

STARTING POINT IS ROSELAND COTTAGE:

Turn right at the gate and proceed south along the side walk to:

1. Deacon Robert Dorrance House, 550 Route 169

c. 1820

Hip roof, center hall federal style

Purchased 1867/8 by Henry Chandler Bowen who moved it from what is now the south lawn of Roseland Cottage to present location on the Dexter lot

Alice Bowen (HCB daughter) & Rufus Richardson house late 19th century



Deacon Robert Dorrance House

Dexter Lot

North of the house, perhaps including all or part of the Roseland Cottage south lawn

Owned by Samuel Dexter (1726-1810)

Boston merchant, member of Mass Provincial Congress, lived in Dedham

Retired to Woodstock in 1775

Very involved in the provincial affairs with Sam Adams, James Warren, John Hancock

His will stated he was to be buried in Woodstock on the lot he still owned opposite the church in the mathematical center of the lot with no marker or record of the location:

“Nor let any stone tell where I lie, no dwelling to be built on the property”

2. John Bartholomew House, 540 Route 169

Pre-1800, altered c. 1820

Two story Federal style with center hall

Frieze with shallow triglyphs

Believed to have been smaller with center chimney

Enlarged c. 1820 to Federal style

Dr. Ephraim Carroll (purchased 1797) and son Dr. Amasa Carroll (early 1800s)

Amasa: described as very cheerful: “if his pills did not cure you his smile would”

Asked for brimstone, Amasa recommended Rev. Eliphalet Lyman who he said had an abundance of brimstone

Greene Tavern 1820-1834 & store



The Old Post Office c. 1940 – 41

Town post office until 1962



3. Joseph Lyman House, 534 Route 169

c. 1840

Center hall Federal style

Son of Eliphalet Lyman (minister for 46 years)

Built on the site of Eliphalet Lyman house, destroyed by fire after 1830, his house had a gambrel roof, only one on Hill

Rev. Lyman, minister of the First Congregational Church for forty-six years.

He was described as “...a man of dour countenance” - no one could remember him smiling
He was invited to attend all funerals (and none of the weddings) because he excelled at “mortuary occasions”

Responsible for establishing Academy

Tutored the young men of town to prepare for admission to college, Yale, Harvard



4. Gardener's Cottage

c. 1890

True Victorian Style: porch, turned columns and decorative scroll brackets

Owned by Gardner Richardson (HCB grandson, son of daughter Alice Bowen Richardson)

Referred to as Gardener's Cottage but not known whether this was a house built by Henry Bowen for his gardeners or whether the name refers to Gardner Richardson



5. John Knapping House, 512 Route 169

c. 1806

Two story, center hall Federal style, fanlight doorway, denticulated cornice, scrolled moldings

Originally smaller, it also housed a small hat shop in the early 1800s

Home of Dr. Amos Carroll in the mid 1800s

A man of many jokes, it was said “...if his pills did not cure you, his smiles would”

Home of Mr. and Mrs. George Holt, great grandson of HCB, son of Hamilton Holt



6. First Academy Building

c. 1801

Originally a two-story structure with classrooms on each side for boys and girls, separated by a wide center hall

It had a bell tower and a two-story pedimented entrance

Rev. Eliphalet Lyman and Squire John McClellan largely responsible for its establishment
1799, CT Act gave towns the right to establish secondary schools with aid from a School Fund

Lyman rode on horseback throughout the town eliciting subscriptions to pay for construction and operation of the school



1872 sold to Chandler family

1873 it was moved from its place at the north end of the Common to its present location to make room for the new Academy building constructed by Henry Bowen

At that time the bell tower and entranceway were removed. The belfry became the steeple of the Baptist Church.

Taken off its foundation, it was put on logs and pulled by four team of oxen down the hill to its present location. The ends of the logs are still visible in the new foundation.

7 Plaine Hill, Plaine Hill Road

c. 1816

Built by William Bowen (grandfather of HCB, owner of Asa Bishop Tavern)

William Bowen - Col. Matthew Bowen - Andrew William Bowen - Henry Chandler Bowen- Herbert W. Bowen - Gardner Richardson - Inn at Woodstock Hill
William Bowen: Selectman, a founder of Woodstock Academy, tavern keeper, merchant, 1st postmaster

Built house on land that was his grandfather's from the first division of land in the settlement of Woodstock in 1686

Working farm until 1920

HCB remodeled in 1870s

Remodeled 1929 by Herbert Bowen's wife

Restored and remodeled since 1986 as In

Hip roof, Federal style interiors, retaining mixture of original material, Victorian material
Carriage barn, cow barn and milking barn joined to the house to form continuous structure



Main dwelling house at Plaine Hill

8 Governor Nicholas Cooke House, Route 169, east, burned

Seafarer, maritime merchant in Providence, manufacturer; Deputy Governor and then Governor, 1775-1778, of Rhode Island

Captured on canvas by John Greenwood, 1752-1758, in Sea Captains Carousing in Surinam



9 Casa de Campo, 493 Route 169

c. 1906

Arthur Sherburne Hardy

Colonial Revival built by HCB's daughter Grace Aspinwall Bowen & A. S. Hardy

He was an educator (Dartmouth math chair), novelist, diplomat (US Minister to Persia, Greece, Switzerland, Spain)

Chairman of the Board of Woodstock Academy

Interior: hall woodwork - Constantinople; columns - Madrid; DR mantle - Spanish monastery

Shingled exterior, hip roof with dormers and Chippendale style balusters

10 Dr. Daniel Lyman House, 515 Route 169

c. 1816

Center hall Federal style

Built by Daniel Lyman, son of Eliphalet Lyman (Hill minister 1779-1824)

Daniel Lyman (1784-1878), 40 years Woodstock physician

Known for saying: "A little learning is a dangerous thing"

1905 - house moved and reoriented and remodeled to accommodate Casa de Campo by Frederick Hinrichs, New York lawyer active in fighting Tammany Hall

After WWII, home to Dr. David Bates, another Woodstock physician



Dr. Daniel Lyman House

11 Palmer Hall Memorial, 523 Route 169

c. 1916

Colonial Revival meeting hall

Built by Mrs. Minnie Palmer Dean for her grandfather & father

1935 – an addition housed the town volunteer FD

1958 – the building served as the town hall until 1990

1990 to present – the home of the Woodstock Historical Society



Palmer Memorial Hall

12 Danforth Lyon House, 531 Route 169

c. 1821

Center hall, five ranked, Federal style with center bay flanked by pilasters and corner pilasters

Exterior cornices and dentil moldings (nearly identical to Woodstock's Church that was built by Truesdell), scrolled brackets, and a decorative frieze

Lived in by Dr. Lorenzo Marcy, physician for 58 years (Woodstock 1859- 73): "We must change the secretions"

Timber from 2nd meeting house built the barn, then used on Post Office floor

Extensively renovated 1937/8

Land once part of Common



13 Hill Church Parsonage, 539 Route 169

c. 1858

Greek Revival, with side entry, broad gable end and corner pilasters with capitals

In 1865 it was the home of James J. Sawyer, the artist who painted the Woodstock landscape and the portraits in Roseland Cottage.



Hill Church Parsonage

14 First Congregational Church of Woodstock

c. 1821

Modeled after the church on Killingly Hill, East Putnam and based on classical Greek architecture



First Congregational Church of Woodstock

This is the third of Woodstock's meeting houses:

1686 – a simple shelter on what is now the McClellan property

1689 – first meeting house constructed at the end of the Common opposite the present church

1721 – second meeting house constructed on the current site

1821 – third and present meeting house constructed

1889 – interior largely remodeled in the Victorian style with six elaborate stained glass windows, one donated by Henry Chandler Bowen

1965 – interior remodeled in the Colonial Revival style. The original dentil molding and wainscoting was discovered and restored.

Five of the six stained glass windows were removed at this time. Only the John Eliot window remains. It was given by Oliver Wendell Holmes in memory of his family and his grandfather who was one of the original settlers of Woodstock.

15 Hill Church Burial Ground, Hill Cemetery Road

c. 1686

Oldest cemetery in Windham County

Oldest gravestone in Windham County - Edward Morris 1689

Considered one of the finest early burial grounds in CT

Many of Woodstock's prominent early citizens are buried here.

The cemetery also contains the graves of many Revolutionary War soldiers.

Contains many early stones, variety of styles including headstone/footstone sets

Henry Chandler Bowen, his wife Ellen Holt Bowen and many of his children are buried here.

16 George W. Partridge House, 31 Hill Cemetery Road

c. 1810

Federal style

Hip roof with raised center monitor

This house served as a school for girls in the latter half of 19th century and was run by Miss Emily Bowen, cousin of Henry Bowen.

Henry Bowen's daughter, Alice, attended her school. Evidentially she was not happy there. One winter day she wrote "Bowen's prison" in the snow in front of the house



George W. Partridge House

1910 Harriet Sampson Pitt resided here. She was one of the first women to serve in the Connecticut legislature. Among her accomplishments are two books of Woodstock history.

17 Woodstock Academy Building, 47 Hill Cemetery Road

c. 1873

Italianate style: brackets supporting overhang roof, clock tower, central windows and specific palette of colors

Tan with maroon trim

Classrooms and smaller rooms for trustees, scientific apparatus, etc. on 1st & 2nd floor

10 bedrooms for student boarders on 3rd floor

Central projection with clock tower contained a 300 seat performance hall



In 1873, Henry C. Bowen built this building to replace the original c. 1801 Academy building. The earlier structure was moved on rollers (whole trees) drawn by teams of oxen to the lower end of the Green. Today it is a private residence located just north of the Inn at Woodstock Hill. One can still see the ends of the trees that served as the rollers in the foundation.

Woodstock Academy was founded in 1801. It has served as a school for higher education in Woodstock since that time. Today, the Academy serves grades 9 - 12 students from Woodstock and five surrounding towns. It is still a private academy but serves as the regional college preparatory high school. The towns pay tuition for their students.

The current campus contains four buildings in addition to the 1873 Academy Building.

1924 Bracken Library, Tudor Revival

1957 (Holt) & 1966 (Bowen) Scientific wings

1928 Hall Memorial Building - originally gym, now library

1990 Elizabeth Hyde Arts Center

18 Asa Bishop Tavern, Academy Road

c. 1782, 1829

1782 original center chimney clapboard house and tavern - known as Bishop's Tavern

1800 hip-roofed ell added, clapboard, includes an arched ceiling ballroom on second floor, clapboard carriage house

1829 brick wing - general store

1782 town gave land to Asa Bishop for a public house of entertainment

1797 sold to William Bowen (Henry Bowen's grandfather), remained in Bowen family until 1955



1798 again a public house of entertainment, with merchant's store, cooper's shop, tailor's shop & slaughter house (1797 sale description)
 1811 William Bowen appointed town postmaster
 1813 Birthplace of Henry Chandler Bowen
 1820 town whipping post and stocks removed
 1921 - 1955 Hamilton Holt (grandson of Henry Bowen)

1783 Asa Bishop
 1784 Elijah Williams
 1797 John Williams / William Bowen
 1802 William Bowen
 1825 George Bowen
 1840 Edward Bowen
 1873 George Bowen
 1910 C. Electa Bowen
 1921 Hamilton Holt

☞ Head back towards the main road, cross the road for --

19 Squire John McClellan House, 582 Route 169

c. 1790, largely rebuilt 1831

Duplicate of house built for Squire John McClellan c. 1790

Federal style, two story center hall with two story ell and woodshed

Largest complete collection of farm buildings on Woodstock Hill

Descended in McClellan family to today



Squire John McClellan House

Squire John McClellan

Lawyer (law office used by 2 generations, now in Sturbridge Village)

Son of Gen'l Samuel McClellan, married Faith Williams, daughter of William Williams, signer of Dec of Ind

Leader in community, selectman, state constitutional congress, Federalist party, general assembly, with Eliphalet Lyman, helped found Academy

Yale graduate (oldest living graduate at time of death- 91 in 1858)

*Quaint Squire McClellan! Cheery still
 While ninety years had gone,
 His checker-board I sometimes shared
 As the cool eves came on;
 But though his men were fighting well,
 His kings in goodly row,
 When the tall clock rang out for nine*

*In measured strokes and slow
He's shut the board with "Nine o'clock!"
(The game I might have won in)
Time honest folks should be abed
And rascal-rogues a runnin*