

LOWELL CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

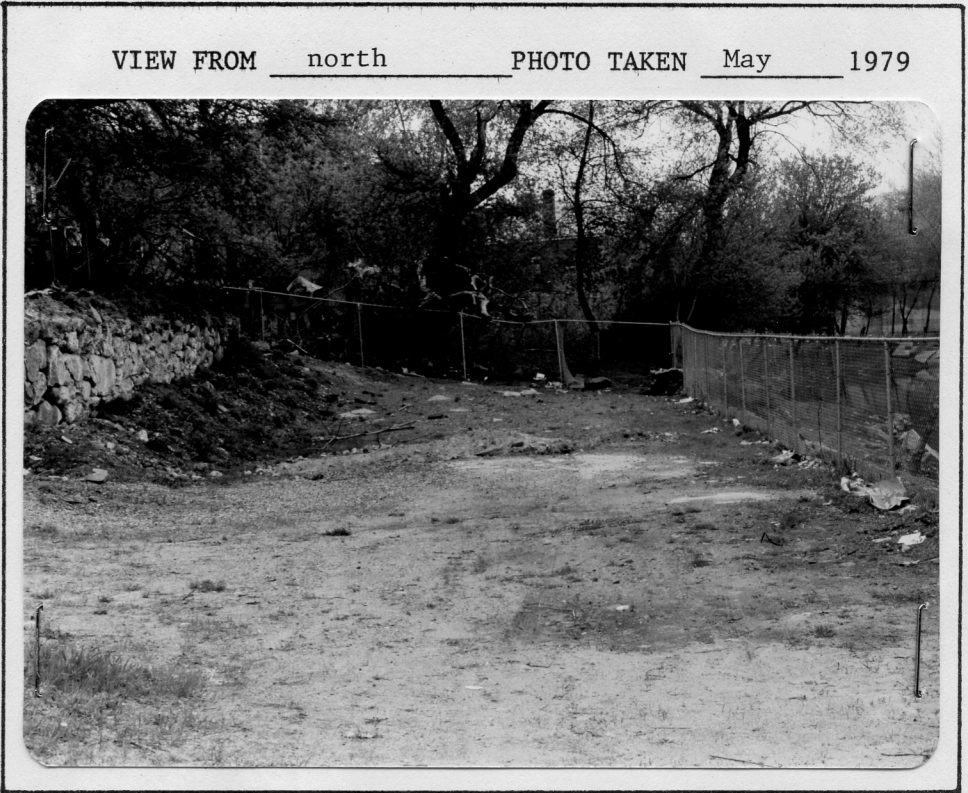
IDENTIFICATION Foot of CHESTNUT STREET MAP SHEET # 12  
 1) CURRENT OWNER Lowell Marksmen's Club OWNER OCCUPIED no  
 2) HISTORIC NAME Site of Belvidere Woolen Manufacturing Company Storehouse  
 3) CURRENT NAME same  
 4) PROPERTY TYPE archeological 5) ZONING CLASSIFICATION B-1  
 6) TAXES: PAYMENTS delinquent since 1977 STATUS tax title  
 7) WITHIN BOUNDARIES OF LHPD

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE n/a  
 SOURCE n/a  
 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER n/a  
 3) HISTORIC OWNER Belvidere Woolen Manufacturing Company  
 4) ORIGINAL USE: GF n/a UF n/a  
 5) PREVIOUS BLDGS ON PROPERTY yes DATE ca. 1850-ca. 1976  
 SOURCE circumstantial: maps and atlases

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE n/a  
 2) PRESENT USE:  
 GF vacant lot  
 UF n/a  
 3) NO OF STORIES n/a  
 4) PROP SQ FT 4,108  
 5) PLAN n/a  
 6) ROOF n/a  
 7) STRUCTURAL SYSTEM n/a  
 8) OUTBUILDINGS none  
 9) MATERIALS:  
 FOUNDATION n/a  
 FACADE n/a  
 TRIM n/a



10) NOTABLE SURFACE & LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS foundation

VISUAL ASSESSMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC n/a
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES n/a
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF n/a  
 UF n/a
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES industrial, residential, river frontage
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING detracts from character

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION

This property is a vacant lot on the first terrace above the Concord River. It is located just south of the city-owned parking lot that was formerly the site of the Belvidere Woolen Manufacturing Company.

The most notable feature of this property is a rubble stone retaining wall along its eastern edge, which appears to be part of the foundation of the storehouse that stood on the site.

ADDITIONAL HISTORICAL INFORMATION

This site is shown without buildings on the 1841 and 1850 Lowell maps. Not until the Baker map of 1868 is a structure indicated on the site.

The 1878 insurance survey of the Belvidere Woolen Manufacturing Company's Howe Street millyard indicates a two-story brick storehouse on this site, which is partially shown in a ca. 1900 photograph [Fig. 4 in Research Report]. The Wamesit Power Company owned the building in 1924, and on the 1936 atlas it is labeled "Wamesit Power Company Rifle Range." The last owner of the structure was the Lowell Marksmen's Club.

In 1975 the building was described as two stories tall with a pitched roof and no basement. It measured 75 feet by 50 feet. By that date several of its few small windows had been removed, and one end of the queenrod truss roof had collapsed (Molloy, Lower Merrimack...Inventory, p. 58). The building has since been demolished.

See Research Report, page 5.

ARCHEOLOGICAL COMMENT

A woolens storehouse stood on this site from the 1850s to 1970s. In the middle decades of the twentieth century, the building was used as a rifle range. A rubble stone retaining wall on the east side of the property is probably part of the foundation of that building. The site most likely contains below-ground remains of that structure, and perhaps of earlier nineteenth century activities in this general area.

See Research Report, pp. 8 and 9.