Cumberland Valley has long been known as a transportation hub. Intersected by the Great Road, the county has a long heritage of hospitality as taverns dotted the rolling farmland to accommodate early travelers.

In 1798, Carlisle, the county seat, had 24 taverns and a population of less than 2,000. Records show that at least 55 taverns have stood in Carlisle, scattered throughout the sixteen block area of old town. Only about 10 of these building still stand today.

Walnut Bottom Road, a 20-mile stretch of free road between Carlisle and Shippensburg, was very popular with freighters (wagoners) and drovers. Originally following an old Indian trail, this route was heavily traveled because it was not a toll road like the Great Road. By 1825, there were 15 taverns along this route.

Shippensburg, the oldest town in Cumberland County, was established by Edward Shippen in 1733 on the main road from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh. By 1820 it had a population of 1,410 with 13 taverns. By 1840, after the coming of the railroad in the late 1830s, that number dropped to eight. A toll booth for the Harrisburg/Chambersburg Turnpike stood near the intersection of Walnut Bottom Road and King Street (the Great Road as it passed through the town.)

The following taverns are owned by organizations that have public viewing hours or can be scheduled for tours:

5 **Frankenberger Tavern** - Tours available Saturdays 12-3pm May-October and during special events. Contact (717) 697-6088 or mechanicsburgmuseum.org for more information.

12 **Dill's Tavern and Plantation** - The Tavern is open during special events and tours can be scheduled. Contact (717) 502-1440 or dillstavern.org for more information.

13 **Two Mile House** - The Tavern is open during special events and tours can be scheduled for groups of 10 or more. Contact (717) 254-0766 or historicalsociety.com for more information.

18 **Widow Piper's Tavern** - Tours are given the second Saturday of the month May-July and September-December 1-4 pm. For group tours contact (717) 532-5978.
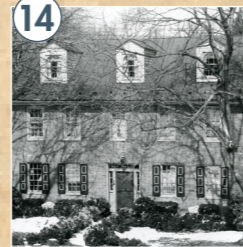
Most of the taverns in this brochure are private residences. Please respect the privacy and property of these former taverns.

TAVERN TOUR WEST
Carlisle to Shippensburg

13 **Two Mile House** - *1189 Walnut Bottom Rd, Carlisle 17015* Also known as Sign of the Mermaid. The land was patented in 1793 by Ephraim Blaine. James Given built the current two-story stone structure around 1820, previously it may have been a very simple structure, likely made of logs. He is listed with the tavern on the 1826 tax list, and continued to operate his tavern into the 1850s.

14 **Mount Rock** - *2799 Ritner Highway, Carlisle 17015* Mount Rock Tavern is the first surviving tavern building on the Great Road. This tavern was licensed as early as the 1740s, but not in the current building. It is believed to be the second oldest tavern in Cumberland County. By 1833, the original stone tavern was gone and the current brick house stood in its place.

15 **Dunlaps** - *3301 Ritner Highway, Carlisle 17015* The original building included the three bays to the right.

16 **Sign of the Indian King** *2155 Ritner Highway, Shippensburg 17257* The original tavern contained two rooms on each floor with back-to-back corner fireplaces. John Stough took over the tavern in 1813 and added the stone section on the left of the present building.

17 **Sign of the Spread Eagle** *427 E. King St, Shippensburg 17257* This two-story stone building was built about 1780.

Taverns of Cumberland County Pennsylvania: 1750-1840 is available for purchase at History On High - The Shop (address on back panel).
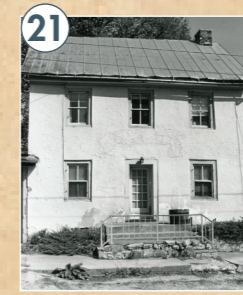
18 **Widow Piper's Tavern** - *352 E. King St, Shippensburg 17257* The structure was built in 1735 by Samuel Perry and was used as his family dwelling. In 1740 it was being used as a tavern run by a widow, Janet Piper. Her 1750 license is the oldest surviving tavern license in the county records. In 1750, Cumberland County was formed and the tavern was used as a courthouse for one year, at which time the courthouse was moved to Carlisle. Later in 1819, the building again became a family dwelling until it was purchased in 1926 by the directors of the Beistle Company, and turned over to a non-profit organization in 1927.

19 **Brewster's Tavern** - *Walnut Bottom Rd & Firehouse Rd, Walnut Bottom 17266* Also known as the Sign of the Union Flag and Parks Hotel. The original log building was replaced with the current structure in 1855.

20 **Brick Tavern at Silver Hill** *1777 Walnut Bottom Rd, Newville 17241* This two-story brick structure was built by Henry Snyder in 1824. It was used by Confederate General Ewell in 1863.

21 **Plough and Sheaf of Wheat** *1879 Walnut Bottom Rd, Newville 17241* The two-story stucco over stone building was a small 25 sq. ft. building when constructed. The only tavern keeper was Benjamin Smith who acquired the 45-acre property in 1803. He continued to operate the tavern until about 1830.

22 **Weakley's Tavern** *2675 Walnut Bottom Rd, Carlisle 17015* Also known as Brick Tavern and Pennsylvania Coat of Arms, the Weakley house is significant architecturally and historically as the earliest extant brick tavern house in western Cumberland County. The house retains many of its original features and recently underwent extensive restoration. The oldest section of the house is the one and one-half story section on the west side.

23 **Cumberland Hall** *2408 Walnut Bottom Rd, Carlisle 17015* This two-story building was built by James Moore in 1788. The tavern remained in business until 1885.

Find additional taverns at VisitCumberlandValley.com/tavernwest

TAVERN TOUR EAST
Carlisle to Dillsburg

1 **Sign of the Ship**
41 W. Pomfret St, Carlisle 17013
This two-story brick structure was built before 1798.

2 **Sign of the General Washington**
S. Hanover St & W. Pomfret St, Carlisle 17013
Also known as Grayson's Hotel, The Carlisle Inn and Travellers' Rest, Mansion House Hotel, Old Mansion House and The Union Hotel. The original brick structure was built in 1798, and the current structure was in place by 1823.

3 **Sign of the Rising Sun**
1076 Harrisburg Pike, Carlisle 17013
The current building, the second on the site, was constructed about 1823.

4 **Green Tree Tavern** (pictured on front)
1107 Harrisburg Pike, Carlisle 17013
This surviving two-story brick structure was built c. 1803.

5 **Frankenberger Tavern** - *217 E. Main St, Mechanicsburg 17055*
This log tavern was the first opened in what is now known as Mechanicsburg, and operated 1801-1809. The building was found within the walls of a dismantled building and moved to its current location.

Find additional taverns at VisitCumberlandValley.com/taverneast

6 **Paul's Tavern** - *342 Old Stone House Rd, Carlisle 17015*
This two-story log house was a tavern from 1822-1840.

7 **Sign of the Unicorn** - *1358 W. Trindle Rd, Carlisle 17015*
This two-story stone building was built between 1810 and 1815. Much of the original interior is intact including a moveable board wall on the second floor. By 1835, the frame addition was added.

8 **Kitzmiller's** - *1660 Trindle Rd, Carlisle 17015*
This two-story log building was built about 1814. The original tavern had two rooms on each floor.

9 **Unknown Tavern Name**
S. Middlesex Rd & Trindle Rd, Carlisle 17015
No name has been found for the tavern although it may have been known by the name of the tavern keepers – Webbert's Tavern, Brown's Tavern or Reichert's Hotel.

10 **Welsh's Tavern** - *1710 W. Lisburn Rd, Carlisle 17015*
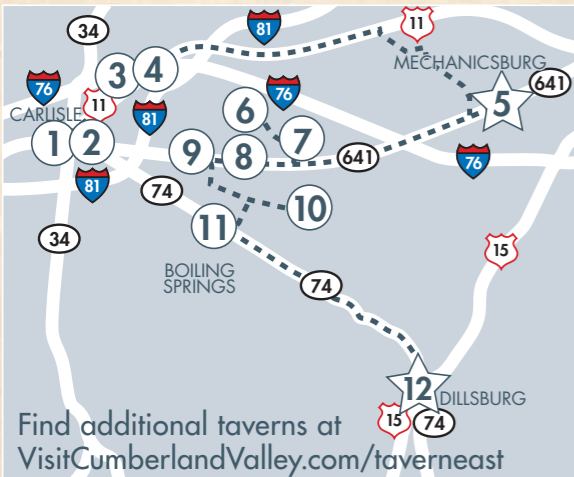This stone two-story house was built prior to 1796 and used as a tavern until 1802.

11 **Sign of the Unicorn**
1070 York Rd, Carlisle 17015
Built in two stages, the section to the right was originally one and one-half stories. An attached kitchen has been removed. The section to the left of the front door was built around 1804.

12 **Dill's Tavern and Plantation**
227 N. Baltimore St, Dillsburg 17019
The earliest section dates from 1794, replacing an earlier log tavern on the site, built by John Dill. Leonard Eichelberger purchased the plantation in 1800 and added sections in 1800 and 1819.

⭐ = See Key Inside

Uncover **23** of the many **Cumberland Valley taverns** using this two-part tour.

For more self-guided tours go to **VisitCumberlandValley.com/selfguided**, or visit the

Cumberland Valley pa VISITORS CENTER

inside History on High - The Shop
33 W. High St, Carlisle, PA 17013
(888) 513.5130

Cumberland Valley pa

TAVERN TOURS

CARLISLE TO SHIPPENSBURG
&
CARLISLE TO DILLSBURG

FOUND IT.

Green Tree Tavern

VisitCumberlandValley.com/tavernwest
VisitCumberlandValley.com/taverneast