

The Sudbury Historical Commission is a seven-member board appointed by the Town Manager, subject to approval of the selectmen. Each member is appointed for a three-year term. The Commission's charter is to oversee the Town of Sudbury's historical properties, which include the Hosmer House with its extensive collection of Miss Hosmer's paintings, the Loring Parsonage, the Haynes Garrison site, the Section House, the Revolutionary War Cemetery, and the 1720 Soldier's Training Field. The Commission manages building use, occupancy, maintenance, and furnishings of the above facilities. It also serves as advocates for other historic groups and coordinates related programs.



The Commission is engaged in restoring and maintaining the paintings and antique furniture of the Hosmer House, as well as refurbishing and repairing the family home. It opens the House to the public on many holidays and special occasions with the welcomed assistance of the Docent program and many volunteers who work on various subcommittees.



The Hosmer House Historic Homestead has an open house on many major holidays and on the first weekend in December. In December the House is beautifully decorated for the holidays with the assistance of many Sudbury area individuals and organizations that donate their time, materials and ideas for people of all ages to enjoy.

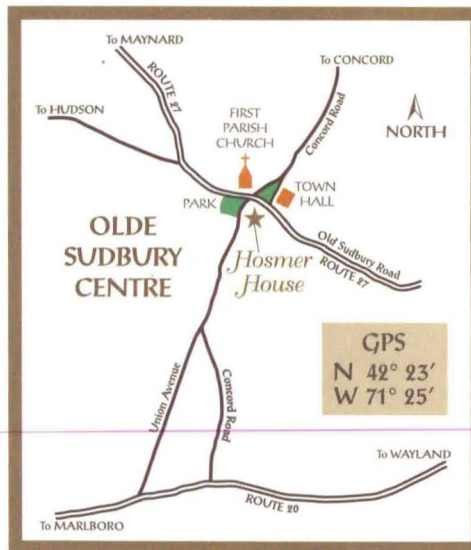
Come and visit us — there is no admission fee. All ages are welcome. There is free parking behind the Sudbury Town Hall. For further information call 978-443-6722 and a Commission member will return your call, or visit the website:

<http://www.town.sudbury.ma.us>

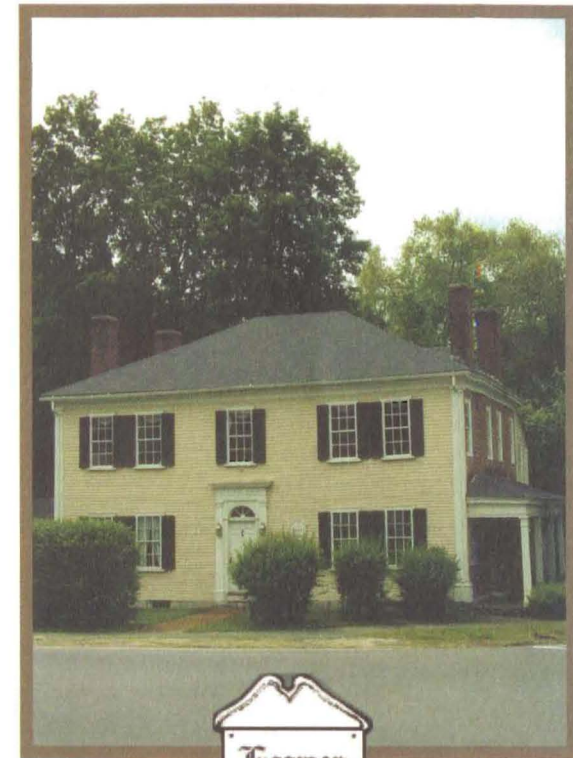
and follow the links to COMMITTEES and HISTORICAL COMMISSION.

For email, contact:

historical@town.sudbury.ma.us



SUDBURY'S
Hosmer House
Olde Sudbury Centre
Sudbury, Massachusetts 01776
Historic Homestead



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Historic Homestead

Listed in the
NATIONAL REGISTER
of HISTORIC DISTRICTS

Elisha Wheeler and Asher Goodnow built Hosmer House about 1793 for a commercial venture. Ella and James Willis purchased the house and ran the Sudbury General Store and Post Office on the first floor in the large room on the Concord Road side of the house. The large room upstairs over the general store was a ballroom used for local dances. A storeroom was added next to the general store, with a cobbler shop above.

The Federal-style center-entrance colonial is brick ended with dual chimneys, and has 11 rooms, 10 fireplaces, and an attached two-bay carriage shed. It is located in Olde Sudbury Centre facing the common.

A brick patio was built by the Town in 1976 at the east end of the House adjacent to Heritage Park to commemorate the Town's bicentennial. The Reverend Edwin Barrett Hosmer, a retired Congregational Minister and wife, Abbie Louisa Ames, purchased the House in 1897.

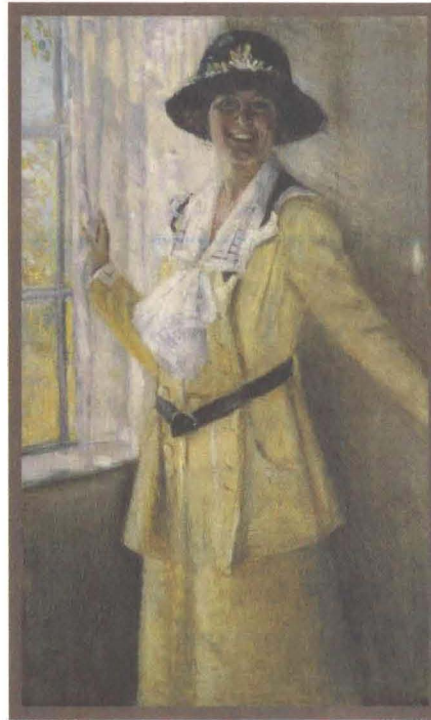


Florence Ames Hosmer (1880-1978) was born in Woodstock, Connecticut, on October 20, 1880, and died on February 17, 1978, in Sudbury in her 98th year.

Florence Hosmer was one of four children: Sister Alice Lillian, and brothers Winfred Everett and Albert Edwin. In addition to being an artist, Albert was associated with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and was a music teacher locally who wrote music.

Florence Hosmer was a well-known artist noted in *Who's Who of American Women*, 1950-1959 and 1964-65, *Two Thousand Women of Achievement*, London, England, 1970, and *Who Was Who in American Art*, 1985.

Miss Hosmer graduated from the Massachusetts College of Art in 1902 where she became a faculty member. She fully supported herself by selling paintings commissioned by dignitaries, musicians, friends, and relatives, and by teaching art in private and public schools in Sudbury, Wayland, and Framingham.



Miss Hosmer had a studio and tearoom on prestigious Newbury Street in Boston in the 1940s. Her summers were often spent at artist colonies in Peterborough, NH, Ogunquit, ME, and on Cape Cod painting with well-known artists of that era.

Her paintings were displayed by the Copley Society, The International Institute of Boston, and are in permanent collections of the Essex Institute of Salem, MA, at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire, the Danforth Museum in Framingham, MA, the Park Street Church in Boston, and in many private collections. Some of the larger paintings have been loaned to the Goodnow Library and the Sudbury United Methodist Church for public display.

Miss Hosmer's portrait style is strong; her brush strokes are decisive and powerful. Her facile use of light and shadow wrap many of her works in a mysterious, somber, quiet mood. Her dark-to-neutral palette, an influence of her Boston training, also works to create this aura of thoughtful mystery. One of her strengths lies in the simple, uncluttered portrayal of her subjects, often in deep shadow, with few environmental distractions.

Miss Hosmer passed deed to the property to the Town of Sudbury on June 1, 1959, with the condition that the Town provide for her care until her death. The stipulation in her will was that the House and all of its contents would be on display to the general public as a living memorial to her father. Before her death Miss Hosmer also donated over 450 of her paintings to the Town. Many of her paintings are presently on display throughout the House. The Sudbury Historical Commission has overseen restoration on many of these art works and the restoration is being continued with funds from welcomed donations.

Funds to benefit the Hosmer House art restoration program are obtained partially from the Town budget, but mostly from the sale of cup plates, reproductions of Miss Hosmer's paintings, open house donations, and rental of the House for events and private functions (up to 50 guests) for special occasions.

Each year a new Pierpoint cup plate depicting a unique Sudbury scene is designed by a commissioned artist and offered in a limited edition each December at the Hosmer House and later at various locations in the area.



Donations of original art work by Florence Hosmer and members of her family are welcomed by the Committee for all to enjoy.