

EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR PURCHASE					
# OF CARS	DOT / CLASS	CAPACITY	COMMENTS	PRODUCT	REF #
ANY	11A100W1	20,000			13858
3	111A100W3	23,500		<i>Diesel</i>	13885
ANY	111A100W3	23,500			13859
10	111A100W1	25,500	Coiled or non-coiled		13828
25	111A100W3	25,500	286 GRL preferred		13883
ANY	111/117A100W	25,500			13824
25	111A100W3	28,400			13874
10	FLAT	65'	286 GRL, Bulkheads		13867
100	GONDOLA	2,300	Flat Bottom	<i>Aggregate</i>	13871
3-5	GONDOLA	6,000+	End doors preferred, 263 GRL		13791
5	GONDOLA	6,500+	End doors, 286 GRL		13855
20	HOPPER	3,000	Any gate type		13827
5	HOPPER	3,600	Manual gates		13756
7	HOPPER	4,000	286 GRL, 4 Pocket		13854
ANY	HOPPER	6,000+	manual gates		13866
30	HOPPER	6,000+	263 GRL		13790
30	LO	4,550+	Trough hatches, gravity gates		13823
10	LO	4,750			13881
ANY	LO	4,750			13857
50	LO	5,150			13882
2	LO	5,800	28" gates		13856

THE GREAT BEND TUNNEL PART II

As discussed in the previous episode, the circuitous route of the Great Bend River around Great Bend Mountain led the C&O Railroad to decide that going though the mountain was the better option.

C&O resident engineer, Capt. Richard H. Talcott hired Capt. William R. Johnson as primary contractor to build the Great Bend Tunnel. Johnson, also a civil engineer, employed nearly 1,000 workers, most of which were recently freed slaves and Irish immigrants. Once work was completed, they would create a 6,450 foot long tunnel with a slight curve due to an engineering error.

Though the tunnel itself was started at the west end, real construction began with three shafts drilled to positions where the tunnel floor would be. This allowed not only fresh air into the work zones but also multiple starting points from which to dig the tunnel and the ability to hoist out rock and rubble. Delivered by boat to the work site were two 30 horsepower steam engines. These were used to hoist rock out of the shafts. Unfortunately much of the mountain consisted of shale that grew brittle and would crumble when exposed to air. Many workers and mules were killed by rockfalls. One fall near the east end included an estimated 8,000 cubic yards and 22 million pounds of rock. Other dangers included errant explosions and silicosis from breathing rock dust. There are rumored to be mass graves near either end of the tunnel and at the fill near the old trestle over the nearby Hungard Creek.

Though the tunnel was successfully built, errors were made in the bidding process. Captain Johnson and his partners were driven insolvent. Though his partners declared bankruptcy and urged Johnson to do the same, the Captain refused to do so. Later, when successful as a coal operator, he repaid his creditor's principal as well as interest. In appreciation of this, his creditors presented him with a silver bowl inscribed "an honest man is the noblest work of God".

<https://wvexplorer.com/attractions/historic-landmarks/big-bend-tunnel/>
<https://www.johnhenryhistoricalpark.com/tunnel-constructionhttps://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=165177>
<https://www.hmdb.org/lm.asp?m=165177>

Items Highlighted In Italics Designate New Listings

THE INSIDE TRACK

RAILWAY EQUIPMENT LISTING

Published By: TRANSMATRIX, INC.

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July 1, 2023

EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR LEASE					
# OF CARS	DOT / CLASS	CAPACITY	COMMENTS	LAST CONTENTS	REF #
40+	111A100W3	20,000	286 GRL		13878
3	111ALW100W3	20,000	Aluminum shell, exterior coils, insulated		13814
25	111A100W5	20,700		Clean	13870
5	111A100W3	21,000		Red Liquor	13842
13	111A100W3	21,500		Isocyanates	13873
3	111A100W3	23,500	263 GRL		13864
8	117J100W	23,500	286 GRL	Clean	13832
200	111A100W3	25,500			13851
72	111A100W3	25,500	286 GRL	Clean	13821
40	111A100W1	30,000			13772
10	111A100W1	30,000			13757
70+	AAR211	34,000			13868
10	BOX	50'			13811
40	FLAT	85'	Steel decks, 286 GRL		13837
35	GONDOLA	4,300	Aluminum, 286 GRL		13872
25	GONDOLA	4,500	Single tub		13831
70	GONDOLA	4,500	286 GRL, twin tub	Coal	13743
20	HOPPER	4,000	Steel bodies, manual gates		13829
30	LO	4,600	263 GRL		13862
27	LO	4,600	Trough hatches, gravity gates, 263 GRL		13876
16-30	LO	5,150		Grain	13736
14	LO	5,800	263 GRL, pneumatic gates		13846
25	LO	5,800	263 GRL	Plastic pellets	13865
14	LO	5,850			13808

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EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR LEASE					
# OF CARS	DOT / CLASS	CAPACITY	COMMENTS	PRODUCT	REF #
ANY	111A100W1	20,000			13858
10+	111A100W1	20,000	263 or 268 GRL	Solubles	13789
25	111A100W2	20,000		Hydrochloric Acid	13861
40	111A100W3	20,000+	286 GRL		13848
3	111A100W1	23,500		Diesel	13885
2	111A100W1	23,500	Compartment cars	Base oil	13758
ANY	111A100W3	23,500			13859
6	111A100W3	23,500	263 GRL		13816
10	111A100W3	23,500		Glycols	13787
5-20	111A100W3	23,500+	286 GRL		13852
200	111A100W1	25,500		Fuel oil	13809
2-3	111A100W3	25,500	286 GRL		13766
25+	111A100W3	25,500	286 GRL		13722
20	117R100W	29,000+	2 Year lease		13860
2-3	117A100W	30,000			13869
8	117R100W1	30,000			13750
15	112J340W	33,500		LPG	13793
50	GONDOLA	ANY	Flat bottom	Aggregate	13834
100	GONDOLA	2,300+	Flat bottom	Aggregate	13871
15	GONDOLA	2,500+	Flat bottom	Aggregate	13879
100	GONDOLA	2,500+	Flat bottom	Aggregate	13778
3-5	GONDOLA	6,000+	End doors preferred, 263 GRL		13791
ANY	GONDOLA	ANY	Flat botom		13802
15	HOPPER	2,500+		Aggregate	13880
20	HOPPER	4,000	Steel bodies, manual gates		13783
30	HOPPER	6,000+	263 GRL		13790
20-50	LO	3,000	Short term	Sand	13801
ANY	LO	4,750			13857
50	LO	5,150			13882
2	LO	5,800	28" gates		13856

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EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR SALE					
# OF CARS	DOT / CLASS	CAPACITY	COMMENTS	LAST CONTENTS	REF #
20	111A100W3	21,000			13877
50	111A100W3	21,000	263 GRL		13850
15	DOT 211	21,000	286 GRL, Qualified through 2032	Clean	13845
30	111A100W3	23,500	263 GRL	Various / Clean	13825
12	111A100W3	25,000	263 GRL		13884
200	111A100W3	25,500			13851
7	111A100W1	26,600		Clean	13788
1	111A100W1	30,000	263 GRL	Clean	13886
45	111A100W1	30,000		Ethanol	13782
75	111A100W1	34,000			13804
1	112J340W	34,000	Storage car	LPG	13820
15	112J340W	34,000		LPG	13796
70+	AAR 211	34,000			13868
10	BOX	50'	220 GRL		13811
15	BOX	50'	220 GRL		13812
10	BOX	50'	220 GRL		13786
45	FLAT	85'	286 GRL		13826
30	FLAT	89'	263 GRL		13849
40	GONDOLA	52'	286 GRL, captive service		13887
25	HOPPER	4,000	Steel bodies, manual gates		13838
25	HOPPER	4,000	Manual gates	Coal	13838
40	HOPPER	4,000	Manual gates, aluminum bodies		13781
20	LO	3,200	Circular hatches, gravity gates, 286 GRL		13875
25	LO	3,200	286 GRL, round hatches, gravity gates		13839
50	LO	3,200	Round hatches, gravity gates, 286 GRL		13839
50	LO	3,281		Sand	13803
35	LO	4,550	4 pocket	Grain	13784
27	LO	4,600	Trough hatches, gravity gates, 263 GRL		13876
14	LO	5,850			13808

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