



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Evergreen Cemetery
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 2060 Commonwealth Avenue _____ not for publication
city or town Boston (Brighton) _____ vicinity _____
state Massachusetts code MA county Suffolk code 025 zip code 02135

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Brona Simon 6/25/09
Signature of certifying official/Title Brona Simon, SHPO, Executive Director Date
Massachusetts Historical Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register
 removed from the National Register
 other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper Patrick Andrews Date of Action 8/14/2009

Evergreen Cemetery
Name of Property

Suffolk, MA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

(Check only one box)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	building
1		sites
14		structures
5	2	objects
21	3	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY: cemetery

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY: cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Jacobethan Revival (cemetery office)

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation

walls

roof

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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Evergreen Cemetery
Boston (Suffolk), Massachusetts

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7. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Evergreen Cemetery is a 19.66-acre cemetery that was consecrated in 1850 as a municipal cemetery by the town of Brighton, Massachusetts. When Brighton was annexed to Boston in 1874, the cemetery was acquired by the City of Boston, which is its current owner. It remains an active cemetery, although new burial space is limited. Evergreen was inspired by the pastoral ideals of nearby Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge but was laid out in a more formal style that reflects mid 19th-century ideas of cemetery and monument design. It is also closely linked with the history of the Brighton community. The well-preserved municipal cemetery retains strong historical associations and distinctive landscape features dating from the mid 19th century to 1958.

Setting

Brighton, which was initially a separate community but is now part of Boston, is in the far western part of the city. The cemetery is located in the southern part of Brighton, which developed in the late 19th century. Commonwealth Avenue (MA Route 30), a major east/west route through the city with a trolley line in the center, runs along the northern edge of the cemetery where the main entrance is located. St. Thomas More Road abuts the cemetery for part of its western boundary and contains a service entrance to the cemetery. Chestnut Hill Drive, a state-owned parkway, lies to the south but does not directly abut the cemetery, as there is a narrow strip of state parkland in between.

The neighborhood surrounding Evergreen Cemetery includes a mix of residential, institutional, and recreational properties. The largest neighbor is Boston College, which lies to the west. The Boston College Law School, built in the 1950s on land previously owned by the city of Boston, is the immediate abutter on the western edge of the cemetery, with the rest of the campus further west on the far side of St. Thomas More Road. To the south is the Chestnut Hill Reservoir (NRDIS, 1990), now a state-owned reservation that includes the reservoir as well as adjacent parkland, parkway, and recreational facilities. The reservoir is no longer used for regular water supply, but can be used for emergency backup. At the northeast corner of the cemetery is the small early 20th-century residential enclave along Wade Street, which is only one block long. To the north of the cemetery, on the far side of Commonwealth Avenue, is St. John's Seminary. The city of Newton lies a few blocks to the west of Evergreen Cemetery, and the town of Brookline a few blocks to the south.

Evergreen Cemetery is an irregularly shaped parcel located on the south side of Commonwealth Avenue. It developed in several phases. The core of the original 13.82-acre cemetery was laid out by William A. Mason in 1850. Over the next century, roads and burial areas were laid out around the perimeter to provide additional burial space. In the 1970s, additional land (5.84 acres of former parkland west of Pine/Evergreen Avenue) was added to the south and west of the original cemetery, bringing it to the present 19.66 acres (map 4).

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The long narrow oval enclosed by Eastern and Western Avenues was the first part of the cemetery to be developed. The area in the original cemetery that lies outside Eastern and Western Avenues is the second oldest section, with roads laid out by about 1900, and burial lots sold during the early 20th century. The newest part of the cemetery, consisting of burial space and work areas, was laid out in the 1970s.

Landscape Character

The physical appearance of the cemetery is defined by three general attributes: landscape character; buildings and structures; and burial monuments, all of which are discussed below. However, it is the distinctive mix of natural features and built elements that create the special character of Evergreen, as well as many other 19th century cemeteries.

Spatial Organization

Spatial organization, the arrangement of elements within the landscape, is largely defined by the circulation system and the layout of burial lots. As described above, Evergreen was developed in two distinct phases. The original cemetery was laid out in a formal geometry, with the oldest burial areas having large lots and family monuments, while later lots were arranged less formally around the perimeter with more compact lots and smaller headstones. The new part of the cemetery, added in the 1970s, has a very different character with level topography, straight roads, few trees, and even smaller lots and headstones.

Lot sections create the "neighborhoods" within the cemetery. The lot layout reinforces the spatial organization established by the circulation system, and also reflects changing burial practices. In the central part of the old cemetery are the original large family lots, many with granite curbing, steps, and family monuments. These were among the first lots laid out when the cemetery was established. They vary in size, but many are 12' x 12' or larger and can accommodate graves of multiple family members. On these large, older lots, there is typically a prominent central monument, sometimes supplemented by smaller markers for individual family members. Family lots were common through the latter part of the 19th century. Other sections from the late 19th to early 20th century surround the central oval and exhibit the transition from earlier enclosed family lots to rows of individual and double graves. Lot sections from the first half of the 20th century are laid out in single rows, head to foot, while monuments in the new section of the cemetery consist entirely of single and double graves and are more densely spaced.

Topography

The choice of a picturesque site with rocky irregular topography reflects the ideals of the rural cemetery movement, as exemplified by nearby Mount Auburn Cemetery (NHL, NR) established in 1831, and also by later Boston cemeteries such as Forest Hills Cemetery (1848) (NR), which valued a balance of natural and built elements as well as a landscape of irregularity and surprise.

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The original Evergreen Cemetery had the varied natural topography characteristic of much of the surrounding area, with small undulations in elevation and varied micro-topography caused by underlying rock. The total variation in height is about 30' over the entire site, with higher elevations at the east and lower elevations at the west. Outcrops of the distinctive local conglomerate known as Roxbury puddingstone, which is found throughout the Boston region, are also found in the older part of the cemetery. The newer western section is fairly flat, allowing for higher density of burial lots.

Circulation

Today the **circulation system** of the cemetery consists of paved roads. In the past there were also grass paths, which are no longer evident in the landscape. The older section of the cemetery has a formal, axial circulation system, characterized by two long narrow concentric ovals defined on the outside by Eastern and Western Avenues and on the inside by Eastern and Western Path. Running through the center of the oval is Central Avenue, which is divided by lawn areas and is interrupted by the soldiers monument. These roads were part of the original 1850 design by surveyor and engineer William A. Mason. Later roads in the older part of the cemetery include: Pine Avenue, Evergreen Avenue, and Cedar Grove Road (sometimes referred to Short Road), all located along the western edge of the original cemetery, and Oak Lawn Avenue in the northeastern corner of the cemetery. This second group of roads was laid out by the end of the 19th century. After land was added to the west in the 1970s, Beech and College Avenues were added to provide access to the newest burial areas.

The roads in Evergreen Cemetery were originally gravel surfaced but are now paved with bituminous. They are typically fourteen to sixteen feet wide, although the roads immediately inside the entrance are wider and some of the oldest roads are narrower. Visitors park on or adjacent to drives. Most of the roads in the cemetery do not have an edge treatment although there are concrete curbs at catch basins along road edges.

Vegetation

Several of the Brighton residents who helped to create the cemetery were prominent horticulturists and nursery owners who emphasized the importance of ornamental plantings. When the cemetery was established, much of the area was forested and gradually cleared as land was needed for burial space. Over time the forested areas gave way to ornamental plantings of trees, shrubs, and perennials. Today the most dramatic vegetation is the canopy of mature trees found in much of the older part of the cemetery. There are approximately 200 trees, with oaks making up about half of these. Other large deciduous trees include beech, ginkgo, hickory, linden, and maple. Small deciduous trees, which include cherry, dogwood, hawthorn, and weeping mulberry, are found largely in the new part of the cemetery. Evergreen trees include false cypress, fir, hemlock, pine, red cedar, spruce, and white cedar. Many of these are clustered along Beech Avenue between the old and new sections. Most of the intended formal planting of maples around the soldiers monument is missing. Most of the named cemetery sections (Pine Grove, Pine Grove Extension, Cedar Grove, Elm Grove, Fir Grove, and Beech Grove) do not contain the trees that their name suggests.

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Few shrubs remain in the cemetery. There are some remnant shrub plantings near the entrance and in a few of the older lots. There are clipped yews at the soldiers monument (which were not part of the original design for that area), and most of the rest of the shrubs are associated with graves in the new part of the cemetery. Lawn extends throughout the cemetery. The work area at the southern end has invasive volunteer growth of woody shrubs and saplings.

Buildings and Structures

Cemetery Office

The present **cemetery office** (photo 4) was built in 1903 to replace a small earlier building that had become badly deteriorated. The architect of the new Jacobethan Revival building was James Mulcahy. The building is in a half-timbered style with a cross-gable roof form, overhanging eaves with exposed rafters, and curved porch support brackets. There is a broad piazza on the south and east sides. For many years the two main rooms were used as an office and chapel. The building was damaged by a fire in 1985 and repaired in the late 1980s, when the chapel was converted to office space. Originally there were ornamental plantings including rhododendrons around the building, only a few of which remain. An aluminum **flagpole** is located nearby on Central Avenue.

Maintenance Building

There was a primitive tool shed and privy at the eastern edge of the cemetery by 1860. The present forty- by twenty-five-foot utilitarian **maintenance building** was constructed in 1920. It was designed by local architect Samuel J. Rantin. It is made of concrete blocks with a stucco finish and a shallow pitched roof. It has a garage on the north side and a smaller storage room on the south side with a separate doorway. The building has been substantially modified over time to accommodate evolving uses. The present garage floor is approximately eighteen inches lower than initially constructed to provide sufficient headroom for modern maintenance equipment.

Entrance Gate

The **entrance gate** (photo 3) on Commonwealth Avenue was built in 1892 to replace an earlier wooden gate that had become badly deteriorated. The new gate was designed by Boston City Architect Edmund March Wheelwright as part of a special appropriation to improve the cemetery. The gate has a central vehicular entrance with pedestrian entrances on either side. The curving walls of the structure were constructed of local puddingstone, probably collected from the site. The land behind the stone walls was built up to provide raised planting beds that would allow plantings to be visible over the walls from the street. The walls have been repaired many times and are now heavily mortared. A wooden canopy spans the gateway. The roof of the canopy was initially thatched, but is now covered with asphalt shingles. The black painted entrance gates are constructed of wrought iron with alternating picket designs. Thick pickets with flat fleur-de-lis tops alternate with slender square pickets with spear shaped tops.

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Fences and Walls

The northern edge of the cemetery is enclosed by a combination of fencing (at the eastern end) and stone wall (at the western end). The **Commonwealth Avenue fence** also dates to 1892 and was restored in the 1980s. It is a 54"-tall decorative steel-picket fence, which extends for approximately 400 feet west and 200 feet east of the main entrance gate. The square pickets are set in two-inch-wide rails anchored to four-inch-square decorative iron posts that are set on granite pier foundations. The fence is painted black.

The **Commonwealth Avenue wall** extends along the western section of the cemetery, on land that was added to the cemetery in the 1970s, although the wall is much older and may predate the cemetery. It is a chinked fieldstone wall that extends about 380' along the cemetery frontage and continues along the Boston College Law School property to the west. The wall is built with large stones, consisting mostly of puddingstone. It is typically about four feet tall and 30-36 inch wide with large capstones. The front forms a relatively straight plane while the rear has an unfinished face. The grade at the back varies up to about three feet tall.

The **east wall** runs along the eastern edge of the cemetery adjacent to the Wade Street neighborhood. It was built by the cemetery in stages beginning about 1864. It is similar in character to the wall along Commonwealth Avenue but is less visible and is in poor condition, with several major breaks. It is about 150 feet long and is typically about two feet wide and three to five feet high, part of it is a retaining wall. Neighbors have built garages immediately against the wall and there is chain link fencing on top of it. It has been repaired many times, and parts of it have heavy mortar on the exposed face and a cement parged top.

The **Pine Avenue/Pine Grove system of walls and steps** (photo 6) is a particularly distinctive feature of the cemetery that includes several interior retaining walls located between the old and new sections of the cemetery. These features were reportedly built by the WPA in the 1930s (they do not appear on a 1933 map of the cemetery but are shown on a 1937 map, WPA involvement has not been confirmed). The main wall along the west side of Pine Avenue is a roughly two feet wide mortared and parged fieldstone retaining wall. Unlike other walls in the cemetery, this wall has decorative rows of pointed stones set vertically on the top. It changes from retaining wall at the south end to free standing at the north end. The height varies from four feet to flush with grade. There were originally several sets of steps associated with the garden but they are now lost in the woods. One appears to have been a pedestrian route down to the reservoir.

Immediately to the west of the Pine Avenue wall are two parallel fieldstone walls with curving wing walls that support a ramp leading from the old part of the cemetery down to the new section of the cemetery. These walls, which vary in height up to seven feet, are also of mortared and parged fieldstone. They included built-in planters and formed the edge of a rock garden that existed in the 1930s. The area is now overgrown and there is no evidence of the former garden. Even the walls are in poor condition.

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The rear and sides of the cemetery have had various fencing over the years. Today **chain-link fencing** extends along the west, south, east and part of the north property lines, some of it on top of the stone perimeter walls. The fence ranges in height from five to six feet except for a four feet- high fence anchored to the top of the wall along the east property line. The chain-link fence along the western edge of the property has two masonry piers on either side of the gate.

Burial Monuments

Burial monuments include headstones and family monuments in a range of materials. The total number is difficult to ascertain because burial records are poor for much of the cemetery's history, but it is probably in the tens of thousands. There is one cannon, one puddingstone boulder, two slate headstones, two zinc monuments, hundreds of marble headstones and monuments, and thousands of granite headstones in a variety of colors and styles. Burial monuments are discussed roughly in chronological order, with selected examples used to illustrate the range of types found in the cemetery. Many of the lots in the oldest part of the cemetery have granite curbing, sometimes with steps. Other areas in the older part of the cemetery have the stepped topography that indicates that curbing existed at one time but is no longer extant.

The **Edward Glover headstone** (d. 1838), off Oak Lawn Avenue in the northeast corner of the cemetery, is the only 19th century slate and one of the oldest headstones in the cemetery. It has a rounded tympanum on shouldered main block and displays the willow and urn motif that was popular in the mid-19th century. Glover, who died before Evergreen Cemetery was established, was probably initially buried at Brighton's Market Street Cemetery and reinterred at Evergreen. Records indicate that there were at least 150 other reinterments at Evergreen but many are probably in unmarked graves in the northeast corner of the cemetery, which was set aside as a "public cemetery."

The **receiving tomb** on Central Avenue near the entrance is an earthen mound tomb with coursed granite façade, a granite pedimented front, and a painted iron door. The tomb was built in 1850, but the granite face was not added until 1860. It is typical of many receiving tombs built in New England in the mid-19th century and is no longer in use. There are also several family tombs that were built along Eastern Avenue soon after the cemetery was established. These are also typical of those built throughout New England during this period. These include the **Collins Tomb**, a granite-faced mound tomb with marble tablet door. A short distance away is the **Brooks/Sparhawk Tomb**, which is similar in style but is a double tomb. The **Shillaber Tomb** on Central Avenue west of the soldiers monument is also similar in style.

There are a fairly large number of marble headstones and monuments in the older section of the cemetery, up to about 15' tall. The most elaborate of these include large clothed marble female figures mounted on pedestals. Examples include the **Jones monument** on Eastern Avenue and the **Fobes monument** on Eastern Path. There are also about 50 Victorian marble obelisks and columnar monuments in the old part of the cemetery. Typically, these vertical monuments are composed of multiple stones, with the central shaft topped by a finial, often an urn. There are also hundreds of marble headstones which are in a variety of forms, most about two to three feet tall and carved with typical Victorian motifs such as sheaves of wheat, roses, lilies of the valley, and ivy.

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There are two zinc monuments in the cemetery, both from the late 19th century. The **Champney monument** on Eastern Avenue is a rectangular box-like structure on a pedestal. The **Wilson monument** on Western Avenue is a zinc obelisk with nautical motifs and a Grand Army of the Republic emblem.

An unusual monument along Eastern Avenue is the **Winship monument**, which consists of a large puddingstone boulder with a very small bronze plaque. It is set on one of the oldest large lots and has a cut granite block retaining wall. The boulder may be a replacement for an earlier monument, which is no longer extant, or may represent a personal expression of funerary taste.

One of the most prominent family monuments in the cemetery is the **Holton monument**, which lies immediately to the south of the soldiers monument. It is set in a granite curbed lot with an elaborate marble shaft and was erected to honor James Holton, a prominent Brighton civic leader who died in 1863. Holton, according to his epitaph, was generous to the Boston Public Library and other public causes.

The largest and most distinctive monument in the cemetery is the granite **Soldiers Monument** (photo 2) designed by George F. Meacham, who also designed Boston's Public Garden. It is set in a large circular space in the center of the original cemetery that was originally intended as the location for a chapel. The soldiers monument is 30' tall and topped by a soaring eagle. The pyramidal plinth, set on a square base, has inscriptions and names on all sides. Above this is a square shaft with a molded base and capital. The die of the shaft is decorated with a shield, with stars and flags. Around the monument is a circular granite curb and a step at the path. The area around the monument is set aside for veterans graves. There are a number of military issue marble headstones on the eastern side of the monument as well as unmarked graves around the monument. The monument was dedicated on July 26, 1866, and was repaired in the 1990s.

One of the most unusual monuments at Evergreen Cemetery is the ca. 1919 iron cannon on granite base with a bronze plaque that commemorates **Lt. John H. Westfall**, USN, who died in World War I.

By the late 19th century, single and double graves were becoming the norm, rather than family lots. These are generally marked by granite headstones in a wide range of colors consisting of an inscribed die on a base, which are located in close proximity to each other. In the new part of the cemetery they are almost uniformly 36" tall, with only a few exceptions, presumably where the owners were required to obtain special permission from the cemetery. The scale and spacing of the markers creates a density of graves which is a distinct contrast to the earlier family lots. One distinctive late 20th-century marker, located along Evergreen Avenue, is the **Ellis/Turner headstone** of light gray slate, one of only two slate headstones in the cemetery.

(end)

Evergreen Cemetery
Name of Property

Suffolk, MA
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- ARCHITECTURE
- ART
- COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1848-1959

Significant Dates

- 1848 – land acquired by Brighton
- 1850 - consecrated
- 1866 – Civil War monument erected
- 1874 – cemetery transferred to City of Boston

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

- William A. Mason George F. Meacham
- James Mulcahy Samuel Rantin
- Edmund Wheelwright

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Boston Parks Dept. Municipal Archives

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Overview

Evergreen Cemetery qualifies for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C, with significance at the local level. The site may also have archaeological significance associated with unmarked graves and buried headstones. The period of significance extends from 1848 to 1959. The original cemetery, which is the focus of this nomination, possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The cemetery qualifies for listing under Criterion A due to its strong association with the history of the town of Brighton. Evergreen Cemetery was Brighton's second cemetery, established after the 1764 Market Street Burying Ground was full. It was an important civic undertaking for the community, and continued to serve as the neighborhood's primary cemetery after Brighton was annexed to Boston in 1874. The Civil War soldiers monument, one of the earliest in Massachusetts, commemorates the importance of that conflict to the community.

The cemetery also documents the social structure of the community, which became more ethnically diverse over time. In the early years of the cemetery almost all the names were of English, Irish, or Scottish origin. By the early 20th century more European countries were represented including a large number of Armenians, some of whom had part of their epitaph written in their native language. In newer parts of the cemetery, names are even more diverse, representing people from all around the world. Christian symbolism is evident on many headstones throughout the cemetery. The inscriptions from the mid-19th century on are usually limited to full name and sometimes birth and death date. In some cases where there is a family monument, epitaphs may say "Mother," "Father," or even just a first name.

The cemetery meets Criterion C as a well-preserved, late 19th- and early 20th-century cemetery that reflects the evolving design of burial grounds and funerary monuments in New England during this period. The balanced integration of natural and built elements is a reflection of the 19th-century rural cemetery movement as adapted to a municipal cemetery. Evergreen Cemetery's earlier burial monuments reflect the sentimentality of the Victorian era in their expression of natural and classical forms, choice of marble as a primary material, flowery epitaphs, and curbed lots. The later lots with their more uniform granite monuments reflect changing technology and more impersonal times associated with the machine age.

Several well-known Boston area designers contributed to the creation of Evergreen Cemetery. Surveyor and engineer William A. Mason (1815-1882), who laid out the original plan, was later city engineer in Cambridge for many years. Architect James Mulcahy, who designed the cemetery office, also designed the Russell School in Dorchester and was appointed Boston's building commissioner in 1903. Architect Edmund March Wheelwright (1854-1912), who designed the entrance gate, was Boston's city architect from 1891 to 1895 and was also a prominent Boston architect in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. George F. Meacham, who designed the soldiers monument, was a local architect who was also responsible for the design of Boston's Public Garden. Architect Samuel Rantin, who designed the cemetery's maintenance building, also designed many residential buildings throughout the Boston area.

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The cemetery meets Criteria Consideration D because it served as the primary burying ground in Brighton from 1850 until the present. It includes the graves of tens of thousands of Brighton residents. The 1848 beginning date for the period of significance corresponds with the acquisition of land for the cemetery. The 1959 termination date reflects National Register policy that properties with ongoing significance use a 50-year cut-off date unless events of unusual significance have occurred within the past 50 years.

Brighton History

Brighton, located about five miles west of downtown Boston, was settled in the 1630s. Initially the sparsely settled area was part of Cambridge and was known as Little Cambridge. Early settlers included the Champney, Sparhawk, Shillaber and Winship families, all of whom have descendants buried at Evergreen Cemetery. Before the Revolution, the area was a prosperous farming community of less than 300 residents, many of who had established country estates. The center of the community was along Market Street less than a mile north of Evergreen Cemetery. Market Street Burying Ground (NRDIS) was established in 1764 and served as the area's only burial place for nearly a century. Brighton was set off from Cambridge as a separate parish in 1779, and was incorporated as the town of Brighton in 1807.

In 1775, the Winship family established a cattle market in Brighton to supply the Continental Army. The stockyard grew rapidly after the war, remaining a major industry for the community into the 20th century. In 1819, the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture established its exhibition hall and fairgrounds in Brighton Center, making it the site of the state's largest agricultural fair and cattle show for the next decade and a half. By the 1820s, horticulture was another key industry, with Brighton becoming one of the most important horticultural and market gardening centers in the Boston area. Many of the Brighton horticulturists were members of the newly established Massachusetts Horticultural Society, which was also responsible for the creation of Mount Auburn Cemetery in 1831. While the northern part of Brighton developed rapidly during the early 19th century, the more remote southern part (where Evergreen Cemetery is located) remained fairly rural.

In 1872, stockyard activities were consolidated at the Brighton Abattoir located in the northern part of Brighton, freeing up land in other parts of town. In 1873, the state legislature voted to annex Brighton to Boston; the transfer officially took place in 1874. With rapid growth of Boston during this period and improved transportation systems, the southern part of Brighton was developed as a streetcar suburb during the 1870s and 1880s. Meanwhile, as Boston's population grew, the city's infrastructure was becoming more complex. One of the pressing needs was to obtain an adequate supply of fresh drinking water. In 1865, the city purchased the ponds south of Evergreen Cemetery for this purpose. The area, now known as Chestnut Hill Reservoir, was later integrated into the metropolitan water system. Another major civic improvement in the vicinity of Evergreen Cemetery in the late 19th century was the construction of Commonwealth Avenue, a landscaped boulevard extending west from downtown Boston that included a trolley line which provided fast public transportation into the city. Brighton grew rapidly in the 20th century, with increasing institutional development, including Boston College immediately to the west of the cemetery. The current population of the Brighton neighborhood is about 44,000.

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Cemetery History

The founding of Evergreen Cemetery was a direct response to conditions at Brighton's Market Street Burying Ground, which by the mid 19th century had become a cramped, unattractive space with no room for additional burials. Inspiration for the design of the new cemetery came from Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, which was founded in 1831 by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. A fundamental premise of Mount Auburn was that burying and commemorating the dead was best done in a tranquil and beautiful natural setting outside the city center. The cemetery's founders also believed that Mount Auburn should be a place for the living as well as the dead and that the natural landscape should be embellished with ornamental plantings, monuments, fences, fountains and chapels. This concept was copied widely throughout the United States, giving birth to the rural cemetery movement and the tradition of garden cemeteries. Many of Brighton's early 19th-century nursery owners were members of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and were very familiar with Mount Auburn, so it was only natural that they turned to it for inspiration as they planned the new cemetery.

In 1848, the selectmen of Brighton purchased land for the town's new cemetery from the heirs of William Aspinwall. Located in the southern part of Brighton, the area known as the Aspinwall woods was described as "a beautiful, well-wooded tract of slightly less than 14 acres." In November of 1849, the selectmen appointed a committee to lay out and prepare the grounds for a cemetery. The committee hired William A. Mason, a local surveyor and engineer, to provide an accurate survey and plan for the cemetery. Copies of the plan have not been found to date but the layout that Mason designed is still clearly evident on a 1937 plan (map 3). In contrast to the winding roads found at Mount Auburn, Mason developed a more formal design defined by two long ovals partially divided in the middle. This formal geometry was juxtaposed on the irregular topography of the site, which included many rock outcrops. The committee was also authorized to make the initial improvements to the cemetery, including construction of roads and paths, staking of the first lots, and construction of a receiving tomb. While the early burials were primarily in family lots, a small area was set aside for "public burials." Initially a wall was planned in front of the cemetery, but a wood fence was installed instead, presumably because of budget constraints. As the cemetery land was largely wooded, part of the cost of developing it was defrayed by sale of wood from the site.

On August 7, 1850 Evergreen was consecrated as a public cemetery. By that time avenues and paths had been laid out and graded, while a receiving tomb had been built in the north grove for temporary interments (a common practice, especially during the winter months). The ceremony was held in the Chapel Grove, a circular space in the center of the cemetery that is now the site of the soldiers monument. Frederic A. Whitney, minister of Brighton's Unitarian Church and also a historian, gave the consecration address.

By 1860, 116 lots had been sold, most at a cost of about \$30 each. An Egyptian gateway (modeled on the one at Mount Auburn Cemetery) had been built at the entrance with wooden fencing on either side. Shrubs and perennials had been planted near the gateway and along the main road. The roads had been widened, some hills lowered and valleys filled, and many large stones removed. By this time the granite front had been added to the receiving tomb. There was also a well and a small building for tools and visitors. Primary needs cited by the commissioners were sodding the sides of

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Evergreen Cemetery
Boston (Suffolk), Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 4

roads and more grading. Lot enclosures were prevalent at the time: 62 were enclosed by iron fences, eight by evergreen hedges, two by chains, 25 with corner posts but not enclosed, and 19 lots with no bound markers. Granite curbing was introduced soon after that.

By the end of 1863, there had been a total 284 interments, including 50 reinterments from elsewhere. About $\frac{3}{4}$ of these were buried in family lots and $\frac{1}{4}$ in the "public ground," or pauper's area, in the northeast corner of the cemetery. A major multi-year project during this period was constructing a stone wall along the eastern edge of the cemetery. Construction of the prominent Holton monument near the center of the cemetery focused new attention on that part of the cemetery.

At a town meeting held April 24, 1865, only a few days after the end of the Civil War, the town voted to erect a monument to the Brighton soldiers who had fought in the war. Funds were raised by voluntary subscription. The monument, made of Quincy granite was 30' tall and cost about \$5,000. It was sited in the central space that had previously been known as the chapel grove. It was designed by George Frederick Meacham and was built by Adam Vogel and Sons. The monument was dedicated on July 26, 1866. It was one of the first Civil War monuments to be erected in the state and a surprisingly large effort for a small town.

With annexation of Brighton by Boston in early 1874, Evergreen became one of many cemeteries administered by the city of Boston. Initially, responsibility for cemeteries was placed under the Board of Health, because of serious problems associated with the city's oldest burying grounds. During this period, Evergreen received relatively little attention. By 1880 less than half the cemetery had been laid out in lots, much of it was still covered with native trees, and, despite some grading, there were still drainage problems.

Until the 1890s the Chestnut Hill area where Evergreen is located was fairly rural. Construction of nearby Beacon Street during the mid-1880s and Commonwealth Avenue in the 1890s, both with new trolley lines, opened the area to development. In light of these changes, Evergreen Cemetery received a special appropriation in 1892. The present entrance gate was built at that time, initially with a thatched roof canopy and adjacent raised planting beds. The present steel picket fence replaced the earlier wooden fence, the roads and paths were regraded and surfaced with red gravel; and new burial lots were laid out.

In 1897, responsibility for all Boston cemeteries was transferred to the newly established Boston Cemetery Department. The new caretakers at Evergreen commented that records were very poor; also noting that the roads had never been properly constructed, and that they required grading and resurfacing. They also mentioned the need for a proper waiting room and decent toilet facilities. At that time, there were 280 lots and 419 single graves. Improvements were made in the years that followed, including construction of the present office building; rebuilding of roads; removal of trees and stumps; and planting of trees, shrubs and flowers. Evergreen and Western Avenues were laid out around this time and new burial lots were laid out as needed.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation Sheet

Evergreen Cemetery
Boston (Suffolk), Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 5

In 1920, another reorganization occurred, and cemeteries were placed under the jurisdiction of the Boston Parks Department. During this period, burials continued at a relatively slow rate and modest improvements were made to create new burial areas, remove dying chestnut trees, and install a drainage system. Sometime between 1933 and 1937, stone walls, steps, and a rock garden were built along Pine Avenue at what was then the southwestern corner of the cemetery.

The land south and west of the cemetery had been purchased by the city of Boston in 1865 as part of Chestnut Hill Reservoir. The land remained wooded parkland until 1953, when the city sold 3.6 acres west of the cemetery to Boston College for the law school. In the 1970s, 5.84 acres of the former parkland south and west of the cemetery were added to the cemetery to create additional land for burials west of the original cemetery and provide a work area to the south. The entire cemetery is included within the present nomination.

Evergreen Cemetery remains an active city cemetery with limited burial space available in the new section and an occasional burial occurring in the older section on lots that have already been purchased. The Cemetery Division of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department has responsibility for the cemetery. Cemetery headquarters is at Mount Hope Cemetery in the Mattapan section of Boston (NR pending) with a small staff assigned to Evergreen. A preservation master plan for the cemetery was completed in 1999 and major projects undertaken in the past 20 years have included rehabilitation of the soldiers monument, the office, and the Commonwealth Avenue fence.

Conclusions

Boston has 18 municipally owned historic burying grounds established between 1630 and 1892. Seven of these were established in the 17th century, three in the 18th century, and eight in the 19th century. The oldest are primarily small urban burial places in downtown Boston. They contain gravestones, tombs, and monuments that honor the founding members of the community, including Revolutionary War heroes and men and women of national and international fame. The historic significance of this early group of burying grounds has been widely recognized and well documented. Three of these early burying grounds - Granary, King's Chapel and Copp's Hill - are located along Boston's Freedom Trail and attract thousands of visitors annually. The 18th-century burying grounds, which included Brighton's Market Street Burying Ground, were similar in character to the early burying grounds.

By the early 19th century, there was major concern about the older burying grounds, which were barren, poorly maintained places. The problem was three-fold. First, they were seriously overcrowded in a rapidly expanding city and there was no longer any space available for burial within the city limits. The second problem was a public health issue. At the time, Boston residents were largely dependent upon private wells, and the burial grounds were believed to be contaminating the water supply. The third factor was changing attitudes about death and burial.

In response to these concerns, the next generation of burial grounds were mostly established in outlying communities that were later annexed to Boston, including Brighton, Charlestown, Dorchester, East Boston, Hyde Park, Mattapan, Roxbury, and South Boston. As New Englanders rejected earlier ideas about the horror of death and embraced melancholy and

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Evergreen Cemetery
Boston (Suffolk), Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 6

sentimentalism, they began to explore new burial concepts. Attitudes about horticulture and the landscape were also changing, and many new civic institutions were created, including Mount Auburn Cemetery.

Bennington Street Cemetery (NR), established in 1838, was one of the first to reflect this new trend. It was located outside the city center in East Boston, and, unlike the earlier burial grounds, was laid out in an orderly geometric manner intended as a permanent resting place for those who were interred there. Mount Auburn had an even stronger influence at Evergreen Cemetery, where strong ties to the Massachusetts Horticultural Society led to a more innovative design. However, the Evergreen design was still modest compared with that of Forest Hills Cemetery (NR), which was established in 1848 as a public cemetery by the city of Roxbury just to the south of Boston and later became a private cemetery.

The significance of Boston's historic burying grounds has been well documented and is widely appreciated. Almost of them have been formally recognized in some way. Seven historic burying grounds are individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places; one site, Central, is a National Historic Landmark; two sites, Central and Dorchester North, are designated Boston Landmarks; the Granary lies within the Beacon Hill Architectural District; the South End Burying Ground is located within the South End Landmark District; and the Eliot (Eustis Street) Burying Ground lies within the Eustis Street Architectural Conservation District.

Evergreen, one of three active cemeteries owned by the city of Boston, represents a new generation of burial grounds. Mount Hope (1852) and Fairview (1892), the other two active cemeteries (both NR pending), expand this tradition and reflect further evolution of Boston cemetery design. There are also a large number of private cemeteries in the city, some of which are also listed on the National Register.

(end)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Evergreen Cemetery
Boston (Suffolk), Massachusetts

Section number 9 Page 1

9. Major Bibliographical References

Books, Articles, Reports

City of Boston. Cemetery Department. *Annual Reports*. 1897-1920.

City of Boston. Parks Department. *Annual Reports*. 1920s on.

Town of Brighton. *Annual Reports of the Town Officers*. 1848-1873.

Walker-Kluesing Design Group. *A Preservation Master Plan for Boston's Active Historic Cemeteries*. Boston: Boston Parks and Recreation Department, 1999.

Whitney, Rev. Frederic Augustus. "An Oration Delivered at the Dedication of the Soldiers' Monument in Evergreen Cemetery, Brighton, Mass on Thursday July 26, 1866." Boston: S. Chism, Franklin Printing House, 1866.

Winship, J.P.C. *Historical Brighton, an Illustrated History of Brighton and its Citizens*. Boston: George A. Warren.

Maps

Brighton Atlases, 1875, 1885, 1890, 1890, 1899, 1909, 1916, 1925. (available online from Brighton-Allston Historical Society).

Evergreen Cemetery Maps, 1933. Evergreen Cemetery files, Boston Parks and Recreation Department (shows detailed layout of burial lots).

Evergreen Cemetery, Water Service Piping Plan, 1937 (shows original layout and location of rock garden). In Boston Parks and Recreation Department files.

Walker-Kluesing Design Group. Preservation Master Plan Maps, 1999. In Boston Parks and Recreation Department files.

(end)

Evergreen Cemetery
Name of Property

Suffolk, MA
County, State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 19.66 acres

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19	321660	4689560	3. 19	321880	4689300
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
2. 19	322000	4689560	4. 19	321600	4689400
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing

__ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Shary Page Berg, preservation consultant, with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date June 2009

street & number 220 Morrissey Boulevard telephone 617-727-8470

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name City of Boston, Parks and Recreation Dept.

street & number 1010 Massachusetts Ave. telephone 617-635-4505

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Evergreen Cemetery
Boston (Brighton) (Suffolk), MA

Section number 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary includes the entire 19.66-acre area that currently comprises Evergreen Cemetery. The entire cemetery is shown on Boston assessors map 21054, ward 21. Three separate parcels are included in the cemetery:

- 2444 (original cemetery acquired in 1848, 604,520 sq. ft.)
- 2443-1 (former city of Boston land west of cemetery added in the early 1970s, 166,200 sq. ft.)
- 2444-1 (former city of Boston land south of cemetery added in 1979, 85,813 sq. ft.)

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the original 13.82 acre cemetery acquired in 1848 and consecrated in 1850, as well as 5.84 acres of former city land at the southern and western end of the cemetery that were added to the cemetery in the 1970s. Almost all of this acreage has been developed as burial land except for a small work area at the southern end of the cemetery.

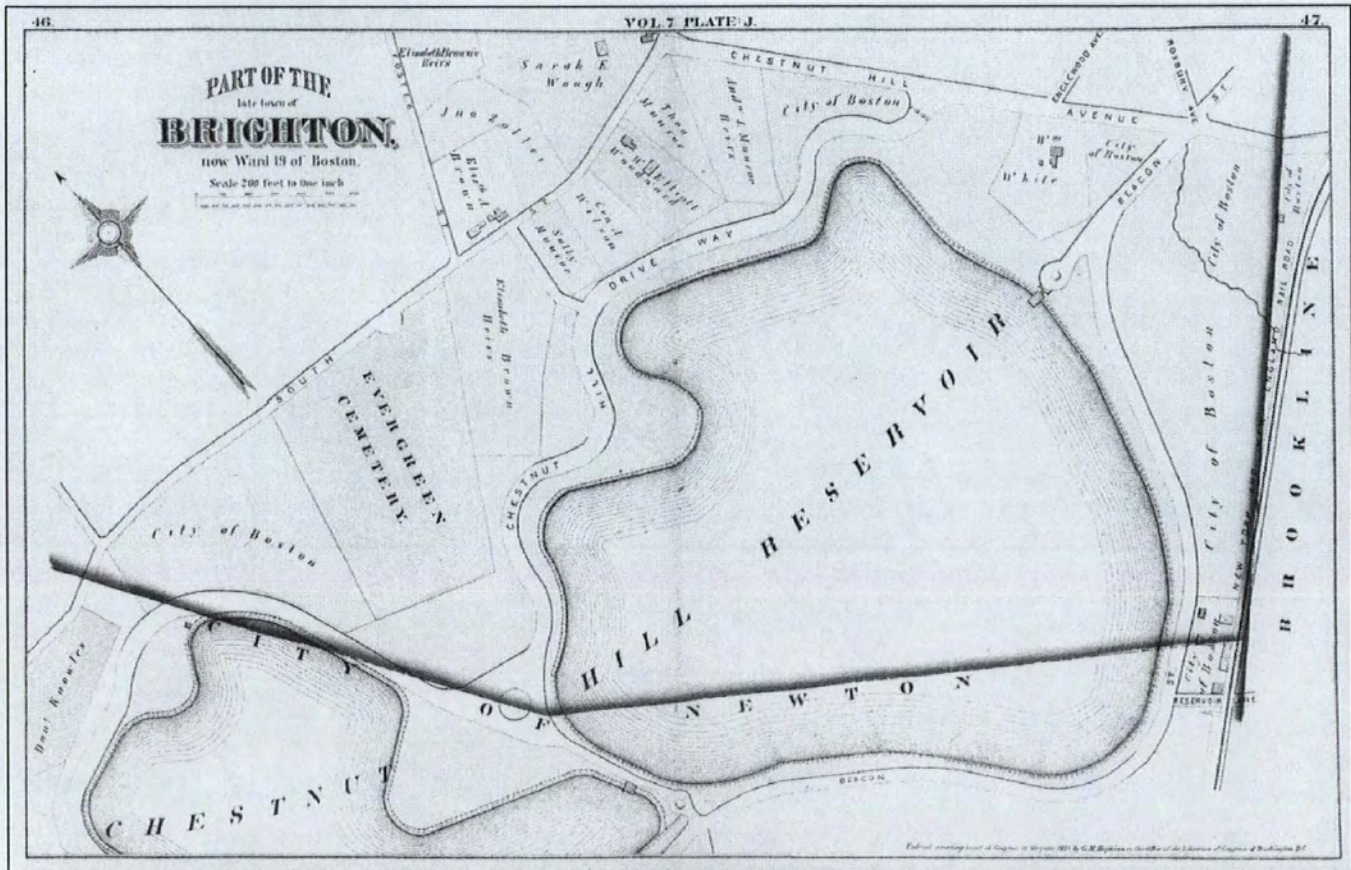
(end)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Evergreen Cemetery
Boston (Suffolk), Massachusetts

Section number Maps/Photos Page 1



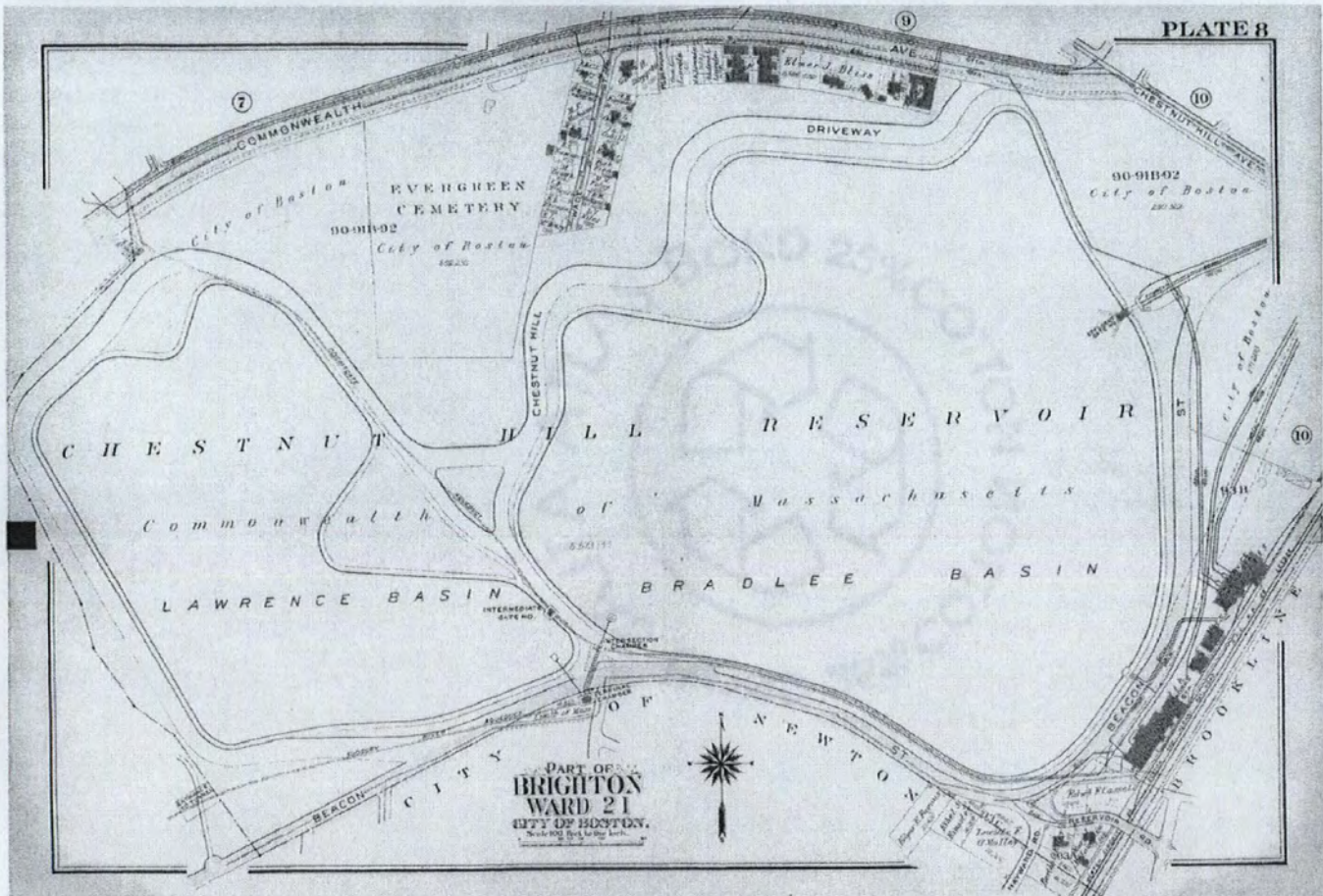
Map 1 - Evergreen Cemetery area in 1875 (cemetery is at left). At this point South Street formed the northern edge of the cemetery. It was replaced by Commonwealth Avenue a few years later.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Evergreen Cemetery
Boston (Suffolk), Massachusetts

Section number Maps/Photos Page 2



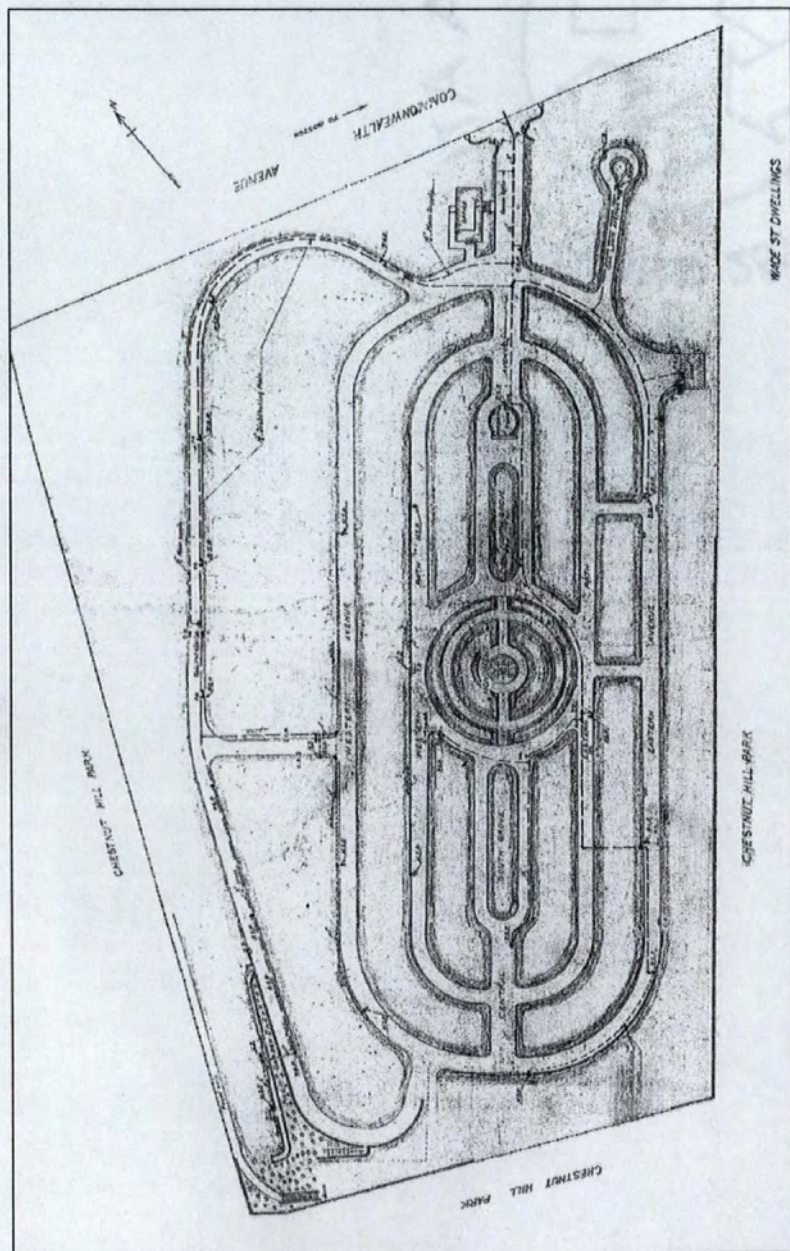
Map 2 - Evergreen Cemetery area in 1925 (cemetery is at upper left).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Evergreen Cemetery
Boston (Suffolk), Massachusetts

Section number Maps/Photos Page 3



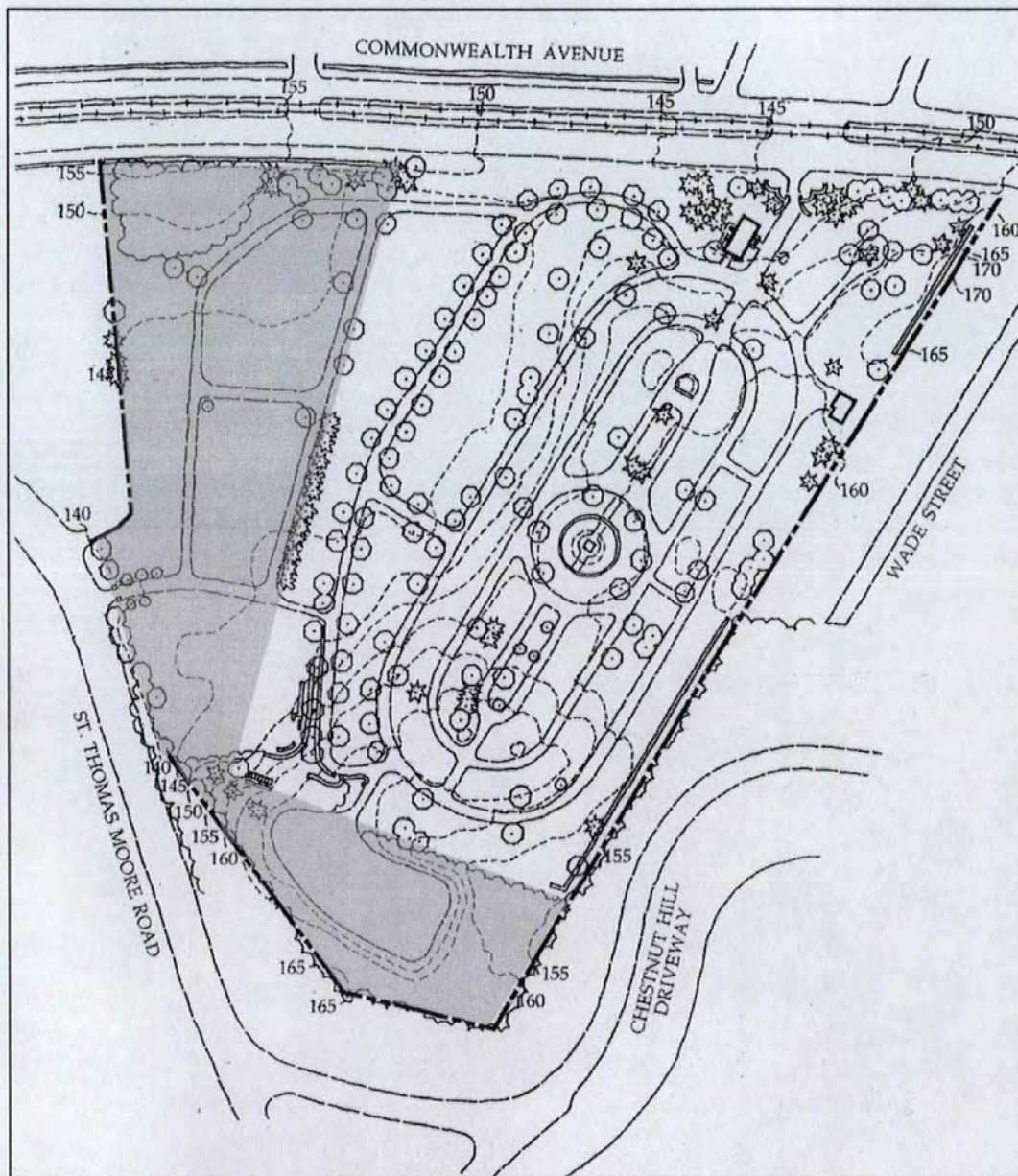
Map 3 - Cemetery in 1937 showing original double oval road system with newer roads at left and upper right. Rock garden is at lower left.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Evergreen Cemetery
Boston (Suffolk), Massachusetts

Section number Maps/Photos Page 4



Map 4 - Existing conditions. The older part of the cemetery is in white. The light gray sections include new burial land (at left) and cemetery work area (at bottom), both of which were added in the 1970s and are considered non-contributing.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Evergreen Cemetery
Boston (Suffolk), Massachusetts

Section number Maps/Photos Page 6

<i>Number</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Photographer</i>
Photo 1	View of older curbed lots along Central Avenue, looking southeast.	11/2007	Shary Berg
Photo 2	View of soldiers monument, looking south.	11/2007	Shary Berg
Photo 3	View of entrance gate looking southeast from Commonwealth Avenue.	11/2007	Shary Berg
Photo 4	View of cemetery office, looking northwest.	11/2007	Shary Berg
Photo 5	View of early 20 th century headstones with soldiers monument in the background, looking southeast.	11/2007	Shary Berg
Photo 6	View of 1930s decorative wall and Pine Avenue, looking north.	11/2007	Shary Berg

EVERGREEN CEMETERY DATA SHEET
Boston (Suffolk), Massachusetts

<i>Photo #</i>	<i>Historic Name</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Description/ Material</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Status</i>
	Cemetery			1850	Site	C
6	Circulation System	Throughout cemetery	Bituminous (roads were initially gravel)	1850-1970s	Structure	C
4	Cemetery Office (also called Gate House) (MHC 8133)	Commonwealth Avenue near main cemetery entrance	1½ story wood frame Jacobethan half-timbered building with slate roof. Architect: James Mulcahy.	1903	Building	C
	Flagpole	Central Avenue	40' tall brushed aluminum	Late 20th century	Object	NC
	Maintenance Building	Eastern edge of cemetery	One-story concrete garage and storage building with major alterations.	1920	Building	NC
3	Entrance Gate (MHC 9318)	Commonwealth Avenue	Curving rubble fieldstone walls supported by wooden canopy; iron vehicular and pedestrian gates. Architect: Edmund March Wheelwright	1892	Structure	C
	Commonwealth Avenue Fence	Commonwealth Avenue edge of cemetery	Steel picket fence along front of original part of cemetery (eastern end)	1892	Structure	C
	Commonwealth Avenue Wall	Commonwealth Avenue	Rubble fieldstone wall along part of cemetery frontage. May pre-date cemetery.	Mid 19 th cent?	Structure	C
	East Wall	Eastern edge of cemetery	Rubble fieldstone wall along part of cemetery frontage.	1860s	Structure	C
6	Pine Avenue/Pine Grove System of Walls and Steps	Southern part of cemetery	Mortared and parged fieldstone wall with vertical stones on top, associated with former rock garden.	1930s	Structure	C
	Chain Link Perimeter Fencing	South and west perimeter	Various heights, standard chain link used on secondary parts of perimeter.	Mid-late 20th cent.	N/A	

EVERGREEN CEMETERY DATA SHEET
Boston (Suffolk), Massachusetts

	Edward Glover Headstone	Oak Lawn Avenue	Slate headstone (reinterment)	1838	Object	C
	Receiving Tomb	Central Avenue	Mound tomb faced with granite-blocks, iron door	Ca. 1850	Structure	C
	Collins Tomb	Eastern Avenue	Granite-faced mound tombs with marble tablet door.	Mid-19 th century	Structure	C
	Brooks/Sparhawk Double Tomb	Eastern Avenue	Granite-faced double mound tomb with marble tablet door and bronze pulls.	1851	Structure	C
	Shillaber Tomb	Central Avenue, west of soldiers monument	Granite-faced mound tomb with marble tablet door and bronze pulls.	Mid-19 th century	Structure	C
	Jones monument	Eastern Avenue	Marble draped female figure on pedestal	Ca. 1877	Object	C
	Fobes monument	Eastern Path	Marble draped female figure on pedestal	Late 19 th century	Object	C
	Champney Monument	Eastern Avenue	Zinc (white bronze)	Late 19 th century	Structure	C
	Wilson Monument	Eastern Avenue	Zinc (white bronze) obelisk	Ca. 1888	Structure	C
	Winship Monument	Eastern Avenue	Large puddingstone boulder with small plaque	Mid-19 th century	Object	C
	Holton Monument	Central Avenue	Granite monument	Ca. 1863	Structure	C
2	Soldiers Monument	Central Avenue	Granite monument	1866	Structure	C
	Lt. John H. Westfall	Evergreen Avenue	Cannon on granite base	1919	Object	C
	Ellis/Turner Headstone	Evergreen Avenue	Slate headstone	Late 20 th century	Object	NC

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Evergreen Cemetery
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Suffolk

DATE RECEIVED: 7/02/09 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/13/09
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/28/09 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/15/09
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 09000612

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 8/14/09 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept AIC
REVIEWER Patrick Andrews DISCIPLINE Historian
TELEPHONE _____ DATE 8/14/2009

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



Evergreen Cemetery, Boston, MA 1

MA-BOSTON(SUFFOLK COUNTY)-EVERGREEN.
001

SHARY BERG PHOTO 11/2007

VIEW of OLDER CURBED LOTS ALONG
CENTRAL AVE., LOOKING SE



Evergreen Cemetery Boston, MA 2

SHARY BERG PHOTO 11/2007

MA-BOSTON (SUFFOLK COUNTY)-EVERGREEN.002

SOLIDERS' MONUMENT, LOOKING S



Evergreen Cemetery Boston, MA 3

SIMONY BERG, PHOTO 11/2007

MA - BOSTON (SUFFOLK COUNTY) - EVERGREEN. 003

COMM'L TH. AVE. ENTRANCE GATE,
LOOKING SE



Evergreen Cemetery Boston, MA &

SHARY BERG PHOTO 11/2007

MA_BOSTON(SUFFOLKCOUNTY)-EVERGREEN.004

CEMETERY OFFICE, LOOKING N IN



Evergreen Cemetery Boston, MA 5

SHARY BERG PHOTO 11/2007

MA_BOSTON(SUFFOLKCOUNTY) - EVERGREEN. 005

20TH CENT. HEADSTONES, WITH SOLDIER'S
MONUMENT IN REAR, LOOKING SE



Evergreen Cemetery Boston, MA 6

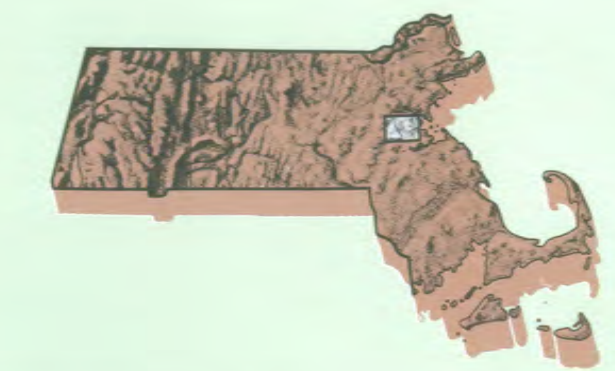
SHARY BERG PHOTO 11/2007

MA-BOSTON (SUFFOLK COUNTY) - EVERGREEN.
006

PINE AVE. 1930^s DECORATIVE WALL
LOOKING N

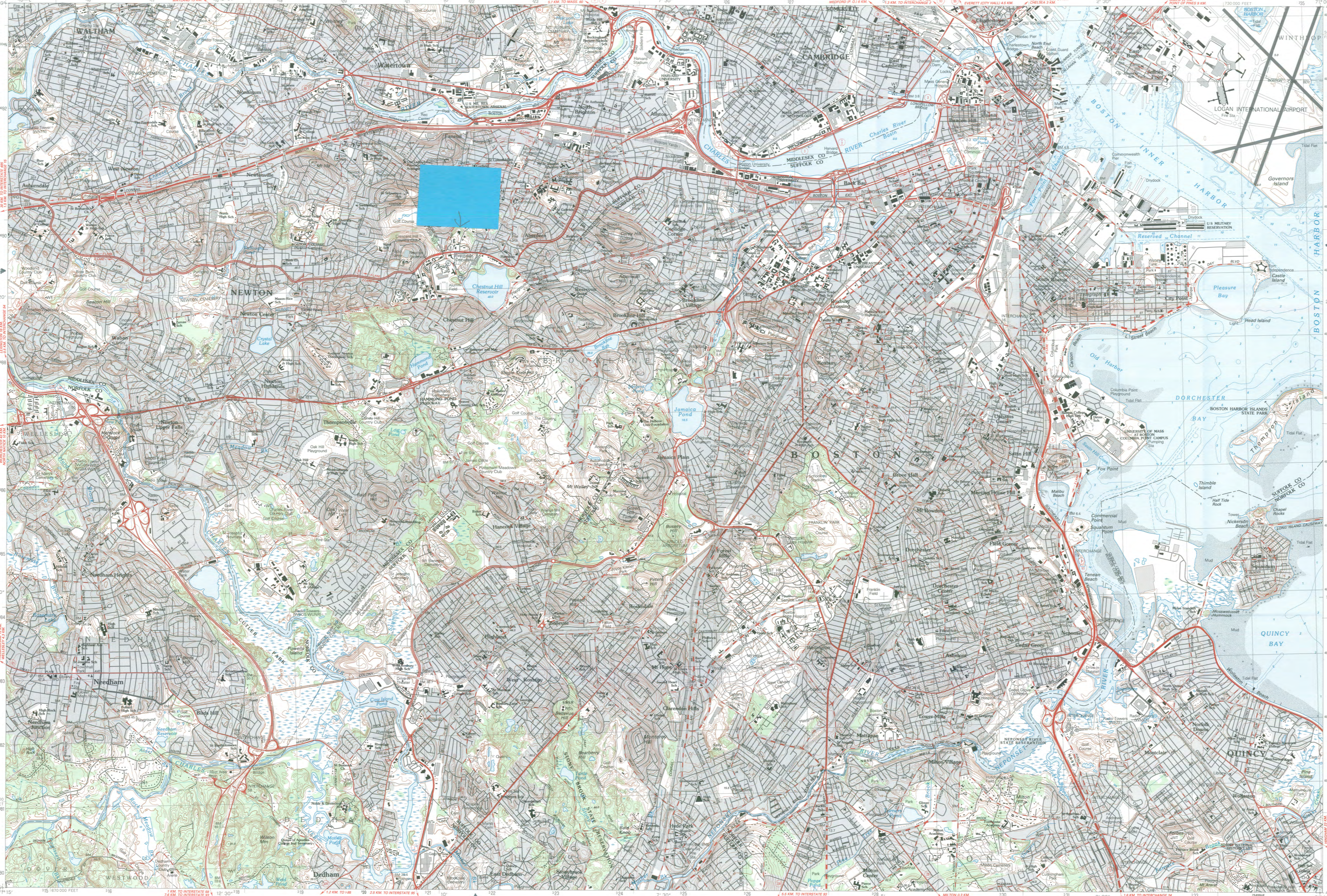
Boston South MASSACHUSETTS

1:25 000-scale metric topographic map



7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE SHOWING

- Contours and elevations in meters
- Highways, roads and other manmade structures
- Water features
- Woodland areas
- Geographic names



EVERGREEN CEM. BOSTON (SUFFOLK) MA

Zone 19

1. 321660 4689560

2. 322000 4689560

3. 321880 4689300

4. 321600 4689400

Produced by the United States Geological Survey in cooperation with Massachusetts Department of Public Works

Compiled by USGS, NOS-NOAA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts agencies

Controlled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1978. Field checked 1979. Map edited 1987

Supersedes Newton and Boston South 1:25,000-scale maps dated 1970

Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS charts 13270 (1982) and 13272 (1982). This information is not intended for navigational purposes

Projection and 1000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 19

10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone

1927 North American Datum

To show on the predicted North American Datum 1983, move the projection lines 6 meters south and 42 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

CONTOUR INTERVAL: 3 METERS

NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER

OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER

DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN METERS

DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE

SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER

THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 2.9 METERS

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

Meters	Feet
1	3.2808
2	6.5617
3	9.8425
4	13.1234
5	16.4043
6	19.6852
7	22.9661
8	26.2470
9	29.5279
10	32.8088

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808

To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048



Topographic Map Symbols

Primary highway, hard surface	—
Secondary highway, hard surface	—
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface	—
Unimproved road, trail	—
Road marker: Interstate, U. S. State	—
Railroad: standard gage; narrow gage	—
Bridge: drawbridge	—
Footbridge; overpass; underpass	—
Basin; area: only selected landmark buildings shown	—
House; barn; church; school; large structure	—
Boundary:	—
National, with monument	—
State	—
County, parish	—
Civil township, precinct, district	—
Incorporated city, village, town	—
National or State reservation; state park	—
Land grant with monument; found section corner	—
U. S. public lands survey; range, township, section	—
Range, township; section line; location approximate	—
Fence or field line	—
Power transmission line, located tower	—
Dam; dam with lock	—
Cemetery; grave	—
Campground; picnic area; U. S. National Monument	—
Woods; water well; spring	—
Mine shaft; prospect; edit or cave	—
Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation	—
Contour: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression	—
Disturbed surface: strip mine, lava, sand	—
Soundings; depth curve	—
Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream	—
Rapids; large and small falls; large and small	—
Submerged marsh; marsh, swam	—
Land subject to controlled inundation; woodland	—
Scrub; mangrove	—
Drainage; viewpoint	—

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request

BOSTON

Thomas M. Menino, Mayor

RECEIVED

JUN 04 2009

MASS. HIST. COMM

June 2, 2009

Ms. Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125-3314

RE: National Register Nomination for Evergreen, Mt. Hope, and Fairview Cemeteries

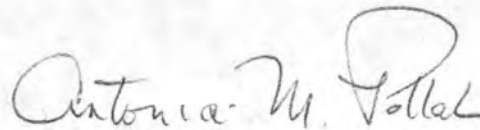
Dear Ms. Friedberg:

I am writing to you to express my support for the National Register nomination of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department's three active cemeteries: Evergreen, Mt. Hope, and Fairview. All three of these sites were established in the nineteenth century. They illustrate important developments in the evolution of graveyard design from rural cemeteries to lawn park cemeteries. They continue the tale of Boston's residents, begun in the oldest seventeenth-century burying grounds, tracing the history of Boston from before the Civil War to the present day.

The National Register status will allow these sites to seek grant funding to restore its historic administration buildings and chapels as well as to preserve the landscape characteristics and planting patterns that distinguish and honor the memory of those buried there.

Thank you for considering Evergreen, Mt. Hope, and Fairview Cemeteries for listing on the National Register. The Boston Parks and Recreation Department welcomes the opportunity to work with the Massachusetts Historical Commission towards our joint goal of preservation of Boston's historic resources.

Sincerely



Antonia M. Pollak
Commissioner



Boston Parks and Recreation Department

Antonia M. Pollak, Commissioner

1010 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, MA 02118 / Tel.: (617) 635-4505 / Fax: 635-3173



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

June 25, 2009

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

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Evergreen Cemetery, 2060 Commonwealth Ave., Boston [Brighton] (Suffolk), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of the property in the Certified Local Government community of Boston were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 60 to 90 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

One letter of support has been received.

Sincerely,

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Shary Page Berg, consultant
Katherine McLaughlin, Boston CLG coordinator
Thomas Menino, Mayor, City of Boston
Susan Pranger, Boston Landmarks Commission
Antonia Pollak, Boston Parks Commissioner