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TOWN OF ACTON, MA

2025 MAR 27 PM 4:00

TOWN OF ACTON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
472 Main Street, Acton, MA 01720

CERTIFICATE 2503A

Pursuant to Chapter 40C of the General Laws of Massachusetts and the Historic Districts Bylaw of the Town of Acton, the Acton Historic District Commission hereby issues a

An Amended CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS
For the work described in the Application of the same number.

Applicant: Acton 250 Committee (Stephen Trimble)

Telephone: 978 844 7156

Email: stephentrimble@acton-ma.gov

Property Owner: Town of Acton

Contact: John Mangiaratti, Town Manager

Address: 472 Main Street, Acton, MA 01720

Location of Work: 5 Concord Road

District: Center ☒ West ☐ South ☐

Description of Proposed work: Place a new Isaac Davis Monument interpretive sign adjacent to the crosswalk near the existing stone Horse Trough. The intent of the sign is to describe the revolutionary era items located on the Town Center Common.

Findings, Mandatory Conditions, Requirements, Recommendations:

Findings:

1. Members of the HDC met on site on February 1, 2025 Acton 250 representative Stephen Trimble to review a physical, life-sized mockup of the sign.
2. The HDC members stated that the sign should be located as far from the Horse Trough as physically possible so that the Horse Trough maintains its own spatial independence.
3. After reviewing and discussing several possible sign locations it was unanimously agreed that the sign should be placed in the grass area as near to the crosswalk as possible (Approximately 10 feet from the crosswalk) between the existing sidewalk edge and the street curb. It should be oriented such that a person is facing the Horse Trough and the Isaac Davis Monument while reading the sign.
4. Subsequent to the issuance of the Certificate of Appropriateness, Corey York, Director of Public Works, and Selectman Dean Charter, inspected the proposed site of the sign and determined that, for safety reasons, it should be located on the east side of the sidewalk, parallel to the sidewalk so that it can be read by a passer-by in a

wheelchair, all as depicted in the attached Application to amend the Certificate of Appropriateness.

Mandatory Conditions:

1. The sign shall be fabricated and installed as described in the attached Application to Amend the Certificate of Appropriateness.

Recommendations:

1. None.

When completed, the work outlined above must conform in all particulars to the Application approved on February 11, 2025, as amended on March 25, 2025. The applicant may proceed with the proposed work provided all other approvals, have been obtained, including a Building Permit if necessary. This Amended Certificate is valid for work commenced within one year of the date of issuance. An extension or renewal of the Amended Certificate may be granted at the discretion of the Commission. If a property changes ownership during the time the Certificate is in force, a new owner who wishes to continue the authorized work must apply to have a new Certificate issued in his or her own name.

Application received January 16, 2025

Date of Public Hearing N/A

Certificate approved by David Honn
for Historic District Commission

Date: February 13, 2025

Amended Certificate approved by Arthur Leavens Date: March 25, 2025

Arthur Leavens Member, HDC

Copies to: Applicant, Building Commissioner, Town Clerk, HDC File

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MAR 19 PM 4:21

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MAR 19 PM 4:20

Application #2503

*request for
Amendment*

TOWN OF ACTON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
472 Main Street, Acton, MA 01720

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE

This information will be publicly posted on the Town of Acton website docushare.

Pursuant to Ch. 40C of the General Laws of Massachusetts, application is hereby made for issuance of the following Certificate for work within a Local Historic District (please check one):

Cert. of Appropriateness (Building Alteration/Sign/Fence/Change of Ownership) Fee: \$10 ____
Cert. of Appropriateness (Building Addition other than deck/New Bldg/Demolition) Fee: \$50 ____
Cert. of Hardship (for either category of Appropriateness) Fee: \$10 or \$50 (as appropriate) ____
Cert. of Non-Applicability No Fee X

Fees waived for non-profit or municipal applicants.

Applicant: Stephen Trimble

Telephone: 978-844-7156

Address: 8 Francine Road

E-mail: steveinacton@duck.com

Property owner and address: Town of Acton
(if different from applicant)

Contact information: John Mangiaratti

Location of Work:

District: Center X West ____ South ____

No. 5

Street 5 Concord Road

Description of Work: (See website Instructions regarding information that is here required)

This pertains to certificate 2503. Dean Charter and I met with Corey York March 14th to review the suggested placement from the HDC (HDC 1 & 2 photos). Corey noted a line-of-sight issue for traffic leaving Concord Road anywhere on the street side of the sidewalk and followed up with Chief Cogan who concurred. Attached is the photo Dean and Corey suggested the placement of the Monument Interpretive Sign works best. The location is on the house side of the sidewalk positioned out of the way of line-of-sight. It is approximately the same distance from the lighted crosswalk you cited. You will note it is between homes on the town green side. It will run parallel to the sidewalk (indicated in white paint) so that it is 1) accessible to read from the sidewalk for wheelchairs etc. -- yes the reader will need to swivel their head to see the monument, and 2) further reduce line of sight distraction for drivers.

The undersigned hereby certifies that the information on this application and any plans submitted herewith are correct, and constitute a complete description of the work proposed. By my signature below, I acknowledge that this application and all its data will be publicly posted on the Town of Acton website docushare.

Signature of applicant Stephen Trimble Date: March 17, 2025

Application received by _____ for HDC Date: _____

COA approved/CNA issued by _____ for HDC Date: _____

Barbara Rhines

From: Stephen Trimble
Sent: Sunday, March 16, 2025 9:52 AM
To: Historic District Commission; David Honn
Cc: Bob Davis; Dean Charter; Corey York; John Mangiaratti; Jim Cogan
Subject: Acton Town Center - Davis Monument Informational Panel - PLACEMENT
Attachments: Davis Monument Sign Location.jpg; HDC 2.jpeg; HDC 1.jpeg

Good Morning:

Dean Charter and I met with Corey York March 14th to review the suggested placement from the HDC (HDC 1 & 2 photos). Corey and Dean noted a line-of-sight issue for traffic leaving Concord Road anywhere on the street side of the sidewalk. Cory followed up with Chief Cogan who concurred (see below).

Attached is the photo Dean and Corey suggest the placement of the Monument Interpretive Sign works best.

1. The location is on the house side of the sidewalk positioned out of the way of line-of-sight.
2. It is approximately the same distance in from the lighted crosswalk you preferred.
3. You will note it is between homes on the town green side.
4. It will run parallel to the sidewalk (indicated in white paint) so that it is 1) accessible to read from the sidewalk for wheelchairs etc., and 2) further reduces line of sight distractions for drivers.

Thank you very much for your assistance with this work. We plan to proceed with dig safe Monday in preparation for the installation. The sign will be buried 36" inches in the ground with the posts intersecting with the sign at 42" with a 45 degree angle matching the other 2 signs. We will send along the sign shortly for your records.

Thank you,
Stephen Trimble
Acton 250 Chair

From: Corey York
Sent: Saturday, March 15, 2025 7:56 AM

To: Stephen Trimble; Dean Charter
Subject: Fwd: Acton Town Center - Davis Monument Informational Panel - PLACEMENT

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jim Cogan <jcogan@acton-ma.gov>
Date: March 14, 2025 at 1:17:24 PM EDT
To: Corey York <cyork@acton-ma.gov>, Police Department <Police@acton-ma.gov>
Cc: Engineering Department <Engineering@acton-ma.gov>
Subject: RE: Acton Town Center - Davis Monument Informational Panel - PLACEMENT

Corey,

I agree with your recommendation to prevent obstructing drivers.

Thanks,

James A. Cogan
Chief of Police
Acton Police Department
371 Main Street
Acton, MA. 01720
978-929-7518
FBINA #265



From: Corey York <cyork@acton-ma.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2025 12:03 PM
To: Police Department <Police@acton-ma.gov>

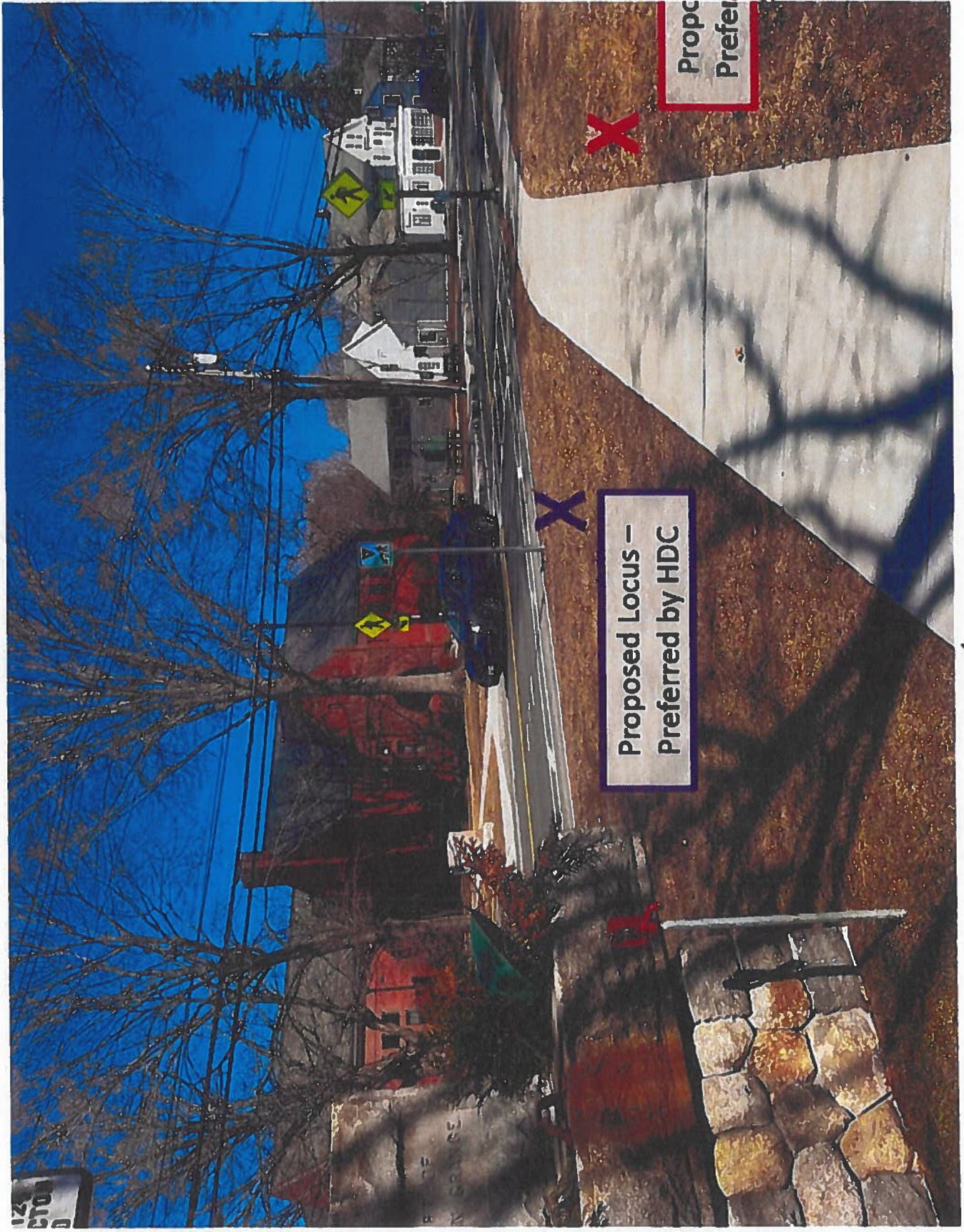
Cc: Engineering Department <Engineering@acton-ma.gov>

Subject: Acton Town Center - Davis Monument Informational Panel - PLACEMENT

I met with Stephen Trimble & Dean Charter (250th committee) about a permanent educational sign about the common/Davis monument. Mr Trimble and Dean mentioned David Honn, HDC, recommended installing the panel along Main Street next to the crosswalk ahead sign (highlighted in PURPLE in the photo below). I believe it'll be an obstruction for drivers on Concord Road taking a left turn. Dean and I suggested a location along the backside of the sidewalk. We proposed an alternate location as shown in RED in the photo below. We talked about keeping the sign facing the sidewalk and about 2' off the edge to avoid issues with the sidewalk tractor. This location also allows individuals with an accessible location, on the sidewalk, to stop and view the information on it.

They might need to go back to the HDC to request this modification and asked for our input. If you have a chance can you take a look and let us know you're thoughts. I believe the HDC wants the panel somewhere in this area to separate it from the other monuments, horse trough, etc.

*Thank you,
Corey*



Proposed Locus –
Preferred by HDC

Proposed
Preferred
by DPW







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2025 FEB 13 PM 12:48

**TOWN OF ACTON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**
472 Main Street, Acton, MA 01720

CERTIFICATE 2503

Pursuant to Chapter 40C of the General Laws of Massachusetts and the Historic Districts Bylaw of the Town of Acton, the Acton Historic District Commission hereby issues a

CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

For the work described in the Application of the same number.

Applicant: Acton 250Committee (Stephen Trimble)

Telephone: 978 844 7156 Email: stephentrimble@acton-ma.gov

Property Owner: Town of Acton Contact: John Mangiaratti

Address: 472 Main Street, Acton, MA 01720

Location of Work: 5 Concord Road District: Center X West South

Description of Proposed work:

Place a new Isaac Davis Monument interpretive sign adjacent to the crosswalk near the existing stone Horse Trough. The intent of the sign is to describe the revolutionary era items located on the Town Center Common.

Findings, mandatory conditions, requirements, recommendations:

Findings:

1. Members of the HDC met on site on February 1, 2025 Acton 250 representative Stephen Trimble to review a physical, life-sized mockup of the sign.
2. The HDC members stated that the sign should be located as far from the Horse Trough as physically possible so that the Horse Trough maintains its own spatial independence.
3. After reviewing and discussing several possible sign locations it was unanimously agreed that the sign should be placed in the grass area as near to the crosswalk as possible (Approximately 10 feet from the crosswalk) between the existing sidewalk edge and the street curb. It should be orientated such that a person is facing the Horse Trough and the Isaac Davis Monument while reading the sign.

Mandatory Conditions:

1. The sign shall be fabricated and installed as described in the attached document.

Recommendations:

1. None

When completed, the work outlined above must conform in all particulars to the Application approved on February 11, 2025. The applicant may proceed with the proposed work provided all other approvals, have been obtained, including a Building Permit. This Certificate is valid for work commenced within one year of the date of issuance. An extension or renewal of the Certificate may be granted at the discretion of the commission. If a property changes ownership during the time the Certificate is in force, a new owner who wishes to continue the authorized work must apply to have a new Certificate issued in his or her own name.

Application received January 16, 2025 Date of Public Hearing N/A

Certificate approved by David Honn Date February 13, 2025
for Historic District Commission

Copies to: Applicant, Building Commissioner, Town Clerk, HDC File

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF ACTON, MA
2025 JAN 16 PM 2:38

Application # 2503

TOWN OF ACTON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
472 Main Street, Acton, MA 01720

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE

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Pursuant to Ch. 40C of the General Laws of Massachusetts, application is hereby made for issuance of the following Certificate for work within a Local Historic District (please check one):

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Cert. of Appropriateness (Building Addition other than deck/New Bldg/Demolition) Fee: \$50

Cert. of Hardship (for either category of Appropriateness) Fee: \$10 or \$50 (as appropriate)

Cert. of Non-Applicability No Fee X

Fees waived for non-profit or municipal applicants.

Applicant: Acton 250 Committee (Stephen Trimble)

Telephone: 978-844-7156

Address: 8 Francine Road

E-mail: stephentrimble@acton-ma.gov

Property owner and address: Town of Acton
(if different from applicant)

Contact information: John Mangiaratti

Location of Work: Town Land (Horse Trough) District: Center X West South

No. ~~540~~ 5 Street ~~Main~~ Concord Rd

Description of Work: (See website Instructions regarding information that is here required)

Place a new Isaac Davis Monument interpretive sign next to the horse trough on Main Street across from town hall. This sign will cover the revolutionary items in the town green. It is near the signaled cross walk and closest to town hall and library. A second location near the fire station was considered but would be more difficult to access.

The undersigned hereby certifies that the information on this application and any plans submitted herewith are correct, and constitute a complete description of the work proposed. By my signature below, I acknowledge that this application and all its data will be publicly posted on the Town of Acton website docushare.

Signature of applicant Stephen Trimble Date: January 9, 2025

Application received by for HDC Date:

COA approved/CNA issued by for HDC Date:



**Acton 250 Revolution Commemoration
Historical Sign Project
Town of Acton Historic District
Commission Review**

January 2025

Acton 250 Sign Project Objective



**Remember and commemorate
the role of Acton and its citizens in
the American Revolution and the
formation of our country**



Proposed Historic District Elements

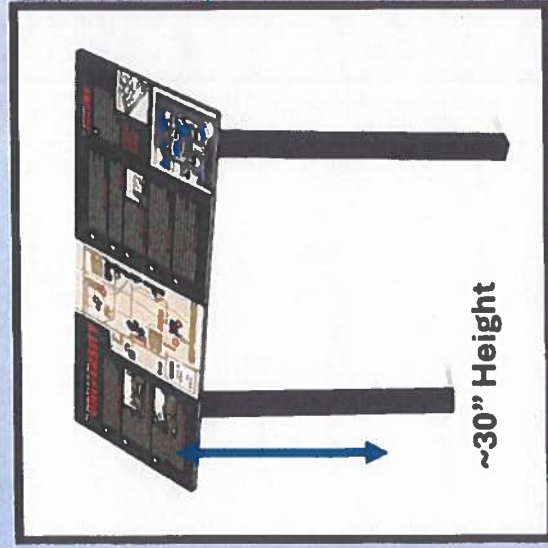
1. Informational Type 1 Sign:
 - i. Isaac Davis Trail / Line of March (LOM) at Asa Parlin House
 - ii. **Acton Monument at Town Center horse trough**
2. Acton Minutemen Monument on right of Asa Parlin House

Interpretive Sign 30" x 44" – Proposed Style



Informational Display Sign locations:

1. Town Center Isaac Davis Monument at Horse Trough sign
2. Height middle of sign at 42" for accessibility
3. Proposing black posts



Features:

- Custom sizing ; 2 posts inground installation
- DRB recommended 45° display angle
- Powder coated aluminum frame; black

Note: Three additional signs are desired at either end of the Conant Property and at the Asa Parlin house 17 Woodbury Lane

Isaac Davis Monument Informational Sign

- Graphics to include photos of Isaac Davis Monument, gravestones and markers.
- Wording might be a little about the 2 stones and this for the main part:

Isaac Davis, Captain of Acton's Minute Company, awakened in the early morning hours of April 19, 1775 to the calls of an alarm rider galloping through the town. The alarm warned of the British advance from Boston to Concord to retrieve a stockpile of weapons, ammunition and supplies. Davis rallied his men to his house with several alarm shots. Captain Davis then led about thirty men to meet the British. At the North Bridge Davis would be shot and killed, becoming the first commissioned officer to die in the service of this new nation.

The 75-foot-tall Davis Monument, erected in 1851, commemorates Acton's citizen soldiers who lost their lives on April 19, 1775. Interred at the base of the monument lie the remains of Captain Isaac Davis, James Hayward and Abner Hosmer who were moved from what is now Woodlawn Cemetery when the monument was erected. **Stone language: TBD**

Wording from: <https://freedomsway.org/story/isaac-davis-trail/>



Potential Images




Proposed Town Center Location



- Sign placed right of trough with view of green; on left is water feature
- Away from snowplow debris
- No utility lines obstructing view
- Near safe crosswalk across from town hall.



Isaac Davis Monument Interpretive Sign



Isaac Davis, Captain of Acton's Minute Company, awakened in the early morning hours of April 19, 1775 to the calls of an alarm rider galloping through the town. The alarm warned of the British advance from Boston to Concord to retrieve a stockpile of weapons, ammunition and supplies. Davis rallied his men to his house with several alarm shots. Captain Davis then led about thirty men to meet the British. At the North Bridge Davis would be shot and killed, becoming the first commissioned officer to die in the service of this new nation.

The 75-foot-tall Davis Monument, erected in 1851, commemorates Acton's citizen soldiers who lost their lives on April 19, 1775. Interred at the base of the monument lie the remains of Captain Isaac Davis, James Hayward and Abner Hosmer who were moved from what is now Woodlawn Cemetery when the monument was erected.



1. Wording from: <https://freedomsway.org/story/isaac-davis-trail/>;
2. QR code to Acton Historic District monument page for further information
3. Gravestones recently cleaned and better photos to be provided
4. Graphic design pending



Appendix

Specification Example – we would have 2 posts



Architectural Signage System
INFORMATION SHEET

Part # SPP1824

- Powder coated aluminum frame
- Removable top rail for easy sign panel installation
- 3" x 3" x 72" powder coated aluminum post with 45° welded mounting plate
- 18" x 24" ACM high resolution UV printed sign panel
- UV abrasion/graffiti resistant over laminate
- Assembly and mounting hardware included

Top Rail

Sign Panel

45° Mounting Plate

3" x 3" x 72" Post (included)

Use your artwork, or have Nutron's Graphics Department design your sign.

Nutron OSM
OUTDOOR SIGNS & MARKERS
888.737.6032 | info@nutronosm.com | www.nutronosm.com

Front View

Side View

Back View