

Conservation Portrait: Riverwalk Park, Methuen

Built on blighted land once destined to be a parking lot, this 2.17-acre park is situated in the downtown area, once the site of the Alfred G. Gaunt & Co. Merrimack Mills building that was destroyed by fire on Christmas Day, 1991. The park reclaims long neglected riverfront land for public use in a thoughtfully arranged sequence of animated outdoor spaces.



The open design process included residents, city officials, several city committees, interest groups, contractors, and landscape architects. Acquisition and development of the park was funded by the City of Methuen and the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Urban Self-Help Program, now known as the PARC Grant. The community pride engendered by this "Town Common" is a credit to all involved.

