

1221
AUG 04 1989

AREA

FORM NO.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

104

Photo (3"x3" or 3"x5", black and white) Indicate address of property on back of photo. Staple to left side of form.

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s).
Indicate north

See Attached Assessor's Map.

UTM REFERENCE 19 - 324/660 - 4697/830
USGS QUADRANGLE Boston North
SCALE 1:25,000

Town Somerville
Address Alewife Brook Parkway at
Historic Name Capen Court
Mystic Water Works
Use: Present utilitarian/water & sewer
Original water works building

DESCRIPTION

Date 1863-1864
Source Samuels' Somerville Past & Present.
Style Romanesque Revival/Mansard roof
Architect unknown
Exterior Wall Fabric brick
Outbuildings (NC) brick warehouse/offices
Major Alterations (with dates) n/a

Condition good

Moved no Date n/a

Acreage one acre +

Setting East side of Parkway, across
from brook and wooded area, some
residential surroundings. Main
through route

Recorded by Gretchen G. Schuler

Organization Mass. Historical Commission

Date September, 1988

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Mystic Water Works retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, and association with the development of the public water system in Somerville. It is significant for its importance in the history of Somerville and for its architectural integrity. The Mystic Water Works fulfills Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places on the local level.

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

Built on a granite block foundation the long low brick building with Mansard roof retains its massing, scale and materials as well as the early windows and double-hung sash with round headed glazed fans. The slate roof has been replaced with asphalt shingles. The double doors that are panelled and have a fan-like transom ~~from~~ the south facade entrance.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.

The Mystic Water Works was Somerville's first water supply. The system was authorized in 1861 when the City of Charlestown was granted the right (over much opposition) to construct a dam at Mystic Lake, an engine house, and a reservoir to supply Charlestown with water. Initially only a small area of Somerville was supplied by the newly constructed system for Charlestown, however, in 1868 the State Legislature authorized Somerville to connect its lines with those of Charlestown. The availability of this water supply and a high service plant built in 1889-1890 (since demolished) contributed to the City's tremendous growth in the last quarter of the 19th century.

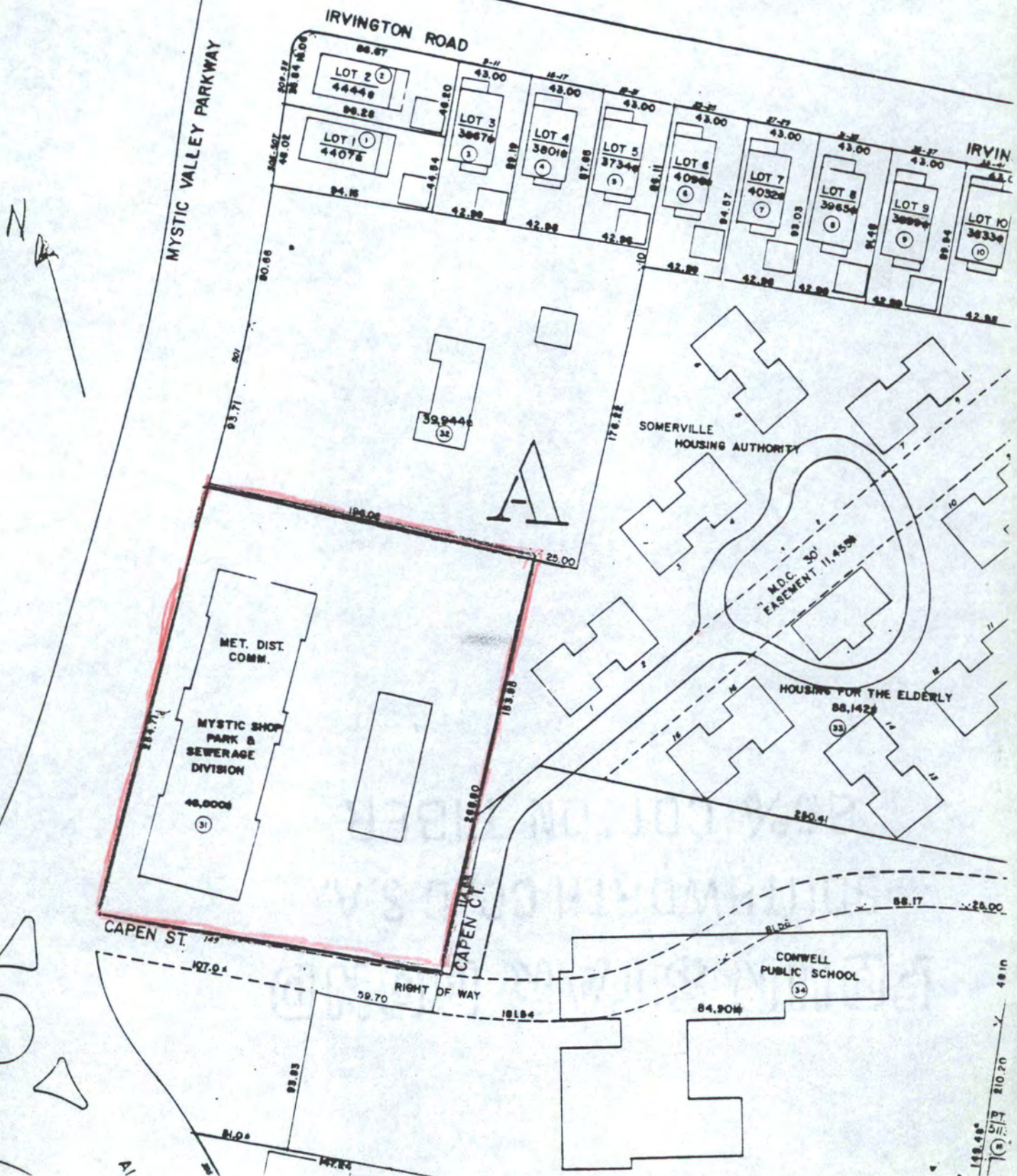
In the 1880s, Charlestown became part of Boston and the Mystic Water System was taken over by the City of Boston. In 1898 Somerville's water supply became unified with that of Boston under the Metropolitan Water Board.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of the City of Somerville, 1874.
Samuels, Edward, Somerville: Past and Present, 1897.

104

MYSTIC SHOPS
ALEWIFE BROOK PKY
SOMERVILLE MA, MASS



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

AUG 4 1989

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Somerville MPS
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review	Date/Signature
51. Langmaid Building Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Melvyn Byers</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____
52. Langmaid Terrace Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Melvyn Byers</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____
53. Lockhardt, Charles H., House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Melvyn Byers</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____
54. Loring, George, House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Melvyn Byers</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____
55. Lovejoy, A.L., House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Melvyn Byers</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____
56. Munroe, Robert, House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Melvyn Byers</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____
57. Mystic Water Works Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Melvyn Byers</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____
58. Nichols, John F., House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Melvyn Byers</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____
59. Niles, Louville V., House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Melvyn Byers</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____
60. Niles, Louville, House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Melvyn Byers</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Mystic Water Works

MULTIPLE NAME: Somerville MPS

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 8/04/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/15/89
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/31/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/18/89
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89001227

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 9/18/89 DATE Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

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

CLASSIFICATION

☐ count ☐ resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

☐ historic ☐ current

DESCRIPTION

☐ architectural classification
☐ materials
☐ descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

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

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

☐ acreage ☐ verbal boundary description
☐ UTM's ☐ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

☐ sketch maps ☐ USGS maps ☐ photographs ☐ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Signed _____ Phone _____

Date _____



Alewife Brook Pkwy (MDC)

1. Alewife Brook Pkwy
2. Somerville, MA
3. C Zellie
4. 1980
5. Somerville City Hall
6. looking north
7. #104

Mystro Water Works
Somerville City, MA

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500253