

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCERS use only
received _____
date entered _____

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Waverly Street Bridge
and or common Westernport Bowstring Arch Truss Bridge

2. Location

street & number Waverly Street at George's Creek n/a not for publication
city, town Westernport n/a vicinity of _____ congressional district Sixth
state Maryland code 24 county Allegany code 001

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name City of Westernport
street & number Box 266
city, town Westernport n/a vicinity of _____ state Maryland 21562

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Allegany County Courthouse
street & number 30 Washington Street
city, town Cumberland state Maryland 21502

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Coal Basin Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date 1982 federal state county local
depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle
city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

7. Description

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 <u>n/a</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Number of Resources

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of previously listed National Register properties included in this nomination: none

Original and historic functions and uses: transportation

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

The Westernport Bowstring Arch-Truss Bridge, sometimes known as the Waverly Street Bridge, is located within Westernport, a small town in the mountainous southwest corner of Allegany County, Maryland. The bridge carries vehicular traffic on Waverly Street over Georges Creek. It is a single span, bowstring arch through truss steel bridge with a span length of 108 feet. The bridge is supported by stone abutments and has a timber deck and timber stringers. Built in 1892 by the King Bridge Company of Ohio, the bridge has retained its original appearance and is in good condition.

For General Description, see Continuation Sheet No.

AL-VI-D-308

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only
received
date entered

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Continuation sheet Waverly Street Bridge Item number 7 Page 1
Allegany County, Maryland

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Westernport Bowstring Arch-Truss Bridge, sometimes known as the Waverly Street Bridge, is located within Westernport, a small coal mining and manufacturing town in the mountainous southwest corner of Allegany County, Maryland. The bridge is located approximately thirty yards from Main Street and the single track of the Western Maryland Railroad (formerly the Cumberland & Pittsburgh Railroad) in a mixed residential and commercial part of town. It carries vehicular traffic over George's Creek on Waverly Street, which runs perpendicular to Main Street and the railroad tracks.

The steel bridge has a single span bowstring arch through truss with a span length of 108 feet. The truss is pin connected. The arched top chord of the truss terminates at the bridge's bearing joints on the abutments. The bottom chord consists of paired eye bars from joint to joint. Each panel is laterally braced with cylindrical tie rods. The bridge reaches a maximum height of 15.7 feet, and is 15.6 feet wide and consists of eight panels measuring 13' 6" wide.

The fourteen vertical posts, of differing height, consist of two angles tied together with lattice work. Similar latticework is used for the three horizontal braces. A series of three pipes running the length of either side of the bridge serve as guardrails. There are stone abutments which support the bridge on either side of George's Creek.

The bridge, built in 1892 by the King Bridge Company of Ohio has not been altered since that time and is in good condition.

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"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics government
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
			<input type="checkbox"/> science
			<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
			<input type="checkbox"/> social/
			<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
			<input type="checkbox"/> theater
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1892 **Builder/Architect** King Bridge Co., Cleveland, Ohio

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: C
 Applicable Exceptions: none
 Level of Significance for Evaluation: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The Westernport Bowstring Arch Truss Bridge is significant as one of only two extant bowstring bridges in Maryland and the only one in use at its original location. The bridge was built in 1892 by the King Bridge Company of Cleveland, Ohio, one of the most prolific and innovative of nineteenth century bridge manufacturing companies in the United States. The bridge embodies the distinctive characteristics of the bowstring arch truss in its two tubular steel arches which stretch between the abutments in a single span. The King Iron Bridge and Manufacturing Company introduced numerous innovations in the truss design, notably the rectangular cross section of the steel tubing forming the arches; this feature was patented in 1861 by the company's founder, Zenas King, and is employed in the Westernport bridge. The bowstring arch truss was one of numerous designs for metal bridges developed during the second half of the 19th century; this design was most suitable for short spans and low traffic volume, as reflected in the location and use of the Westernport bridge.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet Waverly Street Bridge Item number 8 Page 3
Allegany County, Maryland

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

The King Iron Bridge and Manufacturing Company was one of the most prolific and innovative manufacturers of metal truss bridges in the United States during the nineteenth century. By 1884 the company had the largest highway bridge works in the country, "with the capacity for wrought iron and steel bridges, high and low trusses, arch bridges, swing bridges, iron turntables and combination bridges of all styles."⁹

9. Major Bibliographical References

AL-VI-D-308

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property less than one acre
Quadrangle name Westernport, MD-W.VA.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
n/a			
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Geoffrey Henry, with contributions by Mark Edwards, David Dorsey & Paula Spero
 organization Maryland Historical Trust date 15 April 1984
 street & number 21 State Circle telephone (301) 269-2438
 city or town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title	<u>STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER</u>	date
For HCRS use only		
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register		
Keeper of the National Register		date
Attest:		date
Chief of Registration		

AL-VI-D-308

(#9 - Bibliography)

FOOTNOTES

1

MHT-F-6-39, the Big Pipe Creek Bridge, which originally stood at Keymar on Route 77 in Carroll County was moved to Cunningham Falls State Park. A third bowstring bridge, now demolished, was the Keysville Arch Truss Bridge (Carr-20).

2

Stegimaier et al., Allegheny County a History, pp. 84-86 and pp. 140-141.

3

Proceedings of the Commissioners of Westernport, p. 161.

4

Piedmont Herald, June 10, 1892.

5

Stegimaier et. al., pp. 140-141

6

Proceedings..., p. 260.

7

Ibid., p. 264

8

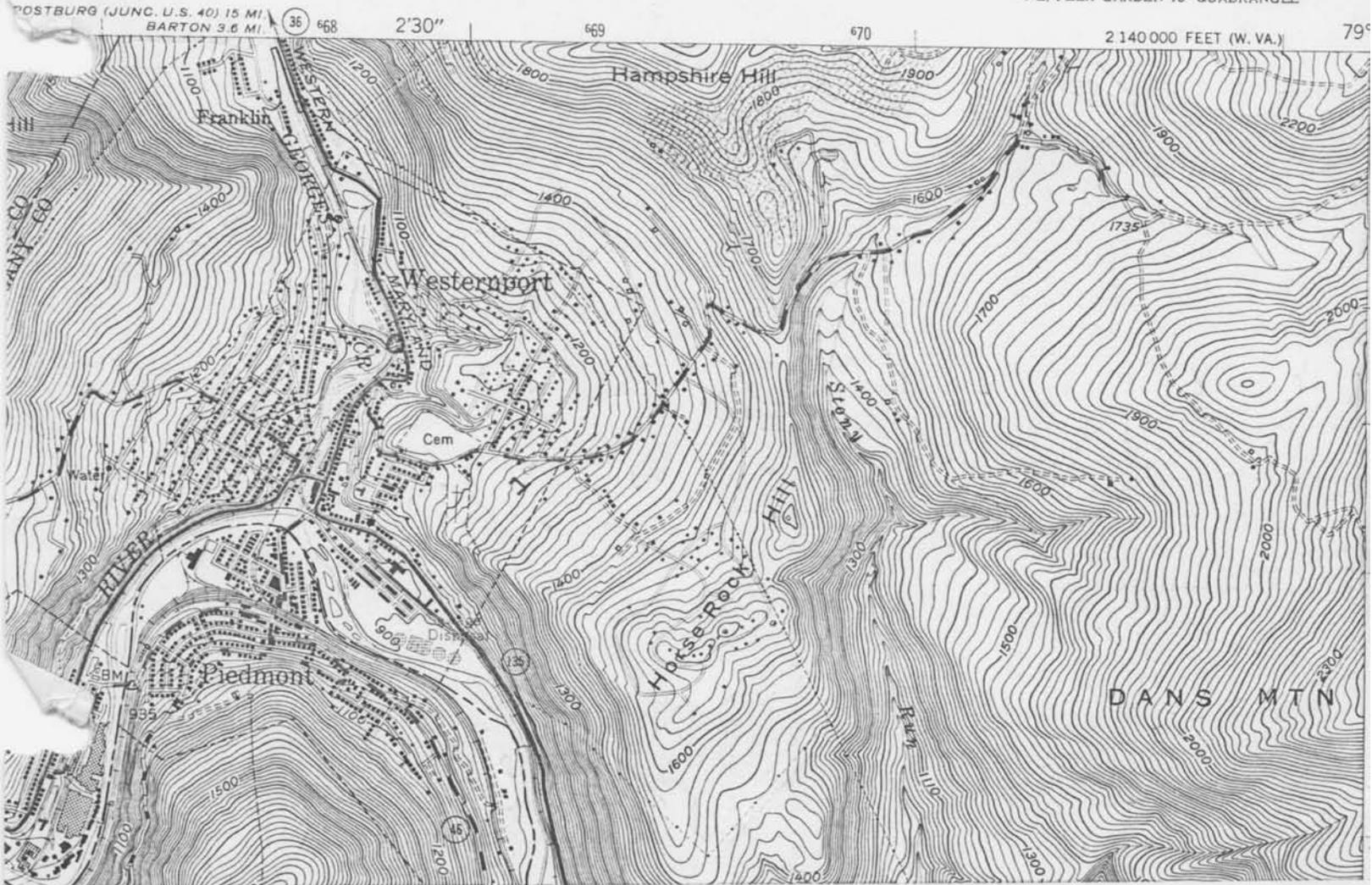
Ibid., p. 296.

9

Interview with Mayor, the Honorable James Wills, 1-8-82.

YLAND
AL SURVEY

WESTERNPORT QUADRANGLE
WEST VIRGINIA-MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NE/4 ELK GARDEN 15' QUADRANGLE



Westernport, MD:WV1
USGS 7.5 Minute Series
Scale 1:24,000
1950; photorevised 1974

AL-VI-D-308
Westernport Bowstring Arch Truss
Bridge
Waverly Street at Georges Creek,
30 yards west of Main St.

WESTERNPORT QUADRANGLE
WEST, VIRGINIA-MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NE 1/4 ELK GARDEN IS. QUADRANGLE

LAND
KEY



Westernport, MD:WV1
USGS 7.5 Minute Series
Scale 1:24,000
1950; photorevised 1974

AL-VI-D-308
Westernport Bowstring Arch Truss
Bridge
Waverly Street at Georges Creek,
30 yards west of Main St.



HAER No. MD-83-1

Waverly Street Bridge

AL-VI-308



RESTRICTED BRIDGE
SPEED LIMIT 20
WEIGHT LIMIT 4 TONS

RODE

HAER No. MD-83-2

AL-VI-308



HAER No. MD-83-3

AK-VI-308



HAER No. MD-83-4

AL-VI-308



HAER No. MD-83-5

AL-VI-308



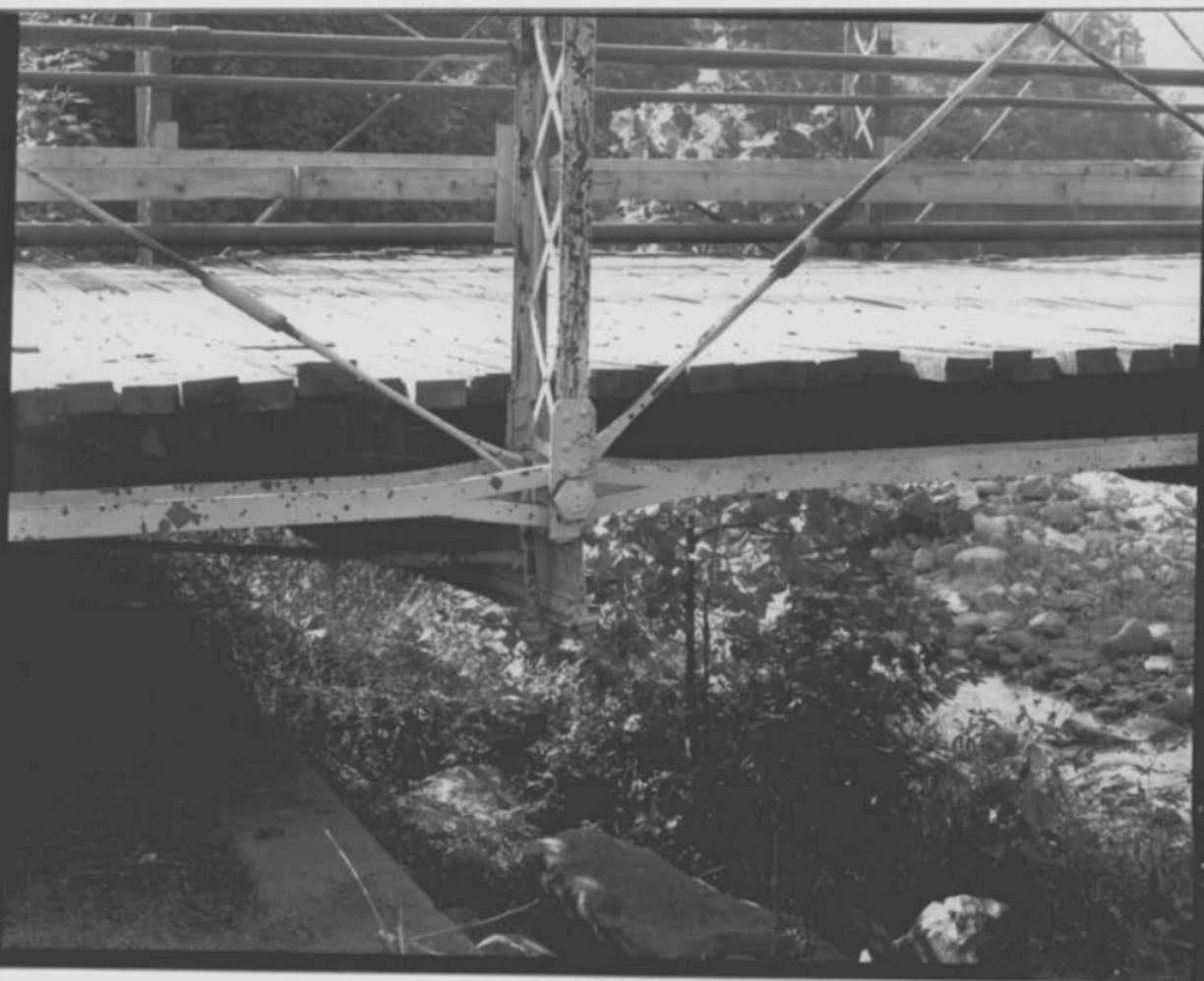
HAER No. MD-83-6

AK-VI-308



HAER No. MD-83-0

AL-VI-308



HAER No. MD-83-7

AL-VI-308



HAER No. MD-83-9

AL-VI-308



HAER No. MD-83-10

AL-VI-308



HAER No. MD-83-11

AL-U1-308