



# CASE STUDY

## Walking Tour Signage

**Location:** Norwich, Connecticut  
**Designer:** Miranda Creative & State Historic Preservation Office  
**Fabricator:** Norwich Public Works Department

The Mohegan Tribe was the original stewards of the land where the City of Norwich now stands. Norwich can trace its origins to the year 1659, when Chief Uncas gave a gift of 9 miles square of his native homeland to the immigrant people surrounding him. In the eighteenth century, Norwich was a prominent manufacturing community, shipbuilding center, and a thriving seaport. By 1774, Norwich was the twelfth largest city in the colonies. During the Industrial Era, mills attracted many workers, including immigrant laborers, who stayed and made Norwich home. Today, The City of Norwich is the largest city in Eastern, CT with over 40,000 residents and its rich and diverse history showcases its impact and contribution to the formation of the United States of America.

In 2001, Bill Stanley and Peg Wilson formed the Norwich Historical Society to protect, preserve and promote the history of Norwich. Since forming the society, Norwich's rich history has been shared with the community and continues to improve each year. The Norwich Historical Society helps rehabilitate historical properties, manages a visitor center, and hosts annual programs. The society's newest addition is the self-guided walking tours called the Walk Norwich Trails. Four walking trails cover four hundred years of Norwich's history and many of the historic sites feature new interpretive signage. These permanent interpretive displays are placed in Local and National Register Historic Districts to give residents and visitors information about landmark sites along the walking trails.

The Walk Norwich project was funded by the City of Norwich's Sachem Fund and the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office. The purpose of the trails are to allow visitors to walk along the historic routes while having informative stopping points throughout the city. Interpretive signage was designed by Miranda Creative, manufactured by iZone Imaging and installed by the Norwich Department of Public Works.

*"It was important to have durable long-lasting signs that are impervious to moisture and fade resistant that could tell the stories over many years."*  
 - Regan Miner, Executive Director Norwich Historical Society

