The Concord Museum is a gateway to historic Concord’s revolutionary and literary past. Highlights include the 1775 Revere lantern, Daniel Chester French’s iconic sculptures of the Concord Minute Man and Abraham Lincoln, Ralph Waldo Emerson’s Study, and Henry Thoreau’s famed Walden desk.

Open daily year round www.concordmuseum.org

Rooms with a Past, a Trail Guide created by the Concord Museum for the 2014 exhibition, Behind Closed Doors: Asleep in New England, provides a gateway for exploring Concord’s historic sites and resources.
#4 The Old Manse • 269 Monument Street

Built in 1770 for Patriot minister William Emerson, The Old Manse became the center of Concord's political, literary, and social revolutions over the course of the next century. Nathaniel Hawthorne and his wife, Sophia, started their married life here, and you can still see the poems they wrote to each other, etched on the Manse's second-floor bedroom window panes. The heirloom vegetable garden, which has been recreated today, was originally planted by Henry David Thoreau in honor of the Hawthornes' wedding. For more about hours and programs, call 978.369.3909 or visit www.thetrustees.org.

#5 Sleepy Hollow Cemetery • Bedford Street

In 1855, the Town bought 25 acres of farmland and consecrated it as Sleepy Hollow Cemetery in a dedication ceremony that featured Ralph Waldo Emerson, a member of the Cemetery Committee, as the orator. He was followed by William Ellery Channing reading his poem, “Sleepy Hollow,” whose “fair pale asters of the season spread their plumes around this field, fit garden for our tombs.” Sleepy Hollow was one of the first cemeteries in the United States to be designed to have an informal, wooded character. The cemetery is open daily sunrise to sunset. Visit www.friendsofsleepyhollow.org for more information.

#6 Thoreau Farm • 341 Virginia Road

Birthplace of Henry David Thoreau

Henry David Thoreau slept here as an infant, born on his grandmother’s farm in 1817. Of all the 19th-century literary luminaries associated with Concord, Thoreau was the only one actually born in the town. The house has recently been restored and opened to the public for tours. The room where Thoreau was born is also available as an inspiring retreat space where writers can pen their own masterpieces. For more information, contact Thoreau Farm at 978.451.0300 or www.thoreaufarm.org.

#7 Louisa May Alcott’s Orchard House

399 Lexington Road

Visitors enjoy seeing the unique, half-moon desk where Louisa May Alcott penned her most famous novel, *Little Women*, in the second-floor bedchamber she shared with her older sister, Anna. Around the corner is the bedroom of Louisa’s artistic sister, May Alcott, whose beautiful pen-and-ink drawings decorate the walls, doors, and window casings. Louisa May Alcott’s Orchard House is open year-round; for information on hours and programming, call 978.369.4118 or visit www.louisamayalcott.org.

“What pains we take with our beds, robbing the nests of birds & their breasts—this shelter within a shelter...”

Henry D. Thoreau, Journal, 1846