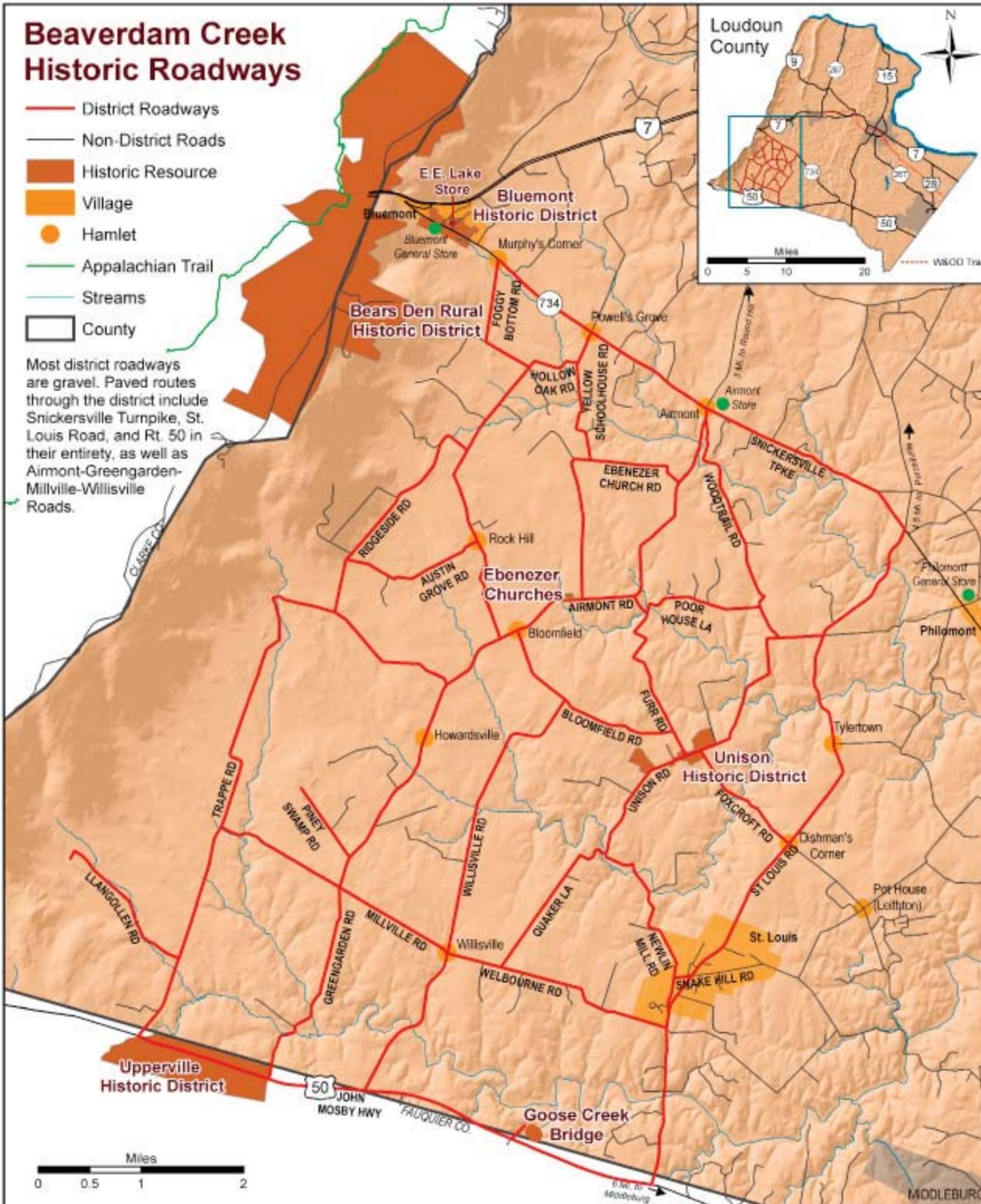


Beaverdam Creek Historic Roadways

- District Roadways
- Non-District Roads
- Historic Resource
- Village
- Hamlet
- Appalachian Trail
- Streams
- County

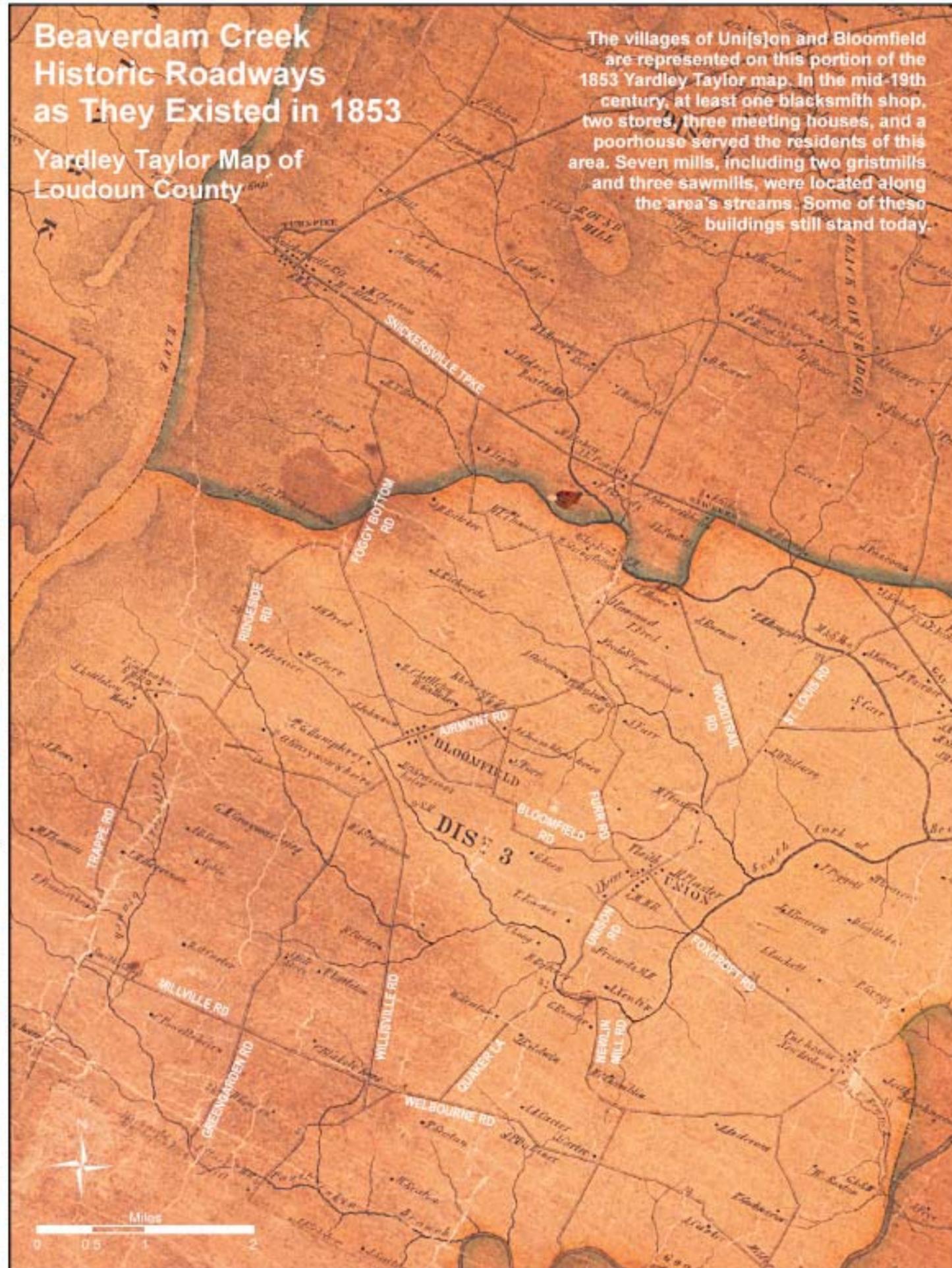
Most district roadways are gravel. Paved routes through the district include Snickersville Turnpike, St. Louis Road, and Rt. 50 in their entirety, as well as Airmont-Greengarden-Milville-Willisville Roads.



Beaverdam Creek Historic Roadways as They Existed in 1853

Yardley Taylor Map of Loudoun County

The villages of Uni[s]on and Bloomfield are represented on this portion of the 1853 Yardley Taylor map. In the mid-19th century, at least one blacksmith shop, two stores, three meeting houses, and a poorhouse served the residents of this area. Seven mills, including two gristmills and three sawmills, were located along the area's streams. Some of these buildings still stand today.



SHARING THE ROAD SAFELY

The Beaverdam Creek Historic Roadways District is a great place to explore by car, bike, or horseback. However, many of the roads are gravel, narrow, hilly, and sometimes heavily traveled. Since a variety of users will be on the roadways, following simple, common sense rules and courtesy will make the District safe and enjoyable for everyone.



Bicyclists

- A bike is considered a vehicle on public roads - so obey all traffic laws, signs, and turning lanes.
- Always ride with traffic - stay to the right and ride in a straight line.
- Ride single file when traffic is present and never ride more than 2 abreast.
- Be visible –wear bright colors during the day and use lights at night.
- Be aware of what is in front of you and behind you. Look both ways when turning.
- Loudoun County law requires that children under age 15 wear a helmet while biking.
- Cyclists must yield to equestrians.
- Show horses that you are a human – walk your bike, talk to the rider and horse, take off your helmet, and do not use a bell.



Equestrians

- Cyclists may be afraid of or not know how to react around horses - tell them about your horse if interest is expressed.

- Familiarize your horse with bicycles.



Drivers

- If overtaking a bicycle or horse traveling in the same direction, slow down and pass at least 2 feet to the left until safely clear.
- Do not crowd cyclists or equestrians - provide reasonable clearance when behind them.
- Pay attention – cyclists or equestrians may be ahead of you as you round a turn or crest a hill.
- Do not cut off riders when making a right turn - bikes are vehicles and through-traffic has the right of way.
- Be courteous – blowing horns startles cyclists and horses.

TOURING RESOURCES

- **Airmont Store**, 35376 Snickersville Turnpike, 540.554.8800. Open Mon-Fri 6:30am-9pm, Sat 7am-9pm, Sun 8am-6pm.
- **Bluemont General Store**, 33715 Snickersville Turnpike, 540.554.2054. Open daily 6:30am-7pm.
- **Philomont General Store**, 36550 Jeb Stuart Road, 540.338.5792. Open Mon-Sat 7am-7pm, Sun 12pm-5pm.
- **Trails End Cycling Co**, 201 North 23rd Street, Purcellville, (located across the street from the W&OD Trail's end) 540.338.2773. Open Tue-Fri 11am-7pm, Sat-Sun 10am-5pm
- Middleburg, Purcellville, and Round Hill offer a variety of shops & restaurants.
- Public Restrooms are located on South Liberty Street in Middleburg.

BEAVERDAM CREEK HISTORIC ROADWAYS DISTRICT

To protect a historic rural landscape that has changed little since Loudoun County's formation in 1757, the County established the Beaverdam Creek Historic Roadways District in 2002. By preserving the historic stone walls and natural features that line the roads, the District safeguards the historic character of over 70 miles of roadways. At the same time, the District promotes rural tourism, and protects a variety of users including farmers, bicyclists, and equestrians.

Brief History

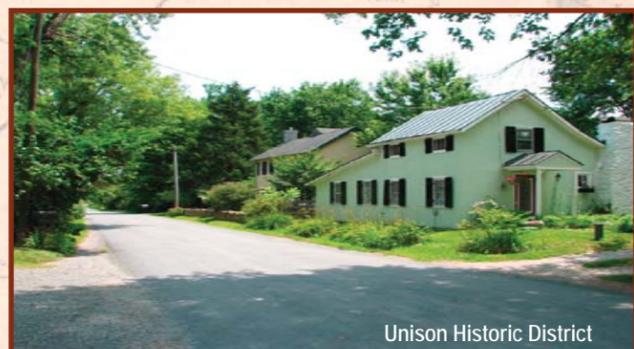
The earliest European settlers received grants for land in the District in the mid-1740s. By the 1820s, these early settlers, many of whom were Quakers, had broadly inhabited the area. Many of the district's roads have changed little since this time. The major thoroughfares of Snickersville Turnpike, a toll road completed in 1818, and Ashby's Gap Turnpike (Rt. 50), a toll road extended west beyond Aldie circa 1810, served as the main routes from farm to market. The interior district roads connected these farms with the commercial hubs of small villages that dotted the landscape.



Quaker Lane

The District encountered Civil War activity along its roadways and across its fields. The Battle of Unison occurred between Philomont and Upperville in November 1862, five weeks after the Battle of Antietam. The core of these cavalry battles took place along Unison and Welbourne Roads and Quaker Lane. The Calvary Battles of Aldie, Middleburg, and Upperville, early conflicts of the Gettysburg Campaign, occurred in mid-June 1863. The Upperville Battlefield stretched along Rt. 50 between Middleburg and Upperville, and included a fight at Goose Creek Bridge. Stone walls still standing along Welbourne, Millville, Greengarden, and Trappe Roads served as offensive and defensive positions during skirmishes.

After the Civil War, freed slaves settled communities throughout the District, including St. Louis, Willisville, Howardsville, Rock Hill, Tylertown, Powell's Grove, and Murphy's Corner. St. Louis, the largest African American community in Loudoun County, originated in 1881 when former slaves bought \$20, one-acre lots divided from a previous plantation. Most communities had a local school and church.

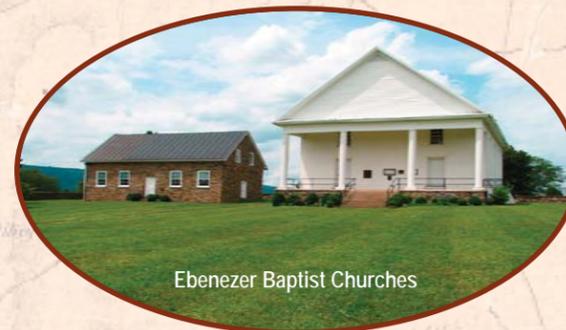


Unison Historic District

Historic Resources

As you tour the District, you will see history at every turn. The accompanying map shows only those historic resources that are listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places and are accessible to the public. Please respect the private property of District residents.

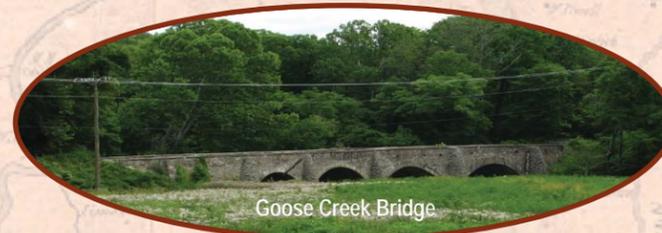
The **Unison Historic District** is a village settled by Quakers and Methodists in the mid-18th century; however, most development occurred between the turn of the 19th century and the Civil War. Today, 44 buildings contribute to the district, including the 1832 Methodist Church and the Unison Store, which is now used as an office.



Ebenezer Baptist Churches

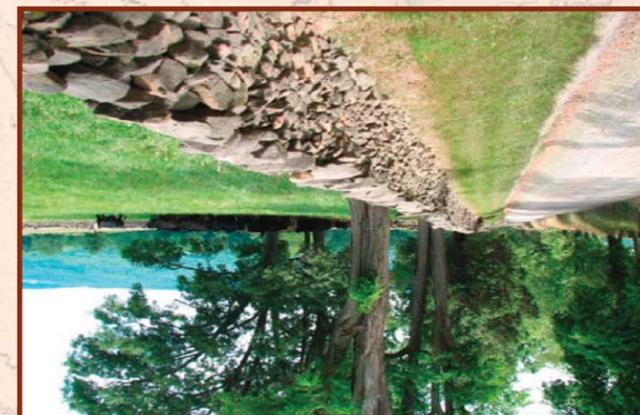
The **Ebenezer Baptist Churches** are a pair of meeting houses that represent the philosophical divide between Baptist congregations that started in the 1830s. Both Old School and New School Baptists used the vernacular, stone Old Church (circa 1769) until the New School congregation built the neighboring Greek Revival, stucco-covered stone New Church circa 1855. Local lore holds that on this site Confederate Colonel Mosby and his Rangers divided a Federal payroll captured during his 1864 Greenback Raid, a train attack at Duffield's Station west of Harpers Ferry.

The **Goose Creek Bridge** is a four-span stone bridge constructed as part of the Ashby's Gap Turnpike between 1801 and 1803. It is the oldest turnpike bridge in the state. The Virginia Department of Highways abandoned the bridge in the 1950s when they realigned Rt. 50 approximately 1/8 mile to the south.



Goose Creek Bridge

The **Bluemont Historic District** is also a locally designated Historic District formed in 1988. Originally known as Snickersville, the village developed at the turn of the 19th century at the trade crossroads of Snickersville Turnpike and Snickers Gap-Leesburg Road. A century later, when the railroad extended its line to Bluemont, the village changed its name and reinvented itself as a rural retreat for Washingtonians. The circa 1900 **E. E. Lake Store** is an excellent example of a store and post office from this era. This County-owned resource is being rehabilitated in partnership with the Bluemont Citizens Association. It will be open to the public in the future.



Millville Road with the Blue Ridge in the distance

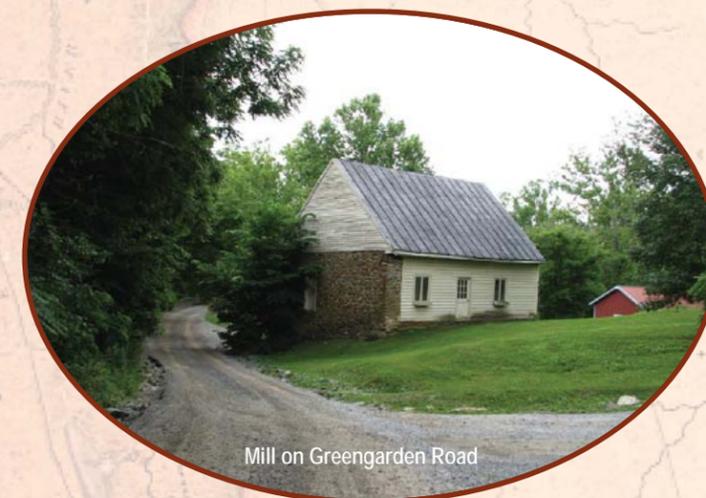
www.loudoun.gov/historic
info@loudoun.gov

(703) 777-0246

1 Harrison Street, S.E., Leesburg, Virginia
County Government Center, 3rd Floor

For more information about the Beaverdam Creek Historic District Roadways District or our six County-administered Historic and Cultural Conservation Districts please stop by, call, e-mail or go online to the Loudoun County Department of Planning.

BEAVERDAM CREEK HISTORIC ROADWAYS DISTRICT



Mill on Greengarden Road

HISTORY, INFORMATION & MAP