

Canonchet Brook Site 11

Analysis by Mary Gage
Photos by Steve DiMarzo Jr.
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Overview

Sites 7, 7A, & 11 are located on a 15 acre parcel purchased by Lawton Foster in 1853 from Horace Brightman. The purchase included one half of the Brightman house located on the west side of the road (“old house” on the map.) The 15 acres may have also included a barn on the east side of the road. The barn was torn down around 1980. (It should be noted that a portion of Site 7 extends off Lawton’s property onto an adjacent parcel which may have been owned by his father Jonathan Foster.) In 1868, he acquired the other half of the Brightman house along with 40 acres on the west side of road. Site 6 is located on the 40 acres.

Deeds indicate the 15 acre parcel was used for farming activities. Circa 1892, Lawton built a new house on the east side of road which is currently a private residence (“new house” on the map). Lawton lived on the farm up to his death in 1907. The farm was continued in operation by his daughter Lonsa Main.

A complete land use can be found in *Land of a Thousands Cairns* (2017) by Mary Gage and James Gage.

Note: Map can be found in book.



1 – Enclosure

Half circle attached to stone wall

Entry: 3' W, faces 90 degrees, east

One side is finished off showing an intentional entry

Entry faces away from road

Interior: 6' W x 6' L

The enclosure appears to have an older section and a rebuilt section. Note the lighter colored fresher looking stones on top of the back wall above the darker moss encrusted stones underneath. The darker moss encrusted stones are also seen in the old stone wall. This suggests there was an older abandon structure. The side wall has the lighter colored fresher looking stones suggesting it was totally rebuilt. The entrance has a flat stone on top with a stain suggesting a new addition. The entrance wall lacks the older darker stones underneath. Again, suggesting a rebuild.



Mound between enclosure & road

Along the edge of the road a few feet away from the enclosure large boulders are strewn. They back up to the enclosure. On the exterior road side there is an earthen or leaf/humus build up creating a mound. The rest of the exterior of the wall is exposed. The mound appears to be a natural buildup mixed with large boulders.

2 – Single Layer on Top of Bedrock(?)

Low bedrock has several stones showing on its edge and a line of extra large stones lined up on the side plus a heavy build up of leaves. It is in the middle of a heavily rock strewn area. It looks man-made. Vertical walled cairns amid the rock strewn area testify to the fact cairns were built here.

Stone sizes: Extra large, medium, small



3 – On Top of Boulder Trails to Ground Cairn

Cairn: 3' W x 11' L

Stone sizes: Extra large, large, medium, small



4 – Square Vertical Walled Cairn on Ground

Stones interlocked with each other
Cairn: 3' H x 4' W x 4' L
Stone sizes: Large, medium, small



5 – Mound on Top of Boulder

Cairn: 3' H x 5' L
Stone sizes: Large, medium, small



6 – Vertical Walled with Small Stone In-Fill in middle

Cairn: 3' H x 4' W x 7' W
Stone sizes: Extra large, large, medium, small
Note: Tree strike damage



7 – Vertical Walled

One collapsed wall (not an enclosure, note fallen tree trunk across top)

Cairn: 3' H x 3' W x 4' L

Stone sizes: Extra large, large, medium



8 – Three Stones on Top of Boulder

Cairn: 2' H x 2 ½' W x 3' L

Stone sizes: Extra large



9 – One Stone resting on top of two other stones

This is in a heavily rock strewn area with other stones on top of stones. It appears to be natural.



10 – Vertical Walled with Fill on Top of Multiple Boulders

Base: multiple extra large boulders some abutting each other, some with narrow slits, one slit is filled completely with a thin flat slab. The slits do not appear to represent a split stone spirit portal. It is a most unusual base for a cairn.

Cairn: 3' H x 4' W x 8' L

Stone sizes: Extra large, large, medium, small



11 – Vertical Walled with Fill on Low Base Stone

Cairn: 3' H x 4' W x 5' L

Stone sizes: Large, medium, small



12 – One Stone on Top of Boulder

Natural or Man-made?

Size: 1' W x 2' L



13 – Vertical Walled with Fill on Top of Boulder

Cairn: 2 ½' H x 3' W x 3' L
Stone sizes: Extra large, large, medium, small



14 – Vertical Walled with Fill on Top of Boulder

Cairn: 5' H x 4' W x 4' L
Stone sizes: Large, medium, small



15 – Three Separate Cairns



15A – Cluster of Six Stones on Ground

Cairn: 2' W x 3' L
Stone size: Large



15B – Two Stones Stacked on Top of Low Boulder

One Stone Attached to Boulder
Cairn: 4' L
Stone size: Large



15C – One Stone on Top of Boulder & Two Stones Attached to Boulder

Cairn: 3' L
Stone size: Large



16 – Stone Stack on Top of Boulder

Cairn: 2' H x 2' W x 2' L
Stone sizes: Large, medium



17 – # not used

18 – Mound on Top of Boulder Trailing to Ground

Cairn: 6' L x 3' W x 2' H
Stone sizes: Large, medium, small



19 – Stone Stack on Top of Boulder & Two Single Stones on Top of Boulder

Stone stack: two stones high
Cairn: 2' H x 3' W x 4' L
Stone sizes: Extra large, medium



20 – Open-End / Closed-End on Ground / on Boulder

Stacked end: Large flat slabs used to build up end, it is on the ground

Middle section of cairn is on the ground

Opposite end was built on top of a low boulder

Cairn: 3' H x 7' L

Stone sizes: Extra large, large, medium, small

Stone stacks showed up in cairns: 15, 16, 19 & 20 so far at this site. It is turning out to be a character trait of the site.



21 – On Top Trails to Ground

Stones were placed on top of a boulder in such a manner that they extend continuously from the top down to the ground.

Cairn: 3' H x 3' W x 6' L

Stone sizes: Extra large, large, medium



22 – Mound Attached to Boulder

Cairn: 6' W x 7' L

Stone sizes: Large, medium, small



23 – Cairn with two components

23A – Mound & Propped Stone on Top Boulder

Extra large slab propped up by one support stone – niche and/or spirit portal

Cairn: 2' H x 3' W x 5' L

Stone sizes: Extra large, large, medium, small



23B – Small Mound Attached to Boulder

Possibly natural
Stone size: Medium



24 – Mound on Top of Boulder & One Stone Attached to Boulder

(Possibly an Open-End/Closed-End design)
Cairn: 3' H x 3' W x 5' L
Stone sizes: Extra large, large, medium, small

*** Arrow indicates one stone attached to boulder**



Possible Open End / Closed End design

25 – Cairn with two components

25A – One Stone on Top Boulder

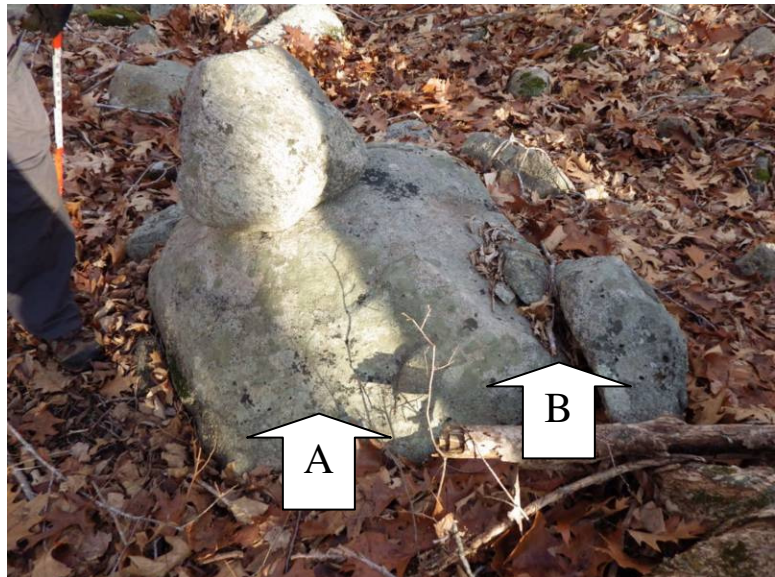
Overall: 2 ½' H

Base stone: 1' H x 3' W x 2' L

25B – Four Stones Attached to Boulder

Possible split stone feature

Stone sizes: Large, medium, small



26 – Stack on Top of Boulder integrated into Mound on Ground Attached to Boulder

Cairn: 3' H x 6' W x 6' L

Stone sizes: Extra large, large, medium, small



27 – Mound on Top of Boulder

Cairn: 3' H x 3' W x 4' L

Stone sizes: Large, medium, small



28 – Stone Stack on Top of Boulder

Stack: Three flat stones
Cairn: 1 ½' H x 2' W x 2 ½' L
Stone sizes: Extra large



29 – Triangular Stone Slab

Upright position
Location: in among a lot of stones on the ground, may be natural
Base 2' W x 2'H



30 – Mound on Ground

Cairn: 4' W x 5' L
Stone sizes: Large, medium, small



31 – Compact Square Mound on Ground

Small & medium stones on top
Cairn: 1½' H x 2' W x 2½' L
Stone sizes: Large, medium, small



32 – Multi-Stone, Non-Mound on Top of Boulder Trails to Ground

Cairn: 2' H x 2' W x 4' L
Stone sizes: Large, small (1)



33 – Multi-Stone, Non-Mound on Top of Boulder

Cairn: 1½' H x 3' W x 4' L
Stone sizes: Large, medium



34 – Stacked & Mound on Top of Boulder

Compact

Cairn: 2½' H x 2½' W x 3' L

Stone sizes: Large, medium, small



35 – Integrated Cairn (see illustration)

(A) Row of Boulders (No measurements)

(B) Compact high partially stacked cairn on ground

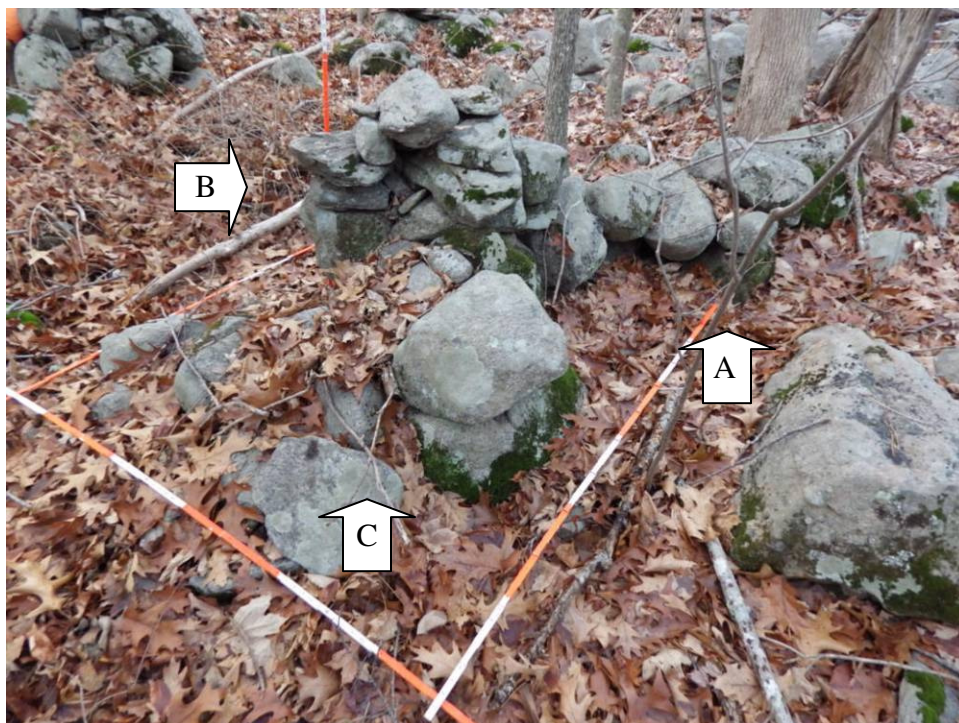
(C) Low mound on ground

Size: (B) 2' H

(C) 1' H

(B&C) 5' L x 3' W

Stone sizes: Extra large, large, medium, small





(A) Row of boulders



(B) Compact high partially stacked cairn on ground

36 – Three Stones on Top of Boulder

Two cobble stones and one flat stone (one cobble placed on top flat stone)
Base stone: 3½' W x 6' L
Stone size: Large



37 – Multi-Stone, Non-Mound on Top of Boulder

Cairn: 2½' H x 2' W x 4' L
Stone sizes: Large, small



38 – Open-End/Closed-End on Top of Boulder

Cairn: 3' H x 5' W x 5' L
Stone sizes: Large, medium, small



Closed End

38 Continued



Open End

39 – Mound on Ground

Cairn: 4' W x 5' L
Stone sizes: Extra large, large, medium



40 – On Top of Boulder

Partially collapsed from fallen tree
Cairn: 3' W x 5' L
Stone sizes: Extra large, large, medium, small



41 – Six Stones on Top of Boulder

Five large and one small
Cairn: 1' H x 2½' W x 3' L
Stone sizes: Large, small



42 – Mound on Top of Boulder

Collapsed – damaged by fallen tree
Cairn: 1½' H x 4' W x 4' L
Stone sizes: Large, medium, small



43 – Double Stack

Each stack one stone high
Cairn: 1½' H x 2' W x 4' L



44 – Mound on Ground

Cairn: 2' H x 3' W x 5' L
Stone sizes: Extra large, large, medium, small



45 – Stone Circle / Enclosure

Interior: 5' Diameter x 2' H
Two stones high
Stone sizes: Extra large, large
Steve said the circle is beside the stone wall and in close proximity to circle #47.



46 – Mound on Ground

Cairn: 2½' H x 4' W x 6' L
Stone sizes: Extra large, large, medium



47 – Stone Circle / Enclosure

Entry

Interior: 4 to 4½' Diameter

One stone high – extra large boulders

Tree growing in middle

Located beside stone wall



48 – Four Stones on Top of Boulder

Two cobble stones, two flat stones

Cairn: 1½' H x 2' W x 2' L

Stone sizes: Large, medium



49 – Mound on Top of Boulder Trails to Ground

Cairn: 3' H x 5' W x 6' L

Stone sizes: Large, medium



**50 – One Stone on Top of Boulder
between Two Boulders**

New form of split stone cairn?
Cairn: 2' H x 2' W x 5' L
Stone sizes: Extra large, large



51 – Mound Attached to Boulder

Cairn: 1' W x 3½' L
Base stone: 1' H x 2' W x 6' L
Stone sizes: Large, medium



52 – Mound on Ground

Cairn: 2' H x 3' W
Stone sizes: Large, medium



53 – Single Layer on Top Boulder

Base stone: 18" H x 6' W x 6'+ L
Stone sizes: Large, medium



54 – One Stone on Top of Boulder

Base stone: 1' W x 2' L
Stone size: Extra large



55 – Four to Five Stones on Ground

May be man-made or natural
Size: 18" H x 5' L
Stone sizes: Extra large, large



56 – Mound Attached to Boulder

Cairn: 3' H x 6' W x 6' L
Stone sizes: Large, medium



57 – Multi-Stone, Non-Mound on Top of Boulder

Compact
Cairn: 2' H x 2' W x 3' L
Stone sizes: Large, medium



58 – Multi-Stone, Non-Mound – Base stone – Attached

With One Stone on Top of Boulder
Cairn: 2' H x 4' W



**59 – Vertical Walled on Top of Boulder
(Low base stone)**

L shaped

Cairn: 3' H x 5' W x 3½' – 5' L (includes
extra large slab)

Stone sizes: Extra large, large, medium



60 – One Stone on Top of Boulder

Base stone: 2' W x 2' L

Stones size: Extra large



61 – Three Stones Attached to Boulder

Stones lined up abutting each other on
end, 3 ½' L

Base stone: 3' W x 5' L

Stone size: Large



62 – Single Layer on Top of Boulder

Base stone: 1' H x 5' W x 6' L
Stone sizes: Large, medium



63 – Single Layer on Top of Boulder

Base stone: 2½' H x 4' W x 6' L
Stone sizes: Large, medium



64 – Single Layer on Top of Boulder

Cairn: 2' H x 3' W x 5' L
Stone sizes: Large, medium



65 – Stacked & Mound on Ground

Follows other cairns at this site with same combination design

Compact

Cairn: 3' H x 3' W x 4' L

Stone sizes: Large, medium



66 – Low Circular Mound on Ground

Cairn: 7' Diameter

Tree growing in middle, natural

Stone sizes: Extra large, large, medium



Discussion

The site had a distinctive cairn design – a combination of a stack of stones and integrated mound.

Overall the site was created in a heavily rock strewn area with spongy ground. Moss on many stones attests the underlying moisture in the soil making the ground soft and spongy.

The enclosure next to the road structure no. 1 appears to have been an older enclosure that was re-activated in recent years suggested by the fresher light colored stones over the top of older darker moss encrusted stones.