

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION FORM B - BUILDING

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BLVD
BOSTON, MA 02125

Photograph

(3"x3" or 3-1/2"x5" black and white only) Label photo on back with town and property address. Record film roll and negative numbers here on the form. Staple photo to left side of form over this space. Attach additional photos to continuation sheets.

Roll	Negative(s)



Sketch Map

Draw a map showing the building's location in relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major natural features. Show all buildings between inventoried building and nearest intersection or natural feature. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle and number the inventoried building. Indicate

Town	Provincetown
Place <i>(neighborhood or village)</i>	
Address	494 COMMERCIAL ST
Building ID	1392
Parcel No. (PID)	15-1-033-0
Mapbase #	15-1-033
Building Area	3195.05
Historic Name	Eastern Schoolhouse
Present Use	Commercial - Art Gallery/Residential
Original Use	Municipal - School
Date of Construction	1844
Source	Tax assessment
Style/Form	Greek Revival
Architect/Builder	
Exterior Material	vinyl
Foundation	brick
Wall/Trim	wood
Roof	Front Gable
Outbuildings/Secondary Structures	

Major Alterations *(with dates)*

Condition	Good
Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no <input type="checkbox"/> yes Date
Acreage	0.193
Setting	

Recorded by Johnette Davies
Organization Kise Straw & Kolodner
Date *(month/year)* November 2003
Form Status new update

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

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ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

see continuation sheet

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings in the community.

494 Commercial St. is a 2-1/2-story, 3-bay, former school building converted to a mixed-use commercial/residential building; gable-front roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles; partial cornice returns; exterior is clad in vinyl siding; corner pilasters; building sits on a brick foundation; fenestration includes single and paired 2/2 DHS with storms; operable louvered shutters; square stepped bell tower with pyramidal roof; primary entrance is accessed by paired doors with corner board detail and interesting top that are sheltered by a hipped hood supported by exaggerated brackets; poured concrete steps; side addition has a modern entry door; right side façade is accessed by central paired doors with multi-light transom and pilasters, wood steps and ramp to door, metal bulkhead.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

see continuation sheet

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

As per Mary Avellar (1976): "This is the only early elementary school building left standing, and is in relatively the same condition as when built. It has been occupied most recently by the American Legion Morris Light Post No. 77, and its upper floors have, for some years, been the summer school of Leo Manso and Victor Candell, both painters (The Provincetown Workshop established in 1957).

Schools were built in six districts in 1828. Three new elementary schools were erected in 1844. This was probably one of them.

As per Tom Boland (1994): The Eastern School was one of three built in 1844 to replace various one-room schools around town. Housed grades 1 to 6 until 1931 when school was closed due to depression and reduced attendance. Later occupants - Community Center; Manso & Candell Art School; Long Point Art Gallery; American Legion Hall."

Currently "Silas Kenyon Gallery" and "The Driskel Gallery" (2003).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

see continuation sheet

Jennings, Herman A. Provincetown. Provincetown, 1890.
Ruckstuhl, Irma. Old Provincetown in Early Photographs. Toronto, 1987.
Report of Town Officers. 1871. Provincetown.
Hatch, MCM, The Log of Provincetown, Truro, P. 40.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*