



# Newton Cemetery Corporation

*A Beautiful Garden Cemetery Serving Greater Boston*

April 25, 2017

Community Preservation Committee  
c/o Planning and Development Department  
Newton City Hall  
1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton Centre, MA 02459

**RE: Community Preservation Program Pre-Proposal  
Restoration of the Whipple/Beal Fence, Newton Cemetery**

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for considering our request to submit a full proposal in the Fy18 Community Preservation Program funding round for the restoration of the Whipple/Beal fence at Newton Cemetery. The restoration of the fence for which we seek funding directly fits the goals of the Community Preservation Act because it supports an effort to preserve a significant historical feature in the community of Newton; Newton Cemetery, and the Whipple/Beal fence, represent an important cultural resource with educational and research value for the public.

Founded in 1855 during the rural cemetery movement, Newton Cemetery is an active, garden style cemetery and accredited arboretum. The grounds are open daily and an increasing number of people are coming to learn about the cemetery. History tours (co-sponsored with Historic Newton) to educate the public are held regularly and well attended. In addition, a self-guided "Notable Burials" and "Civil War Soldiers" tour is available on the cemetery website.

The Whipple/Beal lot is one of the most historically important lots in the cemetery. The lot is not only the site of the first interment (in 1856), but it is surrounded by the *last* remaining piece of decorative cast iron fencing in Newton Cemetery. As part of this project, the cemetery wishes to restore the Whipple/Beal fence to prevent further deterioration and install interpretive signage to educate the public. The project benefits the growing interest in Newton's and the Cemetery's history. Funding from the Community Preservation Program will make the restoration possible.

Please feel free to contact me at 617-332-0047 x21 or [mab@newcemcorp.org](mailto:mab@newcemcorp.org). I appreciate your consideration of this request and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Buras  
President, Newton Cemetery  
enc

City of Newton



Setti D. Warren  
Mayor

**Newton, Massachusetts Community Preservation Program  
FUNDING REQUEST**

**PRE-PROPOSAL**

**PROPOSAL**

*(For staff use)*  
date rec'd:  
  
*27 April 2017/  
2 May 2017*

Last updated September 2015.

Please submit this completed file directly – do not convert to PDF or other formats.

For full instructions, see [www.newtonma.gov/cpa](http://www.newtonma.gov/cpa) or contact us:

Community Preservation Program Manager,  
City of Newton Planning & Development Department, 1000 Commonwealth Ave., Newton, MA 02459  
[aingerson@newtonma.gov](mailto:aingerson@newtonma.gov) 617.796.1144

You may adjust the space for each question, but the combined answers to all questions on this page must fit on this page.

<b>Project TITLE</b>	<b>Whipple/Beal Fence Restoration Pre-Proposal</b>		
<b>Project LOCATION</b>	Newton Cemetery, Section K-154 791 Walnut Street, Newton Center, MA 02459		
<b>Project CONTACTS</b>	Name & title or organization	Email	Phone
<b>Project Manager</b>	Mary Ann Buras President, Newton Cemetery	mab@newcemcorp.org	(617) 332-0047 x21
<b>Other Contacts</b>	Eliot Beal, Gr.Gr.Grandson of Original Cemetery Lot Owner		(781) 545-0853
<b>Project FUNDING</b>	<b>A. CPA funds requested:</b> \$60,000	<b>B. Other funds to be used:</b> \$14,500	<b>C. Total project cost (A+B):</b> \$74,500
<b>Project SUMMARY</b>	<p>Explain how the project will use the requested CPA funds. You may provide more detail in attachments, but your PROJECT SUMMARY MUST FIT IN THE SPACE BELOW. Use a cover letter for general information about the sponsoring organization's accomplishments.</p> <p>The project will use the funds to restore the historic Whipple/Beal fence at Newton Cemetery, a cast iron fence currently in a state of deterioration. The Whipple Beal lot is one of the most historically important lots in the cemetery. The lot is not only the site of the first interment (in 1856), but it is surrounded by the <i>last</i> remaining piece of decorative iron fencing in Newton Cemetery.</p> <p>The fence is approximately 20'x15' and comprised of 10 sections that are made of fluted posts, rails and decorative medallions that depict a traditional cemetery theme of the era. Each post sits on a granite base. The majority of the original paint has deteriorated significantly and the fence is dirty with visible biological growth. The iron is extremely corroded and rust covers at least 90% of the surface, which is still actively corroding. The fence and posts are no longer plumb and do not sit appropriately on the granite bases that form the foundation. The fence is currently being stabilized with wooden 2x4's set into the ground.</p> <p>The CPA funds would be used to hire the consultant required for assembling the project specifications outlining the scope of work (also necessary for the bid process) and the conservators who would be awarded the contract to perform the fence restoration. The Friends of Newton Cemetery has been offered the contribution of a 3D Laser Scan of the fence (to within ¼" accuracy), clearly documenting the details of the fence for the records. Newton Cemetery would provide the personnel required for the oversight and management of the project as well as the skilled staff required to perform the re-work and stabilization of the granite bases that serve as the fence foundation. The Friends of Newton Cemetery will conduct fundraising for interpretive signage so the visiting public could learn about the historic significance of the fence and the restoration process.</p>		

You may adjust the space for each question, but the combined answers to all questions on this page must fit on this page.

<b>Project TITLE</b>		<b>Whipple/Beal Fence Restoration Pre-Proposal</b>	
<b>USE of CPA FUNDS</b>		<b>HISTORIC RESOURCES</b>	
<b>CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.</b>	preserve	X	
	rehabilitate/ restore	X	
<b>COMMUNITY NEEDS</b>	From each of at least 2 plans linked to the <a href="#">Guidelines &amp; Forms</a> page of <a href="http://www.newtonma.gov/cpa">www.newtonma.gov/cpa</a> , provide a brief quote with plan title, year, and page number, showing how this project meets previously recognized community needs. You may also list other community benefits not mentioned in any plan.		
<p>1.) <u>Newton's Heritage Landscapes Report, April 2009/March 2010: (Attachment #1, highlighted text)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o p1: "definition of heritage landscape"—“ ‘special places, created by human interaction with the natural environment, that help define the character of the community and reflect its past.’ Heritage landscapes are dynamic and evolving; they reflect the history of the community and provide a sense of place; they show the environmental features that influenced land use patterns; and they often (but not always) have scenic qualities.”</li> <li>o p1: “diverse landscapes are central to Newton’s character, yet they are vulnerable and ever-changing. For this reason it is important to take steps towards their preservation by identifying those that are particularly valued by the community”</li> <li>o p43: Newton Cemetery, Appendix-Burial Grounds and Cemeteries</li> </ul> <p>2.) <u>Terra Firma-Putting Historic Landscape Preservation on Solid Ground, ©2011: (Attachment #2, highlighted text)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o p5: “Historic cemeteries serve an important civic function even long after the last plot is sold. Active and inactive cemeteries are valuable public open spaces, scenic locales, genealogical resources, and important historic landscapes, with many vested in their preservation.</li> <li>o p14: “Protecting Iron Fences: Iron fences are an important contributing feature to the historic character and fabric of the landscape, yet their care is often overlooked during cemetery restoration ...”</li> </ul>			
<b>COMMUNITY CONTACTS</b>	List at least 3 Newton residents or organizations willing and able to comment on the project and its manager’s qualifications. No more than 1 should be a supervisor, employee or current work colleague of the project manager or sponsor. Consult staff on the community contacts required for your specific proposal.		
<b>Name &amp; title or organization</b>		<b>Email</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Lalor Burdick, Chairman Newton Cemetery Corporation		<a href="mailto:l.burdick@comcast.net">l.burdick@comcast.net</a>	(617) 584-4633 180 Dudley Road Newton Center, MA 02459
Susan Abele, (retired) Curator of Manuscripts and Photographs Historic Newton		<a href="mailto:susan.abele@gmail.com">susan.abele@gmail.com</a>	(918) 284-4811 23 Russell Court Newtonville, MA 02460
Michael Feldman, President & CEO Feldman Surveyors		<a href="mailto:mfeldman@feldmansurveyors.com">mfeldman@feldmansurveyors.com</a>	(617) 527-9255 42 Judith Road Newton Center, MA 02459
Catherine Offenber, ASLA, Principal, CRJA – IBI Group		<a href="mailto:coffenberg@crja.com">coffenberg@crja.com</a>	(617) 244-9590 211 Greenwood Street Newton, MA 02459
Lisa Dady, Director-Historic Newton		<a href="mailto:ldady@newtonma.gov">ldady@newtonma.gov</a>	(617) 796-1450 527 Washington Street Newton, MA 02458
Donald Tsiang		<a href="mailto:tsiangs@aol.com">tsiangs@aol.com</a>	(617)244-0560 950 Watertown Street Newton, MA 02465

You may adjust the space for each question, but the combined answers to all questions on this page must fit on this page.  
**Full proposals must include separate, detailed budgets in addition to this page.**

Project TITLE	<b>Whipple/Beal Fence Restoration Pre-Proposal</b>	
<b>SUMMARY CAPITAL/DEVELOPMENT BUDGET</b>		
<b>Uses of Funds</b>		
Design & Specifications (Consultant)		\$5,000
3D Laser Scan		\$2,000
Administrative and Project Management (Newton Cemetery staff time)		\$7,500
Fence Restoration (Contractor Bids)		\$55,000
Interpretive Signage at Whipple Beal Lot		\$5,000
<b>D. TOTAL USES</b> (should equal C. on page 1 and E. below)		<b>\$74,500</b>
<b>Sources of Funds</b>	<b>Status</b> (requested, expected, confirmed)	
CPA funding	Requested	\$60,000
Newton Cemetery In-Kind funding for Supervision & Management	Committed	\$7,500
Friends of Newton Cemetery In-Kind Contributions & Fundraising	In planning	\$7,000
<b>E. TOTAL SOURCES</b> (should equal C. on page 1 and D. above)		<b>\$74,500</b>
<b>SUMMARY ANNUAL OPERATIONS &amp; MAINTENANCE BUDGET (cannot use CPA funds)</b>		
<b>Uses of Funds</b>		
Yearly inspection, touch-up paint if necessary, wash every 2 years (annual estimate)		\$250.00
Lightly sand and re-paint the surface in 20 +/- years: \$5,000 (estimate)		\$250.00
Completely strip and re-paint in 30-35 years: \$15,000 (estimate)		\$500.00
<b>F. TOTAL ANNUAL COST</b> (should equal G. below)		<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Sources of Funds</b>		
Newton Cemetery operating budget / Friends of Newton Cemetery fundraising		\$1,000.00
<b>G. TOTAL ANNUAL FUNDING</b> (should equal F. above)		<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Project TIMELINE</b>	<b>Phase or Task</b>	<b>Season &amp; Year</b>
	Full proposal to CPC	Fall 2017
	Friends Fundraising	Spring 2017-Spring 2018
	Design	Winter 2017/18
	Bidding	Winter – Spring 2018
	Restoration Work	Summer – Fall 2018

Pre-proposals need only highlighted attachments.

Project TITLE		Whipple/Beal Fence Restoration Pre-Proposal	
↓ Check off submitted attachments here.			
REQUIRED.		<b>PHOTOS</b>	of existing site or resource conditions <b>(Attachment #3)</b>
		<b>MAP</b>	of site in relation to nearest major roads <b>(Attachment #4)</b>
Pre-proposals: separate attachments not required, just use page 3 of form.  Full proposals: separate, detailed budget attachments REQUIRED.	<b>PROJECT FINANCES</b> printed and as computer spreadsheets, with both uses & sources of funds		
		<b>development pro forma/capital budget:</b> include total cost, hard vs. soft costs and contingencies, and project management – amount and cost of time from contractors or staff (in-kind contributions by existing staff must also be costed) <b>operating/maintenance budget for project, projected separately for each of the next 10 years</b> (CPA funds may not be used for operations or maintenance)	
		<b>non-CPA funding:</b> commitment letters, letters of inquiry to other funders, fundraising plans, etc., including both cash and est. dollar value of in-kind contributions Please also document attempts to contact the family for support, and their responses. <b>(Attachment #5)</b>	
		<b>purchasing of goods &amp; services:</b> briefly summarize sponsor’s understanding of applicable state statutes and City policies	
Pre-proposals: recommended.. Full proposals: REQUIRED.		<b>HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE</b>	<b>For all historic resources projects, see separate instructions for 3 attachments</b> analyzing historic significance and significant features, and showing how project meets national preservation standards <b>(Attachment #6 &amp; 7)</b>
REQUIRED for all full proposals.	<b>SPONSOR FINANCES &amp; QUALIFICATIONS, INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT</b>		
		<b>for sponsoring organization, most recent annual operating budget</b> (revenue & expenses) & <b>financial statement</b> (assets & liabilities); each must include any public (City) and private resources (“friends” organizations, fundraising, etc.)	
		<b>for project manager: relevant training &amp; track record</b> of managing similar projects	
REQUIRED for all full proposals involving real estate acquisition, construction or other building/ landscape improvements.	<b>SITE CONTROL, VALUE &amp; DEED RESTRICTIONS</b>		
		<b>deed for the lot</b> <b>(Attachment #8)</b>	
		<b>agreement by lot owners to a permanent deed restriction</b> for historic preservation	
	<b>ZONING &amp; PERMITTING</b>		
		<b>brief property history:</b> at least the last 30 years of ownership & use (ask CPC staff for assistance with sources)	
		<b>environmental mitigation plans:</b> incl. lead paint, asbestos, etc. (including disposal of existing fence elements that cannot be repaired or restored)	
		<b>zoning relief and permits required:</b> building or fence permits, etc.	
		<b>other approvals required:</b> Newton Historical Commission, Massachusetts Historical Commission, etc.	
	<b>DESIGN &amp; CONSTRUCTION</b>		
		<b>professional design &amp; cost estimates:</b> include site plan & elevations	
	<b>materials &amp; finishes;</b> highlight “green” or sustainable features & materials		
OPTIONAL for all proposals.		<b>LETTERS of SUPPORT</b>	from Newton residents, organizations, or businesses <b>(Attachment #9)</b>

Newton, Massachusetts Community Preservation Program  
Newton Cemetery – Whipple/Beal Fence Restoration  
PRE-PROPOSAL ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #1- Newton's Heritage Landscapes Report (p. 1, 43)

Attachment #2- Terra Firma-Putting Historic Landscape Preservation on Solid Ground (p. 5, 14)

Attachment #3- Photos

Attachment #4- Maps

Attachment #5- Correspondence with Family/Lot Owners & Explanation

Attachment #6- Historic Significance Attachments

Attachment #7- Whipple/Beal Family Tree, draft

Attachment #8- Original Deed for the Lot & Explanation

Attachment #9- Letters of Support

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## INTRODUCTION

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The Newton Planning and Development Department and the Community Preservation Committee have collaborated to bring the Heritage Landscape Inventory program to the City of Newton. The primary goals of the program are to identify a wide range of landscape resources and to provide strategies for preserving these landscapes, especially those that are most valued by the community.

The Heritage Landscape program is a community-based process through which local participants come together to compile a list of special places in the community. Traditional preservation techniques such as historic resource surveys, preservation plans, National Register listing and local historic district designation are powerful tools for dealing with buildings, but are often less effective in dealing with other resource types, including the context and setting of buildings and the more subtle values that contribute to the quality of life in a community. The Heritage Landscape program encompasses cultural, natural and associative values, using a multi-disciplinary approach in understanding the community and developing preservation strategies. It also brings together a wide range of community perspectives in a process that is integrative, inclusive and participatory.

The program uses a broad definition of heritage landscapes as “special places, created by human interaction with the natural environment, that help define the character of the community and reflect its past.” Heritage landscapes are dynamic and evolving; they reflect the history of the community and provide a sense of place; they show the environmental features that influenced land use patterns; and they often (but not always) have scenic qualities.

These diverse landscapes are central to Newton’s character, yet they are vulnerable and ever-changing. For this reason it is important to take steps towards their preservation by identifying those that are particularly valued by the community – a favorite local park, a distinctive neighborhood or village center, a unique natural feature or an important river corridor. For the purposes of this report and the Heritage Landscape program in Newton, heritage landscapes encompass landscapes at a variety of scales from tiny traffic triangles to the Charles River corridor, as well as features within the City that serve as visual and social landmarks. Many are scenic, others are not, and not all meet traditional criteria for historical significance.

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## METHODOLOGY

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The methodology for the Heritage Landscape Inventory program was developed in a pilot project conducted in southeast Massachusetts and refined in Essex County and the Freedom’s Way Heritage Area. It has continued in the Blackstone Valley, Pioneer Valley and in western Massachusetts, all under the leadership of the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). The DCR publication *Reading the Land* has provided guidance for the program since its inception.

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**ATTACHMENT #1**

**APPENDIX: HERITAGE LANDSCAPES IDENTIFIED BY COMMUNITY**

This list was generated by Newton residents at community meetings held in Newton on September 9, 11, 17 and October 1, 2008. It also includes suggestions posted on a blog established by the Newton Tab and other suggestions submitted to Newton Planning Department staff. This is not intended as a comprehensive list but rather represents landscapes considered by Newton residents as being important to the quality of life in their community. For convenience the chart is organized by land use category so that groups of like resources are listed together. Properties are generally listed alphabetically within each category but the residential category is organized with neighborhoods first, followed by individual residences, which are listed by last name of historic owner. The chart has two columns, the names and locations of resources are in the first; notes about resources are in the second. Abbreviations used are listed below.

- CR = Conservation Restriction
- DOE = Determination of National Register eligibility
- LHD = Local Historic District
- LL = Local Landmark
- NR = National Register
- PR = Preservation Restriction

<b>Agriculture</b>	
<i><b>Newton Angino Community Farm</b></i> 303 Nahanton St.	CR (Newton Conservators). City-owned 2.25-acre community farm with house, barn, outbuildings and fields. Barn was recently restored/renovated using private funds.
<i><b>Durant Kenrick Homestead</b></i> Newton Corner	NR-IND, LL. Built ca. 1732 by Captain Edward Durant – Georgian. One of pre-1800 houses in Newton with important landscape history. Nursery established by late 18 <sup>th</sup> -early 19 <sup>th</sup> century owner, John Kenrick resulting in specimen trees on property. Originally occupied over 100 acres on the hill and imported many early varieties of pears and peaches still grown today. In the 1830s, investors and nurseries hoping to create an American silk industry planted thousands of mulberry trees, to feed the silkworms. Unfortunately, few of the young trees survived New England winters. By 1844 the Kenricks' financial losses had forced them to subdivide and sell much of their original land on Nonantum Hill. Acquisition by the Newton Historical Society is pending.
<b>Burial Grounds and Cemeteries</b>	
<i><b>East Parish Burying Ground</b></i> Centre St., Newton Centre	NR-IND. Established ca. 1660. Also known as Centre Street Cemetery. 3.2 acres. Master plan prepared in 1999 as part of DCR Historic Cemeteries Preservation Initiative.
<i><b>Newton Cemetery</b></i> 1791 Walnut St.	Private non-profit garden cemetery established in 1855. 97 acres.
<i><b>Saint Mary's Cemetery</b></i> 258 Concord St. Lower Falls	NR-IND, DIS. Established ca. 1813. Associated with St. Mary's Episcopal Church. 1.83 acres.



## MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

### CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION

Massachusetts' municipal cemeteries fall under the jurisdiction of one or more local departments or volunteer commissions who control management, policy, maintenance and regulatory compliance. Some have seats on the local Community Preservation Commission and make recommendations about funding. While each municipality has its own government structure, the following represent the most common jurisdictions responsible for managing historic cemeteries in Massachusetts.

**Department of Public Works** *The municipal department in charge of roads and infrastructure, sometimes including tree care and other maintenance at historic cemeteries.*

**Parks Department** *Even when separate Cemetery Commissions exist, local parks departments are often charged with cemetery maintenance.*

**Cemetery Department** *Administered by public employees, this department is directly responsible for maintenance, capital improvements, and day-to-day cemetery operations including burials.*

**Cemetery Commission** *This municipally-appointed volunteer board of residents oversees the management of municipal cemeteries, often appointing the Cemetery Superintendent.*

**Local Historic District Commission/Historical Commission** *This volunteer commission may have legal jurisdiction to review physical changes to the historic cemetery if it is located within a local historic district, national register district, or a designated historic property.*

**State Archaeologist/Massachusetts Historical Commission** *Involved in the enforcement of state laws protecting historic burial grounds and evaluating permits for gravestone repair in accordance with 950 CMR 41. Laws include the MA Unmarked Burial Law (MGL Ch. 659 of the Acts of 1983 and Ch. 386 of the Acts of 1989) and the Gravestone Repair and Reproduction statute (St.1973 Ch.448).*

Regardless of who is the lead, collaboration among the above groups can be helpful by establishing common management goals and reducing costs through shared resources (i.e. equipment, personnel). Proper cemetery management also benefits from consultation with experts from a number of different disciplines like landscape architects, historians, civil and structural engineers, arborists, horticulturalists, masons archaeologists, and conservators, to name a few.

### PARTNERSHIPS

Historic cemeteries serve an important civic function even long after the last plot is sold. Active and inactive cemeteries are valuable public open spaces, scenic locales, genealogical resources, and important historic landscapes, with many vested in their preservation. Cemetery managers can collaborate with non-profits or friends groups who can enhance public programming, provide volunteer labor, and promote fundraising. Friends groups are often cited as the driving forces behind the successful preservation of historic public cemeteries.



### CASE STUDY SUCCESS: VINE LAKE PRESERVATION TRUST

As one of the 32 case studies in the Guidelines, Vine Lake Cemetery in Medfield received a preservation treatment plan, recommendations, and a priority action list. When local residents created the Vine Lake Preservation Trust in 2009, the Trust's Board used the Guidelines to develop their short and long term preservation plans, with a focus on tree management and gravestone preservation. The Trust is a private corporation that seeks to partner with the Cemetery Commission, which is the policy-making body for the town. Funded through private donations, pro-bono services, and public grants, the Trust has four key program areas – Preserve, Enhance, Interpret, and Celebrate – with projects such as headstone repair and volunteer training, to replanting, art programs, and walking tours on history, art and nature.

*Photo by Vine Lake Preservation Trust*

For more on partnerships see DCR's Terra Firma #4 - New Models of Stewardship: Public/Private Partnerships.



## PROTECTING IRON FENCES

Iron fences are an important contributing feature to the historic character and fabric of the landscape, yet their care is often overlooked during cemetery restoration because they rarely mark a burial and almost never contain an epitaph or burial information. Iron fencing may surround individual or family plots, mark the boundary of a cemetery, or flank formal entrances. In cemeteries where metalwork is a distinctive feature – in the form of fencing, grave markers, signs, gates or statuary – the landscape preservation plan should layout recommendations for treatment.

Repairing fences with loose or fallen pieces should be a high priority, as separated features can easily be lost. Small repairs, such as tightening bolts or replacing missing bolts, can easily be performed by cemetery staff. Consult a professional conservator for more complicated repairs, such as repairing or reattaching bent or damaged ornamentation, and for repairs of breaks in decorative cast iron fencing.

Painting inhibits rust formation, one of the leading causes of iron fence deterioration. The best practice is to remove all loose rust by hand with a wire brush, apply a coat of rust converter (available at hardware stores), followed by a coat of primer and several coats of paint. All primer and paint should be designed for outdoor metal surfaces.

For more information, view an instructional video at <http://ncppt.nps.gov/2007/iron-fence-repair-video-2007-03/>.

## PUBLIC PROGRAMMING

A major goal in preserving historic cemetery landscapes is to benefit the public. These important open spaces have a stories to tell and can be adapted into vibrant community resources through interpretation and public programming. Simple interpretive panels at cemetery entrances can give visitors a brief history and point out areas of interest. Self-guided tours can be illustrated through a brochure or a web-based map. Local Historical Commissions, Friends groups and other organizations can help promote stewardship through group tours, annual events, and art programs. Especially when cemeteries are inactive, public programming is essential to maintaining a high level of public awareness, one of the keys to successful stewardship.



*Iron fencing around family plots was a distinctive feature of the Rural Cemetery movement, and was popularized through retail catalogs. In some areas fencing was added to plots at older burial grounds, blurring the lines between the two landscape eras.*

*Programs on historical figures, landscape design, horticulture, and funerary art can promote a sense of community pride and enhanced stewardship of historic cemeteries. Photo by Vine Lake Preservation Trust.*



## Photos: Whipple-Beal Fence



The Whipple Beal cast iron fence is 20' wide on each side and 15' long front and back. The fence is comprised of ten sections made of fluted posts, rails and decorative medallions. The medallions depict lambs resting under weeping willow trees, a traditional theme in many cemeteries of this era. There are 62 medallions and 11 posts, each set on a granite base.

The majority of the posts are being held up by wooden 2x4's set into the ground adjacent to the posts. The posts are attached to the 2x4's with wire. The majority of the posts are no longer plumb and several of them have twisted.





The iron is extremely corroded and rust covers at least 90% of the surface, which is pitted and still actively corroding.



Several areas have corroded completely through and there is a significant amount of rust and loss of detail on the lower portions of the posts, medallions and lower rails.



The fence was originally painted black, and the majority of it has deteriorated. The fence is dirty and green biological growth is visible.



Detail: Corroded attachment of post to stone.



Detail: Corroded lower railing.



Of the eleven posts, eight are missing some or all of the finial sections. Two of the medallions are missing parts.





Detail: Wire holding posts to medallions.



Detail: Degraded iron bolt which held medallion to the upper rail.

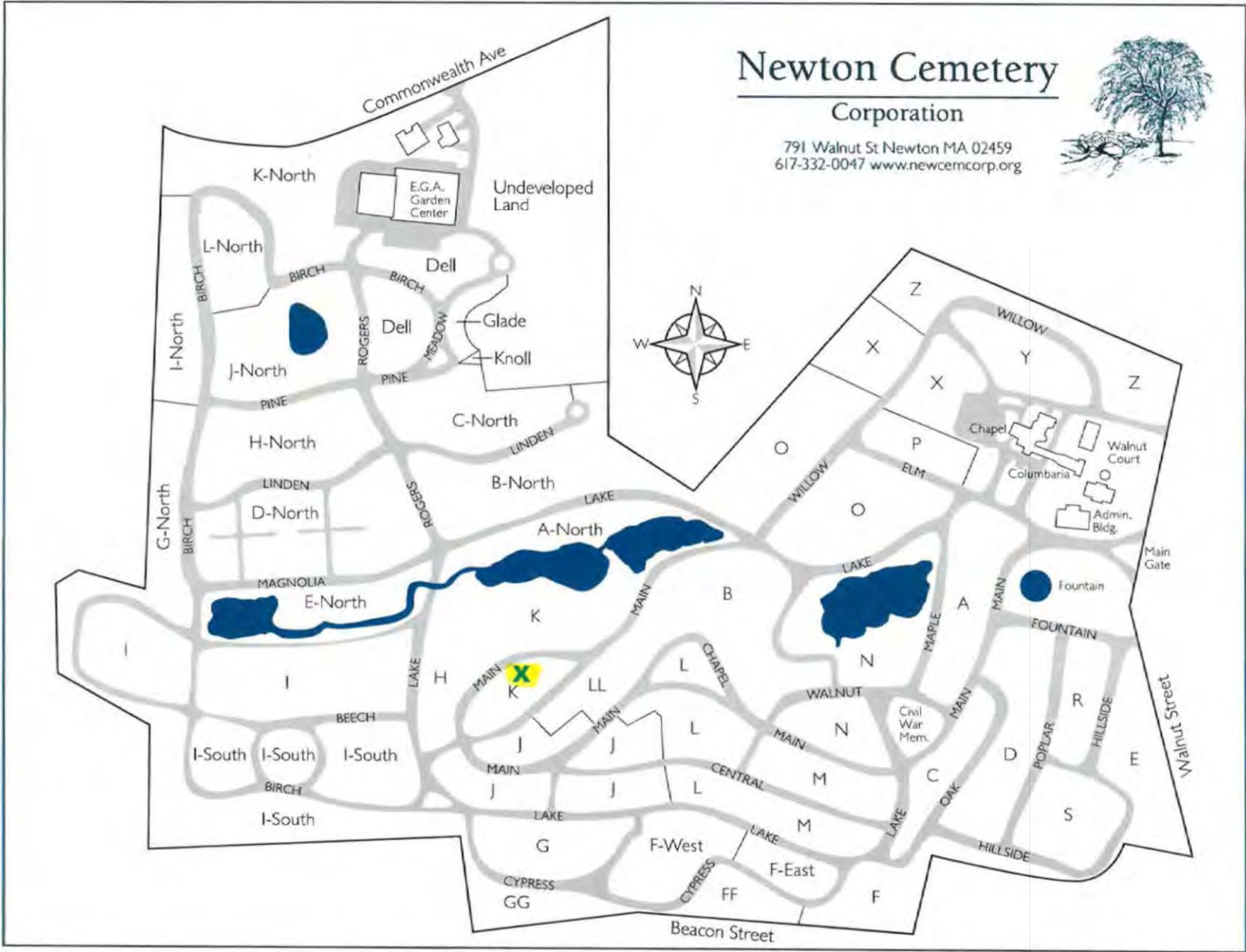




The headstone of Jessie Annie Whipple, the 1st burial at Newton Cemetery.



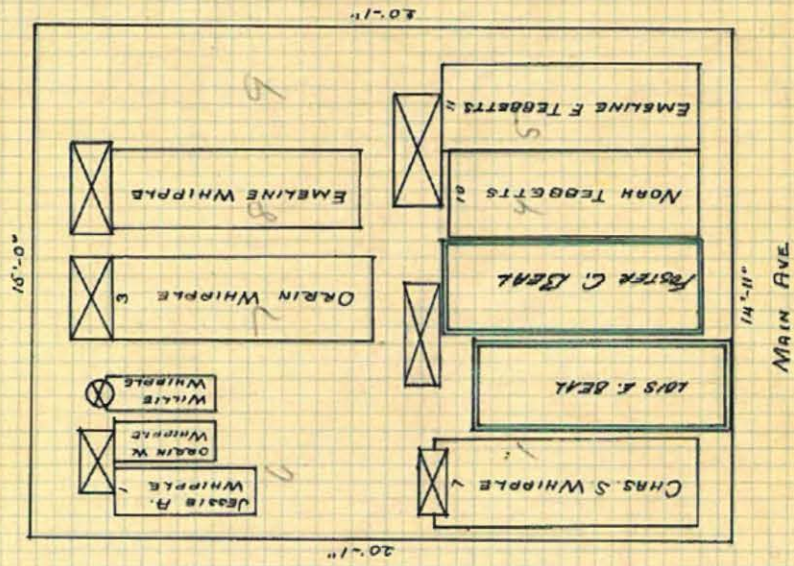
Headstones of Orrin Whipple (lot owner) and his wife, Emeline Whipple, the parents of Jessie Annie Whipple.



Lot No. 164 SECTION K

500 LFRACY  
P.C. 8x III Pg. 179

Name WHIPPLE ORRIN





## Newton Cemetery Corporation

*A Beautiful Garden Cemetery Serving Greater Boston*

**FILE COPY**

March 21, 2013

Mr. Eliot Beal  
255 Clapp Road  
Scituate, MA 02066

Dear Mr. Beal,

We are writing to you hoping that you may be able to help us with finding more information about the Whipple Beal lot, one of the most historically important lots in Newton Cemetery. The cemetery files have you listed as the great-great-great-grandson to the original owner, Orrin Whipple, as well as the most recent contact regarding this lot.

The Whipple/Beal lot is not only the site of the first interment at the Cemetery (in 1856), but it is surrounded by the *last* remaining piece of decorative iron fencing in the Cemetery. Wrought iron, and then cast iron fences, were very popular decorative enclosures for family lots in cemeteries during the Victorian era. When mechanical means of landscape maintenance were developed, families were encouraged to have their fences removed and to contribute the iron to the war effort of WWI. While many boundary markers still remain on family lots, the cast iron fence on the Whipple/Beal lot stands alone as evidence of this significant piece of the Cemetery's history.

As Newton Cemetery moves forward in its development for the future, we are investigating our past to inform our desire to remain true to our "garden cemetery" roots. We are wondering if you or other family members may have any information concerning this fence. We have just one record indicating that Mr. Foster Beal, a great-grandson of Orrin Whipple, requested some repair work to the fence in 1987, so we know it was of interest to the family at that point. We are hoping that by gathering as much information as we can, we will be able to apply for a preservation grant that would help restore the fence (and perhaps rebuild the missing gate) to its former strength and beauty.

We have contacted the City of Newton's Community Preservation Act committee as a possible funding source, and hope to submit a pre-proposal to them by June 1, 2013. We would greatly appreciate any information that you would like to share, or any comments you would like to make about this project. Please feel free to contact us at the numbers below.

Enclosed is a copy of *Newton's Garden Cemetery est. 1855* by Thelma Fleishman. Reference to the Whipple/Beal Lot can be found on page 29. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

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Sara Goldberg, Trustee  
Newton Cemetery Corporation  
(617) 279-3251  
[goldbergsal@gmail.com](mailto:goldbergsal@gmail.com)

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Mary Ann Buras, President  
Newton Cemetery Corporation  
(617) 332-0047 x21  
[mab@newcemcorp.org](mailto:mab@newcemcorp.org)

**Attachment #5: (Explanation)**

The attached letter was sent to Mr. Eliot Beal because he had the most recent contact with Newton Cemetery of any of the lot owner's descendants. Orrin Whipple is the owner of the lot where the Whipple/Beal fence is located and is Mr. Beal's great, great grandfather. In a phone conversation shortly after the letter was sent, Mr. Beal indicated that he was interested in the restoration of the fence and open to the possibility of CPA funding. It was agreed that Newton Cemetery would make the necessary inquiries and keep him apprised of progress.

Via a recent phone conversation, Mr. Beal was informed that a Pre-Proposal for the Whipple Beal fence restoration was being prepared and that an agreement to a deed restriction would be necessary if CPA funding were to be received. Mr. Beal stated that he is amenable to permitting such a restriction, the details of which will be determined if a Full Proposal is invited.

## ATTACHMENT #6 - HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

### # 1: Analysis of Historic Significance

#### Analysis of Historical Significance

The cast iron fence surrounding what is known as the Whipple/Beal lot at Newton Cemetery is historically significant for the following reasons:

1. It surrounds the lot that contains the first burial at Newton Cemetery
2. It is the last remaining fence of any kind in the Cemetery
3. It is representative of a "fashion" popular in the history of garden-style cemeteries like Newton

According to the 1868 City of Newton Directory, "At the time of the first burial, Newton Cemetery was comprised of thirty acres and a 300 foot lot, complete with stone posts at each corner could be had for \$100." Lot delineation often took the form of stone posts, or stone flush markers sometimes marked with the initial of the family surname (many of which can still be found on the grounds), but could also be done with marble or granite curbing, wrought or cast iron fencing, or a combination of both.

Blanche Linden-Ward notes in "Silent City on a Hill" that early cemeteries used iron fences to protect monuments on family lots from grazing animals, but the use of fences to enclose family lots was also part of a Victorian-era movement around the "domestication" of death. This movement saw the beliefs and customs around death and the after-life become more sentimentalized rather than feared, even to the point of using family lots in the new garden-style cemeteries as outdoor "rooms" where family and friends could gather. It was not unusual to see cast iron furniture set on a lot for just that purpose.

The Whipple/Beal fence surrounds the family lot that contains the remains of the first person buried at Newton Cemetery. The infant daughter of Orrin and Emmeline Whipple, Jessie Annie, died of cholera infantum at 3 months old and was buried in October 1856. Her brother Orrin died nearly a year later at 2 months of the same disease. Their brother Willie lived only 12 hours when he was born in 1861 and is also buried in the family lot.

While this fence does surround the first burial at Newton Cemetery, it is likely that it was put into place years after the burial. Even so, it is the last remaining fence of any kind at Newton and as such is an important feature of landscape and commemoration history. Currently the lot is a regular stop on the Cemetery history tours that are given publicly and privately. If it were to be removed because it could not be restored, there would be no visual evidence of this past custom to share with the visiting public.

### # 2: Description of Historically Significant Features

#### Description of Historically significant features

The features of this particular cast iron fence, while common, are also representative of cemetery iconography popular since Grecian times, but brought into heavy rotation by the Victorian-era sentimentalization of death. The individual elements that can be singled out are:

**Willow trees** – Symbolizes sorrow or mourning. On this fence, the tree can be interpreted as God’s protection for the lamb (child) which is sitting underneath.

**Sitting lambs** – in the Christian religion the lamb represents Christ, the Redeemer. Lambs also represented innocence and virtue. The fact that there are three small children buried here makes these symbols completely appropriate.

**Fleur-de-lis** – the lamb sits atop a fleur-de-lis, representing the mother

**Flowers** – in general, representing the fragility of life, the rose for innocence

**Acanthus leaves** – seen at the bottom of the corner posts, the acanthus leaves are one of the most popular symbols seen in cemeteries, representing the Heavenly garden awaiting the deceased.

### # 3: Summary & Justification of Proposed Treatment

Two of the four recommended treatments of “the federal *Standards* for historic buildings and landscapes” listed in the instructions will be employed to some extent. “Rehabilitation” will be utilized due to the extent of deterioration of the fence and its components. “Reconstruction” will be utilized for those components that have deteriorated beyond rehabilitation, or are missing completely. These treatments are noted in the summary below with the designated number next to the appropriate items of work.

1. Rehabilitation
2. Reconstruction

Newton Cemetery Corporation has discussed the project and anticipated budget with qualified companies that specialize in this type of restoration. After an on-site assessment of the fence, the preliminary recommended scope of the project is outlined as follows:

Prior to the start of any work, the current condition of the fence will be documented in writing and with high quality digital images (and 3D Laser Scan) according to AIC (American Institute for Conservation for Historic and Artist works) standards. The sections of fence and posts will then be labeled, carefully dismantled and transported to the shop/studio of the designated, pre-qualified conservator for the restoration to take place in a controlled setting. An appropriate manner of cleaning will be used to remove dirt, loose paint and rust from all parts of the fence.<sup>1</sup> Components that are missing or too damaged to be repaired will be cast from molds taken from existing elements.<sup>2</sup> All fence components will receive an application of an appropriate paint system<sup>1</sup> before being re-assembled and transported to the site at the cemetery for final assembly on the existing granite footings.

The anticipated timeframe of work is estimated at 10-14 weeks.

### Attachment 4: Newton Historical Commission Review

(Katy Hax Holmes/will be included with a full proposal)

## Descendant List of Orrin Whipple

25 April 2017

1-Orrin Whipple (15 Apr 1818-4 Apr 1882)  
 +Emeline Winslow (4 Nov 1820-)  
 .... 2-Emeline Frances Whipple (4 Feb 1844-30 Oct 1904)  
 .... +Noah Tebbets (11 Sep 1844-)  
 .... 2-Frederick Henry Whipple (23 Jan 1845-)  
 .... +Angenette Miller (20 Jun 1837-)  
 .... 2-Harriet Adelaide Whipple (28 Oct 1847-)  
 .... +George Henry Cushman (22 Jun 1846-)  
 ..... 3-Harriet Adelaide Cushman (27 Mar 1868-)  
 ..... 3-Mildred Whipple Cushman (16 Sep 1869-)  
 ..... 3-George Henry Cushman (14 Aug 1871-)  
 ..... 3-Marion Alice Cushman (1881-30 Mar 1953)  
 ..... +Henry Foster "Harry" Beal (12 Aug 1879-15 Aug 1956)  
 ..... 4-Marjorie Beal (-)  
 ..... +Van Boemel (-)  
 ..... 4-Lawrence Winslow Beal (-)  
 ..... 4-Foster Cushman Beal (6 Jun 1915-22 Oct 1995)  
 ..... +Lois Eliot? (14 Aug 1915-6 Jun 1996)  
 ..... 5-Eliot Cushman Beal (-)  
 ..... +Constance "Connie" Crosbie (-)  
 ..... 6-Jason Eliot Beal (-)  
 ..... 6-Katherine E. Beal (-)  
 .... 2-Charles Sumner Whipple (6 Nov 1850-)  
 .... +Sarah J. Henderson (-)  
 ..... 3-Grace M. Whipple (ca 1874-)  
 ..... +George E. Duffy (ca 1870-)  
 ..... 3-Louise F. Whipple (ca 1879-)  
 ..... 3-Orrin Edward Whipple (26 Sep 1881-11 Feb 1934)  
 ..... +Alice Holt Knox (ca 1881-)  
 ..... 4-Ellen R. Whipple (ca 1905-)  
 ..... 4-Orrin F. Whipple (ca 1909-1964)  
 .... 2-Jessie Annie Whipple (13 Jul 1856-18 Oct 1856)  
 .... 2-Orrin Winslow Whipple (6 Jul 1857-10 Sep 1857)  
 .... 2-Willie Whipple (30 Mar 1861-31 Mar 1861)  
 .... 2-Edward Eleazer Whipple (13 Jul 1863-3 Jan 1956)  
 .... +Addie L. Pierce (15 Jan 1859-28 Jul 1943)

Preparer:

underlined names are buried in the lot



ATTACHMENT #8: Orrin Whipple Deed for the Lot

Know all Men by these Presents, That in consideration of dollars, and 100 to in hand paid, hereby give, grant, sell, and convey unto on all rights in and to Lot numbered Cemetery, in NEWTON, MASS., with all the privileges, and subject to all the liabilities, conditions, &c., thereto appertaining, according to the Deed thereof, by the NEWTON CEMETERY CORPORATION.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said Premises to the said heirs and assigns, to their use forever, subject only as aforesaid. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, hereunto set hand and seal the day of A. D. eighteen hundred and

Executed and delivered in presence of

Know all Men by these Presents, That in consideration of dollars, and 100 to in hand paid, hereby give, grant, sell, and convey unto on all rights in and to Lot numbered Cemetery, in NEWTON, MASS., with all the privileges, and subject to all the liabilities, conditions, &c., thereto appertaining, according to the Deed thereof, by the NEWTON CEMETERY CORPORATION.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said Premises to the said heirs and assigns, to their use forever, subject only as aforesaid. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, hereunto set hand and seal the day of A. D. eighteen hundred and

Executed and delivered in presence of

Know all Men by these Presents, That in consideration of dollars, and 100 to in hand paid, hereby give, grant, sell, and convey unto on all rights in and to Lot numbered Cemetery, in NEWTON, MASS., with all the privileges, and subject to all the liabilities, conditions, &c., thereto appertaining, according to the Deed thereof, by the NEWTON CEMETERY CORPORATION.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said Premises to the said heirs and assigns, to their use forever, subject only as aforesaid. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, hereunto set hand and seal the day of A. D. eighteen hundred and

Executed and delivered in presence of

Know all Men by these Presents, That the NEWTON CEMETERY CORPORATION, in consideration of Twenty five dollars and 100 to them paid by O Whipple of Newton the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby grant, bargain, sell, and convey to the said O Whipple the sole and exclusive right of burial, and of erecting tombs or cenotaphs in, and of ornamenting the same, upon such terms and conditions, and subject to such regulations as said Corporation shall prescribe, one lot or subdivision situate on the Way called Main Avenue in the Cemetery of said Corporation, in Newton, Mass, and numbered One hundred fifty four on the Plan of said Cemetery, which Plan is in the possession of said Corporation for inspection by said grantee and his heirs and assigns, at all reasonable times; said lot containing Three hundred superficial square feet

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the aforegranted Premises to the said O Whipple his heirs and assigns forever; subject, however, to such terms and conditions, limitations, liabilities, and regulations as said Corporation may from time to time prescribe, and in accordance with the statutes which are, or may be, in such case made and provided. [See Statute 1841, chapter 114, &c.]

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the said NEWTON CEMETERY CORPORATION have caused these Presents to be signed by their President, and countersigned by their Treasurer, and authenticated by their common seal in duplicate, this twenty fifth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty nine

Executed and delivered, in presence of

John Ayres, Treasurer. Henry Bigelow President.

## **Attachment #8: (Explanation)**

### SITE CONTROL, VALUE & DEED RESTRICTIONS

Newton Cemetery and the Whipple/Beal Lot Representative (Mr. Eliot Beal) understand that a deed restriction will be required if CPA funding is granted for the Whipple/Beal fence restoration project. The details of the deed restriction will be determined if a Full Proposal is invited.

Deeds for lots in Newton Cemetery (such as the attached) grant what is referred to as "Rights of Interment" to the cemetery lot owner(s). The Right of Interment is the burial entitlement for a specific location within the cemetery. When purchasing a cemetery space, the *right* to use the cemetery space is being purchased, but the grave or lot remains the property of Newton Cemetery.

Cemetery lot owners are also granted certain rights to erect monuments (or fences, in the case of the Whipple/Beal lot) upon their grave. There are specific regulations pertaining to these rights that depend on a number of factors including grave size and location within the cemetery. Monuments on graves are owned by the lot owners, not Newton Cemetery. As such, maintenance of monuments is executed by the lot owner. In an historic cemetery, there are circumstances where older, historic monuments are no longer being cared for by the family as the descendants have no tie to the original owner or do not have the financial means for proper maintenance of a monument they did not even choose to purchase.

When a monument is in need of care, Newton Cemetery will attempt to notify the descendants. It may be impossible to make contact, and even if made, there may be no interest. In such cases, Newton Cemetery would make a determination on the care of the monument, which depending on the circumstances, could include removal.



527 Washington Street, Newton, MA 02458  
TELEPHONE 617-796-1450  
FAX 617-552-7228  
www.historicnewton.org

4/26/2017

Community Preservation Committee  
Newton City Hall  
1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton Centre, MA 02459

Dear Community Preservation Committee Members:

I am writing in support of the Friends of Newton Cemetery's pre-proposal to the Community Preservation Committee for funds to preserve the cast iron fence in the cemetery. Established in 1855, the Newton Cemetery is truly one of the gems of our city and thus deserves the support of the CPC.

This decorative fence, the last remaining fence in the cemetery, is emblematic of the decorative landscape features that were popular during the establishment of local "garden-style" cemeteries of this period. The section targeted for preservation, around the Whipple/Beal family lot, is reminiscent of a time when enclosed family lots were viewed as outdoor rooms, furthering the Victorians' idea of the domestication of death.

Over the years, the fences in the Newton Cemetery have been lost to history, whether due to deferred maintenance or the salvaging of scrap metal for WWII. Therefore, this remaining piece of fence becomes all the more valuable as a means to document the history of the site.

Additionally, the Friends of the Newton Cemetery have been doing an excellent job of interpreting this historic landscape and they plan to fold the fence history into their teaching through walking tours and programs. Historic Newton appreciates the work that is being done at the cemetery as part of our city's overall efforts, shared by many organizations, to preserve Newton's cultural landscape.

I hope that you will consider supporting this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa S. Dady".

Lisa S. Dady  
Director

**Michael Feldman  
40 Judith Road  
Newton, MA 02459  
617-527-9258**

March 27, 2017

Community Preservation Committee  
c/o Planning and Development Department  
Newton City Hall  
1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton Centre, MA 02459

RE: **Preservation of the Whipple/Beal Fence at Newton Cemetery**

Dear Community Preservation Committee Members:

I am pleased to hear that the pre-proposal for the Whipple/Beal Fence preservation work is on the agenda for the next Community Preservation Committee meeting. On behalf of myself as a City of Newton resident, I would like to express full support for the funding application.

The preservation of this fence is a great project since it surrounds the lot that contains the first burial at this beautiful cemetery. The preservation is essential to preserve a beautiful fence that is the last remaining fence of any kind in the cemetery. Lastly, it is representative of a “fashion” popular in the history of garden-style cemeteries like Newton.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to seeing this fence fully restored with your help!

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Michael Feldman

**ATTACHMENT #9c**

Susan D. Abele  
23 Russell Court  
Newton, Massachusetts 02460

May 1, 2017

Community Preservation Committee  
c/o Planning and Development Department  
Newton City Hall  
1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton Centre, MA 02459

**RE: Community Preservation Program Funding Request  
Restoration of the Whipple Beal Fence, Newton Cemetery**

Dear Community Preservation Committee Members:

I am pleased to support the Newton Cemetery's pre planning proposal for stabilization and preservation of the wrought iron fence surrounding the Whipple Beal lot. In doing so, I commend the cemetery staff for their astute stewardship of this site, and in addition, recognize the unique level of skills that staff are in position to contribute to the project. Restoration of the Murdock fountain and the Civil War monument are excellent examples of their ability to oversee and execute successful projects.

The Whipple Beal fence is an echo of the Victorian aesthetic that permeated mid-nineteenth century design in Newton cemetery. Other elements and early structures have fallen to the ravages of time and changing taste, in particular the jewel-like Bigelow Chapel with its elegant glass conservatory. Too small to serve the needs of the growing community, it is remembered now only in historic photographs. The Whipple Beal fence, although small in comparison to the lost Bigelow Chapel, is nonetheless evocative of that aesthetic and worthy of preservation.

My enthusiasm for this project is fueled by knowledge of the historical importance of this site imparted to me by Thelma Fleishman, who rests in a lot on Linden Avenue, her marker engraved "Historian of Newton." This letter of support is written in her name

Sincerely,



Susan Abele, Archivist  
Curator of Manuscripts and Photographs (retired)  
Historic Newton