

**Town of Leverett  
Community Preservation Committee  
Application for Community Preservation Funding**

**PROJECT NAME AND ADDRESS:**

**Project Name:** Chestnut Hill aka MT Hope Cemetery

**Property Address:** East Chestnut Hill Rd, Leverett

**Project Proponent Organization, if any:** Leverett Cemetery Association

**Contact Name:** Edith A. Field

**Address:** 260 Long Plain Rd, Leverett MA

**E-Mail Address:** [edithfield1@gmail.com](mailto:edithfield1@gmail.com)

**Date:** December 1, 2017

**Requested CPA funds:** \$28,400.00

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION CATEGORY**

- Open Space
- Historic Resource
- Community Housing
- Recreation

**1. Project Summary**

Mt. Hope Cemetery Restoration Current Effort of Leverett Cemetery Association's on-going plan to repair and restore Leverett's cemeteries.

**Project Description**

The Mt. Hope Cemetery is one of Leverett's oldest and also one of its fanciest. An enormous effort is needed to "fix" it. The project has been divided into 3 phases. This application is the first one requested and the funding would be used for 55 priority gravestones in need of repair.

**2. Applications must include at least two estimates (three) are preferred from suppliers of work to be done.**

No other estimates available at this time.

**3. How Will the Project Benefit Leverett?** There is an increasing interest in Leverett regarding the projects of restoring our burial grounds. Positive results from previous work are becoming more frequent. Cemeteries are historical locations and they add to the beauty and history of Leverett.

**4. Precedent or Comparison to Other Similar Projects**

Previous works done in restoring Leverett's cemeteries have received positive responses. Besides these efforts, the Cemetery Association and the Historical Commission are attempting to educate Leverett citizens concerning the needs of its cemeteries and what they represent.

**5. Control of Site**

The Leverett Cemetery Association has control of these sites.

**6. Feasibility**

We are continuing to employ Tamara Conde as the individual we trust to do the necessary completion of this project.

**7. Project Timeline**

This project will begin, most probably after the completion of the finishing work at Moore's Corner. It may be necessary to extend the timeline in the year 2019.

**8. Funding**

**Amount of Leverett Community Preservation Funding requested: \$28,400.00**

When Required: At the completion of the project

*Chestnut Hill*

**Other Sources of Funding Available:** If funding from other sources is available for the project, complete the following table:

Source of Funding	Amount Requested	Status	Timing Considerations	Contingent on CP Funding
Leverett Cemetery Association	\$ 3,000.00	available	none	no

**9. Attachments**

**Include the following Attachments with ALL applications:**

1. Assessors' map showing location of the project
2. Photographs

**Include the following if applicable and available:**

- Deeds of property
- Plans and specifications for new construction or rehabilitation
- Maps, renderings, etc.
- Evidence of Historic Eligibility (National Register of Historic Places)
- Names and addresses of project architects, contractors, and consultants
- Other information useful to the committee in considering the project.

*Form adapted from application form of the Hingham Community Preservation Committee, with permission.*

FORM E - BURIAL GROUND

LEV. 802

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Assessor's number

1-133

USGS Quad

Miller's Falls

Area(s)

E

Form Number

802

Town LEVERETT

Place (neighborhood or village) North Leverett



Address or Location Chestnut Hill Road

Mt. Hope Cemetery

Ownership  Public  Private

Estimated Number of Stones 160

First Death Date 1852

Second Death Date 1986

Map Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Condition Good

Acreage 0.5 0.5 acres

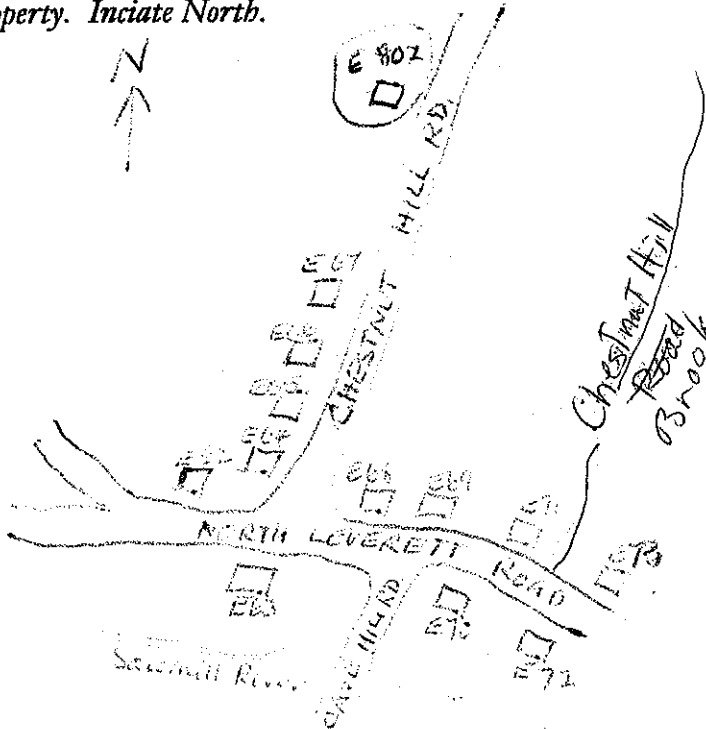
Setting On the westsloping side of Chestnut Hill Road, fronted by a tall dry laid stone wall broken by slabstone steps up to the burial plots.

Recorded by Betsy Douglas

Organization Leverett Historical Commission

Date (month/day/year) 12/5/93

Draw or duplicate a map of the area showing the properties location in relation to geographic features and nearby cross streets. Indicate all buildings or features within and surrounding the inventoried property. Indicate North.



RECEIVED

MAY 25 1994

MASS. HIST. COMM.

North Leverett Historic District

Name of Property

Franklin, Massachusetts  
County and State

was made on the east elevation and the center door surround moved to the addition. Both those roofs have been subsumed by the current front-gable roof.

*Cemeteries and Burial Grounds*

★ The Mount Hope Cemetery, Chestnut Hill Road (LEV.802) was established in 1850. The Mount Hope cemetery sits on a hill with a large stone embankment across its roadside on the east. It is surrounded by a wood picket fence inside granite posts. The wood picket fence is in poor condition. Markers in the Mount Hope Cemetery are almost all marble though there are a few granite. Later in date than the North Leverett Cemetery or the Marvell Cemetery, the markers represent the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century being marble in material and including about twelve obelisks, a favored form from that period. The man who caused the cemetery to be established when he had no burial place for his wife, Rev. Baxter Newton (LEV.973), put up the Baxter/Ripley family marker, a fat marble obelisk, in 1850. On the obelisk are recorded the death of his wife Susan Mara, 1850, followed by his own death in 1893, and Mary Louise Newton's of 1910. On the opposite side of the same obelisk the family of W. H. Ripley is commemorated by W. H. Ripley in 1939, Myra R. in 1891 and Luetta R. in 1929. This stone has been covered with a grey cementitious material. Next in date are the markers of Daniel Graves, Jr. 1852 (LEV.974) and his wife Phoebe of 1869 (LEV.975). They are two low marble slabs. Each has a slight point on top and both have their names in relief in carved rectangles but are without other imagery or decoration. These are the work of the Rankin Shop of stone carvers from Pelham and later Northampton. The next generations of the Graves family are represented at Mount Hope by Sanford S. Graves, 1902, Maria Graves 1920, Samuel W. 1860 and Sarah M. 1859 (LEV.976). A double stone for Cyrus Rice and Hannah Green (LEV.977) is marble and the dates 1910 and 1925. It sits on a moderate base and is spare in detail, the lettering being the only ornament. Benjamin Graves (LEV.978) has an obelisk in marble dating from 1859; his wife Fanny (d. 1857) and their son Fayette (d.1857) are included. It is marble and appears to have originated also from the Rankin shop of stone carvers. The Hemenway family obelisk (LEV.979) has family members ranging in date from 1808 to 1987 and has eighteen footstones at its base. The Mount Hope Cemetery is no longer in active burial use.

**Italianate (1850-1870)**

The Susan Boutwell House, 76 North Leverett Road (LEV.73), dates to ca. 1850, and is transitional to the Italianate style from the preceding Gothic Revival style, for which there are no remaining examples in the district. It is a one-and-a-half story, front-gabled house whose Gothic Revival inspired roof is steeply pitched and might at some point have had barge boards decorating it. Roof eaves are wide and thinly boxed. The south façade is three bays wide and a side entry has an architrave surround topped by a projecting cornice. It is a surround whose flat cornice projection is repeated at the window surrounds in a reference to Italianate villa architecture. Window sash is 2/2. The house is gable-and-wing in form with a one-and-a-half story wing on the west followed by a later addition, a wing of one-and-a-half stories with a through-cornice, shed roof dormer on its roof and a porch across its south façade. A ca. 1850 New England style, side-hill barn (LEV.230), is located to the west of the house.

The 1852 Charles J. Sherwood House, 68 North Leverett Road (LEV.68), is transitional as well, but here its component styles are Greek Revival and Italianate. The one-and-a-half story house has a front gable roof with centered cross-gable wings at each side. The eaves of the house are wide and thinly boxed and do not make returns. Historic photographs show that there were open, Italianate style arcaded porches across the wings, which would make its architectural reference clearer. Currently the porches have been enclosed with glass and shingles. The front-gabled section of the house is three bays wide and has a side hall entry with a Greek Revival style, broad trabeated surround. One of its ¾ length sidelights remains. The house is now asphalt shingle sided and it rests on granite foundations. A one-story ell extends on the north elevation of the house; it is clapboard-sided. A one-bay garage (LEV.226) is located northeast of the house and there is a shop (LEV.227) on high fieldstone foundations on the hillside north of the house that may be part of its property. A stone embankment (LEV.964) that runs in front of the house is notable.

**Queen Anne Style (1880-1910)**

The Thomas Graves House, 1 North Leverett Road (LEV.56), is a ca. 1880 modest version of the Queen Anne style. It is a gable-and-wing form house, one-and-a-half stories in height. The gable section of the house is two bays wide, with a three-sided bay window adjacent to the side-hall entry. The front-gabled roof has a single interior chimney at the ridge. The one-and-a-half story wing has a porch across its north façade and an added shed roof dormer across its roof. The porch is supported on Queen Anne style turned posts. Attached by a one-story connector to the wing is a New England style barn. A three-sided bay window is also found on the west elevation of the house.