

**TOWN OF WELLESLEY
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

Short Form Preliminary Application

Date Delivered to CPC:	November 1, 2009
Name of Applicant:	Erin Hester
Contact Information Mailing Address:	Wellesley Historical Commission Wellesley Town Hall, 525 Washington Street, Wellesley, Massachusetts 02482
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Sponsoring Organization:	Wellesley Historical Commission
CPA Category:	Historic Preservation
Brief Description of Project:	<p>The scope of the proposed project is updating of a portion of the records for the Town of Wellesley in the Inventory of Historic and Archeological Assets of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Inventory.)</p> <p>The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) maintains the Inventory. This statewide inventory contains a record of information on buildings, structures, objects, areas, burial grounds, landscape features, and sites that are of historical, architectural, or archaeological importance to the community, the state, or the nation. It is also known as a cultural resource inventory. The Wellesley Historical Commission contributes surveys of eligible properties located in the Town of Wellesley.</p> <p>Using CPC funds, in 2009, the Wellesley Historical Commission engaged an architectural historian / preservation consultant to assess the existing inventory records for properties in the Town and to assist the Commission in preparing a plan for updating the inventory. The last major update was completed nearly 20 years ago.</p> <p>In the proposed project, the Commission intends to focus on the town's village centers. These are not well represented in the existing Wellesley inventory. Village areas will include a mix of commercial, institutional and residential building uses. Potential focus areas are preliminarily identified as geographic areas which can be described as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wellesley Lower Falls Village Area ▪ Wellesley Square Village Area ▪ Wellesley Hills Village Area ▪ Wellesley Fells Village Area

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Linden Street – Rockland Street Area ▪ Bird Hill Avenue – Washington Area. <p>The final list of areas to be surveyed and definition of the bounds of those areas will be determined in concluding the assessment and planning project that is currently underway. The scheduled completion date for that project is February 2010.</p>
Goals:	This project would be the first in a series with a program goal to bring the Wellesley Inventory up to date. The long term goal is to complete an up-to-date cultural resource inventory.
Community Need:	<p>In general, cultural resource inventories are a resource for town planning and community preservation. They provide reference information that is useful in educating owners, developers, architects and engineers who are engaged in potential and active building projects. They enable understanding and prioritization of historic resources. They also serve as permanent records of properties and sites as they evolve and that may be lost over time. These may be used for education about and research into Wellesley's history.</p> <p>The goals of the proposed project support ideas presented in the 2007-2017 Update of the Wellesley Comprehensive Plan. Plan recommendations included seeking ways to maintain neighborhood character and preservation of historic and cultural resources.</p> <p>Research specifically on town village centers will support the Planning Board and Planning Department in their current and future work addressing local business districts.</p>
Time Line:	<p>Town Approval of Funds – winter/ spring '10 Funds Available – July '10 Select and hire consultant – July to Sept '10 Complete study – Oct. '10 to Oct. '11</p>
Maintenance/Ongoing Costs:	n/a
Other Pertinent Information:	none
Amount of CPA Request:	\$30,000
Other Funding Source(s) and Amounts of Funding:	none currently identified as available