

## "Shelter Form" finds permanent home at Northeast Harbor Library

Northeast Harbor, Maine, October 24, 2014 -- Thanks to one anonymous donor and the personal contributions of the Board of Directors of the Northeast Harbor Library, a granite sculpture by Cherryfield artist Hugh Lassen will now have a permanent home on the Library's lawn. Martha Tod Dudman, President of the Board, announced earlier in October that the Board members have raised funds among themselves to purchase "Shelter Form." One hundred per cent of the Board contributed, as did a few other donors with an interest in integrating art with Library activities.

In spring 2013, Art in Public Spaces (AiPS), an MDI organization, approached the Library with an offer to find a suitable sculpture for temporary exhibit on the Library lawn at the intersection of Joy and Summit Roads. AiPS principals -Annette Carvajal, Charlotte Singleton and Ben Lincoln - recommended Lassen's "Shelter Form," carved of Sullivan granite and weighing about three tons. They felt it had the right proportions and complemented the Library's exterior angles and color.

The original plan was for the sculpture to stay in place through September 2013, but this changed when it became apparent how much a part of Library life the sculpture was becoming. Within days, local children had made it a rendezvous point ("I'll meet you at the sculpture!") and a reading perch. Children were seen practicing their musical instruments atop the work. The librarians loved to look out the windows and observe how people of all ages responded to its presence.

Art in Public Spaces works to promote the appreciation of art as part of everyday life and to create opportunities for Maine artists to show their work throughout the community.