

## SUMMARY

Ruins of Stone Bank House on Cool Branch Road  
Coolbranch Road  
Churchville, MD 21028

HA-1562

The ruins of this stone bank house now stand on a 3-acre lot of the tract "Jericho", which until 1967 was part of the Moxley-Gorsuch farm (HA-411, 412). The house may have been a tenant house on the farm when it was owned by Thomas Archer (1836-1872) or his son, Harris Archer (1872-1883), or by John and Mary Riley (1883-1902).

There is a strong tradition of stone bank houses in this area near Deer Creek. Others on Glenville Road include the George Davis house (HA-148) and the Fielder-Coale house (HA-674).

HA-1562

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Ruins of Stone Bank House on Cool Branch Road

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Northeast side of Cool Branch Road

CITY, TOWN

nr. Churchville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

**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                   | <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 <i>RUINS</i>   |

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Douglas J. Bazemore

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 301

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air, MD 21014

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air, MD 21014

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

AK-1162

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

Ruins of Stone Bank House on Cool Branch Road

This 2-story, gable-roofed rubblestone bank house is located on the Northeast side of Cool Branch Road.

Partially demolished, the house will probably not be standing much longer, and its original configuration has been obscured. The house measure 20'4" by 18'5"; the ridge line runs North-South. The house is set into a hill so there are 3 full stories on the North side; a 1-story, shed-roofed lean-to spans the East end. The Northwest corner of the house in both stories has collapsed and charred timbers suggest a fire as the reason. Walls are 1'5" thick and partially stuccoed, with occasional concrete blocks and a replaced foundation. The apparent fenestration of the remaining structure is as follows: a door in the 1st. story of the North end; on the East side, a door in the South bay and window in the North bay of the ground story and 1 window with a brick flat arch in the first story; 1 window each in the gable and the ground story of the South end.

On the interior, there appears most recently to have been one room on each floor. The basement has a stone fireplace in the North wall. The second floor is supported on full log joists with hewn tops and bottoms. The rafters are logs butted together, with hewn bottoms.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

NK-1562

| 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 checked="" 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

#### Ruins of Stone Bank House on Cool Branch Road

The origins of this Stone bank house are unclear, although the history of the land is well-documented. It now stands on a 3-acre lot of the tract "Jericho", which until 1967 was part of the Moxley-Gorsuch farm (HA-411-412). The lack of fireplaces on any floor but the ground level suggests that the house may have been built by Thomas Archer, who owned the farm from 1836 until 1872, or by his son, Harris Archer, who owned the farm from 1872 until 1883. It is also possible that this house dates from the ownership of John and Mary Riley from 1883-1902. The deteriorated condition of the structure prevents detailed architectural examination.

Thomas Archer (b. 1808, d. 1870), the son of Mary Stump and Robert Harris Archer, ran a private school at his home, "Allendale". He married Susanna P. Glasgow in 1841 and had 4 children: James Glasgow, Robert Harris, Mary Elizabeth and Delia Lee Archer.

Prior to Thomas Archer's ownership of the farm, it had belonged to Freeborn Brown, who had purchased 384 acres of "Jericho" from Ralph (or Rahl) Smith's heirs, Buchanan and Ralph Smith, in 1775 and 1776.<sup>1</sup> Brown is listed on the 1798 Tax Assessment as owning 671 Acres and on the 1814 Tax List as owning 670 Acres of "Halls Rich Neck" and "Good Neighborhood"--no mention of "Jericho". He was quite a wealthy man, with his property valued at \$15,400.

There is a strong tradition of stone bank houses in this area near Deer Creek. Most (e.g. HA-148, HA-678) were banked on the rear facade; this one may have faced Cool Branch, although there is not enough of the structure left to tell.

### Footnotes

1. A.L. 1/459  
JLF A/263  
A.L. 1/468

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Land, Will & Equity Records of Harford County  
1798, 1814 Tax Lists  
Wright, C. Milton; Our Harford Heritage, 1967

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  
Natalie Shivers, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION  
Historic District Commission of Harford County

DATE  
7/80

STREET & NUMBER  
45 South Main Street

TELEPHONE  
838-6000 X 207

CITY OR TOWN  
Bel Air, MD 21014

STATE

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

## TITLE SEARCH

HA-1562

1. 965/687 1/9/1975 Grantor: Harry E. & Sara Booth Dyer, Jr.  
Grantee: Douglas J. & Denise P. Bazemore  
Acreage: 3.0 A.
2. GRG 773/255 11/10/1970 Grantor: Glenville Sportsman's Club, Inc.  
Grantee: Harry E. & Sara Booth Dyer  
Acreage: 3.0 A.
3. GRG 773/255 11/25/1967 Grantor: Ruth C. Moxley, Widow  
Grantee: Glenville Sportsmen's Club, Inc.  
Acreage: 3.0 A.
4. 203/36 3/5/1927 Grantor: Emmett J. & Maggie S. Baker  
Grantee: Treely N. & Ruth C. Moxley  
Acreage: 181.7 A.
5. JAR 169/166 4/1/1920 Grantor: Robert Archer  
Grantee: Emmitt J. & Maggie S. Baker  
Acreage: 180 A.
6. JAR 158/153 6/1/1911 Grantor: James J. Archer  
Grantee: Robert Archer  
Acreage: 180 A.
7. JAR 158/153 6/1/1911 Grantor: Robt. Archer, trustee  
(Robt. Archer vs. Wm. S. Gorsuch et al)  
Grantee: Jas. Archer  
Acreage: 180 A.
8. WSF 104/261 4/15/1902 Grantor: David H. & Florence Riley, et al  
Children of Mary A. Riley, dec.  
Grantee: Maud R. Gorsuch  
Sum: \$10,000 = \$8,666.66 2/3  
Acreage: "Jerico" = 180 A.
9. ALJ 48/46 5/14/1883 Grantor: R. Harris & Cassandra G. Archer  
Grantee: John & Mary A. Riley  
Sum: \$18,000  
Acreage: "Jerico" = 180 A.
10. ALJ 27/474 10/2/1872 Grantor: Susanna P. Archer  
Grantee: Harris Archer  
Sum: \$4,000  
Acreage: "Jericho" = 180 A.
11. ALJ 27/474 10/1/1872 Grantor: George L. Van Bibber, Trustee  
(Harris Archer vs. Susanna P. Archer)  
Grantee: Susanna P. Archer, Harris Archer  
Sum: \$12,000  
Acreage: "Whereon Thos. Archer, dec., resided"  
"Jericho" = 180 A.



BEL AIR QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND—HARFORD CO.  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

5763 II NW  
(CONOWINGO DAM)

1990

0.5 MI. TO U.S. 1

WHITEFORD 8 MI.  
POPLAR GROVE 1 MI.

1010 000 FEET

76°15'

39°37'30"



4186

650 000  
FEET

4185

4184

4183

4182

4181

*Madden's Bower*

H-1562





Ruins of Stone Bank House on Cool  
Branch Road HA-1562  
Churchville, MD 21028  
Natalie Shivers  
4/80 Southwest



Ruins of Stone Bank House on Cool  
Branch Road  
Churchville, MD 21028  
Natalie Shivers  
4/80

HA-1562

Northeast