

I.) Appearance of Govardhana (from Garga Samhita)

- ॐ Krishna (in Goloka) requests Radharani to appear on earth.
- ॐ R: I won't be happy w/o Yamuna & Govardhana
- ॐ K: I have already sent Vraja dhama along with Govardhana and the Yamuna

- ॐ To the west of Bharata varsa (in Salmali-dvipa) Nanda Dronachal's wife gives birth to Govardhana Hill.
- ॐ At birth demigods shower flowers and all the great mountains led by Sumeru went to offer their respects & perform parikrama

A.) *Pulatsya's request (from Garga Samhita)*

- ॐ P Muni was once visiting all the holy places when he came across the beautiful Govardhana Hill.
- ॐ Dronachal worships the sage & "is there any service I can render?"
- ॐ P: I am resident of Kasi (Varanasi) which is the abode of Visvanatha (Siva). The ganges also flows there.
- ॐ However, there is no beautiful hill to be found in Kasi
- ॐ I request that you please allow me take GH there.
- ॐ D begins to cry at the thought of separation
- ॐ GH wants to avoid a curse from the muni to his father, so he volunteers to go.
- ॐ GH goes on the condition that if P puts GH down, GH must stay in that spot.
- ॐ P agrees & carries GH in right hand
- ॐ When pass of Vraja, P feels urge to respond to nature.
- ॐ P puts GH and tends to business
- ॐ When P returns can't lift GH
- ॐ P becomes angry and curses: will reduce in size one mustard seed a day

B.) *Hanuman*

- ॐ In building bridge Hanuman would bring large mountains
- ॐ Hanuman sees GH and tries to pick up
- ॐ Even though H could lift most mountains with only one hand, couldn't lift GH
- ॐ Understanding GH must be some great personality, H circumambulates and offers obeisance.
- ॐ H explains that would like to use GH in building bridge to rescue Sita
- ॐ GH readily agrees thinking of seeing Rama
- ॐ Voice from sky: bridge is complete, no more rocks are necessary.

Govardhana Hill notes

- ॐ GH becomes very unhappy
- ॐ GH: You promised to take me to the ocean where I would have the opportunity to serve Lord Rama and now this is not possible. I will not be able to continue living.
- ॐ H leaves assuring GH he would return immediately
- ॐ H consults Rama
- ॐ H returns with message: R is pleased and will return in Dvarpara Yuga as K and will enjoy many pastimes on you.
- ॐ GH pacified.

I.) Mānasī Gaṅgā (took place on Diwali)

- ॐ After K kills Vatsasura He was advised by the gopas (boys) that He should bath in the Ganges to purify from sin of killing cow/calf
- ॐ Not wanting to leave Vraja K informed the cowherd boys he would call the Ganges to appear in Vrindavan
- ॐ K then meditated, and from within His mind the river Ganges manifested before Him in the form of Manasi Ganga. Manasi means mind. In other words, the Ganges manifested from the mind of K.

- ॐ One day Nanda and Yasoda heard a story about the glories of the Ganges: Garuda, the giant bird carrier of V had been searching for food and came across a snake. G picks up and starts to fly away. When pass over Ganges tail of snake touches. Transforms into 4-armed form like V. G sees this and places on back and takes to Vaikuntha
- ॐ When N et al heard this they wanted to go the Ganga themselves.
- ॐ Decided to go and began packing immediately.
- ॐ K sees and asks where they are planning to go.
- ॐ Informs K
- ॐ K declares that it is unnecessary to visit any other holy place, all the tirthas are actually present in Vraja
- ॐ Nanda et al persist
- ॐ K leads to center of GH & immed in front of them Ganga personified appeared
- ॐ Residents of V. offer ob. To G-devi
- ॐ All took bath

C.) Noka-vihar: Boating lila (from Gopala Campu)

- ॐ One evening R & friends arrive on bank of M. Ganga with yogurt pots and milk preps
- ॐ Want to cross
- ॐ Only boat was a very old one with a boatman wearing a peacock feather in his hair
- ॐ R: will you take us across
- ॐ K: sure, what will you pay
- ॐ Some arguing

Govardhana Hill notes

- ॐ Settle on payment of butter and sweets
- ॐ All get in and boatman starts to row
- ॐ After traveling some distance boatman stops
- ॐ R has a friend inquire: Why are you stopping
- ॐ K: I am hungry and I won't go any further until you feed me.
- ॐ Refused, but saw K no go anywhere
- ॐ Offered all pots of milk products to K
- ॐ Ate everything
- ॐ K: now I am sleepy, so I will take a little nap
- ॐ R & friends: 2 of us will grab your legs, 2 of us will grab your arms and we'll throw you overboard.
- ॐ K begins to row again
- ॐ After some time K stops again
- ॐ R: now what?
- ॐ K: this boat is old and has many holes. Water is coming in b/c it is too heavy. If you don't throw some of your articles overboard we'll all drown.
- ॐ Agreed and threw pots of yogurt.
- ॐ K: Still too heavy, must throw jewelry in
- ॐ At first hesitant
- ॐ See boat is sinking -> OK
- ॐ But the boat still appeared to be sinking.
- ॐ K: Now you'll have to throw your clothes overboard
- ॐ Gopis: We'll throw you overboard
- ॐ K starts to row
- ॐ Clouds appear overhead, winds blow
- ॐ Boat rocks
- ॐ R afraid and jumps into boatman's arms
- ॐ Realize who K
- ॐ Clouds and wind clear
- ॐ Gopis see R embracing boatman and inquire what is going on.
- ॐ R pulls out K's flute from under cloth
- ॐ K: I did this just to get the darshan of R

D.) Harideva Temple

- ॐ One day R and friends were sitting on bank of Harideva kuṇḍa waiting for K

Govardhana Hill notes

- ॐ Feeling separation gopis began to call out over and over again: Harideva! Harideva! Harideva!
- ॐ Mood of separation became so great it appeared they would give up their life
- ॐ K appears there in form holding GH
- ॐ R et al perform all kinds of service to K in Deity form

E.) Brahma kuṇḍa

- ॐ After Indra had bathed K, all of demigods, sages, holy rivers and tirthas headed by Brahma came to offer prayers.
- ॐ Then bathed K
- ॐ Created 108 kuṇḍas around GH
- ॐ Brahma kuṇḍa is where the water collected after Brahma bathed K

1.) Nityananda at Brahma kuṇḍa (from Bhakti ratnakara)

- ॐ LCM & Nt also came here
- ॐ One day saw a rich brahmana who was great devotee of Balarama.
- ॐ Br would always wander around GH crying out L's name in great anxiety
- ॐ One day br had dream he would soon have sight of Balarama in form of Nt
- ॐ Nt was wandering the forests of Vraja and in order to fulfill the desires of His devotee and to have darshan of GH stayed for a few days on banks of BK
- ॐ From distance br saw Nt and wondered where this avadhuta was coming from
- ॐ Seeing effulgence understood not an ordinary person
- ॐ Brought yogurt, ghee, milk, cheese, butter to Nt and offer ob.
- ॐ Avadhuta, please accept these gifts and pray that you please show Your mercy to me so I may have darsana of Rohini-nandana
- ॐ Hearing these words Nt smiled and accepted the offerings
- ॐ Br ate remnants and went home to honor maha
- ॐ Due to ecstasy br couldn't go back to meet Nt
- ॐ In dream Nt reveals self as Bal
- ॐ After blessing br Nt dis
- ॐ Br awakes
- ॐ Heads toward place where had seen Nt
- ॐ Voice in sky: be patient and wait until morning
- ॐ Br thinks: Now that my desire has been fulfilled I will not let him go. I will fall at his feet and surrender everything to him. When the night is over I will have a goldsmith make beautiful ornaments.

- ॐ Thinking in this way, falls asleep again
- ॐ Next morning br approaches Nt.
- ॐ Tells of dream
- ॐ Nt holds br hand and explains the Vedas

F.) Mānasī Devī Mandira

- ॐ One of four important temples of Devi in Vraja
- ॐ Others: Vrnda Devi (Kamyavana), Patelesvari Devi (Mathura), Yogamaya Devi (Vrndavana)

G.) Mukharavind Mandira

- ॐ Contains mouth of Govardhana

H.) Cakra Tirtha

- ॐ When K was holding GH and protecting Vrajavasis from rain, He saw that a huge deluge might come down of GH and drown everyone
- ॐ K sent Sudarsana to help
- ॐ He stayed over GH for 7 days and produced the heat of 7 suns, evaporating the water
- ॐ Sudarsana requested a place to stay in Vraja.
- ॐ K granted him this location

I.) Cakaleśvara Mahādeva Mandira

- ॐ Contains linga of Cakaleśvara Mahādeva
- ॐ 5 important Deities of Mahādeva in Vraja: Gopeśvara (Vṛndāvana), Bhuteśvara (Mathurā), Nandeśvara (Nandagram), Kameśvara (Kamyavana), & Cakaleśvara

J.) Sanātana Gosvāmī Bhajana Kuṭira

- ॐ SG came to retire here and perform his bhajana
- ॐ When he first arrived there were so many mosquitos SG decided to go elsewhere
- ॐ Just as he was packing Cakaleśvara Mahādeva appeared before him in the form of a brahmana.

- ॐ CM: Why are you leaving
ॐ SG: There are too many mosquitos
ॐ They're a disturbance and I can't do my service of writing books
ॐ CM: the mosquitos won't disturb you any more
ॐ To this day moquitos are not a problem
ॐ
ॐ At age 70 SG would do daily parikrama of GH
ॐ One day K appeared as a cowherd boy
ॐ K: You don't need to do this parikrama; you're too old
ॐ SG: I can't give it up; it is part of my daily vrata
ॐ Seeing SG's determination K picks up a rock from GH and gives to SG
ॐ On the rocks was K's footprint, a calf's hoofprint and imprint of K's flute and cowherd stick
ॐ K: 7 times around this = one time around GH
ॐ SG goes into ecstasy on seeing rock and cries
ॐ By the time regain composure SG realize cowherd was K
ॐ SG again cries
ॐ SG took to kutir and did circumambulation of sila instead of full parikrama
ॐ Now at Radha Damodara temple

II.) Lakṣmī Nārāyaṇa Mandira

- ॐ Utsava (festival) murtis of GH
ॐ Śrī Sampradāya Alvars: one of the 108 divya devams that should be visited by all Vaiṣṇavas

III.) Dhana Ghati (Kṛṣṇa Vedi)

- ॐ One day K became eager at heart to enjoy tax pastimes. Blocking the path he forbade R to pass proclaiming himself to be a tax collector appointed by the king of love (cupid), demanding that she pay a tax fro the milk products she was carrying.
ॐ This was formerly a pass across the mountain
ॐ K would come here w/ friends and demand dana (tax).
ॐ Due to covering of Yogamaya, gopis would forget they had been taxed here previously
ॐ From *Dana Keli Kamudi*:

- ॐ R, Lalita and other sakhis were on their way to Govinda kund on the of GH.
- ॐ On their heads they were carrying golden pots filled with ghee, milk ,yogurt, etc for a fire yajna their were advised to attend by Purnamasi.
- ॐ When they reached Dana Ghati K (along w/ Subal, Madhumangal and others) stopped them and demanded tax from teh for using the path.
- ॐ After a long and funny argument, Purnamasi arrived and aksed K to let R and her friends go.
- ॐ P also requested from K 2 boons
- ॐ always keep R and sakhis close to him (K)
- ॐ anyone who gives up material activity and resides on the bank of R kuṇḍa would very quickly attain his lotus feet.
- ॐ K smiled in agreement

A.) Rādhārāṇī's footprint

IV.) Dāni Raya temple

- ॐ Dāni = tax
- ॐ Raya = a name of K

V.) ISKCON temple

VI.) Dana Nivartana Kuṇḍa (from *Dana Keli Cintamani*)

- ॐ Kuṇḍalata to Sumukhi: Where are R and K enjoying their trans. Pastimes at this time?
- ॐ S feels ecstasy and relates this story:
- ॐ R was in her gardens on the bank of R kuṇḍa, when she heard from Saksmadhi, her parrot, about the fire sacrifice that was begin performed at Govinda kuṇḍa.
- ॐ Immediately R took bath and dressed herself nicely and then taking her friends along with her, she set off for Govinda kuṇḍa, carrying a golden pot of ghee on her head.
- ॐ K hears from his parrot the R was traveling w/ friends to Gov kuṇḍa
- ॐ Gathers friends to block path.
- ॐ K dressed very opulently befitting a tax collector

Govardhana Hill notes

- ॐ K to R: You are thieves who sell your milk yet avoid paying tax
- ॐ Today we have caught you and now you will have to pay dearly
- ॐ R: Just say away from me.
- ॐ If you touch me then the ghee I am carrying for the fire yajna will be contaminated
- ॐ Cuckoo in tree to K: Just speak nice words to this proud girl and get your tax.
- ॐ K requested R to wait a few minutes to allow his assistant to calculate the payment
- ॐ K informed R that each one of her lovely friends must give five handfuls of diamonds as payment
- ॐ R must pay an extra tax for all the beautiful parts on her body
- ॐ R became angry w/ Lalita
- ॐ Didn't I tell you that we should not travel on this path which is contaminated by these rascals
- ॐ R then starts to walk away ignoring K
- ॐ K forcibly stops her
- ॐ Lalita to R: If you want to become free from the coils of the black snake K, you must inform Yasoda.
- ॐ If she finds out he will run and hide
- ॐ K to R: hurry and get the yajna – it's almost over. Pay the tax later
- ॐ But Lalita must remain as collateral
- ॐ L became very angry
- ॐ L to Sudevi: quickly bring MY
- ॐ L to Citradevi: quickly bring Jatila
- ॐ L to Vrindadevi: go get the brahmanas from the yajna
- ॐ K smiles
- ॐ K to R: Why are you treating me like a blade of grass? I tried to tax in a nice way, but now I am forced to plunder all your jewelry
- ॐ R to K: 1000s of persons are passing this way every day. If you are the king of Vraja, then why don't you tax them.
- ॐ K: I will get the taxes from other travelers, but you and your friends have been avoiding me. Therefore when the emperor Cupid heard you were traveling he sent me.
- ॐ Nandimukhi arrives to everyone's joy
- ॐ K relates story to Nandimukhi
- ॐ Nandimukhi: My dear tax-collector. I am truly amazed by the description of your tax pastimes. Now I understand the statement, having once seen these pastimes nothing remains to be seen.

Govardhana Hill notes

- ॐ Please let R go, she has a reputation of being very chaste and saintly which would be ruined if you don't let her go immediately.
- ॐ Tomorrow they will return and pay their dues; I guarantee it
- ॐ R et al then go to Gov kuṇḍa and offer their milk preparations
- ॐ Afterwards go to R kuṇḍa
- ॐ
- ॐ Next day, Lalita and Vishakha, angry w/ K decide to go earlier than appointed time
- ॐ Along w/ 100s of girlfriends hide in trees and bushes around Dana Nivartana Kuṇḍa. When K arrived w/a few of most intimate friends, the gopi girls pound on them and gave them a good thrashing.
- ॐ Tied to trees and humiliated (esp K)
- ॐ After thrashing L demand K pay a tax to R b/c R=queen of Vrindavana and his cows had trampled and eaten everything in V
- ॐ w/ folded hands K begs forgiveness and admits he had no right to tax them.
- ॐ L then force K to bow at feet of R

VII.) Annakūṭa Kṣetra

- ॐ Area from Dāna Nivartana Kuṇḍa to village of Aniyor
- ॐ Where giant offering was made to GH
- ॐ
- ॐ One day K sees NM and vrajabasis preparing for a giant Indra Puja...
- ॐ ...
- ॐ Following K's advice...
- ॐ ...
- ॐ When everything was ready K suddenly expands to be as big and GH and declares himself to be nondifferent
- ॐ He then begins to eat
- ॐ Would occasionally drink water from lakes around GH
- ॐ As would stretch out arms vrajabasis had to run out of the way
- ॐ K would eat w/ right and snap fingers with left saying: "Aniyora (bring more)"
- ॐ After eating GH was satisfied
- ॐ Gopas then offer arati
- ॐ Then worshipped the cows and gave them grass
- ॐ NM then called all the brahmanas to perform a sacrifice
- ॐ All the demigods came to this yajna

- ॐ Except Indra who felt insulted
- ॐ After yajña vrajabasi did GH parikrama

VIII.) Aniyora village

- ॐ Where Madhavendra Puri found Gopāla
- ॐ Original Gopala Mandira can be seen on hill
- ॐ Got its name from annakuta ceremony when K was saying “Aniyora! Aniyora! (bring me more! Bring me more!)”

A.) Temple of Balarāma (Daujī)

- ॐ Installed by Vajranabha 5,000 years ago
- ॐ During reign of Aurangazeb Daujī was hidden in Sankarsana kunda

B.) Gopāla Prakata Sthali (Śrīngara Sthali)

- ॐ Once while doing Gov Parikrama, MP came to rest at bank of Govinda kunda
- ॐ MP would never beg for food; would only accept what was offered
- ॐ Suddenly a beautiful cowherd boy appears offering a pot of milk
- ॐ MP was surprised: Why have you come
- ॐ K: I am from the nearby village of Aniyora. Some of the ladies from Aniyora have seen you while fetching water. They asked me to bring this to you. I have to go now, but I will come later and collect the pot.
- ॐ MP drinks milks and washes pot (keeping nearby)
- ॐ Boy never returns
- ॐ MP starts chanting in ec all night
- ॐ Falls asleep as dawn approaches
- ॐ Amazing dream
- ॐ Same boy appears, takes MP by hand, leads to bushy area next to GH, points to large push and says this is my residence.
- ॐ K: Due to the cold, rain, wind, and heat I suffer very much
- ॐ Please get some local men and take me out of here and build a beautiful temple for me on top of the hill.
- ॐ My name is Gopāla, lifter of Govardhana Hill
- ॐ I was wondering when you would come here and serve me
- ॐ When the Mohammedans attacked the local brahmanas hid me here and then ran for their lives
- ॐ It is good that you have come now to take care of me.
- ॐ K then disappears

- ॐ MP realize he had accepted milk from K
- ॐ Cries
- ॐ After some time comes to his senses and begins to fulfill request of Gopāla
- ॐ
- ॐ After cutting thick bushes amazed to see large, beautiful Deity covered in grass and dirt
- ॐ Strongest villagers lifted G and carried to top of GH following MP
- ॐ Made simple altar of large stones and performed abhiseka
- ॐ This installation took place in 1479
- ॐ
- ॐ Worship was done by 2 brahmana disciples of MP
- ॐ Disappeared
- ॐ Rag d Gos consulted
- ॐ Place Vatthalanatha (son of Vallabaracarya) as priest
- ॐ Around 1670 moved to Nathadvara
- ॐ Became known as Nathji

Interesting... This shows that perhaps the previous acaryas weren't overly concerned that a Deity in our sampradaya/ lineage/ matha necessarily stay so...

C.) Gopāla Mandira

- ॐ Temple built by MP on top of GH
- ॐ Since has been rebuilt
- ॐ Deity has moved on to Nathdvara
- ॐ Gov sila is worshipped here
- ॐ Adjacent is a Siva mandira

IX.) Saṅkaraṣana kuṇḍa

- ॐ Dedicated to Lord Balarama
- ॐ Adi Varaha Purana: One who bathes here will be freed from the sin of killing a cow

X.) Gaurī Kuṇḍa

- ॐ Formerly there was a temple of Gaurī (Parvati), but has disappeared

A.) From Vidagda Mādhava Nataka

- ॐ One day Abhimanyu wants to take R to Mathurā to keep her away from K
- ॐ Before going he approaches Purnamasi

Govardhana Hill notes

- ॐ P was shocked and convinced A that he was just hearing rumors
- ॐ Only if you catch R and K can you take her away
- ॐ A then requests P to initiate R in worship of Gaurī
- ॐ (Since Candrāvalī had begun to worship Gaurī her husband Govardhana Malla had become very wealthy)
- ॐ After learning from P, R goes to Gaurī temple near Saṅkarṣana kuṇḍa
- ॐ As she arrives K blocks path
- ॐ Argument commences
- ॐ After admonishing K for coming there, R goes to grove to pick flowers
- ॐ A hears that R and K are together at Gaurī kuṇḍa
- ॐ Goes there with his mom, Jatila hoping to catching red-handed
- ॐ K understands
- ॐ Goes inside temple
- ॐ Dress in Deity's clothes and stands in front of Deity
- ॐ R enters temple and begins to worship Gaurī
- ॐ A rushes in: Today we have caught you red handed
- ॐ R falls flat on ground
- ॐ J asks A where such a bright light is coming from
- ॐ A: Look, it is coming from the famous Deity of G
- ॐ Gopīs arrive
- ॐ Praise A for advising R to worship G
- ॐ Gopis: Just see. G is so happy she has stepped out of the Deity and is now standing before us
- ॐ A: what is R praying for
- ॐ G: She is praying for the removal of the great disaster that is sitting on your head.
- ॐ A: what disaster
- ॐ G asks Vṛndā to explain
- ॐ V: Kāṁsa is planning to cut your head off the day after tomorrow
- ॐ J: What can we do to avert such a disaster
- ॐ R stands up and with pranama mudra prays for A's life
- ॐ G: Such a benediction is not possible.
- ॐ R pleads: I can't live without my master
- ॐ G: OK, you have such great devotion I will grant your wish on two conditions: you never leave Vraja and you always render service to me
- ॐ A: Ok, I promise. I will never take her away and I will always engage her in your service.

- ॐ J praises R for saving A's life
- ॐ V to A: A man who wrongly accuses his wife of infidelity will cut short his own span of life
- ॐ R is the source of your good fortune; you should never lose trust in her
- ॐ A and J return home to cancel Mathurā plans

XI.) Surabhi Vana

- ॐ Formerly there was a large forest here
- ॐ Used to be full of Surabhi cows

XII.) Govinda Kuṇḍa

- ॐ Where Indra performed abhiseka of K
- ॐ After realizing mistake I comes here with the celestial cow Surabhi and all demigods
- ॐ Performed wonderful ceremony and worshipped K like a king
- ॐ First S bathes K with her milk
- ॐ Airavata bathed Indra w/ water from trunk while I bathed K w/ Ganga jal
- ॐ Accumulated water created Govinda kunda
- ॐ
- ॐ After bathing ceremony demigods performed elaborate arati to K
- ॐ Brahma offers K a golden crown
- ॐ B declares K to be the real Indra (king) of all living beings
- ॐ B & I demigods depart
- ॐ
- ॐ After some time cowherd boys return and see paraphernalia on ground
- ॐ Boys pick up and spontaneously begin to worship K
- ॐ From distance demigods could hear sweet singing of cowherd boys
- ॐ Amazed to see natural love & affection for K
- ॐ
- ॐ NM & elderly cowherd men arrive
- ॐ Where did this paraphernalia come from?
- ॐ Boys: While we were herding up the calves it just appeared
- ॐ Madhumangala: First one cow spoke to K, and then a man w/ 1,000 eyes came and offered obeisances.
- ॐ Then a large white elephant kept bringing buckets of Ganga jal

- ॐ There was also a person w/ 4 heads
- ॐ Then they had abhiseka and arati
- ॐ
- ॐ Great voice from sky: O, NM, in the same way that we coronated you son as the King of the cows and senses, you should now coronate K as the king of Vraja.
- ॐ Cowherd men and women immed worshipped K with paraphernalia left by demigods and coronated as K of Vraja

A.) *Madhavendra Puri's Bhajana Kuṭira*

- ॐ This is where K came w/ pot of milk to offer to MP

B.) *Gopāla Mandira*

- ॐ Contains self manifesting Deity of Gopāla

C.) *Indra Tila*

- ॐ Where Indra stood while bathing K

D.) *Rādhā Govinda Mandira*

- ॐ Deities installed by Vajranabha 5,000 years ago.

E.) *Nipa Kuṇḍa*

- ॐ K and cowherd boys would come here and have lunch
- ॐ
- ॐ Once gopis were passing this way carrying pots of butter and yogurt on heads
- ॐ K suddenly appeared from bushes, and blocking the path demanded all the butter and yogurt as a tax
- ॐ Gopis chastised K and threatened to tell Kamsa
- ॐ K: I am not afraid of Kamsa. In the future I will kill him and throw his dead body near GH
- ॐ Gopis laugh and leaving pots on ground returned home
- ॐ K fed all friends with butter and yogurt out of cups made from the leaves of the surrounding Kadamba trees

XIII.) *Doka Daujī (Balarāma Sthali)*

- ॐ Dedicated to Balarāma, aka Daujī (older brother)
- ॐ Deity is blackish and crouching

- ॐ Temple is on hill and can be see from both sides
- ॐ
- ॐ One day Balarama was roaming GH when he saw K in distance performing rasa lila
- ॐ Crouching B became absorbed in watching
- ॐ B was so absorbed in watching that he turned black like K

XIV.) Apsarā vana

- ॐ Surrounds tip of GH on southeastern side

XV.) Apsarā Kuṇḍa

- ॐ On southernmost tip of GH
- ॐ Created from abhiseka water of 7 main apsarās (dancing girls) – following demigods
- ॐ 24 main incarnations of K (Matsya, Kurma, Varāha, Vāmana, etc.) perform pastimes on bank of this kuṇḍa
- ॐ K would manifest one of these forms
- ॐ
- ॐ One day K manifest 12 armed form in front of gopis
- ॐ Subala assumes form of Garuda
- ॐ
- ॐ On other occasions K manifest as Varaha and began to tear up earth
- ॐ Also manifest as Rama and cowherd boys manifest as monkeys and bears to assist
- ॐ
- ॐ R & K enjoy spring rasa lila here

XVI.) Naval Kuṇḍa (Punchari Kuṇḍa)

- ॐ Next to Apsarā kuṇḍa
- ॐ Considered tail of GH
- ॐ
- ॐ Once R & K were enjoying rasa dance here
- ॐ So absorbed in ec bodies just melted into kuṇḍas
- ॐ R and gopis -> Apsarā kuṇḍa

ॐ K -> Naval kuṇḍa

A.) *Narasimha Mandira*

ॐ On banks of small hill

ॐ Over 1,000 years old

ॐ Narasimha is ripping apart H on lap

XVII.) Punchari Ka Lautha Baba Mandira

ॐ One day K's friend Lautha cooked some very nice food for K & B

ॐ Sitting he sees K & B go by w/ Akrura

ॐ L: Hey, we're you going, I just cooked a nice meal

ॐ K: Oh, we'll be back the day after tomorrow

ॐ L: Ok, I won't eat until you return

ॐ Still waiting

ॐ

ॐ Said to be nondifferent than Hanuman

XVIII.) Sutala Vana

ॐ Rasa lila took place here

XIX.) Mani Kandali Cave (Rāghava Paṇḍit's Bhajāna Kutir)

ॐ R & K used to enjoy intimate pastimes here

XX.) Kadamba Vana

ॐ Kadamba tree is dear to K because reminds him of R's complexion

A.) *Airavata's footprint*

ॐ Where Airavata bowed to offer ob to K

B.) *Indra Kuṇḍa*

ॐ Indra offered his ob to K here

ॐ

ॐ K was walking around GH inspecting damage

- ॐ I sees K and offers full ob.
- ॐ I's tears formed small kuṇḍa

C.) Surabhi Kuṇḍa

- ॐ Here S offered beautiful prayers to K, asking K to forgive I
- ॐ
- ॐ After witnessing K's great power I felt demoralized
- ॐ In dejected mood went home to palace but didn't even speak to wife
- ॐ Nor attend to household duties.
- ॐ News of I's despondency reached Brhaspati
- ॐ Brhaspati arrived at I's palace and told I he had greatly offended SPG
- ॐ B advise I to speak w/ Brahmā
- ॐ Brahmā advise I to seek help of S, mother of all cows
- ॐ S agrees to help & together they go to GH in search of K
- ॐ On seeing K, S asks K to forgive I
- ॐ K agrees

D.) Airavata Kuṇḍa

- ॐ Formed when A brought Ganga jal for I to bath K

E.) Rudan Kuṇḍa

- ॐ Rudan = tears
- ॐ Once Siva cried in ecstatic love for R & K
- ॐ Tears created kuṇḍa
- ॐ
- ॐ Once gopis were feeling separation for K & they came here
- ॐ Sitting on banks of kuṇḍa shed tears of love
- ॐ
- ॐ R & K enjoy bathing here

XXI.) Jetipura

- ॐ Village where MP stayed when worshipping Gopāla

XXII.) Vilachu Kuṇḍa

- ॐ Once R lost her ankle bell here

Govardhana Hill notes

- ॐ K appears, in joking mood, and asks R if she is looking for his lost flute
- ॐ R: don't joke
- ॐ K persists
- ॐ R becomes angry
- ॐ To pacify R, K begins to dig earth with hands
- ॐ To R's amazement K pulls digs out many anklebells, some gold, some silver, other priceless gems
- ॐ K smiling: which one belongs to you?

XXIII.) Sakhī Sthali

- ॐ Where Chandravali used to meet Krishna.
- ॐ There is a run-down kunda here on the left hand side of the parikrama patg known as Sakhi Kunda (Lilavati Kunda).
- ॐ It is said to have been created by the 64 sakhis (girlfriends) of Chandravali.
- ॐ
- ॐ C & R = cousins (Vṛṣabhanu & Candrabhanu = bros)
- ॐ
- ॐ At this place Chandravali lived with her husband, Govardhana Malla, who was a close friend of Abhimanyu. Her 64 sakhis (friends) also lived here.
- ॐ
- ॐ Krishna had pastimes with the cowherd boys at this place.

XXIV.) Uddhava Kuṇḍa

- ॐ This is the place where Uddhava, after meeting with the gopi, desired to have a future birth as an insignificant clump of grass in Braja.
- ॐ As you approach Uddhava Kunda, on the right side there is a small temple with Radha-Krishna Deities. These Deities are said to have been installed by Vajranabha.

XXV.) Radha Kuṇḍa

XXVI.) Śyama Kuṇḍa

XXVII.) Kusuma Sarovara

- ॐ One day Radha and friends were picking flowers and K suddenly appears
- ॐ K: Who is picking flowers
- ॐ R: No one but me
- ॐ K: who are you?
- ॐ R: Don't you know me?
- ॐ K: If I knew I wouldn't ask
- ॐ R: I don't care if you don't know me, why don't you leave this place
- ॐ K: I am the gardener, where will I go?
- ॐ R: if you are a male bee, then go to the female bee
- ॐ K: you are the female bee
- ॐ R: You appear to be an honest man and ascetic, yes you know the art of stealing a youth's heart. Aren't you ashamed of yourself
- ॐ K: My dear lady, Maharaja Kandarpa (Cupid) is the king of this forest; because he is pleased with me has delegated me all power. If you are so proud I will confiscate all your flowers
- ॐ Pretty lady, I am a brahmachari and an ascetic. It appears to me that you have come here simply to try and entice me with your beauty. But do not think I am alone here in the jungle. My friends are always close by. Please don't lay any tricks with me, and just behave like an honest person.
- ॐ Anyway, your bodily actions speak louder than any words. You are trying to capture the Maharaja's property. Every limb of your body is just like a thief. Don't think that just because you are a lady you will be pardoned. I would be committing a great wrong if I pardon you. When I take you before the Maharaja, you will be sentenced with various punishments. At that time your vanity will vanish. Without permission you have picked flowers and I have no authority to pardon you.
- ॐ You are thinking that this is just an ordinary forest and the king is not very powerful because his kingdom is so small, but you will see, because you have robbed this kingdom you will be punished. With the different parts of your body you have stolen different things; the palms of your hands are the soles of your feet have stolen the beauty of the petals of the lotus flowers; your gait the baby elephants and swans; your nails the mirrors; your knees golden balls; your hips the golden banana trees; the upper part of your waist the golden altar; your navel the lake of nectar; your chest the body of Cupid; your fingers the flowers of Cupid, which is the source of his power; your teeth have stolen the pearl necklace and your eyes the deer and cakori bird; the lines on you

neck the conch; the line on you stomach the gentle waves of the Yamuna. You have stolen so many things, how can the king pardon you. The beauty of our kingdom is unique in all the world. Today you have robbed everything, including our prestige.

- ॐ R: O K, you are very clever. You are the greatest thief. Now you are acting like a saint and calling to others thieves. What can be said of you? When you stole the clothes of the gopis, your character was apparent. Those poor naked gopis were standing before you with folded hands and you were simply enjoying the fun. There is no better example of your nonsense.
- ॐ O K, there are many girls of marriageable age and you are a young prince, but nobody is willing to give his daughters to you. There must be a good reason. It is highly probably that you are not a normal man, and no girl will like to marry an abnormal man.
- ॐ My dear K, I fully understand that it is not out of choice but out of force that you have become a brahmacari. O K, you are in the habit of playing your flute, which has the power of attracting all the young girls. Shameful! How dare you call yourself a brahmacari. In fact it is very wicked and sinful to call yourself a brahmacari and then tempt young girls. Now don't come one step closer to me, please! It is surprising, considering that you have not planted a single tree in this whole forest, that you can claim ownership. The entire forest has been destroyed by your cows trampling here and there. Our sahki Vrinda Devi has taken great pains to keep this forest clean and tidy. Therefore we call in Vrndavana, and she presented it to me as a gift. This forest has grown around the banks of Radha kuṇḍa and it is my playground. There is a sign on the path which says "Ladies only."
- ॐ We are simply picking flowers to worship the Sun god. Who are you to stop us? This place belongs to us. O brahmacari, maps are strictly prohibited. How dare you set foot here. Off you go with your cowherd friends and look after the cows.
- ॐ R then threatened K that she would call Lalita, who she said was powerful.
- ॐ At that moment Visakha intervened on the lovers' quarrel and catching a hold of R cloth tied it to K's.
- ॐ V: now it is time to move on to R kuṇḍa

XXVIII.) Uddhava Baitthaka (sitting place)

- ॐ Uddhava resides in three places: Badarikasrama, Dvaraka and Kusuma Sarovara
- ॐ Is here as gulma lata (a creeper) hoping K will trample on his head

XXIX.) Aśoka vana

- ॐ Here K braided R's hair and decorated her with cosmetics and jewelry
- ॐ Described in Govinda lilamrta.

XXX.) Nārada vana

- ॐ Once Narada approached lord Siva for the boon to have darsan of R and K's conjugal lilas.
- ॐ Siva gave NM and mantra.
- ॐ NM came here to chant this mantra and perform tapasya
- ॐ Vrnda devi came by with her assistants.
- ॐ NM offers obeisance and asks for permission to witness conjugal lilas
- ॐ Vrnda: not possible in a male form
- ॐ V takes NM to Kusum Sarovara
- ॐ After bathing obtained gopi form
- ॐ V take NM to Radha kuṇḍa, where had darsan of asta kaliya lila
- ॐ K sees NM in form of gopis and requests to stay at Narada Vana and write bhakti sastras
- ॐ NM had been cursed by daksa to not stay in one place more than 3 days
- ॐ K tells NM that b/c Vrndavana is not part of material world, that curse doesn't hold
- ॐ V takes NM back to Kusum sarovara.
- ॐ NM bathes and becomes male again
- ॐ Returned to N vana and wrote Narada Bhakti Sutras

XXXI.) Śyāma Kuṭir

- ॐ Where GH first starts to appear above ground
- ॐ Where Sankacuda carried off the gopis while enjoying with K and Balarama (take story from Krsna book)
- ॐ K's footprint can be seen here

XXXII.) Gval Pokhara

- ॐ K and friends would take lunch here
- ॐ Gvala = cowherd boy
- ॐ Pokhara = small kuṇḍa

ॐ AKA Gopala kuṇḍa

XXXIII.) Jugal-kuṇḍa

ॐ Nanda Maharaja and crew stayed here a few days on way from Gokula to new home and Nandagrama

XXXIV.) Kikola-kuṇḍa

XXXV.) Pañca-tīrtha kuṇḍa