



# CT State Library

*Museum of Connecticut History*

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*Images: Hiking Through History, Hartford 2023.*

*Hiking Through History, Suffield 2023.*

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### HIT THE TRAILS WITH THE MUSEUM OF CONNECTICUT HISTORY

*“Hiking Through History” Explores the State’s Scenic and Historic Locations*

**(Hartford, CT):** Grab your walking shoes and join us for a series of hikes highlighting some of Connecticut’s most scenic and historic locations! The Museum of Connecticut History, located at the Connecticut State Library, kicks off its fourth year of “Hiking Through History” on Friday, April 19 with a guided tour of the Windsor Locks Canal in Suffield where hikers will experience both the natural beauty of the Connecticut River and man-made history of this nearly 200-year-old canal.

The Hiking Through History series offers a unique opportunity to explore Connecticut on foot. Each tour is led by Museum Curator Patrick Smith, who conducts extensive research to select locations that offer a mixture of scenic beauty, interesting history, and fascinating legend and lore. The series offers monthly hikes at different locations April through October 2024.

After April’s hike in Suffield, Hiking Through History travels to Granby on May 24 to explore Dismal Brook Preserve, tucked away in the “notch” of Connecticut where natural beauty and hidden history abound. A walk through Downtown Hartford focusing on the city’s African American history takes place on June 21. Hikers head to the Enfield Historic District on July 12 to visit one of Connecticut’s earliest settlements featuring a historic cemetery full of stories from the past. The series returns to Downtown Hartford on August 2 to explore sites that cover over 300 years of Capital City history. On September 6, hikers head southeast to Stonington’s Barn Island Preserve to explore a unique historic coastal environment. On October 18, the 2024 Hiking Through History series concludes with one last walk through Lovers Leap State Park in New Milford, an area with surprising history and scenic vistas around every corner.

All Hiking Through History walks begin at 10 a.m. and are approximately two hours in duration. It's free to participate, but registration is required. Visit the [Museum of Connecticut History's Eventbrite page](#) to sign up for a hike or two (or all of them)! Upon registration, additional information will be shared about each hike. Most hikes are designed for a leisurely to moderate walking pace. Some trails are unpaved and potentially uneven; user discretion is advised. Appropriate walking gear is recommended. Guests are encouraged to bring water and a snack, as well as sunscreen and bug spray, if desired. For more information, please contact Patrick Smith via email at [Patrick.j.smith@ct.gov](mailto:Patrick.j.smith@ct.gov) or by phone at (860) 757-6693.

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About the Museum of Connecticut History: The mission of the museum is to connect the experience of residents and museum visitors to the artifacts, images, and documents of the past, increasing awareness of and pride in the state's political, military, and industrial history and building commitment to preserving and sharing its cultural heritage. The museum is located within the Connecticut State Library & Supreme Court Building at 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Admission is always free! Learn more at [Museum of Connecticut History | Facebook | Instagram | Twitter](#).

About the Connecticut State Library: The Connecticut State Library is an Executive Branch agency of the State of Connecticut. The State Library provides a variety of library, information, archival, public records, museum, and administrative services to citizens of Connecticut, as well as the employees and officials of all three branches of State government. The Connecticut State Archives and the Museum of Connecticut History are components of the State Library. Visit our websites: [CT State Library | Facebook | Instagram | Twitter](#).