

2019 Annual Dinner Meeting



1939: John H. Cunningham presents the deed to the Shellman house to the Historical Society of Carroll County. J. David Baile, President, accepts the deed while Mrs. Charles O. Clemson (left) and Mrs. W. Carroll Shunk (right) watch. HSCC was established to save the house from demolition.

The Historical Society will hold its annual meeting on Wednesday, November 6, 2019, from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at the Best Western Conference Center. The hotel is located at 451 WMC Drive in Westminster.

Doors open at 6:00 for drinks and hors d’oeuvres. There will be a cash bar. Dinner begins at 6:30. Dinner includes: garden salad, chicken breast with herb stuffing, stuffed shells, Red Bliss parsley potatoes, green beans almondine, and a chef’s choice dessert tray.

This year’s meeting will wrap-up the celebration of HSCC’s 80th Anniversary with a look back at some of the highlights of the Society’s history.

**Cost is \$35 per person. Reservations are required by October 23.** Call the office at 410-848-6494 or email [Info@HSCCmd.org](mailto:Info@HSCCmd.org) to make a reservation.

**BUSINESS MEMBERS** (as of August 31, 2019)  
Please support those who support The Historical Society.

American Heritage Insurance Agency	Development Company of America	Max Realty
Antrim 1844	Dulany, Leahy, Curtis & Brophy	McDaniel College
Aquino Financial Group	Eagle Oil Company	Midlantic Financial
Barnes-Bollinger Insurance Services	Farmers & Merchants Bank - Upperco	NWSB Bank, A Division of ACNB Bank
Baughner Enterprises	Farmers & Merchants Bank - Westminster	P.A. Martin & Sons
Bowman's Feed & Pet/Home & Garden	Hoffman, Comfort, Offutt, Scott & Halstad	S.H. Tevis & Son
Carroll County Chamber of Commerce	Kairos Wealth Advisors of Raymond James	Samuel C. Hoff Agency
Carroll Hospital Center	Law Office of David Ellin	Terry’s Tag & Title Service
Carroll Lutheran Village	Law Office of Thomas C. Beach IV	Thomas, Bennett, & Hunter
Computer Network Solutions	Marcia Duffy Insurance Agency	Velnoskey Wealth Management Group of Janney Montgomery Scott
The Cutting Garden		Walsh & Fisher, PA
Dean Robert Camlin & Associates		

The following persons will be presented to the Historical Society membership at the Annual Meeting for election to the Board of Trustees:

**Incumbent Trustees for a 1-year Term**  
Douglas P. Velnoskey

**Incumbent Trustees for a 3-year Term**  
Frank Batavick  
Dale Bowman  
Charles O. Fisher, Jr.  
Jay Graybeal  
William Palm  
Terry Smack

**New Trustees for a 3-year Term**  
Kristen McMasters  
Jaime Ridgley





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##### Staff

Interim Executive Director - Kristen

McMasters

Curator of Collections - Catherine Baty

Bookkeeper - Krista Seifert

Assistant to the Executive Director-

Catherine Lusher

Data Assistant - Beverly Staub

Gardener - Michele Steffens

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Westminster, Maryland 21157  
410-848-6494

Info@HSCCmd.org  
www.HSCCmd.org  
Office hours: T-S, 8:30 - 5:00  
Shop hours: TH-S, 10:00-4:00  
Library: W-F, 12:00-4:00  
2nd & 4th Saturday, 9:00-Noon

## From the Board Chair

- Frank J. Batavick



You talked and we listened. Thanks to all who responded to our spring Membership Satisfaction Survey. An amazing 150 members took the time to let us know how we can better serve you.

You noted that our Monday to Friday hours weren't very friendly to families who often looked for things to do on weekends. You also said that Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays are the best days for programming. So in September, we started opening Cockey's museum and the Shellman house on Saturdays, having changed our hours of operation to Tuesday through Saturday. This means that the campus is now closed on Monday.

When asked what you most valued as membership benefits, you listed in order of preference: "historical research, Box Lunch Talks, family research, the *Carroll History Journal*, and the *Courier*." The Research Library is open Wednesday to Friday from noon to 4:00 p.m. and from 9:00 to noon on the second and fourth Saturday of each month. We also promise to keep the Box Lunch Talks going and the publications coming.

Unfortunately, our exhibits ranked low in your evaluation, but we believe that by opening on Saturdays, we'll give members and the community more opportunities to visit. We're also planning a fresh and family-friendly new exhibit for the beginning of 2020.

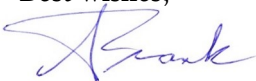
You ranked sponsoring an evening lecture series tops on your list of ideas for additional events to offer. That will take some planning, but we hope to launch something in the new year.

It was interesting that 29% of you currently volunteer at the society, and we thank you for your generous service. Of the 71% of respondents who don't volunteer, they said they might do so if they could help with Collections and in the Research Library. These areas represent two big needs we have for volunteers, so give us a call to find out when their committees meet.

Your most common complaints dealt with the need for more affordable events, better marketing, and to share our collection better. We answered with September's "Bluegrass, Bourbon & Bocce" event (a concert, dinner, bourbon tasting, and opportunity to play bocce for just \$40!); by finding a wonderful new chair and team to work on our Marketing Committee; and by launching plans for a new exhibit in early 2020.

For me, the best news of all was that almost 95% of you plan to renew your membership. This tells me how much you value our mission to "connect the past to the present and make the County's vibrant history tangible, relevant, and meaningful for today's diverse communities and for generations to come." On behalf of the board of trustees, I offer my sincere thanks.

Best wishes,

  
Frank

## Talking Shop

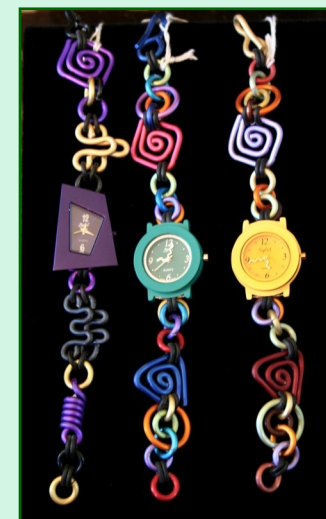
"What's in a name? That which we call a rose  
By any other name would smell as sweet."

William Shakespeare, *Romeo and Juliet*

Shakespeare may be right about a lot of things, but maybe not in this case. When HSCC opened its museum shop in 2009, it was located in Cockey's. Hence the name *The Shop at Cockey's*. But now that the shop has relocated to the Kimmey House, the name just doesn't work anymore. We've been calling it the Museum Shop and Bookstore. Not really a name that makes customers want to rush in and buy. So, we need your help! We're taking suggestions for a new name. It should be distinctive, catchy, memorable, and indicative of who we are and what we do. Send your suggestions to us at [ExecAssistant@hsccmd.org](mailto:ExecAssistant@hsccmd.org). Feel free to visit the shop for inspiration. The winning entry will be announced in the next *Courier*. A gift basket of goodies goes to the person submitting the winning name.



Also, now that the shop is ten years old, it's time to take stock. Literally. We're having a huge clearance sale to move out some old merchandise to make room for new. Lots of interesting things are on sale at 50% off: jewelry, ornaments, toys, puzzles, mugs, glassware, purses, artwork, candles, and more. Sorry, most of the books are not on sale. But, with every purchase get your choice of a free issue of *Early American Life*.



We are in need of shop volunteers!  
Can you help?

Shifts are available Tuesday—  
Saturday, mornings and afternoons.  
Contact Kristen McMasters at  
[ExecDirector@hsccmd.org](mailto:ExecDirector@hsccmd.org) if you can  
give us a hand.



BUSINESS MEMBER

~ Kairos Wealth Advisors of Raymond James ~

BUSINESS MEMBER

~ Max Realty ~



## For Your Information

In the last *Courier's Tales from the Library*, we asked you to help us identify two photographs.

The image at right was identified as the American Restaurant at 9 East Main St. in Westminster. Thanks to Antigoni Ladd for her help.

We've had a couple guesses about the barn but have not found the right one yet.



## Save the Date!

**Make plans to join HSCC for the 2020 Legacy Gala!**

**When: Saturday, April 25, 2020**

**Where: Martin's Westminster**

**Marvelous Food/Music/Dancing/  
Silent & Live Auctions**

**Watch for more information!**

**Welcome, New Members  
June 1, 2019 ~ August 31, 2019**

Tony Carvalho, Westminster  
William Colburn, Sr., Mount Airy  
Cindy Roop, Westminster  
F. Kevin Silberzahn, Eldersburg  
Erich & Carol Willen, Westminster

### In Memoriam

Cletta P. Bohn  
Ruth F. Myers  
Timatha S. Pierce  
David Roush

## From the Executive Director

- Kristen McMasters

Allow me to introduce myself! I have been a proud HSCC member since 2005 and am pleased to fill in as Interim Executive Director until the Board finds a replacement for Gainor Davis. Gainor got an excellent opportunity to move to the Connecticut River Museum as their Executive Director. I will be with you until November 1 or until a New Executive Director is hired. We have several great candidates.

It is likely that some of you have heard that we are in challenging times here at HSCC. Some of our fundraising events worked well this year while others were a little disappointing. Regardless, our expenses continue to creep upwards. While we are ever optimistic, we do face some serious budget shortfalls. While we struggle to get our checkbook healthy, you will see fresh efforts at saving funds and trying new ideas. We have big plans for a business membership event in October. We are open to any new ideas to bring our budget back in line. If you can consider giving a little more than you may have given before, we need your help and no gift is too small to make a big difference.

The HSCC has had some staff comings and goings. As many of you know we bid Debbie Leister farewell on August 1. There will be significant changes in the operations of the Museum Shop and many items are discounted. Marty Mathis had to retire abruptly. As many of you know, she got bit by her cat, Leon, and got a terrible infection in her left hand. Many of you have expressed a wish to send her a card to wish her good health and all the best in her retirement. Her contact information is 18 Hillside Ct., Westminster, MD 21157. The HSCC has hired Catherine Lusher as our new Assistant to the Executive Director. Catherine has a Master's Degree in Museum Studies with a professional certificate in Digital Curation from Johns Hopkins University. She is a local gal and looks forward to meeting all of you.

We are responding to our membership survey and expanding services to include more weekend and evening activities. All new staff will be working Tuesday through Saturdays. In the future we may expand to Sunday afternoons. Mondays the facility will be closed. Please make sure your committee meetings and staff needs are scheduled other days of the week. With this shift, we are looking for more volunteers interested in evenings and weekends. We always need more help in the Library, the BLTs and the Shop. Maybe you know someone that wants to volunteer or become a member. We would like to train volunteers to learn to digitize and scan documents. Someone you know might be interested in service hours or special projects. Let me know and I will be happy to follow up.

Although all these changes try the best of us, please bear with us as we grow and work towards serving you even better.

Current Staff Phone Contact – 410-848-6494

Kristen McMasters, Interim Director, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday (x202)

Cathy Baty, Curator, Monday through Friday (x203)

Catherine Lusher, Assistant to the Executive Director, Tuesday through Saturday (x200)

Krista Seifert, Bookkeeper, Tuesday through Thursday (x201)

Bev Staub, Data Assistant, Monday (x200)

You will never believe who stopped by the shop August 24 looking for a book about William Winchester - his fifth-, sixth- and seventh-generation descendants! We were all thrilled. We not only provided the book but also steered them to his grave in the Historic Westminster Cemetery.

Here are Karen Madden, Bluff Dale, TX, with her daughter and granddaughter and the book *William Winchester* which was written by another Winchester descendant, Emma Shelton.





## A New Addition to the Library

HSCC is pleased to announce a wonderful new addition to the resources available in our Research Library: Ancestry.com!



By the time you read this, the system should be up and running on the library computers. The service includes Ancestry Library Edition, Maryland newspapers (through newspaper.com), and Fold3. Ancestry includes over 2 billion records and resources such as census and voter records; birth, baptism, marriage, and death indexes; passenger lists, citizenship and naturalization records, border crossings and passports; and military records including draft, enlistment, service, casualties, veteran and prisoner rolls and lists; pension records, and awards and decorations of honor; and 46 Maryland newspapers.

The service will be available during our regular library hours: Wednesday—Friday, noon to 4:00; the 2nd and 4th Saturdays from 9:00 to noon. There will not be any additional fees to use Ancestry but the daily fee of \$5 per day and \$.25 per copy/print-out will apply.

This new service is made possible by a generous gift from Marcia Duffy, a member of our Board of Trustees. Thanks Marcia for your support!

## Use Your IRA to Make Your Charitable Gifts

You'll soon be receiving information about our fall Annual Giving campaign. Recent changes to the tax laws have made it easier to contribute to non-profits directly from your retirement account.

The IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) provides you with an excellent opportunity to make a charitable donation and qualifies as part of your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your IRA if you are 70½ or older. By reducing the RMD, the QCD reduces the associated federal and state income taxes annually under current tax law.

### TO QUALIFY:

- ♦ You must be age 70½ or older at the time of gift.
- ♦ Transfers must be made directly from a traditional IRA account by your IRA administrator to *Historical Society of Carroll County* (Westminster, MD). Funds that are withdrawn by you and then contributed do NOT qualify.
- ♦ Qualified distributions may be made from Traditional, Inherited, and Rollover IRAs as well as Inactive\* SEP and SIMPLE plans .
- ♦ Gifts must be outright. Distributions to donor-advised funds or life-income arrangements such as charitable remainder trusts and charitable gift annuities do not qualify.

*\*Inactive plans are defined as plans to which the employer did not make any contributions during the plan year that either ends with or in the year of the QCD.*

### BENEFITS — QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS:

- ♦ Can total up to \$100,000.
- ♦ Are not included in your gross income for federal and state income tax purposes on your IRS Form 1040 and state tax forms (no charitable itemized deduction is available, however).
- ♦ Count towards your required minimum distribution for the year from your IRA.

As you plan your required minimum distributions for this year, if you do not need the money the government is requiring you to take, consider making a charitable gift to HSCC. HSCC does not provide tax advice so please consult your tax preparer for additional information.

## Sundae Scoop a Super Success!

HSCC celebrated National Ice Cream Day with a campus-wide event. Despite the scorching weather, over 160 guests came out to enjoy food from the Taneytown Lions and frozen custard from The Cow. Visitors had the chance to try their hand at cranking ice cream and taste the finished product. Thanks to Lynn Wheeler for finding the recipes and spearheading the ice creaming making. To escape the heat, many took the opportunity to tour the Sherman-Fisher-Shellman house and view the exhibits in Cockey's.



Missed this year's event? Don't worry, we'll be doing it again next year.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, July 19, 2020.



# Happy 183rd Birthday, Carroll County!

**GEORGE WASHINGTON AND  
MARYLAND:**

**A LIFELONG RELATIONSHIP THAT  
HELPED DEFINE A NEW NATION**

**GUEST SPEAKER: BURT KUMMEROW**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 18  
2-4 P.M.**

**GRACE HALL  
GRACE LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
21 CARROLL ST.  
WESTMINSTER**

*Free Admission*



The Adam Good Tavern in Taneytown. George Washington spent the night here on July 1, 1791.

*Refreshments*



## On The Road . . . Where we're going next



Join us on Friday, December 6, as we head off on our annual **Holiday Journey**. This year's destination is one of our favorites: **Winterthur Museum and Gardens** in Delaware. The Yuletide at Winterthur tour is always a special treat. This year, each room on the Yuletide Tour tells a story reflecting the ways in which Americans have celebrated the winter holiday season from the 1800s to the present. Other decorations and displays recall H.F. du Pont's family traditions during Christmas and New Year's at Winterthur—including the family Christmas tree, glittering with glass ornaments and fringed by baskets brimming with gifts, one for each family member. Other signature displays include the majestic dried-flower tree, on grand view in the Conservatory and featuring some 60 varieties of flowers.

**Costuming THE CROWN** features 40 iconic costumes from the Emmy award-winning Netflix series, a dramatized history of the reign of Queen Elizabeth II. From the dazzling gold of Queen Elizabeth's coronation robe to the simple sophistication of Princess Margaret's wedding dress, from the majesty of royal crowns and tiaras to the comfort of clothes worn in private family moments, the exhibit provides a behind-the-scenes look at how costume design is used to create riveting drama and to re-create history.

Everyone is free to get their own lunch at Winterthur's Pavilion Restaurant. The menu features a sandwich station, specialty grilled cheese sandwiches, braised short ribs, a salad bar and à la carte options including soups and sweets.

The bus leaves from the parking lot on Ralph St. behind the Church of the Ascension at 7:30 a.m. and arrives back in Westminster at 7:00 p.m. Cost for the trip (includes transportation and admissions) is **\$75 for HSCC members** and **\$85 for non-members**. Reservations are required by November 22. **Payment is required when making your reservation. No refunds can be given for cancellations received after the reservation deadline.** Call HSCC at 410-848-6494 to reserve your seats.

## Where We've Been . . .

AACA Automobile Museum



Hotel Hershey



Hershey's Chocolate World



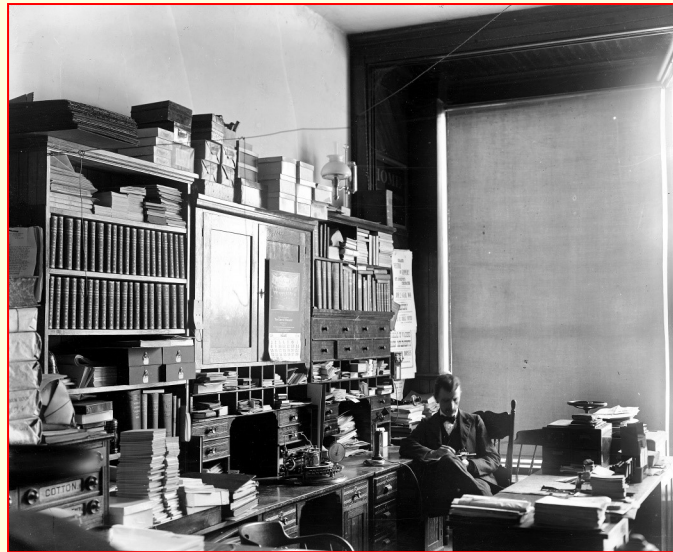


# Tales from the Library

- Mary Ann Ashcraft, Library Volunteer

Eric E. Glass and the Taney Corporation have given Carroll County's history community a wonderful gift by digitizing *The Carroll Record*, a Taneytown newspaper, and making it available online to anyone. We library volunteers at the Historical Society are anxious to share this resource with those who are researching families or topics the paper may have covered between 1894 and 1967. The 73-year run of issues has never been available before. The website, entitled "The Emmitsburg Chronicle and The Carroll Record," includes several papers published in Emmitsburg, Frederick County, in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

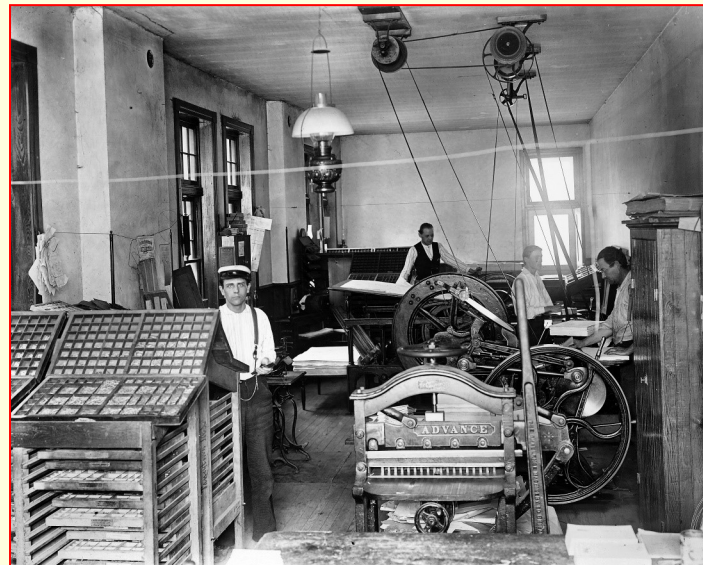
Preston B. Englar envisioned publishing a Taneytown newspaper in the early 1890s and, with the backing of prominent local businessmen, launched the weekly July 7, 1894, as its editor. He remained in that role for many years, often writing several editorials for each issue. Researchers today are especially grateful for the columns that covered the history of towns throughout the northwestern part of the county, ones as prominent as Taneytown and Union Bridge, or as small as Harney and Linwood. When the paper began, Englar used those town histories as a way to recruit more local subscribers as well as people who had moved away.



Editor Preston B. Englar at his desk in the *Carroll Record* business office. The newspaper used Taneytown's Opera House for its offices and printing plant from 1898 until it was sold in 1971.

The columns were republished in 1994 by the Historical Society on the 100th anniversary of the paper under the title *The Carroll Record Histories of Northwestern Carroll County Communities*. Joseph M. Getty edited this enjoyable book that is now out-of-print, but available in local libraries including ours.

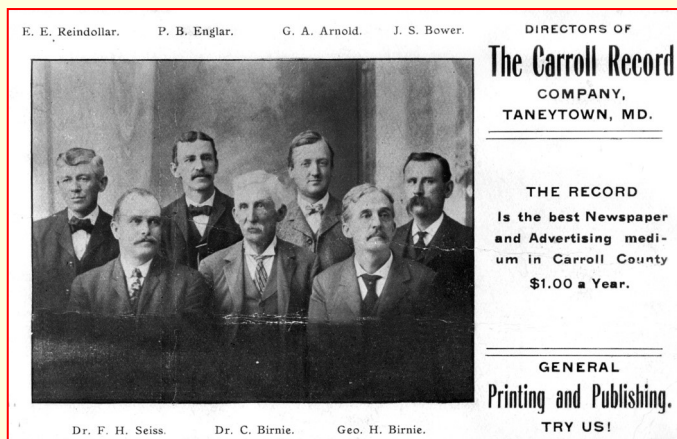
Perusing old newspapers is delightful. They usually include reports by community correspondents telling of new homes being built, social events with lists of attendees, people who are ill, even the weights of hogs a farmer butchered. And if that information doesn't interest you, follow the issues as the ads for horses and buggies gradually disappear, giving way to sales of automobiles such as the Velie-Six offered by a dealer in New Windsor. Lots of fun is in store.



Ross Fair, shown in the left foreground, was the *Carroll Record's* typesetter in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The printing plant used a line shaft powered by a one-cylinder gasoline engine. Note the many boxes of type stacked in front of Mr. Fair.

To view the *Carroll Record* on-line, go to [www.emmitsburgchronicles.com](http://www.emmitsburgchronicles.com)

In 1910, these seven prominent Taneytown businessmen served as the *Carroll Record's* Board of Directors.

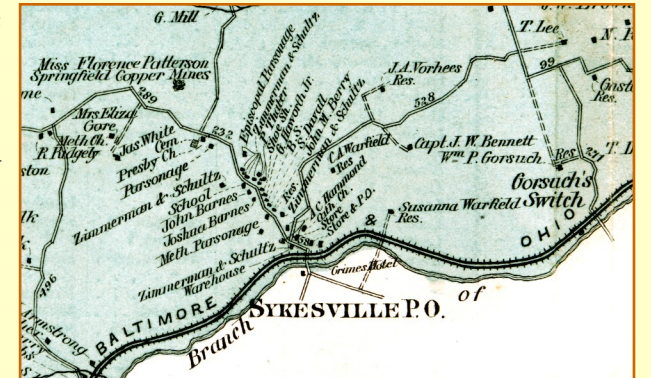


# The Curator's Corner

- Cathy Baty, Curator

150 years ago, on May 10, 1869, two locomotives met nose-to-nose at Promontory Summit, Utah. The event marked the coming together of the Central Pacific Railroad and the Union Pacific Railroad to complete the transcontinental railroad. It sparked a nationwide celebration. In San Francisco and Washington, canons were fired, while across the country, bells rang and fire whistles screamed. A trip across the country to California, which once took six months, now only took three-and-a-half days.

But long before this momentous occasion, the railroads had come to Carroll County. The Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company was established in 1827 to build a railroad from the port of Baltimore west to the Ohio River. The first section, from Baltimore to Ellicott's Mills (now known as Ellicott City), opened on May 24, 1830. The railroad reached the area that is now Sykesville in 1831. It continued west until it reached a major obstacle: Parr's Ridge, the highest point between Baltimore and Braddock Heights. There the railroad constructed a set of four inclined planes to pull the trains up one side of the slope and down the other. New locomotives introduced in the late 1830s could handle heavier loads and steeper slopes. In 1839, the B&O constructed a new spur line that ran around the north side of the slope, avoiding the inclined planes and running into Mount Airy.



Detail from the 1877 *Illustrated Atlas of Carroll County* showing the route of the B&O through Sykesville.

In 1852, the Maryland General Assembly chartered a company to build a rail line west from Baltimore through Carroll and Frederick Counties to Washington County. Construction of the Western Maryland Railroad began in 1857, reached Westminster in 1861, and in 1862 reached Union Bridge which for the next ten years was the terminus of the line.

On July 14, 1871, the railroad arrived in Taneytown with the coming of the Frederick and Pennsylvania Line. In each town, the railroad brought prosperity as new businesses grew up beside the tracks and visitors arrived to stay at local hotels.



Western Maryland Railroad passenger station, Westminster, February 1900. On this day, 7-year-old Treva Yeiser (wearing a new hat) was at the station to bid farewell to her father, George W. Yeiser, who was departing on a five-month trip to the Holy Lands.

Railroad passenger service thrived until the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century when the increasing number of cars and the growth of the interstate highway system gave travelers more choices. Passenger service to Taneytown was discontinued in August 1948 and the last passenger train stopped in Mount Airy in 1949. Passenger service lasted the longest in Westminster but the service ended in 1957. But the sounds of train whistles still echo across the county as CSX freight trains pass through every day.



C.1875 image of the trestle that carried the Frederick and Pennsylvania Line over Little Pipe Creek at Keymar. The bridge was destroyed in a hurricane in 1972.