

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Stonemetz Log House

2. Location

street & number 3/4 mile east of Mt. Ephraim Road not for publication

city, town Park Mills vicinity of congressional district Sixth

state Maryland county Frederick

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Abandoned

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

name Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Stonemetz

street & number 2247 Mt. Ephraim Road telephone no.: (301)695-6028

city, town Park Mills state and zip code Maryland 21710

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber

street & number folio

city, town Frederick state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title N/A

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. F-7-119

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" 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 of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

The Stonemetz Log House is located on a ridge to the west of Sugar-loaf Mountain approximately 3/4 mile east of Mt. Ephraim Road and one mile southeast of the village of Park Mills. A dirt road leading up to the site has recently been improved by the county and is now identified as Stewart Hill Road. The house is sited on the thickly wooded crest of a small ridge above open meadows. Stone foundation ruins survive as evidence of several associated buildings.

The log house on the Stonemetz property consists of two sections, the first probably dating to the middle of the 19th century and the second added shortly thereafter. To the extent that physical orientation could be determined without a compass or defined landmarks, the house appears to be oriented on an east-west axis. For the purposes of this description that orientation will be followed.

The original section of the Stonemetz house consists of a true story-and-a-half log building that measures 18 feet long and 16 feet deep. The walls rest on large slabs of native stone and are 12 to 13 logs high, with framed gables and a pitched gable roof. The logs are hewn and are joined at the corners with V-notch joints, the most common form of notching in this region in the 19th century. Chinking between the logs consists of small flat slabs of stone laid on edge at an angle and bedded in mortar. Whitewash has been applied to the exterior walls which have never been sheathed with weatherboards.

The principal facade faces south, and is pierced by a single door in the center and a large window (either 6/6 or 2/2) to the right. A smaller window off-center in the upper gable is the only opening in the east gable; a single door is centered on the rear or north facade. The west gable is now an interior wall addition.

The steeply pitched gable roof is constructed of common rafters consisting of undressed round poles joined at the ridge, reinforced with light collars and covered with wood shingles. The upper gables are framed in and sheathed with plain weatherboard siding. The roof oversails at the gable eaves and on both facades with no cornice.

The interior of the original house consists of a single room with an enclosed stair in the northwest corner. There is evidence of a stove chimney in the center of the east gable. The interior walls and ceiling were never plastered but have received a heavy coating of whitewash and a buff yellow wash or paint. The flooring survives on the first floor and is laid on roughly finished sleepers, but the second story flooring

8. Significance

Survey No. F-7-119

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 checked="" 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
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Stonemetz Log House is typical of a house type that was widely used in central and western Maryland from the mid-18th to the late 19th century. The one room plan was routinely combined with hewn log construction in a true story-and-a-half form to create a house that could be quickly constructed at moderate cost with minimal need for non-local materials and was well adapted for later expansion.

Probably built in the mid-nineteenth century, the Stonemetz house is unusual in that it remains virtually unchanged since the completion of the early and equally significant addition. The exterior was never covered with siding and retains the original whitewashed finish that was routinely used but rarely survives undisturbed and uncovered. The interior walls remain unplastered and no modern conveniences have ever been added. Neither has the enlarged two part house been diluted by later additions, porches, sheds or other accretions that typically dilute early housing in its most basic form.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION

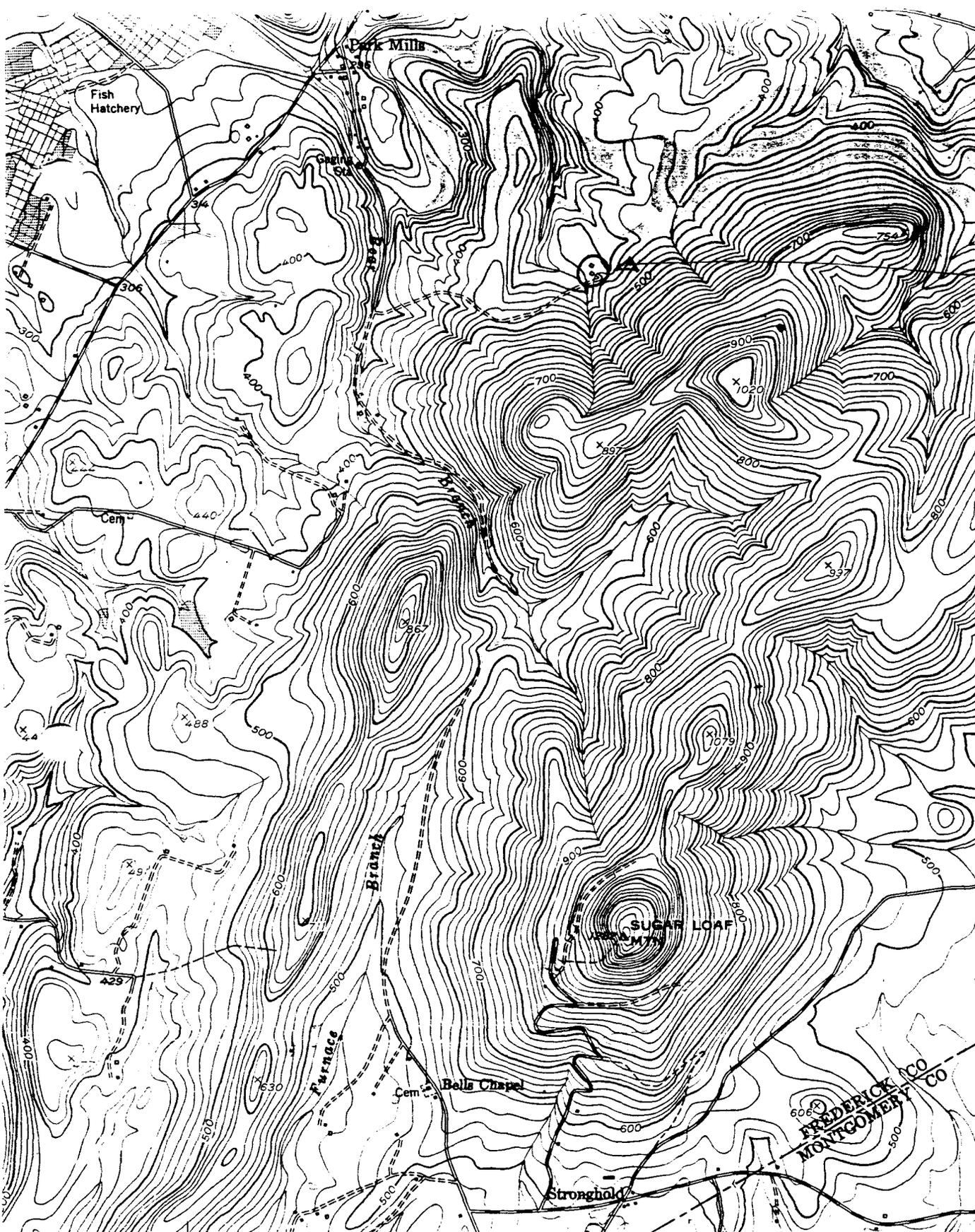
has been removed. The ceiling joints remain in place, and consist of hewn 5 by 5 inch timber with the corners eased. A single door on each floor in the west gable allows access to the addition.

The original house was enlarged at an early date with the construction of an addition to the west gable end. This addition was the same height and depth and extends 21 feet in length. The walls are also of hewn log construction with V-notched corners. The addition is not a completely independent structure but consists of three walls built against the west end of the original house. This is a common solution to the problems inherent in joining two log walls together, and is also of interest for comparison with a parallel form of post-and-plank construction practiced in the Tidewater Chesapeake.

The facade walls are virtually identical with a door to the east adjacent to the corner posts and a large window to the west. A small window off-center in the upper gable is the only opening in the west wall.

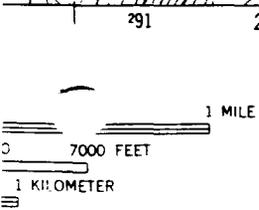
The interior consists of a single rectangular room with evidence of a stove chimney that was centered on the west wall. There was no stair in this part of the house, and floors and walls are finished in similar fashion to the original house.

The building has been abandoned for many years, and has remained virtually unchanged since the completion of the addition. The house is in deteriorated condition, however. Partial failure of the log walls in the addition has left large holes in both facade walls, and lesser damage is evident in the east end. Flooring has been removed from the second story east room and part of the west room, and the chimney openings at each end of the roof are allowing water into the house. Stabilization remains viable, particularly for the original section, but would need to occur in the near future.



4352
17'30"
F-7-119
Stonemetz
Log House
4351

4350
4349
4348000m N.
39°15'
77°22'30"



● INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WASHINGTON D C —1972

291 25' 292 294000m E

ROAD CLASSIFICATION			
Heavy-duty		Light-duty	
Medium-duty		Unimproved dirt	
	Interstate Route		U. S. Route
	State Route		

(GERMANTOWN)
5562 III NE

BUCKEYSTOWN, MD.-VA.