

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUL 14 1980
OCT
DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

District No. 2 Schoolhouse

AND/OR COMMON

"Little Red Schoolhouse"

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

N.H. Route 153, 1/2 mi. east of Rt. 16 NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Wakefield

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

New Hampshire

CODE

33

COUNTY

Carroll

CODE

003

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

Wakefield-Brookfield Historical Society, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER

Route 153

CITY, TOWN

Wakefield

VICINITY OF

STATE

New Hampshire, 03088

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Carroll County Registry of Deeds, Carroll County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Court House Square

CITY, TOWN

Ossipee

STATE

New Hampshire, 03864

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

N/A

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Wakefield District No. 2 Schoolhouse is a 1-1/2-story gable-roofed brick structure oriented with its gable end toward the road (N.H. Route 153). Built in 1858-9, the structure exhibits a blend of Federal and Greek Revival stylistic features. The building has three tall windows with 6/6 sashes on each side elevation and two similar windows, flanking a semicircular-arched central doorway, on the front. Above the doorway, in the center of the gable, is a recess surmounted by a segmental arch that springs from a cut granite sill. The recess bears a wooden panel upon which is marked the date "1858." The brick walls are set on a foundation of split granite blocks and are laid in a running stretcher bond. All windows have split granite sills and lintels and the doorway also has a recessed granite lintel set under the arch at its springline. Two-foot wide brick buttresses which take the form of antae project slightly from the wall plane at each of the four corners of the building. The building has a deep wooden entablature that returns on the front and rear elevations to the full width of these buttresses, reinforcing their appearance as formal antae. This entablature includes a shallow architrave separated from a wider frieze by a square fillet; above the frieze is a cornice with both bed and crown mouldings. Both the frieze and cornice extend along the raking edges of the gable roof. The building has a single chimney extending up the outside center of the rear wall and piercing the projecting cornice at the ridge.

The interior of the building includes a single schoolroom, an entry, and, at the rear, a coatroom and toilets. Interior trim is simple and characteristic of the Greek Revival era.

In 1971 a clapboarded gable-roofed wing, slightly smaller and lower than the brick schoolhouse, was added at the rear of the building to receive and display some of the collections of the Wakefield-Brookfield Historical Society, now the owner of the property. This wing has two small windows on each side, a doorway on the south, and a chimney at the rear or west end.

Adjacent to the schoolhouse is a privy and a gable-roofed wooden cobbler's shop once used by the local shoemaker Freeman Pike. The shop, fully equipped with tools and in excellent condition, dates from about 1871. The shop has a single door and window in its front (east) gable end. The front is clapboarded, while the other elevations are covered with "novelty" (drop) siding.

SEE ALSO 9.22.30 TELEPHONE RECORD.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES 1858-9

BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Wakefield District No. 2 Schoolhouse is a well-designed and solidly-constructed building which reflects a revitalized interest in public schoolhouse architecture in New Hampshire at the mid-nineteenth century. Constructed at a total cost of \$1,500, the brick structure was one of the most substantial rural schoolhouses in eastern New Hampshire at the time of its completion, and served as a school building for over 80 years. It has subsequently been maintained by an active local historical society committed to its preservation.

Significance, architecture: In June, 1849, in order to encourage the improvement of chronically poor district schoolhouses in small New Hampshire towns, the state legislature authorized the distribution of a copy of Henry Barnard's School Architecture; or Contributions to the Improvement of School-Houses in the United States (1848) to the selectmen of each town. In some towns the effect of this book was immediately apparent in the construction of one or more new schoolhouses on an improved or enlarged plan. In Wakefield, however, the superintending school committee lamented in 1857 that "it must be confessed that for several years past the citizens of Wakefield have not been very progressive people, . . . in efforts . . . to promote the interests of education. Other communities have caught the spirit that has been abroad in the land, and they have awaked to a deeper sense of their responsibility, and met the claims made upon their liberality. They have built suitable houses for the accommodation of their schools, after the best models--in many cases elegant and costly houses. . . . But the wave which has carried an impulse to other minds, has passed by us, and the condition of our schools remains essentially the same."

In the following year, however, the old schoolhouse in District No. 2, near the center of the village of Wakefield, "was destroyed in a conflagration, that was visited upon it either as a judgment, or by an act of vandalism." In the spring of 1858 the school district appropriated \$1,000 to build a new brick building which was proclaimed "an honor to the district, and a model for the town." While the school was temporarily kept in the town hall during construction of the brick building, the district appropriated an additional \$500 to furnish the interior of the new structure and fence the schoolhouse lot with granite posts, thus completing one of the most substantial schoolhouses in any rural New Hampshire town.

Although the building is conservative insofar as it retains vestiges of the Federal style, it is predominantly Greek Revival in character and probably reflects the Greek Revival influence apparent in Barnard's School Architecture. It is one of the few brick schoolhouses surviving in New Hampshire outside the larger towns and is one of the best-preserved. It is an especially impressive reflection of the progressive attitudes toward public school architecture that permeated New England towns in the 1840s and 1850s due to the efforts of reformers like Barnard and Horace Mann.

Significance, education: This schoolhouse played a typical role in local education, but its unusually high quality was immediately reflected in a rekindled enthusiasm for education within the school district. In 1859 a lyceum was organized in conjunction with

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Reports of the Superintending School Committee of Wakefield [N.H.], 1857-58; 1858-59; 1859-60; 1860-61.

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/2 acre

UTM REFERENCES

| | | | | | | | |
|---|------|-------------|---------------|---|------|---------|----------|
| A | 1 9 | 3 3 5 7 2 0 | 4 8 2 6 4 2 0 | B | | | |
| | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING | | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING |
| C | | | | D | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the northeasterly corner of the nominated property at an iron pipe at the right-of-way of New Hampshire Route 153, thence running south 75° west 185 feet along land now or lately of Leon Drew to a stone post, thence running south 15° east 132 feet along land now or lately of Karl Saunders to a second stone post, thence running north 75° east 185 feet to another stone post at the right-of-way of New Hampshire Route 153, thence running north 15° west 132 feet to the point begun at.

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

Harris W. Tucker, President

ORGANIZATION

Wakefield-Brookfield Historical Society, Inc.

DATE

October 13, 1970

STREET & NUMBER

Route 153

TELEPHONE

(603) 522-3663

CITY OR TOWN

Wakefield

STATE

New Hampshire, 03888

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

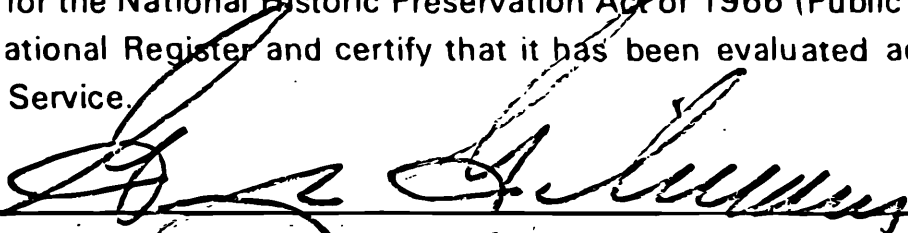
NATIONAL

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



TITLE Commissioner, Dept. of Resources & Economic Development

NH State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE June 17, 1980

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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



DATE 10.3.80

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

| |
|----------------------|
| FOR HCRS USE ONLY |
| RECEIVED JUL 14 1980 |
| DATE ENTERED |

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

Significance, education (continued):

the newly-completed schoolhouse, and the teacher and pupils took an active interest in its programs. In 1860 the school committee reported that "the scholars appeared happy in the newly furnished, and beautiful room, provided for their accomodation [sic]."

The building remained in use as a school until 1941. In 1950 the Wakefield-Brookfield Historical Society leased the land and buildings, and in 1956 the Town of Wakefield sold the property to the historical society, which has since maintained the schoolhouse as a meeting place and museum. The Association of Historical Societies of New Hampshire, Inc., a state-wide organization of historical agencies, was formed in this building in 1950.