

History of the Air Line Trail



The Railroad Depot was on the Air Line Route and is one of only 3 depots remaining between New Haven and the Massachusetts State line. It is located on Marlborough Street near the intersection with High Street. This station served as the commercial and social hub for the town, and was renovated in the early 1990s.



One of the features of the Air Line Route was the New England Limited, known as the White Train or the Ghost Train. It used passenger cars built by the Pullman Car Company which were painted a special white and gold motif. When the white train passed in the darkness, it produced a ghostly aura.



The historic swing bridge across the Connecticut River provides railroad service between Portland and Middletown. The center section of the bridge is regularly left open to provide boating access on the river. However, trains regularly cross over the bridge carrying goods to Portland businesses.

This trail is made possible thanks to the time, effort, and generous contributions from our proud sponsors....

EVERSOURCE ENERGY



Connecticut Department of
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Spectra Energy

The Portland Air Line Trail is for non-motorized use (except for wheelchairs) and is open daily from dawn to dusk

Trail Dedicated June 2, 2018

Portland

Air Line Trail

Town History in Motion



Historic Portland Air Line Trail

Guide Map





CROMWELL

Riverfront Park

Brownstone Exploration & Discovery Park

PORTLAND DOWNTOWN DISTRICT

CONNECTICUT RIVER

MIDDLETOWN

Ames Hollow Road

Route 17

Jobs Pond Road

Route 66

(82 Middle Haddam Road)

Portland Trail Head

Middle Haddam Road

Penfield Hill Road

Palmer Taylor Preserve

Portland Air Line Trail

Meshomasic State Forest

EAST HAMPTON

Depot Hill Road

Air Line Trail State Park (to Massachusetts)

For more information visit the CT Rail Trail Explorer <http://www.depdata.ct.gov/maps/ctrailtrail/index.html#>