

AL-II-B-014

OLDTOWN AQUEDUCT  
Seven Springs Run  
Oldtown, Maryland  
1845

The Oldtown Aqueduct or Aqueduct #11 was probably built in the early 1840's and was used to carry the Canal across Seven Springs Run. It is one of twelve aqueducts which were built along the C & O Canal. Aqueduct #11 was constructed from large blocks of sandstone which were brought to the site and then cut, fitted and set in place. It consists of a semi-elliptical arch approximately 20 feet in width with a keystone. A wrought iron fence originally stood along the tow path.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Oldtown Aqueduct

AND/OR COMMON

7 Springs Run Aqueduct

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Along C & O Canal over Seven Springs Run

sixth

CITY, TOWN

Oldtown

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Allegany

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

National Parks Service

Telephone #: 202-343-1100

STREET & NUMBER

C St. Between 18th & 19th Sts.

CITY, TOWN

Washington, D.C.

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 470

Folio #: 251

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

AL-II-B-014

**7 DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED	DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

Aqueduct #11 is located on the C & O Canal over Seven Springs Run near Oldtown, Allegany County.

Aqueduct #11 was built using a combination of limestone and sandstone. It consists of a semi-elliptical arch with a keystone approximately 20 feet in width. A wrought iron hand made fence originally stood along the towpath.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Oldtown Aqueduct or Aqueduct #11 was probably built in the early 1840's and was used to carry the canal across Seven Springs Run. It is one of approximately twelve aqueducts which were built along the C & O Canal. Aqueduct #11 was constructed from large blocks of sandstone which were brought to the site and then cut, fitted and set in place. A perfect fit was of utmost importance since mortar could not be depended upon. The majority of the work on the aqueducts as well as other sites along the Canal was done by Irish Stone Masons.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> George Hooper Wolf, I Drove Mules on the C & O Canal, (Dover, Delaware: Dover Graphic Associates, 1970) p. 25 and 29.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Allegany County Land Records, Cumberland, Maryland

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 121.75

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

John Nelson, Steve Beale, Joan Baldwin

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Sites Survey

DATE

9/1/76

STREET &amp; NUMBER

507 National Highway

TELEPHONE

777-8991

CITY OR TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

INVENTORY NO. A1-11-B-014

470/251

DATE: 8/4/76

121.75 Acres

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor None

NAME OF PROPERTY: Oldtown Aqueduct #11

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: Along C+O Canal - Over Seven Springs Run - Oldtown

DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: north-south

NAME OF OWNER: National Parks Service

ADDRESS: C St. Between 18th + 19th St. N.W.

Washington, D.C. 202-343-1100

STORIES: 1( ) 2( ) 3( ) 4( ) 5( ) 6( ) BAYS: 1( ) 2( ) 3( ) 4( ) 5( ) 6( ) 7( ) ( )

WINGS, ADDITIONS:

Dwelling Shape: (square, cross, rectangular)

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- ( ) FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)
- (✓) BRICK: Bond type- common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
- (✓) STONE: Bond type- rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
- ( ) LOG
- ( ) Other: Coverings

WALL FEATURES: BELT COURSE, PILASTERS, OTHERS \_\_\_\_\_

FOUNDATIONS: HIGH, LOW, BRICK, STONE

WATER TABLE: NONE, PLAIN, BEVELED, MOULDED BRICK

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1( ) 2/2( ) 6/6( ) 9/6( ) 9/9( ) other( )  
pegged ( ) nailed( ) wide ( ) narrow ( ) mitred ( ) pediment ( )

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_  
HARDWARE: original( ) replaced( )  
FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN  
Paneled, Verticle, Horizontal Boards

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: (crown, fascia, soffit, bed)  
original( ) replaced( ) Rafter Ends, Modillions, Dentils, Frieze, Architrave

ROOF: GABLE FRONT, GABLE FLANK, HIP, SHED, MANSARD, GAMBREL, FLAT, BORMERS # \_\_\_\_\_  
MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt original( ) replaced( )

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed( ) hip( ) gable( )

CHIMNEYS: NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ BRICK( ) STONE( ) CORBELLED( ) original( ) replaced( )  
LOCATION: Flush end( ) Inside end( ) Outside end( ) Central( ) Interior ( )

ARCHES: Door and window: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, Semicircular

COMMENTS:  
Use - To Span Seven Springs Under Canal  
Significance -  
Date Constructed - 1830-1840  
Condition - Fair -> Good

Key points regarding interior architecture.

1. Floor plan
  - No through hall--How many rooms long and deep?  
Where is stairway? Straight or winding?
  - With through hall--Rooms on both sides? How many?  
Rooms on one side only? How many?  
Is stair in through hall?  
Open or enclosed? Straight--one run. Straight--landing  
How many? Curved.  
If not in hall, where is stair?
2. Wall finish: plaster, paneled, board partition  
Note presence of chair rail, cornice, etc.
3. Fireplaces: How many? Parallel to walls or diagonal in corner?  
Mantels: wood--mouldings, pilasters, columns  
masonry--marble(what color? ), brick
3. Doors: on the inside of exterior doors, note the presence of applied flush boards and their direction (diagonal, vertical, horizontal). In general are doors paneled or ledge or other?
4. Door and window trim: plain, architrave; fluted, reeded; pilasters
5. Kitchen: Where is original if extant or known (marked by very large fireplace)? Separate building; wing to principal dwelling; within principal dwelling? On which floor of any of the above?

6. THE PRESENCE OR ABSENCE OF ANY WOODEN HEARD, REFRIGERATOR, STOVE, SINK, OR CASE, OR THE PRESENCE OF ANY OTHER APPLIANCES, SHOULD BE NOTED.

AI-II-B-025

AI-II-B-026

AI-II-B-021

AI-II-B-027 AI-II-B-020

AI-II-B-019

AI-II-B-018

AI-II-B-008

AI-II-B-012

AI-II-B-002

AI-II-B-009

AI-II-B-007

AI-II-B-024

AI-II-B-013

AI-II-B-015

AI-II-B-014

AI-II-B-017

AI-II-B-016

AI-II-B-010

AI-II-B-014

Oldtown Aqueduct

Spans 7 Springs Run

USGS - Oldtown Quad

1:24,000

1950

5263 11 SW (PATTERSON CREEK)

CUMBERLAND 14 MI  
SPRING GAP 5.4 MI

32°30'

4370

4378

1000 FEET (MD.)

0 MI  
4 MI

Trading

South

CHESAPEAKE

POTOMAC RIVER

MARYLAND WEST VIRGINIA

Green Spring

Green Spring

OHIO RAIL

ARNOLD

STONING

AND

POTOMAC

South Branch  
French Sta



Oldtown Aquaduct #11

A1-II-B-014

C+O Canal Over Springs Run

Oldtown

John E. Nelson

8/4/76

~~see~~ North