

AL-V-B-100  
National Road  
1806 - 1818

Increased migration and settlement in the Midwest early in the nineteenth century prompted the first federally-funded internal improvement in the United States, the National Road. Legislation passed in 1806 authorized construction of the 130 mile road that reached Wheeling in 1818 and which was later extended further westward. A State Highway Administration sign in LaVale identifies the National Road. Inns and bridges along the original road still remain, but little fabric of the original road still exists.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC  
National Road

AND/OR COMMON  
Rt. 40

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
N/A

CITY, TOWN

N/A

STATE

Maryland

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

COUNTY

Allegany

**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 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 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  
State Highway Administration

Telephone #: 383-4200

STREET & NUMBER  
300 W. Preston Street

CITY, TOWN  
Baltimore

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
Maryland, 21201

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER  
30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN  
Cumberland,

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
MHT County Index for Survey 89-665 AL-4

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS  
Maryland Historical Trust, Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

AL-V-B-100

**7 DESCRIPTION**

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A State Highway Administration sign in La Vale identifies the National Road. Inns and bridges along the original road still remain but little fabric of the original road still exists.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

AL-V-B-100

**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 type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

**SPECIFIC DATES**

1806-1818

**BUILDER/ARCHITECT**

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Increased migration and settlement in the Midwest early in the nineteenth century prompted the first federally funded internal improvement—the National Road. Legislation passed in 1806 authorized construction of the 130 mile road that reached Wheeling in 1818.

The road originally followed Braddock's first route over Haystack Mountain but was changed in the 1830's to travel through the Narrows. The original road, from Cumberland to Wheeling, was later extended further westward. 1

1. Harry Stegmaier, Jr., Allegheny County-A History (Parsons, West Virginia: McClain Printing, Co., 1976) pp 100-104.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Allegany County Land Records Cumberland, Maryland 21502

Stegmaier, Jr., Harry. Allegany County-A History. Parsons, W. Va.: McClain Printing Co., 1976.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY N/A

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

William Pratt and Dave Dorsey

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Sites Survey

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

507 National Highway

TELEPHONE

777-5967

CITY OR TOWN

La Vale

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

## HISTORICAL MARKERS

The National Road  
(called the Cumberland Road)

was the first of the Internal improvements undertaken by the United States Government. Surveys were authorized in 1806 over the route of "Braddock's Road" which followed "Nemacolin's Path" and Indian trail, over which George Washington traveled in 1754 to Fort Le Boeuf.

(SRC) Rt. 40 west - near Library (Old State Police Barracks) La Vale, Md.

[Hazel G. Hansrote]







## THE NATIONAL ROAD

CALLED THE CONSERLAND ROAD

WAS THE FIRST OF THE INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS UNDERTAKEN BY THE U. S. GOVERNMENT. SURVEYS WERE AUTHORIZED IN 1806 OVER THE ROUTE OF "BRADDOCK'S ROAD" WHICH FOLLOWED "NOMACOLIN'S PATH" AN INDIAN TRAIL, OVER WHICH GEORGE WASHINGTON TRAVELED IN 1754 TO FORT LEBANON.

STATE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AL-V-B-100

THE NATIONAL ROAD

ROUTE 40 AND GRANT STREET, LAVALE

WILLIAM J. PRATT

12/28/77

NORTHEAST