Jericho Historic District Quest

Hartford, Vermont
Physical Difficulty: Easy
Special Features: Historical, vista
Walking Conditions: Pavement
Duration: 0:45
Bring: Bicycle

To get there: From Hartford Village travel west on Rte. 14 for 1.8 miles. Turn right onto Jericho Rd. and follow it until it ends. Then take a right onto Jericho St. Proceed until you get to Sugartop Rd. on your left. Shortly beyond Sugartop Rd. is a pullout for parking.

Overview:
Jericho is a scenic agricultural community floating high in the hills of Hartford. The Jericho Community Club was organized during the summer of 1951 by a group of neighbors in the Jericho District of Hartford, Vermont. Inhabitants of Jericho are automatically members, and those who live elsewhere but who wish to join in the meetings are associate members. The purpose for the club is to promote the best interests of the Jericho community by providing opportunities for recreation, education, and fellowship; by maintaining the Jericho schoolhouse as a community building; and by considering and acting upon all matters which affect the community.

Clues:
Join us with our journey
As we make our way through the history
Of Jericho District farms
That you can see in houses and barns.

Thomas Hazen once owned all this land.
It was a gift from the town for lending his hand.
He gave it all out to his children
Who quickly started a buildin’.
Come along and see
Their fine legacy.

Walk past a road called Sugartop.
Pass a field once filled with cow plop.
Head for an old bucket with a post.
In this white house you may find a ghost.
Built in 1788
It was owned by son Daniel of late.
Later on, Erminie Nott called it her own.
As a school teacher she was well known
In the one-room school just down the street
Where in a few minutes we’ll take your feet.

Now move along to the house of Philemon.
Who was another that Mr. Hazen called “son.”
He lived past Wallace Road so fine
In his white house built in 1789.
Note the old wooden latch door.
Long ago this house held a small store.

Cross the street headed west and you will see
Philemon’s second house built with brick in 1823.
It was later owned and farmed by a Lyman
Seek out the community house while we keep on rhymin’

This was once a one room school.
Look inside, isn’t it cool?
Picture Ray Miller in a blast from the past.
He is now a farmer but this was once his class.
Neighbor Norman Lyman also went here.
His family has been around for many a year.
Both men spent their lives in this community
And have stories to tell of its great unity.

Go back to the road and finish this trip.
Look for a big red barn and be sure not to slip.
As you travel, check those fields out now.
They once held apple trees, sheep and many a cow.
While you cruise on up the hill
Search for 1912 if you will.

Walk to the mailbox, are your feet sore?
Note the tile roof and the green latch door.
Believe it or not, another Hazen house
Given to a daughter and her spouse.
William Pixley was her husband’s name
He, of course, was a farmer just the same.

Head back to the middle
Of this historic riddle.
The place where kids once learned
Is hiding the treasure you’ve earned.

Look around on the ground
Underneath something round
For rewarded you will be
With the treasure you see.

Created by Mary Bouchard’s class at Hartford High School in 2003.

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. Learn more at vitalcommunities.org.

Have a suggestion, question, comment, or idea for us? We’d love to hear from you. Reach us at valleyquest@vitalcommunities.org or 802-291-9100.