

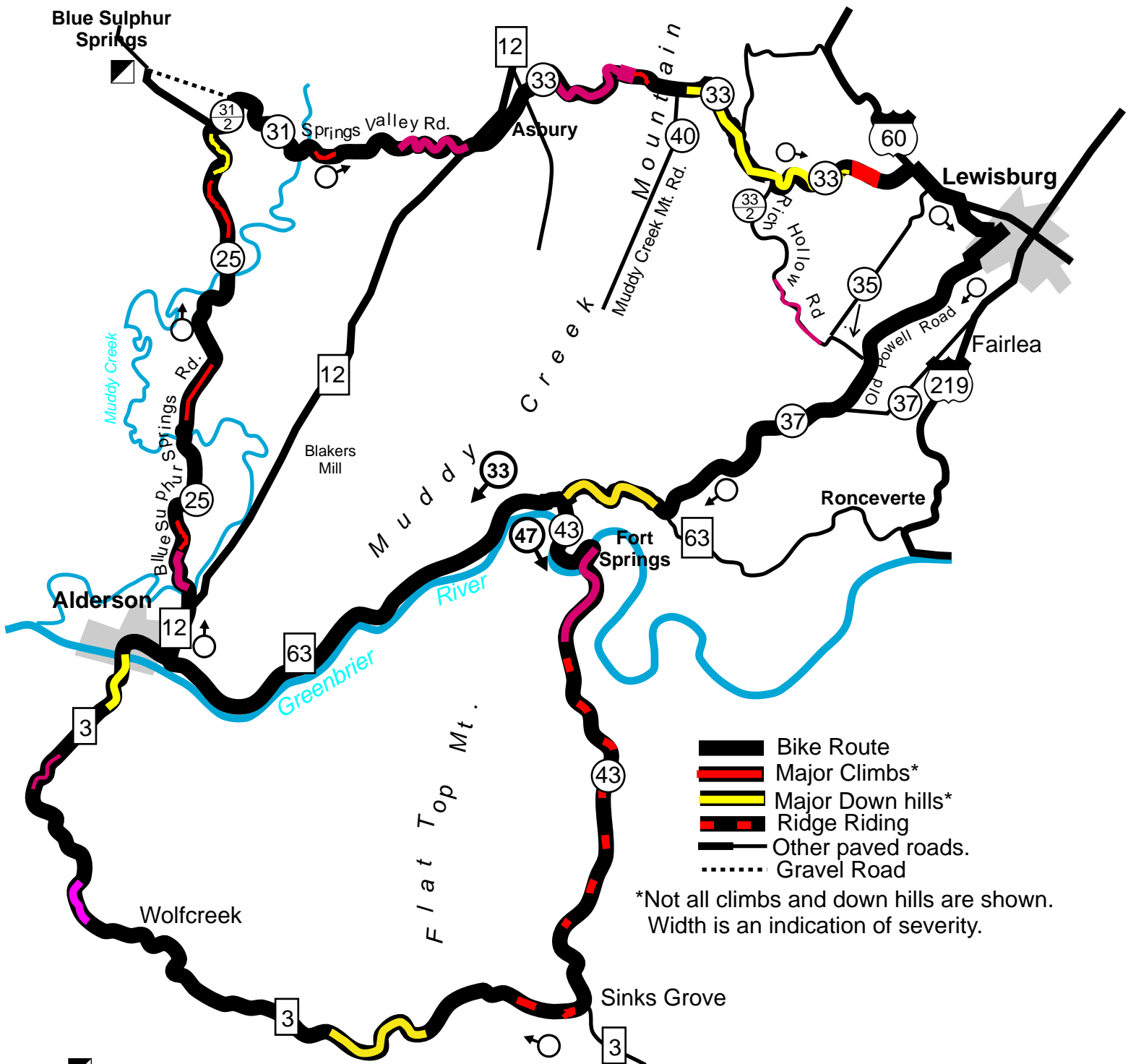
# Lewisburg - Sinks Grove - Alderson - Blue Sulphur Springs

Lewisburg - Alderson Loop - 33 Miles

Lewisburg - Sinks Grove Loop - 47 Miles

Add 2 miles to go to the site of the Blue Sulphur Spring.

Start and finish in Lewisburg at Carnegie Hall on Church Street.



\*Not all climbs and down hills are shown. Width is an indication of severity.

## Lewisburg - Alderson Loop

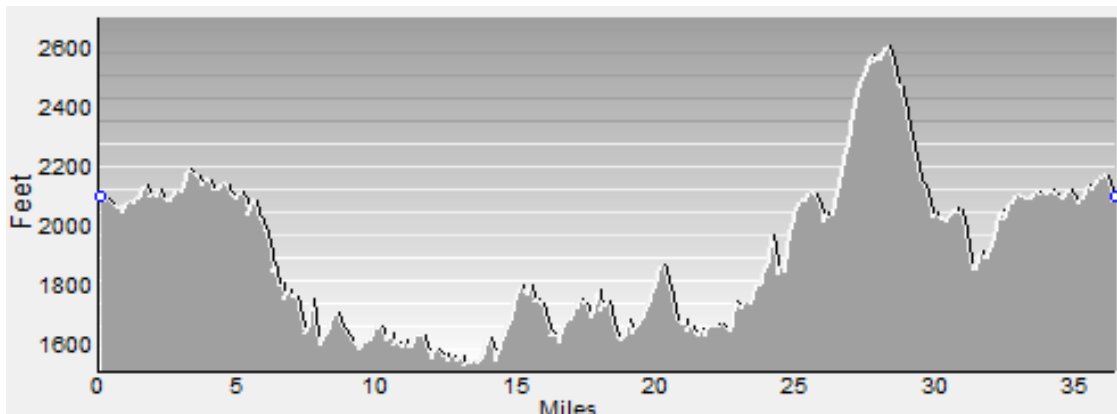
33 Miles (35 if you go to the Springs) and about 2,900 Feet of climbing.

Start - Carnegie Hall, Lewisburg.

R=Right L=Left S=Straight

Please ride under control and suitable to road and traffic conditions. Watch out of road hazards. Obey traffic laws.

- 0.5 90 degree Left turn on Church Street
- 0.6 **R** on Old Powell Road - No road sign at the turn.
- 3.0 **R** on Cty 37, Davis Stuart Road
- 5.9 **R** on Rt. 63 - Begin long down hill to Greenbrier River
- 7.5 Stay right on 63 - Long route goes Left here on Rt. 43..
- 13.5 **R** on Rt. 12 in outskirts of Alderson.
- 13.7 BP Station on left - **LAST OPPORTUNITY FOR WATER!**
- 14.0 **L** on Cty 25 at top of climb. Rt. 25 is single lane road. Blue Sulphur Springs Road  
**Watch out for wood deck bridge with metal straps on top running the length of the bridge on this section and some holes in shady spots on this section.**
- 20.8 **R** on Jarretts Cutoff Rd. 31/2  
**To see the site of the old Blue Sulphur Springs, continue straight here for one mile. Look for the Greek pagota in the field.**  
It is a flat out and back to the site.
- 21.3 Bare sharp right at intersection onto Cty. 31. Springs Valley Road. Left is a gravel road.
- 21.5 Bare right at intersection and continue on Cty 31.
- 22.7 Begin ascent to State Route 12. This is a hard climb with 10-12% sections.
- 24.9 **Cross Rt. 12** at angle to left and pick up Old Asbury Road.
- 25.4 S at this intersection.
- 26.2 Begin climb of Muddy Creek Mt. Mostly 7-7% with a little 10-12 at the top.
- 27.4 Top of Muddy Creek Mt.
- 28.3 S at intersection of Muddy Creek Mt. Road. Begin descent of Muddy Creek Mt.  
**Watch out for holes, broken pavement and narrow road on descent of Muddy Creek Mt .**
- 29.1 Begin 0.8 mile steep climb. About 1/2 mile of 8-9 %.
- 30.2 **R** on US Route 60
- 32.5 **R** on McElhenny Road
- 33.4 **Finish.**



## Lewisburg Fort Spring, Wolf Creek, Alderson Ride

47 Miles - 49 if you go to the Springs. About 4,400 ft of climbing.

R=Right L=Left S=Straight

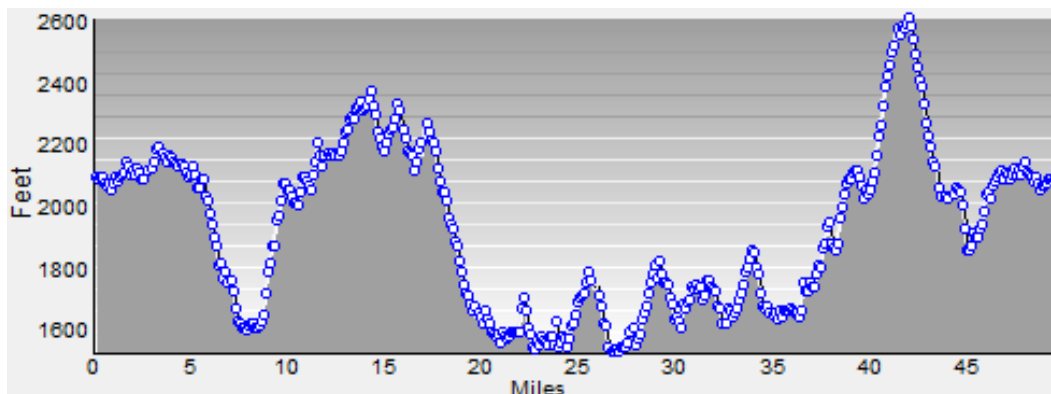
Park on Church Street in front of Carnegie Hall

Please ride under control and suitable to road and traffic conditions. Watch out of road hazards. Obey traffic laws.

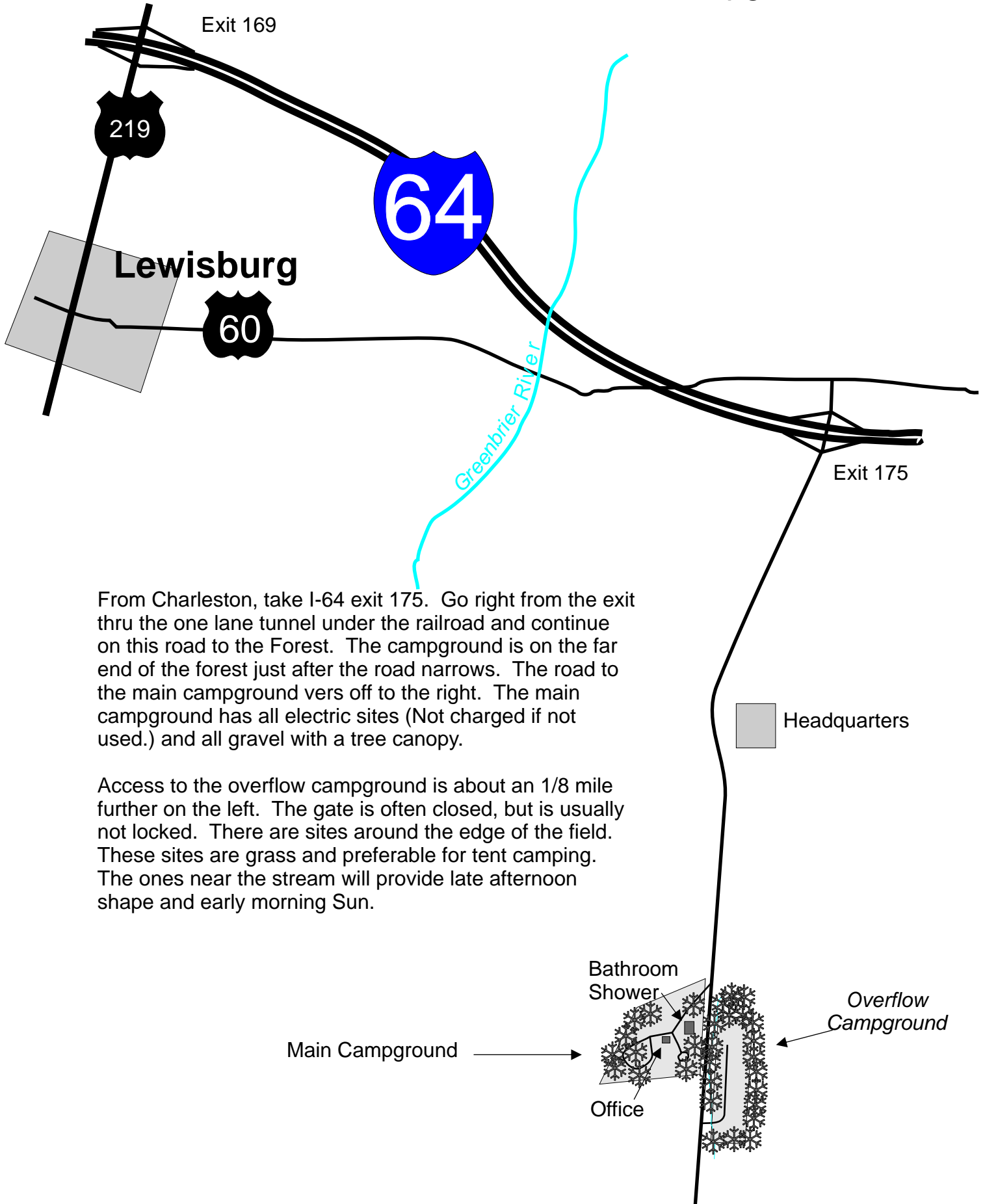
- 0.0 Start
- 0.5 Make 90 degree left turn on Church Street
- 0.6 **R** on Old Powell Road after making 90 degree left turn on Church street.
- 2.4 Continue straight on Old Powell Rd. at Intersection of Cty 35 Houfnaggle Road.
- 2.9 **R** on Davis Stuart Road Cty. 37
- 5.8 **R** on Rt. 63 - Begin downhill to Greenbrier River
- 7.4 **L** on Cty 43 - 36 mile route continues straight to Alderson
- 8.2 Bare left at end of bridge over Greenbrier River.
- 8.6 Hard right turn and begin of climb from Greenbrier River at Fort Spring
- 9.7 Top of climb
- 15.0 **R** on Rt 3 at Sinks Grove
- 17.1 Begin long downhill to Wolf Creek BM2252
- 19.1 End of downhill
- 26.6 **Straight** across pedestrian bridge (former road bridge) in Alderson where Rt. 3 makes a 90 degree left turn
- 26.7 **R** at end of bridge over Greenbrier River on Rt. 12
- 27.2 Bare left at intersection of Rt. 63 continuing on Rt.12. 36 mile route joins from right.
- 27.5 BP Station on Left - **Last place for water till finish.**
- 27.6 L** on Cty 25 Blue Sulphur Springs Road at top of easy climb. Rt 12 Y's off to right here.
- 28.0 Begin climb - some 8-10%
- 28.4 Top of climb
- Careful crossing wood deck bridge with metal strapping on top.
- 33.6 Begin climb
- 34.0 Top of climb
- 34.5 **R** on Jarrett Cutoff

**To go to Blue Sulphur you continue straight one mile at this intersection. It is a flat out and back to the site of the Spring. Adjust subsequent mileage if you go to the Spring.**

- 35.0 Bare right on Springs Valley Road Cty 31 **Sharp Turn**
- 36.7 Begin climb BM1732
- 38.6 **Cross Rt. 12** at angle to left to Asbury Road. Bm2044
- 39.1 Continue straight at intersection
- 39.8 Begin climb of Muddy Creek Mt. BM2032
- 41.2 Top of climb BM2510
- 42.1 Continue straight on Route 33 at intersection of Cty 40, Muddy Creek Mt. Road Cty 40 and begin descent of Muddy Creek Mt. **Caution: There are holes and pavement splits. Ride under control and beware of oncoming traffic.**
- 44.7 Begin 0.8 mile steep climb. About .5 of 8-9%.
- 45.7 **R** US Route 60
- 46.3 **R** McElhenny Road



# Directions to Greenbrier State Forest Campground



From Charleston, take I-64 exit 175. Go right from the exit thru the one lane tunnel under the railroad and continue on this road to the Forest. The campground is on the far end of the forest just after the road narrows. The road to the main campground vers off to the right. The main campground has all electric sites (Not charged if not used.) and all gravel with a tree canopy.

Access to the overflow campground is about an 1/8 mile further on the left. The gate is often closed, but is usually not locked. There are sites around the edge of the field. These sites are grass and preferable for tent camping. The ones near the stream will provide late afternoon shape and early morning Sun.

**General R. E. Lee's War-Horses, Traveller**  
**Southern Historical Society Papers.**  
**Vol. XVIII. Richmond, Va., January-December. 1890.**

The following communication from Major Thomas L. Broun, Charleston, Kanawha county, West Virginia, appeared in the Richmond Dispatch August 10, 1886:

"In view of the fact that great interest is felt in the monument about to be erected to General Lee, and that many are desirous that his war-horse should be represented in the monument, and as I once owned this horse, I herewith give you some items respecting this now famous war-horse, Traveller.

"He was raised by Mr. Johnston, near the Blue Sulphur Springs, in Greenbrier county, Virginia (now West Virginia); was of the 'Gray Eagle' stock, and, as a colt, took the first premium under the name of 'Jeff Davis' at the Lewisburg fairs for each of the years 1859 and 1860. He was four years old in the spring of 1861. When the Wise legion was encamped on Sewell mountain, opposing the advance of the Federal Army under Rosecranz, in the fall of 1861, I was major to the Third regiment of infantry in that legion, and my brother, Captain Joseph M. Broun, was quartermaster to the same regiment.

"I authorized my brother to purchase a good serviceable horse of the best Greenbrier stock for our use during the war.

"After much inquiry and search he came across the horse above mentioned, and I purchased him for \$175 (gold value), in the fall of 1861, from Captain James W. Johnston, son of the Mr. Johnston first above mentioned. When the Wise legion was encamped about Meadow Bluff and Big Sewell mountains, I rode this horse, which was then greatly admired in camp for his rapid, springy walk, his high spirit, bold carriage, and muscular strength.

"He needed neither whip nor spur, and would walk his five or six miles an hour over the rough mountain roads of Western Virginia with his rider sitting firmly in the saddle and holding him in check by a tight rein, such vim and eagerness did he manifest to go right ahead so soon as he was mounted.

"When General Lee took command of the Wise legion and Floyd brigade that were encamped at and near Big Sewell mountains, in the fall of 1861, he first saw this horse, and took a great fancy to it. He called it his colt, and said that he would use it before the war was over. Whenever the General saw my brother on this horse he had something pleasant to say to him about 'my colt,' as he designated this horse. As the winter approached, the climate in the West Virginia mountains caused Rosecranz's army to abandon its position on Big Sewell and retreat westward. General Lee was thereupon ordered to South Carolina. The Third regiment of the Wise legion was subsequently detached from the army in Western Virginia and ordered to the South Carolina coast, where it was known as the Sixtieth Virginia regiment, under Colonel Starke. Upon seeing my brother on this horse near Pocotalipo, in South Carolina, General Lee at once recognized the horse, and again inquired of him pleasantly about 'his colt.'

"My brother then offered him the horse as a gift, which the General promptly declined, and at the same time remarked: 'If you will willingly sell me the horse, I will gladly use it for a week or so to learn its qualities.' Thereupon my brother had the horse sent to General Lee's stable. In about a week the horse was returned to my brother, with a note from General Lee stating that the animal suited him, but that he could not longer use so valuable a horse in such times, unless it was his own; that if he (my brother) would not sell, please to keep the horse, with many thanks. This was in February, 1862. At that time I was in Virginia, on the sick list from a long and severe attack of camp fever, contracted in the campaign on Big Sewell mountains. My brother wrote me of General Lee's desire to have the horse, and asked me what he should do. I replied at once: 'If he will not accept it, then sell it to him at what it cost me.' He then sold the horse to General Lee for \$200 in currency, the sum of \$25 having been added by General Lee to the price I paid for the horse in September, 1861, to make up the depreciation in our currency from September, 1861, to February, 1862.

"In 1868 General Lee wrote to my brother, stating that this horse had survived the war--was known as 'Traveller' (spelling the word with a double l in good English style), and asking for its pedigree, which was obtained, as above mentioned, and sent by my brother to General Lee."



## Blue Sulphur Springs - A Little History

We will riding over what was originally the main route of travel from the Lewisburg area to the Kanawha Valley from the Indians till the development of modern highways. General Lewis followed Indian traces along this route when taking his army west to Point Pleasant. Civil War troops went back and forth via this route to the Kanawha Valley. Conferate troops camped here to guard again Union troops using the route to invade Virginia. Confederate General Robert E. Lee obtained his famous horse Traveller in the area of the Blue Surphur Spring.

Sundays ride takes you to Blue Sulphur, but to see the actual spring location you will have to take a couple mile detour (one out and one back), but it is a flat out and back. The Spring is located on property originally patented to James Patterson in 1789. His daughter Nancy Patterson inherited it. The Blue Sulphur Springs Company was formed in 1834 for the purposes of building a resort and George Buster became the owner. The building of a hotel and other facities commenced and the name "Blue Sulphur" was given because the water was "blue as the Sea of Galilee." See the excerpt from the book below for and the period illustration to get an idea of the facilities. Dr. Alexis Martin, a former surgeon in Napolian's Army came in 1840 to be the physician and operate the bath houses.

Though it is considered a remote location now, one period literature listed is as "being on the main road from White Sulphur to the Guyondotte." Business fell off in the 1850s and the Baptist Church bought the faciites in 1859 to start a school later known as Allegheny College. The main hotel burned in 1860 but the main part was rebuilt. The Civil War doomed the college and during the war, both armies visited the area. During the winter of 1862-63, several hundred Georgia troops camped there and eighty-nine died during a typhoid epidemic. They are burried on top of the hill and traces of the burial site have been lost. The troops would have camped here to block access to Virginia from the Kanawha Valley. There presents here reafirms that the road was a major thoroughfare during the period. Union troops burned the facilities to the ground in 1864 and it ws never rebuilt.

The roof was rebuilt over the concrete pillars of the Grecian Temple at the Spring in 1966, by the property owners. To learn more about the various Spring resorts, read *Historic Springs of the Virginias - A Pictorial History*, by Stan Cohen

### **Below is a pre civil war description of the spring.**

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The Mineral Springs of Western Virginia with Remarks on Their Use, and Diseases to Which They are Applicable.

By William Burke, Second Edition, New York: Wiley and Putnam, 161 Broadway, 1846.

#### CHAPTER XXI BLUE SULPHUR SPRING

"THE Blue Sulphur Spring is situated in the County of Greenbrier, in a beautiful valley, through which flows a streamlet bearing the unclassical name of Muddy Creek. It is twenty-two miles, in nearly a western direction, from the White Sulphur, on the road to Guyandotte and thirty-two miles north by east of the Red Sulphur, with which it is now connected by a fine turnpike road. The improvements consist of a brick Hotel-180 feet long, and 50 feet wide, 100 feet of which is three stories, the remainder two stories, with a portico 12 feet wide the whole length. Attached to this building is another, two stories high, 90 by 32 feet ; and adjoining this latter is a two story brick building, 150 by 17 feet, also having a two story piazza. The whole of these piazzas connect ; making a continuous piazza of 420 feet. This range of buildings affords a dining-room 180 by 30 feet, two large receiving rooms, a ball and drawing-room, bar-room, counting-room, and a large

number of very comfortable chambers, most of them having fireplaces. At the north end of the Hotel are several brick cottages containing two and three rooms each, for families; and several frame cabins in the lawn. We think the establishment can comfortably accommodate 220 persons. We said that this valley is beautiful; we should, perhaps, have said, it has been. Fuit Ilium. Never have we seen bad taste more unfortunately illustrated than here. It seems as if the designer had his brain obfuscated by mint-julap. What man in his sober senses could have ever thought of spoiling a lovely valley like this, admitting a prospect of several miles, by throwing across it from hill to hill a long line of buildings which could have been so easily and so gracefully ranged along the sides ; not only obstructing the view, but also preventing the delightful current of air which otherwise would have fanned it in the dog-days? Not content even with this piece of botching, they must permit Dr. Martin to erect his tartarean ovens also across the valley, leaving the Temple containing the Spring, and the lawn in which it stands, bounded by brick walls and mountains. We found Dr. Martin a polite old gentleman ; but we wished he had been a bird of passage, and could have carried his nest in his bill, never again to mar this charming valley. We were angry enough to throw him into his own boiler, or worse, to consign him to the care of Dr. Moorman, who might cause him to evolve gas in the stomach, for such an act of barbaric taste. Notwithstanding all that has been done to spoil this place, it is still interesting and beautiful : indeed it will compare favourably with any of the watering places in this region. The Spring rises in the centre of the vale, and is covered by a well-designed but badly executed Temple. The fountain is enclosed in marble slabs, is five feet in diameter, and one of the most beautiful objects imaginable. The sides are covered with a brilliant pink deposit, and the dear, cool, crystalline water seems to say, " Come and drink me." It flows off in a large stream, and is conveyed by pipes to Dr. Martin's baths. It appears that after the Temple was built, our old friend Major Vase (our informant is Dr. Martin) undertook to arrange the fountain so as to square with the building; but at that very time, a hail-storm, mingled with mountain-dew or fog, happened to set in, which so blinded himself and workmen, that notwithstanding the remonstrances of the said Dr. Martin, (who happened to be sheltered from the storm by one of the columns, and could, therefore, see the work was not square,) the angles of the fountain were made to deflect some 18 or 20 degrees from their intended position; the Major, all the time, swearing all was as straight as a shingle.

This, with a little embellishment, is Dr. Martin's version of the story, which he narrated with the grace of a French comedian ; if the worthy Major give his version in time for the next edition, we shall insert it with pleasure. The temperature of this water is about 53 degrees : it is pleasant to the palate, but it is a heavy water : it imparts not the agreeable feeling to the stomach which is imparted by the White Sulphur ; nor does it possess that light tranquillizing property that characterizes the Red Sulphur. Our opinion of this water is founded on a slight acquaintance, and therefore we desire that it may be taken only for what it may be deemed worth ; but we have taken this impression with regard to it, that it cannot be drunk in as large quantity as either the White, or Red, or Salt, with equal advantage. We are perfectly satisfied it is a valuable water; but dyspeptics, especially, may do well to begin, at least, with small potations, and if they find it agree, it is easy enough to increase the quantity. Indeed, it would be well if this course were pursued with all those waters; but unhappily this view is taken by a very limited number of those who visit mineral waters. A peculiar merit is claimed for this water in regulating certain periodical secretions ; but we are disposed to think its power in this respect is exaggerated ; at least, that it has no specific action different from other sulphur waters. Let the ladies try, though, and judge for themselves. Dr. Martin, a Frenchman, has, as the reader is already aware, erected a Bathing establishment at this place. His arrangements are quite extensive and well contrived, and enable him to give plain or medicated baths of any temperature. There can be no question of the utility of these baths, if judiciously administered; they would be equally deleterious in the hands of an empiric or a selfish, disingenuous man. The only knowledge we have of Dr. Martin is derived from a brief acquaintance, during which he was most agreeable and attentive, and we understood this is his uniform manner. He is courteous, affable, communicative, and on the subject of Vapour Baths he is always fluent,

nay, sometimes eloquent. We could perceive he was an especial favourite with the ladies. And, now, we owe the Dr. an apology for being so rude as to wish him subjected to the manipulations of Dr. Moorman. Indeed, Dr., we were joking! We are sure you prefer your own odoriferous vapours to those evolved by your learned neighbour.

The Blue Sulphur property is owned by a company of gentlemen, one of whom, George Buster, Esq., resides at the place, and conducts the establishment. It would be doing great injustice not to say that the style of living here is more elegant than we have met with at any of the Springs. The furniture is better, and judge for themselves.

Dr. Martin, a Frenchman, has, as the reader is already aware, erected a Bathing establishment at this place. His arrangements are quite extensive and well contrived, and enable him to give plain or medicated baths of the appearance of the table is neater, and every thing bespeaks comfort and attention. We have seen quite as good things at other Springs, but nowhere as well served, except, perhaps, at the Warm Springs and Salt Sulphur. Mr. Buster himself made a favourable impression on us, and our inquiries satisfied us that our prepossession was justified, by his uniformly estimable deportment. We trust he will reap the just reward of his attention in an annually increasing company. "