



David B. Cohen
Mayor

Newton, Massachusetts Fy09 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION PROPOSAL

Alice E. Ingerson, Community Preservation Program Manager
Newton Planning and Development Department
1000 Commonwealth Ave., Newton, MA 02459
aingerson@newtonma.gov 617.796.1144

Date received:



Project CONTACTS					
Michael Kruse, Director Planning and Development Department 1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, MA 02459 mkruse@newtonma.gov , 617-796-1130	Brian Lever, Senior Preservation Planner* Planning and Development Department 1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, MA 02459 blever@newtonma.gov , 617-796-1129				
Project TITLE	Newton Pre-1820 Architectural Heritage and Archaeology Project				
LOCATION	Citywide				
FUNDING CATEGORIES	<i>CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:</i>	COMMUNITY HOUSING	X HISTORIC RESOURCES	OPEN SPACE	RECREATION
BUDGET	<i>CP FUNDS REQUESTED:</i> \$37,000		<i>OTHER FUNDS TO BE USED:</i> Staff time / MHC Grant		<i>TOTAL PROJECT COST:</i> \$57,000
ATTACH DETAIL SEPARATELY.					
SUMMARY					

The preservation staff of the City of Newton’s Planning and Development Department propose undertaking a citywide systematic survey to identify, map, and evaluate Federal Period (ending approximately 1820) and earlier historic resources. The proposed project will be broken into two phases. Phase 1 will consist of a citywide archaeological survey identifying areas of archaeological sensitivity, including existing sites as well as a ground penetrating radar survey of the East Parish Burying Ground to assess the presence of remains there. Consultants will complete this phase working with city staff. The proposed final Phase 1 product will be a report filed with the Planning Department for use in project review and proactive preservation of archaeological sites. CPA funding is sought for Phase 1 only. Phase 2 will consist of a citywide survey to identify Federal Period and earlier buildings, structures, landscapes, and features. This will be completed by city staff and will involve completing determinations of National Register of Historic Places eligibility for each property, if applicable and not already done, as well as mapping into the city’s GIS system. Existing survey forms will also be updated.

Evidence of early life in Newton exists today in the form of various historic resources including archaeological sites, historic structures, features, and landscapes. At present 29 archaeological sites in Newton are recorded. Initial estimates are that there are also 120 Federal Period (ending approximately 1820) and earlier buildings, structures, landscapes, and features in Newton based on a City of Newton Assessors and Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System queries. There may also be additional Federal Period or earlier historic resources for which no record exists.

Historic resources have only limited protection under Newton’s ordinances as well as some federal and state laws. By the time most of these preservation tools are brought into play, historic resources are often already under significant threat. In the case of archaeological sites, little protection exists from private development. This survey will be the first step in protecting these resources through prioritizing preservation efforts and educating property owners as well as the public.

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

2. NEEDS & PRIORITIES:

[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 compiled” 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. Lack of archaeological information is an outstanding issue in noted Newton’s preservation plan. Many cities and towns in Massachusetts have taken steps to protect archaeological sites including 20 completed city/townwide archaeological surveys throughout the State.

As a line item in the Citywide archaeological survey, the ground-penetrating radar survey of the East Parish Burying Ground is included to assess the boundaries of the burial ground as well as the location of burials within it. The data from the survey will assist ongoing preservation efforts at the burying ground as well as provide valuable research information.

3. OTHER FUNDING:

Additional funding of \$12,000 will be sought through the Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey and Planning Grants, application deadline December 15, 2008.

4. STEWARDSHIP:

Not applicable, project involves preservation documentation work only.

5. COMMUNITY CONTACTS:

Michael Kruse, Director Planning and Development Department	617-796-1130
Leonard Loparto, Massachusetts Historical Commission	617-727-8470
Zack Blake, Newton Historical Commission	978-337-8287
David Morton, Newton Historical Commission	617-512-2902

A letter of support from the Newton Historical Commission is enclosed and another is being sought from the Newton Historical Society.

Draft Project TIMELINE

Project TITLE:				
STEPS <i>BIG steps, SHORT descriptions!</i>	ASSISTANCE REQUIRED <i>What must other organizations or City depts. do (raise funds, issue permits, etc.)?</i>	START <i>season/year</i>	COMPLETE <i>season/year</i>	COST <i>estimate</i>
1 Issue RFQ(s) and review response(s) Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey may be separated out as separate bid item.	Consult with Purchasing Department regarding City bid process. Planning Department assistance for review.	Winter 2009	Spring 2009	Some staff time, \$2,000 total for project
2 Issue RFP(s) and award project(s)	Consult with Purchasing Department regarding City bid process. Planning Department assistance for review. The contract for the consultant will be approved by the City Comptroller, Law Department and the Mayor.	Spring 2009	Summer 2009	\$30,000, \$5,000 for GPR survey, some staff time
3 Monitor consultant(s) progress	Planning Department assistance	Summer 2009	Fall 2009	Some staff time
4 Review draft report(s)	Planning Department assistance for review	Fall 2009	Fall 2009	Some staff time
5 Accept final report	Planning Department assistance for review	Winter 2009	Winter 2009	Some staff time

ATTACHMENT A: Budget

Newton Pre-1820 Architectural Heritage and Archaeology Project			
PROJECT BUDGET			
<i>USES</i>			<i>SOURCES</i>
Archaeology Survey			
Archaeological consultant	\$30,000		
GPR consultant total cost for line item, can be separate consultant if needed	\$5,000		
Planning staff project management	\$2,000		
subtotal		\$37,000	CPA grant
Early Architecture Survey			
Planning staff project management and documentation work	\$12,000		MHC grant
	\$8,000		Planning staff time
subtotal		\$20,000	
TOTAL PROJECT COST		\$57,000	

Phase 1 and 2 can be separated into different projects in the event that grant funding cannot be secured. If funding is unavailable, Planning staff will apply again for the next Massachusetts Historical Commission grant cycle.

ATTACHMENT B: Project Manager's Qualifications

Brian Lever

City of Newton
Senior Preservation Planner

Newton, MA
2007-present

Mr. Lever has eight years of experience in historic preservation including assessing effects to historic resources by federal and state permitted construction projects, documenting historical sites and structures, as well as archaeological excavation. Mr. Lever has also engaged in surveys of historic resources and completed National Register nominations.

Education:

Harvard University
Graduate Student, Extension School, Master of Liberal Arts Anthropology/Archaeology

University of Connecticut
Master of Arts, 2002, American History

University of Massachusetts
Bachelor of Arts, 2000, History
Bachelor of Arts, 2000, Anthropology