

National Historic Register Listings along the Proposed Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail

Deering Hall (SG100005530) was the town hall for the town of Broadway in Rockingham County from around 1890, when constructed, until 1933, when the town leased it to the Broadway Motor Co. which then purchased it in 1940. The two-story building featured a first-floor commercial space and open second floor where town officials conducted government meetings. Its design and wood-frame construction conforms to other town halls erected elsewhere in Rockingham County and the Shenandoah Valley during the late 1800s and early 1900s. Built during a boom era made possible by the proliferation of railroads, the building stood at the center of Broadway between Main Street and the Baltimore & Ohio Railway. With easy access to the railroad behind the building for shipping and receiving goods and with a prominent facade fronting Main Street, the building housed a mercantile store originally on the first floor, where it sold fertilizer and William Deering & Co. farm goods and machinery, which likely explains how the building got its name. During its early decades, the second floor, in addition to providing space for town government, variously housed a public school, the Broadway Opera Company, a Masonic temple hall, a silent movie theater, and an auction hall. From 1940 to 1983 various owners used the building mostly for warehouse storage and, from 1983 until 2015, an automotive electric service occupied it.

Plains Mill (14000238), located along the North Fork of the Shenandoah River near Timberville, is a merchant mill that evolved to reflect changes in milling technology from its original construction between 1847 and 1849, through the 1950s. A boldly flowing spring that powered the mill's wheel first attracted millers to the site as early as the colonial period. Built by Dr. Solomon Henkel and his son, Siram, the timber-frame, five-story mill replaced an earlier mill. Many original features survive today including Dutch doors hung on decorative strap hinges and a massive husk frame that supported the gearing. In the early 20th century, the mill was converted to the roller milling process and it preserved a wealth of specialized equipment from the period at the time of its listing. Construction of terra-cotta block grain bins around 1923 and of cinder block and frame feed mill, machine shop, and warehouse additions and a separate office in the 1940s and 1950s round out the mill site's evolution.

The J.W.R. Moore House (05001275) is a notable rural example of the Italianate style in the Mount Jackson. The large, L-shaped, brick house was constructed in 1871 by John Warren Rice Moore, a member of a prominent valley family and a successful farmer and businessman, and his wife, Henrietta. It displays distinct characteristics of the Italianate style: tall, narrow windows with elaborate crowns; widely overhanging eaves with decorative brackets; and on the roof a large belvedere with a tall finial. The construction history of the house is unusually well documented. Several of the principal craftsmen who worked on it are identified in a newspaper article written at the time of construction: the contractor and architect was R. S. Jones; the mason, Thomas J. Burk; and the carpenter, Isaac Sheetz. Moore had served in the Confederate army during the Civil War, and he and his family operated a successful farm on the nearly 400-acre farm until 1882, when they sold it and moved out of the state. The house has been rehabilitated for use again as a single-family residence.

Edinburg Mill (79003084) The large gristmill on Stony Creek at the western end of the historic community of Edinburg is a relic of the region's early agricultural industry. The present structure was built ca. 1850 by George Grandstaff to support a mill complex developed by his father beginning in 1813. The mill was set afire during Union general Philip Sheridan's sweep of the Valley in 1865. Tradition has it, however, that the ladies of the town persuaded the Union officers to save the remaining flour supply. They and the Union soldiers then extinguished the flames, rescuing the mill and most of the contents. The machinery was modernized at the turn of the century, and milling operations continued until 1978. The mill has since been adapted for use as a restaurant.

Dr. Christian Hockman's house (84003593), conspicuously located on U. S. Route 11 north of Edinburg, is a rare example of the Italian Villa style in the lower Shenandoah Valley. The square tower is the style's signature feature. The mass-manufactured exterior and interior woodwork are illustrative of an important change in the region's building tradition. Supplanting ornaments made by hand, the machine-made components were sold through illustrated catalogs in major towns and cities and were distributed through rural areas by the ever-widening railroad network. The Hockman House was built in 1868-70 just as rail service was opened from Baltimore to nearby Edinburg. Dr. Hockman is listed in the 1885 atlas as a dentist living just north of Edinburg on the Valley Turnpike. The house stood unoccupied for several years but has since been restored and is now a bed and breakfast inn.

South of Toms Brook, an 1829 almshouse at the **Shenandoah County Farm (93001122)** was perhaps the last early county poorhouse built for that purpose to operate in the state. The farm was part of the colonial Beckford Parish Glebe, established in 1769 and acquired by the county during the disestablishment of the Anglican Church. The first almshouse was set up here in 1800 in the original glebe house. By 1829 its deteriorated condition required its replacement. In its place was constructed a two-story brick building that, with its low dormitory wings, was an example of local Federal-style architecture and featured finely detailed interior woodwork. The farm was the scene of a Union bivouac the night before the 1864 Civil War battle of Toms Brook. By 1991 the place housed only seven permanent residents. The almshouse was last administered by a non-profit organization under lease from the county, until the 1829 brick building was completely destroyed by fire in 2014. Today, a springhouse, meat house and barns are the only extant buildings once associated with the farm.

Toms Brook School (11000554), constructed in 1935-36, was designed by Luray architect James R. Mims in a Colonial Revival style. During the first half of the 1930s, the county undertook a construction campaign to replace older and damaged schoolhouses with new buildings; Toms Brook High School was the last one built under this program. The school's unusual design—the entry leads to an auditorium that occupies half of the floor space, with a corridor and classrooms lining the other half—and its fireproof construction make it an interesting variation on school architecture for the period. Mims also designed a cafeteria for the school that was completed in 1952.

Funkhouser Farm (SG100002533) Prominently situated along the Valley Pike north of Toms Brook, one of the first macadamized roads in the United States, and consisting of 223 acres, Funkhouser Farm in Shenandoah County was established in the late 1700s. The house was

constructed around 1790 and was home to four generations of the Funkhouser family, who owned the property between the 1830s and late 1960s. The farm, along with its evolved farmhouse and associated outbuildings, is representative of the continued and sustained growth of agriculture as a leading economic force in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley during the 19th century.

During the Civil War, the Funkhouser Farm witnessed passage of armies associated with three Shenandoah Valley campaigns: Confederate General Stonewall Jackson's 1862 Shenandoah Valley Campaign, Confederate General Jubal Early's 1864 Maryland Campaign, and Union General Philip Sheridan's 1864 Shenandoah Valley Campaign.

Located in Shenandoah County's village of Fisher's Hill, the **Stoner-Keller House and Mill (12001269)** offers a well-preserved example of a mill complex, a once-vital county industry. The Stoner-Keller House (also called the Abraham Stoner House) was constructed in 1844 as the residence of Abraham, a grandson of Frederick Stoner, the mill's original builder and operator. Of the county's six existing gristmills, Stoner-Keller is the oldest. Operated from 1772 until 1958, the mill retains its large circa-1895 steel overshot water wheel and early mill stones. The 2.5-acre property also has a one-story barn and a two-story tenant house, both constructed around 1880, and the trace of a 1772 tailrace.

Strasburg Museum (79003086) The Strasburg Stone and Earthenware Manufacturing Company built this two-story structure in 1891 as a factory intended to put the Shenandoah Valley's long tradition of pottery making on a high-volume industrial basis. The project was part of the brief economic boom experienced in the 1890s with the construction of a new railway line in the eastern part of the Valley. The company quickly failed because of competition from other regions and other wares. In 1913 the building was converted into a railroad depot. The building is now the Strasburg Museum, which maintains it as an example of industrial architecture, a relic of the Valley's short-lived venture into specialized industrial development. The building further represents a failed attempt to convert a handicraft industry into one of mass production.

Cedar Creek Battlefield and Belle Grove (69000243; 04000273) One of Virginia's landmarks of Federal architecture, Belle Grove was erected in 1794-97 for Maj. Isaac Hite, Jr., a Revolutionary War officer. Hite was married to Nelly Conway Madison, sister of James Madison. During the planning of the house, James Madison wrote Thomas Jefferson requesting assistance. Though Jefferson suggested refinements, the house is more in the spirit of the Adam-inspired Federal architecture than Jefferson's Classical Revivalism. This is particularly evident in the interior woodwork which has Adam-style details copied from Pain's *British Palladio* (1786). Civil War activity here culminated in the battle of Cedar Creek on October 19, 1864, when Gen. Philip Sheridan's counterattack effectively ended the Valley campaign in favor of the North. The house served as Union headquarters. A century later, Francis Welles Hunnewell bequeathed the property to the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Situated on the North Fork of the Shenandoah River in Warren County, **Long Meadow (95001169)** was established and occupied in the 1700s by Jost Hite and his family, early settlers in the area. The original house, Traveler's Hall, burned ca. 1840 and the present structure was built on its site by George W. Bowman, a Hite descendant. The formal brick dwelling illustrates the transition from the Federal to the Greek Revival styles. The earlier character is found in the five-bay façade with its central pedimented pavilion and hipped roof. The Greek Revival

influences are seen primarily in the interior woodwork. Near the house is a grouping of late-18th- and 19th-century farm buildings. The Hite family cemetery at Long Meadow contains the graves of Isaac Hite, Sr. and Isaac Hite, Jr., builder of Belle Grove in Frederick County.

An elegant Italianate-style brick house, Lackawanna (14000240) was built in 1869 on a 1.75-acre site overlooking the South Fork of the Shenandoah River in the Riverton Historic District section at the northern end of the town of Front Royal. The house was built for Dorastus Cone who came to the Shenandoah Valley from the Lackawanna Valley of Pennsylvania to operate a large merchant mill and other businesses. Unusual for its time, the house was constructed with a bathroom with running water and walk-in closets. In 1904, a Classical Revival-style front porch was added to the house.