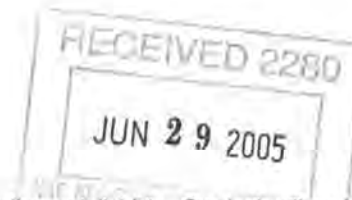


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name District 7 School House

other names/site number Primary School #4, School House #4 (preferred)

2. Location

street & number 565 Main Street not for publication

city or town Hanson vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Plymouth code 023 zip code 02341

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director June 24, 2005
Signature of certifying official/Title Cara H. Metz State Historic Preservation Officer Date
Massachusetts Historical Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register
 removed from the National Register
 other (explain): _____

Edson W. Beall 8/11/05
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

School House #4
Name of Property

Plymouth, MA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

(Check only one box)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION: School

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

MID-19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: granite

walls WOOD

roof ASPHALT

other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1School House #4, Hanson
Plymouth Co., Massachusetts

School House #4 (originally known as District 7 School House) is a rectangular one-story wooden-frame Greek Revival-style schoolhouse with a gabled roof and twin front entries. Sitting on a granite block foundation, the building frame is covered with wooden clapboards and asphalt roofing material. The interior consists of one large schoolroom and two small anterooms on the north end, with the eastern anteroom further divided for a small restroom. The schoolroom contains most of its late-19th and early-20th century finishes, including plaster-covered walls, canvas-covered blackboards, and a pressed-metal ceiling. The building sits just south of, and faces, Main Street (MA Highway 27), near the driveway to the former L. Z. Thomas School (1929), a small brick schoolhouse now converted to housing. South and west of School House #4, on its same lot, are three smaller unrelated historic buildings (not part of this nomination)—a shoe shop, hearse house, and privy/storage shed—set amid the surrounding pines. This cluster of public buildings fronts on a sparsely-developed stretch of Main Street between Reed and Pleasant streets, amidst cranberry bogs and lakes on the north edge of the Great Cedar Swamp. Although it has been moved three times, School House #4 is in excellent condition and has historic integrity in terms of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

School House #4 is located in the south-central part of Hanson, in an area of lakes, swamps, and cranberry bogs, surrounded by primarily coniferous woodland on sandy uplands. The rural area surrounding School House #4 is lightly developed, primarily with occasional houses along the roadways. Small village centers cluster at nearby roadway intersections, including Breezy Hill, Bryantville, and Monponsett. Due to its relative isolation from the Interstate Highway grid, Hanson had escaped major development pressures, although the Hanson commuter rail station on the MBTA's Plymouth/Kingston Line (opened in 1997) has spurred development recently. The two village centers closest to School House #4 are on that railroad line: South Hanson, one mile to the west, is a small commercial strip and the site of the current commuter-rail station; while Burrage, three-quarters of a mile to the southeast, is an industrial village along the railroad tracks. Boston financier Albert C. Burrage developed this neighborhood south of the school in 1906-1907, when his company built the single-family homes along Reed and Pleasant streets as residences for Burrage workers.

School House #4 is a one-story rectangular block two bays wide and five bays long, measuring 21 ft., 4 inches by 33 ft., 5 inches. The large granite foundation blocks allow two small openings into the crawl space under the building, each fitted with a three-light wide window sash. These sashes, when removed, provide a minimal (and currently the only) access to the crawl space beneath the school, which is approximately 4 feet deep. The floor joists are de-barked logs. The building frame is further supported by an informal arrangement of beam posts and cement blocks within the crawl space.

The east and west exterior walls of School House #4 are 10 ft., 8 ins. high from the top of the foundation to the bottom of the slightly overhanging eaves. Clapboards four inches wide cover the walls. The sole feature on the southern façade (Photograph #3) is a slender chimney 16" square, of mid-20th century brick (red streaked with

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Plymouth Co., Massachusetts

white), presumably built in 1963 after the building was last moved. Replacement clapboards in this south façade wall indicate that two windows, one on either side of this chimney, have been removed and the wall boarded. A simple fascia board marks the roof/wall junction on the south façade.

The east and west façades (Photographs 1-3) are capped by a 13" wide facade trim board and an inch-high projecting cornice board just below the edge of the roof, which has a slight overhang. Five regularly spaced window bays punctuate either of these long side walls, the openings measuring 29 x 55" and the trim 38 x 63¼" at the outside. The double-hung window sashes are 6 over 6 lights, each pane measuring 8 x 12". Mesh screens in wooden frames attach to the outside of the window sashes. The southernmost bay on the western side (Photograph #2) contains a 36 x 82¾" paneled door rather than a window. Two small glass panes in the top of the door light the interior, and a single granite block serves as doorstep. Two plain vertical trim boards mark the southern corners of the building, 1 x 10" on the sides and 1 x 6" on the south gable end. Small modern electrical lamps attached to the trim boards just below the eave in the middle of the eastern façade and at the southern end of the western façade illuminate the building at night.

The northern façade of School House #4 (Photographs 1 & 2) contains the main entrances as well as the primary architectural decoration. Unlike the simple fascia board on the southern gable end, the northern end has a roof overhang and a boxed eave, with shingle molding and a wide fascia trim board. The gable end returns are two feet long and serve as a cornice for the cornerboard pilasters. The cornerboards on the northern end of the schoolhouse, unlike those on the southern end, are 8¼ and 8¾" wide (on each corner), so that each side of the front corners has a symmetrical look. A row of dentils supports a simple projecting entablature at the top of these corner pilasters. The two front doors are 34 x 81½", each with a pair of 8½ x 11" lights set high in the door. The simple architrave trim on the doors is six inches wide, while the projecting entablature boards both have supporting dentils as their only decoration. Centered between the doors is a small square bulletin board—topped with a pediment—at doorknob level. A banner-shaped arched curved signboard that reads "HANSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY," is centered above the doors but below the gable end returns. Centered in the gable end above the level of the returns is a small square wooden block with a raised, gilded numeral "4," and above it the flagpole platform. The flagpole platform (Photograph #1) is made of two 1 x 5" boards nailed in an L-shape and braced by a third diagonal board, providing a strong triangular base. The 20' flagpole is also attached to the peak of the gable with an iron sleeve. An electrical feeder line from the street attaches to the south gable, providing power to another small modern exterior electrical light. An L-shaped pipe step railing provides support on the western side of the eastern front door.

The interior of the building (Photographs 4 & 5) has four rooms and an attic space, with the classroom occupying the majority of the building space. The classroom interior finishes date to the late 19th or the early 20th century, including narrow-board wooden floors, plaster walls, and a pressed metal ceiling with a design of small, coffered squares (Photograph #5). Canvas covered blackboards line the schoolroom, each surrounded by a thin wooden frame. These blackboards cover all four walls, even between the windows and doors, and three of

(continued)

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 3School House #4, Hanson
Plymouth Co., Massachusetts

the corners. A wardrobe-sized built-in supply cupboard, also dating to the building's time as a school, occupies the northeastern corner. Surviving fixtures include translucent white glass ceiling globe lights and a low rectangular Box King #35 iron stove (Photograph #5), perched on four short flared legs, which sits near the northeast door. A long black stovepipe leads from the stove straight toward the ceiling, then bends west to the center of the room (supported by the ceiling with wire cradles), and then south across two-thirds of the room to the chimney. The chimney protrudes into the room (Photograph #4) only as a box approximately two feet square, covered in plaster like the rest of the walls and attached to the south wall just below the ceiling. None of the original coathooks or desks remains. The classroom currently doubles as meeting place and collections storage for the Hanson Historical Society, which has leased the building from the Town of Hanson since 1963 and presently maintains it.

Two small anterooms and a bathroom occupy the northern eight feet of the building. Each anteroom may be accessed directly from the classroom by doorways (their openings 32 x 80") that line up with the front exterior doorways. Both of these classroom doorway openings have solid paneled doors which open into the anterooms, while the eastern door (Photograph #5) also has a contemporary metal door, screened above, which opens into the classroom to allow air circulation in summer. The western anteroom has been converted into a kitchenette, possibly in 1963, its passage lined by a stove, refrigerator, and open shelves on the west and a sink and floor-to-ceiling cupboards on the east. The eastern anteroom, the bottom 2/3 of its southern wall lined with narrow horizontal wainscot boarding, has several shelves for storage on the eastern side of the passageway. The western third of the eastern anteroom has been walled off to provide a very small restroom, just wide enough for a single sink on its southern end and a toilet on the north.

The attic is accessible only through a small hatch in the restroom, too small and too high up to have ever been useful as storage. Hewn hemlock beams tenoned together make up the building's framework, including the ties, plates, ceiling joists, and principal rafters. The building has common rafters but no ridgeboard or purlins. The horizontal boarding of the roof is pine. Circular-sawn 1-inch lath with plaster shows that a plaster ceiling underlies the current pressed-metal ceiling of the classroom. The remains of a large square chimneystack (about 15 courses of brick) occupy the center of the southern gable end wall. Several boards on the north side of this chimney stub, nailed from the joist to the rafter peak above, provide support for the chimney. A square opening, without lath or plaster, exists between the joists above the center of the schoolroom; the pressed-metal ceiling below now covers this opening. The sides of the opening joists are painted green, the only painted surfaces in the attic, further indication that this probably was an access hatch. Wide boards are nailed to the rafters at irregular intervals as collars; one of the central boards has the following scrawled on it in large chalk cursive letters: "W E[?] B Warren"; "R J"; "Wm, D, Burton." The identity of these individuals or the date or purpose of their presence in the attic is unknown.

Ample evidence indicates that the building was extended eight feet to the north, which, according to the printed record, most likely occurred in 1882. On both the east and west facades, a seam cuts through most of the

(continued)

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

School House #4, Hanson
Plymouth Co., Massachusetts

clapboards and the cornice just to the south of the northernmost window. The seam even bevels northward on the soffit on both sides, showing where the previous front gable-end return boards beveled against them. Four empty mortises in the former end tie, visible in the attic, show where vertical gable support boards were removed when the frame was lengthened by the addition. The plates also break at this seam, and the framing boards on the north side of this former end tie appear newer and are of different dimensions than those used in the main frame. The windows removed from the south façade may have been reused in this new addition, as these two windows closely match the other windows. In 1882, School House #4 was on the opposite side of Main Street and presumably faced south; the windows may have been moved also to reduce infiltration by the north wind. On the interior, the extension would have had no effect on the schoolroom itself, but it allowed the construction of the two anterooms, which would have provided enclosed coatrooms and firewood storage just outside of the classroom. Some of the north (front) façade trim and details could easily have been removed and reapplied to the new, extended façade.

Few changes to the structure since the period of significance are evident, apart from the metal screen door in the classroom, the kitchenette furnishings, and the Hanson Historical Society wooden banner attached to the front (north) façade.

Archaeological Description

While ancient Native American sites have not been identified on the District 7 School property, sites may be present. Seven sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile). The general location of the property on a level to moderately sloping outwash plain and stream terrace within 1,000 feet of Indian Head Brook represent locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, proximity to wetlands) that are favorable for the presence of ancient Native American sites. USDA soil classifications for the area, however, identify made soils for this location indicating wetlands or a low area that has been filled. Given the above information, the small size of the property (less than one acre), movement of the school at least three times during its period of significance, and the movement of three additional buildings owned by the historical society to the property after 1965, the potential for locating significant archaeological remains on the property either ancient Native American or historic is low.

(end)

School House #4
Name of Property

Plymouth, MA
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.)

Property is:

- A** owned by 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1845-1955

Significant Dates

1845 (construction)

1867, 1939 (moves)

1882 (expansion)

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Hanson Public Library

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Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1School House #4, Hanson
Plymouth Co., Massachusetts**Statement of Significance**

School House #4, at 565 Main Street in Hanson, Plymouth County, Massachusetts, is locally significant as the town's oldest surviving schoolhouse. Built as District 7 School House, it has been known by the present name since 1867. The period of significance for the building begins with its construction in 1845 and continues through 1955, fifty years ago. Besides the construction date, other significant dates for the building mark major changes to the structure necessitated by the growth and reorganization of the Hanson school system: building moves in 1867 and 1939, and a building expansion in 1882. School House #4 meets National Register Criterion A for its association with the development of public education in Hanson, and Criterion C for its Greek Revival style architecture and well-preserved interior finishes. Today the building continues its educational role as the museum for the Town of Hanson. Although it has been moved, the building qualifies under Criteria Consideration B because it is significant primarily for its architectural value and as the building with the longest connection to public education in Hanson. While School House #4 has endured one significant expansion and three moves, it has remained in public ownership, and continues to serve as a site of community educational pursuits. School House #4 retains integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Hanson is a town of 15 square miles located in north-central Plymouth County, split between the watersheds of the North and Taunton rivers. Prior to European arrival, Hanson's ponds and woodlands offered fishing and hunting sites for the Wampanoag and the Massachusetts tribes. European occupation did not occur until after King Philip's War in 1675. Originally the western parish of Pembroke, it was an agricultural settlement that also harvested marsh resources such as swamp cedar and bog iron. The West Precinct Meeting House, established there in 1746, drew members from the edges of neighboring towns, areas that were eventually annexed to Pembroke. Hanson separated and incorporated as a town in 1820. Early in the 19th century, small-scale iron and tack factories developed, as well as the home production of shoes, augmented by rail connections to Boston (beginning in 1844). By the 1865 state census, Hanson had grown to 1,195 inhabitants, its 294 families concentrated in five villages. Later in the 19th century and early into the 20th, economic development included poultry production and cranberry growing. Twentieth century growth came partially from several factories established by Albert Burrage in 1906 and the nearby Plymouth County Hospital, built in 1919. The most sustained growth, however, came after the establishment by entrepreneur Marcus Urann of the United Cape Cod Cranberry Company in 1906, and its construction of a cranberry canning plant in 1912, which sold juice and canned sauce under the name Ocean Spray. In 1930, Urann merged his company with two smaller ones to form the country's largest marketing cooperative of cranberry growers, continuing to be known as Ocean Spray.¹ Although less than thirty miles southeast of Boston, Hanson is somewhat distant from major highways, and today has a more rural character than most surrounding communities. In the 2000 U.S. Census, Hanson's population was 9,495.

School House #4 is significant under Criterion A: Education, for its role in the growth and development of the public school system in Hanson. Although Pembroke began holding school classes in 1715, three years after it

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¹ Claire W. Dempsey and Laura B. Driemeyer, "'Little Comfort': Hanson Narrative History," Architectural Survey for the MHC, 31 July 1996.

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Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 2School House #4, Hanson
Plymouth Co., Massachusetts

split from Duxbury, it built no permanent schoolhouse in its western district (later Hanson) for half a century. The first schoolhouse there, paid for by subscription and built in 1754, operated until 1795, when it was sold and a second schoolhouse took its place. No record exists of any further school construction until after 1820, when the area became the Town of Hanson. These early schoolhouses were built by independent districts, with funds raised by neighborhood subscriptions; the neighborhood then owned and maintained the school, with money from the town to pay some of the salary of the teacher. Records of these early school districts in Hanson are scant and secondhand, although it appears that there were five districts early on: Cushing, Loudon, Parson Barstow's, Squire Barker's, and Cox Street.

In 1843, the Hanson Town meeting voted to accept legal boundaries for seven school districts. With this action, a new District #7 extended from a point on Indian Head Brook south and west to the town lines of Halifax and East Bridgewater, roughly the southwestern quarter of the town.² In 1845, according to local histories, District #7 School was built on a site 200 ft. west of the Isaac Chamberlain house on Elm Street (the site was numbered as 43 Elm Street in 1964). The traditional corroboration of this date is the story that George H. Howland, father of Dr. S. T. Howland, attended school in the new building in 1845-46. The first two volumes of the town records (1820-1866) do not mention the construction of any schools, although several schools were built during this time period.³ However, it would make sense that a new schoolhouse was completed shortly after the creation of the district.

While the 1840s was a time of rising population in Hanson, some families also may have felt their children were too far from their district schoolhouse, as the town quickly agreed to add two new districts. According to the Town Records book, in 1844 the Town meeting voted to divide District #3 in southeast Hanson into two separate districts, the northern half eventually becoming known as District #8. In 1846, the year after the construction of District School House #7, the town voted to divide District #7 into two separate districts, the eastern half becoming known as District #9.⁴ Because the debate in the town meeting focused on the division of District #7, and not the appropriate site for school construction, this district division would seem to further

(continued)

² Hanson Town Records Book #1, 1820-1846 (Assessor's Office, Hanson Town Hall), December 18, 1843.

³ Joseph B. White, "History of Houses in Hanson, Mass.," (typescript, 1932). Assembled over three decades, White's history is the earliest and most comprehensive account of Hanson's buildings. White's 1845 construction date for District School #7, credited to George H. Howland, is the earliest known attribution. Since the districts, rather than the town, built and owned the early school houses, construction information was not listed in town records. Several later town histories mistakenly list School House #4 as having been District School #4 prior to the abolition of districts in 1867, including Elsie Calder's "Appendix" to Clifton E. Bradley's "A History of the Hanson School Department, 1894-1972"; "History of the Town of Hanson," uncredited typescript, ca. 1959, Hanson Town Library; and *A Pictorial History of the Town of Hanson*, Vol. 2, Hanson Historical Society, 1964.

⁴ Hanson Town Records Book #2, 1846-1866 (Assessor's Office, Hanson Town Hall), April 18, 1846. Despite the division of District #7, the schoolhouse on Elm Street would have remained the District #7 School, and the new District #9 would have had to build a new schoolhouse. By another town vote, a further section of District #7, to the east of Beal's Hill, was annexed to District #9 on April 1, 1850.

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Plymouth Co., Massachusetts

corroborate the 1845 construction date. The W. F. Walling map of Hanson, published in 1856, shows a schoolhouse in District #7, at the purported original site on Elm Street.⁵

According to the first published report of the School Committee, in 1859 Miss Maria L. Porter received \$74.14 to teach a 22-week term at District School #7. She had 15 scholars, although the average attendance was 10. According to the school committee report, although Porter had fewer students than any other district school, “yet such was her interest in it, and the interest of each scholar in their [sic] studies, and the respect and affection manifested for their teacher, that it was a pleasure to visit it.”⁶

As early as 1860, though, the School Committee report railed against the drawbacks of the district system and sought its abolition. Since Town funds were usually distributed among the schools on a per-student basis, District 7, which had the fewest students, received only a third of the funding that District 1, the most populous school, received. This inequity occurred despite the fact that almost all the money went to relatively uniform expenses: building costs, fuel, and teacher salaries. As a result, less populous schools often held classes until money for fuel and salaries ran out, and then closed for the year. Town efforts to redistribute the money equally—half among districts and half on a per-scholar basis—were only partially successful in relieving this problem. In 1862, the School Committee made a more comprehensive case for the abolition of the district system, noting that the Prudential Committees, charged in each district with the hiring and supervision of teachers, “are not always particular enough as to the qualifications of persons they engage to teach. To get them ‘cheap,’ and without much trouble, is apt to be a too prominent object.”⁷ The wide disparity in the ages of the children could lead to bullying or neglect. Furthermore, one or two families often dominated these small, insular district schools. For example, according to the 1865 report, the Howland family was very active in District School #7. Friend W. Howland headed the Prudential Committee, while Naomi T. Howland was completing her third year of teaching. Two of the thirteen District #7 students scored perfect attendance in the 14-week summer session: Lucy O. Howland and Hattie W. Howland.

Clearly the district system had serious limitations. The 1867 Hanson School Committee Report quoted condemnatory passages from education reformer Horace Mann, as well as from the *Twenty-ninth Report of the [Massachusetts] Board of Education*:

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⁵ Reprinted in *Pictorial History of the Town of Hanson*, Hanson Pictorial History Committee, 1962. This map shows the boundaries of all nine districts.

⁶ Annual Report of the School Committee of the Town of Hanson for the Year 1858-59 (Boston: Stacy & Richardson, 1859). This is the oldest annual town report/school committee report extant in the collections of the Hanson Town Hall, Hanson Historical Society, Hanson Public Library, or the Cobb Library in Bryantville, and is probably the first published. All annual reports were checked from this date until 1900, at which point Clifton E. Bradley’s “A History of the Hanson School Department, 1894-1972” provides sufficient coverage. Because the exact name of this yearly publication often varied slightly, but the reports are bound into sequential volumes, subsequent references will be cited simply as “Hanson Annual Report.”

⁷ Hanson Annual Report, 1862.

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Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 4School House #4, Hanson
Plymouth Co., Massachusetts

The district system has long clogged the progress of educational improvement in the towns where it has been suffered to remain. Reason and fact alike condemn it as a fruitful source of inconvenience and evils. It perpetuates poor school-houses, inefficient teachers, neighborhood feuds and jealousies. It prevents the equalization of school advantages, and stands in the way of a proper classification of pupils.

The state sped the dissolution of the district system by threatening to withhold some state funding in 1868 if any district within a particular town held classes for less than six months. The Hanson School Committee reported the deficiencies of the Hanson schools compared to statewide averages. While the statewide average length of the school year was 7 months, 7 days, Hanson's in 1866 was 5 months, 15 days. The State also vowed to cut funding completely by 1869 for any municipality that still retained districts. Hanson would lose its entire yearly appropriation of \$75 unless it acted. The average expenditure per scholar statewide in 1867 was \$7.23, compared to \$4.10 in Hanson. The School Committee had little choice but to comply: "We believe the time has come when the town ought to abolish its district system. We have too many and too small schools. Let the town establish five primary and two grammar schools. . . . By making this change in our school system, our children would be better taught, schools lengthened, and a better class of teachers secured."⁸ In March of 1867, the Town of Hanson abolished its district system.

Over the next two years, Hanson completely restructured its educational system. The Town assumed ownership of the school buildings from the individual districts, relocating the schoolhouses from former districts 3, 7, and 9. The Town appropriated \$500 "for moving and fitting up the schoolhouses."⁹ Switching to the graded system, Hanson renumbered the schools, establishing grammar schools for 6th to 8th grades in the north and south halves of the town, and converting the rest into primary schools. In 1867 the former District School #7 was moved to the northeast corner of Elm Street and Main Street (numbered 1308 Main Street in 1964), on Beal's Hill, and became Primary School #4.¹⁰ According to the Town's annual report, an appraisal of the former district school houses valued District School #7 at \$550 for the school house and underpinning, \$15 for land, \$10 for the outbuilding, and \$15 for the stove, library, and fixtures together. District #7 School House appeared to be in better than average condition: two district schoolhouses appraised higher, but five lower (the ninth district had been without a schoolhouse for several years). Edwin H. Kingman received \$55 for directing the moving of the schoolhouses; Hanson spent \$714.83 moving and repairing all of the buildings. The 1868 Annual Town

(continued)

⁸ Hanson Annual Report, 1867.

⁹ Hanson Town Records Book #2, 1846-1866 (Assessor's Office, Hanson Town Hall), March 4, 1867 [Despite the title of the book, the minutes of this and a subsequent 1867 meeting are included on pp. 292-298].

¹⁰ D. Hamilton Hurd, comp., *History of Plymouth County, Massachusetts, with Biographical Sketches of Many of Its Pioneers and Prominent Men* (Philadelphia: J.W. Lewis & Co., 1884); *A Pictorial History of the Town of Hanson*, Vol. 2, Hanson Historical Society, 1964. One further indication that District School #7 became Primary School #4 comes from the Hanson School Register, which shows a significant overlap in student names between the two buildings ("School Registers for the Town of Hanson, 1864-94" (Vol. 1), bound reports in the Hanson Town Library). Walker's 1879 *Atlas of Plymouth County* shows a school building at the new location, at the northeast corner of the intersection of Elm Street and Main Street.

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Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 5School House #4, Hanson
Plymouth Co., Massachusetts

Meeting moved to sell the lot on Elm Street formerly occupied by District #7 School, allocated \$1500 in town revenues for the operation of the schools, and set aside an extra \$200 for repairing schoolhouses.¹¹ According to the School Committee's annual report, the first year in the new graded system led to a substantial improvement in the average length of the school year: 8½ months for the primary schools and nine for the grammar schools.

Despite these improvements, within a decade after its first relocation School House #4 was beginning to show its age and had become cramped and uncomfortable. In 1878, in an overview of the conditions at the schoolhouses, the school committee wrote "Houses Nos. 4 and 5 should both receive attention, as soon as consistent, in the way of enlargement, seats, &c." Two years later, in 1880, the School Committee reported, "We may well congratulate ourselves upon surely, though slowly, overcoming an obstacle to [our schools'] progress in the shape of insufficient and poor house accommodations, but two houses now remaining that need to be enlarged or newly furnished. These are No. 4 and No. 5." The following year, the School Committee again asked for funds: "No. 4 and 5 Primaries are in as much need of repairs and enlarging as reported last year, both being too small for the schools kept in them. The seats are uncomfortable, the floors poor and badly worn."

In 1882, the Hanson Town Meeting voted to appropriate \$750 for improvements to the schoolhouses, including "to new seat and new floor School Houses Nos. 4 & 5." It established an unnamed committee of three, "two carpenters and one who has practical knowledge of schools to expend the appropriation." The committee was particularly "authorized to enlarge Houses No. 4 and 5 if necessary but not to exceed the appropriation of [\$]750."¹² According to the Hanson Annual Report, the town paid J. S. & M. M. Loring \$280 for "repairing No. 4 Primary as per contract." All together that year, the School Committee spent \$819.56 on repairing schoolhouses, primarily Schools 4 and 5. Finishes applied might be indicated by another notation: major school repairs for other schoolhouses that year included inside plastering and interior and exterior painting, "with two good coats of white lead and oil."

The 1883 Hanson Annual Report gives some idea of the specific nature of these 1882 improvements, through its detailed report on the problems of another schoolhouse. The School Committee listed improvements needed for School House No. 2 in 1883:

Several yards of plaster had fallen, and it was found that almost the entire ceiling was loosened and liable to come down upon the heads of scholars and teacher. It was repaired by putting on new furring, laths, and plastering. This house was covered upon three sides with shingles, unpainted, and presented an appearance far less attractive than that of the other houses, which were clapboarded and, with the exception of the North Grammar, had been recently painted. That this building might harmonize with the other school-houses, and foster "a love for the beautiful" in the pupils attending, the east and west

(continued)

¹¹ Hanson Town Records Book #3, 1866-1904 (Assessor's Office, Hanson Town Hall), March 9, 1868.

¹² Hanson Town Records Book #3, 1866-1904 (Assessor's Office, Hanson Town Hall), March 6, 1882.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places**
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 6 School House #4, Hanson
Plymouth Co., Massachusetts

sides were clapboarded and painted. The chimney was also rebuilt, with ventilator, and other needed improvements made.

Most Hanson annual reports did not list which improvements were made to which schoolhouse, but the 1883 report was also more specific about School House #4. Hanson paid E. T. Clark \$19.40 for "paint and oil" for Nos. 4 and 5, and J. S. Loring \$21 for shingling the roof of No. 4.

Less than two decades later, in 1902, crowding was again a problem at School #4, according to the yearly reports: 39 students attended the school, more than at any of the other five primary schools or even either of the two grammar schools. During this decade, the primary schools each had five grades (1-5), while the grammar schools each had 3 grades (6-8). Because high school students enrolled in neighboring towns, the 8th Grade graduation became a significant town event.¹³

According to Clifton E. Bradley's history of Hanson schools in the first three-quarters of the 20th century, technological advancements led to a series of gradual building improvements. These school modernizations included buying slate blackboards for the grammar schools (1904), replacing the old double desks with single ones (1906), replacing wood burning stoves with coal stoves (1908), and purchasing fire extinguishers and repairing school doors so that they all swung outwards (1914). In 1915 the Town voted that each school be cleaned once a month, and the smoke-darkened ceilings be whitened yearly. Coal use replaced wood completely for heating in 1919. In 1925, trolley service ended in Hanson, and the school had to use buses to transport students, although a few students still commuted by train.

The small 19th-century primary schools gradually became outmoded, and Hanson began closing them: School House #2 in 1917, #1 in 1918, and several more in 1924. In 1923, the superintendent expressed hope that primary teachers could soon teach only two grades apiece, rather than four. In 1928-1929, Hanson built the L. Z. Thomas School on Main Street, and closed the last two primary schools, #3 & #4. Hanson students were now located in one of three buildings: L. Z. Thomas, Washington Street School, and the former South Grammar School, now used for first and second grade students (until 1938, when the building inspector forced it to close). Long closed, primary School #7 was burned in 1939.

However, School House #4 had several more decades of use as a public school ahead of it. In 1931, Hanson reopened Schools #3 and #4 temporarily due to overcrowding, closing both again in 1933. School #3 reopened again in 1937 for special needs students, but was closed and sold in 1939. In 1939, Hanson moved School House #4 1½ miles east down Main Street, from the corner of Elm to near Pleasant, where it was placed along the east side of L. Z. Thomas School as a "portable" classroom and connected by a short enclosed passageway.

(continued)

¹³ Clifton E. Bradley, "A History of the Hanson School Department, 1894-1972" (typescript at the Hanson Public Library). Superintendent of the Hanson School system for almost twenty years, Bradley listed in chronological order the significant events, as recounted in the yearly Town Reports and the School Committee minutes, and added his own personal observations.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

School House #4, Hanson
Plymouth Co., Massachusetts

That same year, the Town sold the lot at Elm and Main, where School House #4 had stood since 1867, for \$10. Superintendent Thomas E. Rush recounted the rationale for the move in the Hanson Annual Report:

This year, it was necessary to move the small No. 4 Primary School building to the grounds of the L. Z. Thomas School. This provided an attractive, comfortable classroom for grade four. However, there will need to be only a relatively small growth in the number of pupils to make necessary some such construction as addition of two rooms to the main building there.

The new home of Grade 4 was still heated by a coal stove, although eventually the town ran a line from the Thomas School furnace to the building.

In 1940, the Town of Hanson bought the current lot (where School #4 has stood since 1963) from Edwin J. Sayce to enlarge the lot surrounding L. Z. Thomas School.¹⁴ School House #4 continued to function as an additional classroom at L. Z. Thomas School throughout the rest of the period of significance. Though it sat at three different sites during its period of significance, it operated almost continuously as a public school classroom.

School House #4 is significant under Criterion C: Architecture for both building type and style, as Hanson's most architecturally significant and intact surviving schoolhouse and as one of its few remaining Greek Revival style public buildings. Older town histories record that while most 19th-century schoolhouses burned or were otherwise razed, several survived. A recent count by the Hanson Historical Society shows five other survivals, some extensively remodeled or with wings added, others moved and incorporated into other privately owned buildings. None of the other surviving schools is known to retain both its original form and interior finishes, and none is publicly accessible.

The 1996 community architectural survey identified several other Greek Revival style buildings in Hanson, but no schoolhouses this old or of this style. A half-dozen or more houses that were built in the Greek Revival style survive, as well as two churches: the 1820 Baptist Church at 214 Main Street and the 1836 First Congregational Church at 641 High Street. The elements that might be said to characterize School House #4 as Greek Revival include the end gable form and gable end returns, the denticulated entablatures on the front corner pilasters and entry doors, and the wide, unadorned side-façade cornice-trim boards. While these Greek Revival elements are subtle, they place this building solidly within that architectural tradition. Furthermore, the interior of the building has preserved in good condition a number of finish surfaces characteristic of some late-19th or early-20th century rural schoolhouses, including narrow-boarded flooring, canvas-covered blackboards, plaster walls, built-in cupboard, and a pressed-metal ceiling.

(continued)

¹⁴ Assessor's Records, Town of Hanson.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 8School House #4, Hanson
Plymouth Co., Massachusetts

Since the close of the period of significance in 1955, School House #4 has continued to function as an educational resource for the Town of Hanson. The school district used School House #4 for classes for several more years, as a portable classroom at L. Z. Thomas School. After the opening of the new regional high school in September 1960, the Town voted in 1961 that a committee should decide the fate of School House #4 and a second (mid-20th century) "portable" building. In 1962, the committee decided to give School House #4 to the Hanson Historical Society, along with a corner of its schoolyard.¹⁵ In August of 1963, Francis Kenneally of Whitman moved School House #4 several hundred feet to its current site west of L. Z. Thomas School. After opening Maquan School in 1968, Hanson closed L. Z. Thomas School for a year of renovations. Reopened in the fall of 1969, Thomas School served as a school for two more decades before again closing. In 1996, the Hanson Housing Authority remodeled Thomas School into apartments, securing an easement from the Town for the driveway at the northeast corner of the School House #4 lot, to "pass and repass and maintain driveway on this lot."¹⁶ School House #4 has maintained its status as a publicly owned educational institution, but now as a museum, meeting place, and occasional classroom, rather than a functioning public school.

The Hanson Historical Society held its first meeting in the schoolhouse on October 3, 1963.¹⁷ The establishment of this lot as the informal town museum led to the subsequent accumulation there of other historic buildings from other parts of Hanson. On November 15, 1965, the Hanson Historical Society moved a ca. 1880 two-hole privy/storage building onto the lot, the first of three additional buildings it added to its collection. In June 1975, it moved a ca. 1850 shoe shop (complete with its contents) onto the same lot. On April 20, 1990, contractor John Dias moved a ca. 1815 tool shed—the former hearse house from Fern Hill Cemetery—onto the lot where School House #4 sits.

School House #4 has been moved three times, including twice during its period of significance. It was built on a site down a short lane on the east side of Elm Street in 1845, shortly after the town created District #7. When the Town abolished districts and went to a graded system in 1867, it moved several of the schoolhouses; District #7 School House was moved north along Elm Street to its intersection with Main Street, placed on a new foundation just northeast of the intersection, and renamed Primary School #4. Town records show payments to a number of people for labor and horse teams to move several schoolhouses in 1867. The orientation of the building at either site is not definitively known, although the rough building footprint sketches in White's 1932 history may indicate that it originally faced west and subsequently faced south. Neither of these sites appears to have been more densely settled than its current site, and the topography appears similar. After sitting unused from 1933 to 1939, School House #4 was moved a second time, a mile and a half to the east and back across Main Street, to a site at the southeast corner of the one-story brick L. Z. Thomas School, where it was once again used as a classroom. At this point it faced north and remained freestanding, although an enclosed hallway

(continued)

¹⁵ Clifton E. Bradley, "A History of the Hanson School Department, 1894-1972."

¹⁶ Assessor's Records, Town of Hanson.

¹⁷ Assessor's Records, Town of Hanson; *A Pictorial History of the Town of Hanson*, Vol. 2, Hanson Historical Society, 1964.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9

School House #4, Hanson
Plymouth Co., Massachusetts

was extended from the Thomas School to the front door of School House #4. Despite these two moves, School House #4 was used for classroom education almost continuously from 1845 to 1963, when the opening of the new school building rendered it unnecessary. Moved only a short distance from its third location, this well-traveled building continues its 160-year educational mission as the town museum and occasional schoolroom for Hanson schoolchildren on field trips.

Hanson completed a community architectural survey in 1996. It has one property on the National Register of Historic Places, the Camp Kiwanee Historic District (2005).

(end)

School House #4
Name of Property

Plymouth, MA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than 1 acre

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19	345820	4655720	3.		
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
2.			4.		
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Timothy T. Orwig, for Hanson Historical Commission, with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date June 2005

street & number 220 Morrissey Boulevard telephone 617-727-8470

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Town of Hanson

street & number 542 Liberty Street telephone 781-293-2131

city or town Hanson state MA zip code 02341

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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9-10 Page 1

School House #4, Hanson
Plymouth Co., Massachusetts

9. Bibliography

Annual Report of the Town of Hanson, 1858-59 to 1953.

Bradley, Clifton E. "A History of the Hanson School Department, 1894-1972." Hanson Town Library.

Dempsey, Claire W., and Laura B. Driemeyer. "'Little Comfort': Hanson Narrative History," Architectural Survey for the MHC, 31 July 1996, including Form A—Area: I: Burrage Residential and Form B—Building: School House #4.

Hanson Town Records, Books 1-3, 1820-1904. Assessor's Office, Hanson Town Hall.

"History of the Town of Hanson." Uncredited typescript, ca. 1959. Hanson Town Library.

Hurd, D. Hamilton, comp. *History of Plymouth County, Massachusetts, with Biographical Sketches of Many of Its Pioneers and Prominent Men*. Philadelphia: J.W. Lewis & Co., 1884.

Pictorial History of the Town of Hanson. Hanson Pictorial History Committee, 1962.

A Pictorial History of the Town of Hanson, Vol. 2. Hanson Historical Society, 1964.

"School Registers for the Town of Hanson, 1864-94" (Vol. 1). Bound reports in the Hanson Town Library.

White, Joseph B. "History of Houses in Hanson, Mass." 1932 typescript. Hanson Town Library.

(end)

10. Boundary Description

The National Register boundary for School House #4 corresponds to the footprint of the building and a ten-foot radius around it. This boundary is within an unnamed public park owned by the Town of Hanson. This legal boundary is illustrated on the Town of Hanson Assessor's Map 33, Parcel 17D, continued on Map 41.

Boundary Justification

The National Register boundary corresponds to that of the footprint of the building and ten feet around it. The building was moved to this site in 1963, after the end of the period of significance. The other three buildings on the lot were all moved there after the period of significance.

(end)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation Page 1 School House #4, Hanson
Plymouth Co., Massachusetts

Additional Documentation—Photographs

Timothy Orwig was the photographer for all the photographs, which were taken on 13 July 2003, and the negatives are in his possession. All show School House #4, 565 Main Street, Hanson, Plymouth County, Massachusetts.

8x10 photographs

1. School House #4, 565 Main Street, Hanson. Showing north and east façades, looking southwest.
2. School House #4, 565 Main Street, Hanson. Showing north and west façades, looking southeast.
3. School House #4, 565 Main Street, Hanson. Showing south and east façades, looking northwest.
4. School House #4, 565 Main Street, Hanson. Interior of main schoolroom, showing south and east walls. Note stovepipe, chimney stub, pressed metal ceiling panels, globe light fixture, and blackboards.
5. School House #4, 565 Main Street, Hanson. Interior of main schoolroom, showing north and east walls. Note stove, stovepipe, pressed metal ceiling panels, blackboards, built-in cupboard, and door to eastern anteroom.

Additional Documentation—Site Plan

This site plan is based on "Plan of Land Showing Parcels 40-24 & 33-17D" by Steinbeck & Taylor, Inc., Marshfield, MA, May 15 1990, on file at the Assessor's Office, Hanson Town Hall. Updated by Tim Orwig on 15 September 2003, the resulting map is not to scale. Numbers 1-3 show where photographer (Orwig) stood for photographs.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: District 7 School House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Plymouth

DATE RECEIVED: 6/29/05 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/11/05
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 05000876

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 8/11/05 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

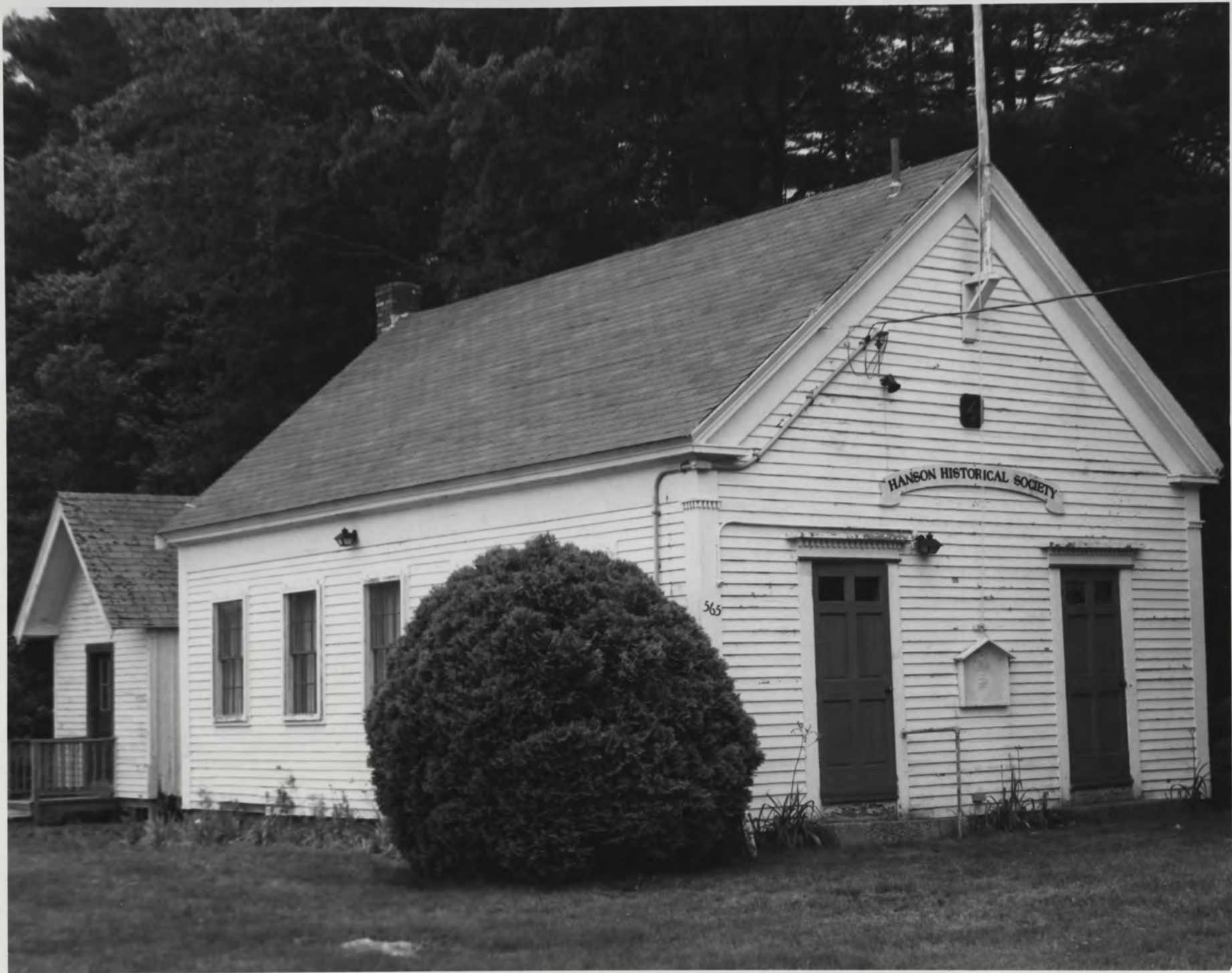
RECOM./CRITERIA _____

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.



HANSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

565

1. School House #4
Hanson, Plymouth Co.
MA

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HANDSOME HISTORICAL SOCIETY





3. School House #4
Hanson, Plymouth Co.
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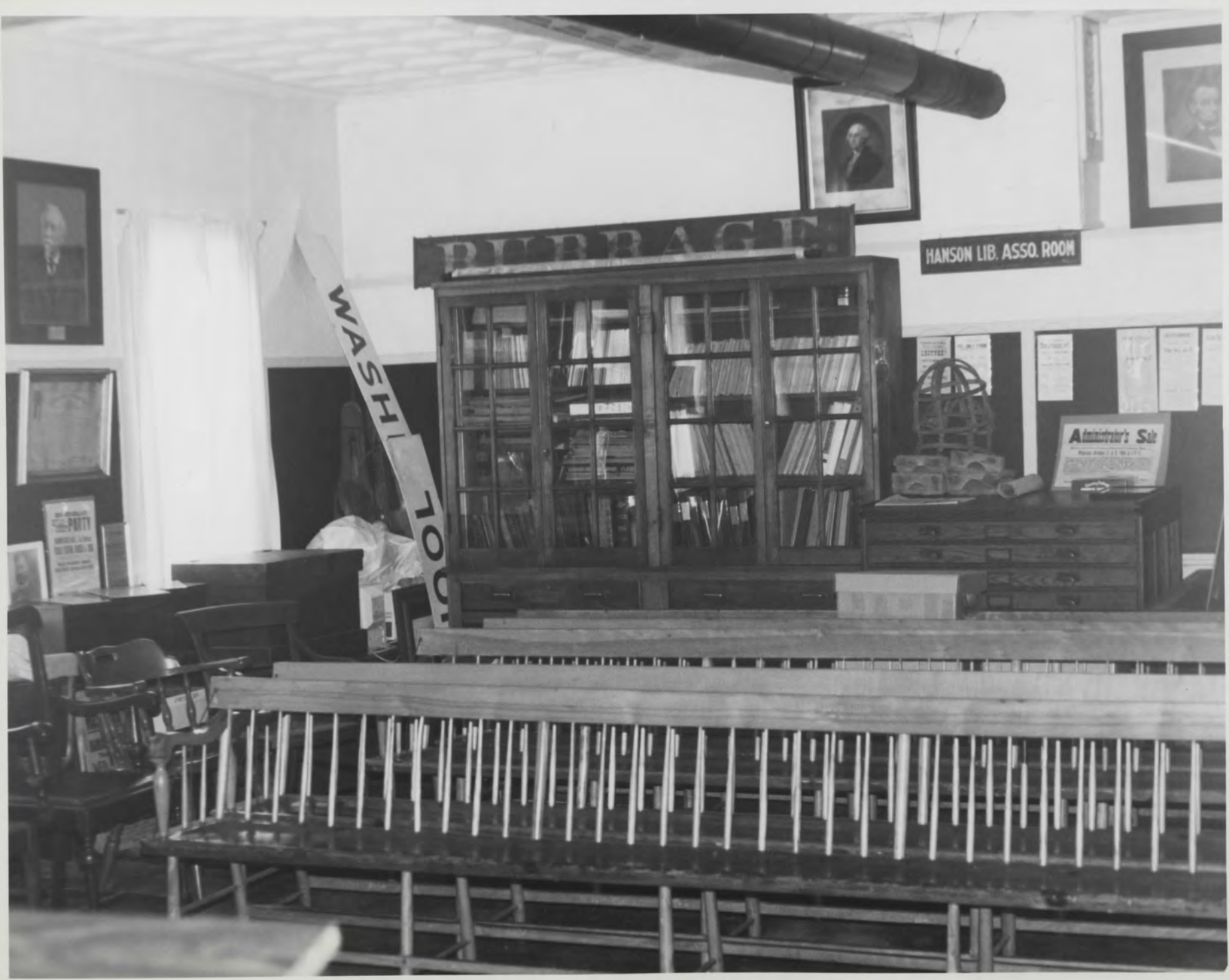
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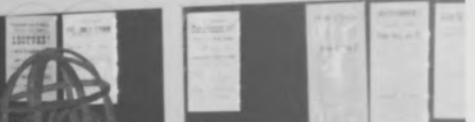


BIBLIOTHEQUE

HANSON LIB. ASSO. ROOM

WASH | 100

Administrator's Sale



4. School House #4
Hanson, Plymouth Co.
MA

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THE CHANSON
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
Organized March, 1961



Preserving
Our Heritage

CHANSON
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY



HARVEST
YARD SALE
The 3-yr. sale

Sept 3



REMEMBER
U.S. MAIL
POSTAGE WILL
BE PAID BY
ADDRESSEE



5. School House #4
Hanson, Plymouth Co,
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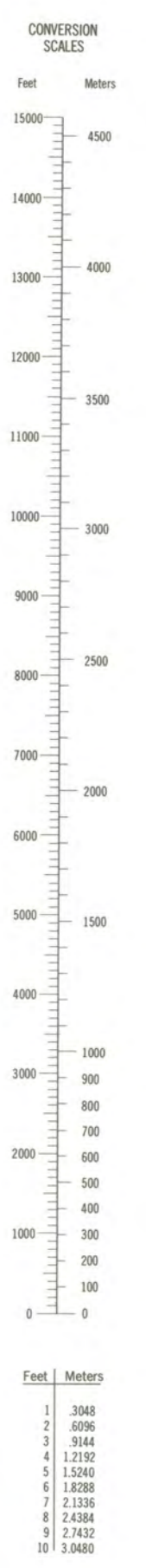
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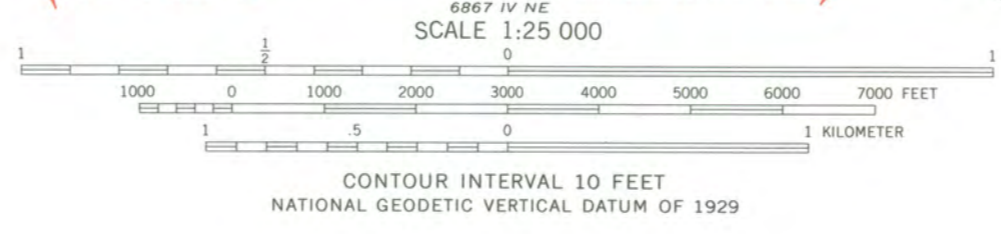
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School House #4
Hanson, MA
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→



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable survey 1985. Revised from aerial
photographs taken 1974. Field checked 1975. Map edited 1978
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 19



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

HANOVER, MASS.
N4200—W7045/7.5
1978
AMS 8868 III SE—SERIES V814





Town of Hanson
MASSACHUSETTS 02341

OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF ASSESSORS
293-5259

NOV 04 2004

MASS. HIST. COMM

November 3, 2004

Betsy Friedberg
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125

Dear Ms. Friedberg,

On Tuesday evening, November 2, 2004, the Hanson Board of Assessors voted to support the nomination of two historic places, in the Town of Hanson, to the National Register of Historic Places.

Camp Kiwanee and School House # 4 are deserving of elevation to the National Register.

For the Board of Assessors

Yours truly,

Cynthia A. Long, MAA
Assessor/Appraiser

HANSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
HANSON, MASSACHUSETTS 02341



November 17, 2004

Betsy Friedberg
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125

Dear Ms. Friedberg:

The Hanson Conservation Commission supports the nomination of Camp Kiwanee and School House #4 in the Town of Hanson, MA into the National Register of Historic Places.

Camp Kiwanee, in addition to being historically significant, is a beautiful, natural site that is meticulously and lovingly maintained by the Recreation Committee. It serves as a stopping station for walkers on the Bay Circuit and Hanson Trails. From the Conservationist's point of view, when you can compare open space to a significant part of the Town's history, it provides an opportunity to maintain a link to it's past and a green belt to the future.

School House #4 provides us with the opportunity to look at the strides we have made in education comparing our new middle and high schools to our initial endeavors.

The nomination of both of these unique sites would certainly advance other goals of the Open Space and Master Plans, which includes the preservation of our Community's character and quality of life.

We support the preservation of Camp Kiwanee and School House #4 as important historical resources.

Sincerely,

Philip R. Lindquist
Chairman of the Conservation Commission



Town of Hanson

office of

Planning Board

542 Liberty Street
Hanson, Massachusetts 02341

Phone (781) 293-9035

Fax (781) 294-0279

November 23, 2004

**Ms. Betsy Friedberg
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Dear Ms. Friedberg:

We are writing in support of Camp Kiwanee and School House #4 for consideration by the Massachusetts Historical Commission for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. These proposed properties of historical significance are valuable assets to the Town of Hanson as well as to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Hanson's Master Plan has taken into account the importance of these two historic properties which preserve the community's historic character. The Town of Hanson is currently providing linkage with other communities through the Bay Circuit Program, a system of open space and a recreational trail network. Camp Kiwanee, a town owned facility which provides recreational and educational opportunities, is an integral part of the Bay Circuit Program. The School House #4 is used for community events and as a meeting place for the Hanson Historical Society. Both of these properties enhance our cultural and historical emphasis and establish current and future priorities for our children.

In conjunction with historic preservation goals, the Bay Circuit Program connects our open spaces, parks, forests, reservoirs and wildlife preserves, as well as, scenic and historic sites. Through arduous preservation measures, we strive to attain these goals and the nomination of these properties would indeed facilitate our strategic planning endeavors.

In summation, the nomination to the National Register of Historic Places will preserve our historic buildings and create future opportunities in the Town of Hanson. The preservation of these historic structures and properties will enable us to understand our community history and share that history on a regional basis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Philip R. Lindquist". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

**Philip R. Lindquist
Chairman**



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

June 24, 2005

Mr. John Roberts, Acting Chief
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW, 8th floor
Washington, DC 20005



Dear Mr. Roberts:

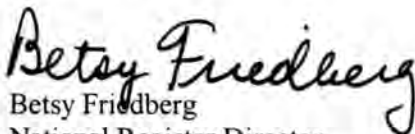
Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

School House #4, 565 Main Street, Hanson (Plymouth), 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 property were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 45 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

Three letters of support have been received.

Sincerely,


Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Timothy Orwig, consultant
David DeVito, Hanson Historical Commission
Catherine A. Kuchinski, Chair, Hanson Board of Selectmen
Noreen O'Toole, Hanson Town Planner
Cynthia A. Long, Hanson Assessor/Appraiser
Philip R. Lindquist, Hanson Planning Board, Hanson Conservation Commission

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