

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

4L-II-A-126  
 GREEN RIDGE STATE FOREST  
 U.S.G.S.: FLINTSTONE QUAD  
 DNR#: NONE

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

"STONE RINGS"

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER West of Merten Avenue  
 Green Ridge State Forest

CITY, TOWN

Flintstone

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6

STATE

MARYLAND

COUNTY

ALLEGANY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input checked="" 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**

Green Ridge State Forest

NAME

Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Taylor Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21401

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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

On the west slope of Polish Mountain near its summit is an archeological site consisting of a series of stone rings. The site is located on a relatively level area just west of Merten Avenue about 1-3/4 miles south of U.S. Route 40 approximately five miles east of Flintstone in Green Ridge State Forest, Allegany County, Maryland.

Present is an apparent old road bed along which are staggered a series of stone rings. At intervals areas of ground were made level and enclosed with circular stone borders. Most of the rings were 8' to 10' in diameter and quite regular in form. The stones are local and are placed without mortar about 6 inches to 1 foot high and several feet in width.

The original use of these rings is not known. There appear to be approximately 15-20 such structures placed parallel to the supposed road site.

The Maryland State ARcheologist, Tyler Bastian, was consulted about this site and visited Green Ridge State Forest in September, 1975. Mr. Bastian had no explanation for the presence of the rings, but it was his opinion that they were not left by Indians. He felt that perhaps they were associated in some way with a local industry. A copy of Mr. Bastian's field notes regarding this site is attached.

Other man-made stone configurations have been found in the western Maryland mountains. One group of stone "piles" is located in Sidling Hill Wildlife Management area, on the west slope of the ridge. Mr. Bastian also visited this site in 1975. Near Fifteenmile Creek off Yonkers Road at Green Ridge State Forest is another site with rock piles and apparent evidence of a settler's homestead. (See form A-20)

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# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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

The stone rings remain a mystery. They are obviously man made but their age, purpose, and their creator is unknown. The state archeologist is of the opinion that the rings were not left by Indians. As far as possible local histories have been checked for accounts of occupation of a local industry that could have produced the rings. No clues were found. Deed records for this site were not traceable. It would seem that the most productive form of research would be additional on-site archeological work to locate any possible artifacts relating to the site.

The rings are very significant for the information they may yield about the history of Allegany County. Since no explanation has been found for the existence of the rings, they are a valuable artifact and could provide important cultural data.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Notes compiled by Tyler Bastian, State Archeologist, September 17, 1975.

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

Paula Stoner & Douglass Reed

ORGANIZATION

Preservation Associates

DATE

February, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 202

TELEPHONE

(301)432-5466

CITY OR TOWN

Sharpsburg

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

Polish Mountain Stone Pile Group

located south of ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~road~~ <sup>road</sup> at 40 on Mountain Ave about 1 3/4 miles. On west side of road; about 500 ft from road. Piles in about ~~one~~ <sup>one</sup> ~~row~~ <sup>row</sup>. This group was shown to me by Paul Williams, Director at Green Ridge State Forest. It consists of two ~~rows~~ <sup>rows</sup> of staggered rows of similar parallel and ~~straight~~ <sup>straight</sup> ~~rows~~ <sup>rows</sup> ~~about~~ <sup>about</sup> 20 feet from a long straight ~~road~~ <sup>road</sup>. Piles are aligned irregularly as elongated piles along the ~~road~~ <sup>road</sup> side of the "road"; much ~~more~~ <sup>more</sup> ~~than~~ <sup>than</sup> the indicated disturbance in the "road" area.

The rock piles were actually circles or ~~remotely~~ <sup>remotely</sup> ~~symmetrical~~ <sup>symmetrical</sup> ~~intimate~~ <sup>intimate</sup> shapes 6-10 ft in diameter; most are about 8 ft. The circles are 2-4 ft. thick and 6-10 ft. high. The ~~very~~ <sup>very</sup> ~~low~~ <sup>low</sup> ~~center~~ <sup>center</sup> is below the level of the surrounding ground ~~at~~ <sup>at</sup> ~~least~~ <sup>least</sup> 6" or more than 6". ~~There~~ <sup>There</sup> ~~are~~ <sup>are</sup> ~~some~~ <sup>some</sup> ~~holes~~ <sup>holes</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~center~~ <sup>center</sup> of ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~circles~~ <sup>circles</sup> ~~parallel~~ <sup>parallel</sup> to the road for several hundred feet. The explanation ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>not</sup> ~~clear~~ <sup>clear</sup>, but they are ~~entirely~~ <sup>entirely</sup> ~~unrelated~~ <sup>unrelated</sup> to ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~road~~ <sup>road</sup>.

Sketch of water where poles

Sketch plan



Sketch cross-section

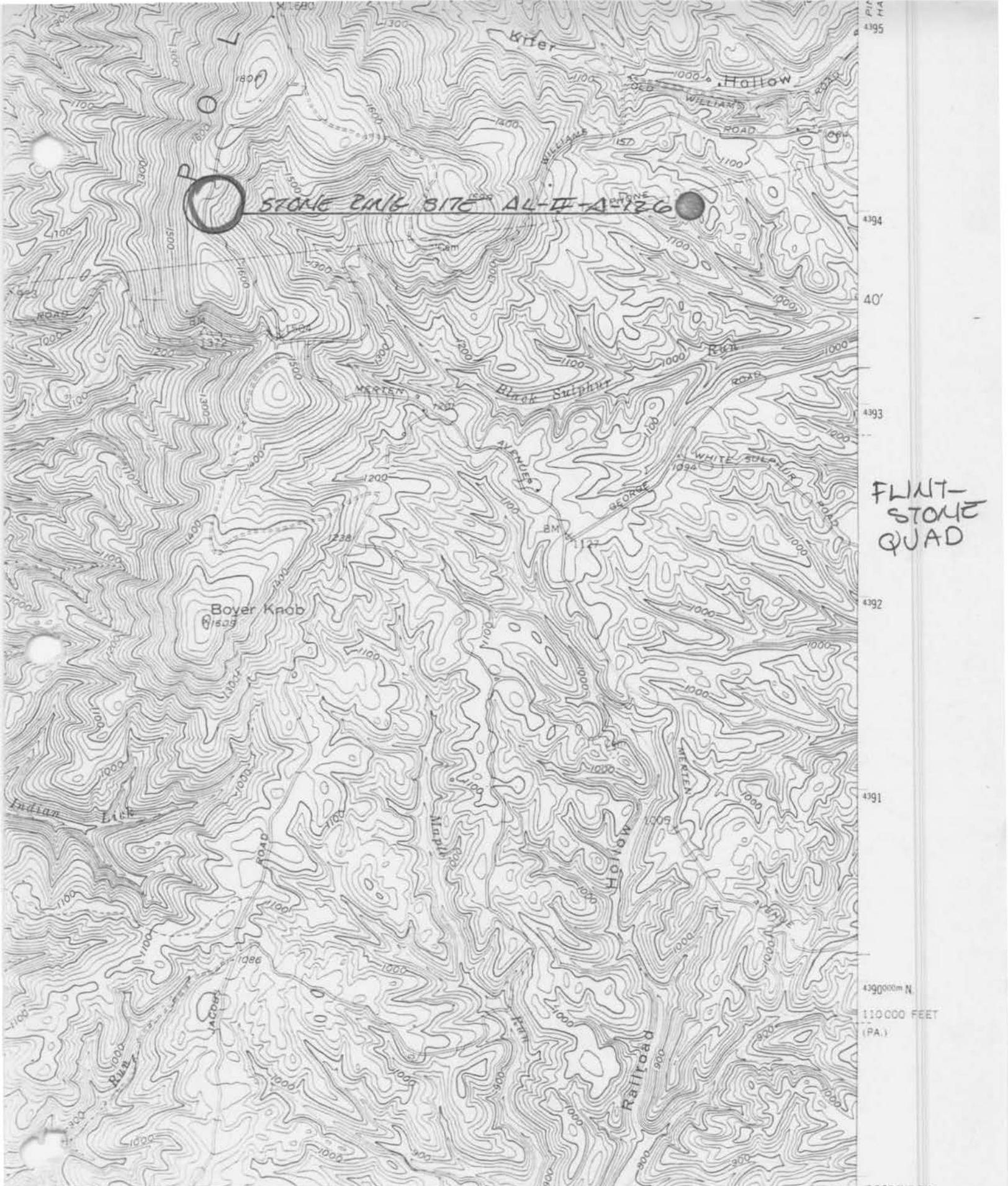


Pare Mountain Group Pole Group

Not visited, but described by Paul Wilson  
(Pole or circular in shape)  
as similar to the Polish water poles (rings) but  
not as many.

Located on east side of Pare Mts.  
at head of P.cep follow when he hunted. Wilson  
visited at head of a water ~~cept~~ <sup>cept</sup> south of P.cep. Wilson  
not willing to take me there as it is a long  
deep hole. He seems sincere and reliable, however.

~~the~~ Keyser quad



FLINT-  
STONE  
QUAD

32°30' 1:750 000 FEET (P.A.) 712

● INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA - 1975  
714000m E.

39°37'30"  
78°30'

1 MILE

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy duty ——— 4 LANE 2 LANE Light duty

PAW PAW  
5763 11-54



A-13

Green Ridge St. Forest

Stone rings Site

N. view

Sept. 1978

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Paula Stonor  
[unclear]



A-13

Green Ridge St. Forest

Stone rings site

S.W. View

Sept. 1978

A-L-II-A-126

Paula Stoner  
Preservation Associates