

GREENFIELD COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT APPLICATION FORM

Submit this application **by November 30, 2022** to:

Greenfield Community Preservation Committee

% Christian LaPlante

14 Court Square

Greenfield, MA 01301

Or by email: cpc@greenfield-ma.gov

Date submitted: by U.S. mail _____, email 11/29/2022, or in person _____

Project Title: Preserving Generations of Greenfield's History Held in the Peter Spencer Miller Estate
Applicant: Historical Society of Greenfield
Are you an incorporated organization? Yes If not, who is your fiscal sponsor?
Contact Name: Meg Baker
Mailing Address: Historical Society of Greenfield, PO Box 415, Greenfield MA 01302
Daytime Phone #: 413-210-2450 (Meg's cell phone), 413-774-3663 (HSG phone, checked regularly)
Email Address: hsgreenfield1907@gmail.com
Date of Submission: 11/29/2022

Total Project Cost	CPA Funds Requested
\$29,500	\$15,500

CPA Category (Please check a minimum of one category below. Your project may involve more than one category (see CPA chart in application instructions). Please check as many as are appropriate. For instance, your project could be community housing that renovates a historic building. In that case, you would check Historic Preservation and Community Housing.

Open Space _____

Historic Preservation X

Recreation _____

Community Housing _____

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

- All of the following must be answered in the space provided
- Include supporting materials as requested or as you believe necessary as attachments

1. Describe the Project

In 2022, The Historical Society of Greenfield (HSG) received thousands of documents and artifacts dating from the 18th century through to 2020, a donation from the estate of Peter Spencer Miller (1938-2021). Miller was a past Historical Society president, past head of the Historic Commission, superintendent of Federal St. Cemetery, and local historian of the town.

Miller lived in the house in which his mother was raised. His estate therefore includes items that belonged to his mother, Helen (Spencer) Miller Schuhle (1915 - 1997), his grandparents Archie and Marguerite (Gray) Spencer, and his great grandmother Hattie (Kingston) Gray, along with other Greenfield relatives. In addition, as he was widely known as an authority on town history, the estate contains a great many items received from other people, given with the understanding that they would be preserved in a Greenfield institution.

This collection is currently at risk due to the need to sort and clean artifacts, get precious documents into archival housing, and prioritize objects for future conservation. Most of the items are ephemera; fragile photos, advertisements, manuscripts, and other works on paper that require acid-free housing. Funds granted would pay for staff hours dedicated to preserving this resource, and archival supplies necessary for this work.

2. What are the goals of the proposed project?

The goals of this project are to process objects and reference materials donated by the estate of Peter Miller and to make these items accessible to researchers. The significant volume of material comprising the bequest will require extensive review to determine what items should be accessioned into the HSG museum collection, and what items should become part of the reference collection. Objects selected must be cleaned as needed, rehoused in archival materials, and given a location in an electronic database to make them available for research and exhibit.

3. Who will benefit from this project and why/how?

Miller's extensive research files, collected over a lifetime of dedication to local history, along with thousands of images and artifacts, will expand available knowledge on generations of life in Greenfield. Included in the donation is a significant amount of material on the Federal Street cemetery of genealogical value; a large assortment of items connected to the railroad, including some very rare pieces used by Boston & Maine engineer Archie Spencer; and a large selection of household goods emphasizing women's and children's lives, which are often underrepresented in museum collections. Completing this project will generate exhibits, programs, school visits, and conversations for years to come, making the history held in the Miller estate accessible and targeted to area residents, the wider public and students of all ages.

4. How will you measure your success?

Currently, the Miller collection is stored in dozens of grocery store boxes containing many types of objects. This project, successfully completed, will sort objects by type to improve storage conditions and minimize damage, organizing them in archival boxes, clearly labeled, on shelving suited to them. There will be no remaining Miller items unidentified or in grocery store boxes with “Misc papers” on the side, and the collection will be accessible to HSG volunteers and researchers.

Greenfield Community Preservation Act Application Form Page 2

5. How does this project fit with the requirements of the Community Preservation Act? (See attached chart)

Having been identified by the Historical Commission of Greenfield as an historic resource, the Historical Society intends for this project to add the documents and artifacts in the Miller estate to that historic resource in an orderly fashion, for the benefit of the wider community.

6. If appropriate, how does this project fit with existing City plans? (See GCPC Plan [\[hyperlink\]](#))

Under the GCPC, historic preservation is one of the goals of the City. By funding this project and protecting this donation of historic artifacts and documents, the GCPC helps fulfill that part of its commitment.

7. Who is encouraging you with this project? If you have letters from organizations or City boards, please attach them.

The Board of the Historical Society of Greenfield

8. Budget:

Budget Summary

Total Budget	CPA Funds Requested	Funds from Other Sources
\$ 29,500	\$ 15,500	\$14,000

Complete Budget

Some definitions:

Personnel: Any paid staffing

Equipment: items with a useful life expectancy of more than one year.

Supplies: items with a useful life of less than one year.

Contractual: any work that is done for a limited period of time by a person/organization with specialized skills, e.g. lawyer, surveyor, etc.

Construction: all work done on a particular property or building including erecting, altering or remodeling.

Greenfield Community Preservation Act Application Form Page 3

Please leave any category blank that does not apply to your project.

Category	CPA Funds	Other Funds/In kind value (see below)	Total
Personnel	\$5,000	\$8,000 - volunteer hours	\$13,000
Equipment	\$500 - Touch label maker for archival enclosures, with extra ink and labels		\$500
Supplies	\$10,000 - archival enclosures and materials	\$6,000 - SmallCorp materials donation	\$16,000
Contractual			
Construction			
Other			
TOTAL	\$15,500	\$14,000	\$29,000

Other Funds:

- Please identify the other sources of funding including federal, state, or local government or any other sources.
- Cash means that the source is providing funds.
- In kind means that the source is going to give labor or goods, but no cash. In kind support still has value. How much would it cost if you were to pay for the labor or goods?
- Confirmed means that the organization or business has made a commitment to supply the

items, labor or funds

Organization	Item	Amount or value	Cash (Please check)	In kind (Please check)	Confirmed (Y or N)
Historical Society of Greenfield	Volunteer hrs at \$30/hr	\$8,000		Yes	Y
SmallCorp	Archival enclosures and materials	\$6,000		Yes	Y

Greenfield Community Preservation Act Application Form Page 4

9. Timeline:

Please provide a schedule for project implementation. Please include major tasks, e.g. survey, acquisition of historic documents, etc.

Task	Estimated Start	Estimated completion
Review of items	Jan 1, 2023	Oct 1, 2023
Sort, clean, assess for conservation needs	Oct 2, 2023	Dec 1, 2023
Rehouse in archival materials, locate on shelves	Dec 2, 2023	Mar 1, 2024

10. Implementation:

If you have a project manager already in place, please provide the following information. If you do not yet, have that information, please discuss the process to move forward on that task.

Project Manager (Paid or volunteer)	Phone	Email
Carol Aleman (volunteer)	413-648-9244	cmaleman@umass.edu

Plans for hiring a paid or volunteer project manager:


11. Maintenance (Leave blank if not applicable to your project)

If your project requires ongoing maintenance, who will be responsible for that for the 5 years after completion? How will that maintenance be funded?

Maintenance Budget

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5

Greenfield Community Preservation Act Application Form Page 5

To the best of my knowledge and belief, all data in this application is true and correct. This document has been duly authorized by the individual or governing body of the applicant.
Name of authorized representative: Meg Baker
Title, if appropriate: Secretary of the Historical Society of Greenfield
Email: hsgreenfield1907@gmail.com
Phone number: 413-774-3663
 Signature of Authorized Representative:
Date Signed: 11/29/2022



HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GREENFIELD, MA

43 Church St, P.O. Box 415, Greenfield MA, 01302

HSGREENFIELD1907@GMAIL.COM • (413)774-3663

November 29, 2022

Greenfield Community Preservation Committee
c/o Christian LaPlante
14 Court Square
Greenfield, MA 01301

Dear Greenfield Community Preservation Committee Members,

I am writing on behalf of the Board of the Historical Society of Greenfield to express the Board's full support for the application being submitted herewith for our historic preservation project, "Preserving Generations of Greenfield's History Held in the Peter Spencer Miller Estate." The funds requested will enable our all-volunteer organization to hire one paid part-time staff member. This person will lead the efforts to process the large number of items we have received from the estate of Greenfield historian Peter Spencer Miller, who died in January 2021.

We are excited to have received this substantial bequest and eager to take the steps necessary to ensure its preservation.

If you have any questions, please let us know. We may be contacted at 413-774-3663
or

Sincerely,

Carol Aleman

Carol Aleman, President
The Board of the Historical Society of Greenfield
43 Church Street
P.O. Box 415
Greenfield, MA 01302