

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	MAY.28
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Coolidge, Calvin Elementary School
<b>Common Name:</b>	Bancroft Street School
<b>Address:</b>	12 Bancroft St
<b>City/Town:</b>	Maynard
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	
<b>Local No:</b>	51; 20-234
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	
<b>Architect(s):</b>	Bateman, Charles J.; Croft, W. C.; Maynard; Mullen, James
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	Classical Revival
<b>Use(s):</b>	Administration Office; Public School
<b>Significance:</b>	Architecture; Community Planning; Education
<b>Area(s):</b>	
<b>Designation(s):</b>	



The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) has converted this paper record to digital format as part of ongoing projects to scan records of the Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth and National Register of Historic Places nominations for Massachusetts. Efforts are ongoing and not all inventory or National Register records related to this resource may be available in digital format at this time.

The MACRIS database and scanned files are highly dynamic; new information is added daily and both database records and related scanned files may be updated as new information is incorporated into MHC files. Users should note that there may be a considerable lag time between the receipt of new or updated records by MHC and the appearance of related information in MACRIS. Users should also note that not all source materials for the MACRIS database are made available as scanned images. Users may consult the records, files and maps available in MHC's public research area at its offices at the State Archives Building, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, open M-F, 9-5.

Users of this digital material acknowledge that they have read and understood the MACRIS Information and Disclaimer (<http://mhc-macris.net/macrisdisclaimer.htm>)

Data available via the MACRIS web interface, and associated scanned files are for information purposes only. THE ACT OF CHECKING THIS DATABASE AND ASSOCIATED SCANNED FILES DOES NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LOCAL, STATE OR FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS. IF YOU ARE REPRESENTING A DEVELOPER AND/OR A PROPOSED PROJECT THAT WILL REQUIRE A PERMIT, LICENSE OR FUNDING FROM ANY STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY YOU MUST SUBMIT A PROJECT NOTIFICATION FORM TO MHC FOR MHC'S REVIEW AND COMMENT. You can obtain a copy of a PNF through the MHC web site ([www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)) under the subject heading "MHC Forms."

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125  
[www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

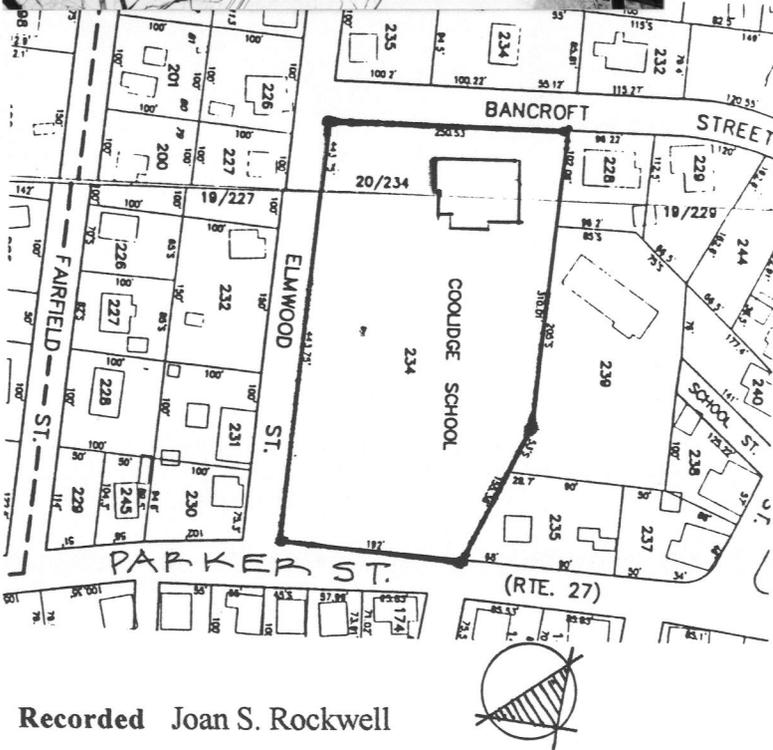
This file was accessed on:

Tuesday, February 18, 2014 at 10:02 AM

# FORM B - BUILDING



to on  
d  
de of  
ation



Recorded Joan S. Rockwell

Organization Maynard Historical Commission

Date (month / year) 6/2000

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

20 / 234

Maynard

28

Town Maynard

Place (neighborhood or village)

Bancroft and Elmwood Street residential neighborhood

Address 12 Bancroft Street

Historic Name Bancroft School / Calvin Coolidge School

Uses: Present School Admin. offices

Original elementary school

Date of Construction 1906

Source School Building Committee Reports

Style/Form Classical Revival

Architect/Builder Charles J. Bateman, Cambridge, MA, James Mullin, Maynard (builder 1906), W. C. Croft (2<sup>nd</sup> story 1909)

Exterior Material: brick

Foundation granite

Wall/Trim brick, wood, pre-cast stone, copper

Roof hip

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures none

Major Alterations (with dates) second story added - 1909

Condition Good

Moved  no  yes Date

Acreage 107,943 square feet

Setting Residential neighborhood of Bancroft and Elmwood Streets, backs up to Parker Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

---

MHC #28

**BUILDING FORM****ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION** see continuation sheet

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*  
The Coolidge School is a two-story t-shaped Classical Revival brick building. The building was originally constructed as a one-story Classical Revival building with a flat roof in 1906. Three years later, the second story was added with a hip roof and a Mission style parapet.

Like the Roosevelt School on 77 Nason Street, the Coolidge School site drops down to the east allowing the basement level to be above ground so that the building is a full three stories along the eastern façade. A large open playground extends eastwardly to Parker Street. The building is nine bays wide and six bays deep.

The main façade has a deeply recessed double door front entry. The doors are modern anodized aluminum replacements but wood door surrounds and the fixed full glass transom are original. The arched pedimented entry displays a brick and pre-cast stone Gibbs motif with an overscaled keystone console. The wood pediment is detailed with dentil molding and modillions.

All of the windows are anodized aluminum replacements double hung with 1/1 sash. Windows on both levels have cast stone sills and keystone lintels. Some of the windows display triple keystone lintels.

The large overhanging hip roof has supporting wood brackets and a decorative Mission style parapet on the front (Bancroft Street) façade. One might argue that the parapet could be a Dutch colonial revival element. However, the combination of the curvilinear parapet and the decorative roof brackets along with the country's interest in the Mission style 1905-1920, lends support for this element reflecting the Mission more than the Dutch Colonial Revival style.

Two large flat internal chimneys are located along the north and south end of the main roof ridge line.

**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 a result of the American Woolen Company's expansion at the beginning of the twentieth century and subsequent increase in workers housing (see the **New Village Area**), the population of young grade school children in 1905 was burgeoning. The only schools at this time to handle the increase in school age children were the six classroom Main Street School (Woodrow Wilson School built in 1903-not extant) and the twelve room Nason Street School (built in 1892-not extant).

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MAY.28  
Maynard 12 Bancroft Street  
Coolidge School

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

---

MHC #28

**BUILDING FORM**

**HISTORICAL NARRATIVE**

*see continuation sheet*

In 1905, the Town voted to purchase eighteen building lots from C. F. Monk that fronted Parker Street for a new four-room brick schoolhouse. The plan was to build the school with flexibility to enlarge it to eight rooms in the future. Charles J. Bateman, Sr., architect for the Main Street School, was selected to be the architect and James Mullin from Maynard, was to be the contractor.

Charles J. Bateman, Sr. (1851-1940) had an independent practice in Boston, Massachusetts from 1876 to 1932. He lived in Roxbury for many years and then later in Newtonville, Massachusetts. Mr. Bateman received early training and experience during the start of his career in the firm of Faulkner & Clarke where he spent seven years followed by a three-year stint with George Ropes.

Bateman designed many buildings in Boston between 1881 and 1904 that included a number of schools, hospitals, churches, libraries and fire stations. Some of the schools that he designed included the Romanesque Revival Roxbury High School (1885, demolished in 1976), the Bigelow School (350 West Fourth Street, South Boston), and the Corcoran School in Clinton, Massachusetts.

Bateman's large commissions ranged from the Second Empire to the Federal Revival styles typical of his era. He often executed his designs in brick with stone trim. The Town felt that the Main Street School was one of the most handsome building in Maynard which probably influenced the School Committee to chose him to be the architect for the Coolidge School.

The building was completed for \$20,482 and called the Bancroft Street School. It was clearly a Classical Revival building with a flat balustrated roof and arched entry with a decorative pediment. The style resembled the Main Street School, which was a two-story Classical Revival brick building. Both buildings had triple keystone lintels and a balustrated flat roofs. However, the roof leaked from the beginning, which created tension between the contractor and the School Committee. Repair was put off until 1909 when the Building Committee recommended that the second floor and a new roof design be completed.

The addition was completed in 1910 for \$12,000 with W. C. Croft as the contractor.

In 1932, along with several other schools, the Bancroft Street School was renamed and bacame the Calvin Coolidge School.

MAY.28

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Maynard 12 Bancroft Street  
Coolidge School

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

MHC #28

**BUILDING FORM**

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

see continuation sheet

Maps: 1875, 1879, 1889; Sanborns: 1899, 1904, 1910, 1915, 1924, 1947, 1955  
Directories: 1887-88, 1902, 1913, 1926  
Historical Society vertical files and photos  
History of Maynard, p. 89,92,93  
Sheridan, Ralph L., "Maynard Schools"  
Davis, Karen, Corcoran School, Clinton, MA, National Register Nomination 1999  
Maynard Public Schools Annual Report 1999

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

**National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement**

Check all that apply:

- Individually eligible  Eligible *only* in a historic district
- Contributing to a potential historic district

Criteria                      (A)      B      (C)      D

Criteria Considerations      A      B      C      D      E      F      G

Statement of Significance by *Joan S. Rockwell*

The Calvin Coolidge School embodies distinctive characteristics of Classical Revival institutional architecture. It is also significant in its association with the rapid growth and expansion of Maynard during the start of the twentieth century due to the success of the Assabet Mill that was then owned by the American Woolen Company.

MAY. 28

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Maynard 12 Bancroft Street  
Coolidge School

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

MHC #28



MAY. 28

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.	Form no.
	28

USGS  
MAPS



Town Maynard

Address Elmwood & Bancroft Sts.

Name Coolidge School

Present use elementary school

Present owner Town of Maynard

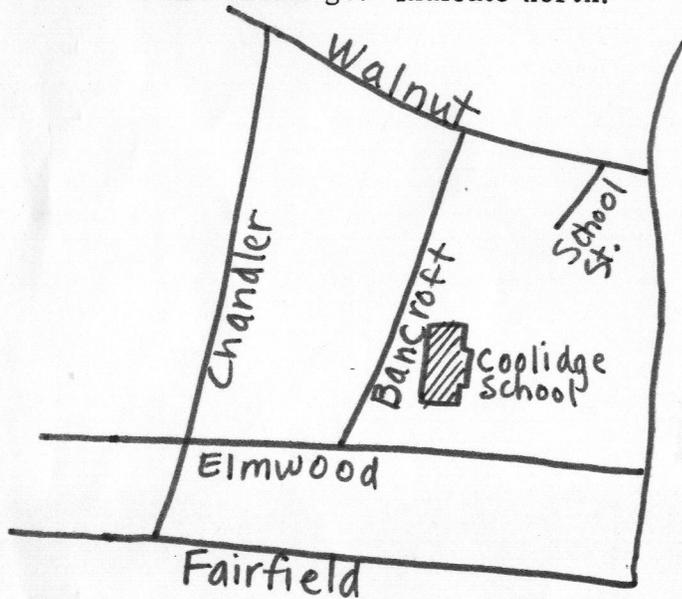
Description:

Year 1906

Source Ass't. School Supt.

Style Colonial Revival

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



(over)

Architect James Mullen, Maynard

Exterior wall fabric red brick

Outbuildings (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

Other features 2½-story, T-plan. Hipped roof with copper ridge and finials. Central pavilion with curvilinear

Altered 2nd story added Date 1910  
W.C. Croft, Contractor

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size:

One acre or less \_\_\_\_\_ Over one acre X

Approximate frontage 120'

Approximate distance of building from street \_\_\_\_\_  
30'

6. Recorded by Harriet White

Organization MAPC

Date 9/8/78

MAY. 28

7. Original owner (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

Original use \_\_\_\_\_

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates \_\_\_\_\_

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

- |                       |       |                            |       |                         |       |
|-----------------------|-------|----------------------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|
| Aboriginal            | _____ | Conservation               | _____ | Recreation              | _____ |
| Agricultural          | _____ | Education                  | _____ | Religion                | _____ |
| Architectural         | _____ | Exploration/<br>settlement | _____ | Science/<br>invention   | _____ |
| The Arts              | _____ | Industry                   | _____ | Social/<br>humanitarian | _____ |
| Commerce              | _____ | Military                   | _____ | Transportation          | _____ |
| Communication         | _____ | Political                  | _____ |                         |       |
| Community development | _____ |                            |       |                         |       |

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)



10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

MAY. 28

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

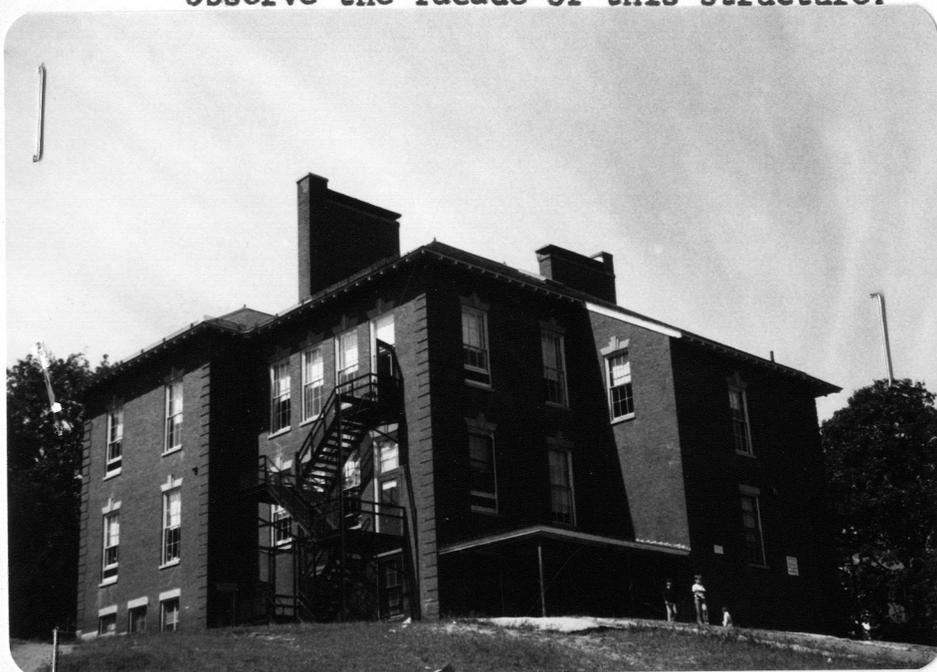
Community: <b>Maynard</b>	Form No:
Property Name: <b>Coolidge School</b>	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

gable, which has copper coping. Deeply recessed pedimented entrance with double doors. Doors have round-headed windows. Entrance ornamented with Gibbs motif, and over-scaled keystone console. Pediment has dentil molding and modillions.

Brick quoins. Rock-faced granite foundation. 6/6 divided movable and double-hung sash. Some windows have triple keystone lintels. Two large flat, brick chimneys.

Extremely dense tree and shrub plantings make it difficult to observe the facade of this structure.



at bottom