



Lexington Battle Green Area Draft Master Plan

Town of Lexington, Massachusetts

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Approved, March 14, 2011



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Executive Summary

The Battle Green Area is a complex landscape fabric of open space, buildings, graves, monuments, signs, streets, site furnishings, vegetation and archaeological resources shaped by our cultural values over three centuries. It serves as town Common and National Landmark, and as such, responds to the daily lives of Lexingtonians and the singular visits of people from around the world. The goal of this Master Plan is to provide the next important step in comprehensive planning for the Battle Green Area. Based on the recommendations of previous reports and the data compiled from public hearings and citizen surveys, this report offers recommendations for defining the Battle Green Area, unifying its design standards, and providing guidelines for its long-term stewardship. The Plan has been written as a blueprint for guiding changes to the Battle Green Area over the next 5-10 years. It offers definitive recommendations for change organized by short, medium and long term goals. In other cases, such as parking and traffic control, more study is required in order to make appropriate, informed decisions. In these cases, the plan makes recommendations for additional study, presenting information to inform and guide this additional work. The Selectmen will ultimately be responsible for final decisions presented in this document.

First, the Master Plan recommends broadening the definition of the Battle Green to incorporate the other public spaces around the Green itself. The proposed Battle Green Area boundaries encompass the town owned properties and historic sites that surround the Battle Green, including Belfry Hill, Ye Olde Burying Ground, the Buckman Tavern, Lexington Visitor Center and the streets and streetscapes that enframe the Green. The plan recognizes the importance of the Battle Green gateways – those intersections where you catch your first glimpse the Battle Green. Most importantly, this plan seeks to understand the tools and techniques which can enhance the Battle Green as a special, hallowed ground, distinct and unique from all other public open spaces in Lexington.

Second, the historic overview includes images and photographs which inform the landscape vocabulary of the Battle Green Area and offer site-specific historic references to inform our choices for design standards. From this historic overview, character-defining features are identified that help us to understand the features which are static (remain unchanged) and variable (could be changed) within the Battle Green Area. Guiding principles define today's cultural values that shape the plan's recommendations.

To ensure comprehensive oversight of the Battle Green Area, a Battle Green Area Advisory Committee is proposed whose charge is to facilitate communication and help to inform the Board of Selectmen and the Historic Districts Commission on their decisions related to the Battle Green Area. It is this Advisory Committee that will take the recommendations and action items identified in this report and move them forward, including the continued support of ongoing efforts such as the interpretation and signage program.

The Master Plan analyzes the opportunities for linking the Battle Green to its surrounding historic resources and to its larger role within the Town of Lexington and the Battle Road corridor. The Plan analyzes existing site conditions, including paving materials, the condition of monuments and memorials, vegetation, site furnishings and signage. With an understanding of its past appearance and its evolution of landscape treatments, the Plan establishes design standards for these elements and the budgetary requirements for their implementation. Opportunities for linking private and public funding sources follow to support these implementation efforts follow.

Though many recommendations for specific changes within the Battle Green Area are identified, the issue of parking, traffic calming and safe pedestrian access requires further study, and should be the next step in preservation planning for the Battle Green Area. This study is crucial in creating a safe, accessible blending of people and vehicles in this busy village center.

Accommodating multiple uses within a landscape that functions both as Lexington's town common and a national shrine is a complex weaving of people and place. The Plan reviews the existing Rules and Regulations governing activities on the Battle Green and makes recommendations for revising these rules to recognize the expanded definition of the Battle Green Area and to offer changes that clarify appropriate uses and their enforcement.

Finally, the Master Plan prioritizes the recommended changes for the Battle Green Area into short, medium and long-term goals. These priorities will help to organize and effectively implement the recommendations in this Master Plan. The Board of Selectmen retains the authority to reprioritize these recommendations and approve changes as proposed in this document. The Historic Districts Commission will need to approve all recommended design changes. Requests for funding and changes to budget and timeline will have to be brought to Town Meeting for public vote since they are the appropriating authority for all fiscal expenditures. By enhancing the beauty and meaning of this sacred space, reinforcing its symbolic and spiritual values, unifying its vocabulary, and enforcing its appropriate use, the Battle Green Area can claim its rightful place as one of our most important national shrines where American ideals and our definition of freedom were created, and as Lexington's Town Common where the everyday rights of its individual citizens is celebrated.

Background

As part of a state-wide town commons grant initiative, Walter Cudnohufsky Associates (2001) prepared a series of recommendations based on a public charrette designed to gather and focus citizen opinions about the Battle Green. The study was a result of a Historic Preservation Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management. Among the twenty-six town commons assessed during the state-wide initiative, Lexington's common was unique in that it "serves a local and national purpose."¹ The biggest challenge identified by the consultants was that "in addition to being a central public open space for town, the Battle Green is a national shrine, an important historical marker from the beginning of our nation."² According to the study, the biggest single issue needing attention was to identify and enforce appropriate uses for the Battle Green. Part of the study included a public charrette in which Lexington citizens identified the highest priority as "interpreting the site in a coherent, legible and consistent manner."³ The report also identified that the "lack of a broad-based coordinated stewardship of the site" creating 'turf wars,' and a fractured approach.⁴ The two solutions proposed by the study were to 1) create a comprehensive planning effort and 2) to create an oversight committee with the authority to coordinate all decisions and integrate community viewpoints. Their final report was received by the Board of Selectman on May 1, 2001.

In the years that followed, citizen-led interest groups continued the process of developing a Master Plan for the Battle Green. New signs were proposed for the Battle Green and many extraneous street and safety signs were removed. Monuments in Ye Olde Burying Ground were conserved, and conservation of monuments on the Battle Green is proposed for 2011. In 2009 the Selectmen authorized the Tourism Committee follow an approved planning process to work with all interested staff, committees and citizens to propose a comprehensive plan for approval. The master planning process was to be inclusive of every citizen of Lexington who wished to be consulted. As part of this effort, a citizen-led working group created a survey and gathered data and comments at multiple public hearings held throughout the community. This data and several public meetings throughout the Master Planning process shaped the decisions presented in this Master Plan.

In 2010 the Community Preservation Committee appropriated \$25,000 to have the Tourism Committee hire a consultant to prepare a master plan. Past Designs LLC was hired in September, 2010 to prepare the Master Plan.

The Goals of the Master Plan were to:

1. Decide what do we want the Battle Green to be?
 - a. Currently used for historic, recreational and as a meeting place. Are all those uses appropriate? If so, how do we balance those uses?
 - b. Should it only be a Historic representation of the Battle era?

- c. Do we see it as a Town common for multiple purposes?
 - d. Should it be a place that accommodates periods of special significance/layers of history?
 - e. Other suggestions. *[After much public input, the Master Plan recommends that the Battle Green continue as both a Town Common and an important historic site, with activities appropriate for both]*
2. Create a Master Plan that includes broad community input and contains immediate, intermediate and long-term visions. *[One public charrette and open working group hearings were held in preparation of this plan; the working group surveyed 324 individuals and held 19 information gathering sessions with Town organizations and events; A draft of the Master Plan was uploaded to the Town website for public review and comment; Prioritized goals for the Master Plan are included in the final pages of the Master Plan.]*
 3. Develop an annotated bibliography of all prior reports/resources on the Battle Green. *[This bibliography is included at the end of this report.]*
 4. Review the Battle Green Rules and Regulations and incorporate an updated set for approval as part of the Master Plan. *[A draft recommendation for Battle Green Area Rules and Regulations is included in this report but approval of the Master Plan does not include approval of the suggested changes to the Rules and Regulations; Approvals for any changes to the Rules and Regulations will be done by the Board of Selectmen under separate action.]*
 5. Identify a funding strategy including public and private funding sources to implement the plan. *[A proposed budget, based on recommendations found with the Master Plan has been prepared in this report as well as a list of potential funding sources. Changes to the report recommendations will necessitate changes to the budget; an annual Town Meeting appropriation will be required for any Town-funded portion of this Master Plan.]*
 6. Put in place a stewardship structure/oversight committee to ensure the plan is followed. *[The Master Plan includes a draft recommendation for a Battle Green Area Oversight Committee for consideration by the Board of Selectmen.]*
 7. Obtain approval of the Selectmen and possibly Town Meeting as the guiding document for decisions regarding the Battle Green. *[This Master Plan is being sent to the Board of Selectmen for approval. A funding appropriation for immediate needs has been proposed for FY 2012.]*⁵

The process was designed to include regular reports back to the Board of Selectmen, to be a broad and inclusive public process, to be a thorough review of prior work and reports on the Battle Green, and to look at models used by other communities.

Specifically, the Master Plan needed to address the following specific questions. The answers to these questions, found in the document which follows, are briefly addressed with the brackets [] following each question:

1. What area should define the Battle Green? (i.e. the Green itself, the area around the Tavern and Visitor Center? Ye Olde Burying Ground? The streets

- surrounding the Green?) [*The Master Plan has identified a boundary surrounding and including the Battle Green and its adjacent, publicly-owned areas.*]
2. Who will be the oversight committee to help the Selectmen ensure that the Master Plan, once approved, is followed? [*The Master Plan includes a draft charge for the Ad Hoc Battle Green Area Advisory Committee.*]
 3. What uses should be allowed on the Battle Green? [*The Master Plan includes draft revisions to the Battle Green Area Rules and Regulations for consideration by the Selectmen.*]
 4. Should traffic be diverted from the Battle Green Area? [*Traffic and parking issues in the Battle Green Area are complex, and could not be solved easily with the scope of the consultant's contract. A study of parking needs in Lexington Center was underway during the preparation of the Master Plan. The Master Plan recommends that this study be expanded to include the Battle Green Area and that parking and traffic issues be considered in their entirety as part of this larger, comprehensive traffic planning study.*]
 5. Are the so-called temporary traffic islands working, and if so, would they be made permanent? [*The traffic islands are working, but should be considered as part of the larger traffic and parking study identified in question 4.*]
 6. What issues should be considered regarding the Statue? (Should flowers continue in the water trough? Should the statue be moved back from the road?) [*The Master Plan recommends that the Hayes Fountain be restored to its original condition, including a working fountain/water trough, and that flowers be moved to the base of the statue and other appropriate areas of the Battle Green Area.*]
 7. Should parking be prohibited around the Battle Green? [*This issue is related to questions 4 and 5, and will be decided upon completion of the traffic and parking study. The Master Plan does recommend that if parking is change, no parking spaces be eliminated, and that adequate provisions are made for free parking spaces and bus parking within the downtown area within a short distance of the Battle Green.]*]
 8. Should the Belfry be moved back to the Battle Green? [*The Master Plan recommends that the Belfry remain in its present location.*]
 9. What about the Meeting House? Should that be represented on the Green through a replica, footprint or other means? [*The Master Plan recommends that the current monument is sufficient reference for the Meeting house. The Battle Green's role as a contemporary town common supersedes any effort to interpret it to a single historic event or historic era.*]

In addition to providing answers to these questions, the Master Plan needed to address issues related to the following [*these are addressed under their appropriate headings within the body of this document*]:

1. Design coherence, including recommendations for light standards, trees, landscaping, pathway materials, benches, monuments, memorials, and signage
2. Traffic plans
3. Appropriate uses, including games, picnics, tours

4. Tour buses
5. Parking around the Battle Green
6. Flagpole
7. Maintenance schedule
8. Other Tourist enhancements
9. Connectivity to adjacent areas, especially Lexington Center.

The recommendations that follow were designed to create a unified vision for the Battle Green for the next 5-10 years and provide the framework for what the area should look like in 50 years. Its successful implementation, however, will require the approval of the Selectmen design review by the Historic Districts Commission, the funding support of its citizenry, and its implementation by Lexington's staff.

This document is intended to serve as the next milestone in planning and stewardship of the Battle Green as the town looks to celebrate its 300th anniversary. Based on the Cudnohufsky report and its subsequent citizen input, the report seeks to take its citizen-directed findings and turn them into a plan of action that can appropriately guide the management and governance of the Battle Green into the next decades. The plan creates an effective vehicle for change, and for consistency in its stewardship, that recognizes that the Battle Green needs to continue to evolve to meet the needs of both its citizenry and its visitors while protecting its significance as a national landmark. Rather than creating a static preservation plan, this document is intended as a blueprint for stewardship that provides clear direction while remaining as dynamic as its subject and as impassioned as its overseers.

Introduction

Located at the physical and spiritual heart of Lexington, the Battle Green serves as both town common and national shrine. Events in 1775 transformed this meeting house green from commonly held pasture and muster ground to battleground and graveyard, catapulting its importance from a physical space to a national shrine. This green space is more than a public park, it is a landscape imbued with symbols of patriotism and the national ideals that were born here. As such, it is a sacred and spiritual space, reflecting the cultural values that shaped a nation. Yet the Battle Green serves an equally important role as Lexington's Town Common, a public space shared by all where monumental events of twenty-first century life are embraced.

Residents of Lexington understand the special significance of the Battle Green. Each community member can relate the moment when they were moved by the symbolism of what happened here. Yet their daily lives move in and around this special space as casually as in any other Massachusetts community. The Battle Green continues its role as a town common, though its significance requires a higher standard of care and scrutiny to ensure respect for the events that occurred here.

Lexington is founded on a call to community action. As such, its long tradition of an individual's right to express opinion and vote on town affairs has created a community that cares deeply about its public spaces, and the rights of individuals to shape its policies and standards. To this end, this master plan has been developed as a product of its citizenry and their opinions about both the physical appearance of the Battle Green and its long-term governance.

Today the Battle Green is a compilation of walks, plantings, greensward and monuments, blended in a complicated web of buildings and streets that define Lexington center. Monuments and memorial markers from 1799 to the present spring up through the greensward. Small picnics and casual games mix with historic tours. The surrounding buildings serve as house museums, visitor center, family homes, local churches, town library and public hall. Tourist buses and visitor cars pulse along the streets which edge the Battle Green, slowing frustrated citizens driving the course of their daily lives. It is this ebb and flow of daily life in Lexington which remains consistent throughout its history, though its pace has quickened with its rising population. This was a New England community founded on farming, family and church not unlike other Massachusetts towns when the events of 1775 changed the course of history and brought Lexington from obscurity to national focus.

The recommendations that follow were designed to create a unified vision for the Battle Green for the next 5-10 years and provide the framework for what the area should look like in 50 years. Its successful implementation, however, will require the approval of the Selectmen, endorsement by Town Meeting, the support of its citizenry, design review by the Historic Districts Commission, and its implementation by the Battle Green Advisory Committee.

The jurisdictional authority for the Battle Green is clearly defined. According to Town By-Law, the Board of Selectman governs its use, and enforces its rules and regulations. They hold the ultimate responsibility for its care and its management. Under State statute, the Historic Districts Commission controls its appearance (except for landscape plantings). The Historic Districts Commission's decisions take precedence over the views of the Board of Selectmen in matters under its jurisdiction.⁶ In addition, there are many groups and individuals who have an important stake in the Battle Green and the activities that occur there. The Tourism Committee is responsible for managing and promoting its visitation. The Cary Memorial Library and the Town Clerk's office house its archives. The Tree Committee works with the Superintendent of Grounds to manage the tree program. Other town committees serve their individual roles. The Chamber of Commerce runs the Visitor Center. The Lexington Historical Society manages Buckman Tavern through a long-term care arrangement with the Town of Lexington. The Lexington Minute Men, the British 10th Regiment of Foot, the Town Celebrations Committee, abutting homeowners and churches, and neighborhood associations are all deeply affected by decisions made about the Battle Green. The Town staff is responsible for design, installation and maintenance of its landscape, its roads, and its infrastructure. Managed by committee, with policies shaped by its citizenry, this national shrine is a complex piece of real estate.

The Battle Green and its surrounding historic properties is a very special place, different from other public parks and recreational fields in Lexington. As such, some activities and events might not be as appropriate here as they are in other public open spaces. Building a cohesive and coordinated design standard for this area, rooted in its historic landscape vocabulary, can help to visually define this area and set it apart from other parks. Enforcing its rules and regulations will enforce its proper use and respect.

The chapters which follow guide the coordinated stewardship of this important resource, and the area that surrounds it, identifying specific improvements to sensitively furnish, interpret and protect the Battle Green and its users. Included are specific recommendations for site improvements, including proposed treatments for lighting, interpretation, path surfaces, parking, pedestrian access, monument preservation and vegetation management designed to meet the needs of the Battle Green Area for the near future. To retain its vibrancy and its relevance over the long term, the chapters that follow provide guidance for stewardship. This document is a blueprint for change; its effectiveness will be measured by its stewardship by the Board of Selectmen, its funding by Town Meeting and outside sources, and its design review by the Historic Districts Commission.



Fence, Ye Olde Burying Ground, Lexington

Boundaries

One of the first tasks given to the Working Group was to define the limits and scope of the area to be covered by the Battle Green Master Plan. The Battle Green and the adjacent historic properties that contribute to its enhancement need protection. The Battle Green has been defined by several different boundaries in the past.

The National Landmark designation (1962) included only the land found within the boundaries of Bedford Street, Massachusetts Avenue and Harrington Road.⁷ The Lexington Battle Green National Register District (1976) expanded the Landmark boundaries to include the properties immediately adjacent to the Battle Green, and did not include Belfry Hill.⁸ By 2008, the Town of Lexington Historic Districts had expanded the Battle Green Historic District to include properties from

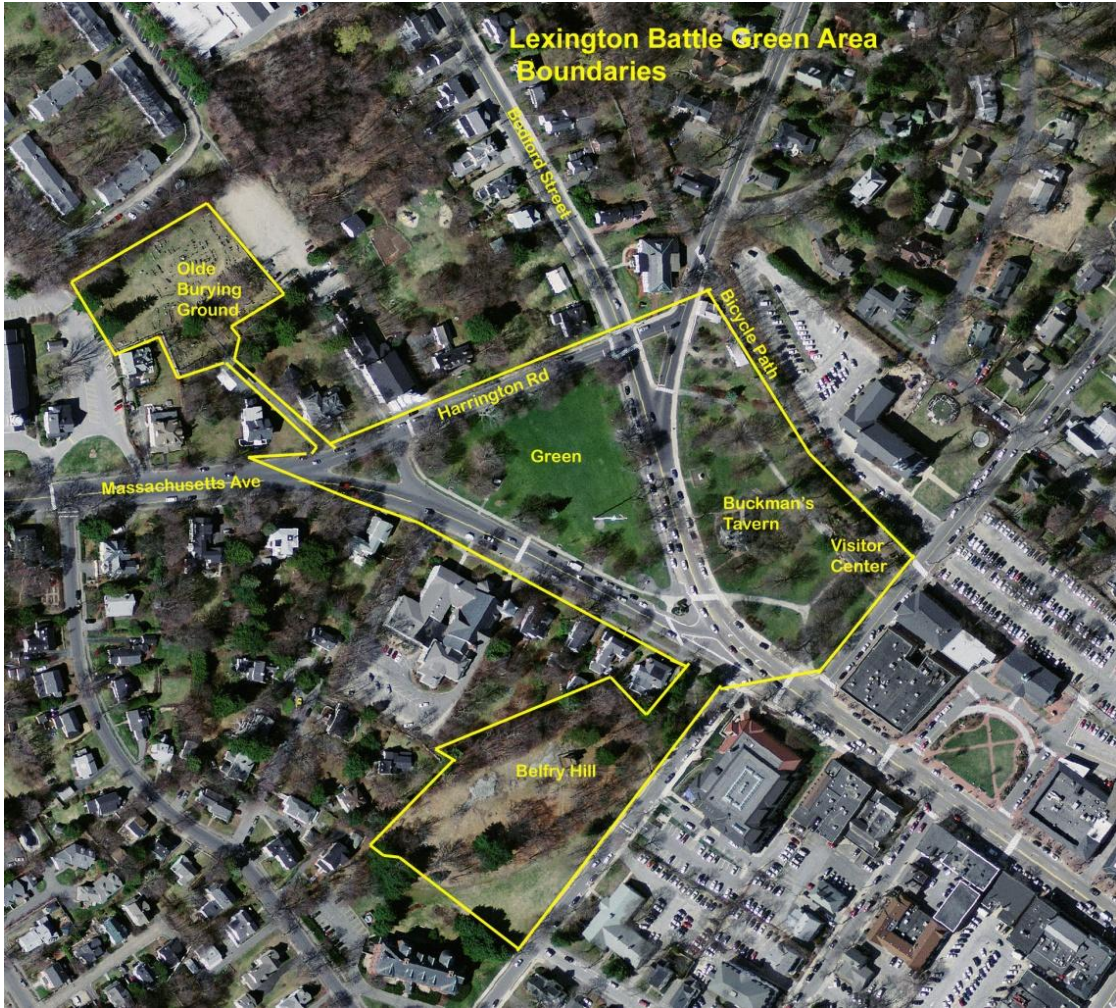
Worthen Road to Winthrop Road along the spine of Massachusetts Avenue and extending a short distance down Hancock Street, Bedford Road, and other adjacent streets, including Belfry Hill. Other historic districts were designated along Massachusetts Avenue, extending the historic district designations east to the vicinity of Hillside Avenue.⁹

Today visitors are encouraged to explore the Battle Green Area from the Visitor Center to Ye Olde Burying Ground to Belfry Hill, to tour the property with the Battle Green Guides and with the Liberty Ride® and to visit the three historic houses operated by the Lexington Historical Society: Buckman Tavern, the Hancock-Clarke House (36 Hancock Street) and nearby Munroe Tavern (1332 Massachusetts Avenue). (Buckman Tavern is owned by the Town of Lexington and operated by the Lexington Historical Society; the other two properties are owned and operated by the Lexington Historical Society). Citizens of Lexington re-enact the April 19, 1775 Battle and hold other appropriate ceremonies and events here, all carefully monitored by the Selectmen to ensure respect for its national significance. As land held for the common good, the Battle Green continues to serve as the site where members of the community can voice their opinions about government policies and regulations, a sacred spot where the voice of the people is carried to those in charge. Today the Battle Green is a complex blend of history, sanctity and public voice.

After careful deliberation and public comment, we recommend that the boundaries of the Battle Green Area be defined by historic context and visitor experience. Starting at the corner of Clarke Street and Massachusetts Avenue, the boundaries would run as follows:

- Southwest down Clarke Street to the property boundary of Belfry Hill
- Encircling all of Belfry Hill, following the property line from Clarke Street back to its intersection with Massachusetts Avenue
- Northwest along the residential side of Massachusetts Avenue, including the street, sidewalk and right of way along Massachusetts Avenue
- Crossing Massachusetts Avenue and following the street, sidewalk and right of way at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Harrington Road
- Turning down the lane to Ye Olde Burying Ground
- Encircling all of Ye Olde Burying Ground, following the property line around the entire property and returning up the entrance lane to Harrington Road
- Northeast along the residential side of Harrington Road including the street, sidewalk and right of way along Harrington Road
- Crossing Bedford Street and Hancock Street, including the street, sidewalk and right of way at the intersection of Harrington Road, Bedford Street and Hancock Street
- Turning southeast off Hancock Street and following the western edge of the Bicycle Path from Hancock Street to Meriam Street, including all of the town-owned land between the Bicycle Path and Bedford Street
- Turning southwest along the Visitor Center side of Meriam Street to its intersection with Massachusetts Avenue and across Massachusetts Avenue to the corner of Clarke Street at the place of beginning

These boundaries include the Battle Green itself, the roads bordering the Battle Green (Harrington Road, Bedford Street and Massachusetts Avenue), Belfry Hill, Ye Olde Burying Ground and the land located between the bike path, and Bedford, Hancock and Meriam Streets including Buckman Tavern and the Visitor Center. The Battle Green Area boundaries do not include the private properties, but do include all town-owned property adjacent to the Battle Green. The boundaries were carefully drawn to include the intersections which mark the gateways to the Battle Green (Harrington Rd/ Massachusetts Ave; Harrington Rd/ Bedford Street; Massachusetts Ave/ Bedford Street).



Master Plan Boundaries, Lexington Battle Green, 2010

Historic Background

Land and Buildings

Lexington was settled in the mid 1660's by Cambridge, Massachusetts residents hoping to farm the land known as "Cambridge Farms." When residents became frustrated with the long trip to Cambridge for Sunday meeting, the community petitioned the General Court for their own parish. A small meeting house was built at the junction of the roads to Bedford and Concord (on the present Battle Green) in 1692 and the Town of Lexington was incorporated in 1713. As the town grew, common land was purchased adjacent to the meeting house (1.5 acres in 1711, and 1 acre in 1722) to expand the building which served as public meeting house and worship space, to construct a school, and to use the Common for public purposes.¹⁰

In December, 1773 the Lexington Militia was formed and adopted as its oath the pledge still sworn by today's company and written by the Rev. Jonas Clark, the Town Pastor: "...We trust in God that, should the state of our affairs require it, we shall be ready to sacrifice our estates and everything dear in life, yea, and life itself in support of the common cause." Near the Common, the parson's house, a tavern, burial ground, and residential houses began to shape the town center. On April 19, 1775 the Common became the site of conflict between British soldiers and colonial militia, launching the Revolutionary War. Throughout the 19th century land subdivision and residential and commercial development continued around the common, creating a dense, compact town center.



Artist's rendition, Battle of Lexington, from an early 20th century postcard

In 1761, Isaac Stone presented a four hundred pound bell to the town. A belfry was constructed on the hill belonging to Jonas Munroe (today's Belfry Hill). The belfry was moved to the common in 1767 (it was located in two different spots on the common during its tenure there) where it summoned the militia to the Common on April 19, 1775. When the new meeting house was erected in 1794, the Belfry was sold to the Parker

family and moved to their farm in South Lexington. They used it as a woodworking shop. The meeting house was destroyed by fire in 1846. The new church, constructed in 1847, was located on a new site overlooking the Common (First Parish Church). The earlier meeting house foundation was filled and seeded to lawn. As the town evolved, other religious institutions were established in Lexington. Today five churches are visible from the Common and Belfry Hill.

On April 18, 1891 the belfry was given to the Lexington Historical Society and placed back on Jonas Munroe's old hill, where it was subsequently called "Belfry Hill." The belfry was destroyed in the gale of 1909. An exact replica was built in 1910, and the Daughters of the American Revolution placed a plaque on the common commemorating the belfry's location on the common. The bell currently hanging in the Belfry is a 19th century bell; no one seems to know what happened to the original Isaac Stone bell.¹¹

Throughout much of the 19th century the battle site continued to function as a New England traditional town common – an ill-organized public space of casual paths and pasture. In the early nineteenth century, it is described with a hollow oak stump in its center. On November 6, 1820 the town committee reported that "it is 66 ½ rods [1,097 feet] around the Common, and that a fence will cost \$99.75."¹²

In 1806 a new road to Bedford was laid out, separating a triangular piece of land off the Common to form a grassy island where the present Bedford Street and Hancock Street intersect.¹³

In January, 1840, the town voted to fence the Common with stone posts and wooden rails at a cost of \$350. In 1847, when the First Parish Society built their new church and vacated the Common, the town voted to "fence, level and otherwise ornament the Common."¹⁴ Historic images from the eighteenth and nineteenth century illustrate the Common as a tree-edged open pasture ringed by stone post and wooden rail fence. At the end of the century, the Common reverted from pasture to hayfield; the hay was auctioned off each year to a lucky town resident.

The first photograph for the Common, an image dated 1865, shows the haying operation; the Common continued to be ringed by its granite post and wooden two-rail fence. Massive elms shaded the streets along the edge of the Common.



Lexington Town Common, c. 1865 (Lexington Historical Society)



Lexington Common, c. 1875 (Lexington Historical Society)

Sarah Gould, whose family moved to Lexington in 1847, remembered the two-rail fence and “where the fountain is now there were thirteen stone posts and we used to jump from one to another.”¹⁵ She described the two-rail fence around the Common, and remembered the cellar hole of the meeting house where she and her siblings “played on the steps going into it” before it was regraded. (The c.1875 image (previous page) illustrates these features).

Lexington’s “town common” took on new meaning after 1875 when the significance of the April 19th battle was celebrated as part of the country’s Centennial. The hundreds of spectators that came to see President Grant and other dignitaries recognized the hundredth anniversary of the Battle catapulted the Common into a new era of sacred park space. Monuments and memorials sprang up throughout the Common, beginning with the Parker Boulder, dedicated in 1884.¹⁶ The fence was removed, the grass manicured, and the massive American elms continued to ring the greensward, now shading the village green instead of the Common pasture.

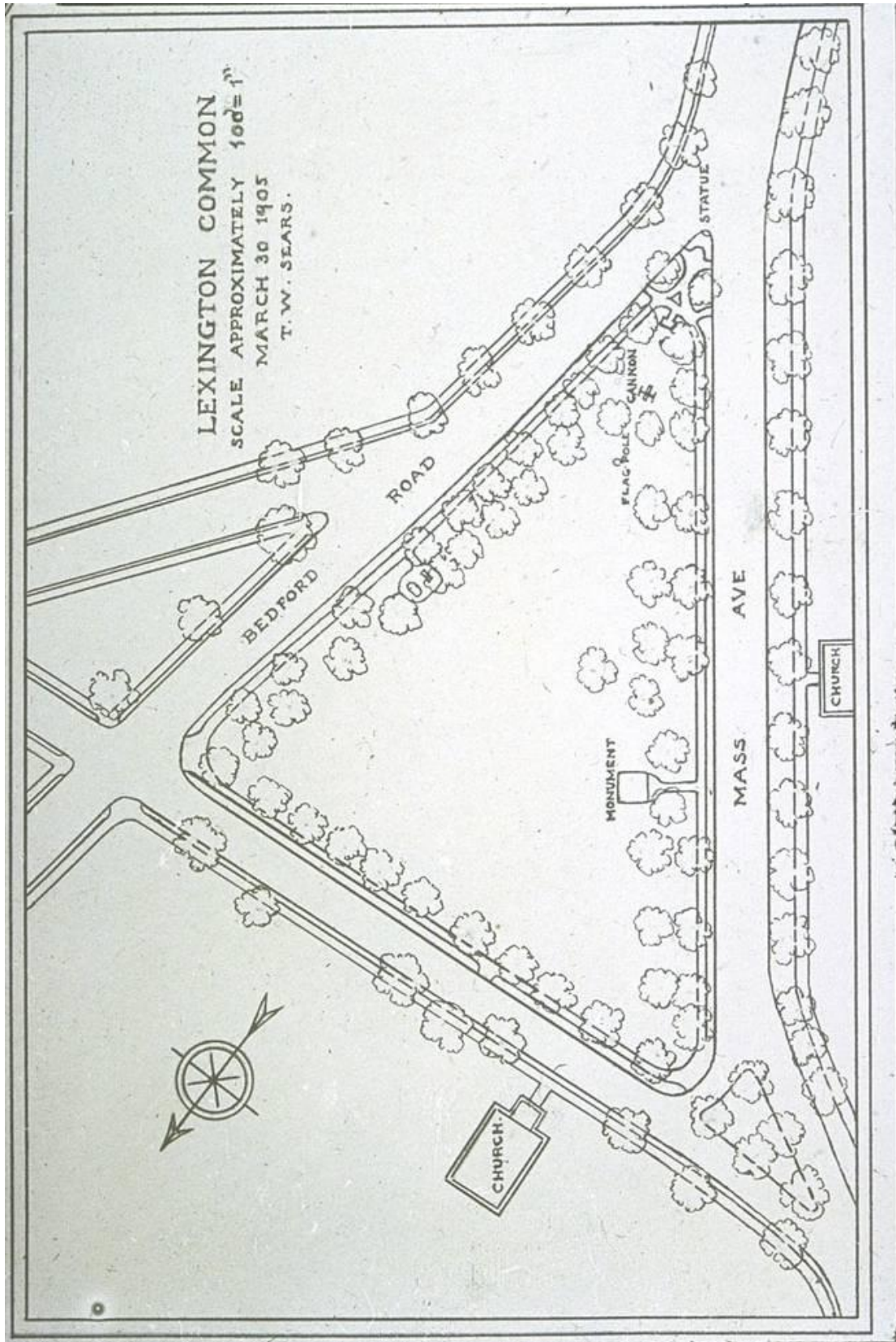
The popularization of the name “Battle Green” did not occur until after World War I. The first documented date for this term is April 9, 1925 when an article in the *Christian Science Monitor* described the events surrounding the 150th anniversary of the Battle.¹⁷ The intent of the Battle Green as a commemorative space rather than a pasture, however, was transformed fifty years earlier by the 1875 Centennial celebration and the installation of the commemorative monuments that followed.



Lexington Common, late 1880's (Lexington Historical Society)

In 1905 Boston architect Willard Thomas Sears (1837-1920) visited the Lexington Common, took several photographs of the site, and developed a simple layout plan for the Common, but it is unclear for what purpose. The plan clearly indicates the layout of trees on the Common and its adjacent roads, and notes the location of flagpole, cannon and the sidewalk arrangement with its narrow tree belt along both sides of Massachusetts Avenue and Bedford Street.¹⁸

Sears took a series of photographs at the time he prepared this plan (see following pages).¹⁹ His photographs, offer substantial documentation for the landscape details on the Common during its formative years as a memorialized space. His interest in Lexington's Common is significant in that Sears was the architect for the Pilgrim's Monument in Provincetown as well as other significant turn-of-the-century monuments and memorials in addition to his designs for some of Boston's best-known late nineteenth century buildings.



Lexington Common, plan by Thomas Willard Sears, 1905 (Courtesy, Library of Congress)



Lexington Common, 1905 (Thomas Willard Sears courtesy, Library of Congress)



Lexington Common, 1905 (Thomas Willard Sears courtesy, Library of Congress)



Lexington Common, 1905 (Thomas Willard Sears courtesy, Library of Congress)



Lexington Common, Aerial, 1905 (Thomas Willard Sears courtesy, Library of Congress)

The photographs illustrate the park-like quality of the Common with its broad dirt streets rutted with streetcar rails and no visible traffic. A double row of American elms ring the Common. A green belt (tree belt) separates the sidewalks from the adjacent roadways. The Minute Man Statue, the flagpole, one iron cannon, the Battle Monument, Meeting House Monument and the Parker Boulder with its accompanying bench are the only furnishings.

Recognizing the significance of the Common, in 1917 land-owners on Massachusetts Avenue and Elm Avenue (Harrington Road) adjacent to the Common accepted voluntary restrictions on their properties.²⁰ Each homeowner and the two churches agreed to the dimensional frontages approved in the document, and agreed to neither subdivide nor build any other buildings on the lots surrounding the Common. They also agreed to a 20' setback for any buildings which might have to replace a building destroyed by fire. These restrictions formed the basis for later protective measures, including the Historic District which currently regulates architectural changes within the Battle Green Historic District.

Roads and Traffic

The roads to Bedford and Concord (now Bedford Street and Massachusetts Avenue) linked Lexington to its neighboring communities throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Harrington Road (formerly Elm Street), a private road, was constructed before 1794 and framed the northwest side of the Common. In 1807 the 'Swamp Road' was constructed (present Bedford Street) as a more direct route to Bedford to replace the more circuitous route down (present) Hancock Street.²¹

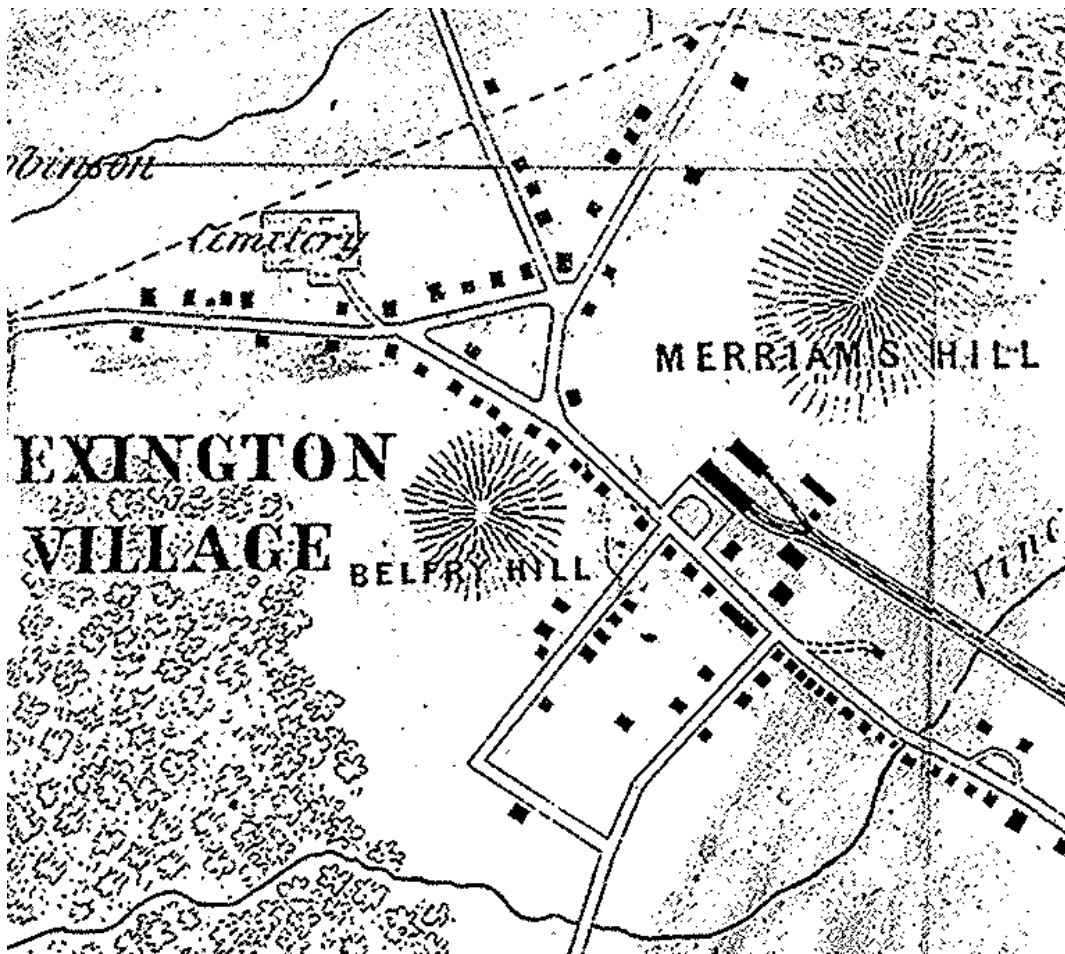
In 1888, the Town voted to widen Massachusetts Avenue.²² In 1914-15, Bedford Street was widened. The road widening reduced the dimensions of the Common and, with Harrington Road, began to separate the Common from its surrounding structures.²³ Continued subdivision and development created smaller roads off Bedford Street and Concord Road which all fed into Lexington's main highways. By the mid-nineteenth century Lexington was connected to Boston by a train rail that paralleled Bedford Street behind the town center. A station was constructed a short distance from the Common adding to the traffic congestion. As Lexington continued to suburbanize in the twentieth century, and a major connection to Route 128 was built off Bedford Road by mid century, the Common sat at the hub of Lexington's major transportation networks. In the late twentieth century the out-of-service rail line was converted into a public bike path, forming its own recreational link between the town center and its surrounding residential neighborhoods.

Traffic congestion and circulation around the Battle Green is chaotic at best. Cross walks and traffic islands attempt to protect Battle Green visitors from the bustle of busy roadways. In the 1990's, two 'temporary' traffic islands and a series of pedestrian bump-outs were installed to protect visitors photographing the Minute Man Statue and crossing

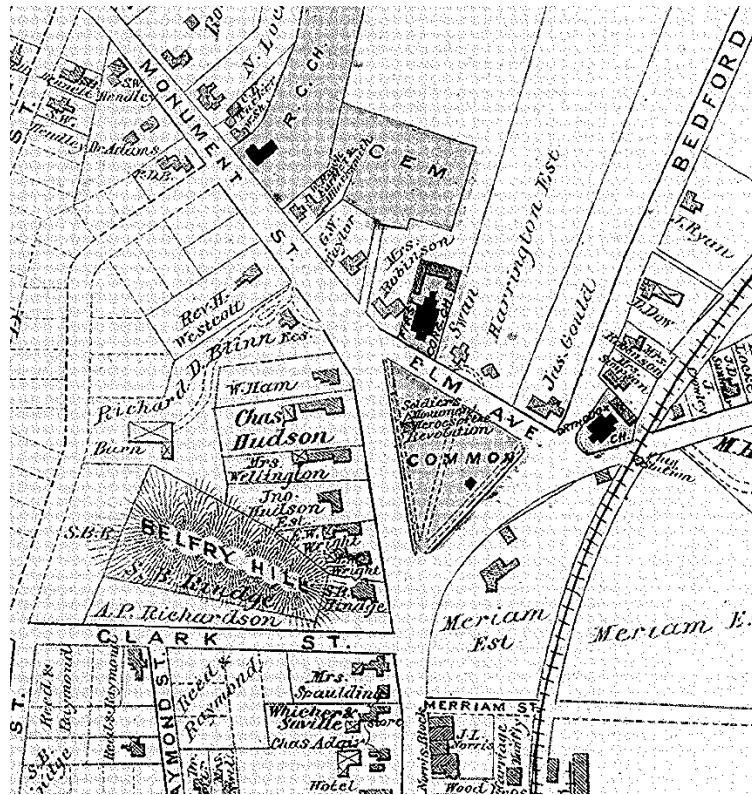
the roadways. These temporary measures are still in situ, awaiting a more thorough traffic and parking study and subsequent recommendations.

Harrington Road has been closed to traffic for periods of time and made one-way for through traffic at others in an effort to safely manage traffic and people at key intersections surrounding the Battle Green. Parking spaces for tour buses and family cars, which currently surround the Battle Green, are a continued source of discussion. It is the significance of the Battle Green which has created the popular tourist destination and its demand for public parking. How that parking is managed in a manner that meets demand and respects the significance of the Battle Green is a critical next step in the planning process.

The maps that follow illustrate Lexington's transition from hamlet to bustling village in the 19th century.



1853 Map of Lexington Center (Walling)



1875 Map, Lexington Center (Beers)



1906 Map, Lexington Center (Geo. Walker & Co.)

Monuments and Memorials

The Revolutionary War Monument (also known as the Battle Monument and the Obelisk) was erected in 1799 in memory of the Lexington men who fought and died in the Battle in 1775. This is the oldest war memorial in the country. When the remains of the slain were transferred from a common grave in Ye Olde Burying Ground to a tomb at the rear of the monument in 1835, the Common began its transition from common land to consecrated ground. The simple iron fence surrounding the monument was constructed at the same time (1835). The Battle Monument continued as the sole monument on the Battle Green until the turn of the twentieth century, when commemorative monuments and plaques erupted on the Battle Green, each memorializing some significant aspect of the Battle.²⁴

In 1884, the Town appropriated \$1500 to erect a series of monuments commemorating the Battle, including the Line of Battle boulder (also known as the Parker Boulder), marking the anchor of the militia's line on April 19 and paying tribute to the undocumented quote by Captain Parker inspiring the militia to "Stand your ground. Don't fire unless fired upon, but if they mean to have a war let it begin here." The rough granite stone was hauled from nearby Lexington woods and set on a firmly based concrete foundation. The Meetinghouses Marker was erected in 1884 as part of this same appropriation, commemorating the three meeting houses and their pastors. This marker was designed in the shape of a reading desk with a closed book upon it out of a single block of Jonesboro granite and set on a block of Fox Island granite.²⁵

In 1898-1900, Boston sculptor H.H. Kitson created a bronze statue tribute to Capt. John Parker atop a fieldstone watering trough/fountain "for men, horses, cattle and dogs," later known as the Hayes Memorial Fountain.²⁶ When originally installed, the fountain and statue were protected along the street edge by a semi-circle of vertical granite posts (see c. 1905 photographs). Shrubs backed the fountain, set in a small planting bed at the base of the stone structure. The fountain and statue were funded by a bequest from Francis B. Hayes. When the fountain became inoperable, The Town of Lexington, and later (1990) the Morning Study Group of the Lexington Field & Garden Club, planted and maintained perennials in the bowl of the fountain.²⁷

Nearby, a flagpole was erected mid-way down the Common. A flagpole was in place by 1906 when the Sears photographs were taken. In 1965, a U.S. Congressional Act was signed allowing the flag to fly under illumination 24 hours a day – one of only eleven in the country so honored. The wooden flagpole was struck by lightning and burned in the early 1970's. A new metal flagpole with its own lighting system was installed in 1976. Plaques at the base of the flagpole were added in the 1960's which commemorate the National Historic Landmark designation (1962), the U.S. Congressional act to fly the flag twenty-four hours a day (1965), and the flagpole as a memorial to the American Bicentennial (1976).²⁸

In 1910 the Daughters of the American Revolution dedicated the monument marking the site of the old Belfry that rang to warn the militia of the approaching British.²⁹ After 1919, trees were planted around the Battle Green and marked with plaques honoring the memory of fallen World War I soldiers.

Every war and every centennial celebration marked another opportunity to commemorate Lexington's lost heroes and significant anniversary celebrations of the Battle. In 1949 a large stone memorial was erected across Bedford Street in tribute to the Lexington Minute Men of 1775, designed by artist Bashka Paeff.³⁰ Nearby other monuments were erected in the late twentieth century: The World War II Monument pays tribute to those who served and the U.S.S. Lexington Memorial (1988) is dedicated to the five ships named after Lexington and those who served on board. In 2008 the Prince Estabrook marker was dedicated in front of Buckman Tavern. The memorial commemorates Prince Estabrook and the other black soldiers who died during the American Revolution.

In addition to these memorials, Ye Olde Burying Ground is filled with gravestones marking the burial site of Lexington's earliest citizens, from 1690 to the present. Adjacent to the Burying Ground, a recently installed memorial garden behind First Parish Church is dedicated to the memory of church members.

Name

An April 9, 1925 article in the Christian Science Monitor describing the 150th anniversary celebration of the Battle is the first documented date found thus far for the term "Battle Green." The name transition is significant, and the term "Battle Green" is still in use today as the preferred nomenclature for the property. As Battle Green, this acreage is first and foremost recognized for its role in the American Revolution, elevating its significance far above its role as Lexington's Town Common. This distinction is a crucial element of this Master Plan. Town residents hope that any physical changes made to the Battle Green will reinforce its differences to other park spaces in Lexington. As the Battle Green, active recreation is inappropriate. As the Battle Green, the Selectmen carefully monitor activities and events, including demonstrations, to ensure that they respect the significance of this national shrine. The Battle Green IS a national shrine. As such, its appearance, its level of maintenance, and its stewardship program need to collectively set this property apart and above other public open spaces in Lexington.

Symbolism

Today the Battle Green includes busy roadways, on-street parking, historic structures, monuments, memorials, graves, vegetation, a variety of walkways, open lawns, rustic, ledge-strewn hilltops, fire hydrants, trash cans, flagpoles, interpretive signs, electrical boxes, underground sprinklers, and, most importantly, people. From the broadest sweep of lawn to the minutest of site furnishings, the Battle Green is a physical space that represents a national ideal – the right for every individual to take a stand for what they believe is right. This gateway to freedom, however, is more than an important battlefield. It still serves as common ground for the citizens of Lexington. Balancing visitor and

resident use is a delicate balance with Battle Green as its fulcrum. Developing a plan which provides appropriate stewardship for the landscape and its furnishings must respect the spirit of April 19, 1775 and the ideal that the battle represents while accommodating the needs of today's Lexington citizens.

Connections to Other Historic Sites

Responsible planning is the first step in responsible stewardship. Though it is easy to focus solely on the Battle Green, we must recognize that this important space is linked to a larger area of adjacent historic buildings and sites, included within the boundaries of the Battle Green Area. This comprehensive planning effort can hopefully serve as a model, reaching beyond its boundaries to inform decisions concerning design standards and stewardship of Lexington's other historic sites and its busy downtown district.

The Town of Lexington is taking a lead role in planning for the corridor of historic interpretation that runs from Boston to Arlington, Lexington, Concord and Lincoln. In 2010 the Battle Road Scenic Byway Working Group was formed to create a larger, regional plan for tourism, land use and transportation recommendations, creating a scenic byway to preserve and promote the historic route marched by the British in 1775. This "Road to Revolutions" is developing corridor management recommendations. Work proposed for the Battle Green Area will work in concert with these regional design standards. As both efforts move forward, effective leadership by the Town of Lexington will help to guide both local and regional efforts toward a more cohesive goal.



Character Defining Features

The Battle Green has two periods of significant change: the day of the Battle (April 19, 1775), and the early 20th century movement to memorialize that historic day (1898-1949). Change can be dramatic, or consist of a slowly evolving series of little decisions. Surrounding these two key periods, the Battle Green has seen other changes as daily life within the community has evolved, but these two periods shaped the significance and the current appearance of the Battle Green more dramatically than other, smaller changes. Within these two periods, there are features or events that define their significance. These features can help us to identify the elements which should be preserved and those elements that might be altered – the ‘static’ and the ‘variable’ elements within the landscape.

Character defining elements are treated differently than features which may change their location, their design standards, and even their existence on the Battle Green. Character defining elements are those features that, if they were missing, would dramatically alter the significance of the Battle Green. In other words, “What elements define the Battle Green and are an integral part of its history?” Understanding these features allows us to put them in context, and to develop stewardship strategies that support their role within the larger landscape. This process also identifies those elements (that are not “character defining”) that can be changed, removed or altered without affecting the integrity of the Battle Green.

Cultural values give meaning and significance to the Battle Green far beyond its physical appearance. They give meaning to the Battle Green not simply as a ‘place’ but as an ‘ideal’ – a definable space that is symbolic of a larger principle. These cultural values inform our decisions about appropriate or inappropriate uses for the Battle Green, and shape the ‘spirit of place’ or the ‘genus loci’ that define the Battle Green as a national shrine. We can creatively inspire or reinforce this meaning in some of our planning choices. For instance, casting light on the Minute Man Statue, the flag, and the church steeple at night emphasize these elements as representative or symbolic of a larger ideal. The juxtaposition of these elements creates context and deeper meaning, linking disparate themes into a more thought-provoking experience.

The following paragraphs attempt to categorize the Battle Green’s individual features, and begin to identify those elements which offer opportunities for change, and those elements which offer opportunities for enhancement. More than simply an exercise in planning, this list can help us to identify the static and the variable in our choices for the Battle Green.

Character Defining Features, April 19, 1775:

- The Common space shaped by the merging of Bedford Street and Concord Road (Massachusetts Avenue)
- Bedford Street
- Concord Road (Massachusetts Avenue)
- Harrington Road (originally a private way)
- ‘Witness’ houses
- Buckman Tavern
- Ye Olde Burying Ground
- (Some) lot subdivisions
- (Some) streets laid out by 1775
- Revolutionary War Battle Monument (though this was erected in 1799 it is the first and oldest monument to the Battle and its victims)
- Topography
- Open space /hayfield (this was not woodland at the time of the Battle)
- Archaeological (underground) remains
- The presence of a meeting house or public gathering space (though the meeting house is no longer extant, the role of church and family at the time of the Battle is still a theme represented by the houses and churches currently present on the Battle Green)
- Purpose – place of assembly
- Purpose – common land

Character Defining Features, 1884-1949:

- Memorial trees with plaques
- Trees defining perimeter of Battle Green
- Mown lawn
- Post and rail fence (1847-1890’s)
- Minute Man Statue and Hayes Memorial Fountain
- Belfry Boulder
- Old Belfry and Belfry Hill
- Parker Boulder
- Meeting Houses Memorial
- Lexington Minute Man Memorial
- Churches and 19th century houses surrounding Battle Green
- (Some) lot subdivisions
- Voluntary property restrictions
- Normal School
- Rail line
- Fences surrounding some monuments
- (Some) paths
- Flagpole & Flag

- View – Minute Man Statue across Battle Green to Battle Monument and First Parish Church
- View - Minute Man Statue down Massachusetts Avenue
- View - Belfry Hill overlook to Battle Green, and surrounding community

Other Character-Defining Features (post 1949)

- U.S.S. Lexington Memorial
- World War II Memorial
- Metal Flagpole and 24-hour light flag
- Prince Estabrook Memorial

Features that could potentially be altered or changed:

- Width of Massachusetts Avenue and Bedford Street (but do not encroach any further into common)
- Height of lawns and frequency of mowing
- Species and number of trees surrounding the Battle Green (as long as Battle Green is predominantly open space in center)
- Shrubberies, annual plantings and other ornamental or decorative plantings
- Light fixtures
- Trash cans
- Benches
- Sidewalks and Paths (material, width, locations)
- Curbs and street edges
- Fencing
- (some) memorials or markers
- Interpretive signage
- Drinking fountain
- Directional signage
- Crosswalks
- Parking
- Re-opening of Hayes Fountain

Guiding Principles

As part of the citizen input phase in developing this Master Plan, citizens were asked their view of the Battle Green.³¹ Many citizens saw the Battle Green as a singularly important historic site on par with Williamsburg, Valley Forge and Gettysburg. The responses were overwhelming in favor of:

- Recognizing the Battle Green as a town common that accommodates layers of history
- Recognizing that the Battle Green is a sacred place significant for the events of April 19, 1775.
- Governing the Battle Green as a space used for limited (appropriate) purposes.
- Expanding the definition of the Battle Green Area to include Ye Olde Burying Ground, Belfry Hill, Buckman Tavern, the Visitor Center, and the buildings, land and right of ways immediately adjacent to the Battle Green.
- Managing parking and traffic, but not diverting traffic away from the Battle Green
- Retaining the current size and configuration of the Battle Green.
- Continuing the use of memorial trees for war veterans (only in Zone A) and veterans and significant citizens (in Zone B) as approved by the Board of Selectmen.



Issues for the Master Plan

The 2001 Cudnohufsky report recognized that the Battle Green was suffering from a lack of an overall, cohesive plan which addressed the preservation, management and maintenance of the site. The consulting team also recommended that though there were many committees and individuals responsible for specific aspects of the property, there was not an overall group which the community could entrust with stewarding a cohesive vision for the property. “Until there is one group held responsible for the Battle Green in whom the larger community trusts, the character-defining features of the site will continue to deteriorate, the educational experience will be thwarted, and the impact of tourism will continue to erode the site.”³²

The consulting team identified a series of key issues and strategies which might help to resolve these issues and begin the process of building that collective vision. In summary, their recommendations were:

1. Create a comprehensive planning effort, including one oversight committee with the authority to coordinate all decisions, integrate community viewpoints, and develop a broad-based, coordinated stewardship of the Battle Green.
2. Develop an interpretive program that enforces the message about the Battle Green, including its history and its symbolism, including a comprehensive thematic logo, appropriate signage, and expanded interpretive program that does not obscure the key features of the Battle Green.
3. Link the Battle Green to surrounding historic resources and support the integrity of all the historic resources surrounding the Battle Green (and perhaps even within the larger historic district(s)).
4. Create an overall plan for the Minute Man Statue, including a safe plan for visitor photography, and standards and guidelines for plantings and/or preservation of the statue that are appropriate and fit within the historic context.
5. Work with a conservator to restore and maintain the burial site and its monument.
6. Develop a policy and program for the site to accommodate multiple uses by residents which respects the Battle Green as a national shrine, including guidelines for appropriate use.
7. Unify design of site furnishings to develop a coherent standard for benches, lighting and other features.
8. Design paving for walks to accommodate heavy use in an historically appropriate manner.
9. Locate off-site parking for buses and create an expanded tour for the Battle Green Area including Belfry Hill, Ye Olde Burying Ground, and the historic buildings and visitor center.
10. Develop a plan for car parking on the streets surrounding the Battle Green.
11. Create safe pedestrian access between the Battle Green and its surrounding historic elements.³³

Since the publication of the report, some recommendations have been enacted:

- Monuments in the Burying Ground have been conserved.
- CPA fund appropriation has been requested to conserve the Minute Man Statue and other Battle Green monuments in 2011.
- A thematic logo and sign standard were developed to identify historic sites and buildings open to the public. The signage program is underway.
- The Selectmen appointed the Tourism Committee to work with all interested staff, committees and citizens to integrate community viewpoints into a comprehensive plan for the Battle Green Area and its stewardship, including identifying an oversight committee responsible for the “big picture” of the Battle Green Area.

Efforts to continue these projects and to address the other recommendations are outlined in the pages that follow. The suggestions recommended in these pages attempt to form a collective vision for the future and create a blueprint for change in the Battle Green Area. Design standards and other recommendations in this report will still require formal review, public hearings, and final approvals by the appropriate governing bodies. This Master Plan, , provide the template against which future approvals should be measured. Continued consistency in building a unified vision will require careful oversight of each decision and its role within the ‘big picture’ presented in the Master Plan – a big picture constructed from small details.

Recommendation #1: Comprehensive Planning and Advisory Committee

The ultimate authority for the Battle Green rests with the Town Selectmen. There was strong support for keeping the final authority for oversight with the Board of Selectmen for several reasons, but most importantly because the Battle Green belongs to the citizens of Lexington and the Selectmen are accountable to the citizens. Because their meetings are televised and well publicized, issues and decisions regarding the Battle Green will have the benefit of full disclosure and maximum exposure to the public. However, since the Board of Selectmen has little time to pro-actively plan for the Battle Green, the appointment of a **Battle Green Area Advisory Committee** is recommended.

A small Committee (5-7 members), appointed by the Selectmen, would be responsible for furthering the goals of this Master Plan and communicating information to all boards, committees and staff that are involved in aspects of the Battle Green Area. All recommendations or decisions made by the Battle Green Area Advisory Committee will be brought to the Board of Selectmen and the Historic Districts Commission, where appropriate, for public hearing and discussion prior to any action. The preliminary list (in alphabetical order) of committees and staff that hold some stake in aspects of the Battle Green Area includes:

Staff/Departments:

- Cary Memorial Library
- Planning
- Police
- Public Works
- Town Manager

Town Boards and Committees:

- Design Advisory Committee
- Historic Districts Commission
- Lexington Center Committee
- Planning Board
- Selectmen
- Sidewalk Committee
- Town Celebrations Committee
- Tourism Committee
- Traffic Safety Advisory Committee
- Tree Committee

Community Associations:

- Battle Road Scenic Byway Committee
- Belfry Hill Association
- Chamber of Commerce
- First Parish Church

- Hancock Congregational Church
- His Majesty's 10th Regiment of Foot
- Lexington Field and Garden Club
- Lexington Historical Society
- Lexington Minute Men
- Lexington Retailers Association
- Meriam Hill Association

The Battle Green Area Advisory Committee will meet as required. The Committee will serve as a driving force to the Board of Selectmen to provide information-sharing and coordinate other key boards and committees. Proposals and issues which impact the appearance, use or stewardship of features in the Battle Green Area will come before the Committee for recommendation before going to the Board of Selectmen .

Action Items:

1. Gather potential participant groups and individuals.
2. Review the draft description and finalize the details of the Committee's charge, structure, communication and reporting processes.
3. Selectmen approve Committee structure, charge and membership.
4. Committee meets to review recommendations in this master plan and to frame a phased implementation program.
5. Committee oversees implementation program, making sure the proper votes and approvals required by other boards and committees are obtained.
6. Committee meets regularly to review work of other town committees as it relates to the Battle Green and to coordinate all efforts.
7. Committee makes recommendations to the Board of Selectmen and Historic Districts Commission before any vote regarding the Battle Green.

As part of the charge from the Board of Selectmen, this draft for a Battle Green Advisory Committee is a template for the Selectmen's consideration. The Cudnohufsky report (2001) recommended the creation of an oversight committee with the authority to coordinate decisions and integrate community viewpoints as part of a comprehensive planning effort. The Selectmen will continue to hold ultimate responsibility for decisions regarding the Battle Green.

Battle Green Area Advisory Committee (BGAAC)

Members: 5-7 members
Appointed by: Board of Selectmen
Length of Term: 2 years
Appointments made: September 30
Meeting Times: As appropriate

Description: The purpose of the Battle Green Area Advisory Committee is to assist the Board of Selectmen in providing comprehensive, unified planning and stewardship for the Battle Green Area. The Committee will serve as a driving force to the Board of Selectmen to provide information-sharing and coordinate other key boards and committees as an information-sharing committee with the charge to make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen. Proposals and issues which impact the appearance, use or stewardship of features in the Battle Green Area, whether temporary or permanent, will come before the Committee for recommendation before going to the Board of Selectmen. .

Criteria for Membership: To be determined by the Board of Selectmen. It is recommended, however, that experienced stewards of the community with reasoned judgment and capacity for consensus building with knowledge of the day to day uses of the Battle Green Area be considered. They should not be stakeholders but rather should consult with the stakeholders in fulfilling the mission. The Town Manager will identify the appropriate staff to participate as needed.

Ref:

Battle Green Master Plan, March 1, 2011
Walter Cudnohufsky Associations Report, 2001

Recommendation #2: Comprehensive Interpretation and Signage Program

Interpretation

Today's visitors to the Battle Green can experience a guided tour, use a self-guided brochure, read the interpretive sign panels throughout the Battle Green, listen to a multi-media presentation at the Minute Man National Historical Park Visitor Center (Route 2A in Concord), or visit the dioramas at the Lexington Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center. New place markers have been installed which identify historic sites and buildings using an attractive red and white logo approved by the Historic Districts Commission. The Tourism Committee has just published a brochure-style guide to Lexington that links historic sites to restaurants, museums and retail shops of interest to visitors. A three-panel interpretive sign is being designed which combines a graphic illustration of the view the British soldiers saw at the start of the Battle with wording that relates the progress of events and the significance and symbolism of the Battle Green today. With additional grant funding, the entire interpretive program can continue to be enhanced in a manner that does not obscure its key features.

Many interpretive panels exist throughout the Battle Green and the surrounding neighborhoods that were part of three walking tours developed for Lexington by the Lexington Historical Society in 1975.³⁴ These panels are no longer situated in locations frequented by visitors, and should be removed or relocated as part of this more comprehensive interpretive program.

As the plan for the comprehensive interpretive program unfolds, all of the signage (informational, identification and safety) will conform to the same standards and create a comprehensive "look" that is consistent throughout the Battle Green. The design of the newest signs (top left – following page) offers a good model from which to build this comprehensive sign program and has already been approved by the HDC as part of the signage program.

Other Signs

The Battle Green is located in the heart of busy downtown Lexington, at the confluence of several major roadways. As such, directional and safety signage, in addition to road signs, are an important necessity within the Battle Green Area. Carefully monitoring the number, purpose, size and location of these signs can eliminate clutter without compromising safety.

Event signs and temporary signs installed for a few days also contribute to the clutter of information. Limiting the size, location and quantity of these signs (or perhaps prohibiting them from the Battle Green Area and locating them elsewhere) is an important aspect of management and oversight. The message that the Battle Green is different from other park spaces in Lexington needs to be reinforced in every aspect of the Battle Green's stewardship program.



Signage in the Battle Green includes a diversity of styles and materials. The newest signs (red with white border) offer the best graphic integrity for a comprehensive signage program.

Recommendations

Use interpretive material to convey both historic and contemporary information.

Develop an interpretive program that uses a variety of media.

Integrate interpretive markers with other furnishings, such as groupings of benches or adjacent to monuments.

Review traffic, safety and directional signs to appropriately balance standard accepted signage with local historic objectives.

Develop rules and regulations for all temporary signs and event sign programs.

Action Items:

1. Continue to fund comprehensive interpretation and signage program plan already approved.
2. Support ongoing work of Tourism Committee around interpretation.
3. Monitor quantity and placement of safety and traffic signs.
4. Develop and enforce rules for event and temporary signage.

Recommendation #3: Linking the Battle Green Area

The recognition that the Battle Green is part of a broader area puts in context the requirement for comprehensive treatment for connecting elements including the Visitor Center, Buckman Tavern, Belfry Hill, the other historic house museums, and Ye Olde Burying Ground to the monuments and memorials on the Battle Green. These connections include safe pedestrian cross walks, unified path surfaces, a unified signage program and other elements that collectively define the Battle Green Area.

Links which make connections between the historic Battle and today's living are important as well. History used to be experienced by going to a specific place that was generally fenced in and separated from contemporary life. Opening the door to a historic house museum encouraged the visitor to step back into history, but disconnected history from his or her own daily life. Today's history movement seeks to create links between the past and the present – to create an unbroken chain joining contemporary life with the past and the future. The Battle Green offers untold opportunities for creating these links – links that connect statements of personal freedom, of standing up for what is right, defining freedom of speech and the power of opinion - all philosophical links that can be made directly to the Battle Green Area. These links are critical in reinforcing the special place the Battle Green Area holds in defining our national ideals. When successful, every individual should understand the spiritual or symbolic significance of the Battle Green as a space set apart from others in Lexington and therefore requiring different and appropriate activities on this hallowed ground.

Each historic feature plays its own important role in the visitor experience, relaying historic information, inspirational symbolism, and experiential exploration. Whether the visitor is led or is allowed to explore the Battle Green Area and its features, each visitor deserves a well orchestrated, well presented experience, including the opportunity to sit, reflect, rest or observe daily life as a link in a long chain of history on the Common.

Linking resources involves physical connections and emotive or intellectual connections. Some of these linkages can be made with a unified paving program, unified signage, and subtle consistent details in lighting, traffic calming and site furnishings. Creating a simple footpath system like Boston's Freedom Trail might offer a subtle means of linking features for personal exploration, or simple at-grade brass markers can link options for interpreting each feature.

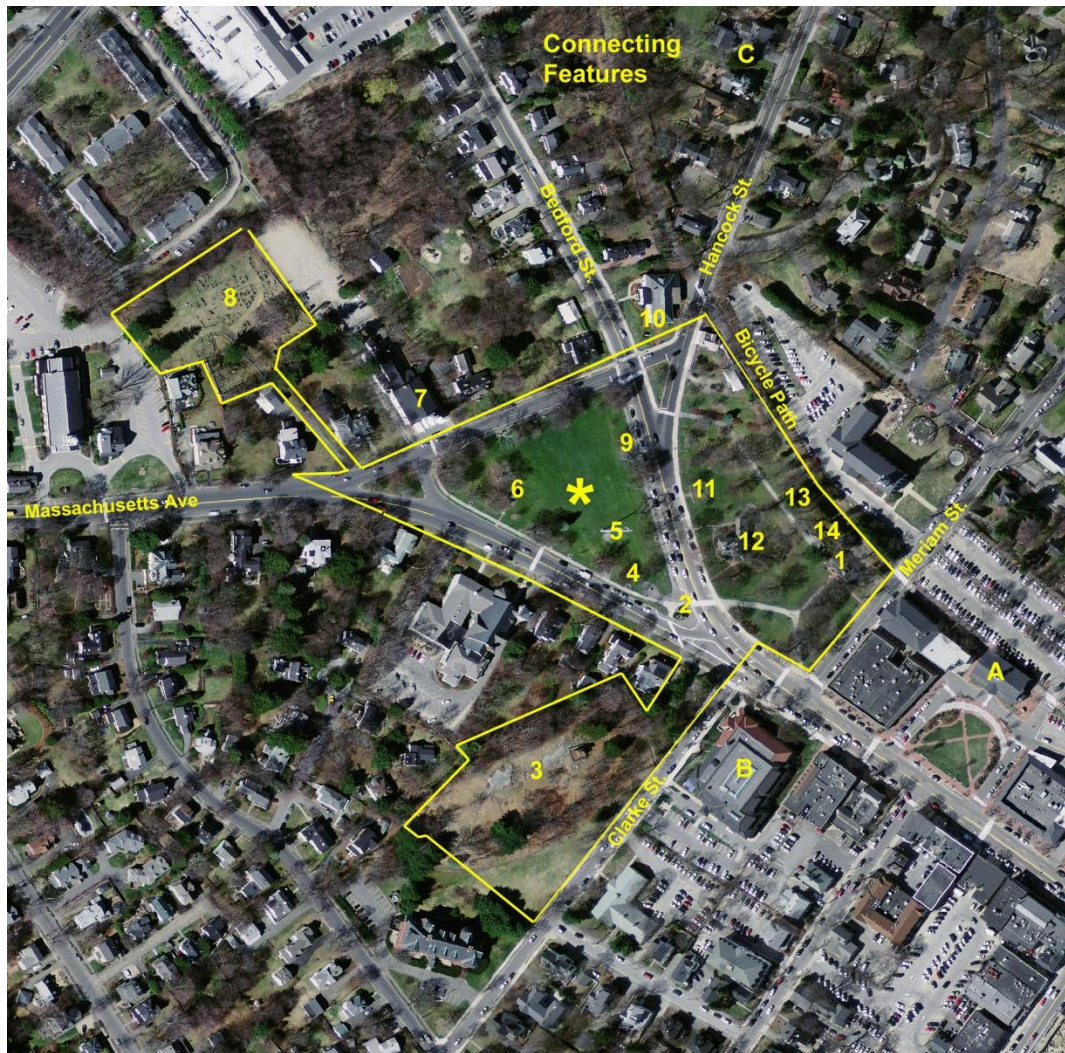
The map on the page that follows illustrates the elements within the Battle Green which can be linked, both physically and intellectually, into a comprehensive experience.

Action Items:

1. Support efforts to provide linkages including a marker system number or other identification system to link features within the Battle Green.
2. Investigate options for other linkages, including historic homes and sites outside the Battle Green Area.
3. Explore creative ways of reinforcing the significance of the Battle Green to all residents and visitors.
4. Install markers and link to interpretation programs for all sites.



Options for linking features might include a paved or painted line (such as the Boston Freedom Trail (above), a brass marker with a number linking the feature to an interpretive brochure or cell phone number (top right), or at-grade informational markers such as those used in Louisville, KY (bottom right)



Connecting Features

- * **Battle Green**
- 1 Lexington Visitors Center
- 2 Minute Man Statue
- 3 Belfry Hill
- 4 Meeting House Monument & Belfry Monument
- 5 Flagpole
- 6 Revolutionary War Monument (Obelisk)
- 7 First Parish Church
- 8 Ye Olde Burying Ground
- 9 Parker Boulder
- 10 Normal School
- 11 Minute Man Monument
- 12 Buckman Tavern
- 13 World War II Monument
- 14 USS Lexington Monument
- A Depot
- B Cary Memorial Library
- C Hancock-Clarke House

Recommendation #4: Statue and Monument Preservation








The Battle Green monuments and memorials represent an impressive collection of public art. From the Minute Man Statue to the oldest gravestone in Ye Olde Burying Ground, each of these pieces deserves careful conservation, including a regular routine for cleaning and maintenance. The variety of materials and placement of each piece requires a knowledgeable conservator to oversee appropriate curatorial care. The 2001 Cudnohufsky report included an evaluation of the Battle Monument and the Minute Man Statue with detailed recommendations for cleaning and conservation of both monuments.







Recently, many of the grave markers in Ye Olde Burying Ground have undergone cleaning and preservation under the guidance of a monument conservator. The FY 2012 CPA appropriation request includes funds to conserve the Minute Man Statue and the Revolutionary War Monument (also known as the Obelisk), and to evaluate and conserve the other monuments in the Battle Green. Based on this comprehensive evaluation, an ongoing program for curating all of these features should continue. Regular, systematic and consistent care will ensure their appropriate preservation.




Preservation of every Battle Green monument should not be limited to the monument itself, but should include the assessment and treatment of its setting and surrounds. Each of the monument sites show the impact of heavy foot traffic as visitors stand and admire each feature. The Revolutionary War Monument, for example is protected by an iron picket fence and surrounded by a simple asphalt path. Two granite steps ascend the elevated terrain to the monument. Soil erosion, damage to fences, suitable path surfaces, and appropriate links to the larger Battle Green Area and its walkway system should be considered in concert with the conservation plan for each monument.

The Minute Man Statue was designed to sit atop a watering trough “for men, horses, cattle and dogs.” Funds for the Statue and its base were provided by the Hayes family, so the watering trough soon became known as the Hayes Fountain. When the Hayes Fountain stopped working, its cavities were filled with seasonal plant displays. Options for restoring the watering trough should be investigated. Thought should be given to removing or relocating the plantings within the Fountain to the base of the fountain and to areas where they can highlight important features which are currently less visible to visitors (such as the Lexington Visitor Center and Belfry Park).

The following list identifies all of the Battle Green’s monuments and memorials and offers a preliminary glimpse into the variety of types, sizes, ages and materials and settings for these features. The comprehensive conservation plan will prioritize care of these features based on their current condition assessment and establish a plan for conservation, cleaning and regular maintenance, including their landscaped settings. Some markers, which are not critical to the Battle Green experience, might be considered for relocation or removal. The plaques at the base of the Flagpole, for instance, might be better suited for removal or relocation to another spot, or amended with other interpretive signage which relates a greater depth of information to the visitor.

<u>Image</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Materials</u>	<u>Setting and Associated Features</u>
	U.S.S. Lexington Monument	1988	Granite with bronze plaques	Low iron picket fence; shrubbery backdrop; flagpole & flags; trees
	World War II Monument	1945	Granite	Granite stone marker set at edge of path in lawn
	Lexington Minute Men of 1775 Memorial	1948	Granite and Bronze	Capped iron picket fence; crushed stone path encircles fenced area with crushed stone path connection to sidewalk
	Revolutionary War Monument; the Obelisk	1799; 1835	Granite with marble tablet	Arrow-topped iron picket fence; bluestone marker at base; groundcover within fenced area; bituminous asphalt walk surrounding fenced area and connecting to Massachusetts Avenue sidewalk; granite steps
	Belfry Site Marker	1910	Granite fieldstone boulder with bronze plaque	Crushed stone path surround; lawn
	Meeting Houses Monument	1884	Red Jonesboro granite on Fox Island granite base	Crushed stone surround
	Battle Line Monument	1884	Granite fieldstone boulder with carved face	Crushed stone surround; bench

<u>Image</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Materials</u>	<u>Setting and Associated Features</u>
	Minute Man Statue and Hayes Memorial Fountain	1900	Granite fieldstone; brass statue	Positioned at junction of Massachusetts Avenue & Bedford Street facing direction of British soldiers; originally working fountain now seasonal plantings; shrub massing at base; crushed stone and stamped asphalt paving at base
	Memorial Trees	c. 1919	Concrete with brass plaque	Set at base of deciduous trees along perimeter of Battle Green
	Lit Flag and Flagpole	By 1905; 1976	Metal: (prior flagpole wooden)	Metal flagpole with dedicated lighting; 3 Bronze plaques at base; crushed stone
	Bicentennial Plaque	1976	Concrete with Bronze plaque	Set at base of flagpole; crushed stone surround; placed with 2 other markers
	Congressional Act Plaque	1965	Concrete with Bronze plaque	Set at base of flagpole; crushed stone surround; placed with 2 other markers
	National Historic Landmark Plaque	1962	Concrete with Bronze plaque	Set at base of flagpole; crushed stone surround; placed with 2 other markers

<u>Image</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Materials</u>	<u>Setting and Associated Features</u>
	Prince Estabrook Monument	2008	Granite boulder with bronze plaque	Located near Buckman Tavern set in small mulch area in grassy lawn
	Belfry	1910	Wood	Iron picket fence with simple top set on granite fieldstone wall and ledge; ledge outcrop atop Belfry Hill; rustic fieldstone steps; naturalistic plantings (trees and shrubs)
	Gravestones	1690-	Brick; bluestone; sandstone, marble, granite, others	Granite post and rail fence surround; lawn; scattered deciduous trees; asphalt entry drive; grass and stone paths within burying yard

Action Items:

1. Prepare comprehensive evaluation of all monuments, memorials and markers including prioritized conservation recommendations and maintenance program including their landscaped settings
2. Consider removal of any markers or monuments not critical to the Battle Green which might be located in other areas or removed. (For example, several citizens expressed support for relocating the Meeting Houses Monument and the plaques at the bottom of the flagpole to a site off of the Green to help de-clutter the Green. The pros and cons of this should be evaluated carefully.) Conserve all monuments and memorials working with professional conservator (underway)
3. Continue regular program of conservation, cleaning and routine maintenance

Recommendation #5: Accommodating Multiple Uses

The Battle Green's role as town common is equally as important to its role as tourist destination. The 2010 resident's survey and public hearings indicated that the Battle Green should evoke the significance of the April 19, 1775 Battle, but should respect other layers of Lexington history. One resident commented that the Battle Green Area should be "evocative of 1775 but not stagnate." Another member of the public hearing felt that respect for those that died during the Battle might determine appropriate and inappropriate uses on the Battle Green and recognized that some activities might be more appropriate "across the street" (i.e. in the vicinity of the Visitor Center).

Those completing the survey felt that the Battle Green Area should support multiple purposes, including historical tours, picnicking, small games, meetings, and political rallies. Most felt that traffic did not need to be diverted away from the Battle Green and car parking was suitable along the roadsides, but that bus parking should be diverted to another, more appropriate, location. Recognizing that the Common's size has been reduced with road widening, most felt that its original size did not need to be restored, but that these changes recognized its historic layering. Memorial trees in honor of veterans were considered an appropriate feature of the Common, with appropriate plaques recognizing the honorees. Currently the number of monuments on the Battle Green represents "just the right amount."

Balancing the needs for tourists and residents is both delicate and powerful. Many discussed the spiritual and symbolic aspects of the Battle Green and felt that it is these ideals which should guide the governance of activities on the Battle Green. Light picnicking, small games and other passive activities were felt to be appropriate and respectful of the Battle Green's role as town common. Large-group games such as ball games and other more active forms of recreation were considered better suited to nearby town parks and recreation fields constructed specifically for those purposes.

Reinforcing the importance of the Revolutionary War Monument (the "Obelisk") as a grave site, which is carefully tended and treated with respect could reinforce the significance of this aspect of the Battle Green. Other activities are carefully monitored by the Board of Selectmen, which allows the flexibility to appropriately govern rallies, town gatherings and other events and their locations on the Battle Green or across the street on the lawn of the Visitor Center. This plan includes a review of these rules and regulations, and suggests appropriate revisions to this document for Selectmen's approval. An ongoing evaluation of this governance is part of the charge given to the Battle Green Advisory Committee.

Understanding the rules for the use of the Battle Green Area, tending the monument sites with respect, reinforcing the symbolism of the Battle Green, developing unified design standards, designing appropriate and adequate historic interpretation, establishing appropriate parking policies and safe pedestrian access to all areas of the Battle Green, and establishing coordinated oversight and communication can support the Battle Green

Area's role as town common and appropriately accommodate its continuing role as a space for other historic events to take place.

Action Items:

1. Review suggested changes (next page) to the Rules and Regulations for the Battle Green Area. Submit revised Rules and Regulations to the Board of Selectmen for approval
2. Make recommendations for use of the open lawns near the Visitor Center, Buckman Tavern or on Belfry Hill which might be different than those allowed on the Battle Green
3. Review the policies for enforcement of the Rules and Regulations and make necessary changes to ensure uniform enforcement of all policies, rules and regulations
4. Make recommendations for enforcement policies and submit for Board of Selectmen approval
5. Regularly review the Rules and Regulations document and the enforcement policies and their effectiveness; make necessary recommendations and changes as required



Note: Per the Selectmen's charge for this Master Plan, this is a recommended draft of the Battle Green Area Rules and Regulations for the Board of Selectmen to review. The Board is responsible for approving any changes to the existing Rules and Regulations. Approval of the Master Plan does not constitute approval of these recommended changes. The Selectmen will use these recommendations as a guideline to consider updates to the existing Rules and Regulations.

Battle Green Area Rules and Regulations

Introduction

The Town of Lexington encourages visitors and citizens to enjoy the Battle Green Area respectful of its significance, its symbolism, and its role as Lexington's Town Common. The following Rules and Regulations have been adopted in accordance with the Code of the Town of Lexington, Chapter 100-10, as amended. If these regulations or portions thereof conflict with the Code, the Code shall take precedence. These rules and regulations apply to all and will be administered with no discrimination toward personal association and belief. No person shall behave or conduct himself on the Battle Green otherwise than in a quiet and orderly manner in keeping with a respectful regard and reverence for the memory of the patriotic service and sacrifice there so nobly rendered.

A. Battle Green Area

The Battle Green is a special, hallowed ground, distinct and unique from all other public open spaces in Lexington. It is also the public town common for the citizens of Lexington, and as such, welcomes casual use by the public. The Battle Green Area is a distinctly defined area which encompasses the town owned properties and historic sites that surround the Battle Green, including Belfry Hill, Ye Olde Burying Ground, Buckman Tavern, Lexington Visitor Center and the streets and streetscapes that enframe the Green. Accommodating multiple uses within a landscape that functions both as Lexington's town common and a national shrine is a complex weaving of people and place. For purposes of promoting appropriate conduct and activities, the Battle Green Area has been divided into two areas: Zone A and Zone B (see attached map).

Zone A includes the Battle Green and the land encompassing Ye Olde Burying Ground. These areas encompass the special, hallowed ground where the reverence and memory of the patriotic service and sacrifice of April 19, 1775 is most sacred.

Zone B includes all other town-owned land and other town rights of way and easements within the Battle Green Area, including the lands associated with the Visitor Center, Buckman Tavern, Belfry Hill, the streets which define and buffer the Battle Green and the lands adjacent to the Minuteman Bikeway.

B. Definitions

1. "Audio device" means any electronic or amplified radio, television set, computer, telephone, electronic music player, musical instrument or other device that produces noise and can be of disturbance to others.
2. "Disorderly conduct" means any action intended to cause inconvenience, annoyance, or alarm, or which recklessly creates a risk thereof; fighting, threatening or violent behavior; unreasonable noise; abusive language directed toward any person whether or not present; wrestling; throwing of objects; malicious throwing of dangerous objects or stones; open fires, burning objects or spitting.
3. "Firearms" means any gun, rifle, pistol, revolver or any other weapon from which a shot is discharged by an explosive.
4. "Ceremonial Firearms" means any ceremonial or replica flintlock rifles, Colonial or Revolutionary War stage props, Colonial musket, French Musket with bayonet, historic edged weapon, carbine flintlock rifle, English flintlock double barrel muzzleloader, powder horn or any other ceremonial, replica or reproduction firearm designed for use in ceremonies, historic interpretation or re-enactment.
5. "Powerless flight" means any device used to carry persons or objects through the air; for example, sailplanes, gliders, balloons, body kites, hang gliders, and flying toys.
6. "Special event" means demonstrating, picketing, speechmaking, marching, holding of vigils, and all other similar forms of conduct which involve the active communication or expression of opinions or grievances, engaged in by one or more persons, the conduct of which has the effect, intent, or propensity to draw a crowd of onlookers.
7. "Compromised turf" shall mean any natural condition that would make the Battle Green vulnerable to excessive damage by heavy wear or use; for example, heavy rains, reseeding, and drought conditions.
8. "Public use limit" shall mean any act expected to draw greater than XX number of people at any one time excepting Patriots Day weekend activities as directed in section F-11 below.

C. Activities Allowed Without a Permit

Subject to the restrictions in these rules and regulations, the following activities are allowed without a permit:

In Zone A:

1. The gathering of individuals and groups for the sole purpose of exploring and enjoying its history, and which do not remain for more than four hours.
2. Picnicking in small groups of no more than five people, in the vicinity of the benches.
3. The playing of small games that do not exceed three players and do not damage the Green's physical condition, disturb or inconvenience others.
4. The playing of audio devices at a level that cannot be heard by others in the area.

5. Walking of bicycles on sidewalks.
6. Guided tours.
7. Possession of ceremonial firearms by a Town of Lexington Guide, Lexington Minute Men, or a member of His Majesty's Tenth Regiment of Foot who have been trained in the manual of arms and safety procedures of their units.
8. Distribution of printed matter by Town of Lexington Guides.
9. Patriots Day Reenactments as organized by the Lexington Minute Men including practice days and rain dates provided that the Lexington Minute Men contact the Board of Selectmen to obtain approval of the practice dates and rain dates at least two weeks in advance of the anticipated dates.
10. Vehicles (parked or moving) required for Town maintenance activities.
11. The lighting of trees for seasonal celebration by the Town of Lexington.

In Zone B:

1. All activities allowed in Zone A (above).
2. Picnicking, including picnics by groups of more than seven people, bus tours and school groups.
3. The playing of pick-up games such as tossing a ball, Frisbee or other such object.
4. Sledding (back side of Belfry Hill towards Clarke Street only).
5. The gathering of quietly respectful groups.
6. The riding of bicycles in compliance with the Lexington By-Laws. The parking of bicycles in designated areas and bicycle racks.

D. Activities Allowed Only By Special Permit

The purpose for requiring permits for certain activities is to promote the use of the Battle Green in a manner consistent with its nature and history; to protect the Battle Green from harm; to ensure adequate notice of the event so that arrangements can be made to protect the public health and safety, to minimize interference with the event by the public, and to notify abutters and prevent excessive disturbance thereto.

I. The following activities are allowed by Special Permit through the Lexington Board of Selectmen:

Zone A:

1. Special events, public meetings, assemblies, gatherings, demonstrations, parades, and other active public expressions of interest, not to exceed eight (8) hours in duration provided however that no permit shall be issued for repeat activities that exceed four (4) times per calendar year other than those sponsored by a Town of Lexington organization.
2. Pageants, reenactments, regattas, entertainments, or other public spectator attractions.
3. Displays of a ceremonial nature in connection with special events and limited in duration to the period required for such events.
4. Use of public address systems, electrical lighting, or other electrical or amplified devices.
5. Possession of firearms, possession of fireworks or firecrackers.

6. Ceremonial firearms not specifically allowed in Section C.
7. The playing of musical instruments including colonial fife and drum.

Zone B:

1. All activities identified in Zone A (above).
2. Special programs such as craft fairs, concerts, picnics, fundraising events, etc. respectful of the historical aspects of the Battle Green Area that do not interfere with the flow of normal tourism and/or daily Lexingtonian life provided that no entity shall be granted a permit for such a program exceeding two (2) times per calendar year other than activities and programs sponsored by the Lexington Chamber of Commerce or other Town of Lexington sponsored programs.
3. The erection of tents or other shelters for temporary protection from the elements during any special program or event.
4. The assembling of bicycle riding groups for purposes of gathering and beginning or ending organized rides.
5. The installation of bike racks.
6. Temporary signs for occasional events provided that no entity shall be granted a permit for such a program exceeding two (2) times per calendar year other than activities and programs sponsored by the Lexington Chamber of Commerce or other Town of Lexington sponsored programs.

II. Activities that are strictly prohibited:

The following activities are strictly prohibited throughout the Battle Green Area (Zones A and B):

1. Any group activity not specifically allowed under these regulations.
2. Possession, destruction, injury, defacement, removal, or disturbance of any building, sign, equipment, monument, statue, marker, animal or plant.
3. Commercial advertising; or soliciting of business; or any other commercial transactions, excluding temporary signs for occasional events.
4. Remaining on the Battle Green for more than four hours.
5. Abandonment of any vehicle or personal property.
6. Operation of audio devices that are a disturbance to others.
7. Delivery of any person or thing by parachute or helicopter.
8. Powerless flight activities.
9. Begging.
10. Disorderly conduct.
11. Use of metal detecting devices.
12. Gambling of any form or operation of gambling devices.
13. Consumption of alcoholic beverages or use of unlawful substances.
14. Use of roller skates and skateboards.
15. Placement on the Battle Green of any unattended structure.
16. Planting of any trees/plants by a private party.
17. Signs posted on poles such as telephone or light poles.

18. Parked or moving vehicles on any grassy areas, except those necessary for Town maintenance activities.

III. The following activities are prohibited from Zone A only:

1. Climbing on the Minuteman Statue, Hayes Fountain or its base.
2. Picnicking of groups in excess of five people.
3. Playing of organized games by groups of three or more.
4. Bicycles parked or ridden.
5. Temporary signs.

E. Permit Process

1. Application for permits to conduct activities on the Battle Green, specified in D, above, shall be filed with the Board of Selectmen no later than two weeks prior to the requested date. Such applications will be forwarded to the Battle Green Advisory Committee for notice and consultation regarding the appropriateness and impact of the proposed activities on the Battle Green Area. Late and/or incomplete applications will be considered at the discretion of the Board of Selectmen.
2. Permit applications shall include the following information:
 - a. Name and phone number of responsible contact.
 - b. Date and time of event.
 - c. Nature of event.
 - d. Expected number of participants and spectators.
 - e. Duration of event.
 - f. Statement of equipment and facilities to be used.
 - g. Section of the Battle Green Area desired.
3. The responsible party is to keep the permit with them on the day of the event and it must be available for inspection upon request.
4. The responsible party may be required by the Board of Selectmen, as a condition of issuing the permit, to pay a fee in advance for detail police officers if the Board determines that such officers are necessary for public safety.
5. Permits are issued upon express condition that the Battle Green is to be left in an orderly fashion.
6. The responsible party will be charged by the Board of Selectmen, as a condition of issuing the permit, for any damages directly resulting from the permitted activity.
7. Permits are non-transferable; and are only valid for date and time specified. For cause the Police Chief or his designee may extend a permit for up to 2 hours.
8. A permit shall be revoked if a sanctioned event engages in impermissible activities and may be revoked if the permit group engages in activities that are not within the specifications of the permit and the group may be ordered to vacate the Battle Green Area immediately by the police.

9. The Board of Selectmen may alter a request by setting reasonable conditions and restrictions as to duration and area occupied, as are necessary for protection of the area and public use thereof.
10. Compromised turf conditions may supersede the use of a granted permit at the discretion of the Board of Selectmen to protect the condition of the Battle Green.

F. Grounds for Denial of Permit Request

1. Event will, in the opinion of the Board of Selectmen, cause unacceptable interference with use and enjoyment of the Battle Green by the general public.
2. Event is requested for a date that conflicts with official celebrations of the Town or its tourism activities.
3. Event presents a clear and present danger to public health or safety.
4. Event is of such nature or duration that it cannot reasonably be accommodated in the area applied for; or the expected number of participants exceeds the public use limit.
5. Application creates a scheduling conflict with a previously filed application by another person or group.
6. Event is more appropriately held at other available Town Facilities, such as recreational facilities.

G. Patriots Day Weekend

On Patriot's Day weekend, held annually in April, Thursday through Tuesday, only Town-sponsored activity is permitted. Private usage, otherwise permitted, is prohibited throughout this period. The public use limit is not applicable during any Town-sponsored activity during this period.

H. Penalties

Penalties for violations of these regulations shall be in accordance with Chapter 10-4 and 10-6 of the Code of the Town of Lexington.

Approved by the Board of Selectmen July 15, 1986

Amended July 24, 2000

Amended December 21, 2009

Amended February XX, 2011

Recommendation #6: Unified Design Standards

“Evoking the Battle of 1775” is easy to say but complicated to execute. The Battle Green is not just a battlefield; it is also a public common. As a historic site, we might have the option of letting the grass grow to pasture and re-establishing its appearance on April 19, 1775. Certainly that is the approach used by the Minute Man National Historical Park for the farms and fields along Concord’s Route 2A. But the Battle Green is much more – its continued role in the history of Lexington, its commemorative monuments and memorials, and its significance as the town’s Common require that this space not only evoke the Battle event, but support its role as public open space in the center of a bustling village. As such, muddy dirt paths fall short of our expectations for this national shrine. Instead, developing unified design standards that can enhance the symbolism and interpretation of historic events, show proper respect for its national significance, and purposefully fulfill its role as town common. These standards will allow the Battle Green Area to continue to play an important role in the daily life of Lexington.

One of the first charges for the Battle Green Advisory Committee will be to review and implement the proposed design standards that are recommended in this document, including any additional approvals required by the Historic Districts Commission. The paragraphs that follow identify the current materials, design, concerns and suitability of current site furnishings and site issues and makes recommendations for standardized, comprehensive treatment. Where appropriate, a single design from existing design choices has been selected. In other cases, recommendations have been derived from public comment received during the master planning process or from other community examples. All recommendations will require further comment and approval (by the appropriate Lexington committees) before they can be implemented.

1. Paving






There are several paving types used with the Battle Green Area, some have proven more successful than others. Installation costs, durability, ADA compliancy (including appropriate curb cuts), and maintenance costs are all factors that determine their success. In addition to materials already found in the Battle Green Area, there are a number of other materials which have proven successful at other sites. The first table that follows identifies those materials which are already in use within the Battle Green Area, their benefits, problems, and frequency of use. The second table identifies other materials that have proven successful in other historic sites. Following the tables are recommendations for design standards for paving within the Battle Green.

Existing Paving Options

<u>Image</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Benefits</u>	<u>Problems</u>
	Surrounding most monuments; Paths through center of lawns; Path to Belfry Hill	Crushed stone	Historic appearance Permeable; ADA compliant when properly installed	Irregular edges give messy appearance; Tendency to get muddy; Material tracks into historic buildings and damages the flooring
	Ends of cross walks; street intersections	Stamped Asphalt (originally installed as temporary solutions)	Cost effective Durable Withstands heavy traffic; ADA compliant	Fake historic appearance Difficult to repair unless redo entire piece; Impermeable;
	Some sidewalks; Paths around some monuments	Asphalt	Cost effective Durable Withstands heavy traffic; ADA compliant	Contemporary appearance; Impermeable; Considered not as historically appropriate as other materials
	Some sidewalks	Concrete	Durable; Withstands heavy traffic; ADA compliant; Neat, trim appearance; longer lifespan than other materials	Impermeable; Contemporary appearance

<u>Image</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Material & Cost (per sq. ft)</u>	<u>Benefits</u>	<u>Problems</u>
	<p>Sidewalks into Buckman Tavern and Lexington Visitor Center</p>	<p>Brick</p>	<p>Durable; withstands heavy traffic; ADA compliant when properly installed; neat, trim; historic appearance</p>	<p>Requires appropriate edging and good base preparation to withstand frost; may allow weeds to grow between joints if not properly installed;</p>
	<p>Path to Battle Monument</p>	<p>Granite Stairs and cheek walls</p>	<p>Durable; long life span; historic (19th century) appearance</p>	<p>No problems identified</p>
	<p>Path to Belfry Hill</p>	<p>Crushed stone and wood timber</p>	<p>Cost effective</p>	<p>Limited life span; Tendency to wash out; tendency to messy appearance; difficult, uneven walking surface</p>
	<p>Path to Belfry Hill</p>	<p>Granite Fieldstone</p>	<p>Historic appearance; durable; permeable</p>	<p>Uneven surface difficult to walk; tendency to heave with frost</p>

Other Paving Options

<u>Image</u>	<u>Material & Cost</u> <u>(per sq. ft)</u>	<u>Benefits</u>	<u>Issues</u>
	Irregular Bluestone	Brown or gray-blue color choices; Historic appearance; ADA compliant when properly installed	Costly to install; irregular joints can sprout weeds;
	Tumbled bluestone	Even, regular patterns; tight joints have less tendency to become uneven; ADA compliant when properly installed	Costly to install; smaller size stones lead are more susceptible to frost movement (not so with larger size stone); material is not indigenous to Lexington region
	Large cut granite	Large stones mean less frost movement; historic sidewalk treatment for many New England villages; ADA compliant when properly installed	Costly to install; historic treatment found in other colonial New England towns but not documented in Lexington;
	Regular cut granite	Available in wide variety of sizes; durable; ADA compliant when properly installed	Costly to install; thermal surface can be slippery in shady areas
	Seeded exposed aggregate concrete	Pebbled appearance imitates pea stone or gravel; durable; ADA compliant	Requires expansion joints; slightly more costly than traditional concrete walk

	<p>Bluestone and cobble Cross walk</p>	<p>Historic treatment documented to other New England communities; durable; traffic calming</p>	<p>Costly; not ADA compliant</p>
	<p>Fieldstone steps</p>	<p>Historic; durable; long lasting; can be purchased in cut or natural fieldstone style; easy to install</p>	<p>Requires careful selection for even tread surfaces, otherwise no perceived problems</p>

Analysis

The crushed stone, though perhaps the most historically sensitive, is messy, easily tracked, and has a tendency to get muddy or puddle under heavy wear. It is the most permeable of all paving solutions. Its use throughout the Battle Green Area has resulted in mixed success. It has been most successful for informal paths through open lawns where there is little topographic change and limited foot traffic away from historic structures. An alternative to this material might be to use a stabilizer mixed with the crushed stone (as done in Minute Man National Historical Park) that better ‘fixes’ the crushed stone and creates an even, durable, well-packed walking surface which retains the historic appearance of dirt or aggregate. Another alternative, known as ‘Chip N Seal’ embeds crushed stone aggregate into bituminous asphalt.

Brick offers another historically sensitive material withstands heavy foot traffic, and is consistent with ADA requirements when properly installed. It is, however, more costly than other options and requires adequate base preparation to limit frost upheaval. Some communities are applying brick over an asphalt base to limit the opportunities for frost upheaval and weeds between joints. Brick pavers and wire cut brick have been used throughout the downtown Lexington business district, so use of traditional brick within the Battle Green would conform to this village street design standard but would incorporate historic materials rather than a contemporary material.

Large granite pavers offer another historic choice as a durable historic path material. This material might be a good option for heavily used areas surrounding monuments and memorials most frequented by visitors. If a color is selected that matches the crushed stone used in stabilized dirt paths, the path treatments would be unified in their overall color treatment. Granite pavers should be large size antique stone (4’ x 4’) or newly cut granite finished with a sand-blasted or other non-skid surface for safety and historic appearance.

The concrete sidewalk along Bedford Street, though more contemporary in appearance, offers a durable surface that can withstand heavy foot traffic and is more cost effective than brick. If the concrete was acid-washed when installed, the resulting “exposed aggregate” surface would offer a more historic appearance than the brushed, even concrete surface of the current sidewalk. This option, however, is more labor intensive and therefore more costly than the brushed concrete surface.

The granite stairs leading to the Battle Monument are the most successful treatment for stairs in the Battle Green. These stairs are durable, historically appropriate, and made from local materials. The rustic fieldstone steps leading to the top of Belfry Hill from Clarke Street are uneven and unsafe, though their rustic appearance is historically sensitive in appearance. The crushed stone and timber stairs leading up Belfry Hill are the least successful and least effective of any stair options within the district. Their tendency to wash out in heavy rains creates a maintenance hazard, and the gradual degradation of the risers caused by their natural weathering processes results in unsafe and uneven conditions.

Paving Recommendations

The Battle Green does not require a single paving treatment for all areas. There are four categories or levels of walkways in the Battle Green:

1. Town sidewalks (major walks adjacent to roadways)
Examples: 6’ wide sidewalks on both sides of Bedford Street, Massachusetts Avenue, and Harrington Road
2. Primary paths (heavily used walks connecting major features and/or forming important pedestrian routes)
Examples: 4’ wide paths leading to the Lexington Visitor Center, Buckman Tavern, etc.
3. Secondary paths (less frequently used walks)
Examples: roads and paths within Ye Olde Burying Ground, path from Lexington Visitor Center to Hancock Street, paths atop Belfry Hill, etc. Most are 4’ wide
4. Paving surrounding monuments (usually heavily used and often serves as the base for the monument or memorial)
Examples: path to the Revolutionary War Monument, path to the Parker Boulder, Belfry Marker, Meetinghouses Monument, etc. Most are 3’ wide; some are wider, designated areas surrounding the monument with no distinct edges at present
5. Paving under benches
Examples: Area under all benches throughout Battle Green Area

Recognizing the category of use and importance should define the paving material selection and offer opportunity for variety in paving throughout the Battle Green Area. Final selection of any paving material should be based on its durability, its installation costs, its historic appearance, its ADA compliance and its maintenance requirements and

expenses. In all cases, proper installation, particularly proper base preparation, is the key to longevity. Regular, routine maintenance can prevent small problems from growing into major issues.

Carefully delineating or retaining the width of all paths is critical to the historic appearance in the Battle Green Area. Maintaining standards for path widths can help to guide their use and reinforce their purpose. Heavily traveled sidewalks which are part of the 21st century streetscape should retain their 6' width. Smaller, 3-4' wide paths into each monument requires single-file movement and generates the opportunities for quiet respect and contemplation, though in areas frequented by large groups, the edges of these paths can often be eroded by heavy foot traffic. Narrower paths, by necessity, slow pedestrians. Wider paths encourage group conversation and quick movement through an area. Respecting these subtle opportunities for guiding appropriate use of the Battle Green Area is critical to its long-term success and respectful of its historic significance.

Carefully delineating the areas to be paved is another important consideration. Heavy foot traffic and compaction has discouraged grass from growing around most monuments. The crushed stone that has been applied around the monuments has eliminated muddy conditions, but has gradually spread to cover a much larger area than is necessary. Crisply defining an area large enough for visitors to stand and returning extraneous areas to grass will greatly improve the appearance of these areas and eliminate path spread. Edging crushed stone, or changing these areas to stabilized crushed stone, brick or granite will improve their overall appearance.

Paths can guide and respond to visitor use. Paths should only be located in areas where they are most needed, and eliminated from areas where they are not useful. All paths which form the historic fabric of the Battle Green Area should be retained, respecting their historic widths and historic materials.

Based on an evaluation of existing paving materials and suggested alternatives as outlined in the tables, the following materials are recommended for use in each walkway category. Consistency of materials can help to unify the site, link features, direct people through the Battle Green, and ease maintenance considerations.

<u>Category/Level</u>	<u>Recommended Material</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Town Sidewalks - A (major walks adjacent to roadways away from the Battle Green (i.e. Buckman Tavern side of Bedford Street and resident's side of Massachusetts Avenue	Exposed aggregate concrete	6' width; ADA compliant tip-downs at crosswalks

Primary paths (i.e path to Lexington Visitor Center, Buckman Tavern, etc.)	Stabilized crushed granite stone on appropriately-prepared base; transition to large-cut antique or sandblast surface granite (4' x 4') within 12' of building to remove stone grit from shoes	4' width; edge adjacent lawn areas biannually to retain crisp edges Stone, brass or bronze markers inset at key locations can link features and connect to interpretive program
Secondary paths (i.e. paths within Belfry Hill, paths within ye Olde Burying Ground, path from Lexington Visitor Center to Hancock Street)	Stabilized crushed granite stone on appropriately-prepared base	3' width; edge adjacent lawn areas biannually to retain crisp edges
Paths and paving surrounding monuments	Stabilized crushed granite stone on appropriately-prepared base; transition to large-cut antique or sandblast surface granite (4' x 4') within immediate surrounds of monuments	3' width; edge adjacent lawn areas biannually to retain crisp edges; some monuments to sit within crisply-defined area off adjacent sidewalk (no distinct path)
Stairs – Belfry Hill from Massachusetts Avenue	Antique split granite	6' width; Set with even treads and risers for consistency
Stairs – Belfry Hill from Clarke Street	2" granite fieldstone treads set atop existing (reset) rustic fieldstone risers; match risers in color and texture to existing stone	Width varies within existing fieldstone boulder edges; Reset existing fieldstones for consistent height; mortar fieldstone treads atop existing fieldstone risers with deep-raked joints
Paving under benches	Stabilized crushed granite stone on appropriately-prepared base or large cut granite	Length and width determined by size of bench; connect this paving to adjacent sidewalk & select material to coincide with adjacent path paving; anchor bench legs 6" inside edge of paving

Path selections should be consistent throughout the district and should be selected to unify the district and complement its historic integrity. Use of stabilized crushed bluestone or stone dust should be trimmed regularly to create a neat, uniform appearance. Create a transition from crushed stone to large granite pavers within 12' of historic

buildings to remove grit from shoes before entering buildings. Granite paving could be extended to cross walks to create safe, distinct pedestrian ways across major roads.

Paths that are rarely used should be eliminated and returned to grass / lawn. “Desire paths,” indicated by worn footpaths in the lawns, should be considered for improved surfacing. If a marker system is approved for labeling or linking historic features, it should be incorporated into the paving system (such as the markers found on the Freedom Trail).

Curb cuts in appropriate locations are necessary to provide access for those using mobility devices. Path materials and transitions, including curb cuts, must be designed and installed to conform to ADA standards. During the reenactment, appropriate places for the disabled to gain access and viewing platforms for the activities should be considered.

Action Items

1. Review all walks and determine width and style of paving.
2. Review walking patterns prior to determining location and routes for walks; also width of paths and curb cuts.
3. Submit for review to HDC and Selectmen’s approval.
4. Develop schedule for walkway improvements for a 3- year period.
5. Develop a maintenance program to regularly maintain walkways as necessary, including the maintenance of crisp, well defined edges on all walks.




Note: Traffic Islands and crosswalks will be improved subject to a comprehensive traffic and safety study (see Recommendation # 7)



2. Site Furnishings

Site furnishings within the Battle Green Area currently include benches, street and monument lighting, and trash cans. All of these are considered necessary and important to continue within the Battle Green, but as with the paving, a unified approach is preferred to the current haphazard design selections. All site features need to be historically sensitive, durable, cost effective, and require limited long term maintenance. None of them are “character defining” features and, as such, can change as the uses and needs of the Battle Green continue to evolve. However, they need to support and enhance the historic character of the site and serve the functional needs demanded by this busy public space.

The following table inventories the existing site furnishings. Since most are functional and historically sensitive, a design standard for these features is recommended by selecting a specific bench, trash can and lighting standard from one of the existing.

<u>Image</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Comments</u>
	Visitor Center (4); Belfry Hill (4)	Teak bench with back and arms; Each bench includes memorial plaque in middle of back; set at edge of paths; Visitor center benches on brick pads; Belfry Hill benches set on grass or stone dust
	Situated in evenly spaced locations along the edges of the Battle Green facing away from the street (10)	Concrete sides and wooden slats; Wooden slats regularly require painting; Informal mass of stone dust surrounds each bench; all set as individual benches and not grouped; some located in sunny or busy areas of Green
	Old Burying Ground boundaries	Antique granite post and wooden rail fence; iron hinges attach rails to posts; boards are sawn 2"x4" boards (oak?); creates well-delineated edges to property

<u>Image</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Comments</u>
	<p>Edge of Battle Green (6)</p>	<p>Metal frame with barrel liner; no top; curled iron slats along top edge of basket</p>
	<p>Visitor Center (4) and Belfry Hill (1)</p>	<p>Metal frame with barrel liner; insert cover; similar base design to above; simpler top. (some inserts have been removed and should be replaced)</p>
	<p>Drinking fountain on Massachusetts Avenue (1); unknown date</p>	<p>Spun concrete on brushed concrete slab base</p>
	<p>Wreath and stand (seasonal; wreaths placed at several monuments on special holidays)</p>	<p>Temporary stands with wreaths; moveable wire-stand frame; new wreaths placed for each event</p>

Site Furnishing Recommendations

Bench

Naturally weathered teak bench. As they wear out, replace existing concrete and wooden benches with teak versions set on stabilized sand bases or large size granite paving. Battle Green benches do not include memorial plaques; donations of memorial benches (with plaques) can be used at Belfry Hill and Lexington Visitor Center. Group benches in shady, discreet areas of Green. As a simpler alternative for the Battle Green, consider a backless bench style that matches the design of the current teak bench. Using a combination of backed and backless benches offers a suitable and simple solution for the Battle Green Area. Donated funds for memorial benches should include the cost of repairs and replacement as necessary.

Fences

At present, residents agree that a fence is **not** necessary and will interfere with the Patriots Day activities and daily, democratic use of the Battle Green. Therefore the recommendation is to consider the historic fence style as a prototype for any future fencing needs for the Battle Green. The fence style used at Ye Olde Burying Ground is appropriate and functional. When and if a fence is needed around the Battle Green to protect visitors from traffic or to enhance the Battle Green experience, this fence style is an appropriate choice. Adding the fence back to the Battle Green can create a 'special sense of place' desired by town residents and would create a distinct and different treatment from other town parks. This fence should be based on the historic design but with removable rails in the event that the fencing is an obstacle for the reenactments or other large events.

Some of the monuments (and the Old Belfry) are protected by iron picket fencing of varying heights and styles. These fences require regular repair and maintenance and should be replaced in kind when replacement is necessary. Research may indicate the date and reason for the placement of these fences. If installed at the time of monument installation, they should be considered as part of the monument and conserved under similar guidelines used for the monuments themselves.

Fences, hedges and other plantings located adjacent to major intersections should be evaluated for public safety and security. At the time the Historic Districts Commission is reviewing such elements, consideration for adequate site lines when approaching or entering major intersections should be part of their evaluation process.

Trash Containers

Both trash container designs are historically sensitive to the Battle Green landscape. The simple top and black powder-coated style of the newer trash container is easier to maintain. Consistency is important, so use of all powder-coated black style with the insert should be required as the older trash containers are replaced. Trash containers should be placed only in areas frequented by people and set adjacent to or in concert with benches and other site furnishings.

Drinking Fountain

This feature bears more investigation as to installation date and design selection. The first drinking fountain was part of the watering trough designed as the Hayes Fountain. If the Hayes Fountain is restored, then the current drinking fountain could be eliminated unless it is historically significant. A water fountain serves a necessary functional purpose for site visitors, and its design needs to be simple yet historically sensitive to the Battle Green Area. Consider removal or relocation of this drinking fountain to another suitable spot near the Lexington Visitor Center or in the park at the base of Belfry Hill. Do not compromise underground archaeological resources when placing a new drinking fountain.

Utility Boxes / Transformers

Beneath the blue spruce tree is a large utility box used to pull power for the Patriots Day Reenactment and other large events that occur on the Battle Green. It is recommended that this tree not be replaced. When the tree is no longer there, the utility box will be open and exposed to view from all areas. If the box can be relocated to another, less visible, location, that is the best solution. If that is not possible, then sinking the box and protecting with an at-grade cover is another alternative. If the utility box has to remain as is, then masking its presence with an irregular and informal arrangement of shrubs is a necessary alternative.

Action Items:





1. Analyze bench locations and base materials; develop plan for bench placement (consider grouping 2-3 benches together in fewer locations).
2. Obtain approval for bench style and pad design.
3. Develop program for bench repair or replacement and policy for benches.
4. Implement bench plans and routine maintenance program.
5. Review number and placement of trash containers. Locate trash containers as needed throughout Battle Green Area; regularly maintain and replace as necessary.
6. Investigate history of drinking fountain and evaluate condition and maintenance requirements. Restore Hayes Fountain and its use as a drinking fountain if appropriate. Relocate or remove existing drinking fountain if not historically significant.
7. Determine if other fountain locations are necessary in the Battle Green Area (not on the Battle Green itself). Install in areas where they will not damage archaeological features.
8. Relocate, sink or obscure the utility box / transformer.

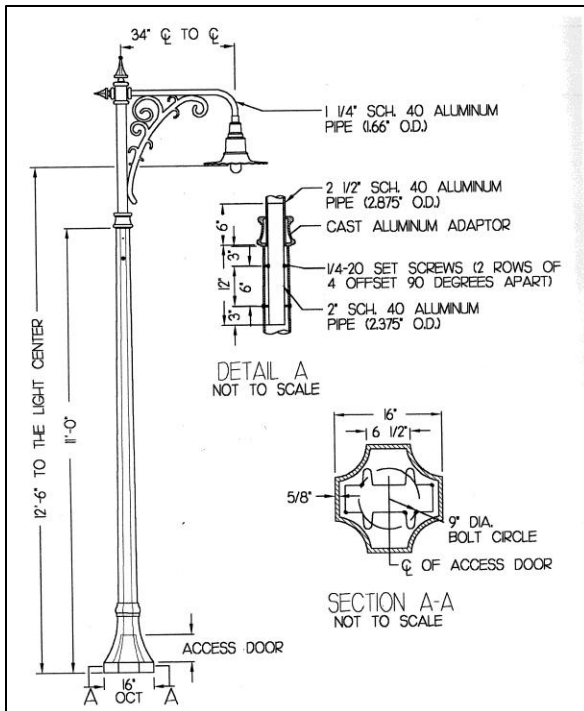
3. Lighting

There are currently four luminaires and four post styles used in the Battle Green Area.. Another light standard and luminaire was removed, recast and installed in the recent park improvements at Emery Park. ³⁵ Each lighting standard style reflects its own era of lighting improvements. The glass acorn light on a concrete post is the most historic (c. 1930’s) while the other light standards reflect mid to late 20th century styles, some inspired by earlier (non-electric) lighting. The curved-top and platter style light is the only cut-off style fixture that is ‘dark sky friendly,’ a classification of lighting style that does not reflect light up into the night sky. This lighting fixture currently offers the softest illumination of any existing luminaire. None of the fixtures are ‘full cut off’ fixtures, meaning that they show the source of illumination is visible to passersby.

Careful selection of a dark-sky friendly fixture with a full cut-off light source would enhance the night-time experience of the Battle Green and would not compete with the special lighting dedicated to illuminating the Minute Man Statue and the flagpole. The closest existing light standard with these characteristics is the Victorian style curved top and platter light, though a new platter-style fixture is available now which nests the light source up into the shade, creating a full cut-off fixture.

Many communities are experimenting with LED lights. This newly emerging, efficient lighting style is cost effective, but careful selection of a warm LED coloring (non-blue) and appropriate wattage can create the soft lighting and color tones more typical of historic lighting. Often LED light is bright and very blue-toned, creating an unwelcoming, harsh lighting environment that would compete with the aesthetic monument lighting.

			
<p>Bedford Street (1)</p>	<p>Bedford Street (5)</p>	<p>Hancock Street (3)</p>	<p>Clarke Street (3)</p>
<p>Metal post and colonial luminaire; Installed by Boston Edison as a sample and never removed (c. 1970’s)</p>	<p>Spun concrete post with metal top and ruffled platter-style luminaire</p>	<p>Spun concrete post with glass acorn-style luminaire</p>	<p>Wooden telephone pole post with mercury vapor goose-neck luminaire</p>



Emery Park design by Spring City Electrical taken from fixture at Battle Green; cast aluminum ornamentation and post with ruffled platter-style luminaire; original post was spun concrete

Lighting Recommendation

Continue to research the history of street lighting in the Battle Green Area and determine the date and reasoning for each lighting campaign. (There are no light fixtures shown in the 1905 photographs, so presumably any historic fixtures would be 20th century in design). Include both gas and electric options. The town of Stockbridge just re-cast their historic light fixtures and posts, and this may be an option for Lexington if a better historic light fixture is available.

If a more historic fixture is not found, use the curved top or Emery Park platter light (preferably with full cut-off lighting) as a design template, as it is the most environmentally friendly option, and offers the softest illumination without glare of all existing styles. Investigate options for warm LED bulbs in wattage suitable for safety which does not compromise the

monument and flagpole lighting. Obtain approval for selected post, luminaire and type of bulb selected. Develop a comprehensive lighting plan for the Battle Green which is sensitive to the aesthetic lighting of the monuments and creates a safe walking and driving condition using the minimum number of lights. If possible, locate the lights on the edges of the street across the road from the Battle Green with no lights on the Battle Green.

Action Items:

1. Research lighting history and historic design styles.
2. Select post, fixture and lighting type (gas versus electric) for use throughout the Battle Green.
3. Develop lighting plan showing number, type, and location of fixtures and their appropriate wattage.
4. Determine if additional monument lighting is appropriate or necessary.
5. Obtain approvals.
6. Implement lighting program over a 2 year period, including replacement of existing lights
7. Establish regular maintenance program for posts, luminaires and bulb replacements

4. Vegetation

Trees

Large deciduous shade trees are one of the key defining features of the Battle Green. In 1991 design guidelines for plantings on the Battle Green and Buckman Tavern were established by the Lexington Tree Committee and approved by the Historic Districts Commission and the Lexington Board of Selectmen.³⁶ These guidelines, which are still in place, established the following recommendations:³⁷

1. Trees on the Green should have tall trunks and a height at maturity of fifty feet or more.
2. These trees should, for the most part, be species historically appropriate to the region.
3. When new trees are planted, they should be no smaller than 2 ½” caliper.
4. New plantings should be near the borders of the Battle Green and no trees should be planted within the open area shown on the plan (the report included a series of plans – see pages that follow).

This duplicates the historic rhythm and placement of trees on the Battle Green in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, a time when the Green was moving from public agricultural space into memorialized public park. Planting trees along the edges of the Battle Green and leaving the central portions open, recommending trees with branching heights from 15’ to 50’, and selecting species with a vase-like or rounded canopy will create a visually uniform space that allows visual connections between historic features and unobscured views across the Battle Green.

The report included plans showing suggested locations for future tree plantings and options for removing post-mature or diseased trees and relocating inappropriate trees which had been planted on the Green. The guidelines recommended the following tree species for use on the Battle Green and nearby areas:

- American Elm (disease resistant cultivars) – *Ulmus Americana*
- Chinese Elm (disease resistant cultivars) – *Ulmus parvifolia*
- Hackberry – *Celtis occidentalis*
- Horsechestnut – *Aesculus hippocastanum*
- Kentucky Coffee Tree – *Gymnocladus dioicus*
- Pin Oak – *Quercus palustris*
- Red Maple – *Acer rubrum*
- Red Oak – *Quercus rubra*
- River Birch – *Betula nigra*
- Scholar Tree – *Sophora japonica*
- Sugar Maple – *Acer saccharum*
- Swamp Oak – *Quercus bicolor*
- Sweet Gum – *Liquidambar styraciflua*
- Tulip Tree – *Liriodendron tulipifera*
- Zelkova – *Zelkova serrata*³⁸

Current horticultural philosophy would argue for the preference for native New England species over introduced cultivars, moving the elm, oak and maple species to the top of the list.

Today the large lawn areas between Bedford Street and the Bicycle Path feature scattered, less rhythmic placement of deciduous trees and smaller understory fruit trees and ornamentals. Most of the trees are less than fifty years old, replacements for the massive number of American Elms lost to Dutch elm disease in the 1950's and 1960's. The 1991 Guidelines recommended that no additional trees be planted in the vicinity of Buckman Tavern or the Visitor Center except those that would serve as screening along the bikeway and beside the Garrity House. "It is especially important to preserve the open space between the Minute Man Statue and the Visitor Center."³⁹ Today scattered plantings of small ornamental trees and fruit trees and scattered stands of lilacs soften the lawns behind Buckman Tavern and in front of the Visitor Center which remain part of the Guideline recommendations.

Belfry Hill was not included in the 1991 Design Guidelines. Today its vegetation is more rustic – featuring the remains of ornamental shrubberies (rhododendrons, lilacs and other ornamental early 20th century species) planted undoubtedly when the Belfry was moved back to the hill, mixed with stands of seedling oaks, pines and briar bushes. The dry, thin, ledge-strewn soils on the hilltop limit the opportunities for intentional plantings.

One evergreen tree (Blue Spruce) screens large electric utility boxes on the Massachusetts Avenue side of the Battle Green. This tree is lit during the holiday season; most feel that this type of tree is better suited to another location outside the heart of the Battle Green. The 1991 Design Guidelines recommended removal of this tree and suggested that any evergreen plantings would be inappropriate for the Battle Green. Since the spruce does screen the large utility box which sits beside it, its removal would require either the relocation or the sinking of the utility box.

In 1989 the Lexington Field and Garden Club received support from the Board of Selectmen to place small labels on thirty trees located near the Visitor Center and Buckman Tavern. The labels measure 4 x 6" for larger species, and 2 ½ x 5" for smaller trees. They include the trees' common and botanical name, located at a discreet yet readable 4-5' above grade; most were screwed to the trees' main trunk or central leader. The effort was proposed to document and celebrate the town's botanical heritage.

Shrubs

The only occurrence of shrubs planted on the Battle Green is a stand of mixed evergreen and deciduous shrubs flanking the Minute Man Statue, maintained as part of the Lexington Field and Garden Club efforts to beautify this focal feature and discourage individuals from climbing on the rocks of the Hayes Fountain.

Massed plantings of arborvitae and yew hide the entrance to Belfry Hill. The seemingly accidental nature of the rhododendron plantings on Belfry Hill are currently the most successful use of evergreens in the area. Other intentional ornamentals, undoubtedly planted as part of the early twentieth century Belfry relocation, are mixed with hardy volunteer shrub species, particularly along the stone wall remains which cross the hillside. Banks of shrubs and a stand of untrimmed white pine were planted as privacy screening against the street edge and private property boundaries adjacent to Belfry Hill.

Clumps of lilacs, which had lined the edge of Bedford Street in front of Buckman Tavern, were relocated per the 1991 Design Guideline recommendations to create a privacy screen adjacent to the Red Cross House. They provide an appropriate screen for the residence. The Red Cross House and Carriage House are privately owned but the town maintains control of the land through a lease agreement.

Other stands of lilacs are scattered around the yards of Buckman Tavern and contribute to the setting for this historic structure. Mixed shrub borders obscure the view between the Visitor Center and the Minute Man Statue and should be removed per the 1991 Guidelines. Ornamental trees with species labels continue to informally shade the expanse of lawns behind and beside Buckman Tavern, creating a small arboretum-like space. Foundation plants line the façade of the Visitor Center. Some of the more recent memorials, such as the U.S.S. Lexington Memorial, are backed by ornamental plantings, installed and maintained as an integral part of the memorial.

Screening along the Bikeway consists of mixed intentional plantings and hardy volunteer species. In some areas privacy screening could enhance the Battle Green Area, such as areas along the edge of Ye Olde Burying Ground and the property boundaries of Belfry Hill.

The 1991 Design Guidelines offer sound recommendations for the treatment of trees and shrubs. No changes are recommended at this time.

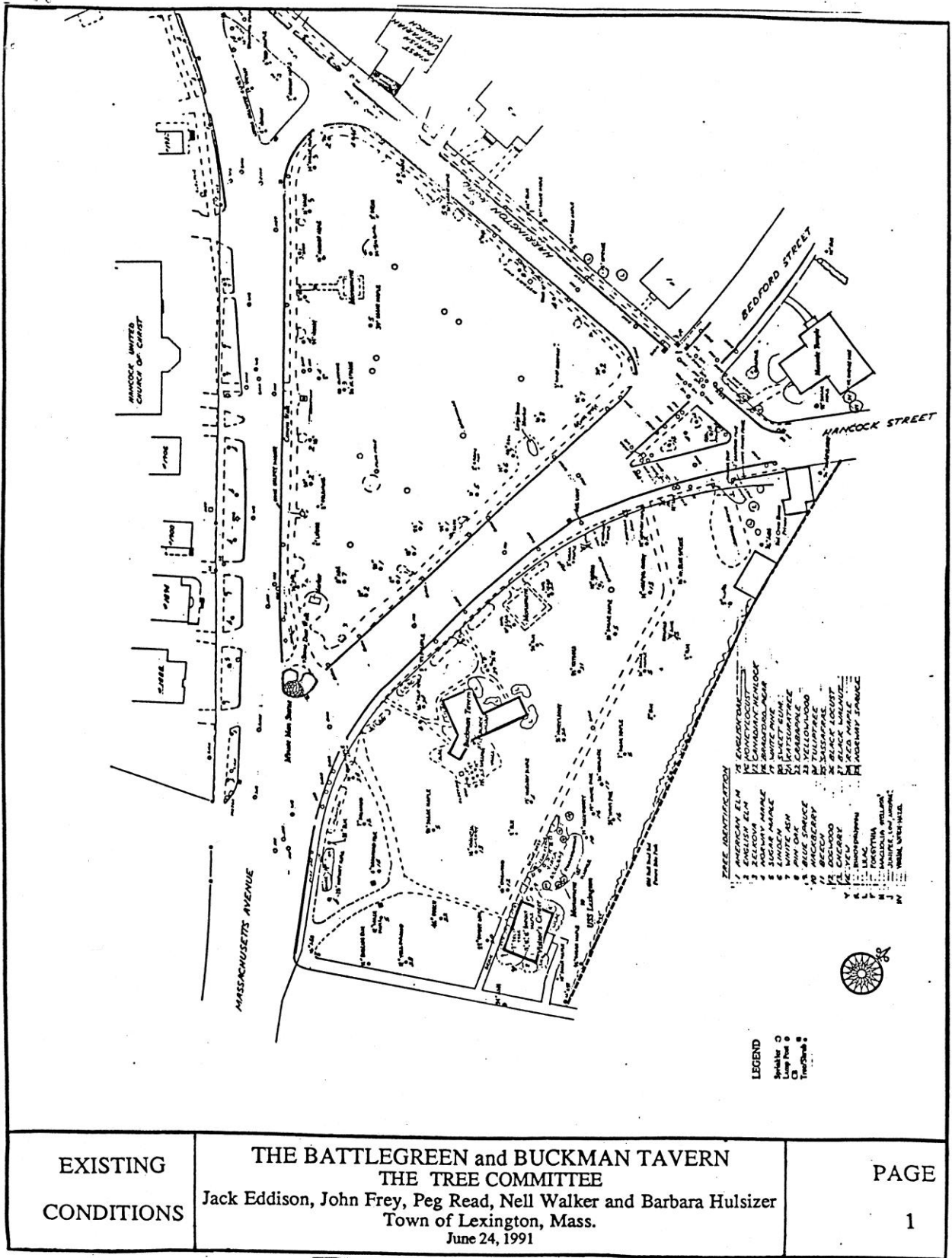
Herbaceous Plantings and Gardens

There are very limited occurrences of seasonal flower plantings currently in the Battle Green Area. The most prominent garden plantings are masses of colorful annuals, bulbs and perennials that ornament the pockets of the Hayes Memorial Fountain, maintained by the Lexington Field and Garden Club. Small accent planting beds are scattered near buildings and interpretive signs on Massachusetts Avenue, including a small pocket planting near the corner of Hancock Street and Bedford Street in front of the Masonic Temple. The restraint from colorful plantings is an important and significant effort to

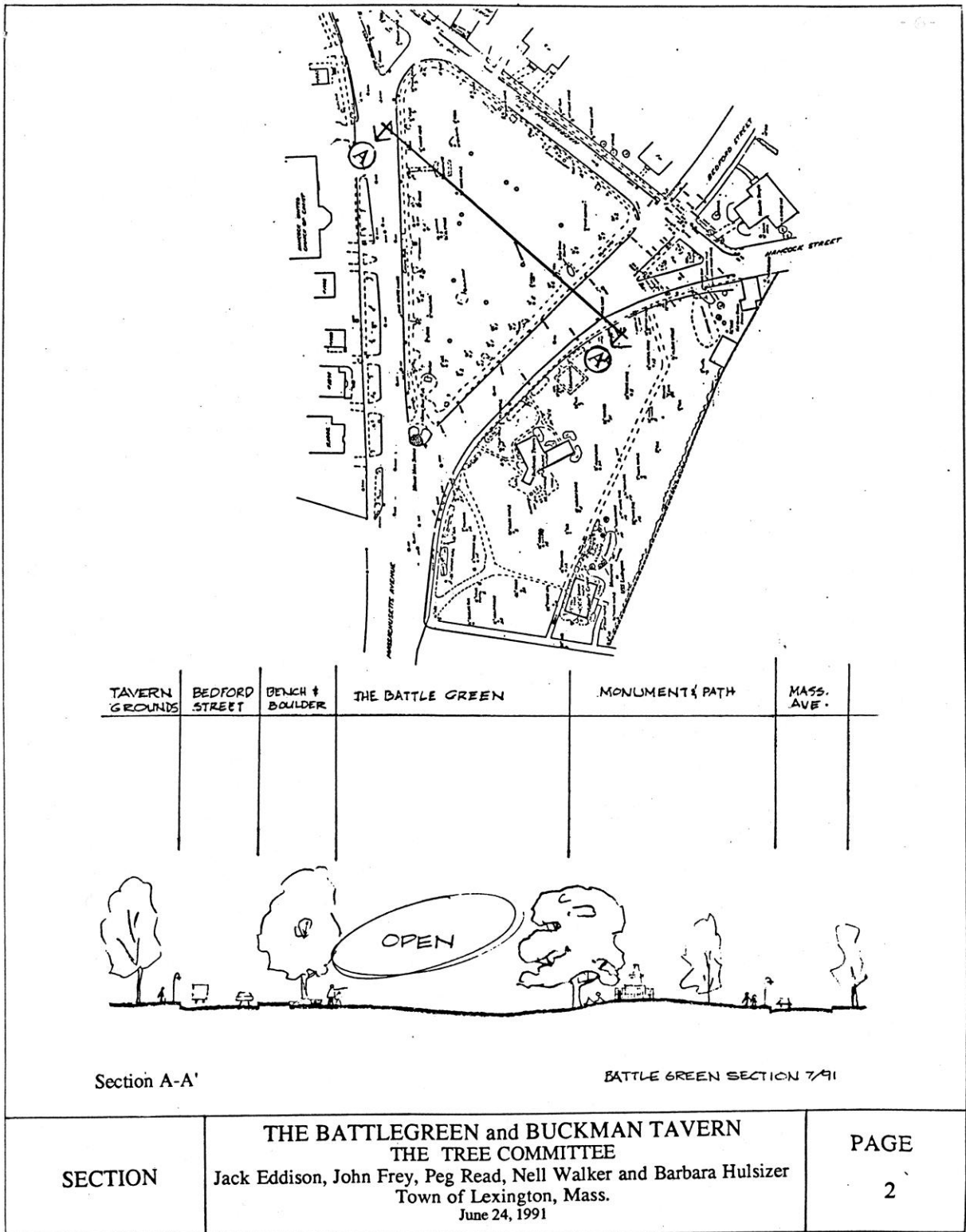
maintain the Battle Green as a simple tree-shaded greensward, allowing its monuments and buildings to color and inform the Battle Green experience.

This restrained use of color does not mean that herbaceous plantings and gardens could not play a significant role in the Battle Green Area. The use of color at the Visitor Center entrance could help to draw visitors to its entrance set so far back from the road edge. Areas along the edges of Belfry Hill could enhance the aesthetics of this gathering spot, and entice larger groups to picnic here, overlooking the Battle Green. The colorful plantings at the Minute Man Statue could be redirected to the base of the Hayes Memorial Fountain if water is restored to this feature, offering an opportunity for civic engagement and protection to the base of the Fountain.

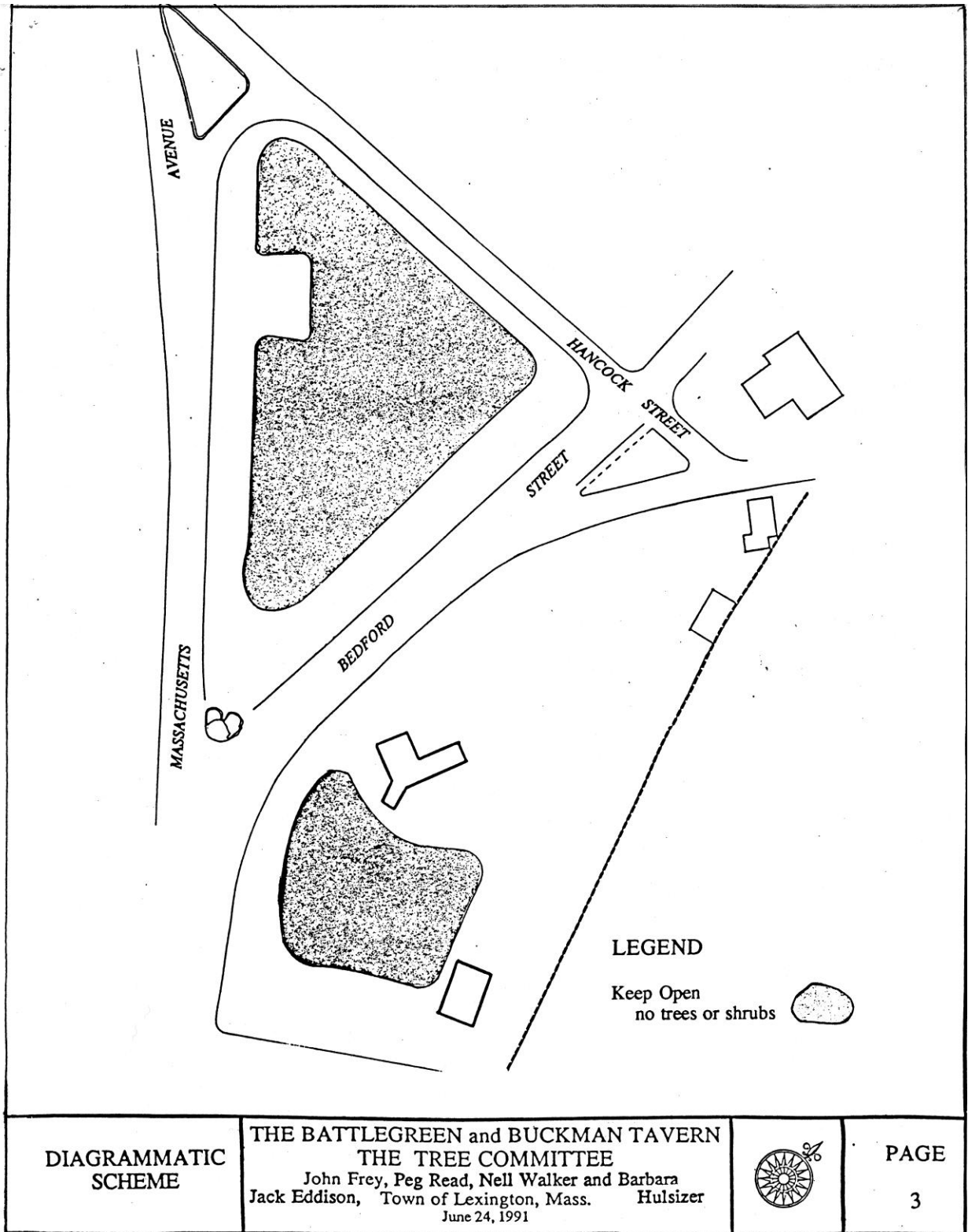




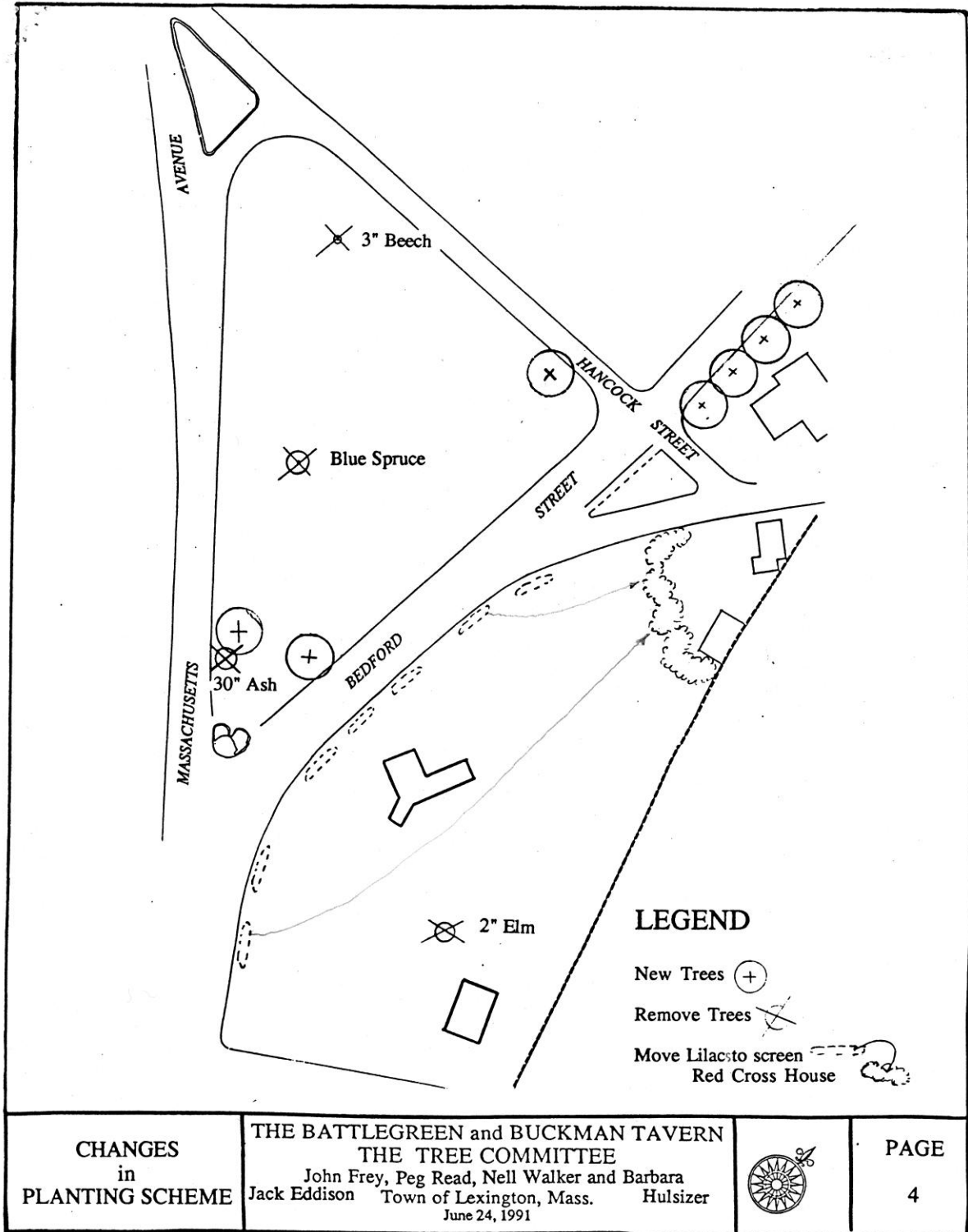
Existing Conditions, Tree Plantings, 1991




Cross section showing role of open space on Battle Green and location of trees along edges, 1991



Proposed open space (no plantings), 1991



<p>CHANGES in PLANTING SCHEME</p>	<p>THE BATTLEGREEN and BUCKMAN TAVERN THE TREE COMMITTEE John Frey, Peg Read, Nell Walker and Barbara Jack Eddison Town of Lexington, Mass. Hulsizer June 24, 1991</p>		<p>PAGE 4</p>
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Proposed tree removals/relocations, 1991

Grass

Recommendations for the height of the lawn areas were discussed in depth as part of the public hearing process. Some hoped that the lawns would be maintained as regularly mown meadows mown four times per year. Others suggested that the Battle Green, in its role as town common, was more appropriately maintained as a well kept lawn. All agreed that efforts to minimize compaction, enhance soil structure, and encourage vigorous growth for the grass were important using organic and ecologically sensitive methods. Based on extensive public input during the Master Planning process, the recommendation is that the grass be maintained as it is.

The appropriate treatment of the grass has to respect both its historic precedents and the contemporary needs for the Battle Green today. For this reason, the Master Plan recommends that the grass be maintained as is. Throughout the 18th and 19th century the Common was pasture. The grasses grazed by cows and sheep were kept irregularly clipped by the animals, so they were never very tall. After the Civil War, when animals no longer grazed the Battle Green, the grasses were allowed to grow and then cut as hay; the hay was auctioned off to a lucky Lexington resident. During this period, the grasses were cut 3-4 times annually. This period, however, was very brief (c. 1860-1884). By 1884, when the first monuments were placed on the Battle Green (in addition to the Revolutionary War Monument from 1799), the grasses were clipped to a manicured lawn. The 1905 photographs illustrate a Common that had removed all evidence of its former agricultural roots – the fence was removed, the grasses clipped, and the elms encouraged to shade the clipped lawn and trimmed sidewalks.

Today's attitudes and opinions about lawn maintenance are mixed. Some encourage the use of taller, broader-leaf, drought-tolerant varieties or meadow grasses mown less frequently. Others encourage sound, organic-based, ecologically sensitive maintenance programs using native or hardy grass species with minimal watering demands and grasses cut weekly to maintain to a shorter, uniform lawn height. The thousands of tourists that visit the Battle Green Area, the reenactment events and other programs suitable to the Battle Green have to be considered when determining a grass maintenance program.

Recommendations

Trees

The Town should continue to plant large deciduous shade trees in a double row around the edges of Battle Green, per the 1991 Design Guideline recommendations. The blue spruce masking the utility boxes should not be replaced. The evergreen tree in front of the Red Cross house should not be replaced. Options for sinking or masking the utility boxes are planned. (The existing evergreen masks one of the key views through the Battle Green).

The areas surrounding the Lexington Visitor Center and Buckman Tavern should be planted with orchards and less formal arrangements of shade trees positioned so they do

not mask the view from the Visitor Center to the Minute Man Statue and the other buildings. The evergreen in front of the Red Cross House should not be replaced. Continued use of the tree labeling program in this area will inform visitors of Lexington's botanical heritage. The quantity, size and placement of these trees should not overwhelm the open spaces, nor diminish the links between historic structures and the Battle Green.

A well-considered and well-monitored tree planting program should include Ye Olde Burying Ground and all portions of Belfry Hill. Borders of trees, shrubs and herbaceous plantings should be carefully planned to enhance the edges of the Battle Green Area along the Bikeway.

Shrubs and Herbaceous Plants

Shrub plantings that are part of the monument installations, such as the shrubs backing the USS Lexington Memorial, should be retained and regularly maintained according to their intent and relationship to the monument. The bank of lilac screening along the yard to the Red Cross House should be retained.

Remove shrubs along Massachusetts Avenue that are blocking the view to the Lexington Visitor Center. Establish the view between the Lexington Visitor Center and the Battle Green by framing it with a few, appropriately placed trees, if necessary.

The yews and arborvitae at the base of Belfry Hill should be removed to encourage visitors to enter Belfry Hill. The pines that line the property boundary between Belfry Hill and the neighboring residence should be under-planted with masses of rhododendrons or other native or hardy, historically appropriate evergreen shrubs to provide privacy and screening between the public and private spaces.

Plantings on Belfry Hill should be evaluated for intent. Weedy species should be removed and a carefully designed arrangement of hardy, drought tolerant species added to the edges of the park to provide privacy to neighboring back yards but highlighting the expansive views of the Battle Green and village center viewed from the top of the Hill. Given the thin, ledge-strewn soils atop the hill, limit the occurrence of lawns and encourage the use of groundcovers, low shrubs and simple plant groupings tolerant of the difficult growing conditions.

Review the location, size, and condition of trees within Ye Olde Burying Ground. As necessary, use native or historically appropriate plantings to screen or buffer views to surrounding properties that detract from the historic character of the burial ground and its boundary fence. Retain the casually clipped grasses at the base of the fence and retain the simple boundary created by the fence. Replace scattered deciduous shade trees within the Burying Ground as necessary with species and placement to match existing.

The use of colorful annuals should be discouraged, with the exception of the base of the Minuteman Statue, the Lexington Visitor Center and the base of Belfry Hill where the colorful plants might guide visitors to these under-utilized areas. Guidelines for seasonal

plantings should encourage the use of hardy native or historic species and limit the maintenance and water demands for these displays.

The small grass traffic islands at Harrington Road, Massachusetts Avenue and Bedford Street were once part of the Battle Green and should be maintained in the same manner and planting style as the Battle Green.

Grass

The park-like treatment of the Battle Green during the late nineteenth century with its installation of so many monuments and memorials significantly changed the role of the grassy lawns from common pasture to public park. Given the predominance of monuments and memorials on the Battle Green today, the role of the grass as a greensward is a critical design element in the Battle Green. Its location at the heart of a bustling downtown surrounded by carefully manicured private residences must be carefully considered. For this reason, and as a reflection of today's design aesthetic for trimmed lawns, the lawn height at the Battle Green Area should be maintained as a regularly mown lawn with maintenance practices that encourage organic fertilizer practices and deep root growth to minimize water demands and support sound ecological practices.

Although not currently recommended, if design aesthetics change, and the preference for longer grasses is desired, and if the Battle Green is fenced, there is better opportunity to maintain the grasses to a different standard than the surrounding residences. If a more historic aesthetic is preferred, maintaining the lawns at a height and quality similar to Ye Olde Burying Ground is one option, with the goal of a fenced pasture rather than a hay meadow. Recognizing the needs of the Patriots Day re-enactment and the heavy visitation of the Battle Green Area must be considered when selecting a grass height. Limiting heavy visitation to a few, carefully selected grass paths will force all visitors to use the same route and by necessity may require this path to be paved to prevent muddy, ill-kept conditions. Lower grass heights might encourage disbursement of foot traffic across the Battle Green and prevent heavy wear in one area.

No matter the length of lawn, it should be maintained at a length that discourages 'browning out' during the hot summer season, and continue the organic maintenance program already in use by the Superintendent of Grounds.

This standard should also apply to the lawns surrounding the Visitor Center and Buckman Tavern. Like the Battle Green, the change in maintenance standards to create lawns in the 19th century has dominated our mowing aesthetics throughout the 20th century. As part of the evolving history of the Battle Green, the lawn evolved out of the pasture when machines replaced sheep and cows. As such, maintaining a well tended, ecologically friendly maintenance program and regular (frequency to be determined) mowing is appropriate.





**Action Items:**






1. Continue tree planting program, being sensitive to keeping open central portion of Battle Green. Use trees of similar size and habit to existing in a double row around the Battle Green.
2. Develop appropriate species and planting standards for trees surrounding Buckman Tavern and the Lexington Visitor Center, sited to retain views to both buildings and connecting views between the Lexington Visitor Center and the Battle Green and Minute Man Statue.
3. Develop planting and maintenance standards for all plantings associated with monuments and memorials, including the fountain and traffic islands surrounding the Minute Man Statue.
4. Develop a planting plan for Belfry Hill, including the removal of evergreen shrubs that hide the entrance to this area from the public way and the careful management of species to provide privacy to neighboring yards but open views to the townscape.
5. Develop an eco-friendly, organic maintenance and mowing program for all grass areas.
6. Manage soils and watering programs to appropriately and adequately maintain all plantings in an ecologically sensitive manner.
7. Develop an appropriate maintenance budget for staff to adequately maintain the Battle Green Area.

5. Focal Points and Views

In order to appropriately manage plantings and to enhance the aesthetic and symbolic aspects of the Battle Green Area, understanding and maintaining its focal points and its key views is critical to the Master Planning process.

At present, the following list represents the primary views for the Battle Green:

	<p>Downtown to the Minute Man Statue</p>
	<p>Minute Man Statue to Flagpole to First Parish Church</p>
	<p>First Parish Church to views across the Battle Green toward downtown/Minute Man Statue</p>
	<p>Gateway Views: first view to Battle Green and Buckman Tavern from intersection of Bedford Street and Hancock Street</p>

	<p>Gateway View: first view of Battle Green from Massachusetts Avenue as you approach the end of Harrington Road</p>
	<p>View from Visitor Center to Hancock Street</p>
	<p>View from Visitor Center to Battle Green (could use enhancement)</p>
	<p>View across Ye Olde Burying Ground from end of entry road</p>
	<p>Panoramic view from top of Belfry Hill</p>

	<p>Streetscape – Massachusetts Avenue vicinity of Battle Green</p>
	<p>Streetscape – Harrington Road</p>

Features that serve as primary focal points for the Battle Green:

1. Minute Man Statue
2. Buckman Tavern
3. First Parish Church

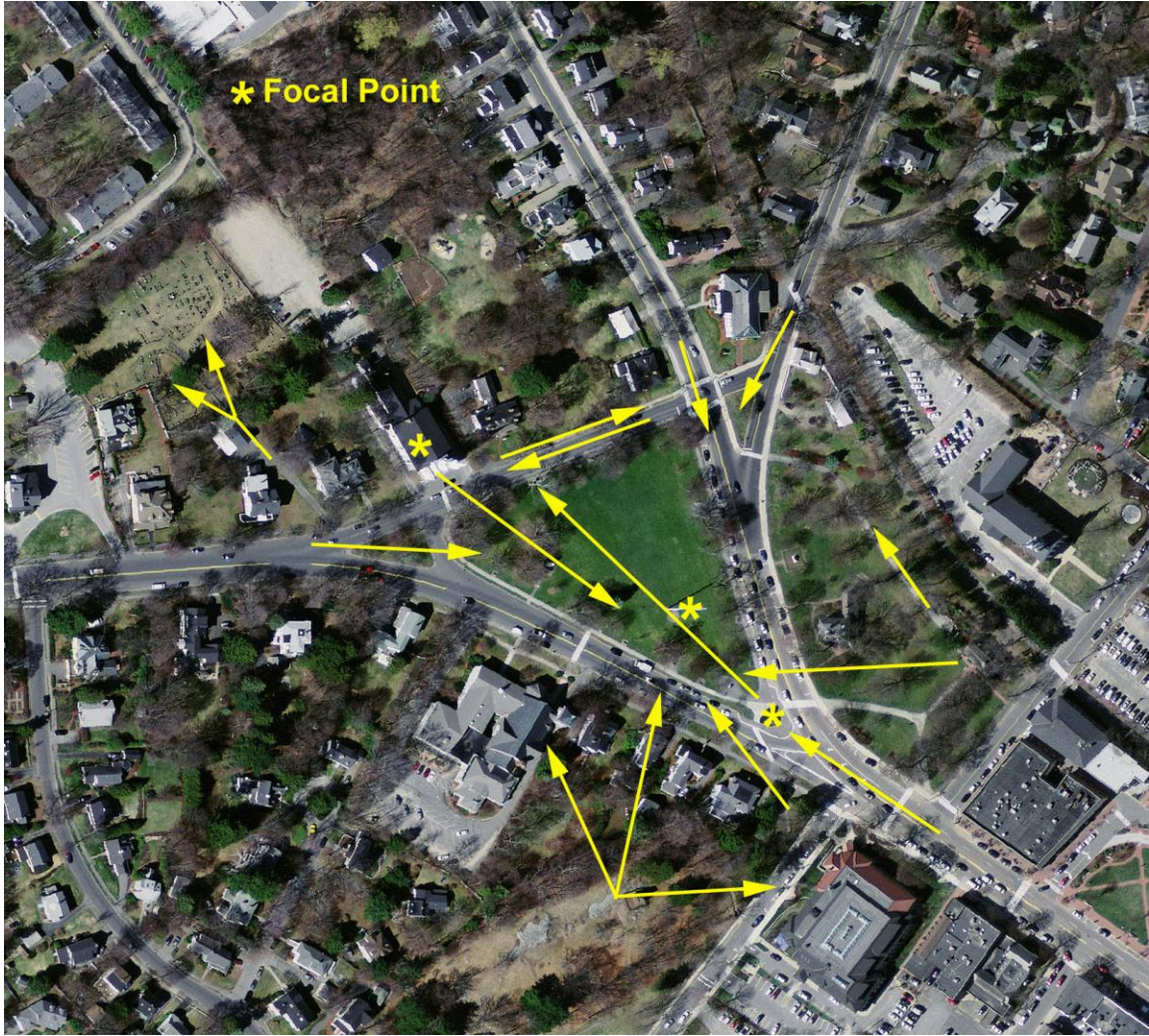
The following map illustrates the location of key views and focal points (focal points are marked with an asterisk *).

Recommendations

Preserve existing views and significance of key focal points. Test any proposed plans for plantings, pedestrian access and traffic management for their impact to these views. Consider enhancements which might create new views or establish new focal points.

Action Items:

1. Review existing views and vistas.
2. Improve view from Lexington Visitor Center to Battle Green and from Bedford Street to the Lexington Visitor Center to draw visitors into the Center.
3. Improve views from top of Belfry Hill.
4. Enhance existing views and/or create new views within Battle Green that reinforce its role as a special place.



*View Study, 2010 (Focal Points are marked with a *)*

Recommendation #7: Parking, Traffic Calming and Safe Pedestrian Access

Parking

In the public survey and in public hearings, parking was identified as a major topic of concern for the Battle Green Area. Those who responded indicated that they felt it was necessary and non-intrusive to allow automobile parking around the Battle Green. Others, including the Historic Districts Commission, strongly supported the possibility of eliminating parking along the edges of the Battle Green as long as the number of parking spaces could be accommodated elsewhere within the vicinity. A few suggested limiting automobile parking to the sides of the street opposite the Battle Green. Parking on Harrington Road was not discussed, though residents on Harrington Road expressed the need for guest parking for the church and for the private residences located on this street. Cars parked along the major thoroughfares offer a small measure of buffer and protection from traffic. However cars in these locations limit the visibility of the Battle Green from the major gateways.

A majority of citizens hoped to eliminate bus parking from the Battle Green because of their size and their continuously-running diesel motors. Everyone recognized, however, the importance of welcoming tourists and accommodating tour groups.

Establishing a thriving double row of trees along the edge of the roadways throughout the Battle Green Area would help to minimize the impact of vehicular noise and the visual distraction of parked cars. Carefully planning for safe cross walks in visible locations where pedestrians are not obscured by parked cars is equally important, particularly if connections are increased between features on both sides of Bedford Street and Massachusetts Avenue.



Recommendations

It is the recommendation of this report that a parking and traffic study be completed that includes an analysis of parking for automobiles along Bedford Street and Massachusetts Avenue, alternative locations for these spaces if they were eliminated from the Battle Green, and options for bus drop-off and parking. A parking and traffic study is currently underway for the Lexington downtown commercial district, and it is recommended that this study be expanded to include the Battle Green Area. Findings from the parking study(s) should be evaluated in consultation with the Battle Green Master Plan consultant and working group to ensure oversight and continuity with the findings of the Master Plan.

There is a significant amount of parking within the immediate vicinity of the Battle Green, located in large lots behind downtown businesses. This parking is difficult for visitors to find, and Battle Green visitors will compete with business traffic for the available spaces. A comprehensive parking study can analyze the current number, allowed duration, and location of parking spaces and develop a well considered plan for relocating the existing spaces around the Battle Green.

In consultation with the Historic Districts Commission, develop plans to remove parking (if recommended) over a period of time around the Battle Green and relocating the parking spaces to other designated locations. Parking should be evaluated on Harrington Road to accommodate the need for residential guest parking and church demands.

A dedicated bus drop-off area should be designated in a spot away from cross walks or areas where buses dropping passengers might obscure pedestrian visibility. Once passengers disembark, buses should be required to leave the area and park in a designated lot away from the Battle Green, then return at the appropriate time to pick up passengers.

A plan for tour buses and tour programs should be linked to the interpretation and signage program, and take into consideration getting visitors into local businesses. One possibility might include a bus drop-off in the Battle Green Area and bus parking or pick up in the downtown area, encouraging visitors to explore downtown shops. Another option might include starting bus groups at the Depot or Museum of National Heritage and bringing them to the Battle Green via trolley or other, less intrusive, mode of mass transit.

Traffic Calming and Safe Crossings

A number of traffic calming techniques are already in place in the Battle Green Area. The density of the village center, the number of turning and entering vehicles onto major thoroughfares in the area, and the congested roads all serve as speed-calming agents, though they increase the frustration and confusion of drivers. Short of installing pedestrian crossing lights, options for raised cross walks or the use of special paint highlighting the crossing opportunities for pedestrians are the best means of providing

safe passage for vehicles, people and commercial traffic through the Battle Green Area. Painted or raised granite crosswalks may be an option, though they will require special design consideration for plows in the winter season.

Bump-outs are used throughout the downtown center, and the Battle Green Area currently includes the use of traffic islands, bump-outs and changes in paving to mark crosswalk locations. Where necessary, crosswalks that run perpendicular to the road edge are preferred to those set at angles. In all cases crosswalks should be located where pedestrians most often cross the roads. The existing traffic island in front of the Minute Man Statue has proved to be an effective means to allow visitors to photograph the monument. Its surface needs aesthetic improvements (such as changing the surface to stone or using grass or groundcover surrounding a central walk). Where possible, pedestrians should be encouraged to cross the road at intersections rather than in the middle of the street – locations where vehicles tend to slow or stop for turning traffic. Carefully managing through traffic, turning traffic and pedestrian crossings in these areas is congested but preferable to crossing pedestrians in the middle of a road where they are not expected. However placing crosswalks where pedestrians WANT to cross the street will be most effective in controlling pedestrians and cars.



Recommendation

A professional study which analyzes the current parking, traffic and pedestrian crossing opportunities can offer the best options for solving these important problems. This study should include an analysis of who is using the available parking, for how long, for what reason, and on what day and time. Solutions for these issues must be carefully studied and solved using appropriate materials and minimal signage so they do not intrude on the Battle Green Area. This study should address the overall improved safety for pedestrians to the Masonic Temple, the Lexington Visitor Center, Buckman Tavern, the Battle Green, the Cary Library, and downtown businesses. Findings from the parking study(s) should be evaluated in consultation with the Battle Green Master Plan consultant and working committee to ensure oversight and continuity with the findings of the Master Plan.

Where possible, enhancing the use and feel of the Battle Green Area as a special place apart from other Lexington parks is an important goal of all traffic calming, crossing and parking recommendations. The treatment of traffic islands should be consistent with the lawn and tree plantings on the Battle Green.

Working with the Battle Road corridor, coordinated and consistent treatment of these issues throughout the Battle Road may offer a comprehensive design solution and standards that are consistent, considerate of all users, and safe.

Though necessary, safety signage should be carefully designed and limited to those locations and messages that are critical for the safety of all users. Selected materials and locations should take into consideration their (positive) visual impact of this sensitive area.

Action Items

1. Analyze past traffic and parking studies and their recommendations.
2. Commission a comprehensive traffic, parking and pedestrian study of the Battle Green Area and its relationship to downtown businesses.
3. Recommend improvements for parking (for all vehicles), traffic calming program, and pedestrian crossing locations that are sensitive to the Battle Green Area in consultation with Battle Green Area Master Plan consultant and working group.
4. Locate cross walks in the safest locations.
5. Develop design standards for cross walks and islands in consultation with Battle Green Area Master Plan consultant and working group and use these design standards consistently throughout the Battle Green Area based on traffic calming techniques developed through the traffic study. Where possible use drought-tolerant groundcovers or historic paving materials for these islands (as opposed to asphalt).
6. Develop plans to improve the aesthetics of the traffic island in front of the Minute Man Statue, (if it is to remain based on the traffic study) including alternative options for surface paving, use of landscape materials surrounding the Statue, etc. in consultation with Battle Green Area Master Plan consultant and working group.

7. Obtain approval for all plans.
8. Spearhead funding and implementation plan.
9. Maintain all implemented changes; monitor their success and alter as needed.

Recommendation #8: Budget and Funding

The recommendations within this Master Plan cannot be implemented without proper funding. Another charge of the Battle Green Area Advisory Committee is to make recommendations for appropriate private and tax payer based funding strategies. As a highly significant, National Landmark property, the Battle Green has options for available federal funding not available to other historic sites (the Save America's Treasures program). Individual features within the Battle Green Area (monuments, markers, historic structures, vegetation) might qualify for funding from various public and private sources. Based on the recommendations in this Master Plan, the following budget has been prepared based on a three-tier implementation strategy (immediate, mid-term and long-term improvements). Cost figures are based on 2010 pricing and will have to be adjusted for inflation as necessary and may change if decisions about materials and scope of work are changed. All funding requests will be brought to Town Meeting for appropriation

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QTY</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>UNIT PRICE</u>	<u>TOTAL COST</u>	<u>YEAR 1</u>	<u>YEAR 2</u>	<u>YEAR 3</u>
Site Work and Circulation							
Stabilized sand paths - circumference of Battle Green	8850	sf	\$ 6.00	\$ 53,100.00		\$ 53,100.00	
Stabilized sand paths - Belfry Hill	2000	sf	\$ 6.00	\$ 12,000.00		\$ 12,000.00	
Stabilized sand paths - vic. Monuments	2,500	sf	\$ 6.00	\$ 15,000.00		\$ 15,000.00	
Stabilized sand paths – vic. Visitor Center & Buckman Tavern	6,000	sf	\$ 6.00	\$ 36,000.00			\$ 36,000.00
Stabilized sand paths - Ye Old Burying Ground	8,000	sf	\$ 6.00	\$ 48,000.00			\$ 48,000.00
Granite at monuments	1168	sf	\$ 50.00	\$ 58,400.00	\$ 33,600.00	\$ 24,800.00	

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QTY</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>UNIT PRICE</u>	<u>TOTAL COST</u>	<u>YEAR 1</u>	<u>YEAR 2</u>	<u>YEAR 3</u>
Aggregate concrete sidewalks (Mass Ave, Harrington & Bedford St.)	12,900	sf	\$ 10.00	\$ 129,000.00			\$ 129,000.00
Grass restoration and site work	3,000	sf	\$ 0.50	\$ 1,500.00		\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
Planting							
Ornamental trees vic Visitor Center/Buckman Tavern area	15	indiv.	\$ 500.00	\$ 7,500.00			\$ 7,500.00
Orchard trees vic Buckman Tavern/ Visitor Center lawns	8	indiv.	\$ 500.00	\$ 4,000.00			\$ 4,000.00
Garden Beds vic Visitor Center	2	indiv.	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00			\$ 2,000.00
Boundary garden beds - Belfry Hill Park	1	indiv.	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00			\$ 5,000.00
Boundary screening plants - Burying Ground and Belfry Hill	50	indiv.	\$ 250.00	\$ 12,500.00			\$ 12,500.00
Belfry Hill Landscape Restoration	1	allow.	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00			\$ 8,000.00
Tree pruning and fertilizing	1	allow.	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00			\$ 8,000.00
Construction							

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QTY</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>UNIT PRICE</u>	<u>TOTAL COST</u>	<u>YEAR 1</u>	<u>YEAR 2</u>	<u>YEAR 3</u>
Restoration Hayes Fountain	1	allow.	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00		
Repair Fence at Burying Ground	1	allow.	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00	
Repair/Remove chain link fence at Belfry Hill	1	allow.	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00			\$ 5,000.00
Steps at Belfry Hill - Mass Ave (granite)	5	6' wide	\$ 800.00	\$ 4,000.00			\$ 4,000.00
Steps at Belfry Hill - Clarke Street (granite treads)	1	allow.	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00			\$ 15,000.00
Repairs to monument fences	300	lf	\$ 3.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00		
Repairs to Belfry Hill retaining wall	100	lf	\$ 20.00	\$ 2,000.00			\$ 2,000.00
Site Furnishings							
Monument conservation	1	allow.	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00		
Benches	20	indiv.	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 28,000.00			\$ 28,000.00
Signage replacement	8	indiv.	\$ 800.00	\$ 6,400.00			\$ 6,400.00
Trash containers	6	indiv.	\$ 700.00	\$ 4,200.00			\$ 4,200.00
Lights (poles and luminaires)	12	indiv.	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 36,000.00			\$ 36,000.00

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QTY</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>UNIT PRICE</u>	<u>TOTAL COST</u>	<u>YEAR 1</u>	<u>YEAR 2</u>	<u>YEAR 3</u>
Traffic, Parking, Pedestrian Crossings							
Traffic study	1	indiv.	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00		\$ 60,000.00	
Traffic Islands	1	allow.	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00			\$ 50,000.00
Pedestrian Crossings	1	allow.	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00			\$ 50,000.00
Subtotal				\$ 731,500.00	\$ 99,500.00	\$ 170,650.00	\$ 461,350.00
Miscellaneous							
Project design	1	10%		\$ 63,200.00	*	\$ 17,065.00	\$ 46,135.00
Project supervision	1	10%		\$ 63,200.00	*	\$ 17,065.00	\$ 46,135.00
Contingency	1	10%		\$ 63,200.00	*	\$ 17,065.00	\$ 46,135.00
Total				\$ 921,100.00	\$ 99,500.00	\$ 221,845.00	\$ 599,755.00

*Already included in FY 2011 budget

Funding Sources

The recommendations within this Master Plan cannot be implemented without proper funding. Another charge of the Battle Green Area Advisory Committee is to make recommendations for appropriate private and tax payer based funding strategies. As a highly significant, National Landmark property, the Battle Green has options for available federal funding not available to other historic sites (the Save America's Treasures program). Individual features within the Battle Green Area (monuments, markers, historic structures, vegetation) might qualify for funding from various public and private sources.

The following is a preliminary list of available federal and state funding sources for the Battle Green Area. Other sources, particularly private grants and foundations, may offer other funding opportunities, particularly for specific features or aspects of the Battle Green Area (i.e. monument preservation, signage, interpretation, etc.)

1. Grant Name: Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation
Agency: National Trust for Historic Preservation
Amount: \$2,500 – 10,000
Match: 1:1
Deadline: Feb 1
Eligible Activities:
Consultant services for planning and education in preservation;
Designing management capabilities; designing marketing materials; educational programs; web site development

2. Grant Name: Save America's Treasures
Agency: National Park Service, National Endowment for the Arts, Institute of Museum and Library Services, Presidential Committee on the Arts and Humanities
Amount: \$125,000-700,000
Match: 1:1
Deadline: late May
Eligible Activities:
Preservation and conservation work on National Landmark sites, structures, intellectual and cultural artifacts

3. Grant Name: Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund
Agency: Massachusetts Historical Commission
Amount: \$6,000-10,000
Match: 60:40
Deadline: varies
Eligible Activities:
Master planning for historic preservation; feasibility study of financial, technical or economic alternatives to or advisability of a proposed preservation project; development of information related to historic preservation; heritage tourism, historic district design guidelines, training or educational programs for historic preservation
4. Grant Name: American Battlefield Protection Program
Agency: National Park Service
Amount: \$18,000-95,000
Match: 1:1
Deadline: January
Eligible Activities:
Battlefield survey, site mapping, preservation planning, cultural landscape inventories, educational materials and interpretation
5. Grant Name: Interpreting American History Grant
Agency: National Endowment for the Humanities
Amount: \$15,000
Match: outright funds but prefer 1:1 match
Deadline: January
Eligible Activities:
Planning and implementation grants offered in two separate categories; visitor orientation, exhibitions, interpretive displays, revised tour scripts, docent materials, publications such as brochures and guidebooks, signage, website and other digital media

6. Grant Name: Preserve America Grants
Agency: National Park Service & Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Amount: \$15,000-250,000
Match: 1:1
Deadline: February
Eligible Activities: Heritage tourism, preservation planning, history education and economic development
7. Grant Name: Massachusetts Downtown Initiative
Agency: Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development
Amount: \$10,000
Match: 1:1
Deadline: December
Eligible Activities: Consulting services for business improvement districts; design; economic development; housing; parking; way-finding and branding

Battle Green Master Plan

Draft 2-28-11



General:

- Establish Battle Green Area Advisory Committee
- Revise Rules and Regulations
- Approve Boundaries
- Link features within Battle Green Area to other historic sites and downtown business district
- Conduct parking and traffic study to inform decisions about traffic calming, pedestrian safety, and parking

Interpretation and Signage:

- Support implementation of approved interpretation program
- Monitor quantity and placement of traffic and safety signs
- Develop and enforce rules for temporary and event signs

Monuments and Markers:

- Conserve all monuments and markers working with professional conservator (underway)
- Continue regular program of maintenance
- Consider removal or relocation of markers not critical to Battle Green
- Restore Hayes Memorial Fountain

Paths and Stairs:

- Town sidewalks: 6' wide; exposed aggregate concrete and stabilized cr. granite
- Primary paths: 4' wide; stabilized crushed granite with crisp edge
- Secondary paths: 3' wide; stabilized crushed granite with crisp edge
- Paths at monuments: 4' wide; 4' x 4' granite pavers with sandblast or thermal finish
- Stairs Belfry Hill from Mass Ave: 6' wide split granite
- Stairs Belfry Hill from Clarke Street: natural fieldstone treads on existing rustic risers

Site Furnishings:

- Under benches: width as needed; stabilized crushed granite; crisp edges
- Benches: naturally weathered teak to match existing
- Trash containers: match existing powder-coated black metal with liner
- Drinking fountain: relocate
- Lighting: Spun concrete post with cast metal arm; ruffled platter luminaire to match style at Depot Square

Vegetation:

- Trees surrounding Battle Green: double row deciduous shade trees in honor of veterans (continue existing program)
- Vegetation on Belfry Hill: renovate existing plantings; add native drought-tolerant thin soil species; screen neighboring yards, open views from top of hill to village and Battle Green; remove vegetation which masks views and vistas to Battle Green
- Vegetation at Visitor Center/Buckman Tavern: orchards and random groupings of shade and historic ornamental species; remove vegetation which masks views and vistas to Battle Green
- Vegetation at Burying Ground: continue existing maintenance program
- Grass: establish eco-friendly mowing and maintenance regiment

Focal Points and Views:

- Enhance and strengthen existing views and vistas between focal points



Priority Planning

If this document is to become a blueprint for stewarding change in the Battle Green Area, the many action items that are outlined within these pages should be prioritized into a logical order so that effective and efficient planning can move these tasks from paper to reality. Some of the timing for these tasks are guided by available funding, and certainly if grant funds become available for some activities, they will undoubtedly rise to the top of the list pending successful funding.

The following is a proposed prioritization of goals, divided into three categories: short, intermediate and long term. It is hoped that this list may guide the efforts of the Board of Selectmen in implementing this Master Plan.

1. Short Term Goals

- Establish Battle Green Advisory Committee
- Prepare comprehensive conservation program for all monuments, including immediate and regular maintenance requirements
- Restore/define paving surfaces immediately surrounding monuments
- Restore Hayes Fountain
- Approve revised Rules and Regulations for Battle Green Area
- Continue to support and implement on-going interpretation and signage program, including the removal or relocation of existing interpretive signage as needed
- Repair fences in vicinity of monuments
- Redesign plantings at base of Hayes Fountain
- Remove shrubbery between Visitor Center and Minute Man Statue
- Define scope and process for traffic study; expand contract with existing consultant or bid new contract for expanded study
- Develop funding strategy for Battle Green Area improvements

2. Intermediate Goals

- Complete traffic and parking study; approve findings and recommendations
- Design and implement changes to parking and traffic islands per report recommendations
- Select and approve light standard and luminiere; finalize number and location of light standards throughout Battle Green Area; Remove existing lighting and replace with recommended selection
- Finalize and approve recommendations for all walks, including location and width
- Restore/renovate paths throughout Battle Green Area, including stairs at Belfry Hill and drainage at Visitor Center
- Review, plan and implement appropriate changes in paths and tip downs for handicapped access.

- Prepare, approve and implement relocation of any markers or monuments not critical to the Battle Green experience and better utilized in other areas of the Battle Green Area
- Repair fence at Ye Olde Burying Ground (as needed)
- Analyze bench locations; develop and implement plan for bench placement and base materials
- Review number and placement of trash containers; add/replace receptacles as necessary
- Determine location and demand for water fountains; relocate existing fountain and install new fountains as needed
- Determine need for additional bicycle racks and/or connections to Bikeway
- Install deciduous trees around Battle Green as needed
- Design and install plantings at Belfry Hill and Visitor Center, including boundary screening and links to Minuteman Bikeway

3. Long Term Goals

- Implement all traffic study and parking recommendations
- Renovate sidewalks on Massachusetts Avenue and Bedford Street
- Build strong links between the downtown commercial district and the Battle Green Area
- Enhance and reinforce links between historic sites, focal points and views within Battle Green Area.
- Design and install tree plantings and other landscaping along Minuteman Bikeway, behind Buckman Tavern and in the vicinity of the Visitor Center
- Relocate or sink utility box
- Monitor, maintain and replant as necessary trees in Ye Olde Burying Ground, including edge screening as needed
- Prune and fertilize all trees in Battle Green Area
- Continue innovative interpretation, education and signage programs
- Support annual maintenance of all Battle Green Area features, buildings, monuments, paths and landscaping
- Regularly replace, repair and monitor site furnishings as needed, including benches, trash receptacles, lighting, water fountains, etc.

Conclusion

The Battle Green is a complex layering of daily use and national shrine with intensely significant symbolism. Every effort, from site furnishings, to the length of grass, to the maintenance of its memorials should reflect and respect its significance. As such, standards for the Battle Green and the surrounding historic area are high. The citizens of Lexington care deeply about this property, and as its owner, proudly search for the appropriate choices to achieve these high standards. Community ownership, however, also requires multiple opinions and respect for differing attitudes about use, design standards, and interpretive programming. This respect for diverse opinion and the role of individual citizens to shape public policy is exactly what the Battle Green represents.

Therefore, the implementation of its Master Plan will, by necessity, be guided by passionate conversation. Instead of slowing or stopping the process, however, it should not prevent progress, but inform it. We look to the Board of Selectmen to guide the progress of this effort with the counsel of the Battle Green Advisory Committee. This steady, forward movement, coupled with sound budgeting and conscientious maintenance programs, will ensure that we conserve ‘the birthplace of American liberty’ for future generations of Lexingtonians and for those visitors from around the world who view the land as a sacred reminder of American ideals.

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Description: Book outlining the process of historic research and sources in
Lexington

Plans for Lexington Battle Green on File, Lexington Department of Engineering

Proposed Work, May 24, 1928 [Public Grounds and Buildings 63; Vault 201 Bedford Street]

As Built, March 1925. [Public Grounds and Buildings 53; Vault 201 Bedford Street]

Land Around Common, January 1, 1917. [Public Grounds and Buildings 83; Vault 201 Bedford Street]

As Built, n.d. [Public Grounds and Buildings 65; Vault 201 Bedford Street]

Sprinkler System, 1974. [Public Grounds and Buildings 89; Vault 201 Bedford Street]

Tree Map, June 1957 [Public Grounds and Buildings 53A; Vault 201 Bedford Street]

Middlesex County Atlas. (Bound volume) 1906 [Vol. 2 Middlesex County Vault 201 Bedford Street]

Map of Belmont, Watertown, Waltham and Lexington (bound volume) 1898. [Vault 201 Bedford Street]

Lexington GIS. Base maps and mapped layers. 2010. [online]

Appendices

1. Guidelines for Greens
2. Case Studies from Other Communities
3. Public Forum Comments (October 20, 2010)
4. Survey data, 2009-2010
5. Endnotes

(Authors Note: This list of guidelines, and this publication, offer simple rules for proper management of town greens. Lexington has already adopted many of these goals; the others are part of the objective of this Master Plan)

Guidelines for Greens

By Thomas M. Paine, ASLA and Lauri A. Halderman

Published in *On Common Ground: Caring for Shared Land from Town Common to Urban Park* (Harvard MA: Harvard Common Press, 1982)

FOCUS

1. Maintain the dominance of an effective focal point
2. If the green has no focal point, consider creating one
3. If several embellishments compete for dominance, relocate or reorganize them
4. Provide additional focus by enclosing the green with a fence, rows of trees, or both

LANDSCAPE

1. Maintain characteristic planting of the space
2. Locate trees according to historical, spatial, and environmental factors
3. Plant trees along the perimeter to provide a strong sense of enclosure
4. Plant trees and shrubs sparingly in other locations, for special design purposes
5. Restrict flowers to planters or other suitable containers
6. Preserve the existing topography of the green.

FOOTPATHS

1. Provide paths to major points of destination and embellishments
2. Arrange paths in a pattern that is simple and functional
3. Keep footpaths uniformly narrow
4. Provide access for the handicapped to the major path
5. Pave off-path areas if necessary
6. Choose footpath and paved area materials that are attractive, compatible, and durable

FURNISHINGS

1. Restrict the number of furnishings so that they do not overwhelm the green.
2. Select new furnishings to coordinate with the existing style, or replace the entire system
3. Provide lighting on the green as necessary
4. Choose furnishings that are well designed, durable, and in keeping with the character of the green.

INTERPRETATION

1. Use interpretive material to convey historical and contemporary information.
2. Consider a variety of media.
3. Integrate interpretive markers with other green furnishings

ENCROACHMENT

1. Defend the green against state highway encroachment.
2. Defend the green against local expropriation for traffic, recreation, and other purposes.
3. Define the edges of the green

4. Choose furnishings that are well designed, durable, and in keeping with the character of the green.

TRAFFIC

1. Enforce low speed limits around the green.
2. Provide adequate crosswalk access to the green.
3. Eliminate curbside parking along the perimeter of the green.
4. Restrict the number of signs on the green.

TOWNSCAPE

1. Preserve the townscape enclosure of the green.
2. Preserve attractive views as well as the buildings themselves.
3. Preserve historic townscape details
4. Encourage rehabilitation and amenities projects in the area surrounding the green.
5. Defend solar access to the green.
6. Reduce the clutter of telephone poles and overhead wires.

USE

1. Encourage regular, passive use of the green.
2. Use the green for both small- and large-scale community events
3. Involve the green in the observance of holidays, especially Arbor Day.
4. Prohibit permanent facilities that benefit only special-interest groups.
5. Establish a system of management for special events

MAINTENANCE

1. Establish a system of routine maintenance
2. Establish a hierarchy of maintenance priorities
3. Supplement parks department staff with a private landscape maintenance firm if necessary
4. Encourage owners of properties adjacent to the green to adopt similar maintenance programs

Case Studies

Keene NH	Too many embellishments (fountains, bandstands, etc.); pedestrian access
Bridgewater MA	Plantings confined to containers
Salem MA	Restored missing elements; rehab funding
New Haven CT	Path system and working green
Lawrence MA	Commemorative memorials
Cambridge MA	Treatment of paving at base of memorials to prevent erosion and wear; Planning and funding
Little Compton RI	Lighting standards and commemorative plaques at base
Dedham MA	Fencing
Falmouth MA	Fencing, embellishments, Seasonal displays; events issues
Woodstock VT	Inferior standards for light posts
Middletown CT	Highway encroachment
Tallmadge OH	Highway encroachment and green space
Norwich CT	Parking
Waltham MA	Paving, planning issues
Madison CT	Pulling the elements back together again
Easthampton MA	Gifts and legacies
South Royalton VT	Curbing
Ipswich MA	Construction of new buildings

<p>Other Massachusetts Communities with Town Commons:</p> <p>• = national significance</p>

Amherst	Easthampton	Marlboro	Salem
East Amherst	Edgartown	Village	Sandwich
South Amherst	South Egremont	Marshfield	Sheffield
North Andover	Essex	Middleton	Stow
Ashby	Falmouth	Milton	Sturbridge
Auburn	Framingham	Natick	Sudbury
Barnstable	Fitchburg	Needham	Sutton
Barre	Foxboro	Needham	Taunton
Bedford	Framingham	Heights	Templeton
Belchertown	South	New Bedford	Tewksbury
Berlin	Framingham	Newbury	Tolland
Billerica	Grafton	New	Topsfield
Bolton	Granby	Marlborough	Townsend
Boston	Greenfield	New Salem	Tyngsboro
Boylston	Groton	Newton	Wakefield
Boxford	Hadley	Norfolk	Waltham
Braintree	Hanover	Northampton	Warwick
Brewster	Hardwick	Northboro	Wayland
Bridgewater	Harvard	North Carver	Webster
Brimfield	Haverhill	Northfield	Wendell
Brookfield	Hingham	North Reading	Wenham
Brookline	Holden	Norton	Westborough
Cambridge	Holliston	Norwell	West Boylston
Carlisle	Hopkinton	Oakham	West
Carver	Huntington	Pepperell	Bridgewater
North Carver	Ipswich	Petersham	West Brookfield
Charlestown	Lancaster	Pittsfield	Westfield
Chelmsford	Lawrence (2)	Plymouth	West Newbury
Chelsea	Lee	Prescott	West Townsend
Cohasset	Leominster	(Groton)	Westford
Concord	Lexington	Princeton	Westhampton
Conway	Littleton	Quincy	Weston
Dedham (2)	Longmeadow	Reading	Westwood
Deerfield	Lowell	Rehobeth	Williamstown
Dennis	Ludlow	Rochester	Winchester
South Dennis	Lynn	Rowley	Woburn
Dunstable	Lynnfield	Roxbury	Worcester
Duxbury	Mansfield	Royalston	Wrentham
		Rutland	

Public Forum Comments
Lexington Battle Green
October 20, 2010
Estabrook Hall

Important considerations for Master Plan suggested by individual audience participants:

- Handicapped Parking
- Don't move statue
- Eliminate parking only if alternative spaces are available
- Handicapped Accessible surfaces for walks and paths
- Keep center of Battle Green open – trees only on perimeter
- Federal regulations impose a level of review and stewardship
- Landmark status makes Battle Green eligible for Save America's Treasures money
- Notify people about burying ground and encourage them to go visit
- Spruce tree is annoying for seeing obelisk
- Current obelisk fencing serves no purpose – remove railing and maintain area
- One consistent material for walkway surfaces – all weather and durable
- Tree Committee member: trees around periphery – deciduous – they are important; not fan of spruce tree; 2 staggered rows of deciduous trees makes most sense
- Handouts/interpretation: Handout is better than too many signs
- Need to provide map of Battle Green and adjacent areas, including how to get to Burying Ground
- Tree removal/planting policy (tree committee)
- Return Battle Green to original view at time of Battle
- Find ways to integrate historic sites surrounding Battle Green into interpretation and visitor experience
- Exhibit for everyday – good ideas for scope should not be bound by geography – binding things
- Is space for tourists or residents? How does that affect approach?
- Disturbing to think that some people think the Center and Battle Green area separate
- Stewardship for April 19th
- Evocative of 1775 but not stagnate
- Wider definition of Battle Green is better
- 5-10 year plan to eliminate parking is critical
- Different surface structure is important
- Subtle connection of roadway to Olde Burying Ground – encourages visitors to go see what is over there.
- Residents don't assume Battle Green is the same as other parks – they value the importance of the Battle Green
- How to enforce regulations?
- Active versus passive recreation?
- No longer get a special feeling the way it is now
- Two issues: recreate 1775 or minor modifications to existing?

- Think in terms of permanent decisions versus reversible decisions
- Oversight belongs with Selectmen
- Visibility of Selectmen's meetings and their decision-making is important to Battle Green governance
- Commission bronze statues for those that died on the Battle Green and place where they lay
- Can't turn back time but can be evocative of 1775
- Increase Battle Green portion of Common
- Create a feeling that evokes 1775
- Interpret place as more educational
- How does it hold the ideal of what happened that day?
- Different interpretations of information such as filming reenactment
- Different rules for Battle Green versus across the street – allow some activities to happen across the street that are not permitted on Battle Green
- Don't forget spiritual sense of space
- Why not an app on an I Phone that shows battle?
- GPS guided tours?
- Should be an evaluative body to present recommendations for Selectmen's consideration

Lots of discussion about spiritual aspect of Battle Green and what it represents. Plan needs to be guided by this ideal as much as it describes the physical changes to the space.

Lots of discussion about interpretation techniques (signs/images/apps) that allow all visitors to experience the space on the day of the Battle

Lots of discussion about tourism and economic development – link between tourists and businesses of Lexington

Balance residents' needs to tourists need

Survey Results, 2009-2010

	LWV First Friday May 1, 2009		Business Round Table May 7, 2009		Hastings PTA May 12, 2009		BGME Group May 18, 2009		Dinner Feb. May 2, 2009		Stamwalk Com February 2, 2010		Capital Exp. Com. Feb 2, 2010		Senior Center Finance Feb 24, 2010		Marshall Hill Association Feb 26, 2010		Eck Lexington Civic Assoc. May 11, 2010		Discovery Day May 23, 2010		Selectman Meeting July 13, 2010		Public Forum October 28, 2010		TOTALS	
	Total Survey	Response	Total Survey	Response	Total Survey	Response	Total Survey	Response	Total Survey	Response	Total Survey	Response	Total Survey	Response	Total Survey	Response	Total Survey	Response	Total Survey	Response	Total Survey	Response	Total Survey	Response	Total Survey	Response	Total Survey	Response
1) How would you describe your association with Lexington?	23		7		10		7		109	2	2			3	3	8	8	12	12	45	41	1	1	1	1	324	224	
Resident											2				3	8			12	41		1						224
Business Owner											0				0	0				5		0						15
Employee of Lexington Business											0				0	0				3		0						20
Visitor's Center											0				0	0				4		0						13
2) What areas should be included in the Battle Green Master Plan?																												
Battle Green	21		7		9		7				2				3	8			11	41		1		1				296
Ye Olde Burying Ground	18		4		8		5				2				3	5				31		0		1				238
Mass. Ave. from library to houses past Battle Green	14		3		2		3				1				1	4			5	20		0		0				166
Buckman Tavern	19		6		8		4				2				3	5			9	33		0		1				249
Visitors Center	18		4		7		4				2				3	3			9	30		0		1				235
Harrington Road	14		3		4		3				2				2	3			4	22		0		0				137
Up to Bike Path	7		3		3		2				1				2	2			2	13		0		0				104
3) What uses should be allowed on the Battle Green?																												
Historical Tours	22		7		10		7				2				3	8			12	45		1		1				319
Picnicking	11		3		8		3				1				3	7			7	33		1		0				193
Meeting Place	16		5		6		6				1				2	5			8	33		1		0				214
Games	7		1		5		3				1				1	3			2	20		1		0				100
Political Rallies	13		3		5		5				0				3	7			6	21		1		0				163
Other	5		1		4		5				1				0	0			0	1		0		0				37
4) Knowing this fact (that it is a burial ground) does it change your perception of how the Battle Green should be used? Which uses should not be allowed																												
YES	8		0		2		0				1				1	2			3	12		1		0				90
NO	10		3		7		6				1				2	5			4	26		1		0				180
Historical Tours	6		1		0		1				1				0	1			3	13		1		0				78
Picnicking	8		2		1		0				0				1	2			2	14		1		1				83
Meeting Place	6		1		1		0				0				0	1			2	12		1		1				53
Games	9		2		3		0				0				2	2			7	11		1		1				88
Political Rallies	8		1		1		1				0				0	0			4	12		1		1				73
Other	1		0		0		0				0				0	0			0	4		0		1				14
5) Which of the following statements represents your view of what the Battle Green should be?																												
The Battle Green is a sacred historical place that should evoke the ambiance of 4/19/1775	10		3		3		4				1				2	3			8	20		0		1				150
The Battle Green is a town common that should be used for multiple purposes	12		3		4		5				0				2	6			7	23		1		1				171
The Battle Green should be a place that accommodates layers of history	16		4		8		4				1				3	2			7	22		0		1				173
The Battle Green is a place where people should be able to use as they would any park	6		0		0		0				0				1	0			1	7		0		0				35
The Battle Green has no particular significance	0		0		0		0				0				0	0			1	0		0		0				1
6) Do you see the Battle Green as a singularly historic site on Par with Williamsburg, Valley Forge and Gettysburg?																												
YES	13		4		5		7				2				2	6			8	35		0		1				235
NO	7		0		3		0				0				1	1			3	7		1		0				55
7) Does the traffic around the Battle Green negatively impact the experience someone on the Green should have?																												
YES	7		2		3		2				2				1	4			7	20		0		0				136
NO	11		1		6		5				0				2	3			4	23		1		1				110

8) Would you favor a plan that over the long term would divert traffic away from the Battle Green area?																		
YES	3	1	1	2	1	1	2	3	19	0	0	92						
NO	16	3	8	5	0	2	6	6	25	1	1	188						
9) Should tour buses be allowed to park around the Battle Green?																		
YES	14	1	4	2	0	0	4	1	22	1	0	123						
NO	7	3	6	4	1	3	3	7	22	0	1	164						
10) Should automobile parking be allowed around the Battle Green?																		
YES	17	2	7	5	0	3	5	4	30	1	1	210						
NO	3	2	2	2	1	0	3	4	12	0	0	72						
11) Should automobile parking be allowed along Bedford Street between the Battle Green and Buckman Tavern?																		
YES	17	2	6	6	0	3	5	6	31	1	1	227						
NO	4	2	3	1	2	0	2	3	7	0	0	56						
12a) Which materials should be considered for the walkways?																		
Stone dust	13	3	2	5	0	1	3	3	17	0	0	119						
Brick	9	1	6	3	1	0	2	4	21	1	0	132						
Wire cut brick	4	1	1	3	0	0	3	3	6	0	0	59						
Macadam	2	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	24						
Concrete	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	2	4	0	1	27						
12b) Should the walkway materials be the same as in the center?																		
YES	4	1	2	1	2	1	2	6	15	0	0	96						
NO	12	2	1	4	0	1	4	1	11	0	1	81						
13) The Common used to be much larger than it is today. Should the original size of the Common be restored?																		
YES	0	1	2	0	1	1	2	2	11	1	0	70						
NO	16	2	6	5	0	2	4	5	24	0	1	181						
14) At the time of the Revolution, the Battle Green did not have trees. Should trees be allowed?																		
YES	19	3	7	5	1	3	8	9	38	1	0	273						
NO	2	1	3	1	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	28						
15) In the past only memorial trees allowed on the Battle Green have been in honor of those who died in wars. Should memorial trees be allowed?																		
YES	11	3	5	5	1	2	4	9	33	1	0	201						
NO	7	1	4	1	0	1	3	2	8	0	1	75						
16) If allowed, who should memorial trees be for?																		
Veterans only	8	2	6	2	1	1	4	4	24	0	0	149						
Elected officials	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	11						
Anyone who requests	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	13	1	0	40						
Other	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	7						
17) If memorial trees are allowed, should plaques be allowed?																		
YES	14	2	6	3	0	1	6	6	27	1	0	175						
NO	4	2	3	2	1	1	2	2	11	0	1	74						
18) Regarding monuments on the Battle Green and in the area, currently are there:																		
Too many	5	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	10	1	1	42						
Just the right amount	11	3	8	4	1	3	6	8	26	0	0	195						
Too few	4	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	25						
19) Should funding for a preservation plan for the Battle Green area and its monuments be a priority?																		
YES	11	2	8	7	1	1	4	7	10	0	1	177						
NO	4	1	0	0	0	2	3	3	7	1	0	60						
HIGH	2	1	1	2	0	1	0	1	5	0	0	26						
MIDDLE	8	2	7	3	1	0	2	7	15	0	1	131						
LOW	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	22						

Endnotes

¹ Babize, Mollie, Project Coordinator, Walter Cudnohufsky Associates. Letter to Jeanne K. Krieger, Chair, Lexington Select Board. May 1, 2001.

² Ibid.

³ Walter Cudnohufsky Associates. *The Battle Green, Lexington, Massachusetts*. Summary of citizen charrette findings.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Tourism Committee handout, 2009. Tourism Committee Approved by Selectmen. Battle Green Master Planning Process

⁶ See Town of Lexington By-Laws and Commonwealth of Massachusetts statutes for the establishment of historic districts as well as Town of Lexington enabling legislation for the Historic Districts Commission.

⁷ National Park Service. Battle Green National Landmark Designation. 1962

⁸ National Park Service. Battle Green National Register District nomination. 1976.

⁹ National Park Service. Battle Green National Register District amendment, 2008.

¹⁰ Benjamin Muzzey to Cambridge Farms June 4, 1711 recorded June 14, 1711. Volume 15, page 506.

Benjamin Muzzey to the Inhabitants of the Town of Lexington. January 1, 1721/22, recorded June 5, 1722. Volume 20, page 717.

¹¹ Email Marsha Baker to Dawn McKenna. December 9,, 2010.

¹² Committee Report. Town of Lexington. November 6, 1820.

¹³ Town of Lexington Warrant articles for November 3, 1806 through March 7, 1814 regarding laying of the 'Swamp Road.' Synopsis in typed manuscript in files of Battle Green working committee.

¹⁴ Town of Lexington. Warrant article votes. January 6, 1840 and March 1, 1847.

¹⁵ Gould, Miss Sarah B. typed manuscript memoir. N.D. File copy. Battle Green Working Group. Page 2.

¹⁶ Lexington, Town of. *Historical Monuments and Tablets Erected by the Town of Lexington 1884*. Pg 3-5.

¹⁷ Christian Science Monitor. April 9, 1925.

¹⁸ Sears, Thomas Willard. Lexington Common (plan). March 30, 1905. Digital copy available through Library of Congress #180030v.

¹⁹ Sears, Thomas Willard. Digital copies of images available through Library of Congress #180031-180035v.

²⁰ Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Building restrictions for lands facing Lexington Common. March 13, 1916; Records of Hancock Congregational Society, April 12, 1916; Records of First Congregational Church Society, December 16, 1916

²¹ Town of Lexington Warrant articles for November 3, 1806 through March 7, 1814 regarding laying of the 'Swamp Road.' Synopsis in typed manuscript in files of Battle Green working committee

²² Lexington, Town of. Town meeting proceedings. 1888. Typed manuscript notes in files of Battle Green working committee.

²³ Lexington, Town of. Town meeting proceedings. 1914-1915. Typed manuscript notes in files of Battle Green working committee.

²⁴ Massachusetts Historical Commission. Form C – Object. Inventory Form for Revolutionary War Monument. Recorded by Lisa Mausolf, Lexington Historical Commission, October 2009.

²⁵ Lexington, Town of. *Historical Monuments and Tablets Erected by the Town of Lexington 1884*. Pg 3-5. Massachusetts Historical Commission. Form C – Object. Inventory Form for Battle Line Boulder and Meetinghouses Monument. Recorded by Lisa Mausolf, Lexington Historical Commission, October 2009

²⁶ Massachusetts Historical Commission. Form C – Object. Inventory Form for Minute Man Statue. Recorded by Lisa Mausolf, Lexington Historical Commission, September 2009

²⁷ Email. Barbara and Bill Mix to Lucinda Brockway, January 7, 2011.

²⁸ Massachusetts Historical Commission. Form C – Object. Inventory Form for Flagpole on Green. Recorded by E.W. Reinhardt, Lexington Historical Commission, N.D. and phone interview, Lucinda Brockway and Dick Michaelson. December 3, 2009.

²⁹ Email Marsha Baker to Dawn McKenna. December 9,, 2010. Belfry Marker text, Lexington Battle Green.

³⁰ Massachusetts Historical Commission. Form C – Object. Inventory Form for Lexington Minute Men of 1775 Memorial. Recorded by Lisa Mausolf, Lexington Historical Commission, October 2009

³¹ See compilation of citizen surveys in the appendices for a full synopsis of citizen input.

³² Walter Cudnohufsky Associates. *The Battle Green, Lexington, Massachusetts*. Page 9

³³ Ibid. p. 9-10.

³⁴ Lexington Historical Society. *Preserving Our Heritage. Three walking trails in Lexington. May 15, 1975*.

³⁵ Email. Ginna Johnson to Dawn McKenna and Cindy Brockway. January 9, 2011. Original light was located on the south side of the Battle Green on a concrete pole. The light was removed, shipped to Spring City and custom cast for the lights at Emery Park.

³⁶ Town of Lexington Annual Report, 1991. Page 7; page 48. Town of Lexington Annual Report, 1992, page 5.

³⁷ Lexington Tree Committee (Jack Eddison, John Frey, Nell Walker, Barbara Hulsizer, and Peg Read) for the Town of Lexington, Massachusetts. *Design Guidelines for the Battle Green and Buckman Tavern*. June 20, 1991

³⁸ Ibid

³⁹ Ibid.