“Memorials are valuable because: first, they take us into the past and show us why we should be grateful; second, they inspire us to emulate the examples memorialized; and third, they beckon us into the future.”

George Walter Hinckley, 1939

Explore the story of the monuments of Good Will-Hinckley, an everlasting archive in stone and bronze carefully planned and laid out between the years of 1912 until 1940. Each monument holds a story memorializing natural life, history, and early benefactors.

“Oh, Fair trails,
I’ll stroll beneath the shadows of thy leaf-laden arms and the joys of the woods shall be mine.”

Good Will Trail Song

Map Legend

D= Dartmouth Trail
(Green and White Blazes)

B= Bowdoin Trail
(Black and White Blazes)

C= Continental Trail
(Yellow and White Blazes)

H= Hennigar Trail
(Red and White Blazes)

W= White Connecting Trails
(White Blazes)

= Historic Stone Monuments

TRAIL SAFETY TIPS

Follow the marked trails with blazes and stay on the trails

No bikes on the walking trails

No alcoholic beverages

No fires or smoking

Children must be accompanied by an adult

Dogs should be leashed

No camping

No motorized vehicles

Please be respectful of the cottage lawns; students and staff live there!

Trailhead begins behind the museum

Thank you for keeping our trails beautiful!
1. Seton Fireplace and the Black Wolf Seat: Ernest Thompson Seton, the “Black Wolf” and Chief Scout of the Boy Scouts of America arrived at Good Will July 31, 1912. He built a round fireplace in a little natural amphitheater and a seat for himself of loose stone to sit in with dignity, overseeing all fireplace ceremonies which included the “Caribou Dance”. This was the origin of the campus tradition of a Seton Fireplace ceremony to mark the beginning of school year. In the following spring the seat had fallen down, so it was rebuilt by professional stone mason, George Nichols in 1915.

2. Roosevelt Monument: This monument was built in 1921 in honor of Theodore Roosevelt, conservator of natural resources and devoted naturalist. The stone in the middle was selected by Edith Roosevelt from the Roosevelt estate on Long Island, NY.

3. Dartmouth Trail Entrance: In 1915 the field stone entrance to the Dartmouth Trail was built with funds from the Outing Club of Dartmouth.

4. Murray Tablets: This monument is dedicated to one of George Hinckley’s personal heroes, Adirondack Murray, “Father of the Outdoor Movement”, author and religious figure. Hinckley himself selected the monument’s stones and M.L. Wagner did the actual mason work. The monument, dedicated in 1920, is meant to look like an early pulpit and is placed on a high point of land. On June 20, 1963, 26 families met here for a solar eclipse and formed the Family Motor Coach Homes Association (FMCA).

5. Granite House: Charles D. Hubbard prepared plans for a stone and log cabin to be known as the “Granite House”, for the exhibition of Maine granites. He and Mr. Hinckley went around the state to gather specimens from many counties and to secure oil sketches or paintings of quarries to adorn the walls. Granite house was built in the center of the “Garden of Rocks”, outdoor gardens for igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks.

6. Bird Sanctuary: Built in 1932, when there were flower gardens in the area, the sanctuary included bronze tablets that contained quotations about birds written by well known authors. At times bird feeders were placed in the sanctuary and a nearby spring provided water for the birds.

7. Sunrise Trail Entrance: In 1928, Sunrise Entrance to the Continental Trail was built including stones gathered from Death Valley, Mount Mitchell and Mount Katahdin.

8. Sunrise Trail Entrance: Built by James Tuttle in 1930, the Sunrise Entrance to the Continental Trail included bronze plaques inscribed with passages from literature about flowers. There were many stones from historic points east of the Mississippi gathered by Good Will boys and girls including stones from the Concord battle field, Walden Pond, Lake George (NY), and the home of Ralph Waldo Emerson.

9. Sunrise Fireplace: Sunrise Fireplace was built in 1933, with memorials devoted to passages from literature describing four-footed animals. The plaques also honored benefactors like George Henry Quincy and William L. Bidwell.

10. Tenterden Tablets: After G.W. Hinckley and his wife Harriet visited Tenterden, England in 1914, the tablet memorial was dedicated in October 1916 to honor Hinckley genealogy. To see the slate plaques, visit the L.C. Bates Museum during visiting hours.


12. Bowdoin Circle: The stone walls of Bowdoin Circle in back of the Page Terrace cottages were built in 1929. They contained 12 bronze memorial plaques inscribed with passages from literature about the beauty of trees.

The Maine Academy of Natural Sciences (MEANS), Glen Stratton Learning Center (GSLC), the College Step Up program and the L.C. Bates Museum.