


Tuftonboro Treasures Hunt 03 - A Little Bit of History & Cemeteries

Thank you to the writers and publishers of the book *Tuftonboro, New Hampshire: Cemeteries, Graveyard and Burial Sites 1800 - 1995* (The Graveyard Committee of the Tuftonboro Association, Ann W. Hackl, Chairman, © 1997). Most information specific to the cemeteries found in this hunt are quoted directly from this thoughtfully detailed book of Tuftonboro history

CUMULATIVE Mileage	Direction	Description
0.00	Starting Point: Melvin Village Community Church	
0.00	Behind the church	
0.00	When were the horsesheds relocated?	October 1977 in Memory of Edward Bartsch - Gift of wife Ruth
0.00	Take a picture with the white elephant near Dearborn Hodgdon	Plywood white elephant is in horse shed stall with Dearborn Hodgdon's name
0.00	Whose name is on the 5th horse shed from the Left?	Asa Thompson
0.00	Find headstone with same name as the one on the 5th horse shed from the left in the nearby cemetery. What year was he born? What cemetery is it?	Melvin Village Cemetery. Located behind the Melvin Village Community Church. Asa B. Thompson: 12/5/1850 - 2/25/1925. (Right [West] side of cemetery)
0.00	Find the Memorial Garden. Hint: The Memorial Garden is a cremation garden in an area of a cemetery set aside for those who choose cremation.	The Memorial Garden is marked with a big stone located on the left [East] side of the Melvin Village Cemetery. As of July 2020, there are 20 names on the Memorial Garden stone (10 on each side).
0.00	What was the birth year of Richard Calvert?	Dick Calvert: 1923 - 2018
0.00	Take a right out of drive	Onto Route 109 South
1.10	Take a left (be sure to yield to oncoming traffic)	Onto Route 109A South
3.00	Take a right into drive - where are you?	Town House Cemetery. Located on Middle Road (109A) 0.15 mile north of Union Wharf Road. It sits to the right and behind the present day town offices.
3.00	What year is engraved over the crypt door?	1905
3.00	Take a picture of what we think is an old stone 'horse' tie-up". Hint: Located on right side of crypt entrance.	
3.00	Pass through wrought iron gate entrance. Find the realistic sculputre memorial to Norman E. Reed. What is it?	A game of horseshoes. Located immediately adjacent to the cemetery road on the right just past the first intersecting road/path.
3.00	A small portion of this cemetery (the most northerly projection) was in use in the first half of the 19th century. The earliest lettered headstone in this cemetery is of Levi Coffin in 1826 - can you find the head stone?	Congratulations if you did! Our attempt to find the reportedly "lichen covered stone" of Levi Coffin was unsuccessful. However, it was raining and we didn't look for too long - we hope you have/had better luck. :-)
3.00	After meandering a bit through some of Tuftonboro's history, loop through the cemetery and head to the exit.	
0.00	At end of drive, set odometer to 0.0, then take a right	Back onto 109A - South
0.40	Take a left	Onto Ledge Hill Road - first road on the left after Tuftonboro Central School.

CUMULATIVE Mileage	Direction	Description
2.00	Pull onto right side shoulder/drive - What is here?	Ham Cemetery. Located on the east side of Ledge Hill Road 1.4 miles south of junction with Mountain Road (Rte 171), on a knoll just above the road. The Ham and Bickford families are equally represented here. Nathaniel Bickford was a Selectman in 1802 and a Deacon and Clerk of the Congregational Church. In 1801 he married Mary Bean, daughter of Benjamin Bean who was one of the town's original settlers.
2.00	Find the circle of stones	"A curious circle of stones at a slight angle and apart from the rest of the gravesites [in the Ham Cemetery] may have been a decorative garden, but its purpose is uncertain." Perhaps a cremation garden?
0.00	Before pulling back onto road, reset odometer to 0.00	
0.00	Head straight	Still heading North on Ledge Hill Road
1.40	Take a left	Onto Mountain Road - aka Route 171
1.80	Park on the right side shoulder, what is on the left on opposite side of road?	Tuftonboro Corner Cemetery. Located on the southwest side of Mountain Road (Rte 171) 0.4 of a mile northwest of the junction with Ledge Hill Road.
1.80	Find the resident who lived through 3 centuries. Hint: <i>She</i> was related by marriage to the son of one of Tuftonboro's 3 original settlers, Joseph Peavy.	"Joseph Peavy was one of Tuftonboro's 3 original settlers in 1780. His son, Joseph L. Peavy, is also buried here along with his wife, Mary D. Peavy whose life of 106 years covered 3 centuries."
4.20	Don't stop - too curvy, but as you drive by, answer the following question: What 2 names are on this cemetery?	Thompson - Moulton Cemetery. Located by the roadside on the south side of Mountain Road (Rte 171) approx. 2.9 miles west of the Ledge Hill/Durgin Road junction. This cemetery is comprised of two separate family graveyards ranging from the mid-19th century.
5.10	Take a left	Onto Sodom Road - South
5.30	Take a left into drive - What is on the right after turning into drive?	Fields - Jones- Hunter Cemetery. Located on the southeast side of Sodom Rd 0.1 mile south of junction with Mountain Road (Rte 171) on top of an embankment just above the road.
5.30	Find the stone of the father of nine in the section of the cemetery that was established in 1990. What year was he born.	Thomas Hunter: 1922 - 1990 (9 children listed on back of grave stone)
5.30	In the older section of the cemetery, find the 2 veterans of the War of 1812.	"According to American Legion records, two veterans of the War of 1812 are John W. Leavitt and James Bean. James Bean's stone is harder to find but records indicate he is buried next to his wife Sally - look for the foot-stone with initials J.B."
	End of hunt - Feel free to drive through the circular drive for safe exit (we got permission from the homeowner who was our driver during the creation of this Tuftonboro Treasures Hunt 03 - and hunt 01 and 02 :-))	
	We hope you took some time to explore a few of Tuftonboro's cemeteries and enjoyed some of the history written on the granite and marble stones. Check out the book <i>Tuftonboro, New Hampshire: Cemeteries, Graveyard, and Burial Sites 1800-1995</i> for more fascinating details of some of Tuftonboro's past residents. We had the book with us during our prep for this hunt and learned a lot along the way.	
	Also, don't forget to check out the Melvin Village Community Church's website at mvccnh.org https://www.mvccnh.org/	