

**Watertown Free Public Library**  
123 Main Street  
Watertown, Massachusetts 02472

**Local History Collection**

***Harriet G. Hosmer: Collected Sources***  
**edited by Joseph L. Curran, Jr., 1974**

**HIST 730.92 HOS C 1974**

## Summary

**Collection name:** Harriet G. Hosmer: Collected Sources edited by Joseph L. Curran, Jr., 1974

**Collection number:** HIST 730.92 HOS C 1974

**Repository:** Watertown Free Public Library (Watertown, Massachusetts)

**Creator:** Curran, Joseph L. (Leo), Jr. (compiler)

**Extent:** 7 binders

**Language:** Primarily in English, some Italian

**Provenance:** Compiled by Joseph L. Curran, Reference Librarian at Watertown Free Public Library, and donated to the Library in 1974.

**Processing information:** Description prepared by Autumn Haag, MIST, Library Volunteer, October 2008, as part of the Harriet Goodhue Hosmer Research Guide. Adapted to finding aid in 2021.

**Conditions governing access:** Collection is open for use in the Local History Room, Watertown Free Public Library.

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## Biographical Note

Joseph Curran is an authority on the life and work of sculptor Harriet Hosmer (1830-1908). He is a former Reference Librarian at Watertown Free Public Library and former pastor at Sacred Heart Church in Watertown, Massachusetts.

## Scope and Content Note

This collection consists of seven volumes of articles, book chapters, clippings, images, and various other primary and secondary sources related to the life and work of Harriet Hosmer. Materials were collected by Curran and arranged into seven binders, grouped by resource type. These are:

Volume 1. Information from Books

Volume 2. Information from Periodicals

Volume 3: Information from Miscellaneous Print Sources

Volumes 4A and 4B: Correspondence

Volumes 5A and 5B: Photographs

Many (but not all) of the resources are facsimiles of originals, and some print resources are duplicated across volumes. Curran finished compiling these resources in 1974. The resources themselves date between 1854 and 1974.

Some binders contain a list of binder contents. These lists are copied in the list below.

## Volume List

*Some items listed in this inventory could not be located in the binders and are currently missing. These are indicated by an asterisk and noted in brackets.*

### Volume 1: Information from Books

Arrangement: Sources are arranged alphabetically by author.

Extent: 1 binder

Content list:

*Page numbers in the content list below refer to the pages of the original source.*

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Volume 2: Information from Periodicals

Arrangement: Sources are arranged alphabetically by author.

Extent: 1 binder

Content list:

*Page numbers in the content list below refer to the pages of the binder.*

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- "Minor Topics: The 'Pompeian Sentinel' by Miss Hosmer." *Art Journal* 1878: 189.
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- "Reviews and Literary Notices." Atlantic Monthly Feb. 1870: 252-255.
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- "Visits to the Studios of Rome." Art Journal 1 June 1871: 162-164.
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### Volume 3: Information from Miscellaneous Printed Sources

Arrangement: Sources are grouped by original format: newspaper articles, encyclopedia and dictionary entries, catalogues, journal articles, and miscellaneous.

Extent: 1 binder

Content list:

*References below are given as they are written in the binder and are in the order they appear there.*

#### Newspaper Articles

- Undated letter from John G. Whitter to Messrs. Childs & Jenks, Boston. Printed in unknown newspaper.
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- "Miss Hosmer's Zenobia." Roxbury City Gazette [Boston] 19 Jan. 1865: n.p.
- "The Zenobia." Boston Evening Transcript 20 Jan. 1865: Pg. 2, column 4.
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- "Harriet Hosmer." Waltham Free Press [Mass] 8 June 1866: Pg. 1, column 6.
- "A Female Genius." Waltham Free Press [Mass] 29 June 1866: Pg. 1, column 7.
- LLRA. Letter. Waltham Free Press [Mass] 6 July 1866: Pg. 2, column 2.
- "Miss Hosmer." Waltham Free Press [Mass] 6 July 1866: Pg. 2, column 5.
- "Miss Hosmer and her Fast Horses." Waltham Free Press [Mass] 3 Aug. 1866: Pg. 1, column 7.
- Waltham Free Press [Mass] 22 May 1868: Pg. 1, column 6.
- "Watertown Matters." Waltham Sentinel [Mass] 18 Dec. 1856: Pg. 2.
- "Watertown Matters." Waltham Sentinel [Mass] 19 Feb. 1857: Pg. 2, column 5.
- "Watertown." Waltham Sentinel [Mass] 2 Mar. 1860: Pg. 2, column 6.
- "Watertown." Waltham Sentinel [Mass] 20 Apr. 1860: Pg. 2.
- Waltham Sentinel [Mass] 5 Oct. 1866: Pg. 1.

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- "British Firm Offers Town Harriet Hosmer Sculpture." Watertown Sun [Mass] 22 May 1958: Pg. 1, column 4.
- "At Library." Watertown Sun [Mass] 18 Jan. 1973.
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- "Miss Hosmer the Artist." Uncredited newspaper article from the Morrill Scrapbook (1864) at the Waltham Public Library, Waltham, MA.
- Two untitled articles from and uncredited newspaper clippings about Harriet Hosmer from a scrapbook in the art department of the Boston Public Library.

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*Harriet G. Hosmer: Collected Sources* edited by Joseph L. Curran, Jr.

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## Catalogues

- “The White, Marmorean Flock: Nineteenth Century American Women Neoclassical Sculptors.” Vassar College Art Gallery. 4 Apr.–30 Apr. 1972.
- “A Figure of Puck.” The Hamilton Palace Collection. Illustrated Priced Catalogue. 1882: Pg. 112.
- “Sculpture: British and Foreign Marble.” National Gallery of New South Wales, Australia. 1918.
- “Three Centuries of the American Nude.” New York Cultural Center. 9 May – 13 July 1975.
- “19th-Century America: Paintings and Sculpture.” Metropolitan Museum of Art. 16 Apr.–7 Sept. 1970.
- Parkinson, Henry, and Peter Lund Simmonds. The Illustrated Record and Descriptive Catalogue of the Dublin International Exhibition of 1865. 1866.
- Holmes, William H. “Catalogue of Collections.” The National Gallery of Art: 1926. “Official Catalogue: Fine Arts.” California Midwinter International Exposition. 1894.
- “Daphne.” Washington University Collection Identification Catalogue.
- “Oenone.” Washington University Collection Identification Catalogue.
- “Portrait, Wayman Crow, Sr.” Washington University Collection Identification Catalogue.

## Journal Articles

- “Miss Hosmer’s Statue of Zenobia.” The New Path April, 1865: 49-55.

## Miscellaneous

- Brochure for the Harriet Hosmer Lectures given by Dolly Sherwood. Map of Mt. Auburn Cemetery which shows Harriet Hosmer’s burial plot.
- Text from the back of an engraving of “Puck” at the Boston Public Library.
- Text from the back of an engraving of “The Sleeping Faun” at the Boston Public Library.

## Volumes 4A and 4B: Correspondence

Arrangement: Correspondence is filed alphabetically by correspondent, so that Binder A contains correspondence filed under “A” through “N” (e.g., Alford House through Noonan) and Binder B contains correspondence filed under “O” through “Z”.

Extent: 2 binders

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*A full listing of all correspondence, in the order it has been arranged in the binders by Curran, is available upon request.*

- Alford House Club
- Amaya, Mario. See New York Cultural Center
- Andrews, Mrs. Lawrence C.
- Armstrong Browning Library
- Art Gallery of New South Wales
- Art Institute of Chicago
- Ashburton, Lord

- Ashe, Mary. See San Francisco Public Library
- Ashridge Management College
- Atkinson, Diana. See Howard, George
- Australia. See Art Gallery of New South Wales
- Baltimore Museum of Art. See also Gerdts, William H.
- Barbados, West Indies, Archives Department
- Barnard, Lord
- Baylor University. See Armstrong Browning Library
- Beem, Edgar A, III. See Portland Public Library
- Bellaigue, Geoffrey de. See Lord Chamberlain's Office of Great Britain
- Bixby Memorial Free Library
- Borough of Kendal Museum
- Boston Athenaeum. See Jackson, Jack
- Bridgetown. See Barbados, West Indies, Archives Department
- Brown University
- Browning, Elizabeth and Robert
- Brownlow, Lord
- Chandler, M. J. See Barbados, West Indies, Archives Department
- Chicago Public Library
- Christie, Manson & Woods
- Cikovsky, Nicolai Jr.
- City University of New York. See Gerdts, William H.
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- Courtauld Institute
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- Davis, W. N. Jr. See Secretary of State of California
- Devine, Clifford O.
- Dominican College of San Rafael
- Donovan, William. See Chicago Public Library
- Fastov, Frank
- Faxon, Alicia
- Fein, Lenore B. See National Collection of Fine Arts
- Free Library of Philadelphia
- Free, Renee. See Art Gallery of New South Wales
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- Hilligoss, Martha. See St. Louis Public Library
- Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden
- Hoffman, Andrea
- Holobeck, Noel C. See St. Louis Public Library

- Hosmer, Harriet G.
- Howard, George
- Jackson, Jack
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- Thompson, Lovell
- Tolnick, Judith. See Brown University
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- Ude, Mrs. Lucy. See Washington University
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#### Volumes 5A and 5B: Photographs

Arrangement: Volume 5A starts with the index and contains pages 1 through 70. Volume 5B begins with page 71.

Extent: 2 binders

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- Academy of Design Gateway. Pgs. 9 & 10.
- African Sibyl (from the Crerar Lincoln Memorial). Pgs. 75 & 76.
- Beatrice Cenci. Pgs. 14-17. \*[p. 16 missing]
- Benton, Col. Thomas H. Pgs. 18 & 19.
- Clasped Hands of the Brownings. Pgs. 72-74.
- Crow, Wayman. Pg. 20 & 93.
- Daphne. Pgs. 21-24.
- Death of the Dryads. Pg. 25.
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- Puck. Pgs. 47 & 48.
- Puck and the Owl. Pgs 11-13.
- Queen Isabella. Pg. 71 & 91.
- Sentinel of Pompeii. Pg. 77.
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- Talbot, Lady (Constance?). Pg. 58.
- Unidentified bust of a man. Pgs 69 & 70.
- Waking Faun. Pgs 59 & 60.
- Will-o'-the Wisp. Pgs 61 & 62.
- Zenobia in Chains. Pgs 63-67.
- Zephyr Descends (from "Gate for an Art Gallery"). Pg. 68.

## Related Materials

A microfilm copy of this collection is available at Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution. It is part of the Joseph L. Curran papers relating to Harriet Goodhue Hosmer, 1845-1975, REEL 1050.

### Other materials by Joseph L. Curran at WFPL

Curran, Joseph L. *Hosmeriana: a guide to works by and about Harriet G. Hosmer*. Manuscript. 1975. [HIST 730.92 HOS C 1975](#)

Curran, Joseph L., Jeremy Cole. *Story of Harriet Hosmer, Watertown sculptor and painter during the mid-1800's*. Slideshow presentation. 1976. [HIST VIDEO 730.92 HOS](#)

*For a more complete list of Hosmer materials at Watertown Free Public Library, please refer to the Harriet Hosmer Research Guide.*

## Access Points

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Hosmer, Harriet Goodhue, 1830-1908.

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Sculpture -- United States -- History.

Sculpture, American -- 19th century.

Sculpture, Neoclassical -- United States.

Watertown (Mass.) -- Authors.

Women sculptors.