

# A Staunton Timeline

- 1732

Scots-Irish immigrant John Lewis settled near what is now present day Staunton
- 1747

Town of Staunton laid out and named for Lady Rebecca Staunton Gooch, wife of Virginia's Governor Gooch
- 1781

Virginia General Assembly met in Augusta Parish Church (now Trinity Episcopal Church) in Staunton to evade British soldiers
- 1801

Staunton, population 800, was incorporated as town with its own court.
- 1825

Western Lunatic Asylum (Western State Hospital) founded
- 1839

Virginia Institute for the Deaf and the Blind established
- 1842

Augusta Female Seminary (now Mary Baldwin College) founded
- 1844

Virginia Female Institute (now Stuart Hall School) founded
- 1854

Virginia Central Railroad completed from Richmond to Staunton
- 1856

Woodrow Wilson was born in Staunton's Presbyterian manse
- 1864

General Hunter's Union troops entered Staunton, a Confederate supply depot
- 1865

Allen Chapel established as first African-American congregation west of the Blue Ridge Mountains
- 1884

Staunton Military Academy founded
- 1891

T.J. Collins opened his architectural practice
- 1908

City Manager form of government pioneered in Staunton
- 1912

Homecoming celebration held for President-elect Woodrow Wilson
- 1931

Final run of Staunton's streetcars
- 1941

President Franklin Roosevelt dedicated Woodrow Wilson Birthplace
- 1961

Urban renewal project demolished 32 downtown buildings
- 1971

Historic Staunton Foundation formed to promote preservation over demolition
- 1988

Frontier Culture Museum opened
- 2001

American Shakespeare Center's Blackfriars Playhouse opened

## The R.R. Smith Center for History and Art

Over the years, a number of artisans and artists have called the area home: riflemaker John Sheets, painters Caleb Bingham and Horace May; folk artist Grandma Moses; and architect T.J. Collins (see map inset on reverse). Three local non-profit organizations dedicated to preserving and promoting our community heritage joined forces to restore the Eakleton Hotel (Beverley #16). This Collins-designed structure restored to its late-19th-century splendor, unites the community's history, arts, culture, tourism and economic development in a vibrant downtown setting.

# The Wharf

When the Virginia Central Railroad was built in 1854, it changed Staunton from a rural village into a booming center of commerce. By the turn of the century, warehouses were built around the train depot supplying everything from fresh produce to wagons and harnesses. The Wharf Area Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1972.

**1** **Augusta Co. Courthouse • 1901** Located on the corner of Johnson and Augusta Streets, this T.J. Collins designed building is the fifth to occupy this site. In 1745, a crude log stucture built here served as the first county courthouse.



**2** **120-124 S. Augusta St. • 1876** This building's upper facade is made of pressed metal, a rarity in Staunton, a town better known for brick buildings. The structure was built directly over Lewis Creek, which still flows underneath.



**3** **119-123 S. Augusta St. • ca. 1880** The pride Victorian builders took even in utilitarian structures is evident in this warehouse. Originally the wholesale grocery house of Hoge & Hutchinson, it was completely renovated in 1982.



**4** **125 S. Augusta St. • 1855** When built by the railroad in the 1850s, *The American Hotel* was the last word in luxury. The Stonewall Brigade Band serenaded President and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant from this site in 1874 when their train passed through.



**5** **Train Station • 1902** The C&O Station is an unusual adaptation of the Bungalow style for a public building. This is the third railroad station on this site; the Virginia Central Line built the first in 1854.



**6** **Concourse & Bridge • ca. 1905** The sweeping curve of the concourse provides an impressive approach for rail travelers. A cast-iron footbridge links Sears Hill to downtown. The bridge (rehabilitation completed in 2013) offers a fine view of the City.



**7** **112 S. New St. • ca. 1870** According to the painted sign, Fulton Witz once manufactured "Shirts, Overalls & Duck Coats" in this building. Its renovation in 1973 was the City's first mixed-use development project.



**8** **1 Mill St. • ca. 1892** White Star Mills unusual trapezoidal shape distinguishes this major landmark. Once one of the Valley's largest flour mills, it closed in 1966. The tall, round grain storage bins date from the 1950s.



**9** **Wharf Warehouses • 1870 - 1910** This district once bustled with the activity of farmers, wholesalers and grocers. Sturdy brick buildings clustered around the depot represent one of Virginia's finest collections of warehouse architecture.



**10** **109-111 S. Lewis St. • 1893** Here, Dr. S.P. Hite made his patent remedies, including the famous "Hite's Pain Cure," which claimed to cure everything from headaches to gangrene. Note the painted signs, an early form of advertising.



**11** **118 W. Johnson St. • ca. 1854** Thought to be the oldest unaltered house in the downtown, the simple vernacular dwelling has board and batten siding and scalloped trim under the eaves. The original floor plan is still intact.



Key to Map

Newtown

The Wharf

Information

T.J. Collins

Public Parking

Public Restroom



**1** **217 W. Beverley • ca. 1887** Stonewall Jackson School was built as Staunton's first permanent public school and remodeled in 1913 by T.J. Collins. President-elect Wilson stood here to watch a parade in his honor in 1912.



**2** **Trinity Episcopal • 1855** The first Augusta Parish Church was built on this site in 1763. The present church is a fine example of early Gothic Revival architecture and boasts 12 Tiffany Studios windows.



**3** **Trinity Parish House • 1872** The Gothic Revival facade of Virginia's first parish house overlooks Trinity's churchyard with its many old gravestones. The rear addition to Trinity Parish House dates from 1924.



**4** **Trinity Rectory • 1872** Designed by William A. Pratt, the Rectory is a rare local example of the Jacobean Revival style. Note clustered chimney pots, fine brickwork and studded oak door.



**5** **18 Church St. • ca.1880** A brace of lions stand guard at the entrance of this unusual residence. The Eastlake style exterior decoration was popular in other parts of the country, but is rarely found in this area.



**6** **120 Church St. • 1791** The Stuart House, one of Virginia's earliest Classical Revival buildings, was built by Judge Archibald Stuart; his son Alexander added the south wing in 1844. It remains occupied by Stuart decedents.



**7** **120 Church Street • ca.1785** This wooden cottage served as Stuart's dwelling until the main house was completed. Both Judge Stuart and his son used it as a law office.



# Newtown



**Deeded to the city by Alexander St. Clair in 1787, this area was called Newtown to distinguish it from the original part known as Oldtown. Staunton's oldest residential area encompasses the grounds of Stuart Hall School, historic Trinity Episcopal Church, the landmark Stuart House, and the City's first black church. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983.**

**8** **101-105 Madison Place • ca.1910** These three townhouses in the Queen Anne style feature steep gables with Palladian windows, curved bays on the front and sides, fishscale shingles, and classical trim and columns on the porches.



**9** **600 W. Johnson St. • 1851** Built by George M. Cochran, this white brick Greek Revival house was sold in 1870 to the Wesleyan Female Institute. When the girls' school closed in 1900, the structure reverted to a single family home.



**10** **610 W. Johnson St. • 1871** In 1871, the Wesleyan Female Institute built this red brick house to accommodate its expanding needs. This house also reverted to single family use in the early 20th century.



**11** **23-27 S. Fayette St. • ca. 1909** In densely populated neighborhoods, townhouses such as these were popular. Constructed of concrete "stone" block, the townhouses boast individual porches and attractive trim.



**12** **19 S. Fayette St. • 1810** The frame section of this house dates from ca.1810, while the brick section was added about 1835. The original porch was removed ca. 1905 when T.J. Collins designed the arched entrance.



**13** **10-20 S. Fayette St. • late 19th C.** This block of late 19th-century houses illustrates the district's development and the progression of architectural styles including Italianate, vernacular Queen Anne and Dutch Colonial.



**14** **701-703 W. Beverley St. • 1792** The right portion of the Smith-Thompson house, a log structure with clapboard siding, is one of Staunton's few remaining 18th-century structures. The left portion is an addition, constructed in 1870 of brick with a stone foundation.



**15** **515 W. Frederick St. • ca.1877** This Italianate typifies many Staunton homes of the mid-1800s. Note the large double-door entrance, and lacy gingerbread trim. The building was extensively rehabbed in 1983.



**16** **401 W. Frederick St. • 1858 325 W. Frederick St. • 1886** Now part of Stuart Hall, these two Victorians were single family homes. Note central tower at 325 and 401's Italianate details - arched windows, bracketed cornice and porch.



**17** **Stuart Hall School • 1846** Stuart Hall's Greek Revival "Old Main" was designed by Edwin M. Taylor as the Virginia Female Institute. It was renamed in 1907 to honor headmistress Mrs. J.E.B. Stuart, the war hero's widow.



**18** **Emmanuel Episcopal • 1894** The Gothic Revival Emmanuel Episcopal Church structure features handsome brickwork, pointed arched openings, beautiful woodwork, stained glass windows, and painted murals in the sanctuary.



**19** **216-234 W. Frederick St. 1890 -1920** This block of five brick homes exemplifies building styles popular from the late 19th century. Note the brickwork in chimneys and eaves, the elaborate woodwork and patterned slate roofs.



## Also of Interest

**The following information is provided to highlight some of the City's other attractions:**

**Gypsy Hill Park** - established 1889  
A beautiful public park with swimming, golf, tennis, duck pond, playgrounds and picnic spots. Every Monday night in the summer, the Stonewall Brigade Band gives free concerts at the bandstand at 8 p.m. Follow Churchville Avenue (Rt. 250 W) from downtown. (Open daily until 11 p.m.)

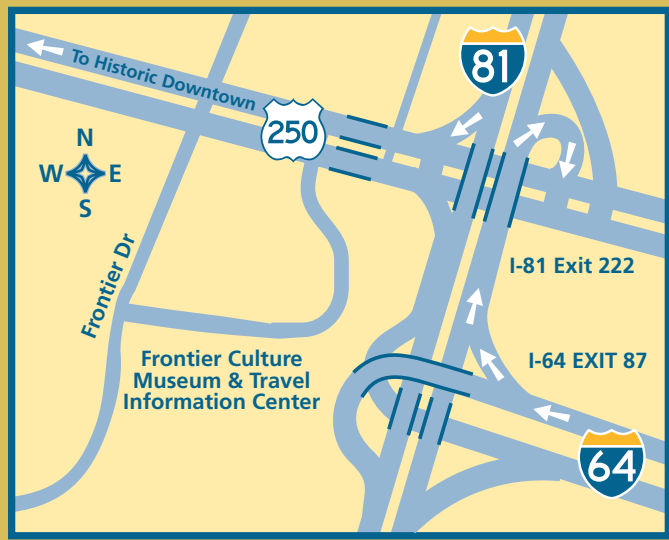
**Thornrose Cemetery** - established 1849  
This magnificent burial ground features a stone bridge, gatehouses and many mausoleums designed by architect T.J. Collins. Take Frederick St. (Rt. 254) west to 1100 block of Beverley St.

**The Civil War** - Staunton played a pivotal role during the Civil War years when the Shenandoah Valley served as the "Breadbasket of the Confederacy." While most of the battles were being fought north or west of the town, it was the presence of the Virginia Central Railroad that provided a vital link between the Valley and eastern Virginia, making Staunton an important supply depot for the Confederacy.

Staunton was designated a center for the mobilization and training of troops for the Confederate States of America. Arsenals and warehouses were established in Staunton to aid in the war effort. Local military companies such as *The Staunton Artillery*, were mustered, many attached to the *Fifth Virginia Regiment* which became part of the legendary *Stonewall Brigade*, led by Stonewall Jackson.

**Staunton Public Library** - Located in a refurbished early 20th century schoolhouse designed by T.J. Collins, the library contains extensive local history and genealogical research information. Located at the corner of N. Augusta St. and Churchville Ave. (Rt. 250 W)

## Getting to Staunton



**From I-81**  
Take exit 222 west – follow signs to downtown Historic Districts.

**From I-64**  
Take exit 87 north to 81. Take the first exit (222) west. Follow signs to downtown Historic Districts.

Virginia is for Lovers

This brochure was developed by Historic Staunton Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization founded in 1971 to encourage the preservation of Staunton's rich architectural heritage. For more information about the Foundation and its programs, please visit [historicstaunton.org](http://historicstaunton.org) or call (540) 885-7676.



For more information about Staunton, Virginia please visit us on the web: [www.visitstaunton.com](http://www.visitstaunton.com)

# A Self-Guided Tour of Staunton's Historic Districts



HISTORIC STAUNTON FOUNDATION




# Stuart Addition


This diverse older neighborhood adjoins the campus of Mary Baldwin College and the former Staunton Military Academy. Rich in historical associations, it boasts a number of buildings listed in the National Register and some of the steepest hills in town. Deeded to the City in 1803 by Judge Archibald Stuart, Stuart Addition Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1984.

- 1


**First Presbyterian • 1872**  
Staunton's Presbyterian congregation was organized in 1804, but did not build their first church until 1818. Their second was this Romanesque Revival church with its tall spire, dedicated in 1872.


- 2


**Mary Baldwin College • 1842**  
Reverend Rufus Bailey founded Augusta Female Seminary in 1842. Two years later, this Greek Revival structure was built to house the growing school. The Seminary was renamed in 1895 to honor principal Mary Julia Baldwin.


- 3

**32 N. New St. • 1830s**  
Early tax and deed research indicates that this lot contained a dwelling as early as 1809; however this Greek Revival house dates to the 1830s. The rambling house was enlarged in 1909 and again in the 1920s.


- 4

**41 N. Augusta St. • 1914**  
Cyrus McCormick's estate donated \$50,000 to help build this fine Renaissance Revival structure. It originally served as the Staunton YMCA, but has been converted to condominiums.



- 5

**121-123 N. Augusta St. • pre-1870**  
This structure has long been important to the local Catholic community. It was built as the *St. Francis Academy*, was converted to a convent in 1880 and continues to serve the church today.


- 6

**St. Francis of Assisi • 1895** ☙  
This imposing Gothic Revival church, designed in 1895 by T.J. Collins, replaced the original 1851 Catholic Church. Its walls are composed of stone from Pennsylvania, Indiana and Virginia.



- 7

**215 N. Augusta St. • ca. 1800**  
In the days when Augusta Street was the busy Valley Turnpike, this house served as a stagecoach stop. Now covered with hand-hewn clapboards, it is one of Staunton's few remaining 18th century log houses.




- 8


**Augusta St. Methodist • 1876** ☙  
This congregation was formed in 1866, making it one of Staunton's earliest African-American churches. In 1911, the building was remodeled and the Gothic Revival facade added by T.J. Collins.


- 9


**400-600 N. Augusta St. • 1790-1910**  
Important to Staunton's African-American community, these buildings include Ebenezer Baptist Church (1910); 503 N. Augusta (ca.1800), a hotel and Elks Lodge; and T.J. Collins' 1904 Mt. Zion Baptist Church. ☙


- 10

**11-23 Prospect St. • ca. 1900**  
Staunton's boomtown years created a need for more residential construction. These Victorian row-houses feature bracketed cornices with sawtooth brickwork below and beautiful millwork.


- 11

**322 N. New St. • ca. 1880**  
Local Congressman Henry St. George Tucker lived in this house. In 1897, he entertained U.S. Presidential candidate William Jennings Bryan, who became Woodrow Wilson's Sec. of State.



- 12

**419 N. New St. • 1868**  
William Haines was born here January 1, 1900. A major film star in the 20s and 30s, Haines appeared in over 50 films. Using his connections, he later became a leading interior designer in Hollywood.


- 13

**119 Prospect St. • ca. 1875**  
Historian and lawyer Joseph A. Waddell built this Italianate residence. He wrote the well-known *Annals of Augusta County* and co-authored the 1885 *Atlas of Augusta County* with Jed Hotchkiss.


- 14

**Kable House • 1873**  
This elaborate Italianate house was built by J.W. Alby. Ten years later, it was purchased by Capt. William H. Kable as the first building for his boys' school which later became the Staunton Military Academy.



- 15

**200 N. Market St. • 1928** ☙  
Designed by Sam Collins, *Shenstone* features a steeply-pitched gabled portico with diamond pattern in brick and concrete, turned Corinthian columns, and embossed tiles.


- 16

**220 N. New St. • 1910** ☙  
Designed by T.J. Collins in the Colonial Revival style, it features blocked cornice, dormers with arched windows, Chippendale balcony, and an elaborate front door with leaded fanlight.


- 17

**210 N. New St. • 1900** ☙  
T.J. Collins' designed the area's best example of Chateaufesque style for C.W. Miller. Note the profuse decoration - finials, iron cresting on patterned slate roof and elaborate brickwork.



## Gospel Hill




The corner of Beverley and Coalter Streets was called *Gospel Hill* in the late 1790s when religious meetings were held here at Sampson Eagon's black-


smith shop. Today, the intersection marks the heart of this gracious neighborhood of shady streets and elegant homes that represent a century of domestic architectural styles. The district was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1985.

- 1


**19 S. Market St. • ca. 1810**  
Named *Kalorama* - Greek for "beautiful view" - this house stands on the site of William Beverley's manor house. Since the 1830s it has been used as a girls' school, a hotel, and the public library.


- 2


**215 Kalorama St. • 1891** ☙  
The stone front was designed by T.J. Collins for City Treasurer Arista Hoge. Note the date and initials A.H. carved into the facade. It is Staunton's only Richardsonian Romanesque residence.


- 3

**200 block Kalorama St. • 1870-1910**  
This late 19th century neighborhood of large homes boasts styles ranging from Italianate to Colonial Revival. T.J. Collins designed #227 in 1898 using Jacobean details. ☙


- 4

**10-22 S. Coalter St. • late 19th C.**  
This block illustrates adaptations of Colonial Revival, Queen Anne, and Shingle styles. Limestone walls and steps are prominent features of Staunton streetscapes.



- 5

**238 E. Beverley St. • ca. 1840** ☙  
In the early 1800s, legend has it, Sampson Eagon, a founder of Staunton's Methodist Church, held revival services on this site - hence the name "Gospel Hill." T.J. Collins remodeled this building in 1915.


- 6

**18 N. Coalter St. • ca. 1870** ☙  
T.J. Collins' 1898 remodeling of the original house included a wrap-around porch, now removed. Chateaufesque style features include classical detailing, decorated chimneys and irregular roofline.



- 7

**305 E. Beverley St. • 1912** ☙  
Sam Collins designed this elegant Georgian Revival residence for the L.W.H. Peyton family. A handsome frontispiece entrance with fanlight and fluted columns dominates the symmetrical facade.




- 8


**324 E. Beverley St. • 1848**  
Owners of this house included Stonewall Jackson's engineer, the founder of Staunton's oldest bank and a Virginia Supreme Court justice. It now incorporates the original detached kitchen, on the right.


- 9


**402 E. Beverley St. • ca. 1908**  
The symmetrical design and exaggerated proportions of this house typify early 20th-century Colonial Revival - a free interpretation of the style with details inspired by Colonial precedents.


- 10

**422 E. Beverley St. • 1861**  
This graceful house is a fine example of the transition between the Greek Revival and Italianate styles. Typical of the latter are the bracketed eaves and narrow, paired windows.

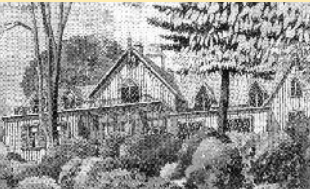

- 11

**437 E. Beverley St. • 1888**  
Jed Hotchkiss, aide and mapmaker to Generals Lee and Jackson, built this addition onto the front of a ca. 1840 house, and named it *The Oaks*. Hotchkiss' campaign maps are in the Library of Congress.




- 12


**521 E. Beverley St. • 1851**  
With its steep gables, scrolled bargeboards, board and batten siding and diamond-paned windows, this Gothic Revival style cottage was built for VSDB administrator Dr. J.C.M. Merrilatt.


- 13

**605 E. Beverley St. • 1893**  
A fine example of Queen Anne architecture, *Oakdene* was built by Edward Echols, Virginia's Lt. Governor (1898-1902). It employs every imaginable building material. Note the owl atop the turret.


- 14

**654 E. Beverley St. • 1869**  
Edmund Cabell, a "freeman of colour," built this two-room log home, the only remaining exposed log structure in Staunton. It is owned by the godchild of the 3rd generation of Cabells to live there.



- 15

**VSDB • 1839 - 1846**  
Baltimore architect Robert Cary Long designed the Virginia School for the Deaf & the Blind. The magnificent Greek Revival main building, with its massive columned portico, was completed in 1846.


- 16

**Berkeley Place • 1880s - 1890s**  
This street features late Victorian homes in the Queen Anne, Stick Style, and Colonial Revival style. Although smaller than some of Gospel Hill's residences, they are rich in ornamentation and design.


- 17

**303 Berkeley Place • ca. 1896**  
Characteristic of the late 19th century Shingle Style, this house has a stone foundation, decorative shingles and strong horizontal lines. It was built by the Catlett family.


- 18

**Woodrow Wilson Birthplace • 1846**  
This 12-room Greek Revival style house was built by the First Presbyterian Church as their manse or minister's home. Woodrow Wilson was born here on December 28th, 1856.



## Beverley

This compact urban area retains its 19th century charm and "Main Street" ambience. Although Staunton was founded in 1747, on land originally owned by William Beverley, most buildings date from the "boom" years between 1870 and 1920. Downtown Staunton, one of Virginia's finest collections of Victorian era architecture, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places as the Beverley Historic District in 1981.



The Temple House (Beverley #1) is located in the Gospel Hill District. Stuart Addition's #1, 3 & 4 and the Wharf's #1, 10 & 11 are actually located within the boundaries of the Beverley District. Alternative placement facilitates your walking ease.

- 1

**The Temple House • 1925** ☙  
*The Temple House of Israel* was built to replace the original temple at 200 Kalorama Street. Sam Collins' fanciful design and Near Eastern flavor makes this building unique in the area.


- 2

**125 E. Beverley St. • 1912** ☙  
Built as the New Theatre, it hosted live performances and silent films. In 1936, fire gutted the interior, but part of the original Renaissance Revival facade, with its terra cotta decoration, remains.


- 3

**113 E. Beverley St. • ca. 1870** ☙  
In 1878, the City purchased the Grange Hall, remodeling it for municipal offices and an opera house. The City Manager form of government was born here in 1908. Sam Collins designed this facade ca. 1930.




- 4

**19-21 E. Beverley St. • 1911** ☙  
Designed in the Venetian Revival style, the delicate white facade is made of terra cotta panels shipped from New York at a cost of \$825 and applied to the brick wall beneath.


- 5


**7 & 9 -15 E. Beverley St. • 1899 -1906**  
The Colonial Revival *Witz Building* dominates the block - note the globe atop the center. T.J. Collins' 1899 design for the *Wholey Building* was based on 14th century palazzos in Venice. ☙


- 6


**12-18 E. Beverley St. • 1888 - 1899**  
These three buildings, with their elaborate detailing, typify Staunton's late 19th-century commercial architecture. They were originally used as a confectionery, a marble cutter and a grocery.


- 7


**2-4 E. Beverley St. • 1895** ☙  
*The Marquis Building* housed the offices of architect T.J. Collins. This Romanesque Revival structure features an unusual corner entrance supported by stone columns with carved capitals.


- 8


**12-14 W. Beverley St. • 1903** ☙  
Established in 1865, *National Valley Bank*, Staunton's oldest banking institution, is housed in a fine example of the Beaux-Arts style. The interior features a magnificent oval stained glass skylight.


- 9

**7-13 W. Beverley St. • 1896**  
*The Masonic Temple* has dominated the Staunton skyline since its completion. Chicago architect I.E.A. Rose's design mixes classical and medieval elements. The Masonic order was chartered here in 1786.



- 10

**15-23 W. Beverley St. • ca. 1880**  
*The Gooch & Hoge Building* was built by two prominent Staunton families whose names it carries. This Italianate building boasts fine cornice detailing, such as the lions' heads in the corner brackets.



- 11

**27 -29 W. Beverley St. • 1890**  
The clock tower marks the center of town. Originally the YMCA, this building contained an auditorium, bowling alley, gym, running track and library. Note the tower's brick-work.


- 12

**20-28 W. Beverley St. • 1890**  
*The Crowle Building* features a terra cotta cornice and stone lintel above the entrance with basket weave carving. The flood of 1896 washed away the entire rear portion of the building.


- 13


**103 W. Beverley St. • 1894**  
This was the showroom of the *Putnam Organ Works*, begun here by W. Putnam of Vermont. The Romanesque Revival facade originally had a huge arched stone entrance.


- 14

**Barristers Row • pre-1870**  
These structures were primarily used as law offices, but also housed cobblers, barbers, saloons and restaurants; enterprises that benefited from being close to the courthouse.


- 15

**3-7 S. New St. • ca.1830**  
One of Staunton's oldest commercial structures, this building has been home to a grocery, laundry, print shop, tailor, taxi garage and restaurant. Note the original stone on the side walls.


- 16

**20-22 S. New St. • 1894** ☙  
The Second Empire style *Eakleton Hotel*, boasts a mansard roof, decorative brickwork and iron balconies. Recently restored, it now houses The R.R. Smith Center for History & Art, home to three local non-profit groups.


- 17

**24 S. Market St. • 1924**  
*The Stonewall Jackson Hotel*, designed by H.L. Stevens & Co. of New York, cost \$750,000 when built. Atop Staunton's tallest building is a penthouse and another area landmark, the neon sign.

