

CT-47

BRISCOE HOUSE

18th. &  
mid-19th. c.

Appearing to be of 19th. century construction date this two story frame house actually has incorporated into its structure a much earlier 18th. century house. To the rear elevation are two wings, both beileved to be of 18th. century date.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST MAGI#0500475335

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Stonesby (Briscoe House)

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**STREET & NUMBER Parkers Road overlooking Parkers Wharf  
Parkers Wharf

CITY, TOWN

Parkers Wharf — VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Calvert

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

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

NAME

Jas. T. Briscoe

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Parker Wharf Road

MD

CITY, TOWN

Island Creek — VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Calvert County Courthouse

Liber #: JLB 139

Folio #: 573

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Prince Frederick

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

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

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

The central chimney of the north wing, the asymmetry of the west or front facade plus the report of an interior brick wall suggest that "Stonesby," as we know it today, is the result of many additions and remodeling of an older and smaller house. Facing the main facade and looking from left to right (north to south) the first three bays are symmetrical to each other. The upper windows as a lot are not centrally positioned; the two window frames on the south side are bigger than the others; 6/6 lights occupy the north windows on the first floor while 6/9 occupy those on the right. The south wing has double chimneys and the north wing has a central single chimney with double flues. These differences suggest that the original house was a typical side-hall and double-parlor with a centrally located chimney and fireplace.

The only basis for including the hall in the original plan is the symmetry which it imputes, more detailed investigation of the interior walls, and foundations is necessary for a final answer concerning the plan of the original house.

There is little doubt, however, that an earlier house was added on to and tradition holds that the same builder who built "Oakland Hal. (CT-139)" and who remodeled "Brooke Place Manor" (CT-46) was also responsible for remodeling "Stonesby." Given the fine craftsmanship and preference for high classical vocabulary in each building this possibility is not remote.

In spite of any inconsistencies in its plan, "Stonesby" is a large block three bays deep and five bays wide which is verified through its clapboard exterior and deep eaves with large block-shaped brackets. While the north and south wing do not correspond precisely to each other, the house nevertheless has a central plan. One enters Stonesby by crossing a wide veranda which early photographs prove to have been remodeled at least three times. The main door is unusually wide (44" x 82") and has double doors framed by a transom with sidelights.

Hall

The hall contains a grand stairs and entrances off its sides into the various parlors, office, and dining room. Like so many early houses in the Maryland and Virginia tidewater region, "Stonesby" takes advantage of its hilltop site by having doors at appropriate ends of the hall.

The stairs proceed from landing to landing accomplishing three levels. There are scrolled step-ends and an elaborate mahogany colored newell characterized by its variously shaped cylindrical parts.

The most notable feature of the hall is a wooden arch which roughly divides the room in half and which is decorated with carved rosettes and details.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET No. 1  
CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**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 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 type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY               | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              |   |  |

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**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** Description and significance statements: Wayne DO

NAME / TITLE

Ms. Merry Stinson

Nield

ORGANIZATION

DATE

March 1, 1978

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Route 5 Box 262B

TELEPHONE

757-2815

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis,

STATE

Maryland 21401

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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

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

Stonesby  
Calvert County  
CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

(DESCRIPTION CONTINUED)

Like the rest of the rooms on the first floor, the ceiling in the hall is 11'2" high. The door frames are trimmed with elaborate grooved moulding making the frames 8" wide.

South Wing

This room is an addition (circa 1850) and is quite elegant. It accomplishes the feeling of a double parlor; however, there is no actual partition aside from the pilasters and two fluted ionic columns which divide the room in half. Each half has its own rounded arch coal fireplace decorated with marble faces that have rose medallions crowning the arch. These fireplaces are served by enclosed chimneys.

The rooms are finished with an elaborate cornice consisting of concave-convex (cyma reversa/cyma recta) mouldings.

North Wing

This is the older portion of the house, containing two rooms with fireplaces that share the same chimney. The parlor or west room is said to have been Dr. Briscoe's office and the family has a photo of the Doctor in this room. It shows no major changes.

Woodburning fireplaces are served by a chimney in the wall which divides these two rooms.

The living room is a larger room. In the south-west corner of the room, there is a large corner cupboard which appears to be late Georgian in age and it once stood in Bleak Hill (CT-93) another Briscoe home in the north part of the county.

Attic

It was observed in the attic that circular sawn rafters are joined at the ridge via an open mortise-tenon and held with wooden pegs. Log ceiling joists were noted as were purlins varying in width up to 14". These contained cut nails.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Stonesby  
Calvert County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

(DESCRIPTION CONTINUED)

Outbuildings

There are several outbuildings located to the east of the main house. Two of them, the meathouse and the dairy appear to be the oldest.

Meathouse

This building is 12' long and 10' wide with 9 1/2' between the sill and eaves. It is vented by a single batten door which measures 72" x 35". Early loop-end strap hinges support the door which is constructed with early cut nails (double struck, heads on cut shanks).

The walls of the meathouse are built of clapboards attached to a heavy post-and-beam frame made of hewn stuff. A gable end roof was shingled. The interior of the roof and the characteristic exposed beams show evidence of the smoking process.

Dairy

This building also has a post-and-beam frame. The interior is lath and plaster; the exterior is covered with clapboards attached with cut nails.

Although it is presently obstructed, the present owner says that there is a small subterranean chamber below the floor of this little one-room structure.

The roof is tetrahedral. The supporting block is 9'3" square. The building rests on a 1' brick foundation and there are 75" between the sill and the eaves. The building is vented by a door and several tiny windows; in the front (west), the door measures 57" x 29" and the windows are 24" x 19".

0500475204

Form 10-445  
(5/62)

1. STATE <b>Maryland</b> COUNTY <b>Calvert County</b> TOWN VICINITY STREET NO. <b>Mutual</b>  ORIGINAL OWNER <b>Briscoe Family</b> ORIGINAL USE PRESENT OWNER <b>Briscoe Family</b> PRESENT USE WALL CONSTRUCTION NO. OF STORIES	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY <b>CT-47</b>
	2. NAME <b>Briscoe House</b>  DATE OR PERIOD <b>1705 w/ 1850 additions</b> STYLE <b>Early Victorian</b> ARCHITECT BUILDER
3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION	OPEN TO PUBLIC <u>NO</u>
<p>This large Victorian 5 bay wide, 3 bay deep structure, is attractive in its rather run-down state. High on a hill, it commands a fine view of the Patuxent River. The A-roof has a heavy cornice with many Victorian modillions of a rather simple design. To the rear of this house are two, 1-1/2 story 18th century additions with exterior brick chimneys.</p> <p>Incorporated into the fabric of the Briscoe House is the early C. 1705 frame structure which was the original house on the property. In the main house of this property is a rug which has lain on the floor for over 100 years.</p> <p>This house is filled with many historic associations and is worthy of further study.</p> <p><u>Good, but in need of repairs.</u></p>	
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE	Endangered Interior Exterior

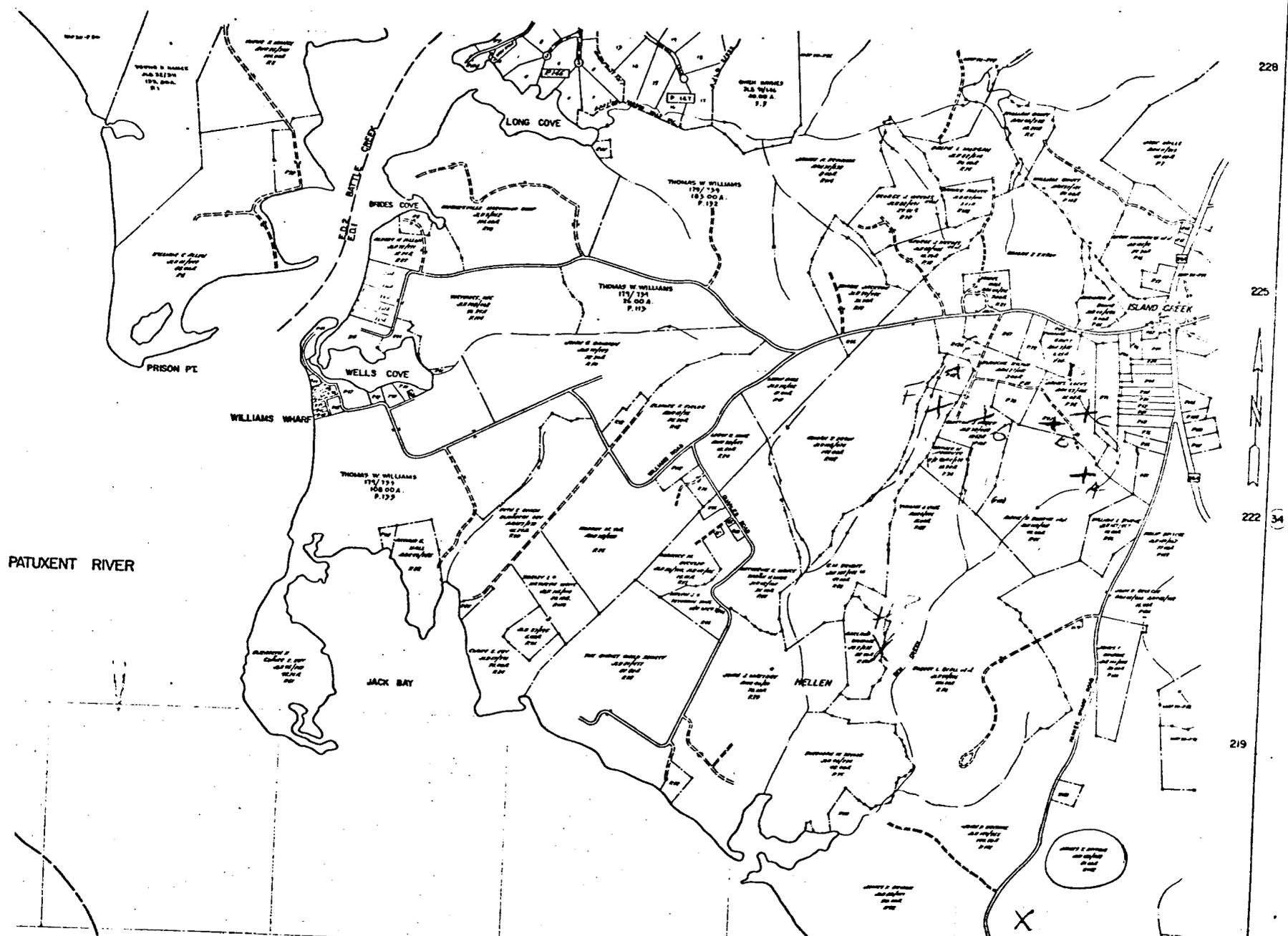
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)	7. PHOTOGRAPH
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8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.	9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER  <b>PAB 7/28/67</b>  DATE OF RECORD
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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTO PHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

LT-47 Stonesby

30



228

225

222 34

219

216

PATUXENT RIVER

BASE MAP CONSTRUCTED 9-19-72  
 FROM 1963 BIRD  
 PLANNED BY REV 10  
 MAP SHEET 10-1-72

914.

917

37

DEPT. OF ASSESSMENTS & TAXATION  
 TAX MAP DIVISION  
 REVISION TO MAP 10-1-72

PROPERTY LINE  
 SUB-DIVISION BOUNDARY  
 CONTINGENT OWNERSHIP  
 SCALE 1" = 600'  
 1/4" = 150'



MA 33



CT. 47  
Stonesby  
E



7/78  
M. Stinson



CT-47  
STONES BY  
S.W.

Wayne Nield

Jul. '77



CT-47  
Stonesby  
View looking W. to  
Patuxent R.

M. Stinson  
7/78



C.F. 47

33



CT-47  
STONESBY  
S.

Wayne Nield  
Jul. '77



CT-47  
STONES BY  
DAIRY  
S.E.

Wayne Field  
Jul. '77



CT-47  
STONSBY  
S. W. CORNER  
OF  
KITCHEN  
(No Negative)

Wayne Nield

Jul. '77