

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

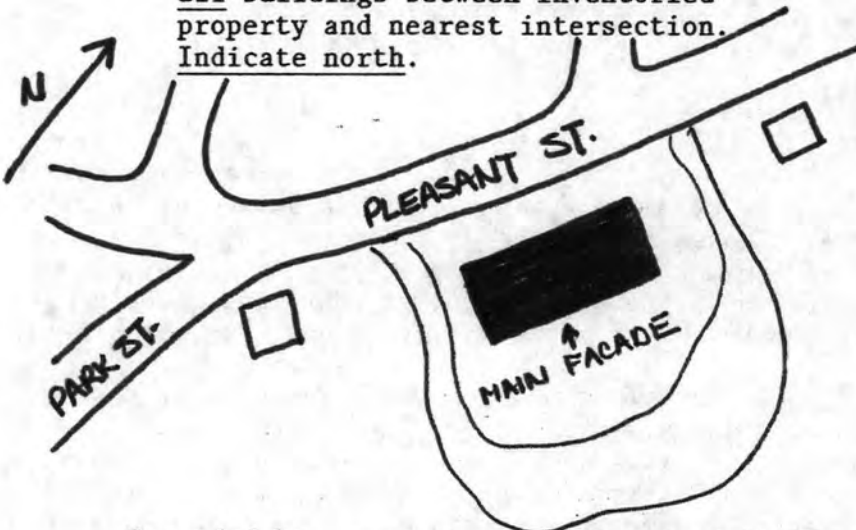
AREA	FORM NO.
	61

PHOTO: (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)
staple to left side of form

Photo number 4-35 (Pleasant St.)
5-1 (Searles Estate
facade)

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation
to nearest cross streets and/or
geographical features. Indicate
all buildings between inventoried
property and nearest intersection.
Indicate north.



Recorded by Gail Hunton/Carole Zellie
Organization Landscape Research, Ltd.
Date May, 1978/May, 1983

Assessor's Data: Block 41, Lot 127

(Staple additional sheets here)

Town Methuen ✓
Address 41 Pleasant Street ✓
Historic Name Searles High School ✓
Present Owner: Town of Methuen

Use: Present Methuen Schools Admin. Bldg.

Original high school

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1904

Source Town records

Style Jacobethan - English Revival

Architect Henry Vaughn

Exterior wall fabric red brick and masonry

Outbuildings none

Major alterations (with dates) none

Moved no Date n/a

Approx. acreage 1.4 acre

Setting residential

UTM Reference: Lawrence Quad 1:25,000
19 321200/4732920

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and
evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.)

The Edward F. Searles High School is an excellent example of the English Renaissance Revival and Queen Anne styles favored by Searles and his British-trained architect, Henry Vaughn. Vaughn, a student of English architect G. F. Bodely, also designed the Serlo Organ Hall (1897). The monumentally-scaled, 3½-story building of granite-trimmed brick is oriented to the Searles Estate and surrounded by a granite retaining wall. Three finial-capped projecting pavillions on the main facade have granite-trimmed projecting bays; a two-level granite trimmed arcade connects them. Finial topped wall dormers and heavily-trimmed chimneys are the secondary vertical elements. The brick-faced building rests on a high rusticated granite foundation. The rectangular windows are trimmed with granite quoins and fenestration defined by granite string-

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

The Searles High School is testament to the endowments of millionaire Edward Searles, and is a significant example of the scale and architectural treatment of structures Searles endowed to the Town of Methuen and built for himself. (See multiple resource narrative for biography.) The Searles High School possesses integrity of location, setting, design, workmanship and materials and meets criteria A, B and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

Records of the Methuen Historical Commission.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

12/7/83

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 4 of 5

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Methuen Multiple Resource Area
State Essex County, Massachusetts

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

31. Old Town Farm

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melrose Byers 1/20/84

Attest

32. Park Lodge

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melrose Byers 1/20/84

Attest

33. Perkins, Joseph, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melrose Byers 1/20/84

Attest

34. Pine Lodge

Substantive Review

Keeper

SL 71

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION

Attest

35. Searles High School

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melrose Byers 1/20/84

Attest

36. Simpson, James E., House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melrose Byers 1/20/84

Attest

37. Spicket Falls Historic
District

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melrose Byers 1/20/84

Attest

38. Swan, Asie, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melrose Byers 1/20/84

Attest

39. Tenny Castle Gatehouse

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melrose Byers 1/20/84

Attest

61 - 40. Turnpike House

Substantive Review

Keeper

Bruce Van Orsdel 1/20/84

Attest

Ref # 841002431

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Searles High School (Methuen MRA)
Essex County
MASSACHUSETTS

DEC - 7 1983

Working No. _____

Fed. Reg. Date: 2-5-85

Date Due: 1/5/84 - 1/21/84

Action: ☒ ACCEPT 1/20/84

**Returned to the
National Register** ☐ RETURN

☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

- ☐ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____

Reviewer _____

Discipline _____

Date _____

_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use
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4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ unaltered
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ altered
☐ fair	☐ unexposed	☐ original site
		☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ alterations/integrity
☐ dates
☐ boundary selection

8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- ☐ summary paragraph
- ☐ completeness
- ☐ clarity
- ☐ applicable criteria
- ☐ justification of areas checked
- ☐ relating significance to the resource
- ☐ context
- ☐ relationship of integrity to significance
- ☐ justification of exception
- ☐ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title

date

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



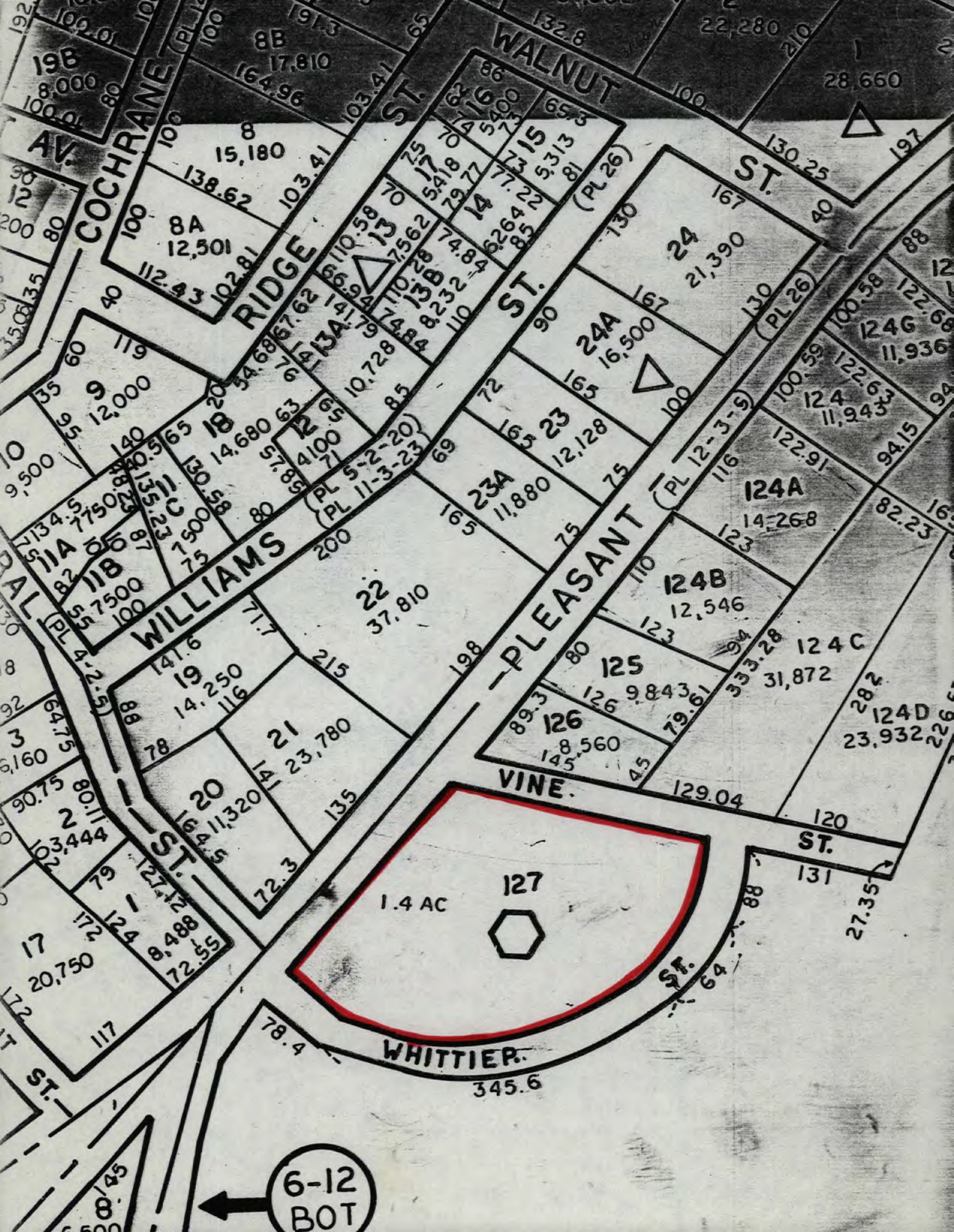
5-1
Sewles High School
Methuen MA Ma

728A



Searles High School
Methuen N.H., Ma

724A



Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000284