North Haven Library*

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Restoration & Renovation

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The top end of Main Street in North Haven is anchored by a building of special and various qualities. It contains thousands of worlds and thousands of songs. It offers quiet and adventure, knowledge and peace, diversion and focus. There is no price of admission beyond curiosity and interest. It is open to the young and old and overseen by a wise and stalwart custodian named Kate. It is the North Haven Library, precious beyond even all the words in it.

Susan Minot



The outside needs to be restored and the inside renovated. We are at that tipping point in the life of a building where, without work it will quickly deteriorate and rot. Actually, we already have mold, and rot, but with your help we can tip the scale, and put this beautifully

designed, purposeful building back in good form for the next 75 years.

Some might say there is no need or reason for a library these days given that most people have more information in their pockets than a mile of bookshelves. While that might be true think of what would be lost, because a library is so much more than a place of books; it is a study hall, a reading corner for children, a quiet space. A library is a refuge from the meme, the soundbite, and the flash bang of a video game.

Our Library reflects the community it serves, it teaches our children not only how to read but how to think, and it shows them (think that you will agree) that an hour in a reading room beats an hour of screen time.

In our renovation plans we have therefore paid particular attention to the children's room to make it a larger more comfortable room where families can read and play together. Young adults will also have their own room, just what every teenager wants. We will enhance and refurnish the main reading room, re-landscape and rebuild the porch. We will continue to provide high speed internet and charging stations.

Instead of unnecessary additions, we want to make better use of the available space as well as provide modern heating, venting and a wheelchair accessible restroom.

The plan outlined in this prospectus is a work in progress. We have vision and purpose because our building is in great need.

We are asking you to help us Restore and Renovate our beloved North Haven Library.

David Wilson President of the Board of Trustees



The North Haven Library has enriched and supported my love for reading and holds some of my fondest memories. When I was growing up, I loved visiting the Library with my Mom. But the joy wasn't just in checking out books. I loved the sense of calm walking in the door, the warmth and light in the main room, the friendly conversations with Kate, the delicious and familiar smell of old books. These memories are visceral because of the physical building and the people sharing the space. My hope is that we invest wholeheartedly in resorting and revitalizing this space. May my children and many generations to come have the chance to make memories at the North Haven Library.

Amilia Campbell

Cherish & Conserve

This may sound like an exaggeration but hear me out – libraries are the greatest safe spaces in the world. Where else can you travel to other worlds, times, and countries without fear? Learn new ideas or discover old ones without censure? Books are our greatest passports and mode of transportation, and even if you don't need a "safe space" in the most modern meaning of the term, there's something to be said about a building where you're free to experience whatever you want or need to in the pages of a book.

Since its founding in the nineteenth century, the library has occupied several different spaces, including the Pulpit Harbor Church, and many of the original books in the collection have followed the library to where it lives today, while a few others are currently housed in the North Island Museum. The collection has changed over the years, with Emilie Loring making way for James Patterson, but it has always kept one very specific thing at its forefront: having books that people in the community actually want to read. Some of those titles last forever – if you look at our mystery section, you can see first American editions of Agatha Christie's books still ready to go out, along with Ellery Queen and other Golden Age mystery standbys. In fact, if the book is old enough, it may still have the old paper library card for you to see who read the book back in the day. We also have plenty of books by Maine authors, presenting a picture of how our literary heritage has grown and changed.

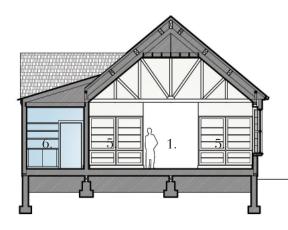
Over the years we've expanded our holdings to include graphic novels – both comics and manga – and videos, and our children's collection in particular is a wonderful trip through time. New books sit side-by-side with old favorites, and while some titles, like the delightful Clarinda about a little girl who discovers a world on the other side of her bathtub drain, have moved into our special collections room, you can still read Beverly Cleary and Carolyn Haywood in the same room as Rick Riordan. Another joy is the picture book collection, which our library has uniquely sorted by subject rather than author in a nod to how most little kids prefer to pick their books.

As time has passed, the library has gone through a lot of changes, and it will continue to do so as the way we access information and read evolves. But nothing will ever change the fact that the library, our library, is a place to escape from the world, whether in the sense of needing a break from other people or as the ultimate travel agency with tickets to all places and times. The library is waiting. Do come visit.

Rebecca Silverman



Proposed Sections



- 1. Reading Room
- 2. Community Presentation Area
- 3. The Stacks
- 4. The Library Window
- 5. Cabinet of Curiosities
- 6. Coffee Area

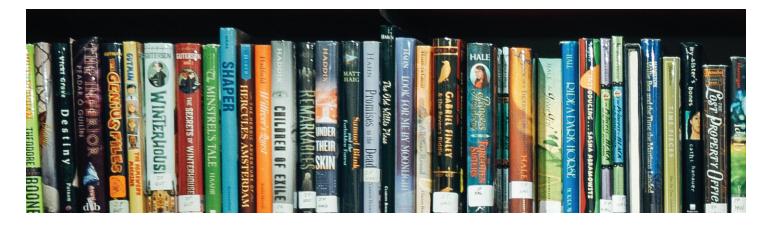
Reflect & Reimagine



Proposed Plan

- 1. Reading Room
- 2. Community Presentation Area
- 3. The Stacks
- 4. The Library Window
- 5. Cabinet of Curiosities
- 6. Coffee Area
- 7. Librarian
- 8. Entry Vestibule and Display
- 9. Children's Reading Room
- 10. Young Adult Reading Room
- 11. Accessible Entrance
- 12. Storage
- 13. Accessible Restroom
- 14. The Library Garden

Imagine what The Library should be for the next 75 years. What will change and what will stay the same? We need flexibility and space for the Community. We need open-ness and a better use of natural light. We will upgrade the lighting to make the space more comfortable and efficient. We are creating the accessible entrance so that all of the Community can be included. Our storage will be organized, efficient and flexible. We are improving and enhancing the exterior envelope to last another century. And we will build a new bountiful reading garden to welcome the outdoors and the town.



Budget

EXTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS:

Insulation, waterproofing, new siding, trim work	\$185,000
Roofing, flashing, gutters, leaders, chimney, flues	$25,\!000$
New windows, doors, sills, skylights	100,000

INTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS:

New addition, rebuild children's and young adults room	60,000
Flooring, painting, counters	50,000
Furniture	10,000

SYSTEMS:

HVAC, Heat Pumps, electrical wiring, lighting, plumbing,	
water heater, ADA bathroom fixtures and fittings	100,000

SITE IMPROVEMENTS:

Reading deck, ADA entrance ramp, landscaping 50,000

SOFT COSTS:

Legal, permits, code requirements, Architect services, landscape and lighting design services	100,000
Total Estimated Project Costs:	\$ 680,000

These are a projection based on current material and labor costs. Please let the Board of Trustees know if you have any questions about the enclosed budget. We welcome your input and look forward to the opportunity to share more details in the months ahead. We thank you, in advance, for your support.



How YOU Can Help

There are so many reasons to support our historic Library. The North Haven Library was first incorporated in 1898 as a Literary and Moral Society. It has been a feature of island life ever since. Over the many years of its existence, the library's goal has been to serve yearround and seasonal residents from the youngest to the oldest. Our Restoration and Renovation Plan addresses all work needed to keep the building strong and to maintain our programs and collections now and for decades to come. This will include shoring up the building, providing not only the books we want to read but the high-speed internet and programs that appeal to the entire island community. We want to ensure that the library will always be the quiet retreat for reading and thinking we so value. The Library Board is committed to keeping the library strong far into the future. We are proud of what we must preserve and clear about the help that is needed.

What we need to Preserve:

- 20,000 New and Classic titles
- An outstanding Children's and Young Adult Collection
- Remarkable Summer Speakers series
- A beloved and experienced Librarian Miss Kate!
- An important architectural feature on Main Street
- Maine's most appealing Reading Room

Where we need your Help:

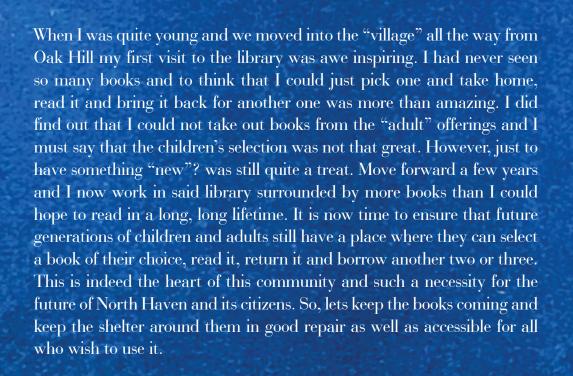
- New front sill, window replacement and new siding
- A new heating and venting system
- Restoration of the Main Reading Room
- Renovation of the Children's Room
- Wheelchair accessible bathroom
- Landscaping and outdoor seating
- Internet and electrical upgrades.

Barth Haven, March



Readers Know More

The Board of Trustees of The North Haven Library McBride Architects Photos Courtesy of Bill Trevaskis and the North Haven Historical Society



Kate Quinn