

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

**Inventory No:** SBR.914  
**Historic Name:** Wachusett Aqueduct Open Channel Upper Control Dam  
**Common Name:**  
**Address:** Wachusett Aqueduct  
**City/Town:** Southborough  
**Village/Neighborhood:**  
**Local No:** 8-7  
**Year Constructed:**  
**Architect(s):**  
**Architectural Style(s):**  
**Use(s):** Other Engineering; Utilities Other  
**Significance:** Engineering  
**Area(s):** SBR.G: Wachusett Aqueduct Linear District  
sbr.i: Water Supply System of Metropolitan Boston  
**Designation(s):** Nat'l Register District (1/18/1990); Nat'l Register TRA  
(1/18/1990)  
**Building Materials(s):**



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125  
[www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

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HP 982

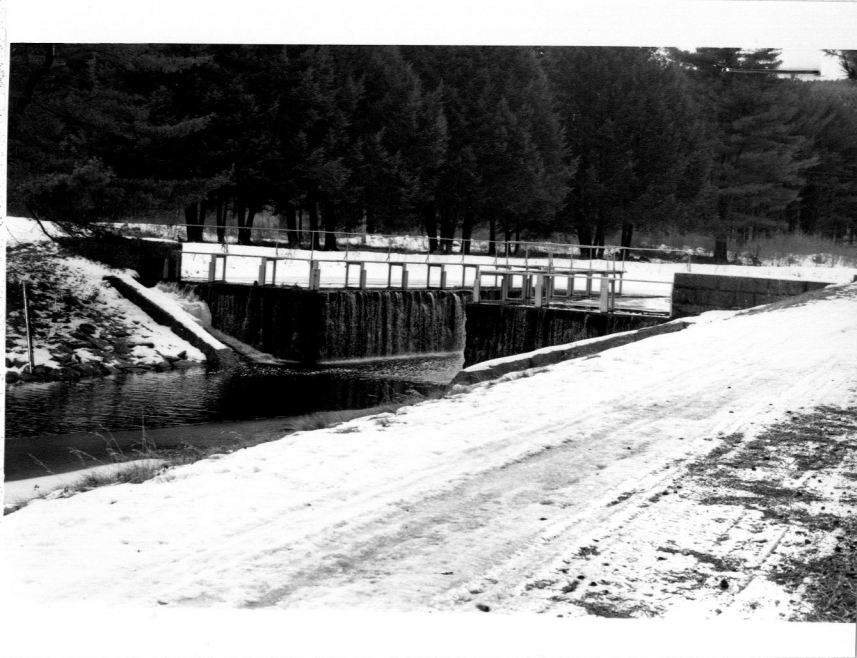
NRDIS/TRA 1/18/90

FORM F - STRUCTURE

PI-Ø  
USGS-MARL

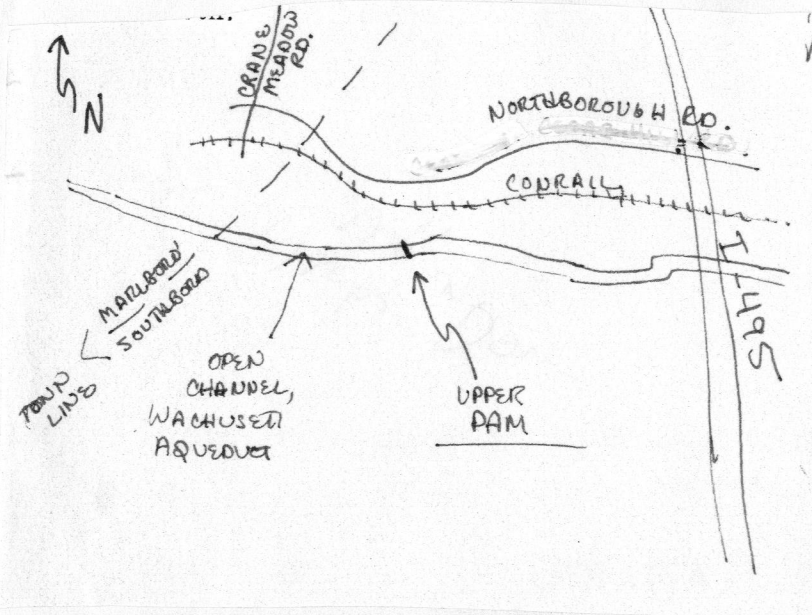
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no. <u>8-1</u> <b>I, G</b>	Form no. <u>8-7</u> <b>914</b>
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1. Town Southborough  
 Address South of Northborough Rd.,  
West of I-495  
 Name Upper Dam, Wachusett Open  
Channel  
 Present use Control Dam  
 Present owner MDC-Boston

4. Map. Draw sketch of structure location in relation to nearest cross streets, buildings, other structures, natural features. Indicate north.



3. Type of structure (check one)

bridge	_____	pound	_____
canal	_____	powder house	_____
dam	<u>  x  </u>	street	_____
fort	_____	tower	_____
gate	_____	tunnel	_____
kiln	_____	wall	_____
lighthouse	_____	windmill	_____
other	_____		

5. Description  
 Date 1896-97  
 Source Metro. Water Board, 2nd  
Annual Report (1897): 54  
 Construction material Concrete, Granite  
 Dimensions 87' long (channel width)  
11.35' max. height  
 Setting Heavily wooded, rural  
 Condition Good

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE  
 USGS Quadrant \_\_\_\_\_  
 MHC Photo no. \_\_\_\_\_

6. Recorded by Martha Bowers  
 Organization Louis Berger & Assoc.  
 Date February 1984

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board

Original use Regulate Water Level/Flow in Open Channel

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates — —

8. Historical significance

This is one of two similar control dams built in the open channel of the Wachusett Aqueduct which flows into Sudbury Reservoir. The dams maintained a five to six foot depth in the channel, and regulated the flow so that riprapping the channel was unnecessary. The indented, or offset, spillway allows more water to flow over the dam than would be the case if the structure had a linear configuration. The approximate channel width of the dam is 87', but the indented spillway provides a total spillway length of approximately 144 feet.

9. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

MDC Drawing Files, Case 19, Drawers 51, 53.

MWB Contract with Moulton and O'Mahoney, 22 Sept. 1896.

3/73  
NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE  
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