



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

August 4, 1997

Rev. Louise B. Higginbotham
The United Church on the Green
323 Temple Street
New Haven, CT 06511-6698

Dear Rev. Higginbotham:

Thank you for your letter of July 1 requesting that the United Church on the Green be included on the Connecticut African American Freedom Trail. Al Marder brought your request to a meeting in June and it was agreed to include the church as one of thirteen additions to the more than sixty currently part of the trail.

Cora Murray (also a member of the Commission staff) and I have looked at the church history that you enclosed with your request, but it is unclear how the church played a role in the Amistad events at New Haven. Several members at that time were involved with antislavery and working with the Amistad Africans, but it is the church building site that will be honored. If you have information regarding what the congregation did as official or unofficial acts this would be helpful in writing the description to include in an updated brochure. It would be helpful to know what the plaque to Roger Sherman Baldwin says.

I would very much enjoy visiting the United Church on the Green, and I believe it would be helpful to both Cora and myself to do so. I will be away from my office until August 25. One day during the first two weeks in September would be good for me. In the meantime, if you could forward a little more information about the role of the church in working for the Amistad Africans, as well as the wording of the Baldwin plaque, this would be helpful.

Sincerely,

David O. White
Museum Director

cc: John Shannahan
Cora Murray
Al Marder