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GORTON'S STEPS UP FOR HERITAGE CENTER

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The Gloucester Maritime Heritage Center (GMHC) is pleased to announce that it has received a \$50,000 commitment from Gorton's of Gloucester. "Having the support of a corporation whose roots and identity are at the core of our historical mission is both validating and gratifying," observes Geoffrey Richon, president of the GMHC board of directors.

The Gorton's funds will be used to renovate an existing storage building on GMHC's property into a presentation and classroom space dedicated to the study of Gloucester's maritime industrial traditions, marine ecology, and the future uses of Gloucester's industrial waterfront.

"We hope that our contribution will inspire others to become involved in this exciting venture," comments Paul Coz, Vice President of Human Resources and chairman of Gorton's donations committee.

According to GMHC executive director Harriet Webster, "Gorton's generosity puts us well on the way to making the transition from a seasonal to a year-round community resource. We very much appreciate the confidence the company has placed in us." GMHC needs to raise another \$50,000 in order to make the project a reality.

Formed in 1999, the nonprofit Gloucester Maritime Heritage Center owns and occupies a 36,050 square foot site overlooking Gloucester Harbor. The property includes a 19th

century mill building, an office building, a former ice house, an equipment building, three wharves, and the oldest continuously operating marine railway in the country.

In addition to boat repair and maintenance, GMHC's current programs include Sea Pocket Lab (an outdoor aquarium/marine exhibit), a dive exhibit, boatbuilding and rowing courses, marine science internships, and field trip experiences for students pre-school thru high school.

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