



COLUMBIA HISTORIC PRESERVATION SOCIETY

C O L U M B I A P E N N S Y L V A N I A

Monday, March 23, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the Columbia Historic Preservation Society, I am pleased to offer this letter of support for The Underground Railroad of Pennsylvania, a fellow 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to preserving, interpreting, and promoting one of the most significant chapters in American history.

Our organization has long been committed to the preservation of Columbia's rich historical legacy, including its pivotal role in the Underground Railroad network. The work being undertaken by The Underground Railroad of Pennsylvania aligns closely with our mission to educate the public, safeguard historic resources, and ensure that the stories of courage, resilience, and the pursuit of freedom are not forgotten.

The Susquehanna River corridor—particularly Columbia and the surrounding region—served as a critical gateway for freedom seekers. The continued research, interpretation, and public engagement efforts led by The Underground Railroad of Pennsylvania are essential in deepening public understanding of this history and honoring those who risked everything in the fight against slavery. We recognize and strongly support their efforts to:

- Preserve and document historic sites connected to the Underground Railroad
- Provide educational programming and public interpretation
- Promote awareness of Pennsylvania's vital role in the national freedom network
- Foster collaboration among historical organizations and communities

As a fellow nonprofit organization, we understand the importance of partnership and shared purpose. The Columbia Historic Preservation Society stands in full support of The Underground Railroad of Pennsylvania and welcomes opportunities for collaboration that will strengthen historical preservation and public education across our region.

Please feel free to contact us if additional information or support is needed.

Sincerely,

Christopher A. Vera

Christopher A. Vera

Director / President, Columbia Historic Preservation Society

Columbia Historic Preservation Society is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and interpreting the history of Columbia, Pennsylvania and the surrounding areas.