Coal Mining at Evergreen

Beginning in 1902, the Trimble family, which had originally settled on "Federal Hill" in the 1780s, began executing coal leases with various coal companies. From 1902 through 1912, the Midland Mining company deep-mined Trimble coal. The Maryland Geological Survey reported that Midland Mining employed 16 men who mined coal from a seam about four feet thick. According to the Survey's records, "mules hauled the coal over a tram-way from the (mine) opening to the head of a gravity plane...which delivers it to the tipple". Hundreds of tons of coal (over 7000 in 1910) were hauled over that tram-way.

In addition to that early mining operation, one of the longest running mining projects was conducted by United Big Vein Coal (UBVC) between 1915 and 1925. As part of its operation, UBVC expanded the tram-way rails and switches established by Midland Mining and added a bull wheel to the incline plane that could efficiently lower the coal to the C&P Railroad. In addition, UBVC created living quarters for the miners, a blacksmith shop, a forge, and a mule stable. Remnants of these remain today, as well as evidence of the evolution of the tram-way transportation that began with mules and ponies, then an electric tram engine, and finally a dinky steam engine.
**UBVC Mine 1** - United Big Vein Coal Company Mine #1 is on the Bishfields’ property, just over the border of the Trimbles and Bishfields property line. At Evergreen, United Big Vein Coal Company was mining a seam which had a thickness of about 4 feet, formed during the Pennsylvania Age 300 million years ago. This mine defines the beginning of the Tram Road. The Trail follows the path of the Tram Road as it proceeds to the Incline Plane where the coal was loaded for rail transport.

**Pond** - Site of man-made pond constructed in 1966. Located on the far left (just below the original pond).

**Grape Arbor** - Site of Winfield Trimble’s grape arbor. The remains can be seen

**Evergreen Trees** - Cluster of evergreen trees planted by Winfield Trimble in

**Water Tower** - Former location of Water Tower and Shed that housed the Dinky Engine. Located on the trail.

**Keene Residence** - Current residence of the Keene family, descendants of the Trimbles. Built in 1990, it is located on the left.

**Timble Mine** - Site of Victor Trimble’s Mine. Victor Trimble used coal from this mine to fuel the coal furnace that heated the Trimble family home beginning in the 1940s. Remains of the mine, tipple scraps and cave-in are on the right.

**Boarding House** - Site of Boarding House for miners. The cornerstone of the Boarding House can be seen on the right.

**Mule Stable** - Site of Old Mule Stable that used to house the mules that hauled the coal from inside the mine to the wagons or the Dinky Engine, which then hauled the coal to the Incline Plane. Remains of the two story brick Stable can be seen on the left.

**Blacksmith Forge** - Site of Blacksmith Shop and Forge. The Blacksmith would shoe the mules. They made and repaired any iron tools used by the mines by hammering them on an anvil. Although the Blacksmith Shop is no longer there, remains of the Forge can be seen on the right.

**UBVC Mine 2** - Site of the cave-in of United Big Vein Coal Company Mine #2. Remains of the opening and beams can be seen on the right. The beams were used to support the weight of the ground above, and to prevent cave-ins.

**Slate Bank** - Site of Slate Bank. Remains of Slate Bank, which were formed from waste from the mine and the peat bog below, can be seen on the left.

**Barn** - Site of Evergreen Barn built circa 1780 is on the left. The lower level of the barn contains stables that were used to house horses and cattle. The upper level was used to store hay.

**Museum** - Site of historic home with origins circa 1780 is on the left. The home is now a museum containing antiques, artifacts, and a library dating back to the

**Apple Orchard** - Site of Winfield Trimble’s apple orchard (planted in the 1870s/1880s). The remains can be seen on the left.

**Pear Orchard** - Site of Winfield Trimble’s pear orchard (planted in the 1870s). The remains can be seen on the left.

**Start Trail Here**