



Become a NorWALKer!

EXPLORE THE GOLDEN HILL NEIGHBORHOOD

Find serenity in the breathtaking views of Long Island Sound from the top of Golden Hill.

Loop 1

Start at the Flax Hill Park parking lot. Walk toward Flax Hill Rd. and turn left. Take a left onto Taylor Ave. and then a right onto Hillside St. Once you reach the intersection of Hillside St. and Bayview Ave., turn right and follow the sidewalk until you reach Flax Hill Rd. Turn right onto Flax Hill Rd. and continue back to the entrance of Flax Hill Park.

Loop 2

Start at the Flax Hill Park parking lot. Walk toward Flax Hill Rd. and turn left. Take a left onto Taylor Ave. and then a right onto Hillside St. Turn left up Elmwood Ave. and continue to the end. Turn right on Cedar St. and then another right onto Bayview Ave. Once you reach the intersection of Bayview Ave. and Hillside St., turn left and follow the sidewalk until you reach Flax Hill Rd. Turn right onto Flax Hill Rd. and continue back to the entrance of Flax Hill Park.



PROCEED WITH CAUTION WHEN FOLLOWING NORWALKER ROUTES!

The *Healthy for Life Project* is not responsible for any injuries or accidents that may occur while following NorWALKer routes. Consult your doctor before beginning an exercise program. Use pedestrian crosswalks when available, obey all traffic laws, and if no sidewalks exist, walk against traffic. Wear proper footwear and reflective gear, and bring water with you while walking. Have fun!

GOLDEN HILL

The plot of land now known as Golden Hill was included in a land purchase from the Native American tribes living in the Norwalk area. The deed of sale was made and signed between Captain Daniel Partrick and local Native American Chiefs Mahachem and Piminate. The Native Americans used their marks as a signature, as they could not write in English. The deed was dated “this 20th of April 1640”.

A copy of the deed can be viewed at Norwalk City Hall. The deed shows the items given by Captain Daniel Partrick for the meadows and lands adjoining or lying to the west side of the Norwalk River. Captain Partrick did not purchase the land with the money of the day but with numerous items useful to the Native Americans.

An ancient trail first used by Native American families was known in the early days as “The Stamford Path” and later as “The King’s Highway”. It borders Golden Hill along what is now known as Flax Hill Road.

During the American Revolutionary War, British troops and Hessian mercenaries hired by the British marched through the Golden Hill area, setting fires and battling colonial soldiers. A Revolutionary War cannonball is embedded in a stone outcropping on Hillside Street near the corner of Elmwood Avenue. Above the cannonball is a faint but still readable inscription: “This rock marks the site of a battle between the Americans and the British July 12, 1779”. Below the cannonball are the words “This cannonball was found a hundred years after”.

From a high spot at the top of the hill there is a

GOLDEN HILL

beautiful view of Long Island Sound and the area once known as “Old Well”. Today, Old Well is better known as South Norwalk. Families that lived on Golden Hill in the 1800s were wealthy and included owners and managers of businesses, which met the needs of the shipping industry, ship owners, and captains.

Today, Golden Hill is once again becoming a very important part of the greater Norwalk area. Many stately homes are being renovated to help return Golden Hill to its illustrious past.

Golden Hill has been named by the State of Connecticut’s Commission on Culture and Tourism (Historic Preservation and Museum Division) as Norwalk’s first State Historic District! In this small area, bounded by Flax Hill Road, Fairfield Avenue, Cedar Street, and Taylor Avenue, there are close to 100 homes that could be classified as historic.

Golden Hill has presented many faces to those who pass by. First, its woody, rocky slope was used as a Native American Trail. Later it was used as a Post Road, first by the British and then by the American government, to improve communication along the east coast. During the Revolutionary War, Golden Hill was used as a battleground between opposing forces, and in the 1800s, it was home for the wealthy.

Compiled by Richard (Dick) Booth, 2007

Edited by Kaitlin Latham, 2016

GOLDEN HILL

Be sure to visit Flax Hill Park, located in the Golden Hill neighborhood at 233 1/2 Flax Hill Road!



Healthy4LifeCT

For more information about NorWALKer Routes, call (203) 854-7776 or visit www.healthyforlifeproject.org



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The Sound of Connecticut

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