

FORM C - MONUMENTS
 MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

Town Chelmsford

Street Town Common, facing North Road

STATUE _____ MONUMENT
 BUST _____ FOUNTAIN _____
 MARKER _____ MILESTONE _____
 RELIGIOUS SHRINE _____ BOUNDARY MARKER _____
 GROUP COMPOSITION _____

Name Chelmsford War Memorial

Original Owner _____

Present Owner Town of Chelmsford

Date Constructed _____

Date Dedicated May 30, 1955

Source of Date Tercentenary Program

Designer or Sculptor _____

Individual or group responsible for monument
 if other than owner _____

Monument has historical connection with the
 following themes: (See also reverse side)

Agriculture _____ Commerce/Industry _____
 Architecture _____ Science/Invention _____
 Art/Sculpture _____ Travel/Communication _____
 Education _____ Military Affairs
 Literature _____ Indians _____
 Music _____ Development of Town/City _____
 Government _____ Religion/Philosophy _____

CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Moved* Altered _____

IMPORTANCE of monument to area: Great Moderate None _____

MONUMENT endangered by: _____

LOCATION OF INSCRIPTION: Plaque on wall, house, post; base of monument; other _____
 on shaft of monument _____

ENTIRE INSCRIPTION on monument: "Dedicated to the memory of all Chelmsford men
 and women who have served in all of the wars in which our Nation has been
 involved."

Lower rear: "Dedicated at the 300th Anniversary of Our Town May, 1955"

DESCRIPTION**

Foundation: Pedestal Base None Material long granite slab

Material: Bronze Stone Marble Granite Wood Other light gray marble

Setting (surroundings) Town Common, North Road

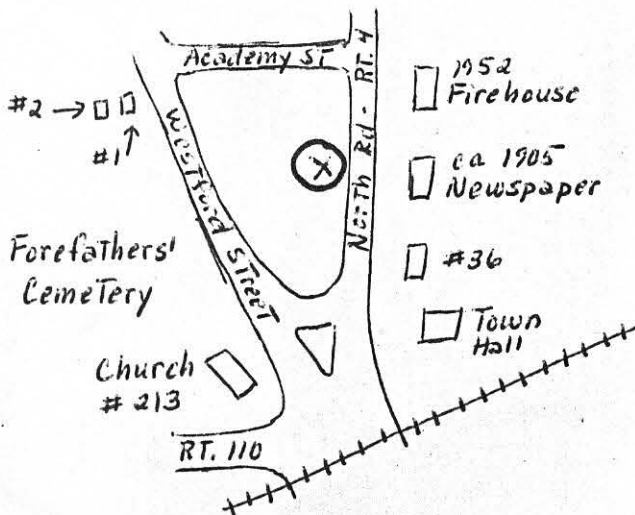
Size (approximate) Shaft: 33" wide x ca 6 1/2 ft. Base: 10ft. wide x 16" high

Indicate location of monument on map below

Recorder Jane B. Drury

For Chelmsford Historical Commission
 (Name of Organization)

Photo #10-12 Date Received _____



* 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

The monument is made of smooth, light gray marble on a base consisting of one long slab of granite. The shaft, on which are the inscriptions and a seal, is about 6½ feet tall. On each side of the shaft and made of the same material is a low "wing." Decorating each "wing" is a seal (left is American Legion; right is Veterans of Foreign Wars) with 3 stars on each side of the seal.

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

In honor of the many Chelmsford citizens who served in the Armed Forces in each of the wars, this monument was dedicated by members of all the local American Legion Posts on May 30, 1955. This occurred during Chelmsford's Tercentennial celebration.

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

"Chelmsford Newsweekly", 1955
Official Tercentenary Souvenir Program, 1955

OBJECT FORM

DESIGN ASSESSMENT *see continuation sheet*

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

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

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

It was dedicated on Memorial Day, 1955, during the Chelmsford Tercentennial Celebration and was conceived by the Honor Roll Committee for that celebration. Three local American Legion posts, from East, North and Center Chelmsford, took part in the ceremony with Claude Harvey, Post Commander, conducting the services. The Glee Club from Chelmsford High School rendered a selection, and the president of the senior class gave Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. "Rep. Edward J. DeSaulnier, Jr. gave a brief but stirring message in unveiling the new granite memorial."

ENTIRE INSCRIPTION (if applicable):

Monument dedicated to the veterans of the Town of Chelmsford who served so unselfishly to preserve our country's heritage of God-given freedom.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Chelmsford Newsweekly

July 29, 1954

June 2, 1955

May 25, 1989

Thomas Firth, Jr., telephone conversation, June 18, 2001

Chelmsford War Memorial Monument

Chelmsford Newsweekly, 1955:

"On Memorial Day the new monument to the veterans of the Town of Chelmsford was dedicated by members of all American Legion Posts of the town in an impressive ceremony. The monument is located across from the new fire house in the Center."

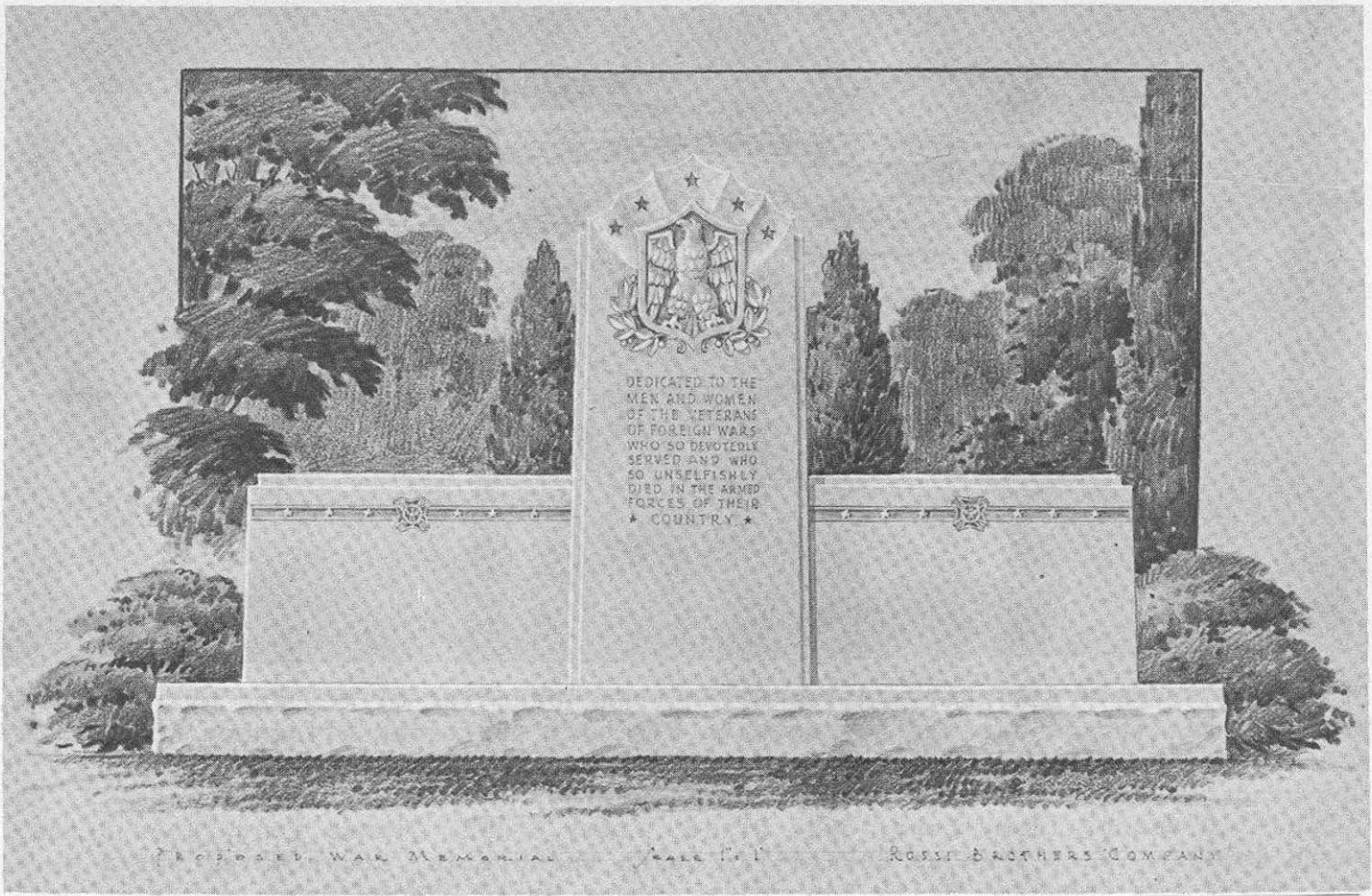
Official Tercentenary Souvenir Program, 1955:

Pg. 4. (Picture). "The new Chelmsford War Memorial located on the Common, Chelmsford Center, dedicated May 30, 1955.

'Dedicated to the memory of all Chelmsford men and women who have served in all of the wars in which our Nation has been involved.' "

H.J. Davis, 2/20/1975:

"I remember the dedication ceremony. De Saulnier gave the main speech."



WAR MEMORIAL---Pictured above is a drawing of a War Memorial which the Honor Roll Committee would like to have ready for the Tercentenary Celebration. As shown the Memorial would cost almost \$2,000 but if each name on the honor roll is placed on this Memorial the cost would be close to \$10,000. Members of the Honor Roll Committee are, Robert M. Hood, George R. Dixon and Thomas E. Firth, Jr. A question has been brought up as to whether the intent of the vote at the Annual Town Meeting was to include all names on the honor roll as it stands now or whether a Memorial for all veterans as shown would suffice

The New Chelmsford War Memorial

Located on the Common
Chelmsford Center

Dedicated May 30, 1955

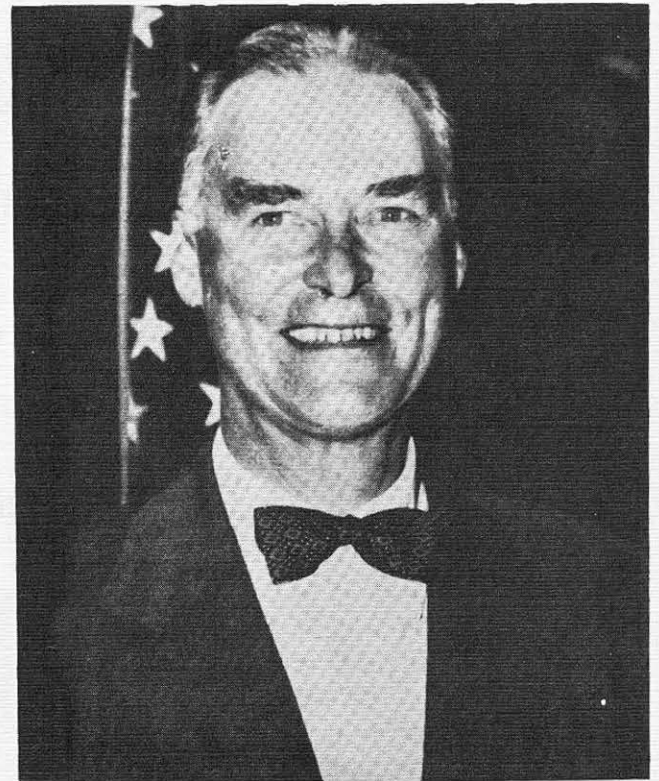


Dedicated to the memory of all Chelmsford Men and Women who have served in all of the Wars in which our Nation has been involved.



CHRISTIAN A. HERTER
Governor

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Department
State House, Boston



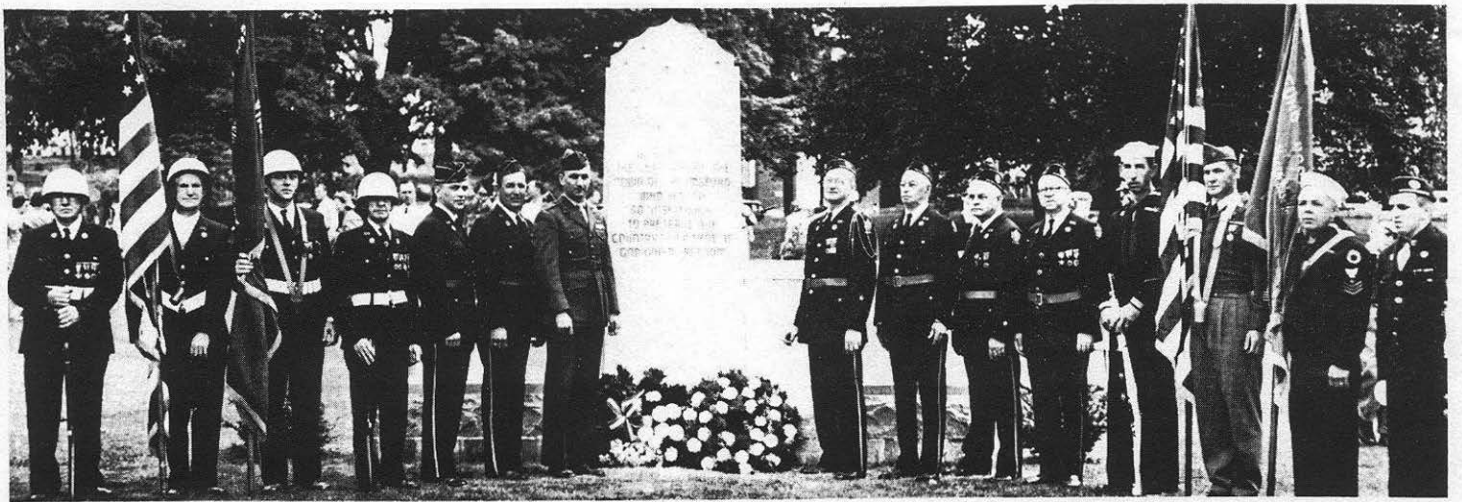
CHRISTIAN A. HERTER
Governor

To the Chelmsford Tercentenary Committee:

I am honored to be able to convey the official greetings of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as well as my own best wishes, to the many citizens of the Town of Chelmsford upon the significant occasion of the celebration of a 300th anniversary.

Chelmsford's three centuries of incorporation as a township — with nearly as much of its history recorded in the colonial era as in the days following the emergence of our new nation — give your town a reassuring continuity, a venerable dignity and a shining tradition which is very precious, indeed, in these times of instability and world unrest. That the American experiment in democratic self-rule was well conceived and soundly constructed by the founding fathers is no better evidenced in the United States than by the peaceful and assured manner in which our present day Chelmsford citizens freely and happily pursue their many activities, treading the same ground and breathing the same air that stimulated colonial forebears who also dreamt American dreams and succeeded in them.

Chelmsford, I am confident, has a secure future, just as does America. At this Tercentenary celebration, I know that we will want to re-examine and re-evaluate the magnificent accomplishments of the past in order to better sustain and promote the bright future that lies ahead.



DEDICATION OF MEMORIAL---On Memorial Day the new monument to the veterans of the Town of Chelmsford was dedicated by members of all American Legion Posts of the town in an impressive ceremony. The monument is located across from the new fire house in the Center.

Large Crowd Attends Dedication of New Monument

The highlight of the regular Memorial Day festivities in Chelmsford Center was centered around the dedication of the memorial monument to the dead of all wars. Rep. Edward J. DeSaulnier, Jr. gave a brief but stirring message in unveiling the new granite memorial.

Contingents from the three Legion posts in town took part in the ceremonies with Claude A. Harvey, Past Commander, conducting the services. Rev. Warren M. Chandler gave the invocation and Richard Delmore, Commander of the East Post, and Archie Cooke placed wreaths at the base of the monument. The Glee Club from Chelmsford High rendered a selection and President Thomas Gallagher of the Senior class gave the Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. Rep. DeSaulnier then unveiled the monument and said that this should serve as a reminder to all Americans that we should give thanks that America was blessed with loyal sons that died to preserve our freedom. He said that Memorial Day should, in his opinion, always be celebrated as both in memory of those who gave their all and also as a day of thanksgiving that our country has had men willing to pay the supreme sacrifice for our way of life. The services concluded with benediction by Rev. Chandler.

The committee in charge of erecting this new monument was the Town Honor Roll Committee which includes George Dixon, Robert Hood and Thomas Firth, Jr.

Rev. Warren Chandler Accepts Pastorate In Danvers



Rev. Warren M. Chandler, pastor of the Central Congregational church for the past eight years, submitted his resignation Sunday, effective Sept. 1, to accept a call to be pastor of the First Church of Danvers, Congregational.

A native of Brockton and graduate of Boston University and Andover-Newton Theological School, the Rev. Mr. Chandler served as a chaplain in the U.S. Army from November, 1942, to April, 1946, most of this time with the 85th Infantry Division, and was on overseas duty for two years.

While in Chelmsford, he served one term as president of the Greater-Lowell Ministerial Association, one term as president of the Greater-Lowell Congregational club, several terms on the Radio Commission of the Greater-Lowell Council

of Churches, several years as Protestant Chaplain of the Lowell District Juvenile Court and is on the Advisory Committee of the Salvation Army in Lowell.

He was recently elected to be a trustee of the Massachusetts Congregational Christian conference, served eight years and now serving as Chaplain of the 321st General Hospital of the U.S. Army Reserve, Lawrence, Mass., also chaplain of the William Sewall Gardner Lodge AF and AM in Lowell, also a chaplain of the 32nd Lodge of Instruction of Masons.

The Rev. Mr. Chandler also served as pastor of the First Congregational Church of Newfane, Vermont and interim Pastor at the First Parish Congregational Church in Brockton, Mass. He was called to the present pastorate in November of 1946.

Maureen Bishop, R.N. To Graduate From Boston College

Miss Maureen L. Bishop, R.N., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred J. Bishop, of 195 Riverneck road, Center Section, will be among the graduates of Boston College, June 8, 1955. She will receive the degree of Bachelor of Science. Miss Bishop graduated from Chelmsford High School, and St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing. She is presently employed at St. John's Hospital, Lowell.

Vox Antick

1. Whose tombstone in Forefathers' Cemetery bears this inscription:

'This verse reminds the heedless as they pass That life's a fragile drop of unnealed glass.'

2. Where, according to tradition, was the first apple orchard in town?

3. What is caudle? Is it
- A warm drink for invalids
 - A nourishing soup made in a large cauldron
 - A small pan with a wooden handle, formerly used to coddle eggs?

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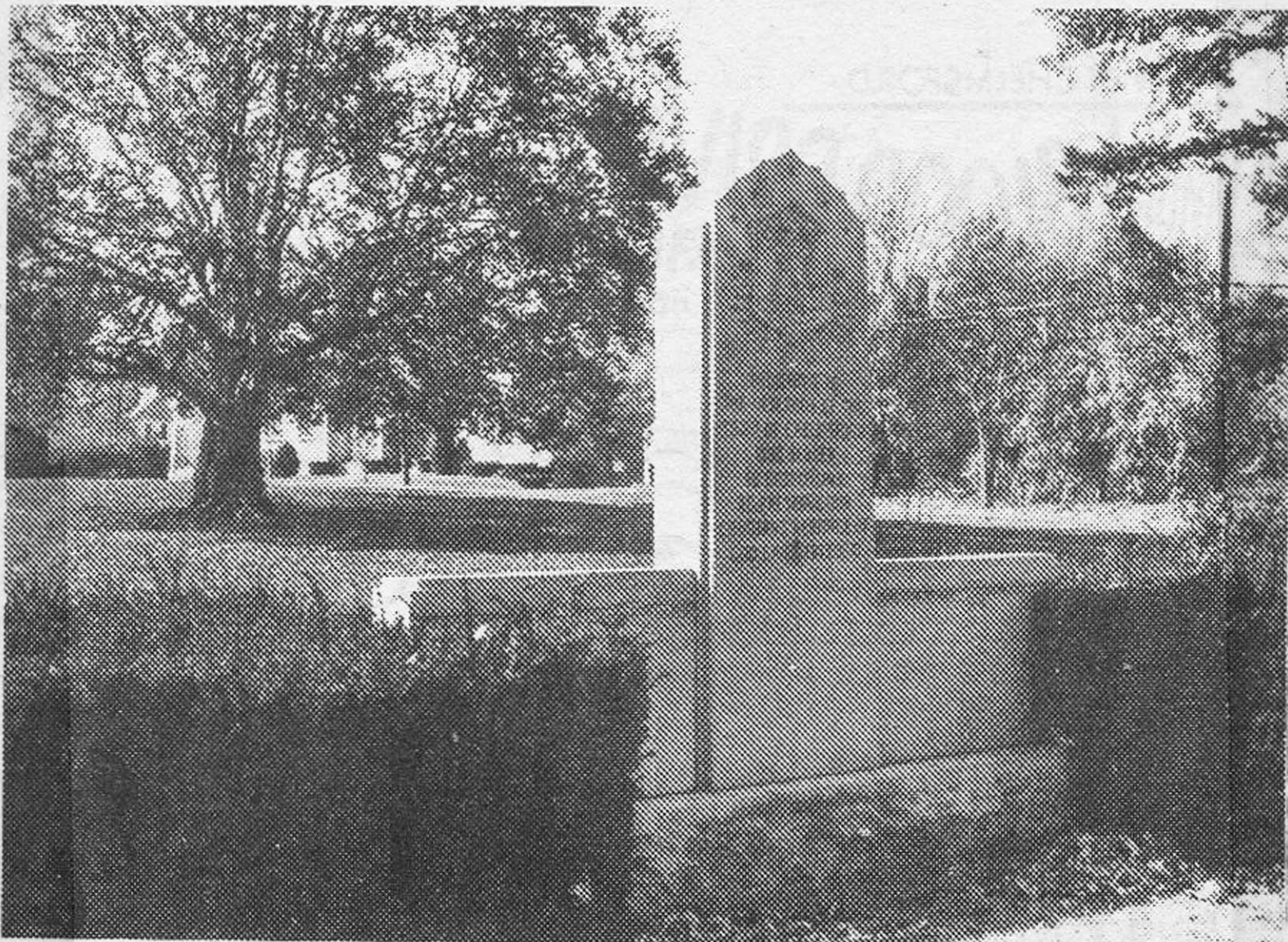
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NORTH CHELMSFORD, MASS.

2025 Middlesex Street
LOWELL, MASS.



VETERAN'S DAY This granite memorial "dedicated to the veterans of the town of Chelmsford who served so unselfishly to preserve our country's heritage of God given freedom" was erected twenty-five years ago and stands on the Center Common. The unveiling and dedication ceremony was held Memorial Day, 1955, during Chelmsford's 300th anniversary celebration. (Photo by Hilliard)

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Chelmsford Common Middlesex Canal Toll House, War Memorial and Town Hall

12/27/2004 F. Merriam