

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Baltimore
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
"The Eagle's Nest"

AND/OR HISTORIC:
portion of "Valley of Jehosaphat"

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Jarrettsville Pike

CITY OR TOWN:
Phoenix

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Second

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24 COUNTY: Baltimore CODE: 005

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify)
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC: Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Clifford F. Shaw

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Phoenix

STATE:
Maryland

CODE:
24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Baltimore County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Towson

STATE:
Maryland

CODE:
24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Baltimore
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

"The Eagle's Nest" is a large fieldstone dwelling constructed about 1800 on part of a tract called "Valley of Jehosaphat". The house consists of three parts: a tall, two and one half story 5 bay long portion and two long 1 1/2 story portions, the last being a twentieth century garage with storage area above. A wide overhanging eave was added to the main portion in the latter part of the 19th century, creating a heavier composition than originally constructed.

The south entrance has an architrave composed of reeded engaged columns with a cove molding above the facia. At the entrance there are old stone steps having old wrought iron balustrade with brass finials. The rear entrance has a small porch with gable roof. An open arcade beneath the "A" roof of the original wing is now enclosed with double glazed doors. The latter wing consists of the original kitchen, at the east end of the arcade, and the present kitchen which opens from the north side of the arcade. The two rooms were finished very simply, with rough plaster walls, and exposed beams in the original kitchen. New brick floors with radiant heat have been installed in the original kitchen and arcade.

The main portion of the house consists of two large rooms with central stair hall. Both rooms have fine fluted Federal mantels, the dining room mantel having tapered pilasters. In the southeast corner of the room is a paneled corner cupboard. North of the fireplace are three built-in paneled cabinets beneath the secondary enclosed stair. There are recessed paneled window jambs throughout the first story rooms. A five-piece cornice gives a note of refinement to the high ceilings.

In the hall the principal feature is the open string stair, which ascends to the attic. The stair has rectangular balusters, turned newels and fretwork step ends. Beneath the stair is a paneled area enclosing the cellar stair and a lavatory.

Only the cornice of the library differs from other woodwork of the house. It has a row of futes on the facia board similar to the fluting on the mantel. West of the library an enclosed porch has been constructed with glass walls from floor to ceiling.

On the second story, the floorplan is unusual, having two rooms and the secondary stair hall above the dining room and the normal arrangement elsewhere. The master bedroom is finished similar to the library below. Two paneled closets are located south of the fireplace in the dining room chamber. Baths were installed in the rooms at the head of the main and secondary stairs. Access to the wing is gained from the secondary stair. It contains two bedrooms and a bath. The secondary stair also ascends to the attic where there are two large rooms and a bath.

(see continuation sheet #1)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian
- 15th Century
- 16th Century
- 17th Century
- 18th Century
- 19th Century
- 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>Architectural</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Eagle's Nest is an important large farm house in Baltimore County because of the profusion of original detail. The detail includes the fine main entrance, the interior wood work, the original archade, period out buildings and stone walls. Its modern additions complimentary to the old dwelling. The fact that the interior trim is intact is an indication of the sensitivity of its 20th century restorer.

Eagle's Nest belonged to the Marsh family from the 18th century through the 20th. Joshua Marsh (d. 1825) most probably erected the impressive house on a tract he inherited from his father in 1802. Prior to the American Revolution Eagle's Nest had been a part of the Valley of Jehosophat, the property of Walter Dulaney, the Loyalist son of Daniel Dulaney. The State of Maryland confiscated property that belonged to Tories and sold it. At that time Joshua Marsh's father acquired two lots, Eagle's Nest and Marsh's Ridge. The father's "new and well finished" one story stone house measuring twenty by eighteen feet constrasts with the much larger residence of the son.¹

¹Federal Direct Tax Assessment, 1798, Gunpowder Upper and Mine Run Hundreds, Baltimore County, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland
 Baltimore County Land and Probate Records.

Federal Direct Tax Assessment. 1798. Baltimore County.

Hopkins, C. M. Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. Philadelphia:
 C. M. Hopkins, 1877.

(see continuation sheet #1)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Michael O. Bourne, Coordinatory of Field Services

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust DATE: May 31, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:
2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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 National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Baltimore	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Continuation Sheet) #1

(Number all entries)

"The Eagle's Nest"

No. 7. Description Continued

On the north side of the kitchen stands a square stone smokehouse with pyramidal roof. A similar building, probably used as a dairy, stands adjacent to the well in a walled yard south of the kitchen. South of the main house is a yard, the drive and a formal garden which has a retaining wall on its south end. A modern stone wall surrounds most of the property. There is extensive mature planting between the house and Jarrettsville Pike.

No. 9. Major Bibliographical References Continued

Sidney, J. C. Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys by J. C. Sidney. Baltimore: James M. Stephens, 1850.

Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Maryland

Shaw, Alice B. Historic American Buildings Survey forms on Eagle's Nest. September 1966.

HABS-EODC

BUFF

Form 2C

VII.28.1959

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

Architect's Work Sheet for "Photo-data Books" (Part II)

"The Eagle's Nest"	Maryland	Baltimore	Tenth District	Jarrettsville Pike
<hr/>				
name of structure	state, county, township, locality, etc.			

Two and One-half	Stone	Three Part Telescope Plan
<hr/>		
number of stories	type wall construction	layout

GENERAL STATEMENT

Architectural interest and merit--a typical telescope plan, each part built at a different time, combining a simple stone settler's cabin of the late 17th or early 18th century, an 18th c. Pennsylvania farmhouse with Georgian influence, and a con- Condition of fabric temporary garage wing in keeping with the others. Excellent

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

EXTERIOR

Overall demensions

Approximately 24' deep by 140' feet in length (includes garage wing)

Foundations

Stone

Wall construction

Stone

Porches, stoops, bulkheads, etc.--Marble stoop with iron and brass railings on front side of main wing; covered portico on back with wooden railings and granite floor and steps. Enclosed collonade from main wing to old kitchen.

Chimneys--All inside chimneys. Two chimney-tops on main house are of brick, those on oldest section and garage wing are of stone.

Openings - doorways and doors--Original six-panel doors at front and back hall entrances with panelled recesses. Batten doors on old kitchen are possibly original. All others are modern replacements.

windows and shutters--All windows on first floor of main house are 12 over 12's with original frames, muntins and much of the glass is old. Second floor windows are 9 over 12's. Third floor new casement windows. In original house and garage, all windows are 6 over 6, except for 2 small casements in kitchen. Roof - shape, covering

All roofs are simple A-line construction with slate covering.

cornice, eaves
A marked overhang of roof on main house with cornice returning partially across dormers, cupolas gable ends as in many Pennsylvania sone houses.

Four dornerers in main house, four in original house. No cupolas. One small half-circle dormer of recent origin.

BA-107

INTERIOR

Floor plans (by floor)—Attached

Stairways—3 stairways, all original. One in main hall is open and leads to 3rd floor; one out of dining room is enclosed in small hall and winds to 3rd floor bedroom; one out of old kitchen enclosed by batten door and leads to small bed chamber above.

Flooring—Original pine flooring throughout main house, being extra wide on 3rd floor; enclosed collonade and old kitchen floors are brick laid in dirt; old kitchen chamber has wide tongue and groove oak boards.

Wall and ceiling finish—walls and ceilings are all white plaster, some original and some replastered. Old kitchen ceiling is merely the oak flooring of the chamber above laid on one huge summer beam and smaller connecting beams. Cradle of chamber fireplace is exposed also.

Doorways and doors

All doors are 6 panelled ones, some, if not most, original, some replicas. Batten doors in very worn condition are still in use in old kitchen.

Trim—Apparently original, but probably some additions and replacements. All windows and doorways in main house have recessed panelling. Chair railing throughout the first and second floors of main house.

Hardware—Some original H-L and strap hinges; locks are either brass or iron box locks, all apparently old ones. Original brass jamb hooks in one fireplace; old iron trammels in two fireplaces.

Lighting—Several old hanging fixtures, now electrified; one crystal chandelier with candles; two handmade copies of early tin chandeliers.

Heating (fireplaces, stoves,

central, etc.) —Seven fireplaces; vacuum-steam central heating.

Original oak lintel in corner fireplace of kitchen.

SITE

Orientation (by compass reading

and general setting)—East side of Jarrettsville Pike about 4 miles north of Baltimore Beltway. House faces south overlooking Loch Raven Reservoir (originally built to face the Gunpowder River)

Enclosures (fences, etc.)—A high stone wall completely surrounds the house, lawn and garden, embracing a fortress-type retaining wall on the south side.

Outbuildings—All of stone; includes springhouse, smokehouse, root cellar, and another small, square stone building whose original use is not known, but said to have been a "weaving" house.

Walks, driveways, etc.—Walks are all flagstone; drives are gravel.

Landscaping, gardens, etc.—Small semi-formal boxwood garden with fountain, surrounded by magnolias, holly and a rock-garden. Grounds contain abundant hollies & box. Prepared by W. B. ...

Date 1.15.90

CONTINUATIONS: Any of the above entries may be continued on additional sheets.

Maryland
Baltimore County
Jarrettsville Pike
District X

BA-107
Eagles Nest
(Marshmont Farm)
0301075004

1684

Stone house on land grant to Daniel Dulaney; overlooks
Dulaney Valley and Lock Raven. Confiscated during
the Revolutionary War in 1786, sold to Thomas Marsh.
His descendants, the Mathews lived here 'til 1964;
now owned by Mr. & Mrs. Clifford Shaw.

(First HABS Report)
E. Frances Offutt
HABS COMMITTEE OF BALTIMORE
COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

July 29, 1965

HABS-EDDC

BLUE

Form 3B

VII.15.1959

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

Historian's Work Sheet for "Photo-data Books" (Part I)

Name of Structure "The Eagle's Nest" (Marshmont Farm)
 Address Maryland Baltimore Tenth District Jarrettsville Pike, Cockeysville
 State, county, township, locality, street address or location ¹²²⁰⁹ (Townson)
 aurb

Present Owner (give address) Clifford F. Shaw Phoenix, Maryland

Present Occupant Mr. and Mrs. Clifford F. Shaw

Present Use Residence

Brief Statement of Significance (historical):

See enclosed clippings

PHYSICAL HISTORY (All statements shall be documented)

Original and subsequent owners

The Thomas Marsh Family and his descendants, who sold the property to Mr. and Mrs. Shaw in 1964

Date of Erection—Part c.1700, part c.1800, part c.1930 (needs careful researching)

Architect—No information

Builder, suppliers, etc.—No information

Original plans, construction, etc.—No information

Notes on alterations and additions—Four car garage, now adjoining old kitchen, is reportedly constructed from ruins of slave quarters. A small, modern, glass-walled room recently built is not shown on the floor plan in view of its' unimportance to the historical or architectural background of "The Eagle's Nest."

BA-107

HISTORICAL EVENTS CONNECTED WITH STRUCTURE

Note: "The Eagle's Nest" is shrouded with so much folk-lore that it is difficult to sort fact from fiction. It is the hope of the writer of this report that a thorough research of the property records, back to the original grant can be made within the next year, and in doing so, perhaps more definite dates can be arrived at for the building of the older parts of the house.

Important old views
(with location)

Sources of information
(with location)

Likely sources not yet investigated

Land Records, Wills, Etc.—Balt. Co.

Tax Records, Rent Rolls—Annapolis

Tax Records, Md. Hist. Society

Prepared by Alvin B. Shaw

Date 9/15/66

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DOCUMENTATION

Published references: Give author's full name, exact title from title page (underlined), publisher, place of publication, date, page references.

Manuscript references: Give location of manuscript and note if long-hand or typed. Cite "from," "to," date, etc.

Interviews: If information came from a personal interview, give complete name and address of informant.

CONTINUATIONS: Any of the above entries may be continued on additional sheets. Exact transcripts in quotes from pertinent documents are especially welcomed as appendices or otherwise.

'MARSHMONT' FARM HOMESTEAD ONE OF MOST BEAUTIFUL AND WELL PRESERVED IN COUNTY

Oldest Part Of House Said To Have Been Built In 1690; Land Portion Of Daniel Dulany's Holdings Which Were Restored After Tory Confiscation

One of the most beautiful, most complete and best preserved colonial homesteads in Baltimore County is Eaglesnest, or Marshmont Farm, the present residence of J. Marsh Matthews, on the Jarrettsville Pike. There is something woefully lacking in the motorist winging along that highway who doesn't slow down for a good look at the place,

and in whose mind is not stimulated a curiosity to know its history.

Situated on a high hill commanding a sweeping view of Loch Raven and the Dulany Valley, it is a mounted jewel of colonial architecture and one could travel far, not only in Baltimore County or Maryland, but in all the East, without finding a better example of its period. With its harmonious, walled-in surroundings—lawns, gardens, old slave quarters, smoke-house and other out-buildings—it forms a picture that will always remain in the mind of the observer, with an appreciation of such things, as one of the most beautiful ever consigned to his memory.

The land upon which the homestead stands goes back to original grants to Daniel Dulany, and embraces portions of his "Valley of Jehosaphat," now known as Dulany's Valley. Dulany came to Maryland in the early part of the eighteenth century and before his death acquired land holdings aggregating about five

thousand acres. At the time of the Revolution the family adhered to the crown, and the confiscation by the American Government of the estates of all Tories deprived them of their property. The younger Daniel Dulany, however, through influential Whig friends in the Maryland General Assembly, succeeded in getting back five hundred acres of the confiscated land for each of his three sisters, all located in the valley. A five-hundred-acre tract, called Winsor, went to Mary Dulany Fitzhugh; another of similar size, called Epping Forest, went to Catherine Dulany Belt, and the third, called Springfield, went to Rebecca, who married Thomas Hanson.

Joshua Marsh, who was also an early settler in the Dulany Valley section and is said to have been at one time in the employ of the Dulanys, returning from the Revolutionary War, where he made an enviable record and rose to the rank of Captain, began buying the Dulany property. As early as April 18, 1778, George Gould Presbury, County Surveyor, surveyed for him a tract of one hundred and seven acres, called Ezekiel's Dispute, which was a part of the "Valley of Jehosaphat." He is known also to have bought portions of Epping Forest from Mrs. Belt, and a part of Winsor from Mary Dulany Fitzhugh, and before his death in 1820, and acquired a very large landed estate.

There appears to have been a small, Dutch-colonial, stone house on one of the tracts purchased by Captain Marsh, and this, for a time, he made his home as he found it, repairing and renovating it to make it habitable, for it was indeed very old even then. Very old, but very sound. Its walls are about eighteen inches thick, with deep casement windows and deep set doors, and its interior is of heavy heart-of-oak construction—massive rafters, broad board floors, side paneling, corner cupboards and stairway in the kitchen, which curls up from one corner to a room above. It is all there today, even the spacious fire place with its original crane and high mantle piece, and as sound as though it were set up only yesterday.

This original house is a story-and-a-half structure of four rooms—two on the ground level and two above—and forms the kitchen wing of the present house. Who built it is a matter for speculation. It was one of the parts of the Daniel Dulany property purchased by Captain Marsh, but contractors and builders who have done repair work on it and examined it carefully say that details of its construction seem to indicate that it was built some time about 1690, or between 1690 and 1700, which would put the date of its erection before the coming of Daniel Dulany to Maryland. According to Scharf, Daniel Dulany did not come to America until about 1730.

Captain Marsh had a large family—about ten children—so it soon became necessary for him to enlarge his house. So, in 1790, he built onto the original structure what is now the main part of the house, which contains the living room, dining room, hall, with charming, broken, colonial stairway, two large bedrooms on the second floor and two smaller sleeping apartments on the attic floor, giving, in its entirety, as of today, a house of ten rooms.

The addition built by Captain Marsh is of straight colonial design, constructed of stone and rises to a height of two stories and attic, with a small, square colonial porch at the front entrance and a colonade, originally open, but now closed, running from the rear of the main portion of the house along the intermediate section to the old kitchen. A long rear porch was built after the Civil War, replacing one similar to the front porch.

The large, square, high-ceiled rooms of the first floor flank a broad hall, from which one ascends, by the colonial stairway, to the second and third floors. There is also a narrow, enclosed stairway from one corner of the dining room to the second floor of the intermediate section. The interior woodwork is pine, painted white, and all the broad board floors are original.

Flanking the old kitchen are the smoke and weaving houses, of stone, and the slave quarters, now made over into a garage, adjoining the far end of the original house. Down the hill is a spring house and the whole-house, lawns, gardens and out-buildings—is enclosed by a thick stone wall, with picturesque entrance gate on the north side.

The house throughout is most carefully and tastefully furnished in keeping with its period and contains many original Marsh pieces including the four-poster in the master bed room, a rare hunting table in the dining room, a hall bench, some chairs and in one of the corner closets is some of the old queensware. Over the hunting table, in the dining room, on which is displayed a very old and valuable Napoleonic coffee set, is an engraving of the proposed Washington Monument, to be situated in the City of

Historic Houses - "Marshmont", Baltimore Co, (now Eagles Nest)

Washington, and appears to be an acknowledgment of a donation made by Joshua Marsh to its building fund.

Captain Joshua Marsh married Temperance Harryman, a sister of George Harryman, who frequently represented Baltimore County in the Maryland General Assembly. They had ten children, but Eaglesnest, or Marshmont Farm, as the homestead was named, eventually went to Ellen Marsh, who married Amos Matthews, of Towson. They occupied the property during their lifetime and left it to their two sons, Dennis Marsh Mathews and Joshua Marsh Matthews, giving Dennis the part of the farm along the Dulany Valley road and Joshua the family Homestead. Joshua did not marry and dying, bequeathed his part of the estate to his nephew, Dennis Matthews' son, Joshua Marsh Matthews.

J. Marsh Matthews, present owner of Eaglesnest, or Marshmont, is a Baltimore attorney and married Mary Hester Waters, daughter of Francis Edward Waters, of Baltimore. They have one daughter, Mrs. John Sawyer Wilson 3rd.

Not a great while ago, an old gentleman, passed ninety, and his son, both of whom had motored all the way from Ohio, visited Marshmont, were much interested in every detail of the place and before leaving the older man told Mrs. Matthews that he had letters written from that estate under date of 1735 and would send her copies of them. She is still waiting, however; the copies have not yet arrived.

More about
Old Houses

EAGLE'S NEST

By MRS. VAN NOYES VERPLANCK

EAGLE'S NEST is a Colonial house in the "Valley of the Jehosophat," Baltimore county. The land on which it stands is part of a patent granted by Lord Baltimore to Richard Smith, Jr., as "The Valley of the Jehosophat," under "the Great Seal of Our Province of Maryland, the 4th day of August in the ninth month of Our Dominion, 1684."

It later came into possession of Daniel Dulany, and was then deeded to his second son, Walter Dulany. During the Revolution all this land was confiscated, and Thomas Marsh, in 1788, bought Eagle's Nest from the State. Since then this house has been lived in by his descendants.

Early in 1800, Thomas Marsh made renovations to the house, as the wood-work was badly scarred and burned during the Revolution. The chimney in the present dining-room, when repaired, was found to have the date 1740 on the back of the chimney-stone. The east wing of the house contains the Colonial kitchen; this part of the house dates from 1684.

The house is furnished in authentic antiques, of which the most outstanding pieces are a hunt board, and a butler's secretary, made by John Shaw of Annapolis, the well-known early Maryland cabinet-maker.



There are many legends connected with Eagle's Nest. Roving bands of hostile Indians from Pennsylvania often foraged the countryside and terrified the inhabitants.

When word was spread around that the Indians were coming, all the neighbors congregated in the Marsh's smoke-house, which served as a garrison. It is built of stone, with small openings around the top; loop-holes through which the men could fire their guns at the approaching Indians.

During the Civil War, it is said that when the Gilmore Raiders were on the rampage, the slaves secreted all the horses except one in the woods; "Boston," the valuable hunter, was hidden in the smoke-house. When the raiders approached the main house they heard the neighing of the horses in the woods; thus diverted, they went directly there, and "Boston" was saved.

The terraced garden in front of the house is still surrounded by the old stone wall, built, it is said, to keep out

the wolves and the Indians in the late seventeenth century. The mortar used is made of clam shells and oyster shells, typical of the practice at that time.

Eagle's Nest was spoken of in the nineteenth century as a model farm. Mr. J. Marsh Matthews, the present owner, is more interested in horticulture than agriculture. He has planted many varieties of holly around the house, and bordering the stone wall is a holly hedge 200 feet long. When Mr. Matthews inherited the land in 1911 there were 1,200 acres; today there still remain many acres of virgin forest.

Mrs. Matthews successfully raises southern camellias, growing them in the open in protected spots. These bloom in colorful array from October until Christmas. It is believed that camellias have never before been raised in Maryland except in a hot house.

Eagle's Nest is one of the seventeenth century homes shown by the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland during its annual house and Garden Pilgrimage.

Balti. County, Offutt
B/1-107

TOWSON QUAD.

207

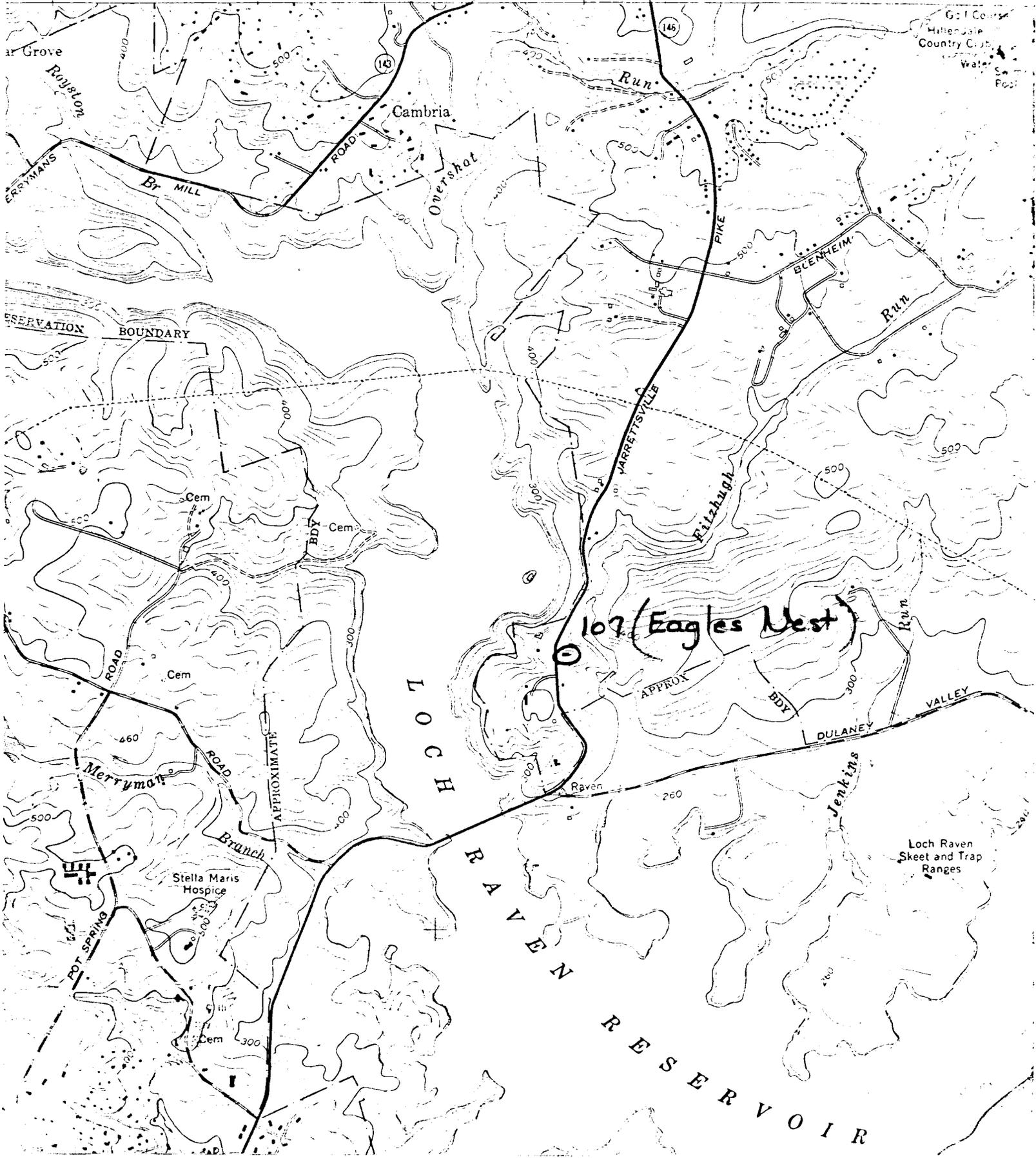
RIO

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS

SUNNYBROOK (JUNC MD 146) 0.7 MI
363 35'

MADONNA 9 MI
JACKSONVILLE 1.5 MI

365 5663 11 SE
(PHOENIX) 366





BA-107

EAGLE'S NEST



Photo # 1

BA-107

