

Newton, Massachusetts
Application for Community Preservation Funding

October 3, 2006



Historic Preservation Restrictions and
Seed Capital Funding to Ensure Full Accessibility for
The Durant Kenrick Homestead

A Joint Proposal by
The Newton History Museum of the City of Newton and Newton Historical Society, Inc.

Background for Request

- Last year, donation of the Durant Kenrick House, its endowment, and adjacent open lot was offered to the Newton Historical Society/Newton History Museum at the Jackson Homestead
- Gift is valued at over \$3.0 million
- With the help of CPA planning funds, have spent the past year:
 - Developing a master plan for the preservation of the house and the property
 - Developing a plan for the use of the site for public and educational programs
 - Assessing the financial feasibility of operating the house and land as a community resource

Historically Important

- Edward Durant moved from Boston to build the Homestead in Newton in 1732.
- Edward Durant Jr. was a leader in pre-Revolutionary activities, including the Committee of Correspondence in Newton.
- In 1790, the property passed to John Kenrick who established a nursery on Nonantum Hill.
- He and his son William developed the largest commercial nursery in New England, which was among the first to offer peach and pear trees.

Historic Preservation

- One of only a few colonial houses remaining in Newton
- Uniquely elegant, the house is an early example of Georgian style
- House is well preserved



Our master plan calls for:

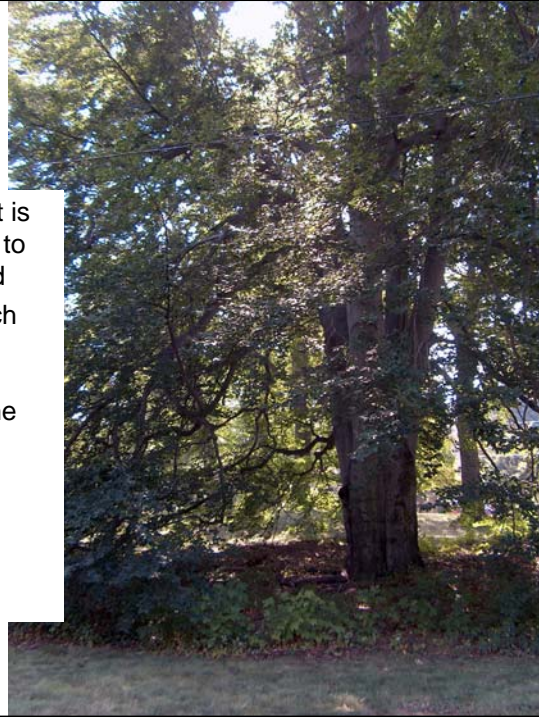
A new addition to replace the less historically significant rear el to provide programming space

Wheelchair accessibility to both the first and second floors of the house

Capital improvements to maintain the condition of the house

Open Space

- Adjacent open lot is an enhancement to the neighborhood
- Magnificent Beech tree and other historic plantings harken back to the Kenrick Nursery



Programs

- A valuable resource for schools
- Horticultural programs
- Taking care of your old house
- History camp and other community workshops
- Audio tour for individual visitors



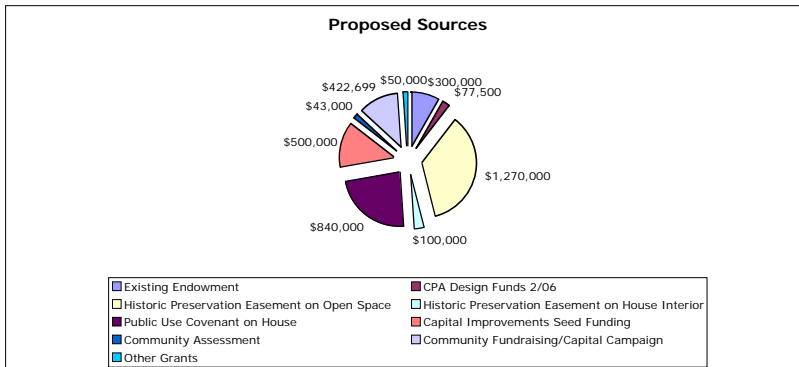
Timeline

- Newton Historical Society and Newton History Museum will not take ownership unless adequate funding is available
- Over the next nine months:
 - Work with the CPC on our funding application
 - Conduct capital campaign feasibility study
 - Assess options and implement strategy for remaining funding
 - Confer with a sampling of program participants to solidify offerings
 - Research history and collections to plan exhibits and tours
- Capital improvements will require 20 months to complete once funding secure

Appendix: Financial Plan

- 10-year operating budget developed
- Capital budget for improvements, accessibility and programming needs
- Through the sale of easements to the CPA, establish:
 - Adequate foundation for funding the operation of the house
 - Seed capital funds to begin renovations
- Remaining funds will be raised through a capital campaign, already underway with neighborhood leadership

Financial Plan - Scenario 1



Financial Plan - Scenario 2

