

BORDEN COMPANY HOUSE

AL-V-A-046
Main Street, Shaft
ca. 1850

The Borden Company House consists of a one and a half story, three bay wide, rectangular shaped facade with a one story wing on the rear side. The house is one of a number of "company" houses built by the Borden Mining Company in the mid 19th century. Similar to other towns and villages in the George's Creek area, the town of Borden Shaft was a company town. However, unlike the other villages, the actual mine which supported growth was the only "shaft" mine in the George's Creek Valley. The Borden Mining Company was incorporated in 1846 and soon after this date began construction of houses to serve as dwellings for the miners.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

0102415504
AL-V-A-046

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Borden Company House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Shaft

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

George Whetstone

Telephone #: 689-9426

STREET & NUMBER

Route 1,

CITY, TOWN

Frostburg

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 475

Folio #: 774

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland,

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

AL-V-A-046

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Borden Coal Company House, owned by George Whetstone, is located on the north side of Main Street in Borden Shaft, Allegany County near the intersection of Georges Street.

The house basically consists of a one and a half story, three bay wide, rectangular shaped main facade. A one story wing with gabled roof abuts the main block on the rear northern side forming an "L" on the structure. The building is a frame structure originally covered with clapboards that has since been covered with insul brick siding. The entire facade is supported by a low stone foundation with a plain water table. The roof of the building is gabled and is covered with replaced asphalt shingles. The roof is supported by a soffit and exposed rafter ends. Windows in the structure feature double hung wooden sash frames with one over one lights with plain trim. The main entrance is located on the front southern side and exhibits a replaced verticle paneled door with plain trim. The entrance is covered by a three bay end porch with shed roof supported by banistered square columns. One replaced brick chimney is placed on the inside end of the main block.

The house is structurally sound but has been somewhat altered since original construction by the coal company.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

AL+V-a-046

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Borden Mining Company

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Borden Mining Company was incorporated in 1846,¹ and operated the only shaft mine in the George's Creek area.² Like the other mining towns in the George's Creek area, the town of Borden Shaft was primarily a company town. That is, the majority of buildings (homes, etc.) were constructed by the company, although miners did have the opportunity to build their own homes if they desired.

The Borden House is typical of the type of home constructed by a coal company in the second half of the 19th century. These houses were usually one and a half stories high with a roofed porch across the front. There were no cellars but the houses were set on low stone foundations. The frame was constructed of timbers mortised and tenoned together with horizontal weatherboard on the outside. Inside they were plastered and painted while the outside was white washed. Rent for such a building cost a miner approximately \$3.50 per month which amounted to a little over 12% of a miner's annual income.³

1 Katherine A. Harvey, *The Best Dressed Miners*, (Ithaca, N.Y., 1969) p.11

2 Ibid p.221

3 Ibid p. 82

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Allegany County Land Records, Cumberland, Maryland
Harvey, Katherine A. The Best Dressed Miners, Ithaca, New York,
Cornell University Press, 1969.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .38 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

John Nelson, Joan Baldwin & Steve Beale

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Sites Survey

DATE

12/8/76

STREET & NUMBER

507 National Highway

TELEPHONE

777-8991

CITY OR TOWN

LaVale.

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

INVENTORY NO. A1-V-A-046

475/774

DATE: 11/20/76

.38 acre

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor

NAME OF PROPERTY: Borden Con. House / Shaft

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: Main St, Shaft. MD.

DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: South

NAME OF OWNER: George Whetstone 689-9426

ADDRESS: Rt # 1 Frostburg - Shaft

Frostburg MD 21532

STORIES: 1() 2() 3() 4() 5() 6() BAYS: 1() 2() 3() 4() 5() 6() 7() ()

WINGS, ADDITIONS: 1 story rear gable roof

Dwelling Shape: (square, cross, rectangular)

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)
- BRICK: Bond type- common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
- STONE: Bond type- rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
- LOG
- Other: Coverings insul brick

WALL FEATURES: BELT COURSE, PILASTERS, OTHERS Plain

FOUNDATIONS: HIGH, LOW, BRICK, STONE

WATER TABLE: NONE, PLAIN, BEVELED, MOULDED BRICK

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1() 2/2() 6/6() 9/6() 9/9() other()
pegged() nailed() wide() narrow() mitred() pediment()

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: replaced
HARDWARE: original() replaced()
FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN
Paneled, Verticle, Horizontal Boards

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: (crown, fascia, soffit, bed)
original() replaced() Rafter Ends, Modillions, Dentils, Frieze, Architrave

ROOF: GABLE FRONT, GABLE FLANK, HIP, SHED, MANSARD, GAMBREL, FLAT, FORMERS #
MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt original() replaced()

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed() hip() gable()

CHIMNEYS: NUMBER 1 BRICK() STONE() CORBELLED() original() replaced()
LOCATION: Flush end() Inside end() Outside end() Central() Interior()

ARCHES: Door and window: Keystone Flat, Segmental, Semicircular

COMMENTS:
Use - Residence
Significance - Arch, Industry
Date Constructed - 1850
Condition - Fair

Frm. Miller

Borden Mining Co. House

AL-II-A-046

2 miles west of Rt. 36 - Shaft

Frostburg, MD. - PA.

1:24,000

1949

AI-V-A-001

AI-V-A-011

AI-V-A-03

AI-V-A-033

SECTION VII

FROSTBURG

(Separate Map)

AI-V-A-050

AI-V-A-051

AI-V-A

AI-V-A

AI-V-A-01

AI-V-A-039

AI-V-A-024

AI-V-A-049

AI-V-A-043

AI-V-A-040

AI-V-A-045

AI-V-A-052

AI-V-A-046

AI-V-A-048

AI-V-A-047

AI-V-A-044

AI-V-A-042

AI-V-A-041

HISTORIC SITES DISTRIBUTION

SCALE 1:24,000



● = SIT

1:24,000
1 MILE
2.1 MILE



Bordon Coal Co. House

AI-V-A-046

Main St.

Shaft M.D.

John E. Nelson

11/19/76

Northwest