

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

Form numbers in this area 1-6	Area no. Q
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2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number _____

1. Town Brookline MRA
Name of area (if any) Larz Anderson Park
Historic District
3. General date or period 19th century
4. Is area uniform (explain):
in style? variety of architectural styles
in condition? yes
in type of ownership? yes-Town of Brookline
in use? yes- recreational/residential

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an 'x' existing houses not inventoried on Form B.

See attached

SEE Attached map

Newton Quadrangle

UTM References:

A: 19/324160/4686700

B: 19/324200/4686120

C: 19/323600/4686230

D: 19/323840/4686700

Acreage: approximately 62 acres

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____

MHC Photo no. _____

6. Recorded by Carla Benka
Organization Brookline Historical Commission
Date May, 1985

(over)

7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

The land which makes up this town-owned park of almost 62 acres was once the property of the Goddard family, and during the Revolution was known as Goddard Heights. From its numerous hills, British troops could be surveyed. William Fletcher Weld, whose ancestor had received a land grant from the English crown, owned land in Brookline by 1851; this park was part of his holdings. Called "Windy Top", the estate was passed on to William Fletcher Weld, II who tore down the ^{existing} house of his grandfather and built a new house on the site of the old as well as the carriage house. The mansion, torn down by the Town in the 1960s, had been designed by Edward Wheelwright in 1885 and ^{was} substantially enlarged after it was acquired by Isabel Perkins Anderson in 1899 at which time the grounds were landscaped according to the plans of Charles Platt.

Isabel Perkins Anderson, grand daughter of William Fletcher Weld, I, founder of one the world's largest fleet of clipper ships, and cousin of William Fletcher Weld, II, was married to Larz Anderson who served as an ambassador of the United States during the administrations of Presidents Harrison and Taft. The Andersons lived in Washington for much of the year, but nevertheless lavished a great deal of care on their Brookline home known as "Weld." Known throughout the area for the grandeur of its architecture and the beauty of the landscape and magnificent views, "Weld" was visited by many political and social celebrities and was one reason for Brookline's exalted reputation during the "Golden Age." The main portion of the estate was bequeathed to the Town upon the death of Mrs. Anderson in 1948; her will stipulated that the buildings and land be used for educational and recreational purposes. Larz Anderson's collection of automobiles became the core collection for the Museum of Transportation which now occupies the carriage house as tenant of the Town.

Within the park are a number of structures, some pre-dating the Weld ownership. The oldest is the Putterham School, moved to its present location in 1966 for security purposes. Once standing on the corner of Grove and Newton Streets, not far away, this structure, originally a one room schoolhouse, dates from the 1760s. It has been altered and enlarged, the last alteration having taken place in 1898. It has functioned as a temporary place of worship for a Catholic parish as well as ^{for} a Jewish congregation. Today it is maintained by the Historical Society, owned by the Town, and is opened to the public on an appointment-basis.

Near the Newton Street entrance is a contemporary of the Putterham School: a small one and one half story cottage with a large central chimney. Thought to have been built before the Revolution, it has been called by Nina Fletcher Little (Some Old Brookline Houses) an excellent example of a late 18th century cottage which has not been incorporated into the ell of a larger houses, as was so often the case in other Brookline houses dating from this period. It was used to houses employees of the Weld estate and is now residential rental property belonging to the Town.

continued

8. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

Little, Nina Fletcher, Some Old Brookline Houses, Cambridge, Cosmos Press, 1949
Anderson, Isabel, Under the Black House Flag, Boston:Houghton Mifflin Co., 1926
Anderson, Larz, Journals and Letters of A Diplomat, New York; Fleming Ravell Co., 1940
Brookline Historical Society, Proceedings, 1964, p.36.
Woods, Harriet, Historical Sketches of Brookline, Boston, R.S.Davis Co., 1874
Atlas-1888, 1893, 1900; Maps-1844, 1855, 1871
Plan L/34/A/22, Engineering Department, Brookline Town Hall
Lucas, Nora, "The Carriage House and Stable - Larz Anderson Park. Unpublished
Limon, Jodie, "Sunsets: The Life of Isabel Perkins Anderson", Unpublished.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:	Form No:
Brookline	AREA Q
Property Name: Larz Anderson District	

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

Like the small cottage, the Italianate house at 55 Newton Street was standing on the estate before its purchase by William F. Weld. It appears to have been rented to tenant farmers since its construction and was used to house employees of "Weld" during the Anderson ownership. Today it is owned by the Town and used as residential rental property.

Both 9 Newton Street, the carriage house as well as a number of smaller, deteriorating outbuildings, date from Weld ownership. The stucco house was designed by Wheelwright and Haven and served as a Newton Street gatehouse. The carriage house, designed by Edward Wheelwright, is said to have modelled after the Chateau de Chaumont. Inside, the ceiling of the main portion of the structure rises two and one half stories, with brick piers along the sides of the first floor defining garage cubicles and supporting the wooden second floor servants' rooms and balustrade which surround and overlook the main area. There is also a large room for washing horses; a substantial hayloft with dormer openings for hoists on the north and west for loading hay; wooden and marble horse stalls; a cedar closet for carriage blankets; and a trophy room.

The land of the park, once part of the first private polo field in New England, retains evidence of the original design intent of landscape architect Charles Platt as well as remnants of the famed Italian garden. Of particular note are the lagoon, tree allee in the northern section, near Goddard Avenue, and the small gazebo.

This district meets NR criteria A,B,and C, having been one of Brookline's grandest estates; the country home of two of its more illustrious citizens, Larz and Isabel Anderson; and an example of the landscape design of Charles Platt. It also contains two structures dating from the 18th century and one from the mid 19th century.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Brookline

Form No:

Area Q

Property Name: Larz Anderson District

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

MAP#	PROPERTY/ADDRESS	DATE	ARCHITECT	ORIG. OWNER	STATUS
Q-1	Park	ca. 1900	Charles Platt	Anderson	C
Q-2	21 Newton Street	1772-1796	Unknown	Hannah Harris	C
Q-3	Putterham School	ca. 1768	Unknown	Town	C
Q-4	Carriage House	1889	Wheelwright	Weld	C
Q-5	9 Newton Street	1889	Wheelwright & Haven	Weld	C
Q-6	55 Newton Street	1850-1860	Unknown	James	C
A	15 Newton Street/ Skating Rink	1957	Child, Lawrence, & Shannon	Town of Brookline	NC
B	15 Newton Street/ Refrigerator Building	1957	Unknown	Town of Brookline	NC
C	19 Newton Street/ Warming Hut	1958	Hodgson Houses Inc.	Town of Brookline	NC
D	350 Goddard Avenue/ Service Building	1957	Child, Lawrence & Shannon	Town of Brookline	NC
E	360 Goddard Avenue	1962	Unknown	Town of Brookline	NC
F	56 Avon Street/ Parks Department Building	1970-1971	Prefabricated	Town of Brookline	NC
7	House at 29 Avon Street	ca. 1905	unknown	Anderson	C
8	Garage at 29 Avon Street	c. 1905	unkown	Anderson	C

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Brookline

Form No:

AREA Q

Property Name: Larz Anderson Park

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



Lagoon and footbridge



Lagoon with "Temple of Love"
in the distance

Stable to inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Brookline

Form No:

AREA Q

Property Name: Larz Anderson Pa

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



Outbuilding (smokehouse?)



Outbuilding (Hen house?)

rm at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Brookline

Form No:

AREA Q

Property Name: Larz Anderson Park



which is being continued below.

Remnants of pergola of
Italian garden



Garden Walk and fragments
of wall

Staple to inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Brookline

Form No:

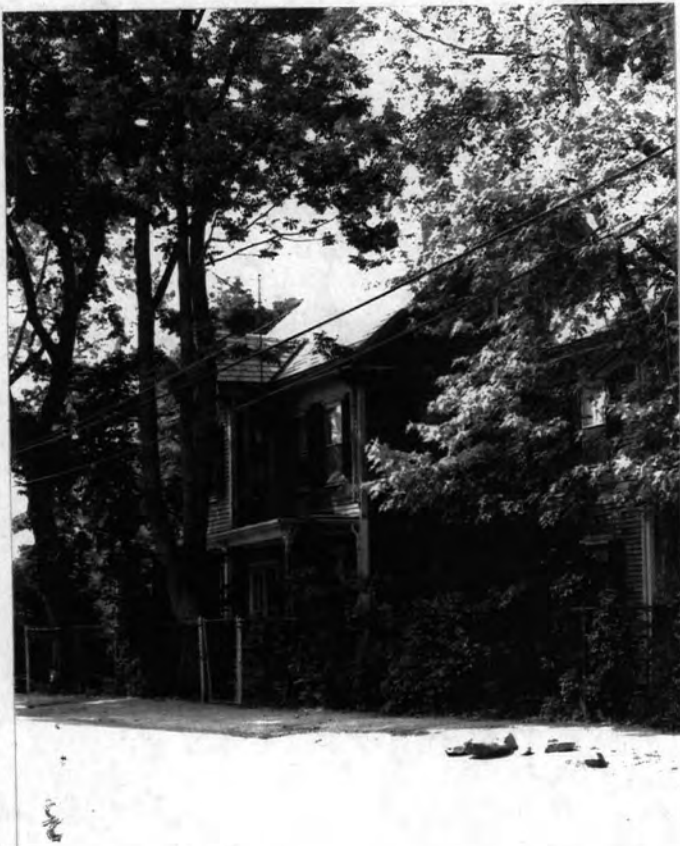
AREA Q

Property Name: Larz Anderson Park

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



Putterham School



55 Newton Street

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Brookline

Form No:

Area Q

Property Name: Larz Anderson Park

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



Picnic Shelter



Ball field

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Brookline

Form No:

AREA Q

Property Name: Larz Anderson Park

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



Wall and gatehouse
with Parks Department
Building in background

Stable to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received 9-4-85
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Brookline MRA
State Norfolk County, MASSACHUSETTS

Cover Mulholland 10-17-85
Date/Signature

Nomination/Type of Review

1. Sevenels
Substantive Review Keeper DOE/OWNER OBJECTION
Attest Determined Eligible
2. Stoddard, Bela, House
Substantive Review Keeper DOE/OWNER OBJECTION
Attest Determined Eligible
3. United Parish-Marvard Church
Substantive Review Keeper DOE/OWNER OBJECTION
Attest Determined Eligible
4. Anderson, Larz, Park Historic District
Substantive Review Keeper DOE/OWNER OBJECTION
Attest Determined Eligible
5. Arcade Building
Entered in the National Register Keeper Melrose Byers 10/17/85
Attest
6. ^{new} Beacon Street Historic District
(add. info. accepted 1-24-86) Substantive Review Keeper Melrose Byers 10/17/85
Attest
7. Beaconsfield Terraces Historic District
Entered in the National Register Keeper Melrose Byers 10/17/85
Attest
8. Bowditch, William Ingersoll, House
Entered in the National Register Keeper Melrose Byers 10/17/85
Attest
9. Brandegee Estate
Substantive Review Keeper Melrose Byers 10/17/85
Attest
10. Building (30--34 Station St.)
Entered in the National Register Keeper Melrose Byers 10/17/85
Attest

85003245

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Anderson, Larz, Park Historic District
(Brookline MRA)
Norfolk County
MASSACHUSETTS

PRELIMINARY REVIEW

Working No. SEP 4 1985
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/87
Date Due: 10/3/85 - 10/19/85
Action: ACCEPT 10-17-85
RETURN
REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

- ☐ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☒ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

PERGOLA IS NOT DESCRIBED,
BUT APPEARS TO CONTRIBUTE, ALONG
WITH OTHER LANDSCAPE FEATURES

Recom./Criteria ACCEPT A/B/C
Reviewer MAC DOUGAN
Discipline ARCHITECTURE
Date 10/16/85
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use
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4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ☐ excellent | ☐ deteriorated |
| ☐ good | ☐ ruins |
| ☐ fair | ☐ unexposed |

Check one

- ☐ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

- ☐ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ alterations/integrity
☐ dates
☐ boundary selection

8. 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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title _____

date _____

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



Bridge, Pond, + Temple

Larz Anderson Park

April, 1983

Brookline MRA

Brookline, MA



Larz Anderson Park

Lagoon & Footbridge

5/25

Brookline MRA

Brookline, MA



Outbuilding - Her house?

Laurel Anderson Park
5/25

Brookline MRA

Brookline, MA



Outbuilding - Smoke house?

Larz Anderson Park

5/85

Brookline MRA

Brookline, MA



Larz Anderson Park

5/25

Brookline MRA

Brookline, MA

Garden Wall & Fragments of wall



Laur Andrus Park

Skating Rink

Lower Italian Garden

5/25

Brookline MRA

Brookline, MA

Remnants of pergola at

Italian Garden



Picnic Shelter

Larz Anderson Park

5/85-

Brookline MRA

Brookline, MA



Wall + ~~gate~~ house w/ Larks Department Building in
background

Outbuilding

Lars Andersen Park

5/85

Brookline MRA

Brookline, MA



Larz Anderson Park

5/85

Brookline MRA

Brookline, MA



Lars Andersson Paul .

5185 Bell Field

Brookline MRA

Brookline, MA



55 Newton Rd.

5/85

Brookline MRA

Brookline, MA

Anderson, Lutz, Park



PUTTAM SCHOOL
TOWN OF PUTTAM
WINDHAM COUNTY
VT.
GRAND FOR HIRING

4 Anderson, Warz, Park
Putterham School
Brookline MRA
Brookline, MA

Putterham School



Boston Redevelopment
Authority Map
Mapped by Lockwood, Kesler
and Bartlett, Inc. 1965
Sheet 16N-6E

Scale: 1" = 100'

Scale: 1" = 100'