

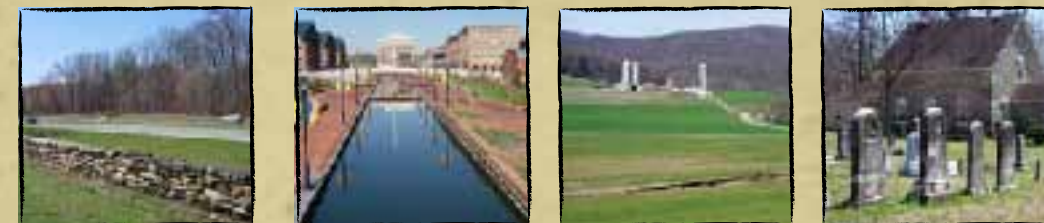
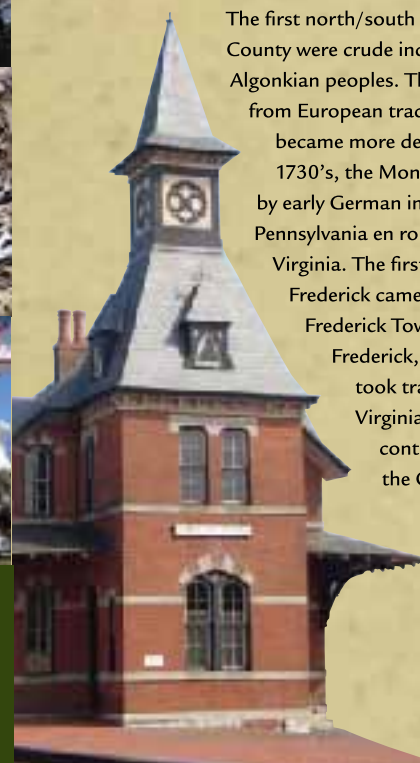


CATOCTIN MOUNTAIN NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY

Journey Through Hallowed Ground

Catoctin Mountain – the ecologically diverse, easternmost spur of the Blue Ridge Province – rises to its greatest elevation of 1,885 feet above sea level in Thurmont’s Catoctin Mountain Park and then is split by a gap at Point of Rocks on the Potomac River. The hardwood forests encircling Catoctin Mountain are a natural wonderment, serving as a sanctuary for wildlife and plants. Surrounding towns and sites offer a deep exploration of the area’s rich heritage and culture. Traveling 38.5 miles across Frederick County from north to south, the Byway begins at the Mason Dixon line (Pennsylvania border) and winds along the picturesque Catoctin Mountain Chain to the Potomac River, and Virginia border, adjacent Point of Rocks.

The first north/south roads through today’s Frederick County were crude Indian trails, used by Iroquois and Algonkian peoples. Through western migration and usage from European traders and pioneers, these routes became more defined. With origins dating to the 1730’s, the Monocacy Road was heavily utilized by early German immigrants heading from eastern Pennsylvania en route to the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. The first constructed wagon road north of Frederick came in the mid 1700’s in the form of the Frederick Town and Emmitsburg Turnpike. From Frederick, the legendary “Old Carolina Road” took tradesmen and travelers south into Virginia’s Loudoun and Fauquier counties continuing southeast to Roanoke and the Carolina border.



As with all major transportation routes, lodging and dining came first in the form of taverns and ordinaires along the turnpike. Throughout the evolution of the county’s roadways, lodging, dining, and various other retail opportunities have grown to accommodate transportation improvements and greater numbers of travelers.

The State Roads Commission purchased the north/south turnpikes in 1911. Fourteen years later in 1926 the U.S. Highway system established the roadway as part of US 15, a major route running from New York state to South Carolina. As the primary north/south transportation route for Frederick residents and beyond, a modern roadway supplanted historic 18th and 19th century roads.

In 1974, the State Highway Association approved the locally suggested idea to name the Frederick County portion of US 15 “Catoctin Mountain Highway”.

The entire length of the Maryland section of US 15 was designated as a Maryland Scenic Byway in 1999. Six years later, the Catoctin Mountain Scenic Byway (US 15) received national designation as one of America’s Byways in 2005 from the National Scenic Byways Program, under the direction of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration. Recipients are recognized based on possessing one or more archeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational or scenic qualities.

The Catoctin Mountain National Scenic Byway is also Maryland’s portion of a 4-state heritage corridor known as the Journey Through Hallowed Ground, stretching from Gettysburg, Pennsylvania to Monticello in Virginia.

HOW TO USE THIS MAP



CATOCTIN MOUNTAIN NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY

Traveling across Frederick County from north to south, the Catoctin Mountain National Scenic Byway connects three states and winds along the picturesque Catoctin Mountain of the famed Blue Ridge chain. Along its route, the Byway is dotted with local and nationally recognized attractions, natural areas and parklands, important historic and cultural sites, and vibrant economic Main Streets. To better orient the traveler, this brochure includes two maps of the Catoctin Mountain National Scenic Byway. The 15 icons on each map represent key sites/attractions along the route. Corresponding information on each can be found within this brochure. (Please note that some of these sites are only opened seasonally).



AMERICA'S BYWAYS

A collection of nationally designated roads, which are recognized based on one or more archeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational or scenic qualities. www.byways.org



MARYLAND BYWAYS

Travelers on the Catoctin Mountain National Scenic Byway also have the opportunity to experience 5 intersecting byways, trails and loops that access a variety of historic, natural and outdoor recreation sites. These are marked with the state’s Black-Eyed Susan scenic byway signs.

HISTORIC NATIONAL ROAD

As the first federally funded road, the Historic National Road provided a gateway to the west for thousands of settlers and travelers alike. Beginning in Baltimore, the National Turn-Pike reached Frederick and the Appalachians Mountains, further extending through West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. Many of the old turnpike’s original mile markers still exist and several interpretive markers help tell the local story along this designated “All-American Road”.

MARYLAND CIVIL WAR TRAILS

Thousands of Union and Confederate soldiers marched over the county’s sometimes muddy, often dusty roads. Individual trails focusing on the 1862 Antietam Campaign and Gettysburg Invasion and Retreat of 1863 shed light

CATOCTIN MOUNTAIN LOOP

Traversing over and through the mountain itself, this route offers a closer look at Maryland’s natural riches and its industrial heritage within the forests and towns surrounding Catoctin Mountain.

C&O CANAL ROUTE

This byway offers many opportunities to see lasting reminders of the once thriving waterway that transported valuable coal and produce to the Nation’s Capital from the west.

OLD MAIN STREETS

Explore the quaint towns and villages of Carroll and Frederick counties, paying particular attention to the old Main Streets that were the hub of activity for each town and the surrounding countryside.



Funded in part by the Federal Highway Administration and the Tourism Council of Frederick County, Inc.
Photos courtesy of C. Kurt Holter and Chris Haugh

BEGIN YOUR VISIT AT ONE OF FREDERICK COUNTY'S 5 INFORMATION CENTERS

Mason-Dixon Visitors Center
US-15 South near Emmitsburg
(301)447-2553

Catoctin Mountain Park Visitor Center
(301)271-3285 *seasonal hours*

Historic Downtown Frederick
(301)600-2888

Monocacy Aqueduct/C&O National Historic Park
www.nps.gov/choh/
(202)653-5190

Catoctin Wildlife Preserve and Zoo Park
www.cwpzoo.com
(301) 271-318

C&O Canal Visitors Center Brunswick Railroad Museum
www.BRRM.net
(301)834-7100

Camp David Museum
(at the Cozy Restaurant)
www.cozyvillage.com/campdavid.html
(301)271-4301

Tuscarora House (Carrollton Manor)
(not open to the public)
www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/declaration/site12.htm

Catoctin Mountain Park
www.nps.gov/cato
(301) 663-9388

National Museum of Civil War Medicine
www.civilwarmed.org
(800)695-1864

Cunningham Falls State Park/Catoctin Furnace
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/cunninghamfalls.html
(301) 271-7574

Monocacy National Battlefield
www.nps.gov/mono/
(301)662-3515

National Shrine of Elizabeth Ann Seton
www.setonshrine.org
(301)-447-6606

Historical Society of Frederick County
www.hsfcinfo.org
(301)663-1188

Daughters of Charity/St. Joseph's Provincial House
www.daughtersofcharity-emmitsburg.org
(301)447-3121

Schifferstadt Architectural Museum (seasonal)
(301)663-3885
www.frederickcountylandmarksfoundation.org

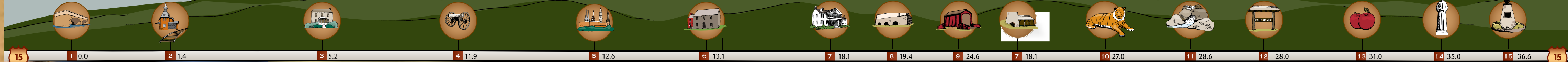
National Shrine Grotto of Lourdes
www.msmary.edu/grotto
(301) 447-5318

Rose Hill Manor Park/The Children's & Farm Museum (seasonal)
www.rosehillmuseum.com
(301)600-1650

National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Park
www.firehero.org
(301)447-1000

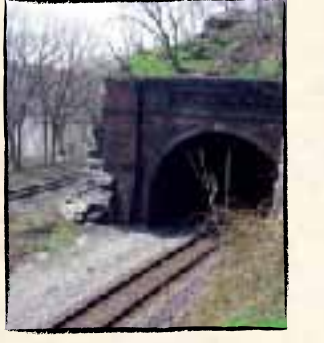
Fountain Rock Nature Center
www.co.frederick.md.us/index.asp?id=398
(301)898-1460

Valuable information can also be found online at the tourism council of frederick county's website www.fredericktourism.org or call 800-999-3613



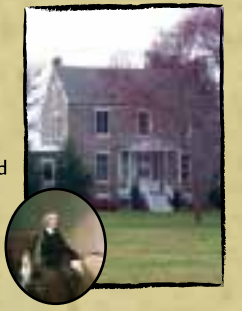
1 THE CHESAPEAKE & OHIO CANAL
The Byway intersects the C&O Canal Scenic Byway at Point of Rocks. To the west (on MD 464) you'll find the village of Lander, located within the heart of the C&O National Historic Park. This is the site of a lock house and the Catoctin Aqueduct, one of 11 stone aqueducts on the 184-mile long canal. Further west, Brunswick is home to the C&O Canal NHP Visitor Center. Canal lock 30 and a portion of towpath can be found here. Southeast of Point of Rocks (MD 28) at the confluence of the Monocacy and Potomac Rivers is the aptly named Monocacy Aqueduct, the largest of the C&O's aqueducts. Described by historians as one of the finest canal structures in the nation, the Monocacy Aqueduct is constructed primarily of large granite blocks that came from nearby Sugarloaf Mountain.

2 BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD
The Byway begins at Point of Rocks, named for the striking geologic formation (best viewed from the river). The village achieved national recognition in 1830 when the B&O Railroad and C&O Canal fought over the right of way between the narrow land pass separating Catoctin Mountain and the Potomac River. After a lengthy legal battle, both companies were allowed to build through the passage. The B&O officially reached Point of Rocks (from Baltimore) in 1832 and finally tunneled through the mountain in 1867. The picturesque Point of Rocks train station (on MD 28) is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Northwest, and upriver of Point of Rocks, lies Brunswick,



at which the B&O built a six-mile long rail yard along the river from 1891-1912. While in this "Main Street Maryland" community, visit the Brunswick Railroad Museum to learn more about the railroad's history and influence, plus see a large model railroad exhibit.

3 FARMING/AGRI-INDUSTRY
Driving along the southern section of the Byway, you have a great view of the Piedmont, which is underlain with great deposits of limestone. This unique geologic makeup has always made this part of Frederick County a prime spot for crop farming and local agri-industries such as mills, lime kilns and canneries. Dating back to the colonial period, large manor farms have covered the valley surrounded by the Catoctins on the west and majestic Sugarloaf Mountain to the east. The best known of the vicinity's farming ventures is the 17,000-acre Carrollton Manor estate, established by Charles Carroll who served in the Continental Congress and was one of Maryland's signers of the Declaration of Independence. Carroll's original manor house named Tuscarora (not open to the public) built in 1765, and adjacent St-Josephs-on Carrollton Manor Catholic church are located on Manor Woods Road. The cemetery, adjoining the church, contains many unmarked graves of the Irish laborers of the C&O Canal and B&O Railroad.

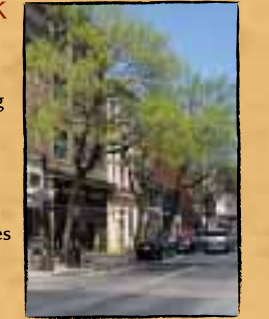


4 CIVIL WAR
Frederick County was the site of the Battle of South Mountain (September 1862), following days of rebel occupation in Frederick City. The area was under siege again by the Confederates in the summer of 1864, leading to the Battle of Monocacy (July 1864). This conflict, also known as "The Battle That Saved Washington," occurred a few miles south of Frederick.

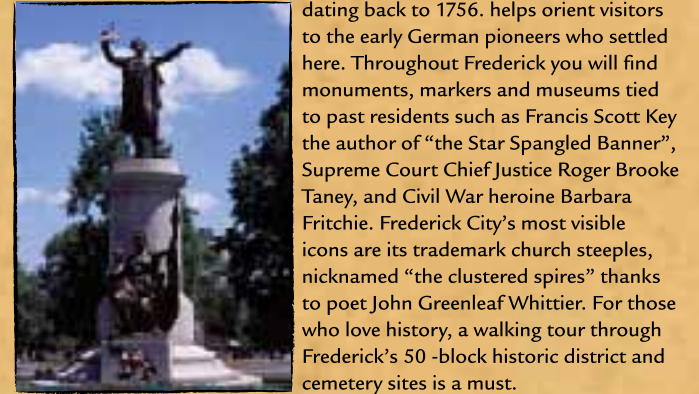
In the days following these battles, along with Gettysburg and Antietam, Frederick became a major hospital center. A permanent Union General Hospital existed in Frederick throughout the war. It originally opened in August 1861 on the grounds of the old Hessian Barracks at the south end of town. Quite appropriately, the National Museum of Civil War Medicine is located here.



5 DOWNTOWN FREDERICK
At Frederick, the Byway intersects the Historic National Road (US40). Frederick's Downtown offers a variety of shopping, dining and entertainment experiences. This "Great American Main Street" - the first in the State of Maryland - lives up to its national billing with more than 150 retailers, restaurants and art galleries. You can find several antique stores and countless specialty shops. In addition to a wide variety of entertainment offerings from live theater to public art, special events occur nearly every weekend of the year.



6 FREDERICK TOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT
In addition to its location at a major crossroads of transportation, Frederick town, as it was known at the time of its founding in 1745, has seemingly played a part in every major chapter of American history for the last 260 years. Just off the Byway (Rosemont Ave exit), the Schifferstadt Architectural Museum dating back to 1756, helps orient visitors to the early German pioneers who settled here. Throughout Frederick you will find monuments, markers and museums tied to past residents such as Francis Scott Key the author of "the Star Spangled Banner", Supreme Court Chief Justice Roger Brooke Taney, and Civil War heroine Barbara Fritchie. Frederick City's most visible icons are its trademark church steeples, nicknamed "the clustered spires" thanks to poet John Greenleaf Whittier. For those who love history, a walking tour through Frederick's 50-block historic district and cemetery sites is a must.



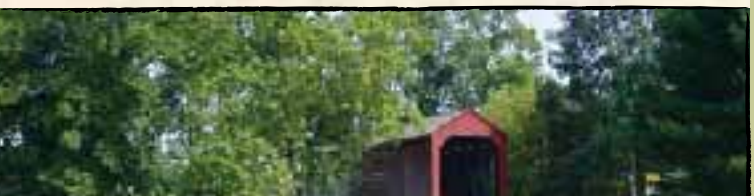
7 ROSE HILL MANOR (A) & CATOCTIN FURNACE (B)
Rose Hill Manor, on the north end of Frederick City, once served home to Thomas Johnson, Jr., a revolutionary war hero and first governor of the state of Maryland. Along with his brothers, Johnson originally came to the area after Hematite ore was discovered in the Catoctin Mountains in the 1770s. The brothers built an iron foundry, named Catoctin Furnace, and started producing pig iron in 1776. The fuel for the furnace was initially charcoal, readily supplied by the surrounding forest. This endeavor (located just south of Thurmont) would operate up to 1903, and one can still see remains of a furnace stack and the iron master's manor house.



8 FOUNTAIN ROCK PARK & NATURE CENTER
Turn east off the Byway onto Biggs Ford Road and cross over the Monocacy Scenic River, which spans the entire length of Frederick County before joining the Potomac River. This vicinity includes one of Maryland's most important Native American habitation sites with archeological evidence of multiple settlements dating back to about 1000 AD. Take a right on Fountain Rock Road and visit the 22.5 acre Fountain Rock Park & Nature Center. The park contains one of the state's strongest springs. Six historic lime kilns stand prominently in the park, overlooking a water-filled quarry which supports the locale's animal inhabitants. The Nature Center features several programs and exhibits for kids and adults alike.



9 COVERED BRIDGES
Frederick County is fortunate to have three active historic covered bridges. The southern most is the Utica Mills Covered Bridge, located on Utica Road (off of Old Frederick Rd). The bridge originally spanned the nearby

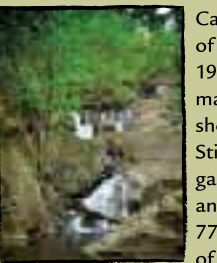


Monocacy River but was washed away during a severe storm in 1889. Local citizens gathered the remains and reconstructed the 101' long bridge at its present location crossing Fishing Creek. Loy's Station Covered Bridge was first constructed around 1748. Although structurally modified and rebuilt, the bridge's original timbers remain throughout the 90' long structure. The Roddy Road Covered Bridge, built in 1856, rests just north of Thurmont. The smallest of the county's covered bridges, this structure measures 40' long. Park and picnic facilities adjoin each of these historic bridges.

10 CATOCTIN WILDLIFE PRESERVE AND ZOO
Just south of Thurmont is the 35+ acre Catoctin Wildlife Preserve and Zoo, where, for nine months out of the year, visitors can experience more than 400 animals. This unique business began as a roadside attraction in the 1930's as Gordon Gaver's "Jungleland Sepentarium." The Hahn family purchased "Jungleland" in 1966 and built the attraction into an accredited preserve and one of the finest zoos in the state.



11 CATOCTIN MOUNTAIN PARK AND CUNNINGHAM FALLS STATE PARK
Head west on MD 77 to climb and traverse Catoctin Mountain itself. Catoctin Mountain Park, which lies to the north of the state road, is federal property acquired in 1936 as an experiment in developing forest on marginal land. Near the park's visitor center, a short interpretive trail takes you to the Blue Blazes Still, where moonshine makers turned out 25,000 gallons of corn whiskey before the still was raided and shut down in 1929. On the south side of MD 77 is Cunningham Falls State Park, the centerpiece of which is a 78-foot waterfall that cascades into a rocky gorge. Amenities allow visitors to hike from a picnic area off Catoctin Hollow Road, and swim in the 43-acre Hunting Creek Lake.

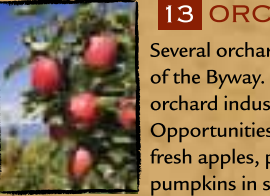


12 THURMONT
Early residents, comprised primarily of German descent, had migrated here in the mid to late 1700's from the York and Lancaster areas of Pennsylvania. The Western Maryland Railroad arrived in 1872 and served as an important shipping point for local farmers and boon to timber related industries. The railroad also turned



the town into a popular tourist destination, aiding Baltimore City residents looking to escape the oppressive summer heat in favor of mountain tranquility. The most famous of Thurmont's "tourists" have been American Presidents beginning with Herbert Hoover and Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Thurmont is known worldwide thanks to its proximity to the President's retreat at Camp David in the nearby Catoctin Mountains. Although Camp David is off limits to the public, one can learn about the retreat's rich history at the Camp David Museum located in the Cozy Restaurant, adjacent the Byway. Thurmont with its revitalized downtown area is a designated Main Street Maryland community, boasting a number of specialty shops and restaurants.

13 ORCHARDS
Several orchards and fruit stands line the northern section of the Byway. Catoctin Mountain has been the site of the orchard industry dating back to the early 20th century. Opportunities exist to "pick-your-own" (or simply purchase) fresh apples, peaches, plums, berries, pears, cherries, and pumpkins in season.



14 NATIONAL SHRINES
Northern Frederick County is home to a religious and historic site honoring the first American-born canonized saint, Elizabeth Ann Seton. The National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton includes a visitor center, museum, basilica, and restored period buildings. Travel a few miles south on the Byway and you'll find the National Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes, situated high on the mountainside. Dating back to 1875, the shrine is the oldest known replica of the famed French Grotto of Lourdes in the western hemisphere. Mount Saint Mary's University sits in the middle of these two holy sites. Founded by French émigré father John Dubois in 1808, "the Mount" is the oldest independent Catholic college in the United States.



15 EMMITSBURG
Just south of the Pennsylvania border is the peaceful town of Emmitsburg. Dating back to 1785, the town has remained a social and business center for surrounding farms and historic religious and educational institutions. During the Civil War, troops passed through while going to and from the Battle of Gettysburg. Union troops camped on the grounds of the former St. Joseph's College, and officers planned battle strategies in the former home of the school's founder, Elizabeth Ann Seton. Today, the former St. Joseph's College is home to FEMA's National Emergency Training Center. Here, visitors can pay tribute to heroes from around the country at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial.

