



**1** ★  
 2 S. Washington  
**Berkeley Springs State Park**

Some of the earliest extant buildings within the state park represent the Federal style, America's first post-Revolutionary national style. Among these are the Roman Bath House of c. 1815 and the Gentlemen's Spring House.

The Morgan County Public Library in Berkeley Springs, WV, was established on May 23, 1924, originating as a single "Reading Room" above the main spring in Berkeley Springs State Park. It started with roughly 200 books, providing service on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons and evenings. (Library moved to Johnson House in 1998.)

The Main Bathhouse was built in 1929 along the south boundary of the nation's smallest state park. Buildings were first constructed in the park beginning in 1784 and included a series of covered bathhouses, the most recent of which were razed in 1949 for the outdoor swimming pool. The Museum of the Berkeley Springs is on the second floor of the Old Roman Bathhouse.

Tradition holds that Lord Fairfax granted the springs to the colony with the stipulation that they be kept free and open "to the publick for the welfare of suffering humanity." Their reservation for public use was part of the 1776 Act of the Virginia Legislature which created the Town, and strengthens the significance of the district for community planning as an early planned community. It is listed on the national register of historic places.



**5** ★  
 167 Wilkes St.  
**Mendenhall 1884 / Clarence Hovermale House / Hovermale-Mendenhall House / Mendenhall-Harris House**

This large brick two-story Late Victorian Queen Anne home was built c. 1884 by George Hovermale. Texanna and Allen Mendenhall bought it in 1896 and it was the residence of the Mendenhall family until 1990 when Mary Mendenhall Harris died. History enthusiast and local business owner Idris Rossell then bought the home and added much-needed closets.

Built during Berkeley Spring's post-Civil War resurgence, this Queen Anne Style house retains sufficient architectural integrity to reflect the town's late-Victorian building boom. David Hunter Strother, famous illustrator and Berkeley Springs native, noted the existence of the building boom in his 1876 Centennial address. Strother stated that "Since 1865...outdated and unsightly buildings have disappeared to be replaced by ornate cottages, exhibiting architectural taste with charming rural surroundings." Even with Strother's praise, the ornamented buildings were usually the rustic, board and batten, gingerbread confections that filled the pages of contemporary architectural pattern books.

Primarily a town of wood in the late-nineteenth century, the choice of brick as a building material at that time was unique for a resort-town residence. The distinctive, early brick architecture lends the house a measure of significance when compared to its wooden frame, and often highly modified, residential contemporaries. Two bay windows flank the main entrance on the façade and a centered entry on the second story opens onto a small balcony. The house is joined on its lot by a contributing structure, a small wooden outbuilding located in the backyard that dates to c. 1860 and is theorized to have been built originally as a smokehouse. Claire & Greg Schene now proudly owner-operate Mendenhall 1884 as an award-winning bed & breakfast. It was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places in 2003.



**8**  
 139 Independence St./Green  
**Old Black Church / Union Brethren Church / Mt. Pisgah Church**

This former African-American Methodist Episcopal wooden church building is now partially clad in insul-brick and converted to a garage. The belltower was removed likely prior to 1974. The locations of the original bell and an original

pew are known, as is the location of the original datestone that reads "MOUNT PISGAH M.E. CHURCH 1882." The building exhibits little other notable ornament but is of major importance to the community's African-American heritage. Union Brethren Congregation is documented as meeting there at least from 1890 to 1934. Town of Bath Historic Landmarks Commission is in the process of acquiring the church with the intention of restoring the structure.



**12** ★  
 234 Fairfax St.  
**The Manor House / Sloat-Horn-Rossell-House**

The house was also the home of Frank Horn, who was associated with the DeFord Tannery. This cottage is physically oriented toward downtown. Its first story is finished board-and-batten siding, with a reverse bellcast Mansard second story. A portion of the roof has a truncated hipped form, with a balustrade at the flat peak.

The L-shaped overall footprint has a one-story veranda extending across a portion of the façade, and is set on a raised foundation with a sawn balustrade and lacy sawn brackets. The fenestration is flat-topped, with decorative heads. The mansard penetrated by segmental-arched dormers. Built as the home of Bath mayor Alexander T. Sloat, this is the only French Second Empire-style house in the community. It currently operates as a vacation rental.

Built in 1879 by John W. and J.D. Hunter, it was eventually acquired by the Hunter family in 1923 and they converted it to an inn/guest house called "The Manor." For the next twenty years, it served Berkeley Springs tourists with "delightful Southern cooking - beautiful lawn - spacious porches." Tourism eventually declined again and it changed hands several times before remaining vacant for twenty years when Idris Rossell acquired it in 1982 and began a restoration/rehabilitation program. Ms. Rossell restored the roof shingles and outline, widow's walk, porch woodwork, and chimneys. She also researched the original paint colors so that the house is much as it originally appeared. It was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places in 1984.



**2**  
 117 Wilkes St.  
**Gault House Hotel/ Pendleton Boarding House**

This blue apartment building is the oldest former inn located in the historic Town of Bath to survive centuries of fires and renovations largely intact. Much of its 1790 construction is still visible. The corner of Wilkes and Congress once had three similar-looking inns from the same era. One was lost to fire and is now a parking lot. The other was razed and replaced. Formerly the Pendleton Boarding House, this substantial 2 1/2-story Dutch Colonial Revival-style building features a gambrel roof and a double-gallery porch extending across the façade, recessed beneath an extension of the main roof. Penetrating the sloped sides of the post-18th century gambrel roof are a series of gabled dormers providing light into the uppermost apartment. Locals recall a tavern once operating on the ground floor in the 20th century called Buckhorn Tavern. Its hat rack for top hats is in the conference room of a local attorney.



**16**  
 207 S. Washington St.  
**The Country Inn of Berkeley Springs**

The first lodging house on this property was known as the Sign of the Liberty Pole and Flag. It housed President George Washington in September 1784. Circa 1845, Col. John Strother bought half of the property and built an impressive, Federal-style building called the Pavilion Hotel. It was a 500-room resort facing the park where President James K. Polk stayed in 1848. Col. Strother sold half of it to his son, David Hunter Strother, in 1855 and began calling it the Berkeley Springs Hotel.

Famous for its dress balls and band music, this mainstay of the resort Town of Bath tragically burned in March 1898. Only the machine shop and outbuildings survived. From 1906-1907, a merry-go-round stood on the empty grounds. From 1928-1931, it was used as a tourist campground.

The central section of the current main structure, originally called The Park View Inn, was erected in the Colonial Revival style in 1933 by Jennie and Walter Harmison, members of a longtime local hotelier family. In 1937, due to massive popularity, they added the two wings. Now a complex of several interconnected buildings, the main building incorporates a three-story block with a laterally oriented gable roof and a symmetrical façade with a centered entrance shielded by a two-story portico. The 1937 side wings are two stories in height, with three bays each. Several additions have been made to the main building, and a considerably newer three-story brick section stands west of the main building. This resort facility is adjacent to Berkeley Springs State Park and the warm mineral springs for which the community is so well known.



**9**  
 105 Congress St.  
**Morgan County Public Library/ The John W. Johnson House**

This Italianate brick home was built in 1870 for local dry-goods merchant John W. Johnson. It later became the childhood home of Vernon E. Johnson, who went on to serve twice as Speaker of the West Virginia House of Delegates. In the 1970s, the former residence took on a civic role as Bath Town Hall, before beginning its next chapter in 1998 as the Morgan County Public Library. Today, the building continues its long tradition as a

gathering place, welcoming readers and visitors into a space shaped by more than 150 years of community history.

Shortly after Bath's town lots were laid out in 1777, James Smith, a signer of the Declaration of Independence from Pennsylvania, purchased the parcel where the Morgan County Public Library now stands. This ties the site directly to a Founding Father and to the earliest phase of Bath's development as a planned resort town. While Smith never lived in Bath full-time, land speculation and investment in newly platted towns was extremely common among Revolutionary-era leaders. His ownership adds significant historical weight to the property. The library currently houses the Morgan County Historical and Genealogical Society.



**13** ★  
 139 S. Green St.  
**T.H.B. Dawson House**

Designed and built in 1880 by local builders H.H. Hunter and J.W. Hunter, this stately L-shaped two-story brick home features highly ornate Eastlake style porches at both the front and side elevations. The house is comprised of both Gothic Revival and Italianate elements, and is the best preserved and detailed example of this architectural style in the community. The Dawson House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The original grounds were more spacious and contained several subsidiary structures. It underwent major renovations in 2007 due to its dilapidated state. The dominating statement it makes overlooking the Town represents the status of its original owner, Thomas Hart Benton Dawson (1840-1921), who was a prominent member of the community. He served in the Union Army in the Civil War, was elected Morgan County Clerk in 1866 and for the next 35 consecutive years, and was a charter and board member of the Bank of Berkeley Springs. He and his wife Mollie Brown Dawson had ten children. Their grandson R.C. Dunn owned the property when it was nominated to the National Historic Registry in 1982.



**3**  
 108 Wilkes St.  
**Trinity-Asbury United Methodist Church**

This Gothic Revival church was built and dedicated in 1890, 115 years after Bishop Francis Asbury established the first Methodist church in the area. The church was renamed several times before becoming now known as Trinity-Asbury United Methodist Church.

The main L-shaped building remains unchanged except the top of the square belltower which was wooden and was never rebuilt after sparks from a nearby fire burned it down in 1912. The fenestration is lancet-arched with stone sills and corbeled brick lintels. Symbolic religious art glass is masterfully installed in each of the windows. The concrete block addition to the east was built in 1953. The main entrance to the church is through the bell tower. Per a longstanding church tradition, its Sunday school children enthusiastically ring the bell each week to signify the close of the church service.



**6**  
 48/50 N. Washington St.  
**Johnson General Store / Old "Mountaineer"**

Built in 1875, by 1890 this wood frame building with rounded parapet served as J. W. Johnson's dry good store. By 1911, it had become a hardware store. In 1919, Mr. Coughlan bought the building to open Coughlan's Drugs. Perhaps the instability of the



**11** ★  
 49 N. Washington St.  
**Star Theatre**

This modest one-story brick building was originally an automobile business/garage built in 1916. It transformed into the Berkeley Theater from 1928-1949. The front parlor served as the Town's telephone switchboard from 1937-1967. In 1949, the Alpine Theatre chain renovated the exterior by installing the theatre marquis in the center of the three bay front-facing façade that featured a large red "A." This was one of two theaters in town during the height of cinema popularity. A series of other owners over the years have made extensive interior improvements to restore and improve the structure. The side bays of the façade have been filled in with brick. A simple cornice with modillions across the façade and a portion of the south elevation complete this building's modest detailing.



**10**  
 156 S. Green St.  
**Judge Wright Cottage/ Wisteria Cottage**

The Judge John W. Wright Cottage is a surviving example of Berkeley Springs' Victorian resort era architecture. Its Italianate architecture reflects the distinctive 19th-century feel when prominent families escaped to the Town of Bath for rest, refreshing mountain air, and the healing mineral

waters. The Wright Cottage, built in 1872, served as the summer retreat of a respected federal judge appointed by President Abraham Lincoln. Judge Wright spent his summers here to find relief from the hustle of Washington, D.C. The cottage's distinctive yellow board-and-batten siding, red trim, and generous porches reflect the leisurely rhythms of 19th-century life in a thriving spa town. As thousands flocked to the Town of Bath for its mineral waters, homes like this became seasonal havens for prominent families seeking rest and renewal. Today, the cottage stands as a vivid reminder of the town's historical tradition as a place of retreat, healing, and community. It was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places in 1986.



**14** ★  
 South Green St. & Rt. 9 East  
**The Old Dutch Cemetery**

Palatinate Germans, called Dutch from the translation of Deutsch, migrated south to Berkeley Springs from Pennsylvania. In 1777, Lots 1 and 2 of the original Town plat (corner of Green Street and Martinsburg Road) were set aside by the trustees for a German church and two other houses, but there is no indication any structures were ever built. The location was variously known as the Dutch, German or Lutheran Cemetery, and contains the graves of several Revolutionary War soldiers (Solomon Smith, Frederick Duckwall and Frederick Duckwall Jr.) along with early settlers. Gravestones have been restored in recent years and pathways groomed.

The so-called Doctor Samuel Crawford, a scoundrel from the other side of the Potomac River and suspected murderer, sustained a spontaneous pre-trial, postwar 1876 jailbreak and a midnight "parade" that resulted in his subsequent lynching. Crawford is buried there, allegedly in his long johns. This is the only recorded lynching in Morgan County history. In 1888, two men reported seeing the ghost of Crawford standing over his grave in the Old Dutch graveyard. For well over a century, residents spoke of the long John ghost of Green Street. Stories spread of a pale figure with a barbell mustache walking the streets of Berkeley Springs after dusk.



**4**  
 31 Congress St.  
**The Hunter's Inn & Tavern / Flagg House / Centered Health Spa**

Historical writings suggest the original inn on this site was built in 1779 as a log cabin. In 1792, it was converted into a three-story inn and ground floor tavern with its own spring. Innkeepers Delilah (Gustin) and Col. John

Hunter IV operated it as the The Hunter's Inn & Tavern. The Hunters changed the business name to "At the Sign of General Washington Tavern & Inn" after President George Washington and Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton stayed there October 14, 1794 en route to quash the pesky tax-averse colonists and their Whiskey Rebellion. This is significant because it is the only time a sitting U.S. president has ever led the standing U.S. Army. The tavern and inn's thick new wooden sign featured Washington on his white horse, but it was lost to fire in the 19th century when the boarding house directly across the street that was housing the sign burned.

In 1845, the name of the inn was changed to The Flagg House, as the second generation of Hunter innkeepers was then running the business (Rosannah Margaret Strange Hunter and her husband John Shively Flagg). The Flaggs built the substantial 1870 wood frame addition (interconnected on four levels and facing Wilkes St.) which doubled the size of the inn and features the last surviving example of Dutch lap siding in Town of Bath. The siding offers insulating features and a pronounced, "hand-carved" textured esthetic.

In 1938, the Colonial Revival brick residential style structure facing Congress St. replaced the original 1700s inn. It served as a private home, The Morgan Inn, attorney Richard Gay's law office, and is now the holistic health business Centered Health Spa.



**6**  
 209 Wilkes St.  
**Highspire**

Among the community's finest Queen Anne-style residences, this imposing 1894-built house has an L-shaped façade with a wrap-around veranda and semi hexagonal bay capped with a corresponding hexagonal peaked roof with a pinnacle.

The current Victorian home is not the first structure to be built on site. In 1791, a three-story tavern was first built there by James M. Wheat. Known as "The Wheat House," the tavern's location was convenient because the Town Jail was located directly across the street on Lot #109 (now "Inspired Chaos").

The stable for the tavern was located on the rear portion of the lot. John Strother took ownership and used the building as a boarding house, known as "The Pavilion," at least through 1834. No records are known reflecting when this first structure ceased to exist. Remnants of the early days of the tavern and stables can still be found when digging deep for new flower beds. Miscellaneous bits of pottery and porcelain, marbles, bottles and horse tack are common finds.



**7** ★  
 100 Williams St.  
**Berkeley Springs Train Depot**

Begun in 1914 and completed in 1915, this Mission Revival-style depot—built by the B&O Railroad and the only one of its kind in Morgan County—replaced the original 1888 structure and served as Bath's front door for generations.

When the hard economics of the Depression forced the end of passenger rail service in 1935, the community's connection to the wider world didn't disappear entirely. Freight trains kept rolling through for decades more, carrying goods in and out of our mountain town until the early 1990s.

Today the building stands as a reminder of the era when the railroad stitched our community to the wider world — and of a bond that endured long after the last passenger train departed.

The Train Depot is finished in red brick with a red tile roof and broadly overhanging eaves. It was considered endangered in 2010, but due to persistent Town of Bath effort and grant money, it was restored and saved, finally re-opening in 2023. It is now home to The Berkeley Springs Welcome Center and Travel Berkeley Springs. Stop in to see the impressive interior restoration and upgrades.



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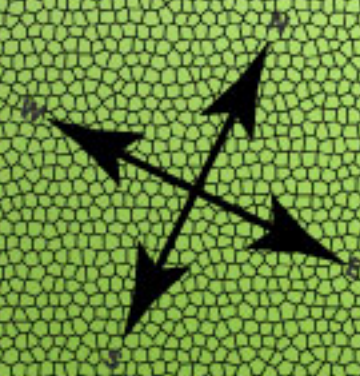
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Route 9 West (Cacapon Road)

Union St

Wilkes Street

North Washington

South Washington

Congress St

North Mercer St

North Green St

Fairfax St

South Green St

Market St



IT ALL STARTED AT 'YE FAM'D WARM SPRINGS'...THERE REALLY IS SOMETHING IN THE WATER

HISTORIC TOWN OF BATH - AMERICA'S FIRST SPA TOWN

South Green St. & Route 9 East Old Dutch Cemetery

Welcome to the Historic Town of Bath! Join us as we celebrate 250 years of dynamic history (1776 - 2026) with this fun and informative historic walking tour of 16 significant properties in Town. We encourage you to begin your tour "at the springs" in Berkeley Springs State Park, fill up a bottle of water, and walk up Wilkes Street. This street was once the main highway into Town--leading right to the healing warm springs.

The map depicts properties as they look today. The reverse depicts bygone images of the same sites, as available, and the descriptions are a blend of historic and architectural significance with a healthy dose of local lore and legend.

Additional properties and fascinating interviews are featured on video, and can be viewed via the QR code on the reverse or by visiting [www.townofbathwv.gov/committees/historic-landmarks-committee/](http://www.townofbathwv.gov/committees/historic-landmarks-committee/)

Enjoy your tour of the Historic Town of Bath!

Prepared by the Bath Historic Landmarks Commission Berkeley Springs, West Virginia May 2026

Scan the QR code to watch video.



WALKING TOUR



250 YEARS TOWN OF BATH

Original seal, Town of Bath, WV