

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties number: F-6-109

Name: #10060/MD 550 over for. of Friends Creek

The bridge referenced herein was inventoried by the Maryland State Highway Administration as part of the Historic Bridge Inventory, and SHA provided the Trust with eligibility determinations in February 2001. The Trust accepted the Historic Bridge Inventory on April 3, 2001. The bridge received the following determination of eligibility.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST	
Eligibility Recommended <u>  X  </u>	Eligibility Not Recommended <u>      </u>
Criteria: <u>  A  </u> <u>  B  </u> <u>  C  </u> <u>  D  </u>	Considerations: <u>  A  </u> <u>  B  </u> <u>  C  </u> <u>  D  </u> <u>  E  </u> <u>  F  </u> <u>  G  </u> <u>None</u>
Comments: _____	
Reviewer, OPS: <u>Anne E. Bruder</u>	Date: <u>  3 April 2001  </u>
Reviewer, NR Program: <u>Peter E. Kurtze</u>	Date: <u>  3 April 2001  </u>

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
HISTORIC BRIDGE INVENTORY  
MARYLAND STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MHT NO. F-6-109

NAME AND SHA NO.: 10060

LOCATION

Road Name and Number: MD 550 over Branch of Friends Creek

City/Town: Sabillasville  vicinity

County: Frederick

Ownership:  State  County  Municipal  Other

Bridge projects over:  Road  Railway  Water  Land

Is bridge located within designated district?:  yes  no  
 NR listed district  NR determined eligible district  
 locally designated  other  
Name of District

BRIDGE TYPE

Timber Bridge  
 Beam Bridge  Truss-Covered  Trestle  Timber-and-Concrete

Stone Arch Bridge

Metal Truss Bridge

Moveable Bridge  
 Swing  Bascule Single Leaf  Bascule Multiple Leaf  
 Vertical Lift  Retractable  Pontoon

Metal Girder  
 Rolled Girder  Rolled Girder Concrete Encased  
 Plate Girder  Plate Girder Concrete Encased

Metal Suspension

Metal Arch

Metal Cantilever

Concrete  
 Concrete Arch  Concrete Slab  Concrete Beam  Rigid Frame  
 Other  Type Name

**DESCRIPTION**

**Describe the Setting:**

Bridge 10060 carries MD 550 over a branch of Friends Creek in northwestern Frederick County near the Pennsylvania state line. This area falls near the border between Maryland's Appalachian and Piedmont physiographic regions. Residences line both sides of this section of MD 550, which runs in a north-south direction. Friends Creek is generally oriented in an east-west direction. A railroad bridge is located approximately 2,000 feet north of the bridge. The Fort Ritchie military installation is located approximately 2 miles west of the bridge and the community of Blue Ridge Summit is located approximately 2 miles north of the bridge.

**Describe the Superstructure and Substructure:  
(Discuss points identified in Context Addendum, Section C)**

The bridge, which carries two lanes of traffic over Friends Creek, is a single-span concrete beam structure with a span length of approximately 32', a total length of approximately 32', and a clear roadway width of approximately 40'. The structure consists of horizontally-grooved concrete abutments and wingwalls and open, balustrade-style concrete parapets with incised spandrels. Modern metal guardrails, which line both approaches, are attached to the ends of the parapets but do not extend along the inner parapet surface.

Inspection reports on file at the State Highway Administration indicate that the abutments, wing walls, and open parapets are severely deteriorated. A 1970 inspection report indicated that the bridge did not appear to be structurally sound.

**Discuss major alterations:**

Available documentary evidence indicates that no major alterations were undertaken on the bridge.

**HISTORY**

**When Built:** 1936

**Why Built:** Statewide road improvement programs and local transportation needs

**Who Built:** Unknown

**Who Designed:** Unknown

**Why Altered:** N/A

**Was this bridge built as part of an organized bridge building campaign?:** No

**SURVEYOR ANALYSIS**

**This bridge may have NR significance for association with:**

A (Events)    B (Person)    C (Engineering/Architectural Character)

**Was this bridge constructed in response to significant events in Maryland or local history?**

Road improvements in Frederick County were fueled by several events occurring during the early twentieth century. First, the Good Roads Movement, which began in the last decade of the nineteenth century, aimed to improve primary roads throughout the state as well as multiple connecting roads between counties. As the movement progressed, numerous existing roads were widened, straightened, or graded, and many new bridges were built to carry the rebuilt roads. Second, rapidly increasing automobile, truck, and bus traffic also fueled the replacement of existing narrow and weak bridges with wider and stronger concrete structures, many of which were built according to standardized specifications and plans developed by the State Roads Commission (SRC). Third, the State Roads Commission established district engineering offices during the 1910s to aid in intrastate road development, and established a separate bridge department in 1920. This fostered construction of many concrete bridges throughout the state. In the 1920s, the SRC emphasized improving the safety and comfort of primary routes while developing secondary networks and feeder roads. By the 1930s, bridges that were originally deemed adequate had become unacceptable for carrying modern traffic loads and many new structures were built as a result.

**When the bridge was built, and/or given a major alteration, did it have a significant impact on the growth and development of the area?**

Bridge #10060 participated in the general trend toward upgrading state roads and bridges and improving intrastate access.

**Is the bridge located in an area which may be eligible for historic designation, and would the bridge add or detract from the historic and visual character of the possible district?**

No, the bridge is not located in an area which is eligible for historic designation.

**Is the bridge a significant example of its type?**

No, this bridge is not a significant example of its type. Several of the character-defining elements exist in a somewhat deteriorated state.

**Does the bridge retain integrity of the important elements described in the Context Addendum?**

No, this bridge does not retain integrity of its character-defining elements. The character-defining elements for the superstructures of concrete beam bridges are the slab, the longitudinal beams, and the parapet or railing when integral. For the substructure, the character-defining elements are the abutments, piers, and wing walls. The character-defining elements exist in a severely deteriorated state.

**Is the bridge a significant example of the work of the manufacturer, designer, and/or engineer, and why?**

No, this structure is not a significant example of the work of the State Roads Commission.

**Should this bridge be given further study before significance analysis is made, and why?**

No, this bridge should not be given further study.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Spero, P.A. C. & Company and Louis Berger & Associates  
1994 *Historic Bridges in Maryland: Historic Context Report.*  
Maryland State Highway Administration, Baltimore.

State Highway Administration  
Bridge Inspection Reports. On file 707 North Calvert Street, Baltimore.

As-Built Drawings. On file 707 North Calvert Street, Baltimore.

State Roads Commission of Maryland  
1958 *A History of Road Building in Maryland.* Baltimore.

**SURVEYOR INFORMATION**

**Name:** Gabrielle M. Lanier/Stephen Linhart  
**Organization:** KCI Technologies, Inc.  
**Address:** 5001 Louise Dr., Suite 201  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

**Date:** 13 May 1996  
**Telephone:** (717) 691-1340



BLUE RIDGE LOOKOUT TOWER

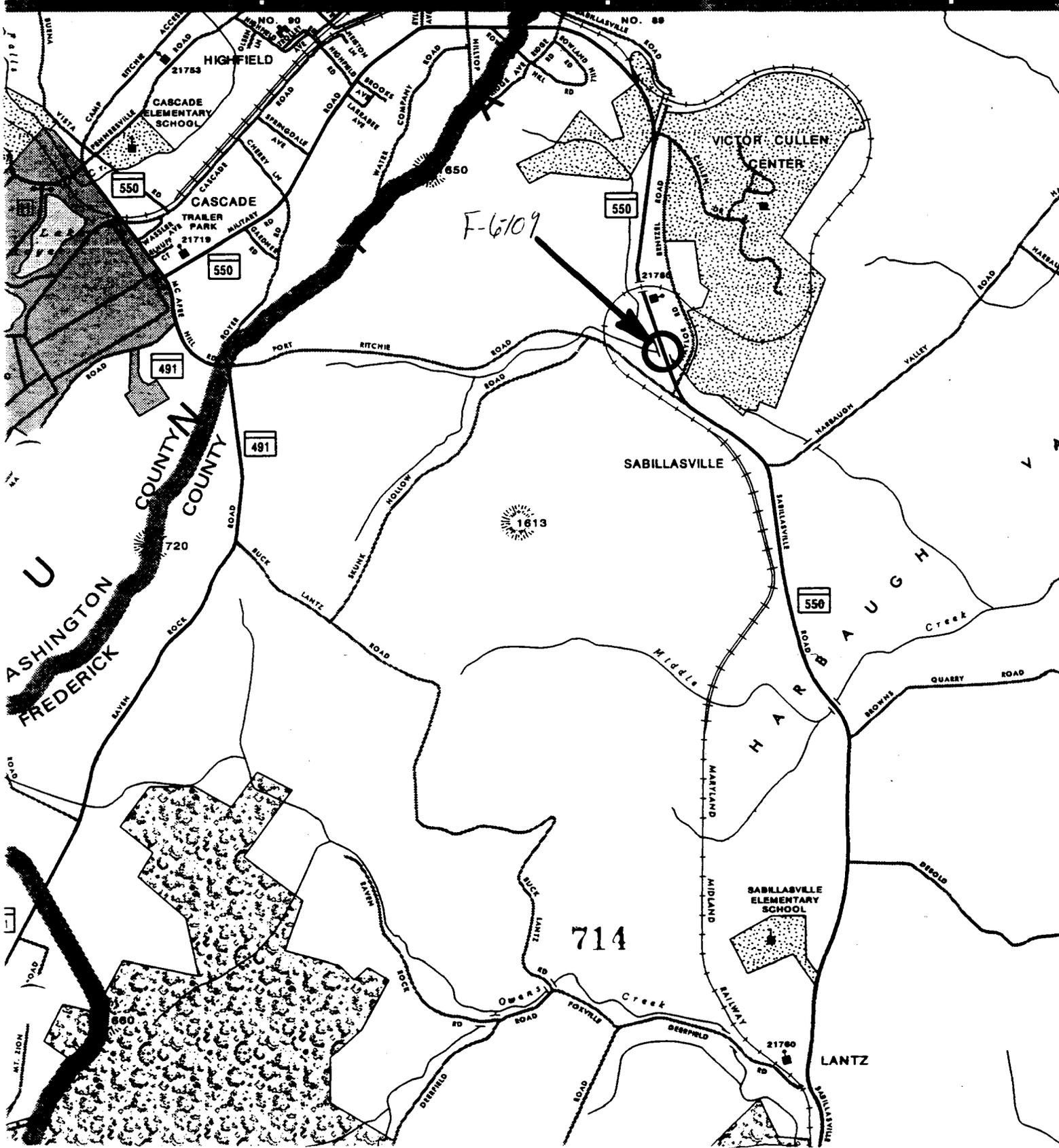
PENNSERSVILLE

BLUE RIDGE SUMMIT

Maryland Historic Highway Bridges  
Bridge Type CONCRETE BEAM  
Map THURMONT, A-9  
County FREDERICK  
Bridge # and Name 10060 MD 550  
OVER BR. OF FRIENDS CREEK

MASON AND DIXON LINE

NO. 88



F-6109

714

WASHINGTON  
FREDERICK

COUNTY  
COUNTY

SABILLASVILLE  
ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL

550

550

550

491

491

720

1613

550

SABILLASVILLE

VICTOR CULLEN  
CENTER

550

21760

21760

LANTZ



Inventory # F-6709

Name 10060-MOSSD OVER A BRANCH OF FRIENDS CREEK

County/State FREDERICK COUNTY/MO

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description NORTH APPROACH

Number 1 of 364



Inventory # F-6-109

Name 10060- MOSSO OVER A BRANCH OF FRIENDS CREEK

County/State FREDERICK COUNTY/MD

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description ELEVATION LOOKING EAST

Number 2 of 36 4



REDUCED  
SPEED  
AHEAD

Inventory # F-6-109

Name WOOD-MOSSO OVER A BRANCH OF FRIENDS CREEK

County/State FREDERICK COUNTY MD

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description APPROACH SOUTH

Number 3 of 4



Inventory # F-6-109

Name 10060-MOSSO OVER A BRANCH OF FRIENDS CREEK

County/State FREDERICK COUNTY/MD

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description ELEVATION LOOKING WEST

Number 4 of 36

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

NR Eligible: yes   
no

Property Name: Bridge 10060 Inventory Number: F-6-109

Address: MD 550 over Friends Creek City: Sabillasville Zip Code: N/A

County: Frederick USGS Topographic Map: Blue Ridge Summit

Owner: MD SHA

Tax Parcel Number: N/A Tax Map Number: N/A Tax Account ID Number: N/A

Project: Bridge 10060, MD 550 over Friends Creek Agency: MD SHA

Site visit by MHT Staff:  no  yes Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility recommended  Eligibility **not** recommended

Criteria:  A  B  C  D Considerations:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  None

Is the property located within a historic district?  no  yes Name of district: \_\_\_\_\_

Is district listed?  no  yes Determined eligible?  no  yes District Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:

**Description of Property and Eligibility Determination:** *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

Bridge No. 10060 was evaluated by the Interagency Historic Bridge Committee and thought initially to meet the criteria for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, however, the current more pronounced state of disrepair renders it unlikely to meet the criteria. The structure was evaluated in the field in June 2000, and it was obvious that despite numerous repairs that have occurred over the years the structure is deteriorating at a rapid rate. There is widespread spalling, cracking, and efflorescence. There are large delaminated and irregular cracks that have been patched. There is also heavy erosion. In the heavily spalled area, reinforcing bars are exposed and heavily rusted. The balustrades of the concrete bridge railings have vertical and transverse crack with several spalled edges. Rebars are exposed and rusty.

Although the structure retains the parapets, abutments and wingwalls, which are identified as primary character defining elements, they do not retain the requisite degree of integrity. We have confirmed that this structure does not have the potential to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

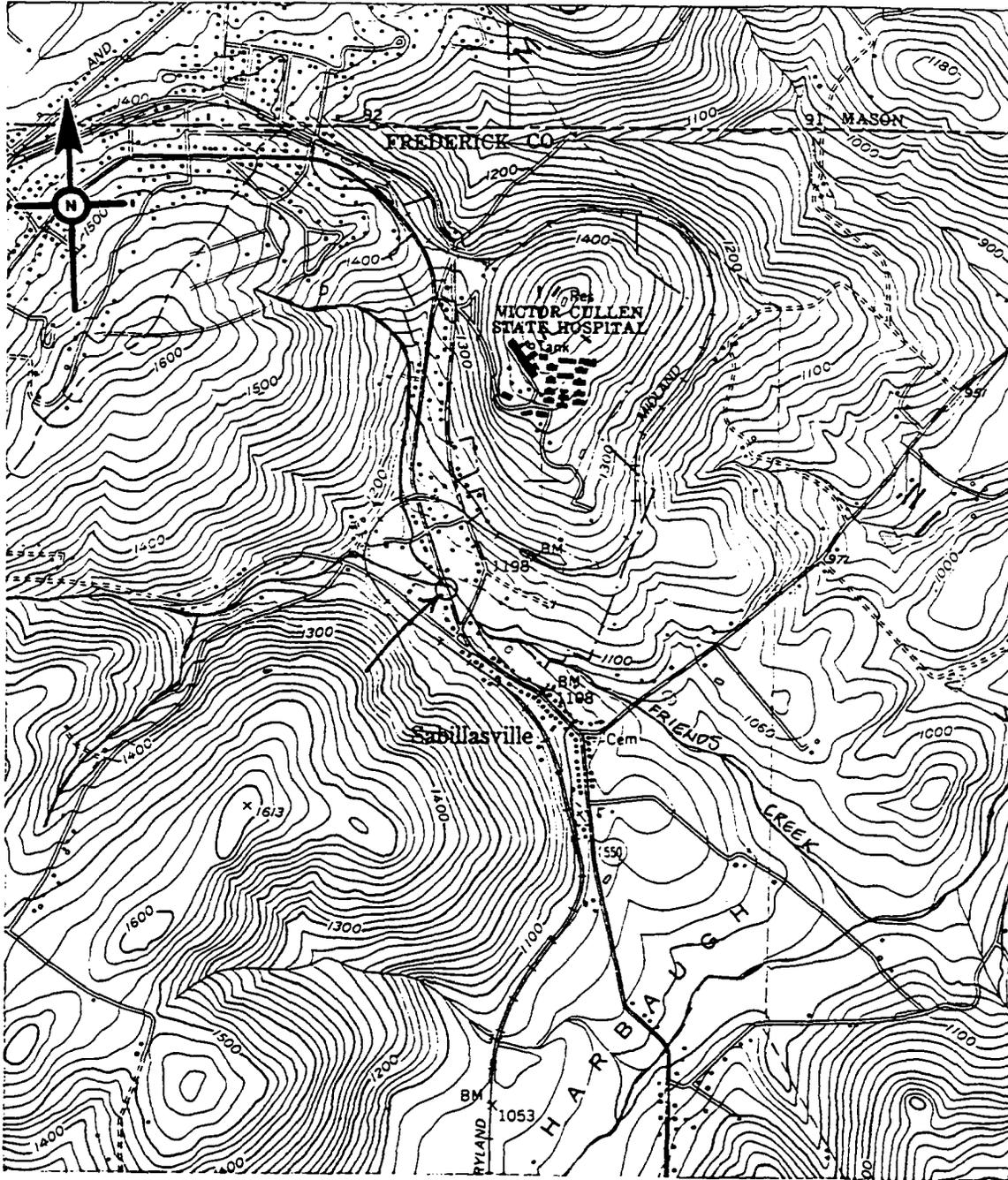
Prepared by: Rita M. Suffness

Date Prepared: April 10, 2001

<b>MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW</b>	
Eligibility recommended <input type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility <b>not</b> recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: _____	
<u>Andrew Lewis</u> Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>05/18/01</u> Date
<u>[Signature]</u> Reviewer, NR program	<u>5/18/01</u> Date

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
HISTORIC BRIDGE INVENTORY  
MARYLAND STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MHT NO. F-6-109



Bridge # 10060 (MHT # F-6-109)  
MD 550 over Branch of Friends Creek  
Blue Ridge Summit, PA-MD Quadrangle (USGS 1985)



F-6-109

Bridge #10060

MD 550 over Friends Creek

Sabillasville, I.D.



F-6-109

Bridge #10060

MD 550 over Friends Creek

Sabillasville, MD.



F-6-109

Bridge #10060

MD 550 over Friends Creek

Sabillasville, MD



F-6-109

Bridge #10060

MA 55 over Friars Creek

Sabillasville, MD.



F-6-109

Bridge # 10060

HD 550 over Friends Creek

Sabillasville, MD.