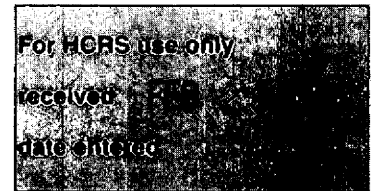


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections



**1. Name**

historic Clifton Park; Albert C. Greene House

and/or common  Borden Mines Superintendent's House (preferred)

**2. Location**

street & number Maryland Route 36  
M D 36 n/a not for publication

city, town Frostburg  vicinity of  congressional district Sixth

state Maryland code 24 county Allegany code 001

**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"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Dr. and Mrs. Ken Roberts

street & number Box 192

city, town Frostburg n/a vicinity of state Maryland 21532

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Allegany County Courthouse

street & number 30 Washington Street

city, town Cumberland state Maryland 21502

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Maryland Historical Trust  
Inventory of Historic Sites has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1975  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

# 7. Description

AL-V-A-011

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____ n/a
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

## Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Number of Resources		Number of previously listed	
Contributing	Noncontributing	National Register properties	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings	included in this nomination:	<u>0</u>
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites		
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> structures	Original and historic functions	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects	and uses: residential	
<u>3</u>	<u>0</u> Total		

### DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The Borden Mines Superintendent's House is a large frame Italianate villa located on Maryland Route 36 near Frostburg in Allegany County, Maryland. Constructed in the third quarter of the 19th century as the residence of Albert C. Greene, superintendent of the Borden Mining Company from 1850 to 1882, the house faces southeast and consists of several contemporaneous sections. The main section of the house is two stories high, four bays long and three bays deep with a pitched gable roof. A hipped roof two story section extends to the southwest and is set flush with the rear gable of the main house, forming an L-plan dwelling. A square three story tower with a pyramidal roof is set into the apex of the L. This tower serves as entrance and stair hall and provides the strongest architectural feature of the house. A two-part one story wing with hipped roofs extends to the west of the main house. The southeast gable facade and the southeast wall of the three story tower form the principal facade. A large bay window with triple 4/4 sash with round-arched lintels projects from the center of the southeast gable wall on the first floor. On the second floor, a large 9/6 round-arched window is centered over the bay window, flanked by a plain 4/4 sash window on each side. The facade is covered with plain horizontal weatherboards. The three story tower projects forward approximately two feet beyond the southeast gable wall. The entrance door is centered on the southeast wall, with a round-arched opening and semicircular transom. A small window is centered on the second story stair landing and a larger window is centered on the third story. The main section of the house and the tower have bracketed cornices; the oversailing eaves of the southwest L have undecorated projecting rafter ends. The interior plan is asymmetrical, consisting of an L shaped entrance and stair hall with four rooms radiating from it to the northeast and northwest and two more rooms in the one story addition to the west. The stair hall and the southeast room are the two most significant rooms in the house. The entrance tower holds the open-string stair with a plain walnut rail, turned walnut newel and tapered balusters. In the southeast room, there is a fireplace with a white marble mantel centered on the northwest wall, flanked by paneled doors opening into two rooms to the rear. Original architrave trim survives in every first floor room except the large room in the center of the rear facade. All of the original architrave and baseboard trim survives on the second floor, as well as the paneled doors, one white marble mantel and one plain wood mantel.

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National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
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Borden Mines Superintendent's House  
Continuation sheet Allegany County, Maryland Item number 7 Page 1

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Borden Mines Superintendent's House is located on the northwest side of Maryland Route 36 approximately one mile northeast of U. S. Route 40, and one-fourth mile northeast of the Western Maryland Railroad viaduct. The house is sited on the side of the steep hill that rises to the northwest of Route 36 and is reached via a dirt lane approximately 200 yards long.

The house is a large frame Italianate structure consisting of several contemporaneous sections. The main section of the house is two stories high, four bays long and three bays deep with a pitched gable roof. This forms the northeast section of the house and is oriented perpendicular to the hillside with the principal gable facing southeast. A hipped roof two story section extends to the southwest and is set flush with the rear gable of the main house, forming an L-plan dwelling. A square three story tower with a pyramidal roof is set into the apex of the L. This tower serves as entrance and stair hall and provides the strongest architectural feature of the house. A two-part one story wing with hipped roofs extends to the west of the main house.

The southeast gable facade and the southeast wall of the three story tower form the principal facade of the house. A large bay window with triple 4/4 sash projects from the center of the southeast gable wall on the first floor. The 4/4 sash windows have round-arched lintels and are trimmed with plain architrave trim embellished with simple scrolled brackets below the sill. On the second floor, a large 9/6 round-arched window is centered over the bay window, flanked by a plain 4/4 sash window on each side. The facade is covered with plain horizontal weatherboards; the projecting bay is covered with flush siding. A beveled horizontal "baseboard" conceals the low brick and stone foundation at the base of the wall. The gable eaves and the projecting bay eaves oversail and are boxed in, with decorative brackets below the soffit applied against a wide, plain frieze.

The three story tower is ten and one-half feet square and projects forward approximately two feet beyond the southeast gable wall. The entrance door is centered on the southeast wall, with a round-arched opening and semicircular transom. The door architrave consists of a plain fascia with a bold, flattened ogee backband. A small window is centered on the second story stair landing and a larger window is centered on the third story. The second story window consists of a pair of two-light casements set in a plain frame with flattened ogee backband trim crossetted at all four corners. The third floor window is segmentally arched, with a pair of five-light casements and architrave trim that matches the front door. A small balcony with a decorative balustrade originally projected in front of this window, but the balustrade has been removed, leaving a pent-like overhang supported by scrolled brackets. The plain siding, "baseboard" foundation and the bracketed cornice of the hipped tower roof all match the southeast gable previously described.

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The southwest wall of the tower matches the southeast wall except there is no door or window opening on the first floor and no balcony below the third floor window.

The northeast and northwest walls of the tower project up one story above the roof of the main house. There are no openings in the northwest wall; a pair of five-light, round-arched casement windows are centered in the northeast wall.

The northeast facade of the southeast section of the house is four bays long. The first floor openings extend to within six inches of floor level and open onto a one story hip-roof porch with square columns that extends the length of this facade. The two southeast openings are fitted with paired three-light casement doors below a two-light transom. The two northwest openings are fitted with large 6/6 sash below single light transoms. There are four 4/4 windows ranged across the second story. The siding and bracketed cornice on this facade matches the southeast gable. A large brick chimney is centered on the ridge of the gable roof, which runs parallel to this facade. The roof has recently been recovered with asphalt shingles.

The rear facade of the house, facing the hillside, is asymmetrical. Original openings include a pair of 4/4 windows at the extreme southwest end of the first story, a rear door to the left of the paired windows, and two 6/6 windows toward the southwest end of the second story. A bank of five 1/1 windows near the center of the first story are evidently the result of a later alteration.

The bracketed cornice is carried up the gable eaves of the main section of the house, but the eaves of the two story L section simply oversail and are supported with the projecting, undecorated second story ceiling joists.

The southeast wall of the L is two bays wide, with two large 6/6 windows on the first floor and a pair of smaller 6/6 windows on the second floor. The plain siding matches the rest of the building; the cornice is boxed and supported by the rafter ends. The first story of the southwest wall of the L is concealed by a one story hip-roof wing. A single 4/4 window is centered on the second floor of the L.

The one story frame wing consists of two parts, each forming one room. The siding, windows, and cornice incorporate materials that match or complement the main house and the L.

The interior plan is asymmetrical, consisting of an L shaped entrance and stair hall with four rooms radiating from it to the northeast and northwest and two more rooms in the one story addition to the west.

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The stair hall and the southeast room are the two most significant rooms in the house. The stair rises from the southwest end of the hall and follows the exterior wall to the stair hall, turning gracefully 90 degrees and rising to the second story hall in the tower. It is an open-string stair with a plain walnut rail, turned walnut newel and tapered balusters.

In the southeast room there is a fireplace centered on the northwest wall, flanked by paneled doors opening into two rooms to the rear. The fireplace is framed with a handsome white marble mantel and is fitted with a decorative cast iron insert.

Original architrave trim survives in every first floor room except the large room in the center of the rear facade. This room, the northeast room and the kitchen have been renovated and modernized to some extent.

On the second floor, there are five chambers radiating off the L-shaped stair hall. One small room to the southwest has been adapted as a modern bath. The other four rooms are sleeping chambers. The stair continues up to a small observation room in the third story of the tower. This run of the stair is simpler, with a closed-string carriage, square newel and square balusters.

All of the original architrave and baseboard trim survives on the second floor, as well as the paneled doors, one white marble mantel and one plain wood mantel.

Stone foundations for two early outbuildings survive immediately to the rear of the house.

Dr. and Mrs. Roberts, the present owners, have a copy of an early photograph taken from the east. The only apparent changes since this photo was taken are the removal of the balcony balustrade on the tower, removal of an elaborate Victorian balustrade on the northeast porch, and removal of louvered shutters on the windows.

# 8. Significance

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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** C. 1850 **Builder/Architect** unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)** Applicable Criteria: A, B, C  
 Applicable Exceptions: none  
 Level of Significance for Evaluation: local

The Borden Mines Superintendent's House is significant for its architecture and for its association with the industrial history of Maryland's coal region. Architecturally, the house is an exceptionally fine example of the Italianate Villa style, uncommon in rural Allegany County. While other Italianate-influenced houses in the county utilize traditional forms and plans with applied architectural detail, this house reflects a more academic design. Its asymmetrical plan, three-story tower, and many of its decorative details mark distinct changes from local tradition and are consistent with new designs advocated by professional architects in national publications. The design is clearly derived from Design XXII, "Villa in the Italian Style" in A. J. Downing's The Architecture of Country Houses. The house retains an unusually high degree of integrity, with the majority of its exterior and interior fabric and detail intact. The house derives additional significance from its association with Albert C. Greene, first superintendent of the Borden Mining Company, who held that position from 1850 to 1882. The Borden Mining Company was organized in 1846 and continues to operate in the present day; it is one of the oldest coal mining companies in the United States conducting business in its original corporate form under an original charter. Albert C. Greene played a significant role in the early development of the company. He successfully managed its operations throughout the disruptions of the Civil War and the subsequent period of formidable competition by large mining conglomerates, labor unrest, and economic depression.

For History and Supporting Documentation, see Continuation Sheet No. 4.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

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See Continuation Sheet No. 6

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 2.77 acres

Quadrangle name Frostburg, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A	1 8	6 7 8 2 1 0	4 3 9 2 4 6 1 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
---	--	--	--

D			
---	--	--	--

E			
---	--	--	--

F			
---	--	--	--

G			
---	--	--	--

H			
---	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 6

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

n/a			
-----	--	--	--

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Architectural Description:	Orlando Ridout, V	1982
	Historical Research:	Peter Kurtze	1983

organization	Maryland Historical Trust	date	November 1983
--------------	---------------------------	------	---------------

street & number	21 State Circle	telephone	301-269-2438
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city or town	Annapolis	state	Maryland 21401
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# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature	<i>J. M. McAlle</i>	date	2-8-84
---	---------------------	------	--------

title	STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER	date	
-------	-------------------------------------	------	--

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<i>John A. ...</i>	Entered in the National Register
Keeper of the National Register	date <i>3/22/84</i>
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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Borden Mines Superintendent's House

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The Borden Mines Superintendent's House is an exceptionally fine example of the Italianate Villa style and is one of the most elegant houses of this type in rural Allegany County. While many utilize traditional forms and plans with applied architectural detail, this house reflects a more academic design. The asymmetrical plan, the three story tower and a number of decorative details are a distinct change from local tradition and are consistent with new designs advocated by professional architects in national publications. The design is clearly derived from Design XXII, "Villa in the Italian Style," appearing in A. J. Downing's 1850 pattern book The Architecture of Country Houses. The house as built is faithful to the published plan and elevation, with only minor variations: an L-shaped stair hall supplants the pantry shown in Downing's plan; the veranda is rectangular, rather than semicircular; and the southwest wing is two, rather than three, bays wide. (See Continuation Sheet No. 7.)

The most notable features of the exterior include the entrance tower, the vertical board-and-batten siding with horizontal wood "water table," and the bracketed cornice. The first floor interior is largely intact, while the insertion of a modern bath is the only alteration that has occurred on the second floor. Details of particular interest include the handsome interior stair, marble mantels in the southeast rooms of the first and second floor, and the elaborate architrave trim found in the stair hall and the southeast room on the first floor.

Allegany County Land Records indicate that the house was the residence of Albert C. Greene, who came from Providence, Rhode Island in 1850 to take the position of superintendent with the newly-formed Borden Mine Company. The company had been organized in 1846 by the Borden family of Fall River, Massachusetts. Their intention, at least in part, was to provide coal to fuel their industrial enterprises in Fall River, which included an iron works, a steamboat line, a calico works, a gas company, and a railroad line. At the time of its incorporation, the company was among the three largest coal operations in Maryland in terms of the acreage it was authorized to hold. The company continues to operate today, making it one of the oldest coal mining companies in the United States conducting business in its original corporate form under an original charter.

Greene was elected to the company's Board of Directors in 1854. His achievements were assessed in an 1882 publication:

The prosperous condition of the mines at present is largely due to the administrative tact and energy of the superintendent, Albert C. Green (sic), who is generally recognized as being one of the most capable and intelligent coal operators in the country. Mr. Green enjoys the reputation of being an undisputed authority on the Allegany coal region, of which he is said to possess a more comprehensive knowledge than almost any other operator.<sup>1</sup>



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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

From its inception and through the Civil War period, the Borden mining Company relied upon the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal to transport its coal to market, and had constructed wharves at Alexandria to accommodate its fleet of over sixty canal boats. Albert C. Greene was a director of the C & O Canal Company as well. The records of that company include a body of correspondence from Greene that reflects the interrelated concerns of the mining and transportation industries in the coal region. Greene's letters from the Civil War period chronicle interruptions to navigation on the canal and stiff competition from coal companies in neighboring Pennsylvania, and document labor conditions in the mines and on the canal. This information was seldom reported by the local newspapers of the day.<sup>2</sup>

Greene's letters also illuminate events during the Depression of 1876-1877, when most of the miners in the region were put out of work, either by layoffs or by strikes called to protest pay cuts. At first, the Borden Mining Company was among the few to maintain the pre-existing rate of payment (65¢ per ton, but was unable long to withstand this economic drain in the face of increasing shipping costs, and suspended production April 27, 1876. Early in 1877, the company offered to put its miners back to work at 50¢ per ton - the rate at which some employees of a competing company had volunteered to return. Greene's compromise with the miners at 55¢ "for the present" enabled the company to resume operations.<sup>3</sup>

Greene also went on record in opposition to an 1876 bill requiring improvements to mine ventilation systems and creating the position of mine inspector.<sup>4</sup> His letters show him to be highly articulate; like the urbane design of his dwelling, they bear out the appraisal of a contemporary writer: "he is a gentleman of liberal education and cultured tastes . . ."<sup>5</sup>

The isolated rural setting of the house is unusual for a 19th-century mining company superintendent's residence in Western Maryland; such residences were typically located within densely-built mining communities which included workers' housing and commercial enterprises.

The tract on which the house was constructed remained in the hands of the Borden Mining Company until March 17, 1922, when it was subdivided and the 2.77 acres surrounding the house was sold to George W. Craig and Elizabeth B. Craig. The deed recording this transaction contains a specific reference to "the house formerly occupied by Albert C. Greene, now deceased . . . being a part of a larger tract of land belonging to the party of the first part hereunto known as 'Clifton'." (Allegany County Land Records, Liber 140, folio 127). (The date of Greene's death is unknown.) The same 2.77-acre parcel has remained associated with the house through all subsequent transfers.

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Footnotes

- <sup>1</sup>J. Thomas Scharf, History of Western Maryland. (Philadelphia, 1882; rpt. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1968), p. 1445.
- <sup>2</sup>Katherine A. Harvey, The Best Dressed Miners (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1969), pp. 150-164.
- <sup>3</sup>Harvey, p. 195
- <sup>4</sup>Harvey, pp. 212-213.
- <sup>5</sup>Scharf, p. 1445.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Downing, A. J. The Architecture of Country Houses. (New York, 1850; rpt. New York: Dover Publications, Inc. 1969).
- Harvey, Katherine A. The Best-Dressed Miners: Life and Labor in the Maryland Coal Region, 1835-1910. (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1969).
- Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Western Maryland. (Philadelphia, 1882; rpt. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1968).

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a stake standing 100 feet Northeasterly from the entrance from Maryland Route 36 to the road leading to the house, which stake stands 38.2 feet, south 42 degrees West from a medium-sized maple tree marked with 3 distinct notches; thence at the point of the needle as surveyed by William Hervey in February, 1922, North 49 degrees East 211.8 feet to a stake; thence North 34 degrees 15 minutes East 165.4 feet to a stake; thence North 32 degrees West 201.7 feet to a stake; thence South 65 degrees 15 minutes West 420.5 feet to the North edge of a farm road; thence with said road South 32 degrees 45 minutes East 245.5 feet; and thence South 58 degrees 30 minutes East 120 feet to the point of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property, 2.77 acres, comprises the house within its immediate setting. A heavily-forested area lies to the north and west, and a concentration of small-scale, modern dwellings lies to the south and east.

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From A. J. Downing, The Architecture of Country Houses (1850; rpt. New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1969).

DESIGN XXII  
VILLA IN THE ITALIAN STYLE

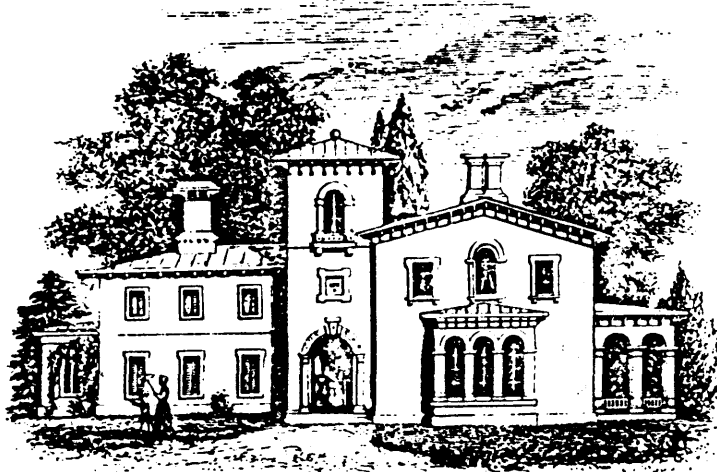
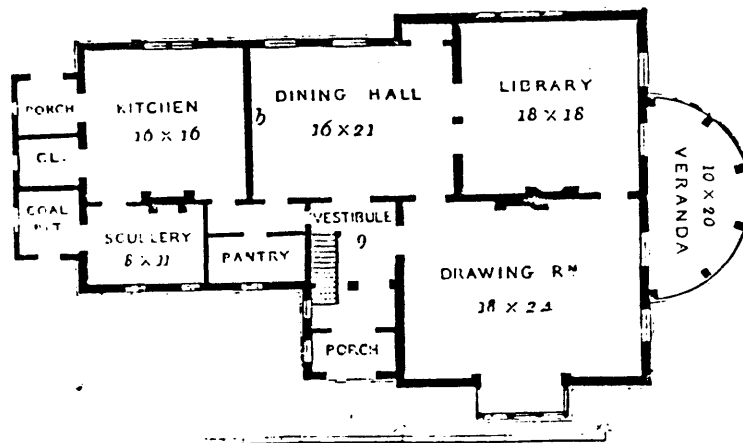
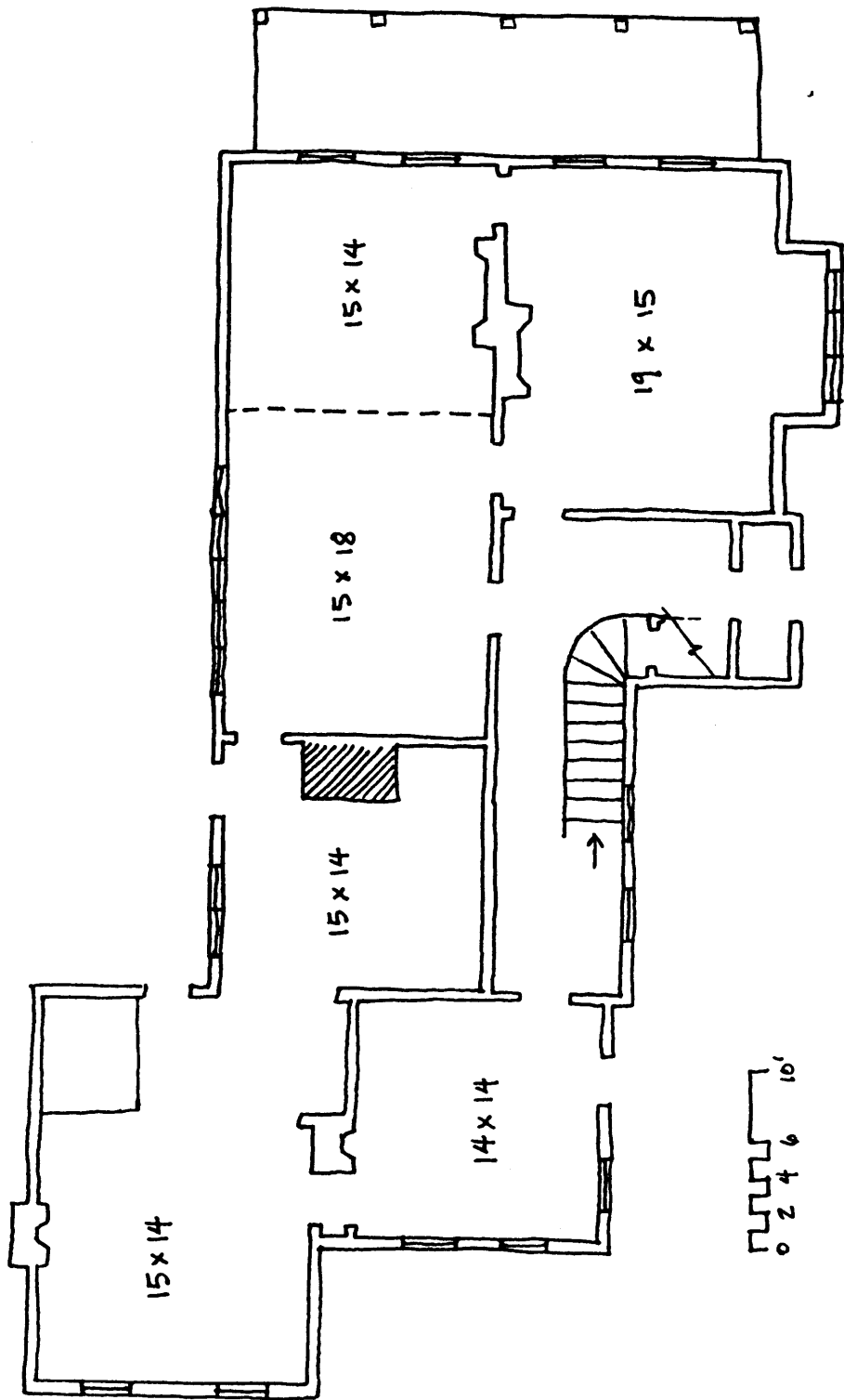


Fig. 119



PRINCIPAL FLOOR

Fig. 120



BORDEN MINES SUPERINTENDENT'S HOUSE  
 ALLEGANY COUNTY, MARYLAND  
 SKETCH PLAN, 1983