



c. 1991 Town of Bridgewater

## 92 Queen Street - "The Annex"

Though built as late as 1925, this was still a charming example of simple, institutional architecture in the early twentieth century. It was constructed, ten years after the opening of the Academy, across the street, due to overcrowding at Bridgewater's first consolidated school. Being the location for a variety of grade levels in its early years, it became home to the junior high school in the 1950s, and became part of the elementary school in the 1960s. Because it was located across the street from the site of the new Bridgewater Elementary School (built in 1980), it was not demolished as the Academy was.

Built in a style best described as Colonial Revival, it incorporates elements of Neoclassical (Georgian), Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, and Queen Anne architecture. Colonial Revival – an anachronistic revival of Colonial era architecture of the neoclassical category is the most fitting, though this surely was not the intention of its builders. It was constructed to imitate the Academy across the street, and even painted brick red (in later years at least) to match.

Its most imposing feature is its entrance, a gabled projection from the truncated hipped roof, with pilasters for corner boards, mimicking a portico. Noticeable were the capitals at the tops of these. The roof, though truncated in a flat top, was finished off

nicely with a band of white wooden cresting. The doorway contained a large transom light as well as sidelights on either side of double doors, a thoroughly Greek Revival doorway, except for the brackets holding up the wide cornice overtop, indicative of the popular Bracketed style spawned from the more lavish Italianate. The top of the projection contained a pediment, with an Adamesque fanlight at the attic level. The pediment sticks out beyond the walls of the projection, reinforcing the broad Italianate cornice at the eaves. Similar projections were located on the left and right sides of the building as well. The windows were marvelous in their giganticness, being eight-over-eight, with each component pane being much larger than in normal Colonial Revival windows. The first floor ones were crowned with small cornices, while the upper floor ones were topped by the plain frieze underneath the eaves. Neoclassical designs often have upper storey windows tucked in just beneath the eaves. The second storey windows on the projections likewise squeezed in beneath the frieze, were thinner, six-over-six windows. The interior must have been well lit, with ten windows on each of the three sides, and two oddly located large ones on the rear wall.

It became the home of Kippers Gymnastics and the Dawson Daisy, the charity store for the Dawson Memorial Hospital and later South Shore Regional Hospital. By 1991, the Town of Bridgewater owned it, and that spring it was appraised for a value of \$160,000. Despite being on the market, it was finally demolished in April, 1993. It is survived by the former community schoolhouses in Riverview, East Bridgewater, and Sebastopol.