

**Spring Hill**  
**CH-748**  
**Bel Alton vic.**  
**Private**

**Circa 1825; Circa 1920**

Erected during the second quarter of the 19th century, Spring Hill is a two-story, frame, three-bay structure attached to a circa 1920 1 ½ story dependency at the gable end. A single exterior-end brick chimney with stepped shoulders and a corbelled cap is located on the west elevation. The addition includes a large gabled dormer on each of the north and south elevations. The structure originally had a three-room plan including a narrow, quarter-turn stair passage and a small unheated room to the rear, next to a large heated room on the east end running the length of the dwelling. Similar floorplans are found at Johnstontown (CH-348 NRL/E), Hollycut (CH-340), Rock Hall (CH-85) and Charleston (CH-64 demolished). Although substantially altered and stripped of original details, Springhill is an interesting example of Charles County's domestic architecture dating from the second quarter of the 19th century. Throughout the second quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Charles County continued to thrive on its agricultural and growing commercial trade. This overall economic prosperity is reflected in the number of examples of domestic architecture to survive in Charles County from the period.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CH-748

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Spring Hill

other Kildare Property

### 2. Location

street and number 9485 Kildare Place      not for publication

city, town La Plata   X   vicinity

county Charles

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Donald P. Delano

street and number 9485 Kildare Place telephone Unknown

city, town La Plata state MD zip code 20646

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charles County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 55 p.214

city, town La Plata liber 3400 folio 4

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report
- Other

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<u>  1  </u> <u>    </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<u>    </u> <u>    </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<u>  3  </u> <u>    </u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<u>    </u> <u>    </u> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<u>  4  </u> <u>    </u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			<b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b>

---

## 7. Description

---

Inventory No. CH-748

### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

---

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Erected during the second quarter of the 19th century, Spring Hill is a two-story, frame, three-bay structure attached to a circa 1920 1 1/2 story dependency at the gable end. The dwelling faces south and stands between Spring Hill Branch and the historic Baltimore and Potomac Railroad. A single exterior-end brick chimney with stepped shoulders and a corbelled cap is located on the west elevation. A Victorian hipped roof porch adorns the south, principle elevation and an enclosed one-story shed addition is attached to the north wall. The addition includes a large gabled dormer on each of the north and south elevations. The house has a composition shingle roof and asbestos siding covers the frame. The cornice is boxed and the foundation was not visible at the time of the survey. The house is currently abandoned and is without windows. Three tobacco barns also stand on the property. Two were erected in the early to mid-20th century, while the third is believed to have been constructed in the late 19th century. The earliest of three tobacco barns stands to the south of the dwelling near the railroad tracks. This barn is of pole construction and is five bays in length.

The south elevation main block includes three symmetrical second story windows above a reworked contemporary bay window and door on the first floor. The west elevation includes only the chimney. The rear fenestration includes two asymmetrical second story windows and a reworked first floor window. The 1 1/2 story addition includes two bays on the south elevation. A double window occupies the western bay and a 4-panel Victorian door occupies the eastern bay. The east elevation includes the remains of a single 2/2 window and a exterior brick chimney flue. The rear elevation includes only a single 2/2 elevation. The dormer windows include double window frames.

The structure originally had a three-room plan including a narrow, quarter-turn stair passage and a small unheated room to the rear, next to a large heated room on the east end running the length of the dwelling. Similar floorplans are found at Johnstown (CH-348 NRL/E), Hollycut (CH-340), Rock Hall (CH-85) and Charleston (CH-64 demolished). The house has been stripped of all significant woodwork including interior doors and mantles.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-748

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**Specific dates** c. 1825; 1920

**Architect/Builder** Unknown

**Construction dates** c. 1825; 1920

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

Although substantially altered and stripped of original details, Springhill is an interesting example of Charles County's domestic architecture dating from the second quarter of the 19th century. Following the War of 1812, Charles County experienced a period of economic stability. Although competition from other tobacco-growing regions intensified during the first half of the nineteenth century, the large-scale planters seem to have maintained their economic stability. By 1820, most of the out migration caused by the depredations of war and the inability of small tenant farmers to prosper had ceased. Tobacco prices became unstable, and remained so throughout the early nineteenth century. However, the wealthiest of the landowners in the county remained prosperous. Many diversified their interests, investing in corn or wheat cultivation or in commercial industries, such as milling, fishing, and commerce. Throughout the second quarter of the 19th century, Charles County continued to thrive on its agricultural and growing commercial trade. Although census records reveal no significant population growth during these years, there are no indications of economic depression. This overall economic prosperity is reflected in the number of examples of domestic architecture to survive in Charles County from the period.

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

---

Inventory No. CH-748

---

## 10. Geographical Data

---

Acreage of surveyed property 5

Acreage of historical setting 175

Quadrangle name Popes Creek

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

---

Verbal boundary description and justification

Spring Hill is associated with Charles County Property Tax Map 1:24,000

---

## 11. Form Prepared By

---

name/title Cathy Hardy/Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Charles County Planning

date 9/9/2002

street and number 200 Baltimore Street

telephone 301-396-5815

city or town La Plata

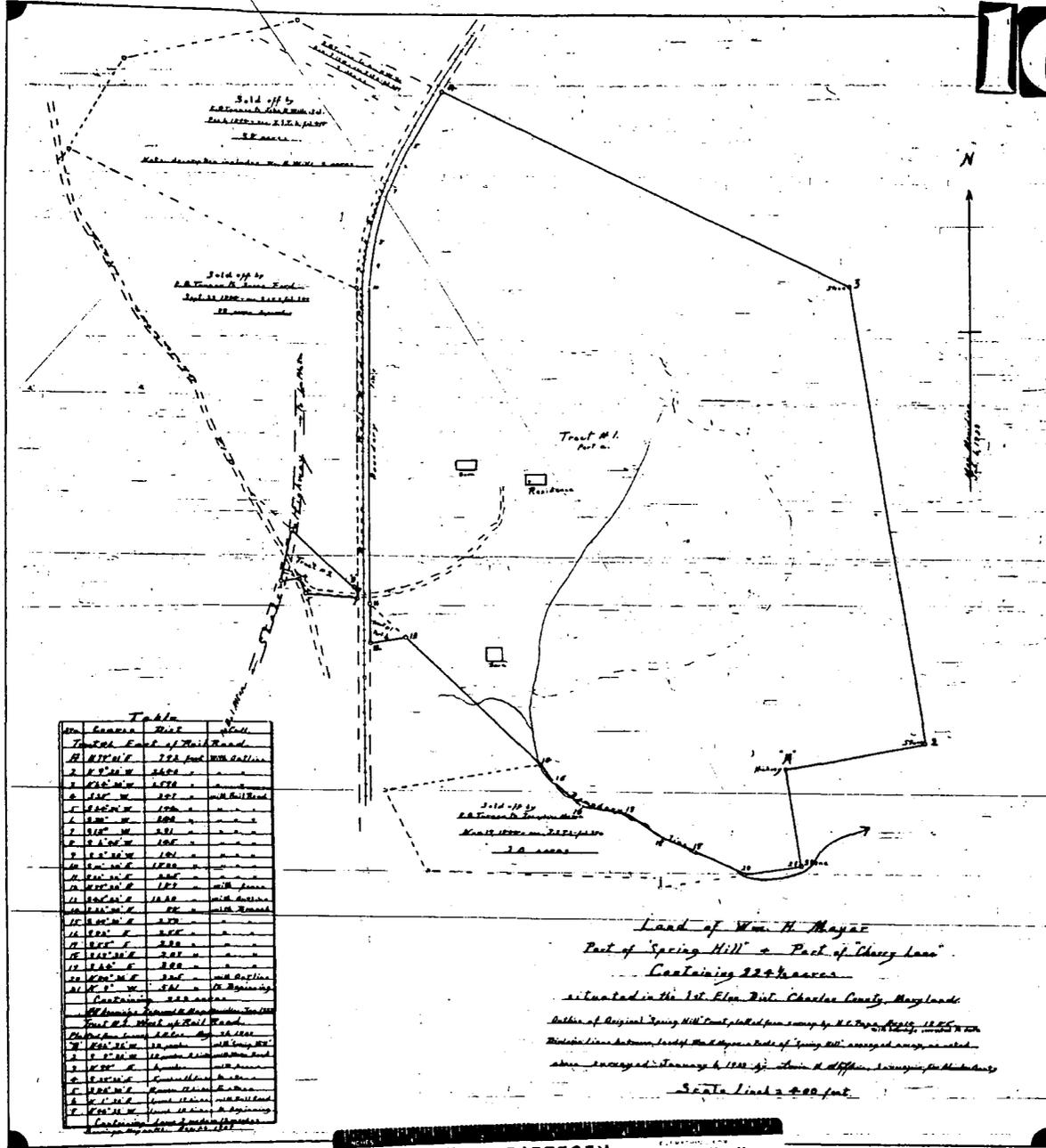
state MD zip code 20646

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville MD 21032  
410-514-7600

# 16



TBM No. 2 Folio 16

CH-748 Charles County, MD  
Name: SPRINGHILL  
Location: BELMONT VIC.  
Quad: POPES CREEK

FACCO

# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

BALTIMORE 65 MI.  
LA PLATA 2 MI.

5730'

77°00'  
38°30'

326000m E.

4262000m N.

4261

4260

CHAPEL POINT 12 MI.

27°30'

4258

4257

Fairgrounds

RENN CENTRAL

BM 173

Bel Alton  
(Cox Sta)

Spring

Hill

Clark Branch

Clark Run

Branch

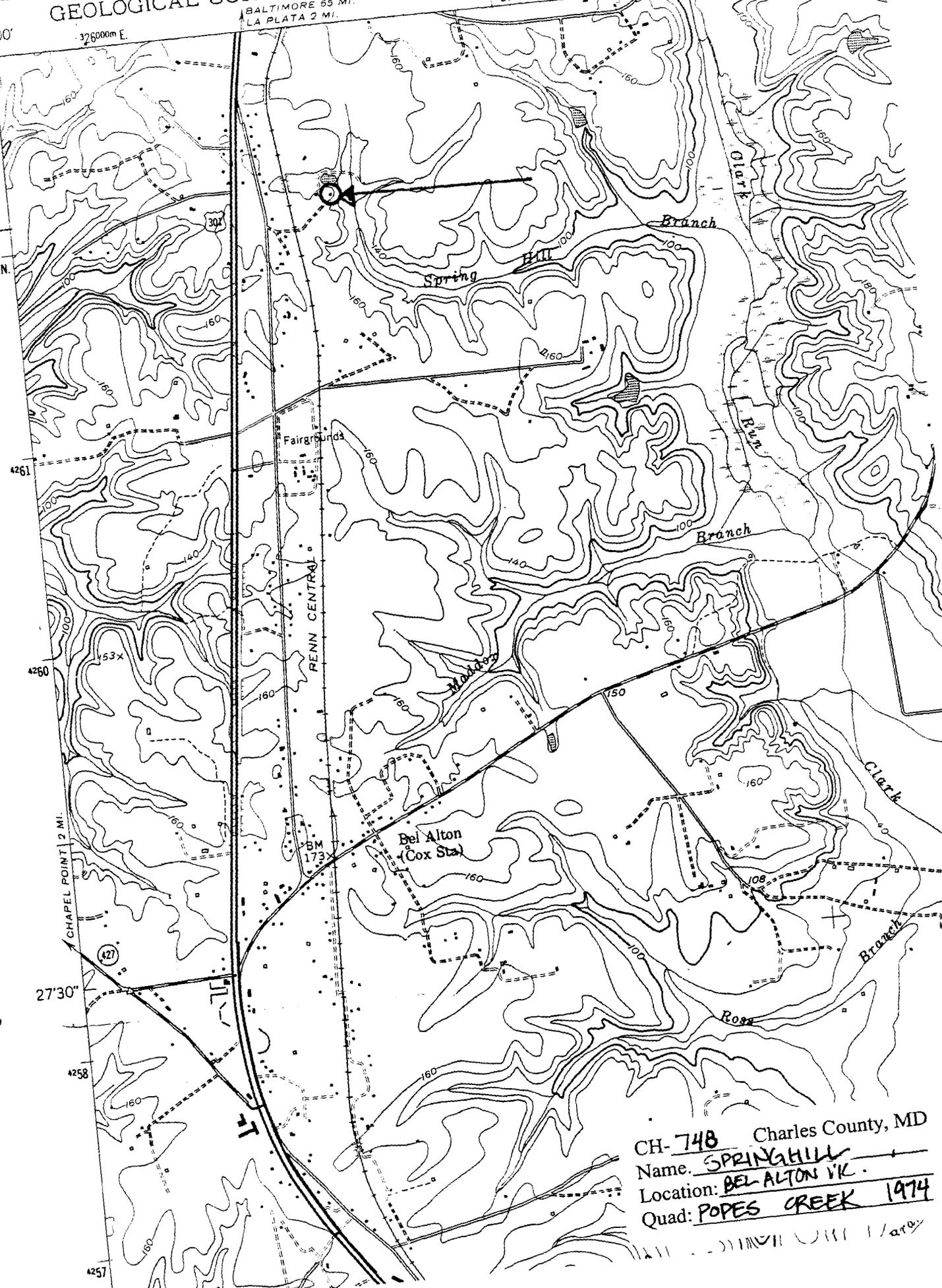
Clark

Branch

Road

CH-748 Charles County, MD  
Name: SPRINGHILL  
Location: BEL ALTON VIC.  
Quad: POPES CREEK 1974

17,000





CA-748  
KILDARE PROPERTY  
CHARLES CO. MD  
C. HARDY  
5/2002  
MD SHPO  
LOOKING NE

1 of 4



CH-748  
KILDARE PROPERTY,  
CHARLES CO. MD  
C. HARDY  
5/2002  
MD SHPO  
WEST ELEVATION  
2054



CH-748  
KILDARE PROPERTY  
CHARLES CO, MD  
C. HARDY

5/2002  
MD SHPO

PEAR ELEVATION

30154



CH-748  
KILDARE PROPERTY  
CHARLES CO. MD  
C. HARDY

5/2002  
MD SHPO  
LOOKING SW

4 of 4