

**TOWN OF WELLESLEY**



**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

Wellesley Town Hall, 525 Washington Street, Wellesley, MA 02482

[www.wellesleyma.gov](http://www.wellesleyma.gov)    [cpc@wellesleyma.gov](mailto:cpc@wellesleyma.gov)

Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds may be used for projects in the areas of open space, housing, historical preservation and recreation. CPA funds are generated from a 1% surcharge on our local property tax bills and are matched by the State through increased filing fees at the registries of deeds.

**SHORT FORM PRELIMINARY APPLICATION**

Date Application Delivered to CPC	
Name of Applicant:	Salvatore DeFazio III
Contact Information: Address: Telephone: E-mail:	356 Washington St. Wellesley Hills, MA 02481 781-235-0265 / windsorpress@worldnet.att.net
Sponsoring Organization	
CPA Category(ies)	<input type="checkbox"/> Open space <input type="checkbox"/> Housing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historical Preservation <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation
Brief Description of Project	Preserve and restore the Belvedere Abbott Road and reinstall it at the beginning of Abbott Road
Goals	To restore and install an historic handcarved street sign.
Community Need	Historic awareness of the development
Time Line	six months
Maintenance/ongoing costs	Maintained by the Highway Department
Other pertinent information (zoning changes, etc.)	I will be glad to furnish
Amount of CPA Request	\$ 6,000
Other funding source(s) and amount(s) of funding	n/a



HAMMERSMITH STUDIOS  
*ARTMETAL CRAFTSMEN*

ESTIMATE FOR SIGN RESTORATION

TO: TORY DEFAZIO  
P.O. BOX 81245  
WELLESLEY, MA. 02481

DEAR TORY,

BELOW IS A ESTIMATE FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE BELVEDERE ABBOTT ROAD SIGN:

BRACKET RESTORATION \$2,300.00  
GOLD LEAF SIGN & CARVING 1,600.00  
TIMBER WOOD FOR SIGN \$500.00  
REASSEMBLE \$695.00  
TOTAL FOR RESTORATION \$4995.00

LET ME KNOW HOW IT GOES WITH THE COMMITTEE AFTER YOU PROPOSAL THIS PROJECT.

REGARDS,

SUSAN & CARL CLOSE

PS. I WILL FORWARD A LETTER FROM CARL WHO WILL EXPLAIN THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ORIGINAL MAKER OF THE SIGN AND BRACKET.

INVESTMENT QUALITY IRONWORK  
50 BEHARRELL STREET  
CONCORD, MA. 01742  
1-978-369-5424

[www.hammersmithstudio.com](http://www.hammersmithstudio.com)  
[info@hammersmithstudio.com](mailto:info@hammersmithstudio.com)



**HAMMERSMITH STUDIOS**  
*ARTMETAL CRAFTSMEN*

OCTOBER 14, 2009

SALVATORE DEFazio III  
P.O. Box 81245  
WELLESLEY, MA. 02481

**BELVEDERE ABBOTT ROAD SIGN BRACKET & SIGN POST**  
WELLESLEY HILLS, MA,

THE BELVEDERE ABBOTT ROAD WROUGHT IRON SIGN BRACKET WAS FORGED IN THE STUDIO OF FREDRICK KRASSER CO. LOCATED ON GEORGE STREET IN ROXBURY, MA. HIS STUDIO WAS AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT PART OF THE SOCIETY OF ARTS AND CRAFTS IN BOSTON AND WAS INFLUENTIAL IN THE REVIVAL OF THE BLACKSMITH'S ART DURING THE TURN OF THE 19TH CENTURY. FREDRICK KRASSER DIED IN 1913 BUT THE MEN OF HIS SHOP KEPT THE FIRES GOING UNDER THE WATCHFUL EYE OF FREDRICK'S CLOSE FRIEND, FRANK KORALEWSKY. KORALEWSKY SOON BECAME THE MOST RESPECTED IRONWORKER IN BOSTON AND HIS REPUTATION SPREAD AROUND THE WORLD.

BECAUSE OF KORALEWSKY'S EFFORTS AND SUPREME SKILLS AS AN IRON CARVER, THE KRASSER COMPANY EARNED A GOLD MEDAL AT THE 1915 WORLD'S FAIR FOR ITS ENTRY OF A WROUGHT IRON LOCK NAMED "SNOW WHITE LOCK." THE LOCK TOOK 7 YEARS TO COMPLETE. IT IS AN ARTS & CRAFTS TREASURE THAT RIVALS ANY LOCK CREATED IN THE MEDIEVAL PERIOD AND DEMONSTRATES THE SMITH'S MASTERY OF EVERY FACET OF METAL WORKING TECHNIQUES AND MATERIALS. TODAY THE LOCK CAN BE SEEN AT CHICAGO'S MUSEUM OF ART.

HIS LARGE WROUGHT IRON CARVING TITLED "THE FOREST SMITHY" WHICH DEPICTS A BLACKSMITH SCENE IN MEDIEVAL GERMANY WITH A KNIGHT PATRONIZING A BLACKSMITH SHOP IS AT THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.

KORALEWSKY'S WORK WAS COLLECTED BY MANY OF THE EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY'S MOST POWERFUL PEOPLE INCLUDING J.P. MORGAN AND ANDREW CARNEIGIE.

KORALEWSKY'S WORK CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT HARVARD, YALE, BOSTON COLLEGE, THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SAINT JOHN THE DIVINE IN NEW YORK CITY AS WELL AS TOWER COURT AT WELLESLEY COLLEGE. ALSO IN WELLESLEY HIS LANTERN HANGS IN THE ENTRANCE OF THE OLD SPRAGUE SCHOOL ON OAK STREET. HIS WORK IS EXTREMELY SOUGHT AFTER BY ARTS & CRAFTS COLLECTORS BECAUSE OF ITS QUALITY AND RARITY. SOME PIECES COMMAND PRICES IN THE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS AND HIGHER. AFTER FRANK KORALEWSKY, VERY FEW AMERICAN BLACKSMITHS GAINED NOTORIETY. HIS WORK IS PART OF OUR NATIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE.

REGARDS,

CARL CLOSE JR.  
MASTER BLACKSMITH, HISTORIAN & PRESERVATIONIST  
50 BEHARRELL STREET  
CONCORD, MA. 01742  
978-369-5424  
WWW.HAMMERSMITHSTUDIO.COM

P.S. IF WE CAN BE OF ANY SERVICE TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC OF THE IMPORTANCE OF KORALEWSKY'S WORK PLEASE LET US KNOW. WE ALSO HAVE A FEW IMPORTANT PIECES OF HIS WE CAN SHOW THE PUBLIC TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF SAVING AND RESTORING THE BELVEDERE ABBOTT ROAD SIGN.

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16

BELVEDERE  
ABBOTT ROAD

