Memorials in the Village

Park: At the Hanson Playground Duration: approximately two hours, 2.5 miles, and 350 years Busy Streets

- Head up the hill and turn left on the Great Road toward the center of the shire. Stop at the font of information.

- Cross to the old towne pound. Follow the fence to the left to the stone gate.

- Enter and explore. Find a stone the for men who marched 200 years (less two days) before the monument; find a Fisher of trees; find the olde meeting place of hobbits and men.

- Raise your eyes to the marker of time and follow the arrows at quarter to nine. Cross the street and head back toward the village. At the corner, turn right toward the "Town's end".

- Pass the old "tombstone" along the street marking thirty-five miles to Boston. Continue to where the letters are gathered and cross the road.

- Find the marker, recounting the shire's early strife and perseverance.

- Pass the gifts, the weekly news, and good food, until you reach the center of town governance. Rest on the stone benches in the shade of the giant sugar maple and sip some water in memory of Constance Wharton Smith.

- Then head past the old Parker house where parley was done in 1676.

- Find the double cross walk (first yellow and then white to the right) to cross safely to the east side of Main Street.

- Round the corner, pass Fine Arts and Other Things toward the old Burial Ground. Keep the cannon on your left and find the marker naming the Square in honor of the Sergeant of the 101st Engrs.

- Continue on to the stone that marks the second place where townsfolk met.

- Keep the stone history on your left and Enter where it says Do Not.

- Find the marker honoring those who worked when work was not to be found.

- Stroll along the right side of the old wall, looking for the name carved into the wall, by the bronze plaque, under the large white pine. A moment of glory for a 14 year old.

They are made of wood, bronze, granite, slate, and steel erected from 1824 through 2005. They memorialize people, events, buildings, and a tree.

- Follow the wall to the corner, across from the old Baptist church with the window where Harlan's trees once celebrated Christmas.

- Turn your back on time, and walk back toward the town center.

- Pass between food and drink, then cross the white stripes to the brick path.

- On this Common, find benches and birthday wishes, brave men mentioned and poetic words. Continue across.

- Then, with the firemen at your back and the kitchen on your right, head west of the village -- a 5 minute walk crossing over the rail trail to the next square.

- Enjoy Badger's Square and the marker describing his distant sacrifice. Look further for the stone under the liberty tree honoring our timely men.

- Then carefully cross Mill Street and continue. Follow a glorious old wall to the left to find the monument to a ghost tree.

- On the same wall, other memories are captured - two children's story.

- Continue along, crossing at the long hill, and turning toward the broad meadows. Careful of cars as you pass along the ancient beech trees.

- Turn at the brick pillars remembering old work done here.

-Cross the sweeping fields to a very modern memorial, as in the long tradition of this lovely old shire, Groton remembers.

Open the house to find the stamp marking the passage of time.

