



C&O Canal National Historical Park



Cumberland Visitor Center

Housed in the historic 1913 Western Maryland Railway Station, the Cumberland Visitor Center of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park invites you to explore the rich history of the C&O

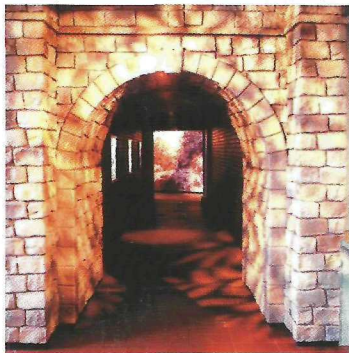
Canal and Cumberland. The western terminus of the 184.5 mile long shipping waterway, Cumberland served as the beginning point of much of the heavy shipping along the canal and a major boatbuilding center for the canal company. It was here the Georges Creek coal was transferred to canal boats for

shipment to Washington D.C., and here the boats returned nearly empty to begin the process over again.

The orientation area of the visitor center provides an overview of the C&O Canal history and a look at the park today. Visitors can obtain park maps and information to help in planning an extended park visit. A park ranger is available to assist and answer questions. Trail and nature guides and C&O Canal histories are available for purchase from the Parks and History Association bookstore.



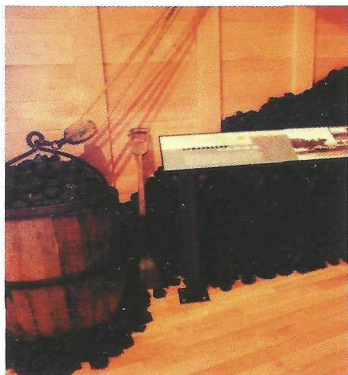
From the orientation area, enter the portal of the Paw Paw Tunnel, hear the familiar drip of water as you pass through the corridor and step back into the days of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal.



Awaiting you within the main exhibit hall is a three-quarter size section of a C&O Canal boat. Learn about mules and cargo and the day-to-day life of the canal families. Peer into the entrance of a mine that

provided the number one cargo shipped on the canal - coal. A model lock and exhibits on boatbuilding and Cumberland as a crossroads complete the exhibit. Children will enjoy several interactive exhibits including Mutt the mule!

The Cumberland Visitor Center is located at 13 Canal Street in downtown Cumberland, Maryland. Part of Canal Place and adjacent to the Washington Street Historic District, the visitor center is only yards away from the 184.5 mile marker on the C&O Canal towpath and from the beginning of the Great Allegheny Passage, a 150-mile, rail-trail path leading to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



HOURS/ ADMISSION: Open Daily 9am - 5pm
Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas & New Year's Day
Admission is free. For group tours contact the visitor center.

DIRECTIONS: Take Exit 43C off I-68 from the east or Exit 43A from the west. Follow signs to Canal Place and Western Maryland Railway Station.

Cumberland Visitor Center 
C&O Canal NHP
Western Maryland Railway Station
13 Canal Street
Cumberland MD 21502
301-722-8226

<http://www.nps.gov/choh>