

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	WSN.O
Historic Name:	Hultman Aqueduct
Common Name:	
Address:	
City/Town:	Weston
Village/Neighborhood:	
Local No:	19-1
Year Constructed:	
Architect(s):	American Concrete and Steel Pipe; Bianchi, Carlo; Densmore, LeClear and Robbins; Gardetto, B. A.; West Construction Company
Architectural Style(s):	
Use(s):	Other Water Related; Utilities Other
Significance:	Architecture; Community Planning; Engineering; 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

This file was accessed on: Monday, August 9, 2021 at 3:51: PM

FORM A - AREA

*Be
17-2
2nd A*

Form numbers in this area	Area letter
17-2 2-5 17-1 2-15 933	17 D

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116

Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form

Photo number _____

Town not in Marlborough, Marlborough, Southborough, Framingham,
Wayland, Weston

Name of area (if any) _____

Hultman Aqueduct

General date or period 1938-40

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) and indicate north. (Attach a
separate sheet if space here is not sufficient)

See USGS Maps

Recorded by M.H. Bowers

Organization Louis Berger & Assoc.

Date May 1985

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE of area. (Describe physical setting, general character, and architecturally significant structures).

The Hultman Aqueduct is an 18-mile long pressure conduit extending from near the Wachusett Aqueduct terminal chamber in Marlborough to a point in Weston near the Charles River. The aqueduct includes a 9700' segment of cut and cover with 12'6" steel cylinder reinforced concrete pipe; a three-mile rock tunnel beneath Sudbury Reservoir; 13 miles of 11'6" steel cylinder reinforced concrete pipe; and a 170' twin-tube segment below Norumbega Reservoir in Weston. Structures associated with the Hultman are a semicircular diversion dam on the Wachusett open channel, an intake structure, a headhouse at Shaft 4 (below Sudbury Dam), and a gatehouse and chlorine storage structure at Norumbego Reservoir. Contractors for the work included West Construction Co, Boston; B.A. Gardetto, Boston; The American Concrete & Steel Pipe Co, Los Angeles; and Carlo Biachi, Framingham. Consulting architects for the Shaft 4 headhouse and Norumbega Reservoir gatehouse was the Boston firm of Densmore, LeClear & Robbins.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE of area. (Explain development of area, what caused it, and how it affected community; be specific).

The Hultman Aqueduct, built 1938-40, had its origins in the Special Report of the Metropolitan District Water Supply Commission and the Department of Public Health Relative to Improvements in Distribution and to Adequate Protection of Pollution of Sources of Water Supply within the Metropolitan Water District, published in 1937. The Hultman was constructed to bypass Sudbury Reservoir, the watershed for which had become increasingly subject to pollution; and to bring clean water from Wachusett Reservoir directly to the Metropolitan Water District. The original plan for the "new pressure aqueduct" called for its extension all the way to Chestnut Hill Reservoir and for construction of a "tunnel loop" within the immediate Boston area. The segments from Southborough to Weston were completed in 1940. With the nation's entry in World War II, however, the "city tunnel" section to Chestnut Hill was delayed, Federal authorization having been denied on grounds that it was not essential to the war effort, despite intensive lobbying by the state legislature. Construction resumed in 1947, and the city tunnel extension was completed in 1950. Subsequently, the tunnel extension to Malden (1962) and Dorchester tunnel (1974) extended the pressure system into the heart of Metropolitan Boston. The Cosgrove Tunnel extended the system west to the Wachusett Reservoir upon its completion in 1965.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Metropolitan District Water Supply Commission Annual Report 13 (1938):15-16; 14 (1939) 23, 25, 30, 31, 32.
- Dore, Stanley M., "Design and Construction of a Pressure Aqueduct for the Boston Metropolitan District," Journal of the New England Water Works Association 55, No. (1941), pp. 315-354.