



PRESERVATION RESTRICTION AGREEMENT
between the COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
by and through the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
and the Town of Mendon

The parties to this Agreement are the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, by and through the Massachusetts Historical Commission located at the Massachusetts Archives Building, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125, hereinafter referred to as the Commission, and the Town of Mendon, 20 Main Street, Mendon, MA 01756, hereinafter referred to as the Grantor.

WHEREAS, the Grantor is the owner in fee simple of certain real property with improvements known as the Harrison Hall (also known as the Mendon Town Hall) thereon as described in a deed dated October 23, 1844, from Silas Dudley to the Mendon School District Number 2 recorded with the Worcester County Registry of Deeds, Book 393, Page 296, and in a deed dated April 4, 1849, from Silas Dudley to The Inhabitants of the Town of Mendon recorded with the Worcester County Registry of Deeds, Book 446, Page 508, and which is located at 20 Main Street, Mendon, Massachusetts 01756, hereinafter referred to as the Premises. The Premises are also shown on the plan entitled "Existing Conditions Site Plan in Mendon, MA" dated August 1, 2001 attached as Exhibit A, hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

WHEREAS, the Grantor wishes to impose certain restrictions, obligations and duties upon it as the owner of the Premises and on the successors to its right, title and interest therein, with respect to maintenance, protection, and preservation of the Premises in order to protect the architectural, archaeological and historical integrity thereof; and

WHEREAS, the preservation of the Premises is important to the public for the enjoyment and appreciation of its architectural, archaeological and historical heritage and will serve the public interest in a manner consistent with the purposes of M.G.L. chapter 184, section 32, hereinafter referred to as the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Premises is listed as a contributing property to the Mendon Center National Register Historic District; and

WHEREAS, the Commission is a government body organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and is authorized to accept these preservation restrictions under the Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the Grantor conveys to the Commission the following preservation restrictions, which shall apply in Perpetuity to the Premises.

20 MAIN ST, TOWN HALL, MENDON, MA

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These preservation restrictions are set forth so as to ensure the preservation of those characteristics which contribute to the architectural, archaeological and historical integrity of the Premises which have been listed in the National and/or State Registers of Historic Places, under applicable state and federal legislation. Characteristics which contribute to the architectural, archaeological and historical integrity of the Premises include, but are not limited to, the artifacts, features, materials, appearance, and workmanship of the Premises, including those characteristics which originally qualified the Premises for listing in the National and/or State Registers of Historic Places.

The terms of the Preservation Restriction are as follows:

1. Maintenance of Premises: The Grantor agrees to assume the total cost of continued maintenance, repair and administration of the Premises so as to preserve the characteristics which contribute to the architectural, archaeological and historical integrity of the Premises in a manner satisfactory to the Commission according to the Secretary of the Interior's "Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties." The Grantor may seek financial assistance from any source available to it. The Commission does not assume any obligation for maintaining, repairing or administering the Premises.
2. Inspection: The Grantor agrees that the Commission may inspect the Premises from time to time upon reasonable notice to determine whether the Grantor is in compliance with the terms of this Agreement.
3. Alterations: The Grantor agrees that no alterations shall be made to the Premises, including the alteration of any interior, unless (a) clearly of minor nature and not affecting the characteristics which contribute to the architectural, archaeological or historical integrity of the Premises, or (b) the Commission has previously determined that it will not impair such characteristics after reviewing plans and specifications submitted by the Grantor, or (c) required by casualty or other emergency promptly reported to the Commission. Ordinary maintenance and repair of the Premises may be made without the written permission of the Commission. For purposes of this section, interpretation of what constitutes alterations of a minor nature and ordinary maintenance and repair is governed by the Restriction Guidelines which are attached to this Agreement and hereby incorporated by reference.
4. Notice and Approval: Whenever approval by the Commission is required under this restriction, Grantor shall request specific approval by the Commission not less than (30) days prior to the date Grantor intends to undertake the activity in question. A request for such approval by the grantor shall be reasonably sufficient as a basis for the Commission to approve or disapprove the request. The notice shall describe the nature, scope, design, location, timetable and any other material aspect of the proposed activity

in sufficient detail to permit the Commission to make an informed judgment as to its consistency with the purposes of this Preservation Restriction. Within (30) days of receipt of Grantor's reasonably sufficient request for said approval, the Commission shall, in writing, grant or withhold its approval, or request additional information relevant to the request and necessary to provide a basis for its decision. However, should the Commission determine that additional time is necessary in order to make its decision the Commission shall notify the Grantor. The Commission's approval shall not be unreasonably withheld, and shall be granted upon a reasonable showing that the proposed activity shall not materially impair the purpose of this Preservation Restriction. Failure of the Commission to make a decision within sixty (60) days from the date on which the request is accepted by the Commission or notice of a time extension is received by the Grantor shall be deemed to constitute approval of the request as submitted, so long as the request sets forth the provisions of this section relating to deemed approval after the passage of time.

5. Assignment: The Commission may assign this Agreement to another governmental body or to any charitable corporation or trust among the purposes of which is the maintenance and preservation of historic properties only in the event that the Commission should cease to function in its present capacity.

6. Validity and Severability: The invalidity of M.G.L. c. 184 or any part thereof shall not affect the validity and enforceability of this Agreement according to its terms. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision of this Agreement.

7. Recording: The Grantor agrees to record this Agreement with the appropriate Registry of Deeds and file a copy of such recorded instrument with the Commission.

8. Other Provisions: None applicable.

The burden of these restrictions enumerated in paragraphs 1 through 8, inclusive, shall run with the land and is binding upon future owners of an interest therein.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and seals this 22 day of JUNE, 2009.

TOWN OF MENDON

By: Dale F. Pleau

Name: Dale F. Pleau
Title: Town Coordinator

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Worcester, ss.

On this 22 day of June, 2009, before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared Dale F. Pleau, proved to me through satisfactory evidence of identification, which was (a current driver's license) (a current U.S. passport) (my personal knowledge of the identity of the principal), to be the person whose name is signed on the preceding or attached document, and acknowledged to me that he signed it voluntarily for its stated purposes.

Margaret Bonderech
Notary Public
My Commission Expires Mar. 7, 2014

APPROVAL BY THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing preservation restrictions have been approved pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 184, section 32.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

By Brona Simon
Brona Simon
Executive Director and Clerk
Massachusetts Historical Commission

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Suffolk, ss.

On this 25th day of June, 2009, before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared Brona Simon, proved to me through satisfactory evidence of identification, which was (~~a current driver's license~~) (~~a current U.S. passport~~) (my personal knowledge of the identity of the principal), to be the person whose name is signed on the preceding or attached document, and acknowledged to me that he signed it voluntarily for its stated purposes.

Nancy Maida
Notary Public
My Commission Expires January 19, 2012

RESTRICTION GUIDELINES

The purpose of the Restriction Guidelines is to clarify paragraph three of the terms of the preservation restriction, which deals with alterations to the premises. Under this section permission from the Massachusetts Historical Commission is required for any major alteration. Alterations of a minor nature, which are part of ordinary maintenance and repair, do not require MHC review.

In an effort to explain what constitutes a minor alteration and what constitutes a major change, which must be reviewed by the MHC, the following list has been developed. By no means is this list comprehensive: it is only a sampling of some of the more common alterations, which may be contemplated by building owners.

PAINT

Minor - Exterior or interior hand scraping and repainting of non-decorative and non-significant surfaces as part of periodic maintenance.

Major - Painting or fully stripping decorative surfaces or distinctive stylistic features including murals, stenciling, wallpaper, ornamental woodwork, stone, decorative or significant original plaster.

WINDOWS AND DOORS

Minor - Regular maintenance including caulking, painting and necessary reglazing. Repair or in-kind replacement of existing individual decayed window parts.

Major - Wholesale replacement of units; change in fenestration or materials; alteration of profile or setback of windows. The addition of storm windows is also considered a major change; however, with notification it is commonly acceptable.

EXTERIOR

Minor - Spot repair of existing cladding and roofing including in-kind replacement of clapboards, shingles, slates, etc.

Major - Large-scale repair or replacement of cladding or roofing. Change involving inappropriate removal or addition of materials or building elements (i.e. removal of chimneys or cornice detailing; installation of architectural detail which does not have a historical basis); altering or demolishing building additions; spot repointing of masonry. Structural stabilization of the property is also considered a major alteration.

LANDSCAPE/OUTBUILDINGS

Minor - Routine maintenance of outbuildings and landscape including lawn mowing, pruning, planting, painting, and repair.

Major - Moving or subdividing buildings or property; altering of property; altering or removing significant landscape features such as gardens, vistas, walks, plantings; ground disturbance affecting archaeological resources.

WALLS/PARTITIONS

Minor - Making fully reversible changes (i.e. sealing off doors in situ, leaving doors and door openings fully exposed) to the spatial arrangement of a non-significant portion of the building.

Major - Creating new openings in walls or permanently sealing off existing openings; adding permanent partitions which obscure significant original room arrangement; demolishing existing walls; removing or altering stylistic features; altering primary staircases.

HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING/ELECTRICAL/PLUMBING SYSTEMS

Minor - Repair of existing systems.

Major - Installing or upgrading systems which will result in major appearance changes (i.e. dropped ceilings, disfigured walls or floors, exposed wiring, ducts, and piping); the removal of substantial quantities of original plaster or other materials in the course of construction.

Changes classified as major alterations are not necessarily unacceptable. Under the preservation restriction, such changes must be reviewed by the MHC and their impact on the historic integrity of the premise assessed.

It is the responsibility of the property owner to notify the MHC in writing when any major alterations are contemplated. Substantial alterations may necessitate review of plans and specifications.

The intent of the preservation restriction is to enable the Commission to review proposed alterations and assess their impact on the integrity of the structure, not to preclude future change. MHC staff will attempt to work with property owners to develop mutually satisfactory solutions, which are in the best interests of the property.

