

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 West School

other names/site number Centre School, West School Museum

2. Location

street & number 106 Bedford Street not for publication

city or town Burlington vicinity

state MA code MA county Middlesex code 017 zip code 01803

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
Signature of certifying official/Title

April 4, 2006
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

Patrick Anderson

Date of Action

5/17/2006

West School
Name of Property

Middlesex, MA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

☐ private
☒ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

(Check only one box)

☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

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

Contributing

Noncontributing

1 building

_____ sites

_____ structures

_____ objects

1 Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION School

TRANSPORTATION Garage

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Greek Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation fieldstone

walls clapboard

roof asphalt shingle

other _____

Narrative Description

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

See attached Continuation Sheets

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Continuation Sheet

West School
Burlington (Middlesex), MA

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Narrative Description

The West School was erected in 1794-1795 by the Town of Woburn, but in 1799 it became the property of the newly incorporated Town of Burlington. It is an excellent example of a Federal/Greek Revival-style one-room schoolhouse built for a small, rural Massachusetts community. Originally located in what is now Simonds Park in Burlington Center, the building was moved by the School Committee from Burlington Center in 1839 to serve as the schoolhouse for the western part of the town. It remained a school there until ca. 1897 when it was made redundant. After having been altered for use as a private garage in the early 20th century, the building was saved from demolition and restored by the Burlington Historical Society in 1964.

The schoolhouse is located at 106 Bedford Street at the curved meeting of two 18th century roads, Bedford Street and Francis Wyman Road. The schoolhouse is set on a small but deep and irregularly sized lot and sited near the street. It is surrounded by post World War II suburban ranch houses and a mid-19th century cottage across the street. A highway sign and a Charles Casassa memorial sign stand adjacent to the street.

The small, rectangular, building measuring approximately 24' by 22' rises from fieldstone and granite foundations one story and attic high. Clad in white-painted clapboard, it is covered by a front-gable roof installed by the School Committee in 1874-1875. The roof is framed with Greek Revival style cornice returns and sheathed in composition shingles installed in 1964. The south-facing façade, which was reconstructed in 1964 from historic photograph includes a central entry enclosed by a one-story hip roofed vestibule. The vestibule is closely flanked by windows on either side. **(photo #1)**

A probably early 20th century gable-field window lights the attic. The east side and rear elevations both contain two windows; the west elevation contains a centered window. **(photo #2)** Windows of the side elevations butt up against the elaborated cornice, which breaks forward over them. All the original windows, which stand well away from the plane of the wall, have double-hung 6/6 sash and molded surrounds. Some broken panes were replaced. The window surrounds of the façade and side elevations have beaded edges, lintels that extend beyond the surround, and heavy, sloped sills. During the 1964

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restoration the original rear window surrounds were removed from their less visible locations and placed on the façade, where no original windows remained. The two windows on the rear elevation have plain ca. 1964 surrounds. **(photo #3)** Several shutter pintels remain. Nineteenth century replacement shutters are not hung on the original pintels.

On the west side of the north elevation at basement level a small, low door has been cut to access the crawl space and mechanical equipment. A small chimney (probably 1839, rebuilt 1874) rises at the rear of the roof ridge. **(photo #3)** The foundations are rubble with ashlar granite cornerstones. On the east and west sides they are stepped down to follow the slope of the hill. A brass plaque on the façade states:

Erected 1792

Second Precinct Woburn

Served the needs of this section known as Havenville until 1897.

Restoration was started in March 1964 by the Burlington Historical Society, Inc.

Much of the original organization and materials remain on the single space of the interior. A cast iron stove inscribed B & M #1, with an extensive stovepipe found in the basement is fixed in the middle of the room. The length of the stovepipe found with it determined its location. The chimney on the south wall is plastered and has a cast iron clean-out embellished with a sunburst motif. The high-placed windows that touch the plastered ceiling are set in deep, wood-paneled reveals. The room is articulated by cased corner posts at the four corners **(photo #8)** (those at the southeast and southwest corners are probably 1964 replications). Two wider pilasters on plinths that break forward from the baseboards on the east and west walls roughly divide then into thirds. **(photo #4)**

The walls are faced with horizontally laid wide, beaded wood wainscoting from the baseboard to windowsill height. Two blackboards composed of these wide boards but painted black and still in good condition are placed on the west wall between the corner posts and the pilasters. **(photo #7)** Above the wainscot the walls and ceiling are plastered. Wooden coat rails set at different levels on the west; north and part of the east walls retain several coat hooks.

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West School
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The floor is wide board pine. Holes where desks were screwed down remain, as well as oil stains from its use as a garage. The floor was refinished in 1965. The unfinished attic is entered by a trap door in the ceiling. The approximately 8 ½ ' x 4' vestibule, built in 1964 to replicate the original, is sheathed in rough-cut horizontally laid wide boards.

Archaeological Description

While no ancient Native American sites are known on the school property, sites may be present. Three sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile). Known sites are located west of the school in uplands adjacent to tributaries of the Shawsheen River including Beaver Brook. Environmental characteristics of the property indicate some locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, proximity to wetlands) that are favorable for the presence of Native sites. The school is located on a well-drained, level to moderately sloping landscape, both favorable characteristics for the presence of ancient sites. The nearest wetlands, however, are located over 1,000 feet from the school, an important locational factor that adversely affects the site sensitivity for this location. Given the above information and the effects of school construction on the relatively small lot (less than one acre), a low potential exists for locating ancient Native American resources on the school property.

A moderate potential exists for locating historic archaeological resources on the school property. Structural evidence may exist from outbuildings associated with school maintenance activities. Occupational-related features (trash pits, privies, wells) sheet refuse type artifact distributions may also exist in the area surrounding the school. Builder's trench features may exist in the area immediately surrounding the foundation.

(end)

West School
Name of Property

Middlesex, MA
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☒ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE _____

EDUCATION _____

Period of Significance

1795 - 1897 _____

Significant Dates

1799 – original construction _____

1839 – moved to current location _____

1897 – closed as school _____

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Massachusetts Historical Commission _____

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**West School
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8. Historical Significance

The West School possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and appears to meet National Register criteria A for its association with the development of education in Burlington and Criteria C for its architecture, as an example of a Federal period, one-room schoolhouse. Criterion Consideration B for a moved property also applies. Built by the Town of Woburn in 1794-1795 before its Second Parish was set off as the new Town of Burlington in 1799, the school building was retained by Burlington on its original location for forty years, then moved to a new location in 1839 to serve the needs of the western part of town for until about 1897, another 58 years. A large amount of the original building fabric and design still exist despite its use as a garage from ca. 1920 to the mid-20th century. It was restored by volunteer community effort using historic photographs in 1964 to serve as a community museum.

In 1794-1795 the Town of Woburn built nine schoolhouses. In each school district the location and erection of the building was to be supervised by the member of the school committee representing that district. In 1794 the Second Parish, now Burlington, was allocated £ 45.0.0 to construct a school for its middle district. Apparently the general allocation of £ 300 for the nine schools was insufficient, for in 1795 another £ 300 was voted by the Town Meeting, giving each school project twice its initial allocation.

In fact, so much of the town's cash was budgeted for school construction that no funds remained to actually run them the following year. After the Town was brought before the Grand Jury for failure to comply with the law, it sent a local captain to sort the matter out. However, no record of how the matter was resolved appears to have survived.

Only a few years later in 1799, Woburn's Second Parish incorporated itself as the Town of Burlington, keeping the four recently-constructed schoolhouses that lay within its new boundaries. The West School building, then located at the town center, was popularly called the Centre School. Of the three others, the South School was demolished in 1958, the East School was demolished in 2000, and the North School at Wilmington Road and Chestnut Avenue was rendered unrecognizable as a school when it was rehabilitated as a private residence.

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In 1819 the schools were not open simultaneously as the Town Meeting instructed the School Committee that only two be kept open at the same time, two one year and two others the next so as to offer equal access to the students. The cost of running the schools was a thorny one for the poor rural town. In 1822 the Town got in trouble again for "neglecting to raise money for schools according to law for two years from January 1820" [quoted in Fogelman, p. 237].

In 1838 the western part of Burlington must have wanted its own schoolhouse so much that it hired a building for the purpose. The Town voted that "two-thirds of the school money be divided into four parts and the same be layed out in the four out skirts (*sic.*) of the town in schools to be kept by female Teachers, provided (*sic.*) the West School provide a suitable place to keep the school in at its own expense".

Evidently the Burlington School Committee too had been concerned about the lack of a schoolhouse in the western part of town. The committee stated:

"the summer school in the west quarter of the town was one of the largest in town, and that very much inconvenience was felt in that school for want of a house; and as the comfort and progress of a school depends, to a very considerable degree, on the proper construction of schoolhouses, the Board would invite the attention of the town to the subject". [Abstract of the Massachusetts Board of Education School Returns, 1838-1839]

On March 11, 1839 the Town held its Town Meeting in the schoolhouse. Perhaps because of its uncomfortable conditions it soon moved to the Meeting House. The next month a Town Meeting warrant was published to "see if the Town will cause a schoolhouse to be built at the west part of the Town". But instead it decided to move the underutilized Centre schoolhouse to Pasho's Corner, later Americanized to "Patio Corner," at the corner of Bedford Street and Francis Wyman Way. On April 27, 1839 Jefferson Carter was paid \$53 for moving the school, now called the West School. In October the school was still being rehabilitated and equipped after its move: Jesse Hall and Sons were paid the considerable sum of \$67 for lumber for the building.

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In 1840 the schools were kept for eleven weeks and their teachers were paid \$27. In 1857 the school had 12 pupils. In 1855 the School Committee forthrightly reported:

"The West School-house, your Committee think, is beyond the pale of redemption. It is positively unfit for future use. We cannot recommend any attempt at repairs. We do not think either children or teachers can occupy it longer, with profit. We do think that whatever our pecuniary circumstances may be, the building of a new house at the west cannot be avoided, in justice to ourselves or our children who have to occupy it. If you are not satisfied with our representations, send a committee to inspect and see what they can make of it."

Speaking of the four outlying schoolhouses generally, the committee found:

"In the internal arrangements there is little for comfort, but much for the discomfort of the occupants. There is no arrangement for ventilation in any of them, except the new one ... Besides, there is no place to put the children's clothes, caps, bonnets... which is a great evil: and the stove must stand all summer for what of a place to put it if taken down."

Apparently the schoolhouse lot was not purchased from Mrs. Haven until 1851 and 1852. The avowedly decrepit one-room school remained, with the improvement of a new roof in 1873, for an astounding forty more years.

The schools were first graded in 1868. That year the twelve students of the West school were taught by George T. Parker for the term of six weeks while older students at the new Center School (1855) went to school for twice that length. By 1870 the outlying schools opened for two sessions, one eleven, and the other eight weeks long.

The School Committee Report for 1873-1874 stated,

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"Upon examination it was ascertained that the roof of the south and West houses were rotting and in very bad condition and must necessarily be made new. The roof of the West School being what is called a "hipped roof" it was not considered judicious to repair it, consequently it was necessary to build an entire new roof."

The new roof was pitched with a front gable and framed with Greek Revival returns. According to Fogelberg, evidence of the notches for the original hip roof remained "in the framework above the ceiling." [Daily Times Chronicle, Mar. 10, 1992] The chimney, which had been leaking badly for four or five years and was in poor condition, was rebuilt at the same time. The "double windows" installed in the year ending in 1895 were said to have made the building more comfortable and to have paid for themselves. [Annual Report, 1895]

Although in 1890 the school had an average attendance of about twenty students, with a high of twenty-six, by 1895 student population had dwindled. Two members of the School Committee decided in 1895 that, as it was inefficient to operate the West School for only seven students, they would close it. Two of these scholars lived an easy walk from the Center School while two others were prepared to attend it, leaving three students. The parents of the remaining students, who would have to walk two miles each way, vehemently protested the decision to close. They brought their concerns before the Town Meeting, which "voted overwhelmingly that the school should be open the next day. The School Committee refused and, instead, had the Court in Woburn" serve the families that had refused to send their children to the Center school with writs [Fogelman, p. 246]. The families eventually exceeded to the demands of the Committee, especially after a "School Barge," a large open wagon, was purchased to bus the children to the Center.

It is not perfectly clear just when the West School closed for good, probably in 1897, setting the stage for a graded, consolidated school in 1897 that made district Schools redundant. Miss Lizzie McIntire (1865-1932), an honor roll student in the West School

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and then its teacher for so long, resigned rather than teach in the Union School. In 1890 the School Committee characterized her as "indefatigable, still ambitious, and always successful, she retains the love and respect of all, pupils and parents and committee." [Burlington School Committee, Annual Report, 1890, Woburn, 1890, p. 7.]

The practice of hiring a professional School Superintendent to augment the work of the local volunteer School Committee became popular in the 1880s. In 1890 Burlington, with Billerica, Lincoln, Carlisle, and Wilmington engaged the services of such a man. In 1893 his successor, Lewis T. McKenney, argued for the educational and financial expediency of consolidating the Town's district schools into one "where they can be properly classified, equipped and instructed." [Fogelman, p 245]. State aid was offered, probably as an inducement towards this apparently progressive step. After the customary long and fierce debate and by a slim margin, a vote carried to build a consolidated Union School to serve all the Town's grammar school students. It was erected on the Common in 1898.

The Selectmen were authorized to sell the four now-redundant schoolhouses in 1900. The West School was sold to Otis Clark Haven about that time. The neighborhood of the West School had been called Havenville since the last quarter of the 19th century for its association with the numerous Haven family members living in the area since the end of the 18th century. Otis Haven lived in the cottage on the corner across the street.

About 1920 Otis Haven converted the building to an automobile storage garage by demolishing the building's vestibule and installing two large sets of simple wooden, outward-opening doors on the façade. Haven apparently left the interior intact, leaving the blackboards and coat hooks still on the walls. The building had neither running water nor electricity.

Restoration

In December 1963, Charles Casassa (1911-1994), a neighbor, discovered that local developer Allan Gray had purchased the former West School and planned to demolish it in order to build a new house on the site. Casassa, who knew its history, wrote a letter to the editor of the local newspaper alerting the town. Soon a core group of people formed to "Save the West School".

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By January 1964 the group had grown to forty-five people. Gray offered to sell the building for a token \$1 if the group would move the building. "After considerable searching it decided the schoolhouse would have more historical value if it were left on its original location." [Burlington Historical Society Publicity Office, Barbara A. Vaughn, 6/5/64]. By now it was clear that the group would not only save the school from demolition by buying the land and building, they would also find a way to restore it to its former appearance.

From the inception Mr. Casassa believed that the formation of a Historical Society would be necessary to organize and manage the restoration of the school. Although the immanent loss of such a significant historic building was a galvanizing force for the group, it was decided to widen its preservation effort and become the town-wide Burlington Historical Society. By-laws were written, directors and a board nominated and a membership campaign was started. The Burlington Historical Society was incorporated on March 20, 1964 and chartered as a charitable organization. By June 1964 the Society had one hundred sixty-nine members.

The nascent Society made a down payment of \$500, then negotiated with the builder to purchase the land and schoolhouse for \$5,000 using mortgages from the Stoneham Savings Bank. Then it set out to raise the \$5,000 estimated for the restoration costs. Paul Arsenault, one of the original members, constructed piggy-bank replicas of the proposed restoration West School for each of Burlington's public schools. With approval of their principals the students donated generously for the restoration. Larger replica banks were placed in the local IGA Supermarket and in front of the school, where drivers at the busy intersection would stop and deposit coins.

By June 1965 the group had raised \$814.38 from raffles, bazaars and the like and \$1,824.50 from memberships and donation from business and people of the town. Further fundraising events such as an art and. antiques auction with donated pieces and bean counting chances were planned and executed, all by volunteer effort. Most of the

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organizations in town helped, "from Charlie's Marine Corp League to the local Grange."
[Fogelberg, Daily Times Chronicle, Aug. 16, 1994]

The Burlington Historical Society assumed responsibility for managing the restoration as well as funding it. Elizabeth Bennett Lowther became its President and Louis Skelton became the long-time Treasurer. Paul Arsenault, who with Casassa and Charles Curtis served on the Restoration and Planning Committee, also headed the Board of Directors. Mr. Arsenault, Chief Custodian of Town-owned Buildings, spearheaded the physical work on the school in his non-work hours. The Society, working from at least two historic photographs, planned to restore the façade to its "authentic" appearance.

The 1964 restoration work on the façade was primarily limited to the area below the eaves returns (or from the top of the garage doors down), according to former Burlington Fire Chief Herb Crawford. With its very limited time and funds, the BHS hesitated to spend money on anything not strictly required to restore the façade to its 1839-1899 appearance. On the side elevations the clapboards were repaired, but otherwise remained in their original condition. Fire Chief Crawford confirmed that the two original windows and their surrounds on the rear elevation were removed and placed on the façade. Then new windows were installed on the rear. At some point, one small, low opening on the rear elevation to the crawl space, was boarded over and another was cut or reconfigured.

The Wm. Hurley Chapter #113 of D. A. V. and Joe Forte, former Town Engineer, dug out the front of the school in preparation for foundation work. Arsenault jacked up the building to repair the foundations, rebuilt them where they had been removed, probably installed a new front sill to replace the one removed for the garage entries, and repaired beams. Examination of the crawl space revealed that four of the 2 x 12 inch joists were split. Matching lumber joists were nailed along side them. For further support posts taken from the old St. Margaret's Church that stood at Winn and Center Streets were inserted. Mr. Casassa "used his farm tractor to move a big granite slab from his backyard" nearby to serve as the door step. {Arseneault, Paul J., "Memories of an Historical Society Member of the 1964 Restoration of the 1794 West School".}

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Among the major contributors to the restoration work were Paul Arsenault, Charles Curtis who flashed and pointed the chimney, Kenneth Canning who plastered the walls, and Jim Ashworth. In June 1964, Arsenault and other volunteers began to remove the wood shingles from the 1875 roof and replace them with asphalt shingle. Labor and materials for the roof cost \$343.25.

The Lions Club did the carpentry work of restoring the façade. Still uncompleted in January 1965, the cost for the "front" totaled \$649.61. Commander Leslie James and the men of the American Legion Post # 273 donated paint, scrapped and primed the building, and put on the finish coat at its completion. Stedman Rice and others painted the interior. Frank Kirby's Boy Scout Troop # 531 cleaned the basement. The side and rear elevations were simply repaired, where necessary.

Landscaping was planned by Mrs. Fred Zarick, Landscape Design Chairman of the Northern District Garden Club; Mrs. Paul Hennessey, President of the Burlington Garden Club and Emile E. Perkett, Civic Beautification Chairman. The Burlington Garden Club Landscape Committee prepared the preliminary plans for the site, cleared and graded it, put down loam and put in foundation plantings.

In February 1965 the Restoration Committee made a public request for "old green blinds (or shutters) measuring 17" wide, 5 feet long... any old wide boards any width, any length. Also a real old door for the front of the school." Mrs. Madeline Bustead donated six pairs of 16" x 60" shutters, which were scraped, painted, and installed. Charlie Casassa hauled the large granite stone from his back yard five doors away to become the school's front step.

The wood floor appears to date from its use as a school as the screw holes for a desk donated by the neighboring Louis Skelton, whose father had attended the school, fit those found in the floor. The floor was refinished with materials donated by the local Johnson Wax Company. The walls above the wainscot and the ceiling were patched with plaster; the new front wall was plastered. Paul Arsenault shored up the ceiling and installed tie-jack bracing below the roof.

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The schoolhouse reopened with a Grand Dedication ceremony on Patriots Day, April 19, 1965. From the alarm indicating its potential demolition to that dedication, the Save the West School Committee, now the Burlington Historical Society had purchased the lot and building, incorporated, planned the restoration and restored the building without professional assistance. The Town ultimately assumed responsibility for the building when the annual Town Meeting of April 3, 1967, voted to expend \$4,500 to purchase the West School from the Historical Society. It was to be administered by the Historical Commission that had been formed earlier that year. The Town continues to maintain the building.

The West School is a fine example of the four one-room schoolhouses in which the children of Burlington spent their school days from 1795 until 1895. It is one of two of the four schoolhouses remaining built in Burlington in 1794-1795 and the only one to retain its appearance as a school. The other, remodeled as a private house, does not retain design integrity. The schoolhouse also exemplifies Burlington's stubborn retention of this artifact. The Town moved it to a more populated neighborhood in 1839; retained it in spite of School Committee urgings to demolish it and erect a new building in the mid-19th century; sold it 1899 to an owner who recycled it as a garage, and finally rescued it by private and public action as a key piece of its historic fabric.

Archaeological Significance

Historic archaeological resources described above may contribute important information related to 19th century education in Burlington and the general social, cultural, and economic characteristics of the town's West or Havenville population. Structural evidence from outbuildings may contribute important evidence of the school's facilities, maintenance, and other school functions. Archaeological features surrounding the school, including builder's trenches may contribute evidence of the school's construction and architectural details prior to restoration activities. Detailed analysis of the contents of occupational-related features may contribute important information related to the daily activities of students at the school and more personal aspects of their daily lives.

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9.. Bibliography

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"The Town's Oldest Schoolhouse", Aug. 16, 1994
- Fogelberg, John, "Ed", Burlington: Part of a Greater Chronicle, Burlington Historical Commission, Burlington, 1976.
- Goff, John, Historic Preservation Survey of Burlington: Narrative Report, Burlington, 1999.
- Goff, John, Building B Form # 2, 106 Bedford St., Historic Preservation Survey of Burlington, Burlington, 1999.
- Massachusetts Board of Education, Abstract of the Mass. Board of Education: School Returns 1838-1839, Dutton and Wentworth, Boston, 1839.
- Sewall, Samuel, History of Woburn: Middlesex County., Massachusetts: 1640-1868, Wiggen and Lunt, Boston, 1868, on www.hti.umich.edu Note: find at: Making of America, Books, "Woburn, Massachusetts".
- Vaughn, Barbara A., Letter from Burlington Historical Society, June 5, 1964.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

West School
Burlington (Middlesex), MA

Section number 9 Page 2

Maps

Maps and Atlases

- 1855 Samuel Thompson, Plan of Woburn.
- 1855 Middlesex County, copied fragment of a wall map.
- 1875? Beers Atlas of Middlesex County, single page, property is indicated as West School District.
- 1889? Walling Atlas of Middlesex County, single page, property is indicated as Havenville School.
- Middlesex Co. Town of Burlington, 1906, property is indicated as O. C. Haven School.

(end)

West School _____
Name of Property _____

Middlesex MA _____
County, State _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19 317610 4708140
Zone Easting Northing

2.
Zone Easting Northing

3.
Zone Easting Northing

4.
Zone Easting Northing

— See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Heli Meltsner, consultant, with Betsy Friedberg NR director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date April 2006

street & number 220 Morrissey Blvd. telephone 617-727-8470

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

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

Photographs

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

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

Property Owner

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

name Town of Burlington, MA

street & number 29 Center Street telephone 781-270-1630

city or town Burlington state MA zip code 01803

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

West School
Burlington (Middlesex), MA

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the West School are the lot lines described for 106 Bedford Street on the Burlington Assessors Map dated 1969, revised 2001 as #27 as parcel 114-0.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the property are the same as those purchased in 1968 by the Town of Burlington from the Burlington Historical Society. The boundaries may be the same as those purchased by the Town from Mrs. Haven in the mid-19th century and subsequently conveyed by the Town to Mr. Otis Haven in 1899 when the redundant building was sold out of municipal ownership.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

West School
Burlington (Middlesex), MA

Section number photo Page 1

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Photographer	Heli Meltsner
Date of Photograph	April 14, 2004:
Negative Location	Massachusetts Historical Commission 220 Morrissey Boulevard Boston, MA 02125

#	Resource	Looking	Roll	Neg. #
1	Exterior: South & East elevations	NW	88016	23
2	Exterior: South & West elevations	NE	88016	22
3	Exterior: East & North elevations	SW	88016	20
4	Interior: East wall	SE	88016	13
5	Interior: West & South walls & vestibule	SW	36435	18
6	Interior: West & North walls	NW	36435	15
7	Interior: West wall and blackboard	W	36435	19
8	Interior: East & North walls, detail	NE	36435	20

(end)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY West School
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 4/06/06 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/26/06
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/11/06 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/20/06
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 06000398

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: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 5/17/2006 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Historically & architecturally significant one room schoolhouse.

RECOM./CRITERIA accept AEC

REVIEWER Patrick Andrus

DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 5/17/2006

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.



WEST SCHOOL
BURLINGTON, MA

PHOTO # 1



WEST SCHOOL
BURLINGTON, MA

PHOTO # 2



WEST SCHOOL

BURLINGTON, MA

PHOTO # 3



WEST SCHOOL
BURLINGTON, MA
PHOTO # 4



WEST SCHOOL

BURLINGTON, MA

PHOTO #5



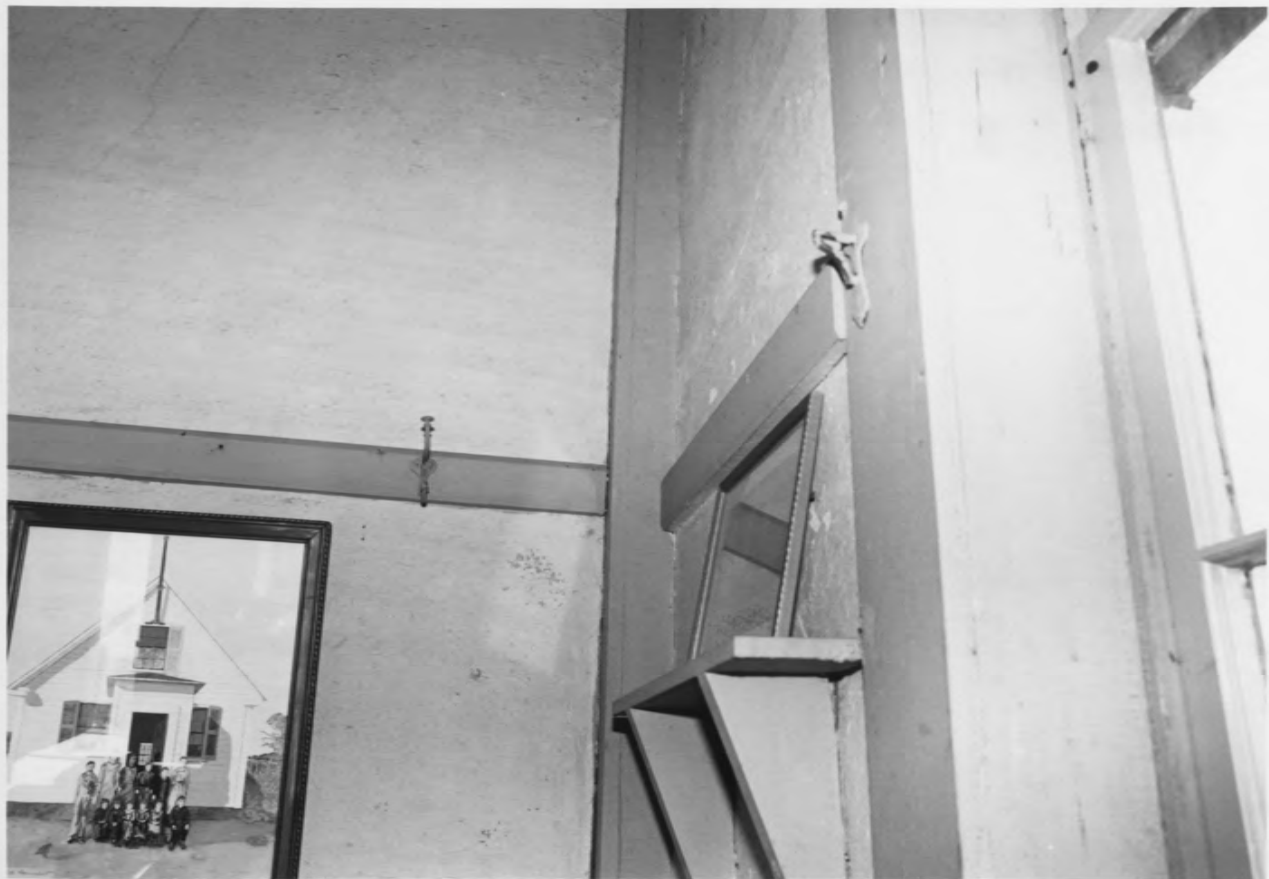
WEST SCHOOL

BURLINGTON, MA

PHOTO # 6



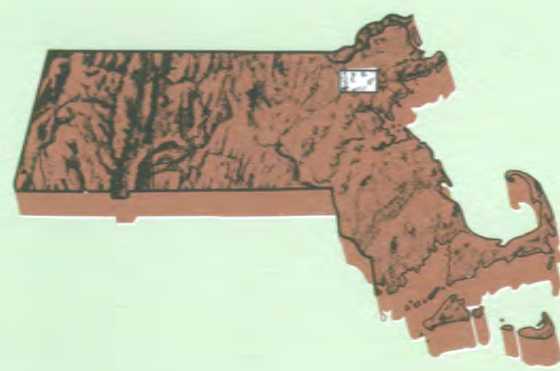
WEST SCHOOL
BURLINGTON, MA
PHOTO #7



WEST SCHOOL
BURLINGTON, MA
PHOTO # 8

Reading
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



GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

1987

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 1987
Supersedes Wilmington 1965 and Reading 1966.

1:24,000-scale maps

Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 19

Universal Transverse Mercator

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

41 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the

National or State reservations shown on this map

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

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

CONVERSION TABLE

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	29.5276
10	32.8084

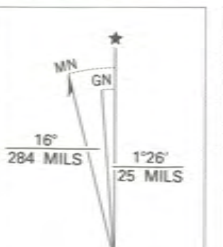
To convert meters to feet

multiply by 3.2808

To convert feet to meters

multiply by 0.3048

DECLINATION DIAGRAM



UTM grid convergence

(GTM and 1983 magnetic

declination (MM)

Diagram is approximate

ISBN 0-607-23469-5

9 780607 234695

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 gauge; narrow gauge
Bridge: drawbridge
Footbridge; 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, isolated tower
Dam; dam with lock
Canal; grave
Campground; picnic area; U.S. location monument
Windmill; water well; spring
Mine shaft; prospect; adit or cave
Control: national station; vertical datum; spot elevation
Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression
Distorted surface: strip mine, lava, sand
Bathymetric contours: index; intermediate
Personal lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream
Rapid, large and small; fall, large and small
Swamp; marsh
Submerged marsh; land subject to controlled inundation
Woodland, cultivated trees
Scrub; mangrove
Orchard; vineyard

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request

READING, MASSACHUSETTS
42071-E1-TM-025



COL-EAST INC.
BOSTON & PITTSFIELD

COPYRIGHT 1969

A. C. Nelson Cartography
Revised to December 2001

BURLINGTON

Cartography by
ALAN C. NELSON
Wilmington, Mass.

SCALE 1" = 100' FEET

SEE SHEET 33-55

20	21	22
26	27	28

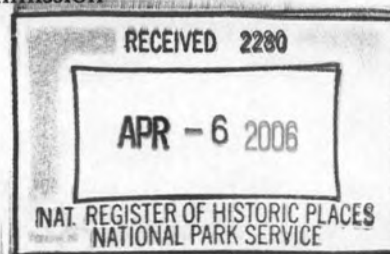
27



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

April 4, 2006

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



Dear Dr. Roberts:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

West School, 106 Bedford St., Burlington (Middlesex), 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,

Betsy Friedberg

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Heli Meltsner, consultant
Gary Gianino, Board of Selectmen
Norman Biggart, Toni Faria, Burlington Historical Commission
Chair, Burlington Planning Board