

NATIONAL HERITAGE SITES.

Heritage Sites are of National importance. They are being harkened to fueling economic development opportunities for "Heritage Tourism" within a community. Heritage Tourism is now a recognized, State and Federally funded, economic development initiative. Upton is poised to leverage our historic preservation efforts as it has a number of historic landmark buildings as well as many architectural and cultural landmarks.

These are just a few of those that have reached National Recognition.

- **The Underground Railroad.** Abolitionist, Polly Bradish's home. Fugitives would use this home during the day and then be escorted or travel to free States and Canada at night.
- **The Upton Chamber** at Heritage Park is considered to be the "Stonehenge" of Central MA. One of the largest and best known chambers in New England it includes a tunnel, which opens to a bee hive type stone room. A stone slab sits atop it. Although there are many interpretations on its origin, archaeo-astronomists concluded that it was used from 1350-1625 to study the Pleiades, to observe the summer Solstice and other stars looming over the stones capes at the top of Pratt Hill.

<https://www.stonestructures.org/html/upton-chamber.html>

- **The Connecticut Path.** The Path is one of the most historic trails in the Region. It was traversed by Native Americans and Colonists for trade in beginning in the 1600's. Nipmuc and other tribes continuously used the Path to take furs and surplus corn from the CT River to Colonial settlements. Once there, they traded for cloth, metal tools, weapons, and alcoholic beverages. The Connecticut Path travels locally from Hopkinton to Grafton, **directly thru Upton Center and along Main Street (including entrance to the parcel)**, to Grafton and beyond.

Other Significant Historic Landmark's In Upton

- **Ten Footer Boot Shop** (1790)
- **Upton Center First Burying Ground** (1730)
- **John Sadler House** (oldest, 1715)
- **Knowlton Hat Factory** (1834)
- **First Unitarian Society** (1848)
- **United Parish Church** (1848)
- **Holy Angels Church** (Formerly Unitarian, 1874)
- **Unitarian Universalist Church** (1874)
- **Pratt Hill** (Indigenous Peoples Ceremonial Landscape)
- **CCC Camps**, Upton State Forest (1935-1938)
- **Whitney House** (1755).....
- **Sweetwilliam Farm** (1739)
- **Upton Town Hall** (1881)