

Clues Continued...

You're on this journey's final stretch to the secret cache. North past Frazee, the towpath takes you to the box stash.

Stop Near Mile Marker 14

Up ahead, along the canal's edge, a building sits tight
And because it was a mill this location was just right.

Alexander's Mill, now Wilson's, is currently a feed store
With seeds, fertilizers, gadgets, and garden equipment galore.
In 1855, stone wheels were used to grind wheat into flour.
Water, spillway, and turbines provided the needed ...



6 7 1

Stop Before Mile Marker 13

After the aqueduct, look for Tinkers Creek Road's dead end.
At the bridge, turn left and head to where the water descends.
With stealth, walk your bike down this deserted, weedy lane.
Stop at the guardrail. Across the river are tracks of the train.

Gather the numbered letters as you stand by river's border.
The box location is revealed when you place them in order.

1 2 3 4 5

6 7 8 5

With no one watching, pop open the treasure box.
Sign the log and stamp your quest. Be sly as a fox.
Next, repack the box and, without missing a beat,
Put it back where you found it and turn on your feet.

Back to the towpath, turn left and head north half a mile.
Return to the parking lot with pride and with style.



This quest was written by Karen Patterson and Bob McLaughlin, volunteers of Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Volunteer Bill Kolosi created the map. Michelle LaNasa, Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park, drew the illustrations.

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How to Quest

Quest clues and maps—created by teachers, volunteers, and/or park staff—will help you discover the natural and cultural gems of the Ohio & Erie Canalway. At the end of each quest is a hidden treasure box. Sign your name in the logbook, stamp this page, and return the box to its hiding place.

STAMP HERE

The questing season runs from April 15 through November 15.

Notice a problem or have suggestions for improving this quest? Contact Arrye Rosser at 440-546-5992 or arrye_rosser@nps.gov.

About This Program

I'm Arrye Rosser, interpretive and education specialist at Cuyahoga Valley National Park. I'd like to thank everyone who helped fulfill my dream of bringing questing to Ohio. This project was made possible by the generous support of a 2010 Parks as Classrooms grant from the National Park Service and is a partnership between many organizations.

So far, more than 100 teachers, volunteers, and park staff have been involved in writing and field testing Canalway Quests. Our plan is to create many more in the years ahead. If you would like to volunteer, contact me at 440-546-5992 or arrye_rosser@nps.gov.

Special thanks to Emily Bryant and Steven Glazer.

The Ohio & Erie Canalway celebrates the rails, trails, landscapes, towns, and sites that grew up along the first 110 miles of the canal that helped Ohio and our nation grow.

For more information and to get copies of other quests, visit ohioandieriecanalway.com and search under Activities for Questing.



CUYAHOGA COUNTY SECTION
CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL PARK
CANAL EXPLORATION CENTER



Questors bicycle on the Towpath Trail. ©D.J.REISER

Canalway Quest

History Spoke To Us Quest

Pedal through time along 17.5 miles of the Towpath Trail, starting at Canal Exploration Center.



Planning Ahead

This moderate-to-difficult quest takes several hours, leading you 17.5 miles on the flat Towpath Trail. You will need a bicycle, drinking water, snacks, something to hold this brochure as you ride, and a pen or pencil. Some people enjoy using their own signature stamp.

For biking safety, wear a helmet and make an audible signal when passing. Watch the mile markers and see where the next stop is. Pull off the trail when you stop.

If you want to use the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad's Bike Aboard! service, visit www.CVSR.com for the current fee and schedule. This reduces your bike ride by 4.25 miles. Meet the northbound train at Boston Mill Station.

Getting There

Start at Canal Exploration Center, 7104 Canal Road Road (at the intersection of Canal and Hillside roads) in Valley View, Ohio 44125.

Clues

Check out your bike. Try out your bell.
Put on your helmet. Bring water as well.
We're going on a quest by bike and maybe rail
Along the Cuyahoga Valley's Towpath Trail.

From the parking lot, a white building you'll see.
That's Canal Exploration Center. In front you should be.
Read of history and engineering on the outdoor sign.
Discover how locks work and of their efficient design.

Number 38 is one of the Ohio & Erie Canal's locks—
Built with hard work, determination, and huge stone blocks.
Completed in 1832, the canal "paved" a watery road
For the valley farmers and factories to carry their loads.



With your back to the visitor center, turn to face right.
Pass the picnic tables heading south, along the towpath in sight.

Stop at Mile Marker 13

Notice a concrete post on the side. Their numbers grow,
Marking the miles from Lake Erie and its shoreline show.
At Tinkers Creek aqueduct, water flows under with might.
Call or ring your bell as you glide past others out for a hike.

Stop After Mile Marker 14

Cross Fitzwater Road with caution and care.
Stop after the bench and give Frazee House a stare.
The second exhibit explains this brick house on the hill
Which once sat on 190 acres and is impressive still.

In 1827 the house had two uses—the sign will tell you.
Write the second use below. It's your first clue!

_____ 5 _____ 1 _____

The Frazees made money when the canal split their land in two.
They sued the State of Ohio for \$130 and their prosperity grew.

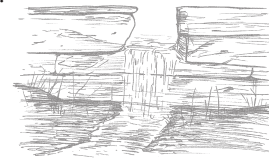
Stop After Mile Marker 16

Go past mile marker 16. Slow and look for an exhibit, east.
View the canal mudcatcher in a ravine. Let your eyes feast.
Keep left at the Y, giving the Pinery Feeder a glance.
A different quest tells that story. Later, give it a chance.

If you need a bathroom break, water, or just a little rest,
Brecksville Station is the closest place now on this quest.
Pass marker 17. Turn right onto the second intersection's trail.
Find the yellow depot over the bridge and then the rails.

Stop After Mile Marker 19

Return to the towpath; pedal south to Old Carriage Trail.
Now begin to look for Red Lock. Stop here without fail.
Read the wayside exhibit by the lock so you understand
That there is a continental divide through Ohio's land.



The canal carried boats up over the summit at Portage Lake
And back downhill to Cleveland in the north for trade's sake.
"Why is it called Red Lock?" you ask with an athletic glow.
Two things were red, but the one that was painted fits below.

_____ 3 _____ 5 _____ 8 _____

Stop Near Mile Marker 20

Continue, slowing at mile marker 20. Read the sign first—
About farms, stores, mills, and a distillery (to quench thirst).
Most of what Jaite, a company town, needed was supplied there.
Other small rural towns bustled nearby. It was busy—that's clear.

Roll your bike off the towpath. Walk to the fence line.
Here is where this paper mill was located in our valley so fine.
Charles Jaite introduced two of these machines as the way
To create continuous rolls of paper—as much as 8 tons a day.

F _____ U _____ D _____ N _____ E _____
7 1 1 2 2 1

Stop After Mile Marker 21

After mile marker 21, view a cemetery on your right.
Through a "tunnel" of shade, Boston Store is in sight.
Cross Boston Mills Road. Behind the store, turn right.
Straight ahead, the restroom's white building is in sight.



Find the walkway exhibit and read about BOSTON STORE.
The store was the village community center and more.
The place specialized in three things from '81 to '82:
Flour, feed, and what? The answer is your next clue!

_____ N _____
7 5 4 2 3

Return Trip Decision

Now you have a choice for the return trip. Use your brain!
Pedal back to Brecksville Station or travel there by train.
For the train, turn left and head west on Boston Mills Road.
Cross the tracks and turn right. At the depot, bikes they'll load.

Whatever you decide, you have passed the point halfway.
Traveling north, enjoy the scenery with speed or a delay.
Once you have returned to the yellow Brecksville Station.
Stop to gaze at the two bridges and get some hydration.

