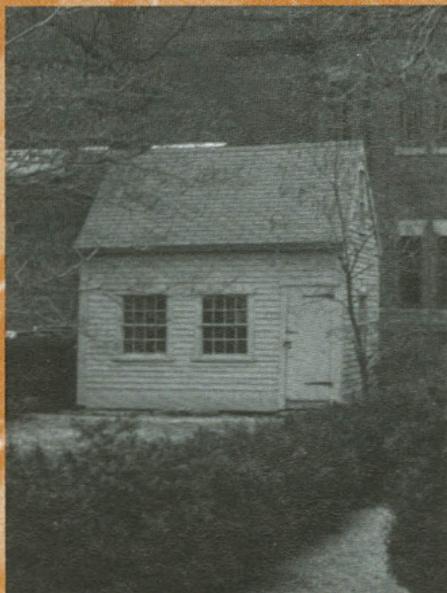




Industrial Trail



**Essex
National Heritage
Area**

A regional project in cooperation with the National Park Service

Essex County, Massachusetts

Explore the Industrial Trail

WHERE THE SOUNDS OF PAST INDUSTRIES
COME ALIVE WITH THE CLACK OF THE LOOMS
AND THE SQUEAK OF THE BELTS.

THE SHOUTS OF WORKERS PROTESTING
FOR THEIR RIGHTS STILL ECHO THROUGH THE DIVERSE
NEIGHBORHOODS, DENSE URBAN CENTERS,
AND QUAIN VILLAGES.

Shoemaking, tanning, and textile cottage industries were a way of life for the early settlers of Essex County. The rhythm of life was measured by the ring of iron, the smell of leather, and the woody beat of the hand loom and shuttle. The tools of these early artisans still exist in original shoe workshops, beam rooms, and exceptional museum collections.



The Beam House Gallery at George Peabody House Civic Center, Peabody

housing, and unique factory buildings built by this revolution.

At our historic museums, examine fancy hand-crafted ladies' shoes from the 19th century, or boots made for soldiers in the Civil War. Imagine yourself in the contrasting roles of industrialist and immigrant worker at one of our heritage state parks. Investigate the birth of the labor movement, which exploded through the nation from this industrial system. Take a walk in one of our vibrant ethnic neighborhoods. See cities that sprang up around the factories and mills. Learn about the fascinating processes and inventions used in the creation of textiles, leather and shoes in Essex County. You will be transported back to an era that is only a memory.

Visit the cities and towns that led the Industrial Revolution. Imagine the growing industries bursting out from the rural 10-foot shoe shops into towering, brick mills. See the mighty rivers and narrow head-races that powered the textile mills. Explore the prosperous industrialists' homes, workers'



Welcome to the Essex National Heritage Area

For more than four centuries, Essex County has had a profound influence on our understanding of American history. Three stories in particular are preserved here:

The Early Settlement Story:

The European settlement of New England.

The Maritime Story:

The rise of the international maritime trade, which helped make America an independent nation.

The Industrial Story:

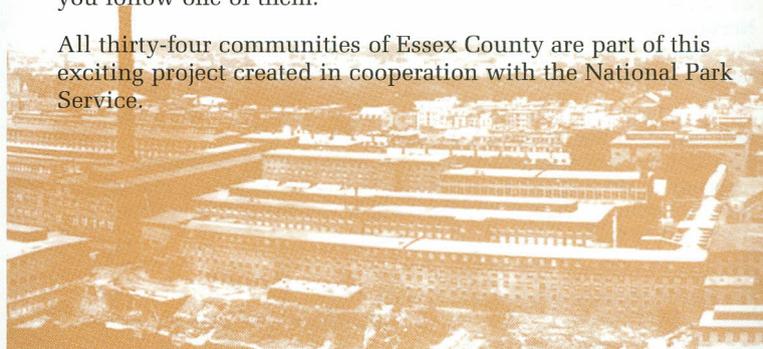
The industrial revolution in textile and shoe manufacturing.

The rocky ocean shoreline of Essex County, its sandy beaches and natural harbors, its large salt marshes and forests help us understand the appeal of the area in the 16th and 17th centuries and why it developed as it did. Our coastal and deep-river towns still preserve their original colonial patterns of roads, open spaces, and commons, as well as numerous First Period homes.

Our waterfronts still show how the settlers developed the fishing and maritime trades and transformed our harbors with warehouses and wharves, ships and boatyards. Our town centers, filled with elegant homes, show how the merchants and sea captains gained wealth by privateering during the Revolution and then by opening the farthest ports of the world to their tall ships. The same maritime wealth helped finance the industrial revolution, building the huge textile mills and shoe factories, the machine shops and tanning plants, the workers' homes and industrialists' mansions that dominate some of our communities today.

The Essex National Heritage Area links these resources together through three theme trails. This brochure will help you follow one of them.

All thirty-four communities of Essex County are part of this exciting project created in cooperation with the National Park Service.



Textile mills of Lawrence, c.1900

The Leather Story

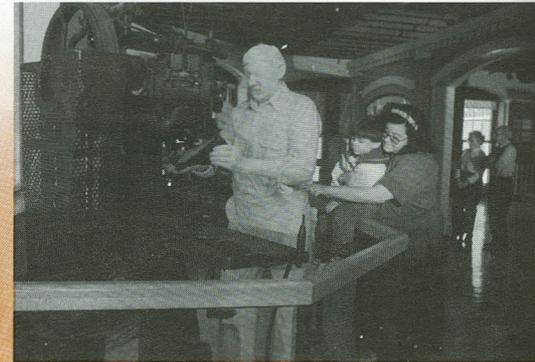
WITH AN INDEPENDENT SPIRIT, THE SHOEMAKERS
AND TANNERS OF ESSEX COUNTY
CAME TO DOMINATE THE NATIONAL SHOE INDUSTRY
BY THE EARLY 19TH CENTURY.

Shoemaking and tanning were traditional handicrafts during the 18th century. Using hand tools, men made shoes in their homes. Women sewed together shoe uppers in addition to performing their household chores. The tanning industry grew to supply the increasing leather demand.

In the late 1780s, separate shoe workshops were created, called "10 footers" because of their size. Although pay was poor and hours long, shoemakers and binders were free to set the work pace and conditions. Between 1820 and 1850, larger "central shops" were built by businessmen where more control could be exerted over quality and design.

Mechanization began in the 1850s. Sewing machines changed forever how shoes were made. Moderate-sized factories replaced central shops, and machines were developed which replicated the intricate handwork in

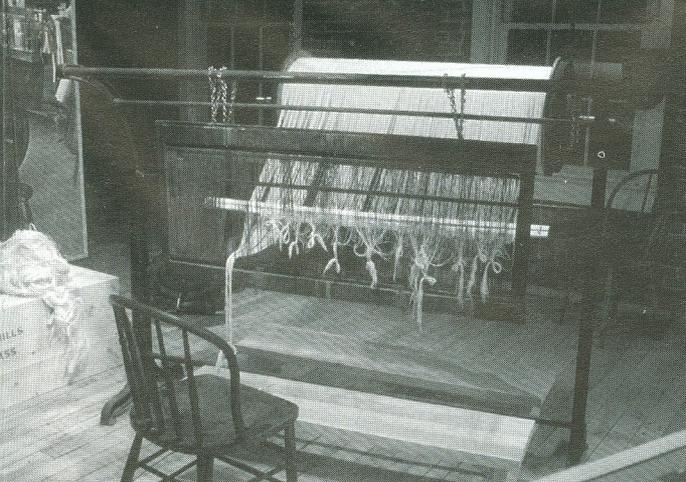
the shoemaking process. The factory system greatly increased productivity but severely limited the control individual workers had over their working conditions. In a few short years, the shoe industry was transformed from a de-centralized system of production to a highly regimented industry. Waves of immigrants supplied the workers who were essential to the growth of the shoe and tanning industries. Earlier values of skill, independence, and creativity fell victim to maximizing profits.



As factories grew, so did the surrounding communities. Large cities, such as Haverhill, Lynn, and Peabody, still stand as monuments to the Industrial Revolution. Lynn became the world center for manufacturing women's shoes, as well as a center for the invention and manufacture of shoe machinery. Haverhill, known as the "Queen Slipper City," rivaled Lynn, and its shoes were known for high quality and design. In Peabody, tanning and leather production dominated the local economy, producing fine leather machinery and new technological processes.

The 1920s and 1930s brought foreign imports, the Depression, and cheaper labor, causing the gradual decline of the shoe and tanning industries. What survives today are the structures and artifacts that bear testimony to a remarkable period in America—the Industrial Revolution.

Stitching room
at The Brophy Shoe Company, Lynn



Inset photo left: Lynn Heritage State Park exhibit

Inset photo right: Lawrence Heritage State Park exhibit

The Textile Story

THE STREAMS AND RIVERS OF ESSEX COUNTY, WITH THEIR ABUNDANT SUPPLY OF WATER POWER, PLAYED A LEADING ROLE IN THE REGION'S EMERGENCE AS A CENTER FOR TEXTILE MANUFACTURE.

Essex County's textile story has roots in 17th- and 18th-century sawmills, gristmills, and fulling mills, which operated on waterpower. Early textile production remained in the home or the shops of town weavers until the beginning of the 19th century, when small one-process mills were developed.

Nearly all innovations in textile technology originated in England before 1800. In 1802, British entrepreneurs developed the first textile mills on Cochichewick Brook and Shawsheen River in Andover. Soon textile mills for cotton, woolen and hosiery manufacturing sprang up all around Essex County. Multi-process factories were built in which raw cotton bales were transformed into bolts of cloth. Mills located on larger rivers with greater waterpower began to overshadow the smaller mills, thus ushering in the period of the mega-mills.

Nowhere was mill construction pursued more diligently than in the planned industrial city of Lawrence. By 1895, fifty years after its founding, Lawrence was the leading worsted cloth manufacturing center in the world, with a mile of mills lining the banks of the Merrimack River.

The most poignant story is the history of the immigration and labor unrest that accompanied this industrial growth. Textile manufacturers squeezed every minute of labor from their workers. Relying on an immigrant work force divided by language and ethnic culture, they rigorously structured their workers' lives to the demands of the mills. These conditions gave rise to a burgeoning labor movement. The successful 1912 "Bread and Roses" strike was one of the 20th-century's most intense labor conflicts and a milestone in American labor history.

By 1950, the fortunes of the textile industry had spiraled downward. Obsolete buildings and antiquated machinery, together with competition from cheaper labor and weaker unions in the South, precipitated the textile industry's demise in New England.

Today, the legacy of Essex County's textile industry can be experienced in Lawrence, Methuen, North Andover, and Andover through their mill buildings, boarding houses, canals, and ethnic diversity.

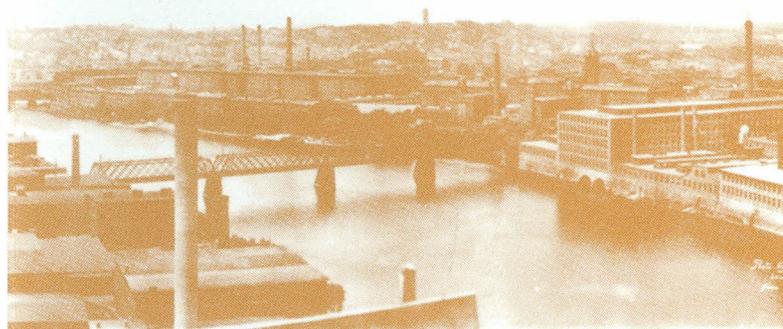
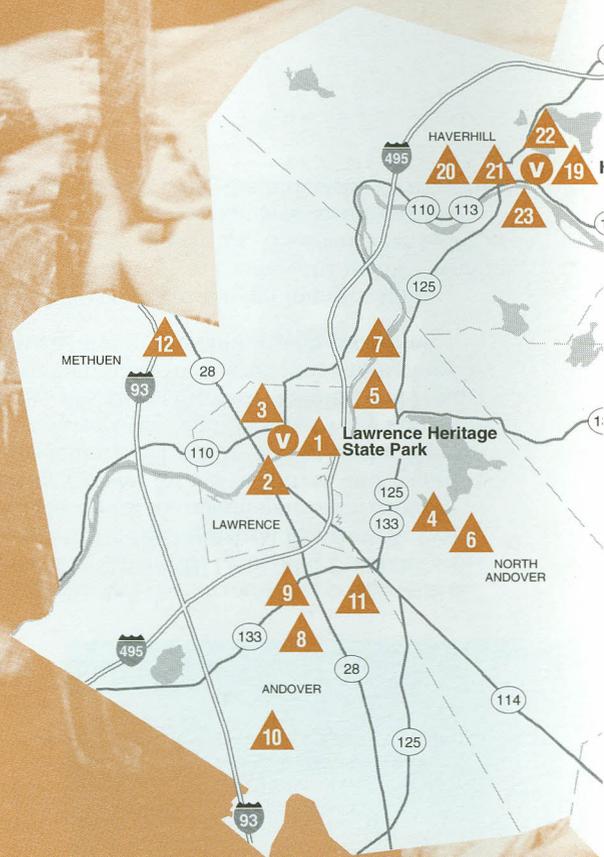
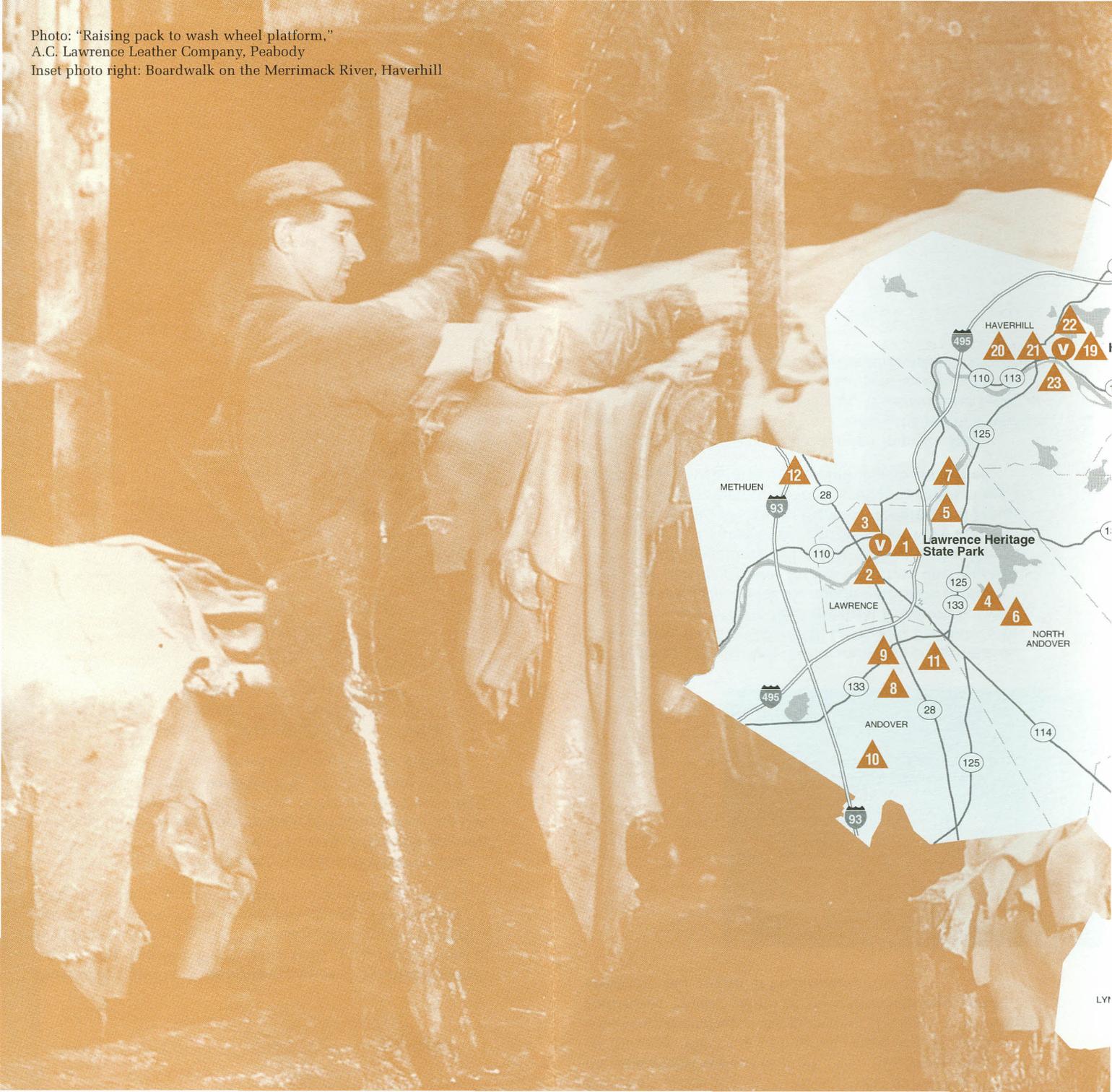


Photo: "Raising pack to wash wheel platform."

A.C. Lawrence Leather Company, Peabody

Inset photo right: Boardwalk on the Merrimack River, Haverhill



Communities and Highlights to Visit on the Textile Trail

Lawrence

Known as the “City of Workers,” it is the most significant mill city in Essex County and was one of the nation’s first planned factory towns. Lawrence still retains all of the characteristics of a 19th-century mill city, including its vast red brick mill complexes, machine shops, canals, dams, and mill housing districts. The city has been home to immigrants from over thirty countries, and its nickname, “Immigrant City,” holds true today. Come learn about labor history, and enjoy the riverfront parks and walks.

V 1 Lawrence Heritage State Park Boarding House Site

1 Jackson St. Open year round.

A national model in historic preservation and urban landscape design, the park includes 23 acres spread throughout the city, including a scenic park downtown on the river, boating and beach facilities, and especially informative exhibits, tours, and films bringing to life the city’s rich labor history.

2 North Canal Historic District

General, Union, Methuen, Marston Sts., Mill Island

Includes many important mills, factory boarding houses, Great Stone Dam with locks and gatehouse, bridges, North and South Canals.

3 Immigrant City Archives

6 Essex St. Open year round.

Located in the original Essex Company Building, the Archives house historical manuscripts, books, exhibits, photographs, and oral and video histories documenting the past and present of Lawrence.

North Andover

First settled along the shores of Lake Cochichewick, the community was primarily agricultural until the 19th century, when mills and mill villages sprang up. North Andover, which was known as the North Parish of Andover until 1855, still reflects a rustic and rural charm. Visit the ten-acre Old Town Common, preserved colonial structures, and textile mill buildings.

4 North Andover Historical Society

153 Academy Rd. Open year round.

Founded by local textile merchants, the Society provides an excellent walking tour of the historic districts.

5 Machine Shop Village Historic District

Pleasant, Main, Water, East, Carendon Sts.

151 properties, including industrial, commercial and residential areas. The industrial focus in this area was the manufacturing of textile-producing equipment.

6 Old Center Historic District

Andover, Johnson Sts., Mass. Ave.

75 properties, including both commercial and residential structures. This center reflects the early commercial development of North Parish.

7 Schofield Carding Mill

North Main, Sutton Sts.

Built in 1802, it is the earliest surviving mill building on the Textile Trail.

Andover

This town has a very different and distinct textile flavor. Andover lies in the valley of the Shawsheen River, with the Merrimack River forming its northern border. Many 19th-century mills are still visible. In 1919, Shawsheen Village, a model corporate community, grew up with its English Garden City Style. Along with its history and natural areas, downtown Andover is a thriving focal point.

8 Andover Historical Society

97 Main St. Open year round.

Interprets Andover’s textile history through exhibits, walking tours, and slide talks.

9 Andover Village Industrial District

Essex, Red Spring, and Stevens Sts.

Contains worker housing and mill buildings spanning nearly two centuries. This area includes both the Abbott and Marland Villages.

10 Ballardvale Historic District

Andover and Tewksbury Sts.

95 properties centered around the Shawsheen River. This mid-19th-century village became world renowned for its flannel and worsted goods.

11 Shawsheen Village Historic District

Haverhill and York Sts.

This area of 294 properties was planned and created in 1919 as a model community of manufacturing, residential, commercial and recreational facilities.

Methuen

The farmland and open spaces of Methuen attracted many of the early industrialists to build large estates in the area, which contribute to the present community character. Methuen is an eclectic mix of architecture, with intact mill complexes, new development, and intriguing public buildings and estates that reflect the wealth generated from the textile industry.

12 Spicket Falls Historic District

Railroad, Hampshire, Osgood, Broadway Sts.

In this district of 26 industrial, residential, and commercial properties is the Methuen Mill Complex and Spicket River Dam, an example of an early 19th-century multi-process factory. It has been described as one of the best preserved textile mill sites in the Lower Merrimack River Valley.

Other sites to Visit on the Textile Trail

Amesbury

13 Amesbury and Salisbury Mills Village Historic District Market, Bodman Sts.

A 19th-century textile village. Self-guided walking tour available.

Newburyport

14 Newburyport Historic District

High St., Merrimac St.

Textile steam mills and worker housing.

Communities and Highlights to Visit on the Leather Trail

Lynn

Lynn is a city of diverse character. You will discover expansive oceanfront views and a dense bustling downtown with immense architectural remnants of the days when Lynn was the world center for the manufacturer of women’s shoes. There are rich ethnic neighborhoods, historic districts, and two thousand acres of wooded parkland.

V 15 Lynn Heritage State Park

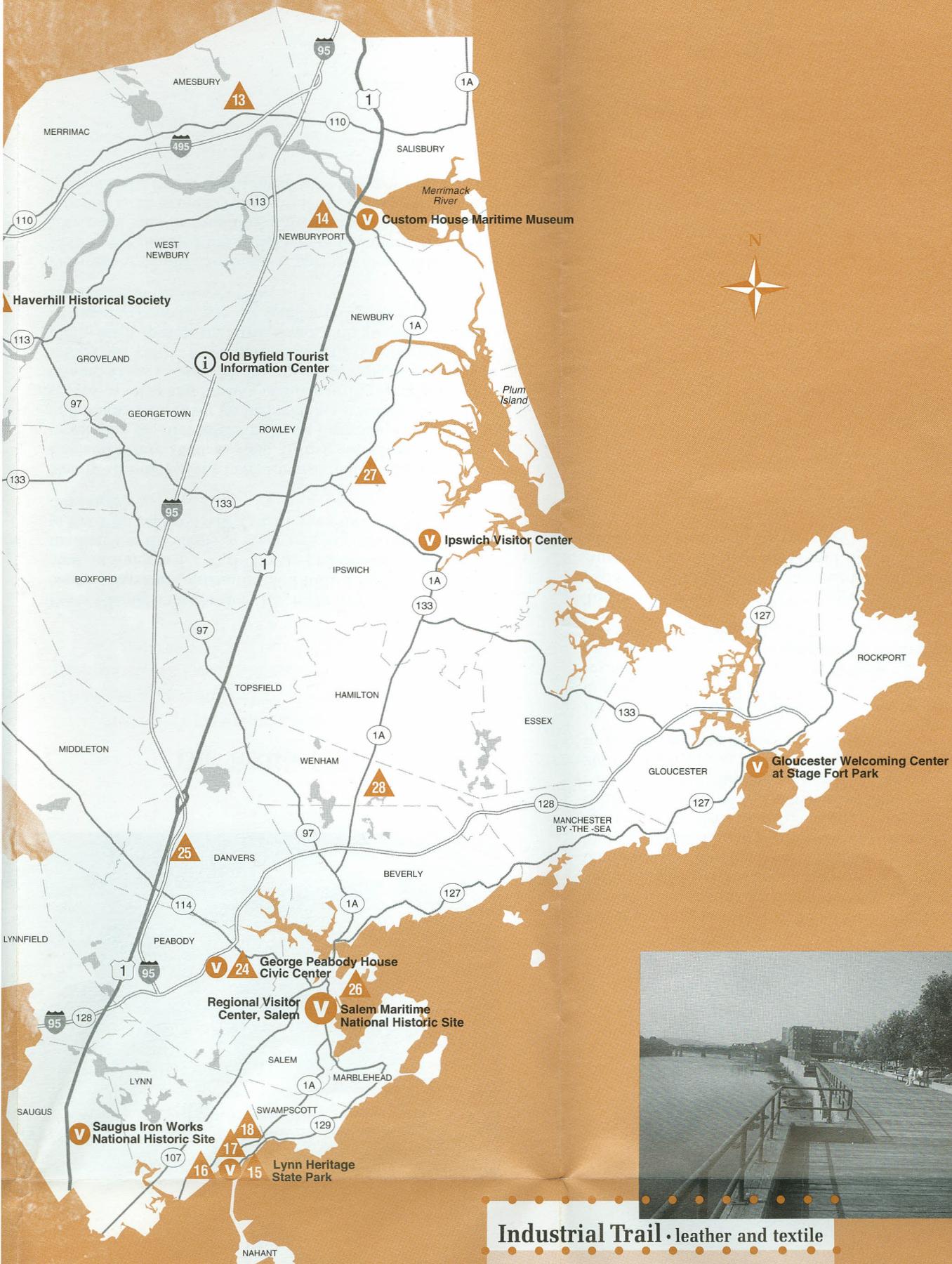
Washington and Union Sts. Open year round.

State-of-the-art exhibits, tours, and films celebrate the history of the community with a broad view of Lynn’s past as “Shoe City,” including a “ten footer” shoe shop. The harbor-front park features mosaic murals depicting Lynn’s history. Stroll the boardwalk, and participate in outdoor programs.

16 Lynn Historical Society

125 Green St. Open year round.

Discover Lynn’s past and present through permanent and changing exhibits, including Jan Matzeliger’s lasting machine and the largest collection of hand tools in the country related to the shoe industry. An extensive library of books, photos and maps is also available.



Industrial Trail • leather and textile

-  Regional Visitor Center
-  Satellite Visitor Center
-  Tourist Information Center
-  Highlights on Industrial Trail

17 Central Square Historic District

Market, Willow, Oxford and Munroe Sts.

You will find many turn-of-the-century commercial and manufacturing buildings integral to the shoe industry, including the Vamp Building, which was the largest shoe factory in the world. A self-guided walking tour is available at Lynn Historical Society.

18 Diamond District

Between Ocean St. and Lynn Shore Drive

This district, adjacent to Lynn Beach, contains many Victorian and Edwardian era homes. Many of these were owned by Lynn shoe manufacturers. A guided walking tour is available at Lynn Historical Society.

Haverhill

Located along the western shore of the Merrimack River, this city began as a frontier village and rose to world prominence as a major shoe manufacturing center. Today Haverhill is a riverside community that is truly diverse. Its character is a blend of ethnicity, historic shoe districts, and Victorian-style neighborhoods, including homes of the city's notable shoe manufacturers.

V 19 Haverhill Historical Society & Buttonwoods Museum

240 Water St. Open year round.

The museum contains a large collection of shoes and shoemaking tools that represent Haverhill's role as a world leader in the quality and design of shoes. On the grounds you will also find the restored Daniel Hunkins Shoe Shop.

20 Washington St. Shoe District

Washington and Wingate Sts.

This was the heart of Haverhill's 19th-century shoe industry. The district includes numerous Queen Anne-style factories made of brick and stone.

21 Washington St. Shoe District Extension

North of Washington St. Shoe District

This district completes the story of Haverhill's shoe industry by including larger companies characteristic of the early 20th century.

22 Highlands Neighborhood

Mill and Main Sts., Kenoza Ave., Ginty Blvd.

This 19th-century residential district contains some of Haverhill's outstanding examples of Queen Anne, Tudor and Italianate architecture, including ten homes built by some of the city's notable shoe manufacturers.

23 Bradford Common Historic District

Bradford Common along South Main St.

This district contains numerous structures associated with the early period of the leather industry.

Peabody

Peabody developed from a scattered farming community into a dense, ethnically diverse industrial city focused on leather and tanning. Today, the city's revitalized downtown remains strong as the focal point of the community. Enjoy the restored architectural details, historic lighting, and downtown riverwalk.

V 24 George Peabody House Civic Center

205 Washington St. Open year round.

This center has excellent exhibits on tanneries and the tanning process, including videos of people who worked in the tanneries. The house itself is an example of shoemaking as a cottage industry in the early phase. The small scale replica of a Beam Shop includes numerous leather-making artifacts.

Other sites to visit on the Leather Trail

Danvers

25 Salem Village Historic District

Centre, Hobart, Ingersoll, Halton, and Forest Sts.

There are numerous examples of home shoe shops and shoemakers' homes from the mid-19th century, including a shoe shop at the Rebecca Nurse Homestead.

Salem

26 Peabody Essex Museum

Plummer Hall, Essex St. Open year round.

This museum has one of the largest shoe collections in North America, as well as hundreds of tools from the early 19th and 20th centuries. The Lye-Tapley "10-footer" Shoe Shop contains tools from the pre-industrial era.

Rowley

27 Platts Bradstreet House

Main St. Tours by appointment.

This house, site of the Rowley Historical Society, has an early "10-footer" shoe shop moved from a nearby Rowley farm about 1820.

Wenham

28 Wenham Historical Museum

132 Main St. Open year round.

This intriguing museum, with interesting exhibits for children as well as adults, has two "10-footer" shoe shops, tools and exhibits.

Essex National Heritage Area Visitor Centers

Look for the  locating these centers on the map inside this brochure.

You can find detailed information on the Essex Heritage Trails at the National Park Service Regional Visitor Center in Salem. Be sure to see the dynamic multimedia presentation on 400 years of Essex County history. Pick up the three Essex Heritage Trail brochures, which will help guide you throughout the county. The Park Service rangers will provide you with expert visitor assistance. You can call 508 740-1650.

In addition, all of the Satellite Visitor Center staffs and volunteers will provide information on the Essex Heritage Trails. They will help to direct you toward your specific interests.

Regional Visitor Center

National Park Service Regional Visitor Center
New Liberty and Essex Sts., Salem 508 740-1650

Satellite Visitor Centers

Custom House Maritime Museum
25 Water St., Newburyport

Gloucester Visitor Welcoming Center/Stage Fort Park
Rtes 133 and 127, Gloucester

Haverhill Historical Society & Buttonwoods Museum
240 Water St., Haverhill

Ipswich Visitor Center/Hall Haskell House
32 South Main St., Ipswich

Lawrence Heritage State Park
One Jackson St., Lawrence

Lynn Heritage State Park
Union and Washington Sts., Lynn

George Peabody House Civic Center
205 Washington St., Peabody

Saugus Iron Works National Historic Site
244 Central St., Saugus

Sponsors

The National Park Service
The Essex Heritage Ad Hoc Commission
Salem Five Cent Savings Bank, Salem, MA
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Massachusetts Cultural Council

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Photo credits: "Work Force", 1914, courtesy of Immigrant City Archives; "10 Footer" by Mark Sexton; Beam House Gallery, courtesy of The George Peabody House Civic Center; The Brophy Shoe Company, courtesy of Lynn Historical Society; Lynn Heritage State Park courtesy of Ken Turino; Lawrence Heritage State Park, courtesy of Mass. Dept. of Environmental Management; Textile mills of Lawrence, courtesy of Immigrant City Archives.

Logo and brochure design: Valcovic Cornell Design, Beverly, MA

Cover photo: "Work Force", 1914, Pacific Mills Worsted Dept., Lawrence
Cover inset photo: "10 Footer" at the Peabody Essex Museum, Salem



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