

ABSTRACT  
WA-II-039  
Shifler House  
Benevola  
private

1831

This limestone house is significant for its architecture. Since it was also used as a store during much of its history, it is important for its contribution to local commerce. Additionally the house is situated along route 40-A, the National Pike and thus is associated with that early highway.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

2202865404

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

**Shifler House**

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

**East of Route 40-A**

CITY, TOWN

**Benevola**

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

**Boonsboro**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

**Maryland**

COUNTY

**Washington**

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

**OWNERSHIP**

**STATUS**

**PRESENT USE**

\_\_\_DISTRICT

\_\_\_PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

\_\_\_AGRICULTURE

\_\_\_MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

\_\_\_UNOCCUPIED

\_\_\_COMMERCIAL

\_\_\_PARK

\_\_\_STRUCTURE

\_\_\_BOTH

\_\_\_WORK IN PROGRESS

\_\_\_EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

\_\_\_SITE

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

**ACCESSIBLE**

\_\_\_ENTERTAINMENT

\_\_\_RELIGIOUS

\_\_\_OBJECT

\_\_\_IN PROCESS

\_\_\_YES: RESTRICTED

\_\_\_GOVERNMENT

\_\_\_SCIENTIFIC

\_\_\_BEING CONSIDERED

\_\_\_YES: UNRESTRICTED

\_\_\_INDUSTRIAL

\_\_\_TRANSPORTATION

NO

\_\_\_MILITARY

\_\_\_OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

**James Shifler**

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

**Box 188, Route # 1**

CITY, TOWN

**Boonsboro**

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
**Maryland 21713**

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

**Washington County Court House**

Liber #: 270

Folio #: 206

STREET & NUMBER

**West Washington Street**

CITY, TOWN

**Hagerstown**

STATE

**Maryland**

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_FEDERAL \_\_\_STATE \_\_\_COUNTY \_\_\_LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

WA-II-039

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input checked="" 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 > 50%	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED    DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house is located on the east side of Route 40-A at Benevola, north-west of Boonsboro in Washington County, Maryland. It is situated on a bank above the road and faces west.

The dwelling is a two story, five bay dwelling constructed of roughly coursed local limestone. A modern addition of frame extends to the rear. Also added is a high porch along the south end elevation set atop a field-stone wall. The east slope of the roof has been raised along part of its length with an extension of stone. A vertical seam in the masonry between the third and fourth bays from the north end of the house indicates that the structure was built in sections. A date plaque set between the upper story windows of the second and third bays from the north end is inscribed with the year 1831. Other evidence in the masonry suggests alteration of some doors and windows in the front elevation.

Windows have narrow frames, some of which hold Victorian period two over two pane sashes while others have six over six or nine over six light sashes. Dormers have been added to the west slope of the roof.

Doors are located in the first and third bays of the ground story at the front elevation. Both have received modern trim. Evidence in the masonry suggests that the fourth bay was a door which has been changed to a window. Above this is a door at the second story level. At the rear elevation doors are located at the second or ground story level.

The roof is covered with sheet metal and asphalt shingles. Brick chimneys are located inside each gable end and at the jointure of the two stone sections. The eaves are finished with boxing trimmed with a course of molding. The house is in excellent condition and is located on a tract containing 1.07 acres.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

WA-II-039

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
.00-1499	<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    1831

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This limestone house is significant for its architecture. Since it was also used as a store during much of its history, it is important for its contribution to local commerce. Additionally the house is situated along route 40-A, the National Pike and thus is associated with that early highway.

Constructed of stone and dating from the first half of the 19th century, this house is representative of a major architectural group in the Cumberland Valley in which native limestone is used as the construction material. The owners of the house possess an 1842 ledger for the store located in the building. Earlier in the 20th century a gas station was operated at this site.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.07 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

**Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant**

ORGANIZATION

**Washington County Historical Sites Survey**

DATE

**March 1976**

STREET & NUMBER

**Court House Annex**

TELEPHONE

**791-3065**

CITY OR TOWN

**Hagerstown**

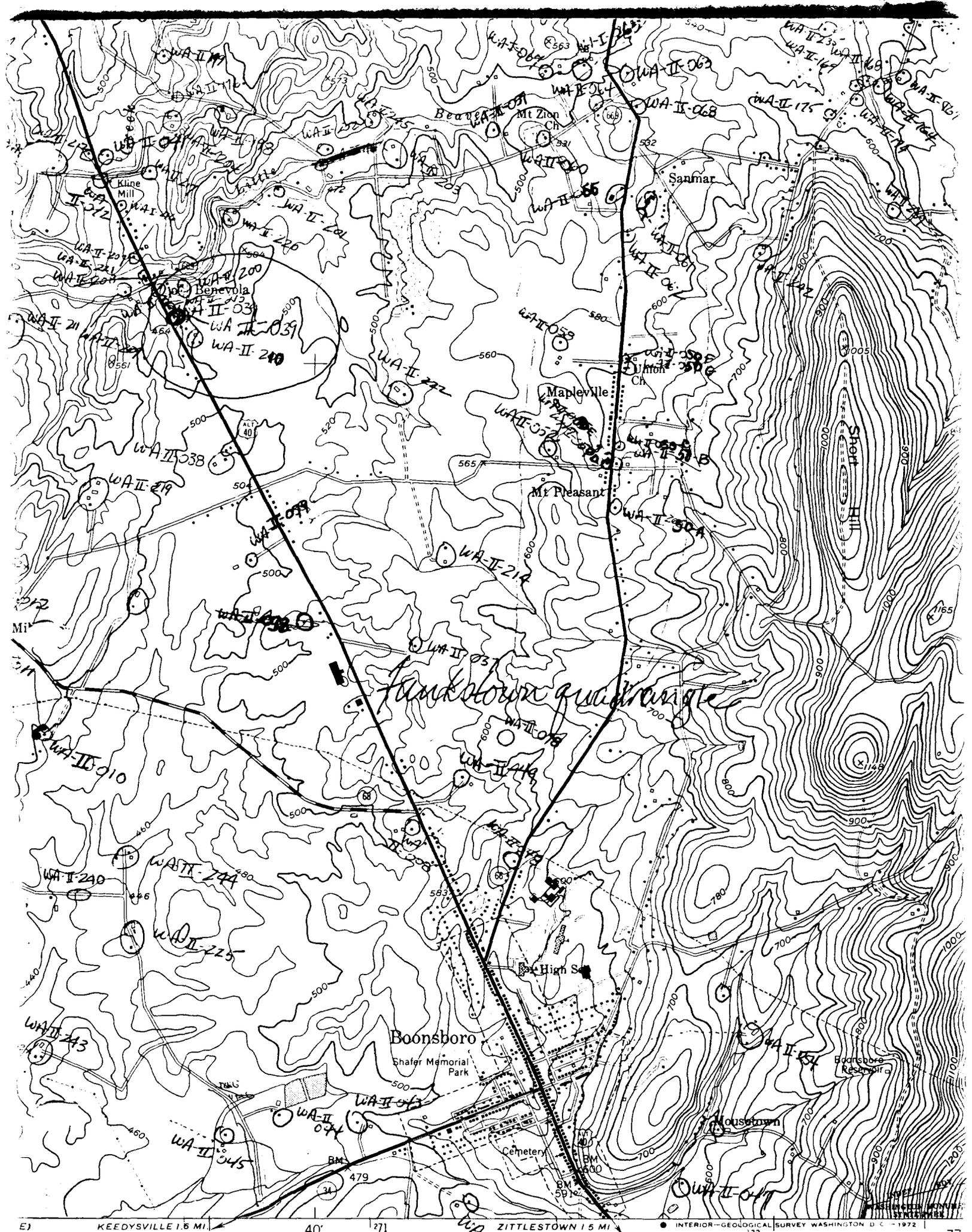
STATE

**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





WA-11-087

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SEA 413

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA II-039

N.W.

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CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-039

E.

Sept 1975

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CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY