

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

PHOTO (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)
Staple to left side of form

Photo number _____

Town Methuen ✓

Address Grove & Railroad Streets, ✓

Name Walnut Grove Cemetery ✓

Ownership:

☒ Public Town of Methuen

☐ Private

DESCRIPTION:

Approximate number stones over 1500 ✓

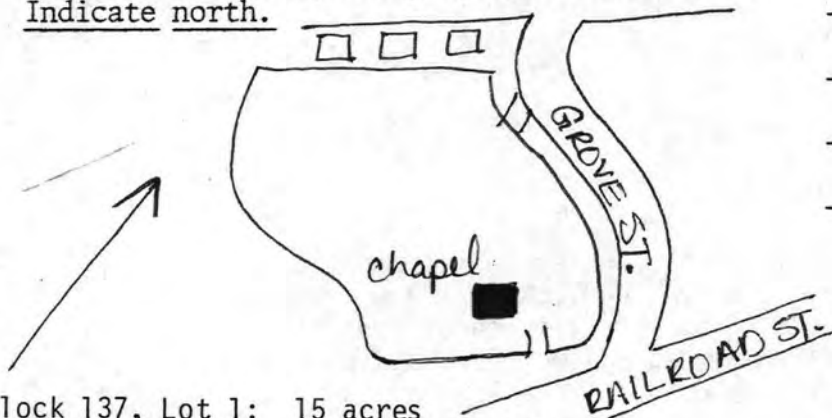
Earliest death date 1853

Latest death date 1978

Condition The cemetery is in generally
good condition with few broken or
overturned stones.

SKETCH MAP

Draw map showing property's location
in relationship to nearest cross streets
and other buildings or geographical features.
Indicate north.



Block 137, Lot 1: 15 acres
UTM Reference - Lawrence Quad. 1:25000
A - 19/320820/4732190
B - 19/320860/4732100
C - 19/320430/4732130
D - 19/320440/4732260

Assessor's Map not Available

Recorded by Gail Hunton/Carole Zellie

Organization Landscape Research, Inc.

Date 1978/1983

ASSESSMENT OF ART WORK (describe materials used, designs, motifs, symbols that are either common or unusual, known carvers).

Walnut Grove Cemetery includes 15 acres of land stretching along Grove Street just west of the present day town center. It is traversed by winding paths and dotted with mature shade trees. Stones are made of a variety of materials such as slate, marble, and granite, and assume many forms in addition to the traditional rectangle and arch; these include classical columns, obelisks, tables, etc. Many stones are gathered into family plots edged with stone coping or cast iron fences. A number of tombs exist as well, drawing on classical and medieval sources for their designs.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (discuss religious affiliations, major period of use, importance within town).

Walnut Grove Cemetery was "laid out by an association of individuals" in 1853 with the winding pathways and plantings of shade trees favored by contemporary "romantic" designers. This mid-19th century northern section was expanded in the early 20th century with land donated by the Tenny family. As the Searles family adopted the Lawrence Street (#82) and Daddy Frye's Hill Cemeteries (#86), the Tenny's improved Walnut Grove with their donation of land and construction of a well-appointed Chapel in 1927. This red brick structure served as a memorial to Mr. & Mrs. Charles H. Tenny, of Daniel G. Tenny.

Walnut Grove Cemetery possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship. It is significant as an example of mid-19th century romantic planning, for its associations with Methuen's rapid development in the mid-19th century and for its connections with the Tenny family. Thus, Walnut Grove Cemetery meets criteria A, B, and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received 12/7/83

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 5 of 5

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name , Methuen Multiple Resource Area
State Essex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

41. Waldo, George A., House Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Melina Byers 1/20/84

Attest

63 42. Walnut Grove Cemetery Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Melina Byers 1/20/84

Attest

43.

Keeper

Attest

44.

Keeper

Attest

45.

Keeper

Attest

46.

Keeper

Attest

47.

Keeper

Attest

48.

Keeper

Attest

49.

Keeper

Attest

- 50.

Keeper

Attest

Ref. # 84000444

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Walnut Grove Cemetery (Methuen MRA)
Essex County
MASSACHUSETTS

DEC - 7 1983

Working No. _____

Fed. Reg. Date: 2-5-85

Date Due: 1/5/84 - 1/21/84

Entered in the National Register Action: ☒ ACCEPT 1/20/84

☐ RETURN

☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

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

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

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____

Reviewer _____

Discipline _____

Date _____

_____ see continuation sheet

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

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

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	Check one	Check one
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ unaltered
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ altered
☐ fair	☐ unexposed	☐ 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



Walnut Grove Cemetery
Methuen MA Ma

633A

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000284