

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

OCT 24 1975

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

JAN 1 1976

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

Angle Tree Stone

AND/OR COMMON

same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

off Peck Rd, Plainville; off High St., North Attleboro

CITY, TOWN

Plainville and North Attleborough

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

10th

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE

025

COUNTY

Norfolk/Bristol

CODE

021/005

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☒ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☒ OTHER: marker**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Commonwealth of Massachusetts; Town of Plainville; Town of No. Attleboro

STREET & NUMBER

multiple

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Chapter 37, Acts of 1790

STREET & NUMBER

State House

CITY, TOWN

Boston

STATE

Massachusetts

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE

1975

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Boston

STATE

Massachusetts 02108

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☒ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Angle Tree Stone is situated in a small clearing in a wooded area which is surrounded by agricultural land. There are no roads in the immediate vicinity; the Stone is reached by a narrow right of way through the fields. It was erected in 1790 to mark the place where a tree had stood which identified the place where the boundary between the Massachusetts Bay and Plymouth colonies changed direction.

The Angle Tree Stone is a slate shaft fourteen feet high, two feet wide and four inches thick. A circle carved into the top of the shaft is the only ornamental feature. The face of the north side of the circle has "Massachusetts Colony" inscribed on it; "Plymouth Colony" is inscribed on the south side.

The following inscription is cut into both faces of the shaft: "This monument, erected by order of the government to perpetuate the place on which the late station or angle tree formerly stood. The commissioners appointed by the old colonies of Plymouth and Massachusetts to run out and establish this line in 1664 were Robert Studson, Constant Southworth, Josias Winslow, Jos. Fisher, Roger Clapp and Eleazer Lusher. They began this work on the 10th day of May, the same year, and marked a tree then standing on this spot, it being 3 miles south of the southern most part of the Charles River. Lemuel Kollok, Esq. was appointed agent to cause this monument to be erected. By an order of the General Court the Selectmen of the towns of Wrentham and Attleborough were present viz: Samuel Fisher, John Whiting, Nathan Hawes, Nathan Comstock and Nathaniel Ware, Esquires of Wrentham. From this stone the line runs due west the extent of the Commonwealth. Done at Wrentham the 29th day of Nov. 1790, by Samuel Fisher and Son."

The stone has begun to deteriorate through exposure to the weather and because of vandalism. The slate has begun to spall at the edges, and graffiti has been scrawled across the surface. An iron railing was erected around the Angle Tree Stone to try to protect it from vandals and souvenir hunters. The fact that the stone is isolated protects it to a certain extent from malicious damage because it is so hard to find, but its isolation also means that it is difficult to police.

Potential plans for the Angle Tree Stone include the development of a small park around the stone, with interpretive materials available for educational purposes.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
☐ PREHISTORIC	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION
☐ 1400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE
☐ 1500-1599	☐ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☐ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE
☐ 1600-1699	☐ ARCHITECTURE	☐ EDUCATION	☐ MILITARY	☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☒ 1700-1799	☐ ART	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER
☐ 1800-1899	☐ COMMERCE	☒ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ 1900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☐ INDUSTRY	☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☒ OTHER (SPECIFY) early boundary marker
		☐ INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1790

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Angle Tree Stone marks a significant site in Massachusetts, and has gained, through its antiquity, significance in its own right as a monument.

The Stone is located on the boundary between the old Massachusetts Bay Colony and Plymouth Colony established by the land grant given to the Massachusetts Bay Company by Charles I in 1628. The southern boundary of the Company's domain was designated as three miles south of the southern end of the Charles River. As the inscription on the stone states, Robert Studson, Constant Southworth, Josias Winslow, Jos. Fisher, Roger Clapp and Eleazer Lusher were appointed as commissioners in 1664 to survey the boundary between the Massachusetts and Plymouth colonies. These commissioners marked a tree where the stone now stands, to identify the place three miles south of the southern end of the Charles River where the boundary changed direction from south west to due west, and runs into the Rhode Island border.

The General Court of Massachusetts, in Chapter 37 of the Resolves of 1790, directed "that a stone monument be Erected on the Southerly line of the Old Colony of Massachusetts in the Place where the Later Station or Angel (sic) Tree formerly stood." and further resolved that "Lemuel Kollock Esq: be a Committee to cause the said Monument to be erected."

The line which was surved by the commissioners in 1664 now marks the boundary between Norfolk County and Plymouth and Bristol Counties. The location of the Angle Tree Stone is easily identified on any map which shows this boundary, because it is located at the only angle and change of direction on the entire line.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

North Attleboro Tercentenary Book, 1628 to 1930, North Attleboro
Plainville Town Reports
Resolves of 1790, Chapter 37, General Court of Massachusetts

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than $\frac{1}{4}$ acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 304090 4650620
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE CODE COUNTY Norfolk CODE 021

STATE CODE COUNTY Bristol CODE 005

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Christine Boulding, Assistant Survey Director, and Georgette Plante

ORGANIZATION Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE October 16, 1975

STREET & NUMBER 294 Washington Street

TELEPHONE 617-727-8470

CITY OR TOWN Boston

STATE Massachusetts 02108

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE X

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Elizabeth Reed Amadon

TITLE Mass. State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 10/17/75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Listing

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 1/1/76

ATTEST:

Ronald M. Greenberg

DATE 12/30/75

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Acty

Property

Angle Tree Stone

Norfolk / Bristol

State

Mass

Working Number

10-24-75, 1899

TECHNICAL

Photos 1

Maps 1

unusual -

CONTROL

OK pl
10-29-75

HISTORIAN

Accept
W.R. Luce
12/1/75

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ACCEPT
Hwyan L 12/2/75

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
Cole
12-3-75

BRANCH CHIEF

accept
Hwyan L
12-5-75

KEEPER

Accept
Greenberg
12/30/75

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered

JAN 1 1976

Federal Register Entry

3-2-76

Re-submit _____

INT:2106-74



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Form No. 10-301a
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 24 1975

DATE ENTERED JAN 1 1976

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Angle Tree Stone

AND/OR COMMON

same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Plainville,
North Attleboro

VICINITY OF

COUNTY Norfolk,
Bristol

STATE MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Terry Martin

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

COUNTIES

NEGATIVE FILED AT Plainville Historical Commission

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

PHOTO NO. 1

looking north at the south elevation of the stone

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Angle Tree Stone

AND/OR COMMON

same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Plainville,
North Attleboro

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY Norfolk,
Bristol STATE MA

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE U.S.G.S. Attleboro quadrangle

SCALE 1:24,000

DATE 1964

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

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

A circular library stamp in red ink. The outer ring contains numbers 1 through 12. The center text reads: RECEIVED, OCT 24 1975, NATIONAL REGISTER.

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered JAN 1 1970

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Angle Tree Stone	Norfolk and Bristol Counties
Red Brick School	Franklin Norfolk County
Bigelow, Dr. Henry Jacob, House	Newton (Village of Oak Hill) Middlesex County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. Margaret M. Heckler
Hon. Joseph D. Early
Hon. Robert F. Drinan

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Elizabeth R. Amadon
Executive Director, Massachusetts
Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Regional Director, North Atlantic Region

PR MMott/je 1/20/76

Angle Tree Stone 'Historic Place'

PLAINVILLE — The Plainville Historical Commission has reported that the Angle Tree Stone has been accepted by the National Park Service for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Confirmation of the listing was received Thursday in a letter from both Paul Guzzi, secretary of the Commonwealth, and Elizabeth Reed Amadon, state historic preservation officer.

All historical areas in the National Park System, together with those properties eligible for designation as National Historic Landmarks, are of national significance and thus qualify automatically for the National Register.

Properties of state or local significance are nominated by a state liaison officer appointed by

the governor and are placed on the Register on approval by the National Park Service. It was through the efforts of the Plainville Historical Commission that the Angle Tree Stone was nominated and then accepted for this honor.

AUCTION

Sat., Feb. 14 - 10 A.M.

at the VFW Hall

Eastside Road, Wrentham

Antique and classic furniture, tables, chairs, pine commode, maple twin bedroom set, braided rugs, glassware, china, many other household items.

AUCTIONEER

DICK BERGMAN

384-3629

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

① NAME as it appears on federal register: Angle Tree Stone		② OTHER NAMES: Caliso in Norfolk County		③ date of entry: 1-1-76	④ county code: 005
⑤ LOCATION street & number W of North Attleborough off High St.		city / town North Attleborough	vicinity of North Attleborough	state MA	county Bristol
⑦ OWNER ☐ PRIVATE ☐ STATE ☐ MUNICIPAL ☐ COUNTY ☒ MULTIPLE ☐ FEDERAL (agency name): State / multiple municipal		⑧ ADMINISTRATOR: Shpo staff			
⑨ EXISTING SURVEYS ☐ HABS ☐ NAER ☐ NHL		⑩ FUNDED? ☐ YES ☒ NO	⑪ CONGRESS DISTRICT 10	⑫ SOURCE of NOMINATION ☒ STATE ☐ FEDERAL	
⑬ WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? ☐ YES, NAME ☒ NO		⑭ WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? ☐ YES, NAME ☒ NO		⑮ ACRES less than .25 ☐ LOCAL ☐ PRIVATE ORGANIZATION	
⑯ CONDITION ☒ deteriorated ☐ altered ☒ original site ☐ excellent ☐ ruins ☒ unaltered ☐ moved ☐ good ☐ unexposed ☐ reconstructed ☐ unknown ☐ fair ☐ unexcavated ☐ excavated		⑰ FEATURES: SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 ☒ SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 ☐ SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3 ☐ NOT INTACT-0 ☐ NOT INTACT-0 ☐ NOT INTACT-0 ☐ UNKNOWN-4 ☐ UNKNOWN-5 ☐ UNKNOWN-6 ☒ UNKNOWN-6 ☐ NOT APPLICABLE-7 ☒ NOT APPLICABLE-8 ☐ NOT APPLICABLE-9 ☐			
⑱ ACCESS ☐ YES-Restricted ☐ YES-Unrestricted ☐ No Access ☐ Unknown		⑲ ADAPTIVE USE ☐ YES ☒ NO		⑳ SAVED? ☐ YES ☐ NO	
㉑ AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: ☐ ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-1 ☐ COMMERCE-E ☐ ENTERTAINMENT-26 ☐ ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 ☐ COMMUNICATIONS-9 ☐ EXPLORATION-12 ☐ AGRICULTURE-3 ☐ CONSERVATION-8 ☐ HEALTH-27 ☐ ARCHITECTURE-4 ☐ ECONOMICS-9 ☐ INDUSTRY-13 ☐ ART-5 ☐ EDUCATION-10 ☐ INVENTION-14		☐ ENGINEERING-11 ☐ LANDSCAPE ARCH-16 ☒ POLITICS/GOVT-71 ☐ LAW-18 ☐ RELIGION-29 ☒ RECREATION-20 ☐ LITERATURE-17 ☐ SCIENCE-23 ☐ SETTLEMENT-29 ☐ MILITARY-19 ☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24 ☐ URBAN PLANNING-31 ☐ MUSIC-19 ☐ SOCIAL/CULTURAL-30 ☐ DTHH (SPECIFY) ☐ PHILOSOPHY-20 ☐ TRANSPORTATION-25		㉒ CLAIMS: explain 'first' ☐ 'oldest' ☐ 'only' ☐	
㉓ functions WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: Boundary Marker CURRENTLY: Boundary Marker		㉔ dates of initial construction: 1790 major alterations: historic events:		㉕ ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION	
㉖ architectural style(s): n/a		㉗ architect:		㉘ master builder:	
㉙ landscape architect / garden designer:		㉚ interior decorator:		㉛ artist:	
㉜ artisan:		㉝ builder/contractor:		㉞ engineer:	
㉟ NAMES give role & date PERSONAL: EVENTS: INSTITUTIONAL:					

㊱ NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP ✓ Slate shaft; 14' high, 2' wide, 4" thick; with inscription that memorializes the 1664 survey establishing the boundary between the Massachusetts Bay and Plymouth Colonies; identifies the location of the tree that marked the only angle and change of direction along the entire boundary line.

ST

9/6/78