

FORM C – OBJECT

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

49/3	Boston North	AC, AG, B	
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Town: Lexington

Place (*neighborhood or village*): Lexington Green

Address or Location: Massachusetts Avenue

Name: Belfry Site Boulder

Ownership: Public Private

Type of Object (*check one*):

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> statue | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> monument |
| <input type="checkbox"/> bust | <input type="checkbox"/> milestone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> group composition | <input type="checkbox"/> marker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> religious shrine | <input type="checkbox"/> boundary marker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other (<i>specify</i>) | |

Date of Construction: 1910

Source: on plaque

Designer/Sculptor: NA

Materials: boulder, bronze

Alterations (*with dates*):
none

Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date**

Acreage: NA

Setting: southeast corner of the Green

Recorded by: Lisa Mausolf

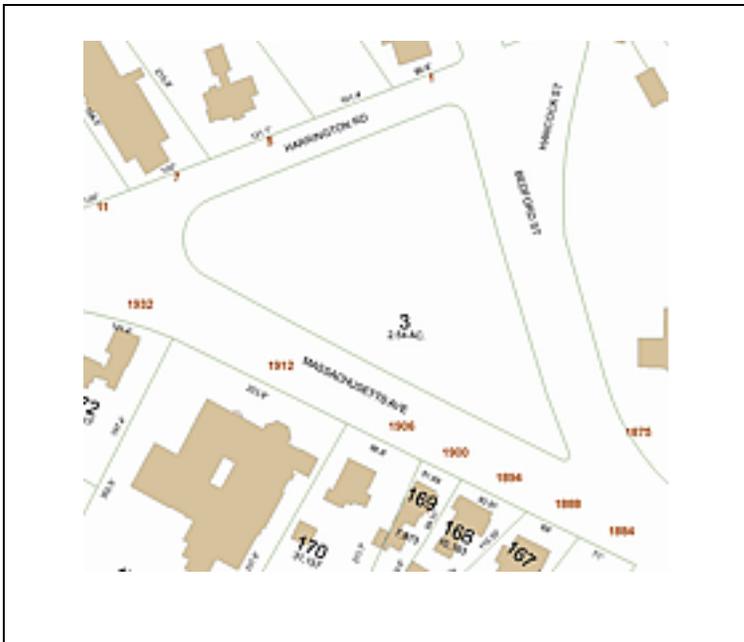
Organization: Lexington Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): Sept. 2009

Photograph



Topographic or Assessor's Map



INVENTORY FORM C CONTINUATION SHEET

LEXINGTON

MASS AVE.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

B

___ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

DESIGN ASSESSMENT

Describe the design features of the object and evaluate in terms of other similar types of objects within the community.

Northwest of the Minute Man Statue, facing Massachusetts Avenue, is this low boulder with bronze plaque marking the site of the wooden belfry which stood on the south side of the Green between 1768 and 1797.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Explain the history of the object and how it relates to the development of the community.

This monument was erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1910 to mark the site of the wooden belfry which stood on the Green from 1768 to 1797 and warned the colonists of the approach of the British on April 19, 1775.

In 1909 a gale wind destroyed the original belfry which had been moved from the Green to Spring Street and then to Belfry Hill. A reproduction of the belfry was created in 1910 and the same year this monument was erected to mark the belfry's original location.

The boulder was dedicated on October 19, 1910. The festivities included a procession from Munroe Tavern to the Battle Green, a band from the United States Navy Yard at Charlestown, a company of Lexington Minute-Men, and school children singing "America". The boulder was unveiled by Miss Elizabeth S. Parker, great-granddaughter of Captain John Parker, who commanded the Minute-Men on April 19, 1775.

ENTIRE INSCRIPTION (if applicable):

THE SITE
OF
THE OLD BELFRY
FROM WHICH THE ALARM WAS RUNG APRIL 19, 1775
THIS TABLET WAS ERECTED BY THE
LEXINGTON CHAPTER
DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
1910

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES:

Hudson, Charles. *History of the Town of Lexington from its first settlement to 1868* (Revised and Continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society). Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1913, vol. 1, p. 504

National Historic Landmark Nomination: Lexington Green, 1974.