

# 2017 Heritage Map



THE  
Norwich  
Historical  
Society

Artist: Fitz Henry Lane (1804–1865)

[norwichhistoricalsociety.org](http://norwichhistoricalsociety.org)

## Norwich, CT

The City of Norwich was founded in 1659 and the friendship formed with the local Mohegan Tribe allowed the 35 Norwich settlers to purchase a tract of land nine miles square. Norwich was one of the largest cities in the Colonies during the 18th century and a center of wealth, commerce and influence. Norwich is the home to important figures that played a role in the Revolutionary War such as *Christopher Leffingwell* – a purveyor of provisions for the Continental Army, *Samuel Huntington* – signer of the Declaration of Independence, President of the U. S. under the Articles of Confederation and Governor of Connecticut, and perhaps most notably, *Benedict Arnold*, one of this country's most infamous and internationally recognized traitors, who was a talented commander and was *Washington's* trusted General in the Continental Army until 1779.

In addition, Norwich has a rich, diverse and largely untold African American story. *David Ruggles*, a native from Norwich, participated in the *Underground Railroad* and the *National Register Historic District Jail Hill* Section of Norwich was home to many notable African-Americans. During the Industrial Era, the mills in Greeneville and Taftville attracted many workers, including immigrant laborers who stayed and made Norwich home. The impressive Ponemah Mill towers over the small village of Taftville and is a testament to Norwich's significant impact on the lucrative textile industry. Today, The City of Norwich is the largest city in Eastern, CT with over 40,000 residents and its rich and diverse history showcases its impact and contribution to the formation of the United States of America.

*Text written by Regan Miner.*

### Famous Norwich People

**General Benedict Arnold**,  
infamous Turncoat

**William Buckingham**,  
Governor of Connecticut

**Frances M. Caulkins**,  
Historian

**Lafayette Foster**,  
Senator and Acting Vice President

**Sarah Harris**,  
attended Prudence Crandall's school

**Governor Samuel Huntington**,  
Signer of Declaration of  
Independence & First President  
of the U.S. under the  
Articles of Confederation

**Wally Lamb**, Best Selling Author

**Edwin H. Land**,

Inventor of the Polaroid Camera

**Samson Ocom**, Mohegan Preacher

**Edith Carrow Roosevelt**, First Lady

**Harry Rossoll**,

Artist of Smokey Bear

**David Ruggles**, Abolitionist

**Ellis Ruley**, Artist

**Lydia Huntley Sigourney**,  
Famous Poet

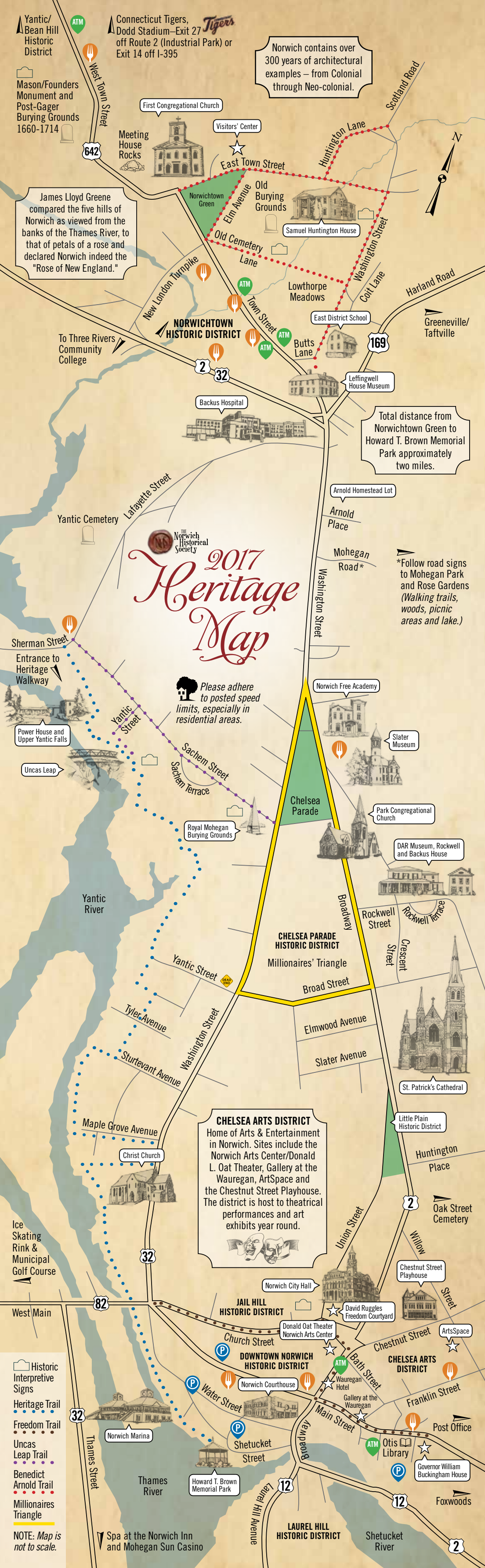
**John Fox Slater**, Industrialist

**James L. Smith**, Escaped Slave

**Horace Smith & Daniel Wesson**,  
Industrialists

**Sachem Uncas**, of the Mohegan Tribe





Yantic/  
Bean Hill  
Historic  
District

Mason/Founders  
Monument and  
Post-Gager  
Burying Grounds  
1660-1714

Connecticut Tigers,  
Dodd Stadium—Exit 27  
off Route 2 (Industrial Park) or  
Exit 14 off I-395

Norwich contains over  
300 years of architectural  
examples – from Colonial  
through Neo-colonial.

James Lloyd Greene  
compared the five hills of  
Norwich as viewed from the  
banks of the Thames River, to  
that of petals of a rose and  
declared Norwich indeed the  
"Rose of New England."

Total distance from  
Norwichtown Green to  
Howard T. Brown Memorial  
Park approximately  
two miles.

\*Follow road signs  
to Mohegan Park  
and Rose Gardens  
(Walking trails,  
woods, picnic  
areas and lake.)

**CHELSEA ARTS DISTRICT**  
Home of Arts & Entertainment  
in Norwich. Sites include the  
Norwich Arts Center/Donald  
L. Oat Theater, Gallery at the  
Wauregan, ArtSpace and  
the Chestnut Street Playhouse.  
The district is host to theatrical  
performances and art  
exhibits year round.

- Historic  
Interpretive  
Signs
- Heritage Trail
- Freedom Trail
- Uncas  
Leap Trail
- Benedict  
Arnold Trail
- Millionaires  
Triangle

NOTE: Map is  
not to scale.

Spa at the Norwich Inn  
and Mohegan Sun Casino