



Brandon Village Quest

Brandon, Vermont

Easy

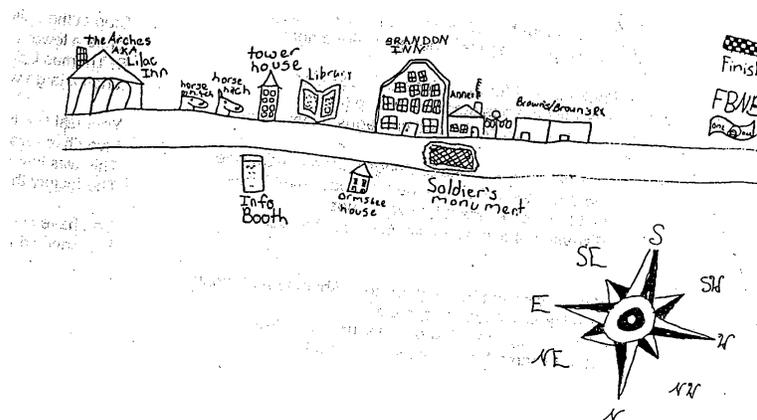
Architectural, Historical

Pavement

: 40

To get there: Take I-89 North to Vermont Exit 3. Exit and the head towards Bethel on Route 107 West. In Bethel stay on Route 107 West, turning left under the railroad bridge. Follow Route 107 to Route 100 North, a sharp right turn. Take Route 100 North to Route 73 west towards Brandon, a left turn. Stay on 73 West into Brandon, where it makes a right turn. Here, Route 73 West becomes Park Street. You'll find the Lilac Inn on Park Street—it is the 8th house on the left.

Part 1: Lilac Inn to First Brandon National Bank

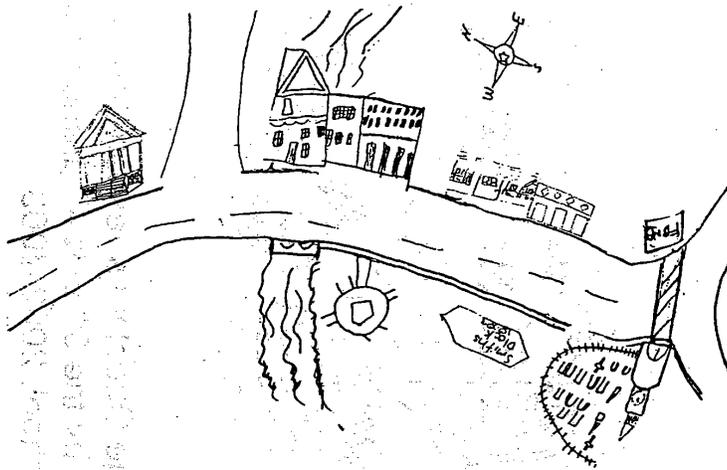


Your quest begins at the home
 Where Albert Farr used to roam.
 Known then as the "arches," in 1909,
 It was a house built very fine.
 Constructed around a big elm in the shape of a U
 Face the Lilac Inn, turn right is your cue.
 Now follow the walk past hitching posts,

Several trees and old homes (but no ghosts).
Look up across these building spans
You will see a number of fans.
Find a home first lived in, in 1935
Their house had a tower with 5 sides.
Keep following the houses and cross the street,
See the buildings where horses used to eat.
In a space down that row,
There is now a half-moon window.
Keep on walking to the west
Finding Governor Ormsbee's house is your nest test.
In the front you'll fence and gate,
A miniature house with a roof of slate.
From Ebenezer Ormsbee's house you can probably see
A quite large building that used to be
A district school,
A hospital, too.
It has been a library since 1910.
People liked it even then.
In the near distance you will see
A monument built 3 years after 1883.
It was built after the Civil War
Dedicated to those who didn't come home anymore.
Keep on walking to the west
You're half way through Park Street Quest.
Look now, on the right
Find a small, pillared building that is white.
Next to it is a building big, and hard to miss
Where many just married couples happily kiss.

Look up at the hooks where the marquis used to be
Until the fire in 1943.
Go down the street to the FBNB
Where you give money to an employee.
Park Street is here all done
Now you can have some more fun.
To continue on the Village quest,
Take the path right of west.

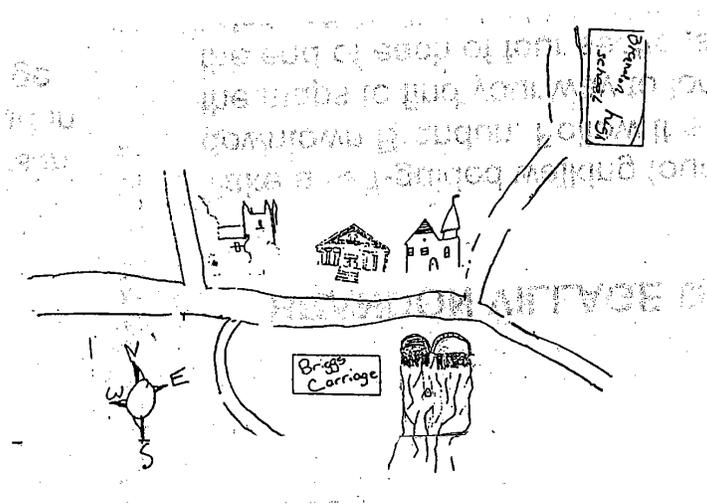
Part 2: Brandon Congregational Church to Town Offices



Starting on the next quest, cross the crosswalk heading west
To the church that won the clock contest.
It was the first church finishing in 1832.
It also has a bell tower making music for me and you.
Now you go behind the steeple.
There in front of you are dead people.
Try to find all the Revolutionary soldiers,
And some stones that are even older.
Now walk quickly with your feet,
Through the grass and across the street.
Walk northwest and down the hill
Look in the windows at the Artist's Guild.
Keep on walking until you see
The building with marble diamonds in 3 groups of 3.
Look across the street and you will find
A building built in 1889.
It says Smith Block in marble letters.
Marble on the windows make the front look better.
Turn back around and you will find
Old and new buildings are combined.
Carr's is the building you will see,
They sell gifts for you and me.
This Matott Building which is nifty
Was built after the fire, in 1950.
Now walk down hill a little more,
You will find a space with no door.
Go to the falls and look up the hill.
Try to find the big old saw mill.
Travel northwest on Center Street
Conant Block's history is pretty neat.

There used to be Sudbury College
Where people went to get more knowledge.
Many businesses have been there,
From selling groceries to cutting hair.
The next building in the line
Was something else in another time.
It used to be a bank with lots of money,
Now you go there to pay your taxes, which is not funny.
Cross the street to 4 Conant Square
Cars were once sold inside of there.
Walk across the bridge with flags three
Look under the bridge the Neshobe River to see.
Keep going to the brick you can read.
Follow them into Brandon Green.
In the park are many sights to see
Including how things used to be.
Standing here while they plant flowers
You can see an old source of power.
The fence in the park looks the same way
As hitching posts from the good old days.
After you've visited Brandon Green
Go back to a place you've already seen.
The town offices are where you need to be,
To be at the start of Quest part 3.

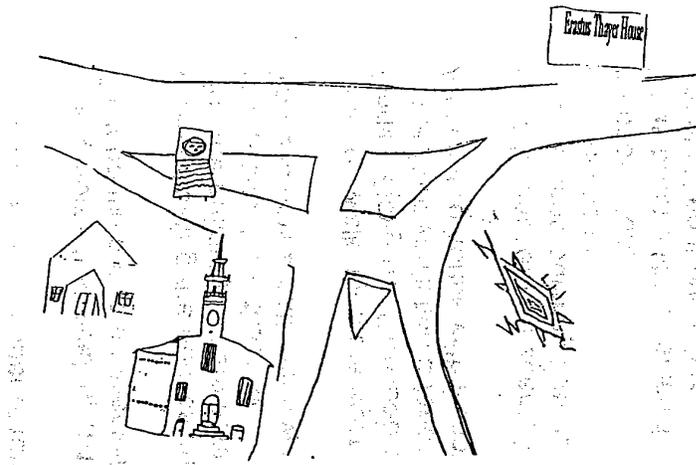
Part 3: Seminary Hill School to St. Thomas Episcopal Rectory



For the next part of the Brandon Quest
Turn the opposite of southwest.

Walk on up Seminary Hill
When the road forks, stay to the right still.
Look for a building made out of brick
Where students learned their lessons quick.
Built in 1916, 12 steps into the middle of the school
Two tall pines guard old Brandon High School.
After you see the trees, stop and turn around
Go down the hill for the next building to be found.
When you see a weathervane at a great height
Turn to that building, there on your right.
Built back in 1888
The old Fire Station of bricks and slate.
Keep looking to the right quick
Find a building with 6 tall columns of white painted brick.
Soldiers were mustered in and out of the Civil War there.
Meetings, dances, and graduations have also been here.
Cross Conant Square, but don't look for a light.
When you get to the other side take a right.
Look instead for the Briggs Carriage sign
The building has stood for a long time.
In it were built chairs and carriages mighty fine.
Follow the road close to Briggs Carriage right side
Go Down the hill where the Neshobe River hides.
Out behind, where the river sounds
Remains of two old businesses can be found.
An old wooden building for horseshoeing and repair,
A brick distillery that is in disrepair.
Go back up the hill and cross the main street
But be careful and quick on your feet.
Look for the bright yellow building of more brick
It's front doors open unusually, can you see the trick?
After you leave the building Whippoorwill
Keep traveling west and look north on the hill.
Stop at the building that looks like a castle of stone
It has a tower topped with four cones.
St. Thomas Episcopal Church was built in 1860.
It has a large window with degrees 360.
Your last site is across Prospect Street.
Five chimneys in the red brick building give off lots of heat.
This was first the home of John Conant.
The factory that made lots of Brandon's bricks he did own it.
You have finished Quest section three
We hope you liked what you have seen.

Part 4: Marble house to Stephen A. Douglas House



Pass one more house and you will see
A house made of marble, not built from a tree.
It has been added into both with wood and with brick,
It was known as the home and office of Doctors Arthur and John Dick.
Keep heading west to the next house on your north.
It was a hotel when old travelers went forth.
You will see an old wooden building with a foundation of stone,
It was by Erastus Thayer first owned.
There is no longer a business sign,
But around the top a fan and x design.
Look to the left, look to the right and left once again.
If you want to cross the street, now is when.
In front of you is a big white building guests once stayed in.
Now for the elderly, it's Conant Square Inn.
Head to the west and go into Crescent Park.
The 1829 brick house on the south side has a shape you should mark.
Notice the fountain, then the lamp posts with lights three,
All around Brandon these used to be.
The Baptist Church lost the construction race,
And that is why it has a blank clock face.
On November 25th, 1950 a hurricane toppled its old steeple.
A new one was recently built by the Brandon townspeople.
In the petite white house facing the green
Was born a man important in the 1860 presidential scene.
Stephen A. Douglas was very small,
But the man he debated was very tall.
Now the house is owned by the DAR,
The monument in front was donated by Albert G. Farr.

We hope you like the village you saw
Because now you're done and that is all.