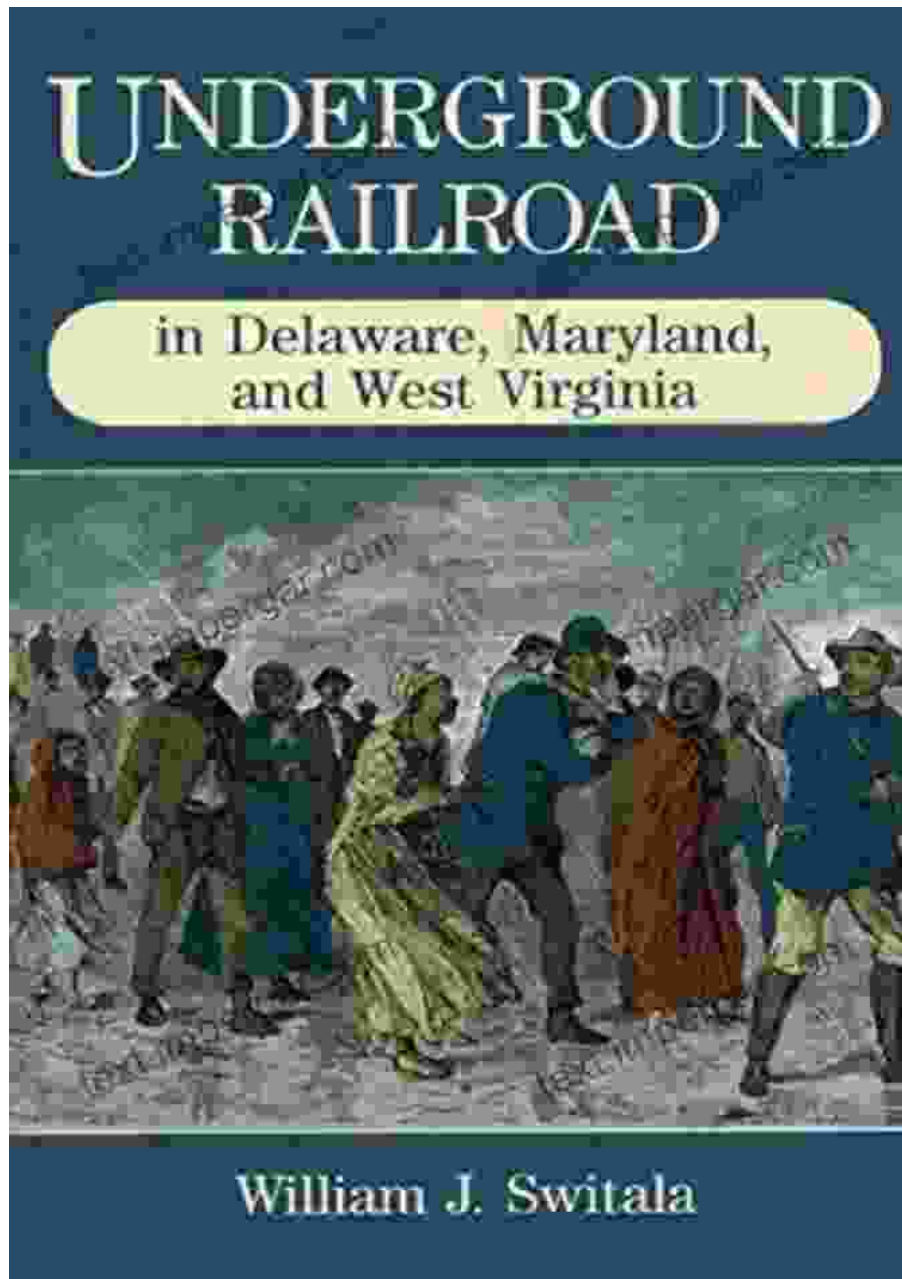
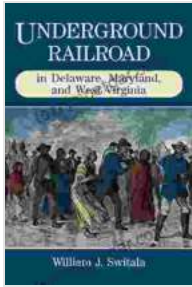


# Unveiling the Underground Railroad in Delaware, Maryland, and West Virginia: A Journey of Freedom and Resistance



**Underground Railroad in Delaware, Maryland, and West Virginia (The Underground Railroad)** by William J. Switala

★★★★★ 4.7 out of 5



Language	: English
File size	: 12632 KB
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Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 176 pages



The Underground Railroad, a clandestine network of abolitionists, enslaved people, and free Black communities, played a pivotal role in the fight against slavery in the United States. Operating in the shadows of antebellum America, this network of secret routes, safe houses, and courageous individuals helped thousands of enslaved people escape to freedom in the North and Canada.

In Delaware, Maryland, and West Virginia, the Underground Railroad flourished due to the region's close proximity to slave states, as well as the presence of abolitionist sentiments and sympathetic communities. This article delves into the fascinating history of the Underground Railroad in these states, highlighting the courageous individuals, secret routes, and hidden safe houses that played a crucial role in the fight for freedom.

### **Delaware: A Gateway to Freedom**

Delaware, a bFree Download state nestled between Pennsylvania and Maryland, became a critical gateway for enslaved people seeking freedom. The state's relatively small size and close proximity to the free North made it an ideal staging ground for escape.

One of the most prominent figures in the Delaware Underground Railroad was Harriet Tubman, a former slave who escaped to freedom and dedicated her life to helping others do the same. Tubman, known as the "Moses of her people," made 19 trips into slave territory, rescuing over 300 enslaved people.

In Wilmington, Delaware, the Quaker community played a significant role in the Underground Railroad. The Quaker Meeting House in Wilmington served as a safe house for enslaved people, providing shelter, food, and clothing. Other prominent safe houses in Delaware included the homes of abolitionists such as Thomas Garrett and John Hunn.

### **Maryland: A Complex Landscape**

Maryland presented a more complex landscape for the Underground Railroad. The state's large slave population and proximity to slaveholding states made it a dangerous place for enslaved people to escape. However, despite these obstacles, a network of abolitionists and free Black communities provided assistance to those seeking freedom.

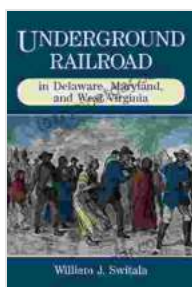
One of the most important figures in the Maryland Underground Railroad was Frederick Douglass, a former slave who became a prominent abolitionist and orator. Douglass escaped slavery in 1845 and went on to become a leading voice in the fight against slavery.

In Baltimore, Maryland, the Underground Railroad operated in the shadows, with secret routes and safe houses hidden throughout the city. The city's large free Black population played a crucial role in providing support and assistance to enslaved people seeking freedom.

## West Virginia: A Haven in the Mountains

West Virginia, then part of Virginia, was a haven for enslaved people seeking freedom. The state's mountainous terrain and vast wilderness provided a natural sanctuary for those escaping slavery.

The Underground Railroad in West Virginia was organized by abolitionists and free Black communities in the northern part of



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