Street

Milford, Mass., 01757

Photo #2 *83*

Looking south toward facade and northeast
elevation.

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Worcester County

Milford Town Hall
Milford, Massachusetts
1976

APR 12 1977

Morin's Studio

SEP 22 1977

Milford Historical Commission

42 Court Street

Milford, Mass., 01757

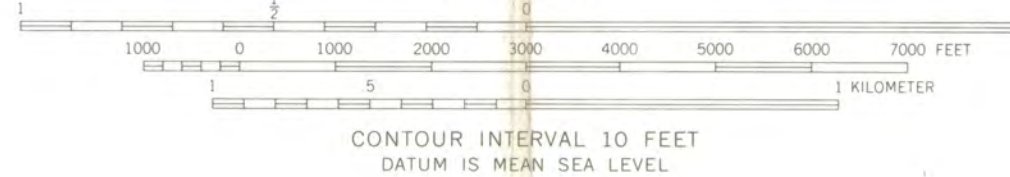
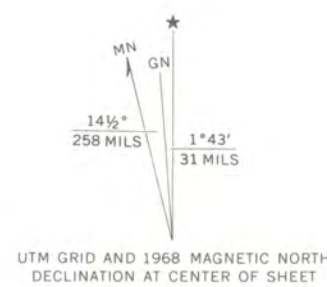
Photo #393

Interior view of meeting room on main
floor.

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1942-1943. Revised from
aerial photographs taken 1967. Field checked 1968
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 19,
shown in blue
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown
Area covered by dashed light-blue pattern is subject to
controlled inundation by West Hill Dam



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

MILFORD, MASS.
N4267 E-W11367 F
1968

AMS 6668 II NE-SERIES V814



Milford Town Hall
Milford, Mass.
UTM Coordinates:
19/291 990/4668 440

SEP 22 1977

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

MASSACHUSETTS

STATE

Date Entered SEP 22 1977

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Barton, Clara, Homestead	North Oxford vicinity Worcester County
Milford Town Hall	Milford Worcester County
Gay Farm (Negus Hill)	Petersham vicinity Worcester County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy

Hon. Edward W. Brooke

Hon. Edward P. Boland

Hon. Joseph D. Early

Regional Director, North Atlantic Region

State Historic Preservation Officer

Mrs. Elizabeth R. Amadon

Executive Director, Massachusetts

Historical Commission

294 Washington Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02108

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

① NAME as it appears on federal register: Milford Town Hall
 ② OTHER NAMES:
 ③ date of entry: SEP 22 1977
 ④ county code: 27

⑤ LOCATION street & number: 52 Main St.
 city / town: Milford
 vicinity of:
 state: MA
 county: Worcester
 ⑥ NPS REGION: NA

⑦ OWNER ☐ PRIVATE ☐ STATE ☒ MUNICIPAL ☐ COUNTY ☐ MULTIPLE ☐ FEDERAL (agency name):
 ⑧ ADMINISTRATOR:

⑨ EXISTING SURVEYS ☐ HABS ☐ HAER ☐ NHL
 ⑩ FUNDED? ☐ YES ☐ NO
 ⑪ CONGRESS. DISTRICT: 3rd
 ⑫ SOURCE of NOMINATION ☒ STATE ☐ FEDERAL
 if state who prepared form?

⑬ NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT?
 YES NAME: ☐ NO
 ⑭ WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK?
 YES, NAME: ☐ NO
 ⑮ ACREAGE: .7-.9
☐ LOCAL ☐ PRIVATE ORGANIZATION

⑯ CONDITION ☐ deteriorated ☐ altered ☐ original site
☐ excellent ☐ ruins ☐ unaltered ☐ moved
☐ good ☐ unexposed ☐ reconstructed ☐ unknown
☒ fair ☐ unexcavated ☐ excavated
 ⑰ features:
 INTERIOR ☐ SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 ☒ SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2
☐ NOT INTACT-0 ☐ NOT INTACT-0
☒ UNKNOWN-4 ☐ UNKNOWN-5
☐ NOT APPLICABLE-7 ☐ NOT APPLICABLE-8
 EXTERIOR ☐ SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3
☐ NOT INTACT-0
☐ UNKNOWN-6
☐ NOT APPLICABLE-9
 ENVIRONS ☐ SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3
☐ NOT INTACT-0
☐ UNKNOWN-6
☐ NOT APPLICABLE-9

⑱ ACCESS ☐ YES-Restricted ☐ YES-Unrestricted ☐ No Access ☐ Unknown
 ⑲ ADAPTIVE USE ☐ YES ☐ NO
 ⑳ SAVED? ☐ YES
 IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? ☐ yes ☐ no

㉑ AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE:
☐ ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2 ☐ COMMERCE-6 ☐ ENGINEERING-11 ☐ LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 ☒ POLITICS/GOVT.-21 ☐ RECREATION-28
☐ ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 ☐ COMMUNICATIONS-7 ☐ ENTERTAINMENT-26 ☐ LAW-16 ☐ RELIGION-22 ☐ SETTLEMENT-29
☐ AGRICULTURE-3 ☐ CONSERVATION-8 ☐ EXPLORATION-12 ☐ LITERATURE-17 ☐ SCIENCE-23 ☐ URBAN PLANNING-31
☒ ARCHITECTURE-4 ☐ ECONOMICS-9 ☐ HEALTH-27 ☐ MILITARY-18 ☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24 ☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)
☐ ART-5 ☐ EDUCATION-10 ☐ INDUSTRY-13 ☐ MUSIC-19 ☐ SOCIAL/CULTURAL-30
☐ INVENTION-14 ☐ PHILOSOPHY-20 ☐ TRANSPORTATION-25
 ㉒ CLAIMS: explain
 'first' ☐
 'oldest' ☐
 'only' ☐

㉓ functions
 WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT:
 CURRENTLY:
 ㉔ dates of initial construction: 1853-8
 major alterations:
 historic events: 1900 rear addition
 ㉕ ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION

㉖ architectural style(s): Renaissance Revival
 ㉗ architect: Thomas W. Sillman
 ㉘ master builder:
 ㉙ engineer:

㉚ landscape architect / garden designer:
 ㉛ interior decorator:
 ㉜ artist:
 ㉝ artisan:
 ㉞ builder/contractor:

㉟ NAMES give role & date
 PERSONAL:
 EVENTS:
 INSTITUTIONAL:

NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP

Frame, 2 story, rectangular with rear transept, gable, pediment ends, modillion block cornice pilasters, segmental and pedimental lintels, cupola, altered 1st floor facade, Palladian window

outstanding building in Milford, example of mid 19th C civic architecture