



Network to Freedom



Celebrating New Network to Freedom Listings

Communities across the country are showing their pride in achieving Network to Freedom status for their sites, programs, or facilities. Often, Network to Freedom listing is the culmination of a community effort to research, document and preserve an Underground Railroad site. Communities are also engaging in heritage tourism efforts to present this history to visitors, while providing an economic boost to local businesses.



Illinois College in Jacksonville, Illinois celebrated the inclusion of Beecher Hall and the site of the College Building, during festivities on May 19 . NPS Midwest Regional Director Ernest Quintana addressed the crowd. Standing with Ernest Quintana and Midwest NTF Program Manager James Hill, is Loreli Steuer, chair of the Underground Railroad committee.

On August 30, Dorchester County (Maryland) Tourism celebrated recent accomplishments, including a new Underground Railroad exhibit and a new Network to Freedom sign on the grounds of the Dorchester County Courthouse. This sign, the first of four in the county was made possible, in part, by a Network to Freedom grant. The Open House celebration also featured the presentation of a Certificate of Acceptance for the "Finding a Way to Freedom Driving Tour". Federal, state and county officials, funding partners and friends participated in the Open House. Pictured in the photo: Karen Tolley, Chair, Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area Local Board; Ricky Travers, Dorchester County Councilman; Evelyn Townsend, Harriet Tubman Organization and Mid-Shore UGRR Advisory Committee (MSUAC); Natalie Chabot, Dorchester County Tourism; Jane Baynard, Dorchester County Manager; Judge Brett Wilson; State Delegate Addie Eckhardt; State Delegate Jeannie Haddaway; businessman Joseph Riccio; Sheri Jackson, State Senator Richard Colburn; Herschel Johnson, MSUAC; John Maounis, NPS Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network; Pat Lewis, MSUAC; Lee Whaley, Senator Sarbanes office; Bill Jarmon MSUAC; Glenn Bramble, President Dorchester County Council; Linda Cashman, Project Manager Heart of Chesapeake Heritage area; Richard Hughes, Maryland Heritage Area Authority; Rod Torrez, NPS; John Creighton, MSUAC.

Congratulations to 2006 Network to Freedom Grant Recipients

In June 2006, the Network to Freedom (NTF) grant review committee met in Atlanta, Georgia. Members of the NTF staff were joined in this review by former NPS Director Robert Stanton, former NPS Historically Black College and University preservation grant administrator Cecil McKithan, and former NTF staff member Aaron

Mahr, now with the Long Distance Trails Office.

The committee reviewed 28 grant proposals, representing \$476,267 in requests. Of these, the committee awarded 21 grants for \$368,000. NTF grants are required to be matched on a dollar for dollar basis, but many of the grants sup-

ported parts of much larger projects. In total, these project represent almost \$1.6 million dedicated to Underground Railroad preservation and research.

Sites, programs, and facilities that are listed in the NTF are eligible to apply for grants.

Project Name: <i>Network Listing Name</i>	Amount Requested	Project Amount
Restoration of Roof: <i>Illinois College Beecher Hall Site</i>	\$25,000.00	\$54,370
Wm C. Goodridge Freedom House Restoration Pjct: <i>Wm C. Goodridge House Site</i>	\$25,000.00	\$221,000
From Slavery to Freedom: An Interactive Network to Learning: <i>The Historical Society of PA</i>	\$15,900.00	\$32,250
Site Improvement to the Howland Stone Store Museum: <i>Howland Stone Store Site</i>	\$25,000.00	\$72,250
All Our People: <i>Flight to Freedom at Friends of First Living Museum</i>	\$25,000.00	\$57,600
Stephen & Harriet Myers Residence Historic Structures Report: <i>Stephen & Harriet Myers Residence Site</i>	\$15,000.00	\$30,000
Archeological & Historical Research of the Rocky Fork Community: <i>Rocky Fork Site</i>	\$24,930.00	\$49,885
The UGRR Research & Interpretive Design project in Auburn & Cayuga County, NY: <i>Martha Wright House</i>	\$5,000.00	\$10,000
Blanch K. Bruce Monument Restoration: <i>Burial Site of Blanche K. Bruce (Woodlawn Cemetery)</i>	\$6,610.00	\$13,220
Preston Jackson Sculpture of Pettengill Home Site: <i>Pettengill Home Site</i>	\$25,000.00	\$250,000
Dr. Anthony C. Thompson Farm in Poplar, Neck, Preston, MD (1846-CA.1858): <i>MD: Finding a Way to Freedom Driving Tour Program</i>	\$20,000.00	\$40,000
Harwood House Restoration: <i>W.W. Harwood Farmstead Site</i>	\$25,000.00	\$81,156
Rocky Fork Kiosk & Educational Project: <i>Rocky Fork Site</i>	\$17,500.00	\$50,000
No Project Name Identified: <i>Oswego Public Library</i>	\$5,000.00	\$10,000
Straight From Tha Underground Passbook: <i>Straight From Tha Underground Program</i>	\$16,150.00	\$32,315
"Souls Seeking Safety" Visitor Center Interpretive Program-Phase 1: <i>Levi Coffin House State Historic Site</i>	\$22,600.00	\$73,887
Research & Interpretation Development for the Belair-At-Bowie Flight to Freedom: <i>Belair Mansion Site</i>	\$13,300.00	\$36,059
Painting a Portrait of the McClews through Research & Documentation: <i>Murphy Orchards Program</i>	\$25,000.00	\$80,725
Blanchard Home Site & Cemetery: <i>Blanchard Home Site & Cemetery Site</i>	\$5,253.00	\$10,505
Bristol Hill Church Structural Repairs: <i>Bristol Hill Church</i>	\$25,000.00	\$388,000

Candidates for Twelfth Round

The following candidates are being considered for inclusion in the Network to Freedom in the twelfth round of applications. On September 13, 2006 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, at the Harriet Tubman Home (315-252-2081), 180 South Street, Auburn, New York, the regional coordinator committee will review and vote on the applications listed below. The public is invited to attend. For further information or to comment on the applications, please consult the Network website at www.cr.nps.gov/ugrr, or contact Diane Miller, National Park Service, 601 Riverfront Drive, Omaha, Nebraska 68102, or by phone at 402-661-1588.

Georgia

- Mattie, Johnny, and Smooth White Stones, Part II [program]

Illinois

- Galesburg Colony UGRR Freedom Station at Knox College [program]
- Gillett House [site]
- Underground Railroad in Illinois [program]

Indiana

- Hicklin House [site]
- Seymour Train Station [site]

Maryland

- Banneker-Douglass Museum [program]
- Maryland State House [site]
- Reginald Lewis Museum [program]
- Riley Farm [site]
- Thornton Poole House [site]

Massachusetts

- Longfellow NHS [facility]
- Longfellow NHS [site]
- Mount Auburn Cemetery [site]

Michigan

- Isaac Bailey Gravesite [site]

New York

- 1816 Farmington Quaker Meeting-house [site]
- Hunt House [site]
- Joshua W. and Samantha Wright House [site]
- North Street Meeting House [site]
- Seneca County Historian's Office [facility]
- Seneca Falls Historical Society-The Jessie Beach Watkins Memorial Library [facility]
- Seneca Falls Wesleyan Methodist Church Parsonage [site]
- Slocum and Hannah Howland House [site]
- Thomas Elliot and Ann Marie Stewart Elliot House [site]
- Thomas and Harriet Truesdell [site]
- William Henry Stewart, Jr. House [site]

North Carolina

- Henry Sr. and Dorothy Copeland Burial Sites [site]

Pennsylvania

- Belmont Mansion [site]
- Burial Ground at Huntington Friends Meeting [site]
- Burial Ground at Menallen Friends Meeting [site]
- Burial Ground at Yellow Ground [site]
- Cliveden [site]
- Cumberland County Historical Society [facility]
- Living The Experience [program]

Virginia

- Leesylvania State Park [site]
- Juneteenth Theatre Company [program]

Congratulations to the New Network Listings

The spring 2006 public review meeting for Network to Freedom applications was held in Miami, Florida. The regional coordinator committee accepted the following 16 listings into the Network.

District of Columbia

Site of the Pearl Affair [site]

Georgia

Auburn Avenue Research Library [facility]

Illinois

Dr. Hiram Rutherford Home [site]

Indiana

Decatur County Courthouse [site]
Dr. Samuel Tibbets Home Site [site]
"Freedom is My Home" [program]
Isaiah Walton Home Site [site]

Maryland

Finding a Way to Freedom Driving Tour [program]
Gorsuch Tavern [site]
Jane C. Sween Library, Montgomery County Historical Society [facility]

New York

M'Clintock House [site] (NPS, Women's Rights National Historical Park)

Park Church [site]

Thomas and Elizabeth James House [site]

Pennsylvania

Fair Hill Burial Ground [site]
Grave of U.S. Congressman Thaddeus Stevens [site]

Wisconsin

Site of the Rescue of Joshua Glover [site]

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National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

**National Underground Railroad Network
to Freedom Program Coordinators**

NOTE: New Address
National Park Service
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Guy Washington, **Pacific West & Intermoun-
tain**, guy_washington@nps.gov

NTF Plans Exhibit at Tulsa State Fair

The NTF will be co-sponsoring “The Underground Railroad Experience” at the Tulsa State Fair from September 28-October 8, 2006. In addition to the NTF exhibit, the “Experience” will include artifacts from Jerry Gore and Underground Railroad photographic montages and collages from Stephen Marc.

The Tulsa State Fair hosts three field trip days for schools in eastern Oklahoma every year. The NTF enlisted the aid of Pam Machuga of Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Midwest Region Freeman Tilden award (for NPS interpreters) winner to develop programming specifically targeted to school groups. Pam has taken a complex history of people and places and developed activities to reinforce the NTF concepts about freedom and escape from enslavement. These activities promise to be fun as well as educational.

With three mutually supportive legs, represented by the artifacts, the photographs and the field trip exercises, the

NTF will have a platform—”The Underground Railroad Experience”—that holds weight! As the location of one of the worse race riots in American History, the NTF is proud to bring the redemptive history of the Underground Railroad to Tulsa.

Contribute to the Newsletter

Please forward notices, items of interest, articles, or topic suggestions for consideration to Diane Miller at NPS, 601 Riverfront Dr., Omaha, Nebraska 68102 or at diane_miller@nps.gov.

Comments on the newsletter are also welcome. Deadlines are January 15 and July 15.