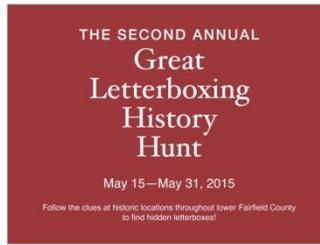


# The Great Letterboxing History Hunt

**2015**

**Letterboxing  
Clue Guide**



## Letterboxing Clues

### FAIRFIELD MUSEUM AND HISTORY CENTER

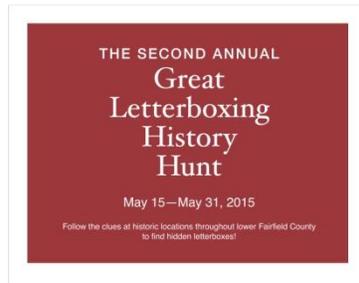
To Begin: Start at the front entrance of the Fairfield Museum, the one in front of the parking lot. Across the street you'll see a field and marsh. To your right, you'll see a green standing sign (you'll find many of these signs on your journey). Walk to the sign.

1. Welcome to the Wolves Swamp! The \_\_\_\_\_ tribe were here as early as \_\_\_\_\_. How many different centuries can you find on this sign? \_\_\_\_\_. Speaking of centuries, maybe we'll find some people who lived during these times in the Old Burying Ground. Walk further down the driveway towards Beach Road.
2. Quick! There's an opening in the wall of the Old Burying Ground! Make your way through this opening into the cemetery (watch your step!). Here is where people were laid to rest after they died. Walk towards the two grave markers that look like tables.
3. Who lies here? \_\_\_\_\_. With your back to the gravestones, look straight ahead and to your left and find the front entrance of the Burying Ground. Let's begin our next search there.
4. Now that we are at the entrance, walk 20 steps forward and stand between the two big trees. Do you see a big memorial with the initials A.W. on it? Go check out the memorial. What was this man's name? \_\_\_\_\_ Why was he important? \_\_\_\_\_ What year did he die? \_\_\_\_\_
5. To your right you'll notice another memorial for Jones. Walk up to it. He was the first \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_. How long did he serve? \_\_\_\_\_
6. There's a lot to explore in here if you want to take some extra time. Is there anything interesting that you can find?  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Now walk out of the Old Burying Ground. Please remember to shut the gate behind you! You'll notice another standing sign to your left. What is the oldest marked gravestone in the cemetery?  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. Now we're going to take a leisurely stroll back to the Fairfield Museum's front entrance. Once you get there, follow the sidewalk to the end of the parking lot. You'll see a BIG sign there. Can you find the year that the British burned the center of Fairfield? Add these numbers together and take this many steps on the gravel path towards the Town Green. Notice the small green buildings with the red trim to your left? Go check it out!
9. Read the standing green sign in front of the cottage. What year was it built? \_\_\_\_\_. What was it used for? Turn around and walk down the gravel road towards the boss's home.
10. In front of this building, the Sun Tavern, you see another green standing sign. Can you find on it what year George Washington visited? \_\_\_\_\_ Why did he visit? \_\_\_\_\_ He might have stayed in this very place! What kinds of food did people enjoy when this was a Tavern? \_\_\_\_\_
11. You must be getting hungry! Ready for the finish? Ben Franklin may have walked up the \_\_\_\_\_ to get some food for himself. You'll find the box that you seek under these!

Please notify the Fairfield Museum at 203-259-1598 or [education@fairfieldhs.org](mailto:education@fairfieldhs.org) if the box or contents are missing. You should find a sign-in book, stamp and ink!





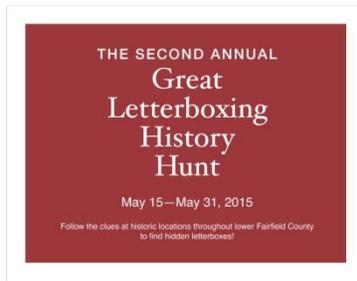
## Letterboxing Clues

### KEELER TAVERN MUSEUM

The Letterbox at the Keeler Tavern Museum can be found by following the directions posted at the front entrance to the Museum. You need not enter the museum to find the Letter Box, but we encourage you to enjoy a 45-minute tour with a costumed docent. The Museum is open to the public on Wednesday, Saturday, or Sunday, from 1 - 4 PM. For more information see [keelertavernmuseum.org](http://keelertavernmuseum.org).



132 Main Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877 | 203.431.0815 | [keelertavernmuseum.org](http://keelertavernmuseum.org)



## Letterboxing Clues

### NEW CANAAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1. First, pick your logbook up on the front porch of the Town House. Next, can you find the flagpole? Stand at the flagpole, facing the small group of trees.
2. You are standing on ground made up of dirt, grass, and *rocks*. One of New Canaan's first schools was built on a large rock outcropping. Can you guess the name? Rock School, was originally built on Canoe Hill Road in 1799 and was in continuous use as a one-room schoolhouse until 1933. In 1973, local New Canaan students saved the school from demolition by raising money to move it to its current location. Can you find the school? (hint: it is a bright, sunny building that you are facing.)
3. Walk to the front door on the left side of the school and face the school. Notice the wooden pillory on the left, used for punishment in colonial days.
4. Behind you, there is a red building with a garden on the left. Read the plaque in front of the garden. You are standing in front of the Rogers Studio, designated a National Historic Landmark in 1966. John Rogers was a 19<sup>th</sup> century, New Canaan based sculptor who sculpted small plaster statuary known as "Rogers Groups". He built his studio in 1878 and in 1960 it was moved a few hundred feet to its current location.
5. Speaking of building...you may wonder what people used to build their homes a few hundred years ago. Can you find the shed with two old tools by its entrance? This is the New Canaan Historical Society's tool museum. In this museum, there are multiple tools that were used in everyday life before electricity and modern conveniences.
6. Directly across from the tool museum, you will see a large hedge and the back porch of the Hanford Silliman House. This is a venter-chimney saltbox house, built in 1764 by Stephen Hanford. It once was a tavern for travelers along the main road. Can you find the main entrance? (hint: 1764)
7. Standing on the front porch of the Hanford Silliman House, notice the blue and yellow doors on the back of the Town House. These doors are part of a 1996 addition to the Town House. To the right of the doors, notice the small hedge. Next to that hedge is a sundial. Can you find it?
8. Using the sundial as a guide, walk west until you reach the stone wall. Then, turn south, facing the Historical Society driveway. On your left will be colorful show globes in the window of the Cody Drug Store. Between the 1600's and 1900's, these marked drug stores and apothecaries for those who could not read. Walk 37 paces south, and on the right you will see a small stone covering with a light underneath. Next to the light, you will find the letterbox!

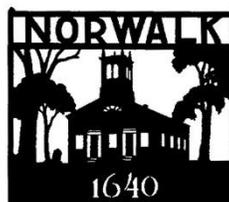


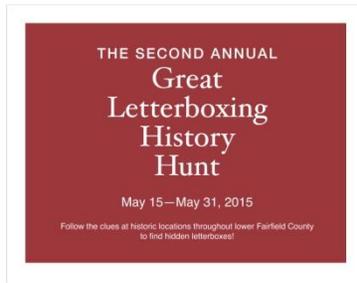


## Letterboxing Clues

### NORWALK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1. In front of the old Norwalk Townhouse built in 1835, find the millstone marked 1709. This commemorates the first townhouse built on this site.
2. Facing the millstone, turn right and walk approximately 13 steps. You will reach a large tree. At the tree turn left and walk approximately 48 steps and through the gates.
3. Go to 1826 and look for 1740. You will find seating for the naughty phantom children from the *Little Red Schoolhouse*. Walk towards the flag pole with only one flag and turn left behind the *Little Red Schoolhouse* to the end. Find the headstone *In Memory of Esther, Wife of Jesse Benedict*.
4. Walk to Esther and find her death date. Add the month and day she died. Turn to the right and walk approximately that many steps. Turn to the left and follow the path approximately 20 steps.
5. Turn to the left and look for Samuel St. John's headstone popping out from behind a tree. Walk to Samuel and find his year of death. This is the same year Norwalk was burned by the British.
6. Turn your back to Samuel and his tree, and walk six steps to continue your journey.
7. Turn left to follow the path approximately 40 steps to the railing. Look out and see the cross on top of the Church. Look at the view from left to right, and you will see the Head of the Norwalk Harbor, where Norwalk pottery was once made.
8. Turn 180° and look at the seating wall. There you will find your treasure.



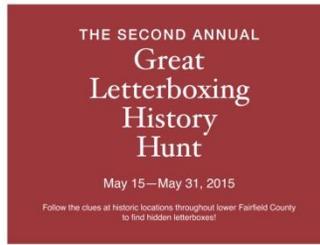


## Letterboxing Clues

### WESTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1. From the parking area, go directly to the Country Garden and with your back to it, look up to see the Rooster Weathervane.
2. Walk to the left of the building and go to the Outhouse with a round side window.
3. With your back to the Outhouse, proceed forward to the old wooden gate between 2 large stone pillars.
4. Facing the Barn with Horse Weathervane, go to the 2 open stalls and find the Lockwood Hay Baling Press.
5. With your back to the Baling Press, walk past the Betty Hill Memorial Herb Garden toward the right corner of the white Coley House and past the old water pump.
6. Turn to your left, walk to the front steps of the 1841 Coley House.
7. Proceed up the steps and you will find the Weston Historical Society's Letterbox on the right side of the porch.





## Letterboxing Clues

### WESTPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1. Standing outside, facing the original entrance of the Bradley-Wheeler House, (in which the Westport Historical Society is now located) find original date of the house. (Hint: you will find it to the right of the door. Add these four numbers together, double it and subtract 4 from it. Walk this number of paces from the wooden cart, following the flagstones, around and to the right of the house, until you are standing in front of the main entrance to the Historical Society, at the base of the steps.
2. Find the tree, which stands in the front of the Bradley-Wheeler House. What do you see on the grass beside the tree and to the left?
3. Count the number of spokes on one of the wheels. How many are there? Do all four wheels have the same number of spokes? How many are there in total? Facing the Bradley-Wheeler House locate the statue on the far side of Veterans Green. Walk across and take a look.
4. The statue of the Soldier is the Westport Veterans Memorial, dedicated to all those who gave their lives fighting for their country, in World War I. What are the dates of the first World War? How long did it last? (Hint: you can find it on the statue). What do you notice circling the base of the statue and the memorial beside it? How many are there in total? (Hint: don't forget to look up.)
5. Locate the two tall Fir trees opposite the Veterans Memorial, back across Veterans Green. As you get closer, you should see a bench between them. Walk back toward it. Take the same number of paces from the bench as there are flags, multiplied by 3. What do you see to the right of the house? How many sides does it have? What do you call a shape with this many sides?
6. Look to the right of the Barn door. You will see a bush. Beneath this bush, you will find what you are seeking.





## Letterboxing Clues

### WILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Welcome to the Wilton Historical Society!

- 1) You will start your journey at our front door, to your left there will be plants galore. Walk through our garden over grass and brick. See if you can find a plant you know: quick. All of these flowers and herbs that you see, were used by colonial families. Today we still use herbs, plants from the past. One more way colonial friends can last.
- 2) For our next location you need to walk, away from the street over many small rocks. You will pass the blacksmith shop on your left, and reach a metal pump – it's not bereft. You can pump yourself water if you like. Imagine having to pump, rain or shine.
- 3) Now walk behind the blacksmith, on the grass. Passed a fenced in garden you'll see a pit. Fires are made here underneath a spit. Over a fire one could melt beeswax. Make candles for night when one could relax.
- 4) Pass 'tween barn and yellow, walk with a bounce! Find the prez who lived not in the White House. By 1800, the White House was built. John Adams moved in, before he was jilt. Jefferson would lead America next, and democracy continued, unchecked.
- 5) Now find your way back to where you began. Close to the front door is water on land. Explore the well; make sure not to fall in. Getting water was difficult way back when. If you had to choose between well and pump, which could you live with and not be a grump?
- 6) It's the end of your journey, so let's rest. Flat rocks near the fire pit end your quest. Sit down on these rocks and take a few breaths. Under a rock sits the end of our test. When you find it, know, we think you're the best!



Wilton Historical Society