

SUMMARY

HA-921

Annie M. Stearn House
3707 Rock Run Road
Havre de Grace, Md. 21078

This 2-story, frame house was built in 2 sections: the 3 bay section on the West is older and may be log. Located right at the crossroads of Level, Annie Stearn's house along with Foard's Blacksmith shop is a landmark of the 19th century Village known as Hopewell's Cross Roads. The shed northeast of the house was a cabinetmaker's and later a harness shop. At that time this intersection of the roads to Havre de Grace and Rock Run was a busy trading center, and although there is little commercial activity now, the village has remained relatively undisturbed.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Annie M. Stearn House
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
3707 Rock Run Rd. (east side of intersection of Rock Run and Level Village Roads)
CITY, TOWN Level VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
STATE 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 type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Annie M. Stearn Telephone #: _____
STREET & NUMBER 3707 Rock Run Road
CITY, TOWN Havre de Grace, Md. VICINITY OF STATE, zip code 21078

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE Harford County Courthouse Liber #: _____
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC Folio #: _____
STREET & NUMBER 40 South Main Street
CITY, TOWN Bel Air, Maryland 21014 STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE _____
DATE _____
____FEDERAL ____STATE ____COUNTY ____LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS _____
CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

SA-201

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Annie M. Stearn House

This 2-story, 2-part frame clapboard-and perhaps part log-house is located on the south side of Rock Run Road, just east of the intersection with Old Level Road in Level.

The present front facade faces north, although the south facade may have been the main one at one time, and the gable roof ridgeline runs east-west. The oldest section, 3 bays wide and 1 room deep, measuring 16'2" by 24'3" with a brick chimney in the west end, is on the east; it is said to be log and the width of the walls suggest that indeed it may be. The later (and lower) 2 bay by 1 bay section is 15'10" X 16'2" on the west, with the north and south sides of both sections flush. The cornice of both sections is raked with exposed eaves, and there are wooden shingles in the west gable of the east section. Most windows have 6/6 sash, with 3/6 sash in the 2nd story of the east section and 6-light knee windows in the 2nd story of the west section. The south facade has wide plain window trim, the north facade has narrow beaded trim. A one-story shed-roofed porch with turned posts spans the south facade, where there are 3 entrances: in the westernmost bay of the west section and in the center and east bays of the east section. The entrance in the center bay of the north facade is sheltered by a one-bay, shed-roofed portico. A bulkhead in the east end provides access to the basement, which has full log joists and sill.

The interior contains 2 rooms in the east section, with a winder staircase in the south-west corner and one room in the west section. There is a chimney and stove flue in the west wall of the east section.

Northeast of the house is a frame shed, once a cabinetmaker's, then a harness shop. Measuring 16'6" by 26'6", the 2-story gable-roofed shed has a 1-story 8' by 16'8" shed-roofed lean-to on the south side. The shed has a hewn post and beam pegged frame and tree rafters pegged together. Originally open to the roof, a second floor and staircase were recently installed. Several curious features that should be noted are: the row of closely-spaced square and round pegs in one of the joists, the intermittent, but regular-sized holes in the vertical board exterior sheathing; and the pintel hinges and wrought latch on the west entrance, probably made in Foard's blacksmith shop across the road.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
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 checked="" 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
Annie Stearn House

The eastern section, perhaps log, of this 2 part house may date from before 1858, although historical research is indefinite. The 1858 Jennings and Herrick Map indicates 2 structures near this location - one belonging to Gallion, the other to Mitchell. The 1878 Martinet's Map, crowded with names around the cross roads, may indicate the presence of J. Bowman here. The title search cannot trace the land before 1888 when James Bowman was involved in an equity dispute involving Henry Bowman's estate, (will dated 1871) and is indicated as buying and selling a number of lots around Level.

The advertisement in the Harford Democrat on July 9, 1859, for William S. Bowman's Cabinet Making and Undertaking Enterprise, which was probably housed in the shed, informs "his friends and the public generally that he is now prepared for manufacturing all articles in the above line at Hopewell Cross Roads, Harford County, and would respectfully solicit the patronage of the community. He will manufacture to order bureaus, Beadsteads (sic), wash stands, work stands, tables, cradles and c . . . particularly attended to, coffins of all kinds, furnished to good order, walnut, mahogany, cherry, poplar, and c . . . "

In 1889, the lot was sold to Rachel L. Rogers², and from 1903 until 1914 it belonged to Jon. Sheridan and his heirs. The house was purchased in 1916 by Luther and Annie Stearn and is still the residence of Annie Stearn.³

Along with Foard's Blacksmith Shop and Bradfield's store, the Annie Stearn house is a Landmark of turn of the century Level. The crossroads (known as Hopewell X Roads) at Level where the road to Havre de Grace and to Rock Run intersect was a busy commercial center in the second half of the 19th century. Although there is little commercial activity there now, Level has retained a strong identity as a Village and remains much as it was at the beginning of the twentieth century.

1. Equity Case #3751
2. Liber 62, Folio 529
3. Liber 150, Folio 343

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land, will, and equity records of Harford County
1858 Jennings and Herrick Map
1878 Martenet's Map
Interview with Annie Stearn July, 1980

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

Natalie Shivers

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning

DATE

8/80

STREET & NUMBER

45 South Main Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air,

STATE

Maryland 21014

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

ANNIE M. STEARN HOUSE

TITLE SEARCH

HA - 921

1. 242/403	Nov. 11, 1936	Grantor: Jon. Young of the First National Bank of Havre de Grace Grantee: Annie M. Stearn - (Widow of Leonard W. Stearn) Sum: \$1,875. Acreage: 2 Acres
2. 150/343	Jan. 17, 1916	Grantor: George A. Hughes Grantee: L. Stearn Acreage: 2 Acres
3. 147/139	Sept. 16, 1914	Grantor: Oliver A. Sheridan et al Grantee: G. Hughes Acreage: 2 Acres
4. 117/88	Nov. 12, 1904	Grantor: Rich. Sheridan et al heirs of Jon. Sheridan Grantee: Luther Sheridan Acreage: 2 Acres
5. 109/61	Feb. 21, 1903	Grantor: Rachel Rogers & husband Grantee: Jon. Sheridan Acreage: 2 Acres
6. 62/529	Feb. 4, 1889	Grantor: A. Preston Gilbert and Albert Bowman Grantee: Rachel L. Rogers
7. Equity Case #3751	1888	Jas. H. Bowman vs. Henry C. Bowman Settlement of Estate of Henry Bowman

55
1309214304

H-9 921

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: *Annie Stearns' log house*

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: *South east corner Old Level and Rock Run Rds*

CITY OR TOWN: *Level*

STATE: *Md* CODE: COUNTY: *Harford* CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Building</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Occupied</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: <u>Restricted</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Private</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Park</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Private Residence</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME: *Miss Annie Stearns*

STREET AND NUMBER: *Level - Harve de Grace RFD*

CITY OR TOWN: *Maryland* STATE: *21078* CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:

STREET AND NUMBER: *HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND*

CITY OR TOWN: *BERLIN* STATE: *MARYLAND* CODE:

ACREAGE APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

STATE:

COUNTY:

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

 (Check One)
 Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

INTEGRITY

 (Check One) (Check One)
 Altered Unaltered Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This small house in two parts is log
 and frame construction covered with
 clapboard. Overall the larger section is frame,
 2 stories, 3 bays by 2; the smaller part
 1½ stories, 1 bay by 1, of log. Facing
 south, the A roof ridge lines run east-west.
 A chimney rises from a location just east
 of the smaller section and rises from the
 SE exterior of this log part, now enclosed
 in the frame section. Windows on the
 first floor have 6 lights over 6, upstairs
 3 over 6.

SIGNIFICANCE				
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
Pre-Columbian <input type="checkbox"/>	16th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	18th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	20th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	
15th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	17th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	19th Century <input type="checkbox"/>		
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)				
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
Aboriginal	Education <input type="checkbox"/>	Political <input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/>	
Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	osophy <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
Art <input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Human-	_____	
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	itarian <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Music <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)				
<p style="font-size: 1.2em;">This simple house was stands on a road that once led from the Susquehanna bridge at Rock Run linking Philadelphia and Baltimore, and dates from times when Leed (also known as Hopewell) was a busy village with many employed in blacksmithing and wheelwright work, and at the <u>ing</u> across the street.</p>				

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Mastnet Map of Harford County dated 1878 shows this as Mitchell's property.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Jean S. Ewing

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust DATE: _____

STREET AND NUMBER: 2424 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Md CODE: 21404

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____



HA-921
Annie M. Stearn Log House
3707 Rock Run Road
Harford County Dept. of Planning map
from aerial photos taken
March, 1990

Historic Area Maryland



ABERDEEN USGS QUADRANGLE MAP



HA-921

Annie M. Stearn House
Havre de Grace, Md. 21078
8/80
Natalie Shivers
North



HA-921

Annie M. Stearn House
Havre de Grace, Md. 21078
8/80
Natalie Shivers
South



HA-921

Annie M. Stearn House
Havre de Grace, Md. 21078
8/80
Natalie Shivers
Harness Shop: Northwest .