

Hartford & the Civil War

A Driving Tour Quest

Created by Team D, 8th Grade, Class of 2009
At Hartford (VT) Memorial High School
Teacher: Jen Boeri Boyce

1. Hartford Memorial Middle School

How to get there:

Take I-91 north to exit 12. Take a right, continue to the stop sign, and take a right onto Route 5. Keep straight, and then turn onto Highland Avenue. Follow Highland Avenue as it curves left and right. The school is on the right. It says "Memorial School" on the front door of the building.

What's there:

In 1860, Hartford's population consisted of 2,429 people. 1,174 of them were male and 1,255 were female. Out of the total of 2,429 people living in Hartford, 295 of them served in the Civil War (12% of the population). The company most largely populated by Hartford citizens was Company F of the Third Vermont Regiment. There were also 18 people in the navy and three people in the band.

While the war was going on, life continued in Hartford. The most common job in 1860 was farming. It was a major economic activity and was very important to their everyday lives.

Puzzle:

With your back to the school's main entrance, face the flag pole. From the flag pole go left to the patch of grass with a young red maple tree. There you will find a plaque dedicated to a student who passed away in 2002. Who is it?

_____ () _____
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2. White River Junction Train Station

How to get there:

Turn left when leaving the parking lot onto Highland Ave. Follow this road to a stop sign which will be where you take your first right. Turn onto Route 5. You will then go down a steep hill until you reach the lights (located in between Cota & Cota and the P&C). You will then take a left, bringing you to another set of lights. When you reach these lights, take a right, bringing over a bridge and through a narrow underpass, and into downtown White River Junction. Turn left on Main Street, and follow it. You will see the train tracks. Cross them and park. You will see the train station at the rear of the lot.

What's there:

In June 1848, the first train (Vermont Central Railway) ran a 27 mile trip from White River Junction to Bethel, Vermont. In 1862 a station was built after the station before was destroyed in a fire, This station saw Civil War soldiers transported on those tracks. Some never came home. The Union Station which you see today was built in 1937. The Boston & Maine Railroad Company was the supplier. It was built in an unusual way, but that is what makes it unique.

Other things to look for:

- Adjacent to the tracks is a restaurant called “The Polka Dot.”
- There is an old train on display, called the “Boston & Maine RR Locomotive # 494.”
- White River Junction is named for the place two famous rivers meet: the White River and the Connecticut River. You can see them by looking down from the bridges located in the north and east.
- On the 1st floor of the train station are the **Vermont Welcome Center** and the **New England Transportation Institute and Museum**.

Puzzle:

The opposite of entrance is ___ (___) ___ ___
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3. The Hotel Coolidge

How to get there:

From the train station, walk to the front of the old train #494. Look across the tracks. You will see the brick building (with a clock tower) across the parking lot. Cross the tracks, and street and arrive at the Hotel Coolidge.

What's there:

The Hotel Coolidge is a very important addition to this Civil War Quest. The Junction House, located right here, was home to Samuel Pingree, a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient. It was originally built in Enfield (NH) and moved to Hartford (VT) in 1849. It was rebuilt in 1879 and again in 1925 after fires destroyed the hotels.

Other things to look for:

- There are many buildings surrounding the Hotel Coolidge. Can you find Briggs Opera?
- If you walk around the block you can see interesting shops like *Fancy Felix* and *Revolution*.
- Can you tell if any buildings have been here since the 1800s?

Puzzle:

New York (___) ___ ___ ___ ___ can be found down the block from the hotel.
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4. Old Quechee Cemetery

How to get there:

From the train station parking lot, exit by driving past the court house and turning left at the stop sign. Pass under the railroad tracks, bear left, and follow North Main Street out of town. Head up the hill on Route 5, and then bear right (west) onto Route 4. Travel west about 7.5 miles (until you pass over Quechee Gorge and reach the flashing yellow light in Quechee village). Turn right, pass through the covered bridge, and then turn right again. After a short distance, and a stop sign, the cemetery will be on your left. Turn left, and park along the cemetery, by the stairs.

Head down the stairs and walk straight for four stones. To your left will be George Fogg. Visit him. Head back to the stairs. To find John Carlisle, from the stairs walk down 8 stones to your right. Then turn right and you will see a tree. Go to the tree. Walk a tiny bit past it and you'll see a large monument with a vase-type decoration on top. This is John Carlisle's stone.

To find Henry C. Alexander, from the stairs walk straight past 14 stones on your left. Turn to your left and you will see a forked tree. Walk towards it. You'll see four rows of stones. GO to the third. Henry's stone has a star-shaped post with a flag on it.

What's there:

The Quechee Cemetery has many Civil War veterans. One veteran is George Fogg. He served as a private in Company F of the Third Vermont regiment from February 1864 through May of 1865. He survived the battles of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor and Cedar Creek.

Other things to look for:

- Find the oldest gravestone. Who is buried there? When did he/she die?
- Find the most recent gravestone. Who was it laid for?
- How many other veterans can you find? For which wars?

Puzzle:

Quechee is one village of the town of: () _____

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5. Pingree Law Office

How to get there:

From the cemetery, go back to Route 4. Head east, back towards White River Junction. After a few miles look on the right side for a right turn onto V.A. Cutoff Road. Take this right, pass under Route 4, travel down a steep curving hill, and take the bridge going over the White River. Turn right onto Route 14. Immediately pull over into a small pull out. Across the street you will see two brick buildings. The small one was the Pingree Law Office.

What's there:

The Pingree House was where Stephen and Samuel Pingree worked as lawyers before and after they went to the Civil War. Samuel Pingree won the Congressional Medal of Honor for his service. His lesser known brother, Stephen, was born in Salisbury on March 21, 1835. He served in the Fourth Vermont Regiment as 1st Lieutenant, Captain, Major and Lieutenant Colonel. He died on April 19, 1892.

Other things to look for:

- What is the address of the Pingree Law Office?
- What is the building on the left?
- How would you describe this building to someone?
- What is the name of the street going across the bridge?

Puzzle:

The Pingree Law Office is located in: __ A __ (__) F __ __ __ __ __ A G __

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6. West Hartford Cemetery

How to get there:

Turn around, so that you can head west on Route 14, along the White River to West Hartford. Once you reach West Hartford, you will pass the West Hartford Bridge. A half mile or so beyond the bridge, the West Hartford Cemetery will be on your right in between an old white church and a big white house. Turn into the dirt road between these two buildings and park your car. The entrance to the cemetery will be straight ahead.

To get to George H. Tambling's grave go up to the third hill in the cemetery. His grave is in line with the eagle on top of the house.

What's there:

George H. Tambling was born in 1842 and died at the age of 23 in May 22, 1865. He fought in the Civil War as a member of Company G in the Fourth Vermont Regiment. He died "on the field" of disease in Washington, DC. Notice that he is not buried with any other Tamblings.

Other things to look for:

- How many Civil War soldiers are buried at this cemetery?
- How many of these soldiers died in the war?
- Can you find Harvey Bartholomew
- Find the oldest gravestone. The person's initials are P.P. What is his name and when did he die?

Puzzle:

Right outside the gate is a big white church.

On the other side of the walkway is what used to be an: __ __ __ (__) __ __ House __

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7. Hartford Lower Cemetery

How to get there:

From West Hartford take Route 14 east (back) toward White River Junction. Travel about 7.5 miles. This cemetery will be on your left, just after you pass under Interstate 91. To park, drive beyond the cemetery and park in the lot (on your left, beyond the chain link fence).

To get to Arthur French's grave you take 53 steps from the parking lot to the middle entrance. Once you get to the middle of the cemetery, take 30 steps to reach the back. His grave is tall and somewhat hidden.

What's there:

Arthur French is one of at least 6 Civil War veterans buried in the lower level of the Hartford Cemetery. Arthur French was 18 when he enlisted in the Civil War. He was captured at the battle of Weldon Railroad and taken to Andersonville Prison in Georgia. He was set free on December 11, 1864. Unfortunately, he died at Camp Parole, Maryland at a POW Hospital on December 31, 1864.

Other things to look for:

- Can you find the other Civil War veterans buried here?
- How many are there?
- Did relatives fight in the war together?
- Who is related to whom?

Puzzle:

Who is Arthur buried next to? His: _ _ _ _ () _ _ _ _

I

8. Hartford Upper Cemetery

How to get there:

From the lower cemetery, find the paved road (on the west side). Head up the hill, past the crypt (on your right). At the top of the hill you'll be at the upper cemetery. Look for the big Norway Spruce. To the left of the tree you will find the eldest Pingree's grave.

What's there:

There are many people buried in this part of the cemetery. One of them was Mr. Pingree, the governor of Vermont in 1886. He was a colonel in the Union army. Before and after his service he ran a law office with his brother, Stephen. Gov. Pingree lived right here in Hartford. The strange thing is—at one point—his residence is listed as a hotel!

Other things to look for:

- By looking at the memorials to him, what can you learn about Gov. Pingree's service in the Union Army?
- Where is his brother's grave located?
- Who is the eldest Pingree's wife?
- There are many other Civil War veterans buried here: Can you find at least 3?

Puzzle:

View Gov. Pingree's grave to reveal his name : _ () _ _ _ _

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9. Monument to Civil War Soldiers

How to get there:

From Gov. Pingree’s stone, pass the Norway Spruce tree and follow the sidewalk to the statue.

What’s there:

There wer almost 300 men from Hartford who fought in the Civil War. There were about 35,000 from all over Vermont. More than 5,000 fell. This monument, built in 18903, honors these Civil War soldiers.

Other things to look for:

- Who put up this stone?
- How long do you think it took to complete?
- Please notice the plaques nearby. Who is honored by these monuments?

Puzzle:

This monument was put up to honor Civil War soldiers. The local chapter of the G.A.R. named itself after:

— () ————— —————
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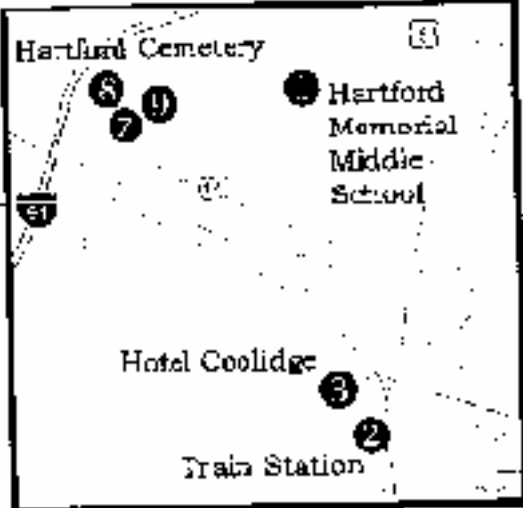
Now, complete the puzzle:

— — — — — — — — — —
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

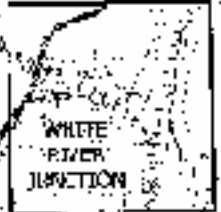
You will find this nearby, hiding behind the statue.
Hint: A home for flying things, and in your view.



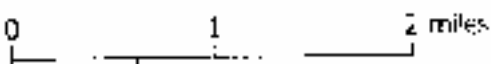
Town of Hartford



Inset Map



See Inset Map



Valley Quest, a program of Vital Communities
104 Railroad Row, White River Junction, VT 05001 (802)291-9100 ext 102 or 107
For more online quests go to www.vitalcommunities.org and click on Valley Quest