

*Returned by
M. Scanlon*

REPORT

LOWELL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK AND PRESERVATION DISTRICT

CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

prepared for

DIVISION OF CULTURAL RESOURCES
NORTH ATLANTIC REGIONAL OFFICE
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

by

SHEPLEY BULFINCH RICHARDSON AND ABBOTT
ARCHITECTS
BOSTON MASSACHUSETTS

PLAN No. _____
of the Town of _____
LOWELL
BELVIDERE VILLAGE.
Taken by Mr. [Name] _____
BENJ. NATHAN.
1832.

- Explanation:
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Architects

Boston, Massachusetts

PROPERTY OF
LOWELL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

1980

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PREFACE

This Report and its accompanying fourteen inventory volumes and seventeen base maps together form the end product of a \$99,980 contract (CX1600-9-0005) between the National Park Service and Shepley Bulfinch Richardson and Abbott. The purpose of this contract was to inventory and begin an architectural and socio-economic interpretation of the cultural resources of the Lowell Historic Preservation District and the Lowell National Historical Park as represented by the 895 individual properties which exist in the District and Park.

The project commenced in March, 1979, and was completed in January, 1980. To SBRA's knowledge, no other cultural resources inventory of similar depth and magnitude has ever been undertaken particularly in such a brief time span. Such pioneering work as that of the Cambridge (Massachusetts) Historical Commission and of the Vieux Carré project in New Orleans, Louisiana extended over a number of years.

That this project was successfully completed is entirely due to many dedicated people in Lowell, on the SBRA staff and at the National Park Service.

Among the latter, special thanks are due to Francis P. McManamon and to Bronwyn Krog, who acted almost like a member of the SBRA team and without whom the project could not have succeeded, as well as to Ramon A. Cintron, Contracting Officer, whose understanding of the problems involved in the project went beyond normal expectation.

In Lowell, the people who deserve special mention are the hundreds of owners of the properties being surveyed who were understanding and went out of their way to be helpful; there are so many of these that to mention one would be a disservice to others. At Boott Mills, Melvin Lezberg generously made the Locks and Canals archive and much of his time available, and Roland LaRochelle was constantly helpful. At the University of Lowell's Alumni-Lydon Library, Martha Mayo, Librarian of Special Collections, was especially helpful as well as tolerant of researchers turning the place upside down. And Edward Harley and Robert

MacLeod were equally gracious and full of information at the City of Lowell Memorial Library. We are also thankful to Helena Wright at the Merrimack Valley Textile Museum in North Andover.

Edward S. Rutsch and Michael N. Gimigliano of Historic Conservation and Interpretation, Inc. were indispensable in the research for and writing about the archaeological aspects of the project. Pauline Carroll prepared the report on the Lowell canal system.

However, there would have been no project had it not been for the SBRA staff and particularly Edward F. Zimmer, Principal Investigator. His dedication, understanding, long hours spent on the project and scholarship literally held the team together. Anne Booth, Chief Researcher was second only to Ed Zimmer in her contributions to a successful conclusion.

It is hard to single out these two when one considers the hard work put in by other members of the survey/research team: Anne Grady, Edward Gordon, Mickail Koch, Ellen Lipsey, and Brian Pfeiffer.

Last only because she never was officially a member of the team, but certainly not least, to be thanked is Constance Zimmer who proofread all of the material, collated it, prepared it for reproduction, then reviewed the final product; it is probably fair to say that she is and may remain the only person to read all of the material produced.

And, of course, there never would have been a legible final product had it not been for our three Lowell typists, Mary Christmas, Peggy Lightner and Alice Santos.

To all of these people, the Lowell Cultural Resources Inventory project owes a great debt of gratitude and thanks.

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