

Mum Bett's Trail

THE FOLLOWING SITES ARE ASSOCIATED WITH MUM BETT'S LIFE AND QUEST FOR FREEDOM.

Please remember that many of these sites are privately owned. We ask you to respect that privacy and view those properties from the public road only.



1 Col. John Ashley House

Mum Bett enslaved here. The house was moved to its current location on Cooper Hill Road in 1930. Open to the public for tours on weekends in the summer. (Also visit the historic marker that recognizes Mum Bett's suit for freedom, located in Ashley Falls on the green in front of the post office.)



2 Gen. Ashley House

The home of General John Ashley, son of Colonel John Ashley. Brom is believed to have been enslaved in this household. The house sits at the junction of Cooper Hill Road and Rannapo Road. (private property)

3 Original site of the Col. Ashley House

The Ashley House was originally located on the river, next door to the General Ashley property on the east side of Rannapo Road. (private property)



4 Graves of John & Hannah Ashley

John and Hannah Ashley are buried in the cemetery just south of Sheffield, to the east of Rte. 7.



5 Theodore Sedgwick's House in Sheffield

Theodore Sedgwick had his law offices here in Sheffield before moving to Stockbridge. Mum Bett walked here to ask Sedgwick to represent her case. The house is located opposite the village green. (private property)



6 Shay's Rebellion Marker

The monument commemorates the defeat of Shay's Rebellion troops in 1787. Located at the junction of Rte. 23 & Egremont Sheffield Road.

7 Site of the Great Barrington Court House

The court house where Elizabeth Freeman filed her "suit for liberty" in 1781 was located at the site of the current Town Hall in the center of Great Barrington.

8 Mum Bett / Elizabeth Freeman House Site

At the end of her life, Mum Bett owned a house (no longer standing) just south of Stockbridge, on the north side, near the end of Cherry Hill Road. (private property)

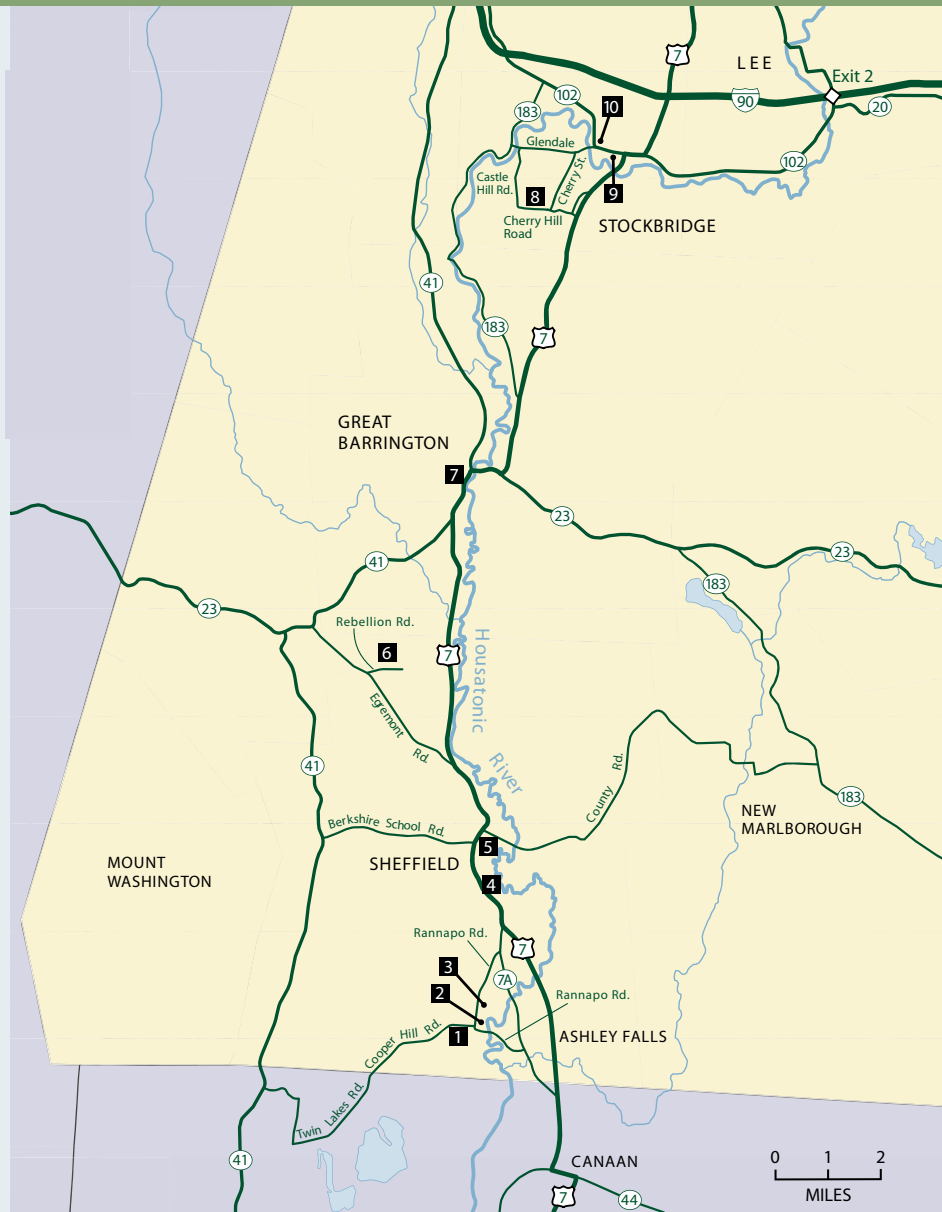
9 The Sedgwick House in Stockbridge

Mum Bett worked as a nanny and housekeeper in the home of Theodore Sedgwick, located on the south side of Main Street. (private property)



10 Mum Bett / Elizabeth Freeman's Grave

Mum Bett is buried in the Sedgwick family plot, known as the Sedgwick Pie, in the northeast corner of the Stockbridge Cemetery.



The African American Heritage Trail encompasses 29 Massachusetts and Connecticut towns in the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area. The trail celebrates African Americans in the region, ordinary people of achievement and those who played pivotal roles in key national and international events—W. E. B. Du Bois, James Weldon Johnson, Rev. Samuel Harrison, James VanDerZee, and others.

The African American Heritage Trail was inaugurated in 2006 with the publication of *African American Heritage in the Upper Housatonic Valley* and the dedication of the trail's first functioning center at the Col. Ashley House in Sheffield, Massachusetts.

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SPECIAL THANKS TO:
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