



## Mill Cemetery Quest

### Meriden, New Hampshire



Easy

Historical

Bring a compass

*To get there: This Quest begins at the Covered Bridge in Meriden. From 12A in West Lebanon, turn left onto the True's Brook Road. Follow the road which follows the brook, twisting and turning, until on the right you will see a lovely covered bridge with a pull off, park there. This Quest takes you into a cemetery, please remember to be careful not to disturb the graves, no leaning on them or pushing them. Thanks.*

#### Clues:

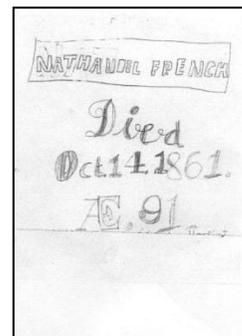
*Stand at the covered bridge and recall  
The people who live here first of all.*

The Abenaki people named a lot of places around here like the Connecticut River, Mascoma Lake and Mount Ascutney. Connecticut means Long River, Mascoma means Clay Place and Ascutney means Wide Mountain.

*Walk through the bridge, from dark to light  
Look for the historic sign on the right.  
Read about Kimball and the mill  
And then go on this Quest to learn more still!*

*From the sign go up the hill,  
Pass the homes on the left and right,  
Walk through the stonewall opening in sight.*

*Walk east along the stonewall,  
Be careful, don't fall.  
Go four rows and if you listen to what we say,  
You'll get to the grave of Harriet Silloway.*



*Then go right six stones  
There lie Nathaniel French's bones.*

Nathaniel French was married to Alice. She has no last name on her grave; her father was a Pennacook Indian, possibly named "Bentfeather." French's Ledges was named after this family.



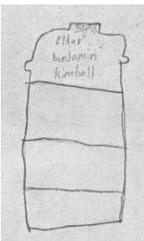
Another French, Hezekiah, fought in the Revolutionary War. His wife was Mehitable. This line can be traced all the way back to the Mayflower pilgrim family of Francis Billington!

*Facing the French's stones*

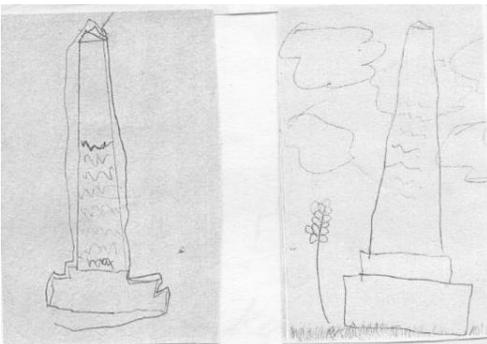
*Take 22 paces to find Benjamin Kimball Jr.'s bones.  
It is a tall stone that is gray  
A red one is not far away.*



Benjamin Kimball Junior had two children named Hannah and Reuben, and a wife named Rebekah. He was a hog reeve and lived in a big white house on the corner. When he was put to his bed, his grave was 60 inches tall.



*Go south 10 paces and turn west 7 paces  
Don't worry you won't see a ghost,  
Just a birdhouse on the granite post  
68 paces south to the two cracked Hadley graves, Daniel & Susan  
Notice the flag carved in his grave, you may think it's an illusion.  
Turn west, go 22 paces to the Merrill Colby obelisk grave  
If you go to the east side, your energy he will save.*



Merrill Colby died July 12, 1845, but during his life, he was town moderator in 1811; town representative in 1821-1822; and selectman a lot! That was the basic life of Merrill Colby.



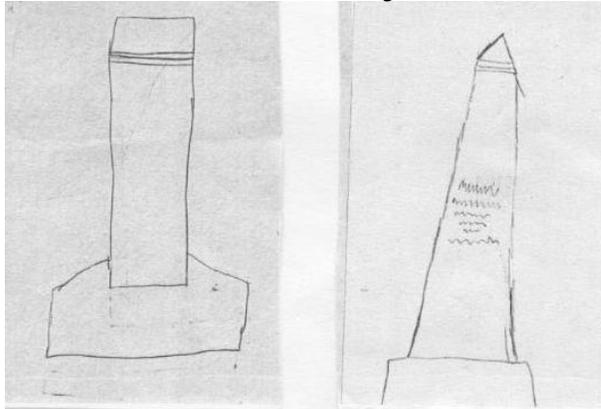
*At Colby obelisk you will start,  
Walk 10 steps to the road where you will part.  
Turn left and go 8 steps in all,  
To the next obelisk that is tall.*

The True Family. He was born in 1781. He was in charge of building the Meriden Baptist Church. He has two wives, Mary Cutler and Hannah Duncan. He had three children, Mary, Reuben and Eunice.



*From the True family stone so white and immense  
Head to the gate all covered in green.*

*All rusty and old, and needs to be cleaned  
Go left, take 24 steps around the green fence.  
Look to your left, not right  
You'll see a tall sight  
Six little stones you will see  
That's the Kimball family!*

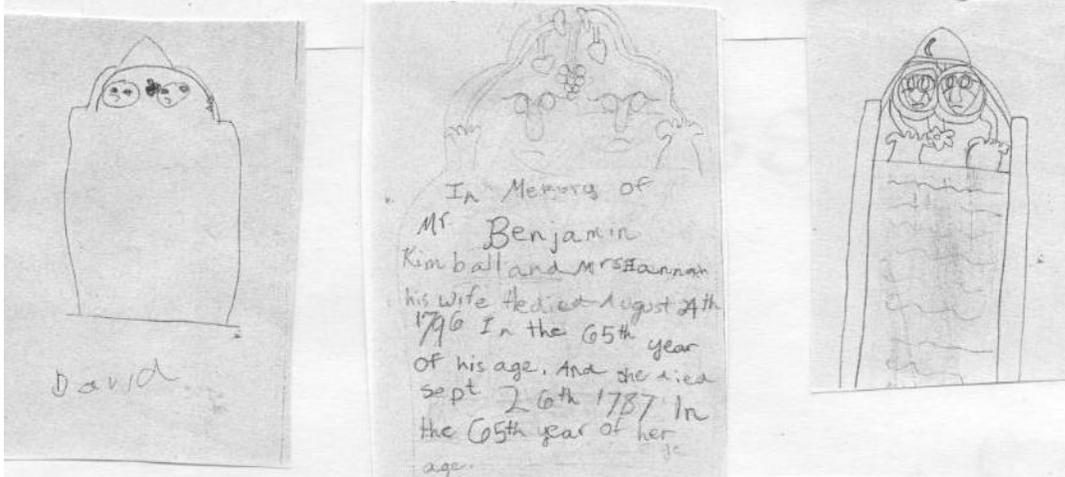


Daniel and Hannah Kimball and their six children lived a happy life. Daniel Kimball was the founder of KUA. He died on February 27, 1817, when he was 63 years old.

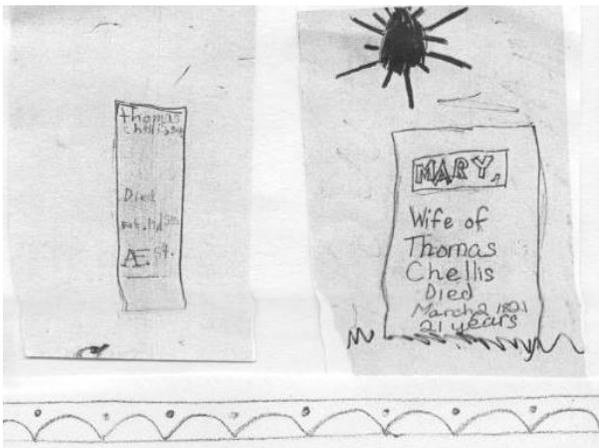


*Facing Kimball's stone,  
3 paces to the right,  
You will find a grave with two faces.*

Benjamin Kimball 1721-1796. When Benjamin Kimball was 75, he slipped off the dam and died. His wife's name was Hannah. Their children's names were Daniel, Mehitabel, Raume, Elizabeth and Sarah. His wife, Hannah, was the first person buried at the Mill Cemetery in 1787.



*Take 3 steps to the big stone of slate.  
Where 2 small graves stand straight  
Walk to the two old graves that seem like they'll fall  
That's the Kimball family one and all.  
Now 4 steps back toward the tree,  
Mary and Thomas Chellis graves you will see.*



Thomas (1750-1835) and Mary Chellis didn't have any children. She was a library trustee, he was a fence viewer. Chellis Road was named after them and their farm. It was the major route to Lebanon before the Civil War.

*Walk down the hill toward the stone wall,  
35 steps you will count in all.  
Under the elbow of a shade tree so old,  
You'll find a box hiding under rocks to hold.*

