

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	SBR.F
Historic Name:	Sudbury Dam Historic District
Common Name:	
Address:	
City/Town:	Southborough
Village/Neighborhood:	
Local No:	7-1
Year Constructed:	
Architect(s):	Wheelwright and Haven
Architectural Style(s):	
Use(s):	Other Engineering; Utilities Other
Significance:	Architecture; Community Planning; Engineering; Politics Government
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	Nat'l Register District (1/18/1990); Nat'l Register TRA (1/18/1990)
Building Materials(s):	

Digital Photo
Not Yet
Available

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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FORM A - AREA

Area Letter Form numbers in this Area

F

F7-2,7-3,7-4,7-5,7-6,7-7,
7-8,7-9,7-10,7-11FMT. 0 /
GDD. 7MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116Town Southborough

Name of Area (if any) _____

Sudbury Dam Historic DistrictPresent Use water supplyGeneral Date or Period 1894-1940General Condition good

Acreage _____

Recorded by Martha BowersOrganization Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.Date February 1984; revised 1989

Photos (3"x3" or 3"x5" black
& white). Indicate on back
of each photo street addresses
for buildings shown. Staple to
left side of form.

Sketch Map. Draw a general map of the
area indicating properties within it.
Number each property for which individual
inventory forms have been completed.
Label streets including route numbers, if
any. Indicate north. (Attach a separate
sheet if space here is not sufficient).

UTM REFERENCE

USGS QUADRANGLE
SCALE

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Sudbury Dam Historic District is significant as representing the intersection of three phases in the development of the metropolitan Boston water supply system: construction of Sudbury Reservoir (1893-98), last and largest in the "additional supply system" begun in 1875; the Weston Aqueduct (D12-1), built in 1901-3 to augment the supply from Sudbury Reservoir to Chestnut Hill and to supply the northern distribution facility at Spot Pond; and the Hultman Aqueduct, built in 1939-40 to convey water directly from the Wachusett Aqueduct (see Wachusett Aqueduct Historic District) to the Weston and to distribution in the first of a series of bypasses of existing portions of the system. Dominating the district is Sudbury Dam (F7-2), with its 1800-foot earth embankment and 300-foot spillway, the largest dam structure by far built to that time in the water supply system. The rising granite face of the overfall likely suggested the theme for other construction at the site, beginning with the dam's gate chamber (F7-3). The structure's (see continuation sheet)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other areas within the community.

The district covers about 1/4 square mile below (and including) Sudbury Dam (F7-2), on Stony Brook. The dam is the dominant feature, consisting of an 1800-foot earthen embankment with a 300-foot, rubble and cut stone spillway near the center, the whole rising some 70 feet above the valley floor. Below the dam are the structures associated with several phases in the development of the water supply system. The eastern edge of the area is bounded by U.S. Route 30 across which are located several light industries. The valley is roughly bisected by a granite-lined open channel leading from the spillway to Framingham Reservoir No. 3. The open channel is lined with arborvitae and conifers; and tall maples line the road that leads from Route 30 through the valley to the dam. The Route 30 bridge (F7-5) is a two-arch span of granite-faced concrete, which carries that road over the open channel. The next structures encountered are a group of three farm structures (F7-9) that were moved from their original location, near the site of the dam, during development of the reservoir. The house, appearing to date from the late 19th century, is a two-story, hipped-roofed frame structure. Behind the house are two gable-roofed outbuildings, of the same general period and frame construction. (see continuation sheet)

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain historical importance of area and how the area relates to the development of other areas of the community.

The Sudbury Dam historic district was "developed" in increments beginning about 1894 and achieved its present character in 1940. The features associated with the Sudbury dam and Weston aqueduct were built under the Metropolitan Water Board, with Wheelwright & Haven of Boston as architects for the former, and Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge for the latter. Hultman Shaft 4 was designed by the engineering staff of the Metropolitan District Water Supply Commission, with Densmore, LeClear & Robbins, of Boston, as architects.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Metropolitan Water Board Annual Reports, 1897, 1898
Metropolitan Water & Sewerage Board Annual Reports 1904, 1915
Metropolitan District Water Supply Commission Annual Reports, 1940-45.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:	FRM.U/ Southborough SBR.F	Form No: F
Property Name: Sudbury Dam Historic District		

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT:

simple, rectangular form, gray granite exterior and round-arched openings were adopted, with variation, in the Weston head chamber (F7-7) and Hultman Shaft 4 headhouse (F7-8). Together these structures illustrate the continuity of form and materials that characterized the metropolitan water supply system through completion of the Quabbin system in the 1940's. Contributing features include the single-arch Section 1 bridge (F7-6), and the double-arch Route 30 bridge (F7-5). The two most recent buildings (F7-10,11), however, are singularly intrusive, their forms, scale and materials assembled without regard to the architectural traditions and standards demonstrated in the major structures in the district. The district retains integrity of location, design, materials, and workmanship, and meets National Register criteria A and C.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:

Northwest of the farm structures, on the east side of the drive, are two non-contributing buildings, one containing fluoridation facilities, the other housing laboratory and administrative space. Built in 1975 and 1978, respectively, these are one-story flat-roofed buildings with exterior walls of textured ochre-hued concrete.

Near the foot of Sudbury Dam, the road crosses the open channel on a single-arch concrete bridge faced with granite. This bridge (called Section 1 bridge (F7-6)) was built in 1902-3 during construction of the Weston Aqueduct. North of the bridge is a circle, with a short drive leading east to the Hultman Shaft 4 headhouse (F7-8), erected in 1940. The rectangular hipped-roofed building is three bays deep, of concrete construction with coursed gray granite exterior facing. The side walls have very tall, round-arched windows with flush keystones. The copper entrance frontispiece at the west end features double doors below a triangular pediment. North of the Shaft 4 headhouse is the Weston Aqueduct head chamber (F7-7). Built in 1903, the building is square in plan, with a concrete substructure and superstructure clad with coursed gray granite ashlar. The rectangular entrance is framed by a heavy, slightly projecting architrave with prominent keystone, and the corners are quoined. The narrow eaves of the hipped, clay tile roof feature a dentil cornice of granite. The side walls are divided into three bays, with tall round-arched windows. At the north end of the dam is a low, hipped-roofed granite building dug partially into the hillside. It was built as a storehouse (F7-4) in 1900, and from 1916 to about 1970 also served as a lightning arrester chamber for the Sudbury hydroelectric power facility contained within the gatehouse. The Sudbury dam gatehouse (F7-3) is located on the dam at the north end of the spillway. It is nearly square in plan, with tiled hipped roof and coursed gray granite exterior walls. Each elevation is divided into three bays with round-arched window and door openings. At the northeast corner is a stylized stone dolphin of gray granite, shaped rather like a large console bracket. The gatehouse was modified in 1915 for hydroelectric power generation, but with discontinuation of power production in the early 1970's, the generating equipment was removed.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

CHESTNUT HILL RESERVOIR HISTORIC DISTRICT
AREA E

<u>Property Name</u>	<u>Inv. #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>NR/C/NC</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Owner</u>
Effluent Gatehouse #2	13-2	1900-1901	C	Boston (Brighton)	
Low Service Pumping Station	13-3	1889-1901	C	Boston (Brighton)	
High Service Pumping Station	13-4	1888	C	Boston (Brighton)	
Sudbury Terminal Chamber	13-5	1876-1878	C	Newton	
Connection Terminal	13-6	1901	C	Boston (Brighton)	
Effluent Gatehouse #1	13-7	1869-1870	C	Boston (Brighton)	
Intermediate Gatehouse	13-8	1868-1870	C	Boston (Brighton)	
Chestnut Hill Reservoir	13-9	1865-1870	C	Boston (Brighton)	
Pipeyard	13-10	mid 20th c.	NC	Boston (Brighton)	
Garage	13-11	ca. 1866	C	Boston (Brighton)	

SUDBURY DAM HISTORIC DISTRICT
AREA F

<u>Property Name</u>	<u>Inv. #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>NR/C/NC</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Owner</u>
Sudbury Dam	7-2	1893-1898	C	Southborough	
Gatehouse	7-3	1897	C	Southborough	
Storehouse	7-4	1900	C	Southborough	
Route 30 Bridge	7-5	1898	C	Framingham	MDPW
Section 1 Bridge	7-6	1902-1903	C	Southborough	
Weston Head Chamber	7-7	1903	C	Southborough	

SUDBURY DAM HISTORIC DISTRICT (CONTINUED)

<u>Property Name</u>	<u>Inv. #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>NR/C/NC</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Owner</u>
Hultman Shaft #4	7-8	1939-1940	NC	Southborough	
Farmhouse/barns	7-9	ca. 1880	C	Southborough	
Laboratory #1	7-10	1975	NC	Southborough	
Laboratory #2	7-11	1978	NC	Southborough	

MACHUSETT DAM HISTORIC DISTRICT

AREA G

<u>Property Name</u>	<u>Inv. #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>NR/C/NC</u>	<u>Town</u>
Wachusett Dam	9-2	1900-1906	C	Clinton
Central Mass. Railroad Bridge	9-3	1905	C	Clinton
Grove St. Bridge	9-4	1904	C	Clinton
Wach. Lower Gate Chamber & Powerhouse	9-5	1903-1904	C	Clinton
Lightening Arrestor Chamber	9-6	1911	C	Clinton
Maintenance Buildings	9-7	ca. 1920	NC	Clinton

MIDDLESEX FELS RESERVOIRS HISTORIC DISTRICT

AREA H

<u>Property Name</u>	<u>Inv. #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>NR/C/NC</u>	<u>Town</u>
Spot Pond Reservoir	14-2	1870	C	Stoneham
Pumping Station	14-3	1898-1900	NR 1985	Stoneham
East Gatehouse	14-4	1897	C	Stoneham