development. How can the county provide links between the Comprehensive Plan and water and sewer planning for future land use planning?

- As population and densities increase, demands for fire, rescue, and public safety services in the county will increase. How should the county maintain the ability to provide adequate fire, rescue, and public safety services in the county?

J. Historic Resources[31]

Augusta County has strong ties to the past and many historic resources. The history of Augusta County is important not only on a local level but also on a national level. The county played an important role in the settling of the American Frontier and in the Civil War. Sites related to these events, along with other sites of local interest, make Augusta County a popular destination for heritage tourism and genealogy research.

The county and the cities of Staunton and Waynesboro experienced much activity during the Civil War. The Piedmont Battlefield and resources along the Staunton-to-Parkersburg-Turnpike (McDowell Battlefield Corridor) are two important examples of Civil War resources. In addition, there are many more non-battlefield sites that contribute to the story of how the Civil War affected the county. Currently, the preservation of civil war battlefields in the Shenandoah Valley is coordinated at a regional level through the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation and the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District.[32]

1. Surveys and Reports

More than 1,400 archaeological and historic architectural sites have been surveyed in Augusta County. The documentation of these surveys and project site files is maintained by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

The focus of most of the archaeological surveys has been on sites from the Native American period (c. 10,000 B.C. – 1700 A.D.), early industrial sites (such as pottery kilns), some lime kilns, and some slave quarter sites. While archaeological surveying has been conducted in the county, it is by no means complete because not all areas of the county have been surveyed, and many of the sites that have been surveyed have inadequate information.

Three reports have been completed by the Virginia Division of Historic Landmarks. The reports analyzed the architectural survey data, indicated

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[31] Information for this section was provided by the Augusta County Historical Society in a memo from April 2000 titled "Input for the Augusta County Comprehensive Plan Revision", and follow-up data provided by Nancy Sorrells dated September 2005.

[32] The Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District was created by Congress in 1996. It is one of only 27 National Heritage Areas in the United States. See www.cr.nps.gov.

additional survey needs, and included recommendations for county resources that may be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). The reports, completed in the mid-1980's, are titled "Historic Resources in Augusta County, Virginia, Eighteenth Century to Present," "Evaluation of Architectural, Historic, and Archaeological Resources in Augusta County, Virginia," and "Valley Regional Preservation Plan."

Most of the architectural research has been on prominent residential structures in the county. Some information has also been compiled on the county's historically significant educational, religious, and industrial buildings. Most recently, studies have been conducted by the Valley Conservation Council on the Middlebrook-Brownsburg and McDowell Battlefield historic corridors.

2. Historic Sites
Due to the predominantly rural character of the county, historic sites are scattered throughout. Concentrations of existing historic resources, however, can be found in the agricultural areas and along major roadways.

The county's historic resources generally fall within the following categories:

- Farmhouses and outbuildings
- Rural industries (mills)
- Small communities (turnpike towns, crossroads villages, and company towns)
- Individual buildings (churches)
- Transportation structures (railroad depots and truss bridges)
- Late 19th Century and early 20th Century business-related structures (stores, service stations, and canneries)
- Battlefields and other sites associated with events of the Civil War
- Cemeteries

National Register and Landmarks Register Sites
The National Register of Historic Places was established in 1966 and is considered to be the official list of structures, sites, objects, and districts that embody the historical and cultural foundations of the nation. The National Register is maintained by the National Park Service. In Virginia alone, there are more than 2,000 properties included in the National Register.

The Virginia Landmarks Register was also established in 1966 and is considered the state equivalent to the National Register. The Landmarks Register contains properties that are important to Virginia's history. The sites identified in the county are the same on both lists as they use identical evaluation criteria.

The following is a listing of all National Register and Virginia Landmarks Register sites in Augusta County.[33]

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[33]http://www.dhr.virginia.gov

Augusta County Sites

- Swannanoa
- Old Providence Stone Church
- Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church
- Augusta Stone Church
- Folly
- Mount Torry Furnace
- Valley Railroad Stone Bridge
- Coiner House
- Chapel Hill
- Henry Miller House
- Hannah Miller House
- Harnsberger Octagonal Barn
- Miller-Hemp House
- Bethel Green (James Bumgardner House)
- Clover Mount
- James Alexander House
- Henry Mish Barn
- Augusta Military Academy
- Lewis Shuey House
- Intervale
- Public Schools in Augusta County, 1870-1940 (Thematic District)
  - Augusta County Training School (Cedar Green School)
  - Craigsville School
  - Crimora School
  - Deerfield School
  - Estaline Schoolhouse
  - Glebe Schoolhouse
  - Kiddsville Colored Schoolhouse
  - Middlebrook Schools
  - Moffett's Creek Schoolhouse
  - Mount Meridian Schoolhouse
  - Mount Sidney School
  - Mount Zion Schoolhouse
  - New Hope High School
  - North River High
  - Verona School
  - Walkers Creek School
  - West View Schoolhouse
  - Weyers Cave School
- Glebe Burying Ground
- Archeological Site No. 44AU154
- Blackrock Springs Site 44AU167

- Paine Run Rockshelter 44AU158
- Hanger Mill
- Long Glade Farm
- Bare's House and Mill

There are some additional sites that are significant enough to be considered for the National Register. Those sites include Mt. Airy, the Gochenour-Yount House, Berry Farm, the Alexander House, the Rockfish Service Station, the Ramsey House, and the Summerdean Store and Post Office.

In addition to these individual sites, other sites could be considered for inclusion on the Historic Register based on themes. In order to be included on the Register a theme needs to be fully researched and specifically nominated. Possible themes in Augusta County include:

- Residential/domestic structures (e.g. African-American housing, small wooden houses, log structures, stone houses, and farm buildings or based on craftsmanship)
- Churches and related cemeteries
- Springs (as archaeological sites and also as early resorts)
- Commercial areas, including company towns and local fraternal meeting halls
- Transportation-related resources (such as railroads and bridges)
- Agricultural (grist mills)
- Structures related to specific craftsmen, such as the Bear family in Churchville, the Eutsler brothers, and the Harden (African-American) brothers

Historic Districts
There are five designated historic districts on the National Register in Augusta County, which define areas of historic resources.[34] These districts are the Middlebrook Historic District, the Mt. Pleasant Historic District, the Mt. Sidney Historic District, the Sugar Loaf Farm Historic District, and a portion of the Skyline Drive Historic District. The Middlebrook Historic District is located at the junction of Routes 252 and 876 in Middlebrook and consists of 620 acres and 50 buildings. The Mt. Pleasant District is located along Route 732 north of Staunton and is made up of seven buildings and 3,162 acres. The Mt. Sidney District is 400 acres in size and contains 74 buildings in the area of Route 11 north of Staunton in Mt. Sidney. The Sugar Loaf Farm District is located west of the junction of Routes 695 and 710 south of Staunton and contains 4,080 acres and six buildings. The Skyline Drive District is a multi-county district that was established at the state level to acknowledge the historic significance of the Skyline Drive corridor. The district is located in the portion of the Shenandoah National Park that falls within the county. Within these districts the county has no authority to control the nature and type of development and redevelopment as

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[34] http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com

it relates to the historic character of the surrounding area as there are no specific Historic District zoning regulations or overlay districts currently in place. Potential areas for future consideration as historic districts include Mt. Solon, Churchville, Greenville, and Weyers Cave.[35]

3. Historic Villages

Augusta County has several small communities that are considered historic villages and are valued for their historic significance, character, and architecture. The historic villages in the county include Mt. Sidney, Middlebrook, Greenville, Springhill, Churchville, Mt. Solon, McKinley, New Hope, Deerfield, and Steeles Tavern. Currently there is public water service available in Deerfield, Churchville, Greenville, Middlebrook, and Mt. Sidney. There is public sewer available in New Hope and Mt. Sidney. In some of these villages, public water and/or sewer services are not suitable to support existing or increased demand in these areas. Possible future availability of public sewer to respond to public health needs in these areas may result in development pressures in the historic villages. Some of the limitations to expanding or providing service to these villages are due to geology while others are based more on systemwide issues such as construction and operating costs.

Rehabilitation of the historic structures is also an issue in these villages. Adaptive reuse could be a means of providing economic development in historic villages; however, this is a challenge due to current codes and infrastructure requirements that conflict with preserving the historic integrity of the structures. Additionally, these areas lack the appropriate zoning codes, such as historic overlays, that would provide adequate protection of the historic structures while still allowing new development to occur.

4. Threats to Historic Resources

Currently, there are many threats to the existing historic resources in the county. Many structures have been lost, and are continuing to be lost, due to destruction or deterioration caused by a lack of awareness of a site's historical importance. Sites are also lost due to new development and growth. Many historic resources are concentrated along the major roadways and in fertile valleys–areas that are most prone to continued development and change. The historic value of the remaining structures is further threatened by alterations to the rural character of the county, which changes the context of the historic structures and lessens their importance. Other threats include a general lack of awareness of the importance of historic preservation, the absence of any policies or plans to identify and protect historic resources, and an inability to maintain historic buildings due to funding constraints.

The Shenandoah Valley Rural Heritage Foundation, Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation, Valley Conservation Council, and the Augusta County

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[35] "Input for the Augusta County Comprehensive Plan Revision", Augusta County Historical Society, April 2000.

Historical Society are just some of the groups that are working to reduce these threats by researching and preserving historic resources in the county.

5. Planning Issues
Based on the available data regarding historic resources, the following planning issues have been identified:

- The county has an abundance of historic resources that warrant preservation and enhancement. How should the county prioritize existing sites for funding and preservation purposes? How should the county work to identify additional sites suitable for preservation?

- The county currently has no controls in place to protect historic resources. Should the county develop additional zoning regulations to address historic sites or districts, such as overlays?

- The county has no formal connection between historic resource preservation and tourism. What should the county do to support tourism through the enhancement of historic resources?

- The county has no mechanisms that protect the rural context and encourage historic preservation. What mechanisms should the county use to encourage the preservation of the rural character of the county?

- Historic villages in the county create unique challenges for new development and infrastructure. How can the zoning and building codes be adapted to support reuse and new development in historic villages? How can the potential development pressures associated with infrastructure improvements in the villages be addressed?

- Resources for the maintenance and further preservation of historic sites are needed. What data sources, such as mapping, should the county develop to better understand historic resources? How should the county encourage historic preservation? What funding is available to support these activities?

- There has been no coordination between historic preservation plans and survey data with future land use planning efforts under the Comprehensive Plan. How should the county support historic preservation in the Comprehensive Plan policies?

- The county has worked cooperatively with national, state, regional and local preservation groups. What should the county do to better coordinate with active historic preservation groups?