

Admonition

Remove not these landmarks,
these signs that point the way!
Our past can show us
where we ought to go today.

What is a landmark?
A broken bough, marking a trail?
A pile of stones, a holy grail?
A beacon in a park?

A lighthouse on a point?
A school, a church, a golden dome,
A chair, a bench, a lonely home?
A pepperidge tree with a joint?

A bluff on the Palisades,
Across the Hudson, a tower?
Beneath the rock, a bower,
A campanile in the glades?

A Stonehenge, a Mystery Hill,
An old courthouse, a carved rock-face?
To a landmark on an ancient place,
Or a site where people are still?

Remove not these landmarks, I say,
When they are gone,
how will man find his way?

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