

FREDERICK DOUGLASS ^{IN} NEWBURGH

A WALKING TOUR

— Frederick Douglass Trail
Along Washington St & Broadway,
with turns at Lake and Johnson Sts.

- - - Newburgh Walking Tour

- 1 Alsdorf School of Music and Dance
93 Liberty St
- 2 AME Zion Church
109 Washington St
- 3 Alsdorf Family House
260, 262, 266 Washington St
- 4 Elisha Hawkins at
Shiloh Baptist Church
20 Mill St
- 5 Colored School
401 Washington St
- 6 Colored Burial Ground
Broadway and Robinson St
- 7 James F. Brown, Gardener
Downing Park
- 8 Living in Jesus Ministry
119 South St
- 9 Best Temple Church of God in Christ
111 South St
- 10 Calvary Presbyterian Church
120 South St
- 11 Ellsworth Potter, Laborer
Waterfront
- 12 Alsdorf Orchestra
123 Grand St
- 13 Ebenezer Baptist Church
76 1st St
- 14 William "Billy" Lee at
George Washington's Headquarters
84 Liberty St

- BV** Blacc Vanilla Cafe • 197 South St
Serving old world passion with a strong sense of community
- GH** G&H Deli • 191 1st St
A husband and wife duo serving smoked jerked chicken, bourbon chicken & more
- FC** Fish & Chikzz • 238 Broadway
Social and friendly place that reminds people of The Islands and Brooklyn through their food
- M** MeMe's Jamaican • 46 William St
Sunday morning breakfast of cornmeal porridge, ackee, saltfish, callaloo, fried dumplings, & more

UNDERGROUND RAILROAD ROUTES

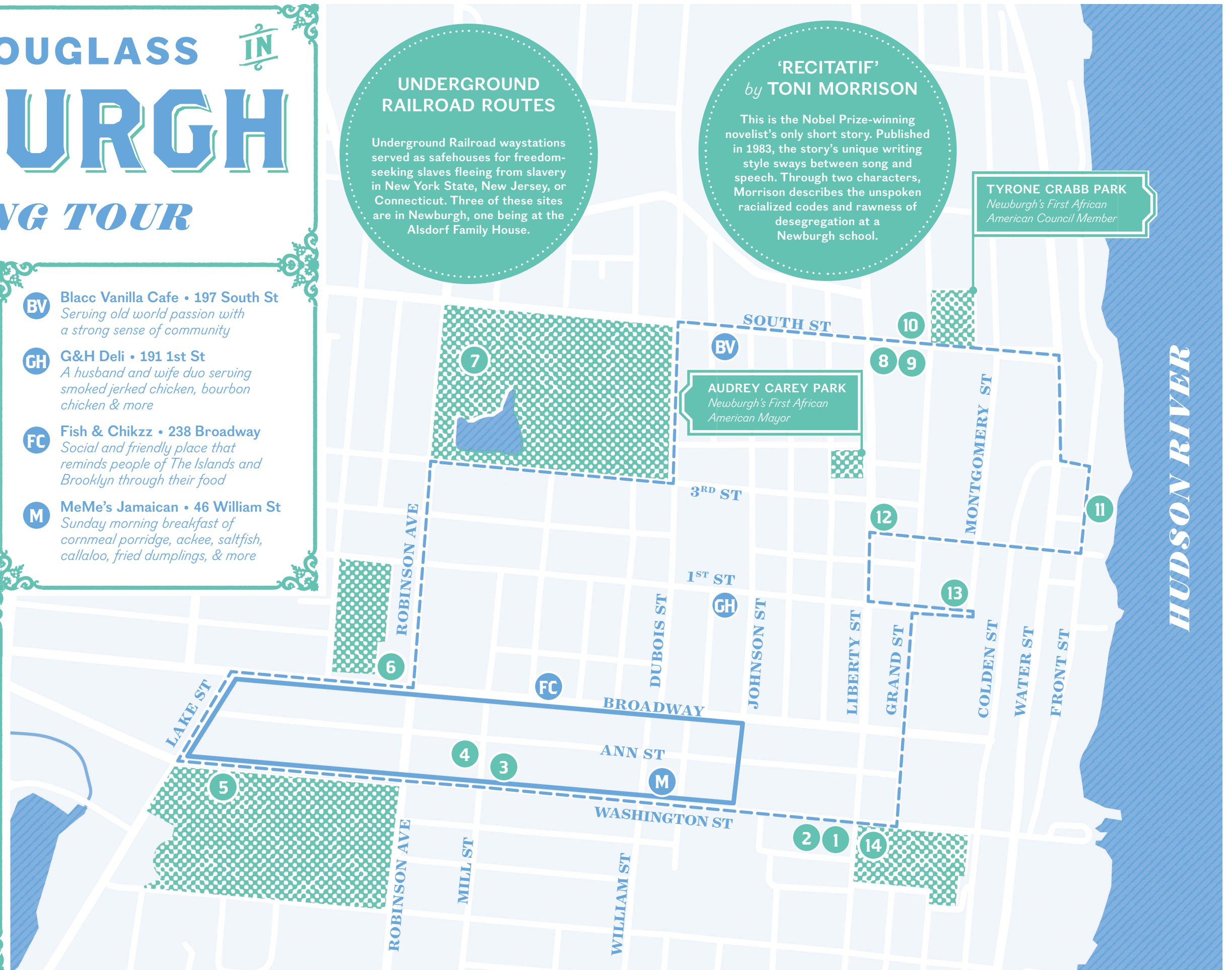
Underground Railroad waystations served as safehouses for freedom-seeking slaves fleeing from slavery in New York State, New Jersey, or Connecticut. Three of these sites are in Newburgh, one being at the Alsdorf Family House.

'RECITATIF' by TONI MORRISON

This is the Nobel Prize-winning novelist's only short story. Published in 1983, the story's unique writing style sways between song and speech. Through two characters, Morrison describes the unspoken racialized codes and rawness of desegregation at a Newburgh school.

TYRONE CRABB PARK
Newburgh's First African American Council Member

AUDREY CAREY PARK
Newburgh's First African American Mayor



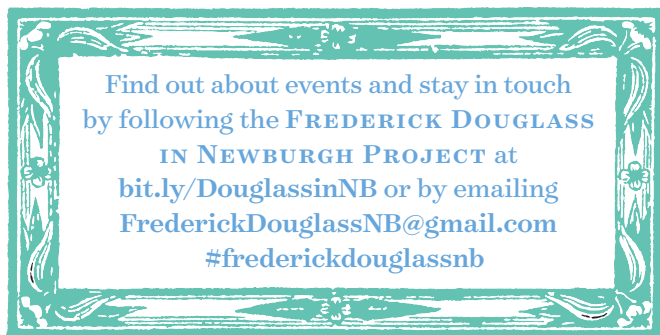
HUDSON RIVER



FREDERICK DOUGLASS IN NEWBURGH A WALKING TOUR

ON AUGUST 11, 1870, IN NEWBURGH, NY, Frederick Douglass delivered a speech that celebrated the recently ratified 15th Amendment, giving African-American men the right to vote. The occasion was marked by the Jubilee March where close to 4,000 visitors came to the city and celebrated this historic milestone.

150 years later, let's honor the legacy of Frederick Douglass and explore our city's unique history. In addition to this self-guided walking tour, events are planned throughout 2020.



1 Alsdorf School of Music and Dance 93 Liberty St

This African-American founded school spread the popularity of ballroom dancing with the influential citizens in Newburgh, and created demand for new music like Foxtrot and Ragtime. The Alsdorf sons, Charles, Simon, and Ulysses expanded the school's instrumental music composition as well. The school lasted until 1950s.

2 AME Zion Church 109 Washington St

The oldest African American Church in the Hudson Valley was established by Reverend John Matthews in 1827, the same year that slavery ended in New York State. A one-story church was first erected in 1832; the current church was built in 1905. On New Year's Eve 1860, weeks before the Civil War, rioters vandalized the church. In 1862, hours before the Emancipation Proclamation took effect, attackers struck again. Rioters were eventually convicted and fired.

3 Alsdorf Family House 260, 262, 266 Washington St

This is the home of the Alsdorfs, a prominent, influential, and affluent African-American family of entrepreneurs, musicians, dancers, and teachers. Born into slavery, the freed George Alsdorf made Newburgh home for his wife and five children before 1850, and soon owned a catering business, bakery, tailor shop, and ladies hair salon.

4 Elisha Hawkins at Shiloh Baptist Church 20 Mill St

Soon after the Shiloh Baptist church was founded in 1849, Elisha Hawkins became the church's preacher. He had acquired his preaching license and became a practicing dentist while he was legally a slave, treating both white and black patients. He gave lectures with fellow abolitionist Elizabeth Waters throughout the Hudson Valley.

5 Colored School 401 Washington St

From 1849–1873, African-American children were taught in this one-room classroom. One of their teachers was African-American activist and abolitionist Elizabeth Waters. The school was entirely funded by private donors including the Alsdorf family and the Reverend Joseph Thompson of the AME Zion Church. In 1873, Dubois Alsdorf successfully petitioned the Board of Education to integrate the public grammar schools and the Colored School was closed.

6 Colored Burial Ground 300 Broadway

After the first almshouse and cemetery were sold in 1831, African-American residents were buried on the outskirts of Newburgh. Due to encroaching industrialization and redevelopment, part of the burial ground was moved to the second Alms House Cemetery near Lake St Corridor. During the Broadway School construction in 1910, additional bodies were discovered, disinterred, and relocated. In 2008, when the school was converted to the Courthouse, further remains were discovered. The site is on the National Register of Historic Places.

7 James F. Brown, Gardener Downing Park

As a fugitive slave, Brown fled to New York and worked for Verplanck Family in Beacon in 1827. Once freed, Brown became respected in the 19th-century horticulture movement who corresponded with important horticulturists like Newburgh's Andrew Jackson Downing. Brown was a middle-class, socially and racially integrated citizen, who owned his own house and land. On November 8, 1837, he wrote in his diary, "James F. Brown voted for the first time."

8 Living In Jesus Ministry 119 South St

Originally founded as Temple Beth Jacob, a Jewish Synagogue in 1890, this building shows the evolution of a building being repurposed by different faiths, a common practice for shifting community demographics. The site is on the National Register of Historic Places.

9 Best Temple Church of God in Christ 111 South St

Founded by Elder James L. Best in 1941 along the Newburgh waterfront, the Pentecostal church later moved to its current location on South Street. Pastor Best proved to be an admired spiritual leader for the second half of the 20th century and the block was named in his honor. Members of the Best family continue to lead the church.

10 Calvary Presbyterian Church 120 South St

In 1858, architect Frederick Clarke Withers designed this acclaimed building, which came to be known as Calvary Presbyterian Church when two congregations re-united. It is known for being the first electrified church in New York State, its unique Egyptian Revival Mausoleum in the Old Town Cemetery, and its original Skinner Pipe Organ. Today's racially mixed congregation thrives.

11 Ellsworth Potter, Laborer Waterfront

A local union welder in 1942, Potter desegregated the shipyards during World War II by securing full membership for 29 African Americans and all women. This helped boost wartime productivity in the local shipyards.

12 Alsdorf Orchestra 123 Grand St

Dubois Alsdorf studied with famous musicians in New York City and debuted the Alsdorf Orchestra on July 4, 1849 on the lawn of the Newburgh Courthouse, now the Heritage Center. Dubois was the first black member of the musicians' union.

13 Ebenezer Baptist Church 76 1st St

Built as the Union Church in 1872, this church is distinguished by its four-faced clock tower made by Charles Fasoldt, whom horologists laud as "a man who never did the same thing twice." It is the only clock of its kind in its original location and it must be wound once a week for 20 minutes. Watch the minute hand for 60 seconds to witness a clock curiosity.

14 William "Billy" Lee at George Washington's Headquarters 84 Liberty St

While in Newburgh, General George Washington was accompanied by his loyal manservant William "Billy" Lee, a mixed-race slave. He was praised for his excellent horsemanship. Lee became the most recognized African-American of his time because he was depicted in several portraits of Washington.



Explore historic photos of Newburgh with the Urban Archive website & app. Find out more at urbanarchive.nyc/ua-newburgh



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