

## ACHS SUMMARY FORM

1. Name Tenmile Creek Stream Valley
2. Planning Area/Site Number 13/32
3. MNCPPC Atlas Reference Map 6  
I-12
4. Address Northwestern Montgomery County between Route 121 & West Old  
Baltimore Road
5. Classification Summary

Category Multiple Resource  
 Ownership Various  
 Public Acquisition In process  
 Status Occupied  
 Accessible Yes: restricted  
 Present use Agriculture, Park, Private Residence  
 Previous Survey Recording M-NCPPC Federal State X County X Local       
 (Title and date: Inventory of Historical Sites 1976 )

6. Date
7. Original Owner
8. Apparent Condition
- a. Excellent
- b. Altered
- c. Original Site

9. Description: Tenmile Creek Road, one of but a few dirt roads remaining in the County, winds past a nineteenth century schoolhouse, a slave cabin, a fire-roof house built on the site of a turreted mansion destroyed by fire in 1945, a Victorian summer boarding house and private park, a mid-nineteenth century mill site and pond, and a deserted, early road. The road leads through a green valley where jersey cows graze, up a gentle rise and around a bend where the trees meet overhead, through a ford, to the intersection with West Old Baltimore Road and a pond of pink and yellow water lilies. The creek valley contains numerous natural springs, many lined with watercress, meadows of wildflowers, surrounded with tree covered hills.

10. Significance: The valley of Tenmile Creek, immediately northwest of Boyds, Md. is an uncompromised historic & environmentally significant area that has succeeded in maintaining its character. Saved from development, it is now threatened by an impoundment. Historically the area contains potentially significant archeological sites -- possibly of prehistoric Indian culture -- associated with woodland settlements of eighteenth century tobacco planters, a mill site, pond, race & house, a large boarding house constructed to accommodate summer visitors after the area became accessible by railroad in 1873, & later structures erected by dairy farmers. Environmentally characterized by extensive forest areas, it provides superior habitat for a variety of wild animals, fish & aquatic life, as well as wildflowers. Tenmile Creek itself has excellent water quality, is a popular place for swimming & wading, & has even been used for baptismal services. The scenic roads of the area have recently been surveyed by Sugarloaf Regional Trails for the M. County Planning Board, but no adequate study has been given to the area's ecology, archeology or natural resources.

11. Date researched and researcher Peg Coleman, 1978
12. Compiler Peg Coleman
13. Date Compiled 1/79
14. Designation Approval
15. Acreage :

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Tenmile Creek Stream Valley

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER Northwestern Montgomery County between Route 121 and W.

CITY, TOWN Old Baltimore Road

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 8

Boyd's

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

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

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE M-NCPPC Locational Atlas of Historic Sites in Montgomery County, Md.

DATE 1975

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

M:13-32

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

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

The boundaries of the Tenmile Creek District extend 1 3/4 miles from W. Old Baltimore Road on the north to Route 121 on the south, with a width of 1/4 mile from Route 121 north 1 1/4 miles, using Tenmile Creek Road as the center. Then, on the west side of the road only, extends 1/2 mile to W. Old Baltimore Road in order to include the Pyles Mill. (See attached map.)

Tenmile Creek Road, one of but a few dirt roads remaining in the County, winds past a nineteenth century schoolhouse, a slave cabin, a fireproof house built on the site of a turreted mansion destroyed by fire in 1945, a Victorian summer boarding house and private park, a mid-nineteenth century mill site and pond, and a deserted, early road. The road leads through a green valley where jersey cows graze, up a gentle rise and around a bend where the trees meet overhead, through a ford, to the intersection with W. Old Baltimore Road and a pond of pink and yellow water lilies. The Tenmile Creek Road would be preserved in its entirety. The Creek valley contains numerous natural springs, many lined with watercress, meadows of wildflowers, surrounded with tree covered hills.

Located about twenty-five miles from Washington D.C., it is easily accessible.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Tenmile Creek Stream Valley

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

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Northwestern Montgomery County between Route 121 and W.

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Boyd's

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
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			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input checked="" 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

VARIOUS

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

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STATE

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M:13-32

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CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
—1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
—1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
—1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
—1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
—1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
—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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The valley of Tenmile Creek, immediately northwest of Boyds, Maryland, (see map) is an uncompromised historic and environmentally significant area that has succeeded in maintaining its character. Saved from development, it is now threatened by an impoundment. Historically the area contains potentially significant archeological sites -- possibly of pre-historic Indian culture -- associated with woodland settlements of eighteenth century tobacco planters, a mill site, pond, race and house, a large boarding house constructed to accommodate summer visitors after the area became accessible by railroad in 1873, and later structures erected by dairy farmers. Environmentally characterized by extensive forest areas, it provides superior habitat for a variety of wild animals, fish and aquatic life, as well as wildflowers. Tenmile Creek itself has excellent water quality, is a popular place for swimming and wading, and has even been used for baptismal services. The unpaved roads of the area have recently been surveyed by Sugarloaf Regional Trails for the Maryland Historical Trust, but no adequate study has been given to the area's ecology archeology or natural resources.

ARCHEOLOGY

Excellent water sources in the valley indicate the likelihood of an Indian settlement, and residents near the stream report finding arrowheads in their yards. A survey was recommended by Tyler Bastian, archeologist, U.S. Geological Survey, but not carried out as yet. (1) Richard Naylor, WSSC archeologist, said that WSSC had recommended an archeological study for Tenmile Creek, to take place early in 1978, but one had not been done.

BIOLOGY

The valley contains abundant wildlife, from freshwater crustaceans to racoons and white-tailed deer. Roughly a dozen springs gush from the rocky hill bordering the valley on the east. This hill is mostly uncleared, and contains native tree and plant species which retain moisture, prevent erosion and reduce summer water temperatures, thus providing excellent habitat for woodland creatures. Specimens noted include racoon, deer, rabbit, gray squirrel, deer mice, salamanders, frogs, snakes, turtles and crawdads. Principal fish species are the blacknosed and rosaside dace, mottled sculpin and white sucker. (3)

(Continued on Attachment Sheets A-P)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

SEE ATTACHED SHEET

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Northwestern Montgomery County, between Route 121 and W. Old Baltimore Road. U.S. Geological Survey Map, Germantown Quadrant NE/4 Seneca 15' See enclosed map.

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

STATE NONE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE Margaret M. Coleman 1978-79

ORGANIZATION Sugarloaf Regional Trails DATE

STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN STATE

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~~

SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS  
Box 87, Stronghold  
Dickerson, Md. 20753  
(301) 926-4510

## Tenmile Creek

## Attachment Sheet A

According to a M-NCPPC inventory of fish, the highest number of species of the creeks studied was found at Tenmile Creek. (4) (See Figure 1.) Three specimens of the Comely Shiner (Attractive Minnow), Notropis amoenus, were found. "This is the only stream in this study where these fish were found." (5) Tenmile had the lowest turbidity of any stream sampled, and unusual clarity. The Comely Shiner is listed in an inventory of threatened fish. (6) It may be found in other states, but this is the first recent record of this species in the County. "The environmental impact on this species should be determined before any major construction projects are initiated in the Tenmile Creek Watershed." County regulation of toxic materials, e.g. herbicides and pesticides, is urged and also the replacement of the two fords on the Tenmile with bridges in order to protect this quality stream from grease, oil and added turbidity. (7)

ECOLOGY

In direct contrast to the publication cited, the County Department of Environmental Protection has issued a report stating that water quality is poor at Tenmile, and coliform counts are significantly above average. (8) The only monitoring station on Tenmile Creek is located directly below the pasture of the Lawson farm. (See Figures 2 and 3.)

Several acres of the valley can be considered marsh, an essential element in the food chain. The balance of nature gently exists in this place, from microscopic creatures in the marsh, coots, wood ducks and mallards in the pond, to red-shouldered hawks and owls overhead.

GEOLOGY

According to Dr. Antonio Segovia, a major fault lies near the head of the valley. A well was dug at this location, and the resultant flow calculated at approximately 110 gallons per minute. (9) A study by the U. S. Geological Survey found that this well was a possible sole source aquifer for the entire area. (10)

The land bordering the valley on the west is a source of diabase rock, desirable for quarrying, but untouched at the present time by the owner, Rockville Crushed Stone, Inc.

HISTORY

Tenmile Creek Road winds past a nineteenth century schoolhouse, a slave cabin, a fireproof house built on the site of turreted Chautauquan mansion, a former Victorian summer boarding house and park, a mid-nineteenth century mill site, pond and house, and a deserted, early road.

Figure 1 - Fish of Tenmile Creek (20120)

the Seneca watershed (Figure 1). This fish is not commonly collected in Maryland streams in recent years. It is, however, found in a number of other states. The collection of these specimens is the first recent record of this species in Montgomery County. The environmental impact on this species should be determined before any major construction projects are initiated in the Ten Mile Creek watershed.

*Rosyside Dace*, *Clinostomus funduloides*, is common in the headwaters of Seneca Creek tributaries. It is not uncommon in Muddy Branch and Watts

Branch. According to Miller, (7), this species is rare in Maryland. Figure 2 gives the distribution of this species in the three watersheds. From the data collected for Montgomery County, it would appear that this species is not as rare as has been believed.

*Cutlips Minnow*, *Exoglossum maxillingua*, was collected in two stations on the Seneca Creek watershed as seen in Figure 3. This fish has been listed by Miller (7) as depleted in Maryland. It would seem that this fish is uncommon, as it has been rarely collected in Montgomery County. The adaptation of the

TABLE VIII  
FISHES COLLECTED IN TEN MILE CREEK, BUCKLODGE BRANCH,  
AND CABIN BRANCH TRIBUTARIES OF LITTLE SENECA  
CREEK IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD., 1974

	20088	20090	20120	20122	20123	20125	20128
<b>Cyprinidae</b>							
Blacknose Dace <i>R. atratulus</i>	50	7	300	100	25	25	20
Longnose Dace <i>R. cataractae</i>		1					2
Creek Chub <i>S. atromaculatus</i>	6	4	55	15		2	1
Stoneroller <i>C. anomalum</i>				5			
Silverjaw Minnow <i>E. buccata</i>			50	55	46		
Common Shiner <i>N. cornutus</i>			125	75	17	2	10
Spotfin Shiner <i>N. spilopterus</i>			15	2	2		7
Attractive Minnow <i>N. amoenus</i> *			2	1			
Swallowtail Shiner <i>N. procle</i>			11	25	7		
Rosyside Dace <i>C. funduloides</i>	75	3	35	100	10	14	80
Bluntnose Minnow <i>P. notatus</i>				4	1		
<b>Catostomidae</b>							
White Sucker <i>C. commersoni</i>		2	1	41	4	1	45
Hogsucker <i>H. nigricans</i>			17	1			
<b>Salmonidae</b>							
Brock Trout <i>S. fontinalis</i> *			1				
Rainbow Trout <i>S. gairdneri</i>		11					
<b>Ictaluridae</b>							
Margined Madtom Catfish <i>N. insignis</i>		1	1				
<b>Cottidae</b>							
Mottled Sculpin <i>C. bairdi</i>		2	2	8		1	2
<b>Centrarchidae</b>							
Rockbass <i>Ambloplites rupestris</i>		1	2				
Pumpkinseed Sunfish <i>L. gibbosus</i>			1				
<b>Percidae</b>							
Fantail Darter <i>E. flabellare</i>		2	1	3			2
Tessellated Darter <i>E. ocmstedti</i>		1					
<b>TOTAL SPECIES PER STATION</b>							
	12	11	12	14	8	6	9

\* 1973 data

Figure 1 - Fish of Tenmile Creek (20120)

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<b>Salmonidae</b>							
Brook Trout <i>S. fontinalis</i> *			1				
Rainbow Trout <i>S. gairdneri</i>		11					
<b>Ictaluridae</b>							
Margined Madtom Catfish <i>N. insignis</i>		1	1				
<b>Cottidae</b>							
Mottled Sculpin <i>C. bairdi</i>	2	2	-	8		1	2
<b>Centrarchidae</b>							
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Pumpkinseed Sunfish <i>L. gibbosus</i>			1				
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Fantail Darter <i>E. theobaldi</i>	10	5	1	3			2
Tessellated Darter <i>E. omissa</i>							
<b>TOTAL SPECIES PER STATION</b>							
* 1973 data	2	11	12	14	8	5	6

Figure 2 - WSSC Monitoring Station  
at Tennile Creek (20120)

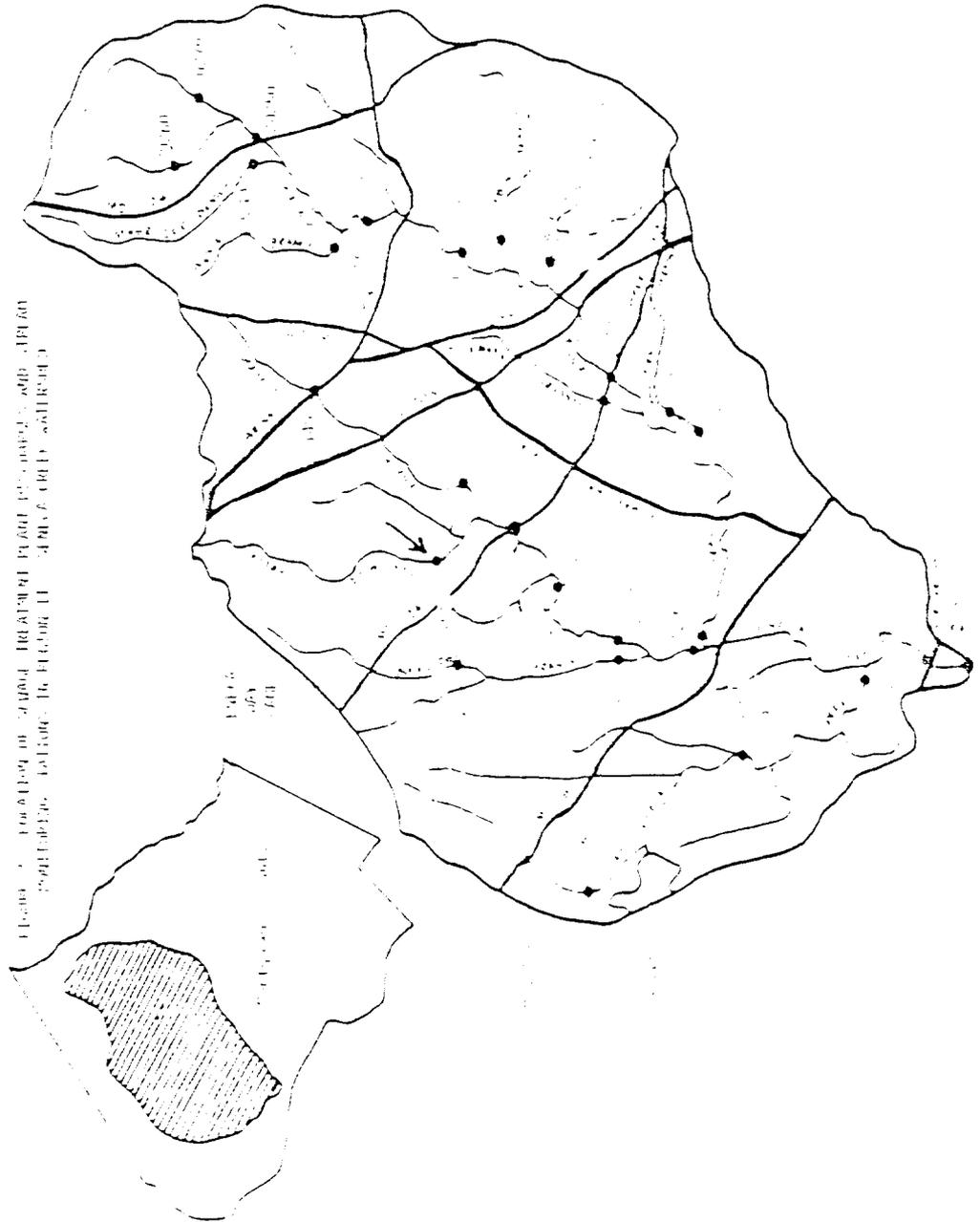
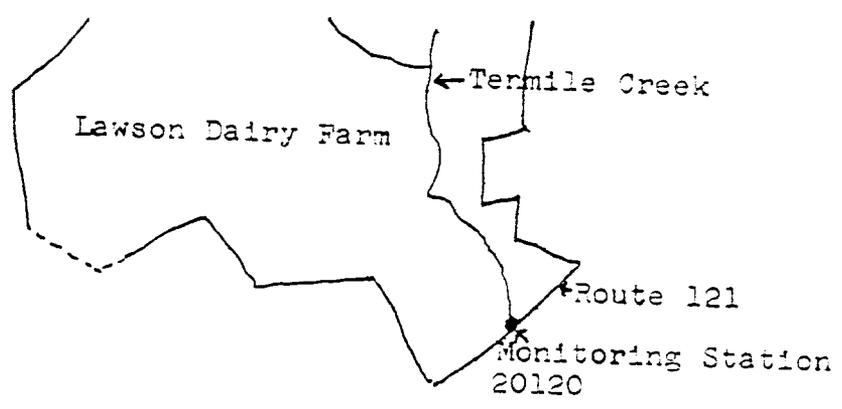


Figure 3 - Map Showing Relationship of  
Monitoring Station 20120 to  
Lawson Farm



Tenmile Creek Schoolhouse, 20430 Tenmile Creek Road

A school for white children operated here from 1868 to 1936. (11) It was one of the first public schools in the County. According to a former Tenmile schoolteacher, it was made into a "Model School" in the early 1920s, indicating interest in progressive, experimental methods of education in the County. (12)

The Boyds Presbyterian Church was organized in this building in 1870. (13)

The schoolhouse has been re-made into a house, owned by C.V. Barteé.

Perry Dimes Cabin, 20601 Tenmile Creek Road

The land around Tenmile Creek was cleared by Cambden R. Nicholls, a slave holding tobacco planter, who was a large landowner. (14) One of his slaves was named Perry Dimes, according to the "Slave Census of 1867." When Wilfred and Georgia Lawson bought this property in 1937, the agreement included a verbal arrangement that Dimes would always have a home on the farm. He lived in the cabin and is remembered as "Uncle Perry." The Lawsons understood that the addition to the cabin was about 75 years old in 1937. The chimney bricks were made from clay from the banks of the creek between the present horse barn and the dairy barn. Dimes' father was born in another cabin which stood on the hill behind Lawson's house. This house was of log construction, with two stories and an attic. It had a central section and a wing on either side. A huge tobacco barn once stood on top of the hill. (15) Perry Dimes Cabin, it can be seen, had a dirt floor originally. An upper loft is reached by an opening in the kitchen ceiling.

Tenmile Creek below the cabin was used for swimming and also for the ceremony of Christian baptism by immersion. The Evening Star featured a front page photo of this recreational spot in 1962. (See copy) According to Mrs. Lawson, the swimming hold was wellknown "long before I came here in 1937." Lawson gave permission to the boys of the community to have a ball diamond at the south end of the meadow. A score board was erected, and games scheduled with nearby communities.

The Lawson Home, 20610 Tenmile Creek Road

Georgia Lawson's home is an unusual fireproof structure on the site of an earlier, fourteen-room house used at one time as part of the Chautauqua movement which was destroyed by fire in the 1940s. (See enclosed pictures.) Mrs. Lawson's husband, Wilfred, was a professor at Tennessee State College, and an officer in World War I. He taught agriculture, and wanted to practice the profession more than to teach. He and Georgia bought the house and 162 acres in 1937 from Herbert R. Price. (16)

When fire destroyed their home, Wilfred and Georgia searched for plans for a fireproof house. They chose a Better Homes & Gardens design. The house was built with tile walls, concrete block partitions and an asbestos roof. The fireplace was built with stones from the original foundation. The window frames and central staircase are the only examples of wood in the house.

In 1943 Lawson died as the result of an accident on his farm. The house has never been completed.

Mrs. Lawson is wellknown throughout the county. She worked as a senior volunteer at the USO in Washington for several years, and adopted a young soldier as her son. She has taught in County schools 25 years and at the Boyds Day Care Center. She has served on various committees in the County. Mrs. Lawson owns an unusual collection of family memoirs, including letters written during the Civil War, and the manumission papers of Miss Lucy Price of Southern Maryland. In 1844 Miss Price bought her own freedom, and was issued her papers complete with thumbprint and detailed description of color shade and marks on her hand.

The Lawson farm is still used for a dairy business, run by Marilise Hersberger. The dairy business was well established before the Lawsons bought the property and continued by them. Lawson's great-granddaughter, Teresa Wheeler, was raised from infancy by Mrs. Lawson.

Fleet Staley Boarding House and Beauty Spot, 21000 Tenmile Creek Road

Fleet and Mary Jane Staley of Frederick County bought a former tobacco plantation in 1886, which is the year that the summer boarding houses on Tenmile Creek Road began to be described in the Star. The Staleys' borrowed money from Horace Waters, and built a commodious but small hotel, with a wide curving porch on two sides, and developed a Beauty Spot, or park. (17)

The tourist business was a sideline introduced by the Metropolitan Branch of the B & O Railroad in 1873. Until the development of air-conditioning, summers in Washington were difficult to endure. Federal workers found it relatively easy to bring their families to Boyds on the train. Fleet, and later on his son, Ralph, met the trains in their horse-drawn wagons, and brought the tourists to Tenmile Creek.

Staley developed a park near the creek, called the Beauty Spot. Rope swings were hung, tables, benches and chairs built. He dug a pond, and built a dam; remains of both can be seen today. The dam was closed in the fall, and the lake filled. The water froze solid, was sawed into blocks and carefully layered with clean straw in the ice house. In this way the guests had plenty of ice for summer use. Figure 4 is a picture from the Washington Star, July 1962.

The Staley's five girls and one boy were born in this house. The son, Ralph Fleet, designed a garden at the Beauty Spot shortly after his marriage to his wife, Nell Clagett, in 1929, and planted lilies in a pattern of intertwined initials, R & N. The planting survived until the disastrous flood caused by Hurricane Agnes in June, 1972.

Ralph and Nell's children, Phyllis, Ralph Jr., and Hunter Fleet had the same birthplace as their father, including the same bed.

The Beauty Spot is still lovely, and was the site of the Boyds-Clarksburg Historical Society picnic, July 8, 1978. (18) (See Sheet K)

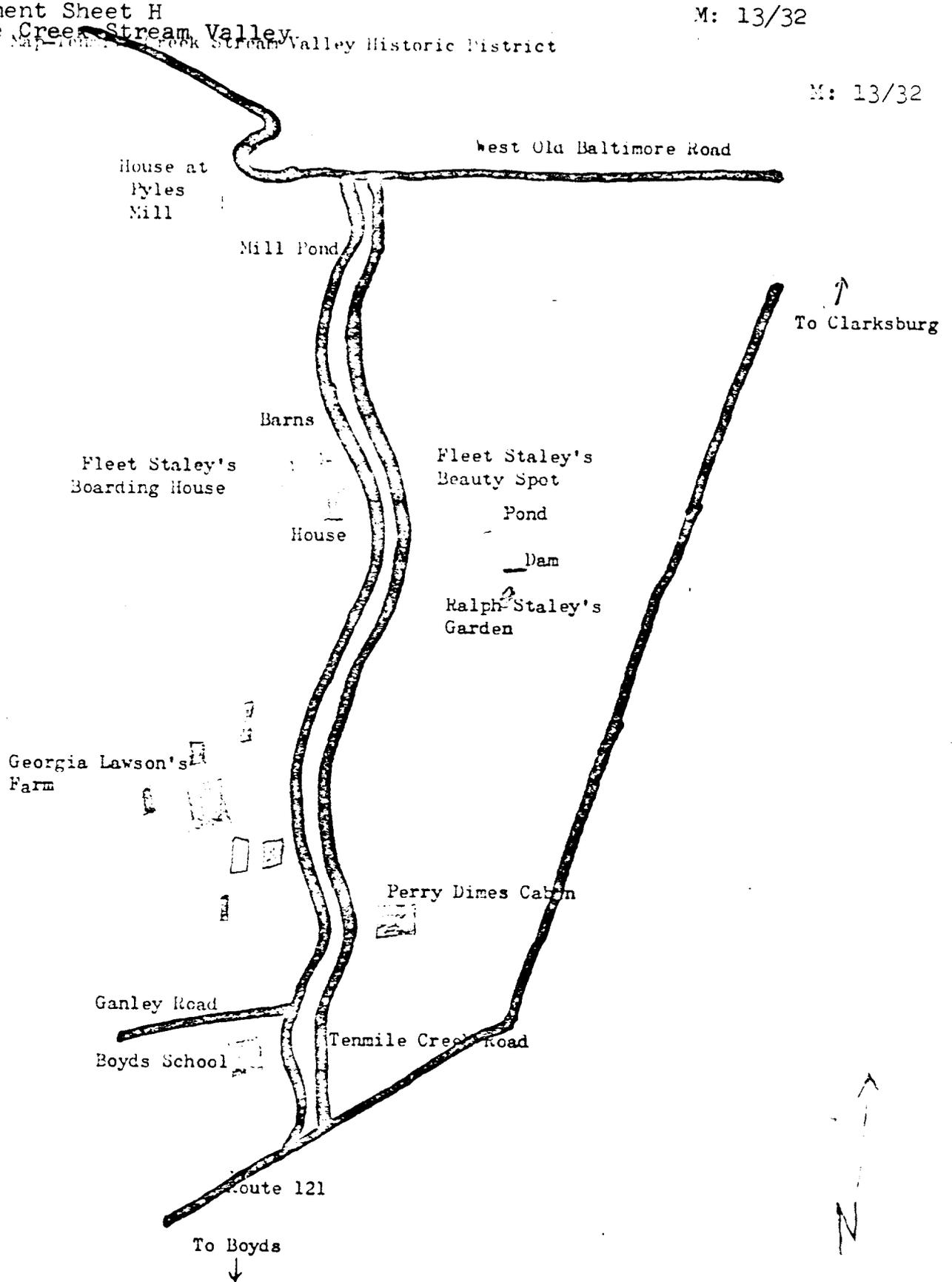
Pyles Mill, 15000 W. Old Baltimore Road

Pyles Mill operated as a grist and/or saw mill from the 1820s to the turn of the century.

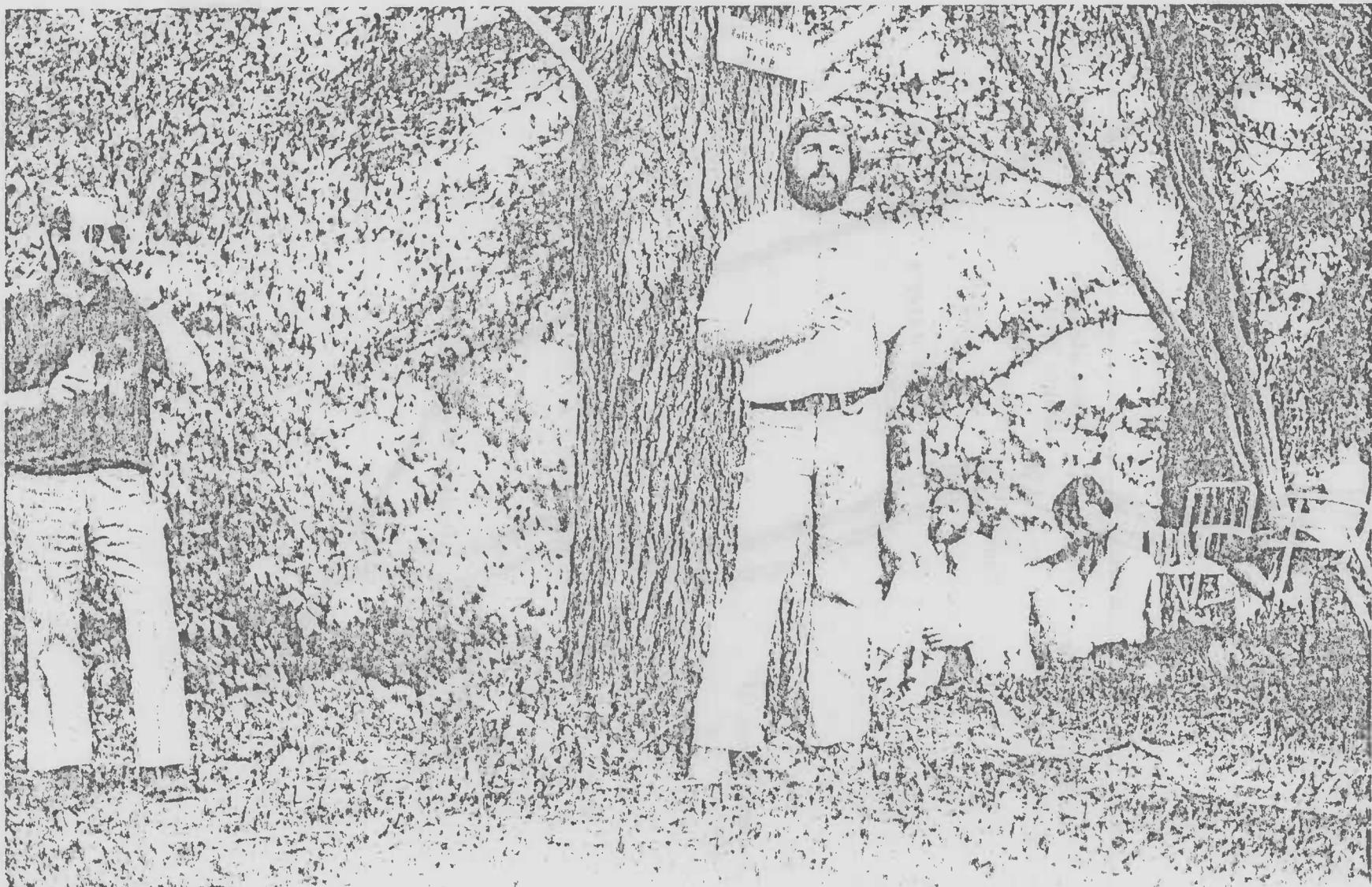
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Sellman transferred his mill and land to his two sons, Howard and Francis in 1851. In 1853 the Sellman brothers sold the tract to Horatio Trundle. Trundle sold out to William F. Pyles in 1860, and hence the name "Pyle's Mill." At this transaction the property is divided into the present plat of twenty and fourteen one-hundredths acres. (20)

The mill pond now contains pink and yellow water lilies and bay mares graze the surrounding meadow. (21)



Legend  
Pre 1900 [Symbol]  
Post 1900 [Symbol]



Fleet Staley Beauty Spot - Tennile Creek, Boyds, Md.  
Boys-Clarksburg Historical Society Picnow, June, 1978  
Jay Cinque under the Politician's Tree  
(Photo by David Heisler, Boyds, Md.)



## ke Is Threat Boyds Area, Beauty Spot'

By Kay Manning

Imaginative, it's just an old dirt road, wind-  
h a tangle of trees and underbrush outside  
ger Montgomery County.

Coleman, who regularly navigates this stretch  
more Road in her Ranger truck, can almost  
ee turkeys squawking as they waddled to  
iven by area farmers years ago.

ight they'd have to stop and camp by the  
ecause the turkeys had to roost," chuckled  
who dug out that bit of lore from descendants  
ose homes lined the road that once was the  
o markets in Baltimore.

an intersecting road in the late 1800s that  
y used to whip his horses drawing the wagon  
Friday met passengers disembarking at the  
O railroad station. They were coming from  
on to spend the weekend in the country at  
arding house and "resort," a scenic, grassy  
d in the wilderness along Ten Mile Creek.

uilt a 'beauty spot,' with a swimming hole, a  
e and rope swings," Coleman said. "He put up  
Ten Mile Creek to flood his ponds in the fall,  
e'd remove the dam in the spring."

er accommodate his guests, Staley built an ice  
ost completely buried in the ground. He would  
chunks of ice from the frozen stream in win-  
hem in straw in the chamber and use them to  
ream in the heat of summer.

ests at the Staley boarding house got all dress-  
went over to the beauty spot and carved their  
the trees as they strolled around," Coleman

the boarding house is occupied by two families  
r Sale sign stands on the front lawn. The man-  
h hasn't been used to house boarders since the  
rooks the beauty spot on land now owned by  
land-National Capital Park and Planning Com-

turday, after furious mowing by Coleman and  
e spot was the scene of a picnic sponsored by  
s-Clarksburg Historical Society. Guests sam-  
ashioned potato salad, played such staple lawn  
s croquet and wandered down to the natural  
am in a re-creation of the bygone resort days.  
torical society, formed in the spring under the  
Coleman wanted to draw attention to the



Montgomery County Journal, July 12,  
1978.

Figure 5

Attachment Sheet J  
Tenmile Creek-Stream Valley  
Weather Forecast

M: 13/32

District and vicinity—Fair and somewhat warmer tonight, low 64 to 68. Partly cloudy and warm tomorrow. Today's high, 82, at noon; low, 65, at 5 a.m.

Full Report on Page A-2

# The Ever

WITH SUNDAY MORNING

111th Year. No. 187.

Phone LI. 3-5000

★

WASHINGTON, D. C., SATUR



## THE GOOD OLD DAYS ARE BACK

This scene brings back memories of the old swimming hole. The boys have their clothes hung on the fence instead of a hickory limb.

but there is shade and the water is deep in Ten Mile Run near Boyds in Montgomery County, Md.—Star Staff Photo by Tom Hoy.

The Evening Star, July 6, 1901



Fleet Stanley Beauty Spot, Tenmile Creek, Boyds, Md.  
Boyd-Clarksburg Historical Society Picnic, June, 1978  
(Photo by David Heisler, Boyds, Md.)

Attachment Sheet M

Tenmile Creek Stream Valley Historic District

M: 13/32

Property Owners

Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission  
8787 Georgia Avenue  
Silver Spring, Md.

V. Keller & L. Jensen  
21000 Tenmile Creek Road  
Boys, Md. 20720

Georgia Lawson  
20610 Tenmile Creek Road

C. V. Bartee  
20430 Tenmile Creek Road

D. Ortman  
15000 W. Old Baltimore Road  
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Bibliography

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Ortman, David, Boyds; 1978.  
Staley, Mrs. Nell and Hunter Fleet, Boyds; 1978.  
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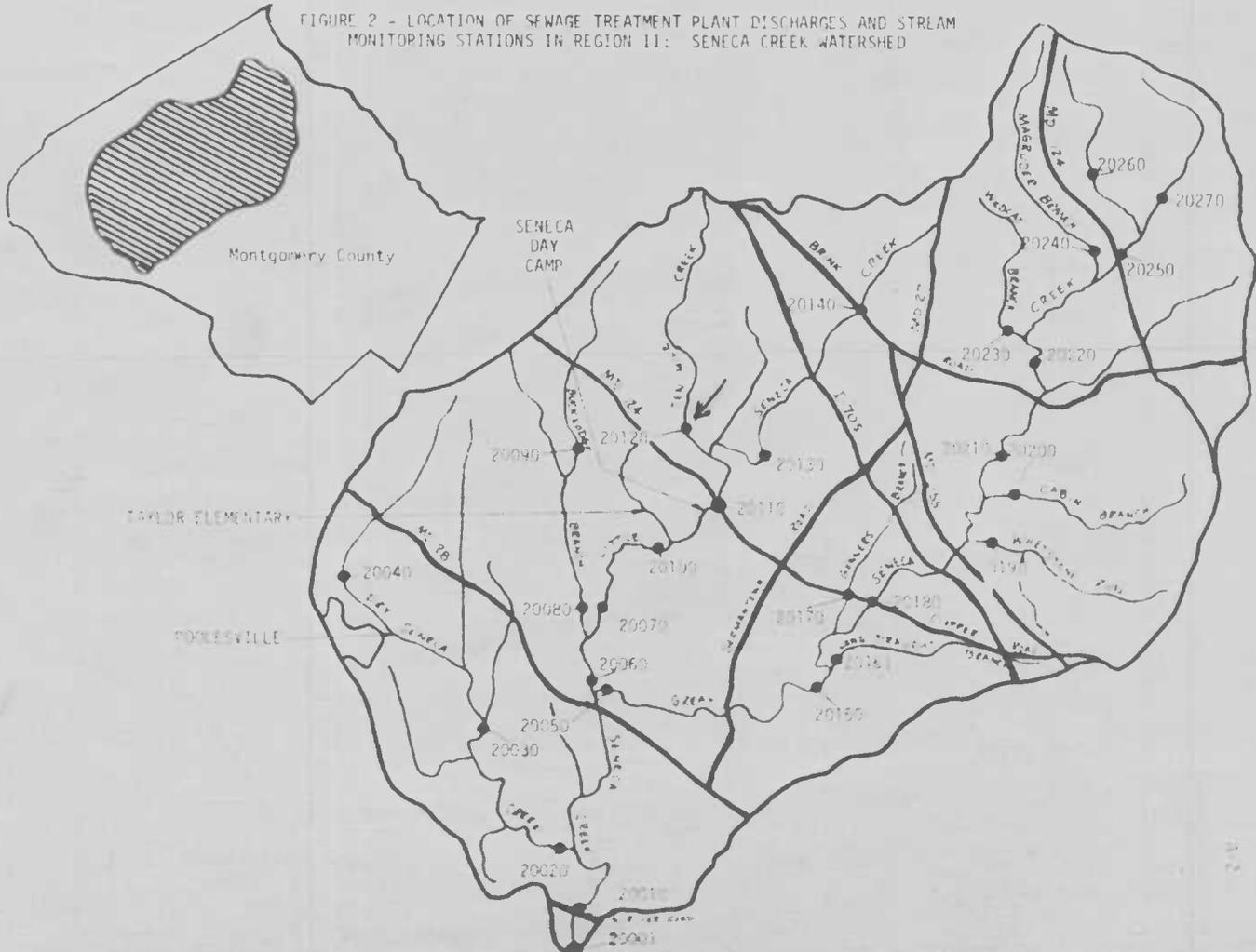
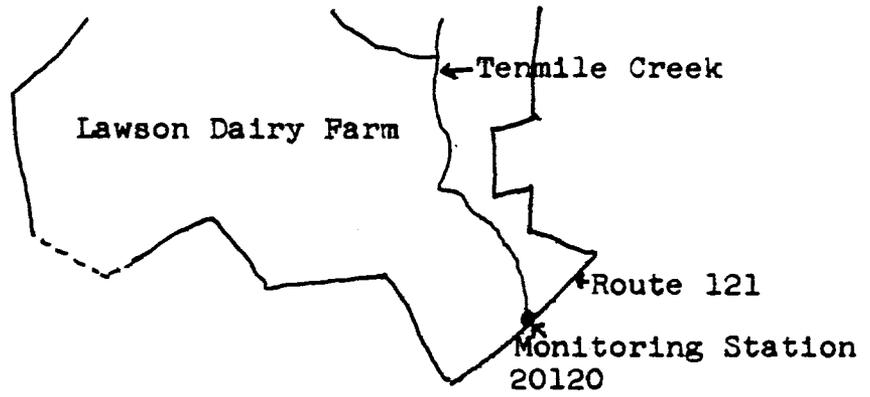


FIGURE 2 - LOCATION OF SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT DISCHARGES AND STREAM MONITORING STATIONS IN REGION II: SENECA CREEK WATERSHED

Figure 2 - WSSC Monitoring Station at Tenmile Creek (20120)

Figure 3 - Map Showing Relationship of  
Monitoring Station 20120 to  
Lawson Farm



M.13-32

Tenmile Creek Schoolhouse, 20430 Tenmile Creek Road

A school for white children operated here from 1868 to 1936. (11) It was one of the first public schools in the County. According to a former Tenmile schoolteacher, it was made into a "Model School" in the early 1920s, indicating interest in progressive, experimental methods of education in the County. (12)

The Boyds Presbyterian Church was organized in this building in 1870. (13)

The schoolhouse has been re-made into a house, owned by C.V. Bartee.

Perry Dimes Cabin, 20601 Tenmile Creek Road

The land around Tenmile Creek was cleared by Cambden R. Nicholls, a slave holding tobacco planter, who was a large landowner. (14) One of his slaves was named Perry Dimes, according to the "Slave Census of 1867." When Wilfred and Georgia Lawson bought this property in 1937, the agreement included a verbal arrangement that Dimes would always have a home on the farm. He lived in the cabin and is remembered as "Uncle Perry." The Lawsons understood that the addition to the cabin was about 75 years old in 1937. The chimney bricks were made from clay from the banks of the creek between the present horse barn and the dairy barn. Dimes' father was born in another cabin which stood on the hill behind Lawson's house. This house was of log construction, with two stories and an attic. It had a central section and a wing on either side. A huge tobacco barn once stood on top of the hill. (15) Perry Dimes Cabin, it can be seen, had a dirt floor originally. An upper loft is reached by an opening in the kitchen ceiling.

Tenmile Creek below the cabin was used for swimming and also for the ceremony of Christian baptism by immersion. The Evening Star featured a front page photo of this recreational spot in 1962. (See copy) According to Mrs. Lawson, the swimming hold was wellknown "long before I came here in 1937." Lawson gave permission to the boys of the community to have a ball diamond at the south end of the meadow. A score board was erected, and games scheduled with nearby communities.

The Lawson Home, 20610 Tenmile Creek Road

Georgia Lawson's home is an unusual fireproof structure on the site of an earlier, fourteen-room house used at one time as part of the Chautauqua movement which was destroyed by fire in the 1940s. (See enclosed pictures.) Mrs. Lawson's husband, Wilfred, was a professor at Tennessee State College, and an officer in World War I. He taught agriculture, and wanted to practice the profession more than to teach. He and Georgia bought the house and 162 acres in 1937 from Herbert R. Price. (16)

When fire destroyed their home, Wilfred and Georgia searched for plans for a fireproof house. They chose a Better Homes & Gardens design. The house was built with tile walls, concrete block partitions and an asbestos roof. The fireplace was built with stones from the original foundation. The window frames and central staircase are the only examples of wood in the house.

In 1943 Lawson died as the result of an accident on his farm. The house has never been completed.

Mrs. Lawson is wellknown throughout the county. She worked as a senior volunteer at the USO in Washington for several years, and adopted a young soldier as her son. She has taught in County schools 25 years and at the Boyds Day Care Center. She has served on various committees in the County. Mrs. Lawson owns an unusual collection of family memoirs, including letters written during the Civil War, and the manumission papers of Miss Lucy Price of Southern Maryland. In 1844 Miss Price bought her own freedom, and was issued her papers complete with thumbprint and detailed description of color shade and marks on her hand.

The Lawson farm is still used for a dairy business, run by Mariliee Hershberger. The dairy business was well established before the Lawsons bought the property and continued by them. Lawson's great-granddaughter, Teresa Wheeler, was raised from infancy by Mrs. Lawson.

#### Fleet Staley Boarding House and Beauty Spot, 21000 Tenmile Creek Road

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Pyles Mill operated as a grist and/or saw mill from the 1820s to the turn of the century.

William Sellman first operated a mill at the site. He bought the property from George Peter in 1821, agreeing to pay Peter in three installments. The final payment was made in 1827. Peter, however, refused to complete the transaction deeding the property to Sellman. Sellman took the case to court and won. (19)

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Footnotes  
Tenmile Creek Stream Valley

M:13-32

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INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Ten Mile Creek Road

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Ten Mile Creek Road

CITY, TOWN

Boyds

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PPOGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

various owners-most of the area is owned Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER by Mrs. Lawson and Mr. Chadwick

CITY, TOWN

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse  
STREET & NUMBER

Liber #:

Folio #:

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

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

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

M:13-32

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

There are several, late-19th/early-20th Century buildings along the road. These include: a one-room, frame schoolhouse, now converted into a private residence; across from this is a small, three-bay tenant dwelling, allegedly of part log construction; a large, concrete-form house, built and lived in by the Lawsons; and a two-story, frame guest house/hotel with German siding and a metal, mansard roof.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

M:13-32

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 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

Ten Mile Creek has carried this name since before 1750 in official land records (see Survey Certificate-Md. Hall of Records for "Benton's Lot".) There is a wide flood plain here that has limited the land use mostly to grazing. However, rail passengers from the city would take the train to Boyds and stay in summer hotels, such as the one along the road-north of the Lawson Farm.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

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

Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

4/30/74

STREET & NUMBER

8787 Georgia Ave.

TELEPHONE

589-1480

CITY OR TOWN

Silver Spring

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

M: 13-32

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

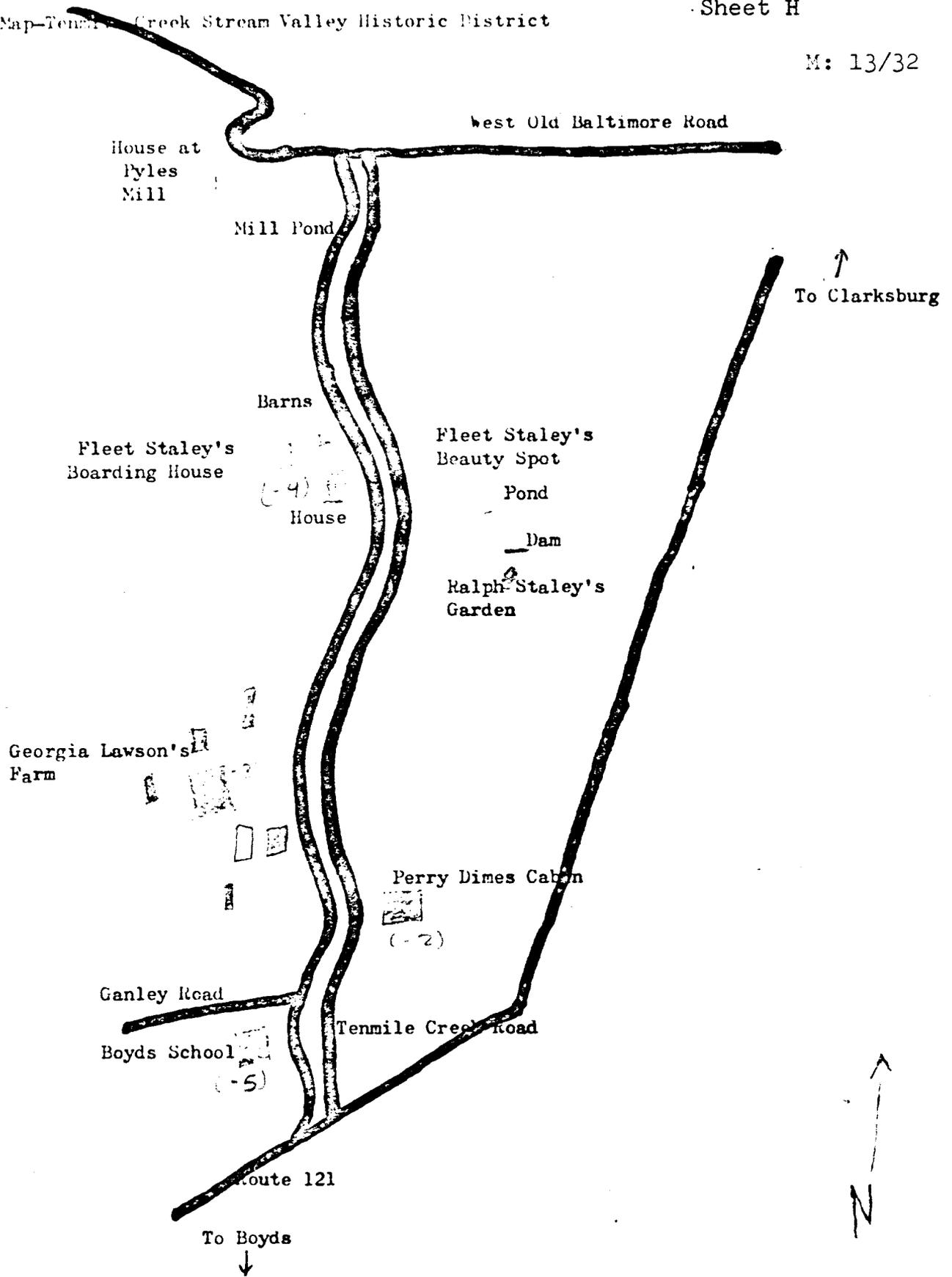
See correspondence dated June 12, 1984

ACTION TAKEN

The following sites have been reviewed and found not suitable for regulation under the Historic Preservation Ordinance. Those sites also listed on the Locational Atlas will no longer be subject to regulation under the Moratorium on Alteration and Demolition.

Site No.

10/2			
10/9		23/70	
10/11		23/98-1	
10/22		24/12	
10/25		24/14	
10/54		24/15	
10/71		25/1	
10/73		25/10-1	
	<u>Site No.</u>		
	15/68	27/5	
	15/69	27/7	
10/74	16/19		<u>Site No.</u>
11/8	*17/4	*27/11	35/6
12/14-1	17/55	*27/13	36/9
12/16	18/1	28/15	*37/4
12/26	18/9	28/26	
	18/22	30/3	
13/15	18/27	30/7	
13/16	18/29-1	30/9	
13/28	19/8	30/15	*Recommended for designation by the
13/32	19/18	30/17	Mont. Co. Historic Preservation
	19/20	30/19	Commission.
14/1	20/6	31/9	**These sites were previously considered
14/15	20/14	33/3	by the County Council and found not
14/18	20/27	33/5	to warrant regulation under the
14/19	22/5	33/11	Historic Preservation Ordinance.
14/23	22/6-1	*34/1	They are listed here to bring the
14/30	22/18	*34/9	functional Master Plan in conformance
14/31	22/21		with Council's actions.
14/40	22/22		
14/48	22/23		
14/54	22/24		
15/10	23/13		
15/11			
15/18			
*15/62			



House at Pyles Mill

Mill Pond

West Old Baltimore Road

To Clarksburg

Barns

Fleet Staley's Boarding House

Fleet Staley's Beauty Spot

(-4) House

Pond

Dam

Ralph Staley's Garden

Georgia Lawson's Farm

Perry Dimes Cabin

(-2)

Ganley Road

Tenmile Creek Road

Boyds School

(-5)

Route 121

To Boyds

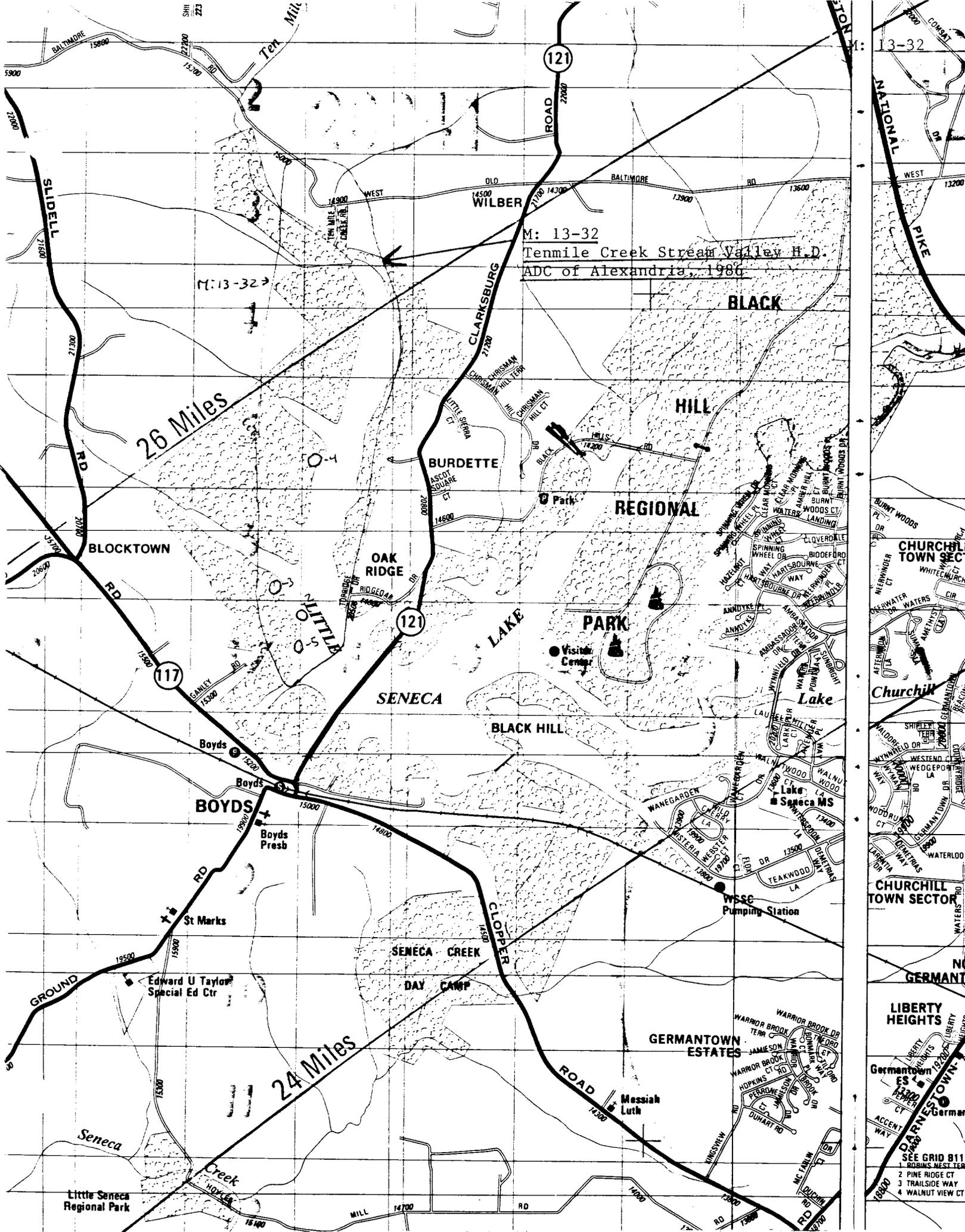
Legend

Pre 1900 

Post 1900 



M: 13-32  
Tenmile Creek Stream Valley H.D.  
ADC of Alexandria, 1986



26 Miles

24 Miles

- SEE GRID B11  
1. ROBINS NEST LANE  
2. PINE RIDGE CT  
3. TRAILSIDE WAY  
4. WALNUT VIEW CT





NAME Wm. LAWSON FARM

M#13-32

LOCATION W SIDE 10 MILE CREEK Rd BOYDS, Md

(-3)

FACADE SE

PHOTO TAKEN 4/30/74 M. DWYER



M# 13-3

NAME Fleet Staley Boarding House

(-4

LOCATION 10 MILE CREEK Rd. BOYDS, Md

FACADE E

PHOTO TAKEN 4/30/74 H. DWYER



M#13-32

NAME  
LOCATION 10 MILE CREEK Rd FROM Rte 121 BOYDS, Md  
FACADE LOOKING NW  
PHOTO TAKEN 4/30/74 H. DWYER

L to R:

- M: 13-32-5 Tenmile Creek schoolhouse
- M: 13-32-3 Georgia Lawson House
- M: 13-32-2 Perry Dimes Log Cabin



Photo by David Heisler, Boyds, Md.

June, 1978

M: 13-32



Fleet Staley Beauty Spot - Tenmile Creek, Boyds, Md.  
Boyds-Clarksburg Historical Society Picnow, June, 1978  
Jay Cinque under the Politician's Tree  
(Photo by David Heisler, Boyds, Md.)

M:13-32

Picnic - Boyds- Clarksburg Historical Society

June, 1978

Photo: David Heisler, Boyds, Md.