

From Sarah Brown McCulloch's *Guilford: A Walking Guide* (2012):

**North West Center School, 85 Fair Street, Greek Revival, 1848.**

Now a private home, this is one of the best examples of the Greek Revival style in the town center. The corner pilasters joined by a very wide frieze board under a full pediment are classical treatments. Note that the pilasters turn the corner and the frieze continues along the sides of the building, a nice attention to detail that later times forgot. The frieze on the south side is obviously an alteration. Built as a one-room schoolhouse, there were no windows where the bay windows are now and there was a columned portico with three steps leading up to it. The belfry is the same. Originally the building sat far back on its lot behind a pond hole which was said to be bottomless. Historian Mary Hoadley Griswold said that people couldn't understand how a schoolhouse could be built there. Children attended this school until 1871 when several schools were consolidated into one larger district. In 1922 classes were again held in the old school when a class in agriculture was taught by Seldon Clark, the pupils first having built their own desks and chairs.