



Sargent/ Hayes Farm Quest

New London, New Hampshire

Natural, Historical

Moderate

1:30

Boots, Field Guide

To get there: This Quest begins at the bottom of North Pleasant Street in New London. Take Exit 12 off I-89 north or south. Take Newport Road east into New London. Remain on this road, which becomes Main Street. After passing the fire station on your left, turn left on North Pleasant Street at a yellow blinking light. Follow North Pleasant down the hill to the base, where you will cross a small bridge over a brook. The road becomes Lakeshore Drive at this point. Park in the parking area on your right immediately after the bridge. Your Quest begins here!



Super Quest 2019: Gateway to Summer Fun

This quest is one of 25 featured in this year's Super Quest challenge to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Vital Communities. For the rest of your adventure: vitalcommunities.org/superquest

Now that you're here...

Check out the Wolf Tree or Cook Quest also in the New London area. Mt. Sunapee is a close drive away and offers trails as well as many kid friendly activities. For more information:

<https://www.mountsunapee.com/summer/rates/>

Clues:

1. Of the "pioneer" marker take note
Between pasture and road
Beginning in the wooded glen
A trail sign is found within.

2. Follow needed path between
moss-grown stumps and rock wall seen
Bearing left at the three-trunked pine
"Coco's Path" you shall find.

3. At the rocky crossing, look right if you choose;
frogs and salamanders breed in this springtime pool.
Cross old stone wall to brook and clearing
Splashing water is what you're hearing.

4. Crossing the stream to sandy cover,
find there a mossy border.
Cobble shore, sand and gravel,
Rolled by Great Brook, onward you travel.

5. Stand still there and look for a mighty birch (yellow).
Brook forks ahead, to the right you follow
Toward a pool deep where fish try to hide.
Continue along brook, white blaze ahead, trail to your right.

6. Your Quest continues along this wooded trail
under hemlocks tall but not frail.
When small, these trees grew in the shade
Of other trees, long to rest laid.

7. Stand by water, corner wall of rock up across the brook;
An up and down sawmill was the form it once took,
Herbert Hayes in the deep pool scrubbed;
"Grandpa's Bathtub" it was dubbed.

8. You've walked Sargent farmland (owned over 100 years' time),
now come along to the "Hayes Farm" sign.
Owned by the Pingrees six generations ago,
Daughter married Hayes; still she loved this land so.

9. A wall of stone confines the brook,
years of toil and labor, clearing land, it took.
You'll find multiple-trunked trees—a sign
That this was cleared pasture, 19th century time.

Note: triangular rock juts out into brook. A bridge once crossed here.

10. Blazes move away from brook.
Above, tree types change, take a look.
By a long brook wall, for three orange blazes you are searching,
To their right, find a stone-circled spring.

Note: a squatter who once lived on the land would take water from here when the brook was frozen.

11. Orange blaze on rock ahead,
to the stream you are led.
Crossing bridge or stepping stones
Walk ahead to trail sign, showing where to roam.

12. Follow where the trail sign leads,
trail right to "Lower Cascades."
Over crossed roots, under power lines you'll go,
After the lines, woods again you will know.

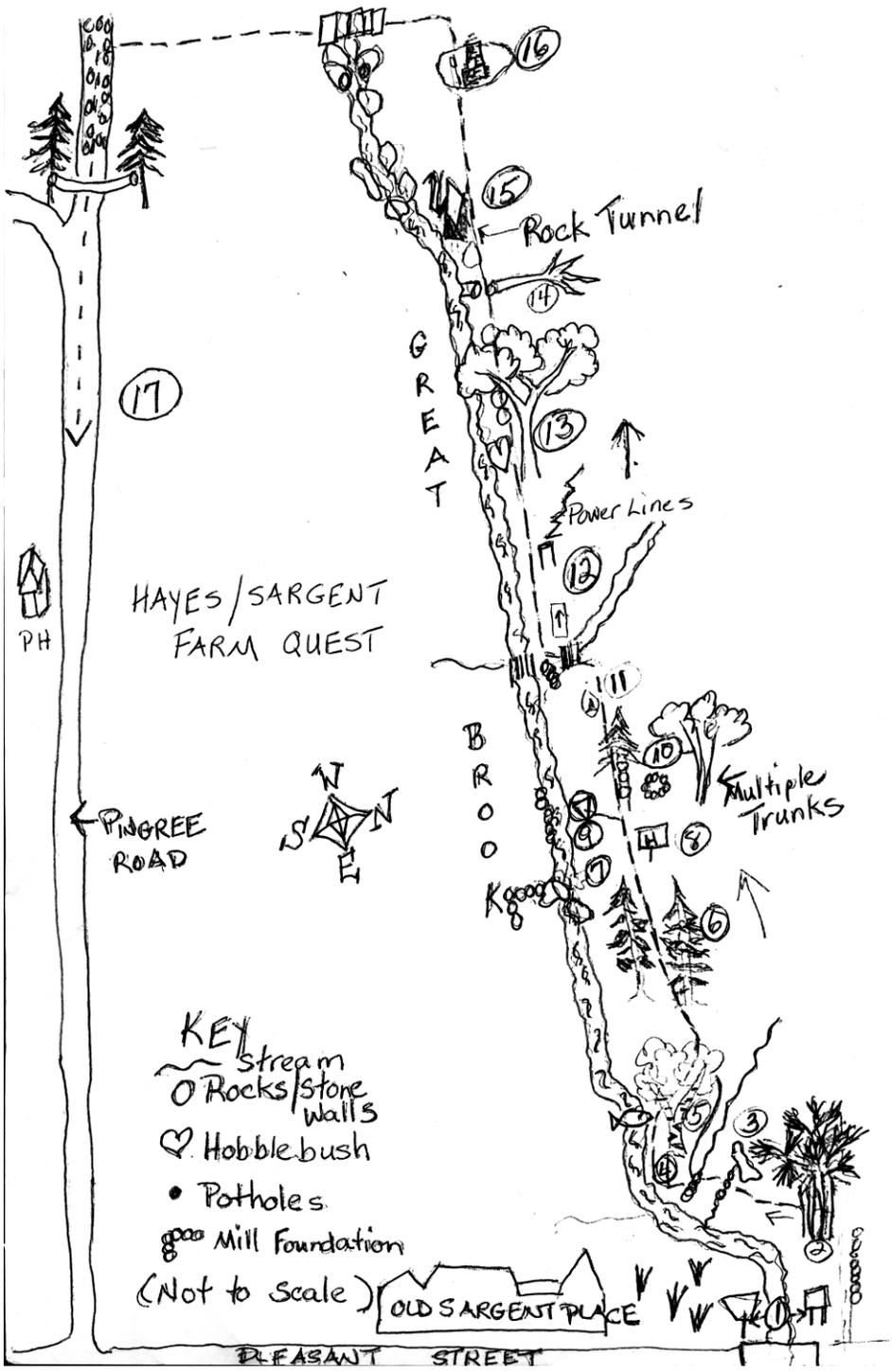
13. Smooth beech trees, maple and hemlock surround
over stream bed, keep your feet on the ground.
See the big heart shaped leaves of hobblebush;
Ahead, the trail is rocky, hear Great Brook's whoosh.

14. Through a felled tree's gate
along the trail you'll find Quest's fate.
Past a large pile of rocks, up a hill,
Cascades up ahead, Great Brook's water spills.

15. A glacial boulder to your left, ahead water falls,
Find a tunnel of rock through which many hikers have crawled.
This rock is of a specific type—
Kinsman Quartz Monzonite.

16. This was a Colby College site many years ago
with trails, a bridge and a fireplace also.
If you stand on the bridge and the brook is low
below water spins out a natural pothole.

17. Cross the bridge, take a left on this old road,
follow it out to Pingree Road; continue along, straight as told.
Now, look at the homestead on your right. A wall of rocks
And what is behind it? It's your treasure box.



This Quest was created by Meredith Bird Miller and dedicated to the spirit of Linny Levin in 2000.