

PH0005461

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
Massachusetts
COUNTY:
Plymouth
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE
AUG 30 1974

HB
2m19
N 464490
E 361000

1. NAME

COMMON:	National Monument to the Forefathers
AND/OR HISTORIC:	same

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:			
Allerton Street			
CITY OR TOWN:		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:	
Plymouth		12th	
STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Massachusetts	025	Plymouth	023

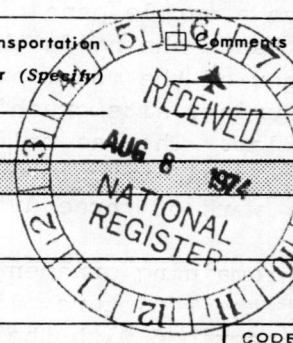
3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work n/a in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:	Pilgrim Society, Mr. Lawrence Geller, Director		
STREET AND NUMBER:	75 Court Street		
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE	
Plymouth	Massachusetts	025	



STATE: Massachusetts
COUNTY: Plymouth

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:			
Plymouth Registry of Deeds of the Commonwealth			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
Russell Street			
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE	
Plymouth	Massachusetts	025	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:			
Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth			
DATE OF SURVEY:	1967 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local		
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
Massachusetts Historical Commission			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
40 Beacon Street			
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE	
Boston	Massachusetts	025	

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
AUG 30 1974

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The National Monument to the Forefathers is situated on the crest of a hill, surrounded by lawns and accessible by several brick paths. The Monument and the surrounding landscape designed to complement it are the work of Hammatt Billings, a Boston architect of some note. The scheme of the Monument is a "classical" one, consistent with Billings' attraction to and use of 'classical' i.e. Roman-- motifs in his work. The composition consists of five figures representing Faith, Morality, Education, Law, and Liberty placed on and at the base of an octagonal shaft of rusticated granite blocks. The largest of the five sculptures, Faith, is set on top of the 45' granite shaft, appropriately facing east. She is portrayed with one foot resting on Plymouth Rock; her left hand holds an open Bible, her right is raised heavenward in a gesture of righteousness. The figure is colossal; it is 36' high, and is constructed of 14 blocks of granite which weigh a total of 180 tons. A gift from Oliver Ames, a well-known Massachusetts philanthropist, it was completed in 1877, some three years after Hammatt Billings' death.

The four lesser sculptures of Morality, Law, Education and Liberty are seated upon buttress-like plinths which project from alternate faces at the base of the shaft. They were completed and the monument erected in 1889. The modestly robed figure of Morality is seated at the northeast corner of the monument, above a marble panel in bas relief depicting the Treaty with Massasoit. In her hands she holds the Decalogue and the Scroll of Revelation. At the southeast corner of the monument, Liberty, represented by a male figure clothed as a Centurian, sits crushing the chains of bondage under his heel, his sword in his lap. The bas relief at his feet illustrates the Signing of the Compact. These smaller sculptures show a marked stylistic dissimilarity as they are the work of three different sculptors working independently of one another.

The remaining ornament consists of four recessed arched panels, which alternate with the sculpture plinths and the stone tablets beneath them. The east panel is inscribed with the name of the Monument and an appropriate dedicatory sentiment. The other three panels bear the names of the passengers of the Mayflower. The tablets under each panel were provided for visual balance in the design and to carry suitable inscriptions at some future date. They have remained blank.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1889

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The National Monument to the Forefathers is primarily significant as the work of Hammatt Billings, one of Boston's foremost 19th c. architects and designers. The design is quite typical of that period and is representative of that strange mixture of classical and contemporary motifs used in Victorian monumental sculpture.

The monument was commissioned by the Pilgrim Society, founded in 1820, whose raison d'etre was the creation of a suitable memorial to the landing of the Mayflower. The Society held a competition for the proposed monument in 1855 and initially awarded the project to two artists from New York. However, Hammatt Billings approached the committee with his plan to raise the funds himself, thereby indemnifying the Society against all losses. The Society, impressed by his design and economics, signed a contract with him. In turn, he agreed to complete the monument in 12 years. The Civil War, however, intervened, raising the costs and delaying work on the monument. Billings organized a nation-wide fund-raising campaign, offering silver and bronze models of the monument to subscribers. In connection with the fund raising, he published The Illustrated Pilgrim Almanac (later The Illustrated Pilgrim Memorial) including articles written and illustrated by himself. Eventually, inflation caused Billings to propose halving the size of the monument, which the Pilgrim Society agreed to in 1874, shortly before Billings' death.

The work was carried on by Joseph Billings, architect brother of Hammatt. According to Richard Stoddard, "In 1875 he commissioned the well-known sculptor, William Rimmer, to make a 9' plaster model of the figure of Faith. The sculptor's model, based on the Venus de Milo, was clad in draperies too thin for Joseph Billings' taste. He turned Rimmer's work over to a little-known sculptor named Perry (probably John D. Perry) who thickened the drapery and altered the head. Funds for the subsidiary figures of Law, Morality, Education, Liberty, and for the sculptured panels on the face of the buttresses, were hard to find, and the monument was not completed until 1889."

At one time considered somewhat of a Victorian folly, the monument remains one of the major works of Hammatt Billings and one of the major memorials to the Pilgrims.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Anderson, Marjorie, Information from several conversations.
2. Andrews, Wayne, Architecture in New England, Brattleboro, 1973, p.116.
3. Stoddard, Richard, "Hammatt Billings, Artist and Architect", Old-Time New England, vol. LXII, Jan-March 1972, pp.57-65.

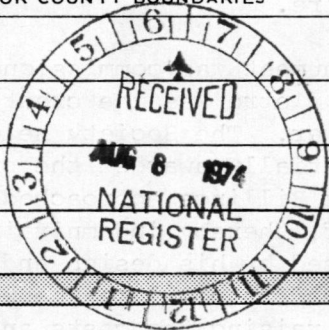
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		41° 57' 36½"	70° 40' 35"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mindy Arbo, N.R. Editor, for Elizabeth Amadon, State Survey Director
 ORGANIZATION: Massachusetts Historical Commission DATE: 8/14/73
 STREET AND NUMBER:
40 Beacon Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Boston STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 02108
617-727-8470 CODE: 025

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: John F. X. Davoren
 Honorable John F. X. Davoren
 Secretary of the Commonwealth
 Title: Chairman, Massachusetts Historical Commission
 Date: 7/24/74

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

A.R. Martens
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 Date: 8/30/74
 ATTEST:
Charles H. Smith
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date: 8-29-74

PROPERTY	National Monument to the Forefathers		STATE	Mass	2nd Control Sheet
WORKING NUMBER	11.14.73.3956				
TECH REVIEW	PHOTOS	1 + 1 plan			Plymouth
	MAPS	1			

CONTROL REVIEW		OK	cm 8.13 74
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HISTORIAN	Accept W.R. Luce 8/14/74
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ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN	Accept H. J. Judd 8/14/74
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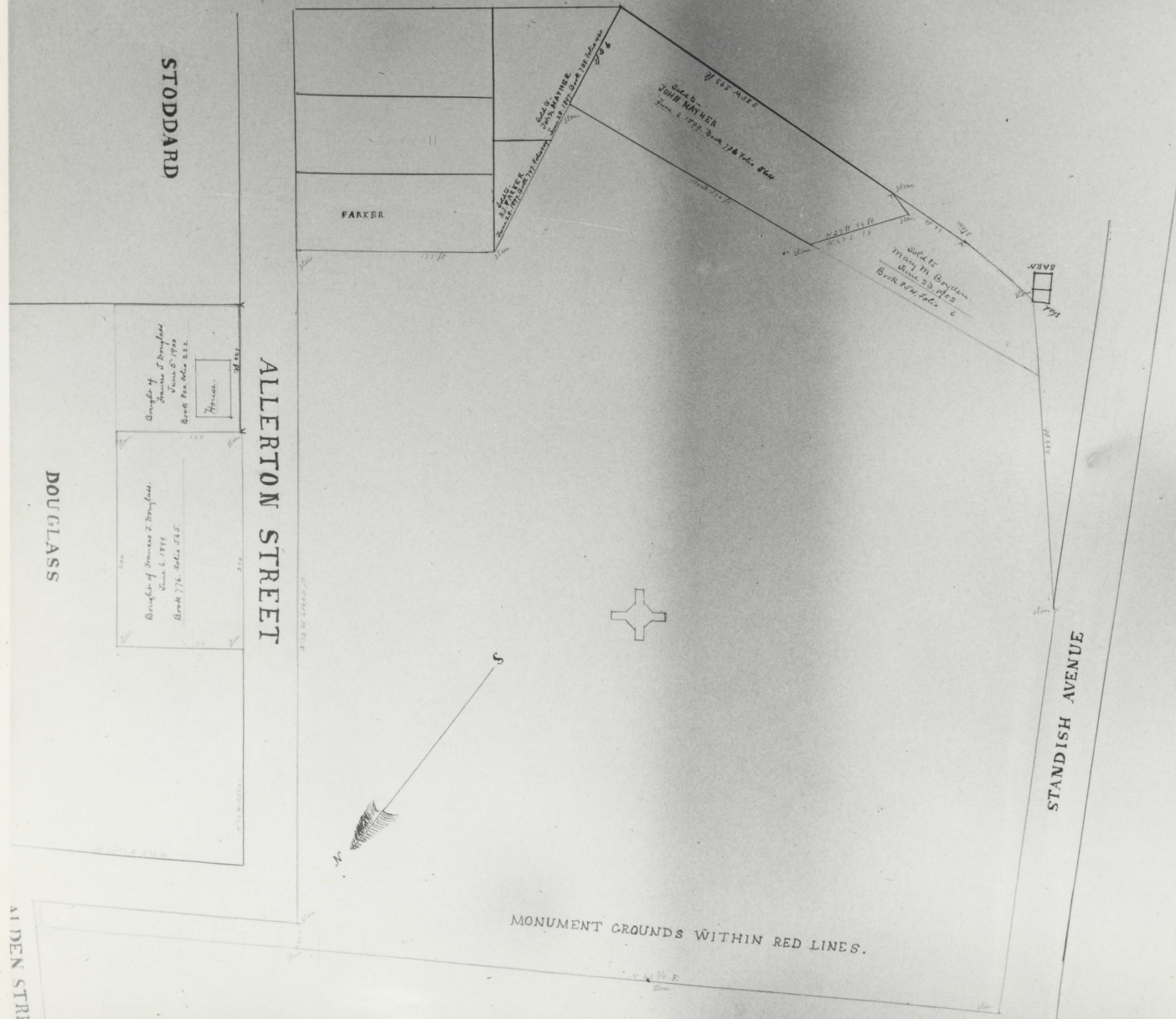
ARCHEOLOGIST	
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REVIEW UNIT CHIEF	Accept Cole 8/23/74
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BRANCH CHIEF	
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KEEPER	accept Henry O Jr. Murtry 8-29-74
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National Register Write-up	<u>10/7/74</u>	Send-back	_____
Federal Register entry	<u>Oct. 1, 1974</u>	Re-submit	_____
Entered			AUG 30 1974



PLAN
OF
MONUMENT GROUNDS

JUNE 7 1891

REFERENCES

Hathaway to Pilgrim Society	Book 408 folio 229
Stoddard to Billings	" 420 " 59
Billings to Pilgrim Society	" 424 " 215
Davis to Pilgrim Society	" 337 " 215
Wheeler to Pilgrim Society	" 299 " 125
Pilgrim Society to Parker	" 767 " 544
" " " Mayner	" 733 " 460
" " " "	" 721 " 327
Douglass to Pilgrim Society	" 774 " 215
Pilgrim Society to Mary M. Brigham	" 210 " 222

SCALE 20 FEET TO INCH



MONUMENT GROUNDS WITHIN RED LINES.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME

COMMON

National Monument to
the Forefathers

AND/OR HISTORIC

NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)

AUG 30 1974

2. LOCATION

STATE

Massachusetts

COUNTY

Plymouth

TOWN

Plymouth

STREET AND NUMBER

Allerton Street

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

DATE

1973 (?)

NEGATIVE FILED AT

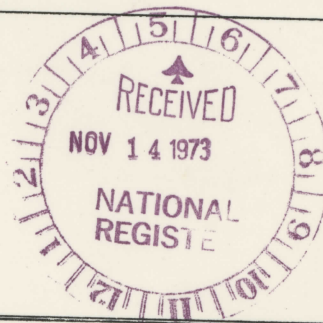
Pilgrim Hall

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Plan of the Monument grounds

1 of 2



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



FORM 10-301 A
(6/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME

COMMON

National Monument to
the Forefathers

AND/OR HISTORIC

NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)

AUG 30 1974

2. LOCATION

STATE

Massachusetts

COUNTY

Plymouth

TOWN

Plymouth

STREET AND NUMBER

Allerton Street

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Studio One

DATE

5/15/73

NEGATIVE FILED AT

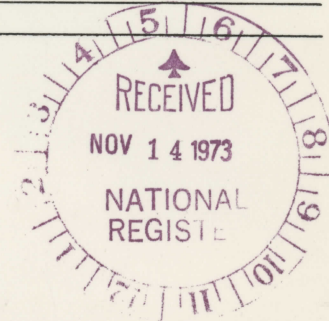
Studio One

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

National Monument to the Forefathers, east elevation

2 of 2



GPO 932-009

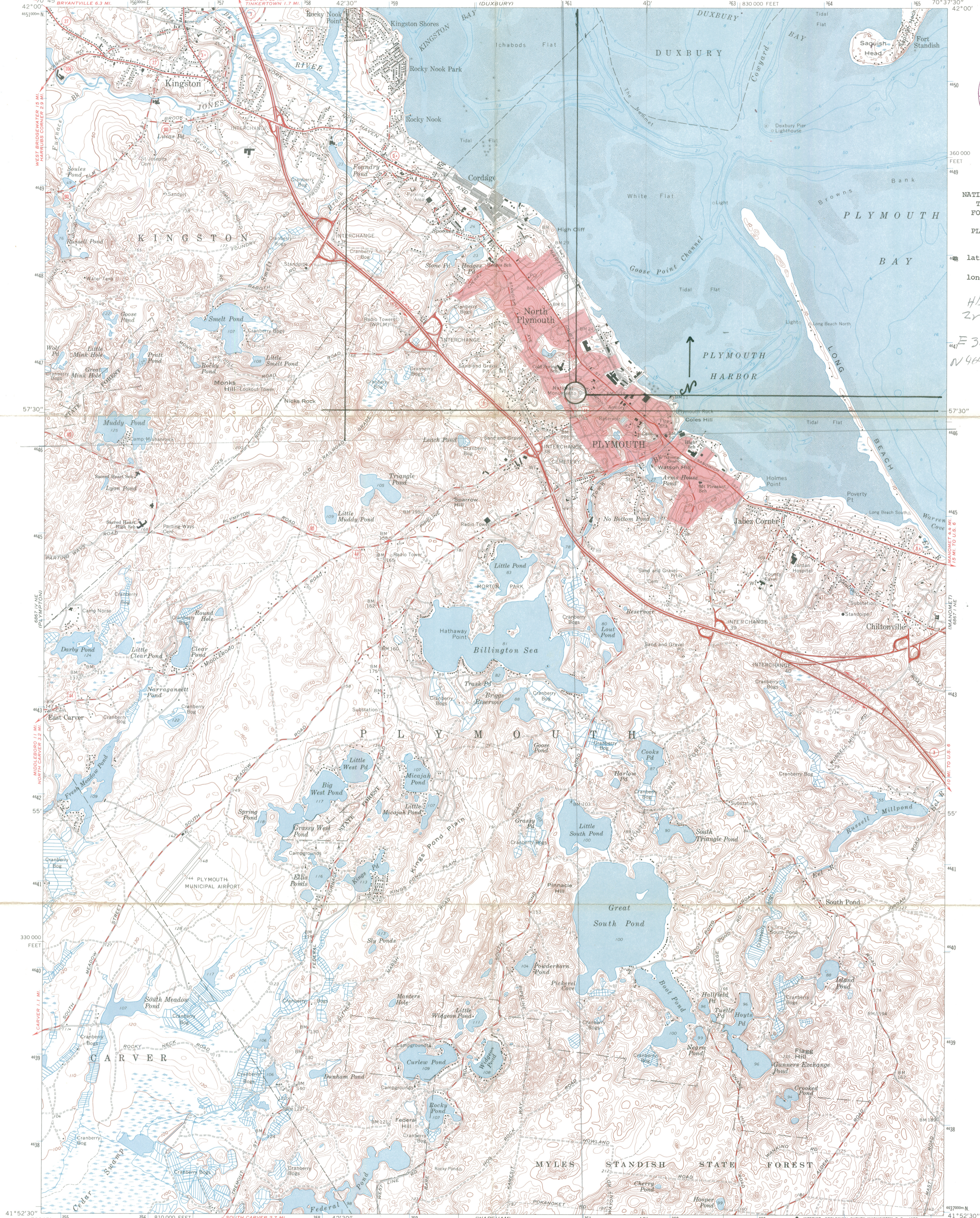
PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



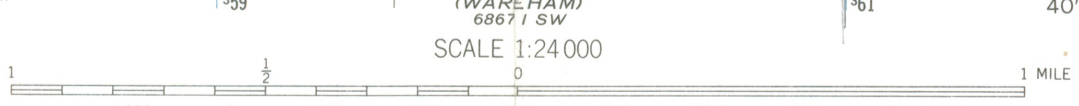
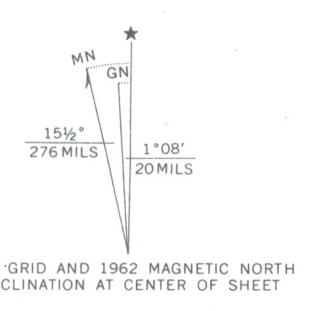
NATIONAL MONUMENT
TO THE
FOREFATHERS
PLYMOUTH

lat. 41° 57' 36.1"
long. 70° 40' 35"

H13
2719
E 361060
N 4446490



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1934. Revised 1962
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Chart 245 (1960)
This information is not intended for navigational purposes
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 9.5 FEET



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

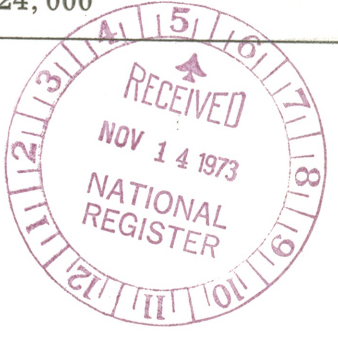
Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
U.S. Route	State Route

Form 10-301
(July 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
National Monument to the Forefathers		AUG 30 1974
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Massachusetts	Plymouth	Plymouth
STREET AND NUMBER		
Allerton Street		
3. MAP REFERENCE		
SOURCE	DATE	SCALE
U. S. G. S. Plymouth Quad.	1962	1:24,000

REQUIREMENTS: PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, WHERE REQUIRED, AND NORTH ARROW.





The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of the Secretary
Massachusetts Historical Commission

John F. X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth

40 Beacon Street Boston, Massachusetts 02108
727-8470

August 1, 1974

National Register of Historic Places
 National Park Service
 18th and C Streets
 Washington ,D.C. 20240

Attention: Charles Herrington, Chief of Register



096889
 CERTIFIED MAIL

Dear Charles:

Enclosed are two National Register forms for the following properties:

1. National Monument to the Forefathers, Plymouth, Plymouth County -RESUBMISSION
2. Old Bay Road, Norton, Bristol County

These have been declared eligible for submission by the Massachusetts Historical Commission, the State Review Board, and have been signed by Secretary of the Commonwealth John F.X. Davoren, Chairman of the Massachusetts Historical Commission and designated the State Liason Officer.

Please let us know if any other information is needed.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Amadon
 State Survey Director
 Massachusetts Historical Commission

ERA/ma
 enclosures

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered AUG 30 1974

Name

Location

National Monument to the Forefathers

Plymouth
Plymouth County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. Gerry E. Studs
Regional Director, North Atlantic
Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Hon. John F. X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth
Chairman, Massachusetts Historical
Commission
40 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

PR

MMott/row

8/30/74