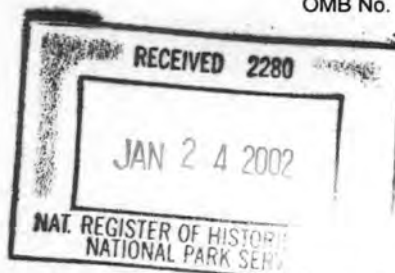


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 OLD LYNN HIGH SCHOOL

other names/site number Independent Industrial Shoemaking School

2. Location

street & number 50 High Street

city or town Lynn

not for publication

vicinity

state MASSACHUSETTS

code MA

county Essex

code 009

zip code 01901

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.)

Brona Simon DSHPO

January 11, 2002

Signature of certifying official/Title Brona Simon

Date

Massachusetts Historical Commission, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

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):

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Edson H. Beall 3/6/02

Old Lynn High School
Name of Property

Essex County, 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	building
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

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION: school

INDUSTRY: manufacturing

COMMERCE/TRADE: business

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT / NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK & STONE - granite

walls WOOD - shingles

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

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

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Old Lynn High School
Lynn (Essex), MA

The Old Lynn High School, located at 50 High Street (MHC #479), is a two-story Italianate school house presumed to be designed by well-known Boston architect Gridley J. F. Bryant in 1850. The wood-frame schoolhouse is located in the southern section of the City of Lynn, east of the institutional center of Lynn Common, the Court House, and the Lynn City Hall. The topography is varied and from the .68-acre school parcel there is a prospect down the hill to the southwest towards City Hall and up the hill in a northerly direction to the Lookout Tower atop High Rock. The residential neighborhood surrounding McGloin Square, on which the Old Lynn High School is situated, is predominately late 19th and early 20th century two- and three-story dwellings. McGloin Square is formed by the intersection of the north-south route High Street and the east-west route of Liberty Street, which becomes Essex Street east of the Square. The school is on the southwest corner of High Street and Liberty Street. West of the school lot, on the opposite side of Liberty Street, is the National Register listed (1986) Lynn English High School. East of the school is the only surviving example of shoe workers' housing located in this area, the Trask House (1837) at 42 High Street. The Old Lynn High School, although vacant, retains a significant amount of its historic fabric and context in a neighborhood surrounded by listed and eligible properties relating to Lynn and its educational and industrial heritage.

The Old Lynn High School lot slopes from the north-east corner south-westerly, falling approximately twelve feet. To the west and south of the building, ledge rock protrudes. An irregular-coursed fieldstone wall borders the property along Liberty Street. A late 19th-century photograph shows that a wooden picket fence, which no longer is extant, had been constructed on top of the stone wall. On the west side of the building the lot is covered with asphalt pavement extending from the school's foundation to a chain link fence bordering the adjacent properties. Much of the lot has given way to invasive vegetation.

The Old Lynn High School is a two-story, eight-bay, wood-framed school house. The spacing of the eight bays are arranged in two groups; one group of five evenly spaced bays and a second group of three evenly spaced bays. This arrangement indicates a three-bay addition to the northeastern end of the original five-bay structure. The Italianate schoolhouse, which is a side-gabled block with the ridge parallel to Liberty Street, is an approximately 45 foot by 95 foot rectangular building. It rests on a cut granite block foundation with structural brick supporting the western end of the southeast elevation and forming a raised basement wall, to accommodate the slope of the land. Original clapboards and corner quoins have been covered with weathered shingles that display a ten-inch exposure. The School retains Italianate architectural elaboration of the second-story round-headed six-over-six windows with hooded moldings that spring from tabs, and pedimented gables with a simple frieze and cornice. A wide frieze board wrapping around the entire building marks the transition from the wall surfaces to the boxed cornice.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Old Lynn High School
Lynn (Essex), MA

Currently the building and site suffer from years of vacancy, neglect, and attempted arson. First-story and basement openings have been boarded over with plywood panels to prevent vandalism.

The two principal elevations face High and Liberty streets with the main facade and primary school entrance facing Liberty St. This northwest facade is supported by a cut granite coursed foundation which has been painted a sandstone beige color. As on all elevations the wood shingles cover clapboards and corner quoins, which are important features of the historic building. The first-story windows, which had six-over-six double-hung sash, are boarded over with plywood panels and retain the simple, flat casings with two small brackets supporting each window sill. An air conditioning unit protrudes from the plywood in the west end bay. The school's front entrance, located in the fourth bay from the west end of the eight-bay façade, is a single-paneled door topped with a boarded-over transom light. A concrete stoop with an iron pipe railing projects in front of the doorway. The second-story windows display the Italianate detailing of round-headed windows with hooded moldings and bracketed sills. Some of the second-story windows retain the six-over-six sash with thin, ogee shaped muntins. A wide, plain frieze board tops the façade to make the transition from the side wall to the roof. Atop the low-pitched roof, located midway along the ridge line, is a small shed dormer, complete with a four-light window. Also on the ridge-line are a small brick chimney, and remnants of two square metal ventilators. **(photo #1 and #4)**

The northeast elevation with its pedimented gable end faces High Street. There are four window openings, now boarded over, cut into the coursed granite foundation and corresponding to the paired windows above. The first-story windows are grouped in two pairs of two windows with bracketed sills and a bracketed console or hood over each pair. The second-story windows have round-headed openings with hooded arch bracketed moldings and bracketed sills. Similar to the first-story windows, the four second-story windows also are grouped into two pairs of two. **(photo #6)** The double-hung first and second-story sash have been replaced with plywood panels. A wide frieze and raking cornice defines the pediment of this gable end elevation. The simple molding has deteriorated significantly due to water infiltration. Two window openings, now boarded over in the pediment, intrude into the raking cornice. A section of the raking crown molding has deteriorated and is missing. **(photo #1 and #5)**

The southeast elevation is identical in fenestration to the northwest elevation. The eight bays are clustered in the same pattern displaying the original five bays on the southwestern-most side of the elevation and the three bays of the addition on the northeastern-most part of this rear elevation. The entrance door, also located in the fourth bay from the original end of the building,

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Section number 7 Page 3

Old Lynn High School
Lynn (Essex), MA

has a plywood door covering the entrance vestibule. A recessed transom light is within the simple molded surround. Dilapidated concrete steps with a pipe railing lead to this entrance. A double-leaf paneled and once glazed set of doors was installed in the end bay closest to High Street, however this entrance too is boarded over and the wood steps leading to the entrance are dilapidated. The doors on this rear elevation would have provided access to the school yard behind and on the west side of the schoolhouse. Windows display the same configuration as the main facade with either double-hung, six-over-six light sash or plywood panels set in plain casings on the first-story level and round headed hooded moldings capping second-story windows. All window openings have sills with two small decorative brackets. Due to the topography, the foundation on this elevation is structural stone under the eastern end and structural brick on top of cut stone under the three bays at the southwestern end of this elevation. The brick foundation is coincident with the topography that slopes away from the building and provides for a walk-in basement through double-leaf doors in the third bay from the southwest end. **(photos #2 and #3)**

The southwest end elevation has had the most architectural changes. This pediment gable end is 3 ½ stories due to the raised basement of brick with three boarded up window openings, and a single door opening. The first story has four openings of which three have plywood panels in place of double hung windows and the fourth has a contemporary plain door. This door was inserted into an original window opening to allow egress to the steel fire escape, which starts on the ground at the west corner of the building, climbs to a landing at the first story, continues up one-half story to a landing, then continues up to a landing at the second-story where a second contemporary door has been installed in the window opening near the south corner of the building. The remaining three second-story windows have double-hung six-over-six windows set in frames with round-headed, hooded moldings, with a plywood panel in the arched opening over the double-hung sash. A wide frieze and raking cornice define the pediment gable. A single centered window opening punctuates the pediment. A large, heavily corroded, metal hopper is attached to the west corner of this elevation and is associated with the building's use as a vocation shop. A fire burned a six-foot wide swath up two stories, destroying the wood shingle siding and charring the original wood clapboard underneath.

The Old Lynn High School interior has been altered in several development stages. The first-story room configuration was changed substantially when the building was reused for small businesses. Newer room partitions obscure the early educational classroom plan. Remnants of the pressed metal ceilings and egg-and-dart metal cornice molding can be seen throughout the first story above dropped ceilings (parts of which have caved in) and in the entrance hall and

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Old Lynn High School
Lynn (Essex), MA

primary staircase space. **(photo #9)** Some tongue and groove paneled wainscoting remains on exterior walls of the first story rooms. The front-to-back circulation bay also has been altered with a hall that jogs around the elevator that is accessed from this hall that links the front and rear entrances. The front entrance lobby retains the wide staircase running along the front wall in front of the window of the fifth bay or end bay of the original building. Although much of the staircase has deteriorated the wide steps and the newel remain.

The second-floor plan displays the use and circulation of the eight-bay schoolhouse after 1876. Front and back classroom spaces flank the center circulation space to which the large front staircase leads. The second-story circulation bay is narrower than the first-story space. The elevator that is in this circulation area exits into the large front northwest classroom on the second floor. Tongue and groove wainscoting wraps around exterior walls and lines the staircase and hall walls that were part of the late 19th-century configuration. The classroom spaces on each side of the circulation bay vary in size. The classrooms on the west end of the building are two bays deep and extend in length four bays of the original block. **(photo #10)** The three-bay addition forms the long wall of the classroom on the east side of the circulation bay. **(photo #8)** Plaster walls appear to have a light pink color under the green overcoat. The second-story interior window frames of the original block vary from those of the 1876 addition. The earlier frames are bolder, with wide molding framing the window sash and the arched hood in line with the inside edge of the window frame thus topping the window sash only. Arched frames surrounding the windows of the 1876 addition are a continuous narrower frame surrounding the sash and arch above. Four-paneled interior doors are large in size and help to identify early spaces distinctive from smaller doors and openings that were used in the reconfiguration for office space. **(photo #7)** The large second-story rear classroom has a full-length blackboard on the interior long wall.

Since its construction in 1850-51 the Old Lynn High School has undergone many changes. The earliest depiction of the school in an 1851 lithograph of the northwest and northeast elevations shows a five-bay structure with Italianate features such as pediment gable ends, round-headed windows with hooded moldings, quoins, cupola, and chimneys. A later photograph of the building, taken from the northeast, shows the clapboard siding, quoins, hooded windows, and an enclosed entrance porch. Currently, the original clapboards and quoins are hidden under the newer shingle siding. A three-bay addition was added onto the northeast end of the school in 1876, using the same architectural features and details. A photograph from this period shows the building as described but with the cupola and one brick chimney missing. Skylights, or roof scuttles, also are shown in the photograph. Prior to 1977, the extant wood shingle siding, fire

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Old Lynn High School
Lynn (Essex), MA

escape and associated doors on the southwest elevation, and the shed dormer were added. It is clear from the current conditions that the exterior of the Old Lynn High School could easily be brought back to its original glory.

Archaeological Description

While no ancient Native American sites are recorded on the high school property, sites may be present. Two sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile), including one site located on High Rock near the nominated property. In general, however, the potential for locating significant sites, either ancient Native American or historic on the school property is low. Environmental characteristics of the property do not generally represent favorable locational criteria for most types of Native sites. The property slopes from northeast to southwest dropping approximately twelve feet. Soils in the area may have been well drained prior to historic development, however, ledge is also common in the area with exposed outcrops west and south of the school building. Rock Shelter type sites have not been identified on the property. The property is also located well over 1000 feet from the nearest wetlands. Construction of the school, which has a basement, utilities and asphalt paving west of the building would also impact any ancient resources that might have been present on the relatively small (0.68 acre) lot. The school property was owned by the City of Lynn before the school was constructed. No historic land use has been identified on the property prior to school construction.

(end)

Old Lynn High School

Name of Property

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 # _____

Essex County, MA

County and State

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

EDUCATION

Period of Significance

1850 - 1951

Significant Dates

1851, 1876, 1924

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Gridley J.F. Bryant (architect)

Turksbury & Cauldwell (builders) George A. Cornet

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Lynn Historical Society

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

8	1	Old Lynn High School
Section number	Page	Lynn (Essex), MA

The Old Lynn High School, 50 High Street (MHC #479), in Lynn is significant for its long association with educating the citizens of Lynn and its embodiment of the distinctive characteristics of a mid-19th century school building of Italianate design. The Old Lynn High School maintained its lengthy association with education, having been continuously used as a high school and technical training school for the students of the Lynn School District for 124 years. The building served as the city's first high school (1851-1892), then as the manual training shops for the English High School (1892-1924), and finally as the Lynn Independent Industrial Shoemaking School (1924-1975). According to the plans, the High School was designed by G. F. Bryant of Boston, who is presumed to be Gridley J.F. Bryant (1816-1899) as discussed below. The High School is notable for its wood-frame construction and its classic Italianate details including the pediment gables, bracket window sills, round top hooded windows, and quoins (obscured by shingle siding). The Old Lynn High School retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship and association, meets Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places, and is significant at the local level.

Lynn was settled and incorporated as a town in 1629 and as a city in 1850. Today, Lynn has an area of 13.5 square miles and a population of nearly 82,000 persons. Located in Essex County, in eastern Massachusetts, on the northern shore of Massachusetts Bay, Lynn is nine miles north of Boston. It is bordered by Peabody and Salem on the north, Swampscott and the Atlantic Ocean on the east, Nahant and Revere on the south, and Saugus and Lynnfield on the west.

When first settled by colonists from the New England Company, the primary economic base in Lynn was agriculture and shellfishing. Leather tanning became an important industry in colonial Lynn, with tanneries erected along the Black Marsh Brook by 1775. With the presence of local tanneries a cottage industry of shoemaking developed in the 18th century. By the beginning of the 19th century the shoe industry in Lynn was transformed from a cottage industry into a large-scale, factory-based industry. The arrival of the railroad in 1837 spurred the movement of the shoemaking factories from Lynn Common to the Central District at Union Street and Exchange Street. With the rise of the shoe industry the population of Lynn also rose, from 2198 in 1765 to 32,600 in 1875. The shoemaking industry was the single most important factor in shaping the cultural landscape of the city, and the industry's impact is demonstrated by the fact that in 1831 over half of Lynn's population was employed in shoe manufacturing. The prosperity during and immediately after the Civil War was experienced in Lynn due to its shoe manufacturing. The industry survived two major events; the Panic of 1873 and the Great Lynn Fire of 1889. Some of the major shoe factories along Monroe Street were spared and large five-and six-story manufactories were built to replace those that burned when the Central Square area was completely destroyed by the fire.

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Continuation Sheet

8	2	Old Lynn High School
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The development of the Lynn School system also was shaped by the shoe industry as the city responded to the need for education of its expanding population. In 1696, the town hired a school master, Mr. Mormentom, to teach reading, writing, and ciphering. By the 1720s classes were held at four locations; on the Lynn Common, in Woodend, and in the north and west parishes. The first two school houses in Lynn were constructed in 1728, one on Franklin Street and the other on the corner of Summer and Boston Streets. By 1832, eight district schools and six primary schools had been established.

In 1838, the Lynn School Committee recommended to the Board of Selectman that a school of higher education be instituted in order to comply with Massachusetts' law. A state statute required communities of more than 4000 inhabitants to establish an "institution where might be taught Latin, Greek, rhetoric, etc." A special committee was appointed by the selectmen in 1839 to investigate the town's options. Within a year the committee suggested the creation of a high school. The proposal to establish a high school was disregarded for ten years until the State took action to enforce the statute by levying substantial fines upon communities for noncompliance. To avoid the penalty the town approved a sum of \$500 to operate an evening school for the 1848-1849 school year. In 1849, \$1000 was approved to expand the evening school by establishing a high school in the "lower room of the new grammar building that had just been erected on Franklin Street." Thirty seven students attended the first year of the high school curriculum.

On March 18, 1850, just before Lynn incorporated as a city, a ten-men committee was appointed by the selectmen to "build a new house for the High School," and \$12,000 was appropriated for the construction. Four days later the site for the high school was chosen to be at the corner of High and Liberty Streets, on property already municipally owned. By the end of April a set of drawings by "G.F. Bryant" of Boston was submitted and approved. It is assumed that this was Gridley J.F. Bryant for a variety of reasons not the least of which is the name and location of the architect's office. In addition, this 1851 Italianate High School's architectural detail is similar to other Bryant buildings, the building type is one for which he had many commissions, and there are other known Gridley J. F. Bryant commissions in Lynn. He subsequently earned commissions to design the Lynn City Hall in 1867, the Cobbett School on Franklin Street ca. 1872, and the Ingalls School off Essex Street of 1872. The City Hall was demolished in the 1950s for the construction of the present City Hall, but both schools survive, displaying their brick construction.

Gridley James Fox Bryant (1816-1899) was an important and prolific Boston architect who, along with his partner Arthur Gilman, was responsible for over 100 buildings in Boston's central business district. Bryant apprenticed with Alexander Parris until starting out on his own in 1837.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3 **Old Lynn High School**
Lynn (Essex), MA

Most notable among Bryant's commissions were Boston's Old City Hall at 45 School Street, the Boston U.S. Post Office, the early part of Boston City Hospital, as well as the Suffolk County Charles Street Jail, the Dedham Jail, and the Arlington Street Church. Bryant and Gilman also laid out the street grid pattern for Boston's Back Bay. Most of the documented extant buildings designed by Bryant are masonry and date from the late 1860s. The Old Lynn High School is an exception to that rule and of particular interest for its wood-frame construction with wood clapboard sheathing (under the shingle siding), and its early construction date of 1851. The only other wood frame G. J. F. Bryant designed buildings found are the Henry L. William House of 1846 in Salem and the 1879 Wilder Memorial Hall (MHC # 608 of the Hingham inventory) in Hingham, Massachusetts. Although elaborated with classic detail, the Second Empire Hingham building, constructed for the purpose of promoting industry and education, was designed and built nearly thirty years after the Old Lynn High School.

The Lynn High School was dedicated for use on January 8, 1851. As illustrated in the Lynn Directory of 1851 and by period photographs, the high school building exhibits Italianate detailing common to this period. Complete with a cupola and pediment gables, round-headed windows, and corner quoins, the five-bay building measured 45 feet by 70 feet. The interior was divided into three rooms, the largest measuring 46 feet square with a 16-foot ceiling and two smaller "recitation rooms" measuring 22 feet by 25 feet. By 1876 due to increased enrollment, the high school building was expanded with a three-bay addition added to the northeast gable end using the same architectural detailing of siding, cornice, quoins, and windows as the original building. Most likely the cupola was removed from the building at this time. It had been located in the approximate location of the present brick chimney that straddles the ridge. There is no known architect for this 1876 expansion.

Several of Lynn's late 19th century mayors attended Lynn High School in this building when the high school curriculum was mathematical, philosophical and classical studies. Most notable was John R. Baldwin (1854-1897) who graduated in 1872 and went to Harvard. He served on the Lynn School Committee, was a State Senator and City Solicitor. An earlier graduate was George D. Hart who succeeded Baldwin as mayor and also was a State Senator. Prior to his political career, Hart had been an artist and sign painter after early years working in a shoe factory.

Continued population growth and the demand for a more diverse curriculum spurred an expansion of the school district. A new high school, named the English High School, was established in 1886 for pupils who were preparing for employment in the local industries rather than continuing on to college. Classes for the new high school met in the Cobbet Grammar

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Continuation Sheet

8	4	Old Lynn High School
Section number _____	Page _____	Lynn (Essex), MA

School on Franklin Street and later on the top floor of the Blossom Street Primary School. This 1851 Italianate building was renamed the Classical High School and continued with its curriculum of college preparatory classes. However, in 1892, due to increased enrollment in both the English High School and at the Classical High School, a new building was constructed on the corner of Essex and James Street (nearly opposite this 1851 High School) and became known as the Classical and English High School. Thus the old 1851 High School building was re-used for manual training shops. The English High School (NR-1986), designed by Wheeler and Northend, considerably expanded the educational resources with its thirty-four classrooms compared to the eight rooms in the 1851 building. The 1851 High School continued to be used as a manual training school, adjunct to the new Classical and English High School, and had day and evening classes consistent with Massachusetts law Chapter 236 of the Acts of 1886 that established evening high school programs.

In 1924 the building became the home of the Independent Industrial Shoemaking School, which had been established in 1918, and was housed in a building at 235 Euclid Avenue. This shoemaking school had been organized in response to Chapter 74 of the Special Acts of 1916, a provision for cities and towns to equip and maintain industrial schools subject to the approval of the State Board of Education. The voters of Lynn accepted the concept for an industrial school for shoemaking and established an eight-person council or board of trustees to administer the school. Lynn was responsible for raising the funding to operate the school with some assistance from the State. This conversion to an industrial school was important in defining the significant role that the shoe industry played in Lynn's development patterns.

When the "Shoe School," as it was called locally, moved to the 50 High Street property, the building was modernized for the new purpose according to rehabilitation plans drawn up by architect, George A. Cornet and work completed by Morrison Construction Company for a total of \$18,487. During the first year in the new location the enrollment included thirty-one students who produced 6,379 pairs of shoes. The trustees immediately recommended program additions to increase enrollment, which had decreased from the year before at Euclid Avenue due to the move and the delayed start. New programs included a two-year course for girls in fitting and packing and a two-year course for boys in cutting and fitting as well as sole leather making and finishing and packing. The Lynn Independent Industrial Shoemaking School trained boys and girls in all the facets of shoemaking. Students applied to specific departments such as Cutting, Lasting or Bottoming Department and took any number of courses within that department. In the Fitting Room program one would take courses in table work, closing and staying, lining making, fancy stitching, skiving and pressing, binding, vamping, buttonhole operating, eyeletting, and toe

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5 **Old Lynn High School**
Lynn (Essex), MA

closing. Usually day and evening courses were offered and by 1927 there were 245 students enrolled in the various programs.

The Shoe School was an important part of the fabric of Lynn and had relationships with the large shoe industries, with the Boot and Shoe Workers Union, and with the Department of Welfare. Correspondence between manufactories such as United Shoe Machinery and the school indicate support in training programs. In 1925 the school negotiated with the Boot and Shoe Workers Union to ensure jobs for students at the end of the course work provided that the students would join the union. In the 1930s the Shoe School supplied shoes to the Lynn Welfare Department. Enrollment of approximately 250 students was maintained through the 1940s. The school operated for the training of shoemaking until 1975 when the building was finally closed due to the high cost of necessary repairs and the lack of subsidy, even though the State Division of Occupational Education maintained a 50% reimbursement fund at that time. By the time of closing, the Shoe School was costing the City \$200,000 to maintain. Following the school closing the building was leased to small businesses until about 1980. It has remained vacant since that time.

The Old Lynn High school is significantly linked to the community and events that shaped the educational life of the city of Lynn. It still retains much of its original fabric and Italianate architectural details. The original siding, quoins, window, frieze, and cornice still exist on the structure. One exception is the wood shingle siding which covers the original clapboards and quoins on the side walls. The fire escape and the deteriorated hopper are pieces of the history of the adaptations to the school which coincide with its adapted uses and code requirements. The window openings are for the most part wholly intact inside and out. Only two windows have been removed to meet access requirements for the fire escape. The cornice and frieze have suffered minor deterioration due to weather and neglect. The granite and brick foundation still is sound and intact. The interior is in a state of disrepair; however, fragments of architectural features remain, particularly the window surrounds and exterior wall tongue and groove wainscoting.

The Old Lynn High School is one of the few buildings from the mid-19th century still standing in Lynn not lost to the Great Fires of 1869 and 1889 and urban renewal clearances. Just two other buildings in the immediate area remain from the mid-19th century. On the abutting parcel, east of the Old Lynn High School, is the 1837 Trask House, at 42 High Street, which is the only surviving example of shoe workers housing. Southwest of the school, at 85 Buffum Street, is

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number	8	Page	6	Old Lynn High School Lynn (Essex), MA
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one of the two remaining examples of well preserved boarding houses from the period of 1850 to 1855. The Old Lynn High School is the only remaining municipal building from the mid-19th century extant in the Central District of Lynn.

Plans to rehabilitate the Old Lynn High School are underway and the building is the subject of a substantial Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund grant. Once put back into service, the building will resume its educational function for adult literacy and English as a Second Language classes. The stately appearance of the Old Lynn High School in a rehabilitated state will add strength and vitality to the surrounding neighborhoods.

(end)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1 **Old Lynn High School**
Lynn (Essex), MA

9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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(end)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Old Lynn High School
Lynn (Essex), MA

Section number 10 Page 1

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA, continued.

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is shown as 50 High Street on the Lynn, Massachusetts, Assessor's Map #9. It is shown as the corner lot of Liberty Street and High Street, with 200.08 feet of frontage on Liberty Street and 95.62 feet of frontage on High Street. This is the property described in the deed filed with the Essex County Registry of Deeds, Book 14037, page 241. The total area of the lot is 29,409 square feet or 0.68 acres.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the single parcel containing the 1851 Old Lynn High School, owned by the City of Lynn. It is the historical boundary for this single urban parcel.

(end)

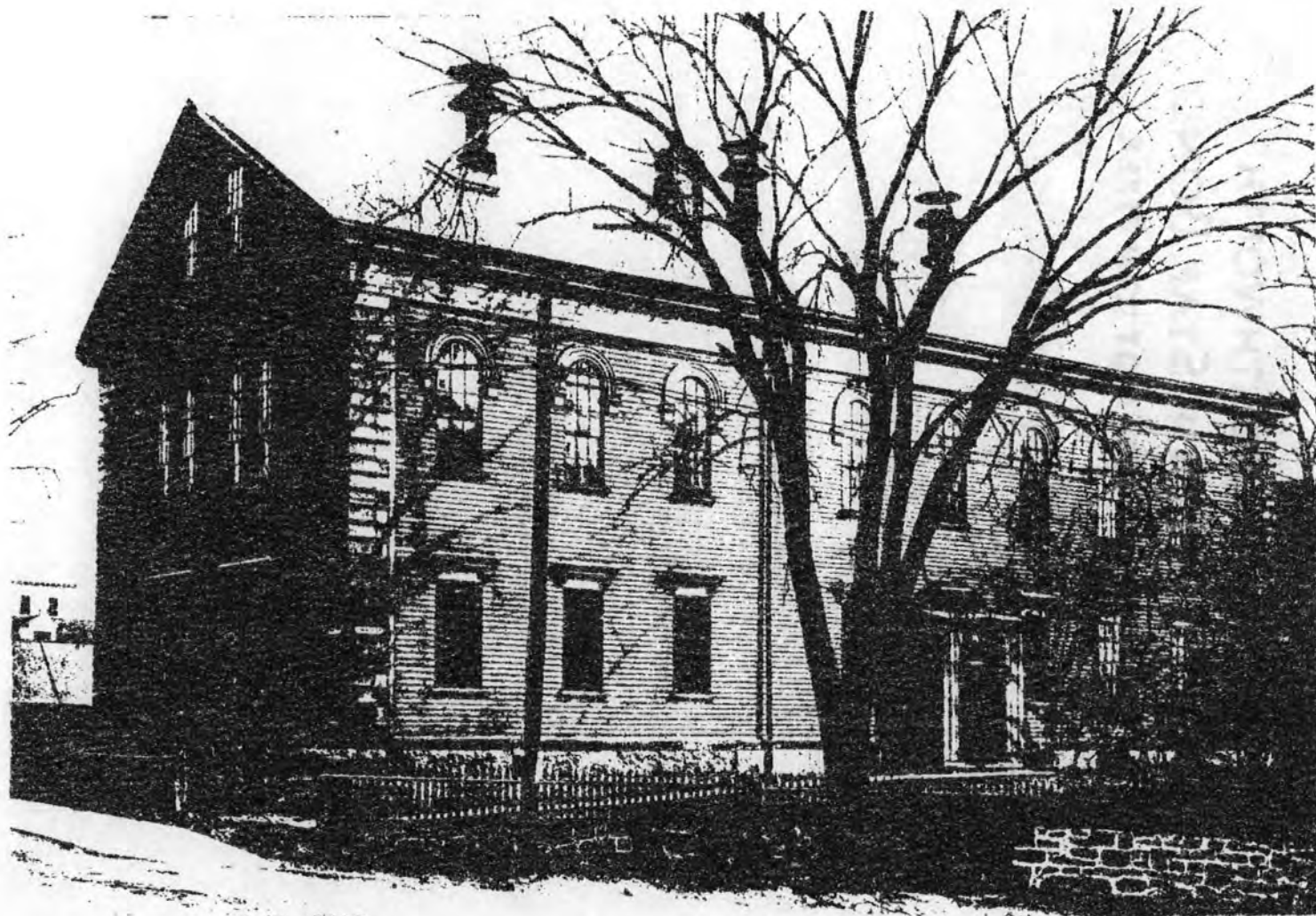
Photographs

Photographer: Gretchen Schuler

Photographs #1-#2
 8" x 10"

Photographs #3-#10
 3 1/2" x 5"

1. Main facade and northeast gable end looking south
2. Northeast gable end and southeast rear elevation looking west
3. Southwest gable end and southeast rear elevation looking north
4. Main facade looking east southeast
5. Northeast gable end looking southwest
6. Detail of windows on northeast gable end
7. Interior door detail
8. Paired window in front class room - 1876 addition- second floor
9. Metal ceiling and cornice detail - first floor
10. Front wall with windows in front classroom - original block - second floor



Lynn High School, High Street. 1850-1892

Mechanical Drawing Dept., English High School 1892-1912

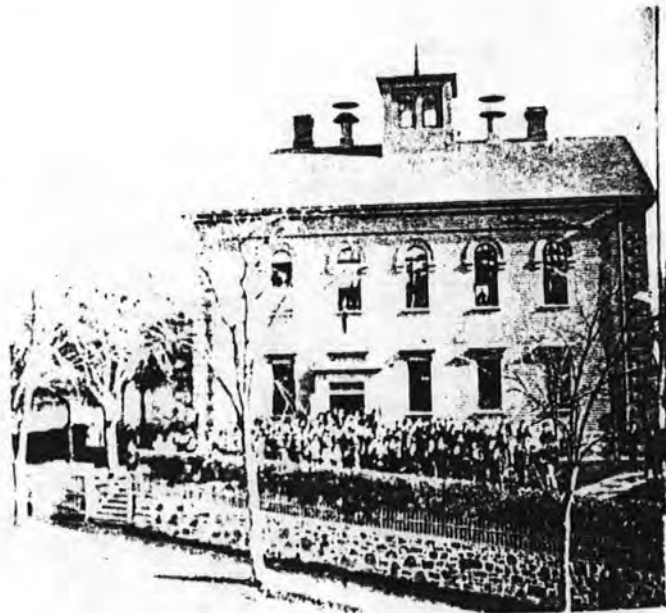
School Dept. Supply Bureau 1912-1925

Lynn Independent Shoe Making School 1925 to date (1924)



Lynn High School, High Street. 1850-1892

Mechanical Drawing Dept., English High School 1892-1912
School Dept. Supply Bureau 1912-1928
Lynn Independent Shoe Making School 1925 to date (1974)



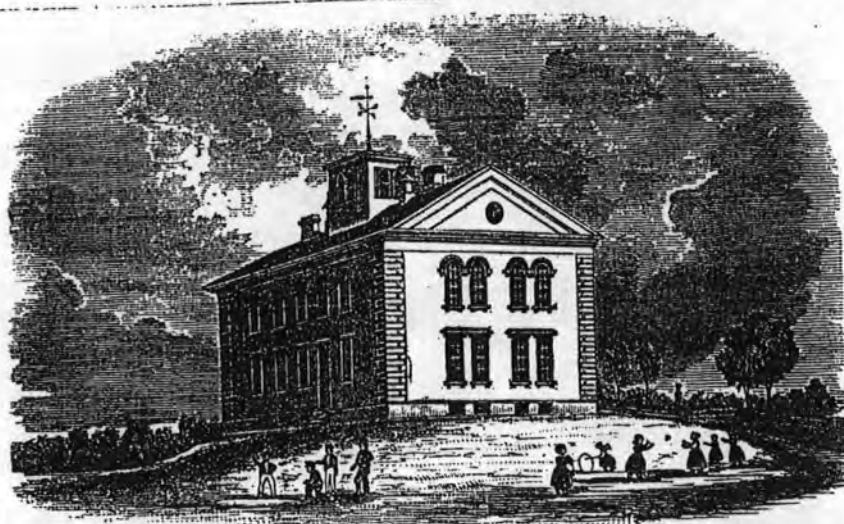
LYNN HIGH SCHOOL HOUSE.

The High School House, of whose external appearance the engraving on the next page is a good representation, was erected at a cost of about \$7000, under the superintendence of a building committee appointed by the town, March 16, 1850. It was dedicated January 8, 1851. An appropriate address was delivered by Rev. B. Sears, secretary of the Board of Education, and addresses were also made by Messrs. Hood, Shackford, and Jacob Batchelder, jr.

The house is warmed and ventilated in the best manner. It is thoroughly built; and though without any superfluous ornament, is in good taste, and provided with ample accommodations. The main school room is about forty-six feet square and sixteen feet in height. The two recitation rooms are each twenty-two by twenty-five feet. These are furnished with settees, and the school room with Wales's patent desks and chairs. The whole cost of building, grading, fencing, seats, apparatus, &c. has been about \$9,500. The appropriation by a vote of the town for this object was \$12,000.

The number of scholars admitted in 1849 was forty-seven; in 1850, about the same number. At the examination for admission of scholars this year, (1851,) seventy-one candidates presented themselves, and forty-two were admitted. It is intended that there shall be, at this school, a three years' course of study. In order to enter, pupils are required to pass a good examination in the elementary studies pursued at the Grammar Schools. And those scholars who complete the prescribed three years' course of study, shall be entitled to receive a diploma, signed by the teachers and the school committee. At present there are seats provided for one hundred and twenty scholars.

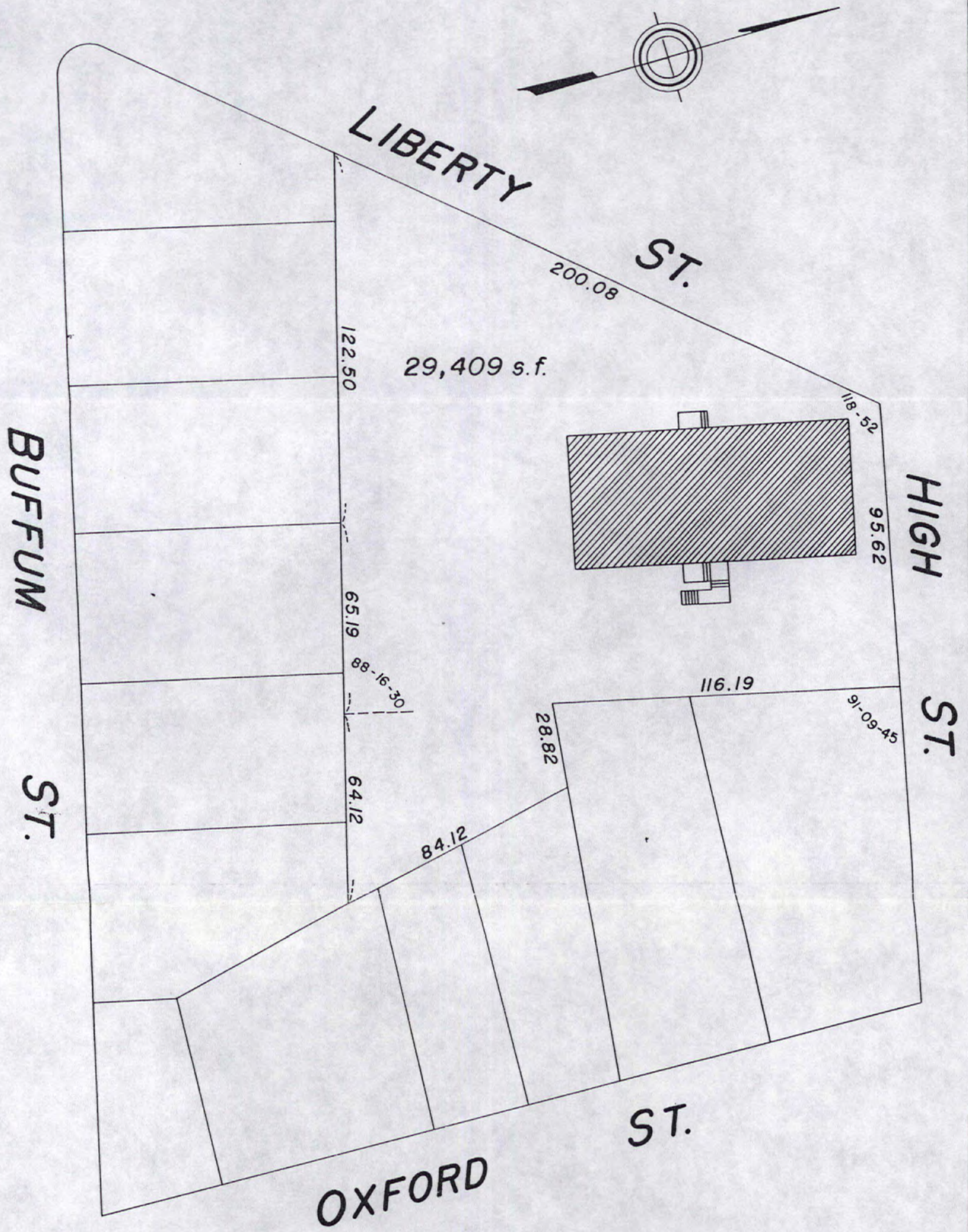
For two years the school has maintained the highest reputation, and it is, undoubtedly, an institution of which our city may boast, as one of the best in the state. The school, when full, will be under the instruction of one principal and two assistants. The pupils receive the best instruction, without money and without price. They are removed from the annoying presence of smaller scholars; and, in the commodious rooms provided for them, they can prepare themselves, by an extended course of mathematical, philosophical and classical studies, for the responsibilities of active life.



LYNN HIGH SCHOOL HOUSE.



In 1852 the first high school was built in Lynn and used until 1892 when severe overcrowding necessitated the building of Lynn Classical and English High School. The original high school structure served for many years as a shoemaking school.



SCALE 1" = 40'

SEE GAY BK. 9 PG. 62

SCHOOL	DEPARTMENT
LYNN INDEPENDENT	INDUSTRIAL SHOEMAKING SCHOOL
PUBLIC PROPERTY PLAN	
ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER ENG'RING	
J.J. MACAIONE , DEC 1970	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Old Lynn High School
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Essex

DATE RECEIVED: 1/24/02 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/13/02
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/01/02 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/11/02
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 02000130

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 3/6/02 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



Old Lynn High School

50 High St. Lynn

Essex County, MA

G. Schuler: photographs

Negatives: Lynn Historical Comm.

1/01

North East + north west elevations looking south

Photo # 1



Old Lynn High School

50 High St. Lynn

Essex County, MA

Photographer: G. Schuler

Negatives: Lynn Historical Comm.

1/01

Southeast + northeast elevations looking west

Photo #2



Old Lynn High School
50 High St. Lynn

Essex County, MA

G. Schuler; photographer

Negatives: Lynn Historical Comm.

Sathwest + southward elevations looking north

1/01

Photo # 3



Old Lynn High School
50 High St. Lynn
Essex County, MA

Photographer: G. Schuler

Negatives: Lynn Historical Comm.

1/61

NW ^{facade} ~~entrance~~ looking ESE

Photo #4



Old Lynn High School
50 High St. Lynn
Essex County

Photographer: G. Schuler

Negatives: Lynn Historical Comm.

1/01

NE facade looking WSW

Photo # 5



Our Lynn High School
50 High St. Lynn
Essex County, MA

Photographer: G. Schuler

Negatives: Lynn Historical Com
1/01

N.E. Gable end

Photo #6



Old Lynn High School
50 High St. Lynn
Essex County, MA

Photographer: G. Schuler

Negatives: Lynn Hist. Comm.

1/01

Interior: s.w. room - 2nd floor

Photo # 7



Old Lynn High School
50 High St. Lynn
Essex County, MA

Photographer: G. Schuler
Negatives: Lynn Historical Com.

1/01

Interior: n.e. room - 2nd floor
Photo #8



A black and white photograph showing a corner of a ceiling. In the upper left, a fluorescent light fixture is mounted. A metal track with circular indentations runs diagonally across the ceiling. On the right, an "EXIT" sign is mounted on a wall or door frame. The sign is rectangular with a dark background and the word "EXIT" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. The overall scene is dimly lit, with the light fixture providing the primary illumination.

EXIT

Lynn, TX
Old Lynn High School
50 High St
Tin Ceiling + Molding
Photographer: G. Schuler
1/01
Photo #9

037 NNNN--- 019 JET PHOTO



Old Lynn High School
50 High St. Lynn
Essex County, MA

Photographer: G. Schuler

Negatives: Lynn Hist. Com.

1/01

Interior: n.w room - 2nd floor

Photo #10



235 EX 124 114
OLD LYNN HIGH SCHOOL

339990 / 4103180

235 EX 124 114
OLD LYNN HS
LYNN (ESSEX) MA

MASSACHUSETTS

1:25 000-scale metric
topographic map

7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE
SHOWING

- Contours and elevations
in meters
- Highways, roads and other
manmade structures
- Water features
- Woodland areas
- Geographic names

LYNN (ESSEX) MA
1985

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
in cooperation with Massachusetts Department
of Public Works

Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Commonwealth
of Massachusetts agencies

Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1978. Field checked 1979. Map edited 1985
Supersedes Lynn and Marblehead South 1:25,000-scale
maps dated 1970

Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS charts, 13270,
13272 (1982), 13275, and 13276 (1981). This information is
not intended for navigational purposes

Projection and 1000-meter grid: Universal
Transverse Mercator, zone 19
10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate
system, mainland zone, 1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 6 meters south and
42 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN METERS
DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE
OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 2.7 METERS

THIS MAP COMPLES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

Meters	Feet
1	3.2808
2	6.5617
3	9.8425
4	13.1234
5	16.4042
6	19.6850
7	22.9659
8	26.2467
9	29.5275
10	32.8084

To convert meters to feet
multiply by 3.2808
To convert feet to meters
multiply by 0.3048

UTM grid convergence
from 1985 magnetic
declination (MM)
at center of map
Diagram is approximate

ADJOINING MAPS	1	2	3
1 Reading			
2 Salem			
3 Gloucester			
4 Boston North			
5 Boston South			
6 Hull			
7 Hull			
8			

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

Topographic Map Symbols

Primary highway, hard surface

Secondary highway, hard surface

Light-duty road, hard or improved surface

Unimproved road, trail

Route marker: interstate; U. S.; State

Railroad: standard gage; narrow gage

Bridge: drawbridge

Foorthbridge; overpass; underpass

Built-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown

House; barn; church; school; large structure

Boundary:

National, with monument

State

County, parish

Civil township, precinct, district

Incorporated city, village, town

National or State reservation; small park

Land grant with monument; found section corner

U. S. public lands survey: range, township, section

Range, township; section line; location approximate

Fence or field line

Power transmission line, located tower

Dam; dam with lock

Cemetery; grave

Campground; picnic area; U. S. location monument

Windmill; water well; spring

Mine shaft; prospect; adit or cave

Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation

Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression

Distorted surface: strip mine, lava; sand

Bathymetric contours: index; intermediate

Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream

Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small

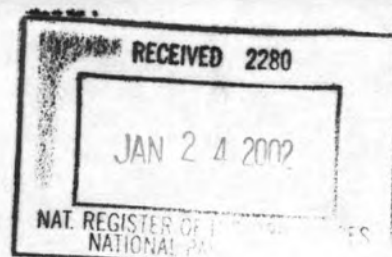
Submerged marsh; marsh; swamp

Land subject to controlled inundation; woodland

Soils: mangrove

Orchard; vineyard





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

January 11, 2002

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Mail Stop 2280, Suite 400
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Old Lynn High School, 50 High St., Lynn (Essex), 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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Gretchen Schuler, consultant
Carl Greenler, Lynn Historical Commission
Patrick J. McManus, Mayor, City of Lynn
Sandra Krein, Director, Lynn Historical Society
Chair, Lynn Planning Board