



HIGH GREEN



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Conrail Memories in Anacostia



Alex Mayes photo

A northbound Conrail manifest train crosses the Anacostia River in Washington D.C. a mile north of Virginia Avenue Tunnel in November 1977. This train departed Potomac Yard across the Potomac River in Arlington, VA and will diverge onto Amtrak's Northeast Corridor at Landover, MD and head north. A pair of former PRR GG1s power the 80+ car train. The Baltimore and Potomac Rail Road, a subsidiary of the Pennsylvania Railroad, built the first railroad bridge built at this site in 1872. It was equipped with overhead catenary when the PRR electrified this line in the thirties. Both the B&O Railroad and the PRR ran their freight trains over this bridge to and from Potomac Yard for over 100 years. With the breakup of Conrail in 1999 this bridge and the line running south into Virginia and north to Landover became part of CSX.

Alex Mayes