



LOSING GROUND | FRAGMENTATION OF OPEN SPACE IN CONCORD . MA

In this overlay of the current road system in and around the town of Concord, Massachusetts (surveyed last in 2014, shown in light purple and white), onto a historic map based on a 1894 survey, the fragmentation and consequent transformation of the land become visually evident through the "spiderweb" of minor roads and cul-de-sacs (shown in white) that now covers what was mostly contiguous and undeveloped land only 120 years ago.

Outside the historic town center that is still framed by the original roads (Main Street, Thoreau Street and Walden Street), Concord has experienced a significant degree of urban sprawl since 1894, made evident through the numerous cul-de-sacs that have developed mostly along the network of minor historic roads. In addition, a new highway, Concord Turnpike (Route 2) now forms a major threshold between Concord and Walden Pond.

0 0.5 1 2 Kilometers

Massachusetts State Plane Projection

Cartographer: Nicole Gaenzler | BAC | DME2015 | September 27, 2017

SOURCES

Roads | MassDOT . Massachusetts Department of Transportation, June 2014
 Railroads . Trains | MassGIS . Central Transportation Planning Staff, April 2015
 Hydrography | MassDEP . Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, April 2017
 Historic USGS Map of Concord, Massachusetts . 1894 | UNH Dimond Library, Documents Department & Data Center (1894, reprinted 1929)