

Dingess Tunnel

Dingess Tunnel is located on County Route 3/5 in Mingo County. The tunnel was built in 1892 as part of the Norfolk & Western Railway's Twelvepole line. It is 3,331 feet long with natural airflow ventilation and a drainage ditch along the east side of the tunnel. It was built using stone and a portion was originally timber lined. A brick liner was added approximately 15 years after the tunnel opened and a steel liner was installed in 1979 along the northern end. The Twelvepole line was never profitable and a new line was built along the Big Sandy River in the 1930s. At this point the Twelvepole line was abandoned and the State Road Commission converted the line and tunnel into a roadway. Dingess Tunnel is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places for its engineering significance and because it improved access and transportation of goods and people into the region. A rehabilitation project is scheduled for 2017 in which a new steel liner will be installed along the northern end and a concrete gutter will be installed outside of the tunnel to divert water from leaking inside. New lighting will be installed inside the tunnel along with warning signs outside of the tunnel.



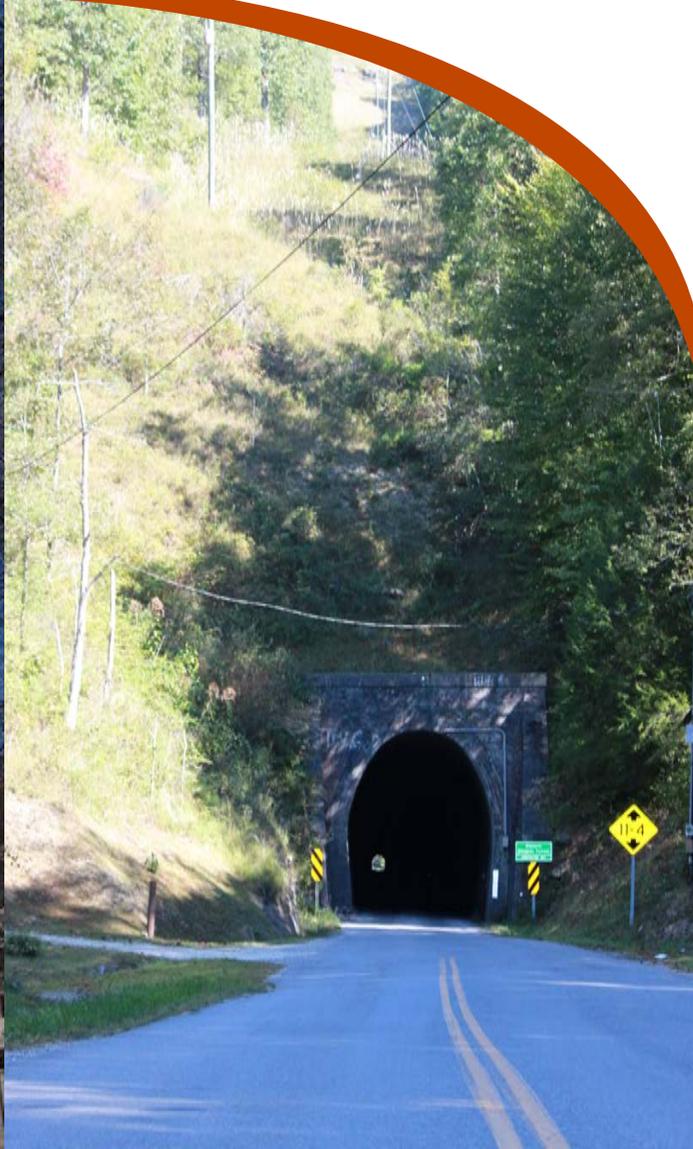
Location: County Route 3/5 in Mingo County
Type: Stone Masonry Tunnel
Year constructed: 1892
Length: 3,331 feet

what **Historical Services Unit** does

- Research and Write History Reports
- Determine National Register Eligibility
- Determine Historic Boundaries
- Determine Effects to Historic Properties
- Mitigate Adverse Effects to Historic Properties
- Complete Historic Documentations for Specific Historic Properties
- Historic Turnpike Research and Analysis
- Coordinate with Federal, State, and Local Resource Agencies
- Conduct Public Workshops for Specific Bridge and Highway Projects

contact us

Division of Highways
Engineering Division
Environmental Section
1334 Smith Street
Charleston, WV 25301
Sondra Mullins
Historical Services Unit Leader
304.558.9487
sondra.l.mullins@wv.gov



dingess
tunnel
mingo county