

FORM F - STRUCTURE

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

ref no 80000661

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 Great Blue Hill Observation TowerPresent use recreationPresent owner Metropolitan DistrictCommission (M.D.C.)

3. Type of structure (check one)

bridge	_____	pound	_____
canal	_____	powder house	_____
dam	_____	street	_____
fort	_____	tower	<u>X</u>
gate	_____	tunnel	_____
kiln	_____	wall	_____
lighthouse	_____	windmill	_____
other	_____		

5. Description

Date c. 1929Source Blue Hills Observatory JournalConstruction material native granite, slateDimensions approx. 20' x 20' x 40'Setting summit of Great Blue HillCondition good to fair6. Recorded by Sara B. ChaseOrganization SPNEADate April, 1979DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____

MHC Photo no. _____

(over)

not

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

Original use recreation

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

The Great Blue Hill Observation Tower is a vital part of the total collection of structures erected of local granite in the Blue Hills Reservation. Like the Chickatawbut Observation Tower, it is four-square and sturdy, and it enhances the highest point in the Blue Hills range by enabling the viewer to get above the trees. Unlike the Chickatawbut Tower, this Tower has its picnic shelter adjoined.

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

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

1	9
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3	2	2	3	4	0
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4	6	7	8	8	2	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

1	9
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3	3	0	8	8	0
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4	6	7	9	2	2	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

1	9
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3	3	3	1	9	0
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4	6	7	8	7	3	0
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D

1	9
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3	3	0	7	9	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	6	7	2	7	2	0
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E

1	9
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3	2	5	1	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	6	7	1	5	2	0
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F

1	9
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3	2	2	4	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	6	7	5	5	9	0
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G

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H

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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

Patricia A. Wesbrock

title Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission

date 7/30/80

For HCRS use only

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

Patricia A. Wesbrock (for)
Keeper of the National Register

date 9/25/80

Attest: *Patricia A. Wesbrock*

date 9/25/80

Chief of Registration

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

TECHNICAL

Photos 21
Maps 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 use of this land from prehistoric to modern times. This is a good multiple Resource nomination - they have included all the required elements for documentation. Defers to archeologist on the disputed site (Ponhapoag). Requested additional statement of signif. on Eliot Bridge is sufficient justification ^{under} criteria c.

HISTORIAN

accept
Patrick Andrus
9/25/80

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

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

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 Dwyer (FOR)
9/25/80

KEEPER

National Register Write-up

Federal Register Entry

2, 3, 81

Send-back _____

Re-submit _____

Entered SEP 25 1980



GREAT BLUE HILL OBSERVATION
TOWER

8.

SEP 25 1980

Blue Hills and Neponset River Reservations
Multiple Resource Area

Norfolk Co. MA

10/21

AUG 13 1980

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000272