

JAMES LINDSEY SMITH'S JOURNEY along the underground railroad

James Lindsey Smith

(c. 1816 – c. 1884) fought for liberty and human dignity in an era of social and political upheaval. Smith was enslaved in Virginia and he escaped to the North along the Underground Railroad. Smith became a successful shoemaker and church leader in Norwich, Connecticut. His journey to freedom embodies the struggle of those who escaped from enslavement to make new lives in the North in the years before the Civil War.



ABOVE IS THE
ROUTE SMITH
TRAVELED ON.

- 1 Smith was born on a plantation in Northern Neck, Virginia.
 - 2 Smith was sold to an owner in Heathsville, Virginia.
 - 3 On May 6, 1838, Smith along with two of his enslaved friends, Zip and Lorenzo, made their plan to escape to Newcastle, Delaware.
 - 4 Smith met an abolitionist named Simpson in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
 - 5 Simpson sent Smith to connect with David Ruggles in New York City, New York. Ruggles was a conductor along the Underground Railroad.
 - 6 Ruggles sent Smith onward to Hartford, Connecticut before Smith made his way to Springfield.
 - 7 Smith received an education in Springfield, Massachusetts.
- X Smith got married and relocated to Norwich, CT