

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	SWN.900
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Myles Garrison House Site Marker
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	Old Providence Rd
<b>City/Town:</b>	Swansea
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	North Swansea;
<b>Local No:</b>	5;
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	1912
<b>Use(s):</b>	Military Other;
<b>Significance:</b>	Military;
<b>Area(s):</b>	SWN.A
<b>Designation(s):</b>	Nat'l Register District (02/16/1990); Nat'l Register MRA (02/16/1990);
<b>Building Materials:</b>	
<b>Demolished</b>	No



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125  
[www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

This file was accessed on: Monday, June 27, 2022 at 8:02 PM

FORM C - OBJECT

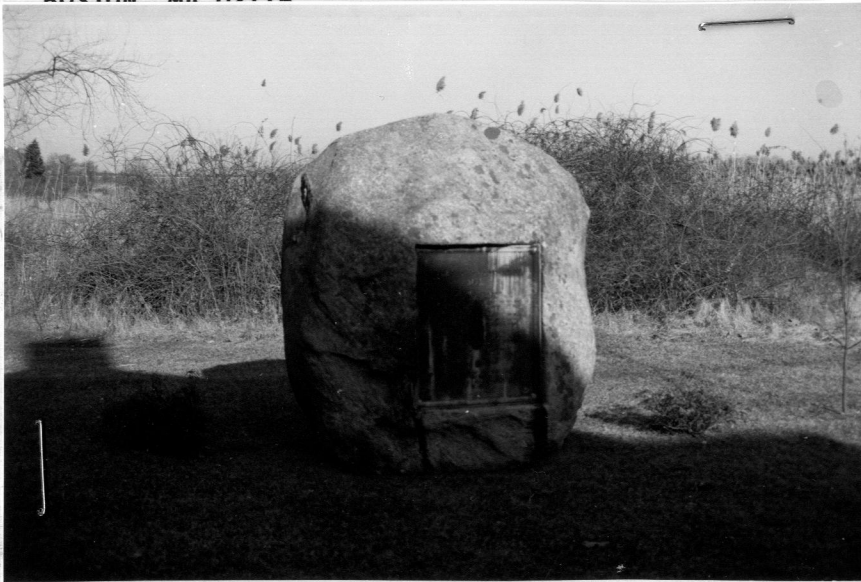
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA A  
USGS - E. PROV  
PL - N. SWAN

NRDIS > 2/12/90  
NRMPA

AREA	FORM NO.
A	5

see also HA-E-15 900



Town SWANSEA

Address Old Providence Road

Name Site of Myles Garrison House

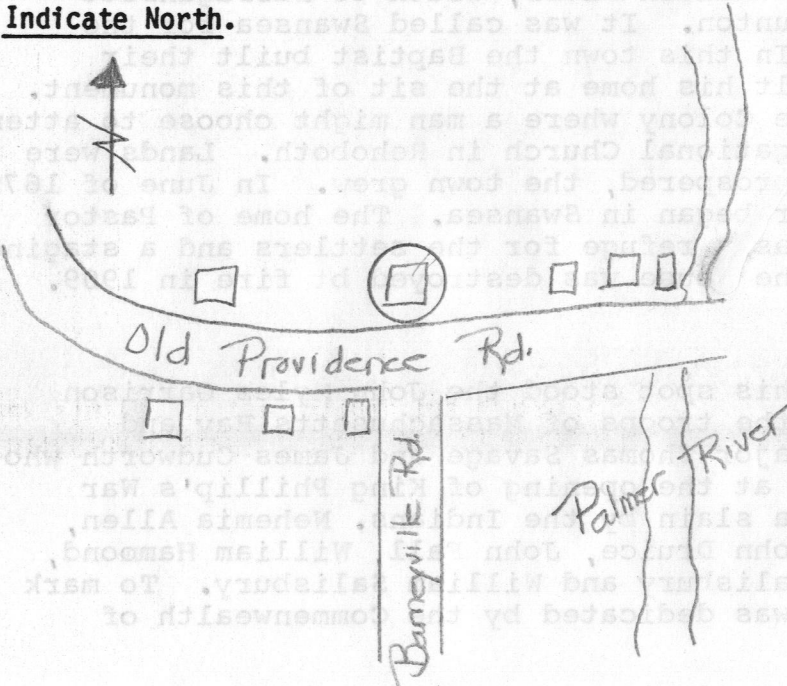
Ownership:  Public

Private

Type of Object (check one):

- statue \_\_\_\_\_
- bust \_\_\_\_\_
- marker  \_\_\_\_\_
- carousel \_\_\_\_\_
- group composition \_\_\_\_\_
- religious shrine \_\_\_\_\_
- boundary marker \_\_\_\_\_
- other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- monument \_\_\_\_\_
- fountain \_\_\_\_\_
- milestone \_\_\_\_\_
- boat \_\_\_\_\_

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate North.



DESCRIPTION

Date 1912

Source Date on tablet

Designer/Sculptor (if known): Unknown

Material Bronze

Alterations (with dates) None

Moved  Yes Date 1970

Acreeage \_\_\_\_\_

Setting Bronze plaque on south face  
of boulder

UTM REFERENCE \_\_\_\_\_

USGS QUADRANGLE East Providence RI  
1971-79

SCALE \_\_\_\_\_

Recorded by Kay Flynn/H. Pierce '79

Organization Swansea Historical Commission

Date May, 1986

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

FORM C - OBJECT

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02118

**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE** Describe architectural importance of object and evaluate in terms of other similar objects within the community.

Type of Object (check one):

- monument
- fountain
- milestone
- post
- statue
- bust
- marker
- carousel
- group composition
- religious shrine

**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE** Explain historical importance of object and how the object relates to the development of the community.

Rev. John Myles who fled from Wales founded the first Baptist Church in Massachusetts. According to the petition Pastor Myles, Thomas Willet and others, the Court at Plymouth in 1667 granted a township extending from the Providence River to the Taunton River, wouth to Narragansett Bay and north to Rehoboth and Taunton. It was called Swansea for the home in Wales of Pastor Myles. In this town the Baptist built their meeting house and the pastor built his home at the sit of this monument. Swansea was the first town in the Colony where a man might choose to attend the Baptist Church or the Congregational Church in Rehoboth. Lands were awarded to settlers, the church prospered, the town grew. In June of 1675 the disastrous King Phillip's War began in Swansea. The home of Pastor Myles was garrisoned and served as a refuge for the settlers and a staging area for the Colonial troops. The house was destroyed bt fire in 1909.

**ENTIRE INSCRIPTION (if applicable)**

Myles Garrison House Site near this spot stood the John Myles Garrison House, the place of meeting for the troops of Massachusetts Bay and Plymouth Colonies commanded by Major Thomas Savage and James Cudworth who marched to the relief of Swansea at the opening of King Phillip's War A.D. 1675. There fell in Swansea slain by the Indians. Nehemia Allen, William Cahoone, Gershom Cobb, John Druice, John Fall, William Hammond, John Jones, Joseph Lewis, John Salisbury and William Salisbury. To mark this historic site this monument was dedicated by the Commenwealth of Massachusetts A.D. 1912.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

- Proprietors Records of Swansea
- History of Swansea, O.O. Wright.
- Flintlock and Tomahawk New England in King Phillip's War, Douglas
- Edward Leach, the Macmillian Co. 1958.



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: <b>SWANSEA</b>	Form No: <b>A-5</b>
Property Name: <b>site of Myles Garrison House</b>	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

cont'd  
 but ran the post office, a brickyard, a local grocery store with rum on tap, owned a cluster of dwellings, plus other branches of business. He died in 1868. His respectful workers and loving friends called him " squire Barney ."





AREA A VABE - E. PROV 900  
 PL - N. SWAN  
 NR 15  
 NR 15 72116/19  
 See also HA-15

wn Swansea, Mass.  
 feet Old Providence Road  
 me Site of Myles Garrison House  
 iginal Owner Commonwealth of Mass.  
 resent Owner Same  
 ate Constructed 1912  
 ate Dedicated 1912  
 ource of Date Date on Tablet  
 esigner or Sculptor Unknown

Music \_\_\_\_\_  
 Government \_\_\_\_\_  
 Development of Town/City \_\_\_\_\_  
 Religion/Philosophy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Individual or group responsible for monument if other than owner \_\_\_\_\_

CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Moved\* Altered \_\_\_\_\_  
 IMPORTANCE of monument to area: Great Moderate None \_\_\_\_\_  
 MONUMENT endangered by: Vandals

LOCATION OF INSCRIPTION: Plaque on wall, house, post; base of monument; other Bronze plaque on south face of boulder

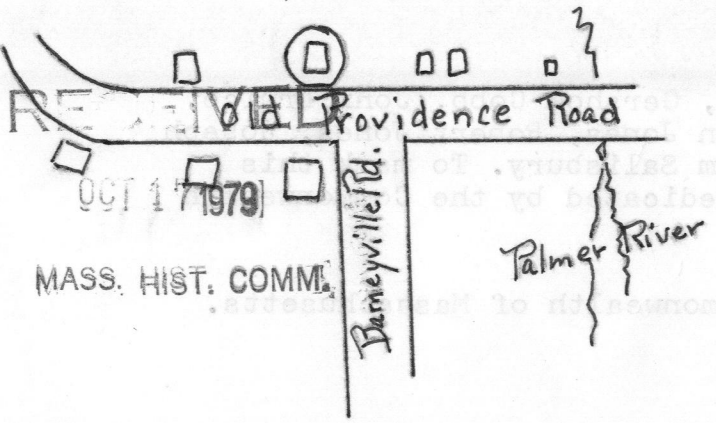
ENTIRE INSCRIPTION on monument: Myles Garrison House Site Near this spot stood the John Myles Garrison House, the place of meeting for the troops of Massachusetts Bay and Plymouth Colonies commanded by Major Thomas Savage and James Cudworth who marched to the relief of Swansea at the opening of King Phillip's War A.D.1675. There fell in Swansea slain by the Indians.

DESCRIPTION\*\*  
 Foundation: Pedestal Base None Material Cement  
 Material: Bronze Stone Marble Granite Wood Other Tablet on Granite Boulder  
 Setting (surroundings) Small roadside field  
 Size (approximate) 7 feet high, 5 feet wide

Indicate location of monument on map below Recorder Helen Pierce

For Swansea Historical Society  
 (Name of Organization)

Photo X Date Received 9/26/79



\* If the monument has been moved, indicate the original location on the reverse side.  
 \*\* Describe the monument on the reverse side.

**GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT MATTER AND/OR DESIGN OF MONUMENT**

This granite boulder with a bronze plaque attached marks a site important in the early history of Swansea a town founded in 1667 by the Reverend John Myles a Baptist refugee from Wales, Thomas Willett and others. In addition to commemorating the outbreak of King Phillip's War it draws attention to the location of the early settlements and Myles Bridge one of the oldest bridges to span a stream in this whole area.

**GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF HISTORIC IMPORTANCE OF MONUMENT. (Refer to the theme circled on front of form. What happened? Who was important? Comment)**

Rev. John Myles who fled from Wales founded the first Baptist Church in Massachusetts. According to the petition Pastor Myles, Thomas Willett and others, the Court at Plymouth in 1667 granted a township extending from the Providence River to the Taunton River, south to Narragansett Bay and north to Rehoboth and Taunton. It was called Swansea for the home in Wales of Pastor Myles. In this town the Baptist built their meeting house and the pastor built his home at the site of this monument. Swansea was the first town in the Colony where a man might choose to attend the Baptist Church or the Congregational Church in Rehoboth. Lands were awarded to settlers, the church prospered, the town grew. In June of 1675 the disastrous King Phillip's War began in Swansea. The home of Pastor Myles was garrisoned and served as a refuge for the settlers and a staging area for the Colonial troops. The house was destroyed by fire in 1909.

**REFERENCE: (Where was this information obtained? What book, records, etc.)**

Proprietors Records of Swansea  
History of Swansea  
Flintlock and Tomahawk New England in King Phillip's War, Douglas Edward Leach, the MacMillian Company 1958.

Researched by Professor Thomas W. Bicknell, petitioned by the R.I. Citizens Historical Association in conjunction with the Old Colony Historical Society of Taunton and erected by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 1912.

(cont.) Nehemia Allen, William Cahoone, Gershom Cobb, John Druice, John Fall, William Hammond, John Jones, Robert Jones, Joseph Lewis, John Salisbury and William Salisbury. To mark this historic site this monument was dedicated by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts A.D. 1912

\* Moved a few feet in 1970 by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.



[A] [E] SWN. 900  
PI. N. SWAN  
USGS E PROJ  
2/16/90  
NADIS/MAA

# SOS! Survey Questionnaire

Save Outdoor Sculpture!, National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Property  
3299 K Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20007 (1-800-421-1381)

SWANSEA

- Read the entire form carefully before beginning the survey.
- Type or print using a ballpoint pen when filling out this form. Legibility is critical.
- Do not guess at the information; an answer of "Unknown" is more helpful.
- For sculptures with several separate sculptural components, complete one questionnaire for the entire work. If necessary, complete relevant sections of the *SOS! Survey Questionnaire* for each component and staple them together.
- If possible, attach a photograph, photocopy, slide or other reproduction of the sculpture to this form.
- Refer to *SOS! Handbook* for further clarification of terminology.
- Contact your local SOS! Project Coordinator if you have any questions.

## PART I: BASIC DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Title of Work (if unsure, note "unknown"; if artist named work "Untitled," note accordingly)

Site of Myler Garrison House

Alternate Title(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Artist(s) Unknown

Person(s) responsible for the overall conception and creation of the work. Frequently the artist's name will appear toward the back, lower edge or another inconspicuous place on the sculpture, followed by the abbreviations "Sc." "Sculp" for sculptor/sculpted.

Other Collaborators (check as many as apply).

Carver \_\_\_\_\_

Designer \_\_\_\_\_

Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Other (Designate role, e.g., landscape architect, engineer) \_\_\_\_\_

Foundry/Fabricator \_\_\_\_\_

If the piece was cast, the foundry name or monogram symbol, as well as cast date, may appear on the base of the sculpture or another inconspicuous place.

Execution Date (often found by sculptor's name) 1912

Other Dates (check as many as apply) \_\_\_\_\_

Other dates to report might include the date the sculpture was commissioned, copyrighted, cast (often found beside the foundry's name) or dedicated.

Cast \_\_\_\_\_

Copyright \_\_\_\_\_

Dedicated \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED

OCT 03 2001

MASS. HIST. COMM



Media (material(s) sculpture/base made of)

- Sculpture:  Ceramic  Concrete  Glass  Metal  
 Plastic  Stone  Water  Wood  
 Undetermined  Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

If known, name specific medium (e.g., bronze, Cor-Ten steel, oak, fiberglass)

natural boulder with metal plaque attached.

Base (if media differs from sculpture, please indicate)

- Ceramic  Concrete  Glass  Metal  
 Plastic  Stone  Water  Wood  
 Undetermined  Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

If known, name specific medium (e.g., granite, marble, limestone, concrete)

Was information obtained by direct observation?  Yes  No

If no, attach photocopy of source.

Approximate Dimensions (indicate unit of measure)

Always measure from the tallest and widest points.

Sculpture: Height 7' Width 5' Depth \_\_\_\_\_ or Diameter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Base: Height \_\_\_\_\_ Width \_\_\_\_\_ Depth \_\_\_\_\_ or Diameter \_\_\_\_\_

Markings/Inscriptions (check as many as apply)

Is the artist's signature visible on the piece?

- Yes, examined and found signature  
 No, examined sculpture/base but did not see any signature  
 Unable to determine, couldn't get close enough to check

If signature is visible, record here: \_\_\_\_\_

Does the work have foundry/fabricator marks?

- Yes, examined and found foundry marks  
 No, examined sculpture/base but did not see foundry mark  
 Unable to determine, couldn't get close enough to check

If foundry mark/mark is visible, record here: \_\_\_\_\_

Record the signature(s) and any additional markings or inscriptions that appear on the sculpture or base. Indicate their location (e.g., back of base, lower left). Use a slash (/) to indicate separate lines of inscription.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED

OCT 03 2001

MASS. HIST. COMM.

Record the text of any associated nearby identification or commemorative plaques.

Myles Garrison House site near this spot stood the John Myles Garrison House, the place of meeting for the troops of Mass. Bay - Plymouth Colonies commanded by Major Thomas Savage + James Cudworth who marched to the relief of Swansea at the opening of King Phillip's War AD 1675 There fell in Swansea slain by the Indians [10 names] To mark this historic site this monument was dedicated by the Commonwealth of Mass AD 1912

Are any inscriptions badly worn or unreadable?  Yes  No  Unable to determine

PART II: LOCATION/JURISDICTION INFORMATION

The sculpture is currently located at:

Street address or site location Old Providence Rd.

City Swansea County \_\_\_\_\_ State Ma

Owner/Administrator (name of agency, institution or individual that currently owns or administers the sculpture and is responsible for its long-term care)

Name Town of Swansea

Department/Division \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City Swansea State MA Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

If sculpture has been moved, please list former location(s) or owner(s).

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Environmental Setting** (The general vicinity and immediate locale surrounding a sculpture play a major role in its overall condition.)

**Location Type** (check as many as apply to immediate surroundings)

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Battlefield     | <input type="checkbox"/> Bridge                | <input type="checkbox"/> Cemetery           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> College Campus  | <input type="checkbox"/> Courthouse            | <input type="checkbox"/> Garden             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library         | <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Building    | <input type="checkbox"/> Park               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plaza/Courtyard | <input type="checkbox"/> Post Office           | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious Building |
| <input type="checkbox"/> School          | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports Facility       | <input type="checkbox"/> State Capitol      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Town Square     | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Circle        | <input type="checkbox"/> Transit Facility   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Zoo             | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ |   |

**General Vicinity** (check as many as apply)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rural (low population, open land) | <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban (residential setting near a major city) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Town   | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban/metropolitan                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal (bordering salt water)               | <input type="checkbox"/> Desert   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plains (valley or plateau lands)             | <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain   |

**Immediate Locale** (check as many as apply)

- Industrial
- Street/Roadside (within 20 feet)
- Tree Covered (overhanging branches or trees nearby)

**Is the sculpture in a protected setting?** (check if applicable)

- Protected from the elements (e.g., niche, canopy)
- Protected from the public (e.g., fenced)

**Any other significant environmental factor (i.e., near airport or subway)?**

in a small roadside field

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**PART III: CONDITION INFORMATION**

**Structural Condition (check as many as apply)**

Instability in the sculpture and its base can be detected by a number of factors. Indicators may be obvious or subtle. Visually examine the sculpture and its base.

	Sculpture	Base
Is the armature/internal support unstable/exposed? (look for signs of exterior rust)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any evidence of structurally instability? (look for cracked joints, missing mortar or caulking or plant growth)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any broken or missing parts? (look for elements (i.e., sword, rifle, nose) that are missing due to vandalism, fluctuating weather conditions, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any cracks, splits, breaks or holes? (look for fractures, straight-line or branching, which could indicate uneven stress or weakness in the material)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Surface Appearance (check as many as apply)**

	Sculpture	Base
Bird guano (e.g., bird droppings, other animal/insect remains)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Black crusts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Etched, pitted or otherwise corroded (usually applies to metal)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metallic staining (e.g., run-off from copper, iron, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organic growth (e.g., moss, algae, lichen or vines)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
White crusts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chalky or powdery (applies to stone only)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Granular, sugary or eroding (applies to stone only)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spalling or sloughing (applies to stone only) (parallel splitting off of the surfaces)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (e.g., applied adhesives, spray paint, graffiti, gouges)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

good condition

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Does water collect in recessed areas of the sculpture and/or base?

- Yes    No    Unable to determine

Surface Coating

Does there appear to be a coating?

- Yes
- No
- Unable to determine

If known, identify type of coating.

- Gilded
- Painted
- Varnished
- Waxed
- Unable to determine

Is the coating in good condition?

- Yes
- No
- Unable to determine

Basic Surface Condition Assessment (check one)

In your opinion, what is the general appearance or condition of the sculpture?

- In urgent need of treatment
- Well-maintained
- Would benefit from treatment
- Unable to determine

PART IV: OVERALL DESCRIPTION

Briefly describe the sculpture, its subject/theme and its overall condition. For figurative works, use the abbreviations PR (proper right) and PL (proper left) to indicate the right or left side of the statue from the perspective of the statue (i.e., your right or left side if you were positioned on the base facing in the same direction as the statue). For abstract works, describe the predominant forms, colors, shapes and textures. For descriptions of either abstract and figurative pieces, avoid judgmental language. For condition, indicate any broken or missing parts and describe evidence of cracks, graffiti, etc.

Natural boulders with bronze plaque attached

**PART V: SUPPLEMENTAL BACKGROUND MATERIALS**

In addition to your on-site survey, any supplemental secondary information you can provide related to the artist or portrait subject, to the historical commissioning, patronage or funding of the work, as well as previous conservation treatment histories will be welcomed. When citing sources, provide enough detail to enable researchers to locate the information easily. Include the full citations of each source (i.e., author, title, publisher, date, pages). If possible, photocopy source materials and attach. Make sure attached sources are clearly identified.

Book History of Swansea  
Flintlock Tomahawk, NE in King Phillip's War Douglas E Leach, MacMillan 1958

Magazine or journal article \_\_\_\_\_

Newspaper article or account \_\_\_\_\_

Unpublished archival or manuscript materials \_\_\_\_\_

Other (specify) Mass. Hist. Comm. - State Survey Form C

Where can a photograph or illustration of the work be obtained?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If photographic image is attached, please identify type of image.

- Photograph
- Photocopy
- Slide
- Illustration
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_



**PART VI: SURVEYOR INFORMATION AND WAIVER**

Date of On-site Survey 12/97

**Waiver of Liability, Photographic and Data Rights for Volunteers, Agents or Employee Participants**

I acknowledge that I am a participant in Save Outdoor Sculpture!, a project cosponsored by the National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Property (NIC) and the National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institution. The project's purpose is to determine the location, description and basic condition of sculpture in the United States, to raise awareness about the condition of our nation's sculpture and to promote its long-term care and maintenance.

In furtherance of these objectives, I will record certain information on the *SOS! Survey Questionnaire*, provide certain illustrations and take certain photographs. I hereby declare that, to the extent these text, illustrations and photographs may be eligible for copyright protection, all of my rights and interest in them are hereby waived. It is my intention to place these written works, illustrations and photographs in the public domain and I warrant that I will not assert any copyright claim in them.

I further declare and acknowledge that I am a volunteer, agent or employee for my sponsoring organization and am not a volunteer, agent or employee of the Smithsonian Institution or the NIC. I agree to hold harmless the NIC and Smithsonian, its museums, bureaus, entities, employees and officials from any and all damages, injuries or claims that may arise out of my participation in the SOS! project.

This waiver shall be effective as of the date above.

Stanley Paterson  
Typed or Printed Name of Participant

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Participant \_\_\_\_\_

Fill in blanks below and return to your local SOS! Project Coordinator.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

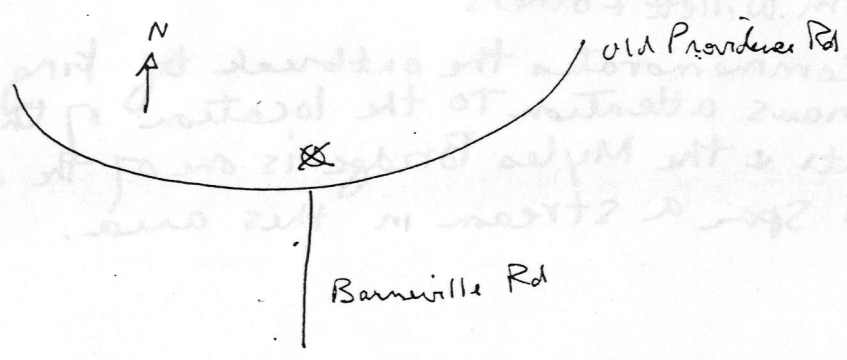
Lynne Spencer  
P.O. Box 58  
Nahant MA 01908

# Massachusetts Save Outdoor Sculpture!

## Addenda # 1:

Massachusetts SOSI requests the following additional information to assist with our state-wide survey for inclusion in the Massachusetts Historical Commission records:

**SKETCH MAP:** Draw a map showing the sculpture's location in relation to the nearest cross street and/or major natural features. Show all buildings and their relationships to the piece. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle and number the inventories sculpture. Indicate north.



**SKETCH MAP FOR COMPLEXES:** Provide a sketch map for sculptures that are part of a larger complex such as a plaza, courtyard or the like:

Addenda # 2

This is optional but valuable information which synthesizes your research as directed on page 7 of the SOS! form --

**HISTORICAL NARRATIVE:** Explain the history of the sculpture and how it relates to the development of the community. This can explore its intention or use, its association with specific individuals and groups, and its relationship to local historical trends and events. Associations include those connections with artists, designers, owners, groups or organizations. If the sculpture is commemorative, describe the event (s) or person (s) commemorated.

Bronze marker marks ~~the site~~<sup>an</sup> important site in the early history of Swansea - a town founded in 1667 by the Rev. ~~the~~ John Myles, a Baptist refugee from Wales, Thom. Willett + others

Marker commemorates the outbreak of King Phillip's war + draws attention to the location of the early settlements + the Myles Bridge is one of the oldest bridges to span a stream in this area.