

AL-V-A-253  
Borden Mines Schoolhouse  
Borden Mines  
Private

1850-1879

The Borden Mines Schoolhouse is located on the eastern side of Route 36 at Borden Mines. The building is one story tall and measures eight bays wide and five bays deep. The frame walls are covered with plastic siding.

The Borden Mining Company built the schoolhouse between 1850 and 1879. The company constructed a village near its mine north of Frostburg in the late 1840's. In 1879 the company conveyed this building and another schoolhouse in Borden Shaft to the county school board.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Borden Mines Schoolhouse

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Route 36 at Borden Mines

CITY, TOWN

Borden Mines

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany County

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

| CATEGORY  | OWNERSHIP                                   | STATUS                                       | PRESENT USE   |
|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT               | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED          | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE              | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH               | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS    | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE                   | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION | <input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE          | <input type="checkbox"/> PARK                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT                 | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS         | <input type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED   | <input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED    | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT                |
|   |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO       | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS                    |
|   |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT                   |
|   |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL                   |
|   |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION               |
|   |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY                     |
|   |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER                        |

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Robert Winebrenner

Telephone #: (301) 689-6512

STREET & NUMBER

Route 2, Box 244

CITY, TOWN

Frostburg

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
Maryland 21532

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 425

Folio #: 212

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland 21502

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

AL 14 353

| 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

This rectangular schoolhouse, now a dwelling, is one story tall and eight bays wide on the southeastern-facing facade. Wall construction is frame covered with plastic siding. The building rests on a high foundation of precast cement block in an artificial stone pattern. The gable hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Eaves consist of an aluminum cornice, soffit and frieze.

Three porches, two on the facade and one on the northwestern elevation, have hipped roofs supported by capped square columns on the facade and by square posts on the northwestern elevation. Two entrances on the facade include one light transoms and modern doors. Two entrances are located in the center of the northwestern elevation. Windows are tall 6/6 wooden sashes. Two brick chimneys with tall stacks and decoratively corbeled caps are located inside end. A smaller brick chimney located on the interior of the building has a corbeled cap.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

| 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY               | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              |   |  |

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The public school system of Allegany County was established in 1865 but it was not until the 1870's that adequate public schoolhouses were erected. Until that time some of the coal companies operating in the George's Creek mining region provided schools for their miners' children. Many of the schoolhouses in the region were built by coal companies and later deeded to the Board of School commissioners. Many contemporary observers noted the intelligence and the high rate of literacy of the mining population even before the establishment of the school system. (Harvey pp 107-111 and "school properties")

The Borden Mines Schoolhouse was built between 1850 and 1879 by the Borden Mining company. The company built a village around its mine north of Frostburg in the late 1840's. (Scarf p. 1477) In 1879 the company conveyed this building and the school in Borden Shaft to the school board. The deed mentions "the school house erected" on the Borden Mines school lot. (Land Records) During the mid-twentieth century the county abandoned the school and the property reverted to the Borden Mining Company which sold it as a dwelling.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Allegany County Land Records, Liber : 53, Folio: 12.  
Harvey, Katherine A. Best Dressed Miners: Life and Labor in the MD Coal Region, 1835-1910. Ithica: Cornell University Press, 1969.  
Scharf, John T. History of Western MD. Volume II, Philadelphi: L.H. Everts Co., 1882.  
Unpublished document, "School Properties" Allegany County Board of Education, Cumberland, Maryland, p. 7.  
CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

David A. Dorsey, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Bureau of Mines

DATE

May 1981

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle, Shaw House

TELEPHONE

(301) 269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

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

Title Search

AL-V-A-253

Borden Mines Schoolhouse

Liber 425, Folio 212

Grantee: Robert Winebrenner

November 2, 1968

Grantor: Borden Mining Company

Notes: "The Old Schoolhouse"

Liber 53, Folio 12

Grantee: Board of School Commissioners of Allegany Co. March 5, 1879

Grantor: Borden Mining Company Consideration: \$1,100.79

Notes: By this deed the Borden Mining Company conveyed schoolhouse lots in Borden Mines and Borden Shaft to the Public School System. The Deed mentions "The schoolhouse erected on said lot" in Borden Mines. The Deed also carried a provision that if the school board should cease to use the property as a public school, the lot was to revert to the Borden Mining Company. This provision was apparently carried out.



Frostburg, MD-PA  
USGS 7.5 Minute Series  
Scale 1:24,000  
1949; photorevised 1974

AL-V-A-253  
Borden Mines Schoolhouse  
Route 36 at Borden Mines



AL-V-A-253

Borden Mines Schoolhouse

Allegany Co., MD

David A. Dorsey 12/80

Southern Facade

AL-V-A-253



AL-V-A-253

Borden Mines Schoolhouse

Allegany Co., MD

David A. Dorsey 12/80

Northern Facade

AL-V-A-253