

Westford Museum plaque ready now for distribution

By Gordon Seavey

Friends of Westford Museum are ready to distribute a new ceramic plaque in commemoration of the planned opening of the town's first museum in the fall.

Part of a \$20,000 fund raising project, proceeds from the sale of these decorative tiles is expected to aid substantially.

Already, profits from the sale of hand-blown glass bottles of early design has helped the cause.

Unlike two previous plaques, which observed the Bicentennial and the town's 250th anniversary three years ago, this tile has a single illustration.

The design by a Cape Cod artist is taken from a drawing a century old, depicting the original Westford Academy building as it stood at the head of the common in 1794. In front, along a rail fence, a small group of teachers and students is passing the time of day.

This subject was chosen as the old building is to be the home of the new museum.

This sturdy structure now stands on Boston Road in the rear of the parish hall of the First Parish Church, about 100 yards from its original foundation. It was badly damaged by lightning a year ago with cost of restora-

tion estimated to be \$10,000.

The plaque is in four colors and the building is a light green with white trim. The roof shingles and the cupola dome are also of this color, all in accordance with original instructions that the color be the same as the meetinghouse in Chemsford.

The tile, which sells for 85¢, has a backing of cork for table use and a clip for wall hanging. Those who have inspected samples have judged it an excellent companion to the two earlier plaques, which sold out quickly and are collector's items.

These plaques are on sale at the library, Roudenbush Center, assessors' office at the town hall, Nabnasset Pharmacy, Westford Apothecary and three banks at Minot's Corner (Middlesex Institution, Central Savings and Shawmut County).

They will also be on sale at the Kiwanis Field Day program. Saturday Committee members of the Friends also have the tiles.

These include Mrs. Elizabeth Shaw, Dr. David Watson, Mrs. Eva DeForge, Kristen M. Szylvian, Dr. John A. Crisafulli, Mrs. Frances Cooper, Mrs. June Kennedy, Alex Belida, Mrs. Sally Strauss, Mrs. Virginia Kimball, Mrs. Edward Schneider and Mrs. Richard S. Emmet Jr.

