



## Linny's Loop Bicycle Quest

### **West Fairlee, Vermont**

Physical Difficulty: Difficult

Special Features: Natural, Historical

Walking Conditions: Pavement

Duration: 2:00

You will need your bike, a pencil & a compass

**To get there:** Travel on Vermont Route 113 to the village of Post Mills. Then take Route 244 north along the west shore of Lake Fairlee to the Lake Fairlee access/boat ramp (.8 miles from the foot of the Lake). Your Quest begins there! You may want to take a dip at Treasure Island when you are done, be sure to bring some money for the entrance fee.

### **Clues:**

Welcome to our lake! Fifty-six feet at its deepest point—and six miles around.

Looking carefully, its seven in-flowing sources can be found.

Today we'll explore just two—leaving the other five up to you.

Hop on your bike and head northwest (left) to look

At the tributary known as Middle Brook.

At the bridge, stop and take in the view

Of all the nutrients flowing under you.

Nutrients, perhaps, that you cannot quite see . . .

But what about birds, beavers or otters? What do YOU see?

Eagles? Osprey? Muskrat lodges? Wood ducks? Painted or snapping turtles?

After a right turn on Middle Brook, to your left is a camp

And along the banks of the brook a willow alder swamp.

Now take a ride in style . . . for at least another mile.

Next to 1003 is something with many, many windows colored grey

Back on your bike and you are on your way.

You'll pass a lake on your left and then the three silos of Stever's Dairy,  
Still milking and shipping milk—which makes our hearts merry  
Three miles in, watch out for the griffin!  
Upon a lawn on the right, you may see him a-sittin.  
One part eagle, one part lion; lots of presence but hardly flying.  
Straight on lies a church marking West Fairlee Center  
Bear Notch Road turns left but *do not enter*.  
Stay on the main road right and straight—  
For Blood Brook Road is the name of your fate.  
Turn up to the right when this road comes in sight.  
The climb may be steep, but try and stay in your seat . . .  
It's only a half-mile climb. Breathe, relax, take your time.  
The reward comes as a long downhill without a clue . . .  
For a little while the entertainment's all up to you!

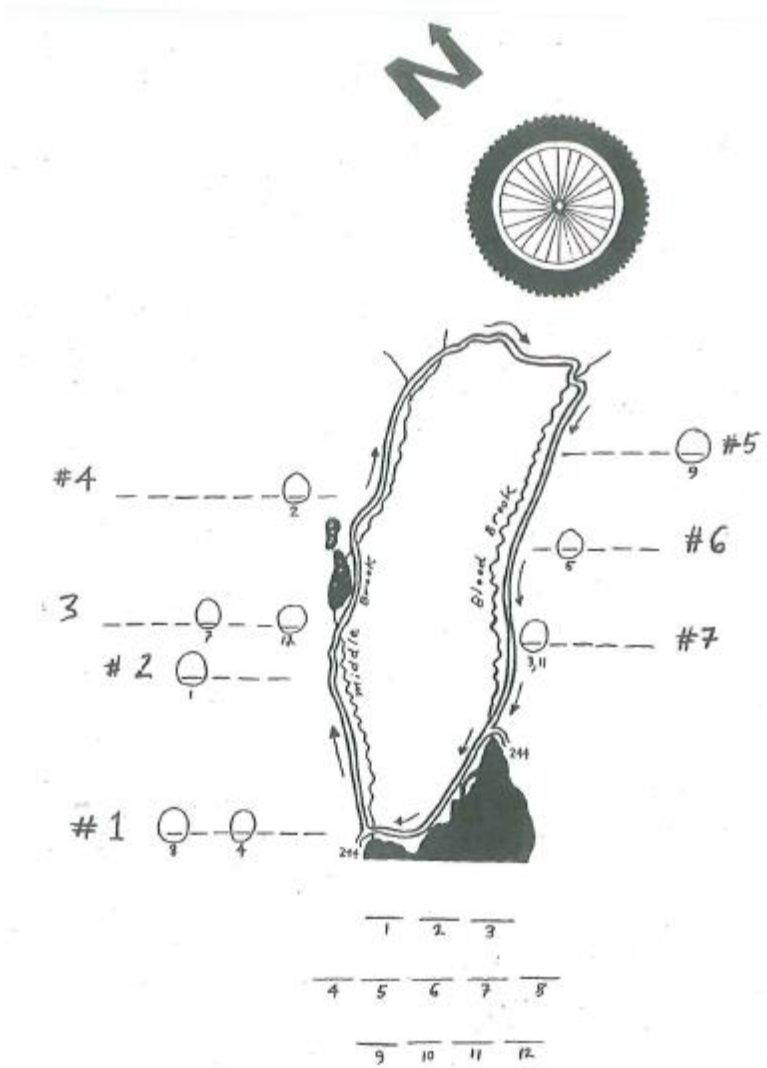
There's a peaceful resting place under some trees,  
And the top of its fence is marked clearly with crosses  
Then back on your bike and go like the breeze.

You'll pass a one-room schoolhouse from 1871  
At this point you are more than halfway done.  
Take a right on Marsh Hill to see a neat old sawmill.

Lichen has covered the rocks in its cellar  
Turning them to a quite curious color.  
Do you think that this looks stellar?

Back to the main road and coast down to the lake  
And at the stop sign a right turn you must take.  
And follow along the side of the lake.  
Here, Blood Brook flows in through a culvert  
Offering the lake rich freight for dessert:  
Rock flour, pulverized leaves, soil, and even pieces of trees.

Then bike .3 miles until you see  
Where the Treasure Island sign will be  
The sign where you started  
Just behind it between the oak trees your treasure will be.



Created by Steve Glazer and Ted Levin in 2000. Updated in May 2023 by Tom and Linda Kahl.

**Please be a good steward of the land: leave it better than you found it and pack out any trash you find.**



Valley Quest is a collection of 100+ treasure hunts that share and teach the natural gems and cultural heritage of the Upper Valley with children, families, adults, and visitors. It is a program of Vital Communities, a regional nonprofit working to engage citizens, organizations, and communities in creating solutions to our region's challenges.