

**DOWNTOWN FITCHBURG
HISTORIC PROPERTY INFORMATION**

DRAFT 02.08.2025

ADDRESS: 4 School Street

**CURRENT
PHOTO(S):**





**HISTORIC
PHOTO(S):**





SCHOOL STREET SCHOOL.

HISTORIC NAME(S):	School Street School George F. Hoffman School
DATE BUILT:	1888
ARCHITECTURAL STYLE	Romanesque Revival
HISTORIC INFORMATION:	<p>https://mhc-macris.net/details?mhcid=fit.343</p> <p><i>DRAFT Upper Common nomination information below:</i></p> <p>School Street School/George F. Hoffman School, 4 School Street (1888 and 1903, altered 1969; FIT.343; Map No. 69; Photo 17), Contributing</p> <p>The School Street School, also known as the George F. Hoffman School, is a west-facing, two-to-three-story, eight-by-five-bay, masonry, Romanesque Revival-style building on the east side of School Street. Both the 1888 main block and 1903 addition were designed by H. M. [Francis]. The building is clad in brick and features decorative motifs including a soldier course band along the roof line and a granite belt course. It rests on a granite block foundation that, due to the gradual slope of School Street, is exposed at full-height on the south elevation. It retains a</p>

characteristic Romanesque Revival-style hipped roof covered in slate shingles pierced by hip roof dormers on the south, east, and north slopes. A heavily molded wood cornice runs along the elevations. A three-story brick tower centered on the west façade has faux buttresses, round-arch openings at the base trimmed in brownstone, and bands of patterned brick and granite demarcating each story. The tower has a hip roof covered in slate shingles and is capped with copper finials. A shed-roof porch on the south side of the tower is supported by cast-iron posts with decorative wood panels in the gable. The shed roof is trimmed with decorative, scalloped louvers and copper flashing. The main entrance at the base of the tower is filled with paired paneled wood replacement doors. Secondary entrances, including a garage door, are located on the north and south elevations. Windows are a combination of fixed and double-hung replacement sash. Many of the window openings have been fully or partially filled with brick but retain the original granite sills and lintels.

A two-story, one-bay, flat-roof addition extends across the entire east (rear) elevation. The building is no longer used as a school and is currently vacant.

HISTORIC DESIGNATION(S) /DISTRICT(S):	Possible inclusion with a proposed Upper Common NR Historic District
INCENTIVES	Possible Historic Tax Credit Financing, etc. if it becomes part of a National Register Historic District Other state and local development options
ASSESSOR'S	blob:https://www.axisgis.com/e88c036f-484d-40c6-ab5c-70eb0240ab4c
ZONING:	Downtown Business District (DB) Note: For more information pertaining to overlay districts (Smart Growth Overlay, Priority Development Site Overlay, Planned Development District Overlay), see sections 181.82-84 of the Zoning Ordinance

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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[**HTTPS://WWW.FITCHBURGMA.GOV/149/COMMUNITY-DEVELOPMENT-PLANNING**](https://www.fitchburgma.gov/149/COMMUNITY-DEVELOPMENT-PLANNING)

FITCHBURG HISTORICAL COMMISSION

[**HTTPS://WWW.FITCHBURGMA.GOV/327/HISTORICAL-COMMISSION**](https://www.fitchburgma.gov/327/HISTORICAL-COMMISSION)

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