

TOWN OF DEERFIELD
DEERFIELD COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
CPA Funding Application

Applications Due: November 1, 2025

APPLICATION FORM

Title of proposal _____

Name and address of individual or organization submitting application

Contact Person: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Category (check all that apply) Open Space Recreation Community Housing
 Historic Preservation

CPA Funds requested \$ _____ * A detailed, documented proposal for costs including a budget and professional estimates should be included in order for application to be deemed complete.

You have submitted the Capital Improvements Committee form required when you seek more than \$10,000.

Summary of Proposal

- Supporting documentation** (all may not apply, please list and number each attachment):
- Property location, including Assessor's Map and Lot #, assessed value and current owner.
 - Description of property.
 - Verification of clear title of property. (liens, other restrictions, etc.)
 - Statement by owner of willingness to convey any required restrictions or covenants.
 - Additional sources of committed funding with percentage and type (grant, donation, in-kind services).
 - Budget** (projected revenues; purchase price, construction costs).
 - Relevant maps.
 - Variances, special permits, legal agreements.
 - Timeline with major milestones.
 - If the proposal is expected to continue beyond the current Fiscal Year, attach a phasing schedule for each year.
 - Statements of support from abutters, residents, or other interested parties.
 - Endorsements from Deerfield Boards or Committees**

TOWN OF DEERFIELD
DEERFIELD COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
CPA Funding Application
Applications Due: November 1, 2025

GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE- ALL CATEGORIES

NOTE: Respond to **ALL** questions, and expand as necessary with attached pages. **Do not delete** any questions in this Questionnaire or the Category Questionnaire. Non-applicable questions should be answered with "N/A". **Incomplete applications may result in ineligibility for consideration for the current cycle.**

1. How would your proposal realize visions and goals set out in our Master Plan and Open Space and Recreation Plan? _____

2. How would your proposal preserve the character of Deerfield?

3. Explain what other sources of funding you are pursuing, if any, to match the CPA Funds you Are requesting?

4. If your proposal requires urgent action, explain why.

5. If your proposal serves a currently under-served population, explain how.

6. If your proposal preserves a threatened resource, explain how.

7. Does your proposal fit within the current zoning, environmental, building, and other regulations?

8. If your proposal would require ongoing support for upkeep, explain the projected means to provide maintenance once CPA funds have been spent.

9. If your proposal involves currently-owned Town assets, explain which ones.

10. What community support does your proposal have?

11. If any Town boards or committees support your proposal, provide written endorsements.

12. How would the proposal meet all requirements for disability accessibility?

13. If your proposal will reclaim abandoned or previously developed resources, please explain.

14. Is there is a volunteer component to your proposal, which could offset the need for CPA funds, what volunteer activities have been completed or pledged and by whom?

15. How will this proposal conserve energy or other resources?

16. What considerations does your proposal include for vehicle and bicycle parking?

17. What considerations does your proposal include for public transportation?

TOWN OF DEERFIELD
DEERFIELD COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
CPA Funding Application

Applications Due: November 1, 2025

Category: HISTORIC PRESERVATION QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Does your proposal address property that is already listed on the State Historic Register? _____

2. Has the property been determined by the Deerfield Historic Committee to be significant in the history, archeology, architecture or culture of the Town of Deerfield? If so, please provide verification from DHC.

3. Please explain the situation if the property is in danger of being demolished.

4. Are there potential archaeological artifacts at the site?

5. Has the property been noted in published histories of the town or county?

6. Could the property be converted for a new use while retaining its historic quality?

7. Is the owner also interested in preserving the historic integrity of the property?

8. What are the important historic aspects of the property?

9. Was a known architect of the era involved in the design of the property?

10. Did the property ever play a documented role in the history of the town?

11. Is the owner willing to have a permanent restriction attached to the property? Please provide a statement of such.

LAUREL HILL CEMETERY

2025-2026 HISTORICAL GRAVESTONE PRESERVATION

BUDGET

Item Description	Unit Price	Quantity	Total
Gravestone Repair/Stabilization/Cleaning - GSNE	\$295.00	12	\$3,540
D/2 Biological Solution - Westport MA	\$72.20	20	\$1,444
			\$4,984

Gravestone Services of New England, LLC
 1411 North St
 Windsor, MA 01270-9248
 9788219158
 Info@GravestoneServices.com
<https://www.GravestoneServices.com>
 m



Estimate

ADDRESS

Laurel Hill Cemetery Association
 8 Old Main Street
 Deerfield
 MA
 01342

ESTIMATE # 1429
DATE 07/10/2024

ACTIVITY	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
Conservation&Repair:Conservation&Repair Repair and resetting of 9 gravestones	9	295.00	2,655.00
D/2 Treatment with D/2 biological to remove lichen without the need of damaging scrubbing	9	0.00	0.00
Documentation Before and After photos	9	0.00	0.00

Thank you for your business.

TOTAL

\$2,655.00

Accepted By

Accepted Date



D/2 Biological Solution

Discover the D/2 difference!

D/2 Biological Solution is a biodegradable, easy to use liquid that removes stains from mold, algae, mildew, lichens and air pollutants. It is effective on marble, granite, limestone, brownstone, travertine, masonry, terra cotta, concrete, stucco, wood, and other architectural surfaces including monuments, sculpture and headstones. A contact time of only 10 to 15 minutes followed by scrubbing with a soft nylon or natural bristle brush will loosen most biological and air pollutant staining.

D/2 Biological Solution is effective for removing harmful biological and air pollutant staining from many building materials including masonry, marble, granite, limestone, brownstone, travertine, terra cotta, concrete, stucco, wood, canvas and vinyl & aluminum siding.

Features and Benefits

- **Fast acting:** 10 to 15 minutes contact time for great results.
- **Biodegradable**
- **Contains no acids, salts, or chlorine**
- **pH neutral**
- **Will not etch metals or glass**
- **Safer to use around plantings**
- **Is not a hazardous material and requires no special handling or protection**
- **Use full strength, no in-field mixing required**
- **Shelf life of 5 years**

Application Procedures

Always do a spot test sample before proceeding with project. D/2 works best when air and surface temperatures are 45°F or above. Use D/2 undiluted for best results. In the event of

excessive plant exposure, rinse all plants and water in all planted ground areas.

Immediate Result Method

1. Apply D/2 Biological Solution with a brush, roller, hand pump sprayer (garden style pump sprayer) or low pressure power sprayer.
2. Allow undiluted D/2 to remain on the surface 10-15 minutes.
3. Apply additional D/2 as necessary to maintain a wet surface.
4. Scrub with soft nylon or natural bristle brush. **DO NOT USE METAL BRUSH.**
5. Lightly mist with water and continue scrubbing.
6. Rinse thoroughly with clean, potable water.

No Scrub/No Rinse Method

1. Apply D/2 Biological Solution with a brush or pump sprayer to a dry surface. Do not pre-wet the surface.
2. Allow to dry. Repeat if there are heavy biological stains.

D/2 works with the elements and results occur within one week to one month depending on severity of growth and weather conditions. The surface will become cleaner over time as the subsurface biological stains release.

Safety Information

D/2 Biological Solution is non-mutagenic, and contains no carcinogenic compounds as defined by NTP, IARC, or OSHA. It is considered essentially non-toxic by swallowing, as it has an oral LD50 of 2.0 g/kg of body weight. No special ventilation is required during use.

Packaging and Coverage

D/2 Biological Solution is available in 1 gallon and 5 gallon containers, and 55 gallon drums. The area that can be treated with one gallon of D/2 will vary considerably as a function of the nature and extent of biological deposits, as well as the physical characteristics of the surface. Typical coverage to remove medium deposits will vary from 250 to 350 square feet per gallon.

Technical Data

Physical Form Transparent, low viscosity liquid
Color Almost colorless
pH 9.5
Specific Gravity 1.01g/cc
Solubility in Water Complete
Vapor Pressure 25 mm Hg @ 20°C

Notice: The information contained herein is based on our own research and the research of others, and it is provided solely as a service to help users. It is believed to be accurate to the best of our knowledge. However, no guarantee of its accuracy can be made, and it is not intended to serve as the basis for determining this product's suitability in any particular situation. For this reason, purchasers are responsible to make their own tests and assume all risks associated with using this product.

10/2012

**DEERFIELD HISTORICAL COMMISSION
SUPPORT LETTERS**



TOWN OF DEERFIELD

Historical Commission
8 Conway Street
South Deerfield, MA 01373
Voice: 413.665.1400
Facsimile: 413.665.1411
Web: www.deerfieldma.us

October 30, 2025

To the Community Preservation Committee

As Chair of the Deerfield Historical Commission, I write in support of the CPC application by the Old Deerfield Cemetery Association's request for \$4984.00.

In January of 2020 our former Chair, John Nove cogently described the Deerfield Historical Commission's support for exactly this sort of work. Our ongoing mission and responsibilities fully support the project as described in the current application, since it proposes to be substantially the same type and quality as that previously approved by the CPC. Repair, stabilization and cleaning of stones in the town's cemeteries over the years has been instrumental in preserving our heritage. Mr. Nove's detailed explanation of both the work and the process involved in 2020 remains fully valid, and need not be repeated. In our opinion, the Laurel Hill cemetery is a significant historical resource of the town and projects involving it are worthy of consideration for CPA funding.

For all these reasons, the Deerfield Historical Commission affirms its support for the work proposed in this application.

Sincerely,

Ben Bensen, Chair, DHC



TOWN OF DEERFIELD

Historical Commission
8 Conway Street
South Deerfield, MA 01373
Voice: 413.665.1400
Facsimile: 413.665.1411
Web: www.deerfieldma.us

January 13, 2020

To the Community Preservation Committee:

At its January, 2020 meeting, the Deerfield Historical Commission discussed a request from the Old Deerfield Cemetery Association to declare the Laurel Hill Cemetery a significant historical resource. This designation, if given, would be used by them in support of their application to the CPC for CPA funding for the repair, stabilization and cleaning of stones in the cemetery.

As you know, the DHC has been awarded CPA funds over the past eight years for work on the Town's historical graveyards. The Sugarloaf St. Cemetery and the Old Albany Road Cemetery were subject to total restoration, while 6 other cemeteries (including Laurel Hill) were examined and several of the stones in each that were in the poorest condition, were repaired. All this work was performed by Kai Nalenz of New England Gravestone Services.

The DHC was pleased to recently learn that the Old Deerfield Cemetery Association, as part of their ongoing stewardship of the Laurel Hill Cemetery, had engaged Mr. Nalenz at their expense in 2019 to prepare a detailed evaluation of the condition of the stones in the old part of this cemetery. The CPC application that this letter supports, "Laurel Hill Cemetery Historical Gravestone Preservation", attempts to address the findings of this evaluation by requesting funds for repairing, stabilizing and cleaning 384 stones.

The Laurel Hill Cemetery, the Town's second-oldest burial ground, was established in Old Deerfield in 1800 when the Old Albany Road Cemetery had reached capacity. Representatives of many, if not most, of the Town's founding families are interred at Laurel Hill as were individuals connected with the fledgling Deerfield Academy and subsequently, the Eaglebrook School. They were buried under gravestones that reflected the aesthetic and religious sentiments of the time and represent an important aspect of the history of our Town and its early inhabitants.

For these reasons, we declare the Laurel Hill Cemetery to be a significant historical resource and projects involving it to be worthy of consideration for CPA funding.

Sincerely,


John Nove, Chair, DHC

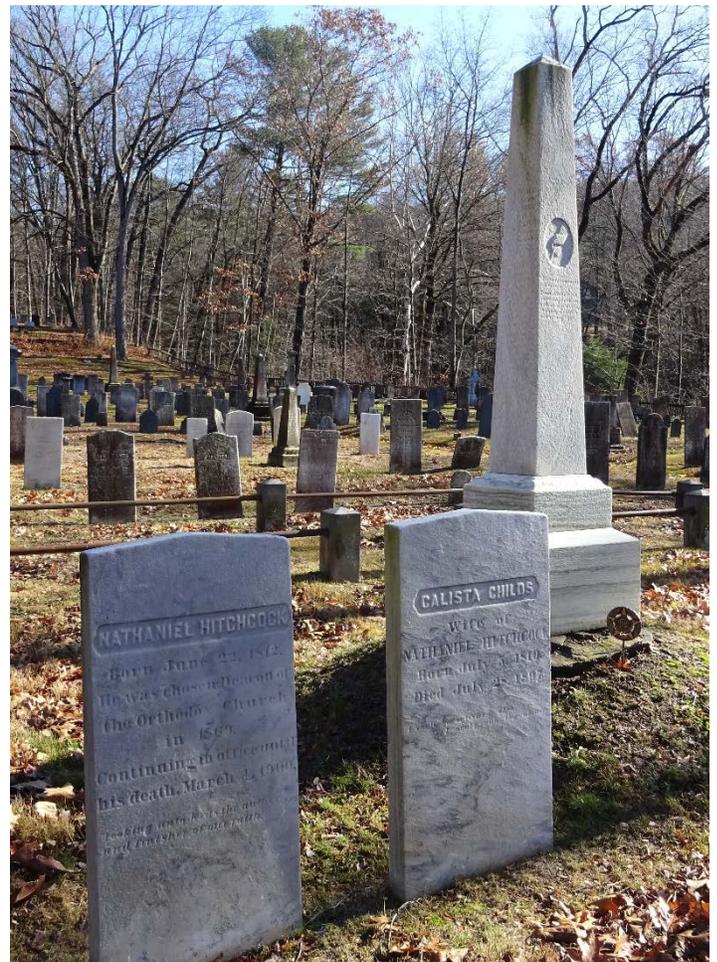
LAUREL HILL CEMETERY

HISTORICAL GRAVESTONE PRESERVATION

CPA Funding Application – March 2020

“Show me the manner in which a nation cares for its dead and I will measure with mathematical exactness the tender mercies of its people, their respect for the laws of the land, and their loyalty to high ideals.”

Sir William Ewart Gladstone
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
(12 Years/4 Terms during 1868-1894)



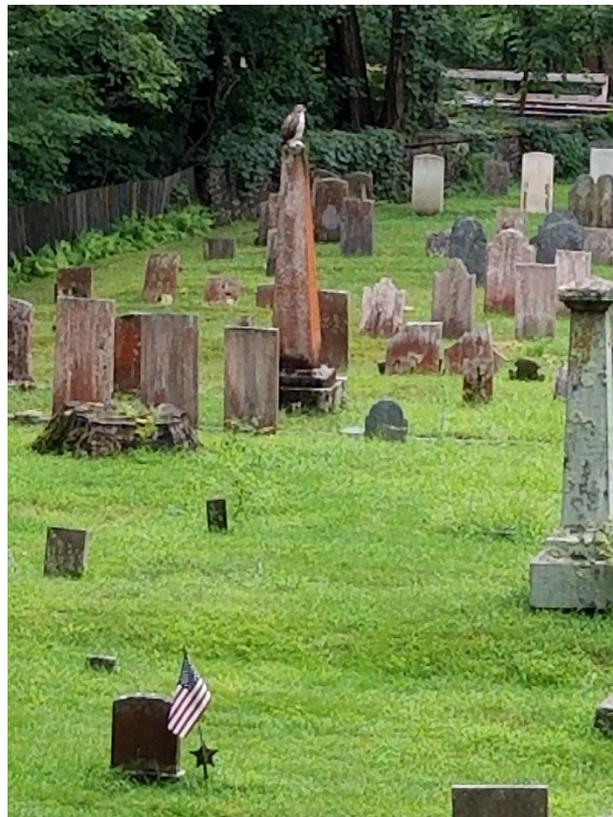
2014 Gravestone Conservation of Headstones of Nathaniel Hitchcock (co-founder of PVMA) and his wife Calista and Monument to their only son, James Childs Hitchcock, who died and was buried at Andersonville Prison in Georgia in 1864.

LAUREL HILL CEMETERY

Laurel Hill Cemetery, the largest historical cemetery in the Town of Deerfield, is the successor to Albany Road Cemetery (Old Burying Ground) when internments there ceased at the end of the eighteenth century. Burials span 1800 to Present and trace seven generations of impactful Deerfield families, among them the Allen, Arms, Ashley, Barnard, Childs, Dickinson, Dwight, Frary, Fuller, Hawks, Hitchcock, Nims, Sheldon, Stebbins, Wells, Williams and Wright families. Laurel Hill Cemetery is a critical link to the Town of Deerfield's 350-year-old history.

Laurel Hill Cemetery has long been an important part of resident life from a family, cultural and religious perspective. The Cemetery is a precious historical resource that affords unique genealogical research and educational opportunities for today's visitors and for future generations. The carved gravestones, both in terms of epitaphs and drawings, are considered significant by gravestone scholars. Equally important in terms of the rich cultural and educational history of the Town, Laurel Hill Cemetery is the permanent resting place for prominent educators from Deerfield Academy and Eaglebrook School while also being an eternal resting place for well-known artists such as George Fuller, Augustus Vincent Tack, and Stephen Maniatty.

Laurel Hill Cemetery's unique setting among the woods and rolling hillside along Pine Nook Road offers visitors a tranquil environment to view wildlife, appreciate nature, and absorb history. Simply put, Laurel Hill Cemetery is a precious Town of Deerfield historic resource that provides learning, interpretation and reflection opportunities for all future generations.



TOWN OF DEERFIELD
DEERFIELD COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
CPA Funding Application

Applications Due: March 2, 2020

APPLICATION FORM

Title: LAUREL HILL CEMETERY HISTORICAL GRAVESTONE PRESERVATION

Name and address of individual or organization submitting application

Old Deerfield Cemetery Association
c/o Winthrop Arms – Clerk
8 Old Main Street, Deerfield MA 01342
(413) 774-4107
waarms80@gmail.com

Contact Person:

Chris Harris – Member
13 Eastern Ave.
So. Deerfield, MA 01373
(310) 729-2745
harris.chris.j@att.net

**Category (check all that apply) Open Space/ Recreation Community Housing
 Historic Preservation**

CPA Funds requested: \$47,500 *A detailed, documented proposal for costs including a budget and professional estimates should be included in order for application to be deemed complete.

Summary of Proposal

Project scope includes the repair, stabilization and cleaning of 384 “Priority I” and “Priority II” historical gravestones, some as old as 220 years, in the Town’s second oldest and largest historical graveyard. Objective is to conserve a precious resource linked to generations of the Town’s earliest families and to provide learning, interpretation and reflection opportunities for future generations. Preservation techniques to be employed leverage successes with previous publicly-funded and privately-funded gravestone conservation projects in the Town of Deerfield.

Supporting documentation (attachments beyond Questionnaires):

3. Laurel Hill Cemetery Maps
4. Gravestone Assessment & Project Budget
5. Project Timeline
6. Deerfield Historical Commission Support Letter
7. Donor Summary Chart

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

1. CPA Funding Application - GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE

TOWN OF DEERFIELD
DEERFIELD COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
CPA Funding Application
Applications Due: March 2, 2020

GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE- ALL CATEGORIES

NOTE: Respond to **ALL** questions, and expand as necessary with attached pages. **Do not delete** any questions in this Questionnaire or the Category Questionnaire. Non-applicable questions should be answered with "N/A". **Incomplete applications may result in ineligibility for consideration for the current cycle.**

1. How would your proposal realize visions and goals set out in our Master Plan and Open Space Plan?

The Deerfield Master Plan published in March 2000 addresses Historic and Scenic Resources in Chapter 4. This proposal is consistent with some key provisions of Chapter 4 in the Master Plan that include the following (verbatim references shown in quotation marks):

- “From the internationally renowned village of Old Deerfield on the banks of the Deerfield River to the carefully-maintained residential neighborhoods of South Deerfield, this Town has much to lose in ignoring the unusual combination of historic and scenic resources which it has.”
- “Over eighty-five percent (85%) of the respondents to Deerfield’s community survey felt it was either important, or very important, to preserve historic buildings and landscapes.”
- Among the stated goals: “To identify and protect historic resources including buildings, sites and landscapes.”
- “Without due attention, neglect and deterioration may threaten significant structures...If structures deteriorate too far, restoration becomes cost-prohibitive, resulting in the eventual loss of the structures.”

Simply put, Laurel Hill Cemetery, with literally hundreds of historical gravestones, is undoubtedly linked to Deerfield’s historic past. Burials span 1800 to Present and trace several generations of impactful Deerfield families, among them the Allen, Arms, Ashley, Barnard, Childs, Dickinson, Dwight, Frary, Fuller, Hawks, Hitchcock, Nims, Sheldon, Stebbins, Wells, Williams and Wright families. Laurel Hill Cemetery is a critical link to the Town of Deerfield’s 350-year-old history.

Furthermore, Laurel Hill Cemetery’s unique setting among the woods and rolling hillside along Pine Nook Road offers visitors a tranquil environment to view wildlife, appreciate nature, and absorb history. It is a unique open space for Deerfield residents and visitors. The Open Space and Recreation Plan (September 2014) Goal A: “Preserve and enhance the unique small town, rural character of Deerfield as reflected by connected farms, forests, ridgelines, and historic village centers” is also reflected in this CPA Funding proposal, specifically Objective 4A: “Continue to identify and document, and monitor significant historical sites and work towards their conservation and renovation.”

2. How would your proposal preserve the character of Deerfield?

Deerfield is best characterized as a community linked to its 350-year history and the generations of families who have farmed the river valley lands, established a broad spectrum of businesses, and championed local public and private education. Laurel Hill Cemetery, with a wide variety of impressive historical gravestones and its idyllic setting, provides a unique opportunity to preserve history and allow educational opportunities for future generations of local residents and visitors from around the U.S. and the world.

3. Explain what other sources of funding you are pursuing, if any, to match the CPA Funds you are requesting.

The Old Deerfield Cemetery Association, by tapping into its modest endowment, will lead a coalition of donors that will fund an even match to CPA funds. Local non-profits, private schools, and private individuals and companies will partner with the Association. All donors appreciate this time-is-of-the-essence opportunity to conserve a precious historical resource in Deerfield. Please refer to Section 7 for a Donor Summary Chart.

4. If your proposal requires urgent action, explain why.

The need to address Priority 1 and Priority 2 historical gravestones at Laurel Hill Cemetery is pressing. Stones are broken, some are buried, others are leaning substantially, many suffer from cracks susceptible to freeze-thaw induced failure, and most are soiled with lichen and mildew/mold/moss growth. Experience over the last 5+ years in the Town of Deerfield cemeteries prove successful preservation is possible by engaging professionals skilled in the art of conserving such historical gravestones who employ sophisticated stabilization, repair and cleaning techniques. Many gravestones are pushing 220 years old. We have learned the challenges to conserve similar stones in Albany Road Cemetery (The Old Burying Ground) where stones date to the eighteenth century. Delaying the priority work identified only risks higher costs and many more lost stones.

In fact, the Laurel Hill Cemetery Historical Gravestone Preservation Project leverages previous successful cemetery conservation projects supported by the Deerfield Historical Commission, the Community Preservation Committee and Town of Deerfield Residents. Over the past several years, the Town and private residents have funded seven substantial cemetery projects with \$156,235 in CPA funds and \$40,722 in private funds.

5. If your proposal serves a currently under-served population, explain how.

Not Applicable.

6. If your proposal preserves a threatened resource, explain how.

Laurel Hill Cemetery is the property of the Town of Deerfield. Fortunately, in 1920, the Old Deerfield Cemetery Association was formed to act as a steward for maintaining the landscaping and tree management of the property. The Old Deerfield Cemetery Association is led by an all-volunteer Executive Committee comprised of a President, Treasurer, Clerk and three Members-at-Large. Over the last ten years, the Association has funded \$32,000 in tree removal and management, \$17,380 in cemetery infrastructure repairs, and most recently \$1,800 to professionally assess hundreds of historical gravestones. But funding for more advanced and professional conservation of historical gravestones was never envisioned and provided for. While the Association has done an excellent job maintaining the property and facilitating burials, the overall historical resource of Laurel Hill Cemetery is threatened by the cumulative deterioration linked to decades of environmental exposure (general elements, acid rain, freeze/thaw, etc).

7. Does your proposal fit within the current zoning, environmental, building, and other regulations?

Yes.

8. If your proposal would require ongoing support for upkeep, explain the projected means to provide maintenance once CPA funds have been spent.

Three aspects of ongoing support to ensure conservation efforts are long-term successful:

1. Continual inspection of gravestones for new cracks and new organic growth. Easily accomplished by the Old Deerfield Cemetery Association and Member volunteers.
2. Periodic maintenance cleaning of especially marble historical gravestones for new organic growth (often dependent on seasonal rains/humidity and strains of lichen/mold/mildew that “infect” the Cemetery from time to time). Old Deerfield Cemetery Association and Member volunteers can spray apply maintenance treatments. In Section 7, the Donor Summary Chart shows pledged monies during the next two years that can fund cleaning solution purchases.
3. Consistent tree maintenance to avoid falling limbs that can damage historical gravestones. The Old Deerfield Cemetery Association has been diligent over the years in preserving the unique natural landscape of this historical cemetery while dealing with the reality of aging and dying trees. The Association will continue to prioritize their limited annual income in favor of critical tree maintenance.

9. If your proposal involves currently-owned Town assets, explain which ones.

The Town of Deerfield owns all property that constitutes Laurel Hill Cemetery. The Old Deerfield Cemetery Association, led by an all-volunteer Executive Committee, manages routine landscaping, leases burial spaces in perpetuity and facilitates burials.

10. What community support does your proposal have?

As mentioned in Answer #4, the Deerfield Historical Commission has spearheaded various projects to conserve historical Deerfield cemeteries and Deerfield voters have consistently supported such historical preservation projects at Annual Town Meetings. Furthermore, private townspeople have made substantial investments in historical gravestone conservation.

11. If any Town boards or committees support your proposal, provide written endorsements.

Please see Section 6 for a support letter from the Deerfield Historical Commission.

12. How would the proposal meet all requirements for disability accessibility?

Laurel Hill Cemetery, given its uneven terrain and hillside topography, cannot be considered handicap accessible. This historical conservation project does not address this limitation. In special situations, all-terrain vehicles on loan from Eaglebrook school have been utilized to assist visitors wishing to visit historical gravestones.

13. If your proposal will reclaim abandoned or previously developed resources, please explain.

Not Applicable.

14. If there is a volunteer component to your proposal, which could offset the need for CPA funds, what volunteer activities have been completed or pledged and by whom?

This Historical Gravestone Preservation project requires the services of trained and experienced conservation professionals. There will be a limited opportunity for volunteers to assist in spray-applied cleaning of gravestones. These in-kind contributions are part of the equal match for CPA Funding but will total less than 5% of the entire project cost. Going forward, maintenance of repaired/cleaned historical gravestones will benefit more from trained volunteer efforts.

15. How will this proposal conserve energy or other resources?

Not Applicable.

16. What considerations does your proposal include for vehicle and bicycle parking?

This project does not add any additional capacity for vehicle and bicycle parking beyond the ample space that already exists throughout Laurel Hill Cemetery.

17. What considerations does it include for public transportation?

This project does not specifically consider public transportation. Presumably, there are FRTA stops in the Old Deerfield area along Routes 5 & 10 and/or Main Street such that visitors could walk up the hill towards Eaglebrook School and visit Laurel Hill Cemetery.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

**2. CPA Funding Application – HISTORIC PRESERVATION
QUESTIONNAIRE**

TOWN OF DEERFIELD
DEERFIELD COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
CPA Funding Application

Applications Due: March 2, 2020

Category: **HISTORIC PRESERVATION QUESTIONNAIRE**

1. Does your proposal address property that is already listed, on the State Historic Register?

The property, while located near Historic Deerfield, is not within the Old Deerfield National Historic Landmark and not listed on the Massachusetts Historical Register. Please refer to Section 6 for a letter of support from the Deerfield Historical Commission.

2. Has the property been determined by the Deerfield Historic Committee to be significant in the history, archeology, architecture or culture of the Town of Deerfield? If so, please provide verification from DHC.

Please refer to Section 6 for a support letter from the Deerfield Historical Commission.

3. Please explain the situation if the property is in danger of being demolished.

Not Applicable.

4. Are there potential archaeological artifacts at the site?

Given the Cemetery is 220 years old, there are likely archaeological artifacts on the property, but the process of historical gravestone conservation by trained professionals and trained volunteers should not disturb them.

5. Has the property been noted in published histories of the town or county?

Laurel Hill Cemetery is well-documented in Sheldon's *History of Deerfield* and other standard local history texts. In fact, George Sheldon is buried in Row 14N at Laurel Hill Cemetery. The Cemetery is referenced in several online historic cemetery guides.

6. Could the property be converted for a new use while retaining its historic quality?

Not Applicable.

7. Is the owner also interested in preserving the historic integrity of the property?

The Town of Deerfield and the Deerfield Historical Commission view Laurel Hill Cemetery as a significant historical resource.

8. What are the important historic aspects of the property?

Laurel Hill Cemetery is the largest historical cemetery in the Town of Deerfield and in several cases trace up to seven generations of some of Deerfield's earliest residents and most impactful families. The carved gravestones, both in terms of epitaphs and drawings, are considered significant by gravestone scholars. Equally important in terms of the rich cultural and educational history of the Town, Laurel Hill Cemetery is the permanent resting place for prominent educators from Deerfield Academy and Eaglebrook School while also being an eternal resting place for well-known artists such as George Fuller, Augustus Vincent Tack, and Stephen Maniatty.

9. Was a known architect of the era involved in the design of the property?

Not Applicable.

10. Did the property ever play a documented role in the history of the town?

As stated earlier, Laurel Hill Cemetery was the successor to Albany Road Cemetery (Old Burying Ground) when internments there ceased at the end of the eighteenth century. It is the Town's largest historical cemetery, with seven generations of families buried there. As such, Laurel Hill Cemetery has long been an important part of resident life from a family, cultural and religious perspective. The Cemetery is a precious historical resource that will afford unique genealogical research and educational opportunities for future generations.

11. Is the owner willing to have a permanent restriction attached to the property? Please provide a statement of such.

The fact that Laurel Hill Cemetery is a Town of Deerfield property ensures that it will be preserved as a sacred historical resource.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

6. Letter from Deerfield Historical Commission



TOWN OF DEERFIELD

Historical Commission
8 Conway Street
South Deerfield, MA 01373
Voice: 413.665.1400
Facsimile: 413.665.1411
Web: www.deerfieldma.us

January 13, 2020

To the Community Preservation Committee:

At its January, 2020 meeting, the Deerfield Historical Commission discussed a request from the Old Deerfield Cemetery Association to declare the Laurel Hill Cemetery a significant historical resource. This designation, if given, would be used by them in support of their application to the CPC for CPA funding for the repair, stabilization and cleaning of stones in the cemetery.

As you know, the DHC has been awarded CPA funds over the past eight years for work on the Town's historical graveyards. The Sugarloaf St. Cemetery and the Old Albany Road Cemetery were subject to total restoration, while 6 other cemeteries (including Laurel Hill) were examined and several of the stones in each that were in the poorest condition, were repaired. All this work was performed by Kai Nalenz of New England Gravestone Services.

The DHC was pleased to recently learn that the Old Deerfield Cemetery Association, as part of their ongoing stewardship of the Laurel Hill Cemetery, had engaged Mr. Nalenz at their expense in 2019 to prepare a detailed evaluation of the condition of the stones in the old part of this cemetery. The CPC application that this letter supports, "Laurel Hill Cemetery Historical Gravestone Preservation", attempts to address the findings of this evaluation by requesting funds for repairing, stabilizing and cleaning 384 stones.

The Laurel Hill Cemetery, the Town's second-oldest burial ground, was established in Old Deerfield in 1800 when the Old Albany Road Cemetery had reached capacity. Representatives of many, if not most, of the Town's founding families are interred at Laurel Hill as were individuals connected with the fledgling Deerfield Academy and subsequently, the Eaglebrook School. They were buried under gravestones that reflected the aesthetic and religious sentiments of the time and represent an important aspect of the history of our Town and its early inhabitants.

For these reasons, we declare the Laurel Hill Cemetery to be a significant historical resource and projects involving it to be worthy of consideration for CPA funding.

Sincerely,


John Nove, Chair, DHC