



SSHSA has been leasing the building located at 2500 Post Road in Warwick, Rhode Island since 2014. Established as the Ship History Center, it was the first time in SSHSA's history that all the collections, reference library, museum and headquarters office would exist in one location. In late 2019, the building's owner decided to sell, giving SSHSA first right of refusal. Quietly, and during a global pandemic, SSHSA raised capital funds for the down payment. SSHSA officially acquired the building and the adjacent lot on August 28, 2020. SSHSA is carrying a mortgage on the property. The Full Ahead! Campaign will fund debt reduction associated with the building mortgage.

The Building Fund will also support future identified improvements and mission driven opportunities (outlined below).

The Ship History Center has several outdoor/exterior spaces that have been identified for future improvements:

- Parking Lot - 20 spaces – repaved
- Courtyard/Arboretum – 500 sq. feet – new and trimmed plantings, seating construction, cement paving and brick repainting
- Clock Tower – Rust mitigation, paint, clock maintenance
- Vacant Lot – currently an undeveloped house lot adjacent to the Ship History Center parking lot that could be developed for future use

Inside the Ship History Center you'll find the museum. Exhibits and displays adorn virtually every room in the 8,000 sq. foot space. Collections/artifact storage can be found mainly on the first floor. While space isn't yet a major issue, museum quality storage options have been placed high on the priority list. Exhibits that allow for interaction, story-telling

and social distancing are essential to hosting members and guests. Finally, staff and volunteer office spaces will require reconfiguring to accommodate program expansion.

[Click here](#) to access the full Case Statement for the Full Ahead! campaign.