



TOWN OF LEVERETT
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
(Short Form)
Project Application for Community Preservation Funding
(for \$25,000 and Under Only)

Project Name **HERITAGE SITE AND NATURE TRAIL ALONG THE SAWMILL RIVER (part II)**

Project Location/Address: Slarrow Sawmill, Junction of Cave Hill and N. Leverett Rd
Leverett Assessors Map: 1 Lot: 147A

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Project Sponsor or Organization: Friends of the North Leverett Sawmill

Address: PO Box 57

City: Leverett State: MA Zip: 01054

Daytime Phone: 413 687 2864 (Cynthia Baldwin), 413 687 2865 (Sam Black) Fax: NA

Email: cbaldwin@umass.edu, sblack@umass.edu

CPA Category/Purpose (please check all that apply)

Open Space # of acres: 2.0

Recreation # of acres: 2.0

Historic Preservation

Affordable Housing

Project Budget

Amount of CPA Funds Requested **\$8,508**

Amount from other Funding Sources **\$1,000**

Project budget **\$9,508**

This proposal addresses the development of trails from the proposed Heritage Park, on Lot 10 owned by FONLS, to the remains of Grave's ironworks on Lot 147A, which is managed by the Conservation Commission.

Please check which of the following is included with this application

*One paragraph project description *Detailed Project Budget (Quotes with partner proposal)

*Map/Site Plans, Architectural Plans *Timeline/Project Schedule

*Photographs Letters of Support (attached to the partner proposal)

Contact Person/Authorized Representative for this Project

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Address: PO Box 57

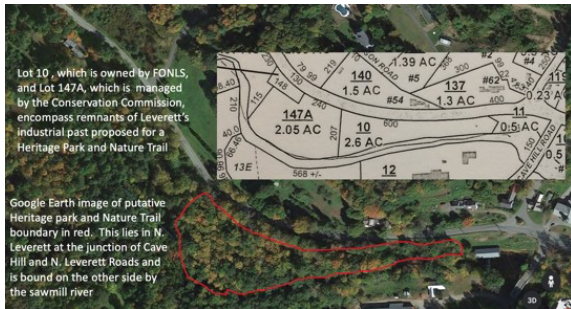
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Email: cbaldwin@umass.edu, sblack@umass.edu

Signature of Applicant: Samuel James Black

Date: 1.29.2023



One paragraph project description:

We proposed construction of a “Heritage Park/Site and Nature Trail” in the accompanying proposal on 2.6 acres of riverside land (map 1, lot 10, Fig 1) adjacent to the Slarrow Sawmill owned by Friends of the North Leverett Sawmill (FONLS), a public 501c3 in an accompanying proposal. Here we discuss extending that proposed trail system across 2 acres of riverside land (map 1, lot 147A, Fig 1) owned by the Town of

Leverett and managed by the Conservation Commission to access the historical industrial remains of the Grave’s ironworks as well as the laid-up stone levee. The park on FONLS land will include placement of interpretive signs, trails, benches, pavilion and a native plant garden for pollinators. This proposal for Town land solely addresses work that will be done to access the historical site containing the archeological remains of the Grave’s ironworks and the levee, canal and pond system located on Lot 147A as follows:

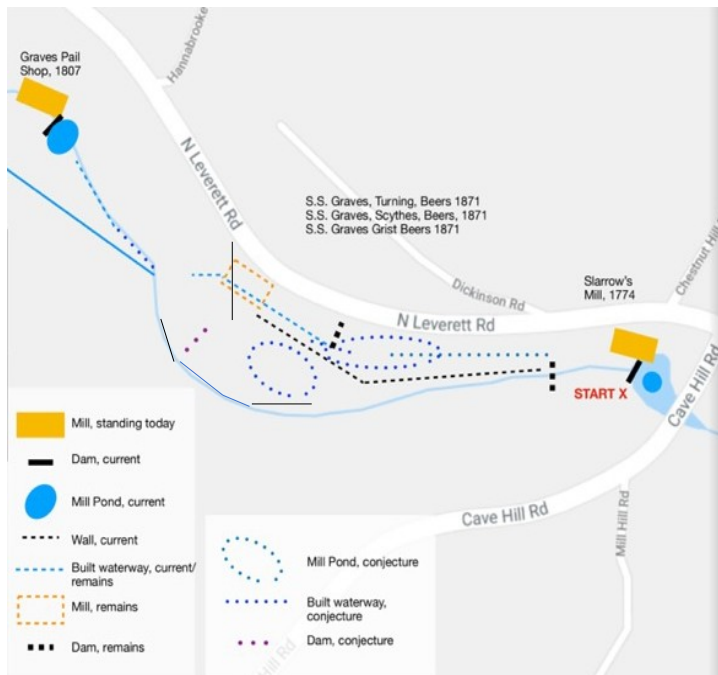
- i) Construction of footbridges one of wood and the other of rocks in a gabion basket. The wood footbridge will provide access to the ironworks from the dam side of the levee and is above the flood plain level; the rock footbridge will cross a drainage ditch in the floodplain and provide access to a river trail on the other side of the Grave’s ironworks. Placement of an interpretive sign at the Grave’s ironworks describing the functioning of the site with its triphammer to support the metal industry (signs will be one at the end sign of the levee system describing the millrun and one about the triphammer action, and a third along the river highlighting flora and fauna.
- ii) Cutting of 6 trees that are diseased or threaten remains of the laid-up stone wall of the levee and subsequent mill-run on land managed by the Conservation Commission and adjacent to the ironworks. This action will preserve the levee and **thus increases the value of the land.**

These actions require approval by a town vote at the upcoming Town Meeting in April 2023. If tree cutting is not authorized, we will replace this with addition of an information board at the levee laying out the issue of conservation versus preservation of historical industrial remains.

Detailed Project Budget

Summarized Expense Item - details of quotes in Supplemental form	Total (\$)	CPA (\$)	FONLS (\$) (in kind & donated)
Clear rubbish from the Graves ironworks site	1,000	0	volunteer 1,000
Remove trees threatening levee + diseased trees (quoted)		4,430	
Interpretive signs - commercial (2 signs; quoted)		1,778	
Install signs on Lot 147A (\$150/sign)		300	
Install a plank foot bridge from the levee to Grave’s ironworks, and a rock filled Gabion basket across a drainage ditch leading back to the riverside trail, Bid		2,000	
Preparation for NOI	Both quoted in accompanying proposal		
Survey property boundary			
TOTAL FOR ALL	9,508	8,508	1000

Map/Site Plans, Architectural Plans



The diagram shown in Fig 2 was prepared for the Leverett Historical Commission by expert historian Pleun Bouricius, who is also a consultant on this and the accompanying proposal, **“Heritage Park and Nature Trail along the Sawmill River, Part I”**. The diagram encompasses Lot 10 owned by FONLS and Lot 147A owned by the Town of Leverett as well as the downstream Grave’s pail shop which is not included in the Heritage Park and Historical Industrial Site and is privately owned. Lots 10 and 147A boundaries will be surveyed as requested by CPC. Daniel Dalls, Surveyor, Sunderland., MA, will determine lot boundaries. Mickey Markus (SWCA) will develop a base site plan of the project area. He will use aerial orthophoto as plan base, LiDar for topography, and submeter GPS to survey and superimpose trail locations, footbridge locations, and key trail elements (sugar

shack, old levee, old stone water works, invasive species control area, edge of Riverfront, 100-year floodplain) (both proposals). Mr. Marcus will also prepare and file a Notice of Intent (NOI) with the Town of Leverett Conservation Commission and MassDEP, which will incorporate wetland/Riverfront mapping, written narratives from the Association, trail builders, arborist, invasive species control experts, restoration planting information, and dam engineer. SWCA will provide the additional narrative to support the application and provide the Operation and Maintenance plan, attend a site walk with the Commission, and present the NOI at public hearings (2 anticipated). Placement of the plank bridge to the Grave’s ironworks remains, and the rock filled Gabion basket across the drainage ditch downstream from the ironworks will be determined by Walker Korby (Terramor, trail design).

Timeline/Project Schedule

- Clearing of accumulated garbage from the Graves Ironworks site – May 2023
- Placement of footbridges at the Graves ironworks and drainage ditch – May/June 2023
- Placement of Ironworks interpretation board – June 2023
- Removal of 6 trees from the levee and mill run at Grave’s ironworks – June 2023 –

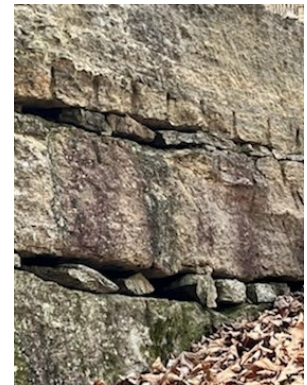
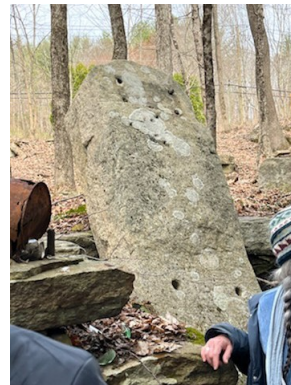
Photographs

Grave's ironworks - rounding the levee, accumulated rubbish, trip hammer supports

Left panel - Rounding the levee wall from the river side, Middle panel - bedframe and other rubbish accumulated at the outflow from the canal exiting the levee to the ironworks, Right panel - support for a trip hammer now leaning into the canal that once powered the triphammers. We propose to clean up this site and place an information board



Graves Ironworks – stone details



Trees pose a threat to levee integrity

Trees that are either threatening or have already brought down part of the levee's laid up stone construction. We hope to arrest this process by cutting some trees above ground and sealing their growth surface with varnish or another substance as advised and removing shots arising from the stump over the ensuing years.



Example of Rocks in Gabion Basket to create a bridge across a drainage ditch in a flood plain area

The structure is water permeable and will not block the drainage ditch. This bridge solution was suggested by Seth Heminway of the Leverett Conservation Commission

