

# FORM C - OBJECT

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

38/117/1

Billerica

926

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

Town Chelmsford

Place (neighborhood or village)  
Chelmsford Veterans Memorial Park

Address or Location between 230 and 250 North Rd.

Name Soldiers Wall

Ownership  Public  Private

Type of Object (check one)

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

Date of Construction 1992

Source Chelmsford Independent, July 9, 1992  
CVMP records

Designer/Sculptor

Materials granite from Centralangelo Brothers in VT.

Alterations (with dates)

Nov. 11, 1992: 2 added in back row were dedicated  
Oct. 16, 1993: 3 added to each end, in front were dedicated

Condition excellent

Moved  no  yes Date

Acreage 38.26 acres

Setting lightly wooded, on very busy North Rd.  
Former police station on the south side, middle school on the north side beyond a small stream, which flows on the north side of the park. Across North Rd. is a condominium complex.

Recorded by Jane B. Drury

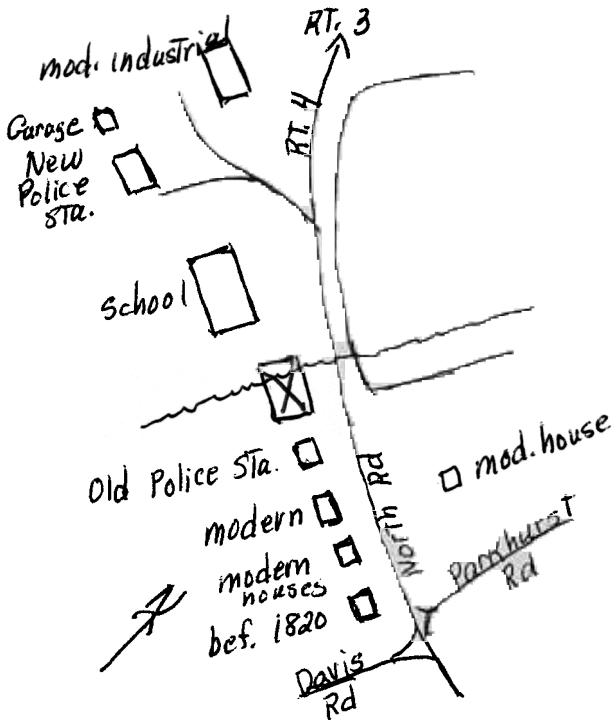
Organization for the Chelmsford Historical Commission

Date (month/year) Nov. 2003

## Photograph



Sketch Map



## OBJECT FORM

### 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 graduated stones are meant to represent a winged man. This idea was taken from the design intended for McFarland Field and is unique. The tallest pillar is slightly over 102 inches high, while the shortest is 38 inches high. The original placement of the stones was in a V shape with two meanings. One was to symbolize valor, and the other interpretation was for victory. The Park planners/designers did not argue over the interpretation, they respected each other's opinion.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

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

In May 1989, when the location of the park was still planned to be on Chelmsford Street, the design called for by Town Architect Stephen Wojcik included a curved granite wall inscribed with the names of all who served in the military from Chelmsford. A month later the design had changed to 4 bronze plaques, one each for World War I, World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. In 1990 Brookline architect Claire Bachelor made a design in which "names of Chelmsford veterans of all four 20<sup>th</sup> century wars would be carved into a granite semi-circular granite wall." After the location of the park settled at North Road, the design changed again to a line of four granite pillars surrounding a life sized bronze statue of a soldier holding the hand of a youngster. The bronze statue proved to be too expensive, however.

On July 3, 1992, when the park and the wall were dedicated, the wall consisted of 9 granite stones arranged in descending height from the center. Over 1,100 names had been inscribed on them, on both sides of the stone pillars. The granite came from the Centralangelo Brothers in Vermont. The Brothers cut & engraved the stones and came to Chelmsford to set the stones in the ground. The Brothers made a special effort in producing the product at an exceptionally reduced rate.

In December 1992 more than 300 residents turned out to dedicate two new walls. More were unveiled in October 1993, and again Dec. 10, 1995. By 2003 the number of stones has reached 17.

### ENTIRE INSCRIPTION (if applicable): Top part of Center Pillar

DEDICATED TO  
THE MEN AND  
WOMEN OF  
CHELMSFORD  
WHO ANSWERED  
OUR COUNTRY'S  
CALL IN TIME  
OF WAR AND  
NATIONAL  
EMERGENCY  
AND TO  
VETERANS OF  
ALL WARS  
EVERYWHERE

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Chelmsford Independent, July 2 & 9, 1992; September 16, 1993; November 30, 1995  
Chelmsford Veterans Memorial Park records; committee memories  
Lowell Sun, May 16, 1989, pg. 11; September 14, 1990; April 7, 1992; Oct. 18, 1993, pg. 14  
Chelmsford Independent, June 8, 1989; Nov. 19, 1992, pg. 1  
Milton Kinney, December 9, 2003

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

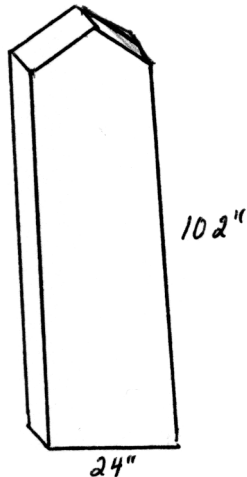
# INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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

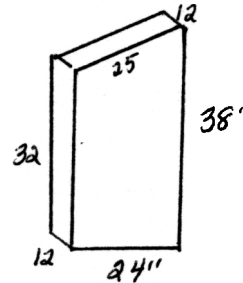
Town  
CHELMSFORD

Property Address  
SOLDIERS' WALL  
Area(s) Form No.

*Center, Tallest*



*Smallest, on ends of line*





'Soldiers Wall' Veterans Memorial Park

9/4/2004 & 9/11/2004 F Merriam

