

The Mill Works

The Mill Works, the north building of the former Gardner Hall, Jr. Company, has been owned and operated by the Buccino family for 50 years. During that time, it has served as home for a variety of creative enterprises including manufacturing, R&D, retail and professional businesses, fine art studios, and design spaces.

In 1962, Tom Buccino and his wife Irma bought the mill and moved their business, Andover Machine Company to the facility. They sold their business in 1980 and began leasing the space to other manufacturing and industrial businesses. Tom Buccino, Jr., an engineer and educator by training, changed careers and took over the day-to-day operation of The Mill Works from his aging parents in 2010. He assumed control at a time when occupancy had fallen below 10%.

Tom's vision for The Mill Works was to build a synergistic and collaborative business community by attracting professional firms, artisans and entrepreneurs. Over the next two years, he successfully implemented this vision and increased occupancy to more than 90% with a strategy that included:

1. Internet focused marketing - online advertising, and the launching of The Mill Works website (www.themillworks.us) and Facebook presence designed with help from a tenant partner, Sitely Solutions.
2. Thoughtful renovations and redecorating which he undertook in collaboration with tenants and local contractors. Many workspaces combine wood, brick and abundant natural light. Some enjoy water views. Enhanced with current technology, this historic setting provides a peaceful and inspirational work environment for members of The Mill Works community.
3. Leases tailor-made to accommodate tenant needs.
4. A mission to provide tenants with exceptional value, service and support.

We are pleased to have Tom as a member of the Economic Development Commission where Willington can benefit from his knowledge and expertise in business development.

Current Tenants at The Mill Works

Opportunity Works, Inc

Opportunity Works Connecticut (OWC) is a not-for-profit agency that supports people with intellectual, cognitive and physical disabilities in Eastern Connecticut.

Epona Associates

A private company that provides toxicology consulting.

Marc Jeffreys, Eliza Corp.

Marc Jeffreys is the Senior VP of Consumer Markets at Eliza Corporation.

Jack Broderick

An accomplished plein air and studio painter who uses both image and feeling in developing his paintings.

Diane Diederich Photography

Freelance stock photography.

Sitely Solutions

What sets Sitedly apart from the other design firms is their recognition of quality across all mediums of advertising and their keen ability to think larger than a website.

David Lussier Gallery

David Lussier Gallery is the studio and gallery of nationally known painters David Lussier and Pamela Simpson Lussier.

Jessica Regele, Artist

Primarily ceramic sculpture, large or small, commissions always available.

DDrobney Photography

A photographer whose work typically involves landscapes, nature and portraiture.

Christopher Gunderson Design & Illustration

Logo design, marketing for small business and fine art, specializing in cartoons and children's illustration.

Nicole Criniti, Photographer

A photographer with a specific focus on portraits of newborn babies.

Medical Web Technologies

Developers of a suite of Internet-based medical information "tools."

Bruce and Sasha Press

Emily Lyon's teeny-tiny pressworks, Bruce and Sasha Press, operates with two small relief presses, piles of vintage lead and wooden type, and screenprinting equipment.

AmberTortoise, LLC

Unique, handcrafted, artisan jewelry; beads and jewelry supplies; workshops and private instruction.

Jeremy Pollack

Jeremy Pollack is a Connecticut-based photographer with a wide range of interests.

Shaolin Kempo Martial Arts

A martial arts school where students are trained in the physical, mental and spiritual aspects of Shaolin Kempo Karate.

National Treasures

A discriminating on-line seller of quality antiques.

