

Mineral County Heritage Trail



Heritage: valued objects and qualities such as cultural traditions, unspoiled countryside, and historic buildings that have been passed down from previous generations

Introduction

Welcome to Wild & Wonderful West Virginia! Take a ride, back through history in beautiful Mineral County. Enjoy picturesque countryside along the way to historically valuable locations and buildings that have endured hundreds of years.

Add some adventure to your drive during the Mineral County Heritage Trail weekend scheduled in the fall to appreciate the seasonal foliage. Grab a passport and check in at the five featured locations. They will be open Saturday and Sunday for visitors to step inside, view historic artifacts, and hear captivating stories! Collect your passport stickers at these locations, and when you receive your fifth and final sticker – you will be rewarded with a unique West Virginia gift!

The Heritage Trail can be driven any day of the year on your own; however, some buildings may not be open. Combine this with other activities in Mineral County and...leave the crowds behind.

Plan your Visit:

GOVISITMINERALWV.COM

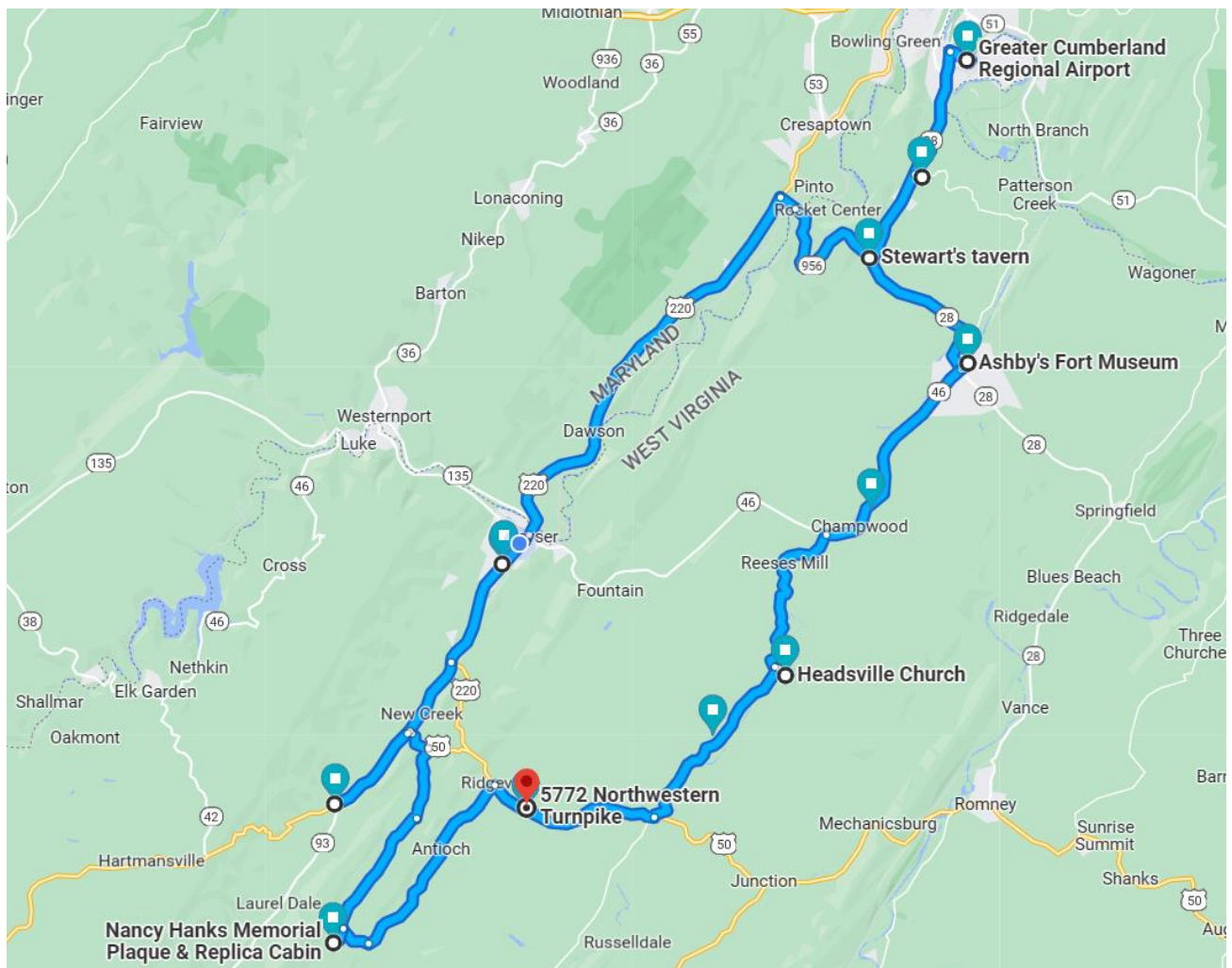
<https://www.facebook.com/MineralCountyTourism>

***Welcome Center, 167 S. Mineral Street, Keyser, WV 26726
(304)790-7081; MineralCoCVB@gmail.com***

Heritage Trail Map

The destinations have been arranged into a round trip as much as possible. Each location has an address, intersection or reference in order to find the site via your mapping preference.

Driving the entire trail takes about two and half hours, not including stops along the way.



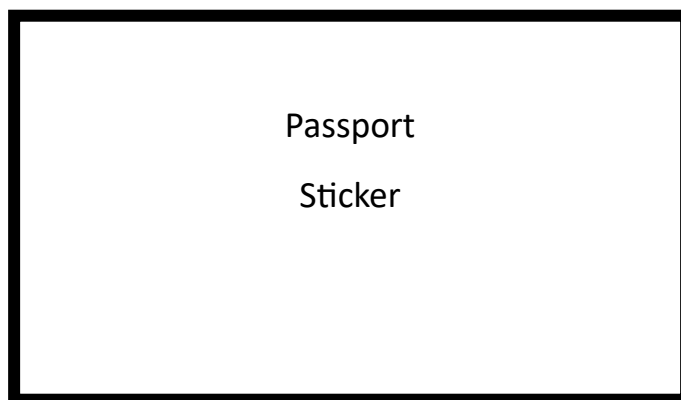
Traveller's Rest (Stone House)

5772 Northwestern Turnpike, Burlington

In 1827, Virginia commissioned the Northwestern Turnpike to be constructed, connecting Winchester, Virginia and Parkersburg, Virginia (now West Virginia) with toll gates located every 20 miles.

In 1928, the initial section of Traveller's Rest was built. It was built as a stagecoach stop to service the Northwestern Turnpike. The stone used was hauled by mule-drawn wagon 2 ½ miles from Knobley Mountain. Traveller's Rest originally sat on 50 acres of land providing space for herds of livestock to be pastured as they were being moved along the Turnpike which was used as a stage route until 1915.

The Twin Mountain and Potomac (TM&P) Railroad was built in 1911 to haul fruit from Twin Mountain Orchards to Keyser, West Virginia. Check out the TM&P Railroad exhibit located on the second floor of Traveller's Rest. The TM&P Train Station located in Burlington, West Virginia still stands and is currently the local branch of the Mineral County Library.



Nancy Hanks Cabin

Nancy Hanks Memorial, Nancy Hanks Drive, New Creek



Nancy Hanks, Abraham Lincoln's mother, was born on February 5, 1784. At the time of her birth, her grandparents and their children were living on 108 acres near Patterson Creek – which was at that time Hampshire County, Virginia. She married Thomas Lincoln of Rockingham County, Virginia in 1806. They had three children, one of which died in infancy. She died on October 5, 1818. Lincoln said of his mother, "All that I am, or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother."

In 1933, the Nancy Hanks Commission established a memorial near the site of her birth and erected a small rock monument with a bronze tablet claiming that Nancy was born in 1782 -- one of many discrepancies in her murky past. However, the birth site itself seems well established. The cabin, which dates back to the 1970s, is a replica of the cabin where Hanks was born. It was previously located on Patterson Creek Road before it was dismantled and moved to its current location, opposite her memorial.

Claysville Church

Intersection of Route 50 & Route 93



In 1849, the citizens of Claysville, West Virginia were determined to establish a church. The ground was donated jointly by Reuben Davis and John Liller at a place where their properties joined. Daniel Hendrickson organized the first congregation of more than fifty members and a year later, the Claysville Church was built. It is the oldest frame church building in Mineral County. Even though it was extensively renovated around 1926, it has remained basically the same.

The Claysville Church has significant historic ties to the Civil War. During the war, it served both the Union and Confederate. The church opened its doors to all people whether they were Northern or Southern sympathizers. Troops would post sentries outside while the rest of the soldiers worshipped. When confronted about which side he was for, a minister replied, "I work for the good Lord and I go as far north as my charge goes, and I go as far south as it goes." This evidently satisfied the soldiers.

Carskadon Mansion

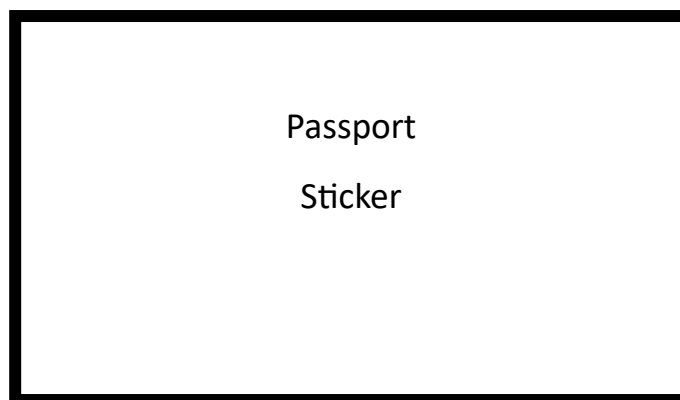
600 Carskadon Road, Keyser

(There is a Road and a Lane.)

This historic home, constructed circa 1866, is located on Radical Hill in Keyser, West Virginia. When the mansion was built, it was a grand structure. This three-story, eight-bedroom home features iconic architecture unique to the era in which it was built including wide center halls, grand fire places in almost every room, and a long staircase. It stood on approximately 600 acres of land. It is the former residence of Thomas R. Carskadon, an influential Mineral County farmer and political leader. Carskadon holds many patents and wrote articles that gained great attention in agricultural circles throughout the United States.

Also on the property are ruins of a brick dairy, the cement foundations of a silo, and the stone foundations of another outbuilding. (Carskadon built the first silo in the eastern United States.)

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2002.

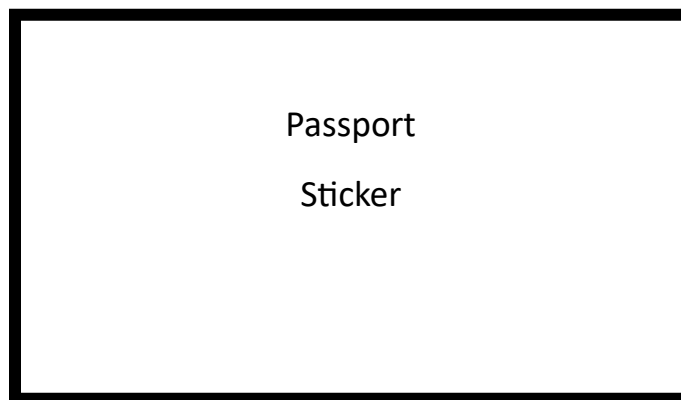


Mineral County Historical Society Museum
253 Carskadon Lane, Keyser
(There is a Road and a Lane.)

The museum features local items dating back many years.

Some of the most treasured items are:

- Complete uniform and personal military pack of Oliver Frederick Liller, who served in WWI.
- The Funeral Corner which includes a funeral receiving basket, funeral home memorabilia, portable embalming table and a typical mourning dress.
- Early 1940's Boy Scout uniform, and other items, belonging to Marion Dorsey.
- A display of Leslie Thrasher who was born in Piedmont in 1889 and is known for his illustrations that rivaled Norman Rockwell's.



Restaurants in Keyser, WV



Restaurant	Saturday Hours	Sunday Hours
Castiglia's (Carry out only)	11:00am - 9:00pm	Noon - 9:00pm
Clancy's Irish Pub	11:00am - 10:00pm	Noon - 9:00pm
Double B's Bar & Grill	8:00am - 9:00pm	10:00am - 8:00pm
Fat Bottom Grille	11:00am - 9:00pm	Closed
Jim's Asian Cuisine II	10:30am - 10:00pm	11:30 am- 9:00pm
Long Spring	11:00am - 9:30pm	11:30am - 9:30pm
North Branch Craft Pub	4:00pm - 9:00pm	Closed
Orioles Club	7:00am - 2:00am	7:00am - 11:00pm
Putra's Hibachi Grill	11:30am - 9:00pm	Noon - 8:00pm
Queen's Point Coffee	8:00 am - 3:00pm	8:00am - 1:00pm
The Candlewyck Inn	11:00am - 10:00pm	10:00am - 5:00pm
The Dairy Barn	3:00pm - 9:30pm	3:00pm - 9:00pm
Third Base	11:30am - 10:30pm	Closed
Wayne's Country Fresh Meats	9:00am - 6:00pm	Closed

Places to Stay Mineral County

Keyser Inn



Make yourself at home in one of the 44 air-conditioned rooms featuring refrigerators and microwaves. Flatscreen televisions with cable programming provide entertainment, while complimentary wireless Internet access keeps you connected. Private bathrooms have deep soaking bathtubs and complimentary toiletries. Complimentary continental breakfast is included.

SureStay Plus Hotel



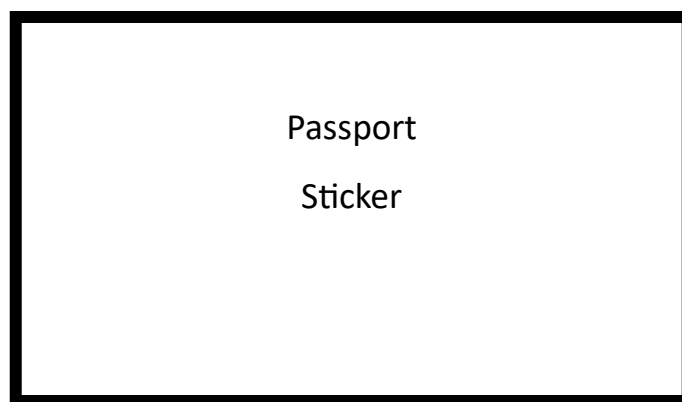
Consider a stay in the mountains!! Relax in one of the 61 rooms at SureStay Hotel by Best Western which offers comforts such as laptop friendly workspaces, air conditioning, hypo-allergenic bedding, pillowtop mattresses, sofa beds, deep soaking tubs, 40-inch flat screen TVs with premium channels as well as wardrobes/closets, refrigerators, and microwaves. Stay connected with free in-room WiFi. Other amenities include a business center, meeting rooms, barbeque grills, free self-serve breakfast, laundry facilities, and a gym.

Stewart's Tavern 44 Knoblely Road, Ridgeley

John Stewart's Tavern is one of the oldest buildings in Mineral County. The historic log cabin has been an inn, a stagecoach stop, a tavern, a personal residence – and is now a museum. Mr. Stewart operated the tavern until his death in 1835. He was never the tavern proprietor. This 2 ½ story building was built in the latter part of the 18th century (between 1790 and 1797) with hand-hewn chestnut logs having steeple notching. It was moved approximately 60 feet from its original location.

The last private owner of Stewart's Tavern was in the process of relocating the log cabin when the principal of Short Gap Elementary learned of his plan. At a subsequent public meeting, more than 100 residents attended deciding to save the building.

The preservation, restoration, and maintenance of Stewart's Tavern and The Old Furnace are under the auspices of the Frankfort District Historical Society.



Passport

Sticker

The Old Furnace

189 Old Furnace Road, Short Gap



In the early 1840's, John Gamber of Pennsylvania invested \$16,000 in 200 acres of land. He had visions of making a fortune producing iron. The stone furnace, a blast furnace, included a large steam boiler, a steam engine, and an on-site well located just to the left of the furnace. The fuel, limestone, and iron ore were fed into the top of the furnace and the resulting iron was removed from the bottom at the draw pit.

Gamber was not as successful as he had hoped; the iron furnace and 200 acres were auctioned off in 1850.

To this day, it remains one of the most well-constructed furnaces of its kind and the only iron furnace in Mineral County.

**Greater Cumberland Regional Airport
165 Terminal Loop, Wiley Ford
(Open 7 days a week from 8am to 8pm)**



The Gohongaronta (Shawnee name for the Potomac River) Gallery is located on the second floor of the terminal. The gallery contains a scaled (40%) replica of the Wright Brothers 1903 first powered flight aircraft that set the stage for aerial transportation and a 70-foot-long time line highlighting pertinent dates and events for the Potomac Highlands region. Stop by and learn about the history of Mineral County regarding aviation, automotive, and much more.



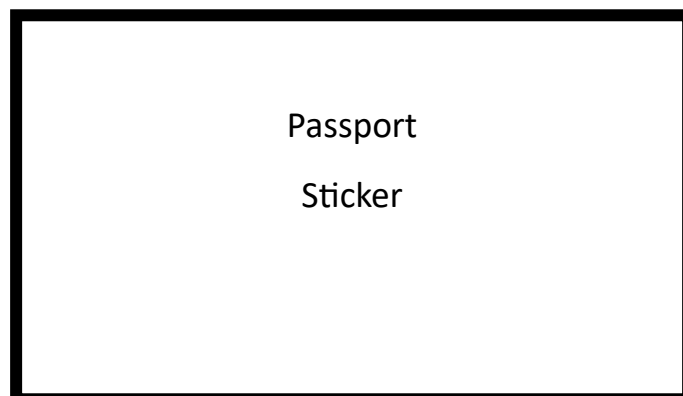
Also located at the airport is the Hummingbird Café. This unique, delicious restaurant appeals to both food and airplane lovers. Sit and eat your meal near a runway while watching planes come and go!

Ashby's Fort Museum
227 Dan's Run Road, Fort Ashby
(Friday/Saturday 10-4pm, Sunday 12-4pm)

Built on the site of the French and Indian War, the fort was commanded by Captain John Ashby. It is one of the first two forts ordered built by Colonel George Washington. The log building has been dated to the fall of 1783 through a tree ring dating process called Dendrochronology. The log building is one of the oldest in West Virginia.

Find out about:

- Washington's letter scolding Captain Ashby,
- How a young Daniel Morgan began his military career at the wrong end of a British Officer's whip,
- Why most Indian Tribes sided with the French and burned out or scalped nearly every settler between Cumberland, Maryland and Winchester, Virginia, and
- So much more!



Restaurants in Fort Ashby



Restaurant	Saturday	Sunday
Corner Bistro	7:00am- 8:00pm	7:00am - 3:00pm
Hummingbird Café	8:00am - 4:00pm	8:00am- 4:00pm
Little Bigs	11:00am - 10:00pm	1:00pm - 10:00pm
Route 28 Bar & Grill	Noon - 9:00pm	3:00pm - 7:00pm
Wilma's Diner	7:00am - 7:00pm	Closed

**Eusebia Church
Ed Oats Road near Sycamore Lane
(up dirt driveway)**



Eusebia Presbyterian Church is one of the two oldest worshipping congregations in Mineral County. The original building burned (deed from 1819). The current structure was patterned after the original church when it was constructed in 1891 at the cost of \$900. An active congregation worshipped in the one-room log structure, serving the local community from 1819 to 1947. It served as a barracks and hospital for both sides during the Civil War.

The church cemetery is the final resting place of the Reverend Malcolm Woodworth, Captain George Sheetz, and artist/illustrator J. Frank Holm.

Headsville Church/Headsville School 9 Ranch O Villa Glen Road, Keyser



The Headsville Church cemetery is the final resting place of Thomas Carskadon, of the Carskadon Mansion, and many of his relatives.



Tucked away in a corner at the Headsville Church is the Headsville School. This school is one of the oldest school buildings of which there is definite record. The one-acre lot was from James Carskadon by deed dated June 25, 1871. The building served until the school merged with Burlington in 1934.

Headsville Bridge Beaver Run Road before Headsville Church



This bridge off Beaver Run Road (CR-16) over Patterson Creek has been bypassed, but left in place. It is an outstanding and unaltered example of the typical designs of the Wrought Iron Bridge Company in the 1890s. It is one of four historic bridges still standing in Mineral County.

Larenim Park

1 Thespian Drive, Burlington



If you need to take a break from being in the car -- get out and move around at Larenim Park located on 373 acres where there is a playground, an arboretum, approximately five miles of trails and a flood control dam stocked by West Virginia Department of Natural Resources.

