



Dummerston Center Quest

Dummerston, Vermont

Moderate

Architectural, Historical

Pavement, Trail

30 min.

Bring: Compass

To get there: Take I-91 to Exit 4. Drive south on Route 5 to Schoolhouse Road. Turn west (right) onto Schoolhouse and travel 2 miles to Dummerston Center (a 4-way stop). Turn left and park in the Dummerston Town Office parking lot.

Clues:

Walk across the Dummerston Center green
Where an ancient, gnarled maple looms over the scene.
Look back past your car to the 1st school house...
The historical society meets there now.

This building once sat across the street...
At a site very near to your feet!
Make a 90 degree turn to the right,
Then walk to the monument of a very big fight.

Between the Grange Hall and the Congregational Church
Sits a small house with a six post porch.
From 1812-1817 this was the Noyes & Hayes store.
Do you know what Mr. Hayes' son was famous for?

Head back to the south, past big maples A and B.
Stop when you come to the edge of the trees.
Here once stood Asa Knight's tavern and store,
Folks bought salt, cotton, spices, rum, molasses and more.

Asa Knight's store was moved in 1972.
In Old Sturbridge Village it is there to view.

Commented [A1]: Changed spelling

Somewhere along this side of "the green"
The town cemetery could once be seen.

Leonard Spaulding and other original settlers were buried here,
But then their stones...they disappeared!

Where did they go?

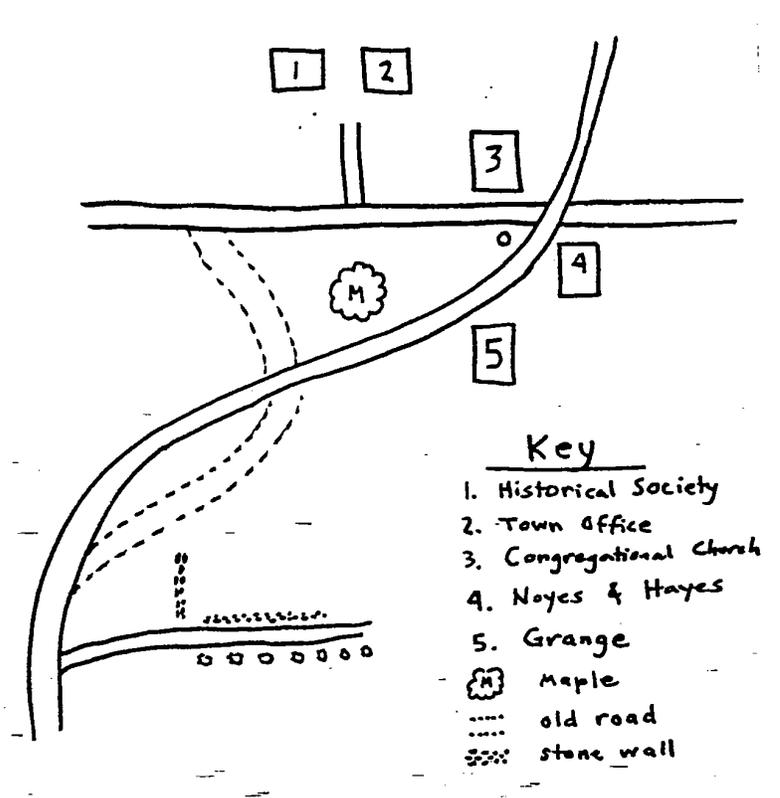
Follow the edge of the trees heading east
Then carefully cross to the far side of the street.
Turn right and head down the hill,
Across from the yellow sign please stand still.

Turn eyes left the old road bed to observe,
Which took the steepness out of this curve.
Now, cars cruise back and forth on our town's paved roads;
Before, on dirt tracks, horses hauled people and loads.

Continue past an 1811 cape with roof of slate,
And beyond to where writhing locusts await.
Turn left onto dirt and head towards the stones,
Where Dummerston elders rest their weary bones.

Enter the gap and follow the stone wall to the back.
Pretty soon you will find a "table top" flat.
Remember the stones that disappeared?
The bones and stones were moved right here.

Many of Dummerston's original names and dates
Can be found here carved in fieldstone, marble, and slate.
Look back towards the center of town..
In a small box on a tree, your treasure will be found!



Key

- 1. Historical Society
- 2. Town office
- 3. Congregational Church
- 4. Noyes & Hayes
- 5. Grange
- M Maple
- old road
- o o o stone wall