

John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892)

In 1688, in a small pleasant valley under the shoulder of Job's Hill, Thomas Whittier, the pioneer, built the house that was to be the Whittier family homestead. The family lived there for five generations and the Quaker poet and abolitionist, John Greenleaf Whittier, was born there on December 17, 1807.

The Whittier Homestead is an outstanding example of an old New England farm. Located on its original site, it is substantially the same as when the poet lived here from 1807 to 1836. The homestead is the setting of his most famous and beloved poem, "Snow-Bound."

The homestead was formally opened in 1893 after former-Mayor James H. Carleton purchased the house and land and presented it to the Haverhill Whittier Club. The club established a Board of Trustees which to this day holds the deed in trust, with the intent and obligation that the house and grounds be maintained both as a tribute to the poet and as a valuable educational resource.

Toward this end, the Trustees of John Greenleaf Whittier open the birthplace to local students for study and exploration. In recent years, the birthplace accepted the additional responsibility for maintaining and preserving additional acres of land purchased by the City of Haverhill as part of an open space project. This land was also once owned by the Whittier family.

The John Greenleaf Whittier birthplace, as a unique Haverhill institution, is a source of great community pride.

"The airs of heaven blow o'er me;
A glory shines before me
Of what mankind shall be,—
Pure, generous, brave, and free."

— My Triumph,
John Greenleaf Whittier

WHITTIER BIRTHPLACE

305 Whittier Road • Haverhill, MA 01830-1738



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Haverhill, MA 01830-1738

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Planned Giving Guide



Help preserve the legacy of
John Greenleaf Whittier
by making a future gift to
the Birthplace.

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www.johngreenleafwhittier.com • (978) 374-3979

Support the Birthplace

Preservation of this vital community asset is of critical importance. The challenge of maintaining a more than 300-year-old historic home in the face of dwindling resources is a task that may only be overcome by the generous support of you and others.

Planned giving, or charitable gift planning, refers to the process of donating funds or estate assets to the Birthplace. Gifts of this nature often require legal documents and the assistance of a qualified professional.

Typically these gifts are deferred, meaning the arrangements are made now and fulfilled later. Planned gifts may be revocable or irrevocable. Irrevocable gifts often generate immediate tax benefits because the future gift is permanent and cannot be recalled.

Please consider including the John Greenleaf Whittier Birthplace when planning your estate so generations to come may continue to learn the legacy of the Quaker poet firsthand.



How to Donate

Annuities

Contribute a sum of money to the Birthplace and in return receive a predetermined amount of the money each year for the rest of your life.

Beneficiary Designation

Name the birthplace as an alternate or primary beneficiary of your life insurance policy.

Bequests

Ask your attorney to add a provision in your will leaving a specific amount or percentage of your estate to the Birthplace.

Charitable Trusts

Establish a charitable trust and receive a predetermined income from this account for a period of time.

Gifts of Cash

Donate in the name of a loved one or request donations in lieu of flowers at a wake or funeral.

Questions or Concerns?

May I leave a gift in memory of a specific person?

Donations of any amount may be made in memory of a loved one. Often times, donations are made on behalf of another in lieu of sending flowers to a wake or funeral.

Are there tax or legal advantages related to charitable gifting?

Many donors receive various tax benefits including income tax deductions, a bypass of capital gains tax and a reduction in estate taxes. The best way to ensure you receive the appropriate benefits for your specific situation is to contact an estate planning professional.

I do not consider myself an affluent person, can I still donate?

Generally speaking, everyone leaves behind an estate when they pass away. An estate includes all money, property and personal belongings one owns at the time of death. Anyone may arrange to leave a gift from his or her estate.

If you have additional questions, please e-mail birthplace@johngreenleafwhittier.com or call (978) 374-1900.

Inquiries may also be directed to:

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