

FORM F - STRUCTURE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.

Form no.

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number _____

4. Map. Draw sketch of structure location in relation to nearest cross streets, buildings, other structures, natural features. Indicate north.

1. Town Milton

Address _____

Name Eliot Memorial Bridge

Present use recreational and commemorative

Present owner Metropolitan District

Commission (M.D.C)

3. Type of structure (check one)

bridge	_____	pound	_____
canal	_____	powder house	_____
dam	_____	street	_____
fort	_____	tower	_____
gate	_____	tunnel	_____
kiln	_____	wall	_____
lighthouse	_____	windmill	_____

other bench, plaque, and bridge

5. Description

Date completed by 1905

Source M.D.C. Annual Report 1906

Construction material native granite

Dimensions _____

along Skyline Trail, near
Setting Great Blue Hill

Condition good

19 325520 4675240

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____

MHC Photo no. _____

6. Recorded by Sara B. Chase

Organization SPNEA

Date April, 1979

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) M.D.C.

Original use recreation

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	<u>X</u>
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	_____	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	_____				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

This memorial to Charles Eliot, first surveyor of and guiding force in the development of the Blue Hills Reservation, is a vital reminder of the man whose efforts, coordinated with the ideas of Frederick Law Olmsted and the financial backing of the M.D.C., shaped the Blue Hills Reservation in its early days.

10. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

SEP 25 1980

DATE ENTERED

Prehistoric and Historic Resources of the Blue Hills and Neponset
River Reservations and Selected Adjacent Areas--Eliot Memorial Bridge

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

The quality of significance in American architecture and culture found in the Eliot Memorial Bridge, Blue Hills Reservation is derived from the distinctive characteristics of granite block construction which the bridge embodies and the associations of this memorial with Charles Eliot, landscape architect and visionary conservationist.

Eliot Memorial Bridge is one of six historic structures constructed of native Quincy granite between the late 19th and early 20th centuries within the Blue Hills Reservation. Others structures built of granite quarried locally include the Great Blue Hill Weather Observatory (1), Lyon's Turning Mill(2), Great Blue Hill Observation Tower(8), Chickatawbut, Observation Tower (10) and Blue Hills Headquarters(11). Taken together, the structures are visible representations of the importance and prominence of this building material, quarried within the Blue Hills region and exported throughout the northeastern United States during the 19th century.

Charles Eliot, memorialized by the granite bridge, contributed to the preservation of the Massachusetts landscape in both theory and practice. As a principle in Frederick Law Olmsted's landscape architecture concern, Eliot participated in the survey of land which preceded the establishment of the Blue Hills Reservation. Perhaps more importantly, Eliot put forth a plan for landscape conservation at the end of the 19th century which fostered important efforts directed toward the preservation of both natural and cultural resources in America and abroad. Writing in February of 1890 in the journal *Garden and Forest*, Eliot urged the establishment of "an incorporated association composed of citizens of Massachusetts and empowered by the State to hold small and well-distributed parcels of land free of taxes, just as the Public Library holds books and the Art Museum pictures for use and enjoyment of the public". As a direct result of Eliot's recommendation, the Massachusetts based Trustees of Reservations was founded in the following year and now maintain more than fourteen thousand acres of "beautiful and historical places and tracts of land within the Commonwealth". In 1894, the widely known National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty was established in England, patterned upon the Trustees of Reservations. Certainly, Charles Eliot's work and thought has greatly influenced the manner in which cultural and historic places are cared for in the present day.

SEP 25 1980

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE REC'D SEP 17 1980

 INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)

 FIVE MINUTE SENT

 CALL (ATTACHED)

DATE ACTION TAKEN

INITIALS

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet, Item number 8-9, Page 4-1

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property 141 acres
Quadrangle name Blue Hills, MA, Norwood, MA

Quadrangle scale 1 : 24000

UMT References

A 19 322340 4678820
Zone Easting Northing

B 19 330880 4679220
Zone Easting Northing

C 19 333190 4678730

D 19 330790 4672720

E 19 325150 4671520

F 19 322420 4675590

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Section 7, paragraph one.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Stephen A Cole and Sara B. Chase, Architectural Researcher, SPNEA

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date June 1980

street & number 294 Washington Street telephone 617-727-8470

city or town Boston state MA 02108

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

 national ☒ state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Peter H. Westbrook

title Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission date 7/30/80

For HCPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Keeper of the National Register

date 9/25/80

Attest:

date 9/25/80

Chief of Registration

Property Reservations multiple Resource areaState MA, Norfolk Working Number 8/13/80/2088

TECHNICAL

Photos 21Maps 3, 1

CONTROL

This area is significant as an early planned recreational area designed to meet the growing recreational needs of burgeoning urban Boston. The area includes only 20th cent. to 1930's recreational buildings, also included are examples of 19th century industrial remains and 18th, 19th, and early 20th century residences. Taken with the archeological components, this M.R.A. nomination traces the continuous human habitation and

HISTORIAN

accept
Patrick Andrew
9/25/80

of this land from prehistoric to modern times. This is a good **ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN** multiple Resource nomination - they have included all the required elements for documentation. Defect to archeologist on the disputed site (Ponhapoag). Requested additional statement of signif. on Eliot Bridge is efficient justification ^{under} criteria c.

Accept 2 of 3 site - Return Ponhapoag as information **ARCHEOLOGIST** currently known is insufficient to define extent of site and therefore boundaries. Recommend nomination when more is known. Recommend "accept" for the Quarry Site 9-15-80

and green hill site - the former for its importance in understanding regional lithic procurement, manufacture, use and trading networks; the latter for its potential to contribute to knowledge of Middle Archaic within a state-wide context. State is aware of impending return of Ponhapoag - discussed with Steve Cole. **HAER**

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

ELIOT MEMORIAL BRIDGE IS ELIGIBLE UNDER CRITERION C. A BETTER CASE COULD HAVE BEEN MADE FOR ELIGIBILITY UNDER CRITERION A. BUT I WILL ACCEPT.

BRANCH CHIEF

ACCEPT
Mac DUBAN (FOR)
9/25/80

KEEPER

National Register Write-up

Federal Register Entry

2.3.81

Send-back _____

Re-submit _____

Entered SEP 25 1980



Blue Hills and Neponset River Reservations
Multiple Resource Area

Norfolk Co. (MA)

9/21

AUG 13 1980

SEP 25 1980

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000272