

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

DEC 9

1729

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Brookside Historic District
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 1-44 Brookside, 5 Moore Rds., 1-7 Coolidge Ave. not for publication
city or town Westford vicinity _____
state Massachusetts code MA county Middlesex code 17 zip code 01886

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination
☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of
Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property
☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant
☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Brona Simon December 3, 2002
Signature of certifying official/Title Brona Simon, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date
Massachusetts Historical Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:
☒ entered in the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the
National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register
☐ removed from the
National Register
☐ other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Edgar H. Beall 12303

Brookside HD
Name of Property

Middlesex, MA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

☒ private
☒ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

(Check only one box)

☐ building(s)
☒ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>24</u>	<u>5</u>	building
		sites
<u>4</u>		structures
<u>1</u>		objects
<u>29</u>	<u>5</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

n/a

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Domestic: multiple dwelling

Industry: manufacturing facility

Social: clubhouse

Transportation: rail-related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Domestic: multiple dwelling

Social: clubhouse

Industry: industrial storage

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial

Mid 19th Century: Greek Revival

Late Victorian: Queen Anne, Victorian Eclectic

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Colonial Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone: granite, slate concrete

walls brick

wood: weatherboard, shingle

roof asphalt

other synthetics: vinyl

metal: aluminum

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

Introduction

Brookside is a former mill village of 29 historic resources, including the former Brookside Woolen Mill, multiple unit worker housing, single unit residences, a granite dam, a bridge, and five examples of modern construction. Buildings are Colonial, Greek Revival, Queen Anne, Victorian Eclectic, and Colonial Revival in style and are in poor to good condition. The moderately dense linear area includes resources on Brookside Road between Lowell and Road and Coolidge Avenue. Four additional resources are located on Moore and Coolidge Avenue. Stony Brook traverses the center of the area along the right of way of the CSX Railroad, both of which are perpendicular to Brookside Road. Brookside complements Westford's other mill villages, Graniteville and Forge Village, [NR 2002] both of which are much larger, containing hundreds of historic resources. Brookside was owned in the late 19th and early 20th century by Chelmsford industrialist George C. Moore who was responsible for much of the industrial development. It was subsequently owned by Abbot Worsted Company, which also operated mills in Forge Village and Graniteville. A railroad depot existed until the mid 20th century, but has been demolished. Other large brick industrial buildings have also been demolished, although the principal mill building and its prominent tower survive.

Brookside Mill

The two-story Brookside Mill on Brookside Road is built primarily of brick with some granite ashlar construction in its older sections and some more recent cinderblock additions on the south side of the complex. The existing plan of the mill has evolved to the point where it is nearly square. The oldest section, built of granite around 1862, is a rectangular form oriented largely east-west, and measuring approximately 30' x 85'. An 1894 addition, measuring 40' x 50', was made perpendicular to the east end of the granite block and expands the plan to the north. Also in 1894, the main mill measuring 150' x 60' was built parallel to the 1862 mill, resulting in a reversed Z-shaped plan. A wing projected to the east from the central stem of the Z-plan, creating a courtyard between it and the main mill. The courtyard formerly contained a square smokestack built of brick which has been demolished. The courtyard has been roofed and enclosed and the east end of the 1862 mill has been extended toward Brookside Road. The enclosure of the courtyard and additions to the 1862 mill have altered the appearance of the complex from that of a series of brick and stone buildings joined around a central smokestack to a single block of amalgamated subparts.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

The main component of the Brookside Mill is the 1894 brick, two-story, flat-roofed 150' x 60' section located immediately south of Stony Brook and west of Brookside Road. The eight-bay, easterly-oriented façade is interrupted by additions of cinderblock and brick. The north- or stream-side elevation of the building is an unbroken brick expanse of 19 bays which, by virtue of the long row of arch-topped window openings and the lack of modern construction, is most evocative of the mill's former appearance. The brick section of the mill is anchored at its northeast corner by a three-story brick tower with arch-topped windows, many of which have been bricked in. The tower is depicted in an historic engraving with a pyramidal roofed belfry that has since been lost. The belfry had jig sawn brackets supporting the corner posts and a patterned shingle roof. Windows that remain uncovered are 12/12 double-hung sash. Ornament consists of jig sawn eave brackets. Foundation materials is primarily cut granite with some brick. A wood-framed shaft, approximately eight feet on a side, is clad in wood clapboards and rises two stories along the west wall of the mill.

The central, older, section of the mill was built around 1862 of granite random-laid ashlar. This section, located south and west of the larger brick section, is also two stories and approximately six by four bays. As in the larger brick section, arched openings here are filled with cinderblock, plywood, and brick. Ornament on the granite mill consists of heavy wooden brackets, a brick corbel at the eaves and brick voussoirs in the window arches. The brick and stone sections of the mill are joined at a vertical section of overlapping brick and granite masonry visible on the south elevation. The granite mill, while partially visible from both sides, is shielded in some places by modern wood and cinderblock additions. Modern additions and the deteriorated state have left the granite mill in poor condition.

Construction of the mill consists of load-bearing masonry walls with gradual-pitched gabled roof trusses built of wood. Trusses in some places had been supported in the center by rows of wood piers. These piers were modified in the 20th century to accommodate forklift traffic. The piers were cut three feet below the ceiling and at the floor level and removed. Their load-bearing potential was replaced by steel turnbuckles attached to exterior walls and slung under the piers' remaining three-foot upper sections. Window sills are granite in many places. Floors are wood plank, several layers thick.

The stream on the north side of the building is the site of the granite dam, the bridge carrying Brookside Road over Stony Brook and the water intake or penstock for the turbine formerly located in the lower level of the mill. The ten-foot high dam is attached at its south side to the mill foundation and extends forty feet north across Stony Brook. A

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

granite block wall eight to 15 feet in height lines the north bank of the brook. Water level was regulated by a control gate or sluiceway in a broad notch in the top masonry course of the dam. Secondary outlets for water flow are located on the north side of the dam, consisting of three foot diameter iron pipes. Historically the dam impounded a pond of several acres which concealed much of the stone construction described above. Twenty-foot wide Stony Brook now flows through the center of the former pond bed.

Downstream of the dam is the bridge over Stony Brook. Three flat arches, also built of random ashlar, carry the road over the stream bed. Each arch spans approximately 10' while the entire bridge extends for nearly 100', including piers, spandrels, and abutments. An additional pair of three-foot diameter iron pipes also conduct water under the bridge.

The penstock, conducting water from stream bed to mill, is a five-foot diameter iron pipe. Water enters the upstream opening, is forced to the right (south) by a 90-degree bend in the intake pipe, which then enters the lower level of the mill tower when it formerly turned the turbine rotor. Nothing remains of the water powered mechanical system inside the building. Water currently enters the base of the tower through the penstock and exits the building through the subterranean brick vaulted tailrace which leads under Brookside Road and back into Stony Brook.

The H.E. Fletcher Social and Athletic Club at **11 Brookside Road** was built in 1920 in the English Revival style as the "Brookside Lunch," a dining hall for employees of the Abbot Worsted Company. The building is a side-gabled form of 1½ stories with an enclosed entry porch and gabled dormers on the front slope of the roof. A rear ell expands the plan to the east. A secondary entry on the south elevation is covered by a shed-roofed porch. The exterior, labeled as plaster on the architects' plans, is now clad in vinyl clapboards. Windows are modern replacements and are smaller than the original 6/6 double-hung sash. The building is sited behind a cut granite retaining wall and is in fair condition.

During the 1970s the mill owner built a large metal-clad refrigeration facility south of the mill. It has a low-pitched gabled roof and occupies the rear of the parking lot behind the mill. The building is a featureless, windowless mass separated from the mill by an expanse of asphalt parking.

The Brookside Mill is the smallest of Westford's principal historic industrial facilities. Others in Forge Village and Graniteville are older, retain more architectural integrity and display a wider variety of design elements. However the Brookside Mill continues to

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

represent a significant historic entity that gives a sense of place to the village of Brookside. Its brick construction with Victorian details and the associated water-power structure, and its association with the Abbot Worsted Company, distinguish it as an important component of the town's industrial history.

Residential Architecture

The neighborhood surrounding the mill bears indications of its former status as a mill village. The likely home of Colonial Period miller William Chandler, built ca. 1725 at **20 Brookside Road (MHC #116)** is a side-gabled Colonial style building of 2 ½ stories and five by one bay. The house is sided in wood clapboard and the roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles. The center entry has a Federal style surround with sidelights and entablature. Windows are 2/2 double-hung sash with plain trim. A brick chimney occupies the ridge of the roof. The detached garage is a front gambrel, two-bay form located west of the well-maintained house. The Chandler House is typical of 18th century homes in the town. Houses with historic wood clapboard exteriors, Colonial style side-gabled forms and classical entry surrounds are found in most parts of Westford and identify the area as a place of Colonial Period settlement.

The Greek Revival style house at **9 Brookside Road**, built in 1862, is a front-gabled three by two-bay form of two stories. A one-story ell expands the plan to the south. Windows and siding are modern replacements. The recessed side hall entry retains its wide trim and sidelights. Other ornamental features include the molded cornice and gable returns. A one-story bay window lights the south elevation next to a shed porch in the ell. The house is in fair condition.

A Victorian Eclectic style tenement with paired front doors exists across the stream to the north at **5 Moore Road (MHC #17)**. The ca. 1870 house is a 6 x 2 bay, side-gabled form of 2½ stories that overlooks the mill from its hillside location. A two-story addition has been made to the rear of the house. Windows are 6/6 double-hung sash with no trim due to the application of vinyl clapboards to the exterior. Ornamental features include the gable returns and molded cornice. Other exterior ornament may have been removed at the time of the re-siding. Two brick chimneys rise from the roof peak. A modern triangular entry porch covers the central bay of the fairly well-maintained building.

The Victorian Eclectic style house at **24 Brookside Road**, ca. 1880, resembles 5 Moore in its form but lacks the double front entry to conform it as a double tenement. It is a five by two bay, side-gabled form with a shed-roofed rear ell. The house, like 5 Moore, is

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

located on the low hill to the north that overlooks the mill. Windows are 1/1 and 2/1 double-hung sash with no trim due to the application of vinyl clapboards. The center entry is covered by a flat roofed porch with Victorian turned columns. A granite retaining wall exists between the house and the road. The house is in fair condition.

One Brookside Road, built ca. 1890, is a side-gabled form with a Queen Anne style tower attached to the façade and an integrated shed-roofed front porch. The tower is a two-story, three-sided form with a gabled roof. Wood clapboards cover the exterior of the well-maintained house. Windows are 2/2 and 6/6 double-hung sash. A two-story addition has been made to the north side elevation and, like the main block of the house, has corner pilasters, gable returns, frieze, and molded cornice.

The Victorian Eclectic style residence at **27 Brookside Road** was built ca. 1890. The two-story, side-gabled five-by-two bay form is expanded with large dormers on the front slope of the roof and a hipped one-story addition on the south elevation. The roof of the house is clad in asphalt shingles, the walls in asbestos clapboards, and the foundation is built of cut granite. Ornamental elements include the wide trim with entablature around the center entry, gable returns, molded cornice, and hood moldings over the windows. Dormers have closed gables and paired sash. Windows are 2/2 double-hung sash. The house is in fair condition, having been altered with modern siding.

Six former mill workers' houses, built around 1895, exist at **34-44 Brookside Road**. These are identical in form except for reversals in the layout of the floor plan. They are two stories in height and three bays across the façade with a cross-hipped roof. Cutaway entry porches exist under the front eaves. Adjacent to the entry porch, facades have bays which created canted corners at the first story. Well-preserved examples in this group have wood clapboard exteriors, 6/1 double-hung sash, turned posts supporting the porches, and pendants descending from the soffits of the canted corners. Some houses have been altered with the application of modern siding materials, installation of modern windows, and removal of some architectural detail.

Coolidge Avenue is the location of historic residential architecture built for employees by the Abbot Worsted Company after their purchase of the mill in 1919. The single family Colonial Revival style house at **1 Coolidge Avenue** is a side-gambrel, three by one-bay form of two stories built ca. 1936. A two-story rear ell is built perpendicular to the main block of the house. Exterior walls are clad in wood shingles, the roof in asphalt and the foundation is undetermined. Original windows have been replaced with vinyl-framed sash. Ornament on the building consists of the corbelled brick center chimney and corner

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

boards. Gable returns, piers with molded caps and a segmental arched ceiling ornament the gabled center entry porch. The house is in good condition. The residence at **3 Coolidge Avenue** is a side-gabled cottage also bearing Colonial Revival style details. It was built around 1919 for Abbot Worsted Company employees. It is built on a scale similar to its neighbor at 1 Coolidge and shares some design elements. Other such residences are scattered widely on Coolidge Avenue and other streets near the district. The multiple-unit residence at **5-7 Coolidge Avenue**, also built ca. 1919, is a side-gabled, 2½ story, Colonial Revival style residence of five by two bays. Shed roofed enclosed porches expand the plan at both gable ends. Two entrances with classical trim fill openings in the façade. Windows are 6/6 and 6/8 double-hung sash which are paired in the center bay. Exterior walls are clad in wood clapboards, the roof is clad in asphalt shingles and the foundation is built with cobblestone. The house is in good condition and bears a strong resemblance to other multiple unit residences in the mill villages of Graniteville (**MHC Area F**) and Forge Village (**MHC Area E**) where the Abbot Worsted Company also had mills and mill worker housing. The house is in good condition.

Many residences in the village of Brookside are associated with the mill and reflect characteristics common in company-designed and built houses. The similarity of form, scale, and building materials identify them as part of a historic industry-based population center. The relatively high density of historic construction focused around the intersection of Stony Brook, Brookside Road, and the Stony Brook Railroad are illustrative of patterns of 19th century village life.

Archaeological Description

While no ancient Native American sites are known in the district or in the general area (within one mile), it is possible that sites are present. Environmental characteristics of the district indicate the presence of several locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, proximity to wetlands) that are favorable indicators for ancient sites. The district contains several well-drained upland and riverine terraces located in close proximity (within 1000 feet) to wetlands. Dammed portions of Stony Brook, its floodplain and related wetlands roughly bisect the district. The confluence of Gilson Brook and Stony Brook lies within 1000 feet northeast of the district. The entire district is located within the Merrimack River drainage. Given the above information, the size of the district (approximately 25 acres) and impacts related to industrial and residential construction in the village, a moderate to high potential exists for locating ancient Native American sites in the district.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

A high potential exists for locating historic archaeological resources in the district. Most potential historic archaeological resources in the district are related to 18th and 19th century industrial facilities originally located along Stony Brook. Residential sites from the same period may also exist along Brookside Road, Coolidge Avenue and Moore Road. Structural evidence may survive from a fulling mill and grist mill, both of which operated in ca. 1725 near the current site of the Brookside Mill. Archaeological evidence of a Colonial Period saw mill may also survive in the district. By 1862, all production at the site switched to the manufacture of woolen yarn under the ownership of George and Seth Moore. Water-power facilities including a dam, head races and tail races were probably constructed in the 18th century although power facilities during this period are poorly documented. Power canals connected wheel pits at the above mills with Stony Brook. A filled tailrace is reported in the area of Brookside Road. A dam was definitely present by the mid-19th century when documentary evidence indicates the railroad grade was raised 6 feet in order to raise the level of Stony Brook to increase water-power. The current Brookside Mill Complex began with construction of the extant granite textile mill in 1862. Insurance surveys in 1890 indicate several mill buildings on the site that are no longer extant today including a mill wing that faced Brookside Road and housed a coal fired steam engine, loom and repair operations, a store house for machinery west of the mill, a waste house, stock house, square smokestack and old mill with its water wheel in the basement. The latter entry indicates the possibility that the earlier 18th or 19th century grist or textile mill was still present in 1890. The entry also indicates that a basement or below grade level wheel pit and power canals may be buried in the grounds underneath the existing mill complex. Structural evidence of the earlier mills listed above and their water-power facilities may survive in the vicinity of the Brookside Mill. Industrial refuse deposits may also exist in the area of earlier mills and existing mill buildings. Industrial waste may have also been used to fill below grade portions of mills and water-power resources.

Transportation related facilities may also survive as archaeological sites in the district. Structural evidence might survive from a railroad depot and freight house that were located in the district after 1848. An 1857 map illustrates the Brookside station sited between the railroad and stream to the east of Brookside Road. A second site also exists for the Brookside Station across the street from the above location where it was moved then replaced in the early 20th century. The freight house was located west of the station. Both the station and freight house were demolished in the 1950's.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 8

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

Structural evidence and occupational related features associated with residential sites may also survive in the district. The former Chandler residence (ca. 1725) is extant at 20 Brookside Road and represents the only 18th century survival in the district. Most 19th century residences may still survive and only 2 residences are illustrated in the district area on the 1831 series map. In 1855, three residences, reported to primarily belong to farmers, are reported in the village. One residence may be the former Chandler residence noted above. Another residence, the Kendall House was demolished at a site north of the mill near the corner of Moore and Brookside Roads. The location of the third residence is unknown, however, it is believed destroyed since the only structure dating to 1855 or earlier in the district is the former Chandler residence mentioned above. Structural evidence of 18th and 19th century residential sites may survive in the district. Similar evidence of outbuildings and occupational related features may also survive with buildings still extant and at archaeological sites.

(end)

Brookside HD

Name of Property

Middlesex, MA

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

INDUSTRY

Period of Significance

1725-1952

Significant Dates

1894

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

William C. Edwards William H. Cox

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☒ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

J.V. Fletcher Library

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

Statement of Significance

Introduction

Brookside is the smallest of Westford Massachusetts' three mill villages, located on Stony Brook several miles downstream from Forge Village and Graniteville (NRDIS, 2002). The district is eligible for the National Register under criterion A for its association with the town's industrial history. This was the site of a Colonial fulling mill, operated by William Chandler who came to what was then Chelmsford from North Andover. The tradition of manufacturing textiles, as well as milling corn and lumber, continued at this location under the power of the flow of Stony Brook until the 20th century. Manufacturing activity encouraged the transformation of the area during the Industrial Period from a rural hinterland into a busy mill village served by a railroad and street railway. Brookside is also eligible under criterion C for its embodiment of distinctive characteristics of the New England mill village as seen in its repetitive architectural designs for mill worker housing and in the long march of arched windows in the brick expanse of the mill building's north wall. Despite some changes, the Brookside Historic District retains integrity of design, feeling, association, materials, and workmanship.

Decline of manufacturing activity in the 1940s brought on the change from industrial to residential village. Streetcar and railroad services were discontinued in the 1920s and 1950s respectively. Manufacturing activity at the Brookside Mill gave way to storage in the 1960s, which preceded the abandonment of the mill building in the 1980s. The vacant state of the mill has allowed structural deterioration to claim significant building elements such as the tower roof and nearly all of the large wood-framed sash that had not previously been replaced with brick. Surviving elements include the granite dam, retaining walls, penstock, bridge, lunch room, and two major historic sections of the mill building. The period of significance for the Brookside Historic District is ca. 1725-1952.

Pre-Industrial Period

Westford's first fulling mill was located ca. 1725 near the current site of the Brookside Mill according to the 1883 town history. William Chandler is noted as having built a water powered fulling mill and grist mill which, by virtue of the powerful head of water for turning a wheel, remained in business throughout the period. The 1917 History of

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

Chelmsford indicates a bridge existed near Brookside by 1827. The 1831 series maps labels the site "mills" with two residences located nearby. One may have been Chandler's former house at **20 Brookside Road (MHC #116)** which continues to occupy the southwest corner of Moore and Brookside Roads. The other is slightly east of the district boundary.

Early Industrial Period, 1830-1870

Members of the Adams family, millers of corn and lumber, followed Chandler in operating the mill at Brookside, as is reflected on the 1857 Walling map of Middlesex County. Shortly thereafter, they sold to Theodore H. Hamblett, recent owner of the saw and grist mill at Westford Depot, located upstream approximately one mile at Depot Street. Hamblett was taxed in 1869 for the mill building, water privilege, and stock in trade. He also built a house nearby at **9 Brookside Road**. Mr. Hamblett carried on his business with his relative W.C. Hamblett until 1862 when they sold to George R. Moore according to Stone's History of Massachusetts Industries. George and Seth Moore transformed the product of the mill from flour and lumber to woolen yarn. The factory became part of the Moore's growing conglomeration of foundries, textile mills, and machine shops, based in Chelmsford. The Moore's acquisition began the period of most intense growth for the mill and for the village of Brookside. In 1862 they erected the stone building comprising the oldest existing part of the mill. George R. Moore is listed in the 1870 Federal census as a 54 year-old manufacturer, married to Philanda R. Moore with three children, George C., Edward A., and Mary E. Moore. The household also included two non-family members, presumably servants, one of whom was born in England.

The Stony Brook Railroad, which operated along the stream of that name in 1848, also facilitated growth of the village of Brookside. The railroad connected the shipping and manufacturing centers of South Groton (now Ayer Center) and North Chelmsford. The company was based in Lowell and built the railroad primarily to ship manufactures along Stony Brook, but also offered passenger service. The railroad never owned any rolling stock and was leased upon its opening to the Nashua & Lowell Railroad, a larger operation operating between the manufacturing centers of its name. The improved shipping opportunities provided by the railroad allowed Stony Brook's industry to grow much faster than before. Ability to transport mill products to Lowell and beyond increase the appeal of the Brookside site as well as those of the Abbot and Sargent companies that were making woolen goods and wool refining machinery upstream at Forge Village and

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

Graniteville. Mr. Moore raised the railbed six feet in order to increase the level of Stony Brook and consequently the power delivered to the machinery. Brookside Station was located across the brook from the mill, and was a one-story, front-gabled building with Victorian details judging by the shape of the window openings in a 19th century engraving. The 1857 map shows the station sited between the railroad and the stream to the east of Brookside Road. This was moved across the street and replaced in the early 20th century by a wood-framed station with ridge-hipped roof. A side-gabled freight house occupied a site west of the station.

During the mid-19th century, mill workers in Brookside were sufficient small in number that they did not require company-built housing. In 1855 there were three residences in the village, belonging primarily to farmers. Mrs. A.F. Dun occupied the Colonial period **Chandler House at 20 Brookside Road (MHC #116)**. Widow Pamela Kendall occupied a home, now demolished, north of the mill near the corner of Moore and Brookside Roads. Ephraim Harwood (aka Hayward) owned a house on Brookside Road to the south of the mill. The 1857 map shows a carriage shop to the south of the Harwood residence.

Sometime later, Brookside Mill workers lived in the company tenement house at **5 Moore Road (MHC #17)**. The building was built between 1865 and 1875 and appears under the company's ownership as the "Boarding House" in the town valuations from that year. 1870 Federal census information shows that four residents with different surnames lived in a single house. These were Hannah Boccock, native of England, Alice Jackson of Massachusetts, James Hantor of Scotland, and John Tague of Ireland. Additional non-native residents also occupied homes in the area. This is a high concentration of non-native births for Westford at this time.

Early Industrial Period architecture in Brookside bears a similarity to construction in Westford's other mill villages of Forge Village and Graniteville. The random ashlar granite mill built ca. 1862 bears a strong resemblance to the Abbot Worsted Company Mill #1 in Graniteville, built to around the same size of the same material in 1858. Forge Village is the site of numerous multiple-unit side-gabled dwellings with paired entries. Tenements at 8-10 and 24-26 Bradford Street are examples of this house type although they were built some time later than the examples in Brookside.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

Late Industrial Period, 1870-1919

The 1875 town tax valuations indicate that Seth G. Moore owned two water-powered mills at Brookside with auxiliary steam engines, a blacksmith shop, and three houses. The woolen mill in 1875 consisted of the granite section in the southwest side of the existing complex along with three similar sized wood-framed mill buildings and the centrally located brick smokestack. From 1885-1911, Mr. Moore's relative George Clifford Moore owned the mills and expanded them almost continuously throughout the period. George C. Moore entered Westford Academy in 1863 and later became a civic-minded Chelmsford resident. He donated money to that town for the establishment of the North Chelmsford Fire District, and served as a special police officer. Moore owned many industrial operations there and made the town his home. He added an office to the Brookside mill complex by 1885, as well as two houses for employees, a social hall, outbuildings, and hundreds of acres of land, all according to tax valuations. Business records indicate he was as much a real estate trader as wool manufacturer. Credit reports compiled in the 1880s by R.G. Dun & Company note Mr. Moore as a wool washer but list mostly land transactions when describing his work. George Moore would exert his influence over the village most notably in 1894, when he replaced the wood-framed mill buildings, as well as two frame store houses and waste house with the existing brick construction.

An 1890 Barlow's Insurance Company survey lists Brookside's principal resource at that time as the Main Mill which is the existing central granite building. The first story was the location of combing and spinning while the second story housed picking and carding operations. These activities were carried out using Sargent's wool picking and burring machinery which was manufactured three miles up Stony Brook in Graniteville (**MHC Area F**). Other processes such as scouring and drying took place in North Chelmsford at another of Mr. Moore's factories. Additional buildings in 1890 which no longer exist are the wing that faced Brookside Road and houses a coal fired steam engine, looms and repair operations; the Store House for old machinery west of the mill; the Old Mill with its water wheel in the basement; Waste House, Stock House, and the square smokestack. These were wood with the exception of the brick stack. Employees worked 60 hours weekly in the steam-heated, kerosene lamp-lit mill, using both steam and water power to run machinery. By 1891, Brookside Mill employed 125 hands and manufactured 600,000 pounds of yarn a year, according to Ora Stone's 1930 History of Massachusetts Industries.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

Between 1890-1894 a major reconstruction of the mill took place. An insurance survey from that year shows the mill closer to its current configuration. The Old Mill, Stock House, and wood-framed part of the Main Mill were replaced with brick construction that included the existing tower on Brookside Road and the brick block along the stream connecting to the Main Mill. Operations consisted of carding, combing, drawing, and picking on the first story, spinning, twisting, and weaving on the second and power generation via a Thomson Houston 110-volt dynamo in the base of the tower. The second story of the tower may have been used for offices given the presence of awnings at this location in an historic photo. (The deteriorated condition of the floor prevented physical examination.) The dynamo allowed employees to work by incandescent light. The wood-framed water-closet shaft on the west elevation of the brick mill, stone dam, Store Houses, and a Dust House were also present.

William C. Edwards, who also was contracted to built the J.V. Fletcher Library in Westford Center (NRDIS) and the Sargent School in Graniteville (NRDIS) also built the 1894 mill building according to previous research. The Moore Company also built a new social hall near the mill pond (an unidentified predecessor of the existing 1920 hall at 11 Brookside Road). The company retained its blacksmith shop and storehouses. In 1905, Mr. Moore's Westford business was taxed for ownership of nine houses and a boarding house in addition to his mills, among which were the old grist and saw mills, possibly still in use. Blacksmith and box shops existed to support the main industrial activities. An engraving from this period shows the mill with the existing tower as the central element in the complex. Additional surviving components are the dam, penstock, railroad, and the granite bridge over Stony Brook. Elements in the engraving no longer standing include the two-story, low-pitched gable-roofed storage building east of Brookside Road, and two additional flat-roofed buildings south of the primary building. Standing among the mills in the image is the brick smokestack that has also been demolished.

George C. Moore built six single-family workers' cottages on Brookside Road by 1895. This group of identical homes survives ¼ mile north of the mill. The houses are described in tax valuations as "new cottages, Nos. 1,2,3,4,5 and 6, \$900 each." (**MHC Area G, #129**) The company owned four more houses in Brookside including the tenement at 5 Moore Road. News articles in the Westford Wardsman from 1907-08 mention a number of Italians and Swedes working in the quarries and occupying homes in the village. Immigration from those countries as well as Russia was on the rise and any of the new residents ended up in Brookside.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

1906 also saw the coming of the street railway to Brookside, its construction process being chronicled in the Wardsman. A spur line connected the village to the main line at Westford Center via Brookside, Lowell, and Cummings Road. The Fitchburg & Lowell Street Railway opened for service in May, 1907 and offered a connection to West Chelmsford that involved an elevated track over the Stony Brook Railroad right of way. Trolleys, called "electrics" remained in service until the early 1920s when automobile competition reduced railway revenues to untenable levels.

By 1915 Moore owned the entire water privilege along Stony Brook from North Chelmsford to Graniteville in Westford, which comprised 7 miles and 1600 acres. He also owned ½ of Forge Pond, Nabnasset Pond, and a great deal of additional land in Westford. In Chelmsford he owned 80 tenements, a machine shop, leather belt factory, and woolen factories, which employed over 300 hands. While his company remained in business in Chelmsford into the 1950s, Mr. Moore sold the Brookside Mill in 1911 to the Bigelow Carpet Company, who operated it with few changes until they sold it to the Westford-based Abbot Worsted Company (**MHC Areas A, B, E, and F**) in 1919.

Private homes in the neighborhood at that time included the Queen Anne design at 1 Brookside Road, built ca. 1885, and occupied by Reuben J. and Augusta Butterfield who operated a carpetbag shop on the property according to the county atlas from 1889. Theodore H. Hamblet, millwright and former Brookside mill proprietor, lived next door at **9 Brookside Road**, built 1862. Four buildings in addition to the mill are represented in the area on the 1875 county atlas. These are labeled G.R. Moore to indicate they were company-owned buildings, possibly residences. By 1889, the Brookside neighborhood included two additional individual residents, George Buzzey (aka Bussey), a farmer, and the widow Mary Edwards.

Late Industrial Period components of the Brookside Mill resemble mill buildings of similar date in Forge Village. There, 1887 and 1910 mill additions were also built of brick and had towers attached to their facades overlooking the village. Additionally, facilities in both places undertook the manufacture of woolen yarns, operating as competitors throughout the period. Brookside is distinguished from the Abbot operations by the smaller size of its buildings. Residential architecture in Brookside adhered to styles and forms common in other parts of town. Forge Village has several company-built streets lined with identical worker houses similar in scale and detail to those in Brookside. The Queen Anne example at 1 Brookside Road, however, is one of only a small number of Westford houses with a tower attached to the façade.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

Modern Period, 1919-1975

The Abbot Worsted Company acquired ownership of the Brookside Mill in 1919 and expanded on Moore's development of the village. Within six years, Abbot Worsted increased the value of the mill buildings from \$15,000 to \$40,000. The firm also owned 28 houses and at least two double tenements, all of which represented the high point of production for the Brookside Mill. Some of the houses built after Abbot Worsted's acquisition are located on Coolidge Avenue, including single unit residences at **1 and 3 Coolidge Avenue** and the double tenement at **5-7 Coolidge Avenue**, built between 1919 and 1936. Additional worker housing was located outside the area on Lucille and Lillian Avenues, among other streets. The company also contracted in that year with architect William H. Cox of Boston to design a lunch room for factory workers, now the building at 11 Brookside Road. The hall was used for dining while the rear ell was the location of the kitchen. The original façade had elements of the English Revival style such as a corbelled chimney, gabled dormers, and plastered exterior walls. The interior of the hall has exposed ornamental timber trusses. The hall also had a stage and dressing rooms for theatrical productions and a movie screen. Its exterior has been re-sided in vinyl and original windows replaced.

The Abbot Company continued to operate the mill for the next two decades but did not expand it further. The Great Depression, combined with changes in the economy of woolen manufacture reduced the profitability of the operation. Non-union labor in southern states produced yarns and fabrics at rates the north could not match. By 1945, the Abbot Worsted Company owned no industrial operations in Brookside although they did retain ownership of many employee houses in the village. The company sold all its interests in Westford in 1956. Employee housing was sold to individual owners by 1961. Residents adopted modern commuter lifestyles at that time, and worked at jobs further away than before.

A subsequent owner of the mill was Royal Shawcross who used the building for industrial food storage and fruit processing in the 1950s and 1960s. Commodore Foods Corporation carried on that business from the 1960s into the 1980s, during which time they boarded over the windows and made unsympathetic changes to the building. The historic mill is now vacant with food storage activities taking place in a modern, separately owned, facility to the west.

Brookside has Early Modern period mill-worker houses of style and scale similar to the

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

mill villages of Forge Village and Graniteville. They are fewer in number, however, having served a much smaller facility. A significant surviving resource from the period is the former Brookside Lunch at 11 Brookside Road, now the H.E. Fletcher Social and Athletic Club. Built as the employees' lunch room with theater and movie facilities and later reused as a private social club, the building represent a type once found in many company towns. The counterpart to the Brookside Lunch in Forge Village was demolished in 1980. Halls in Graniteville survive on Cross Street, now in use as an American Legion Hall, and on North Street which has been adapted for use as a private residence.

Conclusion

Since the time of Abbot Worsted's ownership in the 1940s, the mill village has experienced a near-cessation of industrial activity. Operations in the 1950s and 1960s consisted of processing frozen foods which took place more in the modern cinderblock sections of the mill and ultimately in the metal clad pre-fabricated building west of the mill. However, significant buildings depicted in the 19th century engraving and insurance plans survive. The geographic relationship between the mill complex and the former lunchroom, worker housing, the railroad, and stream have been maintained. The village continues to evoke the sense of community established by Mr. Moore and later the Abbot Worsted Company who, as in their other Westford mill villages, demonstrated a strong influence on community development and interest in the well-being of mill employees. The depot and freight house, formerly located due north of the bell tower, were demolished in the 1950s and the site remains vacant, although rail freight traffic continues. Despite certain changes, the surviving elements create a visual association between the past and present Brookside Village.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of ancient Native American settlement in Westford are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Although numerous sites have been identified in the neighboring Concord, Sudbury and Assabet River drainages, fewer sites have been recorded in the Stony Brook drainage, possibly reflecting underreporting in this area or environmental differences between the drainages. Ancient Native American sites in the district may contain information that identifies the range of functional and temporal

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

variability between sites in the Stony Brook drainage and their relationship to Native settlements along the Merrimack River. Information may also be present that clarifies the relationship and regional importance of sites and resources along the Stony Brook drainage to other tributaries of the Merrimack River such as the Concord, Sudbury and Assabet River drainages. Ancient sites in the district and the Stony Brook drainage may represent a seasonal/functional aspect of a settlement system that focuses on larger sites along the Merrimack River drainage including the larger tributaries listed above. Native sites in this area may also contain evidence of exchange between interior portions of the Merrimack River drainage and downstream coastal areas.

Historic archaeological resources described above have the potential to contribute detailed information on the social, cultural and economic patterns that characterized Brookside Village as it evolved from a sparsely settled rural hinterland in the 18th century to an industrial and residential village in the 19th and 20th centuries. Historical research combined with archaeological survey and testing may identify the sites of residential homes and farmsteads located in the district during the 18th and 19th century. Few residential and agricultural buildings were present in the district prior to the mid-19th century. The 1831 series map lists mills and one residence in the district while the 1855 series map lists three residences in the area, reported to primarily belong to farmers. Only one building, the former Chandler residence (ca. 1725) at 20 Brookside Road is extant in the district from the pre-1855 period. Historical and archaeological resources may help reconstruct the early settlement of the village and document the importance of agriculture to the early settlement. Structural evidence from residences, barns and outbuildings may contribute architectural details of early buildings in the district and the spatial organization of early farms.

Structural evidence associated with various 18th and 19th century mills may help document the extensive mill history at the site of the Brookside Mill. Beginning in the early 18th century, a grist mill, fulling mill, saw mill and after 1862 textile mills were located at the Brookside Mill site. Archaeological resources may help document the sequence of occupation for mills at the site and the extent that earlier mills were adapted or reused for later and different functions. Information derived from these occupations may contribute important technological information on many of the mill types common to New England settlements during the 18th and 19th centuries. Archaeological and historical data collected from mills in the district during these periods may help document the relationship between mills and farmsteads in the area and the extent that industrial operations were seasonal or conducted on a full time basis. The Brookside Mill site may

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

also contain important information that documents how industrial operations may have changed over time, especially as textile mill operations intensified in the mid to late 19th century. Structural evidence at mill sites, residences and detailed analysis of the contents of occupational related features may exist that help document architectural, social, cultural and economic changes that occurred as the district intensified its industry in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Structural evidence related to the various components of water power related systems may also contribute important evidence that helps understand the industrial success of the Brookside Historic District. Stony Brook supplied the power for all industrial operations at the Brookside Mill Site until steam power was introduced in the 19th century. As late as ca.1890, tax records indicate that steam and water-power coexisted at the site and steam power may have at first had an auxiliary function. In spite of the importance of water-power indicated above, few if any resources exist to physically document that importance and technology. Additional historical research combined with archaeological survey and testing may help locate the components of the water-power system that evolved at the Brookside Mill site beginning in the early 18th century. Archaeological and historical resources may document the routes of mill canals between the various mills through time and the extent that water power facilities evolved or remained unaltered as the functions, technologies and number of mills changed.

Historical and archaeological resources may also contribute important information related to 19th and early 20th century transportation facilities in the district. Archaeological evidence, including actual rail lines and abutments for the Stony Brook crossing, may survive from the Fitchburg and Lowell Street Railway that operated a line to the district from 1906 to the 1920's. The Stony Brook Railroad also operated in the district after 1848. Structural evidence and archaeological features associated with two station sites and a freight house may contribute architectural details on the station design, construction and operation.

(end)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Barlow's Insurance Surveys. New York: 1890, 1894.
- Beers, F.W. Atlas of Middlesex County, Mass. NY: 1875.
- Day, Cornelia Fletcher, compiler. A General Catalogue of Trustees, Teachers, and Students, Westford Academy, 1792-1895. Lowell: 1912.
- Day, Marilyn. Westford Days. Boston: NEHGS, 1998.
- Dun, R.G. & Co. Credit Ledgers, 1840-1895.
- Harde, Ellen and Beth Shaw. Images of America: Westford. Arcadia Publishing Co., 1996.
- Hodgman, Rev. Edward R. History of the Town of Westford in the County of Middlesex, Massachusetts, 1659-1883. Lowell: 1883.
- J.V. Fletcher Library Vertical Files.
- Kennedy, June. Westford Recollections 1729-1979. Murray Printing Co., 1979.
- Lainhart, Anne, compiler. Massachusetts State Census, Town of Westford, 1855, 1865. Lowell: Past, Present and Prospective. Lowell: 1891.
- Meek, Henry. The Lowell Suburban Directory. Salem: 1896, 1910-11, 1920-21, 1930-31 and 1940-41.
- Old Houses of Westford. Col. John Robinson Chapter of the D.A.R., 1900, 1916, 1955.
- Survey of Historical Assets of Regional Significance in the North Middlesex Area. 1977.
- United States Bureau of the Census. Federal Census of the United States, 1790-1910.
- Walker, George H. Atlas of Middlesex County, Massachusetts. Boston: 1889.
- Waters, W.W. History of Chelmsford, Massachusetts. Lowell: 1917.
- Westford Forge Company. Records, 1853-64.
- Westford, Town of. Annual Town Reports. 1860-1960.
- Westford. Map. Ebenezer Prescott, 1795.
- Westford. Map. Thomas Hales, 1831.
- Westford. Map. Edward Symmes, 1855.
- Westford. Map. Land Utilization: Roads and Buildings. WPA, 1937.
- Westford Wardsman. Newspaper articles, 1906-17.

(end)

Brookside HD
Name of Property

Middlesex, MA
County, State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property ca. 25 acres

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 19 302340 4720480
Zone Easting Northing

3. 19 302280 4719930
Zone Easting Northing

2. 19 302240 4720140
Zone Easting Northing

4. 19 302090 4719780
Zone Easting Northing

☒ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sanford Johnson, consultant, with Betsy Friedberg, MHC, NR director

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date November 2002

street & number 220 Morrissey Boulevard telephone 617-727-8470

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name multiple

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

UTM REFERENCES (CONT.)

5.	19	302020	4719940
6.	19	302180	4720420

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description:

Boundaries of the Brookside Historic District include resources on both sides of Brookside Road from its intersection with Lowell Road to its intersection with Coolidge Avenue. Houses numbers 1, 3 and 5-7 on Coolidge Avenue are included as is 5 Moore Road. Boundaries are outlined on the included USGS topographic map.

Justification:

Boundaries of the Brookside Historic District were selected by the consultant and staff of the Massachusetts Historical Commission for their inclusion of significant historic resources pertinent to the history of the village and for their illustration of the limits of influence of the mill on the landscape. The mill is at the core of the district. Houses on Brookside Road were included within the boundaries for their association with former mill owners as at 9 Brookside Road and with employees as at 34-44 Brookside Road. The Moore Road multiple family residence housed employees of the mill and thus demonstrates a part of the daily life of 9th century residents. The same is true for houses on Coolidge Avenue although they are indicative of housing for employees built in the early 20th century. Resources located beyond these boundaries tend to lack integrity of design and materials and are fewer in number which dilutes their ability to impart information about the past.

(end)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number photo Page 1

Brookside Historic District
Westford (Middlesex), MA

ILLUSTRATIONS, PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographer: Sanford Johnson

Date: October, 2000 (* February 2001)

Location of negatives: with photographer

Photos 1-4 are 8 x 10", all others are 3 x 5"

1. 24 Brookside Road, north view
2. Brookside Mill, north view
3. Brookside Mill, west view
4. 34-40 Brookside Road, north view
5. 1 Brookside Road, east view
6. 1 Coolidge Avenue, north view
7. 11 Brookside Road, club house, view to east
8. 9 Brookside Road, east view
9. Stony Brook, dam and wall, west view
10. Brookside Mill, west view
11. Brookside Mill interior *
12. Brookside Mill interior *
13. Brookside Mill interior, base of tower *
14. Brookside Mill, south view *
15. Brookside Mill, northeast view *
16. Brookside Mill, north view *
17. Brookside Mill, north view

2 Illustrations, dated 1894, that show the mill in operation

BROOKSIDE MILL VILLAGE, WESTFORD (MIDDLESEX), MA

District Data Sheet

Assessor's #	Address	Style	Dates	Material	Type/Status
70 117	Brookside Mill	Victorian Eclectic mill	ca. 1862, 1894, 1970	stone, brick cinderblock	B/C
70 117	penstock turbine intake		ca. 1894	iron	O/C
N/A	Brookside Dam		ca. 1894	cut granite	St/C
70 117		Stone Wall	ca. 1894	cut granite	St/C
N/A	Brookside Rd. Bridge		ca. 1895	cut granite	St/C
70 116	Refrigeration facility	No style	ca. 1970	metal clad	B/NC
38 24	1 Brookside Road	Queen Anne	ca. 1885	wood clapboard	B/C
38 22	9 Brookside Road	Greek Revival	1862	wood frame, vinyl clad	B/C
38 23	11 Brookside Road	No style – Brookside Lunch	1920	wood frame, vinyl clad	B/C
70 118	20 Brookside Road garage, detached	Colonial modern	ca. 1725 ca. 1960	wood clapboard wood clapboard	B/C B/NC
70 97	22 Brookside Road	Victorian Eclectic tenement	ca. 1880	wood frame, vinyl clad	B/C
70 115	26 Brookside Road	Cape Cod cottage	ca. 1880	wood clapboard	B/C
38 18	27 Brookside Road	Victorian Eclectic	ca. 1890	wood frame, asbestos clad	B/C
70 98	28 Brookside Road	Colonial Revival	ca. 1895	wood clapboard	B/C
70 99.1	30 Brookside Road	No style	ca. 1990	wood clapboard	B/NC
38 17	31 Brookside Road	Victorian Eclectic	ca. 1895	wood clapboard	B/C

BROOKSIDE MILL VILLAGE, WESTFORD (MIDDLESEX), MA
District Data Sheet

Assessor's #	Address	Style	Dates	Material	Type/Status
70 99.2	32 Brookside Road	No style	ca. 1880	wood clapboard	B/C
70 100	34 Brookside Road garage, detached	Victorian Eclectic utilitarian	ca. 1895 ca. 1950	wood clapboard wood clapboard	B/C B/C
38 16	35 Brookside Road	No style	ca. 1980	wood clapboard	B/NC
70 101	36 Brookside Road	Victorian Eclectic	ca. 1895	wood frame, asbestos clad	B/C
38 15	37 Brookside Road	No style	ca. 1980	wood clapboard	B/NC
70 102	38 Brookside Road garage, detached	Victorian Eclectic utilitarian	ca. 1895 ca. 1950	wood frame, vinyl clad wood clapboard	B/C B/C
70 103	40 Brookside Road	Victorian Eclectic	ca. 1895	wood clapboard	B/C
38 14	41 Brookside Road	Colonial Revival	ca. 1920	wood shingle	B/C
70 104	42 Brookside Road	Victorian Eclectic	ca. 1895	wood clapboard	B/C
70-105	44 Brookside Road	Victorian Eclectic	ca. 1895	wood clapboard	B/C
70 95	1 Coolidge Avenue	Colonial Revival	ca. 1936	wood shingle	B/C
70 94	3 Coolidge Avenue	Colonial Revival	ca. 1919	vinyl clapboard	B/C
70 93	5-7 Coolidge Avenue	Colonial Revival duplex	ca. 1919	wood clapboard	B/C
70 114	5 Moore Road	Victorian Eclectic tenement	ca. 1870	wood frame, vinyl clad	B/C
	paralleling Brookside Rd.	Railroad right of way	1848		St/C

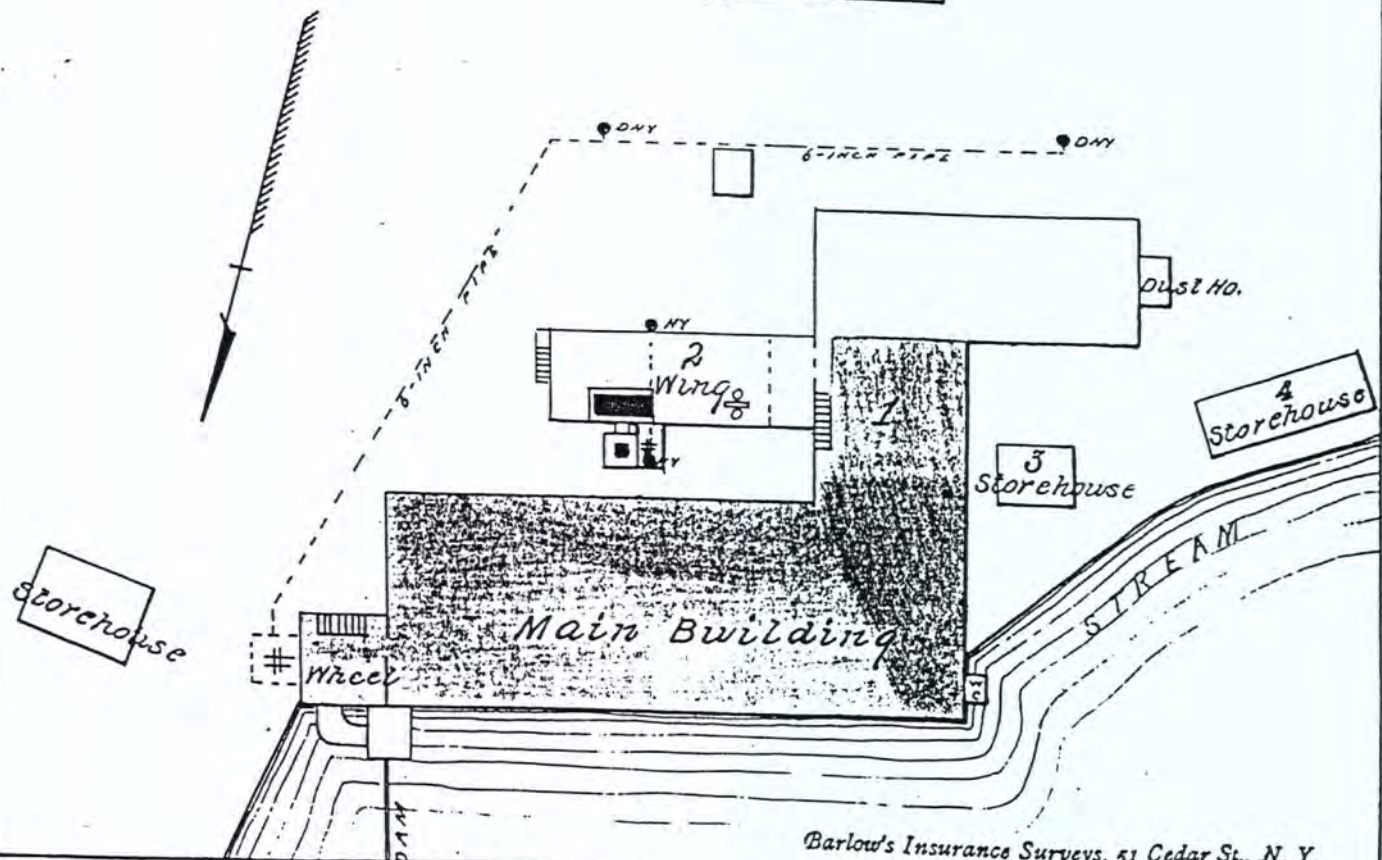
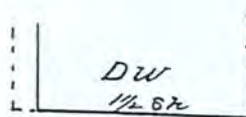
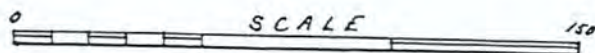
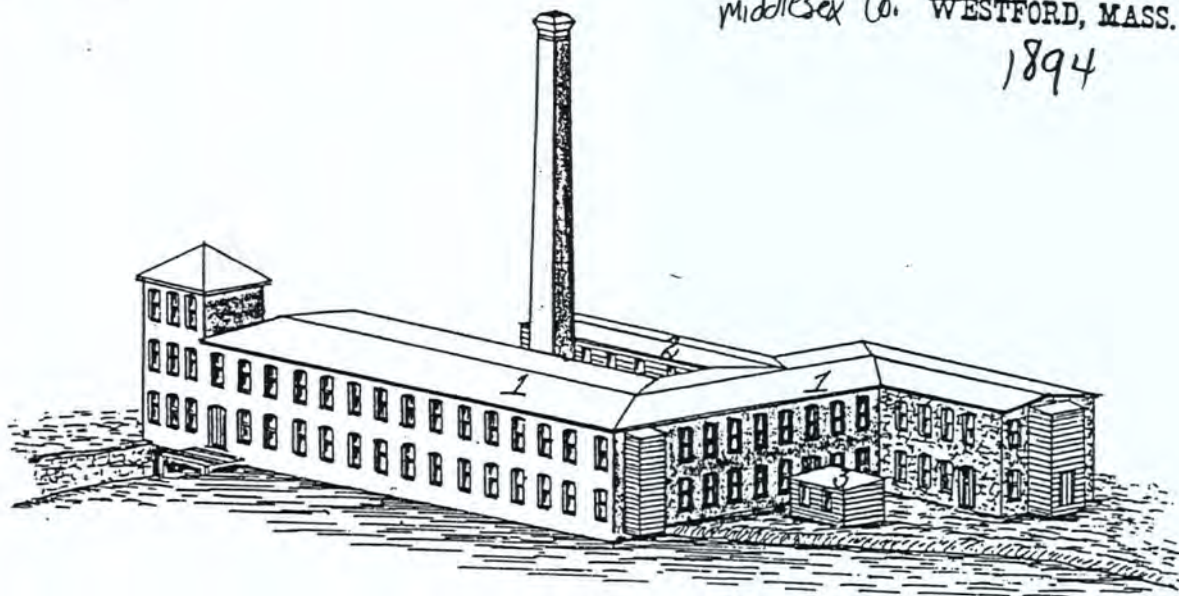


BROOKSIDE MILL,
Middlesex Co. WESTFORD, MASS.
CA. 1894

11,153.

BROOKSIDE MILL,
Middlesex Co. WESTFORD, MASS.

1894



Barlow's Insurance Surveys, 51 Cedar St., N. Y.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Brookside Historic District

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 12/09/02 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/13/03
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/29/03 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/23/03
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 02001729

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: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 1.23.03 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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



PHOTO # 1

24 Brookside Rd
Brookside Historic District
Middlesex County, Mass
S. Johnson 10/00
north view



Photo # 2

Brookside Mill
Brookside Historic District
Middlesex County, Mass
S Johnson, 10/00
North View



Photo #3

Brookside Mill
Brookside Historic District
Middlesex Co. Mass.
S. Johnson 10/00
west View



Photo #4

34-40 Brookside Road
Brookside Historic District
Middlesex Co. Mass.
S. Johnson 10/00
North View



1 Brookside Rd
Brookside NR Dist.
Middlesex Co. MA
Sanford Johnson 10/00
~~best~~ View to east

PHOTO # 5



1 Coolidge Ave
Brookside NR Dist
Middlesex Co. MA
Sanford Johnson 10/00
North view

Photo # 6



11 Brookside Rd
Brookside NR Dist
Middlesex Co. MA
Sanford Johnson 10/00
~~best~~ view to east

Photo # 7



9 Brookside Rd
Brookside NR Dist
Middlesex Co. MA
Sanford Johnson 10/00
East View

PHOTO # 8



DAM and Wall, Stony Brook
Brookside NR Dist.
Middlesex Co. MA
Sanford Johnson 10/20
west view

PHOTO # 9



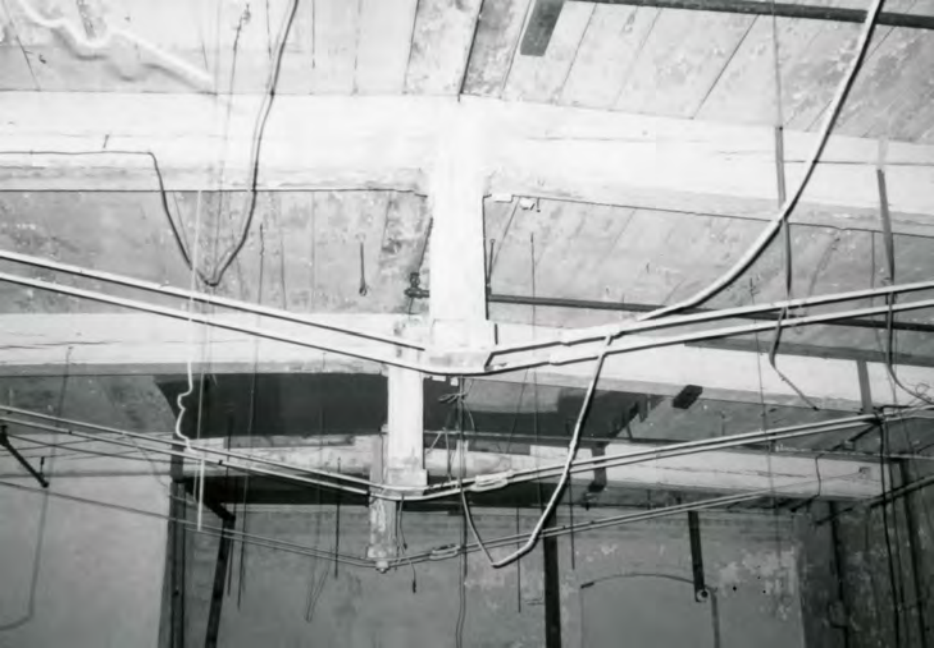
Brookside Mill
Brookside NR Dist.
Middlesex Co. MA
Sanford Johnson 10/00
west view

Photo #10



Brookside Mill
Brookside Hist Dist.
Middlesex Co. MA.
Sanford Johnson 2/01
Interior,

Photo #11



Brookside Mill
Brookside Hist. Dist.
Middlesex Co. MA
Sanford Johnson 2/1
Interior

Photo #12



Brookside Mill
Brookside Hist. Dist
Middlesex Co. MA
Sanford Johnson 2/6/1
Interior Base of Tower
Water flowing in from left, out to
Top PHOTO 13



Brookside mill
Brookside H. St. Dist
Middlesex Co. MA
Sanford Johnson
South view

07301111H
2/01

Photo # 14



Brookside Mill
Brookside Inst. Dist.
Middlesex Co. MA
Sanford Johnson ~ 2/01
northeast view

Photo #15



Brookside Mill
Brookside Hist. Dist.
Middlesex Co. MA
Sanford Johnson 2/01
North View

Photo #16



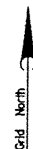
Brookside Mill
Brookside Historic District
Sanford Johnson 10/00
Middlesex Co. MA.
North view

Photo # 17

Brookside
Historic
District
Westford
Middlesex Co. MA
P.1 OF 2

DISTRICT
BOUNDARY:

LEGEND
PARCEL NUMBERS 2
MATCH LINE



DATE OF AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY	4-29-57
DATE OF COMPLETION	6-9-58
DATE OF REVISIONS	
1-1-59	1-1-59
1-1-60	1-1-60
1-1-61	1-1-60
1-1-62	
1-1-63	
1-1-67	

For Assessment Purposes
Not To Be Used For Conveyances

TAX MAP
TOWN OF WESTFORD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS
PREPARED BY
JAMES W. SEWALL COMPANY, OLD TOWN, MAINE
SCALE: 1 INCH = 100 FEET

74	MAP NUMBER
69	70
	67



Billerica
MASSACHUSETTS

1:25 000-scale metric
topographic map



7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE
SHOWING

- Contours and elevations in meters
- Highways, roads and other manmade structures
- Water features
- Woodland areas
- Geographic names



GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

1987

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
in cooperation with Massachusetts Department
of Public Works
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Commonwealth of
Massachusetts agencies
Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1981. Field checked 1982. Map edited 1987
Supersedes Westford 1966 and Billerica 1965 1:24,000-scale maps
Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 18
Universal Transverse Mercator
10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate
system, mainland zone 1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983,
move the projection lines 6 meters south and
41 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
the National or State reservations shown on this map

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

CONVERSION TABLE		DECLINATION DIAGRAM		ADJOINING MAPS				
Meters	Feet			1	2	3	4	5
1	3.2808			4				
2	6.5617			5				
3	9.8425							
4	13.1234							
5	16.4042							
6	19.6850							
7	22.9659							
8	26.2467							
9	29.5275							
10	32.8084							
To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808		UTM grid convergence (GTM) and 1983 magnetic declination (MDM) at center of map; diagram is approximate		1	2	3	4	5
To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048				6	7	8		
				1	2	3	4	5
				6	7	8		
				1	2	3	4	5
				6	7	8		

FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

Topographic Map Symbols

Primary highway, hard surface	
Secondary highway, hard surface	
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface	
Unimproved road; trail	
Route marker: Interstate U. S.; State	
Railroad: standard gage; narrow gage	
Bridge: drawbridge	
Footbridge; overpass; underpass	
Build-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown	
House; barn; church; school; large structure	
Boundary:	
National, with monument	
State	
County, parish	
Civil township, precinct, district	
Incorporated city, village, town	
National or State reservation; small park	
Land grant with monument; land section corner	
U. S. public lands survey: range, township, section	
Range, township; section line: location approximate	
Fence or field line	
Power transmission line, isolated tower	
Dam; dam with lock	
Cemetery; grave	
Campground; picnic area; U. S. location monument	
Wellhead; water well; spring	
Mine shaft; prospect; edit or cave	
Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation	
Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression	
Geostational surface: strip mine; low; sea; sand	
Bathymetric contours: index; intermediate	
Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream	
Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small	
Swamp; marsh	
Submerged marsh; land subject to controlled inundation	
Woodland; scattered trees	
Scrub; mangrove	
Orchard; vineyard	

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request

BILLERICA, MASSACHUSETTS MIDDLESEX COUNTY

7.5 X 15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



BROOKSIDE
HISTORIC DISTRICT
UTM REFERENCES:
1) 19 030287 4720419
2) 15 030202 4719448
3) 19 030204 4719792
4) 19 030221 4719927
5) 19 030235 4720134
6) 19 030235 4720480



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

December 3, 2002

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Mail Stop 2280, Suite 400
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Brookside HD, Westford (Middlesex), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of the properties included in the district were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 45 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Kenneth Tebbetts, Westford Historical Commission
Sanford Johnson, consultant
Michael P. Ingalls, Chair, Westford Board of Selectmen
Allan Loiselle, Westford Planning Board Chair