National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2010

Revised: 6/2025



Bunker Hill Monument

Boston National Historical Park

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Introduction

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI)

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) is a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the National Park System. Landscapes that are listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources and in which the National Park Service has, or plans to acquire, legal interest are included in the inventory. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, and condition. Cultural landscapes have approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into the Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS-CL) database. In addition, for landscapes not currently listed on the National Register and/or without adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, or the Keeper of the National Register.

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is compiled from primary and secondary sources and through on-site surveys of the landscape. The level of investigation is dependent upon scoping the need for information. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's integrity and an assessment of the landscape's condition. The CLI also includes historic maps, drawings, and images; photographs of existing conditions; and a site plan that indicates major features. The CLI documents the existing condition of park landscape resources and identifies impacts, threats, and measures to stabilize condition. This information can be used to develop strategies for improved stewardship. Unlike a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR), the CLI does not provide management recommendations or treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape, but it may identify stabilization measures.

The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS)

CRIS is the National Park Service's database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources, and cultural landscapes. Cultural Resources Inventory System (CRIS) replaces three legacy inventory systems: ASMIS (archeology), CLI (cultural landscapes), and LCS (historic structures); and it reinstates the former ERI (ethnographic resources). This Cultural Landscape Inventory document reflects the information in a corresponding CRIS Cultural Landscape record.

Statutory and Regulatory Foundation

The legislative, regulatory, and policy directives for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are:

- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)) Sec. 110
- Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3 (a and c)
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs
- Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Std. 2
- Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22; issued pursuant to Director's Order #28 (DO-28)

The NHPA requires the identification, evaluation, and nomination of historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places and the maintenance and expansion of an inventory of cultural resources. DO-28 requires a cyclic assessment of the current condition of cultural landscapes based on an assessment interval, with a default of six years.

Use

Beyond fulfilling legal and policy requirements, park staff can use the Cultural Landscape Inventory in the following ways:

- To learn about park cultural landscapes (all staff)
- To inform management decisions (park managers)
- To inform project planning and development (park managers, facility managers, project managers, compliance specialists)
- To monitor the condition of the cultural landscape and take measures to protect its significance and integrity (cultural resource managers, facility managers)
- To recognize the stabilization and treatment needs of landscape features and plan work within cultural landscapes to address the needs (facility managers, cultural resource managers)
- To understand the cultural value of natural systems in a cultural landscape (natural resource managers)
- To create programming and educational materials based on site history (interpretation and education specialists)
- To recognize impacts within cultural landscapes and enforce protection measures (visitor and resources protection staff)

General Information

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name: Bunker Hill Monument

Resource Classification: Cultural Landscape

CLI Identification Number: 650021

Parent Landscape: 650021

Inventory Status: Complete

Park Information

Park Name: Boston National Historical Park

Alpha Code: BOST

Park Organization Code: 1720

Park District: BOST

Region: Northeast

Restricted: Yes

Landscape Description:

Located in the Charlestown District of Boston, Massachusetts, on the summit of Breed's Hill, the Bunker Hill Monument site commemorates one of the earliest major battles of the American Revolution and consists of a portion of the original battlefield. As part of Boston National Historical Park, the property encompasses federally-owned land (6.12 acres) and city-owned land (.10 acres). At the center of the site stands a granite obelisk Bunker Hill Monument (1842) and an adjacent Lodge (1902) surrounded by terraced lawns dotted with deciduous trees, a series of axial concrete walkways and asphalt paths, fencing, the Colonel William Prescott Statue, markers, and memorial plaques.

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Bunker Hill Monument symbolizes the pride and courage of American soldiers who fought in the Battle of Bunker Hill on June 17, 1775, in America's War for Independence. At the time of the battle, Breed's Hill and the surrounds were primarily hayfields and pastureland. The Village of Charlestown was centered to the south near Town Hill and flanked on the southeast by a deep harbor with good anchorage. It was a lively commercial hub with a growing economy, which became increasingly stifled by British regulations (Bunker Hill Monument: Cultural Landscape Report for Boston National Historical Park, Charlestown, hereafter CLR, 2000: ix-x).

On the night of June 16, 1775, two months after the battles at Lexington and Concord, American troops constructed an earthen fort at Breed's Hill in anticipation of the first full-scale action against British troops. The following morning, the British attacked and, though they suffered greater casualties, ultimately defeated the Americans who ran out of ammunition then fled northwest over Bunker Hill and across the Charlestown Neck. Although the battle was a tactical victory for the British, the fortitude, strength, and tenacity of American troops set the tone for their future triumph (CLR, 2000: ix-x).

In 1794, a square pyramidal column of wood capped by an urn of classical design served as the first commemorative marker on the battlefield site. In the following years attempts were made to memorialize the soldiers and the scene of the battle, and to preserve the battlefield in its entirety. The posted sale of the battlefield site in 1822 was ultimately the catalyst that led to the purchase of the land for commemoration, the formation of the Bunker Hill Monument

Association in 1823, and a competition for the monument design. The 221-foot Bunker Hill Monument, built between 1825 and 1842, was one of the earliest war monuments to be built in the country. Initially intended to be kept "open and sacred forever," all but six acres of the battlefield grounds were sold to raise the funds necessary to complete construction of the obelisk. The remaining land, known as "Monument Square" was enclosed by an iron fence and framed with shade trees. In 1857, a Greek Revival building was constructed adjacent to the monument, but was later replaced by a granite lodge in 1902 (CLR, 2000: ix-x).

The Association further developed the grounds and maintained Monument Square until 1919, when it was acquired by the Boston Metropolitan Parks Commission, later known as the Metropolitan District Commission. In subsequent years and through the 1940s, site improvements were undertaken on walkways, steps, and embankments to better convey visitors to the centrally located Monument and Lodge. These changes were based on the recommendations of the Metropolitan District Commission, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. and the Olmsted Brothers landscape architectural firm, and the City of Boston landscape architect Arthur Shurtleff. With the concerted efforts of the people of Charlestown, and the Charlestown Historical Society, the Commission revitalized the Monument and provided a historical interpretive program for visitors. However, when further renovations and program upgrades became necessary, state funds were insufficient. At the urging of the Association and the general public, and by vote of the Commission, the Bunker Hill Monument became part of the National Park Service in 1974 (H.R. 7486 section 210, Public Law 93-431). It is currently managed as a site within Boston National Historical Park and is a stop along the famous Freedom Trail (CLR, 2000: ix-x).

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

Bunker Hill Monument was designated a National Historic Landmark (NHL) on January 20, 1961 under Theme X, The War for Independence. Although the property was described as being surrounded by a four-acre park, and including the William Prescott Statue and a small museum (possibly the 1902 Lodge or 1913 Museum), the NHL designation only applies to the obelisk itself (also called the Bunker Hill Monument).

For purposes of this CLI, and based on research conducted in the "Cultural Landscape Report for Bunker Hill Monument," the Bunker Hill Monument site is significant under National Register Criteria A and C within the areas of military (fortification and battleground), community planning and development, commemorative landscape, architecture, and landscape architecture. It also meets Criterion Consideration F as a commemorative site. The period of significance for the Bunker Hill Monument site begins with the Battle of Bunker Hill in 1775 and extends to 1947, the year major site improvements were completed by the Metropolitan District Commission.

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION

Many landscape characteristics and features from the period of significance remain today at the Bunker Hill Monument site and are important to its historic character and unique identity. The most important landscape characteristics are topography (slopes), spatial organization, views and vistas (views from Laurel, Chestnut, and Winthrop Streets, and Monument Avenue, and views from the top of the Bunker Hill Monument), vegetation (lawn panels and perimeter trees), circulation (granite stairs, concrete walkways, and asphalt pathway), buildings and structures (Lodge, Bunker Hill Monument, and Colonel William Prescott Statue), and small-scale features (Monument fencing, perimeter fencing, Frothington markers, Esplanade seat benches, and spotlight fixtures). The cultural landscape within the Bunker Hill Monument site no longer retains integrity of the 18th century battleground landscape, but does retain overall integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and association of the 19th and early 20th century landscapes shaped by the Bunker Hill Monument Association and the Metropolitan District Commission.

The Bunker Hill Monument site is considered to be in good condition. In 2008, the park completed a major rehabilitation of the site, and in spring 2010 work was completed to repair and stabilize all four sets of granite stairs that lead to Bunker Hill Monument. Despite the maintenance deficiencies identified during a 2009 Comprehensive Condition Assessment, cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. There are no immediate corrective actions required to maintain its current condition.

Landscape Hierarchy Description:

The Bunker Hill Monument landscape is one of three sites that have been identified in the CLI database within Boston National Historical Park. The other sites are Dorchester Heights and Charlestown Navy Yard.

Landscape Type:

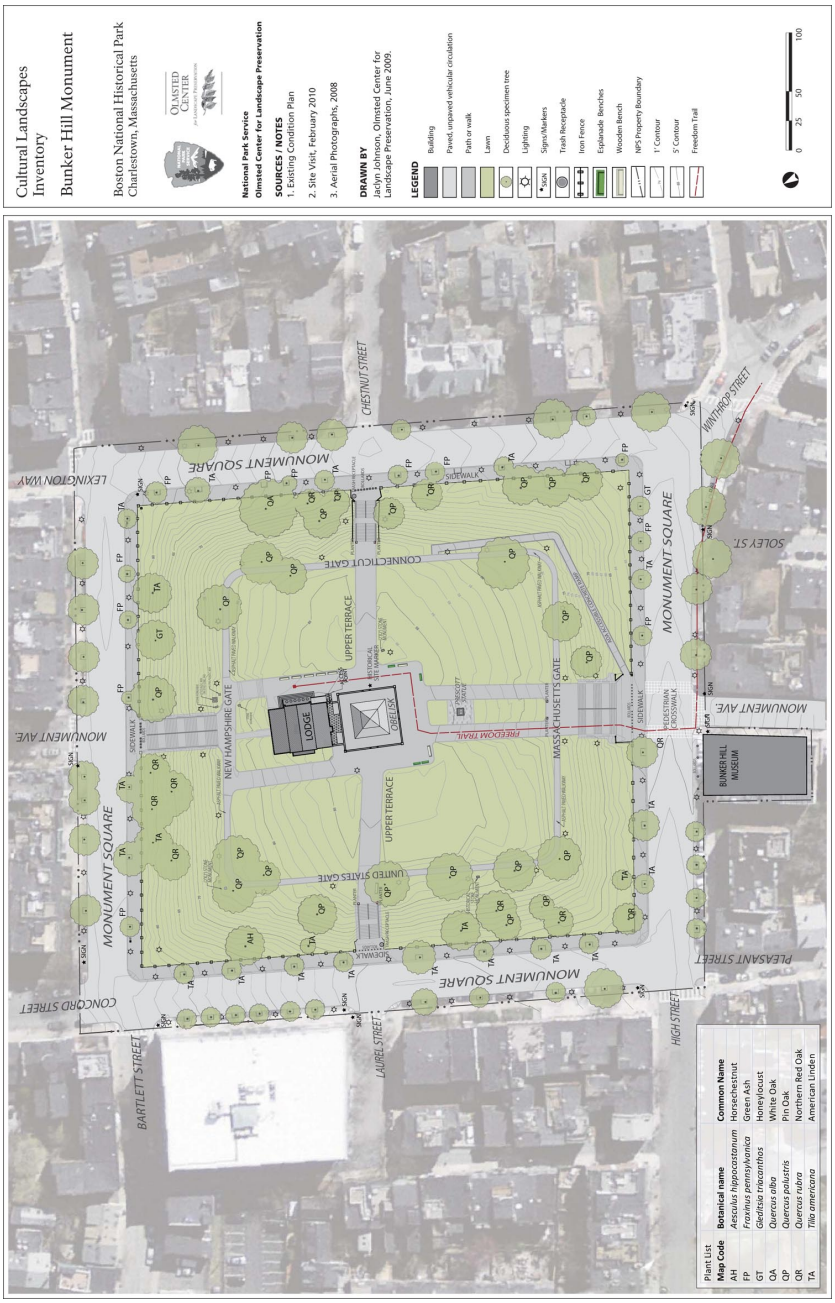
Historic Site

Historic Designed Landscape

Other Names:

Other Name:	Breed's Hill	**Other Name Type:**	Historic
Other Name:	Russell's Pasture	**Other Name Type:**	Historic
Other Name:	Breed's Pasture	**Other Name Type:**	Historic
Other Name:	Green's Pasture	**Other Name Type:**	Historic
Other Name:	Green Hill	**Other Name Type:**	Historic
Other Name:	Bunker Hill Monument	**Other Name Type:**	Both Current And Historic

Site Plan



Site Plan for Bunker Hill, Boston National Historical Park (Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, 2010).

Concurrence Information

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence: Yes

Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence: 06/24/2010

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

In 2000, a cultural landscape report entitled, “Bunker Hill Monument: Cultural Landscape Report for Boston National Historical Park, Charlestown,” was prepared by the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation in advance of a major rehabilitation scheduled for fiscal year 2002. Completed in 2008, the work included repairs to the Monument, the adjacent granite Lodge, the surrounding six-acre site, and rehabilitation of the neighboring Bunker Hill Museum. Field work for this project was completed in February 2010 by Historical Landscape Architect Michael Commisso and Student Conservation Association intern Jacqui Johnson of the National Park Service’s Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation. The park contact for the Cultural Landscape Inventory is Ruth Raphael, Park Planner for Boston National Historical Park. She can be reached by telephone at (617) 242-5691 or by email at Ruth_Raphael@nps.gov.

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Attachment File Path

example, the NPS List of Classified Structures inventory includes structural features of cultural landscapes, but the CLI takes a more encompassing approach to the properties, inventorying all above-ground features in each park in which the NPS has a legal or mandated interest.

Bunker Hill Monument was designated a National Historic Landmark (NHL) on January 20, 1961 under Theme X, The War for Independence. Although the property was described as being surrounded by a four-acre park, and including the William Prescott Statue and a small museum (possibly the 1902 Lodge or 1913 Museum), the NHL designation only applies to the obelisk itself (also called the Bunker Hill Monument).

The site was administratively added to the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966. Documentation for the NHL designation and boundary certification was not completed until April 3, 1978. The Bunker Hill Monument site derives significance under National Register Criterion A (NHL Criterion 1) for its association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history and meets Criteria Consideration F (NHL Exclusion 7) for being a property primarily commemorative in intent with its own historical significance. The period of significance for the site varies between the documentation form (1700-1900) and the NRIS database (1750-1799, 1825-1849), though both agree on specific dates of 1775 for events associated with the War for Independence and 1825 to 1842 for the period of monument construction. The area of significance indicated is military, and specifically the War for Independence. Although significance for architecture and community planning/development were not indicated, the statement of significance alludes to the significance of the monument's design, the roles of Solomon Willard and the Bunker Hill Monument Association, and includes the period of monument construction. Neither the original NHL designation nor the 1978 documentation includes the 1919-1974 period of management by the Metropolitan Parks (District) Commission.

Bunker Hill Monument became part of the Boston National Historical Park when the boundaries were determined in the park's enabling legislation on October 26, 1974. In the NRIS database, period of significance for the park is listed as 1750-1849 with specific dates of 1776, 1800, and 1830. The areas of significance are architecture, engineering, maritime history, and politics.

The Monument Square Historic District, which includes the Bunker Hill Monument property as well as the buildings that face it, was listed in the National Register on June 2, 1987. The 8.25-acre historic district is recognized for its significance under Criteria A, B, and C in the areas of community planning/development and military, association with George Washington Warren, and the areas of architecture and landscape architecture (site planning). The period of significance is 1839 to 1912, which encapsulates the construction of the high school, public library, and forty-five single and multifamily dwellings within the historic district. The significance of the district relates to its being, "an early, and successful, planned residential development; its introduction of an urban residential pattern into a previously rural built environment; its interesting combination of Monument Square and surrounding residential

background; and finally, the strength and integrity of its architectural groupings, with both high style and vernacular examples in a variety of mid-nineteenth century to early twentieth century styles." Factors that contributed to its significance included the role of the Bunker Hill Monument Association and their consulting architect, Solomon Willard, who laid out the parcels with deed restrictions relating to the style, character of the structures as well as a consistent ten-foot setback from the street.

On January 30, 1995, your office concurred with the National Park Service's list of contributing National Register resources at the Bunker Hill Monument site, as part of a List of Classified Structures (LCS) survey. In addition to the NHL Bunker Hill Monument, these resources were the Lodge, Monument Fence, Perimeter Fence and Gates, Colonel William Prescott Statue, and Markers. Additionally, your office noted that the period of significance should be extended to 1902 to include the construction of the Lodge.

The enclosed CLI for Bunker Hill fully evaluates the cultural landscape, particularly the associated landscape characteristics and features, and finds that the Bunker Hill landscape retains integrity to the areas of military, community planning and development, commemorative landscape, architecture, and landscape architecture. As noted previously, many of the property's features compiled on the attached lists have already been listed, or have determined to be eligible for listing, on the National Register. Based on the findings of the CLI, the NPS is proposing that the end date of the period of significance be extended to 1947, the year major site improvements were completed by the Metropolitan District Commission. In addition, the CLI identifies ten additional resources and features related to topography, views and vistas, vegetation, circulation, and small-scale features that also contribute to the significance and historic character of Bunker Hill.

We call your particular attention to the Landscape Description, National Register Information and the Statement of Significance, and Analysis and Evaluation Summary in the enclosed CLI.

Based on the CLI, we seek your concurrence on the following:

- The cultural landscape retains integrity to the period of significance, 1775-1947.
- The categorization of contributing and non-contributing landscape characteristics and features (see attached list).

If you concur with these findings, we ask that you please sign on the space provided and return this letter to Jeff Killion, CLI Coordinator (Address: National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, 15 State Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02109). We would appreciate your response at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your attention to this inventory.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Killion at 617-223-5053. Upon your concurrence, a copy of this letter will be sent to the National Historic Landmark Program.

Sincerely,

Dennis R. Reidenbach
Regional Director
Northeast Region

Enclosure

cc:
Superintendent, Boston National Historical Park

I concur with the National Park Service categorization of the Bunker Hill landscape resources and features at Boston National Historical Park, as contributing and non-contributing.

Massachusetts State Historic Preservation Officer _____ Date _____

Pin Oak and Other Interior Trees
Concrete Container Planters

Circulation
Concrete Ramp and Handrail

Small-scale Features
Granite Tablets on Stairs
Other Seat Benches
National Park Service and Freedom Trail Signs
Informational and Directional Signs
Wayside Exhibit
Irrigation Boxes
Trash Receptacles

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES INVENTORY
CONCURRENCE FORM

Bunker Hill
Boston National Historical Park

Boston National Historical Park concurs with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for Bunker Hill including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Must Be Preserved and Maintained

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscape Inventory for Bunker Hill is hereby approved and accepted.

Carrie M. Carl — 6/24/10

Superintendent, Boston National Historical Park — Date

Park concurrence form, June 24, 2010.

On January 30, 1995, MHC concurred with the National Park Service's list of contributing resources at the site as part of the List of Classified Structures. We continue to concur with that list, while we also recommend adding the Thomas Park itself as a contributing site. Note that if the period of significance were to be extended as suggested above, a number of buildings, structures and objects presently considered noncontributing would become contributing.

The CLI adds ten additional contributing resources. Several of these would not be considered contributing in terms of the National Register guidelines, including topography, the views and vistas, and vegetation.

The catch basins, as described in the CLI on pp. 57-58, reflect several stages of construction. They appear on the 1913 plan, but additional ones appear to have been installed in 1995; it is not clear whether the historic catch basins were removed or replaced.

On page 62, line one of Archaeology section, instead of "footing for the earthen, star-shaped fort...," we recommend "evidence of the earthern, star-shaped fort..." Also, on page 63, line one, we suggest "1776 stone bridge," not "masonry."

Also, on page 71, note that the caption does not match the map shown.

Regarding Bunker Hill Monument:
On January 30, 1995, MHC concurred with the List of Classified Structures' list of contributing resources within a period of significance that then extended to 1902. We would recommend that the site itself be counted as contributing.

The present CLI proposes to extend the period of significance to 1947, when major site improvements were completed by the MDC. We note that it would be appropriate to extend the period of significance to 1960, the 50-year cut off. Extending the period of significance would thus include programs for maintenance and rehabilitation introduced by the MDC in the 1950s.

While we do not disagree that the period of significance should begin in 1775, we have concerns regarding the discussion of the battleground landscape's integrity: as noted in the CLI on page 9—"the cultural landscape no longer retains integrity of the 18th century battleground landscape..." and pp. 22, 54, 55, and 58, where it is also noted that the significance of archaeological resources associated with the battlefield is not part of the CLI. If the cultural landscape no longer retains sufficient integrity to convey the 18th century battleground landscape, or if assessment of archaeological resources would be necessary to confirm that integrity, perhaps the wording of these statements could be rephrased to support the opening of the period of significance—page 53, for instance, does state that the landscape retains integrity to 1775.

The CLI lists 10 additional contributing resources. Several of these would not be considered contributing in terms of the National Register guidelines, including

topography, the views and vistas, and vegetation. We concur that the remaining resources (granite stair; elements related to circulation, seating, and lighting) are all contributing.

Thank you for providing us with the opportunity to comment. Please feel free to contact Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director, MHC, should you have any questions regarding these comments.

Sincerely,

Brona Simon

Brona Simon
State Historic Preservation Officer
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Cc: Dennis Reidenbach, Regional Director, Northeast Region, NPS
Robert Page, Director, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation
Cassius Cash, Superintendent, Boston National Historical Park

NPS Cultural Landscapes Inventory – Bunker Hill
Boston National Historical Park
List of Contributing and Non-Contributing Landscape Features
April 2010

Contributing Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features

The following landscape characteristics and associated features contribute to the property's historic character, though not all are considered countable resources according to the National Register of Historic Places. Those marked with an * are described in the National Register documentation from April 3, 1978. Those marked with a + were identified as contributing resources by the Massachusetts Historical Commission on January 30, 1995.

Topography
Slopes

Views and Vistas
Views from Laurel, Chestnut, Winthrop Streets, and Monument Avenue
Views from the Top of Bunker Hill Monument

Vegetation
Lawn Panels
Perimeter Trees

Circulation
Granite Stairs
Concrete Walkways
Asphalt Pathway

Buildings and Structures
*+ Bunker Hill Monument (NHL)
*+ Lodge
*+ Colonel William Prescott Statue

Small-scale Features
*+ Monument Fence
*+ Perimeter Fence and Gates
*+ Markers
Esplanade Seat Benches
Spotlight Fixtures

Non-Contributing Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features

Vegetation

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

September 27, 2010

Mr. Jeff Killion
CLI Coordinator
National Park Service
Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation
15 State Street, 6th Floor
Boston, MA 02109

RE: Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI), Dorchester Heights National Historic Site and Bunker Hill Monument, Boston

Dear Mr. Killion:

I am writing in response to your letter seeking Massachusetts Historical Commission concurrence with National Park Service findings of the period of significance and the status—contributing or noncontributing—for resources identified in the CLIs for the Dorchester Heights National Historic Site and Bunker Hill Monument, both located within the Boston National Historical Park. The following is a summation of our opinions, offered to assist in compliance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended).

Regarding Dorchester Heights:
We concur with the areas of significance as defined in the CLI. However, we recommend that the list of contributing features should include archaeological features.

We have questions regarding the periods of significance and the contributing and noncontributing features as follows:

The CLI defines four periods of significance. However, it may be more appropriate to have a continuum beginning in 1776, rather than separate periods, and to have that period extend past 1927 (the date of the installation of the Knox monument) up to the 50-year cutoff. Page 17 of the CLI notes that the surrounding area contributes to the significance of the NHS and that a number of the residential buildings were erected both during the periods of significance and between 1850 (Thomas Park) and 1873, which would seem to support a continuous period of significance. Also, as noted in the CLI, the park and site have played an important role in the neighborhood past 1927, which would support a 50-year cutoff.

220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
(617) 727-8470 • Fax: (617) 727-5128
www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc

SHPO concurrence letter, September 27, 2010 (9 pages).

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Northeast Region
United States Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H30 (NER- HPPC)

JUN 3 0 2010

Ms. Brona Simon
State Historic Preservation Officer
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125-3314

Dear Ms. Simon:

Enclosed you will find a copy of the Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) for the Bunker Hill landscape located within Boston National Historical Park. We seek to reconfirm our agreement on previously evaluated resources and your concurrence on the status of resources and features identified in this CLI previously unevaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The report has been prepared by a team of historical landscape architects with the National Park Service (NPS) Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation. The CLI program and the enclosed report continue the NPS efforts to update our cultural resource inventories.

Through the CLI program, the NPS is currently in the midst of a nationwide effort to inventory its cultural landscapes. The CLI is conducted in accordance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended). It is an inventory of baseline information for all historically significant cultural landscapes within the national park system, and it examines multiple landscape features that contribute to the significance of historic properties. The CLI process includes gathering information from existing secondary sources and conducting on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the property's overall significance. For landscapes found potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, the evaluation describes their character-defining features and assesses the landscape's overall historical integrity. It also raises questions about the landscape that need further study.

It is important to note that the CLI reports are not intended as comprehensive inventory reports for any one property, although for some properties they provide fuller documentation than for others. For example, the reports do not include a full architectural description of structures, but document structures as elements of the overall landscape, and similarly documents other characteristics such as vegetation, spatial organization, and views and vistas. The CLI is one component of the NPS inventory effort that also includes cultural resource inventories for historic structures, archeological sites, ethnographic resources, and museum objects. For

Cultural Landscapes Inventory
CLI Update Certification Form
2025

Boston National Historical Park
Bunker Hill Monument, Charlestown Navy Yard, Dorchester Heights NHS

Boston National Historical Park concurs with the updates for the following CLIs, including:

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good – Bunker Hill Monument
Good – Charlestown Navy Yard
Good – Dorchester Heights National Historic Site

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements, will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The CLI Updates at Boston National Historical Park are hereby approved and accepted.

SIMONE MONTELEONE Digitally signed by SIMONE MONTELEONE
Date: 2025.06.11 16:16:34 -04'00'
Superintendent, Boston National Historical Park Date

Park concurrence form, June 11, 2025.

Revision:

Revised By	Type of Revision	Revision Date	Revision Narrative
Jeff Killion	CLI Update	06/11/2025	Three levels of effort have been developed for CLI Updates: A, B, and C. Level C is limited to a condition reassessment of the landscape; Level B includes C and is a targeted update of select data fields; Level A includes C and is a comprehensive update of all data fields. This 2025 update to the Bunker Hill CLI has been conducted at a Level C effort. See Landscape Documents in CRIS-CL for correspondences with park.

Geographic Information

State and County:

State	County
Massachusetts	Suffolk County

Size (Acres): 6.12

Land Tract Number(s)

Tract No. 102-01
Tract No. 102-02

Boundary Description:

The Bunker Hill Monument and the portion of the remaining battlefield, known as Monument Square, occupy the top of Breed's Hill, situated approximately one-half mile east of the larger Bunker Hill. Today, Breed's Hill is primarily a thickly settled urban residential area within the Charlestown peninsula, which lies northwest of downtown Boston across the Charles River. Charlestown was annexed to the City of Boston in 1874.

The title for Monument Square was transferred from the Bunker Hill Monument Association to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Metropolitan District Commission in 1919. In 1974 the parcel was transferred from the Metropolitan District Commission to the National Park Service, Boston National Historical Park, by Deed #3, which described the NPS boundary as Tract No. 102-01, an area of 6.12 acres. The parcel is described as follows:

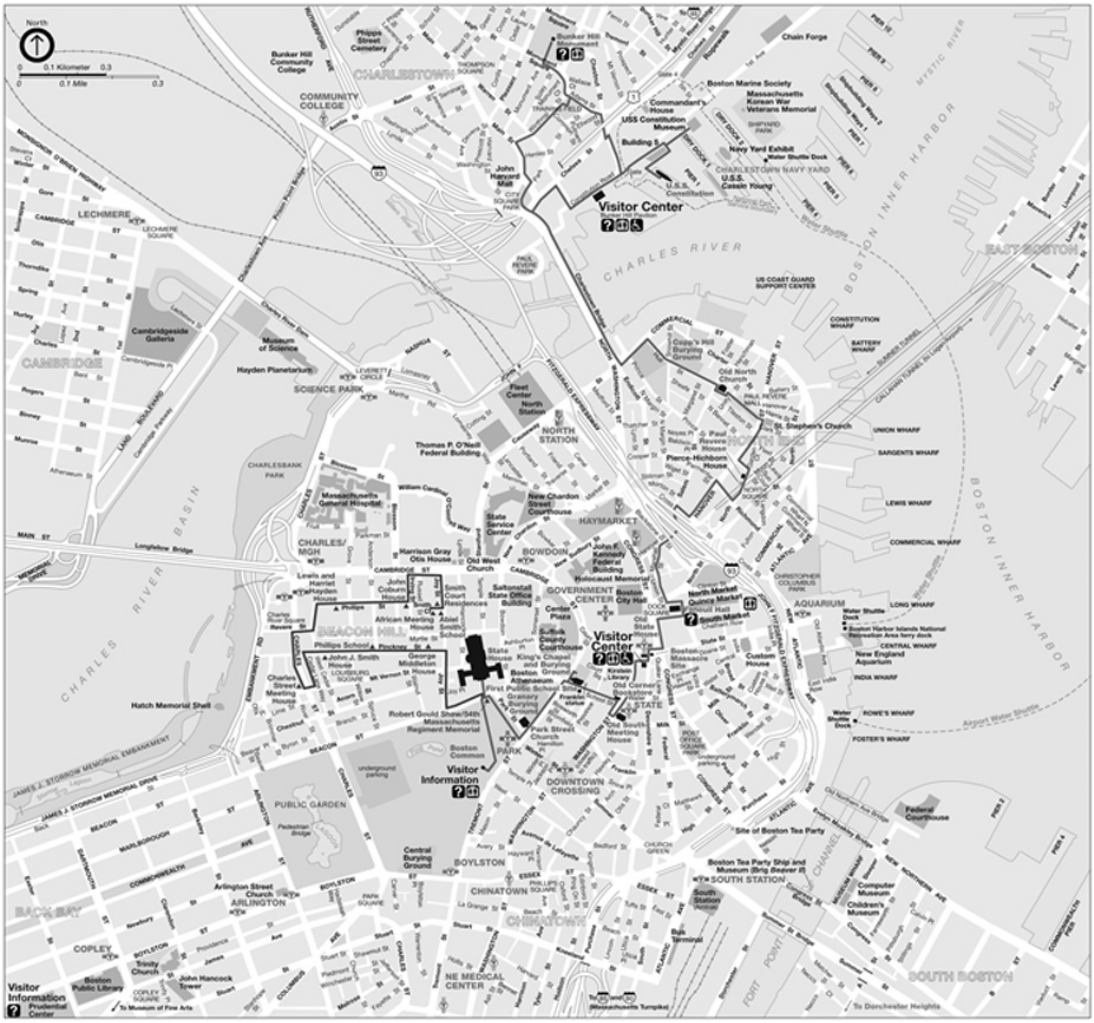
"All that certain tract or parcel of land together with the structures located thereon situated in the City of Boston in that part thereof known as Charlestown, on Breed's Hill, so called, on which stands the monument known as the Bunker Hill Monument, being more particularly described as follows: Beginning Northeasterly by a street fifty (50) feet wide, about four hundred (400) feet. Southeasterly by a street fifty (50) feet wide, formerly known as Lexington Street or the extension thereof, about four hundred seventeen (417) feet. Southwesterly by a street fifty (50) feet wide, formerly known as High Street, about four hundred (400) feet. Northwesterly by a street fifty (50) feet wide, formerly known as Concord Street or the extension thereof, about four hundred seventeen (417) feet. Said parcel, including the said four surrounding streets fifty (50) feet wide, above mentioned, being known as Monument Square. Together with all the fee and soil of said four streets fifty- (50) feet wide, above mentioned, which said grantor owns abutting upon the parcel of land herein conveyed."

In 2004, the park boundary was enlarged to include the .10-acre Bunker Hill Museum property located across High Street (Tract No. 102-02). However, the property is owned by the City of Boston, and as a result, is not evaluated as part of this Cultural Landscape Inventory.

Boundary Coordinates

Source	Type of Point	Latitude	Longitude	Narrative
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	-71.061734821249	42.3732236145038	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	-71.0601984322925	42.3726658841783	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	-71.0597530083026	42.3720435029035	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	-71.0611076473312	42.3707583728215	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	-71.0625833081412	42.3713171842186	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	-71.0627326743181	42.3721700219621	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	-71.0623314147078	42.3728976863814	

Location Map:



Map of Boston National Historical Park and Bunker Hill Monument (Boston National Historical Park website).

Regional Landscape Contexts:

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

Bunker Hill Monument sits atop Breed's Hill, a drumlin formed by glacial action. In the vicinity are many drumlins and other glacial features, remnants of the Wisconsin continental ice sheet during the Great Ice Age (or Pleistocene Era).

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

The Bunker Hill Monument and the remaining portion of the battlefield which it commemorates, now known as Monument Square, occupies approximately six acres atop Breed's Hill. Breed's Hill, the lower of the two hills on the Charlestown peninsula, is today primarily a urban residential area. When occupied by colonial militia on June 17, 1775, however, it was an area of open pasture and hayfields dotted with apple trees.

Type of Context: Political

Description:

The Bunker Hill Monument site is situated in Charlestown, a neighborhood/district of the City of Boston, Massachusetts. It is located north of Boston proper on a peninsula extending southeastward between the Charles River and the Mystic River.

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 06/24/2010

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

The Bunker Hill Monument site meets the management category criteria for the “Must be Preserved and Maintained” category because it is nationally significant as defined by National Historic Landmark (NHL) criteria. The property was designated a NHL on January 20, 1961. Documentation for the NHL designation and boundary certification was completed on April 3, 1978.

Management Agreements:

Type of Agreement: Cooperative Agreement

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

A large collection of documents and memorabilia located with the Bunker Hill Lodge and Museum is owned by the Charleston Historical Society. The Bunker Hill Museum is managed by the National Park Service in partnership with the City of Boston and the Charlestown Historical Society.

Legal Interests:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Narrative: The Bunker Hill Museum, located within the park boundary, is owned by the City of Boston. The museum is not included in this Cultural Landscape Inventory.

Located in managed wilderness?: Unknown

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Lands Narrative:

Bunker Hill was a strategic location at the time of the War for Independence. The open hilltop views to the surrounding areas, including Boston's Inner Harbor, were lost when the surrounding land was subdivided and townhouses built. However, framed views to the street corridors radiating from Monument Square remain. A 360-degree view of the Boston metropolitan area is visible from within the top of the Monument.

National Register Information

National Register of Historic Places

Documentation Status: Entered Inadequately Documented

Documentation Narrative Description:

Bunker Hill Monument was designated a National Historic Landmark (NHL) on January 20, 1961 under Theme X, The War for Independence. Although the property was described as being surrounded by a four-acre park, and including the William Prescott Statue and a small museum (possibly the 1902 Lodge or 1913 Museum), the NHL designation only applies to the obelisk itself (also called the Bunker Hill Monument).

The Bunker Hill Monument site is also included in three separate listings in the National Register of Historic Places: as "Bunker Hill Monument" administratively listed in 1966 (NRIS #6600138); as part of the "Boston National Historical Park" in 1974 (NRIS #74002222) ; and as part of the "Monument Square Historic District" in 1987 (NRIS #87001128). Additionally, a draft "Metropolitan District Commission Multiple Property Nomination," was prepared in 1991 and relates in context only to the Bunker Hill Monument property.

Bunker Hill Monument (NRIS #6600138):
The site was administratively added to the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966. Documentation for the NHL designation and boundary certification was not completed until April 3, 1978. The Bunker Hill Monument site derives significance under National Register Criterion A (NHL Criterion 1) for its association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history and meets Criteria Consideration F (NHL Exclusion 7) for being a property primarily commemorative in intent with its own historical significance. The period of significance for the site varies between the documentation form (1700-1900) and the NRIS database (1750-1799, 1825-1849), though both agree on specific dates of 1775 for events associated with the War for Independence and 1825 to 1842 for the period of monument construction. The area of significance indicated is military, and specifically the War for Independence. Although significance for architecture and community planning/development were not indicated, the statement of significance alludes to the significance of the monument's design, the roles of Solomon Willard and the Bunker Hill Monument Association, and includes the period of monument construction. Neither the original NHL designation nor the 1978 documentation includes the 1919-1974 period of management by the Metropolitan Parks (District) Commission.

On January 30, 1995, the Massachusetts Historical Commission concurred with the National Park Service's list of contributing National Register resources at the Bunker Hill Monument site, as part of a List of Classified Structures (LCS) survey. In addition to the NHL Bunker Hill Monument, these resources were the Lodge, Monument Fence, Perimeter Fence and Gates, Colonel William Prescott Statue, and Markers. Additionally, the Massachusetts Historical Commission noted that the period of significance should be extended to 1902 to include the construction of the Lodge.

Boston National Historical Park (NRIS #74002222):
Bunker Hill Monument became part of the Boston National Historical Park when the boundaries were determined in the park's enabling legislation on October 26, 1974. In the NRIS database, period of significance for the park is listed as 1750-1849 with specific dates of 1776, 1800, and 1830. The areas of significance are architecture, engineering, maritime history, and politics.

Monument Square Historic District (NRIS #87001128):
The Monument Square Historic District, which includes the Bunker Hill Monument property as well as the buildings that face it, was listed in the National Register on June 2, 1987. The 8.25-acre historic district is recognized for its significance under Criteria A, B, and C in the areas of community planning/development and military, association with George Washington Warren, and the areas of architecture and landscape

architecture (site planning). The period of significance is 1839 to 1912, which encapsulates the construction of the high school, public library, and forty-five single and multifamily dwellings within the historic district. The significance of the district relates to its being, “an early, and successful, planned residential development; its introduction of an urban residential pattern into a previously rural built environment; its interesting combination of Monument Square and surrounding residential background; and finally, the strength and integrity of its architectural groupings, with both high style and vernacular examples in a variety of mid-nineteenth century to early twentieth century styles.” Factors that contributed to its significance included the role of the Bunker Hill Monument Association and their consulting architect, Solomon Willard, who laid out the parcels with deed restrictions relating to the style, character of the structures as well as a consistent ten-foot setback from the street.

Draft Multiple Property Nomination:
The Metropolitan District Commission prepared a draft Multiple Property nomination in 1991 proposing to nominate forty-one of the commission’s currently owned reservations and park parkways to the National Register, under Criteria A and C on the local, state and possible national levels. The proposed period of significance is from 1893 to ca. 1941, using the fifty-year rule as the end of the period of significance at the time of the draft. The Bunker Hill Monument property was owned by the Metropolitan District Commission from 1919 until 1974, and managed as part of Boston’s Metropolitan Park System. Since it was no longer owned by the MDC at the time the draft was prepared, the Bunker Hill property was not included in the draft nomination. The draft MDC nomination, however, has components of the statement of significance that relate to the early 20th century significance of the Bunker Hill site, including its acquisition and protection as part of a public park system and the role of landscape architects in carrying forth a vision for the property, specifically those of Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. and Arthur Shurtleff (CLR 2000:89).

Although most of the features at Bunker Hill are well-documented, the existing period of significance as currently documented on the National Register does not adequately encompass the site’s historic resources.

Eligibility: Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination

Concurrence Eligibility Date: 09/27/2010

Concurrence Narrative:

Comments from the Massachusetts Historical Commission (SHPO) were received on September 27, 2010. Their comments and responses from OCLP are as follows:

--The SHPO recommended Bunker Hill should be counted as contributing site. OCLP: This should be considered in future National Register documentation, as determination of such resource types is beyond the scope of the CLI.
--The SHPO recommended that the period of significance be extended from 1947 to 1960, the fifty-year cutoff, to include maintenance and rehabilitation work at the site by the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC). OCLP: Work of the MDC in the 1950s was minimal until the late 1950s when several projects were undertaken, including steam cleaning the Monument to remove vandalism, lipstick, and chalk marks; placing new steel hand railings; repairing the ornamental cast iron fence by replacing missing fence sections and pickets; and painting. Despite the improvements, the MDC identified the need for major repairs. This work, while important, did not constitute major changes at the site as in earlier periods, and therefore does not justify extending the period of significance.
--The SHPO agreed that the period of significance begins in 1775, but recommended that the CLI clarify that assessment of archelaogical resources would be necessary to confirm the integrity of the 18th century battelground landscape. OCLP: This clarification has been added to the statement of significance under Criterion A.

Significance Level: National

Contributing: Individual

Classification: Site

Statement of Significance for National Register of Historic Places:

For purposes of this CLI, and based on research conducted in the "Cultural Landscape Report for Bunker Hill Monument," the Bunker Hill Monument site is significant under National Register Criteria A and C in the areas of military (fortification and battleground), community planning and development, commemorative landscape, architecture, and landscape architecture. It also meets Criterion Consideration F as a commemorative site. The period of significance for the Bunker Hill Monument site begins with the Battle of Bunker Hill in 1775 and extends to 1947, the year major site improvements to walkways, steps, and embankments were completed, which led visitors to the centrally located Monument and Lodge. These changes were based on the recommendations of the Metropolitian District Commission (MDC), Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. and the Olmsted Brothers landscape architectural firm, and the City of Boston Landscape Architect Arthur Shurtleff.

CRITERION A

Military:
The Bunker Hill Monument site contains a portion of the original American redoubt constructed on the eve of June 17, 1775 and is a fragment of the battleground area that covered much of the original Charlestown peninsula. The site also contains components of the innovative engineering system associated with the erection of the obelisk (CLR 2000: 87). An assessment of archeological resources may confirm the integrity of the 18th century battlefield site. However, the significance of archeological resources associated with the battlefield are beyond the scope of this study.

Community Planning and Development:
The construction of the Bunker Hill Monument and the residential development surrounding Monument Square are significant examples of community planning and development. The early and ambitious efforts of the Bunker Hill Monument Association figuratively paved the road for other commemorative organizations throughout the country. Funds were raised by public subscription, special events, entrance fees, membership dues, sale of the surrounding land, special funds such as the "Ladies Fund" initiated by Sarah Hale, and benefactors such as Dr. John Collins Warren and Amos Lawrence. The early and successful attempts of the Bunker Hill Monument Association to regulate the height, set-back and style of buildings around Monument Square established a precedent for residential planning (CLR 2000: 92).

CRITERIA CONSIDERATION F

Commemorative Landscape:
The Bunker Hill Monument property, as a commemorative site, is significant for its architectural and design qualities, and as an early example of a successful commemorative movement. The site has a long and consistent history of commemorative traditions and symbolic values, and was one of the earliest war monuments to be built in the country. These qualities relate to both its significance as a portion of the 1775 battleground and the preservation movement by the Bunker Hill Monument Association and the Charlestown community that led to the creation of the Bunker Hill Monument, Monument Square, and the surrounding neighborhood. Subsequent consultations and design work through the 1940s addressed changes envisioned by the Bunker Hill Monument Association and notable landscape architects (CLR 2000: 92).

CRITERION C

Architecture and Landscape Architecture:
The design and layout of the obelisk, Lodge, monuments, markers, fences, steps, walkways and the resulting landform and spatial organization cannot be attributed to one individual or period of time. Instead they are the work of several designers, and a sequence of ideas that remained true to the original design

intent, a landscape to be reflective of the monument design, “distinguished by simplicity and grandeur, rather than by elaborate and elegant ornaments. The idea of an obelisk is attributed to Horatio Greenough, winner of the monument design competition, who later became a noted American sculptor. Engineer Laommi Baldwin developed Greenough’s concept into a working model in 1825. Architect Solomon Willard directed the implementation of the construction drawings from 1825 to 1842. The definition of Monument Square and subdivision of the surrounding land, the initial regrading, layout of gates, steps, and walkways are also attributed to Solomon Willard. The perimeter fence was designed by Isaiah Rogers and historian Richard Frothingham placed historical markers on the site, which were engraved by Gilman and Cheney of Charlestown. Henry Dexter of Cambridgeport designed the statue of General Joseph Warren and American Sculptor William W. Story cast the statue of Colonel William Prescott. The Bunker Hill Monument was a significant precursor to the Washington Monument, built in Washington, D. C. beginning in 1848 and completed in 1885 (CLR 2000: 92).

In the 1870s, many improvements were made to the landscape in preparation for the 1875 centennial of the Battle of Bunker Hill. The four corner gates, steps and walks were removed, the perimeter hedge was removed, and walkways were paved. Fountains were placed on the site. After 1876 major changes were made to the landscape to correct or enhance site conditions. The granite Lodge was completed in 1902 under the direction of the Bunker Hill Monument Association. The poor condition of the landscape setting was noted in 1907 but diminishing funds of the Bunker Hill Monument Association deferred these site improvements. They were eventually carried out by the Metropolitan District Commission between 1919 and circa 1947.

During the years of ownership and management by the Metropolitan District Commission, major site improvements were made to the landscape that enhanced the site’s monumental character. They included the regrading of most slopes, installation of new broader steps and iron fencing, the relocation of most walkways and surfacing them in concrete, installation of floodlighting, and plantings of trees and shrubs. These modifications addressed changes envisioned by the Bunker Hill Monument Association in the early 1900s and incorporated some of the recommendations made by Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. and the Olmsted Brothers firm, and by the City of Boston Landscape Architect, Arthur Shurtleff (CLR 2000: 93).

After a period of relative inactivity during the 1950s, the Metropolitan District Commission implemented a series of site alterations that were in response to increasingly urban conditions of the surrounding area. Chain link fencing was added to the entry gates, replacing earlier bollards. Mercury vapor cobra lights were added to the Monument grounds, which were not in character with previous nineteenth century lighting. Pairs of granite tablets were placed on each of the entrance steps, which contradicted the Bunker Hill Monument Association’s original desire to keep the site devoid of memorial tablets. Pin oak trees were added to the upper slopes of the site in random plantings, contrasting with the original planting scheme of two rows of trees around the square’s perimeter. An accessibility ramp added to the southeastern quadrant of the site altered the previous symmetry of the four entry steps and walkways. The addition of granite tablets, pin oaks, accessibility ramp, and a bronze wayside at the base of the Monument were installed in preparation for the 1975 bicentennial celebration of the War for Independence (CLR 2000: 93).

National Register Significance Criteria:

A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history

C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

National Register Criteria Consideration:

F -- A commemorative property

National Register Periods of Significance (with Historic Context Themes):

Time Period: CE 1775 - CE 1947

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Shaping the Political Landscape	The American Revolution	War in the North	
Transforming the Environment	Historic Preservation	Formative Years, 1796 -1858: The Destruction Of Green Springs To The Saving Of Mount Vernon And The Hasbrouck House, Patriotism And Preservation	

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Community Planning and Development

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Landscape Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Military

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

NRIS Information:

NRIS ID:	74002222
Primary Certification Date:	10/26/1974
NRIS ID:	66000138
Primary Certification Date:	10/15/1966

State Register Documentation:

National Historic Landmarks:

National Historic Landmark? Yes

Theme:

Contributing:

NHL ID:

NHL URL:

Date:

Statement of Significance for National Historic Landmark:

World Heritage Site:

World Heritage Site? No

Category:

WHS ID:

WHS URL:

Date:

Is Resource within a designated National Natural Landscape: No

Chronology and Physical History

Chronology:

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1625	Established	Thomas Walford establishes the first English settlement in Charlestown.
CE 1629	Inhabited	First members of the Massachusetts Bay Company arrive in Charlestown.
CE 1630 - 1639	Built	A fort is erected at the summit of Town Hill and a gun battery is built at Sconce Point.
CE 1774	Abandoned	The Boston Port Bill effectively shuts down the port, until the damages and duties of the Boston Tea Party are paid. This cripples the Charlestown economy.
CE 1775	Abandoned	The ensuing battle prompts nearly 3,000 inhabitants of Charlestown to evacuate their homes by May of 1775, leaving behind approximately 200 residents.
CE 1775	Built	American troops construct earthen fortification at the summit of the 62-foot Breed's Hill. The men also built three arrow-shaped barriers, known as fleches.
CE 1775	Military Operation	Battle of Bunker Hill on June 17, 1775.
CE 1775	Built	In the weeks following the battle, the British strengthen fortifications on Bunker and Breed's Hills.
CE 1776	Military Operation	British troops control the fort until March 17, 1776 when all British troops evacuate Boston Harbor as a result of General Washington's strategic entrenchment at Dorchester Heights.
CE 1783	Memorialized	In September of 1783, Britain signs the Treaty of Paris, officially ending the war, and signaling a transition of the nation's battlegrounds to sites of remembrance and commemoration.
CE 1781 - 1790	Reconstructed	Legislative acts in 1781 and 1790 enable the area destroyed by fire to be rebuilt.
CE 1785 - 1818	Purchased/Sold	The thirty-five acres of land that encompassed Breed's Hill is divided into fifteen-acre tracts. The six acres that would eventually become the Bunker Hill Monument site appears to be owned by Sarah Russell, but may have included land owned by N. Austin, M. Beaman, T. Brooks, and A. Kettell.
CE 1794	Memorialized	King Solomon's Lodge of Freemasons place monument on Breed's Hill to honor Major General Joseph Warren.
CE 1822 - 1823	Purchased/Sold	Dr. John Collins purchases between two and three acres of battlefield site land.
CE 1825	Purchased/Sold	Bunker Hill Monument Association purchases fifteen acres on the slope of Breed's Hill.
CE 1825 - 1842	Planned	Solomon Willard prepares working plans for an obelisk, lays out the surrounding landscape, and acts as the architect and superintendent of construction of the Monument.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1828 - 1839	Purchased/Sold	The Bunker Hill Monument Association mortgages about eleven acres of the battlefield to generate funds for construction of the Monument. On September 25, 1839, nine of the fifteen acres are sold at public auction.
CE 1839	Platted	Nine acres—surrounding the Monument Square—are divided into 115 building lots.
CE 1839 - 1847	Destroyed	The regrading destroys many archeological resources associated with the fortification.
CE 1842	Built	On July 23, 1842, the Bunker Hill Monument is completed.
CE 1842 - 1847	Built	Most of the site improvements to the Square occur between 1842 and 1847.
CE 1847	Built	The first home built on a parcel facing Monument Square is completed. It is owned by George Washington Warren.
CE 1847 - 1875	Developed	Between 1847 and the 1870s, most of the lots surrounding Monument Square are built.
CE 1857	Built	General Joseph Warren statue installed on June 17, 1857.
CE 1857 - 1901	Built	Wooden lodge is constructed in 1857 and remains onsite until 1901.
CE 1870	Built	The City of Charlestown installs four gas lampposts in front of each of the four sides of the Monument and repairs Lodge.
CE 1870	Reconstructed	The perimeter fence is rebuilt with new stone posts, iron posts, and rails. Only the 1844 fence pales are reused. The outer sidewalk is widened by three feet with the brick paving.
CE 1870 - 1879	Altered	In the 1870s a new drainage system for the Monument grounds is installed and consists of new or additional stone lined gutters at the foot of the slope.
CE 1871	Built	Two fountains are purchased and installed at a cost of $800.00.
CE 1871	Altered	Improvements are made to the Bunker Hill site including repairs are made to sod; four main walks around the Monument are paved with stone and asphalt, replacing the gravel and sand; the walk at the base of the slope, presumably inside the fence, is regraded and surfaced with Medford gravel; and all four flights of steps are reset.
CE 1876	Memorialized	Original stone markers set in 1844 that marked the location of the American redoubt, fence, and other positions are removed and replaced with new markers in more accurate locations.
CE 1880 - 1900	Altered	Repairs are made to the site, which includes resurfacing walks with concrete and adding new iron rails to the steps at the four entrances.
CE 1881	Built	Colonel William Prescott Statue is installed on June 17, 1881.
CE 1888	Built	The City places four electric street lights near the steps on each side of the Square, while the Bunker Hill Association adds electric lights at each corner of the site.
CE 1889	Built	A wire fence is erected in 1889.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1902	Built	A new one-story granite Lodge, designed in the Classical Revival style, is completed in 1902, replacing the previous wooden lodge.
CE 1907	Built	Charlestown High School is rebuilt on the northwest corner of Monument Square.
CE 1913	Built	The Charlestown Public Library is completed in 1913 and is the last building that was added to Monument Square.
CE 1919	Land Transfer	Bunker Hill Monument Association transfers Bunker Hill site to the Metropolitan District Commission.
CE 1919 - 1922	Altered	Changes are made to the site including regrading most of the slopes, reconfiguring of the walkways, redesigning the steps, and installing flood lighting. The improvements reflect some of the recommendations by Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. and the Olmsted Brothers firm, as well as C.A. Coolidge.
CE 1929 - 1930	Altered	Arthur Shurtleff (later known as Arthur Shurcliff) prepares a rough design for the southerly steps. It is later implemented in the 1930s.
CE 1930	Altered	Additional site improvements are made. Catchbasins are relocated, fence curbing is replaced with brick sidewalks, wire guard fences at the head of the steps at each entrance are replaced with iron picket fence, and trees and shrubs are planted.
CE 1930 - 1950	Altered	Arthur Shurcliff prepares a “Sketch Plan for Approach to Bunker Hill. Although many details of the plan are never executed, other elements of the plan are implemented, which include a widened southwesterly entrance that links to the Monument by two parallel paths that flank a rectangular planting bed surrounded by the Prescott Statue and the planting of perimeter trees.
CE 1940 - 1947	Altered	By 1947, all four sides of the site are regraded, the steps rebuilt, and the walkway is relocated to the edge of the new upper terrace. The floodlights are repaired, the iron fences are painted, and new concrete walks are installed along the upper terrace.
CE 1955 - 1958	Restored	In 1958, the Metropolitan District Commission complete three contracts on the restoration of the Bunker Hill grounds. These included steam cleaning the Monument to remove vandalism, lipstick, and chalk marks, and placing new steel hand railings.
CE 1961	Memorialized	Bunker Hill Monument is designated a National Historic Landmark on January 20, 1961.
CE 1961 - 1962	Altered	Ground improvements are made including regrading, sidewalk repairs, construction of bituminus concrete paved gutter (along stairs), and relighting of the Bunker Hill Monument.
CE 1965 - 1970	Altered	A chain-link fence is installed between the Lodge and Monument and at the entry gates at the base of the walkways.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1966	Built	In 1966, New England Sales and Manufacturing Corporation is hired to furnish and install lighting standards, fixtures, conduits, cables, and controls centers. Mercury vapor lamps, also referred to as “cobra lights,” are also installed.
CE 1972	Altered	In 1972, the Bunker Hill Monument site receives improvements including the repair of deteriorated sidewalks, resetting and grouting of granite steps, repair and painting of stairway railings, replacement of all signs, and repairs to outdoor benches.
CE 1974	Established	Congress approves the establishment of Boston National Historical Park.
CE 1974	Altered	In 1974, the concrete walks and curbs are replaced and two handicapped accessibility ramps are installed. A long ramp is installed from the Monument Avenue gate up to the southeast Monument lawn quadrant. A short ramp is installed at the entrance of the Lodge.
CE 1975	Memorialized	The Metropolitan District Commission completes the design and installation of four commemorative tablets at the four entrance gates. Pin oaks are later added to the upper slopes and upper walkway in random plantings.
CE 1975	Altered	Additional site improvements completed prior to the Bicentennial include walk and lighting improvements, grading for drainage, removal of the chain link cage between the Monument and Lodge, and rehabilitation of landscape features including the turf, and a pole to hang the Bunker Hill Flag.
CE 1975	Altered	The double row of shade trees along the perimeter of the property are substantially replanted, resulting in many young trees on the site.
CE 1976	Land Transfer	The Metropolitan District Commission transfers the Bunker Hill site to the National Park Service (NPS) in November of 1976.
CE 1979 - 1981	Altered	Between 1979 and 1981, the obelisk is repointed, new plaza walkways are placed, new granite curbs and pavers are installed and the bollards are reinstalled. Approach steps at all four gates are raked out and repointed. Additional improvements include the installation of a new handicap ramp handrail, two new iron gates, and new grass sod.
CE 1980	Altered	Warren Memorial fence spike is removed.
CE 1992 - 1994	Altered	The pin oaks are thinned to allow greater penetration of the floodlights but none are removed.
CE 1994 - 1996	Maintained	The fences are repaired.
CE 1995 - 1997	Planted	Ten trees located in the perimeter sidewalk are replaced with “Summitt” green ash.
CE 1998 - 1999	Altered	Irrigation system is installed at the Bunker Hill Monument site.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1998 - 1999	Established	The Monument Square Neighborhood Association establishes a daffodil bed in the lawn area in front of the Prescott Statue. They also contributed eight square box planters at the top of each set of steps.
CE 2000	Memorialized	The Warren spike is reinstalled, but later removed due to renewed safety concerns.
CE 2002 - 2008	Rehabilitated	The Bunker Hill Monument, Lodge, and Museum are rehabilitated. The project include repointing the Monument, replacing the Lodge roof, rehabilitating public restrooms, improving site lighting, repairing/replacing sidewalks, and making the site, Lodge, and the base of the Monument ADA compliant.
CE 2010	Stabilized	In 2010, as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), Boston National Historical Park receive funding for the stabilization of all four sets of stairs that lead to Bunker Hill Monument.

Physical History:

The history of the Bunker Hill Monument landscape is detailed in the “Bunker Hill Monument: Cultural Landscape Report for Boston National Historical Park, Charlestown” (2000) by Patricia Quintero Brouillette and Margaret Coffin Brown. The following overview is extracted from the Cultural Landscape Report. Graphics associated with this section are located at the end of this report.

EARLY SETTLEMENT (PRE-1775)

Prehistory:
When glacial ice covered New England nearly 12,000 years ago, the Boston Basin, a geological depression bounded by an escarpment to the north and west, was a hilly plain cut by rivers and streams and colonized by various plant and animal species. Within the basin, advancing glaciers formed drumlins—elongated masses of till shaped into smooth-sloped hills—that characterize the landscape of the Charlestown area. Five to eight thousand years later, Paleo-Indian populations and their descendents occupied the region, settling primarily along major river basins. In the late sixteenth century, members of the Algonquin linguistic group of Native Americans occupied the area that would later be named Charlestown and called it Mishaumut or Mishawum, translated as "Great Spring," bounded by the rivers Mistick and Mishaum (later the Charles). These individuals were possibly part of the Massachuset or Pawtucket Tribe, which were some of the first Native Americans to come in contact with European explorers in the early 1600s (Bunker Hill Monument: Cultural Landscape Report for Boston National Historical Park, Charlestown, hereafter CLR, 2000: 3).

Coastal tribes, such as the Massachuset and Pawtucket, were also the first to be heavily exposed to European diseases, particularly small pox, which in 1616 and 1619 afflicted entire villages. Many New England colonial settlements were built on the sites of decimated Native American villages, saving them much of the initial effort of claiming and clearing the land (CLR, 2000: 3).

European Settlement of Charlestown:
Thomas Walford established the first English settlement in Charlestown in about 1625. Walford relocated from Wessagusset (now part of North Weymouth), which had been settled by the Robert Georges Company and subsequently abandoned. Walford's Episcopal tenets would eventually lead to his departure from Charlestown upon the arrival of Puritans of the Massachusetts Bay Company. The first members of the Massachusetts Bay Company arrived at Charlestown or "Cherton" in 1629, when about one hundred persons relocated from Salem under the leadership of Frances Higginson. The Company's engineer, Thomas Graves, proceeded to "model and layout the form of the town, with streets about the hill." Each inhabitant was allocated a two-acre lot to plant upon, and "all were to fence in common." The southern-most hill, the smallest of four drumlins on the peninsula, was selected as the center of the settlement and named "Town Hill," rising at the confluence of the Charles and Mystic Rivers, where there was deep anchorage. To the west, a narrow isthmus, known as the "Neck," connected the peninsula to abundant inland forests and farmland. The settlers measured out properties, built stone fences to establish the boundary markers, enclosed a common, and erected a "Great House" adjacent to Town Hill. On July 4, 1629, King Charles of England chartered the settlement as an independent town, and "Charlestown" became his namesake (CLR, 2000: 4).

In 1630, John Winthrop, the designated Governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, and his party landed from the Arbella at Salem, found the area undesirable and quickly left for Charlestown. Winthrop selected the town as the seat of government and occupied the "Great House" with several of the patentees, while "the multitude set up cottages, booths, and tents about the Town Hill." However, within two months after their arrival, persistent sickness, scarce food, and inadequate fresh water drove many of the colonists in search of a better environment. They settled on the Shawmut peninsula and renamed it Boston. Those remaining in Charlestown began to realize Grave's town plan around Town Hill. The community was solidified by the creation of a board of selectmen in 1634. George Bunker, one of the wealthiest proprietors, signed the document and Robert Moulton was chosen as one of the first selectmen. One of the earliest orders of Charlestown provided for a great "Cornfield" on the east side of Town Hill, embracing all of the land between Main Street and the Mystic River and the three other hills; Bunker's, Breed's, and Moulton's. The Breed family owned land on the east side of what would later be known as Breed's Hill (CLR, 2000: 4).

By the eighteenth century, the settlement developed into a thriving community abundant with skilled merchants. Massachusetts had earned the reputation as the "Holland of America." Town records list several Charlestown merchants engaged primarily in commerce, carrying on direct trade with the West Indies and Europe, and a number of thriving shipyards. A daily ferry to Boston was launched,

facilitating access between the towns. Charlestown listed 412 voters who agreed to pave portions of public streets, and to construct an almshouse. Houses, shops, and a busy marketplace flourished along the main street that extended inland from the waterfront, precipitating the town's transformation into a prosperous seaport. However, increasing constraints imposed by British authorities would result in a dramatic alteration of the Charlestown landscape (CLR, 2000: 4).

At the outset of the War for Independence, Charlestown consisted of a densely populated seaport center composed of about 400 buildings. A main road running west along the southern base of Breed's Hill to the narrow Charlestown Neck connected with the fertile farmland and thriving inland communities of Cambridge, Menotomy (later Arlington), and beyond. Along the road lay farmhouses backed by clearly demarcated fields and pastures. With the exception of trees along the main roads, most of the peninsula's timber had long since been harvested, leaving open views to the surrounding Boston Peninsula, Noddle's Island (later East Boston), and Chelsea (Figure 1) (CLR, 2000: 5).

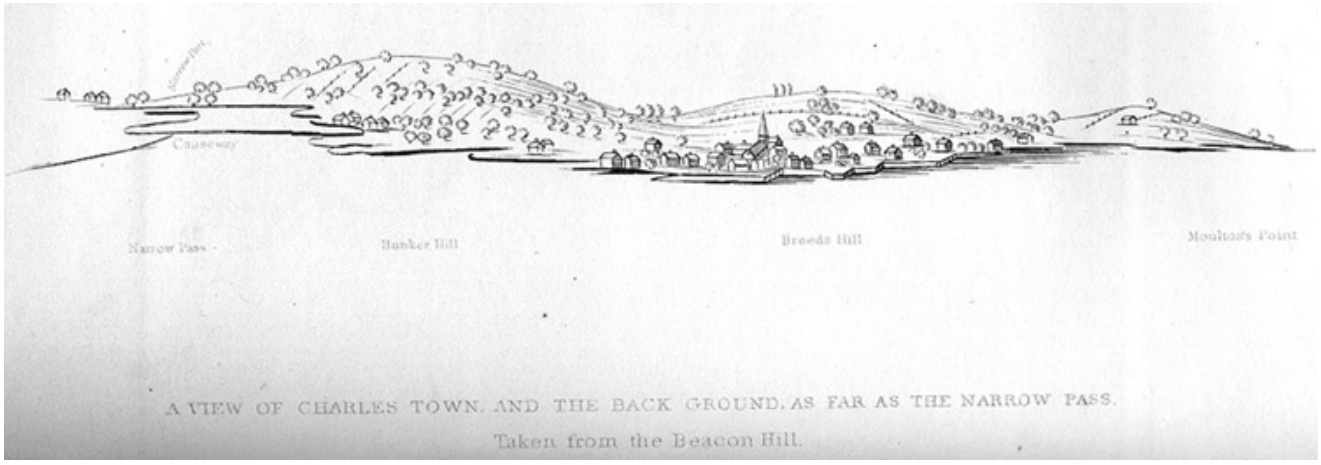


Figure 1. Town Hill settlement in Charlestown (foreground), the three drumlins of Charlestown, Bunker's, Breed's, and Moulton's Hill (from left to right), and the Neck, also called the Narrow Pass (History of the Siege of Boston, R. Frothingham, 121).

WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE (1775-1783)

Strategic Importance of Charlestown:
On June 1, 1774 the Boston Port Bill effectively shut down the port, until the damages and duties of the Boston Tea Party on December 16, 1773 were paid. This crippled the Charlestown economy. The situation worsened in September when the newly-appointed Governor, General Thomas Gage, seized the Massachusetts Colony's arsenal at Charlestown. Thousands of local militiamen rushed to Charlestown, beginning a transformation of the peninsula from bucolic farmland and seaport to battleground (CLR, 2000: 7).

On the eve of April 19, 1775, Paul Revere took the road from Charlestown across the neck to warn Patriots of the impending arrival of British troops in Lexington and Concord. After a harrowing day of fighting the retreating Redcoats dashed across the Charlestown Neck and took refuge on Bunker Hill where they hastily built breastworks and relied on gunfire from their warships to ward off Patriot pursuers. Shortly thereafter, in what was later recognized as a strategic blunder, the British abandoned their Bunker Hill post and the beleaguered soldiers were ferried back to Boston to regroup. Despite the re-consolidation of British troops in Boston, both British General Thomas Gage and American Commander Artemus Ward realized that control of the hills surrounding Boston was the military key, particularly the Charlestown peninsula to the north and Dorchester Heights to the south. As the likelihood of a prolonged battle grew, British threats of military action prompted the nearly 3,000 inhabitants of Charlestown to evacuate their homes by May of 1775, leaving behind less than 200 residents in the shadow of the British Navy (CLR, 2000: 7).

Battle of Bunker Hill:
Despite the British labor expended on the fort at the top of Bunker Hill and its recognized strategic importance, the British troops remained in Boston. The American troops mobilized on June 16, 1775, when Colonel William Prescott led 1,200 untrained farmers, merchants, and craftsmen, predominantly from Massachusetts and Connecticut, across the Charlestown Neck in darkness to take control of the 110-foot Bunker Hill. After considerable debate in the middle of the night, Patriot

leaders, including Colonel Prescott, General Israel Putnam, and Engineer Richard Gridley, decided on a different strategy more likely to provoke the British. They instructed their troops to construct instead the earthen fortification at the summit of the 62-foot Breed's Hill, also known as Russell's Pasture, Breed's Pasture, Green's Pasture, and Green Hill, which lay closer to the British naval ships (CLR, 2000: 8).

Additional Patriot troops from New Hampshire arrived during the day of the battle and positioned themselves along a rail fence that ran down the northeast slope of Breed's Hill to the Mystic River. The men also built three arrow-shaped barriers, known as fleches, between the Breed's Hill fort and the rail fences. Troops were also dispatched to the abandoned village of Charlestown. When Gage saw the freshly turned earthen berm at the summit of Breed's Hill, he ordered British artillery on Copp's Hill in Boston to open fire on Charlestown and dispatched nearly 3,000 British soldiers, who landed on two sites at Moulton's Point (Figure 2). Meanwhile British troops, heavily laden with gear, ascended the slopes of Breed's Hill from the north and east. Struggling through brambles and over fences, the British were unprepared for the oppressive heat and the tenacity of American soldiers (Figure 3) (CLR, 2000: 8).

British Occupation of Bunker Hill:
After a full day of battle, the Americans exhausted their ammunition and fled across the Charlestown neck. Colonel Prescott, who held together the American defenses until the end, was recognized as a hero and played an active role in the remainder of the war. Doctor Joseph Warren, who had just been appointed Major General and Commanding Officer of the American troops, fought as a soldier and was fatally wounded shortly before the troops retreated. Warren was the highest-ranking officer killed in the battle. The British took control of the Breed's Hill fort, reclaimed their fort on Bunker Hill, and hastily buried the dead on the battleground. Though victorious, the British had more than twice the fatalities than the Patriots, and lost one-seventh of their entire army, rendering them incapable of continuing with their large-scale offensive operations planned for New England in 1775. As one British officer, Sir Henry Clinton, stated it was, "a dear bought victory, another such would have ruined us." In the weeks following the battle, the British strengthened fortifications on Bunker and Breed's Hills while a stalemate lingered. British occupation resulted in a poorly documented redesign and reconstruction of the American redoubt on Breed's Hill (CLR, 2000: 8).

British troops controlled the fort until March 17, 1776 when all British troops evacuated Boston Harbor as a result of General Washington's strategic entrenchment at Dorchester Heights. In September of 1783, Britain signed the Treaty of Paris, officially ending the war, and signaling a transition of the nation's battlegrounds to sites of remembrance and commemoration (CLR, 2000:8).

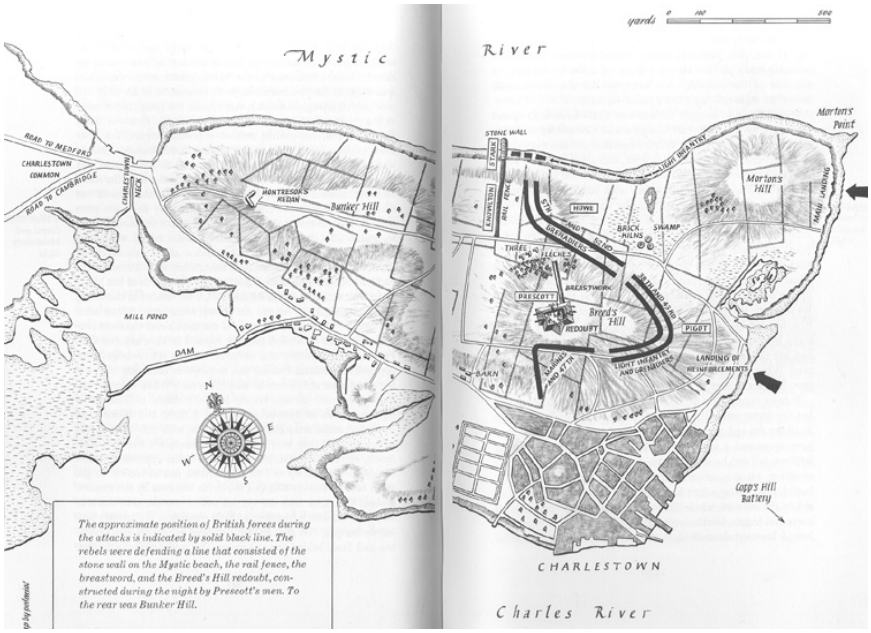


Figure 2. Diagram of the Battle of Bunker Hill on June 17, 1775 showing the fortification on Breeds Hill and the approximate position of British forces during the attack (Decisive Day, The Battle for Bunker Hill, R. Ketchum, 1974, 148-49).

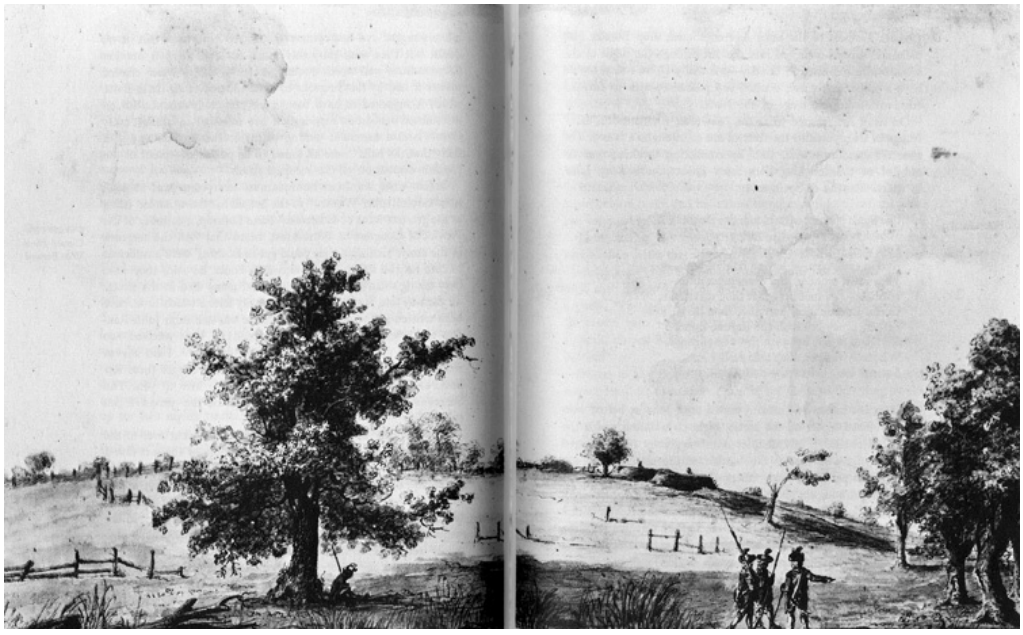


Figure 3. Watercolor of British soldiers walking over the Breed's Hill battleground (From Decisive Day, The Battle for Bunker Hill, R. Ketchum, 1974, 188-89).

POST WAR USE OF THE SITE (1783-1825)

In the years following the battle, the Charlestown landscape transformed from a discordant battleground to an amicable patchwork of private landholdings. Shortly after the departure of British forces in March of 1776, few residents attempted to repair their ruined homes. Reconstruction did not gain momentum until Legislative acts in 1781 and 1790 enabled the area destroyed by fire to be rebuilt. Streets, lanes, and squares were laid out, and the area around the Town Hill marketplace was cleared. Crooked lanes leading eastward from Town Hill toward Moulton's Point were straightened, forming Water and Henley Streets. Between 1785 and 1800, Charlestown doubled in population, growing to include 349 buildings and 2,750 residents. A survey of 1818 shows the top of Breed's Hill enclosed by High, Elm, Adams, Morton, and Bunker Hill Streets (Figure 4). This area of approximately 35 acres was divided into fifteen tracts, fourteen belonging to prominent locals, and one plot under Union Bank ownership. The six acres that would eventually become the Bunker Hill Monument site appear to be owned by Mrs. Sarah Russell, but may have included land owned by N. Austin, M. Beaman, T. Brooks, and A. Kettel. Most of the land on Breed's Hill returned to pasture, with the east slope used for hay and grazing and the west for orchards and gardens. Little evidence remained of the events that transpired on June 17, 1775 (CLR 2000: 11).

Early Commemorative Efforts and Formation of the Association:
Commemoration of the Battle of Bunker Hill began in 1794, when King Solomon's Lodge of Freemasons, established in Charlestown in 1783, placed a monument to Masonic brother, Major General Joseph Warren on Breed's Hill. The monument, a wooden Tuscan pillar terminated in a gilt urn, was placed on the presumed spot where General Joseph Warren fell (Figure 5). In 1823, a group of prominent citizens formed the Bunker Hill Monument Association to construct a more permanent and significant monument to commemorate the famous battle. The perseverance of the Association gained support and generous donations from all over New England, and by the spring of 1825, the Association's commemorative effort was underway when it acquired ownership of approximately fifteen acres on the slope of Breed's Hill (CLR 2000: 12).

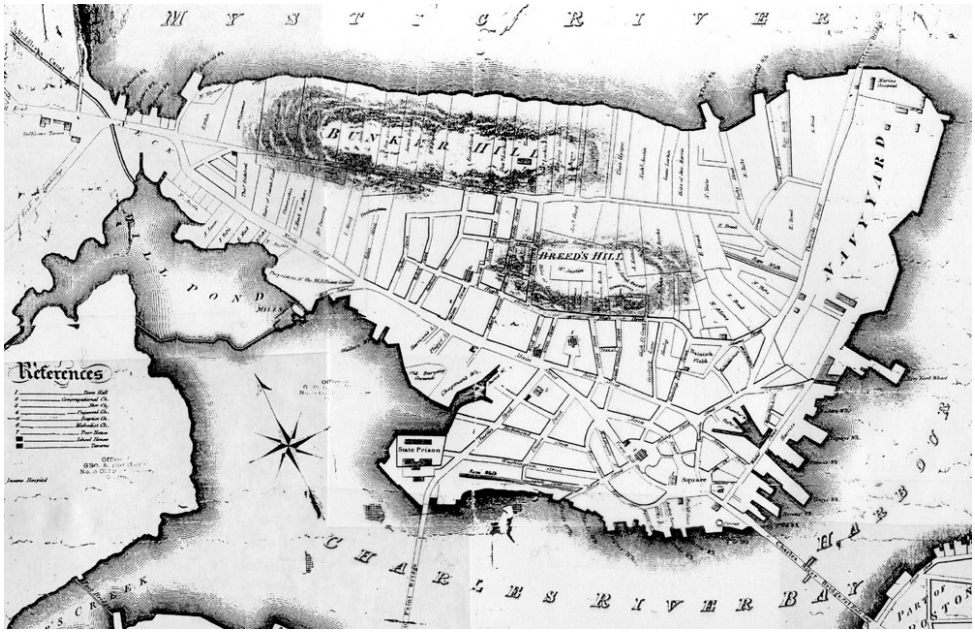


Figure 4. Map of Charlestown by Peter Tufts, 1818, shows layout of Charlestown, property ownership, and location of monument (Boston National Historical Park Archives).



Figure 5. The square pyramidal column of wood capped by an urn of classical design erected in 1794 on the presumed site where Joseph Warren fell.

BUNKER HILL MONUMENT ASSOCIATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE MONUMENT (1825-1919)

Beginning in 1825, the Bunker Hill Monument Association focused on the design and plan for the proposed monument. It was determined that a design competition should be held and that one hundred dollars would be awarded for the best design. About fifty plans were submitted, in either drawing or model format. Initially the Association's Board of Artists selected the design of a 120-foot obelisk submitted by Horatio Greenough, then a twenty-two year old student who later became a noted sculptor. After settling on the form of the Monument, Laommi Baldwin, an engineer as well as chairman of the committee, prepared written specifications for the dimensions and proportions of the Monument, and developed the initial design of the Bunker Hill Monument. However, Baldwin resigned his post shortly thereafter and the physical design and supervision of construction was unanimously passed to Boston Architect Solomon Willard. Willard prepared working plans for the obelisk, laid out the surrounding landscape, and acted as the architect and superintendent of construction until July 23, 1842, when the Monument was completed (CLR 2000: 15).

Once the Bunker Hill Monument Association established ownership of the fifteen acres of battleground on Breed's Hill, the Association issued letters to the general public and selectmen soliciting community cooperation to ensure the Monument project would be fully supported. Throughout design discussions and community meetings the landscape design was addressed in conceptual terms, but clearly determined. References to the land were primarily made in context to preserving it as an open battlefield, however few specifics of the modifications were discussed. The consensus was for the landscape to be "kept open and sacred forever," and its purpose was to serve primarily as a setting for the Monument. The Association envisioned the landscape to be reflective of the monument design, "distinguished by simplicity and grandeur, rather than by elaborate and elegant ornaments. Like the events which it is to commemorate, we would wish it to exhibit the character of natural, inherent, durable greatness" (CLR 2000: 15).

As the momentum for the obelisk construction grew, it was increasingly apparent that the project was truly monumental. The technological innovations necessary to construct the Monument would result in catapulting Boston into the forefront in the era of railroads, granite quarrying, masonry, infrastructure, steam engines, and innovative derrick systems. The conspicuous memorial was envisioned to be "As substantial as the great pyramids of Egypt." The cornerstone of the Monument was laid on June 17, 1825, on the fiftieth anniversary celebration of the Battle of Bunker Hill (CLR 2000: 15).

Siting the Monument and Earthmoving:
Shortly after the dedication of the cornerstone, the Association finalized the specifications of the Monument. The design of the Monument was to be an obelisk, with a square base of 30 feet per side, and rise 220 feet from the ground. The position of the structure, as envisioned by Laommi Baldwin, "shall be such that its four faces shall be respectively opposite the four cardinal points of the compass, and the north and south faces shall intersect at right angles, the plane of meridian passing through the axis of the monument." However, when Solomon Willard prepared the construction drawings he altered the siting based on research conducted by Dr. John C. Warren. The Monument was sited on what was believed to be the center of the American redoubt and parallel with the sides of the redoubt. However, subsequent engineering surveys conducted in 1847 and 1875, and more recent archeological surveys in 1980 and 1996, indicate that the Monument stands on the southeast corner of the original redoubt rather than in the center. Below ground, the foundation of the structure was to be a square base of fifty feet per side (CLR 2000: 16).

Earthmoving began on the site in November of 1825 and the foundation of the Monument was dug in the following year. When completed the Monument foundation was twelve feet deep and fifty feet square. Although it was their intent to set the base of the Monument at the top of the hill, it appears there was little discussion of preserving the extant battlefield earthworks. The commentary of an observer suggests that most remaining surface evidence was destroyed during the course of the project (CLR 2000: 17).

In looking for the best material source for construction of the obelisk, Solomon Willard chose a granite quarry in Quincy, Massachusetts, which the Association purchased to produce all the granite necessary for the Monument. The selection of granite revolutionized the use of the material in building and fort construction, and led to its widespread use both in Boston and all over the country. Furthermore, Willard specified large blocks to reduce the total number of stones and the number of courses to complete the Monument. To move the enormous and heavy stone blocks, the first in a series of technological innovations associated with the project, was the construction and use of a railway to transport granite from the Quincy Quarry to the shore of the Neponset River. Begun in January of 1826, this was one of the earliest railways built in the United States. The railway, designed by Gridley Bryant, was powered by horses on a short incline and by a stationary steam engine. It consisted of granite sleepers, wood tracks, which were later replaced with granite, and iron plates. Though innovative, the railway delayed construction of the Monument, increased the damage of stones during transfer, and was happily abandoned by Willard in 1828. The materials were later transported by teams of horses directly from the quarry to the hill. By 1829 the Associations' financial burdens, combined with numerous logistical obstacles, suspended construction until funding issues could be resolved (CLR 2000: 17).

Sale of the Battlefield to Fund Monument Construction:
With its funds exhausted in 1828, the Association mortgaged about eleven acres of the battlefield to generate funds for construction of the Monument. By January of 1829, all of the Association's land, with the exception of a 600 by 400-foot parcel surrounding the Monument, was mortgaged for more than $25,000. In June of 1829, the Association voted to sell all of the mortgaged land, though the actual sale did not occur until 1839. Willard was hired by the Association to subdivide the parcel into streets and lots, with the reserved parcel surrounding the Monument (CLR 2000: 18).

On September 25, 1839, nine of the fifteen acres were sold at public auction. In the same year a free bridge was completed that connected Charlestown with Boston. This boosted Charlestown's real estate potential and contributed to the town's transition from a rural area to an urban neighborhood. Willard's proposed subdivision contributed to this transition, with lot configurations and deed restrictions that would emulate the neighborhoods in Boston's Beacon Hill. Willard's plan reserved four acres, an area of 417 by 400 feet around the Monument and an additional two acres for fifty-foot wide streets surrounding the square. The remaining nine acres were divided into 115 building lots. The north-south streets extending north from the site were named Concord and Lexington in reference to the battles during the War for Independence, while the east-west streets on the east and west sides of the site were named Chestnut and Laurel, respectively for local plant species. The ground east and west of the Square, was reduced in elevation. The amount of material removed ranged from eight feet of grade in some locations to twelve feet in others. This cut material was used to fill the depression on the north side of the square. The regrading unearthed and destroyed many archeological resources associated with the fortification (CLR 2000: 18).

The sale of the nine acres cancelled the Associations debt associated with the mortgage of the property and resulted in a profit of $1,767.57. Although at the time of the sale, the Association envisioned repurchasing the parcels, the sale was ultimately irreversible and the remaining battlefield landscape was lost. Ironically, the first home built on a parcel facing Monument Square, completed in 1847, was that of George Washington Warren, a descendant of General Joseph Warren, President of the Bunker Hill Monument Association from 1847 to 1875, and Mayor of Charlestown from 1847 to 1850 (CLR 2000: 18).

Fundraising Efforts by Sarah Hale and Amos Lawrence:
Construction of the Monument resumed due in large part to the fundraising efforts of Sarah J. Hale of Boston, editor and publisher of the Ladies Magazine and Amos Lawrence, an active fundraiser for the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics Association. Hale's efforts resulted in the 1840 "Ladies Fair" and "Ladies Fund," which were inspired by the prospect of a completed Monument and the grounds surrounding the Monument. The Ladies Fair, held in September of 1840 was extremely successful and raised $30,035.53 for the Monument. By 1841, sufficient funds were donated, enabling completion of the Monument (Figure 6) (CLR 2000: 19).

Completion of the Monument & Site Work:

Completion of the Monument accelerated in the 1840s when James Sullivan Savage was contracted to place the remaining stones. In 1841, Savage introduced a steam engine to replace the horses previously used to hoist stones. He also introduced an improved boom derrick of his own invention to raise stones to the top of the nearly completed structure. On Saturday, July 23, 1842, seventeen years after the first cornerstone was laid, the capstone of the Monument was set, officially completing construction of the Monument (CLR 2000: 20).

Most of the site improvements to the Square occurred between 1842 and 1847. A grand procession took place on June 17, 1843 to celebrate the completion of the Monument, but the landscape work was still in progress (Figure 7). Land was graded and seeded, obliterating most of the earthworks that may have remained from the battle. As part of his contract with the Association, James Savage laid a ten-foot wide granite walk at the base of the Monument and a brick sidewalk along the streets surrounding the square. Two iron fences were installed, one at the base of the obelisk, and the other around the whole of Monument Square, just inside the brick sidewalk. The fences were designed by Isaiah Rogers and erected by Charles M. Cumming. Entrances to the square, defined by openings in the perimeter fence, were centered in each of the four sides and at each of the four corners with granite steps leading up to the Monument. Within the square, two additional walkways provided circulation around the Monument grounds, one at the base of the slope just inside the perimeter fence and the other near the top of the slope. A double row of trees and a hedge were set out around Monument Square. One row and the hedge were planted inside the perimeter fence. The second row was planted within the public sidewalk outside the fence (Figure 8) (CLR 2000: 20).

Site Additions by the Bunker Hill Monument Association, 1840s to 1860s:
Once the Monument was enclosed within the park-like square, the Association collected visitor fees and solicited donations to support maintenance of the facility. In 1849, the directors of the Bunker Hill Monument Association voted that no records of the names, dates, or events should be placed on the Monument structure. This decision was challenged in 1889 when Boston city government officials attempted to place memorial tablets with the names of the slain American soldiers at one of the main entrances to the site. The list of names had been hastily compiled and the Association questioned its accuracy. One of the plaques also contained the names of the city officials responsible for creating the plaques. The Association successfully thwarted the plan, having made a conscious, concerted effort to “abstain from placing the names of its benefactors or donors upon the field..." Ultimately, the City of Boston placed the memorial tablets at the entrance to the Old Training Field, which is now known as Winthrop Square. The Association’s policies were observed until 1919 when the organization no longer owned the property. During the Association’s period of ownership, however, there were several other additions to the site, some temporary and some permanent (CLR 2000: 23).

In 1850 work began on a statue of General Joseph Warren, which was sculpted by Henry Dexter of Cambridgeport and enclosed in a Greek Revival building in 1857 designed by George A. Parker, a consulting engineer and architect. The building included a one-story office and museum. Although considered temporary, the wooden lodge remained on the site from 1857 until 1901, when a permanent granite lodge was built. In the 1840s through 60s site furnishings were minimal. Two benches were placed on the north side of the Lodge. There were no lights on the site. Ceremonial flags were installed on the site in several different configurations. An engraving of 1843 shows flags flown out of the Monument upper windows. In 1861, at the outset of the Civil War, a seventy-foot long wooden mast topped by a gilt ball and American flag was bolted to the upper courses of the Monument, but removed in 1866 (Figure 9). The following year, in the spring of 1867, a liberty-pole was installed on Monument Square, but was later removed in 1874 (CLR 2000: 23).

Preparing for the Centennial - Development of Surrounding Streets and Improvements to Lighting, Fences, Drainage, Walks, Steps, and Grounds:
In the 1840s, as the surrounding neighborhood developed, the Bunker Hill Monument Association sought control over the location and width of the adjacent streets as well as an approach from City Square. During the period of Monument construction, fifty-foot wide streets led to the gates on three sides of the Monument. On the south side there was no street leading to the site at the gate. Begun in 1847 and completed in 1852, the Association worked with the City of Charlestown to lay out Monument Avenue from Main Street up the hill to intersect High Street in front of the Monument. However, the street was forty feet wide rather than the desired width of sixty feet, resulting in a

constricted and asymmetrical view of the Monument. Between 1847 and the 1870s, most of the lots surrounding Monument Square were built upon with elegant homes built in the Greek Revival, Italianate, and Mansard or Second Empire style (CLR 2000: 26).

Beginning in 1870 and in preparation for the 100th anniversary and celebration of the 1775 Battle of Bunker Hill, the monument underwent major site rehabilitation. Though tended for almost thirty years, the landscape still presented problems. Many challenges were associated with the steep embankments surrounding the site. Erosion and drainage of the site had evidently been a problem. A stone-lined gutter may have lined the outer edge of the walkways at the top of the slope. In the 1870s a new drainage system for the Monument grounds was installed that consisted of new or additional stone lined gutters at the foot of the slope. The gutter, consisting of laid beach stones, replaced the hedge of an unspecified plant species, installed in the 1840s. The gutter carried water to drain inlets constructed at each corner of the square. In 1870 the City of Charlestown installed four gas lampposts in front of each of the four sides of the Monument and repaired the Lodge. The perimeter fence was rebuilt with new stone posts, iron posts and rails. Only the 1844 fence pales were reused. The outer sidewalk was widened by three feet with the brick paving materials supplied by the city (CLR 2000: 26).

In 1871, two fountains were purchased and installed at a cost of $800.00 (Figure 10). The rationale for adding the decorative fountains to the lawn panels to the south and west of the Monument is not well documented. Five years later, in 1876, the Association's committee on the Monument grounds, comprised of Richard Frothingham, Rank Darracott, and J. Collins Warren, removed the original stone markers set in 1844 that marked the location of the American redoubt, fence, and other positions involved in the battle. They set new markers in locations that they believed were more accurate (CLR 2000: 26).

Repair work continued into 1871, including extensive sod repair, particularly at the base of the square, which was necessary as a result of the hedge removal. The four main walks around the Monument were paved with stone and asphalt, replacing the gravel and sand surface previously surrounding the obelisk. The walk at the base of the slope, presumably inside the fence, was regraded and surfaced with Medford gravel. All four flights of steps were reset; three entirely, and closure of the entrances and walkways at the corners of the site began. Further, the city cooperated by surfacing with concrete the main streets around Monument Square (CLR 2000: 26).

On June 17, 1881, twenty-four years after the June 17, 1857 installation of the Warren Statue, a bronze statue of Colonel William Prescott was dedicated. American Sculptor William W. Story cast the statue in Rome. For the next twenty years, the Association took various repair and rehabilitation measures at the site. The walks within the Monument Square enclosure were renovated and resurfaced with new concrete, new iron rails were added to each side of the steps at the four entrances, and the iron fence that enclosed the grounds was repaired and repainted (CLR 2000: 26).

Gas Lights, Iron Chairs and Benches, and Granite Lodge:
In 1888, the city placed four "electric" street lights near the steps on each side of the Square, while the Association added an "electric" light at each corner of the site to accommodate evening visitors and to discourage late evening loitering. The Association also provided iron chairs and benches with a seating capacity on the grounds for about 100 visitors. In 1889, a wire fence was constructed along the outer edge of the upper walkway on the top of the embankment around the Monument. Construction of a granite building to complement the obelisk was considered in 1843, but not completed until 1902. In 1843 George M. Dexter prepared sketches of the structure but died before preparing construction drawings. William S. Park, a young architect, completed the drawings. However, Lodge construction was delayed as funds were directed to other site and Monument improvements. In the 1870s a building fund was established and in 1901, the Association endeavored to construct the granite Lodge to replace the "temporary" wooden lodge adjacent to the Monument. The new one-story granite Lodge, designed in the Classical Revival style, was constructed between 1901 and 1902. This was the last addition undertaken by the Bunker Hill Monument Association during its period of ownership (Figure 11) (CLR 2000: 30).

In the early 1900s two public buildings were added to Monument Square. In 1907, the Charlestown

High School was rebuilt on the northwest corner of Monument Square. The Neo-Classical granite-block building adhered to the four-story height restriction on its front façade, and was designed by Stickney and Austin, a Boston architectural firm, to harmonize with the classical Greek design of the Lodge and Monument. In 1913 the last building was added to Monument Square on the corner of High Street and Monument Ave. The Charlestown Public Library was built, also in the Neo-Classical style and designed by Fox and Gale, supervising architects for the Boston Public Library system (Figures 12-13) (CLR 2000: 31).

Critique of Landscape Deficiencies and Sale of the Property:
Construction of the new granite Lodge helped improve visitor comfort; however, expenses increased as well. In the following years, Monument receipts barely covered expenses and the Association was unable to create a permanent fund to keep the structures and site in good condition. At their annual meeting in June 17, 1919 the Association approved the title transfer and after nearly a century of overseeing stewardship of the site, the Bunker Hill Monument Association deeded the structures and six-acre site to the State of Massachusetts on July 9, 1919 (CLR 2000: 34).

The site was passed to the state, with recognized site deficiencies in the landscape setting – the superfluous walks, abrupt slopes, and poor condition of features. However, it stood to reflect the Association's ambitious and ultimately successful campaign to construct a fitting memorial to the Americans who fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill. Key structural features on the site included the obelisk, granite Lodge, the Colonel Prescott Statue, the Warren Memorial fence spike and Frothingham's markers. Key landscape features included Monument Square bounded by four streets, the sidewalks, and iron fence, and shade trees. Within the grounds four staircases and walkways directed visitors up the grassy slopes to the Monument and iron benches and seating. Two surrounding walkways, one just inside the perimeter fence and the other near the top of the bank allowed for strolling around the Monument grounds. By 1919 Monument Square was completely enclosed with three and four-story single and multifamily dwellings and two public buildings. The quality and character of these buildings influenced the design and layout of subsequent neighborhood development of the area. Thus, despite the loss of nine acres of battlefield, the Association was able to endow the remaining six acres with an enduring commemorative landscape and establish a strong residential community infrastructure (Figure 14) (CLR 2000: 34).

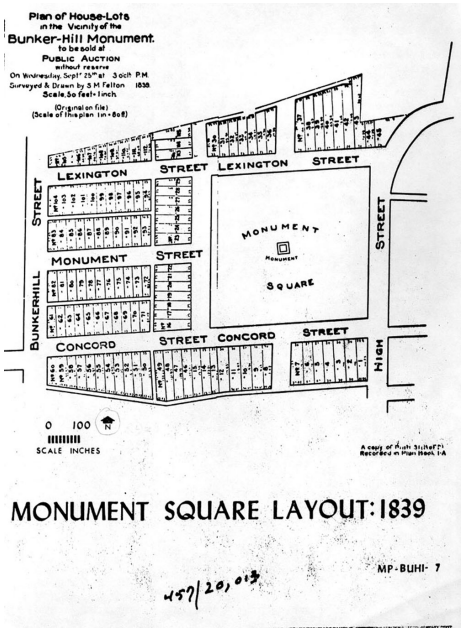


Figure 6. Monument Square layout configured by Solomon Willard in 1839, showing house-lots around Bunker Hill Monument to be sold at public auction. Note: the north arrow and scale are inaccurate (Boston National Historical Park Archives).

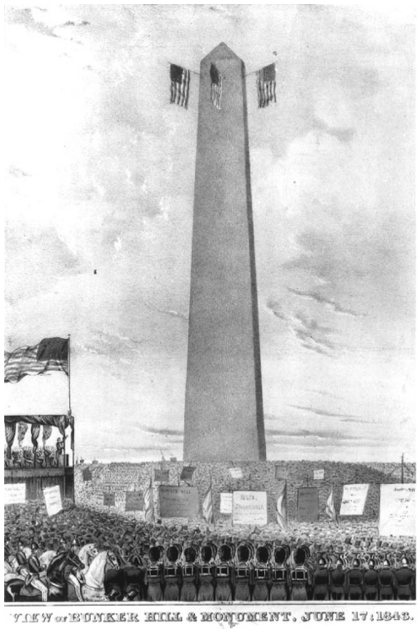


Figure 7. Depiction of Daniel Webster giving an oration on June 17, 1843, the 68th anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill, less than one year after the monument was completed. Note the flags in windows (Boston National Historical Park Archives).

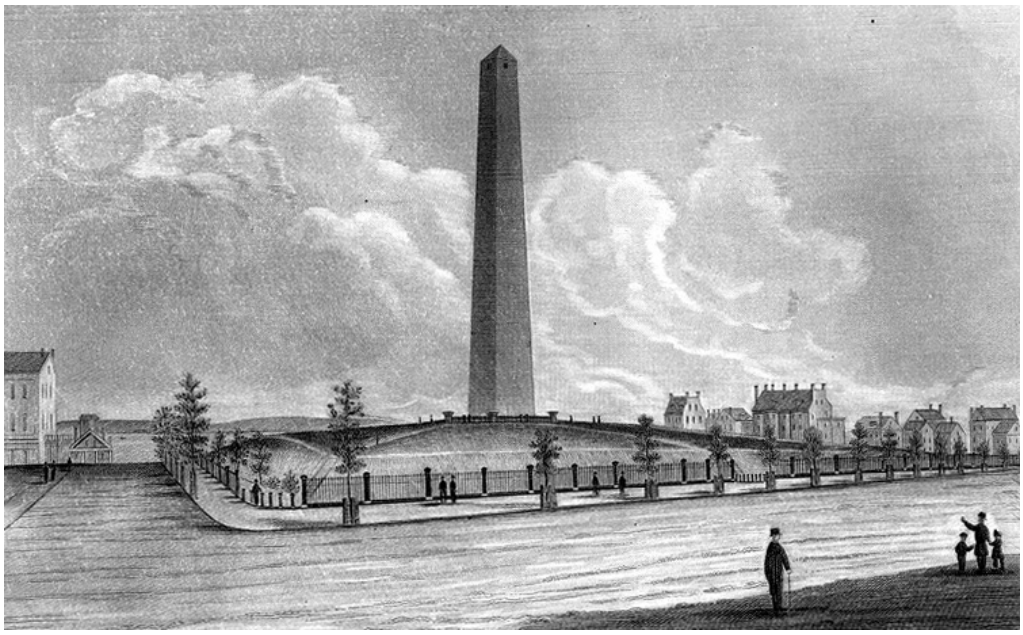


Figure 8. View of Bunker Hill Monument, circa 1849, showing fences, perimeter trees, sidewalk, corner and side entrances, steps and walkways. From History of the Siege of Boston, R. Frothingham, 120 (Boston National Historical Park Archives).

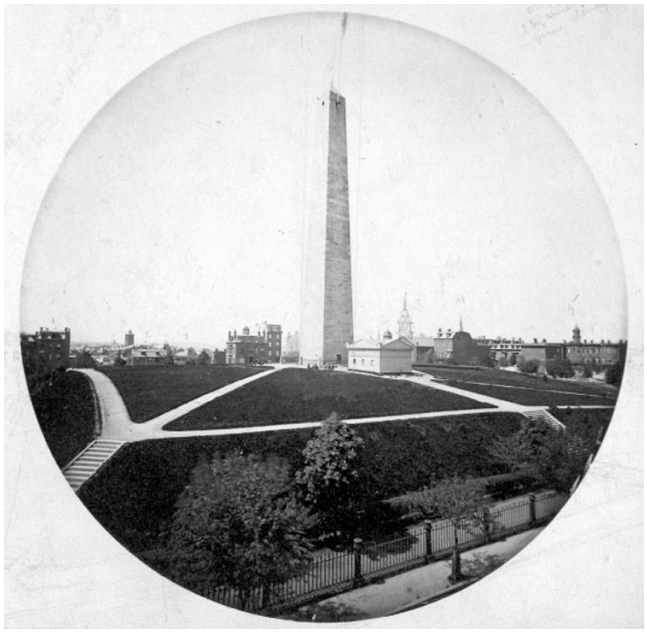


Figure 9. View c.1865 of post bolted to the upper courses of monument, corner steps and walks, gutter along walkway on the left, benches near the lodge, walk just inside the perimeter fence, double row of trees, and possibly the hedge (Bostonian Society).

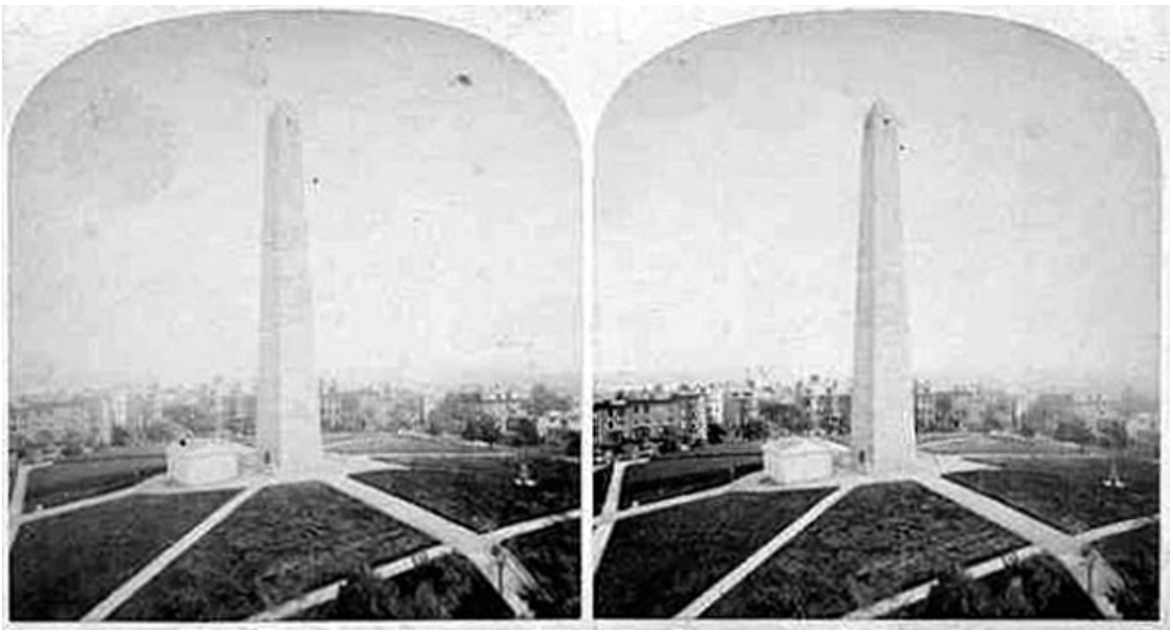


Figure 10. Circa 1871 stereo photograph showing the diagonal paths and a fountain in the southwest lawn panel (at far right in photograph). The diagonal paths were removed shortly after installation of the fountains (Stephen Pendery Family Collection).

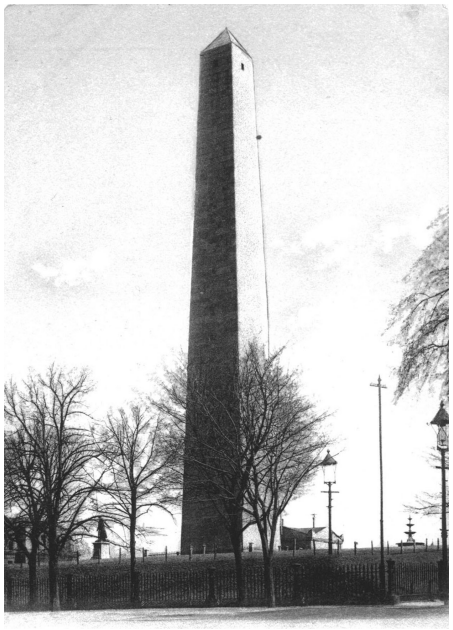


Figure 11. Postcard showing linden and elm trees surrounding site, upper fence, wooden lodge, Prescott statue, fountain, and lights, circa 1890. Courtesy of Boston National Historical Park Archives (Boston National Historical Park).



Figure 12. Rubber Shoe Company postcard, 1906, of the new granite lodge and high school possibly under construction. The fountains are gone and the walkway appears to be surfaced with wood planks (Boston National Historical Park Archives).



Figure 13. Photograph on the front of the Annual Proceedings of the Association, 1907, the double row of trees of mixed sizes and species, the Prescott Statue, benches, and walkways (Boston National Historical Park Archives).

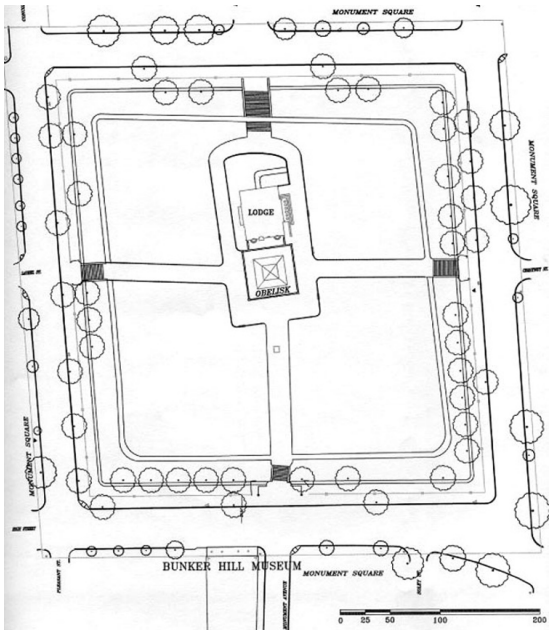


Figure 14. Plan of Monument Square in 1919 when transferred from the Bunker Hill Monument Association to the Metropolitan District Commission (Bunker Hill Monument: Cultural Landscape Report for Boston National Historical Park, hereafter CLR, 2000:36).

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COMMISSION (1919-1974)

When construction of the Bunker Hill Monument began in 1825, it was the first of its kind. By the early twentieth century, monuments and memorials had become an integral part of the American's patriotic landscape. Plymouth Rock, Lexington Green, the Liberty Bell, Statue of Liberty, Washington Monument, and many more birthplaces and burial sites of the "nations saints" marked the "enduring power of the Promised Land." Many of these monuments were either part of a broader urban plan, such as in Washington, D.C., or integrated into the existing urban settings, and enhanced with connections to "memorial" roadways, parks, and cemeteries. In Boston, the Metropolitan Park Commission, later merged into the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC), laid a network of memorial roadways, recreational parks, and commemorative sites over the existing city and surrounding metropolitan area. It was this state agency that would acquire the Bunker Hill Monument and grounds (CLR 2000: 39).

At the time of its acquisition in 1919, the park system was still expanding to meet the growing demand for recreational space and improve links between parcels. Cars were overwhelming many of the reservations; thus there may have been an effort to improve greenspace within the urban core. Bunker Hill was the second historic site to be included in the reservation system, the first being the Dorothy Quincy homestead, which was acquired in 1906. Unlike the Dorothy Quincy Homestead that bordered the larger Furnace Brook Reservation, the Bunker Hill site was not adjacent to a larger park or riverway, but was considered a reservation itself and titled "Bunker Hill Reservation." In the 1920s, MDC acquisitions shifted to parkway corridors and it was not until the late 1950s and early 1960s that additional historic sites were acquired by the MDC on George's, Castle, and Peddock's Islands in Boston Harbor. Acquisition of properties with historic sites continued after this time and in 1971 the MDC acquired the site of the Bunker Hill Quarry and the adjacent portion of the railway in Quincy, which became part of the Blue Hills Reservation (CLR 2000: 40).

Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. Recommendations:
Despite Bunker Hill Monument's apparent isolation from the metropolitan park system, within its first year of ownership the Commission embarked on an ambitious program of site improvements. In 1919 and 1920, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. and other staff members from the Olmsted Brothers firm consulted with the Metropolitan Park Commission regarding improvements to the Bunker Hill

Monument Grounds (CLR 2000: 40).

Shortly after Frederick Law Olmsted Jr.'s initial visit to the Bunker Hill site, John R. Rablin, Chief Engineer for the MDC, surveyed the site and prepared a plan and section of each of the four main flights of steps, detail drawings of the fence sections, and an overall site plan. Olmsted, Jr. returned to the site in September to record additional field notes. A grading study was completed by the Olmsted firm on September 11, 1919 and a drawing of profiles of paths was completed by 16 September 1919 (CLR 2000: 40).

Based on the recommendations by Olmsted and others, a series of improvements were made to the Bunker Hill site between 1922 and 1930 which included the installation of poles, wires, and cables for flood lighting the Monument; upgrades to the water service pipes; regrading of slopes; repairs to the catch basins and iron fence; the replacement of the fence curbing with brick sidewalks; the replacement of the wire guard fence at the head of the steps at each entrance with iron picket fence; planting of shrubs at the corners of the terrace; and replacement of dead or missing trees (Figure 15). In 1929, Boston City Landscape Architect, Arthur Shurtleff (later known as Arthur Shurcliff) prepared a rough design of the steps as three runs of steps with two landings. This design scheme for the southerly steps was later implemented in the 1930s (CLR 2000: 42).

Arthur Shurtleff Recommendations:
In 1930 a "Compiled Survey in the Vicinity of Bunker Hill" and a "Sketch Plan for Approach to Bunker Hill" were also prepared by Arthur Shurcliff. The survey illustrates the existing conditions of the site, particularly the steps and walkway configuration. The sketch plan presents a site development plan that would link the Bunker Hill site to the core of Charlestown via a grand promenade that would encompass the old training field. Though visionary, the plan was apparently overzealous, as it implied land acquisition and demolition of numerous buildings, and for the most part was never constructed. Specific modifications and prudent upgrades for the Bunker Hill Monument site, however, were also part of the grand scheme, and some of these proposals were eventually undertaken. This plan proposed a formalized plaza with a semi-circle form layout around the Monument and Lodge. Symmetrical paths and stairways on each side of the Lodge would be extended so that both would end at the perimeter path at each side of the northeastern stairs. Additionally, the plan specified a mass of vegetation to visually screen the Lodge service area from the paths, and extension of the iron fence around the Monument to connect to the granite Lodge. Shurcliff's plan also depicted a widened southwesterly entrance that would link to the Monument by two parallel paths that flanked a rectangular planting bed surrounding the Prescott Statue. The sketch plan also punctuated the perimeter tree planting surrounding the square along the exterior fence surrounding the site. Construction detailing subsequent site changes and photographs taken during the 1930s and extending into the 1950s reflected that portions of this design intent were built. Although the semi-circle configuration of the plaza, the symmetrical stairs on the northeastern side, and the mass of vegetation were not installed, virtually all other details were designed and eventually built (CLR 2000: 45).

During the 1930s depression, many properties owned by the MDC received substantial site work by the Civilian Conservation Corps, a federal work relief program for young unemployed men. However, there are no records of Corps work at Bunker Hill. Instead, it appears that the MDC completed the work sporadically over a twenty-year period. Ongoing work included regrading of all slopes and reconstruction of the granite steps on all sides of the Monument (Figures 16-17). By 1947 it appears that all four sides were regraded, the steps rebuilt, and the walkway was relocated to the edge of the new upper terrace. The floodlights were repaired and brought into good condition, all iron fences, including those around the obelisk and around Monument Square were painted, and it appears that new concrete walks were installed to all walkway surfaces on the upper terrace (Figure 18) (CLR 2000: 46).

Deplorable Condition:
Maintenance of the Monument grounds began to falter in the 1950s, a period when the MDC was focused on developing its 1956 General Plan and acquiring new recreational facilities and open space. However, by 1958, maintenance and rehabilitation projects once again began in earnest. In August of 1958, the MDC was amidst completing three contracts on the restoration of the grounds.

These included steam cleaning the Monument to remove vandalism, lipstick, and chalk marks, and placing new steel hand railings. Work also included repair of the ornamental cast iron fence by replacing missing fence sections and pickets, and painting. Despite the improvements in the late 1950s, the need for major repairs persisted. The MDC, well aware of the degraded condition of the property, substantiated the site needs and acknowledged the need for financial assistance (CLR 2000: 52).

Landmark Designation and Heavy Use as a Play Area:
On January 20, 1961, Bunker Hill Monument was designated a National Historic Landmark. Ironically, at the same time the site was plagued with maintenance issues, many of which were related to its intensive use as a play area. Soon after the site was endowed with Landmark status, the MDC began a concerted effort to attain funding for improvements. The MDC requested a $70,000 appropriation from the Massachusetts Ways and Means Committee, citing degradation of the grass and plantings, erosion of slopes caused by children's play, and the MDC's inability to provide sufficient maintenance. As Bunker Hill Monument association President Charles W. Eliot (the nephew of Charles Eliot described earlier) reported, "The banks are washed and worn, - particularly at the steps where children enjoy sliding down the cheek-stones and inevitably get off onto the banks" (CLR 2000: 52).

Benjamin W. Fink, Engineer for the MDC followed up with a letter to the Commissioner, supporting Charles W. Eliot's solicitation to develop a master plan, and advised the Commissioner to employ Eliot to carry out the task. Fink was concerned that due to the historical significance of the property, that if the "wrong type of fence or work is done… much criticism can ensue." Subsequently, Fink recommended that the first priority should be to construct a fence alongside the stairs and to sod the ravines abutting the granite stairs as requested by Representative Doherty and with the approval of Charles W. Eliot." In response, the Commissioner stated that insufficient funds would prevent a complete rehabilitation and that, with a budget of $25,000, fence construction would be the first priority. By May 1961, the funds were applied to grounds improvement, including regrading, reseeding, sidewalk repairs, construction of bitumen concrete paved gutter (presumably along the stairs), and relighting of the Bunker Hill Monument. The addition of new steel picket fences along the stairs put an end to children's play on the cheek-stones. In 1966, New England Sales and Manufacturing Corporation was hired to furnish and install lighting standards, fixtures, conduits, cables, and control centers, as well as to complete work on sidewalks, roadway surfaces, and incidentals. Mercury vapor lamps, also referred to as "cobra lights," were installed to illuminate the stairs and upper walkways. Shortly thereafter, a chain-link-enclosed passageway between the Lodge and Monument and chain-link entry gates at the base of the walkways were installed (CLR 2000: 53).

Transfer to the National Park Service:
Despite the numerous site improvements by the MDC, their sporadic maintenance and unreliable budget for the site led to the concerted efforts of the people of Charlestown, the Charlestown Historical Society, and the Bunker Hill Monument Association to lobby for its transfer to the National Park Service. On October 1, 1974, the U.S. Congress authorized Boston National Historical Park. Although National Park Service ownership was imminent, the MDC was committed to transferring a property in good condition. Between 1974 and 1976, in preparation for the 1975-76 Bicentennial celebrations, improvements were made by the MDC to the Monument Lodge and grounds. Beginning in September 1974, improvements at Bunker Hill were carried out collaboratively by the MDC, who set aside $50,000 for improvements, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who offered $135,000, and the U.S. Historic Preservation Grants Program, who provided a grant of $25,000. Priorities identified for grounds improvements included: resurfacing of the concrete walkways and installation of handicap accessible ramps; replacement of the concrete sidewalks with brick, fence repair, four commemorative gates; planting of pin and red oaks to the upper slopes and upper walkway in random plantings, and placement of a third pole on the façade of the Lodge for the Bunker Hill Flag. The proposed work also included building and exhibit improvements (CLR 2000: 52).

In December 1974, the MDC Project Analysis Board voted to fund the purchase, inscription, delivery, and installation of commemorative tablets at the four gates. In March of 1975, the MDC completed

the design of the four commemorative tablets. The tablets acknowledged and honored the United States as an independent nation, as well as the troops from three states that participated in the Battle of Bunker Hill, including Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Hampshire. A. Monti Granite Company, Inc. prepared the granite tablets and inscriptions, with the same "Quincy quarry granite" used for the obelisk. Once completed, the entrances to the site were thereafter referred to as the Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and United States Gates (CLR 2000: 59).

By the completion of the MDC improvements in 1975, the Monument grounds were substantially different than their appearance at the time of the previous transfer in 1919. The first major alteration by the MDC was the regrading of the eroded embankments, elimination of the perimeter walkway just inside the iron fence, and relocation of the upper perimeter walkway to the top of the slope. The MDC completed this work by the late 1940s, including resurfacing all of the walkways and rebuilding the steps. In the later years of MDC management, additional features were added to the site. In response to children's play and damage to the turf, fences were placed on the cheek walls and signs were placed on the site. In preparation for the Bicentennial, the steps were punctuated with granite commemorative tablets and pin oak trees added to the upper slopes and upper walkway in random plantings. The double row of shade trees ringing the property were substantially replanted, subsequently declined, and replanted again, resulting in many young trees on the site. Ornamental plantings were tried but later abandoned as the more basic needs of erosion and turf management took precedent. Drainage problems along the steps were solved with asphalt runnels and catch basins. Floodlights added to the corner of the site to light the Monument and cobra lights added around the Monument for visitor safety. In summary, most of the site features added to the MDC after circa 1950 were in response to the increasingly urban character of the surrounding area and in anticipation of the Bicentennial of the site's turbid past (CLR 2000: 59).

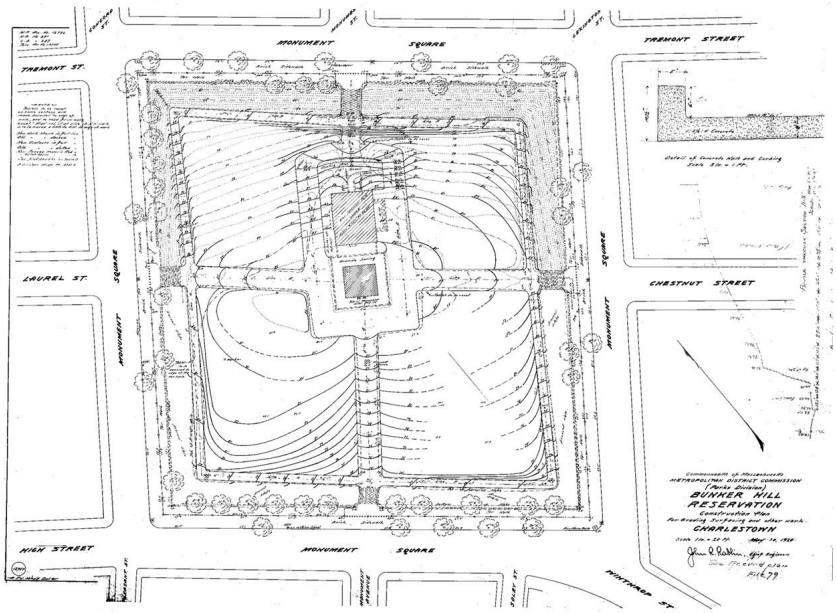


Figure 15. Construction Plan showing proposed grading, surfacing and other work, May 20, 1920, Plan No. 12984. The plan also shows tree sizes and locations (Boston National Historical Park Archives).

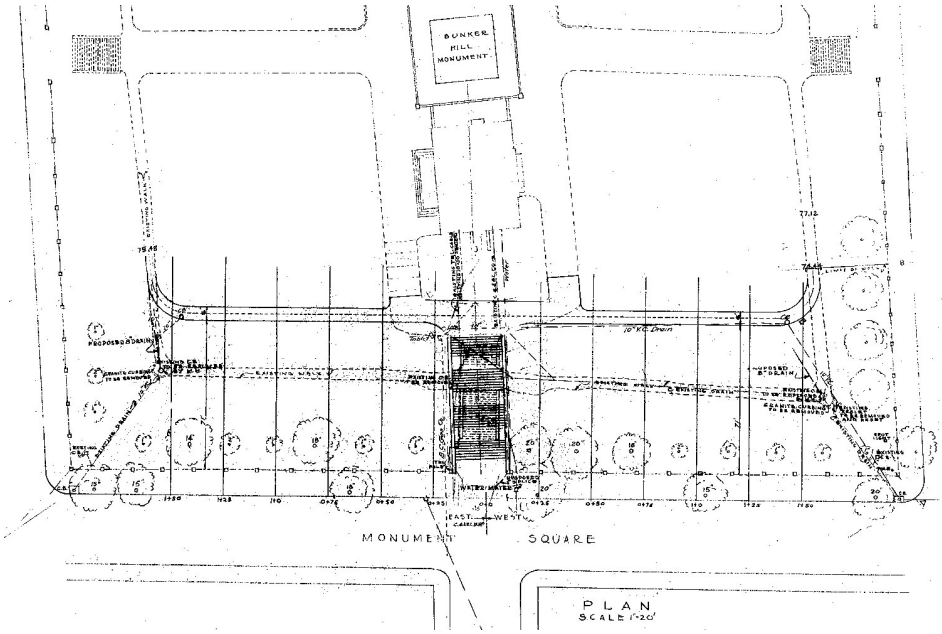


Figure 16. The plan from 1931 showing regrading of the northerly side of the site, addition of steps at the northeast corner of the lodge (faint dashed lines), and the existing trees (Boston National Historical Park Archives).

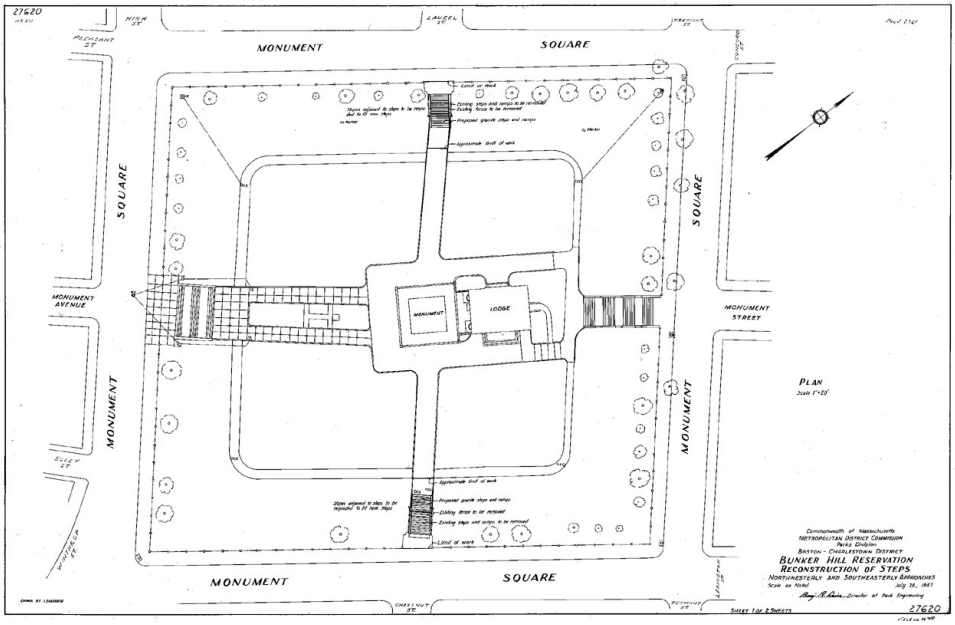


Figure 17. Plan from 1947 showing the final stages of the regrading of slopes, redesign of steps, and relocation of walkways around the upper terrace (Boston National Historical Park Archive).

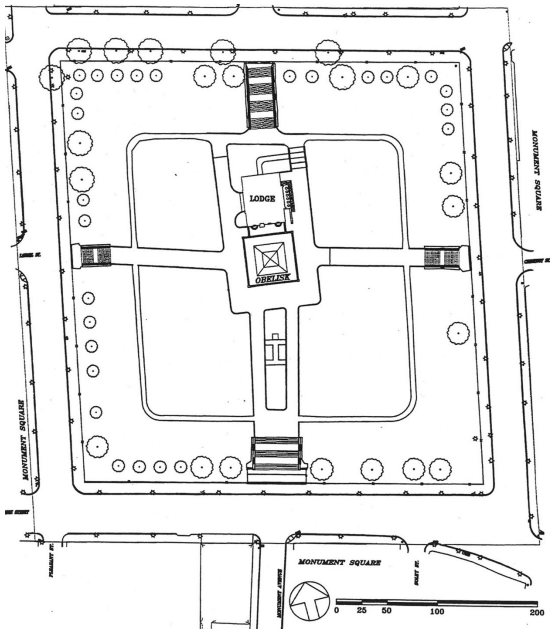


Figure 18. Period plan depicting Monument Square in circa 1947 when the Metropolitan District Commission completed the regrading of embankments, construction of wider steps with landings, and a new walkway around the upper terrace (CLR, 2000:51).

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE (1974 TO 2010)

On October 1, 1974, the Bunker Hill Monument was designated one of several historic sites to be incorporated into the Boston National Historical Park. As described previously, the MDC actively managed and maintained the site for two additional years. The title of the property was actually

transferred from the MDC to the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service (NPS) in November of 1976. The Bunker Hill Monument was linked to other sites in the historical park by the 2.5-mile Freedom Trail in 1977.

Landscape Assessment, Historic Structure Report, and General Management Plan:
In 1977, the park and NPS Denver Service Center conducted an existing conditions survey and initiated a Historic Structure Report (HSR), which was completed in 1982. At the same time, the park completed its General Management Plan (GMP) in 1980. In the HSR, the condition of the grounds are described as heavily used, particularly as an urban residential greenspace, with little reverence for the memorial. Despite improvements at the time of transfer, the site was described to be in poor condition, including site features, which suffered from years of neglect and abuse. Granite slabs at the base of the Monument had heaved, masonry joints no longer held steps on the site and concrete and macadam paths were severely cracked. The fence, an enduring historic feature on the site, was described as in need of repair (CLR 2000: 63).

The HSR describes many features that were deemed inappropriate for the site, including tree plantings added by the MDC in the 1970s as diverging from the historic “orderly plan” to “abstract groups” with many trees in need of maintenance. Tree wells in the sidewalk on Monument Square Avenue had been covered with asphalt. Chain link gates had been added to each of the gates that were inappropriate and ineffective. A chain link cage between the obelisk and Lodge was also an eyesore on the historic site. Two types of benches surrounded the Monument, dating to different periods. The cobra style mercury vapor lamps “typical of street lamps found anywhere in the U.S.A.” illuminated the historic site. A utility box at the northeast gate was an intrusive element. The Warren Memorial implanted in the southwest quadrant of the square is described as an “obvious safety hazard…almost beyond comprehension.” Known as the “Warren Spike,” it was subsequently removed and stored in the Lodge (Figure 19). A more detailed assessment of the trees was documented in 1978 with a site plan (Figure 20). Most trees were in need of pruning to remove diseased or dead wood. Treatment recommendations in the HSR were based on the “selective restoration” of the landscape to the Bunker Hill Monument Association period, recognizing that a complete restoration would eliminate some of the beneficial site work carried out by the MDC, including the regrading of slopes and accessibility ramp, reintroduction of corner walkways, and the placement of two fountains (CLR 2000: 63).

In 1979, the NPS issued a work directive for Monument rehabilitation drawings by an architectural/engineering firm, Stull Associates. Site items contracted included: a provision for plans for designing and installing entry gate bollards at all four gates; redesigning the access ramp to be compliant with ANSI A117-1; and preparing record measured drawings of the site. Details and specifications were provided for: resetting of the stone steps at each of the four gates; replacing broken concrete sidewalks; resetting stone pavers at the base of the obelisk; repairing and replacing broken or missing pickets on perimeter east iron fence; and replacing the obelisk floodlighting with metal halide light source (CLR 2000: 67).

During 1979-1981, Boston National Historical Park contracted the Bunker Hill Monument Restoration project. Work mobilized on December 17, 1979 with the disassembly of one section of the existing perimeter iron fence at the southeast corner to prepare for constructing a temporary access road. The work included site improvements, as well as repointing of the obelisk. A concrete subcontractor placed all new plaza walkways, the handicap ramps, and cheek walls for steps with broom finish in alternating directions providing a checker board pattern on the plaza walkways. New granite curbs and granite pavers at the four entrance gates were also installed and the bollards and other granite pavers and curbs were reinstalled. Approach steps at all four gates were also raked out and repointed. Further, the existing iron fencing around the obelisk and two sections at the street were reinstalled. The subcontractor also modified the existing cheek wall handrail, installed a new handicap ramp handrail, and two new iron gates. Final site grading was performed, benches were furnished, and bituminous paving work was performed. A landscape subcontractor installed new grass sod. During that time, an exploratory excavation at the base of the obelisk and installation of a new storm drainage system were also completed. Excavation work uncovered previously unknown rubble walls, which were deemed historic and were fully excavated and documented, and caused several changes in the new drainage system. The new system consisted of new drain piping,

backfilling, and installation of a concrete swale. While the obelisk foundations were exposed, they were cleaned and repointed, and the lightning protection system was repaired. At the completion of the work the rubble walls were again covered up and left in their original condition (CLR 2000: 67).

By 1992, the pin oaks planted in 1974 had grown to a height where they interfered with the Monument floodlights and site lighting. In response to this problem, the NPS Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation developed a Landscape Preservation Maintenance Program for the site. This included an inventory and inspection of all trees on the site. Without the research and analysis provided by a CLR, the short-term study provided two preservation recommendations. These were to either thin the pin oaks so that light could pass through them, or replace them in-kind with smaller trees. The pin oaks had also grown large enough to provide shade to visitors who trekked along the Freedom Trail from Boston, and climbed wearily up to the Monument. Interpretive staff also began to take advantage of the shade trees as gathering points for their summer tours. Over the next two years, the pin oaks were thinned to allow greater penetration of the floodlights but none were removed (CLR 2000: 67).

Site Improvements, Irrigation, and Archeology:
By the 1990s, the fences and stone steps required additional repair work. Between 1994 and 1996 the fences were repaired. Work included sandblasting and painting of both the perimeter and Monument iron fences, and the replacement and repair of missing and broken elements. A gate in the fence was added in conjunction with this work because the accessibility ramp was not wide enough for vehicles. The steps were also repointed, however, failure of the repointing on several steps resulted from larger structural problems relating to the footings of the steps (CLR 2000: 69).

The steep slopes and poor soil of Monument Square, combined with high use, resulted in weak turf, compaction, erosion, and bare spots. To improve the condition of turf, the maintenance staff proposed an irrigation system. The proposal prompted an archeological survey, which resulted in the first physical documentation of the location of the 1775 earthworks and battle remains. Conducted in July, October, and November of 1996, the survey identified segments of large ditches on the west side of the Monument. The ditches possibly represent the remains of the June 1775 redoubt as well as British work after the battle. The ditch fill also contained nails, 18th century pottery, one musket ball, and fragments of a slate gravestone. As a result of this work the archeologist recommended that excavations up to eight inches in depth required no archeological attention. Excavations of one foot or deeper would be discouraged or should be monitored by an archeologist, particularly in the upper half of the park. In 1996 a contract for an irrigation system installation was initiated, and by January of 1998, as-built drawings for the system were submitted by Greenscape, Inc. and accepted by NPS. Following installation of the irrigation system, the condition of the turf improved (CLR 2000: 69).

Between 1995 and 1997 ten of the trees located in the perimeter sidewalk were replaced with ‘Summit’ green ash. The trees were planted by the City of Boston with matching funds provided by the Monument Square Neighborhood Association. Green ash were selected for their tolerance of urban conditions. In the late 1990s, members of the surrounding community expressed an interest in beautification of the Monument grounds by the introduction of flowers. The Monument Square Neighborhood Association led efforts to obtain daffodil bulbs from the City of Boston Parks and Recreation Department and a daffodil bed was established in the lawn area in front of the Prescott Statue. In the late 1990s the Monument Square Neighborhood Association contributed eight square box planters to be placed at the top of each set of steps. These were planted with seasonal flowers, including geraniums, hardy mums, and kale, and maintained by the NPS (CLR 2000: 69-70).

In September 2000, the Warren memorial iron fence spike was reinstalled. It purportedly was installed on the grounds in 1876 to mark the approximate location that Joseph Warren was killed at the Battle of Bunker Hill. In 1997, the historic base was found, but was damaged beyond repair. A new base was made from Quincy Granite, with an inscription to Warren. The work was done by Quincy Memorials, Inc. of Quincy and installed by the NPS. The spike was subsequently removed due to renewed safety concerns (CLR 2000: 70).

By the late 1990s, work was needed to both protect historic features and remove or mitigate non-

historic features. The site included some missing or dying perimeter trees, and non-ADA compliant accessibility ramps. The upper asphalt walkway was cracked, rough, and heaving in several places, pin oak trees continued to block the Monument floodlights and site lighting, and the mercury cobra lights installed by the MDC had not yet been replaced. In 1999, the NPS funded a major construction project to rehabilitate the Monument, Lodge, and landscape. The project was completed in 2008 and included repointing the Monument, replacing the Lodge roof, rehabilitating public restrooms, improving site lighting, repairing/replacing sidewalks, and making the site, Lodge, and the base of the Monument ADA compliant.



Figure 19. Circa 1976 photograph of ball game on the southwest quadrant of Monument Square, with sign on post "no ball play…" The Warren Memorial fence spike is visible in the right foreground (Boston National Historical Park Archives).

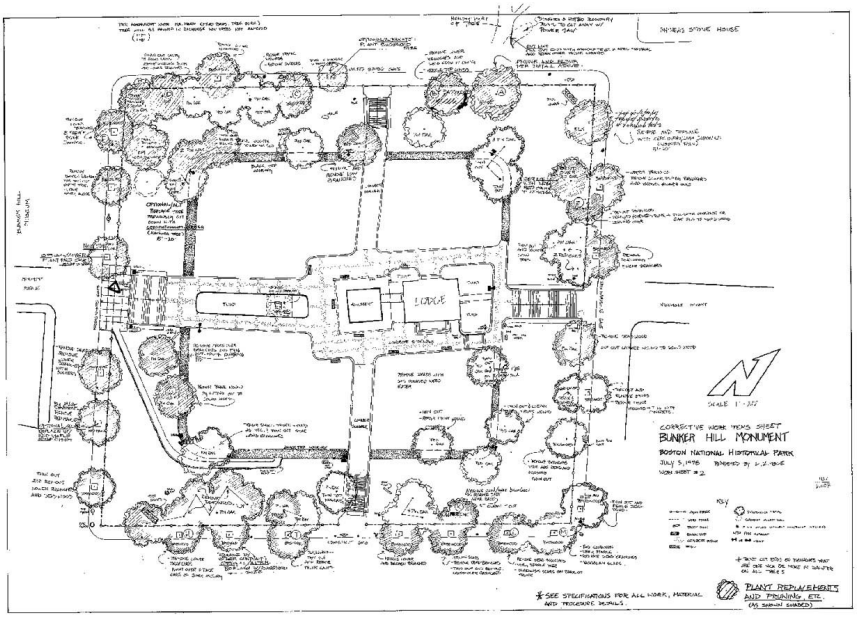


Figure 20. Plan of plant species and configuration, July 5, 1978 (Boston National Historical Park Archives).

Uses

Functions and Uses:

Major Category	Category	Use/Function	Historic	Current	Primary
Defense	Battle Site	Battle Site	Yes	No	Yes
Defense	Fortification	Fortification-Other	Yes	No	No
Landscape	Plaza/Public Space (Square)	Urban Park	Yes	Yes	No
Recreation/Culture	Monument (Marker, Plaque)	Monument (Marker, Plaque)	No	Yes	Yes

Public Access:

Public Access: Unrestricted

Public Access Narrative:

The Bunker Hill Monument and Museum are open year-round. The hours of operation are Monday through Sunday 9am to 5pm, except in July and August when the hours are 9am to 6pm.

Associated Ethnographic Group

Ethnographic Study Status: No Survey Conducted

Ethnographic Narrative:

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

Significant landscape characteristics identified for the Bunker Hill Monument site include natural systems and topography, spatial organization, views and vistas, cultural traditions, vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures, and small-scale features. Many of these characteristics have associated with them features that contribute to the site's overall historic significance and identity, as well as features that do not contribute.

The physical integrity of the Bunker Hill Monument landscape is evaluated by comparing landscape characteristics and features present during the period of significance (1775-1947) with current conditions. Many of the landscape's historic characteristics and features are still intact. As envisioned by the Bunker Hill Monument Association, the landscape continues to serve primarily as the setting for the Bunker Hill Monument, remaining open in character and simplistic in design. Centrally located along a relatively flat upper terrace that slopes to the street on four sides, the Bunker Hill Monument and Lodge continue to serve as the focal point of the landscape. Views to and from Laurel, Chestnut, and Winthrop Streets, as well as Monument Avenue, are intact and a 360-degree view of Boston can still be obtained from the top of the Monument. Beyond the obelisk and Lodge, the granite stairways, concrete walkways, and asphalt pathways are still extant, and the lawn panels and perimeter trees remain intact, evoking the spatial character shaped by the work of the City of Boston's Metropolitan District Commission through the 1940s. Other features that remain since the historic period include the William Prescott Statue, several markers and small monuments, iron fencing, and the esplanade seat benches.

Since the historic period, the Metropolitan District Commission and National Park Service planted pin oaks and red oaks to the upper terrace, constructed accessibility ramps, and broadened the stairs and railing. Other changes include the installation of commemorative granite plaques, benches, trash receptacles, informational and directional signage, irrigation boxes, and utility boxes. Despite the alterations, the commemorative significance of the site has been retained through recent rehabilitation efforts, and the site continues to reflect the 19th and early 20th century landscape shaped by the Bunker Hill Monument Association and the Metropolitan District Commission.

INTEGRITY

Integrity is the ability of a property to convey its historic identity or the extent to which a property evokes its appearance during a particular historic period, usually the period of significance. While evaluation of integrity is often a subjective judgement, particularly for a landscape, it must be grounded in an understanding of a property's physical features and how they relate to its significance. The National Register identifies seven aspects of integrity. Retention of these qualities is essential for a property to convey its significance, though all seven qualities of integrity need not be present to convey a sense of past time and place.

Using these seven aspects of integrity, the site does not retain integrity of the 18th century battleground landscape but does retain integrity of the 19th and early 20th century landscapes shaped by the Bunker Hill Monument Association and the Metropolitan District Commission. For the battleground era landscape, the integrity of the location with the event remains, but evidence of the association, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and feeling have been lost to subsequent development of the site and surrounding area. The integrity of archeological resources should be considered, but is beyond the scope of this report.

For the period of Bunker Hill Monument Association ownership, the site retains integrity with respect to location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and association. The one aspect of integrity that is slightly compromised is that of feeling since there are subsequent 20th century additions by the Metropolitan District Commission and National Park Service. These additions include pin and red oak trees to the upper terrace, the accessibility ramp, broader stairs and railings, commemorative granite plaques, signs, and additional site furnishings such as trash receptacles and planters. These additions give the site the feeling of an urban park, rather than "the dignified simplicity of the battlefield."

For the period of early Metropolitan District Commission ownership and management from 1919 to 1947, the site retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and association. Similar to the Bunker

Hill Monument Association period, the feeling of the site is compromised by the addition of site features and furnishings described above, which have heightened the feeling of an urban park and diminished the simplicity of the commemorative landscape.

The following section presents an analysis of landscape characteristics and their associated features and corresponding List of Classified Structures names and numbers, if applicable. It also includes an evaluation of whether the feature contributes to the property's National Register eligibility for the historic period (1775-1947), contributes to the property's historic character, or if it is noncontributing, undetermined, or managed as a cultural resource.

Landscape Characteristic: **Other - Natural Systems and Topography**

Historic and Existing Conditions:
The topography of the drumlin, known during the Colonial Period as Breed's Hill, was altered during the construction of the Bunker Hill Monument. At this time the ground east and west of Monument Square was reduced in elevation by between eight and twelve feet to construct the streets. The removed material was used to fill the depression on the north side of the square. From completion of the Monument in the 1840s until the early 1900s, the steep banks of the square created difficulties. In 1870, the president of the Bunker Hill Monument Association described the removal of the four corner walkways and steps to serve as "additional protection to the green sward of the banks." He also suggested winding paths to "relieve the appearance" of the irregular dimensions of the site. In about 1889 a wire fence was added at the top of the embankment, as shown in early 1900s photographs, presumably to keep pedestrians from walking on the slopes. In 1907, the Association's president recommended, "grading the slope slightly so that it would lose its present abruptness. This would enable us to do away with the unsightly temporary fence now placed there to protect the embankment." Despite these concerns, the Association did not take further actions to regrade the slopes. In 1919, the year the property was transferred to the Metropolitan Park Commission, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. reiterated the need to regrade the slopes. A site plan prepared by the Commission in 1920 illustrates a preliminary scheme for regrading the slopes. Subsequent plans produced between 1929 and 1938 illustrate more detailed schemes for regrading the slopes and installing new granite steps and walkways. By circa 1947 this site work was completed resulting in the configuration that is extant today (CLR 2000: 98).

From the square, relatively flat upper terrace, the current site steeply slopes to the street on all four sides. Site slopes vary from 1:3 to 1:4. Above the handicap ramp, slopes are 1:3, and below they level out to 1:4. The remainder of the site is generally at approximately 1:3.5, being steepest next to the stairs. The slopes are covered primarily with a mixed fescue lawn that extends from all pavement edges to the public sidewalk (Figure 21) (CLR 2000: 76).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Slopes	146579	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 21. View of of the slope from the upper terrace to the street (OCLP, 2010).

Landscape Characteristic: Spatial Organization

Historic Condition:
At the crest of a drumlin overlooking Boston's inner harbor, the Bunker Hill Monument site was a strategic location at the time of the War for Independence. Fortifications built by American troops on the eve of the Battle of Bunker Hill that were overtaken and expanded by British troops, amplified the importance of this prominent location. After the war, the hilltop site was also viewed as a fitting location for a memorial to "hold that blood-stained height in proud remembrance." In the 1820s, as the design of the Monument progressed, the appearance of the surrounding landscape was also conceived to be kept "open and sacred forever" and "distinguished by simplicity and grandeur, rather than by elaborate and elegant ornaments." However, financial difficulty associated with the construction of the Monument ultimately altered the overall spatial organization of the open hilltop when, in the 1840s, the surrounding lands was subdivided and sold, and four streets and rows of townhouses hemmed the site into an urban square. Although the height of the hill was substantially retained, its slopes and outward views were altered. The subsequent design and construction of the Monument Square landscape was adapted to the site's altered character, with the construction of steps up the steep embankments to the crest of the hill. These embankments are shown on engravings done in the 1840s, which depict a sharp transition between embankment and flat hilltop. In 1889 a rail was placed along the edge and a 1907 report by the Bunker Hill Monument Association cited the need for change. In the 1920s through 1940s, these changes were finally made under the direction of the Metropolitan District Commission. These changes resulted in the reconfiguration of the slopes, steps, and walkways to convey visitors to the centrally located Monument and Lodge (CLR 2000: 96).

Post-historic and Existing Conditions (since 1947):
Today the Bunker Hill Monument is situated within Monument Square in an axial, slightly asymmetrical arrangement and is bounded by an iron fence. Access into the site is through stout granite entry bollards at each of four entrance staircases. The perimeter fence has gates on either side of each entry, but all gates, except those at the Massachusetts Gate appear to have been permanently welded closed. The entry stairs lead to concrete walkways that bisect the site into quadrants, and lead to an upper terrace plaza surrounding the centrally located obelisk and the adjacent granite Lodge. An interior fence surrounds the obelisk on three sides and encloses the Monument with the Lodge. A lawn covers the upper terrace from the plaza to the edge of the asphalt pathway, which is laid parallel to the public sidewalk surrounding the Monument site, and encircles the top of the slopes. From the outer edge of the path, the lawn continues down slope to blanket the rest of the site. A row of trees along the inside edges of the site flank the iron fence, and continue to be part of a double row of trees in union with street trees planted in the public sidewalk. Other trees are scattered near the doubletree row and along the asphalt and accessible pathways (CLR 2000: 76).

Landscape Characteristic: Views and Vistas

Historic Condition:
With exception to the views from the top of the monument, the open hilltop views from the Bunker Hill site to the surrounding areas, including Boston's Inner Harbor, were lost when the surrounding land was subdivided and townhouses built. Only framed views down the street corridors radiating from Monument Square remained. These corridors were established when Solomon Willard designed the subdivision in the 1830s. He laid out the approaching streets on axis with the Monument to capture views of the obelisk. These streets include Laurel, Chestnut, and Winthrop Streets, and most importantly, the slightly askew Monument Avenue—begun in 1847 and completed in 1852—to extend from Main Street up the hill to High Street. Monument Avenue was envisioned as the primary corridor to the site, however, the street was laid out at forty feet wide rather than the desired width of sixty feet, resulting in a constricted and asymmetrical view of the Monument. In the 1930s, Boston City Landscape Architect Arthur Shurtleff proposed a more ceremonial axis to the site from the Winthrop Street corner, which would enhance the visual connection to Winthrop Square and the intersecting streets. However, this scheme was never realized. Despite their shortcomings, Monument Avenue and Winthrop Street offer important views to the Monument (CLR 2000: 96).

Post-historic and Existing Conditions (since 1947):
Currently, there are two major distant views into the site. One is from Monument Avenue and the other is from Winthrop Square. The view looking towards the Massachusetts Gate and up the obelisk shaft from Monument Avenue may be considered primary, since it faces the primary entrance of the site. However, this view is constricted by the surrounding development and further blocked by the street trees on both sides of Monument Avenue. The view up Winthrop Street from Monument Square is much more open than from Monument Avenue. There are no street trees or small-scale elements cluttering the scene (Figure 22). Additional views looking up to the Monument can also be captured looking up surrounding streets, including Laurel Street and Chestnut Street. Views outward encompass the grounds and extend only to the development surrounding the square and the tops of buildings in downtown Boston. A 360-degree view of the Boston metropolitan area is visible from within the top of the Monument (Figure 23) (CLR 2000: 96).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Views from Laurel, Chestnut, and Winthrop Streets, and Monument Avenue	146585	Contributing					No
Views from top of Bunker Hill Monument	146587	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 22. View of monument looking up Monument Avenue into the southeast entry (OCLP, 2010).



Figure 23. Views from the top of the Bunker Hill Monument (OCLP, 2000).

Landscape Characteristic: Cultural Traditions

Historic and Existing Conditions:
Nineteen years after the Battle of Bunker Hill on June 17, 1775, the Charlestown Artillery is credited for first celebrating the battle of Bunker Hill with a parade in 1794. The tradition resumed sporadically in the early 1800s and became an annual tradition in the 1820s. On June 17th a parade to celebrate Bunker Hill Day starts in Charlestown's Hayes Square, passes through Monument Square, and ends in Winthrop Square. Organizations that participate in the event include the Bunker Hill Monument Association, the Monument Square Neighborhood Association, the Charlestown Historical Society, the Charlestown Preservation Society, King Solomon's Lodge of Masons, the Bunker Hill Day Commemorative Committee, Bunker Hill Post 26 of the American Legion, and the Charlestown Parent's Association. The commemorative activities associated with this day contribute to the significance of the property. In addition, as early as 1843, flags were hung out of the windows at the top of the obelisk on Bunker Hill Day. The parade and the hanging of two or four flags from the upper windows are longstanding cultural traditions that contribute to the significance of the site.

Numerous community events are also held on the site. Prior to Halloween, the community decorates the bottom of each of the four gates with potted chrysanthemums and corn stalks tied to the fence. Hay bales were also previously added to the displays. For two hours on Halloween night, skeletons, fake jack-o-lanterns, and some ghosts were put up. Christmas-time decorations are minimal at the site and are usually limited to garlands on the rails provided by the community and a wreath on the front and inside of the Lodge provided by the park. The community also decorates the street lamps on the square. No documentation was found regarding historical holiday decorations, thus it is presumed that the seasonal holiday decorations do not contribute to the significant cultural traditions associated with the site. Due their short duration, the decorations do not impact the historic cultural traditions associated with the site (CLR 2000: 97).

Landscape Characteristic: Vegetation

Historic Condition:
Drawings and engravings dating to the time of the War for Independence depict Breed's Hill as predominantly open pasture with dispersed trees. It appears that the site remained an open field until the 1820s when much of the land was disturbed by the construction of the Monument. Upon completion of the Monument in 1842, the Association began improvements to the grounds. The land was graded and seeded, and walkways were constructed, breaking the site into lawn panels. Trees and a hedge were planted around Monument Square. Beginning in 1865, numerous photographs, mostly postcards, show more reliably a double row of trees surrounding the site, with one row outside and the other inside the perimeter fence. Plans from the 1920s up until 1974 indicate that the Metropolitan District Commission attempted to maintain the double row of trees, replacing those that died or as necessary during the regrading of the embankments (CLR 2000: 99).

For about thirty years, a hedge bounded the property, just inside the perimeter iron fence. The hedge was planted in the 1840s shortly after completion of the Monument. Annual proceedings of the Bunker Hill Monument Association indicate that the hedge was removed in about 1871 and a stone-lined gutter was installed in the location of the hedge to direct water to inlets at each corner of the square. After this time, no shrubs were planted (CLR 2000: 99).

Post-historic and Existing Conditions (since 1947):
In 1974, as part of the Metropolitan District Commission's bicentennial improvements about twenty-five pin and red oaks were added to slopes and along the upper walkway in a random configuration. As a result of community involvement in the 1990s, a perennial flowerbed and several planters filled with spring, summer and fall flower displays were added to the site to provide color and visual interest. Although these features are not in keeping with the unadorned simplicity of the site, with careful placement, their impact on the historic character can be minimized (CLR 2000: 99).

Today the Bunker Hill Monument landscape contains seasonally changing annuals, usually geraniums and ornamental kale, and six species of trees. The annuals are planted in two contemporary, square, concrete planter boxes. They are placed at the top corners of each entry stairway, with the exception of Massachusetts Gate entry, where they are placed on the south end of the Colonel Prescott Statue island. Trees, including those in the public sidewalk, consist of Quercus alba (white oak), Quercus rubra (red oak), Quercus palustris (pin oak), Tilia americana (basswood), Aesculus hippocastanum (common horsechestnut), Gleditsia triacanthos (honeylocust), Fraxinus pennsylvanica (green ash), Fraxinus pennsylvanica 'Patmore' (Patmore green ash), and Fraxinus pennsylvanica 'Summit' (Summit green ash). The historic double-row of trees flanking both sides of the perimeter iron fence includes the entire spectrum, while trees not part of this allee are limited to pin oaks and red oaks. Generally, the pin oaks are the healthiest specimens on site; however, these species are also showing signs of decline (Figure 24) (CLR 2000: 76).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Lawn Panels	146611	Contributing			Asset	306281	Yes
Perimeter Trees	146627	Contributing			Location	60506	No
Pin Oak and Other Interior Trees	146629	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Concrete Container Planters	146631	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 24. Concrete planters and bulb garden at the Massachusetts gate entry (OCLP, 2010).

Landscape Characteristic: Circulation

Historic Condition:
When laid out in the 1840s, the site featured eight gates and walkways leading towards the Monument, four centered on the sides and four at the corners of the almost square site. The surface material of the outer sidewalk was brick. Another walkway was located just inside the perimeter fence. Gravel walks led towards the Monument, each with a flight of granite steps. A ten-foot wide granite walk was laid at the base of the Monument. Between 1871 and 1875, the four corner entries and the diagonal steps and walkways were removed. The outer sidewalk was widened with brick. After acquisition by the Metropolitan District Commission, during the 1920s to circa 1947, the brick sidewalk was changed to concrete, the embankments were regraded and new, broader steps with landings were installed. The walkways along the upper edge of the embankment were moved closer to the Monument and the walkway inside the fence was eliminated. All walks were surfaced with concrete, except for the walks along the upper embankment, which were surfaced with asphalt.

Post-historic and Existing Conditions (since 1947):
The circulation systems within the Bunker Hill site has remained relatively unchanged with exception to the accessible ramps added in 1974 and modified in 1979-81. All entry stair and railing systems conform to the topography, with unique widths and heights. A flat iron railing stabilized by plain, square cast iron balusters and posts flank each side of the steps. Each post terminates with a simple spear finial. Square, hollow iron rail posts capped with a decorative urn finial anchor the beginning and end of the balustrades. A simple, contemporary steel railing with plain, widely spaced, square iron posts and balusters, and four evenly spaced iron rails runs up the center of the steps. Each stairway has two runs of granite steps divided by a landing. Commemorative granite tablets decorate each of the lowest landings on the same plane as the side hand railings. The Massachusetts Gate, the United States Gate, and the Connecticut Gate center railings have a break at the landing, providing access to two granite tablets. The New Hampshire Gate central railing is unbroken (CLR 2000: 75-76).

The concrete accessibility ramp provides barrier-free access to the upper plaza. Beginning on the eastern side of the Massachusetts Gate, the ramp cuts diagonally across and up the southeastern lawn panel, terminating at the asphalt path near the top of the Connecticut Gate stairs. It has a black, steel pipe handrail composed of two rails and widely spaced posts on the downhill slope side and concrete curbing on the upslope side (CLR 2000: 75).

From the top of the steps, a concrete walk leads visitors to a concrete plaza that surrounds the Monument and Lodge. From the Massachusetts Gate walkway, the path is divided into two by the Colonel Prescott Statue, which rises out of a granite cobble base, from within a grass island. The remaining gate walkways are single, yet wide, direct paths to the plaza area. The plaza is a large, relatively flat quad that is primarily used for congregation, interpretive programs and seating (Figures 25-28) (CLR 2000: 75).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Granite Stairs (all entries)	146635	Contributing			Asset	146614	Yes
Concrete Walkways	146639	Contributing			Asset	30093	Yes
Asphalt Pathway	146641	Contributing			Asset	61082	Yes
Concrete Ramp and Handrail	146643	Noncontributing – Compatible					No



Figure 25. Asphalt walk along the upper embankment (OCLP, 2010).



Figure 26. View of the granite stairs at the southwest entry (OCLP, 2010).



Figure 27. View looking southeast towards the Massachusetts Gate entry of the concrete walks and the Prescott Statue. Note Bunker Hill Museum in the background (OCLP, 2000).



Figure 28. View of the access ramp, cutting diagonally through the southeastern quadrant of the site (OCLP, 2010).

Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures

Historic Condition:
The Monument was completed in 1842 and remains virtually unaltered. The nine-foot tall bronze Colonel Prescott Statue was designed by William W. Story and installed on its seven-foot tall pink granite base in 1880-81, with a gray granite plinth beneath the base (Figures 30-31) (CLR 2000: 100-101). The Bunker Hill Lodge was completed in 1902 and is a small Classical-Revival style one-story building with a basement. The front façade on the southeast side is dressed with six fluted ionic columns, a plain pediment, acroteria at small flanking wings, and pilasters at the corners. The building has a gable roof and bronze panels on the entry door. It originally functioned as a fraternal meeting hall. The Metropolitan District Commission converted the facility to a visitor center and the NPS further adapted the structure to serve this function (Figure 29) (CLR 2000: 100-101).

Post-historic and Existing Conditions (since 1947):
In 2008, the park completed a rehabilitation of the Bunker Hill Monument landscape (Figures 30-31). Work included repointing the Bunker Hill Monument and repairs/replacement of the Lodge roof and public restrooms.

Features noted with an * are described in National Register documentation.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Bunker Hill Monument *	146651	Contributing	40100		Location	60503	Yes
Lodge *	146655	Contributing	40103		Location	60502	Yes
Colonel William Prescott Statue *	146657	Contributing	40101		Asset	1104612	Yes

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 29. The Bunker Hill Lodge, completed in 1902, is a small Classical-Revival one-story building and currently serves as a NPS visitor center (OCLP, 2010).



Figure 30. View of the Bunker Hill Monument built in 1842 (OCLP, 2010).



Figure 31. View of the Colonel Prescott statue on granite cobble foundation (OCLP, 2010).

Landscape Characteristic: Small Scale Features

Historic Condition:
For the Bunker Hill Monument site, small-scale features include fencing, markers, benches, lighting, granite tablets, trash receptacles, signages, granite markers, and irrigation and utility boxes. The Monument fence and perimeter fence were designed by Isiah Rogers and erected in 1844 by Charles M. Cumming. In 1870 the perimeter fence was rebuilt with new stone posts, iron posts and rails. Only the original fence pales were reused. In the 1880s, new iron rails were added to each side of the steps at the four entrances. The fences consisted of spear and sword palings and crossed-fleur pattern base rail (CLR, 2000: 101).

Besides the Colonel William Prescott Statue, and the General Warren Monument inside the Lodge, several additional markers and small monuments were placed on the site. The Frothington markers, placed in 1876 and engraved by Gilman and Cheney of Charlestown, continue to outline the redoubt configuration as surveyed in 1876. Four sets of commemorative tablets were installed by the Metropolitan District Commission in 1976, which resulted in the dedication of the four gates as the Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and United States gates. These tablets (and the fences adjacent to them) are considered non-contributing but do not greatly detract from the historic setting. The Joseph Warren Memorial spike was purportedly placed on the site where Warren fell in 1876 and removed in the early 1980s (CLR, 2000: 101).

A circa 1865 photo shows two benches north of the Lodge. A circa 1880s photo, shows several benches placed beside the Monument enclosure fence, also along the outer edge of the plaza to face the Monument, and along the east side of the temporary Lodge. Historic images and written documentation indicate that benches were added to the Bunker Hill Monument landscape in the 1880s. The Metropolitan District Commission introduced a park bench to the site that was designed by Arthur Shurtleff, and was referred to as the “esplanade bench.” It consisted of double planks for the seat and back, and rested on wide, flat iron, curlicue pediments (CLR 2000: 101).

The remaining site features include lighting elements, an irrigation system, utility boxes, and trash receptacles. In 1889 the city put in “electric” street lights, which were likely gas, near the steps on each side of the square. The Association also added lights at each corner to accommodate evening visitors and discourage loitering. In 1922, the Metropolitan District Commission stated the need for floodlighting the Monument. Between 1929 and 1950 the floodlights were repaired and were in good condition (CLR 2000: 101).

Post-historic and Existing Conditions (since 1947):
In 1961 steel picket fences were added to the cheek walls on four sets of steps leading up towards the Monument. In 1976, alterations were made to the fences on the sides of the steps in order to insert commemorative tablets at the landings for each set of steps. Also in the 1970s a railing was added in conjunction with the accessibility ramp on the southeast side of the site (CLR, 2000: 101).

Four sets of commemorative tablets were installed by the Metropolitan District Commission in 1976, which resulted in the dedication of the four gates as the Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and United States gates. These tablets (and the fences adjacent to them) are considered non-contributing but do not greatly detract from the historic setting. In 2000, as part of the 225th anniversary celebration the Joseph Warren spike was rededicated and placed on a new Quincy Granite base with an inscription about Warren. However, it was later removed again due to safety concerns. Over the years the esplanade benches were vandalized or in decay. The National Park Service later installed new benches. Currently, only three esplanade benches remain on site (CLR, 2000: 101).

In 1961 plans were made for relighting the Monument and details were prepared for the proposed floodlight mountings. In 1966, the cobra-style street lights were installed. In 1974 there were unspecified lighting improvements and in 1979 the National Park Service proposed replacing the obelisk floodlights with metal halide lights. By the late 1980s, the pin oaks planted in the 1970s had grown high enough to prevent the floodlights from lighting the Monument, casting shadows. In 2008, the non-contributing cobra lights were removed and the pin oaks were removed. Trash receptacles are not shown in any historic photographs or plans. All existing trash receptacles are not historic and do not contribute to the historical character of the site. Similarly, all signs, other than the monuments and markers that are described in this report as structures, are not historic and do not contribute to the historical character of the site. If placed appropriately, trash receptacles and signs should not detract from the historic setting (Figures 32-36).

The National Park Service installed an irrigation system in 1996. However, prior to installation, subsurface historic resources were investigated by archeologists. The irrigation system is non-contributing but does not detract from the historic setting. All existing trash receptacles, informational, and directional signage, and wayside exhibits have been installed since the historic period and do not contribute to the historical character of the site (CLR 2000: 101).

Features noted with an * are described in National Register documentation.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Monument Fence *	146939	Contributing	40325		Asset	30107	Yes
Perimeter Fence and Gates *	146941	Contributing	40324		Asset	306282	Yes
Markers *	146665	Contributing	40323		Asset	1025380	Yes
Esplanade Seat Benches	146901	Contributing			Asset	563463	Yes
Spotlight Fixtures	146907	Contributing					No
Granite Tablets on Stairs	146909	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Other Seat Benches	146911	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
NPS and Freedom Trail Signage	146913	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Informational and Directional Signage	146915	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Wayside Exhibit	146917	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Irrigation Boxes	146919	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Trash Receptacles	146921	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 32. View of the interior fence enclosing the monument and lodge (OCLP, 2010).



Figure 33. View of the perimeter fencing that surrounds the Bunker Hill Monument grounds (OCLP, 2010).

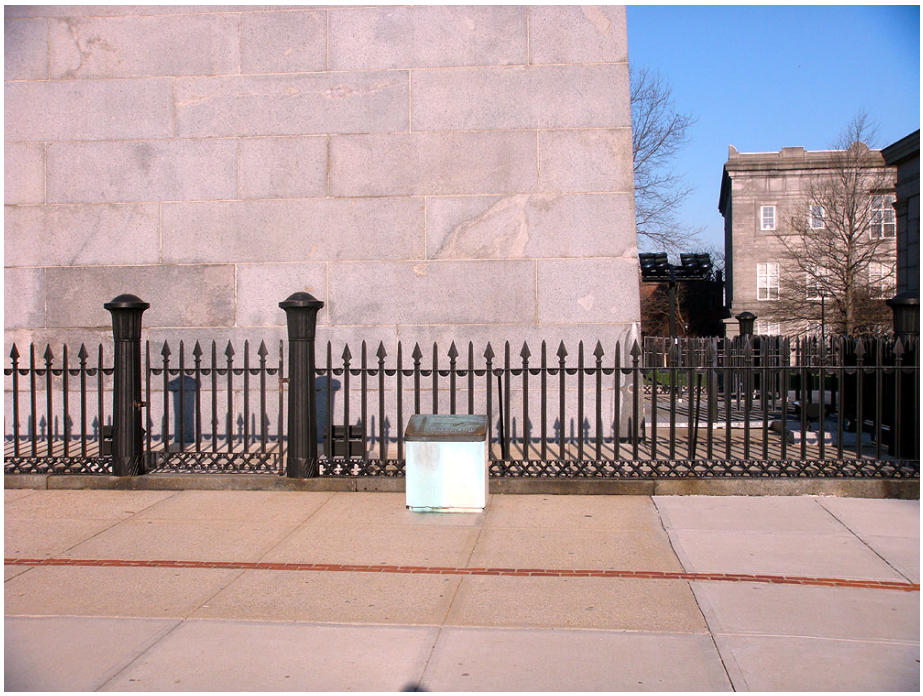


Figure 34. View of NPS signage, the freedom line, and the Monument fencing located in the upper plaza (OCLP, 2010).



Figure 35. View of the commemorative tablet at the Connecticut Gate (OCLP, 2010).



Figure 36. One of five Frothingham markers placed in the lawn, outlining the redoubt configuration as surveyed in 1876 (OCLP, 2000).

Condition

Assessment Interval (Years): 8

Next Assessment Due Date: 06/11/2033

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 06/11/2025

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The overall landscape is well-maintained and in good condition.

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 09/21/2021

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Provisional. The condition reassessment for this CLI has been delayed due to Covid-19 travel restrictions and staffing shortages. In the meantime, the most recent condition assessment will remain in place until it is reassessed as part of a comprehensive update of the entire CLI. Planning and scheduling this update will occur in FY 2022.

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 06/24/2010

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The Bunker Hill Monument site is considered to be in good condition. In 2008, the park completed a major rehabilitation of the site, and in spring 2010 work was completed to repair and stabilize all four sets of granite stairs that lead to Bunker Hill Monument. Despite the maintenance deficiencies identified during a 2009 Comprehensive Condition Assessment, cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. There are no immediate corrective actions required to maintain its current condition.

Treatment

Stabilization Measures

Treatment Documents

Treatment Type: Rehabilitation

Treatment Completed: Yes

Document Type: General Management Plan

Document Date: 1980-01-01

Title:

IRMA Link:

Narrative:

The 1980 General Management Plan (GMP) for the Bunker Hill Monument and the 1982 Historic Structures Report (HSR) were developed concurrently. Both documents cited poor site conditions and the need for monument and grounds improvements. The recommended treatment, “selective restoration” of the landscape to the Bunker Hill Monument Association period, recognized that a complete restoration would eliminate some of the beneficial site work carried out by the Metropolitan District Commission, including regraded slopes and the accessibility ramp. Current treatment terminology for GMP and HSR recommendations would be “rehabilitation”; however, the plans emphasized restoring non-extant features, which is not advised under current rehabilitation standards.

Building upon these documents, the Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) for Bunker Hill Monument (2000) recommended rehabilitation as the preferred treatment approach for recapturing the landscape character that reflected the historic Bunker Hill Monument setting in circa 1947. Guidance on the long-term management of the cultural landscape was intended to be both broad, encompassing the overall character of the landscape, as well as specific, relating to individual features. Recommendations included improving site and Lodge accessibility, signage, drainage, surface treatments, lighting, and irrigation systems; stabilizing slopes and turf; replacing missing trees that contibute to the double tree line and removing pin oaks; and repairing fencing and railings.

Based on the recommendations set forth in the CLR, the park completed the rehabilitation of the Bunker Hill Monument in 2008. The project, entitled “Rehabilitate Bunker Hill Monument” (PMIS 29732), included repairs to the Bunker Hill Monument, the adjacent granite Lodge and surrounding 6-acre site, and rehabilitation of the neighboring Bunker Hill Museum as a major site interpretive center in partnership with the local community and the City of Boston. Work included repointing of the Monument, repairs/replacement of the Lodge roof, rehabilitation of public restrooms, improved site lighting, repair/replacement of sidewalks, and accessibility to site, Lodge, and the base of the Monument in compliance with ADA.

In 2010, as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), Boston National Historical Park received funding for the stabilization of all four sets of stairs that lead to Bunker Hill Monument. The project, entitled “Repair Steps and Complete Repairs/Repointing of the Historic Bunker Hill Monument” (PMIS 88650), will repair all of the brick piers, improve drainage adjacent to and under the stairways, and regrout and reseal joints in the stairways.

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

Treatment Type:	Bulk Import TBD
Treatment Completed:	No
Document Type:	Cultural Landscape Report
Document Date:	2001-01-01
Title:	Bunker Hill Monument - Cultural Landscape Report
IRMA Link:	https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/Reference/Profile/2286875
Narrative:	

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

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Landscape Documents:

File Name	Date	Attachment Type
BOST_Bunker Hill-CNY-Dorchester Heights_CLI Updates Notes_2025.pdf		

Source