

Newton Heritage Landscape Inventory Program Planning and Development Department

Fact Sheet

The Massachusetts Heritage Landscape Inventory Program is an initiative to identify and document heritage landscapes that are vital to the history, character, and quality of life of our communities. As part of regional initiatives, more than one quarter of the Commonwealth's communities have participated in this program. Newton is the first community to participate individually. This effort was initiated by the City's Department of Planning and Development through and allocation from Newton's Community Preservation Fund.

Reconnaissance Survey

Planning and Development and its consulting team will work with residents of Newton on the identification of heritage landscapes. This planning effort is an opportunity for residents to come together and identify those landscapes that make Newton unique. Through this project, Newton's Department of Planning and Development aims to increase awareness about the many different types of heritage landscapes and develop priorities for their preservation.

What are Heritage Landscapes?

Heritage landscapes are those special places and spaces that help define the character of your community. They are the result of human interaction with the natural resources of an area, which influence the use and development of land. These geographic areas contain both natural and cultural resources. In short, heritage landscapes are those physical aspects of your town that make you feel familiar, comfortable, and at home. Heritage landscapes come in many forms – some you may already be aware of, and some you may not have considered as having the qualities that would make them a heritage landscape. Here are some examples:

cemeteries	commons	mill sites
formal gardens	parks	estates
farms	industrial complexes	neighborhoods
parkways	river corridors	institutional campuses
archaeological sites	scenic roads	village centers



For more information about the Heritage Landscape Inventory Program:

Visit the program website at www.state.ma.us/dcr/stewardship/histland/Inventoryprog.htm, or obtain a copy of *Reading the Land, Massachusetts Heritage Landscapes: A Guide to Identification and Protection*. This publication is also available for order through DCR.

POSSIBLE LANDSCAPE TYPES IN NEWTON

Archaeological Sites

- prehistoric (*campsites, burials, middens, fish weirs, etc.*)
- historic (*related to industrial sites, residential sites, transportation systems and many more*)

Agricultural Landscapes

- agricultural complex (*buildings and landscape*)
- agricultural fields, farmland
- farmstead (*farmhouse, outbuildings*)
- fairgrounds
- orchard
- woodlot

Burial/Cemetery

- burial ground or site (*including family burial ground*)
- cemetery

Civic

- commemorative landscape
- monument grounds
- pound
- public buildings and their settings
- reservoir
- town center
- town common
- village

Industrial

- canal complex (*also transportation*)
- mill or factory
- mill village (*also residential*)
- quarry
- railroad system (*also transportation*)

Institutional

- museum
- poor farm
- religious
- school or college campus

Natural Features

- forest/special vegetation
- lake/ pond
- river
- topographic or geologic feature
- vista
- wetland

Other

- military
- non-classifiable places of the heart
- artist/literary association – studios, scenes
- gateways, community entrances

Recreational/Open Space

Municipal

- common
- municipal golf course - club
- park/park system
- squares - such as market squares
- municipal forest
- training field

State/Regional

- parkways
- state forests and parks

Private Recreational/Resort

- country club/golf course
- hotel
- trail (hiking, bike)
- trolley park

Residential

- company housing
- estate
- gardens
- neighborhood
- planned subdivision
- single family residence and grounds
- streetscape (*part of many landscape types*)

Transportation

- alley
- boulevard
- bridge
- causeway
- highway
- parkway
- road
- trail