

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.J
Historic Name:	Riverside Park
Common Name:	
Address:	
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	West Concord
Local No:	
Year Constructed:	
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	
Use(s):	Other Institutional; Residential District; Workers Housing
Significance:	Architecture; Community Planning; Industry; Politics Government
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
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

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CON.5

FORM A - AREA

Area Letter Form numbers in this Area



J

West Concord

of Area (if any)

Riverside Park

ent Use Residential

ral Date or Period 1892-1910

ral Condition good

Looking S.E. toward Barrett's Mill Road and Grove Street

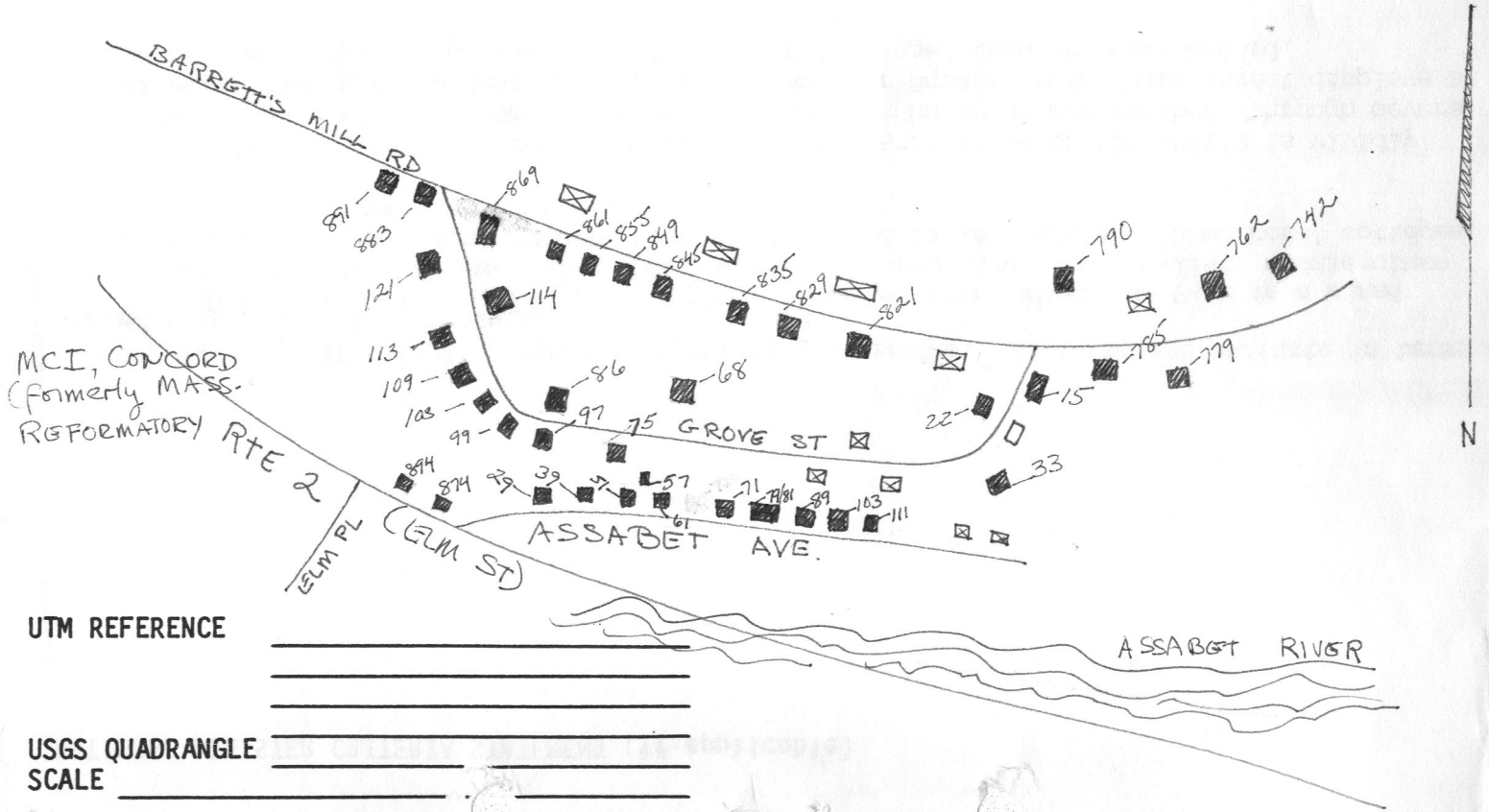
Sketch Map. Draw a general map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Indicate north. (Attach a separate sheet if space here is not sufficient).

Acreage 17 acres

Recorded by Anne M. Forbes

Organization Concord Historical Commission

Date 2/15/88



UTM REFERENCE

USGS QUADRANGLE SCALE

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

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

Like Harness Shop Village, begun three years earlier, Riverside Park is a mixed residential area, composed of a short street, (Assabet Ave.,) of stylish, middle-class houses on the riverfront, backed by a neighborhood filled mainly with workers' cottages, (Grove St. and upper Barrett's Mill Rd.).

On Assabet Ave., the considerable local stylistic range of the 1890's is vividly illustrated. Ranging from a late Greco/Italianate house at #29 Assabet, through several of more complex Queen Anne massing, to a boxy Four-Square, this short street displays a variety more typical of higher-style Concord "village" than of West Concord.

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

The 1890's were the heyday of the locally-controlled real estate syndicate in West Concord. In the case of Riverside Park, it was the Mass. Reformatory's Superintendent, Joseph Scott, and the proprietor of the "prison store", George Russell, who were the trustees of the group that bought 17 acres of land from the Prescott Hosmer family heirs to be developed for 37 house lots. In doing so they helped meet the demand for housing near Concord Junction during the period of its most rapid growth. Most crucial at the time was the continuing shortage of accommodations for the families of employees at the Mass. Reformatory across Elm St.; in fact, six of the seven 1890's houses still standing on Assabet Av. were owned by people with Reformatory affiliations. At least ten more Reformatory families had settled on Grove St. and Barrett's Mill by 1906.

The stage had been set for development since 1879, however, when the Middlesex Central Railroad was extended from Concord center to join the Framingham and Lowell opposite the prison entrance. By the time the State Prison became the Massachusetts Reformatory in 1884, an engine house, turntable, and depot/hotel had been built just to the west of the Hosmer land. Consequently, railroad workers who were needed to work at Reformatory Junction made up another significant group of Riverside Park's early residents.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Richardson, Lauriston. Concord Chronicle, 1865-1900.

The Concord Enterprise, 1892-96, 1899.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1918, 1927.

Albert Wood, surveyor. Plan of Riverside Park, Concord, Mass. 1892.

Walcott, Charles. Titles. Undated manuscript.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

W. CONCORD

Form No:

5

Property Name:

Riverside Park

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

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

On the other hand, on Grove St. and upper Barrett's Mill Rd., the tone is more modest, and the house-types are more uniform. Several 2 1/2-story, vernacular gable-front houses appear, as they do all over West Concord, but the area is dominated by simple 1 1/2-story, gable-and-ell "knee-wall" cottages: on Grove St., most have facade or wrap-around verandas with lathe-turned columns; (see Form # , 114 Grove St.) On Barrett's Mill, a group of four tiny identical, 2-bay, gable-front cottages is unique in West Concord. (see Form # , 845-869 Barrett's Mill).

At either end of this group, and extending beyond the original subdivision, more variety appears: most notable are a few large vernacular/Queen Anne houses with pedimented gables, (cf. the house of Reformatory officer William Jenness at 762 Barrett's Mill, built in 1899 by the prolific West Concord builder, Isaac Beharrell,) a Queen Anne cottage with canted corners, and a few early 20th-century houses--a Four-Square, a Gambrel, and a shingled Craftsman-type bungalow.

Also located just outside the 1892 subdivision, two houses at 874 and 894 Elm St., a ca. 1880's 2 1/2-story gable-front and a ca. 1900 Four-Square, link the neighborhood with the Reformatory area to the southwest.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

Although Riverside Park was a speculative development, its overall division between a section primarily composed of small workers' cottages, (Grove St. and upper Barrett's Mill,) and a street of more stylish middle-class houses is more typical of company-sponsored housing. In fact, the resemblance to just such a neighborhood, Harness Shop Village, built for the Boston Harness Company at Concord Junction in 1889-91 is striking, even to the extent that, in both cases, the more stylish street is composed of only one row of houses, overlooking the river.

CWJ

Street numbers marked with an asterisk, (*,) indicate properties which also appear on Streetscape Forms; those with two asterisks, (**,) appear on individual forms. National Register-listed properties are marked "NR".

ASSABET AVENUE

1749

*29 Assabet Av.

House of Reformatory officer David Ball, ca. 1894. Late Greco-Italianate, gable-front, clapboard house; wrap-around porch with chamfered posts and diagonal braces. Clapboard carriage house of similar date.

1750

*39 Assabet Av.

Home of Thomas Curry, Reformatory instructor, ca. 1894-95. Greco-Italianate vernacular, with end pavilions and center entry porch with turned columns and scroll brackets. Clapboard. Small clapboard carriage house of similar date.

1751

*51 Assabet Av.

House of Reformatory instructor Charles Russell; square Colonial Revival pyramid-roofed house with 2-story, pedimented pavilion and cut-out facade corner; entry porch removed post-1927. Clapboard, ca. 1894-5.

1752

*57 Assabet Ave.

Ca. 1930's 1-story shingled, pyramid-roofed cottage; originally on property of #61.

1753

*61 Assabet Av.

House of Reformatory engraving instructor William Tolman, built 1899. Architect-designed, but name unknown. Queen Anne; synthetic siding, 1980's windows and front deck.

1754

*71 Assabet Av.

Built for Harold Judkins, clerk of Mass. Reformatory, ca. 1894-5. Gable & ell plan Queen Anne vernacular; synthetic siding. Pre-1918 garage.

1755

*79-81 Assabet Ave.

Musketaquid Bicycle Club, 1895. Queen Anne clubhouse; converted to residences, and 2nd story added, 1904, by Isaac Beharrell. 1970's-'80's windows and porch; synthetic siding.

1756

*89 Assabet Av.

Built for Reformatory Officer George Blake, late 1890's. Queen Anne vernacular; clapboard. Pre-1918 clapboard garage.

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1757 *103 Assabet Av.
1890's clapboard American Four-Square; turned columns and scroll brackets at veranda and rear side entry. Pre-1918 clapboard garage and ca. 1930's guest house.

1758 *111 Assabet Av.
1930's 1 1/2-story gable-front cottage with Colonial Revival porch. Wood shingle.

BARRETT'S MILL ROAD

1759 742 Barrett's Mill Rd.
Ca. 1899 2 1/2-story vernacular gable-front house with pedimented side bay and dormer; lathe-turned columns and jig-saw-cut brackets on veranda. Wood clapboard.

1760 762 Barrett's Mill Rd.
Large 2 1/2-story gable-front "free-classic" Queen Anne house with 2-story facade bay. Scalloped shingle in gables and bay. Enclosed later porch with rubble balustrade and half-height, paired and tripled Tuscan columns. Clapboard and wood shingle. Built for Reformatory officer William Jenness, by Isaac Beharrell, 1899.

1761 774 Barrett's Mill Rd.--NON-CONTRIBUTING
1970's 2-story, clapboard house.

1762 779 Barrett's Mill Rd.
1890's 2 1/2-story, gable-and-ell house. Wood clapboard.

1763 785 Barrett's Mill Rd.
Ca. 1905-10 1 1/2-story Gambrel with mid-20th century addition, rear. Wood clapboard and synthetic siding.

1764 790 Barrett's Mill Rd.
Ca. 1905-15 Four-Square with exposed rafter-ends. Wood clapboard.

1765 807 Barrett's Mill St.--NON-CONTRIBUTING
1980's clapboard house.

1766 821 Barrett's Mill Rd.
Ca. 1900-1905 1 1/2-story, Craftsman/Colonial Revival 2-story gable-front house with shallow 1 1/2-story side bay; enclosed porch with paired half-height Tuscan columns and prominent rubble foundation and balustrades. Synthetic siding.

1767 829 Barrett's Mill Rd.
Ca. 1885-90 2 1/2-story upright-and-wing, "free-classic" Queen Anne house with pedimented gable-ends and shallow, 2-story bay, facade.; wrap-around veranda with lathe-turned columns. Wood clapboard.

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- 1768 835 Barrett's Mill Rd.
1890's 1 1/2-story, gable-front Queen Anne cottage with clipped corners. Wood shingle.
- 1769 *845 Barrett's Mill Rd.
Mid-1890's 1 1/2-story, 2-bay, gable-front cottage. Wood clapboard.
- 1770 *849 Barrett's Mill Rd.
Home of Reformatory instructor Fred Walker in 1905-6. See description, #845 Barrett's Mill. Wood clapboard.
- 1771 *855 Barrett's Mill Rd.
Home of Samuel Ross, B & M. watchman in 1905-6. See description, # 845 Barrett's Mill. Wood clapboard.
- 1772 *861 Barrett's Mill Rd.
See description, # 845 Barrett's Mill. Wood clapboard.
- 1773 *869 Barrett's Mill Rd.
Mid-1890's 2 1/2-story, gable-front, Greco-Italianate house. Wood clapboard. Home of Reformatory office John Chapman. Shed/carriage house of similar date.
- 1774 883 Barrett's Mill Rd.
Ca. 1890's 2 1/2-story, vernacular Colonial Revival house with pedimented gables; some Queen Anne detail. Synthetic siding. Property owned by Reformatory officer Walter Leland, 1892. Home of James Massie, station agent, Reformatory Station in 1905-6.
- 1775 891 Barrett's Mill Rd.
Ca. 1907 vernacular upright-and-wing, gable-front house. Aluminum siding.

GROVE STREET

- 1776 15 Grove St.
Ca. 1900-05 1 1/2-story, half-gambrel Craftsman bungalow; enclosed porch with half-height Tuscan columns and shingled balustrade. Wood shingle.
- 1777 22 Grove St.
1890's 1 1/2-story, upright-and-wing vernacular Victorian cottage; wrap-around veranda with lathe-turned columns. Synthetic siding.
- 1778 25 Grove St.--NON-CONTRIBUTING
1980's Cape Cod house.

- 1779 31 Grove St.
1890's 1 1/2-story, gable & ell house with half-enclosed facade veranda. Vernacular Victorian. Clapboard.
- 1780 37 Grove St.--NON-CONTRIBUTING
Mid-20th century ranch house.
- 1781 52 Grove St.--NON-CONTRIBUTING
Ca. 1930's 1-story shingled cottage.
- 1782 57 Grove St.--NON-CONTRIBUTING
Mid-20th century ranch house.
- 1783 68 Grove St.
1890's 1 1/2-story vernacular Victorian, gable and ell cottage. Wood clapboard.
- 1784 75 Grove St.
1890's 1 1/2-story, gable-front house; vernacular Queen Anne, with lathe-turned columns and saw-cut brackets on veranda. Wood clapboard.
- 1785 86 Grove St.
1890's 2 1/2-story, gable-front Queen Anne/vernacular house; bracketed veranda with turned columns and "Japanesque" balustrade. Wood clapboard and shingle.
- 1786 97 Grove St.
First in group of three identical, 1890's 1 1/2-story gable-front cottages, each with a shallow ell and rectangular bay window on the facade. Wrap-around veranda with turned columns and brackets. Wood shingle.
- 1787 99 Grove St.
See description of core house, above. Wrap-around veranda; wood clapboard.
- 1788 103 Grove St.
See description of core house, #97 Grove. Wood clapboard.
- 1789 109 Grove St.
1 1/2-story, gable-and-ell house with rusticated concrete-block foundation. Synthetic siding. Ca. 1910.
- 1790 113 Grove St.
Ca. 1900 1 1/2-story, vernacular gable-and-ell house. Pedimented Colonial Revival entry with Tuscan columns; Queen Anne lathe-turned column remaining at E. side. Synthetic siding.
- *114 Grove St.
1890's 1 1/2-story gable-front house with full-height ell; wrap-around veranda with turned-columns and jig-saw-cut brackets; wood clapboard.

1791 121 Grove St.

Late 1890's 2 1/2-story gable-front, upright-and-wing house with Colonial Revival wrap-around, pedimented porch. Wood clapboard.

ELM STREET

1792 874 Elm St.

Ca. 1880's 2 1/2-story upright-and-wing, Greco-Italianate house; entry porch with lathe-turned columns and solid brackets. Synthetic siding.

1793 894 Elm St. (DEMOLISHED)

Ca. 1900 American Four-Square with Colonial Revival veranda; wood clapboard and shingle.

AREA [J]
PL - WEST CONCORD
US63 MAYNARD
SECTION - A

1749 - 29	ASSABET AVE	(ALSO CU)
1750 - 39	" "	(ALSO CU)
1751 - 51	" "	(ALSO CU)
1752 - 57	" "	(ALSO CU)
1753 - 61	" "	(ALSO CU)
1754 - 71	" "	(ALSO CU)
1755 - 79 & 81	" "	(ALSO CU)
1756 - 89	" "	(ALSO CU)
1757 - 103	" "	(ALSO CU)
1758 - 111	" "	(ALSO CU)
1759 - 742	BARRETT'S MILL RD	
1760 - 762	" "	
1761 - 774	" "	
1762 - 779	" "	
1763 - 785	" "	
1764 - 790	" "	
1765 - 807	" "	

1766 - 821	BARRETT'S MILL RD	
1767 - 829	" "	
1768 - 835	" "	
1769 - 845	" "	(ALSO CS)
1770 - 849	" "	(ALSO CS)
1771 - 855	" "	(ALSO CS)
1772 - 861	" "	(ALSO CS)
1773 - 869	" "	(ALSO CS)
1774 - 883	" "	
1775 - 891	" "	
1776 - 15	GROVE ST	
1777 - 22	" "	
1778 - 25	" "	
1779 - ³³ 31	" "	
1780 - 37	" "	
1781 - 52	" "	
1782 - 57	" "	
1783 - 68	" "	

MHC Inventory scanning project, 2008-2012

MACRIS No. CON. J

1785 - 86 " 9

1786-97

1787-99

1788 - 103

1789-109 " 4

1790- 113 " "

1791- 121 29 7

1792-874 Elm St

1793-894 " " (Demonstration)



Grove Street, looking West



762 Barrett's Mill Road (CON. 1760)



29 + 39 Assabet Avenue
(CON. 1749 + CON. 1750)



845-861 Barrett's Mill Road



86 Grove Street (con. 1785)



97-109 Grove Street