



# I-95 Transportation Corridor

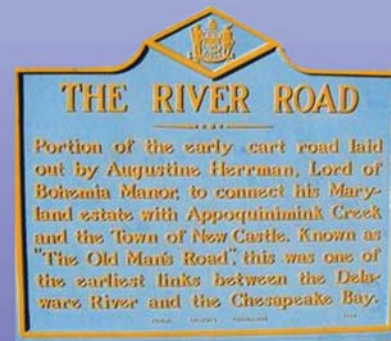
## *The Dutch Embassy's 1659 Travel Through Northern Delaware*

*By Kevin Cunningham and David Clarke,  
DelDOT Archeologists*



*Augustine Herrman's journey through the wilderness followed much of the present day I-95 corridor. It was considered a certain country not yet cultivated and planted.*

*Cast your mind back when there was no Interstate through Delaware and think back even further when roads were unpaved and sometimes impassable. Imagine traveling through Delaware as Herrman did, in the company of characters with names like Resolved Waldron and 'Sander Boeyer with his Indians.' What you can now traverse by automobile in about 30 minutes -- unless there is a back up along Churchman's Marsh -- took two long and difficult days 300 years ago. Herrman's trip required Indian guides, compass and navigational skills and an intimate understanding of the local environment. Herrman's group made their route by foot, boat and horse, relying on people of all persuasions for assistance along the way. Delaware was a very different place back then.*





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## *Journey of the Dutch Embassy through Delaware: Highlights from Augustine Herrman's Journal*

**Tuesday, September 30, 1659**

Herrman departs New Amstel (present day New Castle, DE) at noon escorted by several soldiers and Indian guides. During their travels this first day, they hear a shot from an English gun and respond with three of their own. The group camps overnight by a creek.

**Tuesday, September 30, 1659**

Before sunrise they cross two runs of water and some dry thickets, figuring their distance to be about five leagues (15 statute miles) from New Amstel. They breakfast at Cimamus or Hare Creek (now Big Elk Creek). They continued south and west through the woods without a path about a league to a waiting skiff and paddles but not rudder or oar. Four guides are dismissed, but Sander Poeyer with his Indian continue on with Resolved Waldron and Augustine Herrman. The skiff leaks badly, so they caulk it with old linens, bailing constantly as they proceed along. They pause on the east branch of the Elk River to build a fire on the woods and then continue with the night ebb and great labor, traveling all night.



This map was designed by Herrman in 1670.



A portrait of Augustine Herrman, which is located at the Maryland Historical society.

