



# Town of Sudbury

## Community Preservation Committee

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### PROJECT SUBMISSION FORM

Applicant:

Submission Date:

Group or Committee Affiliation (if any):

Applicant Address:

Purpose (please select all that apply):

Open Space & Recreation

Community Housing

Historic Resource

Applicant Email:

Applicant Phone:

Project Manager Email:

Project Manager Phone:

Project Name:

Project Description:

Costs:

Fiscal Year	Total Project Cost	CPC Funds Requested	Other Funding Sources (Amount and Source)
2026			
2027			
2028			
2029			
2030			
<b>Total</b>			

How does this project meet the General Criteria and Category Specific Criteria for Community Preservation Committee projects (see attached)?

Does this project fall within the jurisdiction or interest of other Town Boards, Committees, Commissions, or Departments? If so, please list the boards, committees, commissions, or departments, whether applications and/or presentations have been made, and what input or recommendations have been given.

For Community Preservation Committee Use:

Form Received On: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Presented to CPC On: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed By: \_\_\_\_\_

Determination: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Attachment A**

### **Sudbury Historical Commission**

### **September 2024 CPC Application**

### **Hosmer House Collection Preservation Project**

#### **Project Description**

Historic ca. 1793 Hosmer House was gifted to the Town of Sudbury by its last owner, artist Florence Armes Hosmer. Following her death in 1978, the town took possession of the property that had originally been acquired in 1897 by her parents, the Rev. Edwin Barrett Hosmer and his wife, Abbie Louisa Armes. Hosmer House is a unique historic resource because the contents of house were also bequeathed to the town – the Hosmer family’s possessions, which include Ms. Hosmer’s paintings and varied household contents – such as furniture, books, farming implements, art supplies, textiles and costume, ceramics and glass, silver, photographs, manuscripts, letters and other archival materials. Hosmer House with its historical house collection reflects a family’s life in Sudbury and provides an opportunity for an historical interpretation of Sudbury. Most publicly owned historic houses are empty and do not contain the possessions of former residents. Hosmer House is a rare exception as it contains the historical collection of the Hosmer’s possessions.

In 2023 Town Meeting approved CPA funding for the Historical Commission to conduct two Hosmer House historic preservation projects as recommended in the 2021 Sudbury Town-wide Historic Preservation Plan: 1) a combined Hosmer House Historic Structure Report/Cultural Landscape Report, and 2) a Hosmer House Collection Study of the home’s historical contents. The Hosmer House Collection Study (Study) commenced in early spring 2024 and is in the final stages of completion.

This current proposed project for which the Historical Commission seeks CPA funding is to implement the high priority Study recommendations for the protection and preservation of the Hosmer House Collection, and in particular, historical family papers, manuscript materials and photographs, and for overall management of the breadth of the collection including the development of a professional Collection Management Policy Plan outlining processes to affect its protection and preservation. The project will be the first phase in implementing the Collection Study’s recommendations.

This Project will include:

- Triage Archivist and offsite storage for primary source materials.
- Light control: Preventative Conservation
- Strategic Plan for Sustainable Hosmer House governance models
- Collection Management Policy Plan Task: Create a CMP for the Hosmer House Collection

These tasks will be conducted by qualified professional specialists in their respective subject fields and may be conducted concurrently.

## **Statement of Need**

The Hosmer House Collection Study was undertaken because no comprehensive professional evaluation of the historic house's contents had ever been conducted for their treatment, care, oversight and management to best protect and preserve the entirety of the collection. The Study's recommendations advise and lay out a road map for the work necessary going forward to achieve protection, conservation and preservation of the Collection. This Project is the next preservation step to address the most pressing priority needs to protect and conserve the Collection.

The mold outbreak event at Hosmer House in 2023 disproportionately impacted the archival materials and makes it even more imperative that this project happen in 2025 to carry out the Study's prioritized recommendations by qualified professionals including those which address the archival historic resources.

## **CPC General Criteria**

Under the General Criteria the Hosmer House Collection Preservation Project is consistent:

- With the Town's 2021 Master Plan which states: *"The rich history of Sudbury is the cornerstone that gives the Town a sense of place and creates a unique experience for the people who live here and those who visit."* Hosmer House, housing an historical collection, creates a unique experience for visitors to step back in time to Sudbury's past and learn about the town's heritage. The Master Plan includes a section on Historic and Cultural Identity with the stated goal to *"preserve, protect, and develop the historical and cultural assets of Sudbury to foster appreciation of the Town's heritage for enjoyment today and by future generations."* The project will preserve, protect, and develop the collection - the Hosmer House historical and cultural assets.
- With the 2022 Sudbury Townwide Historic Preservation Plan.

## **Category Specific Criteria**

The implementation of the Hosmer House Collection Preservation Project would definitely yield 'Public Benefits' as stated in the Category Specific Category. The "Public Benefit" would be the protection and preservation of these historical resources so that they can serve as tangible links to our past, and are used to engage, entertain, and educate the community about our history.

CPC funds may be used for the preservation of historic resources – and the Hosmer House Collection Preservation Project, which implements recommendations of the CPC funded Hosmer House Collection Study – is essential historic preservation work to protect and preserve this unique historical and cultural house collection.

## **Town Interest**

Sudbury residents have indicated that Hosmer House – the building together with the Hosmer family's possessions - the historical house collection - is a source of pride for our community, serves as a tangible and visual link to our past, serves to educate the community about our history, and its development over time, and provides an interpretive experience for residents and visitors about life in Sudbury in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries. Preserving the historic Collection is key to being able to tell the historical story of this property and the Sudbury residents who lived there.

Several town governmental entities have a vested interest in and oversight responsibility of and/or statutory jurisdiction to protect, maintain and preserve the building – the environment which houses the

collection as well as preserve the collection itself, a town-owned historic resource, for its historical context, interpretative value, display, and for the enjoyment of the public.

Cc:

Town Manager  
Historical Commission  
Historic Districts Commission  
Town Facilities Department