



A SMALL BUT PRECIOUS GREEK TEMPLE OF LEARNING

CPC funds requested for the Restoration of the **Wolf Pit School, Head of Westport**

Where most of Westport's twenty schoolhouses were plain structures with two front doors, the Wolf Pit School was elegant with its four Doric columns supporting the Greek Revival overhang. It was (and is) an architectural gem. It remains today in good condition, despite its outward appearance.

Built in 1833 the Wolf Pit School was also called the Little School, named for the man who donated the land to the town, Nicholas Little.

In addition to being used as a schoolhouse for 30-40 students in eight grades, it became a library, a village improvement society, a place where medicine was made, a residence, a WPA office, and a distribution center for ration stamps and food. One historian called it "the social and moral center for the village".

It is the best and the last of our public buildings from the 19th century. It cries out to be restored to its former glory and its fate will be decided at this Town Meeting.

The Westport Historical Commission has submitted a proposal to the Community Preservation Committee to restore the interior and exterior of the schoolhouse and the grounds. Thanks to the owners, Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Hopkinson, a deed restriction will be granted to protect the building, the owners and the Town in perpetuity.

The school would then be available for use by small groups for meetings, exhibits, classes and any small gatherings deemed appropriate by the Historical Commission.

WE URGENTLY REQUEST YOUR AFFIRMATIVE VOTE FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE WOLF PIT SCHOOL.