

Clues Continued...

*Following the path along the fence,
Stop at the towpath, a new story to commence.*

Imagine a towpath car doing 55!
From Jaite Mill they came for lunch in 1965.
For in those times, cars traveled the towpath,
Rarely watching their aftermath.
One lady driving her little "flivver"*
Was o'erturned by men with lunch to deliver.
*"Flivver" was slang for a small, inexpensive, old automobile.

*Across the road, inside Boston Store you go.
Use caution, but don't be slow.*

A story of notoriety often then and now told
Is of overinvestment that left a man cold.
Julius Edson—1850 was the year—
Owned most of Boston, including this store here.
Though times change, history repeats:
He overextended his credit and disappeared in retreat.

Now you know stories not often told,
Of the quiet, notorious Boston of old.

*To finish your infamous quest,
Go to the front desk, treasure box to request.*



Jim Brown's hotel, far right
NPS COLLECTION

*This quest was created by Rebecca Jones Macko, a park ranger
for Cuyahoga Valley National Park, and Nancy Desmond,
interpretive coordinator for the Ohio & Erie Canal Association.
The map was created by Mary Hultman, a naturalist for
Stark Parks.*

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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 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 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 ohioandieriecanalway.com and search under Activities for Questing.



SUMMIT COUNTY SECTION
CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL PARK
BOSTON STORE VISITOR CENTER



NPS / ARRYE ROSSER

Canalway Quest

Notorious Boston Quest

Briefly stroll through the village of Boston, learning about infamous past residents.



Planning Ahead

This treasure hunt takes about 25 minutes. Most surfaces are hard and flat. The busy road and mature theme may not be suitable for young children. You will need a pen or pencil to sign the logbook. Some people prefer using their own signature stamp.

Getting There

Start at Boston Store Visitor Center, 1550 Boston Mills Road, east of Riverview Road, Peninsula, Ohio 44264. Additional parking is available in an overflow lot to the east. Boston Store Visitor Center is open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; hours may be extended seasonally. Please do this quest during those times.

Clues

How to quest?

The clues in italics tell you where to be;

Clues in plain type tell of Boston's history.

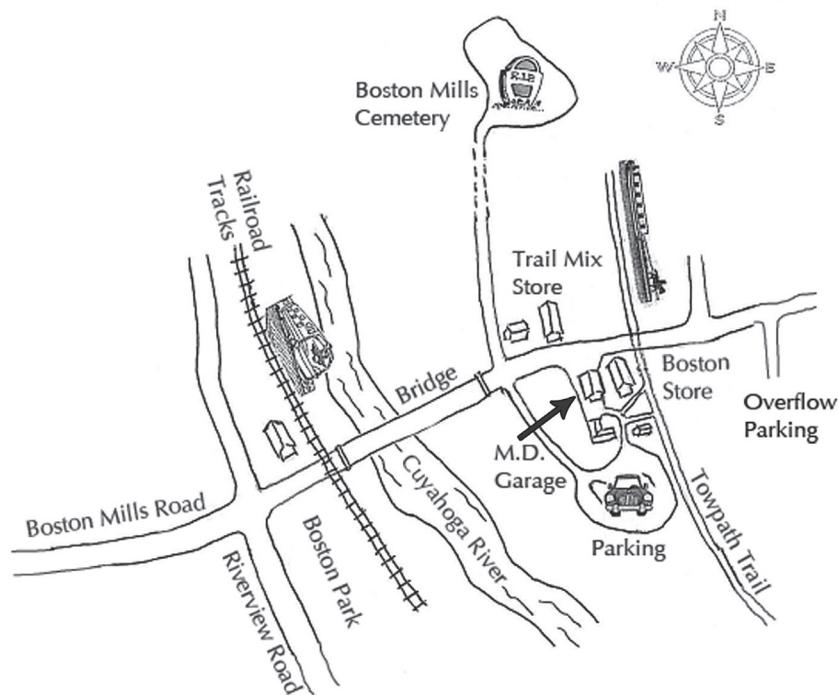
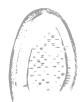
*To the front porch you go to begin a trail
Of an older time, a notorious tale!*

Stand and enjoy this quiet village view.
If these walls could talk—if you only knew!
1,000 people once walked these streets;
Some shady characters you once could meet.
For Boston was a canal boom town for better and worse.
Walk this quest and get the story through verse.

*Down the steps and left you turn,
Over bridge and river for more stories to learn.
At the BOSTON PARK sign, stop for a look.
What was up the hill beyond you won't find in a book.*

You are looking west up old "Brewery Road,"
Where whiskey was made and flowed.
Leftover "spent" mash must not be wasted,
So often pigs and chickens tasted.
Spent mash still can affect you—
So sometimes pigs and chickens ate until "blue."*

* "Blue" was 1800s slang for drunk.



*Over your shoulder to the right
Is a railroad platform of yellow, light.
Cross the road and stand by the two brown posts
To learn of a village, now only ghosts.*

West of the river were American Indians' homes.
To the east of the river, white men roamed.
Look to where the rail platform stands;
Imagine an Seneca village at hand.



Cuyahoga River, probably pre-1913
NPS COLLECTION

Before hunters would go to their destination,
On a special pole were hung decorations.
Tobacco was the gift hung on the pole—
Sometimes the item their eastern neighbors stole.

*Back into Boston over the river
To learn of a man that might make you shiver.
Pause at the MAIN STREET sign to hear his story.
His life had troubles, some of them gory.*

In 1800 rough and tumble with his gun,
Ole Jon Williams survived Indian attack—the only one.
By his gun he sought clothing and rations—
A woodsman with some unfortunate passions.
No friend to Indians, he caused sorrow and strife,
Giving them deadly trouble his whole life.

*On eastward toward TRAIL MIX BOSTON you go,
Cross over the road, but pause—you must know...*

At the end of MAIN STREET, just out of sight,
Lies old Boston Cemetery, made by morale right.
Early in history, worried about Boston's decline,
Boston Morale Society was formed to bring in the divine
And lay Boston's citizens to rest
Where prehistoric Indians had built a mound to attest.

*Stop just beyond TRAIL MIX BOSTON and look across the road
For a story of scandal, rarely told.*

Where now is M.D.'s, once stood a hotel grand.
Owner, Jim Brown, greatest counterfeiter in the land.
In the 1830s elected justice of the peace—
Yet still funny money he continued to fleece.
After two times in jail, his wife said, "Enough!"
And divorced him in scandal, standing tough.



Jim Brown
PENINSULA LIBRARY &
HISTORICAL SOCIETY