

DEC 05 1989

2265

FORM A - AREA

Area Letter Form numbers in this Area

F	7-2, 7-3, 7-4, 7-5, 7-6, 7-7 7-8, 7-9, 7-10, 7-11
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116

Town Southborough

Name of Area (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Sudbury Dam Historic District

Present Use water supply

General Date or Period 1894-1940

period of significance 1894-1926

General Condition good

Acreage c. 8 acres

Recorded by Martha Bowers

Organization Louis Berger Ass., Inc.

Date 1984; revised 1989 (C. Jenkins)

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).

see attached map

JTM REFERENCE A 19294640/4686930  
B 19294320/4686410  
C 19294570/4686120  
D 19294940/4686600

USGS QUADRANGLE Framingham  
SCALE 1:25,000

**NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)**

The Sudbury Dam Historic District consists of a dam, gatehouse, spillway and waste weir, two bridges, two chambers, a farmhouse with two sheds, a storehouse, and two modern laboratory buildings, all situated at the mouth of the extensive Sudbury Reservoir. Constructed as part of the third phase expansion of the metropolitan water supply, this district provides the clearest representation of the subsumption of local water supplies by a coordinated regional system controlled by the Metropolitan Water Board of 1895. Like Wachusett Dam (Area G), Sudbury Dam is also noted for its generation of hydro-power beginning in 1915-16 and continuing until the 1970s. The district also gains significance from its engineering and architectural qualities. Dominating the district is the dam (7-2) with its 1800 foot earth embankment and 300 foot spillway, making it by far the largest of the dam structures built within the system at the time. The rising granite face of the overfall may have suggested the theme for other construction at the site, beginning with the dam's gate chamber (7-3). The structure's simple rectangular form, CONT

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

The Sudbury Dam Historic District covers approximately eight acres below and including the Sudbury Dam (7-2) 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 seventy feet above the valley floor. Below the dam (southeast) are the structures associated with several phases in the development of the water supply system. The eastern edge of the area is bounded by Rte. 30, across which are located several light industries. The area is roughly bisected by a granite lined open waste channel leading from the spillway to Framingham Reservoir #3 (#3-4). The open channel is lined with aborvitae and conifers, while tall maples line the road that leads from Rte. 30 to the dam. The Rte. 30 bridge (7-5) 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 former farm structures (7-9) that were moved from their original site near the dam during development of the reservoir. The house, appearing to date to the late-19th century is wood-frame structure rising two stories to a hip roof. Behind the house are two gable roof barns of the same general period and construction. These have served as the Foreman's House and as storage since their relocation, from a short distance northwest. (CONT)

**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 is associated with the third phase in the evolution of the metropolitan Boston water supply system (1895-1926; please refer to Overview, Section 8, pp.2, 8 for additional information). This phase involved expansion of the system northwestward from the Sudbury River watershed to the Nashua River in Clinton, and was conducted under the auspices of the newly created Metropolitan Water Board (1895). The third phase involved construction of the Wachusett Reservoir (see Area G) and the Wachusett Aqueduct (Area C), aquisition of locally held water supplies within the new District such as Chestnut Hill Reservoir in Boston (Area E) and Spot Pond Reservoir in Stoneham (Area H), and completion of the Sudbury Reservoir begun in 1893 by the City of Boston. This district represents that final component of the Board's mission.

The Sudbury Dam Historic District is of special interest because it represents the intersection of three phases in the development of the metropolitan Boston water supply system. These were: construction of the Sudbury Reservoir (1893-98), the last and largest in the additional supply system begun in 1875 (see Framingham Reservoirs 1, 2, 3; forms 3-2, 3-3, 3-4); construction of the Weston Aqueduct (Area D) in 1901-03 to augument the supply from Sudbury Reservoir to Chestnut Hill (Area E) and to supply the northern distribution facility at Spot Pond (Area H); and the 1940s construction of the Hultman Aqueduct (not considered for nomination at this time due to its late date) to convey water directly from the Wachusett Aqueduct (Area C) to the Weston Aqueduct (Area D).

Designers associated with the district include Boston architects Wheelwright & Haven, and Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge for the Sudbury Dam and Weston Aqueduct components respectively. The district

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

(CONT)

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

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Southborough	Form No: F
Property Name: Sudbury Dam Historic District	

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

#### NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT

gray granite exterior and round arched openings were adopted with variation, in the Weston head chamber (7-7), and much later, in the Hultman Shaft 4 headhouse (7-8; NC). Other contributing features include the single arch Section 1 bridge (7-6) and the double arch Rte. 30 bridge (7-5), the Storehouse (7-4) which once served as a lightning arrester chamber, and the farmhouse (7-9) which has served as the foreman's house. The two most recent laboratory buildings in the district (7-10, 7-11) however are singularly intrusive, their forms, scale and materials assembled without regard to the architectural standards and traditions demonstrated in the earlier structures. The district possesses integrity of location, design, setting (within the district), materials, workmanship, and association; it meets criteria A and C of the NRHP.

The boundaries of the Sudbury Dam Historic District are as indicated on the accompanying map reproduced from "Plan of Sudbury Reservoir, dated April 1926 and drawn at a scale of 1" to 600'". The boundaries are sufficient to encompass all contributing elements and their setting. On the west they follow the line of the dam structure to a line of convenience which runs east to Rte 30, then runs north and northwest along the former transmission corridor to the point of beginning at the dam.

#### 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 (7-10, 11)

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

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET 2 of 2

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Southborough	Form No. F
Property Name: Sudbury Dam Historic District	

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

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

and its components represent the functions of impoundment (dam, gate chamber, spillway and waste weir) and conveyance (Weston aqueduct head chamber, Hultman Shaft #4 NC), as well as ancillary functions like transportation (Rte 30 and Section 1 bridges), living and storage spaces (farmhouse/sheds, storehouse) and research space (laboratories 1 and 2 NC). Refer to Overview, Section 7: Dams and Aqueducts for additional information on the two major functions.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Water Supply System of Metropolitan Boston MPS  
Middlesex, Norfolk, Suffolk and Worcester Counties, MASSACHUSETTS

DATE LISTED

- COVER **Substantive Review**
1. Ashland Dam and Spillway
  2. Framingham Reservoir No. 3 Dam and Gatehouse **Substantive Review**
  3. Framingham Reservoir No. 2 Dam and Gatehouse
  4. Framingham Reservoir No. 1 Dam and Gatehouse
  5. Hopkinton Dam and Spillway
  6. Lake Cochituate Dam
  7. Medford Pipe Bridge
  8. Middlesex Fells Reservoirs Historic District **Substantive Review**
  9. Mystic Dam
  10. Mystic Gatehouse **Substantive Review**
  11. Mystic Pumping Station
  12. Sudbury Aqueduct Linear District
  13. ~~Sudbury Dam Historic District~~
  14. Weston Aqueduct Linear District
  15. Fisher Hill Reservoir and Gatehouse
  16. Forbes Hill Standpipe
  17. Bellevue Standpipe
  18. Chestnut Hill Reservoir Historic District
  19. Marlborough Brook Filter Beds **Substantive Review**

*Beth L. Savage* 01-18-90  
*Helene Byers* 1-18-90  
*Beth L. Savage* 01-18-90  
*Helene Byers* 1-18-90  
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*Beth L. Savage* 01-18-90

L SCR 2

L SCR 8

L SCR 10

L SCR 19

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Sudbury Dam Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME: Water Supply System of Metropolitan Boston MPS

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 12/05/89      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 12/19/89  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/04/90      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/19/90  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89002265

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    1/18/90 DATE    Entered in the  
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_  
REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_  
DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

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CLASSIFICATION

count       resource type

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STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

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FUNCTION

historic       current

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DESCRIPTION

architectural classification  
 materials  
 descriptive text

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SIGNIFICANCE

Period      Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates      Builder/Architect  
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

summary paragraph  
 completeness  
 clarity  
 applicable criteria  
 justification of areas checked  
 relating significance to the resource  
 context  
 relationship of integrity to significance  
 justification of exception  
 other

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage       verbal boundary description  
 UTM's       boundary justification

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ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps     USGS maps     photographs     presentation

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OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



**MDC - TRA, MASS.**

HULLMAN AQUEDUCT SHAFT 4 HEADHOUSE, SOUTH BOROUGH, MA

Jane Quolan / Martha Bowers 1984

#7-8

Louis Buyer & Ass.

AREA F, SUBBURY DAM HISTORIC DISTRICT

Water Supply System of Metropolitan Boston MPS



MDC - TRA, MASS.

SECTION 2 BRIDGE, WITH SUDBURY DAM  
AND GATEHOUSE AT REAR, SOUTHBOROUGH,  
MA

#7-6

JANE CAROLAN | MARINA BOWERS 1984  
LOUIS BERGER & ASSOC.

AREA F, SUDBURY DAM HISTORIC DISTRICT

Water Supply System of Metropolitan Boston MPS



MDC - TRA, MASS.

HOUSE AND FARM BUILDINGS, SOUTHBOROUGH, MA

Jane Carolan / Martha Bowers 1984

#7-9

Louis Berger & Ass.

AREA F, SUDBURY DAM HISTORIC DISTRICT

Water Supply System of Metropolitan Boston MFS



MDC - TRA, MASS.

ROUTE 30 BRIDGE, SOUTHBOROUGH, MA

#7-5

JANE CAROLAN / MARNA BOWERS 1984

LOUIS BERGER & ASSOCIATES

AREA F, SUDSBURY DAM HISTORIC DISTRICT

Water Supply System of Metropolitan Boston MBS



MDC - TRA, MASS.

Sudbury Dam Complex, Southborough, MA <sup>7-2</sup>

Jane Carolan / Martha Bowers 1984

Louis Berger & Ass.

Area F: Sudbury Dam Complex <sup>Historic District</sup>

Water Supply System of Metropolitan Boston MPS

Sudbury Dam Historic District  
Village of Fayville, Southborough MA  
Map reproduced from "Plan of Sudbury  
Reservoir," April 1926, scale 600'=1"

Area F



Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500254