



TOWN HALL
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**ARTICLE __. Community Preservation Act – Historical Preservation
(Amherst Historical Commission)**

Proposed Fiscal Year 2012 CPA Historic Preservation Projects

The following draft FY2012 CPA proposals represent the ongoing historic preservation priorities of the Town of Amherst as recommended by the Amherst Historical Commission on December 7, 2010 in implementation of the Amherst Preservation Plan, other historic preservation planning, and assessment of community needs. Funding for historic preservation projects will be sought through Town Meeting appropriations of Community Preservation Act funds, state and other grants, private donations, and Town Meeting appropriation of local tax revenue through the capital budget. This FY 2012 historic preservation budget is a working document and may be subject to change and adjustment.

I. Historic Preservation Capital Projects Cost

Individual building/site projects:

- **West Cemetery: Restoration of historic cast iron fencing that surrounds the Dickinson and Cutler family plots** \$50,000
 - **Town Clerk: Archival materials conservation/restoration** \$10,000
 - **Amherst Historical Society & Museum: Structural and feasibility study** \$35,000
 - **North Amherst Community Farm:**
 - ~ **Emergency repairs for stabilization of large barn and carriage house** \$15,000
 - ~ **Structural evaluation and feasibility study for rehabilitation and adaptive (seasonal) reuse of barn and carriage house** \$10,000
 - **Jones Library:**
 - ~ **Chimney restoration (Not yet presented to Commission)** \$113,000
 - ~ **Conservation of historic paintings** \$15,000
 - **North Amherst Library rehabilitation:**
 - ~ **Foundation stabilization** \$10,000
 - ~ **Insulation to preserve collections** \$11,000
 - **Hope Community Church rehabilitation:**
 - ~ **Roof** \$26,000
 - ~ **Foundation and drainage** \$19,000
 - **235 East Pleasant Street: Feasibility study for rehabilitation and preservation options of existing farmhouse** \$10,000
 - **Hawthorne house restoration (Not yet presented to Commission)** \$81,000
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- TOTAL NEW FY2012 PROJECTS** **\$405,000**

II. Previously-Obligated Funds Cost

Individual building/site projects:

- **575 North East Street compensation (year 5 of 5)** \$25,600
 - **Town Hall masonry (year 3 of 10)** \$28,350
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- FY 2012 Total** **\$458,950**

➤ **Town Clerk: Archival materials conservation/restoration** **\$10,000**

1. Feasibility of the project: This is the 5th and final year of a 5-year archival project. It is fully expected the project will be completed as expected, by the end of FY2012.
2. Urgency of the project: The material was identified by Brown's River Bindery back in their Conservation Proposal from 2005 as a high priority for restoration.
3. Population(s) to be served by the project: State and local government, as well as the community of Amherst. This project also serves people outside the community who have historical ties to Amherst. The older records in particular, often serve as an important resource for people who are researching their family history. As part of the project, when books are dismantled for cleaning and treatment, their contents are preserved to microfilm. Copies of the microfilm are made available to the library to become a part of their huge resource for various interested parties.
4. Acquisition or preservation of threatened resources: The project is an ongoing preservation effort of public records and documents important to the Town. The materials used in producing these documents—the paper, ink, as well as the conditions they were kept in—serve to render them self-destructive. The restoration project has helped to halt this damage and to stabilize the records so that they can survive many years into the future.
5. Possibility of multiple sources of funding: The Town Clerk has no other source of funding for this conservation work beyond requests for capital funds. Agencies who give grants for restoration of records seem to give priority to those communities who are not receiving CPA funding.
6. Complete description of project addressing cost: This is the last year of a multi-year program. The original FY06 funding request totaled \$120,000—approx. \$60,000 from the Town Clerk and the same from Special Collections. To date, \$90,000 has been appropriated over a period of five years (four appropriations of \$20,000, and one year in which only \$10,000 was appropriated). \$20,000 was requested in FY11, leaving \$10,000 remaining for FY12.
 - ~ The final request of \$10,000 will fund \$7,850 for actual restoration (providing original quote holds) plus cost for microfilming. Any unexpended appropriation would be returned to CPA funds.
7. Documentation: Please see attached list of documents to be preserved in FY2012.
8. Projected timeline for initiation and completion of project: Project expected to be completed by the end of FY2012.
9. Expectations for additional funding in future years: This is the final year of a five-year project. The Town Clerk, however, plans to have another evaluation of the contents of the vault in order to develop a timeline of when restoration should optimally occur for the purpose of developing a long term, ongoing plan for records restoration. It is not anticipated that any major restoration remains to be done.
10. Funding available: The Town Clerk has no other source of funding for this conservation work beyond requests for capital funds. Agencies who give grants for restoration of records seem to give priority to those communities who are not receiving CPA funding.
11. Priority set by Commission: Priority ranking not yet assigned by Commission

FY12 RECORDS RESTORATION

| | Date | Cost |
|---------------------------|-------------|---------|
| Mortgages Vol. 10 | 1909 - 1912 | \$724 |
| Mortgages Vol. 11 | 1913 - 1919 | \$1,059 |
| Mortgages Vol. 12 | 1919 - 1923 | \$1,057 |
| Business Notices Vol. 23A | | \$1,155 |
| Business Notices Vol. 23B | | \$1,155 |
| Births | 1955 - 1956 | \$1,000 |
| Marriages | 1959-1961 | \$700 |
| Deaths | 1959-1961 | \$1,000 |

\$7,850

Plus microfilm and one copy