



## **Newbury Village - It's Monumental!**

*A History Quest*

*1.6 miles; approximately 1 hour walking time on public roads*

*Begin at the large monument on the Common at the center of Newbury Village on Rt. 5 in Vermont.  
(Park at the Newbury Village Store or at the Town School on the Common.) Newbury Village is  
approximately 5 miles north of Bradford, Vermont, and 5 miles south of Wells River, Vermont, on Rt. 5.*

**Step back in time  
And learn our story  
Of monuments, men,  
And Newbury's glory-**

**And saunter 'round  
Our sleepy village  
That's steeped in heroes,  
History, and tillage.**

**Drawn by the intervalles,  
River, and pine,  
Both Abenaki and Europeans  
Thought the land fine.**

### **Clue 1**

Begin at our Founding Father's stone,  
Upon the scenic Common  
You'll find its stately home.

During our country's fledgling years,  
This courageous frontier scout appeared.  
The year was 1763,  
That's when Newbury came to be.

General Jacob Bayley  
Was the name he was given;  
Farmer, brave soldier,  
Staunch patriot, fine citizen.

Almost captured by the British  
At home on his farm,  
He was warned by his neighbor

And escaped without harm.

Bayley forged a great roadway  
At George Washington's behest,  
Sacrificing time and fortune,  
And died almost penniless.

## **Clue 2**

Now turn to the south of this hallowed mound-  
Take a few steps and peer to the ground.

Under this lilac hedge  
Now grown so high,  
A Civil War monument  
Here humbly hides.

Simple and lonely  
Though it may be,  
It tells a noble story  
Of our courageous odyssey.

In April, 1861,  
The Civil War had begun,  
'Twas a call to end slavery  
That sent our boys on the run.

Three hundred or so  
Left their loved ones and farms,  
Leaving horses and plows  
For a chance to take arms.

They fought to right wrongs  
And joined Union troops  
With wide eyes on battles-  
Newbury soil in their boots.

Many of our brave, young men  
Died in fields and in prisons,  
Leaving parents, wives, and children  
To carry on with their visions.

### **Clue 3**

Across the Common, spy the Town Central School  
Where 'rithmetic, reading, and 'riting rule.  
The building is old, five score minus three.  
The date's high in the dormer for all folks to see.

On a windy June day in 1913,  
Came a terrible fire that had not been foreseen.  
An unlucky blacksmith, Chase was his name,  
Caused thirty grand buildings to go up in flame.

### **Clue 4**

Lost on that day where the brick school now sits  
Was our famous seminary, burned up to bits.  
Some bricks survived (they're not suited as fuel),  
So they used eighty thousand to build the new school.

The seminary leaders were persons of bravery  
For they took in a black girl though some states had slavery.  
Even here in the North some schools were torn down  
For admitting young students whose complexion was brown.

To the right of the school is a landmark of wood,  
Miraculously, this structure the fire withstood.  
This timber-framed church that survived the great fire,  
Continues to sport five pointed spires.

So now stands a shrine of the Methodist creed  
From here Boston University can trace its first seed.

### **Clue 5, 6, 7, 8**

Cross in front of the church  
A brick house at a glance,  
Turn left on the road-  
Then advance to Romance.

A white picket fence  
Guides you along.  
Turn right with a skip;  
You cannot go wrong.

This road dips and dives  
From pavement to dirt,  
You'll follow this path

But still stay alert!

There's much to be seen as you mosey along:  
A waterfall on Harriman's Brook,  
A stone wall, an old house,  
You might have a look.

On past the old mill-yard,  
Advance to steel rails,  
Now keep moving onward  
To hear the rest of our tale. (Stop, look and listen!)

### **Clue 9**

From the triangular junction  
You'll spy the old school;\*  
Turn right and go towards it-  
You've discovered a jewel!

The site of a courthouse,  
Statehouse, then school,  
Imagine the glory  
When pomp was the rule.

Vermont's roving General Assembly  
Met a month here in 1801,  
Passed a law banning dueling,  
Then rode home on horseback when done.

'Tis said that a corps  
Of drum and of fife  
And a hundred-voice choir  
Brought the session to life!

### **Clue 10**

Now find Thomas Johnson's tribute  
For quite a story it could relate,  
It was once a working millstone,  
Entwined with the Colonel's fate.

While delivering the stone for a gristmill  
According to handed-down stories,  
Colonel Johnson and his loyal men  
Were ambushed by enemy Tories.

Released by the British only when

A spy he agreed to become,  
Colonel Johnson returned to find  
He had lost the trust of some.

But when the Tories plotted secretly  
General Bayley to deliver,  
Thomas Johnson warned his friend  
Who escaped 'cross the Connecticut River.

(\*) Currently the D.A.R. (Daughters of the American Revolution) House

### **Clue 11**

Continuing south on this quiet dirt road  
You'll spy a great maple tree on a lawn alone  
Could it have witnessed this history of old?  
What would it say if the truth be told?

(To determine this maple's age, estimate the tree's diameter in inches and multiply that number by 5 – the maple's growth rate – and you'll get its approximate age in years!)

### **Clue 12**

Next pass two long rows of oak trees;  
Trudge up a hill to Route 5,  
Stay left to find Mr. Ingalls' stone-  
Don't give up, you'll soon arrive.

### **Clue 13**

Yes, he was quite undeniably  
True master of the choir,  
And to everyone who knew him  
He was known as Jeremiah.

He was the keeper of a small tavern  
On what was then the River Road,  
Of Shape Notes and of harmony,  
This music was his mode.

Thomas Johnson and Jacob Bayley  
Rounded out this famous singing troupe,  
Ingalls composed his song "Northfield"  
As he waited patiently for his soup.

The last monument you have found  
Now on to our treasure, you are bound,  
On your way, you will surely see  
Some landmarks of our fine community.

#### **Clue 14**

So cross the street most carefully,  
Then at a sidewalk you will be.  
Turn southward next and take a stroll  
To a bridge crossing where freight trains roll.

Look east and see the wondrous view,  
The river, high mountains, and New Hampshire, too.  
You're looking across the Coos plain  
Where Native Americans once planted grain.

Continue on with your expedition  
And notice two buildings of quite old tradition.

#### **Clue 15**

The first on the right is Tenney Memorial  
(Forgive us here a brief editorial);  
This red brick gem has books on history,  
Art, adventure, drama, and mystery.

#### **Clue 16**

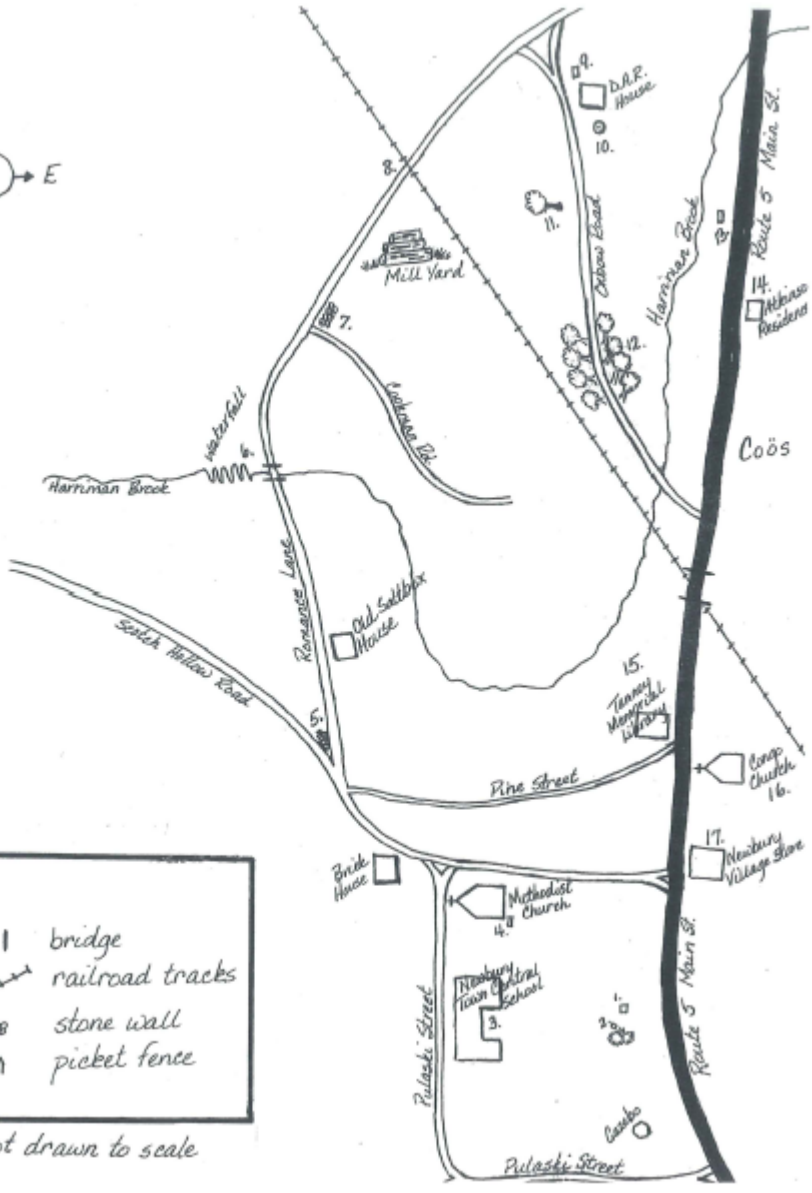
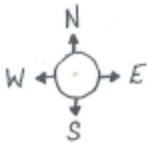
On your left is the next place to search,  
Where columns four mark the Congregational Church.  
What early date did this church organize?  
Check out the sign; you won't have to surmise.

#### **Clue 17**

Head on, you're close to the treasure now;  
Read closely here and we'll tell you how.  
You'll have to pass through a middle door  
To discover the goal that will be "in store."

Turn right toward the corner with the small couch  
The treasure's at hand, so don't be a slouch.  
Crying "Open Sesame!" would be pretty slick,  
But lifting the chest lid will best do the trick.

**Congratulations!**



Key:

	bridge
— — — —	railroad tracks
▬▬▬▬	stone wall
mmmm	pickel fence

Map not drawn to scale