

Tadmuck Club plans 75th Anniversary

By GORDON B. SEAVEY

WESTFORD The Tadmuck Club plans a special exhibition to commemorate the 75th year of its founding. It will be held in November in the A. V. Fletcher Library and will feature a display of antiques, pictures of old classes and groups, and other memorabilia.

The Tadmuck Club, the town's oldest women's group, took its name from early days when the center of Westford was first settled. Tadmuck is an Indian word, the meaning of which has been lost, but it has been attached to Westford since its founding.

Sarah Loker was the club's first president. Mrs. Austin D. Fletcher, who heads the arrangements for the celebration, is the current presiding officer. The club has state and national affiliations.

Historic Building

The club has been meeting regularly since 1932 at the original Center elementary school on Boston Road, formerly known as School Street. In appearance, inside and out, the sturdy structure, 106 years old, has changed very little. It served grade school children for 34 years until the

four-room William F. Frost School at Main and Depot Streets was opened in 1980.

Several members of the club remember attending the school in those former days, as well as other townspeople. Among the teachers were Fannie Prescott Spalding, A. Mabel Drew and Elizabeth Cushing Taylor.

Militia Headquarters

Prior to the purchase of the building for its clubhouse, an arm military unit, Troop F, First Squadron Cavalry, Massachusetts, had bought the building and its one-quarter acre lot for \$750. Fifty years ago, the militia, its ranks thinned by age, offered the building to Westford Post American Legion, but these veterans preferred to obtain quarters in the town hall.

This was when the local ladies took over. Where desks and seats were fastened to the floor, there are card tables for some of the social events. A kitchenette has been added to replace the clock room.

The white clapboard square framed building with its graceful mansard roof is one of the town's old treasures, well preserved.