

Clues Continued...

The Trading Company was Beers' General Store.
Under the parking lot ran a tunnel of yore.
Did the Beers Brothers help hide slaves running away—
Or is this just something that people say?

Continue traveling along to the top of the hill.
Look right to see where high schoolers got their fill.
Straight across the street, another building of blue—
G.A.R. Hall was once used for students, too!

Boston Township Hall, the former high school, dates to 1887. G.A.R. Hall, originally a one-room schoolhouse, dates to circa 1850.

To the end of our quest you have almost come.
We hope you are still having lots of fun.
Turn back toward town to finish this link.
Shortcut left at the Lizard that offers plenty to drink.

Return to a place you have been before:
The steps leading to the red freight building's door.
Left, follow the stones in a winding line.
Take an immediate right down the paved decline.

A dead end? Not quite! Look left for the prize—
Inside a red pottery ring and under a stone guise.
When you find the treasure, use some stealth.
Log in, make stamps, put it back, share the wealth!

Good job completing this village wander.
Peninsula history offers much to ponder.



This quest was written by Kelly Goodpasture and John Dombrosky, both Akron Public School teachers. In 2017 Ranger Arrye Rosser did a major update. Volunteer Kristine Noll did the graphic design.

revision date APRIL 2018

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 cuva_questing@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 cuva_questing@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 ohioanderiecanalway.com and search under Activities for Questing.



Looking east on Main Street, circa 1915. NPS

Canalway Quest

Pondering Peninsula Quest

Ponder the past as you stroll around this historic village.



Planning Ahead

This treasure hunt takes about 50 minutes. Most surfaces are paved, but there are sidewalk curbs and a hill. The village can be congested with vehicles, bikes, and pedestrians on the weekends. A hat and/or sunglasses are recommended. You will need a pen or pencil to sign the logbook. Some people prefer using their own signature stamp.

Allow extra time if you want to enter any buildings. Go to explorepenninsula.com for information about art galleries, restaurants, shops, and special events.

Getting There

Start at the Lock 29 Trailhead, 1648 Mill Street, off Akron Peninsula Road, north of SR 303, Peninsula, Ohio 44264. Overflow parking is available just north of this lot. This quest is entirely outside; indoor stops are optional.

Clues

To ensure that you enjoy this Peninsula hike. Be careful of traffic: a mix of car, train, and bike. Start at the Lock 29 Trailhead kiosk with three sides. At one end of the main parking lot it resides.



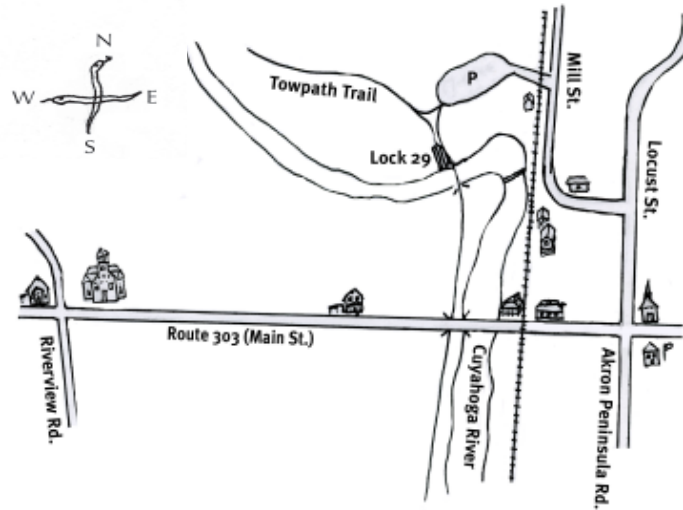
NPS

On July 4, 1827, the Ohio & Erie Canal opened from Cleveland to Akron.

Read how a canal network helped the United States grow. Mules walked beside these water highways with boats in tow. Peninsula was lucky to be along the Ohio & Erie's route. Its businesses boomed, including rowdy saloons of ill repute.

Cross a small bridge, turn left, and up steep steps climb. At the trail, turn right across Lock 29 and step back in time. The exhibit, left, shows Peninsula more than 100 years ago. See how an aqueduct here carried the canal over the river's flow.

Across the river are the remains of the Moody and Thomas Mill which burned down in 1931.



What else in the historic photo is still visible today? Head back downstairs to read the lower display. Turn left. As you enter Lock 29, mason's marks abound—Carved in the stone, now waiting to be found.

Some blocks came from nearby Deep Lock Quarry, a major sandstone supplier by the 1830s.

Exit the lock. Turn right back into the parking lot. Walk carefully across to the gate—traffic can be fraught!

Pause in a safe spot with the river at your back. See the original peninsula where tree cover lacks? In 1880, to avoid building two extra bridges, the Valley Railway Changed the Cuyahoga's route to what you see today.

If you need a pit stop, public restrooms are here. Otherwise, on the walkway to the right, please steer. At the overlook with benches, turn to face the river's flow. Doesn't the Cuyahoga put on a good show?

River water was needed to feed the Ohio & Erie, But big storms made townspeople and canal workers leery. On Easter of 1913, Ohio was swept by the Great Flood. It destroyed the canal and left communities covered in mud. By that time, the canal had lost much of its business to trains. It wasn't worth repairing. Today, only canal ruins remain.



NPS

Continue on the path. Cautiously cross the tracks, left, where marked. Spot Peninsula Depot where scenic railroad passengers embark. If you are interested in buying tickets for a future excursion, Go inside and learn more about this relaxing diversion.

Peninsula's original station was destroyed after World War II. In 1967 Boston's station was relocated here for its preservation.

Left around to the side of the station. Cross to the red structure without getting a citation. The long-time potters are gone. Is there anyone new? If the door is closed, go on to the next clue.

This was originally a railroad freight building.

Now go back outside and cross to the Academy. Something in the courtyard might make you utter a blasphemy. Hiding inside the fence is the head of quite the snake, A nod to the Peninsula Python that caused many to shake.

In summer 1944, many tried to capture this mysterious creature with no success.

Walk on to the STOP, go right, and cross toward the steeple. Peninsula United Methodist can house many people. Now is not the time to be caught in a fight—Police are across from the church so white.

Next to the police station is the Village Hall. The hall also served as the schoolhouse when it was built in 1857.

Head downhill on Main Street, re-crossing at the light. The sweets here are Yum Yum. Time for a bite? Pass the old Peninsula Nite Club, still full of tunes, And beyond past the bike shop, once Garvey's Saloon. Trek onto the roadway bridge with sides of green. Pause before heading uphill to a change of scene.



NPS

Four transportation arteries that brought Peninsula trade are the river, canal, railroad, and road.

After North Canal, look right. Play I Spy as you move hence: An old water pump, quarry stone steps, and an iron fence. What's your favorite building along Main Street? The historic architecture is quite a treat!