

Leland Monument

Washington Street

Form No. 905

Town Sherborn
Address Washington Street

Historic Name Leland Monument

Ownership, 1981 Town of Sherborn
" Original Leland Family

Constructed 1847

Dedicated August 18, 1847

Source Anne C. Shaughnessy
- A Guide To Sherborn, 1974

Designer

**Individual or Group
respons. for monument**

Condition Good

**Importance of monu-
ment to area** Great

Monument endangered by Not applicable

Location of inscription Inscription on shaft of monument

Entire Inscription "Henry Lealand, The Puritan, Emigrated from the W. of England in the time of the Commonwealth, settled in Sherborne in 1660. Erected by his grateful descendants. Aug. 18, 1847. His piety still remembered is ample testimony to the worth of his character."

Description Egyptian Revival obelisk

Foundation Base

Material Granite

Setting On northern Portion of Church Green, adjacent to First Parish Church

Size 9 feet tall

Recorded June 1981 by Edward W. Gordon



The Leland Monument

DESCRIPTION OF MONUMENT

The Leland Monument is a granite Egyptian Revival obelisk. It rests on a low pedestal.

HISTORIC IMPORTANCE OF MONUMENT

Henry Leland was one of Sherborn's first English settlers. Along with Holbrook's, Wood's, Bullard's, Morse's, etc. he occupied land in South Sherborn which was then called Boggestow. Henry's father, Hopedstill, was born in England about 1580. His family was associated with Elizabethan court circles. The family name was variously spelled Layland, Lealand and Leland. Hopedstill was in his 70's when he crossed the Atlantic with Fernand Gorges. He came to Sherborn via Watertown in 1654. He died the following year and was the first to be buried in the old South Cemetery. Henry Leland married Martha Badcock and built a dwelling to the northeast of the present Leland House at 118 Mill St. His 500 acre estate was distributed among his three sons - as specified in his will of 1680. Over time Leland's have figured prominently in town and state military, political, commercial and social history. Seventeen Leland's fought in the Revolution and three participated in the Civil War. Leland's have served as Selectmen and Representatives to the General Court. For many years Leland's operated a grist mill and later a saw mill on the Mill Pond of Brown Meadow Brook. In 1850 Henry Leland's 9,624 descendants referred to him as "our common ancestor". At the time of the Leland Monuments dedication, almost half of the town could claim relationship with Henry. It is interesting to note that one of Henry's descendants became a First Lady of The U.S. The daughter of Sherborn's Thankful Leland, Abigail Powers married Millard Fillmore, 13th President of the U.S.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and REFERENCES

- Anne C. Shaughnessy - The History of Sherborn, 1974