August 2025

SUSQUEHANNA RIVER RAIL BRIDGE PROJECT



The Amtrak Susquehanna River Bridge Project is a critical infrastructure project that will improve rail connectivity along the Northeast Corridor (NEC) by replacing the two-track bridge with four tracks over the Susquehanna River between the City of Havre de Grace in Harford County, Maryland and the Town of Perryville in Cecil County, Maryland.

Archaeological Investigations

What is Happening?

The team is conducting archaeological data recovery excavations at three sites in Havre de Grace that have the possibility of intact archaeological remains. The fieldwork at each site involves the excavation of 10x10-foot test units, topsoil removal, and digging features like foundations and privies.

Why is it Happening?

In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Amtrak must take into consideration potential impacts to cultural resources during the design and construction of the project. Through coordination with federal and state agencies, it was determined that three sites within the project area between N. Adams Street and N. Stokes Street have the potential to contain significant data about the past.

When & Where is it Happening?



Investigations are scheduled to take place from 7:00AM to 3:00PM Tuesdays through Saturdays. This activity is anticipated to begin mid-August 2025 and will continue through October 2025. The schedule is subject to change depending on weather and holidays. Staff will be on-site at the approximate locations outlined in the map above to answer questions during work hours.

All three sites date from the early 19th century through 1906 when the land was purchased for the construction of the current railroad tracks. While not much is currently known about this part of Havre de Grace during the early years of site occupation, by the mid- to late-19th century it was part of a vibrant and growing multi-cultural neighborhood, occupied mostly by German and Irish immigrants, along with other white and Black residents. The sites along Centennial Lane may reveal the remains of several 19th-century houses along with a fancy goods store, a saloon, and a brick bread oven. The site near Warren Street contained a building labeled "Negro Tenement" in the mid-19th century. Archaeologists are hoping to learn more about the organization of town lots, building architectural design, outbuilding types and locations, demographics and economic status, and the lives of children in the 19th century. The artifacts collected during the dig will be given to the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Lab for permanent curation.



Artifact found during previous archaeological investigations in Havre de Grace

For More Information:



AmtrakNewEra.com/SRB





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