

“Without an accurate understanding of our history, we may not come to understand our present realities. This project will embark on the essential work of uplifting stories, perspectives and facts that have the potential to produce new levels of understanding and perhaps solutions for our society today.”

— Andy X. Vargas
Massachusetts State Rep.
3rd Essex District

“Throughout Haverhill’s nearly four centuries of history, the Merrimack River controlled nearly every aspect of life in the city and will certainly dictate its future. Any comprehensive interpretation must consider the river as its central and dominant interpretive thread.”

— Barbara Silberman
Professor of Museum Studies
Tufts University

“The Buttonwoods Museum is ushering in a new era with a focus on a comprehensive approach to social inclusion, tied together by the historical connection to the Merrimack River. Our goal is to present Haverhill’s story in a current and relevant way.”

— Jan Williams
Director/Curator
Buttonwoods Museum



The Buttonwoods Museum

Located on a historic site overlooking the Merrimack River, the Buttonwoods Museum tells the stories of life in the Merrimack Valley from early Native American settlements through present day communities.

Along with collections of significant artifacts, the museum includes three historic buildings for guests to tour – the Duncan House, the John Ward House, and the Daniel Hunkins Shoe Shop.

A visit to the Buttonwoods offers the opportunity to connect with history together through educational programs, workshops, guided tours, exhibits, and lectures.

The mission of the Buttonwoods Museum is to collect and preserve history, and to educate the community about Greater Haverhill’s past and culture.

For more information about **REVITALIZE BUTTONWOODS** or to discuss how you can help, call 978-374-4626.



Buttonwoods
museum

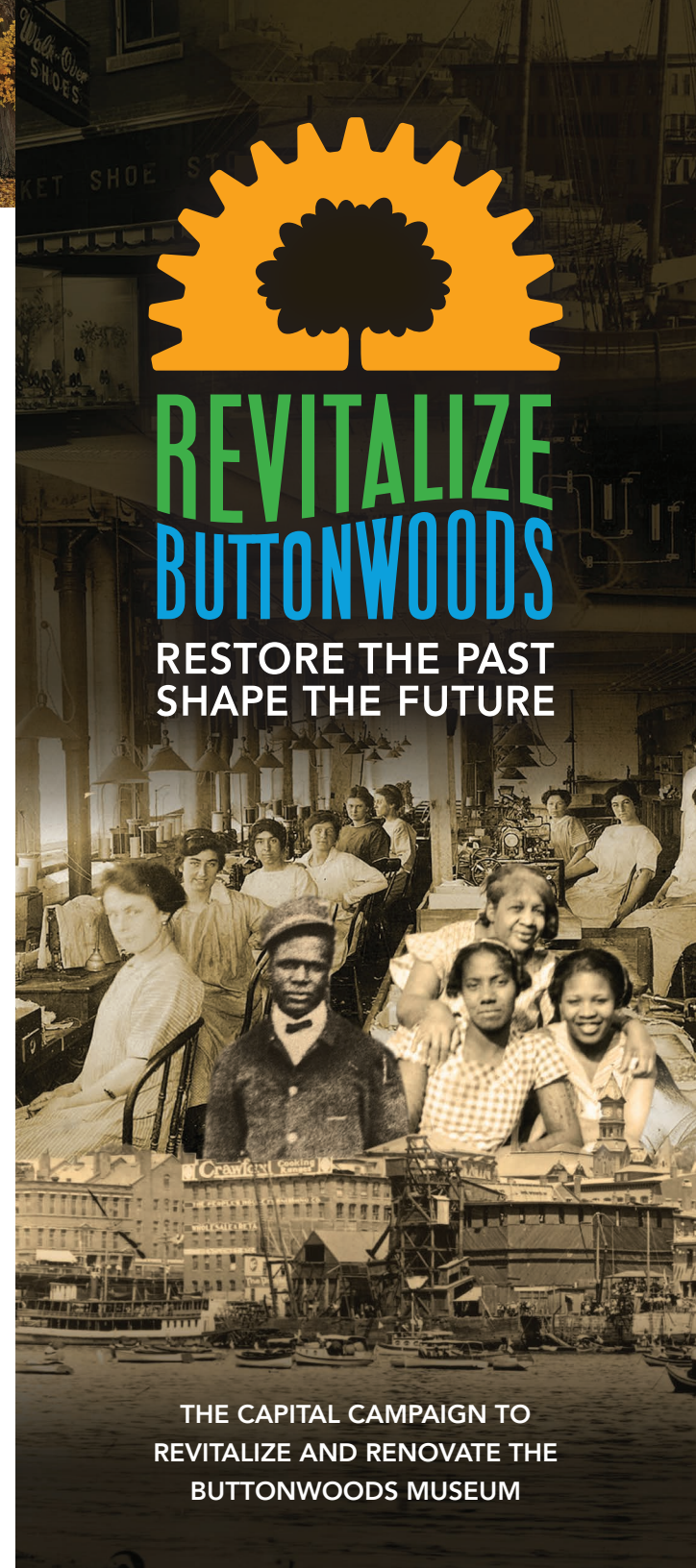
Connect with History Together

240 Water Street, Haverhill, MA 01830-6433
978.374.4626 buttonwoods.org



REVITALIZE
BUTTONWOODS

RESTORE THE PAST
SHAPE THE FUTURE



THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN TO
REVITALIZE AND RENOVATE THE
BUTTONWOODS MUSEUM



Future entrance to main gallery and visitor center.

Where the River and People Come Together

COLLECTIVE STORIES OF THE PAST

At the Buttonwoods Museum, we recognize how history impacts our lives now, and in the future. The REVITALIZE BUTTONWOODS project aims to create experiences connecting the past to the present through a narrative that is broadly inclusive, providing a collection of diverse perspectives, all set against the backdrop of the influential Merrimack River.

Much more than a cosmetic renovation, this bold reinterpretation project will transform the Museum into a vehicle for social change through inclusive programs and exhibits, representing stories of historically excluded populations. A new Advisory Committee will help shape exhibits, providing greater perspective on contemporary issues, increasing the Museum's relevance and impact on the community.

We acknowledge and honor the Abenaki, Pennacook, and Wabanaki Peoples past and present, upon whose traditional lands and waterways the Buttonwoods Museum is located.

SHAPING THE FUTURE

Creating engaging exhibits and facilitating meaningful discussions are key components of the REVITALIZE BUTTONWOODS project. While existing educational programming has focused on Haverhill's history as an industrial center, presenting a more inclusive narrative of the past will cultivate a deeper understanding of the complexities of our shared histories.

Native people, persons of color, and women were all essential to the history and expansion of Haverhill throughout the colonial period to the present day, however, their voices were often overlooked. Experiences of these and other often marginalized groups who helped Haverhill become the modern city it is today will illuminate our community's rich history and inspire the generations of tomorrow.

Ways to Get Involved

- 1 Join our Community Advisory Committee** — Become a member and help shape exhibits, workshops, and educational experiences for students with a goal of creating a more diverse and inclusive perspective of our local history.
- 2 Be a Corporate Partner** — Woven into the fabric of Greater Haverhill are businesses built on the contributions of the diverse community whose voices have been too often excluded. Join us in creating a rich, inclusive museum by being one of our Corporate Partners.
- 3 Sponsor an Exhibit** — Several opportunities to sponsor gallery displays of valuable pieces in our collection are available for individuals, families, and businesses. This is an exciting and highly visible way to be part of the Museum's revitalization project.
- 4 Honor a Loved One** — The new experience of the Buttonwoods will include an outdoor terrace overlooking the focal point of the project, the Merrimack River. Designed to reflect the simple elegance of classic New England architecture, engraved bricks will be used for the construction, honoring individuals and families of Greater Haverhill.
- 5 Support the Project** — Donations made towards the REVITALIZE BUTTONWOODS Capital Campaign will directly support the cost of project renovations, exhibits, and new educational experiences. Any contribution amount is greatly appreciated! Gifts can be made by check, or securely online at our website: buttonwoods.org/donate.