



Ruins Not Rubble: Fair Hill History Hike



Fair Hill Natural Resources Management Area

Welcome to the Fair Hill Natural Resources Management Area (FHNRMMA)! Your quest, should you choose to accept it, is to visit four of our beloved historical sites. The designated route is approximately three miles over moderate terrain, including gravel double-track and natural-surface single-track trail. This quest is a self-guided hike that is open daily, so please explore at your own pace. However, we estimate this quest will take approximately an hour and a half to complete.

Formerly owned by William duPont, Jr., the FHNRMMA was one of the largest private land holdings in the east. Mr. duPont was an avid equestrian who acquired the farmland as a means to enjoy horseback riding and fox chasing. Today, the FHNRMMA offers visitors more than 80 miles of trails and farm roads for hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding.

The park is open 7:00 am to sunset. If you have questions or need to reach park staff, please contact the Fair Hill Duty Ranger: 410-218-1698.

Our Park Quest Trail Loop is approximately three miles which begins and ends at our North Appleton Parking (Lot #3) located at: 2941 Appleton Road, Elkton, MD. No equipment is necessary.

Warnings or hazards: Trails can be slippery after heavy rains. Please also remember to bring insect repellent, sunblock, and water. Wear comfortable sturdy shoes for hiking and wear long-pants and long-sleeve shirts to protect yourself from ticks, poison ivy, etc..

Hike Preview Map



First Things First:

Make sure you are starting from North Appleton (Lot #3). Once there, you will find our Park Quest boxes at the bulletin board. One box contains instructions while the other holds your quest completion sticker. You will be able to unlock the latter box using the clues you find from each site along our quest.

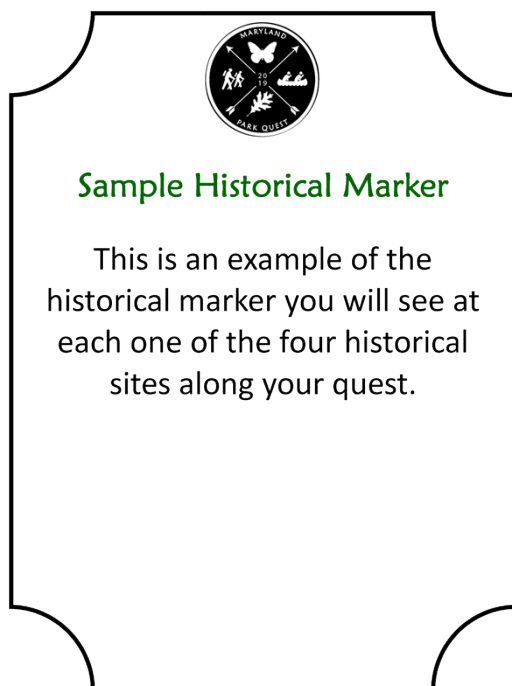
You will see the Park Quest logo on trail posts along your hike route. We suggest starting north (the first right on the gravel trail behind the bulletin board of North Appleton Parking Lot, perpendicular to Black Bridge Road).



The Quest:

We have provided you with a map of the quest route and the location of each historical site along your way. You will know you are at a historical site when you see the historical park quest marker.

The historical marker includes a bit of history for each of the sites and will mention a significant date for each location. You will want to record the date at each site in order to unlock the Park Quest box for your completion sticker at the end of the quest.



Mason-Dixon:

McCloskey:

Strahorn:

Alexander:

Help Protect Our Park:

Leave All Artifacts

Keep discovery alive! Leave artifacts where you find them so the next person can share the experience. It is unlawful to remove prehistoric or historic artifacts, including historic refuse from state lands.

Steer Clear of Walls

Historic structures can be easily damaged. Please refrain from touching, leaning, standing or climbing on any structures, no matter how solid they look.

Guide Children Through Sites

Historic sites are not playgrounds. Please teach children to respect these resources. Keep a close eye so kids do not get hurt or accidentally damage the site.

Dogs Are Best Outside

Keep pets leashed and away from historical structures so they can not dig, poop, or cause erosion inside a historic site.



Avoid Building Cairns

Keep the landscape natural by leaving only footprints. Cairns increase impacts on sensitive sites.

Historic Artifacts Aren't Trash

Leave historic artifacts like rusted cans in place, as they help shed light on the past and how people lived.

Completing Your Quest:

How to unlock the box: After retrieving each date from the four historical sites, you will need to put them in order according to the instructions on the Park Quest box. Once in order, you will be able to unlock the box and obtain a sticker for your passport! When finished, please make sure that you relock the box.

We hope you enjoy the quest!

Please feel free to call with any questions.

Fair Hill NRMA Duty Ranger: 410-218-1698



Embrace the Quest! You can share photos of your Ruins not Rubble adventure on social media by tweeting us: @MDStateParks #ParkQuest2019



Fair Hill NRMA

Office (Monday-Friday 8:00am - 4:00pm):
410-398-1246

Duty Ranger (Daily 7:00am - Sunset):
410-218-1698