As part of America’s bicentennial celebration, the American Freedom Train spent 23 months touring the country, displaying 500 artifacts of the nation’s history — ranging from George Washington’s copy of the Constitution to moon rocks — to more than 7 million visitors in 48 states.

That journey, celebrating its 40th anniversary (see page 46), was the successor to a road and rail tour that traveled over 37,000 miles on more than 50 railroads, and had more than 3 million visitors. Using documents in the Trains archives, online records, and information from those involved in the 1975-76 effort, we’ve reconstructed the routes of both trains. If you think they’re hard to follow, imagine planning them. — David Lassen

MAP OF THE MONTH

Routes of the Freedom Trains

Follow the complex paths of the 1947-49 Freedom Train and its 1975-76 successor.

After the end of the Freedom Train tour in Lancaster, Pa., the tour was revised and extended to the following cities. Only the final stop on this part of the tour is shown on the map:

- Oct. 22: Passaic, N.J.
- Oct. 24: Nashville, N.J.
- Oct. 26: Hardee de Grac, Md.
- Train display stops

Fun Fact

The Freedom Train of 1947-1949 and the American Freedom Train of 1975-1976 were the only two major tours to ever travel through all 50 contiguous states.