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PROJECT APPLICATION FORM – 2015

NOV 17 2014

Applicant: Acton Historical Commission **Submission Date:** November 17, 2014 Town of Acton Department

Applicant's Address: 472 Main St., Acton, MA
select all that apply)

Purpose: (Please

Phone Number: _____
E-mail: hc@acton-ma.gov

- Open Space
- Community Housing
- Historic Preservation
- Recreation

Town Committee (if applicable): _____

Project Name: Forest Cemetery National Register of Historic Places Application

Project Location/Address: Corner of Carlisle Road and North Street

Amount Requested: \$ 7,000

Project Summary: In the space below, provide a brief summary of the project. The request is to provide funding to nominate this cemetery to the National Register of Historic Places. The money would allow the Historical Commission to send out a RFP and hire a Historic Preservation Consultant to prepare the lengthy nomination papers to be submitted to the National Park Service.

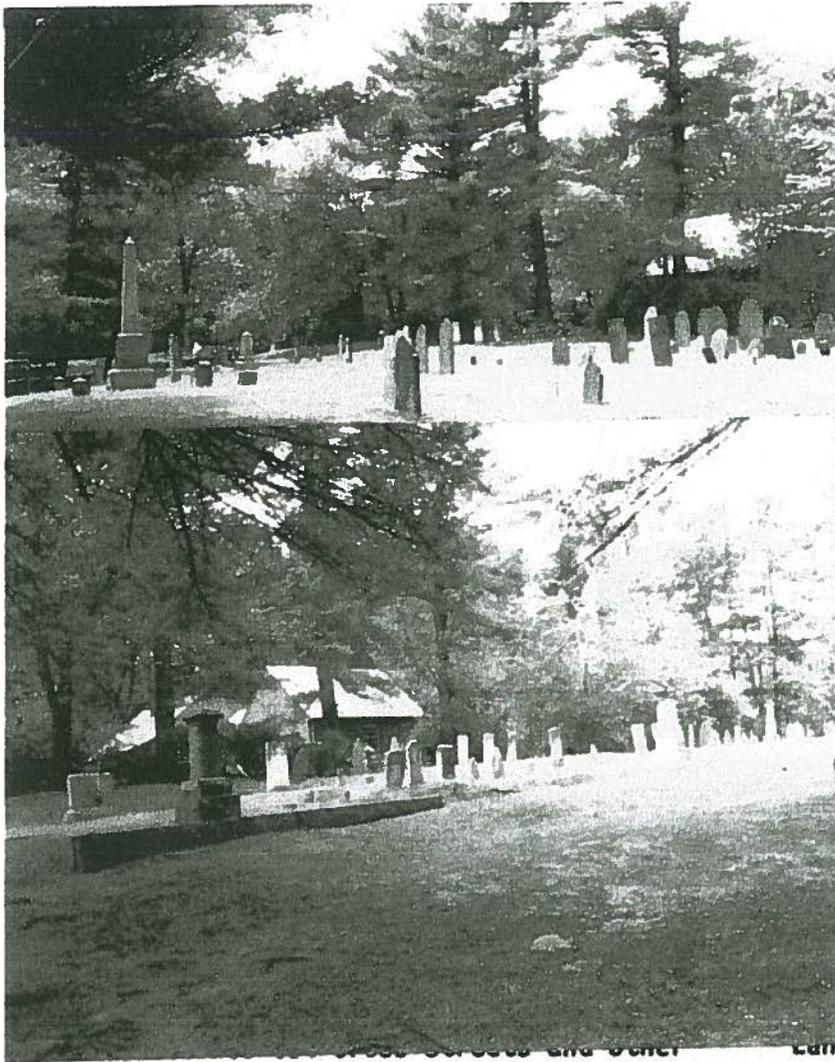
This work is entirely consistent with the Town's Master Plan Update to preserve or protect currently owned historic resources. National Register Listing will communicate the value of the historic resource to the population and give that resource an elevated status. Adding it to the National Register will give it the recognition it deserves, increase the protection on the property via Mass Historical Review of future adjacent projects, and allow Federal grants and tax credits for restoration of the property.

While essentially an honorific designation, for municipally owned properties, the National Registry designation allows the Town to apply for state grants for the preservation of the historic resource as they are available. Once listed, there are no restrictions as to how an owner might change or modify the property.

Massachusetts Historical Commission has previously deemed the cemetery eligible for inclusion in the National Registry Listing and the Cemetery Commissioners have affirmed that they would like this designation on the cemetery.

Estimated Date for Commencement of Project: Summer or Fall 2015

Estimated Date for Completion of Project: Spring or Summer 2016



AREA	FORM NO.
	801

ACTON

Address Carlisle Street

North Acton Cemetery / Forest Cemetery

Ownership: Public

Private

DESCRIPTION

Approximate number of stones 100

Oldest death date 1750

Newest death date 1948

Landscape Architect (if known) none

Condition good

Acreage

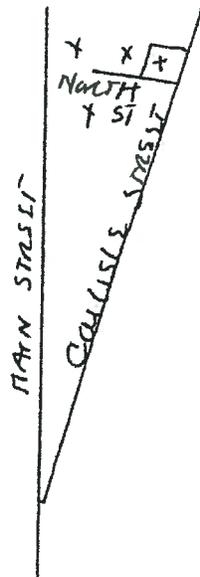
Setting North part of town in rural setting with residential area behind. Northwest corner of Carlisle and North Streets.

Recorded by Gretchen G. Schuler

Organization Acton Historical Commission

Date June 1990

Indicate buildings and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.



TM REFERENCE

SGS QUADRANGLE

SCALE

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF ART WORK Describe materials used, designs, motifs, symbols that are either common or unusual, known carvers.

The North Acton Cemetery, now called the Forest Cemetery, is a small rectangular lot on the corner of North Street and Carlisle Street. It is defined by a stone wall and has pine trees and some deciduous trees scattered across the parcel. Much of the ground surface is moss covered. Stones are made of slate and granite and most are simple rectangles or roundheaded in shape. There are a few monument type stones, an obelisk, and a couple of terraced areas with stones of Hapgoods, Temples, and Andersons.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain religious affiliations, major period of use and evaluate historical importance of burial ground within the community.

The North Acton Cemetery is one of three cemeteries in Acton and the only one in the northern section of town. It was established in 1750 and was used as a burial ground until 1948 with the last recorded burial being that of a Richardson. Some of the names found in this rural peaceful cemetery include Davies, Flint, Conant, Wheeler, Heald, Hapgood and Temple.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Fletcher, Acton In History, 1890.
Phalen, History of the Town of Acton, 1954.

SCOPE OF WORK

NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION STATUS FOR FOREST CEMETERY, CARLISLE ROAD

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The purpose of the project is to complete a National Register Nomination Form with requisite technical, support documentation that identifies the appropriate criteria and develops the the areas of significance under which the cemetery is important and records the status and physical conditions that currently exist.

The purposes of the assessment and listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NR) is to provide planning tools to reinforce local awareness of it as a historical and architectural asset and to encourage appropriate treatment and maintenance of historical and architectural resources within the cemetery. Information developed in the National Register form is useful for the development of educational programs on local history for public schools and public awareness programs on the value of local historic assets and the mechanisms available for their preservation.

Benefits of listing in the National Register of Historic Places include: recognition as national resources worthy of attention and preservation; protection from adverse effect resulting from projects receiving public assistance, potential eligibility for funding from various state and federal programs (e.g. the Massachusetts Historical Commission, Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF); the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Preservations Services Fund (PSF); The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Historic Landscape Preservation Program and /or private foundation grants; and integration of National Register information with community planning activities (including site plan review, community master plans and public or private grant programs) to further preservation and community development objectives.

METHODOLOGY

The project will complete a registration form for the cemetery utilizing current, standard, MHC methodology and National Register criteria. Project guidelines, tasks and products will be as set forth in National Park Service (NPS) Bulletin 15, How to Apply the NR Criteria for Evaluation, NPS Bulletin, 16A, How to Complete the National Register Registration Form and NPS Bulletin 41, Guidelines for Evaluating and registering Cemeteries

and Burial Places. An on-going relationship will be maintained with the Acton Historical Commission.

The MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report for Acton, existing inventory for the Town of Acton, local histories and other sources, will provide a framework for the analysis of the cultural resources of the cemetery. Research conducted during the National Register process will expand upon this documentation to provide a historical and architectural overview that relates the resource within the cemetery to significant themes (including land use patterns, economic, social and demographic history as well as significant events and persons) in the development of the Town of Acton. The National Register program recognizes ethnic and cultural diversity within communities and seeks to identify cultural resources associated with the history of minority, social and cultural groups and individuals who have played a role in the history of those communities.

The variety of styles, building types and grave markers, both outstanding and representative examples will be discussed in Part 7, Narrative Description, of the National Registration Form which will identify objects, sites, structures and landscape features that retain integrity of design and materials and that are historically or architecturally significant. Part 8, Statement of Significance of the National Registration Form will demonstrate how this cemetery meets National Register criteria.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

Phase 1

- Prepare streetscape photographs
- Prepares draft sketch map
- Prepare verbal boundary descriptions and justification
- Prepare draft bibliography
- Review MHC files with National Register staff for any previously submitted information or staff field notes on properties to be nominated.
- Confirm proposed boundaries
- Review sample nominations previously reviewed by MHC staff to assess documentation requirements.
- Begin intensive research on the historical and architectural significance of the cemetery in preparation for completion of the National Register Form.

- Prepare draft District Data Sheets (DDS) in accordance with MHC methodology as follows:
 - List structures and objects of substantial size and scale, including grave markers. (Only comprehensively inventoried individual grave markers are counted as individual contributing features.)
 - Record notable designed or landscape features
 - Record all intrusions
 - Include a key to all abbreviations and a summary of contributing/non-contributing resources at the bottom of the page
 - Work with town officials and the Acton Historical Commission to inform the public about the National Register program and present the project nomination.

PRODUCTS

Streetscape photographs
 Sketch map
 Draft Bibliography
 Draft District Data Sheets

PHASE II

TASKS:

Continue intensive research on the historical and architectural significance in preparation for the completion of the National Register registration forms.

Prepare Part 7 (Narrative description) and Part 8, (Statement of Significance) of the form in accordance with National Park Service Bulletin 16A, How to Complete the National Register Registration Form and National Park Service Bulletin 41, Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places.

In Part 7, specify and discuss the topography and setting of the cemetery. Notable landscape features and their relationship to the built environment, including natural and designated vegetation and

plantings, walls, fences and other landscape dividers, circulation systems, ect.

In a general manner, the types, styles and periods of construction, size, scale, materials and physical relationships in a detailed manner, all key structures.

Non-contributing historic structures and modern intrusions.

Any important structure now lost from the cemetery.

Part 8 of the National Register Nomination Form must discuss how the cemetery meets National Register criteria beginning with a summary paragraph stating what criteria are met and why; how the cemetery represents significant themes, property types and/or periods of development and how the cemetery is important in the periods and areas of significance noted.

Part 8 must establish a context of evaluation and registration relating to the cemetery to broad patterns of historical development by including a brief summary of the development of the community, including a synopsis of settlement but more extensive documentation of development during the period of significance.

Covering relevant topics such as, topographic features, transportation, networks, population changes, patterns of immigration, industrial development, religious schisms, ethnic heritage, art and architecture. If associations exist with significant persons, provide an explanation to justify Criterion B.

Part 8 of the National Register Nomination Form must assess the cemetery's architectural significance from a local, regional and/or national level, providing a context of architects and or stone carvers career and accomplishments and evaluating properties against others of the same type, style and period within the town. In addition, Part 8 must note and justify any exceptions to NR criteria.

PRODUCTS

Draft National Register nomination

Phase III

Prepare support documentation for the National Register application in accordance with Bulletin 16A. Cover form, bibliography, district data sheets, USGS maps with UTM coordinates, assessors maps and or cemetery sketch maps (2 sets) verbal boundary description and justification photographs (approximately 10) for a power point presentation and one set of 8 by 10 color images of the cemetery.

Prepare the nomination incorporating MHC staff comments.

Prepare presentation outlines for MHC/State Review Board meeting according to MHC guidelines.

PRODUCTS:

- Completed National Register registration form for the cemetery in digital format on a computer diskette as well as hard copies
- Text of a Power Point Presentation for the cemetery's nomination to the SRB meeting.
- Supporting technical documentation for the NR Nomination form
- Photographs

There are two options for documenting the property:

1. True black and white photographs, 4" by 6" size is preferred. The photos must be printed on true black and white paper with true black and white inks. C41 or other color processing is not acceptable. Two sets of photos must be submitted. All photos must be labeled appropriately according to the National Register guidelines, with name and address of property, identification, number and direction of view, date, name of the photographer and location of the negative, indicated in pencil (grease pencil, non-bleeding marking pen or photo marker may be used).
2. Digital photos, digital images must be submitted with the following elements: the original, uncompressed data file captured by the digital camera, prints of the images (2 copies of each image) using specified printer/ink/ paper requirements; and a photo submission form and photo log. Digital images must be taken with a 3 megapixel or greater camera.

Other photographic documentation:

For presentation to the State Review Board (SRB), MHC requires images showing the cemetery in detail from all elevations, and the

broader context of its setting. Images must be in a PowerPoint presentation on disk.

Text, in both paper and electronic format, must accompany the PowerPoint submission.

MAPS

Two sets of USGS maps (with UTM coordinates calculated). USGS maps must have property boundaries outlined in pencil. Label USGS map in pencil in margin area closest to property or cemetery. Include property name, address, town county, Mass., USGS quad name, scale and UTM coordinates.

Assessor's maps: boundaries must be clearly indicated in pencil. Indicate north arrow and label map in pencil with indication of property and address, town, MA, date and source of map and scale. Sketch maps and historic maps may also be included in the nomination.

Bibliography – styled according to the Chicago Manual of Style or Strunk and White.

Data Sheet – the data sheet must include key features in the cemetery, including any buildings within the cemetery, boundaries, significant monuments and markers (all monuments and markers specifically discussed in the text), defined family plots, historic walls, and fences, and designed landscape areas.