

WELCOME TO WETHERSFIELD

The Wethersfield Heritage Walk is a three mile long, self-guided tour consisting of a series of twenty-two interpretive markers that highlight points of historical significance throughout Old Wethersfield.

Our town has a rich cultural, historical and architectural heritage stretching back over four centuries.



Cove Warehouse

As you walk, run, drive or bike along our streets you can learn the intriguing stories of the native

American Wangunks, early settlers, farmers, ship builders, sea captains, slaves, soldiers, seed merchants, onion maidens, patriots, diplomats, prisoners, home builders and preservationists.

You will observe the growth and change of our community from a frontier settlement to a bustling colonial port, a thriving agricultural village, a growing suburb and now a leader in historic preservation.

There is a small map on each of the markers to help you along the way.

Enjoy our town's grand history and its role in the story of America.



For more information visit our town website:
www.wethersfieldct.com



The Wethersfield Heritage Walk was developed through a partnership between the Town of Wethersfield, Wethersfield Historical Society, the Webb-Deane-Stevens Museum, the Wethersfield Tourism Commission and many interested residents. The project was also assisted by grants from Connecticut Humanities and the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving.

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WELCOME TO THE WETHERSFIELD HERITAGE WALK

WE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO EXPLORE OUR NEW ENGLAND HERITAGE.

VISIT HISTORIC HOMES, MUSEUMS, SHOPS AND PLACES OF INTEREST AS YOU STROLL THROUGH CONNECTICUT'S LARGEST HISTORIC DISTRICT.

USE THIS MAP TO GUIDE YOU TO THESE PLACES WHERE HISTORY LIVES.



1. Keepers of History: (222 Main St.)

Individuals and organizations that played a prominent role in local historic preservation efforts.

2. Comstock, Ferre & Co.: (263 Main St.)

History of the American commercial seed industry and the role of Comstock Ferre & Co.

3. First Church: (250 Main St.)

Public Common, the Fundamental Orders, Colonial Meetinghouse, Yale College.

4. Hurlbut-Dunham House: (212 Main St.)

Home to several prominent Wethersfield families, Captain Hurlbut and the China trade.

5. Ancient Burying Ground: (99 Marsh St.)

One of Connecticut's oldest burial grounds, gravestone art, notable burials, Connecticut Freedom Trail site.

6. Buttolph-Williams House:

(249 Broad St.) Early colonial architecture, National Historic Landmark, Connecticut Witch Trials and the setting for the novel the Witch of Blackbird Pond.

7. First Town: (East Side Broad St. Green)

First English settlement, early home sites, the Ten Adventurers, John Oldham and daughter towns.

8. The Wangunk: (East Side Broad St. Green)

History of the Wangunk tribe and interaction with early English settlers.

9. Pequot War: (East Side Broad St. Green)

Wethersfield's role in America's first war.

10. Old Academy: (150 Main St.)

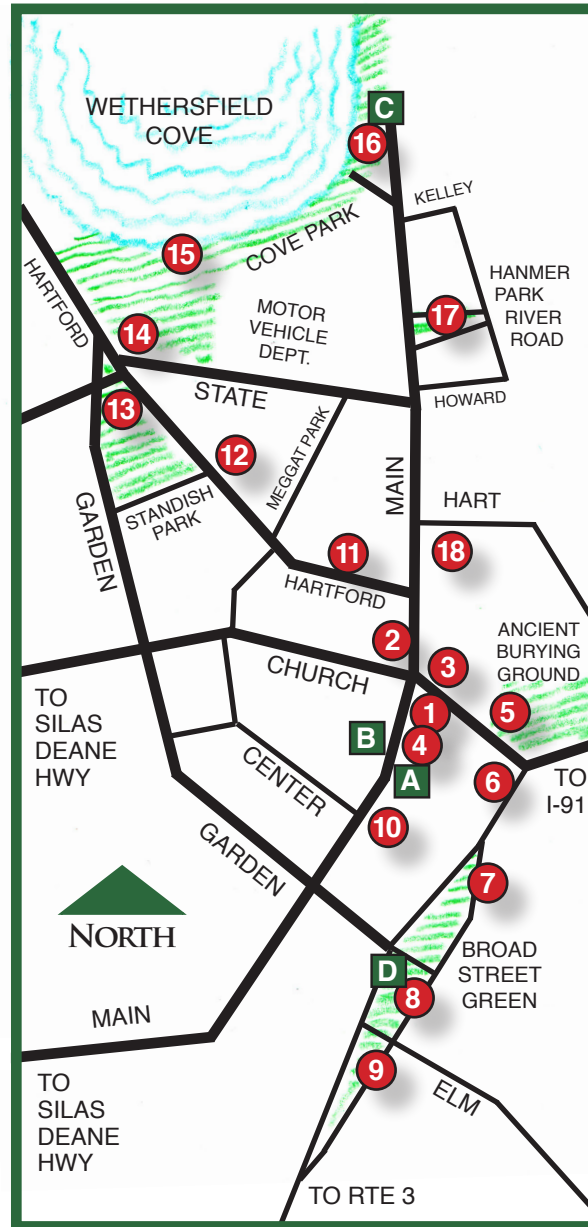
Private school, Reverend Joseph Emerson, First High School, Churches, home to Wethersfield Historical Society.

11. Red Onion: (56 Hartford Ave.)

Significance of this vegetable as a local industry, West Indies Trade, Onion Maidens and William Meggat seed grower.

12. James Francis House:

(120 Hartford Ave.) The Francis family, homebuilding, Sophia Woodhouse and local inventions.



13. Millionaires' Row:

(Standish Park - Corner Hartford Ave and Nott St.) Suburbanization, homebuilders, trolleys and estates.

14. State Prison:

(220 Hartford Ave.) The history of the Connecticut State Prison and the Solomon Welles House.

15. State Prison Cemetery:

(Cove Park- State St.) Unmarked burying grounds for prison inmates.

16. Cove Warehouse: (533 Main St.)

Last remaining 17th century warehouse, maritime trade and museum.

17. Hanmer Park: (Main Street corner River Rd.)

Neighborhood was home to many residents who made their living from the river and the sea.

18. Cradle of American Seed Companies:

(304 Main St.) Agriculture, the Wethersfield seed industry and the history of the Charles C. Hart Seed Company.

A Keeney Memorial Center:

(200 Main St.) Heritage Walk orientation kiosk with map. Four centuries of Wethersfield history, Museum, High School, Governor Thomas Welles Elementary School and Visitor Center. Public rest rooms and parking available here.

B Webb-Deane-Stevens Museum:

(211 Main St.) Life in Colonial Wethersfield, Webb House, George Washington's visit, Silas Deane's House, America's first diplomat.

C Cove Park: (533 Main St.)

Importance of the Connecticut River, early settlement of Wethersfield, Connecticut's first seafaring vessel, port of distribution.

D Broad Street Green:

(Corner of Broad St. and Constitution Way) First English settlers, Wethersfield's militiamen, the nation's first cavalry unit, Revolutionary War, architecture, noteworthy trees and the Great Elm of Wethersfield.

