

**GREAT BARRINGTON  
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

**APPLICATION FOR CPA FUNDING – Step 1**

Date Received (for office use only) \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Name Joshua Risen

Project Name Historic Document Preservation and Digitization

Project Address 334 Main Street Great Barrington

Contact Person Joshua Risen Title: Town Clerk

Phone No. 413-528-1619 ex. 2 then 1 Email jrisen@townofgbma.gov

Brief Project Description (attach up to 1 additional page if necessary)

The restoration, preservation and digitization of the oldest and most at-risk Town documents with an initial focus on the Towns vital records, followed by an expansion into all permanent documents which date back to Great Barrington's incorporation in 1761. On November 3, 2025 I went before the Historical Commission and requested that they designate permanent records stored at Town Hall from 1761 to 1960 as being of Historical Significance. The Historical Commission voted unanimously that the permanent records from 1761 to 1960 were Historically Significant. (See attachment A)

Amount of CPA funding you are seeking: \$ 400,000.00

When do you request the CPA funding be received by your project? 5.15.26

Property Owner (if different from applicant)

Owner's Name Town of Great Barrington

Owner's Address 334 Main Street Great Barrington MA 01230

Phone No. 413-528-1619 Email: jrisen@townofgbma.gov

If Owner is different from applicant, you must include a letter signed by the Owner giving permission to apply for funds for the specified project on the Owner's property.

**In the following chart, mark the box(es) that best apply to your project.**

Boxes with an X through them are not CPA eligible activities. Contact the Town Planner if you need more information.

	OPEN SPACE	HISTORIC RESOURCES	RECREATIONAL LAND	COMMUNITY HOUSING
Activities (refer to Glossary for definitions)	Land to protect existing and future well fields, aquifers and recharge areas, watershed land, agricultural land, grasslands, fields, forest land, wetland, river, stream, lake and pond frontage, land to protect scenic vistas, land for wildlife or nature preserve, and land for recreation use.	Building, structure, vessel, real property, document or artifact listed on the state register of historic places or determined by the local historic preservation commission to be significant in the history, archeology, architecture or culture of the city or town.	Land for active or passive recreational use including, but not limited to, the use of land for community gardens, trails, and noncommercial youth and adult sports, and the use of land as a park, playground or athletic field. Does not include horse or dog racing or the use of land for a stadium, gymnasium or similar structure.	Housing for low and moderate income individuals and families, including low or moderate income seniors. Moderate income is less than 100%, and low income is less than 80%, of US HUD Area Wide Median Income.
<b>ACQUISITION</b> Obtain property interest by gift, purchase, devise, grant, rental, rental purchase, lease or otherwise. Only includes eminent domain taking as provided by G.L. c. 44B	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>CREATION</b> To bring into being or cause to exist. <i>Seideman v. City of Newton</i> , 452 Mass. 472 (2008)	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>PRESERVATION</b> Protect personal or real property from injury, harm or destruction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>SUPPORT</b> Provide grants, loans, rental assistance, security deposits, interest-rate write downs or other forms of assistance directly to individuals and families who are eligible for community housing, or to entity that owns, operates or manages such housing, for the purpose of making housing affordable	X	X	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>REHABILITATION AND/OR RESTORATION</b> Make capital improvements, or extraordinary repairs to make assets functional for intended use, including improvements to comply with federal, state or local building or access codes or federal standards for rehabilitation of historic properties	Only applies if property was acquired or created with CPA funds <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Only applies if housing was acquired or created with CPA funds <input type="checkbox"/>

Chart adapted from "Recent Developments in Municipal Law", Massachusetts Department of Revenue, October 2012.

End of Step 1 application

# **Attachment A**

## **List of Documents with Permanent Retention Designations**

**This is a list of the types of town documents that are designated with a permanent retention requirement that I am going to prioritize as being first to be preserved.**

- 1) Vital Statistics, Birth, Death and Marriage (all official forms related to the registration process);
- 2) Town Meeting Records;
- 3) By-Laws (including written approval of Attorney General);
- 4) Charters, Certificate of Adoption, Preliminary Reports;
- 5) Declarations of Trust;
- 6) Oaths of Office;
- 7) Deeds for Cemetery Lots;
- 8) Voter Records/Registrations;
- 9) Military Records;
- 10) Overseer of the Poor/ Pauper Records (money given to the poor);

## Great Barrington Historical Commission

c/o Selectmen's Office  
Town Hall  
334 Main Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230  
Malcolm Fick, Chairman • [Malcolm.fick@gmail.com](mailto:Malcolm.fick@gmail.com)

November 4, 2025

Ms. Karen Smith, Chairperson  
Community Preservation Committee  
Town of Great Barrington  
334 Main Street Great Barrington, MA 01230

RE: Community Preservation Application for Preservation of Town Hall Records

Dear Chairperson Smith and Members of the Community Preservation Committee:

During its meeting on November 3, 2025, the Great Barrington Historical Commission voted that "the town records dating from 1761 to 1960 which are currently stored in various locations in Town Hall, are determined to be historically and culturally significant to the Town of Great Barrington."

In finding the documents significant to the Town, the committee agreed that these are vital, irreplaceable, records for understanding and preserving the history of Great Barrington.

Sincerely,

Malcolm Fick  
Chairman



Attach additional budget sheets or project budget if necessary. Budget pages do not count towards the 8 page limit. Be sure to include project management, oversight, engineering, and administrative costs that may be incurred. Describe all funding that has been sought and/or is available for this project.

**2.) Timing of Funds:** Describe when CPA funds and other funding sources are to be received.

**3.) Existing use or deed restrictions, permanent easements, historic designations, special permits, etc. if any:**

**4.) Proposed Use or Deed Restrictions after Project Completion (in accordance with CPA rules):**

**5.) Describe the project team, including project management personnel, design professionals, contractors, and other applicable consultants, their relevant experience, so forth. Attach additional pages/resumes as needed.**

**Additional Information:** These pages do not count towards the 8 page limit. Attach additional information as appropriate, for example:

- Project timeline;
- Plans or drawings stamped and signed by an Engineer or Architect as appropriate;
- Photographs;
- Map showing project location in town;
- Ownership letters or site control verification;
- Budgets;
- Feasibility studies;

Berkshire Co.

To Jonathan Nash of Great Barrington Jr  
County Greeting

By Virtue of an Act of the Great and Hon<sup>ble</sup> Court of Assembly  
of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay - entitled an Act for  
"Erecting the North Parish or Precinct for the Town of Sheffield into  
"a separate Town by the Name of Great Barrington  
We herewith specially empowering.

You are hereby Required in his Majesty's Name  
to Notify and Warn the Inhabitants of the same Town  
qualified by Law to Vote for Town Meetings That they meet and  
Assemble themselves together at the Meeting house for Great  
Barrington on Wednesday the 22<sup>d</sup> Day of July Instant at four  
of the Clock in the Afternoon There and there you shall choose a  
Moderator of the same Meeting - 2<sup>d</sup> you shall choose all Town  
Officers, which in Law Towns for this Province are

or Enjoyed by Law to choose

Hereof fail not and make due Return of this Warrant  
and of your Doings therein unto my self or before the Time  
hereby sett for bearing the sd Meeting held at Great Barrington  
- on this 18<sup>th</sup> Day of July in the first Year of the Reign of  
George the Third of Great Britain and of Ireland King  
& Defender of the Faith &c Annoq. Domini 1761

Joseph Dwight

Great Barrington

BIRTHS DEATHS

AND

MARRIAGES

It is remembered that by the Certificate of the  
Reverend Samuel Griswold made to me on the second  
of April 1820 it appears that the said Griswold was  
in marriage in the year preceding say month  
the following persons

John Sturges  
Sarah Wells  
and no other persons in the Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts.

At Test  
Attest William C. Bryant  
Town Clerk of Great Barrington

It is remembered that by the Certificate of the  
Reverend Elijah White made to me it ap-  
pears that the following persons were joined in  
marriage by him in the year preceding the 20th  
of April 1821.

Portia Dewey  
with  
Melinda Kellogg } June 15. 1820

Lena Parks  
with  
Emeline Hamilton } Oct 5 1820

Solomon Atkins  
with  
Nancy Davis } Oct 7 1820

William Johnson  
with  
Nabby Wilson } Nov 23 1820

Martin D. Kellogg  
with  
Sally Prindle } Nov 2 1820

Charles Beach  
with  
Fanny Ellsworth } Jan. 10 1821

William C. Bryant  
with  
Annus Prindle } Jan. 11. 1820

George P. Enigh  
with  
Elizabeth Prindle } Feb 7. 1821

Anderson Church  
with  
Sally Peto } Apr. 11. 1821

Benoni F. Wells  
with  
Alma C. Gray } Apr 17 1821

Erastus Beckwith  
with  
Martha Wilson } Apr. 26 1821

At Test from the Clergyman's  
Certificate - attest Wm. C. Bryant  
Town Clerk of St. Barnabass

It is remembered that by the Certificate of  
the Reverend Samuel Griswold dated Apr. 23  
1822 it appears that the said Griswold did not  
join any persons in marriage during the year  
preceeding to the 23rd day of April.

At Test from the Clergy  
of the said Town

Attest Wm. C. Bryant  
Clerk of the Town of  
Great Barrington

BARRINGTON

DEPOSITION  
BIRTHS

287 - 450

TOWN OF  
GREAT BARRINGTON



Index  
Marriage  
Testimony

No. ~~21~~ 30

Returned from  
by occupation a *Barber*  
*George J. ...*

And *occasional*  
She was born in *Slip*  
This will be her

The intentions of  
of *Great Barrington*  
this *8* day of

The parties above  
day of

---

No. 31

Returned from  
by occupation a *Barber*  
*George J. ...*

And *occasional*  
She was born in  
This will be her

The intentions  
of *Great Barrington*  
this *14* day of

The parties  
day of

---

No. 32

Returned from  
by occupation  
*John ...*

And  
She was born  
This will be her

The  
of *Great Barrington*  
this *17* day of

Kenneth Frank Patten  
Supt. of Schools

Birth Certificates  
Before 1920.

$\frac{P}{15}$

copy of  
the  
original in the

**Birth Certificate.**  
Great Barrington, Mass.,  
that according to the Records of  
Great Barrington,  
Elizabeth Maude Galliard  
December 29, 1914  
Clerk, Great Barrington.  
Name of father Edward A. Galliard  
Name of mother Maude L. Taylor  
January

Principal Coach

BIRTHS

1927-1928

TOWN OF  
GREAT  
BARRINGTON

FORM R-3

CARD

MANENT

CORD

MARGIN RESERVED FOR BINDING  
WRITE IN INK ONLY. NO RETURN WITH ERASURES OR ALTERATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED

1 PLACE OF BIRTH  
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
DIVISION OF VITAL STATISTICS  
City or town Barre

County of Windsor

RETURN OF A BIRTH

City or Town of Barre No. High Registered No. 1  
St. \_\_\_\_\_ Ward \_\_\_\_\_  
(If birth occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number)

2 FULL NAME OF CHILD Bobby Oleander  
(If child is not yet named, make supplemental report, as directed)

3 Sex of Child Male 4 Twin, triplet or other? 1 5 Born alive or stillborn born 6 Date of birth Jan 1 - 27  
(Answer in respect of plural births) (Month) (Day) (Year)

7 FATHER FULL NAME Joseph Oleander 8 MOTHER PRESENT NAME AND MAIDEN NAME Josephine Oleander / Josephine Jacowarski

9 RESIDENCE No. High St. \_\_\_\_\_ 10 RESIDENCE No. High St. \_\_\_\_\_  
Horsaloune, Mass (City or town) Horsaloune, Mass (City or town)

11 COLOR OR RACE White AGE 34 YEARS 12 COLOR OR RACE White AGE 32 YEARS

13 BIRTHPLACE Poland 14 BIRTHPLACE Poland  
(City or town) (State or country) (City or town) (State or country)

15 OCCUPATION Carver - Cigar mill 16 OCCUPATION Wife - wfm

17 Signature of Attendant at birth W. H. ... (Name) Physician (Physician, parent or other, etc)  
Address No. 36 Main St. Horsaloune (City or town)  
Dated Jan 2 - 27 (Month) (Day) (Year) Did above-named personally attend the birth? Yes

18 Received at office of city or town clerk \_\_\_\_\_ (Month) (Day) (Year)

19 A true copy. Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ REGISTRAR

202-554-2 on 5/11/2014 3:12:7

1928

- Existing conditions reports or needs assessments;
- Letters of support;
- Resumes and experience of key personnel;
- For Historic Preservation projects, if the project is not State Register-listed, the applicant must provide a letter from the Historical Commission which details the significance of the project to Great Barrington's history, culture, architecture or archeology.

## Funding Considerations

**6.) Consistency:** Describe how the proposed project is consistent with the Community Preservation Plan and with the Great Barrington Master Plan.

**7.) Town Projects:** Is the proposed project for a town-owned asset?                      Yes                      No  
If yes, please describe funding options. For example, what portion of the project budget is CPA funding? If CPA funds are not received, what are the alternative funding options, if any?

**8.) Public Benefits:** Describe the public benefits of the project.

**9.) Leverage:** Will the CPA funds be used to leverage or supplement other funding for this project? Please explain other sources and whether they have been committed.

**10.) Community Input and Support:** Describe any community input, meetings and/or support that you have for your proposed project. Include support letters as applicable (they will not be counted towards the 4-page limit). Letters should be unique and not reproduced form letters.

**11.) Permits:** Describe permits that may be required, the status of those permits or applications, and/or when the applications will be submitted and permits received.

### Affordable Housing Projects

**12.) Affordable Housing Projects:** Clearly describe how the project meets the Affordable Housing goals of the Community Preservation Plan.

**13.) Affordability Level(s):**

_____ % of area median income	no. of units _____
_____ % of area median income	no. of units _____
_____ % of area median income	no. of units _____

**14.) Other Information:** Describe any other relevant information about the project and the site. For example: Is the site zoned for the proposed use and if not what is the plan for zoning approvals; does the project reuse a building or previously-developed site? Is the site or could the site be contaminated and if so what is the plan for remediation?

## Historic Preservation Projects

Applicants should note: all CPA-funded historic preservation projects must comply with the US Secretary of the Interior's standards for the treatment of historic properties.

**15.) Historic Preservation Projects:** Clearly describe how the project meets the Historic Preservation goals of the Community Preservation Plan.

**16.) Other Information:** Describe any other relevant information about the project and the site. For example: is the site zoned for the proposed use and if not what is the plan for zoning approvals; does the project reuse a building or previously-developed site; is the site or could the site be contaminated and if so what is the plan for remediation.

## Open Space and Recreation Projects

**17.) Open Space and Recreation:** Clearly describe how the project meets the Open Space and Recreation goals of the Community Preservation Plan.

**18.) Other Information:** Describe any other relevant information about the project and the site. For example: Is the site zoned for the proposed use and if not what is the plan for zoning approvals? Does the project reuse a building or previously-developed site? Is the site or could the site be contaminated and if so what is the plan for remediation.

### Certification

**19.) This application was prepared, reviewed, and submitted by:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Ph: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

*I hereby certify that all of the above and included information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. [For non-municipal applicants only: I further declare my willingness to enter into a Contract with the Town of Great Barrington to govern the use and expenditure of CPA funds.]*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ *Joshua Rison*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 12.2.25

**All hard copies of the entire application package, and one PDF of the entire application package, are due prior to the 4:00 PM deadline.**

**Number all pages.**