



## BRICK STORE MUSEUM

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***MADE IN KENNEBUNK* EXHIBITION OPENS  
AT THE BRICK STORE MUSEUM ON MAY 14**

*KENNEBUNK* – May 14, 2004, marks the public opening of The Brick Store Museum’s newest exhibition, *Made in Kennebunk*. On view through the end of 2004, *Made in Kennebunk* explores the rich manufacturing heritage along Kennebunk’s Mousam River corridor. The exhibition is made possible by a grant from the National Park Service and the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, with sponsorship from Kennebunk Savings Bank.

Rosalind Magnuson, The Brick Store Museum’s archivist, is the curator for the *Made in Kennebunk* project, which also includes an accompanying book to be published later this year. Said Magnuson, “People are very familiar with shipbuilding on the Kennebunk River, but this is the first project that begins to fully address the Mousam River factories and the industries that succeeded shipbuilding.”

This groundbreaking exhibition relies upon archival photographs and newspaper accounts to reconstruct the early manufacturing landscape’s iron works, mills and tanneries. Visitors to the exhibition may be surprised to learn the diversity of products made in Kennebunk over the past 200 years: everything from textiles, paper and Leatheroid traveling trunks to potato chips, Kesslen shoes and Keuffel and Esser slide rules. Locals will recognize many of the original factory buildings still in existence, and visitors can see—and even touch—selected samples of products made in Kennebunk. Several area residents have loaned artifacts for the exhibition and contributed oral histories to augment the historical research. The exhibition concludes with Kennebunk’s modern manufacturing legacy, and visitors learn about two present-day Kennebunk companies: Tom’s of Maine, Inc., manufacturer of natural personal care products; and William Arthur, Inc., manufacturer of fine stationery. In addition to seeing the original electric mixer that Tom’s of Maine, Inc. used in making the first experimental batches of its now-famous natural toothpaste, visitors can also follow William Arthur, Inc.’s fascinating design process from concept to beautifully finished card.

*Made in Kennebunk* is the first exhibition in the museum’s Sandra S. Armentrout Gallery, newly named in honor of Armentrout’s dedication and commitment to the museum. Armentrout was The Brick Store Museum’s director from 1980 through 1986 and returned to serve as the museum’s interim director for ten months in 2003.

*The Brick Store Museum is located at 117 Main Street in Kennebunk’s historic district. The museum is dedicated to preserving and exhibiting the region’s cultural and artistic heritage. Its galleries and research archives are open to the public year-round: Tuesdays – Fridays, 10 – 4:30, and Saturdays, 10 – 1. Admission is by donation. Visit [www.brickstoremuseum.org](http://www.brickstoremuseum.org) or call 207.985.4802 for further information.*

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