# Method of Listing Properties on the Connecticut Freedom Trail Role of the CFT Site Selection Committee

Upon receipt of an application for the CFT, the Commission on Culture & Tourism's Minority and Women's History Coordinator reviews the materials and places the site on the CFT Site Selection Committee's meeting agenda. The CFT Site Selection Committee may take one of three actions: 1) request that CCT staff provide the Committee with more research or documentation 2) vote to recommend the site for formal consideration by the Committee at their next meeting or 3) vote not to list the site on the CFT.

Property owners will receive notification that their properties are being considered for listing on the CFT. The Connecticut Freedom Trail Site Selection Committee votes to approve the properties that are to be listed.

#### The Freedom Trail Does

- 1. Bestow an honor on the designated property and make a property eligible for a CFT plaque.
- 2. Identify historically significant buildings structures, sites, objects and districts, according to the CFT Criteria.
- 3. Encourage the state's citizens to recognize the diversity of individuals associated with the Connecticut experience and the struggle for freedom.
- 4. Encourage the visitation of sites open to the public and that interpret the contributions by African Americans to Connecticut and U.S. history.
- 5. Encourage teachers, students and other groups to prepare educational materials.
- 6. Encourage the preservation of historic properties by documenting their significance to enhance local preservation activities.
- 7. Enable State and local agencies to consider historic properties in the early stages of planning projects.
- 8. Encourage municipalities and local organizations to plan public events highlighting CFT sites during September, CFT month.

#### The Freedom Trail *Does Not*

- 1. Require private property owners to open their properties to the public.
- 2. Restrict the rights of property owners in the use or development of their historic property.
- 3. Lead automatically to historic district designation under Connecticut General Statutes Sec. 7-147.
- 4. Lead automatically to listing on the State or National Registers of Historic Places.
- 5. Force Federal, State local or private projects to be stopped.
- 6. Provide for review of local or privately funded projects which may affect historic properties.
- 7. Guarantee that grant funds will be available.
- 8. Provide automatic tax benefits to owner.

| <ol> <li>Provide opportunities for African<br/>American heritage tourism<br/>experiences at authentic historic<br/>sites.</li> </ol> |  |
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## **Members of the Connecticut Freedom Trail Site Selection Committee**

Alfred Marder, Chair Amistad Committee, Inc.

Barbara Alleyne, President, John E. Rogers African American Cultural Center Gilbert Davis, President, African American Historical Association of Fairfield County Dr. Katherine Harris, Central Connecticut State University Joanne Lawson, Farmington Historical Society Alfred Narcisse, Windsor Dale Plummer, Municipal Historian, City of Norwich Dr. Karl Stofko, East Haddam Gail Williams, Plainville

### Commission on Culture & Tourism Staff:

David Bahlman, Historic Preservation and Museum Division Director Cora Murray, Minority and Women's History Coordinator Mary Donohue, Architectural Historian Deborah Gaston, Historic Preservation and Museum Division Secretary Whitney Bayers, Historic Preservation Fellow

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