

APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY:

Name of Organization: Dennis Historical Commission

Address: Dennis Town Hall, 685 Route 134, S. Dennis, MA 02660

Phone Number: 508.394.7311

Email: whiskeyboo@comcast.net

Chief Executive Officer: Diane Rochelle, Dennis Historical Commission, Chair

Signature: 

Diane Rochelle, Dennis Historical Commission, Chair

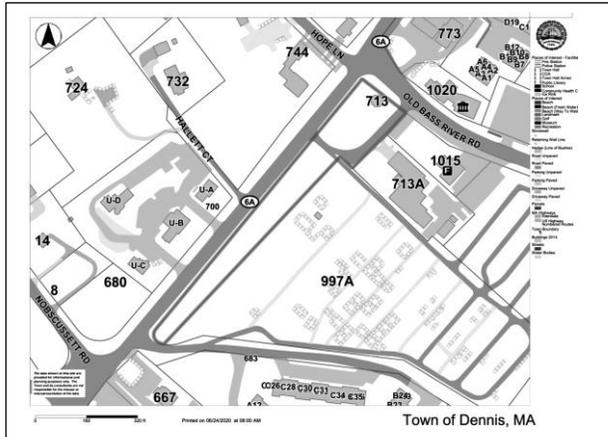
Name: (if more than one)

Signature: 

Robert Poskitt, Dennis Historical Commission, Vice-Chair

Synopsis

- 1. **Project Title:** American Revolution Memorial
- 2. **Organization Name:** Dennis Historical Commission (DHC)
- 3. **Amount Requested from CPA funds:** \$ 5,000.00
- 4. **Purpose:** Historic Preservation
- 5. **Project site:** Dennis Village Cemetery



997 & 997A Route 6A, Dennis
 Assessor Record 330-5 & 330-28
 8.99 acres
 Limited Business District
 Old King's Highway Historic District

6. **Synopsis of Project:** To honor the commitment and sacrifice for freedom of our Soldiers and Sailors who served in the American Revolutionary War, members of the East Precinct of Yarmouth. This will be the first memorial dedicated exclusively to Patriots of the American Revolution. It will be a boulder and bronze plaque, located at the Receiving Tomb entrance gate of the Dennis Village Cemetery, in place by 2025 as the 250th celebration begins.

In Honor of the
 Soldiers and Sailors,
 Patriots of the American Revolution,
 East Precinct of Yarmouth, now Dennis,
 Their Commitment & Sacrifice for Freedom.
 Families of Baker, Bangs, Bassett, Burgess,
 Chapman, Chase, Crosby, Crowell, Hall,
 Hedge, Homer, Howes, Kelley, Newcomb,
 Nickerson, Robbins, Rogers, Sears, Tobey,
 Vincent, Whelden, Wixon

Dennis Historical Commission
 Dennis Cemetery Advisory Committee
 Funding by the Community Preservation Act



Draft of Rev. War Memorial Text

Receiving Tomb, Dennis Village Cemetery,
as seen from Military Training Field

Applicant Information:

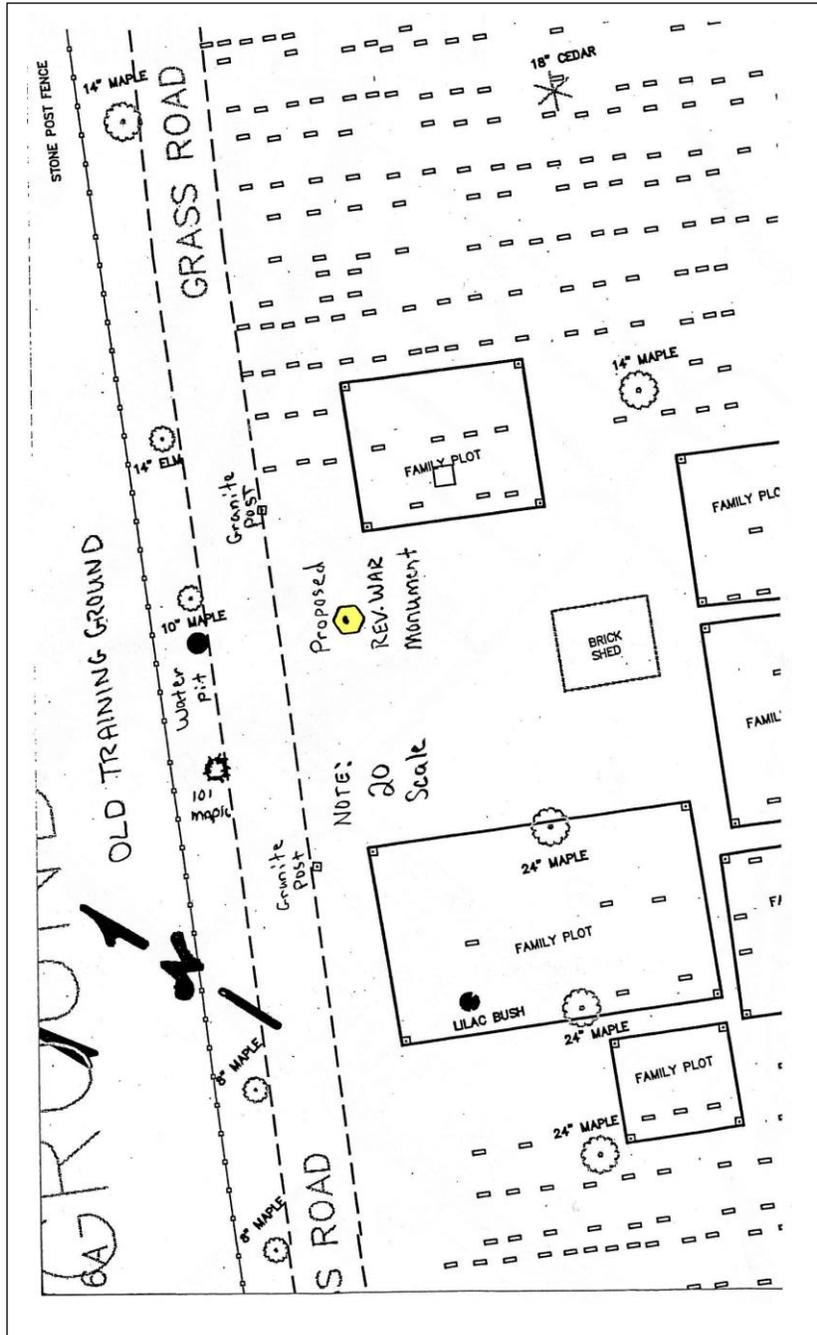
- 7. Project Title:** American Revolution Memorial
- 8. Organization Name:** Dennis Historical Commission (DHC)
- 9. Address:** Dennis Town Hall, 685 Route 134, South Dennis, MA 2660
Diane Rochelle, Chair phone: 508.394.7311
Email: whiskeyboo@comcast.net
Website: www.town.dennis.ma.us, Dennis Historical Commission
- 10. Federal Tax Identification Number:** EO.46001129 (Town of Dennis)
- 11. Primary Contact Person & Secondary Person:**
Primary contact: Diane Rochelle, Historical Commission Chair, 130 Shad Hole Road, Dennis Port, MA 02639 Phone: 508.394.7311 email: whiskeyboo@comcast.net
Secondary contact: Robert Poskitt, Historical Commission Vice Chair, 248 Main Street, South Dennis, MA 02660 Phone: 508.394.0310 email: bobposkitt@comcast.net
- 11a. Primary Contact Person & Secondary Person who can approve & receive the funds:**
Primary contact: Diane Rochelle, Historical Commission Chair, 130 Shad Hole Road, Dennis Port, MA 02639 Phone: 508.394.7311 email: whiskeyboo@comcast.net
Secondary Contact: Robert Poskitt, Historical Commission Vice Chair, 248 Main Street, South Dennis, MA 02660 Phone: 508.394.0310 email: bobposkitt@comcast.net

Applicant Background

- 12. Brief applicant history:** the Dennis Historical Commission, established in 1973, is governed by MGL, c.40, S.8D. It serves to preserve, protect & update historical and archaeological resources of the Town of Dennis and to conduct research on such resources. Members are appointed by the Dennis Board of Selectmen.
- 13. Names of governing board:** Diane Rochelle, Chair; Robert Poskitt, Vice Chair; William Collins; Joshua L. Crowell; Sarah Kruger; Tim Scannell; Ken Van Tassell

14. Summary of comparable projects completed: 2013 CPA grant, Captain Bernard O'Neil Flag Restoration; 2015 CPA grant, Soldiers Memorial Dedication for Coxswain Benjamin Franklin Baker Congressional Medal of Honor Spanish American War; 2016 CPA grant, West Schoolhouse Preservation Phase, I; 2017 CPA grant Ava Archaeological Survey Project, Phase I; 2019 CPA grant Bass River Narrows Archaeological Survey; 2020 Historic Resource Inventory Update

Project Information



Rows 1-12, graves 1803-2000

Granite post & iron rail fence
ca. 1875

Granite post, ca. 1875
Marks entrance to Rev. Tomb

Rev. War Monument
Receiving Tomb (brick shed)
Built 1875, @9' x 10'
No burials between 2 posts

Granite post, ca. 1875
Family plots 1800s & 1900s

Dennis family burials
1736-1773, row 13

Oldest burials 1728, row 16

15. Project Concept: to honor our Soldiers & Sailors, who served in the American Revolution, members of the East Precinct of Yarmouth. To date we have confirmed 88 patriots that were born and lived here, who are buried in Dennis cemeteries or if there is no known burial, have a close family member buried here. They represent 22 East Precinct families.

Running west, the original Kings Highway turned south, on what would be Old Bass River Road, went up the hill to Old Hills Road, turned right down the hill to Old Post Road, and the intersection of Nobscussett Road & New Boston Road rejoined the Kings Highway. Between 1838 and 1858 it was straightened to the Route 6A that we know today.

The East Precinct meeting house was built, facing southerly, on an access road that ran west off Old Bass River Road, where the entrance to the Gazebo and small parking area is now, extending into what is now Dennis Village Cemetery. The military training field was laid out for the re-organized militia in 1775, behind the meeting house. Prior to 1775, training was held at a colonial militia trained at a field near Fort Hill in Yarmouth.

The East Precinct meeting house, 48' x 48', was completed in 1723. Its foundation rests under the Receiving Tomb, Dennis Village Cemetery. It was enlarged to 60' x 50' ca. 1761 and torn down ca. 1810 to be rebuilt. No longer needed in 1838, when the Union Church Chapel was built on the opposite side of the access road, it was sold, moved, reused and finally its timbers were repurposed to build the Cape Playhouse in 1926. The Receiving Tomb, built in 1875, was used to store coffins that could not be buried because of frozen ground. This "recovery tomb" was restored as an educational museum in 2006.

At a meeting of the Dennis Historical Commission, March 6, 2023, historic significance of placing a Revolutionary War Memorial at Dennis Village Cemetery in front of the Receiving Tomb, a draft of the inscription text and application to CPC for a grant to fund the project was unanimously approved by a motion of Ken Van Tassell, seconded by Bill Collins.

Extensive, non-invasive, research with the Cemetery Department has concluded that there are no burials where this monument will be placed. The Cemetery Commissioners (Select Board) unanimously approved the site of the boulder & this application on April 25.

16. Project Goals/Objectives: to erect the first memorial exclusive to Patriots of the American Revolution and to honor its participants as well as the East Precinct of Yarmouth, which was incorporated as the town of Dennis in 1793. During the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution in 2025, dedication of this memorial will be combined with various festivities and publication of "Soldiers & Sailors," a narrative, with pen and ink drawings by Dennis artist Howard Bonington, that describes the military experiences of our men and boys. Dennis Historical Commission is collaborating with the Dennis Cemetery Advisory Committee, Village Improvement Society, Dennis Historical Society, Historical Society of Old Yarmouth and Town of Dennis in this commemoration.

17. Describe any legal issues, ramifications, impediments about this project, if any: none known

18. Describe how this Project accomplishes the goals & objectives of the CPA: it preserves and commemorates a historic resource, our American Revolution Patriots. It has been determined by the Historical Commission to be significant to the history and culture of Dennis. Over 50 Mass. municipalities have received CPA funds to erect or preserve veteran monuments. Members of the Cemetery Advisory Committee will clean the Revolutionary War burial markers in our cemeteries and provide walking tours during the celebration.

19. Describe how this Project is relevant to the current & future needs of Dennis: It supports preservation of the heritage & historic setting of Dennis and commemorates American Revolution Patriots, while creating an educational resource at the time of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution.

20. Describe how this Project relates to the Dennis Local Comprehensive Plan: The project will preserve & protect historical resources of Dennis. It supports federal, state & local historic preservation priorities.

Project Implementation & Budget

21. Total CPA Funding Request: \$ 5,000.00

22. A Financial Plan:

Line-Item Project Budget	Cost estimate
Bronze plaque & engraving	\$2,000.00
Flat face boulder	\$1,000.00
Install plaque on boulder	\$1,500.00
Contingency	\$ 500.00
Total cost estimate	\$5,000.00

23. Evidence of interest from potential lenders: N/A

24. List of funding source(s) include private/public/in-kind:
 CPC grant, DHC volunteer research, Cemetery Advisory Committee stone cleaning, town department assistance

25. A five-year income and expense plan for this project, if applicable: N/A

Support Documents

26. Letters of support: none solicited or received

27. References: none

28. Other relevant materials specific to the Project: none

29. Copy of most recent US Income Tax Form 990: N/A

30. Certificate of Non-Collusion:

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CERTIFICATE OF NON-COLLUSION

The undersigned certifies under penalties of perjury that this proposal has been made and submitted in good faith and without collusion or fraud with any person. As used in this certification, the word "person" shall mean any natural person, business, partnership, corporation, union, committee, club, or any other organization, entity, or group of individuals.

Chief Executive Officer (s):

Diane Rochelle
Name (print)

Robert Poskitt
Name (print)

Diane Rochelle
Signature

Robert Poskitt
Signature

Historical Commission Chair
Title

Historical Commission Vice-Chair
Title

May 1, 2023
Date

May 1, 2023
Date