

Community Preservation Act Committee- Proposal Request Form for FY 2020

Project Title: Textile Restoration

CPA funding category: Check all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Housing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Open Space
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Historic Preservation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation

Amount of CPA Funds Requested: \$ 9,975.00

Submitting Entity: Amherst Historical Society and Museum

Contact Person: Georgia Barnhill

Phone: 413 835-0870

Email: gigi.barnhill@comcast.net

Please complete this form in its entirety and include the following in your proposal.

Overview of Proposal: Please describe your project and your feasibility analysis

For the past two years, textile specialist, Lynne Bassett, has surveyed and documented the collection of textiles at the Historical Society, finding many unusual items. It is now time to undertake the restoration of items that she and Marianne Curling selected because of rarity and poor condition. This is work that Lynne Bassett can do.

Describe how your request meets the CPA criteria:

The restoration of individual pieces is key to their continued survival.

1. Description of funding needed, including:

a. Documentation of cost estimates, budget

The attached cost estimates have been prepared by Lynne Bassett, whose résumé is attached.

b. Other sources of funding, e.g., grants, self-funding, fund-raising

The Society has already obtained some funding to dry clean a cape that is moldy. We will try to obtain additional funding for pieces that require dry cleaning through a fund raising initiative.

c. Timeline on how CPA funds would be spent, including over multiple years

This project will be done in the second half of 2019, depending on the release of funding.

3. Estimated timeline from receipt of funds to Project completion.

The items to be repaired have been determined. The work should be accomplished within six months.

4. Acquisition or preservation of threatened resources.

A list of objects to be repaired is attached.

5. Population(s) to be served by the Project.

Unfortunately textiles are too fragile and light sensitive to be displayed without costly protective cases. However, textiles will be displayed from time to time so the public can enjoy this collection. Several pieces will be on display during the

2019 statewide ArtWeek Program (April 26 to May 5, 2019). The theme is “Amherst: The Art of _____!” The Historical Society’s display title will be “Amherst: The Art of Costume.”

6. How will the CPA investment in your property, facility or project be maintained over time?

The collection is now stored appropriately and information on it will be made available through the CollectiveAccess database project.

7. Which relevant Town committees and/or commissions are you working with?

Historical Commission

8. Other information regarding the Project deemed necessary for CPAC.

Additional Information

LYNNE ZACEK BASSETT
Costume and Textile Historian
Museum Consultant
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lynne@lynnezwoolsey.com

EDUCATION

M.A. Design and Resource Management, specializing in textile and costume history, University of Connecticut, 1991. Thesis: “The Sober People of Hadley: Sumptuary Laws and Clothing in Hadley, Massachusetts, 1663–1732.”

B.A. American Studies (cum laude), Mount Holyoke College, 1983.

Victorian Society of America Newport Summer School, 1992.

POSITIONS

2011 – 2017: Editor, *Uncoverings*, the annual journal of the American Quilt Study Group.

2007 – 2015: Guest Curator; 2016 – 2017: Adjunct Curator for Costume & Textiles, Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, CT

Responsible for seven costume and textile exhibitions, including: “Gothic to Goth: Romantic Era Fashion & Its Legacy,” 2016, *selected by Google for its Arts & Culture Initiative*: <https://www.google.com/culturalinstitute/beta/exhibit/PgICuwD5mm2UKQ>, *and winner of a Reward of Merit from the Connecticut League of History Organizations*; “Colts & Quilts: Remembering the Civil War” (with Alyce Englund and Erin Munroe), 2011; “The Upholstered Woman: Fashion of the 1870s and 1880s,” 2010; “The Allure of Lace,” fall 2009; “Foreign Accents: The Ballets Russes and Western Couture,” spring 2009; “Who Was Anna Tuels? Quilt Stories, 1750–1900,” fall 2008;

“Making a Splash: American Beach Fashions, 1850–1920,” spring 2008. Other duties have included preparing a costume collection assessment, making recommendations for acquisitions and deaccessions, cataloguing, assisting researchers, donor cultivation, supervising volunteers, fund raising, etc.

Other Exhibitions

- Guest curator, “Costume & Custom: Middle Eastern Threads at Olana,” Hudson, NY, 2018.
- Co-curator (with Madelyn Shaw), “Homefront & Battlefield: Quilts & Context in the Civil War,” American Textile History Museum, Lowell, MA, 2012; New-York Historical Society 2014; Shelburne Museum, Shelburne, VT, 2014; Great Plains Art Museum, Lincoln, NE, 2015.
- Guest curator, “‘What Can a Woman Do?’ Women, Work, and Wardrobe, 1865–1940,” Mount Holyoke College Art Museum, South Hadley, MA, 2009.
- Guest curator, “‘Modesty Died When Clothes Were Born’: Costume in the Life and Literature of Mark Twain,” The Mark Twain House & Museum, Hartford, CT, 2004.
Winner of the 2005 Costume Society of America Richard Martin Award for Excellence in the Exhibition of Costume.
- Guest curator, “Telltale Textiles: Quilts from the Historic Deerfield Collection,” Historic Deerfield, Deerfield, MA, 2002.

Selected consulting projects

Consultant for projects that in whole or in part culled and reorganized collections storage, identified, dated, and catalogued household textiles, costumes, and personal artifacts. Clients have included:

Smith College Theater Department, New Hampshire Historical Society, Shelburne Museum, H. F. du Pont Winterthur Museum, Connecticut Historical Society Museum, University of Connecticut (Storrs), Amherst (MA) Historical Society, Barre (MA) Historical Society, Nashua (NH) Historical Society, Fairfield (CT) Historical Society, Longmeadow (MA) Historical Society, Gore Place (Waltham, MA); East Hampton (NY) Historical Society, Wilson Museum (Castine, ME), Wellesley (MA) Historical Society, Maine State Museum, and many others.

1995 – 2000: Curator of Textiles and Fine Arts. Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, MA.

1990 – 1995: Curator of Collections. Historic Northampton, Northampton, MA.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Books & Exhibition Catalogues

- Contributing author (27 essays), *American Quilts in the Industrial Age, 1750–1870*. Lincoln, NE: International Quilt Study Center & Museum, forthcoming, January 2018.

- *Costume & Custom: Middle Eastern Threads at Olana*. Hudson, NY: Olana Partnership, 2018.
- *Gothic to Goth: Romantic Era Fashion and Its Legacy*. Hartford, CT: Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, 2016. **Nominated for the Milia Davenport Award, Costume Society of America and the Historic New England Book Prize.**
- *Homefront & Battlefield: Quilts & Context in the Civil War*. Lowell, MA: American Textile History Museum, 2012 (with Madelyn Shaw). **Winner of a bronze medal in History, Independent Publishers Book Awards, 2013.**
- Editor and primary author, *Massachusetts Quilts: Our Common Wealth*. Lebanon, NH: University Press of New England for the Massachusetts Quilt Documentation Project, 2009.
- *“Modesty Died When Clothes Were Born”: Costume in the Life and Literature of Mark Twain*. Hartford, CT: The Mark Twain House & Museum, 2004.

35 other publications include book chapters, symposium proceedings and magazine articles.

AWARDS AND HONORS RECEIVED

- Independent Publishers Book Award, bronze medal in history for *Homefront & Battlefield: Quilts & Context in the Civil War*, 2013 (with Madelyn Shaw)
- Member, Historic New England Council, Boston, MA, appointed 2012
- Fellow, Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, MA, elected 2011
- Member, American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA, elected 2010.
- Richard Martin Award for Excellence in the Exhibition of Costume, Costume Society of America, for “‘Modesty Died When Clothes Were Born’: Costume in the Life and Literature of Mark Twain,” 2005
- Associate Fellow, International Quilt Study Center, Lincoln, NE, appointed 2004

Lynne Bassett, Textile Specialist Conservation Treatment Proposal for Amherst Historical Society CPA 2020

No.	Item	Treatment	Hours
Temp. 440	Baby shirt	Yellowed and very wrinkled with brown spots. Wash	2
1995.0233.2	Baby dress	Small holes on left side of the lower front and stitch	4.5

		above it is falling out. Old repair inside right arm. Tear underneath arms. Very yellowed, light brown staining. Stitched repair and wash.	
1995.0232	Toddler's bodice	Yellowed and altered. Return to original configuration and wash.	3.5
1997.0112	Toddler's dress	Yellowed with light brown spots (tan). Wash	2
1995.0233.3	Infant dress	Heavily stained in the skirt. Yellowed. Wash	2
Temp 447	Boy's pants	Rubber in the legs used to be elasticized. Rubber is shot. Yellowed with light brown staining on right leg. Replace rubber in legs with cotton twill tape drawstring. Wash	3
Temp 454	Adult woman's petticoat	Heavily yellowed with scattered brown stains. Scattered small tears in the button edge. Ruffle is loose in a couple areas. Repair and wash.	4
Temp 461	Toddler dress	Brown stain left shoulder. Wash.	2
1997.0154	Child's dress	Yellow and faded and has brown stain on left side of the skirt. Wash	2
1991.0027	Child's coat	Very yellowed and scattered with light brown stains. Braid on the collar and cuff edges is very worn. Repair and wash.	4
1973.0562.06	Baby dress	Yellowed; light tide line stains in the front. Heavier brown staining in the back.	2
1973.0559	Toddler dress	Opening in the seaming of the flounce in the center front. Minor yellowing. Small tear in the front of the armscye in the front. Minor light brown staining in the front.	4
Temp 484	Child's sun bonnet	Casing that was stitched above the hat was removed. Eyelets indicate missing drawstring. Yellow minor brown spots. Replace casing and drawstring; wash.	4.5
Woman's cap	Temp 487	Stained and lace is torn lower right corner. Repair lace; wash.	4
Baby shirt	1995.0227.5	Yellowed with some scattered light brown staining. Holes scattered across the back due to abrasion damage. Both sleeves are torn underneath the arms. Stitched repair and wash	5
Temp 515	Baby bib	Yellowed with light brown spots	1
1996.0665	Baby drawers	Yellowed and laces badly torn on one leg. Repair and wash.	4
Temp 524	Baby shirt	Extremely yellowed and brown with an area of tears that have been patched and darned. Stitched repair and wash.	4
1997.0099	Baby cap	Breaks in casing. Stitched repair.	1.5
1995.0239.1	Woman's day cap	Minor insect damage on the left side of the brim and heavily creased. Small tear in the lace at the top of the brim. Stitched repair and wash.	2
1997.0098	Baby cap	Very yellowed and has holes in the proper left side due to staining. Stabilize holes with stitched repair; wash.	3
1995.0227.6	Baby shirt	Slightly yellowed and 3 small holes on one of the flaps. Very creased. Stitched repair and wash.	3
Temp 525	Baby shirt	Very yellowed with some darker brown staining	1.5
1973.0573.1	Baby dress	Yellowed. Wash.	2
1973.0573.2	Baby dress	Yellowed in the shoulder; a few breaks in the netting insertion around the hem. Torn in the lace in the center back. Stitched repair and wash.	5
1995.0233.1	Baby dress	Very yellow. Wash.	2

1973.0999	Baby dress	Yellowed and scattered brown spots- stains.	2
1995.0229	Baby dress	Rip in front neckline where the body is pulled out of the neck binding.	2
Temp 537	Baby dress	Yellowed, dark brown stains at the center back. Missing a button and has an area of old tears that have been darned with big stitches- should be redone. Stitched repair and wash.	4
Temp 540	Baby dress	Yellow staining around the neck and the hem. Wash.	2
1991.0038	Bag, yellowed minor stains scattered areas in the embroidery that is torn. Button of the opening in the back is torn.	Silk fringe edging has come off and needs to be re-stitched. Small area of abrasion on the bottom. Flaps are faded. One side is torn for about 1 1/2 in. Drawstring is missing. Stitched repair; replace drawstring with silk ribbon.	2
Temp 450	Girl's dress	Yellowed; minor stains; scattered areas in the embroidery that is torn. Button opening in the back is torn. Stitched repair and wash.	4.5
TOTAL HOURS			94

94 hours for Treatment @\$75.00 per hour = **\$7,050.00**
Estimated budget for treatment materials: **\$ 500.00**
Archival boxes and tissue for transportation of items: **\$ 400.00**
Time to purchase materials: 3 hours @ \$75/hr. = **\$ 225.00**
TOTAL REQUEST Lynne Bassett: \$8,175.00

AHS Consulting Curator

4 hours to process paperwork to transfer collection items to Lynne Bassett. @ \$40.00 per hour **\$ 160.00**
16 hours integrate the pieces into storage and update records (.5 hours per item) @ \$40.00 per hour **\$ 640.00**
TOTAL REQUEST AHS Consulting Curator: \$ 800.00

TOTAL PROJECT REQUEST: \$9,975.00