

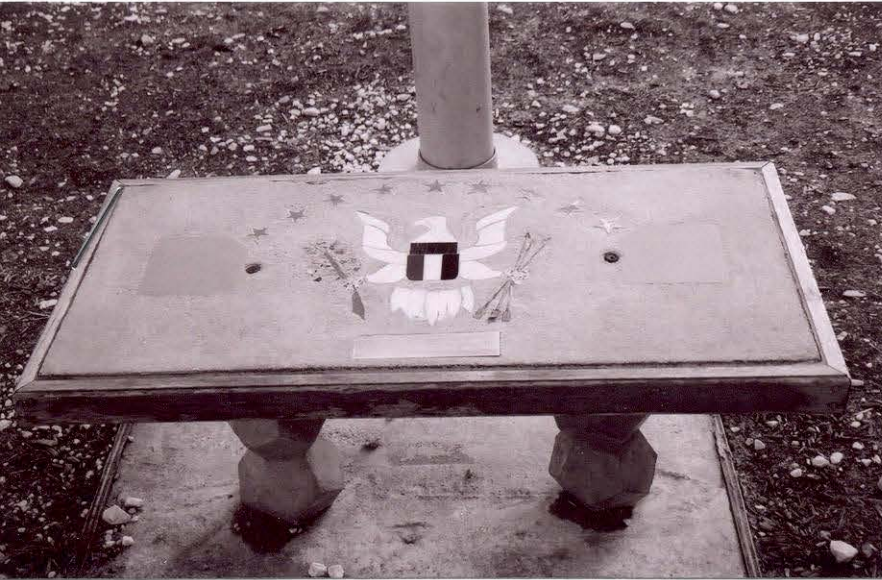
FORM C - OBJECT

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

31/111/1 Assessor's number Westford USGS Quad Area(s) 931 Form Number

Town Chelmsford

Place (neighborhood or village) High School grounds



Address or Location 200 Richardson Rd., North Chelmsford

Name Sept. 11 Memorial Bench

Ownership Public Private

Type of Object (check one):

- statue
- bust
- group composition
- religious shrine
- boundary marker
- other (specify) bench
- monument
- milestone
- marker

Date of Construction dedicated Sept. 11, 2003

Source Chelmsford Independent, 9/18/2003, pg. 1

Designer/Sculptor Advanced Industrial Technology Class of Chelmsford High School

Materials concrete with mahogany trim

Alterations (with dates)

Condition excellent

Moved no yes Date

Acreage 18.11 acres

Setting on high school property land

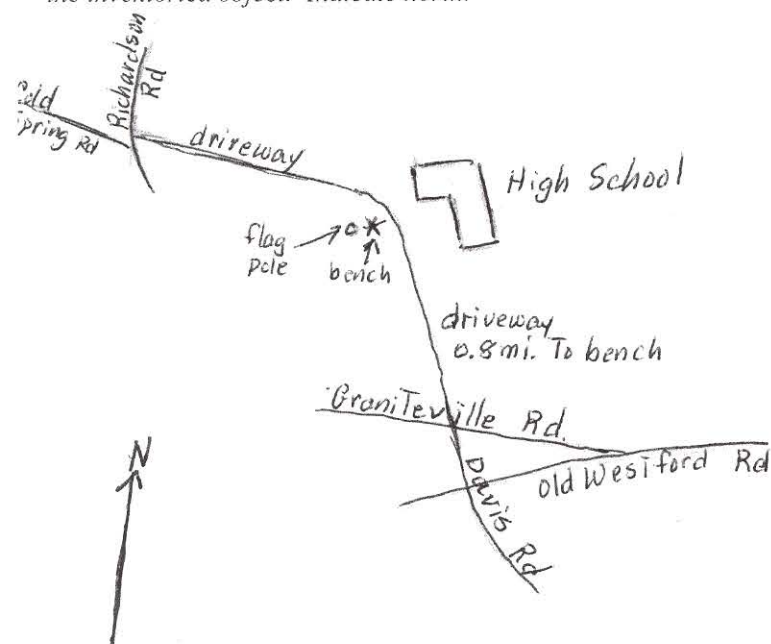
Recorded by Jane B. Drury

Organization for Chelmsford Historical Commission

Date (month/year) August 2004

Sketch Map

Draw a map showing the object's location in relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major natural features. Show all buildings between object and nearest intersection or natural feature. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle and number the inventoried object. Indicate north.



OBJECT FORM Vietnam Memorial Bench, Chelmsford

DESIGN ASSESSMENT *see continuation sheet*

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

The Sept. 11 Memorial Bench is made of concrete with mahogany trim and mosaic marble and features a white eagle in the center with red, white, and blue stained glass on its chest, representing the colors of the American flag. Nine brass stars arc above the eagle; its left claw holding a laurel with 11 leaves to symbolize Sept. 11, 2001. Its right claw holds three brass arrows. Two 2001 New York quarters cover the bolts that attach the pentagon-shaped legs to the foundation. The bench is 25"x 44" and 20" high.

The project was given as a challenge to the Advanced technology Class of Chelmsford High School. Students who designed and built the bench included Steve Costello, Jon Dodd, Guy Faretra, Shane Gendron (former student), Dan Gilfeather, Shannon hatch, Krill Lisakhpuryan, Paul Reid, Mike Roy, and Pat Walsh.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

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

The Chelmsford High School students wanted to commemorate the Sept. 11th tragedy in some way, and originally planned a beautification project to make the area around the flagpole at the High School look more attractive. Jennifer Yu, the Student Council chairman, assumed the responsibilities for the project in 2001. She asked Doug Greenfield, the Technology Education teacher at CHS, if his class could help them "come up with an idea" to beautify the area. He handed the challenge to his advanced class, which then designed and built the bench. The student council coordinated and sponsored the project.

"On the second anniversary of the terrorist attacks more than 120 faculty members and students gathered in front of Chelmsford High School to dedicate the memorial bench to the memory of those lost on Sept. 11." The dedication began with remarks about Sept. 11th by Principal Allen Thomas. He concluded by saying, in part, "I am extremely proud of Jennifer Yu and the members of the student council who pressed me into action and got me to have things happen."

"Various deans were given red, white, and blue carnations to place on the bench, after which two band members played "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

ENTIRE INSCRIPTION *(if applicable):*

In loving memory of those who
lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Chelmsford Independent, Sept. 18, 2003

Recommended for listing in National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



STAFF PHOTOS BY ANN RINGWOOD

Jennifer Yu, 17, Chelmsford High School Student Council chairman, places flowers on a bench built as a Sept. 11 memorial.



Student Council president Meghan Hogan, 17, listens to CHS principal Al Thomas during last week's ceremony.

CHS students remember

Honor victims of Sept. 11

BY CHANTALE SHEPARD
CORRESPONDENT

It started as a beautification project to make the area around the flagpole at Chelmsford High School look more attractive.

It ended up becoming a memorial to those who died on Sept. 11, 2001.

On the second anniversary of the terrorist attacks more than 120 faculty members and students gathered in front of Chelmsford High School to dedicate a memorial bench to the memory of those lost on Sept. 11.

Jennifer Yu assumed the responsibilities for the project last year.

Jennifer, who is the Student Council chairman, turned to Doug Greenfield, the Technology Education Teacher at CHS for

some input.

"He thought it was a great idea and said he would help," Yu said, "I've been doing it since half-way through my junior year last year. And today is the day we actually finalize everything."

"The project was formerly called Hope Garden and then 9/11 happened and we thought it would be a good idea to commemorate it somehow and so we came up with the September 11 memorial idea," Student Council President Meghan Hogan added.

"This was a whole year in process," Greenfield said. "The student council came to us last year around this time and asked us if we could help them come up with an idea to do something. They were trying to beautify this area."

He decided to hand the challenge to his Advanced Industrial Technology Class, who

■ SEE **MEMORIAL**, PAGE 15

Memorial is a thing of beauty

■ MEMORIAL, FROM PAGE 1

designed and built the bench with the student council coordinating and sponsoring the project.

"We worked up until 5 p.m. last night to finish it," he chuckled.

Students who designed and built the bench included Steve Costello, Jon Dodd, Guy Faretra, Shane Gendron, (former student), Dan Gilfeather, Shannon Hatch, Kirill Lusakhpuryan, Paul

Reid, Mike Roy, and Pat Walsh.

The concrete bench with mahogany trim and mosaic marble features a white eagle in the center with red, white, and blue stained glass on its chest, representing the colors of the American flag.

Nine brass stars arc above the eagle; its left claw holding a laurel with 11 leaves to symbolize 9/11. Its right claw holds three brass arrows. Two 2001 New York quarters cover the bolts that attach

the pentagon-shaped legs to the foundation.

The inscription on the bench reads: "In loving memory of those who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001."

As the ceremony started, Principal Allen Thomas asked for a moment of silence for those who died on Sept. 11 and to support the survivors and all of those whose lives were changed by that event.

"On the morning of September 11th, 2001, I was at a meeting here at Chelmsford High School. (Former principal) Mr. Meidell had stepped out of the main office conference room for a moment. And when he returned he informed us that a plane had flown into one of the World Trade Towers," said Thomas. "Needless to say we were shocked by that event. Of course it wasn't an accident. That initial crash was just the start of an attack on major symbols of American military and economic power. And then another plane crashed and the towers crumbled to the ground. I couldn't believe it then and I still have trouble accepting it now."

Thomas compared reactions to the John F. Kennedy assassination to the reactions to the events of that day two years ago.

"In 1963, the American people were shaken, and after a period of mourning the nation moved on. But we've never forgotten," said Thomas. "In 2001, the American people were shaken, our mourning is not over, our nation is still working to rebuild our economy and our national security.... The American people have once again been reminded that democracy and the American way of life have to be earned and protected time after time, day after day. Today we pause to remember that and to remember those who have given and will give their lives to those ends."

He concluded, "I am extremely proud of Jennifer Yu and the members of the student council who pressed me into action and got me to have things happen. As you pass through the rest of the day, just reflect from time to time, that it is a nice day but bad things happen on nice days sometimes. We need to keep that in mind, and we need to keep the victims of those tragic occasions in mind."

Various deans were given red, white, and blue carnations to place on the bench, after which two band members played, "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

Student council members were also selling ribbons for 25 cents each. The





200 Richardson Road - 9 1 1 Memorial Bench

4/28/2007 F. Merriam



... of those who
lost their lives on September 11th, 2001