

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 29/27
Magi #

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Maryland Mine

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER near junction of MacArthur Blvd. and Falls Roads
Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

___ VICINITY OF

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input checked="" 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 NPS- C & O Canal Historical Park

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Sharpsberg

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

MNCPPC Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1976

___ FEDERAL STATE COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland 20855

M:29-27

7 DESCRIPTION

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

Little remains of structures related to the former Maryland Mine in the Great Falls area and what does is in a ruinous condition. The mine is located just south of the junction of Falls Road and MacArthur Boulevard on land now owned by the C&O Canal Historical Park.

The ruins of the Maryland Mine include a frame building with a sheet metal roof; one end of the building now is missing and part of the roof has caved in. The building, which is empty and lacks windows, was built to serve as a boiler house about 1900 and became the mine blacksmith shop during the 1930s. Adjacent are the cement supports, which may date from 1916-18, that once held a 25,000 gallon wooden water tank (the tank stored water pumped from the mine for use in the amalgamation mill), as well as various cement foundations. About 200 feet to the southwest, on the slope of the hill, is what remains of the mine's amalgamation mill, a long wooden frame and sheet metal structure that once housed an ore bin, two jaw crushers, stamp mill, ball mill, mercury amalgamator, and concentrating tables. This structure dates from the reopening of the mine in 1935-36. It now is largely in a tumbled-down condition. Also at the Maryland Mine are three mine shafts (one caved and two are fenced to avoid accidents). The ruins of the mine and mill structures have been enclosed with chain-link fencing by the Park Service.

In addition to these ruins, evidence of surface and subsurface exploration and mining activities are widespread in the area. The most important gold-bearing veins run northerly from about the eastern end of Widewater to the vicinity of Cool Spring Branch. Some of the most impressive of the surface workings, however, are on Park Service land in the hills south and north of Cool Spring Branch.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

M:29-27

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 type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1867- 1940

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In the fall of 1861, the first year of the Civil War, the 71st Pennsylvania Infantry, informally called the "First California" in honor of their commanding officer, Col. Edward A. Baker, was encamped near the Potomac River in the vicinity of Great Falls. Some of these soldiers had come from the California gold fields. Legend has it that some of the soldiers noticed yellow grains in the bottom of cooking utensils while scouring them with sand from a nearby creek. One man, William A. Cleary, identified the stuff as gold and vowed to return after the war.

The first commercial gold mine in Maryland was opened in 1865. Montgomery County land records show that the property belonging to Camillus Kidder was purchased by four men: George W. Powell, Amos Griffiths, John Shyrock, and John Stockton, who formed the Maryland Mining Company. Both Powell and Stockton served with the 71st Pennsylvania during the fall of 1861.

In 1867, they sank a 100-foot shaft and sent the first gold to the United States Mint in Philadelphia. Only 11 ounces of gold was recorded by the Mint for the years 1865-1867, although the majority of gold was sold to local jewelers rather than ship it to the U.S. Mint. The Maryland Mine was abandoned in 1869 and lay idle for over two decades. Montgomery County records show that the Maryland Mining Company was purchased by Henry Watson and Company of Illinois for \$35,000 in 1890. The new company, under the direction of Mr. Walter J. Lloyd, sank a new shaft to a depth of 135 feet.

There was more major work done at the Maryland Mine when in 1903 a new shaft was sunk, 60 feet south of the 135 foot shaft. The new 6 x 16 foot, three-compartment shaft was expected to be 500 feet deep but intersected the vein at 200 feet and was bottomed at 210 feet. All mining operations appeared to be moving ahead but on June 15, 1906, some dynamite was accidentally ignited by a miner's lamp with devastating effects including the loss of one life (Mr. Charles Eglin, hoistman). Following the explosion, operations were renewed only to cease in 1908.

The Empress Gold Mining Company secured a six-month lease on the Maryland Mine early in 1912. Results were not good and the lease expired.

Late in 1912, the Atlantic Development Company was responsible for buying the Maryland mine property and other adjacent property around Great Falls, Maryland. The property was then turned over to a subsidiary, the Great Falls Mining Company, which began prospecting and mining. The companies acquired and mined over 2200 acres including the Maryland mine until about 1920.

When the price of gold was increased by the U.S. Government to \$35 an ounce in 1934, the Maryland Mining Company was reorganized once again, opened the Maryland Mine and built a new mill there. Output from the mine was impressive (reference: figure 1) but the mine was again closed in the spring of 1940. The National Park Service acquired the Maryland Mine property in 1965, after plans for developing the site for private housing fell through. Additionally, the Park Service has purchased a Maryland Mine historical collection, which was owned by Mr. Edgar Ingalls, and provides historical artifacts and documentation of the mining effort at the Maryland mine.

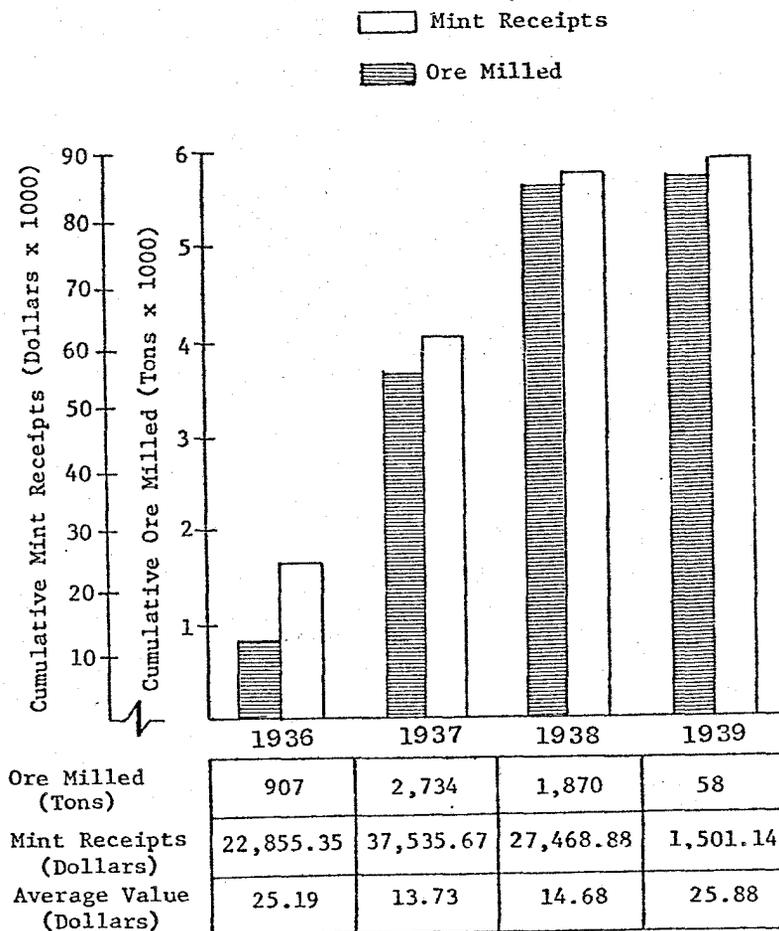


Figure 1, Maryland Mine Production

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

M:29-27

See attached sheet A

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approximately 200 acres

See attachment Sheet B1 and B2

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

Walter A. Goetz

ORGANIZATION

DATE

February 12, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

9107 Kirkdale Road

TELEPHONE

(301) 530-7462

CITY OR TOWN

Bethesda

STATE

Maryland 20034

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:

Attachment Sheet A
old Mines-Great Falls

M: 29/27
Magi #

Major bibliographic references for gold mines in the vicinity of Great Falls:

- Bales, S.P., 1869, History of the Pennsylvania Volunteers, 1861-1865; v.2:
Harrisburg, 1359p.
- Emmons, S. F., 1890, Notes on the Gold Deposits of Montgomery County,
Maryland: American Institute of Mining Engineers Transactions, 18, pp. 391-411
- Goetz, Walter A., 1979, "Maryland Gold Fever," privately printed
- Hopson, C. A., 1964, The Crystalline Rocks of Howard and Montgomery Counties,
in "The Geology of Howard and Montgomery Counties": Baltimore, Maryland
Geological Survey, pp. 27-215
- Ingalls, E. T., 1960, "The Discovery of Gold at Great Falls, Maryland," privately
printed
- Reed, John C., Jr. and Reed, John C., 1969, "Gold Veins near Great Falls,
Maryland," Washington, U.S. Geological Survey, Bulletin 1286
- Reed, J. C., Jr., and Reed, J. C., 1967, Gold Deposits near Great Falls,
Maryland, Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences, v. 57, pp. 213-224
- Shosteck, Robert, 1953, "There's Gold in Them Hills near Great Falls, Maryland,"
privately printed
- Ulke, Titus, 1939, Gold Mining Past and Present near Washington, D. C.,
Rocks and Minerals, v. 14, no. 10, pp. 299-305
- Weed, W. H., 1905, Notes on the Gold Veins near Great Falls, Maryland, U.S.
Geological Survey Bulletin 260, pp. 128-131
- Williams, G.H., 1893, Mines and Minerals in Maryland, Its Resources,
Industries and Institutions. Prepared for the Maryland Board of
World's Fair Managers by Members of Johns Hopkins University, pp. 122-124
- Zodac, Peter, 1947, Trip to a Maryland Gold Mine, Rocks and Minerals,
v. 22, no. 9, pp.834-835.

ACHS SUMMARY FORM

154

(date entered 5-12-80)

- 1. Name Maryland Mine
- 2. Planning Area/Site Number 29/27
- 3. MNCPPC Atlas Reference Map 19 H-9
- 4. Address Near junction of MacArthur Blvd. and Falls Road, C and O Canal National Historical Park
- 5. Classification Summary
 - Category structure, site, object
 - Ownership public
 - Public Acquisition NA
 - Status unoccupied
 - Accessible yes: unrestricted
 - Present use park
 - Previous Survey Recording M-NCPPC Federal State X County X Local

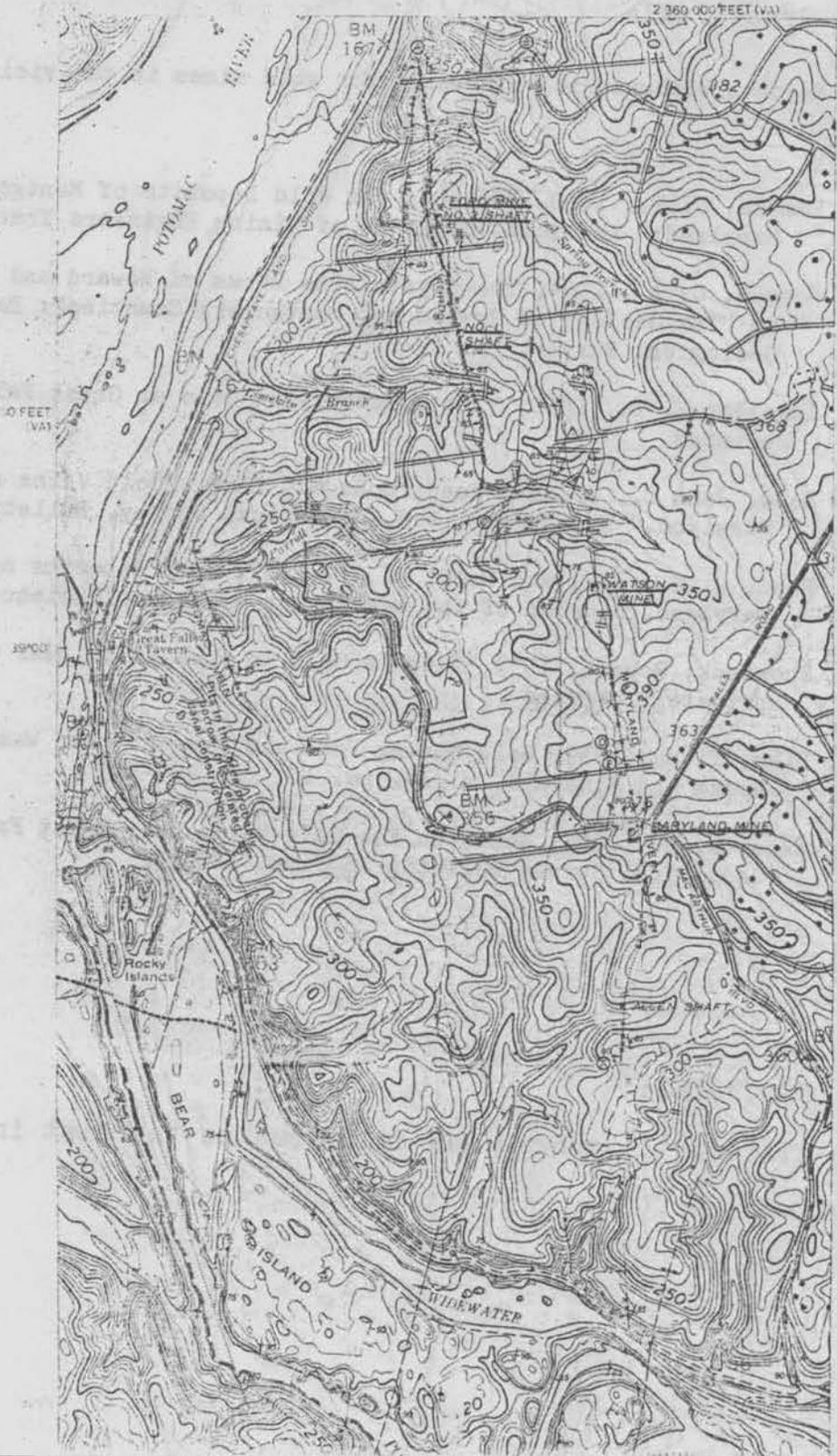
(Title and date: Inventory of Historical Sites - 1976)

- 6. Date 1867 - 1940
- 7. Original Owner: Maryland Mining Co
- 8. Apparent Condition
 - a. ruins
 - b. altered
 - c. original site

9. Description: The Maryland Mine, belonging to the C & O Canal Historical Park, is located at the junction of MacArthur Blvd. and Falls Road. Mine ruins located on the property include a frame building used as the Blacksmith Shop in the 1930's. Adjacent are cement supports built about 1916 that once held a 25,000 gallon water tank. About 200 feet SW are the tumbled-down remains of the mine's amalgamation mill. Three mine shafts, one caved-in and two fenced to avoid accidents, are still in evidence. The area is spotted with projecting pits and one or two adits.

10. Significance: The ruins of the Maryland Mine represent an important milestone in the County and State history. The Maryland Mine is the first commercial gold mining effort in the State and has been sporadically operated from 1865 to 1940. The site also represents the only concentrated gold mining operation in Maryland. Important dates include: 1861-discovery of gold at Great Falls; 1865-1869 Maryland Mine established; 1900-1908 Major shafts and tunnels developed; 1912-1920 Major development of the mining area by the Great Falls Mining Company; 1935-1940 Last period of time Maryland Mine was operated.

- 11. Date researched and researcher: 2/12/1980 Walter A. Goetz
- 12. Complier: 13: Date Compiled: 14: Designation Approval:
- 15: Acreage: Approximately 200 acres



N: 29/27

Attachment BULLETIN 1286
 PLATE 2
 Mines-Great Falls
 EXPLANATION

Quartz vein, showing dip
 (dotted where approximate, by location)

Fault or shear zone, showing dip
 (dotted where inferred)

Lamprophyre dike, showing dip
 of where traced with ground, untraced
 etc., dotted where inferred

Anticline Syncline
 (merchandise of axial surfaces
 of major folds)

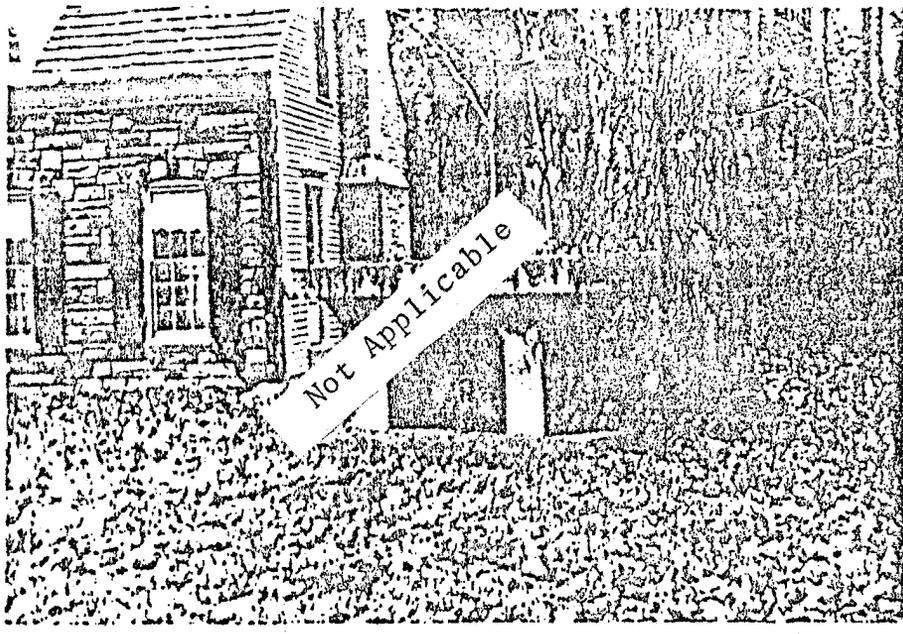
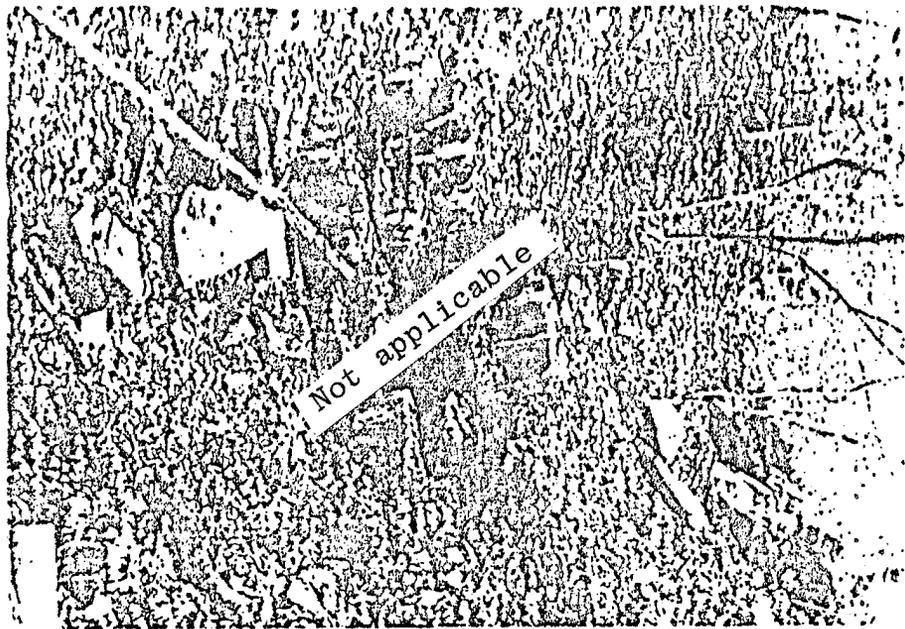
Vertical Overturned
 Strike and dip of bedding

Inclined Vertical
 (dip and dip of cleavage or foliation)

Prospect pits and trenches

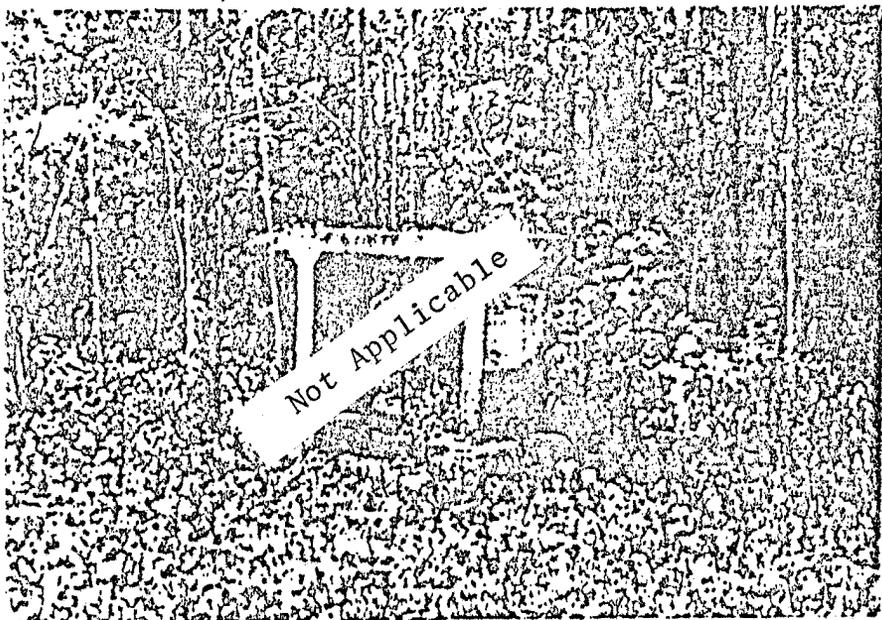
Caved shaft

Adit
 (gold values marked by circled letter,
 letter refers to map of underground
 workings (PL))



aved-in adit along C&O Canal
,300 feet north of Ford Mine

Balance table of former assay office,
Ford Mine



Balance table of former assay office, Ford
Mine (this table has been moved from its
original location)

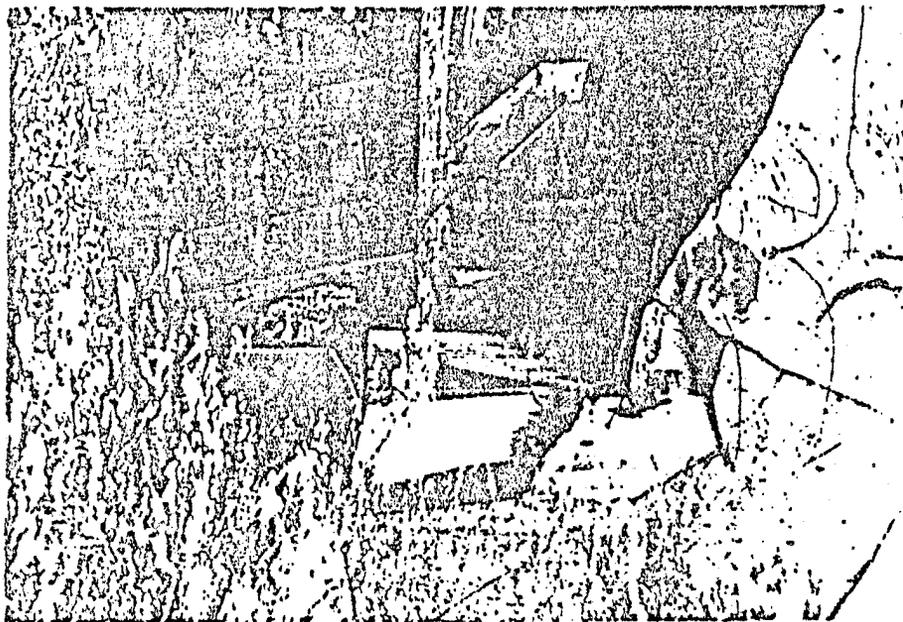
Water tank supports, Maryland Mine,
looking west



North and east sides of former blacksmith shop, Maryland Mine



West side of former blacksmith shop, Maryland Mine



East side of upper part of mill structure, Maryland Mine

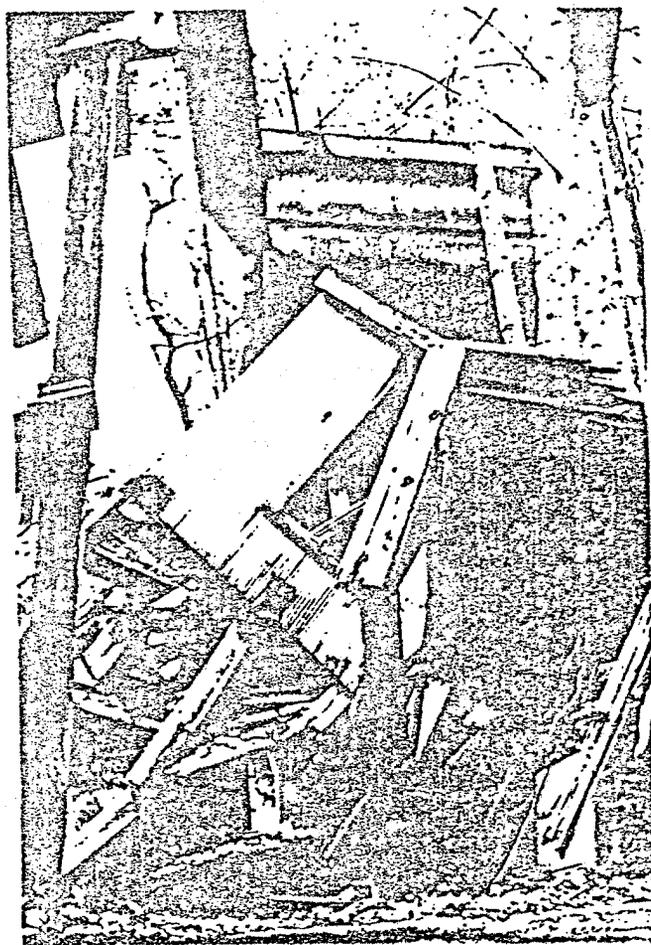


West side of upper part of mill structure, Maryland Mine

Gold Mines-Great Falls



Upper part of mill structure,
Maryland Mine, looking north



Ruins of lower part of mill
structure, Maryland Mine,
looking south

ACHS SUMMARY FORM

1. Name Gold Mines near Great Falls
2. Planning Area/Site Number 29/27 3. MNCPPC Atlas Reference Map 19 H-9
4. Address Near junction of MacArthur Blvd. and Falls Road,
C and O Canal National Historical Park
5. Classification Summary
- Category structure, site, object
 Ownership public and private
 Public Acquisition NA
 Status unoccupied
 Accessible yes: unrestricted
 Present use park
 Previous Survey Recording M-NCPPC Federal State X County X Local
 (Title and date: Inventory of Historical Sites - 1976)
6. Date 1867 - 1939 7. Original Owner: Maryland Mining Co.
8. Apparent Condition
- a. ruins c. original site
 b. altered
9. Description: Ruins of structures related to the Maryland Mine include a frame building (one end is missing) with a sheet metal roof (part has caved in). Built as a boiler house c.1900, it became the mine blacksmith shop in the 1930s. Adjacent are cement supports built c.1916-18 that once held a 25,000 gallon wooden water tank. About 200 feet SW are the tumbled-in remains of the mine's amalgamation mill. Three caved-in mine shafts also remain. The only other evidence of mine structures are balance tables from an assay laboratory (on private property just outside the park). Evidence of surface and sub-surface exploration and mining activities -- prospecting pits, exploratory trenches, hillside adits & caved-in mine shafts can be seen in the area
10. Significance: The ruins of the Gold Mines represent an exciting but sporadic era of the County's history. Gold was discovered initially in the Great Falls area during the Civil War, possibly by a soldier of the 71st Penn. Infantry. After the war, the discoverer and a group of backers formed the Maryland Mining Company, which sunk a 100 foot shaft on the Richard Collins farm. Little gold was found and the project was abandoned in 1869. In the 1880s gold was discovered nearby by a Georgia prospector, and by 1890 the Ford Mine was developed, to close about 1900. In the 1910's the Watson Mine was opened by the Great Falls Gold Mining Company, and about 1900 a new 135 ft shaft was sunk at the Maryland Mine, followed by a 200 foot shaft in 1903. Operations ceased in 1908 but reopened briefly in 1912. In 1915 all tracts were acquired by the Atlantic Development Company and extensive and systematic exploration continued for 3 years, then concentrating on the Maryland Mine from 1918-22 when operations ceased. In 1934 gold's price rose to \$35/oz. and the Maryland Mining Co. reorganized and reopened, recovering 2,500 ounces of gold in the next few years before finally closing in 1939. The National Park Service acquired the Maryland Mine property in 1965.
11. Date researched and researcher: 11/78 - David M. Kiefer
12. Compiler Gail Rothrock 13. Date Compiled 2/79 14. Designation Approval
15. Acreage Approx. 200 acres.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 29/27
Magi #

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Gold Mines in the vicinity of Great Falls
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER near junction of MacArthur Blvd. and Falls Roads
Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park
CITY, TOWN _____ CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 8
VICINITY OF _____
STATE Maryland COUNTY Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input checked="" 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 Multiple Owners Telephone #: _____
STREET & NUMBER _____
CITY, TOWN _____ STATE, zip code _____
VICINITY OF _____

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, LIBER #: _____
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse Folio #: _____
STREET & NUMBER _____
CITY, TOWN _____ STATE Maryland
Rockville

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE MNCPPC Historic Sites Inventory
DATE 1976 _____ FEDERAL STATE COUNTY _____ LOCAL _____
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Park Historian's Office
CITY, TOWN _____ STATE Maryland 20855
Rockville

7 DESCRIPTION

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

Little remains of structures related to the former gold mining activity in the Great Falls area. What does is in a ruinous condition largely at the site of the Maryland Mine, just south of the junction of Falls Road and MacArthur Boulevard on land now owned by the National Park Service.

The ruins of the Maryland Mine include a frame building with a sheet metal roof; one end of the building now is missing and part of the roof has caved in. The building, which is empty and lacks windows, was built to serve as a boiler house about 1900 and became the mine blacksmith shop during the 1930s. Adjacent are the cement supports, which may date from 1916-18, that once held a 25,000 gallon wooden water tank (the tank stored water pumped from the mine for use in extracting ore), as well as various cement foundations. About 200 feet to the southwest, on the slope of the hill, is what remains of the mine's amalgamation mill, a long wooden frame and sheet metal structure that once housed an ore bin, two jaw crushers, stamp mill, ball mill, mercury amalgamator, and concentrating tables. This structure dates from the reopening of the mine in 1935-36. It now is largely in a tumbled-down condition. Also at the Maryland Mine are three caved-in mine shafts. Two of these and the ruins of the mine and mill structures have been enclosed with chain-link fencing by the Park Service.

The only other evidence of mine structures in the area are relics of the assay laboratory near the No. 2 shaft of the former Ford Mine on private property just outside the park. Until recently, these consisted of a cement foundation on which were the ruins of a small furnace and the cement tables that held analytical balances, located about a mile north of the Maryland Mine on a hill above Cool Spring Branch. They dated from about 1915, when the property was being redeveloped for mining. Since the construction of a house on the site in 1978, however, only the two balance tables are visible and one of these tables has been moved from its original position.

In addition to these ruins, evidence of surface and subsurface exploration and mining activities are widespread in the area. The most important gold-bearing veins run northerly from about the eastern end of Widewater to the vicinity of Cool Spring Branch. Along these veins can be seen numerous prospecting pits, exploratory trenches, and a few hillside adits and caved-in mine shafts. Many of these, in the area north from the junction of Falls Road and MacArthur Boulevard, are on land that has recently been developed for housing and thus are becoming obliterated. Some of the most impressive of the surface workings, however, are on Park Service land in the hills south and north of Cool Spring Branch.

Other similar surface workings can be found along Rock Run, to the east of the Great Falls sites.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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 type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1867-1939

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Gold was discovered initially in the Great Falls area during the Civil War, although by whom and exactly when is not clear. The most plausible account seems to be that the discovery was made by a soldier of the 71st Pennsylvania Infantry-whose name was either Clear, Cleary, McCleary, or Cary-while he was encamped during the autumn of 1861 near the site of the future Maryland Mine, which was then a farm owned by Richard Collins. After the war, the discoverer organized a group of backers to form the Maryland Mining Co., which bought the Collins farm, prospected, and sunk a 100-foot shaft. This project was abandoned by 1869, after only small amounts of gold had been recovered.

In the 1880s, gold was discovered near the Cool Spring Branch by George Mark, a Georgia prospector, on a tract then known as the Allerton-Ream property. Considerable surface work was done and by 1890 the underground Ford Mine in this area was being developed, but operations became curtailed there by about 1900.

During the first decade of the 20th century, further development work took place just to the south along the Carroll Branch, in the area between the Ford and Maryland Mines, and the Watson Mine was opened there for a brief time, by the Great Falls Gold Mining Company.

About 1900, too, a new 135-foot shaft was sunk by the Maryland Gold Mining Company at the Maryland Mine, followed by a second 200-foot shaft in 1903. This operation ceased in 1908, although the mine was reopened briefly in 1912 by the Empress Gold Mining Company.

The Ford and Maryland Mines and other tracts near Great Falls were acquired by the Atlantic Development Company in 1915, and an extensive and systematic exploration of the gold veins was undertaken. Most of the surface trenches and pits now visible in the hills above Great Falls date from this effort. The exploration program and mining activities were shut down two years later, without any actual production being recorded. The Maryland Mine reopened in 1918, however, and further development work continued there until 1922.

When the price of gold was increased by the U.S. Government to \$35 an ounce in 1934, the Maryland Mining Company was reorganized to once again open the Maryland Mine and build a new mill there. More than 2500 ounces of gold, worth about \$90,000, was recovered from the 6000 tons of ore taken from the mine during the next few years, with peak production occurring in 1937. This was the most productive period for the area's gold mines, but the operation was shut down for the last time in 1939. The National Park Service acquired the Maryland Mine property in 1965, after plans for developing the site for private housing fell through. (Gold was discovered along Rock Run, east of the Great Falls area, in the late 1880s. Development reached its peak in this region about 1890, with the Harrison Mine being the most important undertaking).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See attached sheet A

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approximately 200 acres

See attachment Sheet B

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 M. Kiefer

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

Nov. 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland 20753

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~~

SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS
Box 87, Stronghold
Dickerson, Md. 20753
(301) 926-4510

Major bibliographic references for gold mines in the vicinity of Great Falls:

Emmons, S. F., 1890, Notes on the Gold Deposits of Montgomery County, Maryland: American Institute of Mining Engineers Transactions, 18, pp. 391-411

Hopson, C. A., 1964, The Crystalline Rocks of Howard and Montgomery Counties, in "The Geology of Howard and Montgomery Counties": Baltimore, Maryland Geological Survey, pp. 27-215

Ingalls, E. T., 1960, "The Discovery of Gold at Great Falls, Maryland," privately printed

Reed, John C., Jr. and Reed, John C., 1969, "Gold Veins near Great Falls, Maryland," Washington, U.S. Geological Survey, Bulletin 1286

Reed, J. S., Jr., and Reed, J. S., 1967, Gold Deposits near Great Falls, Maryland, Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences, v. 57, pp. 213-224

Shosteck, Robert, 1953, "There's Gold in Them Hills near Great Falls, Maryland," privately printed

Ulke, Titus, 1939, Gold Mining Past and Present near Washington, D. C., Rocks and Minerals, v. 14, no. 10, pp. 299-305

Weed, W. H., 1905, Notes on the Gold Veins near Great Falls, Maryland, U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin 260, pp. 128-131

FOOTNOTES:

1. Only 11 ounces was delivered to the Mint in 1868-69.

1607744516

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INST. CTIONS

1. NAME					
COMMON: Gold Mines					
AND/OR HISTORIC: Maryland Mine					
2. LOCATION					
STREET AND NUMBER: Falls Road & MacArthur Blvd.					
CITY OR TOWN: Great Falls (Potomac)					
STATE Maryland			COUNTY: Montgomery		
3. CLASSIFICATION					
CATEGORY (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		OWNERSHIP <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		STATUS <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____	
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY					
OWNER'S NAME: National Park Service (Dep't. of the Interior)					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
CITY OR TOWN: Washington, D.C.			STATE:		
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION					
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Montgomery County Courthouse					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
CITY OR TOWN: Rockville			STATE: Maryland		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):					
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS					
TITLE OF SURVEY:					
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local					
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:		

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ruins
	(Check One)			(Check One)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The mines actually consist of a number of areas that were worked by different individuals and companies during the gold era (ca. 1860's-1920's). The Great Falls area includes the Maryland Mine, Ford Mine, Harrison Mine, etc.

The principal ruins are those of the Maryland Mine, at MacArthur Blvd. The area is wooded and hilly, and the ground is pock-marked with numerous old diggings, test trenches, ore dumps, etc. The structures include a tall, frame rock-crusher, that is built in several stepped sections. There is also the concrete base, that once held a large wooden water vat. Area now enclosed with a chain link fence.

The nearby Ford Mine features a horizontal shaft, cut into the rocky hillside in cave-like fashion.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

2. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
- 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/> Historic <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> Art <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> Communications <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> Industry <input type="checkbox"/> Invention <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> Literature <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Political <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/> Science <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/> Theater <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ |
|---|--|---|--|

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although they never yielded great amounts, the mining operations here were quite widespread, and continued sporadically from the late 1860's to the early 1940's. This is certainly one of the most interesting geological sites in the area. (More information available from several published sources-see next page.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- 1) Reed, John C. Sr. & Jr. GOLD DEPOSITS NEAR GREAT FALLS, MD., Washington Academy of Sciences, (1967).
- 2) Fitzsimons, Mrs. Neal. "The Gold and Mica Mines of Mont. Co." MONT. CO. STORY, Mont. Co. Historical Soc. (1972).
- 3) Scharf, T.J. HISTORY OF WESTERN MARYLAND (VOL. I), (1882) pp. 676-678.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

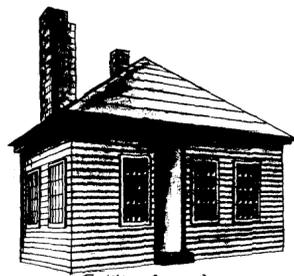
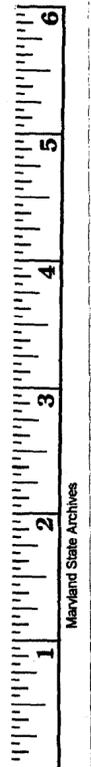
11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian	
ORGANIZATION M-NCPPC	DATE 3/5/75
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Ave.	
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring	STATE Maryland

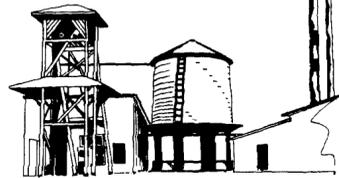
12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:
 National State Local

 Signature



Ford Mine Assay Office
circa 1912



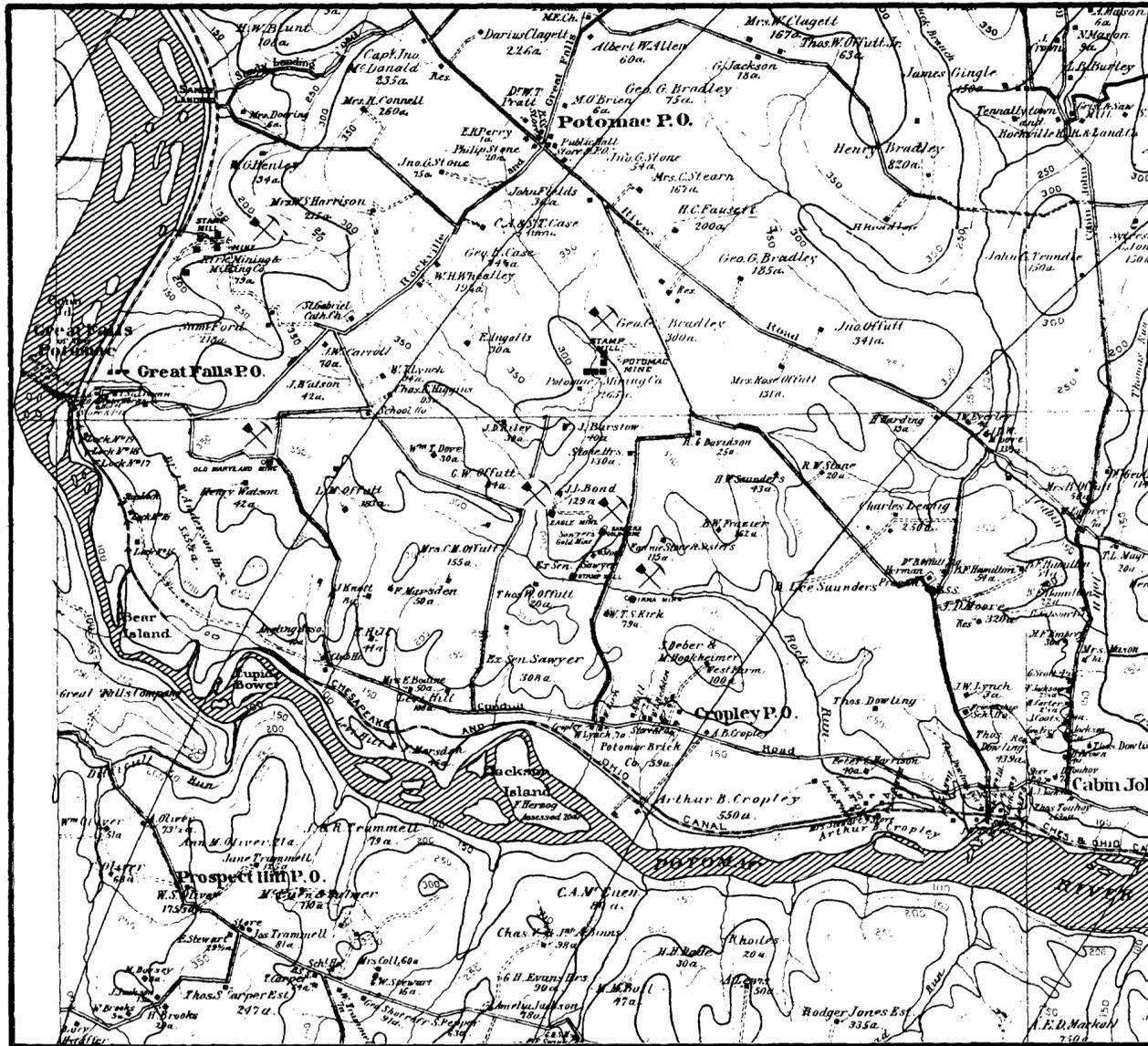
Maryland Mine
circa 1937



Typical panning process



That's gold in them thar hills



Great Falls circa 1898

Gold Mining in Great Falls of Maryland

The fact that there is gold within 12 miles of the dome of the National Capital is not generally known. As a matter of fact, a series of gold-bearing veins pass through the Washington, D.C., area at Great Falls, Maryland. These veins are a part of the Appalachian gold belt which was part of the principle gold mining section of our country prior to the California gold rush of 1849.

The Appalachian gold belt extends from Maine to Georgia, and was the site of the first gold strike in the United States, recorded by Thomas Jefferson in his journals. The output from early Georgian mines prompted the construction of a mint at Dahlonega, Georgia, in 1838. The Civil War brought a stop to the Eastern mining effort, but a few of the mines were reopened and are still in use today.

In Maryland, commercial gold mining operations were carried on in the Great Falls area from 1864 to 1940. Mint receipts for that period record more than 5,000 ounces of

gold taken from six Maryland mines. Two of the oldest and largest producers were the Kirk Milling and Mining Company and the Maryland Mine, both located near the C&O Canal.

The Maryland Mine was opened in 1867 with the sinking of a shaft 100 feet deep. This property has become the best documented of the Great Falls mining operations, recording gold output until 1939.

In November 1889, the Kirk Milling and Mining Company was formed and took over the Ford property north of the falls near the canal. This mine was the most extensive operation in the area with two shafts and several lateral tunnels.

Today, Maryland adventurers continue to search for gold only to discover that the mines are not easily found and that gold is still an ever elusive metal.

Gold Mines-Great Falls
EXPLANATION



Quartz vein, showing dip
Dotted where approximately located



Fault or shear zone, showing dip
Dotted where inferred



Lamprophyre dike, showing dip
Dashed where traced with ground magnetometer; dotted where inferred



Anticline



Syncline

Generalized traces of axial surfaces
of major folds



Inclined



Vertical



Overturned

Strike and dip of bedding



Inclined



Vertical

Strike and dip of cleavage or foliation



Prospect pits and trenches



Caved shaft

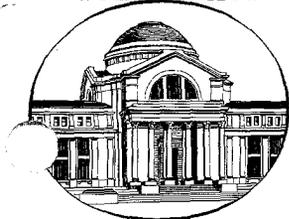


Adit

*Caved unless marked by circled letter.
Letter refers to map of underground
workings (pl. 1)*

2 360 000 FEET (VA)





National Museum of Natural History • Smithsonian Institution

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20560 • TEL. 202-

January 11, 1979

Mr. David Kiefer
6917 Ayr Lane
Bethesda, Maryland 20034

Dear Mr. Kiefer:

A rapid survey of the relatively small number of gold specimens from Montgomery County provided the following information:

Museum Catalog No.	Locality	Source	Acquired
60939	Huddleston mine, Bethesda	G.P. Merrill	1893
66014	Montgomery County	George Huddleson	1888
78527	Montgomery County	L.J. Bond	1891
78528	Montgomery County	A.B. Russ	1891
80171	Potomac gold mine	A.B. Russ	1891
85743	Great Falls	indeterminant	1904
93474	Montgomery mine	U.S. Naval Acad.	1919
96722	Great Falls mine	F.A. Rapp	1932
106036	<u>Maryland gold mine</u>	H. Ingalls	1950

Most, if not all, of these catalog entries carry accession numbers with them, which means that there is on file all of the correspondence and other documentation which relate to each of the acquisitions. If you feel that you would care to examine this material we would be happy to schedule an appointment for you to do so.

We hope you will not forget to send us a copy of the report that results from your efforts.

Sincerely,

John Sampson White
Associate Curator
Division of Mineralogy

JSW:m1



Caved-in adit along C&O Canal
1,300 feet north of Ford Mine



Balance table of former assay office,
Ford Mine



Balance table of former assay office, Ford
Mine (this table has been moved from its
original location)



Water tank supports, Maryland Mine,
looking west



North and east sides of former blacksmith shop, Maryland Mine



West side of former blacksmith shop, Maryland Mine



West side of upper part of mill structure, Maryland Mine



West side of upper part of mill structure, Maryland Mine

Gold Mines-Great Falls



Upper part of mill structure,
Maryland Mine, looking north



Ruins of lower part of mill
structure, Maryland Mine,
looking south