

The row of brick buildings at 140-148 W. King were constructed with no rear access for coal delivery so the owners, Dentist Cecil Grove and Pharmacist Allen Vaughn, created an alley by moving a wing of a Queen Street house. During the early 1930's, Dr. Grove also moved four frame storefront buildings around the northwest corner of King and Holliday to use the lot for the Virginia Restaurant.

Continue west on King Street. Turn right on N. Holliday Street. As you walk...

The original Virginia Restaurant was located at today's First Bank parking lot. Further north was Griff Racey's home, and beside it the Stover home, located where Stover Funeral Home is now. Town homes of that era had big yards for gardens and outbuildings.

Banks Fort, built by Union forces, was to the north, on the hill in front of you. After the Civil War, the area was gradually reshaped as new houses and the water tower were built, and the original trench lines were made into streets.

A descendant of early settler-landowner-storekeeper-potter Adam Keister, E. E. Keister founded Shenandoah Publishing House located at 152 N. Holliday St, and combined four area weekly/biweekly newspapers into the award-winning *Northern Virginia Daily*. Other Keisters were noted musicians; a Civil War era brass band contained so many family members that it was nicknamed the Keister Band, including famed bugler Cyrus Keister of the 2nd Virginia Cavalry.

After reading the marker at Stop 3, walk east on Washington St. to Stop 4

Behind the car wash and near the railroad tracks, Town Run supplied a water tower that was used for filling steam engine tenders.

About ½ mile north of this location is the Hupp Historical District. The Frontier Fort, a stone residence built ca. 1755 with portholes for defense, had water diverted from the backyard spring running through the basement. The spring is the source of Town Run.



Spengler Hall

On the western edge of Strasburg, Capt. A. Spengler (1774-1834) erected a cluster of plantation buildings. Spengler's Mill operated until 1938, when it was converted into a restaurant. The old miller's house, now a residence built around the original log house, is directly opposite the mill at 498 Stover Ave. At the top of the hill sits Spengler Hall, a red brick Federal mansion built in 1820 and later used as US Brig. Gen. Alfred Torbert's headquarters; CS Gen. J.A. Early camped on the lawn but did not occupy the house.

After reading the marker at Stop 6, return to Fort St. Turn left, walk to Queen St. Turn right, go to Stop 7 at the west end of the block

The north-south Valley road has existed for at least 4,000 years. Indians from New York to Florida used the Warriors Path/Moccasin Trail for warfare and trade with native tribes. Later, Europeans usually found the Blue Ridge Mountains too difficult to cross from Tidewater Virginia so disembarked from boats in Philadelphia and made their way into Virginia's Great Valley along this old trail, which they simply widened with their wagons. In 1834, Virginia chartered the macadamized Shenandoah Valley Turnpike, a prepared roadbed surfaced with crushed stone that followed the Great Wagon Road.

Fifteen major battles and forty-five smaller ones were fought in the Valley, with casualties overwhelming local resources to care for them; still more soldiers died of sickness rather than battle injuries. The Civil War sick and wounded were nursed everywhere - in newly designated hospitals, in hastily erected medical tents, and even in private homes. Medical clerks periodically posted casualty lists at the Presbyterian Church, which also served as a hospital. After reading these lists, many families were able to locate their loved ones and provide care for them. Some of these "Registers of the sick and wounded" are on exhibit at the Strasburg Museum.

The church cemetery contains the remains of Robert White of Co. H, 5th Carolina Regiment, who died here of dysentery after the Battle of Antietam, as well as many other soldiers, Blue and Grey, who died in Valley battles. The cemetery also contains a monument erected in 1929 by the Stover Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, honoring Peter Stover (Stauffer), the founder of Strasburg (Staufferstadt, Stover Town).

The area just south of the cemetery was used as a military outpost to monitor "the hostile territory." Still standing is Walnut Hill, the brick residence built in 1872, not long after US troops withdrew from the area; it housed the Strasburg Female Seminary in 1884.

Turn left & continue north on Holliday St. Read the marker at Stop 10, then...

Notice the large turreted brick house. When Dr. F.E. Grove built it c. 1910, it was the first Strasburg home built with, not retrofitted with, electricity, indoor plumbing, and central heat. To build it, however, he had to move another house off the lot at 267 to 268 S. Holliday St. Remember all the moving of buildings near the Virginia Restaurant? That Grove family loved to move buildings!