

East Haverhill Tour (Map of tour is on the last page)

This, the longest of the tours, will take you to the earliest historic sites of Haverhill, to many places made famous by Whittier, and by some of the oldest homes in Haverhill.

1. G.A.R. Park, geographic and civic center of Haverhill. From this Common the men of Haverhill marched in 1775 toward Lexington and Concord as well as to Bunker Hill. From here, too, went our soldiers to the Civil War, which is why it is named Grand Army of the Republic Park. The granite Revolutionary War monument to the north was erected by the Daughters of the Revolution in 1915. The statue of Hannah Duston was erected in 1879. She returned from Indian captivity in 1697 bringing back ten scalps.

(See tour C)

To the southwest of the park stood Harrod's Tavern, the "Freemason Arms," where George Washington stayed while in Haverhill November 4 and 5, 1789. It was also the site of the first town hall, built in 1847, and the second from 1861 until demolished in 1973.

2. Toward the bridge at White's Corner was the printing shop of Peter Edes, set up in 1794, where the first translation into English in America of *Perrault's Fairy Tales* was printed. This included such favorites as "Sleeping Beauty" and "Cinderella."

3. Landing site of the first ferry, which operated from 1647 until shortly after the first bridge was built (where the present one stands) in 1794. Washington used that ferry to continue his trip south.

4. The site of the landing of the first twelve settlers at the mouth of a creek from Plug Pond. The millstone marker was donated in 1910 by E.W.B. Taylor, a civic-minded resident, greatly interested in local history.

5. Haverhill's oldest cemetery, the Pentucket, has numerous quaint and interesting stones. Early settlers buried here include several of the victims of the Indian massacre of 1708 who lie in a mass grave, and Hannah Duston in an unmarked grave. This is also the site of the first meeting house, built in 1648.

6. Mill Street was laid out in 1653 along the stream which flowed from Lake Saltonstall (Plug Pond) and supplied power for five different mills. The marker in the vacant lot just beyond the first house indicates the site where the settlers and Indians signed the deed for the land in Haverhill. The original deed is in the Buttonwoods museum.

7. The Buttonwoods (named for the row of Buttonwood trees planted in 1739 by Hugh Tallant, the Saltonstall's Irish gardener) is the home and museum of the Haverhill Historical Society. It was built in 1814. On the grounds are a typical one-man cobbler shop (c.1840); the so-called John Ward House, probably begun circa 1710 and added to circa 1800; Tenny Hall, housing a large display of local Indian artifacts, and the "Worshipping Oak," under which the first settlers held services.

8. The Hazen-Spiller Garrison House was never used as a garrison, being built in 1724 (after the Indian troubles were over), but was built in the style of one, with narrow windows and loopholes. Wallace Nutting, the antiquarian and landscape photographer, briefly owned the

house and had all of the restoration work done; he included it as one in his chain of old houses open to the public.

9. The town's second powder house, built in 1845, still stands at the top of Golden Hill.

A10. East Broadway is one of the oldest roads in Haverhill, following the river from Rocks Village. There was a ferry near the end of Cottle's Creek as well as a tavern. Half a mile up a side road to the left is the Millvale Reservoir, where a dam was built in 1895 by a crew of 200 Italian immigrant laborers from New York who lived here in a primitive village of grass and mud huts.

11. Greenwood Cemetery, burial place of the "Countess," a Haverhill girl who married a French Count, a story immortalized by the Poet John Greenleaf Whittier. Here also is buried Moses Moody, another historic figure.

12. The Peaslee Garrison House, the third Peaslee house in the East Parish, was probably built just prior to 1710. Quaker meetings were held here for many years.

13. Rocks Village was settled around 1643, and a ferry established shortly after. It developed separately from Haverhill – a village within a city – and has been designated a Historic District to preserve its architectural and historic beauty. Of special note are the firehouse which dominates the crossroads, having watched over the numerous 18th century homes for many years, and the home of the Countess de Vipart (Mary Ingalls).

15. Birthplace of John Greenleaf Whittier, built in 1688 by his great-great-grandfather, as well as the surrounding property, has been kept by the Trustees much as it was when he lived there.

A16. The home of Lydia Ayer, the heroine of Whittier's poem "In School Days."

17. All that remains of the Whittier Elm under which Whittier played as a boy, victim of the disease which has robbed Haverhill and New England of so many of its stately Elms.

18. Site of Whittier's boyhood school, described in his poem "In School Days," marked by another millstone donated by E.W.B. Taylor.

19. Kenoza Lake, one of Haverhill's major sources of drinking water, was named by Whittier in 1859 from the Indian word meaning Lake of the Pickerel.

20. On top of the hill is Winnekenni Castle, built in 1874, by a Haverhill agricultural scientist. It was used as a summer home from 1875 to 1895 when it was acquired by the city and is now being restored by a foundation for cultural purposes. To this area many Haverhill residents fled after false alarm that the British were on their way to take revenge for defeat at Lexington and Concord.

21. A millstone marker, where the Indian trail from New Hampshire entered the city. Concord Street was part of the original route from Boston to Concord, New Hampshire.

22. Former home of Thomas West, the first President of the Boston & Maine Railroad. The pillars in front were originally a part of the house which stood where City Hall is now located.

23. Gale Park, given to the city in 1891 by James E. Gale, has monuments to the soldiers of the Spanish-American War and World War I.

24. The former home of Thomas Sanders (169 Kenoza) was much frequented by Alexander Graham Bell in the 1870's. Sanders, a successful leather merchant, whose deaf son was one of Bell's pupils, supplied Bell with most of the money which enabled him to develop the telephone.

25. The Ayer House dates back to 1712, and memorializes a name prominent in Haverhill for centuries. Part of the yard is the site of a 1690 garrison house. The original house on this lot was burned by the Indians in 1708.

26. Lake Saltonstall was named for one of Haverhill's and America's most prominent families. The lake is known locally by its earlier name – Plug Pond – so named because the pond was plugged up by the early millers who periodically unplugged it after enough water had accumulated to turn their mill machinery.

27. The former home of Warner Whittier, first mayor of the city in 1870. It originally stood on Summer Street and was moved to this location in 1898. It was near here that the entrance to the Ox-Common was located.

28. The White-Clement house, which was built in 1680 by William White, one of the original settlers.

29. The former home of David P. Harmon was a reputed link of one branch of the underground railroad.

30. In the original part of this apartment house (now much changed) was the home of William Francis Bartlett, a Major General in the Civil War at the age of 24.

31. Site of the home of the Rev. John Rolfe, the second minister of Haverhill. In the Indian raid of 1708, the house was attacked and the minister, his wife, one daughter, and three soldiers stationed there were slain. In a later house on this same site, John Quincy Adams, our sixth President, lived with his aunt while preparing to enter the senior class at Harvard in 1785. The present building, built in 1908, served as the Haverhill High School until 1963 and is now the Haverhill City Hall.

14. A worthwhile digression to Middle Road will take you to a few places made famous by Whittier.

14a. "Haunted Bridge".

14b. Suicide Pond.

14c. East Parish Church of 1838.

14d. Walnut Cemetery, burial place of Lydia Ayer.

