

Washington Branch Railroad Route Agent's CDS

The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad was contracted as the Washington Branch Railroad in January 1838 at \$12,000 a year between Washington and Baltimore. From January 1840 Route 1902 was contracted at \$12,000 a year for the 40 mile route.

The payment remained constant until July 1868.



WASHINGTON RAIL ROAD
JAN / 10

Wrapper put onto Route 1902 on January 10th circa 1842 and carried through to Baltimore to receive the Route Agent's CDS (Towle 239-X-1).



Map by David Burr with the course of the Washington Branch Railroad

WASHINGTON RAIL RD.
APR / 19

Undated folded letter originating at Baltimore and put onto Route 1902 for Washington. Transferred south to Raleigh via Weldon.

Received the Route Agent's CDS (Towle 239-N-1).



Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, Washington Branch Route Agent's CDS

Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. Route 1902. Length 40 miles thrice daily to June 1848 then twice daily to 1852.

Contract value \$12,000 a year.



WASHINGTON RAIL ROAD / FEB / 28

Envelope sent under the free frank of John R. Reding, Representative for New Hampshire (1841—1845) circa 1845. Transferred at Baltimore for New York and Boston.



WASHINGTON BRANCH R.R. / MAY / 17

Wrapper circa 1852 manuscript rated 5 cents for under 300 miles to South Manchester, Connecticut via Baltimore and New York.

One of only two covers recorded bearing the Washington Branch Railroad CDS.

Baltimore & Ohio Rail Road, Washington Branch

The 40 mile Washington Branch of the B. & O. was first contracted in January 1838 and carried mails between Washington and Baltimore of onward travel via Philadelphia to New York and beyond. The contractor was paid \$12,000 per annum between 1838 and 1872 for a service varying from daily to three times a day.

WASHINGTON RAIL ROAD MAY / 10

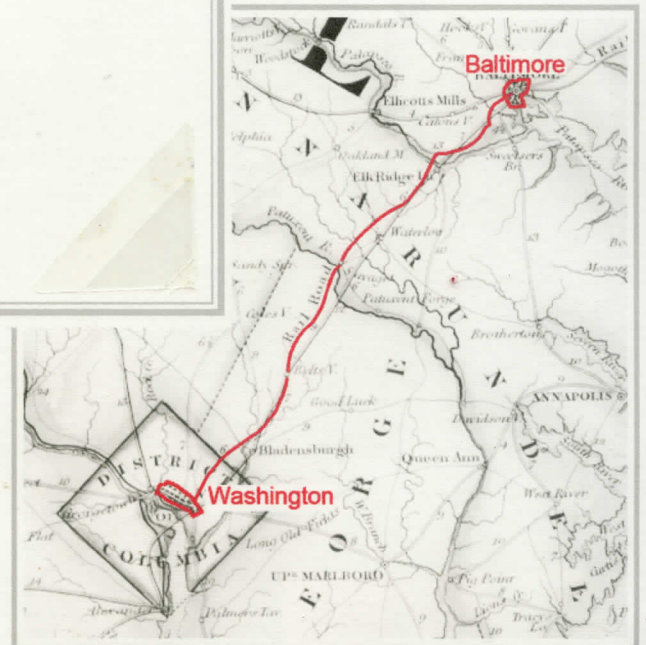
Folded letter dated "Washington City DC April 10th 1845" addressed to Buffalo. Carried on Route 1902 to Baltimore and transferred to Route 1901 for Philadelphia.

Routed onward by rail car via New York and Albany to Buffalo. Initially incorrectly rated at under 400 miles which was cancelled and up-rated to 25 cents.



WASHINGTON RAIL ROAD / FEB / 28

Envelope sent under the free frank of John R. Reding. Representative for New Hampshire to Jackson, New Hampshire circa 1845. Received the origin date stamp applied at Baltimore and struck in dark green.



David Burr's map of 1839 showing the Baltimore & Ohio (Washington Branch) Rail Road.

B. & O. R.R. Washington Branch Station Agents

A total of 5 stations are recorded as using Station Agent date stamps, these being Beltsville, Branchville, Jessup's, Muirkirk and Laurel. This was out of a total of 14 offices served between 1838 and 1872.



MUIRKIRK B. & O. R.R. / OCT / 3 / 1879

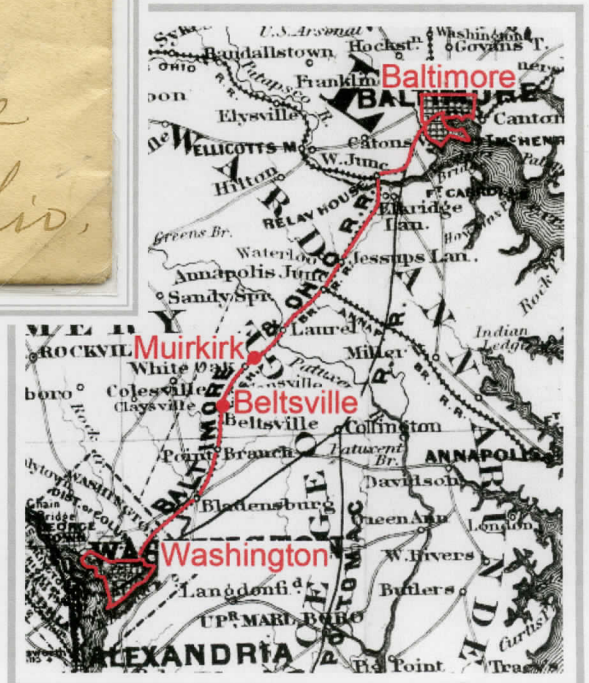
Envelope franked at 6 cents for double weight put onto Muirkirk Station for Route 10003 to be carried 25 miles to Baltimore for transfer via Philadelphia and New York to West Point.



**BELTSVILLE B. & O. R.R.
MAY / 28 / 1891**

Envelope franked at the 2 cents rate of 1885 and put onto the Washington Branch Railroad.

Carried via Washington to Wheeling and then Columbus, Ohio and then south for Circleville.



G.W. & C.B. Colton's map of 1869 with the locations of Beltsville & Muirkirk