How to Quest

Quest clues and maps—created by teachers, volunteers, and/or park staff—will help you discover the natural and cultural gems of the Ohio & Erie Canalway. At the end of each quest is a hidden treasure box. Sign your name in the logbook, stamp this page, and return the box to its hiding place.

The questing season runs from April 15 through November 15.

Notice a problem or have suggestions for improving this quest? Contact Toivo Motter at 330.315.3261 or tmotter@stanhywet.org.

About This Program

I'm Arrye Rosser, interpretive and education specialist at Cuyahoga Valley National Park. I'd like to thank everyone who helped fulfill my dream of bringing questing to Ohio. This project was made possible by the generous support of a 2010 Parks as Classrooms grant from the National Park Service and is a partnership between many organizations.

So far, more than 100 teachers, volunteers, and park staff have been involved in writing and field testing Canalway Quests. Our plan is to create many more in the years ahead. If you would like to volunteer, contact me at 440.546.5992 or arrye_roser@nps.gov.

Special thanks to Emily Bryant and Steven Glazer.

The Ohio & Erie Canalway celebrates the rails, trails, landscapes, towns, and sites that grew up along the first 110 miles of the canal that helped Ohio and our nation grow.

For more information and to get copies of other quests, visit ohioanderiecanalway.com and search under Activities for Questing.

This quest was written by Toivo Motter of Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens with support from Arrye Rosser of Cuyahoga Valley National Park and Director of Historic Structures Mark Gilles of Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens. The historic photos are courtesy of Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens. Contemporary photos are by Volunteer Denny Reiser of Cuyahoga Valley National Park.
Planning Ahead

This treasure hunt takes about 45 minutes. Most surfaces are relatively firm and level, but there are short stairs in places. Walking shoes and a camera are recommended. You will need a pen or pencil to sign the logbook. Some people prefer using their own signature stamp.

This quest is entirely outdoors. Note that the Estate has an admission price. Members are free. The grounds are open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Call 888.836.5533 or visit stanhywet.org for information about extending your visit with a house tour. Bring extra money if you want to visit Molly’s Shop & Café.

At admissions, pick up a Visitor’s Guide containing an Estate Map to assist you on this adventure.

Getting There

Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens is at 714 North Portage Path, Akron, Ohio 44303. Pay admission. Walk to the Manor House. Your quest begins at the top of the circular drive in front of the house.

Clues

Meet Charles Schneider

Hello, my name is Charles Schneider.

I won a contest to be the Seiberling’s home designer. In 1912, my Tudor Revival design was selected. During our walk, you’ll spy details otherwise neglected.

As you find each item with an italic name, please circle the words to play my game. Begin by facing the entrance to Stan Hywet Hall. As you stroll to the left bench, allow the view to enthrall.

That first year F.A.*, wife Gertrude, daughter Irene, and I toured. Seeking inspiration, famous English estates we explored. Along the way, we bought a harpsichord for our musical pleasure. Of new and old architectural designs, we took measure. Wealthy yet humble, the Seiberlings wanted an inviting abode. Of new and old architectural designs, we took measure.

As you stroll to the left bench, allow the view to enthrall.

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I hope by now that your “I Spy” skills are starting to flow. Are you ready for more challenges? Well, here we go!

Lots of Chimneys

Move to the grassy circle’s center and face the Hall. Can you spy a huge Tudor arch over 10 feet tall? Look up to find a likeness above the gable seen before. She represents Mrs. Seiberling, hostess of the manor.

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Carvings

Walk up two steps and pause at the massive front door. Stone carvers showed their skills by adding faces to the decor. Above your head, a large carving you will find. This Tudor rose is another English feature we designed.

Walk back down the steps and turn right on the circle drive. Look up at the balcony when at a stone walkway you arrive. Up above, on something metal, a date you’ll spy.

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Wishing Well

Turn right, up the stairs, and right again. To the wishing well, walk. Holding up the nearby balcony is a horse carved from wooden block. I hope by now that your “I Spy” skills are starting to flow.

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Fountain and West Overlook

What year were the exterior walls completed by? 

When at a stone walkway you arrive.

Imagine mingling guests in fancy clothes and jewels bright. Now cross the terrace, down steps and stone path, and turn right. The monument is designed to be enjoyed from a distance. From here more glass was used to add Arts-and-Crafts-style glamor.

Walk back down the steps and turn right on the circle drive. Look up at the balcony when at a stone walkway you arrive. Up above, on something metal, a date you’ll spy.

These towers were built to defend. Over the front door is another gable—this one with bricks in between. Left still is another, called a parapet, designed more simple and clean.

Walk on. Just before the drive’s triangle, face the house and pause. To make this modern house appear well-established, I mixed styles Popular when Tudors battled for power in the British Isles.

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Tudor Revival

Walk on. Just before the drive’s triangle, face the house and pause. I’ll share a little history from which my home design draws.

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English Influences

Continue on the circle drive. At the next bench, play more I Spy! Can you spot each item below with your sharp little eye?

Hold up the nearby balcony is a horse carved from wooden block.

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