



Welcome to the *Manjiro Trail*

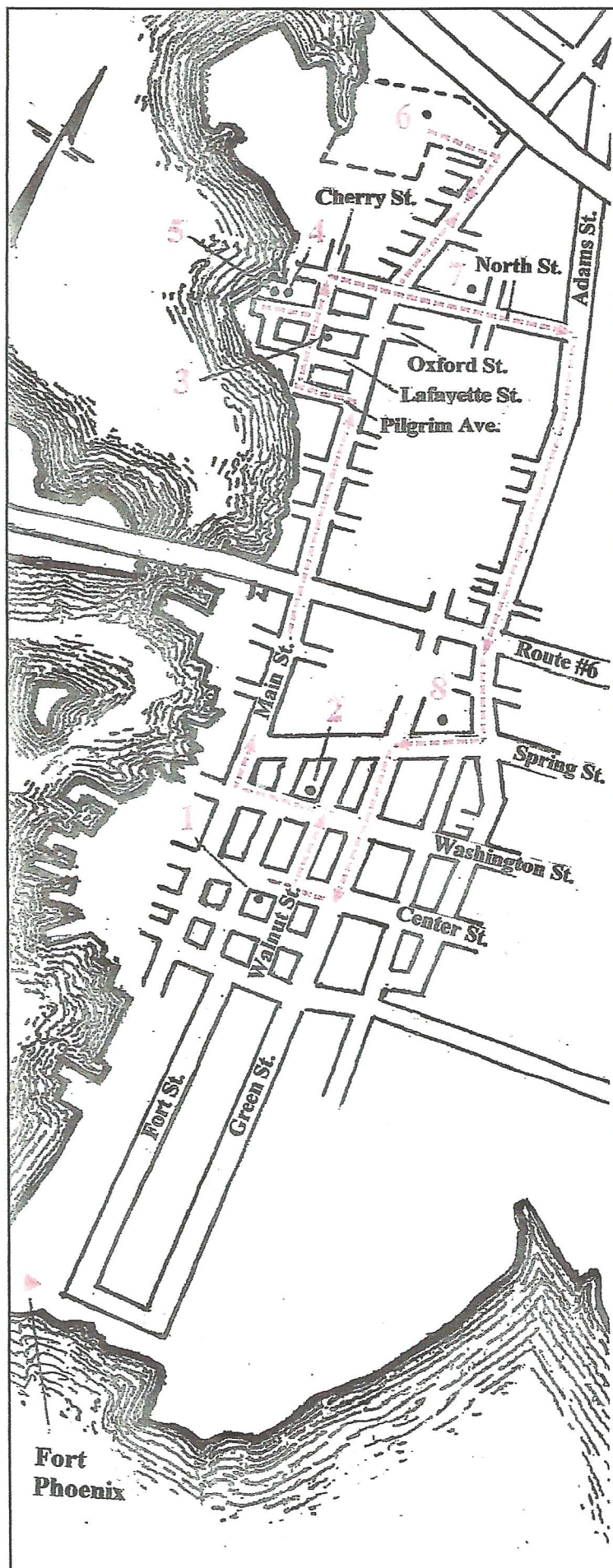
In 1841 a 14-year old Japanese boy went to sea to fish with four friends. Their boat crashed on an island in a raging storm. Months later the "John Howland" whaling ship from New Bedford rescued them. Due to the "closed door" policy of Japan at that time, the Captain of the ship, William Whitfield, was not allowed to take the men back to Japan. He left the oldest four in Hawaii but the youngest, Manjiro, accepted the Captain's offer to return to the USA with the ship in order to acquire some education.

Thus, Manjiro (Nakahama) became the first Japanese person to live in the USA. In the following years the young foreigner became well known to the townspeople as Captain Whitfield treated him like a son. He went to his first school ever (the Old Stone School) after being tutored by Miss Allen, a local teacher and neighbor of the captain. He later learned higher level math, navigation and surveying at the Bartlett School. After returning to Japan Manjiro was instrumental in bringing the country into the modern world after its long isolation.

Herein we urge you to visit those local sites which were pertinent to his life in this area. It was here that the strong ties between Japan and the USA were initiated.

So now we invite you to:

"Walk in the footsteps of Manjiro"



1. Millicent Library

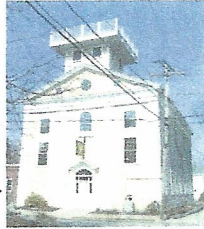
(45 Center Street)– Fairhaven's beautiful library was the long-time meeting-place for the Fairhaven/New Bedford-Tosashimizu Sister City Committee. Historical exhibits related to Manjiro's life in the USA, as well as a signature by then-Crown Prince Akihito in the library's guestbook, are housed here.



Directions: Drive one block north on Walnut St., turn left onto Washington St., park on right near the corner.

2. Former Unitarian Church

(34 Washington Street) This church was attended by Captain Whitfield's family and Manjiro. It is now the Northeast Maritime Institute—a world-famous school of maritime education. A monument commemorating the Manjiro-Whitfield friendship is located in front of the renovated building.



Directions: Drive straight 2 blocks and turn right onto Main St. Follow Main St. across route 6, turn left onto Pilgrim Ave., follow it to the right onto Cherry St. Stop after Lafayette St.

3. Captain Whitfield's House

(11 Cherry Street) – Captain William Whitfield's family welcomed him to their home, making the young Manjiro the first Japanese ever to live in the USA, and creating a strong bond of friendship between the people of Japan and the USA that endures today.



Directions: Walk north to Oxford St., turn left and follow to number 14 on your right.

4. Eben Akin's House **

(14 Oxford Street) – Shortly after their return to Fairhaven in 1843, Captain Whitfield went to New York to bring home his new bride, Albertina. During that time Manjiro boarded with Ebenezer Akin's family around the corner from the house on Cherry Street.



Directions: Walk farther along Oxford St. to #10 on your right.

**** Private home. Not open to the public.**

5. The Allen Sisters' House **

(10 Oxford Street) –The young Manjiro was privately tutored in English in this home of Miss Jane Allen and her sister Charity.



Lessons were often presented in the lower level kitchen where Manjiro reportedly also acquired a taste for home-made cookies.

Directions: Return to your car. Drive straight crossing Oxford St. and turn right onto North Street. Turn left onto Main St. and follow to Riverside Cemetery on your left; follow signs.

6. Whitfields' Gravesite

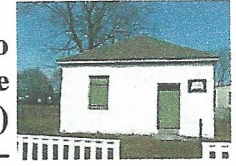
(274 Main Street) – The final resting place for Captain William Whitfield and his family. Fairhaven's Riverside Cemetery is a beautifully landscaped burial ground. Many visitors from Japan have visited here and paid their respects to Manjiro's benefactor.



Directions: Exit cemetery to the right onto Main St. Follow short distance, turn left onto North St. School is on the left.

7. The Old Stone School

(40 North Street) – Manjiro learned “The Three R's” (reading, (w)riting and (a)rithmetic) in this classic one-room neighborhood schoolhouse along with the other local children in Fairhaven. He was a very diligent and industrious student there.



Directions: Follow North St. straight and turn right onto Adams St. Cross route #6, go straight to right turn onto Spring St. Stop in front of number 42-44 on your right.

8. The Lewis Bartlett School **

(42-44 Spring Street) – Some of the knowledge Manjiro brought back to Japan included navigation, surveying and advanced mathematics, which he learned at this private academy.



To return to start: Drive straight to left turn onto Green St., right turn onto Center St., straight to Millicent Library

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Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society, Inc.

11 Cherry Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719

www.Whitfield-Manjiro.org