



Setti D. Warren
Mayor

**Newton, Massachusetts Community Preservation Program
Fiscal 2011 FUNDING PROPOSAL**



Submit 14 printed copies & 1 electronic copy by 4 pm, 15 October 2010 to:
 Alice E. Ingerson, Community Preservation Program Manager
 Newton Planning and Development Department
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Date received:	14 October 2010
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Project CONTACTS			
Candace Havens, Interim Director of Planning and Development	*Katy Holmes, Preservation Planner City of Newton, Planning Dept., 1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, MA 02459 617-796-1143, kholmes@newtonma.gov		
Project TITLE	<i>Newton Early Industrial Period Architectural Survey circa 1830-1840</i>		
LOCATION	1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton MA 02459		
BUDGET ATTACH DETAIL SEPARATELY.	CP FUNDS REQUESTED: \$37,500	OTHER FUNDS TO BE USED: \$27,833	TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$65,333
SUMMARY			

This survey is intended to be the second phase of a plan to update the City of Newton’s historic building inventory forms, including architectural descriptions, historical background, and current photographs. The completed building inventory forms will serve as a baseline for reviewing requests for demolition under the City’s Demolition Delay Ordinance as well as eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

In April of 2010, the Planning and Development Department received grant funding assistance from the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) to document and/or update 120 building inventory (B) Forms on all Newton buildings built prior to 1830. This project is underway and is being completed by staff from this department. In the course of this work, staff noticed that most properties purportedly dating from the early 1800’s had inaccurate construction date information, particularly from the Assessor’s Department, and that many properties initially thought to be a part of this survey were built after 1830. The proposed survey (circa 1830-1840) is intended to complement and run concurrently with the existing survey to confirm construction dates for the large number of c.1835 properties found thus far. An outside preservation consultant will complete documentation on approximately 140 properties built in that decade.

The goal for the Historical Commission and Planning Department is to have a complete record of all buildings in Newton built before 1840. In addition to improving the Demo Delay review process, this information will be used to update Assessor’s Department records, MHC files, help the CPC properly evaluate funding requests (in the event some private historic properties convert to public use), and update the files at the Newton History Museum. All records at these institutions are available to the public. The MHC is currently uploading all of its B Forms to a public, online database. As our own B Forms are completed and approved, they too will be uploaded by MHC. We estimate the proposed survey will be completed in one year.

All updated construction information will be uploaded to our City GIS system for mapping purposes. Our GIS system will become a more effective tool in identifying the most vulnerable historic properties in the City, e.g. those positioned on large Multi-family or Commercial-zoned lots with no protections in place. Mapping of known historic structures will also serve to identify settlement patterns in the City over time and identify historic neighborhoods that may be at risk for demolition. Following trends in historic settlement patterns might also add to our knowledge of potential archeological sites.

This information would positively contribute to the "Living Map" concept as described in Memorandum #4, Comprehensive Plan for the City of Newton 2007. Public use of this information, from walking tours to "map nights" to online data access, will be the final step in this project.

1. HOW WILL CP FUNDS BE USED?	<i>Check all that apply.</i>	COMMUNITY HOUSING	HISTORIC RESOURCES	OPEN SPACE	RECREATION LAND
		acquire			
	create		NOT ALLOWED		
<i>allowed IF resource was acquired or created with CP funds</i>	preserve		X		
	support		NOT ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED
	Rehabilitate/restore				

2. CITYWIDE NEEDS:

[Goal] 5: Promoting the Broader Use of History in Planning & Development

Planning with and for history requires making history a useful and useable tool for all City departments, as well as all nonprofit and for-profit organizations, involved in planning and development. Newton Comprehensive Plan, Cultural Resources, pages 9-16.

Referring to the existing historic resources survey, “the work was done 20 years ago and has only been updated sporadically. Newton should begin planning for a phased program of updating these forms, "A similar summary of survey efforts and recommendations for further documentation of archaeological resources in Newton should be completed” City of Newton Preliminary Historic Preservation Plan 2002, page 29-30.

Previous city plans support updating the existing survey information and utilizing the GIS system to identify and track changes to historic properties.

3. OTHER FUNDING:

The Planning and Development Department received \$16,700 from the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) this year to complete the survey up to 1830. This funding was a 60% match to \$11,133 provided by the Planning and Development Department for a total project cost of \$27,833. Grant funding through the MHC Survey and Planning grant program can only be received once per year and for the next funding round (FY2011) preservation staff will be applying for funds to create a design guidelines booklet. This means that if additional MHC funding was sought, it would have to be for the FY 2012 round and could not be awarded before April of 2013. Rather than having a three year gap staff would prefer to work with a consultant while the existing survey is underway in order to collaborate and work more efficiently.

4. STEWARDSHIP:

This project involves preservation documentation work only. Any documentation created will be maintained as part of the files of the Planning and Development Department, Newton History Museum, and Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC). The MHC has recently begun posting information on its website and information obtained from this survey will be added to their website and available to the public.

5. COMMUNITY CONTACTS:

Candace Havens, Interim Director of Planning and Development	617-796-1137
Zack Blake, Newton Historical Commission	978-337-8287
David Morton, Newton Historical Commission	617-512-2902

References: Sample Budgets and CVs available upon request

Draft Project Timeline:

Project TITLE:				
STEPS	ASSISTANCE REQUIRED	START <i>season/ year</i>	FINISH <i>season/ year</i>	COST <i>estimate</i>
1. Generate RFP	Purchasing Department / Law Department Planning Department	Spring 2011	Spring 2011	\$NA
2. Select consultant	Purchasing Department / Planning Department	Spring 2011	Summer 2011	\$NA
3. Sign contract	Purchasing Department / Planning Department	Summer 2011	Summer 2011	\$NA
4. Review selected properties with consultant	Planning Department	Summer 2011	Summer 2011	\$8,750
5. Complete draft forms	Planning Department	Fall 2011	Winter 2011	\$8,750
6. Review draft forms	Planning Department	Winter 2011	Spring 2012	\$8,750
7. Complete final forms	Planning Department	Spring 2012	Spring 2012	\$11,250

List of Attachments:

- A Proposed Project Budget

- B Historic Resources Attachments

- C Newton Historical Commission Letter of Support

Attachment A
Proposed Project Budget:

Newton Early Industrial Period Architectural Survey circa 1830-1840	
PROJECT BUDGET	
<i>DESCRIPTION</i>	<i>SOURCES / AMOUNT</i>
	<i>CPA grant</i>
Preservation consultant fee, includes drafting inventory forms and completion report on the project, archival quality photography, and printing costs.	\$35,000 <i>(Requested)</i>
Planning staff project time including drafting RFP and project management	\$2,500 <i>(Requested)</i>
	Existing Funds
MHC Survey and Planning Grant 2010	\$16,700
Planning Department match	\$11,133
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$65,333

140 properties have been selected for this survey. The current price for completing one Massachusetts Historical Commission building inventory form is on average \$250. 140 forms x \$250 = \$35,000

Attachment B

Historic Resources Attachments:

1. Analysis of Historical Significance:

Newton has at present one National Landmark (Fessenden House), 152 properties individually listed in the National Register, and approximately 1,600 properties in 35 National Register Districts. The vast majority of listings in the National Register are for buildings and structures. The significance of historic buildings in Newton is without question, however many buildings in the City have not been properly documented. The proposed survey will fill in existing data gaps in Newton's historic property survey and make determinations of National Register eligibility on surveyed properties. The historical and architectural significance of each property will be determined for future use in evaluating projects and to add to Newton's historical record so that future researchers can benefit from detailed information on Newton's history and historic architecture.

2. Description of Historically Significant Features:

Not Applicable. This project does not involve a singular historic property, but a survey of different properties city-wide. The historically significant features of each property will be documented both in a text description and through archival photographs. The proposed documentation will enable the protection of historically significant features during future projects.

3. Summary & Justification of Proposed Treatment:

Not Applicable. This project does not involve a singular historic property, but a survey of different properties city-wide. No historically significant features will be altered as a result of this project, however historic buildings will be preserved through the documentation available as part of the proposed survey and through the use of the survey information in making preservation evaluations through the administration of the Demolition Delay Ordinance and other preservation related review processes.

4. Newton Historical Commission Review

On August 26, 2010, the Newton Historical Commission reviewed the application for CPA funds and issued a letter of support. The letter of support for the proposed project is attached.