NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)	OME No. 1024-0018
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service	64)
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form	- 8 LUUU NATIONAL REGISTER, HISTORY
Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being the information requested.	lual properties and distance. See Instructions in How to Complete the National 16A). Complete proportial DARANEE To the appropriate box or by entering ng documented, enter "N/A for "not applicable." For functions, architectural and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative
1. Name of Property	
historic name Colburn School – High S	Street District
other names/site number	
2. Location	
street & number 369-649, 390-680 High Street	not for publication
city or townWestwood	vicinity
state Massachusetts code MA cou	nty_Norfolkcode_021zip code_02090
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation state Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirement meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recomment nationally statewide for cally. (Discontinuation sheet for action Mathematical Signature of certifying official/Title Judith B_McDonough, Executive Discontinuation of Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Of	Andards for registering properties in the National Register of ents set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ad that this property be considered significant Iditional comments.) 5 3 2000 Director Date
State or Federal agency and bureau	
In my opinion, the property	agister criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)
Signature of certifying official/Title	Date
State or Federal agency and bureau	
4. National Park Service Certification	
A rentered in the National Register     See continuation sheet.     determined eligible for the     National Register     See continuation sheet.	the Keeper Date of Action
□ determined not eligible for the National Register □ removed from the National Register □ other (explain):	

5. Classification

				1
Owners	hip (	of Pr	operty	

(Check as many boxes as apply)

x private
x public-local
_ public-State
public-Federal

n/a

6. Function or Use **Historic Functions** 

CIVIC - town hall

7. Description

Classical

COMMERCIAL - store

Norfolk, MA County and State

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.) (Check only one box) Contributing Noncontributing building(s) xdistrict 41 <u>22</u> building site sites \_ structure \_ object structures \_\_\_\_\_ objects 22 \_\_\_\_\_ Total 41 Name of related multiple property listing Number of contributing resources previously listed (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) in the National Register n/a **Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions) (Enter categories from instructions) DOMESTIC – single dwelling DOMESTIC – single dwelling EDUCATION – school EDUCATION - offices CIVIC - town hall, library, police, fire COMMERCIAL - store Architectural Classification Materials (Enter categories from instructions) (Enter categories from instructions) EARLY REPUBLIC – Federal foundation STONE, CONCRETE MID 19<sup>th</sup> CENTURY – Greek Revival walls WOOD - weatherboard, shingle LATE VICTORIAN – Italianate, Queen Anne BRICK SYNTHETICS LATE 19th & 20th CENTURY REVIVALS - Colonial. roof STONE – slate, asphalt other \_\_\_\_

#### **Narrative Description**

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

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Colburn School – High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

Section number \_\_\_\_7 Page \_\_\_1

The Colburn School-High Street District, located in Westwood, Massachusetts, consists of fortyeight parcels on which there are forty-one contributing resources, lining both sides of High Street north of the commercial village center. Westwood, once part of Dedham, lies approximately seventeen miles southwest of Boston just outside the Route 128 circular route, now known as I-95. The town is at the center of Norfolk County and next to Dedham, the County seat. The district is one of two linear districts along one of the two major north-south routes through Westwood.

The district which lines both sides of High Street, is residential and institutional and stretches along High Street for over one mile. The nineteenth century dwellings are mixed with nineteenth and twentieth century civic buildings all on modest sized lots arranged in a linear fashion along High Street. Surrounding areas are characterized by mid-twentieth century residential neighborhoods east, north and west of much of this district. Just south is the modern commercial center that separates the Colburn School High Street District from the Fisher School-High Street District. Two strip malls on the west side of High Street and a gas station and several commercial buildings on the east side replace nineteenth century residences. The two districts are similar with nineteenth century dwellings and institutional properties lining High Street. The stretch of modern commercial area in between is too large to combine the two districts.

The district boundaries follow property lines. Included in the forty-eight properties (addresses) are two former schools, the Town Hall, one commercial building (the Ellis Tavern) and thirty-seven residences of which ten are non-contributing due to their mid-twentieth century construction dates. Two of the thirty-seven residences are converted outbuildings. There are an additional three civic buildings that are non-contributing and four commercial blocks of the 1950s and 1960s. Also included in the district properties are fifteen outbuildings of which ten are contributing nineteenth century barns; free-standing and attached. The other five are garages built after the period of significance.

Key to the district is the linear village setting and the progression from eighteenth and nineteenth century farm-like dwellings on the north end of the district to a concentration of civic buildings near the village center on the south end of the Colburn School-High Street District. The topography of the district is consistent with eighteenth and nineteenth century village main streets on a relatively flat terrain through the community. Formerly the setbacks of the dwellings were deeper. Road widening, shoulders and a sidewalk on the west side account for the closer proximity of the dwellings to the roadway.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Colburn School – High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

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Buildings in the district are domestic in scale and context, and include two and one-half story gable roof dwellings with center entrances and gable front two and one-half story Greek Revival dwellings for the most part. There are several examples of irregular plans from the late nineteenth century. Most are well preserved displaying wood clapboard or shingle siding. The only contributing masonry building in the district is the 1910 Town Hall. Five of the historic properties have been covered with synthetic siding.

Construction of the historic residences spans a two hundred year period from the earliest construction date of ca. 1710 for 381 High Street to 1927 for the Dutch Colonial at 575 High Street, thus representing the period of significance. The three historic civic buildings were constructed in 1847 (Village School), 1874 (Colburn School), and 1910 (Town Hall). One commercial building dates from 1887 when the Ellis Tavern burned and was rebuilt. The traditional architectural styles demonstrate the transition from the Federal to the Greek Revival period. There are at least six examples of Italianate, Queen Anne or Colonial Revival construction or updating of older properties. Most dwellings display the common center entrance double pile plan with a five-bay facade or the gable front L-plan with entrances in the side elevation.

Non-contributing resources include ten dwellings all of which are modest capes, neo-colonials or ranch style houses built in the 1950s. Most have a slightly deeper setback than the nineteenth century houses and all rest on similarly small lots. Other non-contributing properties include three commercial buildings adjacent to the Ellis Tavern site (two modern and one neo-colonial in style) and a converted residence at 566 High Street that now is an office building that has been substantially altered since its ca. 1938 construction date. There are three civic buildings, all brick and all of domestic scale, built in the 1950s and 1960s that are non-contributing. They include the Police Station, the Fire Station, and the Library. The use of two properties has changed-including the Village School that now is a Funeral Home and the Alford Baker House, now a store. Also there are two former outbuildings that have been converted to residences at 475A and 540 High Street, both of which are contributing resources.

Descriptions of the contributing properties in the district follow and are presented by building type and in chronological order of construction date to convey the evolution of the district from the history of the early Kingsbury House to the 1927 infill houses on High Street. Residential and institutional buildings are listed separately.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Colburn School – High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

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#### **Residential Buildings**

The earliest dwelling in the Colburn School-High Street District is the ca. 1710 Georgian dwelling at 381 High Street (Map # 09-200, **Photo # 1**), known as the <u>Kingsbury House</u>. Tradition gives the five-bay two-story house with a saltbox roof this early date derived probably from the date of 1713 found inside the barn (no longer extant). The house is simple in detail and has been restored as evidenced by a 1925 photograph. The house was standing by the 1740s and its form and simplicity are consistent with the earlier ca. 1710 date.

The late Georgian Period is demonstrated by the <u>Willard Gay House</u> at 490 High Street (ca. 1790, Map #09-100) and the <u>William Gay House</u> at 509 High Street (ca. 1800, Map #09-119). Both display the five-bay, two and one-half story, center hall plan with twin chimneys and Georgian architectural trim. Each has a well defined center entrance surround with pilasters supporting a bold pediment in which there is a blind fan in the William Gay House and a glazed fanlight at the Willard Gay House.

Six additional examples display the five bay, two and one-half story, center entrance facade. Most are simple in plan and detail consistent with the location and periods of development. One of the most distinguished property is the Jeremiah Baker House at 446 High Street (ca. 1790, Map #09/098, Photo # 8). Although the property has been substantially updated with Colonial Revival additions and renovations in the early 1900s, the early main block is evident with its five-bay, center entrance, center chimney facade. This part of the house has corner quoins, six-over-six sash, a beveled watertable, and a raised field paneled door.

Two properties that display this same five-bay plan also show the transition between the Federal and Greek Revival period as well as the evolution of such a property with rear ells and attached barns. They are the <u>Walter Colburn House</u> (ca. 1830, Map #14-074), at 610 High Street and the <u>Timothy Smith House</u> (ca. 1830, Map 14-075, **Photo # 18**) at 628 High Street. Both dwellings have the same center entrance door surround of slightly tapered pilasters with molded caps carrying a wide entablature and molded projecting lintel. The Timothy Smith house has an Italianate door with round headed etched glass lights. Each house has a rear ell and an attached gable front barn. The barn of the Timothy Smith House has curious narrow linear lights set on the diagonal parallel to the eave of the gable and above the roof line of the one-story rear ell. Similar to most of the attached barns, there are large sliding barn doors at grade and a haydoor at the second-story level.

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Colburn School – High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

The Timothy Smith House also is distinctive for its interior decorative painting. It is one of five known West Dedham houses decorated by well-known itinerant painter, Rufus Porter, who worked in West Dedham during the winter of 1835. One of the murals was removed from an upstairs room and donated to the Town by Daisy Baker, restored as a Bicentennial project in 1976, and now is on display at the Westwood Public Library.

The <u>Samuel French House</u> (ca. 1810, Map #09/086, **Photo # 2**) at 390 High Street has a five-bay entrance facade, is oriented in a southerly direction, thus has a gable end facing High Street. The building displays a center hall plan with twin interior chimneys set behind the ridge.

In the Colburn School-High Street District there are two one and one-half story Cape Cod cottages with Greek Revival detail. A common building form in most communities only a couple of Capes are found along High Street in Westwood. They are the <u>Captain Leonard Mason-Jesse Fairbanks</u> <u>House</u> (ca. 1820, Map #14-073) at 600 High Street and the <u>Alford Baker House</u> (ca. 1835, Map #14-080) at 680 High Street.

The other prevalent building form is the gable front Greek Revival of which there are four two and one-half story dwellings and a single one and one-half story house constructed as residences. At least two of these dwellings have entrances within the L formed by the gable front block and the side ell. The example with the best Greek Revival characteristics is the <u>Timothy Baker House</u> (1846, Map # 14-077, **Photo # 6**) at 646 High Street. The bold templar gable front facade is ornamented with a single story wrap porch supported by Tuscan columns. First story windows are full length six-over-nine and the main entrance located on the side elevation is flanked by full sidelights. The house has an outstanding interior staircase.

The district also has four Queen Anne or transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival houses all built near the turn of the century. The most elaborate is the <u>Mary E. Fisher House</u> (1885, Map #09/110, **Photo # 14**) at 524 High Street. The three-story dwelling displays a cross gable plan with a four-story tower bulging from the L with a polygonal porch surrounding the tower element and extending to the long porte-cochere on the south side. A rich texture is derived by the use of clapboards, decorative shingles, and half timbering. Presently the house is undergoing restoration including multi-light colored glass windows in the upper stories of the tower.

The asymmetrical <u>Joseph L. Fisher, Jr. House</u> (ca. 1888, Map #09/112) at 548 High Street has Shingle Style and Colonial Revival characteristics. It is set back from the street on a large lot

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Colburn School – High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

similar to the Mary E. Fisher House. The entrance does not appear to be centered due to the asymmetrical wide gable on the main facade and the recessed door.

The <u>William H. French House</u> (1891, Map # 09/201) at 369 High Street and the <u>George Littlefield</u> <u>House</u> (ca. 1902, Map #09/122) at 475 High Street each have side-hall entrances, projecting bays, large irregular fenestration and Colonial Revival entrance porches.

Also in the Colburn School-High Street District are a few dwellings built or converted to residences in the 1920s. At 575 High Street (Map 14-0520, **Photo # 16**) and 595 High Street (Map 14-050, **Photo #17**) modest interpretations of the Dutch Colonial and the Bungalow Styles are represented. The Bungalow at 575 High Street is reminiscent of a Sears Catalogue plan popular at the time.

There are ten historic barns in the district of which five are free standing. Most date from the mid 1800s. The most outstanding example is the barn at the <u>Jeremiah Baker House</u> at 446 High Street (**Photo # 3**). It is probably the best local example of a barn that clearly represented a wealthy owner who took pride in the architectural detail of the large outbuilding. The barn was probably constructed by Charles French (1821-1894) who was a farmer. It has a finely detailed Federal Style lantern with paired louvered openings on each side of the square hipped roof cupola.

### Institutional and Commercial Properties

The schools are well represented in the Colburn School District. The tall two and one-half story <u>Village School</u> (1847, Map # 14-045, **Photo # 19**) at 649 High Street is a Greek Revival building displaying a common form for institutional properties of the mid-nineteenth century. The classic templar form is displayed in the gable front with full returns and flat sheathing and an ocular window within the pediment. The Village School was moved to this site when the Colburn School was constructed in 1874. The <u>Colburn School</u> (1874, Map #14-078, **Photo # 7**) at 660 High Street is unique with its mansard roof, projecting center tower and flanking side entrances. The building had four class rooms and a large meeting hall.

The <u>Westwood Town Hall</u> (1910, Map #14-071, **Photo # 4**) at 580 High Street, through its Classical Revival Style, evokes the permanence of the institution of local government. It is a striking building with rusticated first story, triple arched center entrance pavilion, its splayed and roundheaded keystone lintels, the wood modillion block cornice, paired end chimneys and centered round cupola on the solid slate hipped roof.

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#### Colburn School – High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

Of the non-contributing commercial and institutional buildings there are two that borrow from the Colonial Revival period and maintain a domestic scale as they appear in the residential streetscape. The Westwood Fire Station (**Photo # 19**) of 1955 is a brick neo-colonial building situated between a Greek Revival residence and the former Village School, also displaying the Greek Revival form. Youlden's at 571 High Street built in 1950, also of brick, maintains the domestic streetscape consistent with surrounding fabric. Two modern office buildings flank the 1887 Ellis Tavern at 545 High Street (Map # 09-115, **Photo # 13**), the only historic commercial building in the district.

#### **Archaeological Description**

While no prehistoric sites are recorded in the district, it is possible that sites are present. Four sites have been documented in the general area. Environmental characteristics of the district also represent several locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, distance to wetlands) that are favorable indicators for many types of prehistoric sites. Much of the district includes well drained, level to moderately sloping terraces in close proximity (within 1000 feet) of Rock Meadow Brook. Land surfaces in the area generally slope up from west to east from Rock Meadow Brook to Fox Hill. Rock Meadow Brook is a tributary of the Charles River. The Neponset River drainage lies immediately to the east of Fox Hill. Given the above information and impacts from historic development, a moderate to high potential exists for locating prehistoric sites in the district.

A high potential exists for locating historic archaeological sites in the district. Additional documentary research combined with archaeological survey and testing can help locate and evaluate the integrity of several known and potential civic, commercial and residential sites in the district. Structural evidence may survive at the original site of the District #8 School (1774) at 515 High Street. The school burned then was rebuilt and removed to 660 High Street in 1847. Structural evidence from the school may also survive at the latter site where it was also eventually removed to 649 High Street where it rests today. Archaeological evidence from the 1731 and 1809 meetinghouse sites may survive south of the district near the cemetery on High Street. Archaeological sites from several commercial enterprises may also survive in the district. Structural evidence from the ca. 1732 Joseph Ellis tavern may survive at 545 High Street where it burned in 1847 and was replaced by the present structure. Structural evidence from a brass foundry and tin shop might also survive north of the dwelling at 600 High Street. The shop later served as a sausage shop and was demolished in the 1930's. Archaeological evidence from butcher shops may be present at 515, 603 and 610 High Street where pre-1850 residences are now located. Evidence from structural modifications to these structures may exist if they were changed from commercial to residential use. Archaeological sites from earlier buildings may also be present. Structural evidence

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from buildings used in Draper's Dairy business may exist next to the house at 453 High Street where a Draper barn foundation is reported. Residential structures that no longer survive and extant structures represent the most common source of archaeological data in the district. Structural evidence from an earlier 1702 house may survive at the location of the existing Jeremial Baker House (1790) at 446 High Street. Evidence from a smaller house built for Baker may also exist on the property either as an archaeological site or incorporated into the existing structure. Archaeological evidence from an earlier house might also survive in the area of the existing Willard Gay House (ca. 1790) at 490 High Street. Archaeological evidence from other undocumented 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century farmhouses may also survive in the district, especially at its northern end. Structural remains from outbuildings including barns, sheds, poultry houses and shops may also survive in the district on archaeological sites and with existing structures. Occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) associated with archaeological sites and existing structures dating from the 1710 Kingsbury House through the 19<sup>th</sup> century should also represent an important archaeological resource in the district.

(end)

#### Colburn School HD 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.)

- <u>x</u> 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.
- X 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
  #\_\_\_\_\_

Norfolk, MA County and State

#### Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

#### Period of Significance

C. 1710 - 1927

#### Significant Dates

N/A

#### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

#### **Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

#### Architect/Builder

Stebbins & Watkins

#### Primary location of additional data:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
- \_ Other State agency
- \_ Federal agency
- \_ Local government
- University
- X Other

#### Name of repository:

Dedham, Westwood Historical Societies

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Colburn School – High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

The Colburn School-High Street District, similar to the Fisher School-High Street District, is a well preserved cluster of predominately residential resources at the heart of the village. The district retains examples of eighteenth and nineteenth century residential architecture and nineteenth and twentieth century educational and civic properties. Intrusions are few and are scattered yet blend with the residential setting in size of lots and smaller scale of modest housing and several civic structures. The Colburn School-High Street District retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and fulfills Criteria A and C.

Incorporated in 1897, Westwood originally was part of Dedham and known as West Dedham from the early eighteenth century. The West Dedham Parish, also known as the Third Parish, was established in 1731 by a number of Dedham residents living on the outskirts of Dedham Village. By 1765 the Third Parish had 54 families living in 43 houses. With development along the Medfield Road (now High Street) and Hartford Turnpike there was interest among some in relocating the meetinghouse. Nahatan Street was laid out in 1807 and completed in 1809 when a new meetinghouse at the same location as the 1731 meetinghouse was built following the dismantling of the old building. Aaron Baker purchased the old building and reconstructed it at the center - at Pond and High Streets - as the Baptist Meeting House, thus the firm establishment of High Street as the Village center with the Cemetery and Meetinghouse at one end and an eighteenth century Village Schoolhouse (no longer extant) and the Ellis Tavern at the other end of High Street.

The early economy of West Dedham was based on subsistence farming and a number of saw, grist and cider mills. Also there were a number of blacksmith shops, iron foundry, brass foundry and other cottage industries such as hat making and slaughterhouses. By 1845, the village of the Third Parish had 124 residences. With the advent of the railroad in 1849 the industrial center shifted away from High Street to Washington Street and to South Dedham, now Norwood, due to the location of the railroad stops. Thus this area of Westwood (the former Third Parish) resorted to an agricultural economy with dairy farming as the largest industry.

Throughout the periods of development West Dedham Village along High Street demonstrated growth in a linear fashion with residences, institutional uses, and commercial properties along the High Street. At the intersections of High Street with Gay Street and Hartford Street were several important properties of Fishers and Bakers that were lost after the 1950s. They were residences

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Colburn School – High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

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with commercial uses attached and linked each end of High Street at the named crossroads. The loss of four to six important early nineteenth century dwellings and estates divided High Street into two distinct districts with similar development patterns but a distinct interruption between the Colburn School-High Street District and the Fisher School-High Street District.

The development of West Dedham Village along High Street was slow until the second quarter of the nineteenth century. Although the Cemetery had been established in 1752 at the far end of High Street, only a few outlying farms existed farther north along High Street and Joseph Ellis' ca. 1732 tavern (burned in 1887 and was replaced by today's building at 545 High Street) was the commercial center. However, by the 1820s this area was firmly established as the town center with the stage stop, post office and store at the first Ellis Tavern replaced by the present Ellis Tavern, 545 High Street (1887, Map # 09-115, Photo # 13), and a number of dwellings and farms. The Kingsbury House, 381 High Street (ca. 1710, Map # 09-200, Photo # 1), is the earliest. Other early dwellings were replaced in the late 1700s including the Jeremiah Baker House at 446 High Street (Map #09-098, Photo # 8) and the Willard Gay House, 490 High Street (ca. 1790, Map # 09-100). The Baker property had been in the family from 1699 and had an early house from 1702 for John Baker who had five sons and a daughter. Also tradition states that a small house had been built for Jeremiah Baker (1761-1855) who lived here until his death and constructed or enlarged an earlier house to make the wonderfully detailed Georgian core of the existing property. Willard Gay, who built the substantial Georgian house at 490 High Street, was a member of one of the early West Dedham families after which Gay Street is named.

Nineteenth century residents of the Colburn-School High Street District included Bakers, Colburns, Ellises, Frenches, and Fishers, all of whom were part of extended families with prominent members throughout West Dedham's and Westwood's early history. Some were farmers and others had cottage industries on their properties and these were critical to the livelihood of the nineteenth century village.

The Ellis family settled in this district in the early 1700s and established the first tavern by 1732, known as Ellis Tavern. It became the center of West Dedham having the first post office by 1824 and serving as a tavern, stage coach stop, store and post office. First proprietor was Deacon Joseph Ellis (d. 1783) followed by his grandson, Abner Ellis (1770-1844) who was the first postmaster. Ellis was succeeded by his son-in-law, Theodore Gay (1794-1881) who served as postmaster from 1845 to 1880. Abner Ellis' grandson, Charles H. Ellis, succeeded Theodore Gay and served as postmaster until his death in 1935. In 1924 Postmaster Ellis and his wife were honored by the

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Colburn School – High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

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Postmaster General in Washington D.C. for his long service and that of his ancestors. While still owned by the second postmaster's, Theodore Gay, estate, the 1732 Ellis Tavern burned and was reconstructed on its site at 545 High Street in 1887.

Isaac Colburn (1766-1845) came to Dedham in 1789 and from ca. 1820 lived at 381 High Street (ca. 1710, Map # 09-200) where Colburns lived until the late 1800s. Isaac Colburn was a schoolteacher and one of the many educators of the family after which the Colburn School was named. One of his sons, Dana Colburn, was an associate of well-known Massachusetts educator, Horace Mann. Also Dana Colburn, who grew up in West Dedham, was a co-founder and first principal of the Rhode Island Normal School. Walter Colburn (1809-1892) was a butcher and built and owned two houses, 610 High Street (ca. 1830, Map #14-074) and 603 High Street (ca. 1840, Map #14-049). Colburn married Sally Weatherbee in 1829, hence the probable ca. 1830 date for 610 High Street. In later years his grandson, Abbott Berkeley Colburn (1863-1937) lived at 603 High Street and ran a slaughterhouse located on this property and the Colburn Sausage Shop which was located in a small shop next to 610 High Street, where Abbott's father, Creighton Colburn (1843-1901) a veterinary surgeon, lived. Also Abbott Colburn purchased Lewis Richard's (1810-1893) butcher shop at Richards' property, 515 High Street (1847, Map #09-118). Richards was best known as a pork dealer and married a Maria Colburn in 1854.

The Bakers descended from John Baker who in the late 1600s received one of the early land grants of West Dedham at the corner of High and Fox Hill Streets. He had eighteen acres and in 1702 the Town laid out a cartpath over his land. Also a diary of 1702 notes that Baker was building a house for his son, John (d. 1768). John Baker Jr. had five sons and a daughter. One son, Jeremiah Baker (1761-1855) who was a butcher, remained at 446 High Street into the nineteenth century. Other Bakers settling in the Colburn School-High Street District all descended from John Baker. Lusher Gay Baker (1807-1891), son of Aaron and Hannah Baker, lived at 615 High Street (ca. 1846, Map # 14-048, **Photo # 5**) and had a traveling store from which he sold crockery and straw hats woven in West Dedham. Baker's cousin, Betsey Baker (married to Obed Baker) after her teaching years, established a bonnet making business, a profitable home industry for many local women.

Lusher Baker's half brother, Eustis Baker (b.1824) in 1874 purchased the Village School when the Colburn School was being constructed, and moved the old Greek Revival schoolhouse across the street to 649 High Street (1847, Map #14-045, **Photo # 19**). He ran his carriage paint shop from the ground floor and leased the upper floor to the Town for meetings. After 1897 when Westwood was incorporated, Baker's building, the Village School, served as town offices and the public library for a few years at the turn of the century.

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Colburn School – High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

Timothy Baker (1813-1890), son of Obed and Betsey Baker, lived at 646 High Street (ca. 1846, Map # 14-077, **Photo # 6**), one of the most prominent dwellings in the district. Baker married his cousin Hannah Gay Baker, daughter of Aaron and Hannah Baker and sister of Lusher Baker, and ran a successful flour and grain business in Boston. He served on the Town Democratic Committee and was described as a "stalwart democrat". In the 1880s his house was painted pure white and the iron fence in front was black. Another cousin of Timothy Baker was Alford Baker (1810-1871), son of Sabin and Abigail Baker, who lived at 680 High Street (ca. 1835, Map # 14-080). He was a farmer who married in 1832 and probably built this Cape Cod cottage at that time. During a mid-twentieth century renovation an old stone was found that had early lettering: "Sabin Baker East Indian and English Goods - 1806". It is interesting to note the line of family members who were merchants.

At least three generations of Frenches have contributed to shaping the High Street area of West Dedham. In the early 1800s Samuel French (1786-1855) built 390 High Street (Map #09-086, Photo # 2) and had a large farm and established French's Express Company, dealers of sawed wood and kindling. His son, Charles French (1821-1894), a farmer, bought 446 High Street (Map # 09-098, Photo # 3, 8) from the Bakers and lived there throughout the second half of the nineteenth century. Charles brother, George Mills French (1828-1909), also a wood dealer, succeeded his father Samuel at 390 High Street. Sons of the two second generation brothers built Queen Anne Style dwellings on land subdivided from their fathers' properties. In ca. 1885 Charles French's son, Samuel Chauncey French (1865-1944), built 478 High Street and worked for the family business which in the early 1900s also dealt in coal and was known as Westwood and Boston Express. Members of the French family lived at 478 High Street (Map # 09-099, Photo # 10) into the 1960s. William Herbert French (1861-1901), son of George Mills (390 High Street), in 1896 built the Queen Anne/Colonial Revival house at 369 High Street (Map # 09-201). He also was an expressman working for the family business. William Herbert died at an early age leaving his widow Florence Colburn French to raise their son, Lloyd. Florence worked as a piano teacher. Lloyd French lived with his mother until her death in 1928 at which point he moved back to the family homestead at 390 High Street. Also living in the district at the end of the nineteenth century was Henry E. French (1861-post 1919) who bought 490 High Street next to his younger brother, Samuel Chauncey. Henry French was a farmer and also made "electric lustre" a stove blacking compound.

Joseph Fisher (1804-1880) was a manufacturer of carriages and harnesses and a horse trader. He lived out his life at his father's, Benjamin Fisher, estate at the intersection of Hartford and High Streets. His widow and son built two elaborate houses in the Colburn School-High Street District,

Section number \_\_\_\_

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

8

## **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Colburn School - High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

Page \_\_\_\_5 both of which deviated from the traditional architecture of the eighteenth and nineteenth century. Joseph Fisher owned this large lot opposite the Ellis Tavern on the east side of High Street. The

elaborate dwelling at 524 High Street (Map #09-110, Photo # 14) belonged to Fisher's widow, Mary Elizabeth Cambell Fisher (1831-1899) and descended to her daughters. Her son, Joseph L. Fisher Jr. (1861-1941), built the Colonial Revival dwelling with Shingle Style elements at 548 High Street (Map # 09-112).

Several of West Dedham's nineteenth century residents were dairy farmers. The largest dairy farm included land on Summer, Grove, High Streets and Dover Road. Henry S. Draper (b. 1827) lived at 453 High Street (ca. 1807, Map 9-125, Photo # 9) and operated this large dairy. In 1883 he purchased the estate of Isaac Colburn which included 381 High Street. A milk business was operated by his son, Willard S. Draper. The house and the foundation of Draper's barn at 453 High Street remain.

One last nineteenth century industrial site that is noteworthy is the Captain Leonard Mason House (ca. 1820, Map #14-073) at 600 High Street where there was a brass foundry and a tin shop, known as Mason & Fairbanks and later Fairbanks Brass Company. The house, a modest Cape Cod cottage was a two-family in the mid 1800s with Leonard Mason(1788-1858), wheelwright in one-half and Jesse Fairbanks (1800-1881), tinsmith, in the other half. The shop, which was located in a separate building north of the modest dwelling house, later served as Colburns Sausage Shop. It was demolished in the 1930s.

Westwood's early schools were Dedham district schools with three in Westwood by the late 1700s; a District #8 School of 1774 in the Colburn School-High Street District at 515 High Street next to the Ellis Tavern, a District #9 school on Clapboardtree near Milk Street and a District #10 school at Bubbling Brook. The 1774 District # 8 School burned, was rebuilt, and finally removed in 1847 and divided into three parts each reused as a core of a house. Its removal was precipitated by the construction of the Village School first located at 660 High Street and now located at 649 High Street (Map # 14-045, Photo # 19). This fine Greek Revival structure cost \$3514.93 to construct and furnish and served as the main West Dedham School until 1874 when it was sold to Eustis Baker and moved to its present location. In 1867 the Village School had been renamed the Colburn School after important educators of West Dedham. The removal from its original site was to make room for the construction of the Colburn School (1874, Map # 14-078, Photo # 7). The new four room schoolhouse also had a large hall for meetings also had a large hall used for meetings, exhibitions and lectures and was described as beautiful, convenient and well heated in its day. This building continued to serve as a school and had additional classrooms added in 1936. Today it is the School Administration Building.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Colburn School – High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

Section number \_\_\_\_8 Page \_\_\_6

Westwood was separately incorporated in 1897 and the first town offices were located in the old 1847 Village School, known then as Baker Hall for its owner, Eustis Baker, who had moved the building in 1874 across the street to 649 High Street. Early town officials were members of the prominent families of the Town and of this district. Willie Baker (1856-1943) who lived at 636

High Street (ca. 1840, Map #14-076) was the first Town Clerk and also served on the first School Committee and was Chief Fire Engineer. George Albert French was Treasurer, Charles H. Ellis, Tax Collector, and among the first selectmen were Benjamin Fisher and John L. Fisher.

Modernization of the Town was well underway as West Dedham sought its independence and became Westwood in April 1897. Steam heat was being installed in houses in the early 1890s such as Samuel C. French's (1885, Map #09-099, **Photo # 10**) and Mrs. George Fisher had electric lights installed also in 1893. High Street had been lined with white picket fences some of which were removed in 1894 as the paper called them a "thing of the past" and recommended removal so that the lawns could easily be seen. A trolley line was laid along High Street by the Norfolk Western Street Railway which led to the widening of High Street and the removal of picket fences.

In 1909 a Town Hall Committee was appointed due to the growing number of voters no longer able to be accommodated in Baker's Hall. The result was the 1910-1911 construction of the Classical Revival Town Hall (Map #14-071, Photo # 4) at 580 High Street, designed by Stebbins and Watkins of Boston. Thus the Colburn School-High Street District was established as the civic center of Westwood with the Colburn School, Baker's Hall in the old Village School, the new Town Hall, and a library and fire station, both of which were later replaced with modern buildings.

During the 1920s a few new houses appeared in this district representative of the growing population requiring modest housing. Opposite the Town Hall two new dwellings were the Dutch Colonial at 575 High Street (1927, Map # 14-052, **Photo # 16**) and the Bungalow at 595 High Street (1927, Map # 14-050, **Photo # 17**). Throughout the town there was a significant building boon of modest dwellings just before the depression. Some construction occurred in the 1930s, but the next burst of new housing following World War II which accounts for the infill of non-contributing dwellings in this district built in the 1950s.

Today the Colburn School District retains a sense of the village past with nineteenth century houses lining the High Street, the main route through the village, many with their nineteenth century attached barns, and with the educational and civic institutions to emphasize the importance of those activities in all village centers.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Colburn School – High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

Section number \_\_\_\_8 Page \_\_\_7

#### Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of prehistoric settlement in Westwood are poorly documented, any surviving sites could be significant. Prehistoric sites in this area can be important by providing information on upland/interior sites in general, especially those sites in the interior Charles River drainage within which the district belongs. Prehistoric sites in this are may contain information that helps understand the extent to which river drainage boundaries influenced the social, cultural and economic systems of Native people who lived in the area. Wetlands in the district area-drain northerly to the Charles River then easterly to the Boston Harbor locale. Immediately east of the district, drainage is through the Neponset River with several important and large multi-component sites located along the Neponset River floodplain approximately 4 miles to the east. Prehistoric sites in the district area may contain information that indicates the extent to which Native American social, cultural and economic systems were influenced by natural resources present in these different areas as well as the different Native cultural groups that occupied each area. Prehistoric sites in the district area can also help establish the nature of Native settlement in more upland/interior areas beyond the floodplains and middle to lower reaches of the major drainages stated above. Prehistoric sites in this area can be significant by more fully defining the local and regional subsistence and settlement models by contributing examples of site variability and resource use within the district area.

Historic archaeological resources described above have the potential to contribute social, cultural and economic information on a predominantly residential area of a linear village that developed in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries in the Greater Boston area. Documentary research combined with archaeological survey and testing can help reconstruct functional and temporal components of the district that that no longer exist or are under-represented today. Structural evidence from the District #8 School sites can contribute information on the only 18<sup>th</sup> century civic building known to exist in the district and patterns of education during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Structural evidence from the sites of several businesses and outbuildings can contribute information on commercial components of the district represented by only one structure today, the Ellis Tavern (1887) at 545 High Street. Archaeological aspects of those industries as well as the products manufactured at those locations. Other sites representing agricultural and food processing related industries can contribute information relating to the methods and techniques of production at those facilities as well as the dietary patterns of residents in the district and town. Archaeological evidence of

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number <u>8</u> Page <u>8</u>

Colburn School – High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

residential structures can also contribute important information relating to the district's significance, especially early 18<sup>th</sup> century structures. Many of these early buildings were parts of farmsteads associated with the early settlement of the district and town, several of which were destroyed and replaced by later 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century structures. Structural remains from outbuildings, including barns, sheds and other agriculturally related structures can also help reconstruct early farmsteads and important activities associated with residences and businesses. Archaeological remains from outbuildings can contribute important information relating to cottage industries and other subsistence related activities performed to supplement residential life. Detailed analysis of the contents from occupational related features can also contribute important information on the social, cultural and economic aspects of the lives of the district inhabitants. These studies can provide information relating to the activities of inhabitants of specific structures as well as provide a comparative base for extrapolations of the lives and activities of the inhabitants within the district and town.

(end)

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_9 Page \_\_\_1

Colburn School – High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

Atlases/Maps: 1818 "This plot represents the Third or Clapboard Trees Parish in Dedham Laid Down from a scale of Ten Chains to an inch" traced by M.P. White, March 26, 1916 from original at the Dedham Historical Society

1831

- 1851 Walling, H.D.
- 1876 Sherman, W.A. Atlas of Norfolk County
- 1888 Robinson, E. Atlas of Norfolk County

Baker, Ernest and Marjory Fenerty. "Preserving Westwood's Past: Photo Albums", 1970s.

Fenerty, Marjory R. West Dedham and Westwood 300 Years. 1972.

Ibid "Essays", 1961, 1968.

Norfolk County Registry of Deeds, Dedham, Massachusetts.

Poole. Albert F. "Westwood, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, 1898", Panoramic View.

Smith, Frank. A History of Dedham, Massachusetts, 1936.

Vital Records, Dedham Historical Society

Vital Records, Westwood Town Clerk's Office.

Westwood Town Reports: 1897-1940.

Colburn School HD	
Name of Property	

Norfolk, MA County, State

10. Geogra	phical Data						
Acreage of	Property	c. 40.5					
		ntinuation sheet.					
1. 19 Zone	316850 Easting	4678120 Northing			3. 19 Zone	316790 Easting	4677810 Northing
2. 19 Zone	316740 Easting	4677900 Northing			4. 19 Zone	316740 Easting	4677780 Northing
(Describe the b		roperty on a continuation	sheet.)		<u>x</u> See con	tinuation sheet	
	lustification le boundaries were	e selected on a continuati	on sheet.)				
11. Form P	repared By						
name/title	Gretchen Schu	ler, Preservation Co	nsultant, with	Betsy Fried	lberg, NR Dir	ector, MHC	
organization	Massachusett	s Historical Commis	sion		date	May 2000	
street & nun	nber 220 Mo	rrissey Boulevard			te	lephone 617-7	27-8470
city or town	Boston	sta	te <u>MA</u>	_ zip code_	01225		
	Documentatio						
Submit the	following iten	ns with the comple	ted form:				
Continuatio	on Sheets						
		5 minute series) indic ric districts and prop	-			ous resources.	
Photograpl Represe		nd white photogra	<b>phs</b> of the pr	operty.			
Additional	items (Check wit	h the SHPO or FPO for a	ny additional ite	ems)			
Property O (Complete this		st of the SHPO or FPO.)					
name	multiple						
street & nur	nber		telep	hone			
city or town			state	zip co	ode		
properties for I	isting or determine	ement: This information e eligibility for listing, to lis ational Historic Preservati	t properties, an	d to amend exi	sting listings. Re		

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.0. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

1

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_

Colburn School – High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

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**UTM** Coordinates

#### Verbal Boundary Description

Properties within the Colburn School-High Street District are included on Assessor's Map #s 9 and 14 which show the included numbered lots and define the perimeter of the district. On Map #9 the district includes lots #86 through #89, # 98 through #100, #110 through #116, #118 through #125

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_2

Colburn School – High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

and #196 through #201. On Map #14 the district includes lots #45 through #52, #66, #71 through #80. The roadways are included in the district as well and where the properties on both sides of the road are not included the boundary follows the center line of the road. This applies to that part of High Street in front of 381 and 369 High Street on the north end and in front of 670 and 680 High Street on the south end of the district.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Colburn School-High Street District follow lot lines of properties that line High Street and make up the village district that was established by the early 1800s with tavern, post office, and school. Those properties that comprise the district are reflective of their nineteenth century boundaries and of the history of the families who settled in this section of West Dedham, now Westwood.

(end)

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_

Colburn School – High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

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#### **Photographs**

Gretchen Schuler, photographer Photographs: 1996, 1997 Negatives at Westwood Historical Commission

- 1. James Kingbury House, 381 High Street
- 2. Samuel French House, 390 High Street
- 3. Baker-French Barn, 446 High Street
- 4. Westwood Town Hall, 580 High Street
- 5. Talbot/Baker/Colburn, 627, 615, 603 High Street
- 6. Baker/Cole/Smith/Colburn, 646, 636, 628, 610 High Street
- 7. Colburn School, 660 High Street
- 8. Jeremiah Baker House, 446 High Street
- 9. Parker/Adams/ Littlefield, 453, 471, 475 High Street
- 10. Samuel Chauncey French House, 478 High Street
- 11. Adams-Dunbar House, 471 High Street
- 12. Barn, now residence, 475A High Street
- 13. Ellis Tavern, 545-549 High Street
- 14. Mary Fisher House, 524 High Street
- 15. Fisher barn or cottage, 540 High Street
- 16. Dutch Colonial, 575 High Street
- 17. Bungalow, 595 High Street
- 18. Timothy Smith House, 628 High Street
- 19. Village School, Fire Station, Talbot House, 649, 637, 627 High Street

(end)

ADDRESS	<u>MHC #</u>	<u>MAP #</u>	HISTORIC NAME	DATE	STYLE	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>TYPE</u>
11 Churchill St.	518	09-109	n/a	ca. 1950	Ranch	NC	В
14 Fox Hill St.	519	09-089	n/a	1953	Ranch	NC	В
369 High St.	124	09-201	William H. French small barn/garage	1891	Queen Anne	C C	B B
381 High St.	26	09-200	James Kingsbury	ca. 1710	Georgian	С	В
390 High St.	94	09-086	Samuel French barn	1810 ca. 1850s	Federal/GR	C C	B B
391 High St.	520	09-199	n/a	1952	ranch	NC	В
402 High St.	521	09-087	n/a	1958	ranch	NC	В
403 High St.	522	09-198	n/a	1956	Garrison Col.	NC	В
416 High St.	523	09-088	n/a	1948	Cape	NC	В
421 High St.	126	09-197	Joseph Baker	ca. 1810	Federal	С	В
435 High St.	524	09-196	n/a	1974	brick cape	NC	В
446 High St.	58	09-098	Jeremiah Baker barn	ca. 1790 ca. 1850	Georgian/CR Federal/Italianate	C C	B B
453 High St.	25	09-125	Abijah Parker	ca. 1807	Federal	С	В

ADDRESS	<u>MHC #</u>	<u>MAP #</u>	HISTORIC NAME	DATE	STYLE	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>TYPE</b>
471 High St.	59	09-124	Adams/Dunbar barn	ca. 1875 ca. 1850	Italianate Greek Revival	C C	B B
475 High St.	60	09-122	George Littlefield garage	ca. 1902 ca. 1940s	QA/CR	C NC	B B
475A High St.	525	09-123	Littlefield?	ca. 1890s	converted barn	С	В
478 High St.	61	09-099	Samuel C. French two-car garage	ca. 1885 ca. 1950s	Queen Anne Neo-Colonial	C NC	B B
481 High St.	526	09-121	n/a	1950	neo-colonial	NC	В
489 High St.	527	09-120	n/a	1951	brick cape	NC	В
490 High St.	24	09-100	Willard Gay	ca. 1790	Georgian	С	В
509 High St.	62	09-119	William Gay two-car garage	ca. 1800 ca. 1950s	Georgian/Federal	C NC	B B
515 High St.	63	09-118	Lewis Richards	1847	Greek Revival	С	В
524 High St.	64	09-110	Mary E. Fisher	1885	Queen Anne	С	В
540 High St.	528	09-111	Fisher	ca. 1890	Swiss cottage	С	В
541-543 High St.	529	09-116	n/a	1962	modern	NC	В

ADDRESS	<u>MHC #</u>	<u>MAP #</u>	HISTORIC NAME	DATE	STYLE	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>TYPE</u>
545-549 High St.	31	09-115	Ellis Tavern/Post Of.	1887	Colonial Revival	С	В
548 High St.	65	09-112	Joseph L. Fisher, Jr. one-car garage	ca 1888	CR/Shingle Style	C NC	B B
555 High St.	530	09-114	n/a	1958	modern	NC	В
563-571 High St.	531	09-113	Youlden's	1950	Neo-Colonial	NC	В
566 High St.	532	14-066	n/a	1938	altered	NC	В
575 High St.	533	14-052	unknown	1927	Dutch Colonial	С	В
580 High St.	32	14-071	Westwood Town Hall	1910-1911	Classical Revival	С	В
585 High St.	534	14-051	n/a	1953	Cape	NC	В
590 High St.	535	14-072	Westwood Police	1966		NC	В
595 High St.	536	14-050	unknown one-car garage	1927 ca. 1940s	Bungalow	C NC	B B
600 High St.	66	14-073	Mason-Fairbanks	ca. 1820	Cape Cod/GR	С	В
603 High St.	67	14-049	Walter Colburn barn/garage	ca. 1840 ca. 1880s	Greek Revival	C C	B B

ADDRESS	MHC	<u># MAP #</u>	HISTORIC NAME	DA	TE	STYLE	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>TYPE</u>
610 High St.	21	14-074	Walter Colburn attached barn		1830 1850	Federal/GR Greek Revival	C C	B B
615 High St.	68	14-048	Lusher Gay Baker	ca.	1846	Greek Revival	С	В
627 High St.	69	14-047	Ebenezer Talbot attached barn		1846 1846	Greek Revival Greek Revival	C C	B B
628 High St.	20	14-075	Timothy Smith attached barn		1830 1850	Federal/GR Greek Revival	C C	B B
636 High St.	70	14-076	Capt. Noah Cole attached barn	ca. ca.	1840 1840	Greek Revival Greek Revival	C C	B B
637 High St.	537	14-046	Fire Station		1955	Neo-Colonial	NC	В
646 High St.	71	14-077	Timothy Baker attached barn		1846 1846	Greek Revival Greek Revival	C C	B B
649 High St.	29	14-045	The Village School		1847	Greek Revival	С	В
660 High St.	19	14-078	Colburn School		1874	Second Empire	С	В
668 High St.	538	14-079	Westwood Library		1956	modern	NC	В
680 High St.	73	14-080	Alford Baker	ca.	1835	Cape Cod/GR	С	В
TOTAL RESOUR	RCES:	41 Contributing	22 Non-contributing					



JAmes Kingsburg House 381 High Street Colburn School - High Street District Westwood, Norfolk County, MA Photographen: Gretilen gehich Repetive: westward this torical Commissing November 1997 Looking west northwest Photo #1



Samuel French House 390 High Street Colburn School - High Street District Photographer: Jrethen Jschuly Negative: Westwood Historical Commission November 1997 Dhoto # 2



Baker - French Burn 446 HyhStreet Colburnscheol - High Street Districe Wecherood. Norfolk Court, Ms Photographen: gretiler gehuly negative: Westered thestrical annissing April 1997 Looking last wheast Photo # 3



Westwood Town Hall 580 High Street Colburn School - High Street District Photographen: Gretchen Gischuler Negative: Westwood Historical Commission April 1996 Looking east northeast Photo#4


Talbot Buker Colbum Houses 627. 615, 603 High Street Colburn School- High Street District Westwood. Norfolk Courty, MA Photographer: Gretiken Gischuter Vegative: Weater Historical Commission April 1997, November Looking north northwest Photo # 5



Baken [ cole 1 Sonth ] Colburn Husos 646. 636. 628. 600 High Street Colburn School - High Street District Photographer: Grehhn g.Schuln Negative: Westwood Historical Commission November 1997 Looks what north east Photo # 6



Colburn School 660 High Street Colburn School - High Street District Westwood; norfolk County, MA Photographer: gretilen of Schuly Negative: Westwood Historial Commissoy April 1996 Colung theof northeast Photo # 7



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alestrend M 524 High St 6. Schule receptioned Historical November 1997 - Leoling ene Photo # 14



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WEST WOOD, MA 575 this street man facade leokapwert g.Schulen = photography June 1997 - Coolers mest Photo # 16 Rd1 5#



Westwood, TA 595 this Street Man facade losling east G. Schuler = photographer Loll 5 #22 Photo#17



Vestigad th 628 Hehst Mun: Douth Facades Cody ene Genely westwood Historicas March 1996 foll 2#23 Photo # 18



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

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A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request



Westwood, MA Glburn School-High Street District = photoskaph (#)



# National Register of Historic Places

## Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2016

#### Colburn School HD 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.)

- <u>x</u> 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.
- X 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 #\_\_\_\_\_

#### Norfolk, MA

County and State

#### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

#### COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

#### **Period of Significance**

C. 1710 - 1927

#### **Significant Dates**

N/A

#### Significant Person

N/A

#### **Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

#### Architect/Builder

Stebbins & Watkins Hurd & Gore \*

\* 2015 amendment. See addendum

#### Primary location of additional data:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- \_ Federal agency
- \_ Local government
- \_ University
- X\_Other

### Name of repository:

Dedham, Westwood Historical Societies

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Colburn School – High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

Section number 8 Page 6

Westwood was separately incorporated in 1897 and the first town offices were located in the old 1847 Village School, known then as Baker Hall for its owner, Eustis Baker, who had moved the building in 1874 across the street to 649 High Street. Early town officials were members of the prominent families of the Town and of this district. Willie Baker (1856-1943) who lived at 636 High Street (ca. 1840, Map #14-076) was the first Town Clerk and also served on the first School Committee and was Chief Fire Engineer. George Albert French was Treasurer, Charles H. Ellis, Tax Collector, and among the first selectmen were Benjamin Fisher and John L. Fisher.

Modernization of the Town was well underway as West Dedham sought its independence and became Westwood in April 1897. Steam heat was being installed in houses in the early 1890s such as Samuel C. French's (1885, Map #09-099, **Photo # 10**) and Mrs. George Fisher had electric lights installed also in 1893. High Street had been lined with white picket fences some of which were removed in 1894 as the paper called them a "thing of the past" and recommended removal so that the lawns could easily be seen. A trolley line was laid along High Street by the Norfolk Western Street Railway which led to the widening of High Street and the removal of picket fences.

In 1909 a Town Hall Committee was appointed due to the growing number of voters no longer able to be accommodated in Baker's Hall. The result was the 1910-1911 construction of the Classical Revival Town Hall (Map #14-071, Photo # 4) at 580 High Street, designed by Stebbins and Watkins \* of Boston. Thus the Colburn School-High Street District was established as the civic center of Westwood with the Colburn School, Baker's Hall in the old Village School, the new Town Hall, and a library and fire station, both of which were later replaced with modern buildings.

During the 1920s a few new houses appeared in this district representative of the growing population requiring modest housing. Opposite the Town Hall two new dwellings were the Dutch Colonial at 575 High Street (1927, Map # 14-052, Photo # 16) and the Bungalow at 595 High Street (1927, Map # 14-050, Photo # 17). Throughout the town there was a significant building boon of modest dwellings just before the depression. Some construction occurred in the 1930s, but the next burst of new housing following World War II which accounts for the infill of non-contributing dwellings in this district built in the 1950s.

Today the Colburn School District retains a sense of the village past with nineteenth century houses lining the High Street, the main route through the village, many with their nineteenth century attached barns, and with the educational and civic institutions to emphasize the importance of those activities in all village centers.

#### (continued)

\* Hurd and Gore. See 2015 addendum

## United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Colburn School – High Street Historic District Westwood (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

Section number 8 Page 9

### 2015 Addendum

New research by Timothy T. Orwig for the 2015-16 nomination of the Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Building (West Newbury, MA), demonstrates that the Westwood Town Hall was designed by the Boston firm of Hurd and Gore, not Stebbins and Watkins, as had been suggested by preliminary town records.

As designed by the partnership of Henry Watson Gore (1871-1956) and Harry Butters Hurd (1877-1944), the Westwood Town Hall was illustrated in *The Brickbuilder* in 1911 ["Town Hall, Westwood, Mass, Hurd & Gore, Architects." *The Brickbuilder* 20.6 (June 1911)]. Building Inspection Department plans on file at the Massachusetts Archives also credit Hurd and Gore. For further confirmation, see Louis Edward Cook, *History of Norfolk County, Massachusetts, 1622-1918* (New York, 1918), v. 1, 287. Hurd and Gore also designed another Westwood municipal building, the Islington Street School (1909, MHC# WSW.34; demolished)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY Colburn School--High Street Historic District NAME:

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Norfolk

DATE RECEIVED: 4/15/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/31/16 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 00000641

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:NDATA PROBLEM:NLANDSCAPE:NLESS THAN 50 YEARS:NOTHER:NPDIL:NPERIOD:NPROGRAM UNAPPROVED:NREQUEST:NSAMPLE:NSLR DRAFT:NNATIONAL:N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

# Additional Documentation Approved

V.	
RECOM. / CRIZERIA CCCP	NI'D
REVIEWER Chan Beal	DISCIPLINE HISTORY
TELEPHONE	DATE 5-31.16

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.

National Register of Historic Places Memo to File

# Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Colburn School--High Street Historic District NAME:

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Norfolk

DATE RECEIVED: 5/08/00 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/24/00 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/09/00 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/22/00 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 00000641

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	Ν	DATA PROBLEM:	Ν	LANDSCAPE:	Ν	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	N
OTHER:	Ν	PDIL:	Ν	PERIOD:	Ν	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:	N
<b>REQUEST:</b>	Ν	SAMPLE:	Ν	SLR DRAFT:	Ν	NATIONAL:	Ν

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT	RETURN	REJECT	6.9. DATE
			~

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA	
REVIEWER	DISCIPLINE
TELEPHONE	DATE
DOCUMENTATION see attached	d comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth Massachusetts Historical Commission

May 3, 2000

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:

Colburn School - High Street Historic District, Westwood (Norfolk Co.), 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 properties included in the district were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 45 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

We request an expedited review of this nomination.

Sincerely,

reollier Betoy t

Betsy Friedberg National Register Director Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Jerry Cronin, Chair, Westwood Historical Commission Gretchen Schuler, Preservation Consultant Anthony Antonellis, Chair, Westwood Board of Selectmen Jack Wiggins, Chair, Westwood Planning Board

220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125 · (617) 727-8470 Fax: (617) 727-5128 · TDD: 1-800-392-6090 www.state.ma.us/sec/mbc

AD 00-641



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Nat. Register of Historic Places National Park Service

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

March 22, 2016

J. Paul Loether Chief, National Register of Historic Places/National Landmarks Program National Park Service 2280, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor National Register of Historic Places 1201 I (Eye) Street, NW Washington, DC 20005

RE: Additional Documentation for Colburn School-High Street Historic District, Westwood (Norfolk County), Massachusetts (NRDIS 6/9/2000)

Dear Mr. Loether:

Recent research has shown that the architectural firm credited with the design of Westwood Town Hall is incorrect. The correct architectural firm is Hurd & Gore.

Westwood Town Hall was listed in the National Register as a contributing building in the above referenced historic district.

I am enclosing a corrected page of the Cover Form (section 8), a corrected page of the section 8 narrative (page 8/6), and an addendum with supporting evidence (page 8/9).

Please let me know if you need anything else to bring your files up to date.

Sincerely,

Betsy medberg Betsy Friedberg National Register Director

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Enclosures

Cc: Westwood Historical Commission Gretchen Schuler, Preservation Consultant

> 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125 (617) 727-8470 • Fax: (617) 727-5128 www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc