Clues Continued...

Learn how the Wallace family profited from the falls so near,
Encouraging others to come to Brandywine and prosper here.

Continue forward, bearing right, over lawn you go.
Turn right, cross the bridge, and see the falls flow.
Follow the drive to the asphalt walkway at right.
Venture around the path, and hold the metal railing tight.

Industry at the Falls
George Wallace, Sr. was eager to harness hydropower
For a wool factory, a distillery, and a mill to grind flour.
Look left—remains of an electric company are seen.
A sign tells how it replaced the gristmill, built in 1814.

When businesses boomed, the community thrived—
Until Cleveland and Akron industries arrived.
Soon after, Brandywine Village began waning.
By the late 1870s, there were few people remaining.

Along the Boardwalks
From upper to lower boardwalk, walk right with steady feet.
The "dessert" to this quest is truly very sweet!

This breathtaking view looks different each visit for a reason.
The waterfall changes moods with the weather and season.
In summer, after heavy thunderstorms, the waters rage.
In winter, frozen water is a peaceful stage.

Treasure Box
Head back up the stairs and right, your quest to resume.
By the kiosk, sneak around right of the men's restroom.
Find the fence in the back, making sure you're alone.
Your treasure is at the second post, under a stone.

Please sign in upon finding the treasure box.
When you're done, replace it as it was, under the rock.
We hope you enjoyed the Relationships With Water Quest.
Come back again soon and please bring a guest!

This quest was written by Nathan Klein, a teacher with the Marlington Local Schools, and Brandi Killinger, a teacher with the Cloverleaf Local Schools.

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.

STAMP HERE

The questing season runs from April 15 through November 15.

Notice a problem or have suggestions for improving this quest? Contact Arrye Rosser at 440-546-5992 or arrye_rosser@nps.gov.

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 70 teachers, volunteers, and park staff have been involved in writing and field testing our initial series of 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_rosser@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 www.nps.gov/cuva and search for keyword "questing."

OHIO & ERIE CANALWAY

Brandywine Falls. ©JERRY JELINEK

Canalway Quest

Relationships With Water Quest

Enjoy a scenic, moderate hike along Brandywine Creek, with a steep climb to view Brandywine Falls.

Planning Ahead

This treasure hunt takes about 65 minutes. There are steep, rocky surfaces that can be slippery and muddy. Insect repellent, hiking shoes, and a walking stick are recommended. You will need a pen or pencil to sign the logbook. Some people prefer using their own signature stamp and ink pad or marker.

Getting There

Start in the parking lot at Brandywine Falls, 8176 Brandywine Road (south of Highland Road and north of Twinsburg Road), Sagamore Hills, Ohio 44067.

Clues

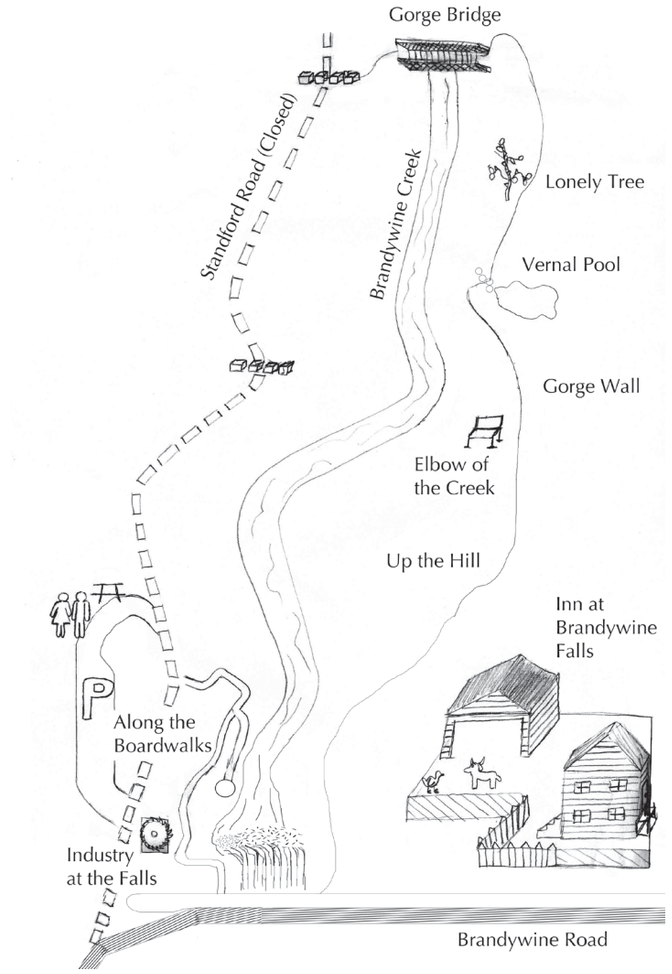
To Begin
Welcome to Brandywine Falls! To start your quest today,
Read how water's power shaped history on the kiosk display.
Follow the walkway down and turn left, heading west.
On this asphalt road, your "view" of the falls is far from best.

Don't fear the orange ROAD CLOSED sign. The path is correct.
A slow and steady hike from here is what to expect.
Around the first barricade and down closed Stanford Road progress.
At the second barrier—halt, and take the path at right for success.

Gorge Bridge
Trek to the long footbridge built of fiberglass.
It replaced stepping stones that high waters did surpass.
A crew of volunteers constructed this bridge in '09,
Making it safer to cross the creek, Brandywine.

Walk 29 steps on the bridge and look into the creek.
Below in the water, crayfish and young insects sneak.
This habitat is precious for these animals, indeed.
Water flowing over rocks supports the lives they lead.

With smaller creatures for food, predators flourish,
Ensuring that larger animals up the food chain are nourished.



Lonely Tree
Cross the bridge and continue to the right.
Count 140 steps, as your next stop is hard to sight.
Just beyond the small, thorny locust tree,
Turn to your right, and Brandywine Creek you'll see.

The flow of the creek depends on snow and rain,
Mixing oxygen into the water, aquatic life to sustain.

Vernal Pool
Follow the dirt trail until you find a few stepping stones.
Look left—another relationship with water is shown.
Each spring, in this pool, frogs and salamanders reproduce.
For these small, water-loving animals, it is of great use.

This vernal pool may not exist here all year round.
Vernal means spring, the best time for water to be found.

Gorge Wall
140 more steps from the stepping stones, please hike
To come upon a sight that geologists might like.
Stop here and look left at the cliff way up high.
Rocks layered with history reach to the sky.

Through the trees, glimpse shale of the Bedford Formation,
Made in shallow seas with periods of oxygen deprivation.

Elbow of the Creek
Continue 25 steps to a small path branching right.
Follow it to the bench, have a seat—what a beautiful sight!
An example of erosion making a transformation,
Notice how the flowing creek bends at this location.

Erosion is when a surface over time is worn away.
Moving water causes its structure to slowly decay.
Over the years, the force of water carved out the bank.
Soil and rocks floated away and later sank.

Up the Hill
Head back to the main trail and then right you must go.
At the wood steps, look left at the vernal pool below.
See small streambeds where rain flows down the hillside?
Further along to your right, moisture-loving hemlocks reside.

This is the hard part! Huff and puff as you climb uphill.
Eventually, a white fence you'll see; we promise you will!
Rest on the bench near the top, if you need a break.
Listen for the sounds of water. Do your muscles ache?

Inn at Brandywine Falls
Once you arrive at the fence, be sure to slow down.
Imagine how this area was once a bustling town.
House and barn were owned by James Wallace in the past.
It's now lodging for visitors, a bed and breakfast.