

# Historic Greenspring Valley

**Begin Tour at 10501 Falls Road, Lutherville, MD 21093.**

## **1. The Valley Inn c.1832, formerly Brooklandville House (10501 Falls Road)**

Originally built as a tavern known as Brooklandville House, this property was owned by John R. Gwynn. The two-story stone building was also used as a post office, stagecoach stop, tea room, sales-display room and sports center. It has changed owners many times over the years, but has always been a place of commerce. Now owned by Ted Bauer, the Valley Inn is operating as a popular bar and restaurant.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-218>

**Directly across the street is the next landmark.**

## **2. Brooklandville Railroad Station c.1885 (10512 Falls Road)**

This high Victorian depot served the Valley Branch of the Northern Central Railroad as its Brooklandville stop. Passenger service was terminated in 1933 and the entire line was abandoned in 1959, due to the construction of the Jones Falls Expressway and the Beltway interchange.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-1187>

**Turn left onto Falls Road. In .2 miles, turn right into The Cloisters.**

## **3. The Cloisters c.1932 (10440 Falls Road)**

Sometimes called Castle Cloister, this 1932 second home of Sumner and Dudrea Parker housed their vast collections of medieval art and architectural pieces. The Parkers “transplanted” salvaged but important features from the likes of Robert Gilmore’s Glen Ellen, a replica of Sir Walter Scott’s Scottish home, Abbotsford, built in 1833 near Loch Raven Reservoir.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-1186>

**Proceed left on Falls Road. Take a left onto Hillside Road for 1.1 miles. Make a right onto Greenspring Avenue for .4 miles. The next site is on the left, a large red barn.**

## **4. Lystra Barn c.1853 (just past 10806 Greenspring Avenue)**

The Lystra Meadows Barn is a remnant of what was Lystra Mineral Water Company, a spring water operation that was conducted on the property by merchant Nathan Rodgers. Although the bottled water business failed, many of the original farm and factory’s buildings, including the barn, survived. The barn is a significant and unique example of barn architecture in Baltimore County.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-1669>

**Make a U-turn and proceed South on Greenspring Avenue for .4 miles. Make a right turn onto Hillside Road and proceed for 1 mile. Carriage House Farms is located on the right.**

## **5. Carriage House Farms (1704 Hillside Road)**

Carriage House Farms is a family-owned, 82-acre farm, open for business. They raise free-range laying hens on pasture for their eggs, free-range Cornish cross chickens on pasture for meat, and free-range heritage turkeys, also on pasture. They use no hormones or antibiotics. Four colonies of bees on the farm provide raw honey, which is also available for purchase.

**Continue West on Hillside Road for .3 miles. Make a left onto Stevenson, proceed .8 miles, and then turn left onto Garrison Farms Road. Take the first right onto Garrison Farms Court. Fort Garrison is on the left.**

**6. Fort Garrison c.1695 (6 Garrison Farms Court)**

Now in a suburban neighborhood, Col. Ouldton's fort was built to house the rangers hired by the colonial governor to protect the settlers moving to or farming in the valley. The fort was also used during the French and Indian War. Eventually garrisons fell out of use, as it was difficult to keep rangers employed, especially in the cold winters.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-33>

**Go West on Garrison Farms Court. Turn left onto Garrison Farms Road. In .2 miles, turn right onto Stevenson Road and proceed .8 miles to Stevenson Village, on the right just past Hillside Road. Stop in the Village if you would like to visit Stone Mill Bakery, Don's Farm Stand, or other shops. Then proceed onto Old Valley Road, which is directly across from the entrance to Stevenson Village. See the Railroad Station on the left.**

**7. Stevenson Railroad Station c.1900, former site of Avalon House (10404 Stevenson Road)**

This railroad station was completed on December 31, 1901 to provide improved facilities for the frequent commuter service to and from downtown Baltimore. Designed by architect J. Appleton Wilson in an asymmetrical "picturesque" expression of the Queen Anne style, the exterior of the station remains virtually unaltered.

**Continue on Old Valley Road. Make a left onto Greenspring Valley Road. In .8 miles, Come by Chance, a private residence, will be on the right.**

**8. Come by Chance c.1834 (2312 Greenspring Valley Road)**

This property was held by the Owings family as early as 1744, but no dwelling appears to have been built prior to 1834 when the Gent family took ownership. A solid mahogany door opens into a front hall with a parlor on each side and a lovely curving staircase leading to two bedchambers above. The basement is native fieldstone.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-47>

**Continue on Greenspring Valley Road for .9 miles. At the sharp bend in the road, you will see a cluster of homes on the left that are part of the Chattolanee African American Survey District.**

**9. Chattolanee African American Survey District c.1800s (Greenspring Valley Road, just before Spring Hill Road)**

This small historic African American enclave developed around Greenspring United Methodist Church, constructed at the end of the Civil War. Chattolanee is made up of nine historic properties, including one church, five dwellings along Spring Hill road and three historic dwellings on Greenspring Valley Road.

[http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/planning/historic\\_preservation/maps\\_and\\_research\\_links/index.html](http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/planning/historic_preservation/maps_and_research_links/index.html)

(Scroll down to African American History, Mapping a Paradox)

**Turn left onto Spring Hill Road, the next site will be immediately on your left.**

**10. Green Spring United Methodist Church c.1872 (2730 Spring Hill Road)**

This small church was begun in the Chattolane community by African American residents of the area, many of whom were employed by the Valley families.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-1620>

**Turn around and go left onto Greenspring Valley Road for a short while. Make a left onto Cradock Lane and follow to Green Tree Road. Turn left and proceed to Alto Dale Farm Road. Turn left and straight ahead is Alto Dale, a private residence.**

**11. Alto Dale c.1859 (Alto Dale Farm Road)**

The property was originally owned by Robert Lyon who purchased it around 1836. Eventually, Dr. John Fisher purchased the property, which he named Alto Dale, and built the current house around 1859. He lived there until his death, and had a medical practice in the Greenspring Valley.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-161>

**Turn around on Alto Dale Farm Road and make a right onto Green Tree Road, then right onto Cradock Lane. Make the first left onto Village Queens Drive. Trentham will be on the left and is a private residence.**

**12. Trentham c.1861 (135 Village Queen Drive)**

The original house here was a small dwelling built by the Rev. Thomas Cradock, first rector of St. Thomas Parish, around 1747. He married Catherine Risteau, and the 200-acre farm was a gift from Captain John Risteau. The house was enlarged, but in 1858 was destroyed by fire. It was then rebuilt on a much larger scale in stone and covered with stucco. Numerous dependencies include a log stable and a stone octagonal bathhouse.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-41>

**Turn around on Village Queen Drive and make a left onto Cradock Lane. Proceed to the Cradock Lane and Greenspring Valley Road intersection; the next landmark is straight ahead on a private driveway.**

**13. Green Spring c. 1774 (112 Greenspring Valley Road)**

This private home is the only pre-Revolutionary house in the Valley that has remained in the same family, with ownership passing almost exclusively through the female line. It is so named because of the many springs located on the property.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-45>

**Continue west on Greenspring Valley Road and make a slight right onto Garrison Forest Road. Proceed .6 miles to your next destination on the left on the Garrison Forest School campus.**

**14. Robinswood c.1860 (300 Garrison Forest Road)**

Initially the home of Robert North and Susan (Voss) Elder, this house became part of Garrison Forest School in 1945 to increase the campus and add additional room for boarding students.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-1699>

**Go North on Garrison Forest Road for .7 miles. Make a left onto St. Thomas Lane. St. Thomas' Church will be on your right.**

**15. St. Thomas Church c.1742 (232 St. Thomas Lane)**

This church is sometimes called the Garrison Fort church. It was begun as a "chapel of ease for the forest dwellers" of Old St. Paul's parish in Baltimore city, but soon became its own parish. Built of brick in Flemish bond, with sharply dropping rooflines and multifaceted fenestration, the church was augmented in later years with transept, chancel and narthex. Its first rector was Thomas Cradock, who arrived from England in 1744 and eventually lived at Trentham.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-48>

**Return to Garrison Forest Road and turn left. In .7 miles, you will reach Irvine Nature Center on the right.**

**16. Irvine Nature Center (11201 Garrison Forest Road)**

Founded in 1975, Irvine Nature Center is a non-profit educational organization, offering programs in environmental studies and natural science to children and adults of the greater Baltimore area. Its 210 acre campus offers hiking trails and beautiful views of the Caves Valley.

**Turn around and go Southeast on Garrison Forest Road for .5 miles. Your next destination is on the left; it is a private residence.**

**17. Atamasco c.1750s (10909 Garrison Forest Road)**

This house is one of the few pre-revolutionary houses still standing in the Greenspring Valley (Green Spring being another). The name of the house is a Native American word meaning day lilies, which still grow in abundance around the house.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-44>

**Go South on Garrison Forest Road and make the first left onto Caves Road. The next site is on the right; it is a private residence.**

**18. Stemmer House c. 1793 (2627 Caves Road)**

This magnificent 18<sup>th</sup> century house was dismantled in 1930 and moved from its original site on Race Road near Stemmers Run, and was reassembled and restored at the current site. One of Maryland's outstanding Georgian houses, it is believed that the Washingtons of Virginia visited the house at its former location during inspection tours of their iron furnace investments in Back River.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-56>

**Continue on Caves Road. The next two sites will be on the left on a private driveway.**

**19. The Caves c.1798 ( 2522 Caves Road)**

This property was first surveyed in 1705 by John Coales who called it Coale's Caves. It was resurveyed in 1734 when Dr. Charles Carroll purchased the property. At one point, the Carroll family owned almost 2,500 acres and various Carroll descendants lived on the property for almost a century.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-49>

**20. Little Caves c. 1760 (2518 Caves Road)**

Little Caves was originally a log cabin that was part of the Caves estate. The original room, with log beams and an enormous fireplace for cooking, remains intact.

**Proceed Northeast on Caves Road. Make the first right onto Park Heights Avenue and go for 1.4 miles. Rainbow Hall is on the left on a private driveway.**

**21. Rainbow Hall c.1917 (10729 Park Heights Avenue)**

Also known as “Rainbow Hill”, this early twentieth century house was carefully designed to recall an elegant house of late eighteenth century England. The architect was Julian Abele, the first African American student admitted to the architecture school at the University of Pennsylvania. The house was commissioned by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Brooks. Mrs. Brooks’ second husband was General Douglas McArthur who named the house “Rainbow Hill” in honor of the Rainbow Division he had led during WWI.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-381>

**Go South on Park Heights Avenue for .5 miles. Make a left onto Greenspring Valley Road for .4 miles. The next landmark is on the right, East of Old Valley Road; it is a private residence.**

**22. Green Spring Punch c.1700s (2031 Greenspring Valley Road)**

This property was first owned by Samuel Owings, a prominent resident of the Valley who had an extensive list of landholdings and was actively involved in community and county affairs. The property contains several historic structures. The oldest, dating from pre-Revolutionary times, is an enormous stone barn listed in the 1798 Federal Tax Assessment Record. The barn is among the oldest and largest in the district.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-46>

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-1613>

**Go East on Greenspring Valley Road for .9 miles. Rodgers’ Farms is located on the left.**

**23. Rodgers’ Farm –seasonal (1818 Greenspring Valley Road)**

In the fall, you can enjoy the corn maze, pick pumpkins or take a hay ride! Stop on in!

**Proceed to your next location on Greenspring Valley Road, just beyond Rodgers’ Farms. This house is a private residence.**

**24. Willowbrook c.1746 (1800 Greenspring Valley Road)**

This property was first surveyed in 1719 and was originally called Anthony’s Delight. The current house at Willowbrook has had numerous renovations, but its oldest part was built between 1746 and 1755. The house was used as a clubhouse for the Maryland Polo Club for ten years, beginning in 1926. The meadow in front of the house was used as a polo field and the stables for polo ponies.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-1610>

**Continuing North on Greenspring Valley Road, you will find the next destination in .5 miles on the left. This private residence is high up on a steep hill.**

**25. Villa Pace c. 1940 (1526 Greenspring Valley Rd)**

World- renowned soprano Rosa Ponselle and her Baltimore husband, Carle Jackson, built this Italian villa in the Greenspring Valley. Miss Ponselle designed the 17 room home herself, including her “Cinderella Style Bedroom”. It is said that in her retirement here, her lovely voice could be heard as she sang from the porch overlooking the valley. The couple divorced, but Miss Ponselle died at her beloved villa and is buried at Druid Ridge Cemetery.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-1608>

**Proceed east, and you will find the next landmark on the right.**

**26. Seven Oaks at Stevenson University c. 1905 (1531 Greenspring Valley Road)**

Seven Oaks is a large Georgian revival house with an asymmetrical portico, two stories, and a dormer level. The home was acquired by Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur and is now part of Stevenson University.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-2294>

**Continue East on Greenspring Valley Road for .6 miles and the next destination is on the left.**

**27. Gramercy c.1902 (1400 Greenspring Valley Road)**

Today, this elegant bed and breakfast still retains the design and atmosphere of the home built by entrepreneur Alexander Cassatt, brother of American painter Mary Cassatt. In the 1950s, the house and grounds became the home of the Koinonia Foundation, a center for retreat and study. The Center closed in 1985, but much of the property remains in agriculture as Maryland’s oldest organic farm.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-1679>

**Further down the road is Fernwood, on the left. This private residence is up on the ridge.**

**28. Fernwood c.1895 (1116 Greenspring Valley Road)**

In 1902, this three-story frame building was 40 feet wide and 50 feet long, with a wide veranda encircling the house. All the rooms on the first floor opened onto this porch. Fernwood stands on one of the highest elevations in the area.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-1600>

**Go West on Greenspring Valley Road for .2 miles and the next destination is on your right. It is a private residence.**

**29. Oakdene c.1735 (1021 Greenspring Valley Road)**

Originally called Summerfield, sections of this home were built as early as 1735. Generations of the Cockey family lived in this handsome dwelling, including Captain John Cockey who served in the

Revolutionary War. After several changes of hands, members of the Carroll family took ownership, among them U.S. Ambassador William Trimble. A very large stone stable possibly built in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century as well as a Queen Anne gambrel roofed barn also exist on the property.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-814>

**Continue east for your next location on the left, a private residence.**

### **30. Brandonwood c.1925 (918 Greenspring Valley Road)**

Built by Captain Emerson for his wife's son, Frederick C. McCormack, Jr. it was then a three-story brick mansion with fifty room, including thirty bedrooms and fourteen baths. It suffered a damaging fire in 1939 and was rebuilt.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-1598>

**Across from Brandonwood on Greenspring Valley Road is your next stop, also a private residence.**

### **31. Helmore c.1835 (901 Greenspring Valley Road)**

Originally owned by the renowned Cockey family, Helmore was sold to the Samuel Brady family in 1842. Samuel Brady was a former mayor of Baltimore City. After his death, the house passed to his son, also Samuel, who farmed the property and was president of the Baltimore County Agricultural Society. He also served as Mayor of Baltimore and held other political offices.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-1597>

**Stay on Greenspring Valley Road for .3 miles. Make a left onto Tony Drive. Your next destination is on the right.**

### **32. Emerson Farms c.1915 (10807 Tony Drive)**

Captain Isaac Emerson, who originated the formula for Bromo-Seltzer, used this farm to establish the *Brooklandwood Spring Water Bottling Company*. His *Aqua Velva* water flowed from the Brooklandwood stream, which was allegedly discovered by Charles Carroll in 1774. The water enjoyed nation-wide distribution. Captain Emerson also built the famed Bromo-Seltzer Tower as well as the Emerson Hotel in Baltimore at a cost of \$2 million. Emerson Farms are now part of Greenspring Montessori School.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-1715>

**Go South on Tony Drive to Greenspring Valley Road. Make a Left. Make another left onto Falls Road. In 1.2 miles, your destination will be on the left on the Maryvale School campus.**

### **33. Wickcliffe c.1913 (at Maryvale School, across from Tremblant Court on the right)**

This stone simulation of a medieval castle in the Green Spring Valley was constructed to duplicate part of the residential wings of Warwick castle in England. This Tudor style structure of 65 rooms was one of the largest private homes ever built in the county. In 1945, the entire premises became the Maryvale Preparatory School and serves as a private high school for girls.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-1602>

**Make a U turn. Proceed Southeast on Falls Road for .3 miles. Your next location will be on the left on St. Paul's School property.**

### **34. Brooklandwood c.1790s (11152 Falls Road)**

Charles Carroll of Carrollton built this magnificent home for his daughter, Mary Caton. Charles Carroll of Carrollton was a lawyer, a delegate to Maryland's revolutionary convention in 1775, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, a delegate to the Continental Congress twice, and both a state and federal Senator. The house was built as a summer home, high on a breezy hill, for Mary and her family. The home eventually passed to members of the Alexander Brown family, and then to Captain Emerson of Bromo Seltzer fame. In 1952, it became the site of St. Paul's School for Boys.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-87>

**Make a right out of St. Paul's School and continue to the last destination, which currently is home to shops and an M&T Bank, at the bottom of the hill on the left.**

### **35. Cockey's Tavern & Stable c.1840s (10749 Falls Road)**

All through the 1800s, travelers along the Falls Road Turnpike needed food and shelter for themselves and their horses. The Cockey family provided this tavern and stable through most of the 1800s, complete with meals, decent accommodations, and care for the horses and wagons. The buildings are currently home to shops and a bank.

<http://mht.maryland.gov/mihp/MIHPCard.aspx?MIHPNo=BA-1588>

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Thank you for taking this historic tour! For much more information on all these properties and on the entire Greenspring Valley, we suggest you consult the two-volume work, *The Greenspring Valley*. The first volume is subtitled "A History and Historic Houses," and is written by Dawn F. Thomas. The second volume is subtitled "Genealogies" and is written by Robert Barnes. The books were published by the Maryland Historical Society in 1978.