

Northwood 250th Anniversary Celebration History Scavenger Hunt

This scavenger hunt will help you to learn more about Northwood's history. The members of the Northwood 250th Anniversary Committee hope you find this a fun activity. Bring your completed form to the town hall addressed to the attention of the 250th committee, or you can scan your copy and email it to Northwood250th@gmail.com by 7/22/23.

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____

Rules for scavenger hunt

1. Participants must be a resident of Northwood to be eligible for prizes.
2. Obey all local laws. Refrain from walking or parking on private property.
3. In no way shall the Town of Northwood and/or the Northwood 250th Anniversary Committee be liable for any direct, indirect, punitive or consequential damages arising out of, or in any way connected with participation in this hunt. The Northwood 250th Anniversary Committee reserves the right to end this hunt at any time.
4. Find answers to fill in the blank lines below. Then use the ones with numbers following them to solve the puzzle at the bottom. A prize drawing with names of those who have correctly solved the hunt will occur at the main celebration on July 29, 2023.

Enjoy the Hunt – Good Luck ! !

The daily business of the Town of Northwood started being done in this building in 1847. At the town meeting in 1913 it was voted to install steel sheathing on the interior walls and ceiling, which can still be viewed. What is this building? _____ (1)

This same building houses a _____ (12) cross section of the Berry Elm _____ (2) in the meeting room. At one time this was the largest elm in New Hampshire as verified by forestry officials. The tollgate for the first NH turnpike is said to have hung on this mighty elm. Even after many years of treatments, Dutch Elm disease finally took its toll. In December 1982, for safety reasons, it was cut down. At the time it measured 83 feet high, 96 feet wide, and 24 feet 8 inches in circumference. No one knows its true age, but it was listed in the 1790 census. A portion of it was given to the New Hampshire Commission on the Arts, who commissioned artist William Eaves to create a commemorative sculpture, which is located at the New Hampshire State Library in Concord.

There are several historical markers and plaques outside of this town building. One honors a famous Revolutionary War hero, Marquis de LaFayette. On this marker what word follows extensive? _____ (3)

Another historical marker in front of this building says “Northwood _____(4) Site of Meeting House 1781-1847 _____(5) House 1793-1996 Town House 1847 _____(6) ca. 1880 Moved Here – 1968 First N.H. Turnpike 1802”

There are three war memorials in front of this same town building. The inscription on one reads “In grateful tribute to those of _____(8) who honorably served in the Armed Forces of their country.” Below that is listed the following campaigns- Korea, Vietnam, Lebanon-Grenada, Panama, and Persian Gulf. The second one is a World War II honor roll. How many columns of names are there? _____(9) Six of the names having a star, indicate they died in the service of their country. The third memorial honors those who served in World _____(10) I.

Near here is the only church in town to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The _____(13) Church is next to Coe-Brown Academy.

Now, let’s head to the Narrows. Before Northwood was incorporated on February 6, 1773, John Batchelder of Hampton and Moses Godfrey, began clearing land in East Northwood. They established a settlement in 1763 when the area was still part of Nottingham. Solomon and John Bickford proceeded to the area that is now known at the Narrows to establish another settlement. In November of 1765 Samuel Johnson arrived and spent his first night sleeping between two rocks, covering himself with boughs to stay warm. Find these boulders. Please note: There is no parking at this site that is not on private property. You can park at the Community Center and walk to it from there or view a photo of this plaque found on page 8 in History and Remembrances of The Northwood Meadows State Park by M. Edward Burt - Call number R 974.2 BUR. This is in the Chesley Memorial Library. What is the second number (not date) that appears after Samuel Johnson’s name in the inscription? _____(14)

Most of Northwood did not have rural delivery of mail until the winter of 1965 when a central Post Office was built where the police station is now located. Previously each family went to a Post Office in their section of town (usually located in stores) to receive their mail. This worked well. One could do shopping, pick up mail and see and talk with neighbors. From 1960 to 1965 after the last store in this area of town was closed, the Post Office was moved to a little building beside a brook. This building is currently being preserved by the Northwood Historical Society. Today you can stop and rest on a _____(20) outside of this building.

Another historic marker, which is in western Northwood, commemorates a highway. It was the first toll _____(15) in New Hampshire.

While we are at this side of town, let’s swing by the only museum in Northwood. It is the James A. Bryant Memorial Library building and current home of the _____(11). In 1899 the town voted to catalog the books forming the Northwood Public Library system. Before that time the books had been kept in private homes, some in each section of town. The collection was moved into the recently constructed library in 1940, built

with funds provided for that purpose in the will of James A. Bryant who had lived on Blake's Hill, making his living as a freighter of shoe parts and finished shoes.

Now, let's travel to the eastern side of Northwood. This is the oldest church in Northwood, dating back to July 7, 1779 when a group met in the home of one of the first settlers, Moses Godfrey. About 1878 a clock was installed in the steeple, making this the only church in Northwood that has a clock in its steeple. What is the name of this church? _____ (16)

This next building is the only one in Northwood to be named to the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places, which occurred in 2019. It opened in October 1954 and the collection from the Bryant Library was moved here. It is the _____ (17). The next several clues can be found here in the reference section including the clue above concerning Samuel Johnson.

Life in earlier days on _____ (18), the highest point in town, is described as reminiscences of her childhood by Ruth Montgomery _____ (19) in her book The Chanticleer Weathervane. The paragraph beginning at the bottom of page 161 describes a _____ (21) that was later used as a doll house. In early times shoes were made for each individual customer in the home of a shoemaker. By 1850, Northwood was a prosperous shoe making town, at least 18 homes in the Center alone worked on shoes. In 1866, the first large shoe factory was built in East Northwood near where the Irving gas station is now located. The last factory, which closed in 1929, was built in 1899 and was located in the area of the current TD Bank. Shortly before 1880 J.R. Towle built a small shoe factory in the area opposite the Narrows Fire Station. When the business prospered, a larger factory was built in 1887. However, it was destroyed by fire in 1895. Home shoe shops which remained open during the time of the big factories continued to do piecework for more than a decade into the beginning of the 20th century.

The founding fathers of Northwood realized the importance of education and at the first town meeting, on March 23, 1773, seven pounds and four shillings was raised for the support of schools, which were located in five sections of the town. At one time there were nine school districts in Northwood so no child had to walk more than a mile to school. Most contained only one room, while a few others needed two rooms due to the number of students in that school district. A history of these schools can be found in the booklet _____ (22)? Hint: It has a bright cover.

Idle gossip is nothing new. Back in 1979 it was rumored that the current _____ (23) was going to be a storage area for the nuclear fuel from Seabrook. Another was that an oil refinery would come here or that it would become the site for 400 homes. This is all described on page 52 of the book referenced above by M. Edward Burtt, who was the owner of the property. Many other interesting and little known facts of this property's history are contained in this writing.

Let's not forget. We have some famous local authors. One who stands out is Rebecca _____ (27), who has been entertaining audiences for years with her witty and true stories of life in New Hampshire. 3 of her CDs and 10 of her books are available to loan from the library. Two are in the reference section. These are _____ (24) and _____ (25).

A must read by a well known Northwood historian, Joann Weeks Bailey, is A guide to the _____ (7) and old _____ (26) places of Northwood, New Hampshire. This book is not in the reference section, so may be out on loan, but you can also buy a copy at the library.

PUZZLE

_____ (8) is rich in _____ (7), much of which is _____ (12) by the _____ (11) who always welcomes new members. _____ (8) broke away from Nottingham in 1773 so we could _____ (27) ourselves. Located in the _____ (4) section of town, historical structures include _____ (5), a _____ (6), _____ (14) historical markers and _____ (9) _____ (10) memorials, which are on the grounds next to _____ (1). _____ (8) is proud of its nine lakes and ponds, which are either totally or partially located in town. In addition to the _____ (23) and _____ (18), which provides many mountain views, miles of country _____ s (15), _____ s (2), _____ s (19) and many lovely old _____ s (26) and public buildings make _____ (8) the perfect place to _____ (3) or in which to settle down.

You'll be able to find these books at the _____ (17) but not at the _____ (16) or the _____ (13) Church: _____ (24), _____ (25), and _____ (22)? You can probably find a _____ (20) at one of the churches, but not a _____ (21).

We hope you enjoyed this hunt and learned a few new things about Northwood.