



East Over Quest

EAST OVER RESERVATION, ROCHESTER

Created by the Bioreserve Youth Corps

THE TRUSTEES OF RESERVATIONS

East Over Reservation is owned and cared for by The Trustees of Reservations. We are over 100,000 people like you who want to protect the places we love or who simply like to be outdoors. Since 1891, we have been committed to preserving and sharing the landmarks and landscapes of Massachusetts – a conservation effort funded solely through private support like yours.

Together with our neighbors, we protect the distinct character of our communities and inspire a commitment to special places like East Over Reservation across the Commonwealth. Our passion is to share with everyone the irreplaceable natural and cultural treasures that we care for. **Visit us at www.thetrustees.org.**

HOW TO QUEST

Use the clues and map that follow to find a hidden treasure and story at East Over Reservation. Along the way you'll have fun, and learn to see (and read) land use clues and history. At the end of this Quest you'll find a hidden treasure box, where you can sign in, collect a copy of our Quest's stamp, and then replace the box for the next visitor. We recommend you take 1 1/2 to 2 hours to enjoy this adventure. *Happy trails!*

This farm was established in the year 1850,
Now forever protected for you and for me.
Charles Leonard first moved here, a businessman by trade,
Through shipping and whale oil his fortune was made.
He then left New Bedford to a life more staid,
To a pastoral landscape with fields to be hayed.
A gentleman farmer with money to spare,
He wanted a farm that would make people stare.

And now you are here to explore his old place,
So let's get Questing, but no need to race.
The parking lot is the beginning and end,
Find something that's hidden just around the bend.
A mowed trail heads east, keep the wall on your right,
It follows Clapp Road and heads just out of sight.
On your left you will pass a small grove of trees,
Just stay on the trail, yes this part is a breeze.
Soon you will pass through another stone wall,
The opening's wide so you won't have to crawl.

There's a wall in the distance
that's out in the middle,
It cuts through the big field,
no this isn't a riddle.
As you gaze at this wall,
let's all stop and think,
About a small bird who's
named bobolink.
This elusive song bird loves
to nest in tall grass,
Which keeps predators away
as they walk right on past.
To Brazil and beyond this
little bird will fly,
Passing time in the tropics
while winter goes by.
With black underneath and white on the back,
Its numbers declining, fields like this it now lacks.



Now keep walking along the edge of the field,
A stone wall on your right, soon a secret's revealed.
Between the green gates there are steps leading down,
They may seem out of place since there's nothing around.
To explain these stone steps think 1849,
When life was quite hard but yet still seemed sublime.

This once was the site of the old Leonard school,
Where the children worked hard not to look like a fool.
Now let's fast forward 8 scores or more,
To a time when we marvel about days of yore.
These four granite steps are all that remain,
To remind us of what was, should memories wane.

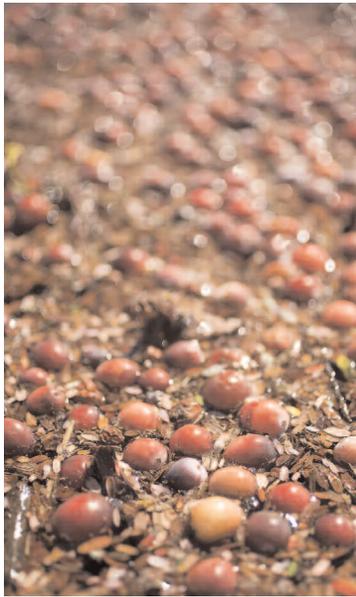
Go down the steps and
turn left on the road,
Follow these words and
you'll soon crack the code.
When you reach Hiller Road
you'll go left once more,
Turn right up the driveway,
note the yellow décor.



Look behind the old store front, no this isn't forbidden.
Find the building with a plaque, that stands somewhat hidden.
Back in the day it was used for education,
To teach reading, writing and multiplication.
Up and down did little feet stomp,
To and fro did the children all romp.
It's the old Leonard school built in 1849,
But given its age it's still looking quite fine.
This school was moved here and still stands today,
Just a small one-room schoolhouse amongst fields of hay.



Now head back out
the driveway,
There's much more to see,
Just follow the wall that is
sharp and pointy.
As you head down the
road, keep a watch to
your right,
Leonard Pond you will
see there, a beautiful sight.
Its waters once powered
the Sippican mill,
Now cranberries grow
in the bogs just downhill.



As you are walking, watch
the wall on your left,
The stone mason who built
it was certainly deft.
Find the spot where the wall
takes a curve round an oak,
Built to last that's for sure,
these old walls are no joke.
They are linear structures
of granite and quartz,
Which might also be used
for magnificent forts.



These ornate double walls marked out Leonard's estate,
To show all who saw them his wealth must be great.
To build them took time: over 1,000 days,
And dollars, 50,000, for these walls to raise.
These cut granite walls go on for two miles,
Whereas most old farm walls are no more than rock piles



Walk just a bit further to a large metal gate,
Just pass right on through it, there's no need to wait.
Now on your right is the Hiller Farm pond,
Through biotic succession it's now almost gone.
It's more than a farm pond, it's a large vernal pool.
Though this puddle of moss might not seem all that cool,
Early in springtime salamanders come here,
And their eggs can be laid
without any fear.
There are no fish to eat
them and as summer goes on,
The tadpoles and larva will
leave this fair pond.



Just past the pond two trails will diverge,
Take the trail to the right and more clues will emerge.
You will enter a forest and come to a "T",
Take the path to the left, it's quite nice you'll agree.
Here the trail becomes rougher take care not to fall,
Through forest, then meadow to the last stone wall.
Pass through and turn right keep the wall on your right,
There a quest box to find, for it's not in plain sight.
When the trail curves left, look straight into the trees,
There's a path leading into the woods if you please.

There a passageway there, wide enough to walk through,
A small gap in the wall for a person like you.
The old Miller would use this to get to his mill,
Find the box that is hidden and your quest you'll fulfill.
A container is hidden among all the stone,
Once you have found it the ending is known.
Now head back to the parking lot and take a long rest,
We hope you've enjoyed this East Over Quest!