

## Westford Recollections

by Mrs. Charles S. Kennedy  
OUR TOWN HALL

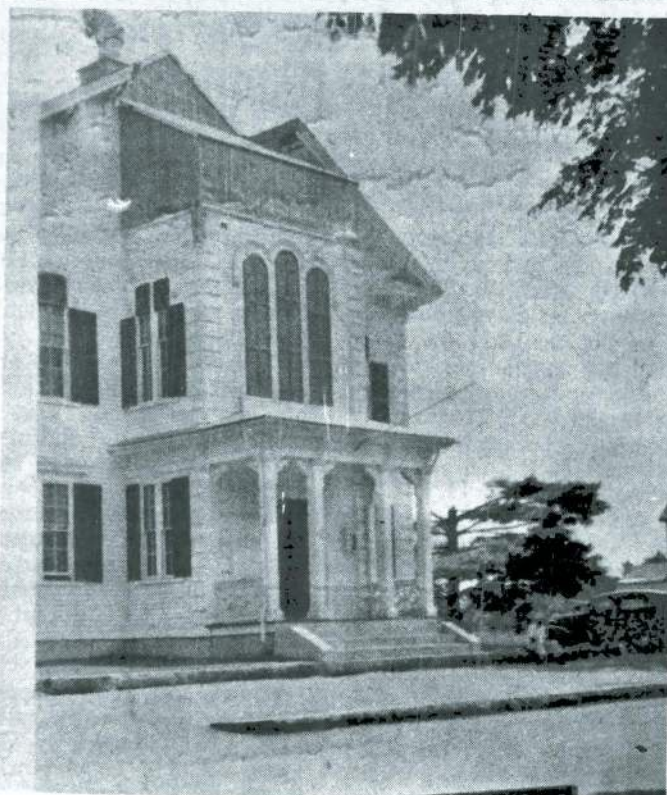
In the Town Report of 1871 the building committee submitted the following report concerning the Town Hall:

Received of the Town Treasurer	\$9,296.08
Paid J. Lanktree for stone work grading, etc.	598.10
Mead, Mason, Co. for carpenter work	7,090.00
William Brazer for frescoing	275.00
For fence posts, lumber, etc.	23.10
	<hr/> 7,986.20
Paid for building brick safe	425.58
Furnace	240.00
	<hr/> 665.58
Cash on committee's hands	644.30
	<hr/> 9,296.08

Charles L. Fletcher  
Samuel Wiley  
George Drew  
Nathan S. Hamlin  
Ephraim E. Stevens  
Building Committee

Early pictures of the Town Hall look a little more Victorian in style from what we see today. This is due to the fact that the main part of the steeple blew down during the 1938 hurricanes and the repairs were a little simpler in design. The white coat of paint adds a new look also. From photos the building appears to have been dark when it was first built.

The Hall has, of course, been remodeled over the years. Originally there were 2 narrow stairwells on each side wall. Downstairs there was a kitchen and a hall which the Grange, Women's Club, etc., used for dinners. At one time, too, plays were performed on the little



Damage to the Town Hall caused by the hurricane of 1938 was quite extensive, as depicted in this photo.

Photo courtesy May E. Day

stage while upstairs the Farm Bureau Extension Service featured movies in the evening. Prior to 1908 graduation exercises were held in the Unitarian Church, but that year and many more they were held in the Town Hall. May E. Day and Helen Burnham were the two Academy graduates of 1908 of the 4 year course - the 3 year course was abolished in 1904 - and the first class to hold exercises at the Hall. Of course there was a pump and a watering trough for the horses - this was located on the left as one faces the building.



Town Hall in the process of being renovated after the 1938 hurricane.

Photo courtesy May E. Day

