

9202409

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: River Road Bridge Survey Number: G-II-C-307

Project: River Rd over Casselman River, Garrett County Agency: USDA/Garrett Co.

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

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

Under criteria A, the River Road Bridge derives its significance from its association with the development of transportation in Garrett County. A single span, pin connected, Pratt through truss, the bridge was constructed c. 1890 or 1900. Metal truss bridges represent an important step in engineering design and a uniquely American achievement, the result of intensive experimentation in the 19th century. These bridges were the most popular form of bridge construction in Maryland between the 1870s and the 1930s.

Large numbers of these relatively easily and cheaply built structures were constructed to span small crossings, greatly facilitating vehicular movement and communication throughout the developing county. According to Wallace, Montgomery & Associates and the State Highway Administration, the Casselman River Bridge is one of only four remaining metal through truss bridges in Garrett County. One of these four, the Glendale Road Bridge over Deep Creek Lake is slated for demolition. The Corona Bayard Road Bridge over North Branch Potomac River, the only bridge comparable in size and structural type to the River Road Bridge, is in poor condition and is closed to pedestrian traffic. The River Road Bridge is thus an increasingly rare example of the modest sort of structure which was once a common element of the rural landscape.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Inventory Form G-II-C-307

Project File _____

Prepared by: Donna Ware

Elizabeth Hannold September 22, 1992
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: yes no not applicable
[Signature] [Signature]
Reviewer, NR program Date

[Handwritten mark]

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

- Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
- Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
- Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
- Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
- Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
- Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
- Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
- Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
- Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
- Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
- Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
- Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
- Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
- Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
- Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
- Unknown Period (prehistoric historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

- Subsistence
- Settlement
- Political
- Demographic
- Religion
- Technology
- Environmental Adaption

IV. Historic Period Themes:

- Agriculture
- Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
- Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
- Government/Law
- Military
- Religion
- Social/Educational/Cultural
- Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: Structure

Historic Environment: Transportation

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Bridge

Known Design Source: Unknown

G-II-C-307

Casselman River Road Pratt Truss Bridge
Grantsville
Private

circa 1890

It is a single span, steel, pin and riveted connected Pratt through truss bridge. The bridge has a wooden deck and rests on cut stone block piers.

The Casselman River Road Pratt Truss Bridge is of some regional importance because there are few metal through truss bridges located within Garrett County.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Casselman River Rd. Pratt Truss Bridge

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Casselman River Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Grantsville

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Garrett County

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
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Garrett County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Third and Alder Streets

CITY, TOWN

Oakland

STATE

Maryland 21550

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

G-II-C-307

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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

This bridge carries the Casselman River Road traffic over the Casselman River. It is a single span, steel, pin and riveted connected Pratt through truss bridge. The bridge has a wooden deck and rests on cut stone block piers.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 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 type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES circa 1890 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Pratt truss bridge is a common bridge type in America. The Pratt form dates back to the 1840s, but surviving examples of this type ususally date from the turn of the centruy.¹ Although a common type in America, there are few metal through truss bridges located within Garrett County, making the Casselman River Road Pratt Truss Bridge of some regional importance.

¹Doanld C. Jackson and Allan T. Comp, "Bridge Truss Types: A Guide to Dating and Identifying," History News, Vol. 32, No. 5, May 1977, Technical Leaflet 95.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Donald C. Jackson and Allan T. Comp, "Bridge Truss Types: A Guide to Dating and Identifying," History News, Vol. 32, No. 5, May 1977 Technical Leaflet 95.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

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

Donna Ware, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Bureau of Mines

DATE

December 1981

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

(301) 269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

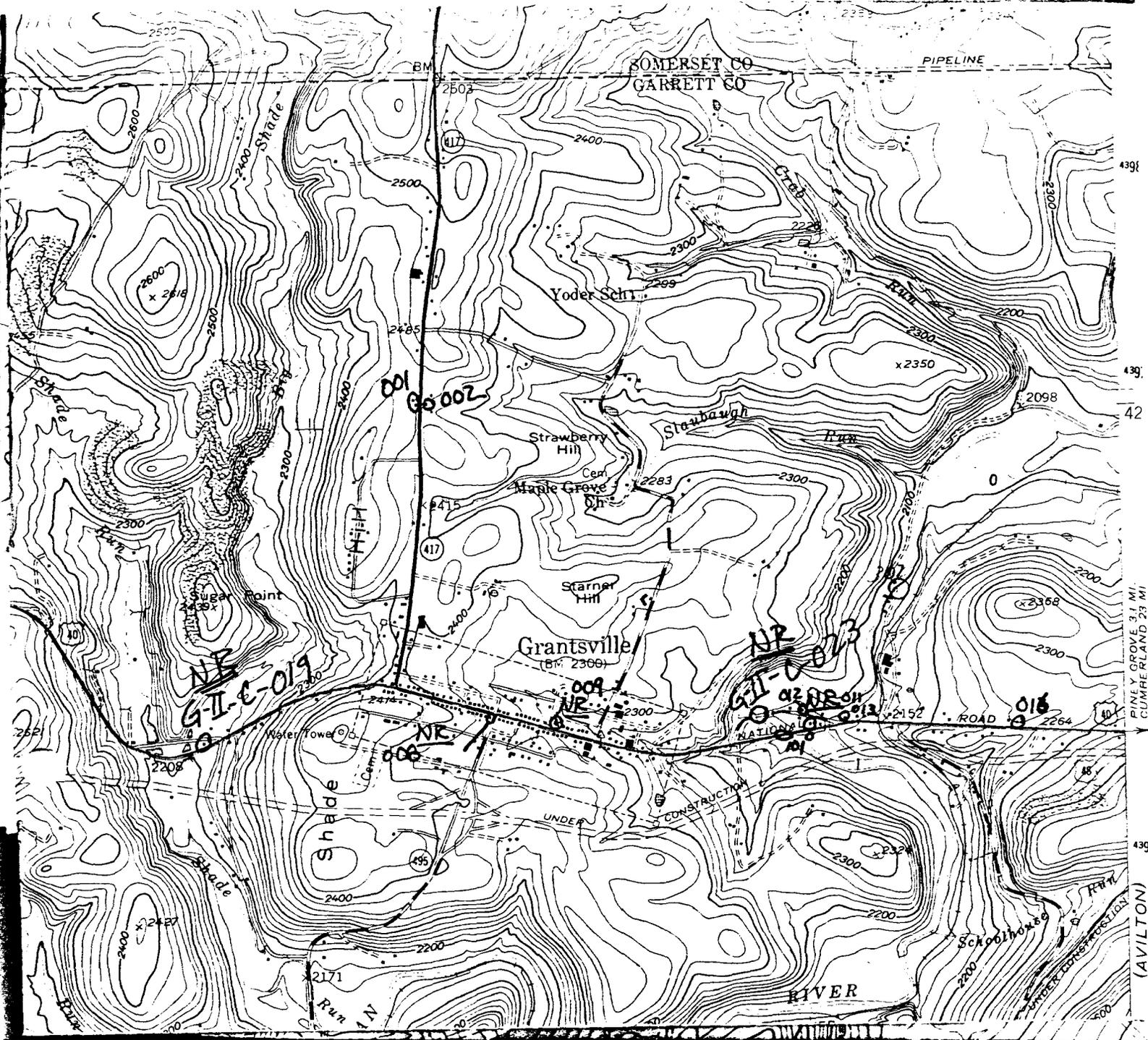
STATE

Maryland 21401

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



Grantsville, MD-PA
 USGS 7.5 minute series
 Scale - 1:24,000
 1947; photorevised 1974

Site #: G-II-C-307
 Casselman River Road Pratt Truss Bridge
 Casselman River Road
 Grantsville



G-II-C-307
Casselman River Rd Pratt Truss
Bridge Garrett County, MD
M. Stinson 1981
Looking NW



G-II-C-307

Casselman River Rd Pratt Truss

Bridge Garrett County, MD

M. Stinson 1981

SW side