

**BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN  
NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Borough of Newtown Board of Burgesses on **Tuesday, October 8, 2019** in the Old Court Room at Edmond Town Hall, Newtown, CT. Warden Maher called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

**Present:** Warden Jay Maher, Senior Burgess Betsy Kenyon, Burgess Bill Lucas, Burgess Anthony Baiad, Burgess Bill Eder, Burgess Jim Gaston, Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez, Treasurer Paula Brinkman, Tree Warden Rob McCulloch, and Clerk Ann Scaia.

**Absent:** Second Senior Burgess Chris Gardner

**Also Present:** 5 members of the public.

**Burgess Gaston made a motion to accept the September 10, 2019 annual meeting minutes,**  
seconded by Burgess Baiad. Motion passed.

**Burgess Gaston made a motion to accept the September 10, 2019 regular meeting minutes,**  
seconded by Senior Burgess Kenyon. Motion passed.

**Public Participation:** None.

**Warden's Report:** Warden Maher reported he was honored to take receipt of a plaque from Newtown Hook and Ladder on September 28th as an appreciation of the support from the Borough. The Borough has budgeted a donation of \$6,500.00 during the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Warden Maher reported the members for the Sidewalk Ad Hoc Committee has been selected. Our members include Second Senior Burgess Chris Gardner and Burgess Bill Eder of the Board of Burgess and Borough residents Charles Zukowski of 4 Cornfield Ridge and Lynne Farah of 28 Sugar St. The first meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup> in the Borough office. The committee's charge is to identify all potential sidewalk projects within the Borough. It is the committee's intention to provide an open forum to discuss potential projects with our Borough residents in late November/early December. Through public participation, the committee hopes to prioritize and set an estimated value of each project. Ultimately the committee plans to submit the potential projects to the Town Planning Committee with the hope of including them on the sidewalk master plan for the Town. It is the intention of this committee to have a report with recommendations to submit to the Board of Burgesses at the April 2020 meeting. Warden Maher presented his findings from John Poremba, of Aquarian Water Company of Ct, as it relates to the expense of \$64,000 for fire hydrants within the Borough. The town of Newtown has five different accounts that are billed for public fire charges. Account #200327776 is specific

to the Borough of Newtown. The Borough is currently invoiced for 83 public hydrants and 588,068 inch feet of water main. Below outlines the breakdown of costs:

Fire hydrants are charged at \$264.58/ea	\$21,960.00
Annual charge per inch foot of main is \$.06903	\$40,594.33
Total:	\$62,554.33

Warden Maher offered clarification of building fees. He stated as a schedule of permit fees set by the Board of Burgess on March 12, 2013, the building department does not collect building fees on Single Family Residence (SFR) on an individual lot. Commercial work is priced at \$40.00 per first thousand dollars and \$8.00 for every thousand dollars thereafter. For example, The Enclave project is considered commercial as it involves more than one SFR on an individual lot. Borough zoning does collect fees based on \$12.00 per 100 square feet of building space.

Warden Maher reported the developers, Frank Caico and Mark Forlenza, who have submitted an application for a modification to the zoning requirements at the Inn property on Main St. will make a presentation of the project on Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 12pm at the new Community Center. All interested parties are encouraged to attend. Edward Welsh, of 4 King Street, inquired as to the purpose of the meeting. Warden Maher stated it was an opportunity for the public to become familiar with the proposed application for a modification to the zoning requirements of The Inn property.

**Tree Warden's Report:** Tree Warden McCulloch identified the following locations on Main Street replacement trees will be planted before winter. They are: 18 Main Street, 32 Main Street, 40 Main Street, 60 Main Street and 62 Main Street. The Tree Warden quoted each tree to cost \$500, which includes the cost of the tree, fertilizer and labor and equipment to install it. Total cost to plant 10 trees is \$5,000.00. These will be 1 ¾-2" caliber Sugar Maple. Tree Warden McCulloch stated the project could be completed in 3 weeks.

**Burgess Gaston made a motion to approve the cost of 10 trees at the cost of \$500/each,**  
seconded by Burgess Lucas and unanimously approved.

Warden Maher reported a safety hazard of a tree at 16 Main Street. Warden Maher will approach the resident at 16 Main Street about the possible removal of the tree. Tree Warden McCulloch can remove it if agreed upon.

**Tax Collector's Report:** Tax Collector Enriquez reported the following for September 2019: Taxes Collectable \$159,779.61; Current Taxes: \$157,338.61; Back Taxes: \$961.67; Interest: \$483.99; Liens & Fees: \$144.00. Total Submitted to Treasurer to Date: \$155,000.00. Current Taxes Collected: \$156,044.88 representing 97.58%. Please review attached report for September 2019.



**Burgess Gaston made a motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report for September 2019,**  
seconded by Senior Burgess Kenyon and unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** The September 2019 report presents: A deposit of \$929.00 was made from the Borough Zoning Office. A deposit of \$4,600.00 was made from Tax Collector, Jodie Enriquez. A deposit of \$66.53 was made from Paula Brinkman for an overpayment/refund. A transfer of \$21,300.00 was made to cover last month's invoicing. Interest on the 12 mo. CD was \$112.94 making a total of \$77,259.47. Please review attached report for September 2019.

**Burgess Lucas made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for September 2019,**  
seconded by Burgess Eder and unanimously approved.

Treasurer Brinkman presented further details about the possible use of an ICS (Insured Cash Sweep) program which would expand the Borough's FDIC coverage. Treasurer Brinkman suggested having \$250,00.00 in the Borough Operating Account as a money market account which would have full FDIC coverage and would be sufficient funding for monthly Borough expenses. She further suggested the remaining \$400,000.00+ in the operating account could go into the ICS account as an auxiliary account. This would allow a minimum of \$250,000.00 to be covered by FDIC possibly more. Treasurer Brinkman will clarify the threshold amount that would be covered by FDIC.

**Burgess Lucas made a motion to create an ICS account with operating account funds (approximately \$400,000.00+),** seconded by Burgess Gaston and unanimously approved.

**Zoning Officer's Report:** Zoning Officer Sibley stated there will be a Borough Zoning Board of Appeals meeting on October 23. He also reported approximately 1-2 permits continue to be submitted per day.

**Historic District:** Senior Burgess Kenyon reported the Borough Historic District Commission called a special meeting on October 3. The purpose of the meeting was to draft the attached letter to Doug Nelson, Chair of Borough Zoning Commission. Senior Burgess Kenyon proceeded to read the draft letter at the meeting. Senior Burgess also reported 74 Main Street has been sold. She has learned the new owner will be renovating the property.

**Sidewalks:** Please refer to Warden's report.

**Streets & Parks:** Second Senior Kenyon and Ken Kopsco met with Signarama from Danbury to explore costs and designs for the "Welcome" signs. She also met with Warden Maher to determine appropriate locations for the signs. They identified 6 locations. Senior Burgess Kenyon reported each sign would cost approximately \$1,300 which would include the sign and two posts but does not include installation. This project was not included in the 2019-2020 budget. It was agreed Warden Maher would pursue state and town approval to install the signs before any costs or design occur on the "Welcome" signs.

Burgess Eder reported on the Victory and Peace Monument. In his handout, he briefly walked us through the history of the Victory and Peace Monument (see attached below). He asked Ken Burns to inspect the lighting and assessed the photo cell receptor had burned out and there are possible shorting issues. He also suggested the bushes be trimmed back to allow better illumination. Burgess Eder inquired about the use of LED light bulbs. Ken Burns stated it would help in improving illumination. The cost would be approximately \$40/bulb. Burgess Eder also demonstrated in pictures (see attached) the condition of the monument. It was agreed Burgess Eder pursue an estimate for cleaning the monument. It was also agreed the monument is in need of restoration. Tree Warden suggested Paver Savers offer an assessment of the costs associated with repairing the monument. Burgess Eder will contact Paver Savers to execute a review of the monument.

**New Business:** Burgess Baiad has noticed the buildup of algae in the Ram's Pasture pond. Warden Maher will contact Maureen Owen from the selectman's office to convey this observation.

**Old Business:** None.

**Public Participation:** Deborra Zukowski, of 4 Cornfield Ridge Road, wanted to review and confirm the information supplied by Warden Maher regarding fire hydrants and water main pipelines. Warden Maher agreed to discuss this further with her. Mrs. Zukowski also shared thoughts about the history of the past Newtown Inn Restaurant property and proposed that persons for preservation organize funding through donations, purchase the property and create a museum.

**The regular meeting of the Board of Burgesses will be held on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 7:30p.m. in the Old Court Room in Edmond Town Hall, Newtown, CT.**

**There being no further business, Burgess Gaston made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.,** seconded by Burgess Baiad and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Scaia  
Borough Clerk



# NEWTOWN BOROUGH TAX

MONTHLY REPORT FOR: SEPTEMBER 2019

TOTAL TAXES DUE FOR GRAND LIST 2018:	\$159,909.80
LAWFUL CORRECTIONS:	
INCREASE	\$3.45
DECREASE	-\$133.64
TAXES COLLECTABLE:	<u>\$159,779.61</u>

## AMOUNTS COLLECTED TO DATE:

CURRENT TAX:	\$157,338.61
BACK TAX	\$961.67
INTEREST:	\$483.99
LIENS & FEES:	\$144.00
TOTAL COLLECTED TO DATE:	<u>\$158,928.27</u>

TOTAL SUBMITTED TO TREASURER TO DATE:	\$155,000.00
REFUND GIVEN FROM CURRENT YR TAX	\$1,137.55
REFUND GIVEN DUE FROM PRIOR YR	\$0.00
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	<u>\$156,137.55</u>

## TAX COLLECTION SUMMARY:

GL 2018	TAXES COLLECTED	\$157,338.61	
	TAXES SUSPENDED	\$0.00	
	TRANSFERS	\$7.45	
	REFUNDS	-\$1,301.18	
	TOTAL CURRENT TAX COLLECTED	<u>\$156,044.88</u>	97.58%
	UNCOLLECTED TAXES	<u>\$3,734.73</u>	2.34%
	OVERPAYMENTS	\$241.63	

## NOTE:

BACK TAXES OUTSTANDING FOR LIST 2017 AND PRIOR:

UNCOLLECTE TAXES	\$1,656.20
OVERPAYMENTS FROM PRIOR YEARS	\$157.24
REFUND FROM PRIOR YEARS	0
TRANSFER FROM PRIOR TO CURRENT	-9.45
CREDIT FROM PRIOR YEARS	<u>\$147.79</u>

DATE:

8-Oct-19

SIGN: \_\_\_\_\_  
BOROUGH TAX COLLECTOR

**Borough of Newtown**  
Newtown, CT  
Monthly Treasurer's Report  
For month ending September 30, 2019

**Beginning Balance ( September 1, 2019)** **\$689,022.95**

**OPERATING ACCOUNT**

**Income (Deposits)**

Date	Description	Amount
September 11, 2019	Tax Collector (YTD: \$155,000)	\$4,600.00
September 11, 2019	Overpayment refund/Paula Brinkman	\$66.53
September 11, 2019	BZE	\$929.00

**Interest income (September 30, 2019)** **\$26.06**

**Total income** **\$5,621.59**

**Expenses (checks written)**

Date	Payable To	Description	Amount
Sept. 10, 2019	Treasurer's Acct (331)	check #278	\$21,300.00

**Ending Cash Balance (September 30, 2019)** **\$673,344.54**

Outstanding Checks	Payable To	Description	Amount
	Total Outstanding Checks		\$0.00

**RECONCILED BANK BALANCE (September 30, 2019)** **\$673,344.54**

**12 MONTH CD ACCOUNT (#814)**

Matures 2/28/2020

**Beginning Balance (September 1, 2019)** **\$77,146.53**

**Interest income (September 30, 2019)** **\$112.94**

**TOTAL** **\$77,259.47**

**Respectfully submitted on October 8, 2019**



**Borough of Newtown**  
**Historic District Commission**

Est. 1996

**Stephanie A. Gaston, Chair**  
**Betsy S. Kenyon, Vice-Chair**  
**Mark P. Poirier, Secretary**

**Charles Fulkerson**  
**Ellen Whalen**

October 10, 2019

Doug Nelson, Chair  
Borough Zoning Commission  
14 The Boulevard  
Newtown, CT 06470

To Doug Nelson, Chair, Borough Zoning Commission,

Please be informed that at this time the Borough of Newtown Historic District Commission views the Mary Hawley structure located at 19-21 Main Street worthy of preservation due to its historical significance, inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places and Borough of Newtown Historic District. The early 19<sup>th</sup> Century house is a cornerstone of Newtown's heritage. It was home to three generations of the Booth and Hawley families, and is named for our town's most important benefactor. Further, the preservation is consistent with C.G.S. Section 22a-15 through 19b – Unreasonable Destruction of Historic Structures listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Borough of Newtown Historic District Commission suggests that zoning changes and/or development proposals include preservation of the historic structure.

Please note, this letter is informational and not a pre determination, a Certificate of Appropriateness as to any application, or waiver of any Historic District Rules or Regulations. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Mark P. Poirier, Secretary  
Borough of Newtown Historic District Commission

Cc: Rob Sibley, Borough Enforcement Officer  
Monte Frank, Borough Zoning Counsel  
Don Mitchell, Chair – Newtown Planning & Zoning Commission

Liberty and Peace Monument  
a.k.a.  
Soldier's & Sailor's Monument

“Newtown remembers with grateful prayers and solemn vows, her sacred dead,  
her honored living, who ventured all unto death that we might live  
a republic with independence, a nation with union forever,  
a world with righteousness and peace for all.”

History:

- November 20, 1931, erected on the triangular property purchased by Mary Hawley and bounded by Main Street, Hanover Road and Schoolhouse Hill Road.
- June 2, 1939, official dedication.
- Original plaques included veterans of the Revolutionary and Civil Wars and WWI.
- Around 1990, the Newtown Veteran's Memorial Society (formed in 1989) raised funding to include the names of veterans from the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Spanish American War, the French-Indian War, WWII, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.
- In 1998, new walkways, stone benches and landscaping updated the park.
- In Spring of 2004 a restoration and beautification project funded by the Borough and private donations, installed night lighting for the monument, a brick pathway and a boxwood hedge.
- On November 11, 2008 additional names were added to honor the veterans of the Persian Gulf War.

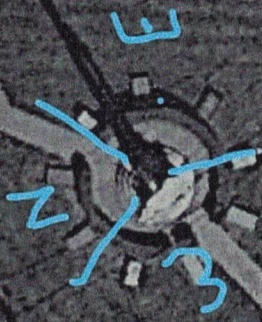
Current Status:

- The northern third of the base of the statue is stained black with mildew
- All the concrete mortar holding the three steps in place is deteriorating on the entire base of the statue.
- The concrete mortar is also deteriorating around the blocks abutting the three tiers of steps.
- The Electrician who maintains the lights on the monument has suggested we look at replacing the current lights with LEDs which will be brighter and more efficient.



Legend

80 ft



Main St

**Monument**  
Soldier's & Sailor's

Google Earth

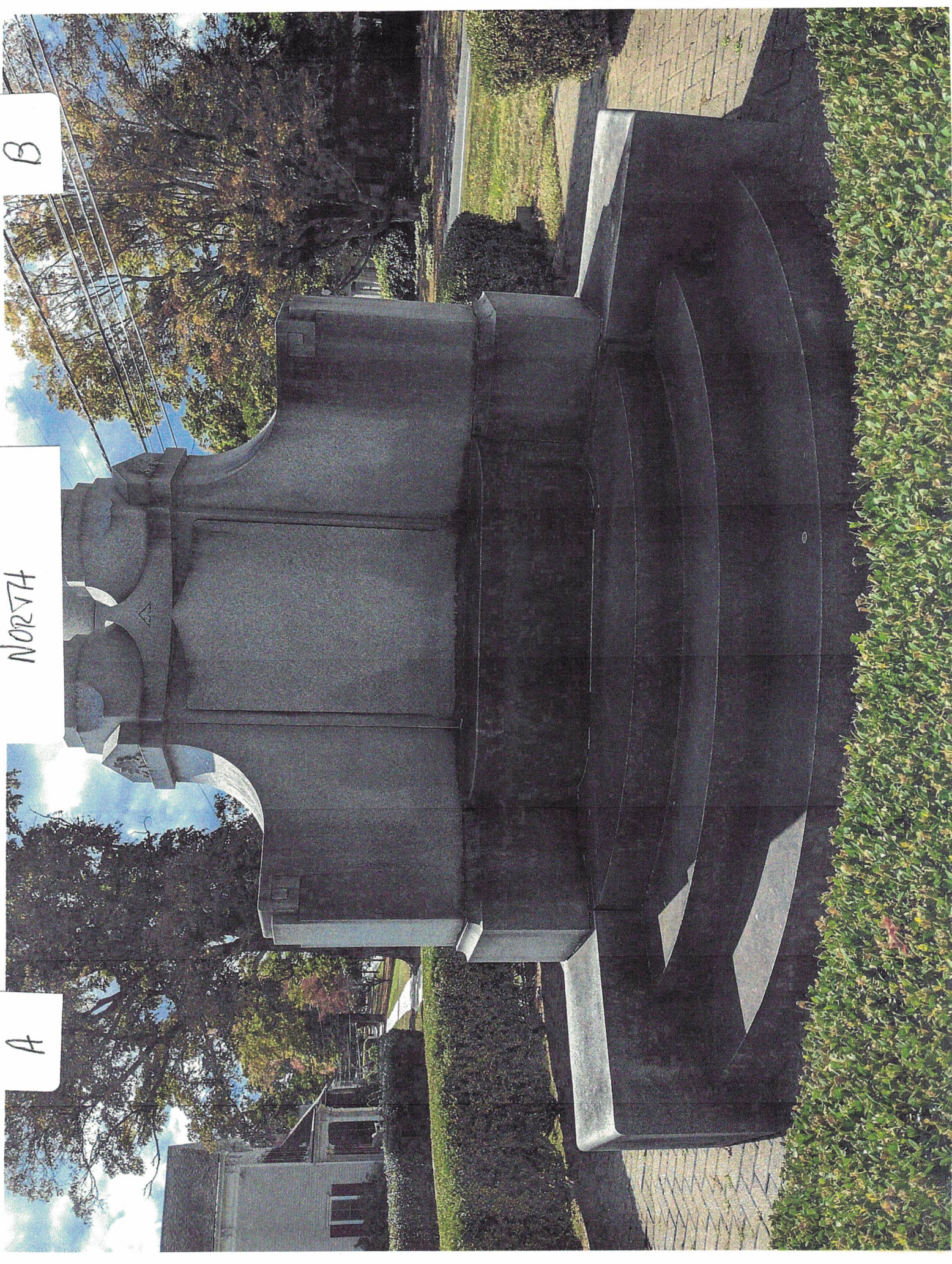
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