

## MIDDLESEX CANAL MILL POND/ CANAL PARK

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The Mill Pond on the Concord River in North Billerica was the high point of the canal and the source of the water. The Mill Pond Park is a general scheme for the development of the area.

There was the original grain mill which they were obliged to operate and the major operating facilities for the building and operation of the canal.

They operated a saw mill for their lumber, mill works and wood working shops, iron fabricating shop, storage buildings, boat yard, horse stables, a boat landing and lock tenders and operators quarters.

The Mill Pond / Canal Park project concentrates on four remaining major canal structures, <u>underlined</u>, which are on the National Register and three parks to represent and interpret the canal operations

- Area 1. has the partial reconstruction of the <u>Red Lock</u>, the representation of a partial dry length of the original canal, and a representation of a lock gate, all in a park setting
- Area 2. has the <u>only lock remaining of the 20 original locks</u>. This will be repaired and a wooden gate will be reconstructed and installed.
- Area 3. will feature the <u>west end of the novel floating towpath</u>, a park with parking facilities, boat launching ramp, interpretive site and passive recreation.
- Area 4. the opposite side of the Concord River will have a reconstructed towpath peninsular and the anchor crib for the east end of the floating tow path

These are depicted as the easements (areas) being granted by the present owners of the former canal properties.

The plans show the basic conceptual design which is currently being developed to 25% construction design .