

Brush Tunnel
AL-V-B-134
near Cash Valley Road, LaVale
1911

Brush Tunnel was built in 1911 by the George's Creek and Cumberland Railroad Company for the Western Maryland Railway Company. It is the first of four tunnels on the Connellsville Extension of the Western Maryland's system. Walls of the double track tunnel are constructed of cement; it is 850 feet in length. At either end is a rectangular cement portal with an arched opening and a corbeled edge.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Brush Tunnel

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Connellsville Extension, Western Maryland Railway Sixth

CITY, TOWN

Off Cash Valley Road

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

LaVale, Maryland 21502

COUNTY

Allegany

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**

DISTRICT
 BUILDING(S)
 STRUCTURE
 SITE
 OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC
 PRIVATE
 BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
 IN PROCESS
 BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED
 UNOCCUPIED
 WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
 YES: RESTRICTED
 YES: UNRESTRICTED
 NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE
 COMMERCIAL
 EDUCATIONAL
 ENTERTAINMENT
 GOVERNMENT
 INDUSTRIAL
 MILITARY
 MUSEUM
 PARK
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE
 RELIGIOUS
 SCIENTIFIC
 TRANSPORTATION
 abandoned

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Knipland Corporation C/O Dr. Edward F. Knipling

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

2623 Military Road

CITY, TOWN

Arlington

VICINITY OF

Virginia 22207, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 451

Folio #: 577

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

STATE
Maryland 21502**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

RL-1-6-134

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Brush Tunnel is located on the Western Maryland Railway's Connellsville Extension near Cash Valley Road, LaVale.

This double track tunnel is eight hundred and fifty feet in length. Interior walls are of cement. On either end of the tunnel are rectangular cement portals with a corbeled edge and an arched opening.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
X1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES	1911	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	George's Creek and Cumberland Railroad Company
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Brush Tunnell is located on the Connellsville Extension of the Western Maryland Railway in Cash Valley, four miles west of Cumberland, The extension from Cumberland to Connellsville, Pennsylvania was completed in 1912 at an "enormous" cost "through rugged and mountainous country." (1)

The line...known as the Connellsville Extension was built to serve a twofold purpose; to provide a western outlet for the Western Maryland, and an eastern tidewater outlet for the Pittsburg and Lake Erie (Railroad)... It affords the Western Maryland the shortest line between Baltimore and Pittsburg, and the lowest grade line across the Allegheny Mountains.(2)

The 18 miles of double track from George's Creek Junction in the Narrows near Cumberland, and the Maryland-Pennsylvania state line was constructed by a "proprietary company" of the Western Maryland, The George's Creek and Cumberland Railroad Company.(3) Construction features of the extension in Maryland include two tunnels and a steel bridge.(4) "Four miles from Cumberland is the first tunnel, the Brush Tunnell, 850 feet in length, emerging from the tunnel into Jennings Run Valley."(5)

The extension was used for local service as well as long distance freight carriage. A " 'daily except Sunday' Cumberland-to-Connellsville train stopped at Mount Savage and Frostburg."(6) This service was discontinued during the 1930's, a victim of the Depression.(7) "The Western Maryland Railway was absorbed by the Chessie system in the mid-1970's," and the Connellsville Extension was abandoned.(8)

- (1) James W. Thomas and T.J.C. Williams, History of Allegany County (Philadelphia: L.R. Titsworth and Company) p.273
- (2) Edward M. Killough, ed. History of the Western Maryland Railway Company (Baltimore: Voluntary Relief Department Press, 1938)p.44
- (3) Ibid,pp44 &45

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Edward M. Killough, ed. History of the Western Maryland Railway Co. (Baltimore: Voluntary Relief Department Press, 1938)
 Stegmaier, Harry Jr. et. al. Allegheny County-A History, Parsons W.Va. McClain Printing Co., 1976)
 Thomas, James , W. & Williams, T.J.C. History of Allegheny County Philadelphia: L.R. Litsworth and Co., 1923
 CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 285.35 acres

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

David A. Dorsey, Historic Sites Coordinator

ORGANIZATION

Allegheny County Historic Sites
3 Pershing Street

DATE

November 21, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

777-5944

CITY OR TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland 21502

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.

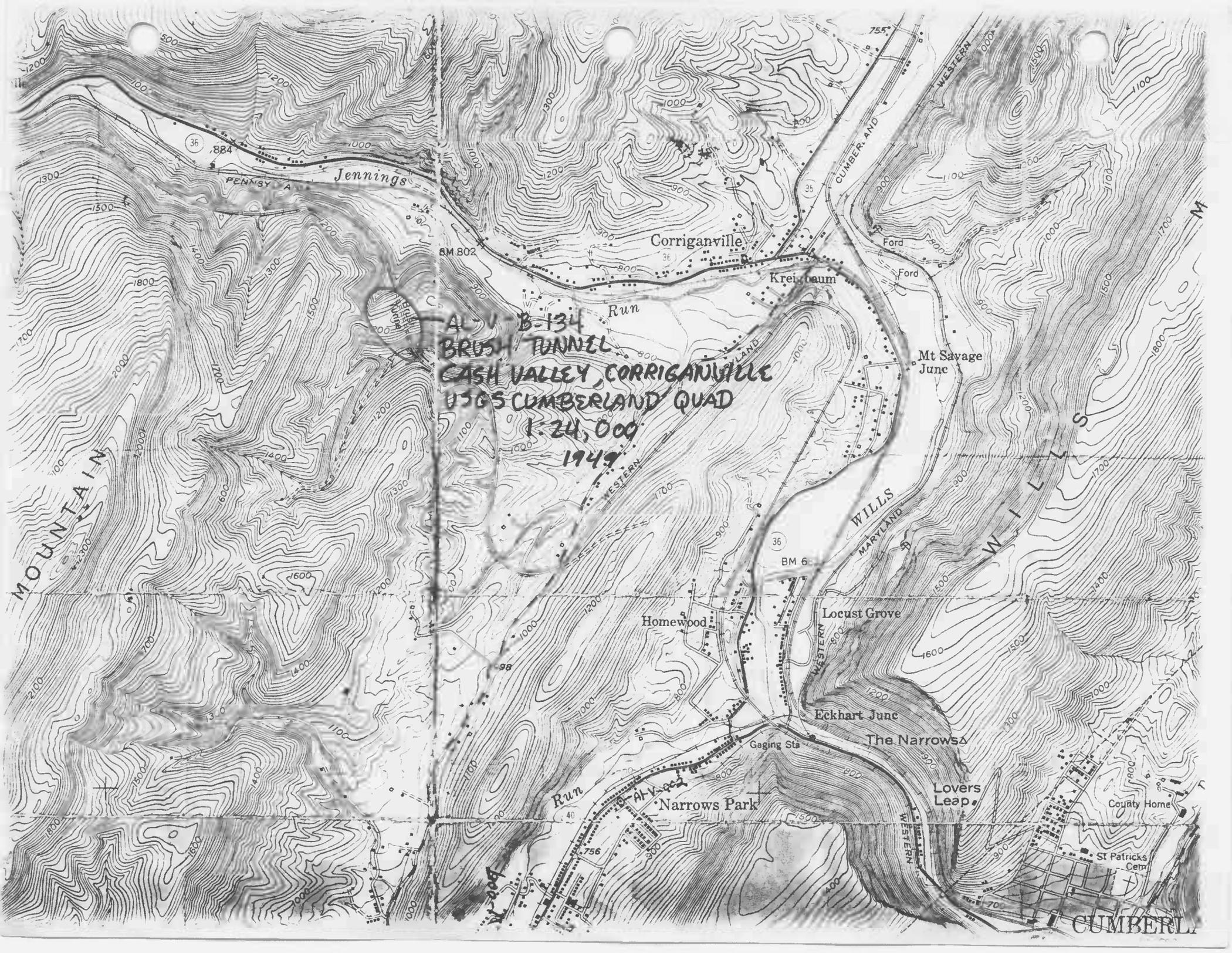
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

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

(Significance cont.)

Footnotes

- (4) Ibid,p46
- (5) James W. Thomas and T.J.C. Williams, History of Allegany County (Philadelphia: L.R. Titsworth and Company) P. 273
- (6) Harry I. Stegmaier, Jr. et al, Allegany County, A History (Parsons W. Va. McClain Printing Company) P.335
- (7) Ibid, p.357
- (8) Ibid,p420



AL-V-B-134
BRUSH TUNNEL
CASH VALLEY, CORRIGANVILLE
USGS CUMBERLAND QUAD
1:24,000
1949

MOUNTAIN

CUMBERLAND



AL-V-B-134

BROSH TUNNEL

Cash Valley Rd La Vale

David A. Dorsey

11/19/79

North