

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
PH0058068
DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 1 1975

DATE ENTERED APR 21 1975

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
 INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

 SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
 TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS
1 NAME

HISTORIC Mount Auburn Cemetery

AND/OR COMMON

Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 580 Mount Auburn Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Eighth Mass.

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE

25

COUNTY

Middlesex

CODE

017

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Cemetery

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Proprietors of the Cemetery of Mount Auburn

STREET & NUMBER

580 Mount Auburn Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

VICINITY OF

STATE

Massachusetts

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Middlesex County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Cambridge at Third Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Massachusetts

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Survey of Architectural History of Cambridge

DATE

1971

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Cambridge Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Massachusetts

7742 ATAG
7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Mount Auburn is a privately-owned cemetery of 170 acres located near the Charles River on the Cambridge-Watertown line. Only 15 acres are within the Cambridge city limits. It forms the major portion of a group of contiguous cemeteries, with the Cambridge City Cemetery to the south and the Roman Catholic Cemetery to the west. Most of the grounds are surrounded by a cast iron fence of which the portion along Mt. Auburn Street dates from 1844. The main entrance is on Mt. Auburn Street, Cambridge.

The site is part of a glacial moraine that includes several ponds and knolls, as well as a 136-foot hill known as "Mount Auburn," which has a panoramic view of Boston. The initial section of Mount Auburn Cemetery consisted of 72 acres that were part of Stone's Woods, a 17th century farmstead. This rural site was purchased for a garden cemetery project by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and laid out by Alexander Wadsworth in 1831-32. Wadsworth's plan was for curvilinear roads and intersecting footpaths along a broad axis extending from the Mount Auburn Street gate to "Mount Auburn" itself. The burial lots were scattered along the access routes. The asymmetrical pattern formed by the plan was an abrupt departure from the narrow, rigid rows of burial plots characteristic of central city churchyards of the period. Although modelled in concept on the landscaped grounds of Pere La Chaise, a Parisian cemetery-park, Mount Auburn was laid out according to English landscape design principles, with the circulation system adapted to the natural topography and scenic potential of the site.

The road pattern of Mount Auburn's first plan remains virtually intact. Its winding roads and paths were repeated in subsequent additions to the cemetery until the 1870's, when the "landscaped lawn" concept was introduced in the outlying sections of the ground. Under this plan the paths were omitted and enclosure of lots prohibited, forming a broad sweep of cut grass relieved by tree and shrub planting.

The original Mount Auburn site was heavily wooded and one of the area's chief attractions was its wild, picturesque landscape and rural appearance. The heavy growth of trees was thinned out beginning in 1835 and by the Civil War, demands for more burial space and less expensive maintenance led to the cropping of hills, swamp drainage, land fill, and extensive tree removal and replanting projects. The natural topography of the site was gradually altered throughout the 19th century and exotic trees and plants were introduced, creating a man-made landscaped garden. Over 200 species of deciduous trees, and 65 of evergreens, now exist in the cemetery, which is an important bird sanctuary. Dell, Central and Mountain Avenues best retain the character of the original setting.

The grave markers of the cemetery's early years were scattered in wooded sites, but over time the area grounds have filled up and now contain monuments for over 70,000 interments. The early monuments were fashioned of white marble. Brownstone was introduced in the mid-Victorian period, and

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

7. DESCRIPTION

granite and other durable stone predominated in the latter part of the 19th century. In style the tombs, obelisks, sarcophagi, and headstones reflect architectural and decorative motifs characteristic of periods ranging from the Roman and Greek Classical through the Colonial Revival and modern periods. Some of the white marble structures and elaborate cast iron lot enclosures are badly deteriorated from the effects of weather and time, although most markers are in excellent condition.

Buildings within the Mount Auburn grounds remain in substantially original condition. The famous Egyptian Revival gate on Mt. Auburn Street, a free interpretation of the temples at Dendorah and Thebes, was built first in wood and duplicated in granite in 1843. The gateway design was adapted from a model developed by Dr. Jacob Bigelow, a prime mover behind the founding of Mount Auburn.

Two other buildings projected in the original scheme follow the Romantic Picturesque style of architecture envisioned for the cemetery grounds. Bigelow Chapel, a simple granite structure surrounded by a row of octagonal pinnacles, was designed by Bigelow in an early Gothic Revival style. It was first erected in 1843 and rebuilt to the same design in 1858 when the first chapel showed signs of structural weakness.

Also in the Romantic tradition is the 62-foot tower on "Mount Auburn," designed under Bigelow's direction by Gridley J. F. Bryant, a prominent Boston architect. Built of large granite blocks and decorated with two battlemented galleries and a series of lancet windows, the circular tower was completed in 1853.

Story Chapel (1897) was designed by Willard T. Sears and built of Potsdam brownstone. The complex has a large square tower, a porte-cochere, and includes the cemetery's administrative offices. The building is of a more academic version of the English Gothic style employed in the Bigelow chapel.

A small rest house built shortly after the turn of this century is located at the South Gate. This building is in a freely adapted medieval style and has elaborate carved bargeboards and half-timber work.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

PREHISTORIC
 1400-1499
 1500-1599
 1600-1699
 1700-1799
 1800-1899
 1900-

ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
 ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
 AGRICULTURE
 ARCHITECTURE
 ART
 COMMERCE
 COMMUNICATIONS

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

COMMUNITY PLANNING
 CONSERVATION
 ECONOMICS
 EDUCATION
 ENGINEERING
 EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
 INDUSTRY
 INVENTION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
 LAW
 LITERATURE
 MILITARY
 MUSIC
 PHILOSOPHY
 POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

RELIGION
 SCIENCE
 SCULPTURE
 SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
 THEATER
 TRANSPORTATION
 OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES 1831

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Alexander Wadsworth, Landscape Architect

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Mount Auburn is America's first rural garden cemetery and remains among the best preserved examples of its type. In both design and concept it set the fashion for numerous suburban burial grounds throughout the East and Middle West that were laid out until the latter part of the 19th century. The most famous of these are Mount Auburn's immediate successors, Laurel Hill in Philadelphia (1836), Greenwood in Brooklyn (1838), and Forest Hills in Roxbury (1848).

Mount Auburn exerted an influence on American landscape design that extended well beyond its leadership in establishing a new type of burial ground. It was Boston's first suburban park, and although conceived and carried out under private auspices, the cemetery's informal, asymmetrical plan and scenic grounds formed the basis for later, public projects like Central Park in New York City and Franklin Park in Boston. The popularity of Mount Auburn and its imitators influenced Andrew Jackson Downing, Frederick Law Olmsted, and prominent citizens and government officials of many large and crowded 19th century industrial cities.

The founding of the cemetery grew out of the convergence of two currents at work during the early decades of the 19th century, a growing American interest in horticulture and botany, and the development of public-spirited schemes by private citizens in the country's urban centers. The idea for a rural garden cemetery that would function as a public park and incorporate the latest theories in landscape design and horticultural practice was first promoted among influential Bostonians by Dr. Jacob Bigelow, a prominent physician, botanist and author. His plans were first realized with the founding of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in 1829, the first such group in the country. Among the members of the Society's Garden and Cemetery Committee were Judge John Story, General H. A. S. Dearborn, and important business and political figures like John Lowell, Samuel Appleton, Edward Everett, and Samuel Gardner.

This Committee was organized for the purpose of establishing a model cemetery on the outskirts of Boston. In 1831 the group purchased 72 acres from George W. Brimmer for this purpose, employing Alexander Wadsworth to survey the tract for location of carriage avenues and footpaths. Wadsworth later designed several similar garden cemeteries and suburban developments in the Boston area, employing the informal, natural road configurations developed in the Mount Auburn plan.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bigelow, Jacob. A History of the Cemetery of Mount Auburn.
Boston and Cambridge: James Monroe and Co., 1860.

Cambridge Historical Commission, Survey of Architectural History in Cambridge, Volume 4: Old Cambridge. Cambridge: MIT Press, pp. 69-72.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 170

UTM REFERENCES

UTM OK CD

NE corner

NWA	1,9	3,228,7,0	4,693,5,0,0	B	1,9	3,237,7,0	4,693,4,8,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
SEC	1,9	3,237,6,0	4,692,3,5,0	SWD	1,9	3,228,6,0	4,692,3,8,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Mount Auburn Street on the north; Coolidge Avenue on the east and south; Grove Street and Roman Catholic Cemetery on the west.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Patricia Weslowski, Survey Director and Kathlyn Hatch, Cambridge Historical Commission

ORGANIZATION

Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE

February 17, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

40 Beacon Street

TELEPHONE

(617) 727-8470

CITY OR TOWN

Boston

STATE

Massachusetts

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 National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Elizabeth R. Amador

TITLE Mass. State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE *March 21, 1975*

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

A.R. Mortenson

DATE

4/21/75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

Charles A. ...

DATE

4.17.75

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

C. ...

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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8. SIGNIFICANCE

The numerous monuments were designed by artists, architects, local stonecutters, and members of the families of the deceased. They reflect a wide range of 19th century architectural and decorative styles. Among the many important grave markers are the Greek Revival temple tomb of Samuel Appleton, the figure sculpture of the Magoun monument of the 1840s, the portrait sculpture of the Binney monument, and the Bulfinch monument, which incorporates an urn from the architect's Tontine Crescent of 1793-95. The sculpture was especially important in that it provided a forum for that art form in an era when the public had little access to original sculpture by American artists.

Among the nationally renowned Bostonians buried at Mount Auburn are Louis Agassiz, Philips Brooks, Charles Bulfinch, Dorothea Dix, Mary Baker Eddy, Asa Gray, Horatio Greenough, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Winslow Homer, Julia Ward Howe, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Amy Lowell, James Russell Lowell, and Charles Sumner.

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PAGE 3

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dearborn, Nathaniel. Guide Through Mount Auburn. Boston, 1851.

Monroe, J. A Stranger's Guide Book to Mount Auburn Cemetery.
Boston, 1849.

Picturesque Pocket Companion and Visitor's Guide Through Mount Auburn.
Boston: Otis, Broaders & Company, 1839.

Stevens, L. M. Handbook for Passengers over the Cambridge Railroad
With a Description of Mount Auburn. Boston, 1858.

Story, Joseph. "An Address at the Dedication of Mount Auburn
Cemetery, September 24, 1831." Appendix with historical notice,
description, and a list of subscribers. Boston, 1831.

Trustees of Mount Auburn Cemetery. Annual Reports of the Trustees,
Together with Reports of the Treasurer and Superintendent.
Boston, 189-.

Walter, Cornelia W. with James Smillie, ill. Rural Cemeteries of
America: Mount Auburn. New York, 1850.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC Mount Auburn Cemetery

AND/OR COMMON same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Cambridge VICINITY OF COUNTY Middlesex STATE MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Richard Creek DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Cambridge Historical Commission

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET PHOTO NO. 2
stereopticon view of Bigelow Chapel, looking southwest

104

Bigelow Chapel, Mt. Auburn Cemetery, 1858

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



TOUS PAGES THE 1979 LETTERS
TO THE HEAVS. AS IT STANDS
AND THE HEAVY SMALL LETTERS
1979 AND 1979 PAGE 11

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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1 NAME

HISTORIC Mount Auburn Cemetery

AND/OR COMMON Same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Cambridge VICINITY OF COUNTY Middlesex STATE Massachusetts

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Richard Cheek DATE OF PHOTO 1969

NEGATIVE FILED AT Cambridge Historical Commission, 57 Inman St., Cambridge, MA.

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO. 1

North Perspective of Entrance Gate, 580 Mount Auburn Street

204

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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1 NAME

HISTORIC Mount Auburn Cemetery

AND/OR COMMON
same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Cambridge VICINITY OF COUNTY Middlesex STATE MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Richard Cheek DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Cambridge Historical Commission

4 IDENTIFICATION

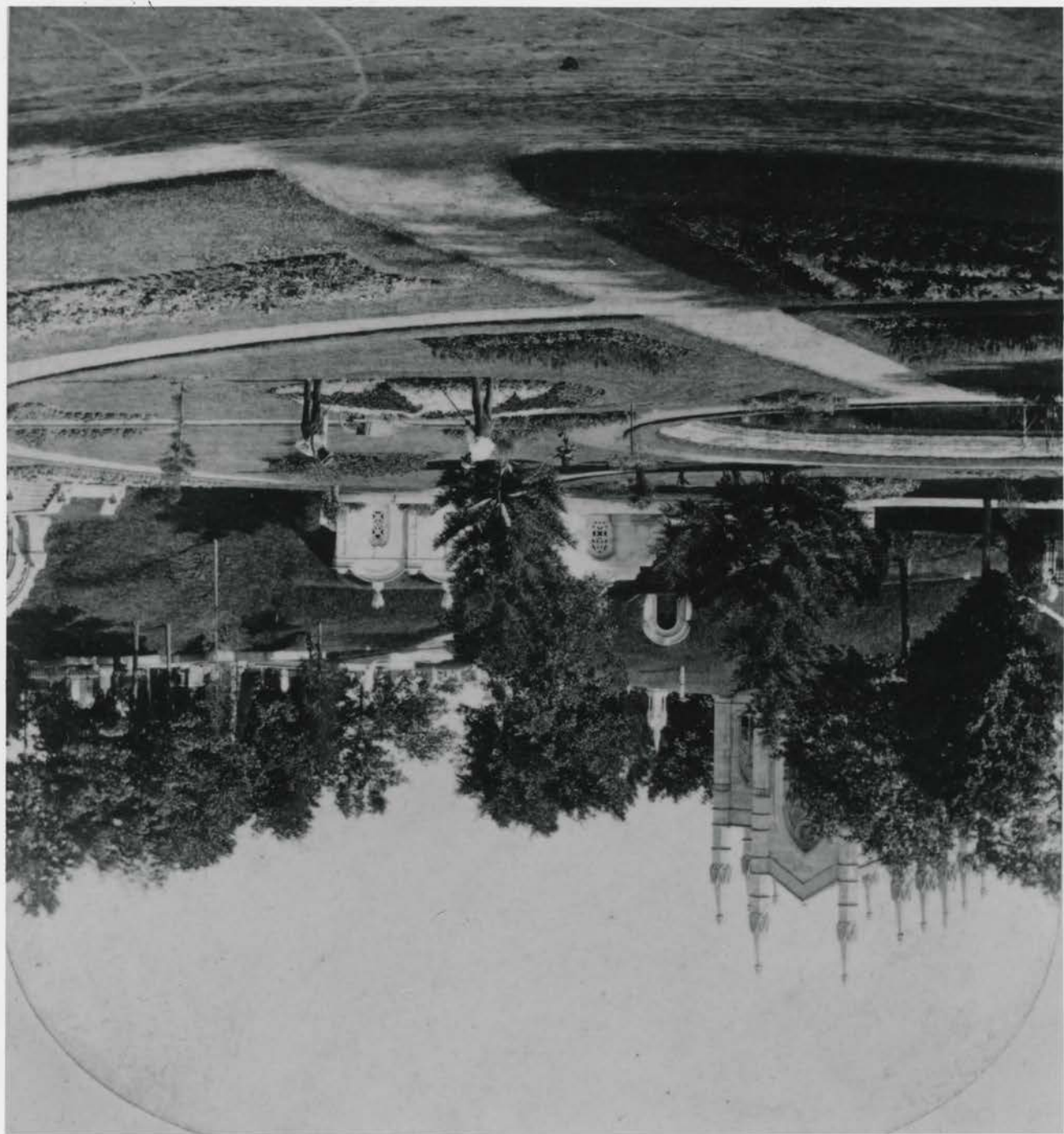
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET
looking southeast at the Bulfinch Memorial

PHOTO NO. 3

#3084

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

BULFINCH MEMORIAL, MT AUBURN CEMETERY



Mount Auburn Cemetery
Cambridge, MA

Asa Gray Garden and Bigelow
Chapel, ca. 1870

Stereoscopic view - photo-
grapher unknown

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

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DATE ENTERED

APR 21 1975

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1 NAME

HISTORIC Mount Auburn Cemetery

AND/OR COMMON same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Cambridge VICINITY OF COUNTY Middlesex STATE MA

3 MAP REFERENCE

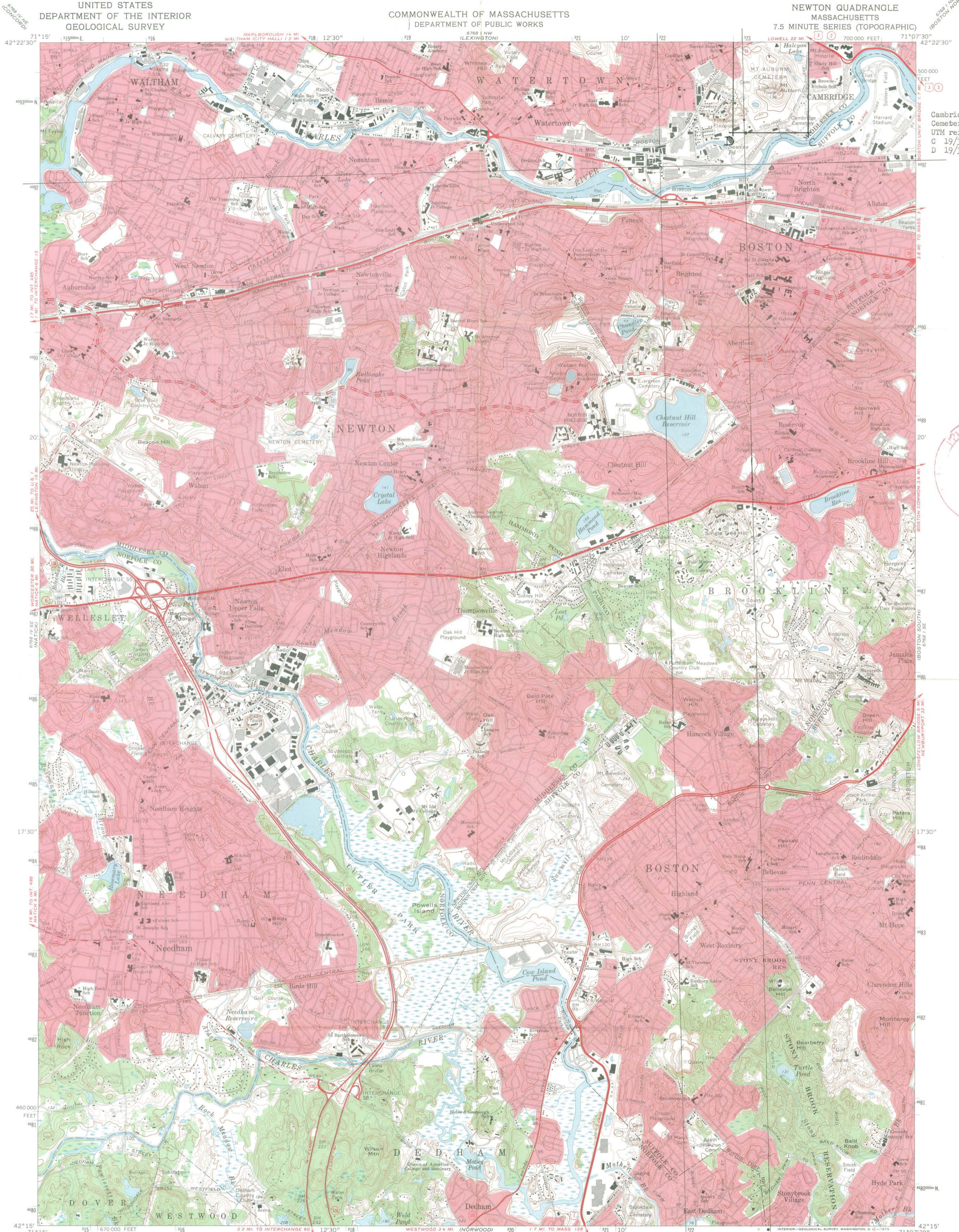
SOURCE United States Geological Survey, Lexington, Mass. Quadrangle

SCALE 1:24,000 DATE 1971

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

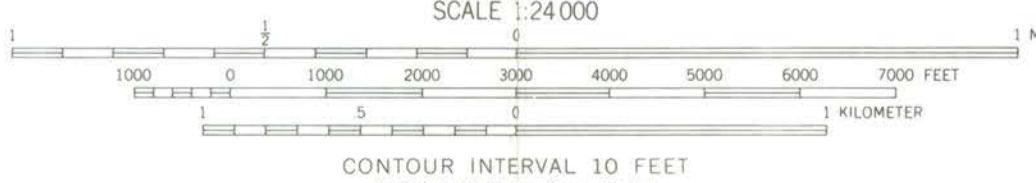
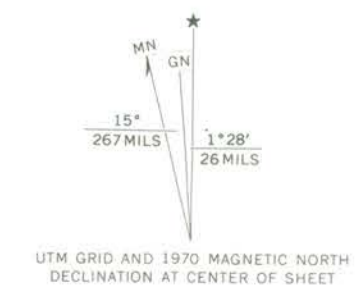
1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES



Cambridge, Mount Auburn Cemetery
UTM references:
C 19/323760/4692350
D 19/322860/4692380



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1939. Topography by planimetric surveys 1943.
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970
Polyconic projection: 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1,000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

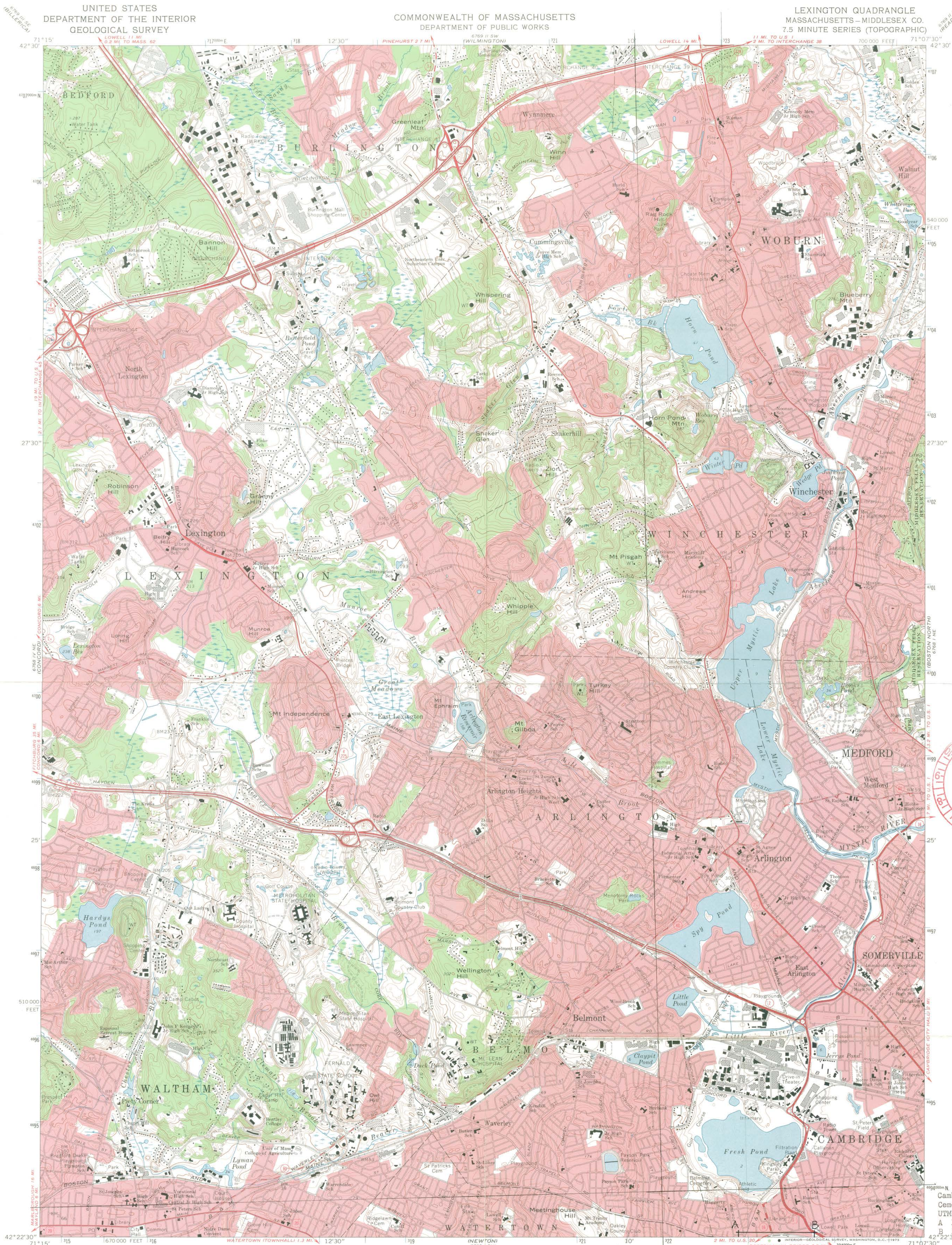


ROAD CLASSIFICATION

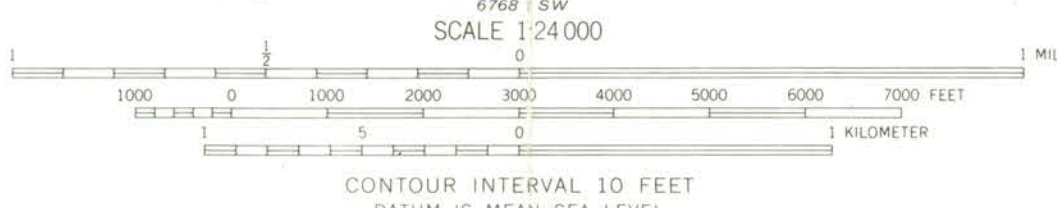
Primary highway, hard surface	Light duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

NEWTON, MASS.
N4215-W7107.5/7.5
1970
AMS 6768 I SW-SERIES V814



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts
Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1939. Topography by planetable surveys 1943
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1971
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark
buildings are shown



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

LEXINGTON, MASS.
N4222.5—W7107.5/7.5

Cambridge, Mount Auburn Cemetery
UTM references:
A 19/322870/4693500
B 19/323770/4693480

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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PROPERTY MAP FORM**

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TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC Mount Auburn Cemetery

AND/OR COMMON Same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Cambridge

— VICINITY OF

COUNTY Middlesex

STATE MA

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE United States Geological Survey, Newton, Mass. quadrangle

SCALE 1:24,000 DATE 1970

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES

Property Mount Auburn Cemetery

Middlesex

State Massachusetts

Working Number 4.1.75.589

TECHNICAL

Photos 4
Maps 2 USMS

Not really a district, but very impressive

CONTROL

OK ^{cm} 4.4.75

HISTORIAN

*Accept
W. R. Luce
4/8/75*

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

*ACCEPT
LEBOVICH
4-7-75*

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

*Accept
Cole
4.11.75*

BRANCH CHIEF

*accept
Burd
4.76.75*

KEEPER

*for Mentzer
4.17.75*

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered APR 21 1975

Federal Register Entry 6-3-75

Re-submit _____

INT:2106-74

4

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered APR 21 1975

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Unitarian Universalist Church and Parsonage	Medford Middlesex County
City Hall Historic District	Lowell Middlesex County
First Baptist Church	New Bedford Bristol County
Powder House Park	Somerville Middlesex County
Mount Auburn Cemetery	Cambridge Middlesex County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy	State Historic Preservation Officer
Hon. Edward W. Brooke	Mrs. Elizabeth R. Amadon
Hon. Terbert H. MacDonald	Executive Director
Hon. Paul E. Tsongas	Massachusetts Historical Commission
Hon. Jerry E. Studs	40 Beacon Street
Hon. Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.	Boston, Massachusetts 02108
Regional Director, North-Atlantic Region	

PR

MMott/bsh

4/22/75

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 6-7-77
 Reviewer INITIALS: [Signature]
 NR DOE April 21, 1975

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Mount Auburn Cemetery

OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER 580 Mount Auburn Street

CITY, TOWN Cambridge

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 8th

STATE Massachusetts

VICINITY OF

COUNTY Middlesex code 017

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline)

FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST

SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

<u>INTERIOR</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXTERIOR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENVIRONS
- Substantially intact-1	- Substantially intact-2	- Substantially intact-3
- unknown - 4	- unknown - 5	- unknown - 6
- not applicable - 7	- not applicable - 8	- Not applicable - 9

- Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION - <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED	<input type="checkbox"/> Reconstructed	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexcavated	<input type="checkbox"/> Excavated	

ACCESS - Yes-restricted Yes-unrestricted No access Unknown

historic district? YES NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO
 IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO
 IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO Saved? YES NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- park, cemetery
 now- park, cemetery

SIGNIFICANCE:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW/Gov't/politics	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	<input type="checkbox"/> health
<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE -4	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement
<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	<input type="checkbox"/> socio/cultural
<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY		<input type="checkbox"/> urban & commun
<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT		<input type="checkbox"/> planning

Claims

"first" YES NO "oldest" YES NO "only" YES NO

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: GREEK RENIVAL / EGYPTIAN RENIVAL / GOTHIC RENIVAL

architect/~~DR. JACOB BIGELOW~~ DR. JACOB BIGELOW /

engineer:

GRIDLEY J.F. BRYANT /

artist/artisan:

landscaper/garden designer: WILLARD T. SEARS /
Alexander Wadsworth

builder/contractor:

interior decorator:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

personal (1) DR. JACOB BIGELOW - PRIME MOVER BEHIND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MT. AUBURN CEMETERY.
events

(label role & appropriate date)

institutional

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): 1831

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY
OTHER FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre) 170

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

Extensive cemetery containing predominantly wooden, marble, and brownstone tombs, sarcophagi,obelisks and headstones commemorating over 70,000 interments. Most notable structures include the Egyptian Revival Entrance Gate (1843), the exotic Gothic Revival Bigelow Chapel (1843, rebuilt 1858) and a 65' granite block tower designed by Gridley J.F. Bryant (1853).

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

Contains graves of numerous renowned Bostonians including Charles Bulfinch, Dorothea Dix, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Winslow Homer, Margaret Fuller, and others. Country's 1st rural garden cemetery; served as model for numerous suburban burial grounds established throughout the east during the 19th C.; combined emerging interests in horticulture and landscape design.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

26 November 2013

Mr. J. Paul Loether
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW 8th floor
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge and Watertown. NRIS 75000254

Dear Mr. Loether:

It has recently been brought to our attention that Mount Auburn Cemetery (NR 4/21/1975 and NHL 5/27/2003) is included in the National Register Information System (NRIS) only under Cambridge. This may be a reflection of the 1975 National Register nomination form, which only listed Cambridge.

At the time of the NHL listing, both Cambridge and Watertown were cited in the NHL nomination; and Carol Schull's 2003 acknowledgement also identifies both Cambridge and Watertown. I am enclosing the first page of the NHL nomination and Carol Schull's letter.

We would be grateful if you would change the references in the NRIS to show both Cambridge and Watertown in the NRIS.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Betsy Friedberg". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosures

cc: David Russo, Watertown Historical Commission
Charles Sullivan, Cambridge Historical Commission

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK NOMINATION

NPS Form 10-900

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form (Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

MOUNT AUBURN CEMETERY

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

Page 1

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic Name: Mount Auburn Cemetery

Other Name/Site Number: n/a



2. LOCATION

Street & Number: Roughly bounded by Mount Auburn Street, Coolidge Avenue, Grove Street, the Sand Banks Cemetery, and Cottage Street

Not for publication:___

City/Town: Watertown and Cambridge

Vicinity:___

State: Massachusetts Code: MA County: Middlesex Code: 017

Zip Code: 02472 and 02318

3. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership of Property
Private: X
Public-Local: ___
Public-State: ___
Public-Federal: ___

Category of Property
Building(s): ___
District: X
Site: ___
Structure: ___
Object: ___

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing
4
1
6
15
26

Noncontributing
4 buildings
sites
4 structures
objects
8 Total

Number of Contributing Resources Previously Listed in the National Register: 26

Name of Related Multiple Property Listing: n/a



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

JUN 09 2003

MASS. HIST. COMMISSION

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H3417(2280)

JUN 4 2003

Ms. Cara Metz, SHPO
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Dear Ms. Metz:

I am pleased to inform you that the Mount Auburn Cemetery in Watertown and Cambridge, Massachusetts, has been found to possess national significance in the history of the United States. As a result, the Secretary of the Interior designated this property a National Historic Landmark on May 27, 2003.

The purpose of landmark designation is to identify and recognize nationally significant sites and to encourage their owners to preserve them. Landmarks are chosen after careful study by the National Park Service. They are evaluated by the National Park System Advisory Board and designated by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the Historic Sites Act of 1935 and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Designation as a National Historic Landmark automatically places a property in the National Register of Historic Places, if it is not already so listed, and extends to it the safeguards and benefits provided by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and other Federal laws protecting historic properties.

Each Landmark is eligible to receive one bronze plaque to commemorate the property's designation. The owner(s) will shortly be contacted by a National Historic Landmarks coordinator for their area about applying for their plaque. If you have any questions about the plaque or the designation please contact Ms. Patty Henry of the National Historic Landmarks Survey at 202/354-2216.

We are pleased to include the Mount Auburn Cemetery on the roll of National Historic Landmarks as significant representatives of our Nation's heritage.

Sincerely,

Carol D. Shull
Chief, National Historic Landmarks Survey and
Keeper, National Register of Historic Places

Mount Auburn Cemetery

(Resource Name)

75000254

(Reference Number[s])

11/8/04

(Date form completed)

Middlesex County

(County)

MA

(State)

SPRINKLE

(Completed by)

STATUS:

1. MISSING ___ 2. REMOVED/ DEMOLISHED ___ 3. NHL 4. TR ___ 5. MRA ___ 6. OVER-SIZED ___ 7. NPS - UNDOCUMENTED ___ 8. DOE - OWNER OBJECTION ___ 9. RESTRICTED ___

EXPLANATION:

1. Missing Status: Entire Folder (); Nomination (); Map(s) (); Photos ()
Available on: Microfiche (); Optical Disk ()

2. _____
(Cause for removal)

1 / 1
(Date Removed)

3. _____
(NHL Name, if different than NRHP Name)

5 / 27 / 2003
(Date Designated)

4. _____
(If multi-state/county TR, state/county where filed and location)

(TR or MRA Name)

5. _____
(If multi-state/county MRA, state/county where filed and location)

6. _____
(Location of oversize file)

7. _____
(Current source of partial documentation)

1 / 1
(Target Date)

- COMMENTS: _____
(Where found, or source of replacement)

1 / 1
(Date Found/Replaced)