

ACHS SUMMARY FORM

1. Name: Staley Boarding House

2. Planning Area/Site Number: 13/32/4 3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 6  
 Ten Mile Creek H.D. I-11

4. Address: 21000 Ten Mile Creek Road, Boyds

5. Classification Summary

Category <u>building</u>	Previous Survey Recording <u>M-NCPPC</u>
Ownership <u>private</u>	Title and Date: <u>Inventory of Historical Sites - 1976</u>
Public Acquisition <u>N.A.</u>	
Status <u>occupied</u>	
Accessible <u>no</u>	Federal <u>    </u> State <u>X</u> County <u>X</u> Local <u>    </u>
Present use <u>private residence</u>	

6. Date: 1885

7. Original Owner:

8. Apparent Condition

a. fair b. altered c. original site

9. Description: This building has 3 full stories plus a basement partly above grade. The exterior walls are covered by gray novelty siding and the foundation is fieldstone. There are porches on the east, southwest, and northwest elevations. The porch on the east elevation is screened in and extends about one-third across the east side. A later two story cinderblock addition was built at the northeast corner. The house has a mansard roof, covered by raised seam metal roofing. The roof is pierced by dormer windows of six-over-six lights and two-over-two lights. The house sits on a hillside which rises behind it to a ridge. On this ridge, northwest of the house, stands a barn. It is supported by concrete blocks. There are three louvered dormer windows to provide ventilation for the barn.

10. Significance: This is an example of a spinoff from the railroad era. A business was created and prospered because of its location near a busy train stop. The operation declined when motor cars replaced the Washington tourist's dependence on the railroad. In 1885, Fleet and Mary Jane Staley of Frederick, seeing an opportunity to create a summer resort in the Boyds area, bought 107 1/4 acres of land along Ten Mile Creek, a mile from Boyds station. They built this large, 3-story boarding house which became popular with Washingtonians who took advantage of the railroad to escape from the city's summer heat to the high cool countryside. Guests swam, helped farm, and relaxed in the rural atmosphere. When motor cars replaced the railroad in popularity, rail-related resorts such as this one lost their patrons to tourist homes built along the highway. The house was purchased in 1951 by the present owners, who altered it considerably. It is within the buffer zone of the proposed WSSC lake at Boyds.

11. Researcher and date researched: Peg Coleman - 4/79 Arch. Description  
 Candy Reed

12. Compiler: Peg Coleman 13. Date Compiled: 7/79 14. Designation Approval     

15. Acreage: 113.60 acres

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M:13-32-4  
Ten Mile Creek  
Historic Dist.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Staley Boarding House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

21000 Ten Mile Creek Road

8

CITY, TOWN

Boysds

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

**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	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

V. B. Keller & L. Jenson

Telephone #: 972-0183

STREET & NUMBER

SAME

CITY, TOWN

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

20720  
STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 1531

Folio #: 578

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Locational Atlas of Historical Sites in Mont. Co.

DATE

1975

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

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**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

Located on the west side of Ten Mile Creek Road, and facing east, this late nineteenth century boarding house has been gutted inside to provide bathrooms, closets and cupboard space which were not originally included.

The building has three full stories plus a basement partly above grade. The exterior walls are covered by gray novelty siding and the foundation is fieldstone. There are porches on the east, southwest, and northwest elevations. The porch on the east elevation is screened in and extends about one-third across the east side. A later two story cinderblock addition was built at the northeast corner. The house has a mansard roof, covered by raised seam metal roofing. The roof is pierced by dormer windows of six-over-six lights and two-over-two lights.

The house sits on a hillside which rises behind it to a ridge. On this ridge, northwest of the house, stands a barn. It is supported by concrete blocks. There are three louvered dormer windows to provide ventilation for the barn.

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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) <b>Local History</b>	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES      1885

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Staley Boarding House is an example of a spinoff from the rail-road era.

In 1885 Fleet and Mary Jane Staley of Frederick, seeing an opportunity to create a summer resort in the Boyds area, bought 107 $\frac{1}{4}$  acres of land along Ten Mile Creek from William W. Thompson. The Metropolitan Branch of the B & O Railroad opened in 1873 and stopped frequently at Boyd's Station a mile away. (1) Borrowing money, (2) Staleys' built this large, three-story boarding house to accommodate visitors. These guests were mainly Washington people who took advantage of the railroad to escape from the city's summer heat to the high cool countryside. (3)

Staley created a grassy park for his guests on the banks of Ten Mile Creek, which soon became called, "Fleet Staley's Beauty Spot."

Each fall he diverted water from the stream into a small pond, and then in winter sawed and stored ice from the pond so that in summer his boarders would have a sure supply of ice cream and iced tea. In other respects, too, the place was self-sufficient: all the food served was raised on the farm, and boarders often helped milk the cows or pick the peas.

The Staleys' business prospered. Many guests became regular patrons. One former boarder has reported that her grandparents sponsored a family vacation at the Staleys' for over 35 years. Her own father and mother had met, courted, and eloped there one summer, and she herself was born there. The Staleys' kept in touch with their regular boarders, and sent them a gift of home made goodies for Christmas. The box contained scrapple, "pork belly," sausage, cake and cookies. (5)

When motor cars replaced the railroad as the more popular mode of transportation, rail-related resorts such as this one lost their patrons to tourist homes built along highways.

The Staley Boarding House was subsequently sold to Raymond O. Butt, Lily and Ira Studebaker, and to the present owner in 1951. However the Staley family remained in Boyds where today three grandsons of Fleet and Mary Jane operate a prosperous dairy agribusiness.

The Fleet Staley Beauty Spot was sold to M-NCPPC, and is planned to be included in a proposed lake. (6)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Derring, Mrs. Harry. 8977 140th Way No., Seminole, Fla. 33542.  
 Personal communication.  
 Land Records of Montgomery County.  
 Staley, Mrs. Nell. Barnesville Road, Boyds, 20720. Interview.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 113.60

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

Margaret M. Coleman

Candace Reed, Arch. Desc.

ORGANIZATION

~~Sugarloaf Regional Trails~~

DATE

4/79

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland 20753

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

Footnotes:

1. JA 1/158; December 30, 1885. The parcel included parts of three older tracts, "Farewell," "The Addition to Part of Conclusion," and "Resurvey on Troublesome," previously owned by James H. and Sarah Hawkins, Cambden and Sarah Nicholls, and Basil Burdette.
2. JA 1/159; January 5, 1886; JA 7/353, January 22, 1895.
3. Washington Star, June 26, 1886.
4. The Staleys were able to discharge their mortgages by 1904. (Margin of the mortgage, JA 1/159 and JA 7/353.)
5. Former Staley boarder, Mrs. Harry Derring; Seminole, Florida. Personal communication, 1978.
6. Henningson, Durham and Richardson; Bi-County Water Supply Study Evaluation of Alternatives. Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission; 1978.