



COUNTYWIDE Hidden Gems Scavenger Hunt

(from VISIT LOCAL 2022. Questions? Call 828-883-3700.)

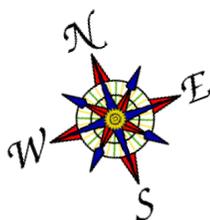
1. **FIND IT! PARKER CONCERT HALL.** What do you know about the Brevard Music Center (BMC) and its history? BMC was originally the Transylvania Music Camp for students at Davidson College. In 1946 the first Brevard Music Festival, with James Christian Pfohl as Artistic Director, was presented. In 1955, the name was changed to Brevard Music Center. In 1964, the open-air Whittington-Pfohl Auditorium opened. Skip ahead to 2007 when Keith Lockhart, a Brevard Music Center alumnus and Conductor of The Boston Pops Orchestra and Chief Guest Conductor of the BBC Concert Orchestra in London, becomes the fourth Artistic Director. Most recently, 2021 saw the official opening of the Parker Concert Hall, a breathtaking new lakeside structure that provides the first year-round venue for performances. **Can you find Parker Concert Hall on the Brevard Music Center campus?**
2. **FIND IT! BREVARD RAILROAD DEPOT.** During the late 19th and early 20th century the railroad played an important part in Transylvania County and the City of Brevard's development, supporting both manufacturing and tourism. The first rail line was completed in 1895 and ran from Hendersonville to Brevard. This was extended nine more miles in 1900 to run from Brevard to Toxaway (what today is the town of Rosman) and continued to Lake Toxaway. The railroad continued to operate out of the Brevard Depot until the mid-1970s. In 1981 the unused depot building was demolished. Pieces of the original depot have been incorporated into the reconstruction of the new Depot venue, completed in 2022 and keeping alive an important part of Brevard's history. **Can you find the Railroad Depot?**
3. **FIND IT! BELL TOWER AT BREVARD COLLEGE.** Brevard College has roots in three regional schools — Rutherford College, Weaver College and Brevard Institute – which merged at the current campus location in the town of Brevard in 1934. Back in the 1960s, several Weaver College alumni decided that they wanted to do something for Brevard College that would also honor the memory of Weaver College. Several ideas were suggested, including funds for student aid, refurbishing the assembly room in the Beam Administration Building and, of course, the Weaver College Bell Tower. In 1992, the bell tower was completed and the four bells (traveling all the way from Annecy, France, through Charleston, SC, to Brevard) were installed. **Can you find the Weaver College Bell Tower on the Brevard College campus?**

4. **FIND IT! THE SITE OF THE NEW MARY C. JENKINS COMMUNITY CENTER.** In the late 1940s two WNC agencies undertook efforts to assist rural communities that were disappearing due to changes such as school consolidation and the closing of traditional country stores in favor of supermarkets in town. The goal was to strengthen these communities by bringing people together to address a wide range of needs through educational, civic and social activities. Locally, community groups renovated former schoolhouses or built new buildings to serve as community centers. One such center was the Mary C. Jenkins Community Center (MCJCC) in the Rosenwald community. It played a critical role for the African-American population in Transylvania County and has enriched the area as a whole. In 2018, the old center, which served the community for over 60 years, was ceremonially burned. On Juneteenth in 2021, there was a groundbreaking for the new facility, which is part of several new community improvements including new playground facilities, which accommodate people with disabilities, and a revitalized ballpark. Located in the Rosenwald community on Carver Street, **can you find the site of the new MCJCC?**

5. **FIND IT! SILVERMONT MANSION.** Born in Russia, Joseph Silversteen moved to Pennsylvania with his mother to be with family in the 1880s. Drawn to the tanning industry, he moved to Western North Carolina in 1902 where all the necessary resources for a successful business of this type were readily available. They settled in what is now Rosman and founded several businesses. Wanting to move his family away from the bustling town of Rosman and “into the country,” Silversteen purchased eight acres on East Main Street in Brevard, and the Silvermont Mansion was completed in 1917. In 1981, Silvermont was added to the [National Register of Historic Places](#). Today, the estate, which is located on East Main about ¼ mile east of the Visitor Center, serves as a county park and hosts Mountain Music jam sessions on Thursday evenings. **Can you find the Silvermont Mansion?**

6. **FIND IT! JOHNSTONE TURNPIKE.** Like so much of Transylvania County, the Cedar Mountain community has a special history -- from serving as hunting grounds for the Cherokee to providing thoroughfares for early European settlers to its role in the North Carolina/South Carolina/Georgia boundary dispute (the Walton War) to offering summertime relief to neighbors from the south to its present-day bustling community. With so many travelers coming through the area, whether it be for survival, business or pleasure, one of the most important features of the community was its turnpikes. Behind the Cedar Mountain Community Center on 276 near Cascade Lake Road, there is a marker honoring one of those important roadways, the Johnstone Turnpike. **Can you find that marker?**

7. **FIND IT! FAITH MEMORIAL CHAPEL.** Faith Memorial Chapel was founded as Faith Chapel in the last part of the nineteenth century by the Rt. Reverend Ellison Capers D.D., the Confederate general, who later became Bishop of the Diocese of South Carolina. His wife Mrs. Capers wished for an Episcopal summer chapel in the mountains. Her dream was realized in 1894 when the Bishop of the Diocese of Western North Carolina gave his consent. Soon after, the original chapel was built by family and friends, but fell into disrepair after Bishop Capers's death in 1908. In the 1930s, interest to revive the chapel was led by the Archdeacon of the Diocese of South Carolina and members of the St. James Episcopal Church in Greenville, SC. The construction of the chapel in its current location on Stone Lake Road (off Highway 276 just past Cascade Lake Road) was completed in 1938. **Can you find Faith Memorial Chapel?**
8. **FIND IT! LITTLE RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH CEMETERY.** So much interesting history can be found in the 50+ cemeteries sprinkled throughout Transylvania County. For example, it is said that early pioneers are buried in the cemetery at the Little River Baptist Church, founded in the 1830s. Drovers often spent the night nearby before heading up the Little River Turnpike to Buck Forest and then continuing to markets in SC. Among the headstones, you will find many familiar surnames. As a bonus, when you climb the stairs from the parking lot and look back toward the church, you behold a wonderful view over the former community of Grange and the Little River valley. If you look in the other direction, you will see the "skeleton" of an old tobacco barn. The church and cemetery are on Crab Creek Road across from McCall's Farm. **Can you find it?**
9. **FIND IT! DAVIDSON RIVER GAUGING STATION.** What is the rectangular concrete structure located on the south bank of the Davidson River along the Eastatoe Trail near Hwy 64/280? The building, constructed in 1934, has a shallow pyramidal roof with stepped corners suggestive of the Art Deco style. Since the mid-1930s the United State Geological Survey has operated gauging stations on the Davidson, South Mills and French Broad rivers in Transylvania County to measure and record river heights and aid in predicting floods. **Can you find the Davidson River Gauging Station located on the Eastatoe Trail in Pisgah Forest?**



10. **FIND IT! JOHN ROCK SCULPTURE.** The national Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was created in 1933 shortly after FDR’s inauguration. The purpose was to recruit thousands of unemployed young men to work on construction projects. While CCC was active, over 600,000 members worked on thousands of projects all over the country, including the English Chapel Bridge over the Davidson River and the Blue Ridge Parkway. CCC Camp John Rock was operated 1933-1941 and is said to be the first CCC camp formed in North Carolina. Starting in 1935, the first “Iron Mike” sculpture was created to commemorate the important work of the CCC. In 2004, two former members of the CCC made possible the creation of an “Iron Jack” sculpture in Pisgah Forest. **Can you find Iron Jack in the parking lot near the Fish Hatchery?**
11. **FIND IT! PISGAH ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE (PARI).** Selected by NASA as the location for one of the nation’s first satellite tracking stations, construction began at the site in 1962. As one of the two best-equipped stations in NASA’s Spacecraft Tracking And Data Acquisition Network (STADAN), Rosman played a vital role in the space program, communicating with satellites and manned space flights as they passed over the East Coast. During the next three decades, NASA and the Department of Defense invested several hundred million dollars in the secure, 200-acre campus until operations were relocated in 1995. PARI was established in September 1998 as a not-for-profit public organization dedicated to providing hands-on educational, business and research opportunities for users and lovers of stargazing and STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) disciplines. PARI is located in Balsam Grove just off Highway 215. **Can you find the Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute?** pari.edu/about/our-history/ NOTE: You may not be able to enter the grounds.
12. **FIND IT! FIRE TOWER ON SASSAFRAS MOUNTAIN.** The original 35' fire lookout tower on Sassafras Mountain, built in 1932, had a 7'x7' cab on top affording views across the NC and SC forest lands. The keeper lived in an adjacent log cabin. The tower was decommissioned following the 1991 spring fire season and dismantled a year later. The new observation tower, constructed of concrete and stone, was built in 2018. It straddles the state line and offers 360-degree views at an elevation of 3554 feet. The new structure can be found on Van Clayton Memorial Highway off of Glady Fork Road not far from Rosman. **Can you stand on the compass rose etched into the floor of the tower with one foot in North Carolina (Transylvania County) and the other in South Carolina (Pickens County)?** NOTE: Access to the tower is sometimes closed due to hazardous driving conditions. If that’s the case, a photo with you and the sign at the gate is great!

