



Freedom's Way

Heritage Association

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The goal of Freedom's Way Heritage Association is to protect and preserve the Landscape of Visionaries and Experimenters through the designation of a National Heritage Area to include 42 communities in the Commonwealth and New Hampshire.

GOVERNOR SWIFT SUPPORTS FREEDOM'S WAY

Freedom's Way Heritage Association was pleased and honored to have received copies of a letter written by Governor Jane M. Swift to the Senate and Congressional Subcommittees in support of the legislation to establish a Freedom's Way National Heritage Area. She wrote: "I am well acquainted with the effort of the Freedom's Way Heritage Association's accomplishments in promoting the natural, historical and cultural resources prevalent in this particular region of the Commonwealth. These resources provide wonderful opportunities for recreation, environmental education and heritage preservation. A feasibility study, largely funded by the Commonwealth, highlighted these resources and provided representatives of the Freedom's Way Heritage Association the ability to share detailed information about their specific vision, goals and accomplishments.

"In addition to the preservation of these resources, heritage development will provide an economic spur to the region and the Commonwealth. Tourism in Massachusetts' third largest industry, and our depth of historical, cultural and recreational resources is a key reason visitors come to Massachusetts. Freedom's Way will play an important role as a vehicle for all Americans to connect with our shared heritage and sense of place."

A request for a similar letter has been made to New Hampshire Governor Jeanne Shaheen and we eagerly await her response.

CHANDLER AND DARBY RECEIVE AWARDS

At the recent Freedom's Way Annual Dinner held at Hartley House in Lunenburg, Speaker Robert O'Connor, director of Land and Forest Management of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs surprised the attendees by presenting Green Seal Awards to Mildred Chandler and Marge Darby from Secretary Bob Durand. The awards read: "*In recognition of your substantial contribution to Community Preservation in the Commonwealth and in appreciation of your hard work and magic touch in transforming the dreams of a Freedom's Way Heritage Area into a reality.*"

Quite speechless, both Chandler and Darby acknowledged their awards on behalf of the Association and its membership. The "magic touch" is the result of many hands helping and smoothing the way – thank you all for your past help and your help in the years to come.

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FREEDOM'S WAY HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

Board of Directors-2002 - 2003

President: Marge Darby

Vice President: Richard Canale

Secretary: Milly Chandler

Treasurer: Rebecca Waugh

Directors at Large:

Roberta Atkinson
Maud Ayson
James Baecker
Christine Bergeron
Michelle Ciccolo
Meg Delorier
Jeffrey Harris, MD
George Kahale
Alan Manoian
Cara Metz
Zelda Moore
John Ott
Tim Prior
Mary Shasta
Elizabeth Tennessee
Jerrold Van Hook
Lucy Wallace
Rebecca Waugh
David Westerling
Mary Whitney

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Ron Ansin	Tom Malloy
Hon. R. Antonioni	Tricia Paulson
Bill Ashe	Hon. Pam Resor
Shirley Blancke	Walter Vickers
James Fowler, MHS	Hon. Pat Walrath

Liaisons

Open, Acton	C. Paquette, Leonminster
L. Olsen, Arlington	J. Davison, Lexington
Open, Asburyham	E. Fitzgerald, Lincoln
J. Unpress, Ashby	J. Bowers, Littleton
S. Suhoski, Ayer	G. Padula, Lunenburg
C. Huxsaw, Bedford	P. Boothroyd, Maynard
L. Englemann/S. Becker, Bolton	S. Smith, Pepperell
E. Coolidge, Boxboro	Open, Princeton
Graves/Ingano, Clinton	S. Shipton, Shirley
C. Rinaldo, Concord	M. Macleod, Sterling
S. Brophy, Carlisle	C. Hastings, Stow
V. Normand, Devens	J. Allen, Sudbury
S. Tully, Dunstable	A. Struthers, Townsend
J. Huff, Fitchburg	D. Cormier, Westminster
Open, Gardner	E. Bagley, Westford
B. Clements, Groton	V. Eresian, Hollis
P. Durrant, Harvard	A. Manoian, Nashua
M. Ciccolo, Hudson	H. Rogers, Brookline
M. Sczerzen, Lancaster	L. Fletcher, Mason
R. Eaton, Greenville	R. Waugh, New Ipswich

Interpretive Centers as of 2001

Concord Museum, Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary of Mass Audubon Society, Fruitlands Museum, Gardner Heritage State Park, Dunn's Pond State Park, Great Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Great Meadows Wildlife Reserve, Museum of Our National Heritage, Nashua River Watershed Assoc. Resource Center, Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary of Mass. Audubon Society, Wachusett Mountain State Reserve, Walden Pond State Reserve, Rte. 2 Johnny Appleseed Hospitality & Information Center.

U. S. Senators

Massachusetts

Honorable Edward F. Kennedy

2400 John F. Kennedy Federal Bldg.

Boston, MA 02203

617-565-3170 Steve Kerrigan, Aide

New Hampshire

Honorable Judd Gregg

125 North Main Street

Concord, NH 03301

603-622-7115 Matt Leahy, Aide

Honorable John F. Kerry

One Bowdoin Square

Boston, MA 02114

617-565-8519 Richard Levitt, Aide

Honorable Robert C. Smith

1 Harbour Place - Suite 435

Portsmouth, NH 03801

603-433-1667 Jeff Rose, Aide

U. S. Representatives

Massachusetts

Honorable John W. Olver

463 Main Street

Fitchburg, MA 01420

978-342-8722 Tricia Paulsen, Aide

Honorable Edward J. Markey

Five High Street

Medford, MA 02155

781-396-2900 Mark Gallagher, Aide

Honorable John F. Tierney

17 Peabody Square

Peabody, MA 01960

978-531-1669 George McCabe, Aide

Honorable James P. McGovern

14 Mechanic Street

Worcester, MA 01608

508-831-7356 Paula Buonomo, Aide

Honorable Martin T. Meehan

11 Kearney Square

Lowell, MA 01852

978-459-0101 Chris Doherty, Aide

New Hampshire Second District

Honorable Charles Bass

170 N. Main Street

Nashua, NH 03060

603-889-8772 Mark Sanborn, Aide

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Friends,

It is a new year for Freedom's Way Heritage Association. I am delighted to be able to work with you to continue the goals and objectives of the organization. I am personally extremely grateful to our members, friends and foundations for their support. With your help, the Association has come of age. Freedom's Way has weathered the trials of establishing a regional entity and suffered the growing pains of any organization that began as a handful of citizens with a dream.

Our dream has at times appeared illusive as we learned to negotiate the halls of government, and the demands of a political process without previous experience. Tremendous progress has occurred since we were incorporated in 1994. We have many more members, we have expanded the board, and we are organizing committees to give you more opportunity to participate. Please, take advantage of that opportunity and sign up to help.

With your past assistance, we have reached out into more communities and developed a library of materials for the educational efforts of local teachers and other community organizations.

We get closer to our goal of a federal designation each day. Massachusetts State Senator Pam Resor advised us earlier this spring that it is no longer a question of "if" we will receive a federal designation, but "when" it will be bestowed.

We are restructuring the organization in preparation for acquiring professional assistance. We need to be ready to function effectively as the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area when we receive that designation. It would be best to have an Executive Director already on board for when that occurs. To that end, we are seeking your support to help us find the right person and to have someone in place when the appropriation becomes a reality. With an Executive Director to provide expertise and assistance we will be better able to marshal the efforts of our volunteer board and committees. We should meet our needs with professionalism and pride.

I take for my person goals two main objectives for 2002-2003:

1. To structure FWHA to become a more effective board.
2. To achieve reasonable financial health.

I cannot do this alone – I need you to help me.

We had been told to expect Congress to schedule hearings about Freedom's Way in September of 2001. Naturally, the legislators had far more important issues to address in September. We await news of a hearing date. Keep your eyes and ears open!

Sincerely,



Marge Darby

Visit our upgraded web site: freedomsway.org

CANALE TO FOCUS ON LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Founder and former Freedom's Way Heritage Association president, Richard Canale is going to devote full time to the legislative effort. Securing a Congressional designation takes patience and devotion. Canale has been juggling many responsibilities for Freedom's Way and has decided to focus his energies where he is most valuable to the organization. Without the distractions of other committee and administrative work, Richard will be a stronger advocate.

We are grateful for the past four years of his presidency and happy that he remains so totally committed to the effort. It was Richard's tireless persistence that secured the letter from Governor Swift. A designation will occur faster with Richard steering the committee through the halls of Congress.

FREEDOM'S WAY ELECTS OFFICERS

The Board of Freedom's Way Heritage Association recently elected officers:

Marge Darby, President
Richard Canale, Vice President
Rebecca Waugh, Treasurer
Mildred Chandler, Secretary.

New committees were also formed and the Chairs of those committees are:

Finance, Mary Whitney, former Mayor of Fitchburg
Governance, Lucy Wallace, Town of Harvard Selectman and representative for NRWA

Grants, James Baecker, Mass. Dep. Env. Mgmt Facility, Meg Delorier, VP MassDev

Legislative Action, Richard Canale, Professor Emeritus NorthEastern University

Membership and Liaisons, Co-Chairs Christine Bergeron, NVCOC and Michelle Ciccolo, Hudson Community Development

Theme Development, Milly Chandler.

INQUIRIES ABOUT BECOMING PART OF FREEDOM'S WAY

Since the appearance of the Boston Globe Article on February 2, 2002 entitled: "42 Communities Unite in Heritage Area," by Alice Hinkle, about the proposed Freedom's Way National Heritage Area, seven communities have requested information. In each instance the inquiry included questions about how the towns were "chosen" to become part of the proposed area.

Freedom's Way Heritage Association was organized by a group of citizens who came together to discuss their mutual interest in preserving the most unique resources of the area. This grass roots organization reached out to neighbors and neighboring communities to form an organization of liaisons and members. It was this larger group that participated in the feasibility study conducted in 1997 and that was amended as a result of subsequent meetings until submission to the National Park Service in 2001. Those towns participating in the study defined themselves as outlined in the attached explanation and the geographic region was based upon that self-definition.

THE GRASS ROOTS PROCESS THAT LED THE PROPOSAL OF A FREEDOM'S WAY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

The Freedom's Way National Heritage Area legislation (HR1027/S1925) process has been underway since 1997. Freedom's Way conducted an extensive Feasibility Study in order to demonstrate that the proposed legislation met the criteria for national designation. If this legislation is passed, the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area and the National Park Service must then conduct a 3-year Management Action Plan for approval by the Secretary of the Department of the Interior. Funding for a grant program might not be available until the Management Action Plan is accepted.

Towns named in the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area legislation participated in a Feasibility Study in 1997 and the development of an Addendum submitted to the National Park Service in 2001. The process that led to the completion of the study and addendum was an active grass-roots effort. Hundreds of town representatives and their local officials participated in a series of workshops. During the workshops the participants framed the themes that they considered exemplified their specific geographic area. The overall theme these participants selected for themselves is the New England Landscape. That theme was finally divided into subthemes:

- I. Rediscovering the Landscape of Democracy
- II. Inventing the New England Landscape
- III. Shaping the Landscape of Democracy

Critical to the development of these themes was the participants' desire to illustrate the importance of the landscape to the emergent conservation movement and the philosophies of the region's visionaries and experimenters

some of whom were: Benton MacKaye, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, Bronson Alcott, and the Shakers. The uniqueness of this region stems from its attraction to generations of people who expressed their philosophies through an evolving understanding of man's connection to the landscape and the meanings of the evolutionary changes in the landscape wrought by man. While these visionaries wrote and thought about democracy, and experimented in democratic forms, they were also passionate about and experimented in land reform and usage. They viewed democracy as part of a larger concept. Thus, the defining themes listed above are intended to be interconnected. For example: Henry David Thoreau wrote about his discoveries within the native landscape and his concerns for preserving natural resources. He was also an experimenter in land use and plant reproduction. His interpretation of his environment led him to his views about humankind and his democratic principles.

These themes or stories will be told through participating institutions that have made known their interest in the themes and have agreed to develop related educational programs through regional partnerships.

The Freedom's Way National Heritage Legislation under consideration by Congress is fixed at 42 communities. Once designation occurs and an appropriation to conduct a Management Action Plan has been approved, the examination of boundary adjustments may occur.

We suggest, as the Freedom's Way Heritage Association did in 1997, that each town considering inclusion participate in a feasibility study. Data relating to the themes should be gathered. The feasibility study should include:

1. Inventory of Natural Resources, including Conservation Areas
2. Inventory of Cultural Resources
3. Inventory of Historical Resources, Sites, Buildings, etc.
4. Maps appropriate to the above lists
5. List of Municipal departments with names
6. List of local liaisons or contacts for each town
7. Names of ten influential citizens to participate in public forums
8. Letters of support from:
 - a. Municipal Officer/s
 - b. Planning Board
 - c. Conservation Commission
 - d. Historical Commission
 - e. Chamber of Commerce
 - f. Major Businesses
 - g. Interpretive Center with permission to use facilities
9. Series of public forums to obtain grass root support and to build consensus on appropriate FWNHA themes or develop new theme.
10. Develop a Funding Plan to increase state and federal appropriation.

Legislation to establish a Freedom's Way National Heritage Area has been filed in both the House and Senate.

Bill # H.R. 1027 To Establish a Freedom's Way National Heritage Area in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the State of New Hampshire and for other purposes was filed March 14, 2001 by sponsor, Congressman John W. Olver, and was co-sponsored by Congressmen Charles Bass, Edward J. Markey, James P. McGovern, Martin Meehan, and John F. Tierney. Congressman John Sununu has since signed on as a co-sponsor. The bill has been referred to the House Committee on Resources, . For the latest information on progress search for Bill # H.R. 1027 at <http://thomas.loc.gov>

Bill # S. 1925 To Establish a Freedom's Way National Heritage Area in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the State of New Hampshire and for other purposes was filed February 8, 2002 by sponsor, Senator John F. Kerry and was co-sponsored by Senators Judd Gregg, and Edward M. Kennedy. Senator Bob Smith supports our efforts. The bill has been referred to the Senate Committee on Resources. For the latest information on progress search for Bill # S. 1925 at <http://thomas.loc.gov>. Click for Senator Kerry's [remarks](#) in the Congressional Record on Freedom's Way

Passage of the current Freedom's Way National Heritage Area Act Bills will:

- *create the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area*
- *designate Freedom's Way Heritage Association, Inc. as the Management Entity*
- *specify roles, responsibilities, and authority*
- *authorize up to \$ 1,000,000 / year appropriation for 15 years with a limit of \$10,000,000*

You may wish to call your representative's office personally to express your appreciation for his support. Be sure to reference Bill # HR1027 for congressmen and Bill # S 1925 for senators. Freedom's Way will appropriately recognize each legislator's efforts. We will let you know of specific events as they are planned.

If you choose to write to your Congressman and Senators to encourage their continued support for passage of this legislation, here are sample letters. For additional questions or comment, you may speak to the Aide.

Sample Letters

The Hon (Name)

Address

Re: [the Bill #] to Establish a Freedom's Way National Heritage Area in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the State of New Hampshire.

Dear Congressman [Senator] (Name)

Thank you for sponsoring (or co-sponsoring) the legislation to establish a Freedom's Way National Heritage Area. I (We) are counting on your continued support throughout the entire legislative process.

As you know, Freedom's Way legacy includes the stories of the people who have connected the use of the landscape to a deeper understanding of ideas about independence, individual rights, conservation, social justice, and even democracy. This is a legacy that includes: (insert one or two of your town's sites OR) Native Americans, local patriots of distinction, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, Benton MackKaye, Bronson, Abigail and Louisa-May Alcott, and the Shakers.

We believe Freedom's Way is a worthy initiative to come before the Congress for a designation. The authorization as a National Heritage Area will help to bring much-needed stewardship guidance, and resource protection planning to the region.

Please continue to support this legislation and the necessary appropriations to complete the cultural heritage and management plan.

Most sincerely yours

Your name and affiliation, if any.

PLEASE NOTE: Freedom's Way Heritage Association, Inc. complies with all I.R.C. requirements under Section 501 (c)(3). No substantial part of FWHHA's activities involve attempting to influence legislation, and FWHHA does not participate or intervene, directly or indirectly, in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

About the Committees

If you would like to contribute more toward the work of Freedom's Way, please consider volunteering to help by joining one of the committees listed. Inquire at the office about how to participate. Phone : 978-772-3654 or email : freedomsway@bicnet.net. We'll help you find a niche that suits your interests. Membership in Freedom's Way and enthusiasm are the only requirements.

As an organization, we have said that our primary purpose is theme development and education. As we strive to keep on target, we must ensure that we have sufficient funds to accomplish our mission and goals. Committees will meet at the convenience of committee members.

Finance Committee. Chair, Mary Whitney

This committee develops financial strategy, plans and budgets. It also develops policies in regard to handling of funds, bookkeeping, financial data entry, insurance, etc. It will coordinate grant appeals, fundraising, operating grants, gifts, secure financial resources. Ways and Means or fundraising for local business and individuals.

Governance Committee. Chair, Lucy Wallace

This committee reviews the organization's policy in re its Mission and Goals. It will recommend bylaw changes where necessary and establish a mechanism for addressing issues and position statements. The structure of the organization will be part of an ongoing agenda.

Grants Committee. Chair, James Baecker

This committee will write the grants and prepare material for funding requests. It will also be the responsibility of this committee to develop the Executive Director job description and selection process for board approval.

Facility Committee. Chair, Meg Delorier

When new office space is needed, the committee will find suitable space, and it will periodically review office requirements, sets goals for equipment purchases and upgrade, etc.

Legislative Action Committee. Chair, Richard Canale

This committee will monitor legislative actions and calendars. It will regularly contact state and national legislators to seek progress reports, and coordinate the efforts of local people with legislators – arranges for constituent meetings.

Membership/Liaisons. Co-Chairs Christine Bergeron and Michelle Ciccolo

Plans for membership drives and new members. Coordinates the activities of liaisons. Recommends new board members.

Liaisons: Community contact person acts as a conduit of information between the town and the Association.

Public Relations Committee. Chair, Open

Responsible for outreach program. Develops and coordinates a Speakers Bureau. Coordinates TV or Radio interviews, newsletters, press releases and web page updates.

Theme Development Committee. Chair, Milly Chandler

Development of theme related Projects and Activities. Oversees the execution of approved projects: theme development, curriculum development. Site selections, theme and sub-theme development, subjects, town data, research, library, consultants, and studies.

Calendar of Events

(Unless otherwise specified meetings will be held in the FWHA offices at 43 Buena Vista Street, Devens MA 01432)

<i>Finance Committee Meeting</i>	9AM	May 9
<i>Liaison Meeting</i>	9AM	May 13
<i>Executive Board Meeting</i>	9AM	May 20
<i>Theme Development</i>	2PM	May 20
<i>Board Meeting</i>	9AM	June 17

PUBLICATIONS

We now have a selection of books available for purchase. Most of these books are introductions to various aspects of Freedom's Way. The books are offered at a discounted price for members and educators.

Black Freedom Trail in Harvard, Massachusetts, Text and Guide, by Nancy Reifenstein. Identification of families, houses and sites relating to the abolitionist movement, drawn from town history.

Fort Devens World War II Memories and Stories, by Jean McCrosky. A collection of memoirs and interviews with veterans and their families.

Three Women, Three Centuries, by Cynthia Barton. Three independent women: Mother Ann Lee, founder of the Shaker Society; Abigail May Alcott, wife of Bronson Alcott, mother of Louisa May; and Clara Endicott Sears, founder of Fruitlands Museum.

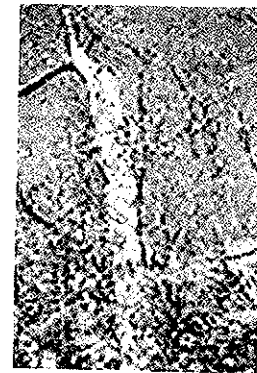
Utopian Communities in Nashaway. Secluded communities of Dissenters, Shakers, Consociates, Millerites, Adventists and Single Taxers developed in the central Massachusetts landscape of Nashaway.

Stories of Lancaster's African American 1700s-1800s, by Joy Peach. Stories of some of Lancaster's earliest citizens culled from a genealogy, marriages, births, deaths and hardships of a previous era.

African Americans in Lancaster's History, a Genealogy, by Joy Peach. A genealogy of Lancaster's African Americans from 1700s. Painstakingly researched documents tell a story that is rarely told.



The Story of Nahum, by Elizabeth Tennessee. Kidnapped as a young boy, Nahum was returned to his family and lived to volunteer in the Civil War.



Old Growth Forests in Southern New England, by Joel Gerwein. Learn why old growth forests are important. Freedom's Way can preserve ancient trees.

The proceeds from the sale of these books contribute toward the work of Freedom's Way which is to document the untold stories of the regions people and sites.

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Price List:

Name of Book	Discount Price *	Tax	Total @ Discount	Suggested Retail Price	Tax	Total @ Retail
Three Women, Three Centuries, by Cynthia Barton	\$10.00	.50	\$10.50	\$14.60	.73	\$15.33
Utopian Communities in Nashaway, by Cynthia Barton	\$10.00	.50	\$10.50	\$14.60	.73	\$15.33
Fort Devens World War II Memories, by Jean McCrosky	\$12.95	.65	\$13.60	\$12.95	.65	\$13.60
Black Freedom Trail in Harvard, by Nancy Reifenstein	\$10.00	.50	\$10.50	\$14.60	.73	\$15.33
The Story of Nahum, by Elizabeth Tennessee	\$10.00	.50	\$10.50	\$14.60	.73	\$15.33
African Americans in Lancaster's History:A Genealogy, by Joy Peach	\$10.00	.50	\$10.50	\$14.60	.73	\$15.33
Stories Lancaster's African Americans 1700s-1800s, by Joy Peach	\$10.00	.50	\$10.50	\$14.60	.73	\$15.33
Old Growth Forest in Southern New England, by Joel Gerwein	\$10.00	.50	\$10.50	\$14.60	.73	\$15.33

* Direct mail prices are discounted for educators, and members of Freedom's Way,

I would like to order copies of the following book/s

Name of Book	Number of Copies	Total per book (Price + Tax)
Membership in Freedom's Way	\$35.00	
Shipping	@ \$2.50 per book	
Total enclosed		

Send books to:

Name:
Address:
Town, Zip:

You Can Help Secure A Congressional Designation for the Proposed Freedom's Way National Heritage Area

Freedom's Way Heritage Association, is a 501 (c) (3) organization. Membership is a tax-deductible contribution. If you would like to become a member, give a gift membership, or make a donation, please fill out this form.

I would like to help preserve Freedom's Way, an important part of America's Heritage

by becoming a member:

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

by sending a gift membership to:

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Circle your choice of membership level:

Individual \$35 Family \$45 Non-profit or Public Agency \$50 Corporate \$100

All memberships are for one year from date of contribution.

I/We hereby contribute to Freedom's Way Heritage Association a gift of \$ _____

Purpose of gift: _____

Please make checks payable to Freedom's Way Heritage Assoc., 43 Buena Vista St., Devens MA 01432.

Thank you for your support!

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Devens, MA 01432

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FREEDOM'S WAY, THE LANDSCAPE OF VISIONARIES AND EXPERIMENTERS