



The Edwin Foster House (1838)

The Reverend Eliab Stone House (1761)

## 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.*