Colony Mill Quest

Keene, New Hampshire
Easy
Historical
Pavement
:35

To get there: From Brattleboro and points west, take Route 9 East into Keene. Turn left at the lights and exit on to West Street. Take a right on West Street, and at the second light take a right onto Island Street. You will see the Colony Mill Marketplace on the corner. Turn left into the parking lot.

Clues:
If you’re looking for a tasty treat,  
Be sure to stop for something sweet.  
Your journey begins at the Ye Goody Shop,  
Now move on to your next stop.

Follow the brick path to the North,  
40 steps will take you to the corner,  
Careful of the cars whizzing back and forth!

As you look north across the street,  
You’ll see the brick houses where the Mill workers used to sleep and eat.

Steady now, it’s not a race.  
Heading west up the road,  
Walks you past the mill’s brick face.

As you pass a square entrance tower,  
Look right and see a place  
For the breakfast hour.
Try as you might, you won’t be able to see,
The pond that was once at this very site.
It powered the mill and is now history.

Now on with the Quest,
Go to the corner of streets
Island and West.

Look up high
You’ll see a smokestack,
Through here ran
A railroad track.

Up on top is marked F and C,
This stands for mill owners
Faulkner and Colony.

Continue around and toward the place you might park your ride.
Find the eastern-most entrance on the south-facing side.
Go inside, straight past the stairs, and you will see
An auction sign and a chimney.
They were auctioning off the mill,
And now the chimney is at a chill.

Go into the food court and turn right down the hall,
Follow the mill’s original brick wall.
At the end you should see maps across the way,
Take some time to read what they say.
Go back to where you’ll get a coffee or a treat,  
Turn right at the corner and look for the heat.

Oh lordy it’s hot,  
Like one big boiling pot.  
You could assume this was a boiler room,  
Would you believe it once blew up and went  
KABOOM?!

Stroll down the hall and head to the second floor,  
What you’re looking for I hope is no bore.  
Try and find the difference from old and from new.  
The original mill didn’t have all that glass...there’s a clue!

Now that you’ve seen old bricks and big beams,  
You are getting near done, or so it seems.  
Stay on this floor to search and to find  
The clue that will lead to the end of the line.

Walk to an elevator with a big window view  
Of a chimney from which smoke once blew.  
Here lies the treasure just under your nose  
Hidden in a box by the old fire hose.
Your job is now done, so go take a rest,
While you enjoy what is found
In your Quest treasure chest.