13. Maple Leaf at Tuckahoe State Park*

Address: Lake Pavillion, 13070 Crouse Rd, Ridgely Ⓟ
Painted By: Lockerman Middle School Art Students
About the Maple Leaf: Canada was the final destination for many freedom seekers. It represented the land of freedom an equality, and the Canadian Government welcomed runaways. Several communities of former slaves were established along the borders. During the Civil War, many returned to join the Union Army.
Sponsored By: Tuckahoe State Park

14. Pine Tree at Adkins Arboretum*

Address: 12610 Eveland Road, Ridgely Ⓟ
Painted By: Denton Community Demonstration Garden
About the Pine Tree: In the 19th century, the timbering industry dominated the economic wealth of the Eastern Shore. Slaves like Harriet Tubman and her family worked in the various aspects of the trade. Mills in the area became a source of employment for both slaves and freemen of color. Timber was then transported around the area to support the shipbuilding industry.
Sponsored By: Blair Carmean

15. Wild Goose Chase at Adkins Arboretum*

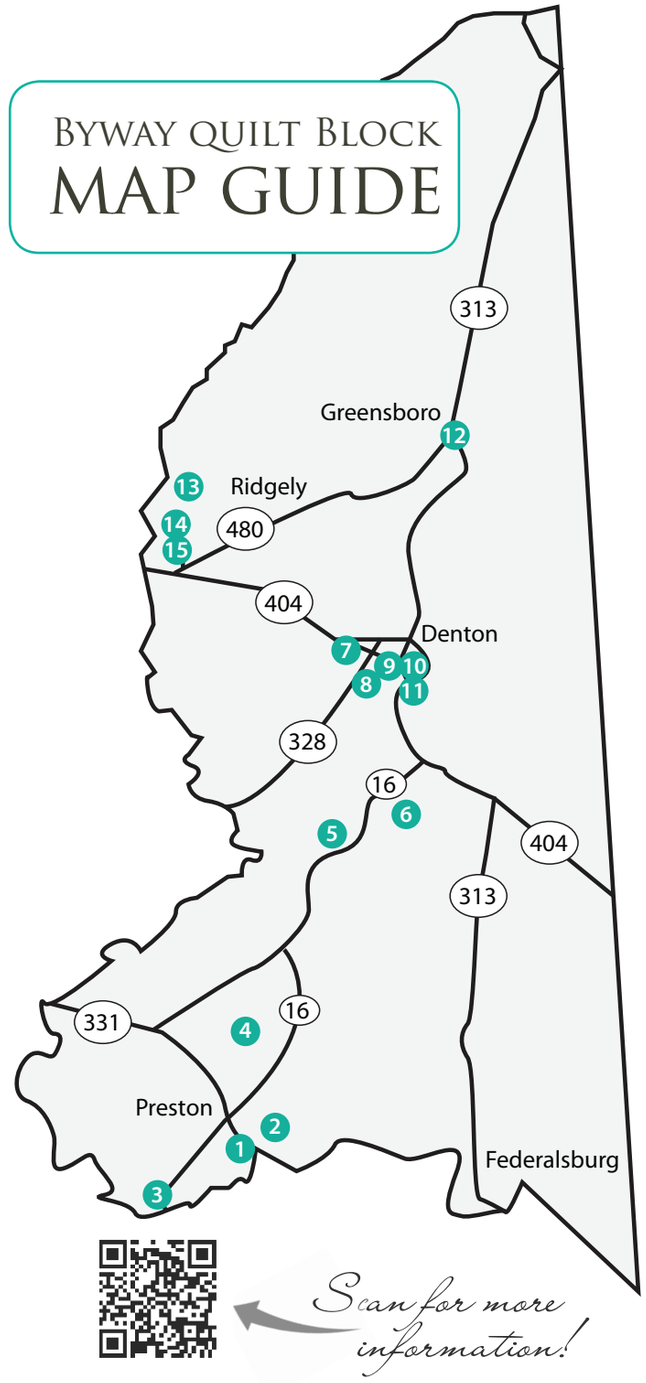
Address: 12610 Eveland Road, Ridgely Ⓟ
Painted By: ArtEast
About the Wild Goose Chase: Nature played a significant role in the Underground Railroad. The terrain of the Eastern Shore provided both natural guides for freedom seekers, but also presented obstacles for escaping. Populated by tall trees and dense foliage, forests of the Eastern Shore offered shelter and refuge. Oftentimes, runaways hid in the woods for long periods - sometimes more than a month - before continuing north.
Sponsored By: Adkins Arboretum

*** Please check FiberArtsCenter.com for hours of operation.**

Addresses with a Ⓟ have ample parking available. Parking information is included for addresses where parking is not available at the site.

The Byway Quilt Trail is a collaborative public art project supported by the Caroline County Council of Arts, the Caroline County Office of Tourism and the Maryland State Arts Council.

Byway Quilt Block MAP GUIDE



Scan for more information!

Stitching Stories of Freedom: Byway Quilt Block Trail

The Byway Quilt Trail is a public art project that features 15 quilt block replicas located along the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway in Caroline County. Each quilt block was handpainted by a community member or organization and portrays a theme related to the Underground Railroad. Follow the trail of historic quilt block patterns to learn about freedom seekers and their quest for freedom.

WWW.FIBERARTSCENTER.COM

Stitching Stories of Freedom

BYWAY QUILT BLOCK LOCATIONS

1. Chips & Whetstone at Linchester Mill

Address: 3390 Linchester Road, Preston Ⓟ

Painted By: Colonel Richardson High School Art Club

About Chips & Whetstone: This block is named after the sharpening stone used on knives and other sharp farm implements. A small portion of the enslaved were selected to learn traditional skilled arts and were often apprenticed to neighboring farms. During the time spent away, slaves would have the opportunity to interact with other slaves and freemen of color. Through these sources, slaves were able to acquire information of those sympathetic to their cause where help could be attained. Help consisted of forged documents, escape routes, location of safe houses and more.

Sponsored By: Friends of Linchester Mill

2. Underground Railroad at the Leverton Dwelling

Address: 3531 Seaman Road, Preston Ⓟ

Painted By: Bayside Art Quilt Bee

About the Underground Railroad: The Underground Railroad was a secret network of people and places that provided assistance to freedom seekers on their journey north to freedom. In the post Civil War period, knowledge of the Underground Railroad became common with the publication of materials such as the diary of William Still.

Sponsored By: Mariclaire Fleming

3. Tobacco Leaf at the Village of Choptank

Address: 21843 Water Street, Preston Ⓟ

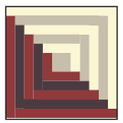
Painted By: Women's Club of Caroline County

About the Tobacco Leaf: The first African American slaves brought in great numbers to colonial America were destined to work on the tobacco farms of the Mid-Atlantic region. The crop was the major export of the colonies and required a strong labor force to grow and process the tobacco leaves.

Sponsored By: The Simmons Family

4. Log Cabin at the James H. Webb Cabin

Address: 23459 Grove Road, Preston Ⓟ



Painted By: African American Historical Advisory Committee

About the Log Cabin: The goal of many freedom seekers was to gain their freedom and establish their own home and livelihood. The log cabin here was built by James H. Webb, a free African-American farmer, around 1852. Webb lived here with his enslaved wife and their four children.

Sponsored By: J.O.K. Walsh

5. Whig's Defeat at the Williston Community Church

Address: 8270 Harmony Road, Denton Ⓟ

Painted By: Amanda Lewis

About Whig's Defeat: Whig Party Senator Henry Clay introduced the Compromise of 1850, which established the creation of both free and slave states in the growing westward expansion. The question of slavery was one of the main reasons the Whig Party collapsed and disbanded in 1856. This block is named for the defeat of Whig presidential candidate Henry Clay in the 1844 election.

Sponsored By: The Williston Community Church

6. Hole in the Barn Door at the 4-H Park

Address: 8230 Detour Road, Denton Ⓟ

Painted By: Foundry Artists

About Hole in the Barn Door: Occasionally runaways were able to find sympathetic owners who allowed them to sleep in barns, attics and hidden rooms.

Sponsored By: The Richards Family

Coming Soon!

7. Children of Israel at Tuckahoe Meeting House

Address: 24820 Meeting House Road, Denton - Park at Choptank Electric

Painted By: 2nd Saturdays at the Artsway Participants

About Children of Israel: The Quakers were among the first to establish systems of moving people to free states. They held major influence in northern cities and encouraged their own members to free their own slaves. The title "Children of Israel" is taken from the Bible, Exodus 3:10 - "Come now, therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh that thou mayest bring forth the people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."

Sponsored By: Shirley Rohrbaugh and Betty Uebel

8. Sailboat at the Choptank River Heritage Center

Address: 10219 River Landing Road, Denton Ⓟ

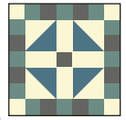
Painted By: Local Government Officials & Staff

About Sailboat: Many runaways were able to find passage on ships willing to take passengers to free states and Canada. Operators of the Underground Railroad were often cultivating relationships with ship captains to help guide their passengers. Others became stowaways on ships in desperate hope to gain their freedom.

Sponsored By: Caroline Office of Tourism

9. Lincoln's Platform at the Museum of Rural Life

Address: 16 N. 2nd Street, Denton - Parking on Gay St & Courthouse Green



Painted By: Byway Quilt Trail Committee

About Lincoln's Platform: Lincoln's Platform represents the bold move taken by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863 with the passage of the Emancipation Proclamation that freed the nation's slaves. As Union troops moved south, they brought with them news and means of freedom to the enslaved that they encountered.

Sponsored By: The Caroline County Historical Society

10. Cotton Boll at Fiber Arts Center of the Eastern Shore

Address: 7 N. 4th Street, Denton Ⓟ

Painted By: Caroline County Council of Arts' Board

About the Cotton Boll: Cotton was the major crop of the southern states. The invention of the cotton gin in 1793 resulted in a streamlined cotton refining and production process, and the demand for cotton rose substantially. This resulted in large plantations requiring a huge labor force, increasing the demand for slaves. Slaves were often threatened with being sold south to work on these types of plantations. Many fled on the Underground Railroad to escape this fate.

Sponsored By: Fiber Arts Center of the Eastern Shore

11. Garden Maze at The Foundry

Address: 401 Market Street, Denton Ⓟ

Painted By: FACES Volunteers

About the Garden Maze: The journey along the Underground Railroad was long and treacherous. Freedom seekers would sometimes lose their way, both physically and spiritually. They would often travel at night, and when it was cloudy, they could not see the stars and could easily get off track.

Sponsored By: Caroline County Council of Arts

12. Wagon Wheel at Curtis Harvey Memorial Park

Address: 218 East Sunset Avenue, Greensboro

Painted By: Caroline Mentoring

About the Wagon Wheel: Freedom seekers were occasionally able to find sympathetic people that would allow them to ride in their wagons for parts of their journey. Operators of the Underground Railroad used the wagon as a common way to move people by hiding them in the back or under the cover of darkness.

Sponsored By: Town of Greensboro