Start Here

Scan One Time Only

And

Copy for Multiple Numbers

BA-964

through

BA-966

BA 964, 965, 966

Western Run Turnpike, Bridges
and culverts
Between Shawan Road and Butler
Road at Falls Road
Accessible to public
Ca. 1868

The Western Run Turnpike Company was chartered in 1868 to construct a toll road between Butler and the York Road Turnpike. Tollgates were set up at Butler, Western Run (q.v.) and York Road. Three bridges and culverts are known to be original (and there may be others covered by modern alterations). The Gothic arch of the bridge immediately north of the hamlet of Leesville reflects the popularity of that style during the third quarter of the 19th century. The sturdy stone construction indicates the plentiful supply of massive stone in the region. Two other bridges,or culverts, are located about half a mile south of Leesville and just west of Western Road.

BA-964, 965, 966
MAC# #030964517
#030965 4517
#030966 4517

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Western Run Turnpike Bridges and Culverts

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Western Run Road

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 8

__ VICINITY OF Butler to Shawan Rd. at I-83

STATE

COUNTY
Baltimore

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	X PUBLIC	__OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
__BUILDING(S)	__PRIVATE	X UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
X STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	X YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	X TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Baltimore County

Telephone #: 494-3100

STREET & NUMBER
Chesapeake Avenue

CITY, TOWN
Towson

__ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Md. 21204

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Liber #: 504
Folio #: 344

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Baltimore County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
Washington Avenue

CITY, TOWN
Towson

STATE
Md.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
None

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A stone-arched bridge spans a branch of Western Run immediately north of the hamlet of Leesville. The original bridge is about half the width of the existing structure, having been widened to the east by the addition of concrete structure. The single arch is a pointed or Gothic arch, faced with roughly-worked marble stones; adjacent stone is a grayer rubble native limestone and the walls extend a few feet above the roadbed in a parapet. Flanking the arch, the walls splay slightly outward.

A stone culvert spans another branch of Western Run about half a mile south of the Leesville bridge; it, too, has been about doubled in width but the newer construction is to the west and it is a round steel pipe, faced with rubble stone. Splaying parapet walls on either side rise above the roadbed like the Leesville bridge. In the original portion of this bridge the stream is spanned with a series of massive roughly-worked native limestone lintels laid side by side.

A stone culvert with long flanking retaining walls parallel to the roadbed spans a branch of Western Run just north of Western Road. The original portion of the culvert remains under the easterly half of Western Run Road. The branch is spanned with a series of massive roughly-worked stone lintels laid side by side.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	__ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	X ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	X TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1868 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Western Run Turnpike Company was chartered in 1868 to construct a toll road between Butler and the York Road Turnpike. This turnpike, now known as Western Run Road, was the last to be constructed in Baltimore County and its original route still carries modern traffic over a series of bridges and culverts with only minimal change in its right-of-way.

The road began in the village of Butler, ran south along the Falls Road to its intersection with Western Run Road, then proceeded eastward and southward to Shawan Road where it turned east to end at York Road Turnpike. There were toll gates at Butler, in the village of Western Run, and at York Road. The two tollhouses at Western Run are still in existance (see Ackerman and Schloss houses).

Three bridges and culverts are known to be original (and there may be others which have been covered by modern alterations), The Gothic arch of the bridges near Leesville reflects the popularity of the Gothic Revival style in the third quarter of the 19th century. The sturdy stone construction indicates the plentiful supply of massive sound stone in the neighboring region.

The Western Run Turnpike Company was broken up in 1918 and the roadway sold to the Baltimore County Board of Commissioners.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. (Philadelphia, 1877).

Maryland Geological Survey. vol. 3. (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1899) p.218, 262.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5 miles ±

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
Catharine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr. AIA

ORGANIZATION
For Valleys Historical District Project

DATE
November 1976

STREET & NUMBER
1114 Bellemore Rd.

TELEPHONE
323-3798

CITY OR TOWN
Baltimore

STATE
Md.

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

End Here

Scan One Time Only

And

Copy for Multiple Numbers

BA-964

through

BA-966