



The Reverend Eliab Stone House (1761)



The Edwin Foster House (1838)

L. D. Batchelder School



In 2007 the Batchelder School renovation project won a Massachusetts Historical Commission Preservation Award and the Commission had this to say about the project:

The restored L.D. Batchelder School is a local planning success story. The residents of North Reading, facing a growing student population, struggled for years over whether to construct a new school or update the historic Batchelder School. The Batchelder Elementary School was built adjacent to the town common in 1917.

After significant efforts by the Historic District Commission and the Elementary School Building Committee, a plan was approved in 2003 to enlarge and renovate the existing historic school building. The restoration was completed without state funding and represents a significant victory for historic preservation in the town.

The Colonial Revival L. D. Batchelder school building is part of the Center Village Historic District. The interior and exterior were restored and an unsympathetic 1950 addition was replaced with a new complementary renovation. The windows and doorways of the original school were restored and a new slate roof was installed. The Town of North Reading should be commended for its perseverance and creativity in preserving this historic school building while meeting the new demands of a growing community.

Photography by Steve DiFranza.