

HA-44

D. H. Stone Springhouse (David Holland Springhouse, Bald Hill Farm)

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

Last Updated: 02-18-2004

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland	
COUNTY: Harford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON: "D. H. Springhouse"	
AND/OR HISTORIC: D. H. Springhouse	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Northeast side of Sandy Hook Road, about 0.6 miles north of Allibone Road			
CITY OR TOWN: Street			
STATE Maryland 21154	CODE 24	COUNTY: Harford	CODE 025

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 type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) household utility (abandoned)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Coy D. Tharpe and H. H. Green			
STREET AND NUMBER: Tharpe and Green Mill			
CITY OR TOWN: Churchville	STATE: Maryland 21028	CODE 24	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Clerk of the Circuit Court, Harford County Courthouse			
STREET AND NUMBER: 40 South Main Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Bel Air	STATE: Maryland 21014	CODE 24	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: Maryland Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1971 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historical Trust			
STREET AND NUMBER: 2525 Riva Road			
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis	STATE: Maryland 21401	CODE 24	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Harford
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The balanced lines of the D. H. Springhouse, a little grey stone building set into the base of a steep hill, attract the eye at first glance, and then several exceptional details, one by one, hold the attention.

This is a stone springhouse with a schoolroom above, sixteen feet six inches by twenty-three feet, with one narrow wall set into the bank over several fresh springs. It measures two bays by one. The A-roof ridgeline runs east-west.

The quality of stonemasonry is notable. All corner stones and all stones facing west, south, and east, are perfect ashlar, precisely cut rectangles smoothly finished on all six sides. Even courses fit the quoins. Lintels and sills bear traces of finely-notched chisel lines, parallel or radiating to a perfect curve at each end.

Entry to the schoolroom is through a wide doorway a few steps above the high ground at the west wall. Two windows with pegged oak frames, double hung, six lights over six, are located in the north and south walls. Shutter hinges and hooks are still in place.

Entry to the springhouse below is through a wide round arch in the south wall, made of nine stones, four on each side of the perfect keystone. On this level there are two rooms. The first, smaller, is the churn room with a small fireplace in the northwest corner, used to keep the butter and cheese warm enough in winter.

The springhouse, about fourteen feet square, had underwater shelves of stone on which crocks of milk and cream were set. Here the swirling springwater kept them cool but above freezing. Dairy products and meats and other perishable foods for the family and some of the young livestock were kept for a day or so this way.

Features of the stonemasonry skill include three window lintels with a rams-horn pattern finely etched with radiating chisel lines. The east end wall has a large stone plaque with scrolls and columns in low relief around a raised oval, gracefully inscribed "D. H. 1816." The peak of the east wall is topped with a square stone base that supports a tapering four-sided arm under a tiny Ionic capitol. The capitol supports a one-inch cube centered under a perfect sphere which measures about six inches in diameter. All of this is formed from a single stone.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1816

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Aboriginal☐ Education☐ Political☐ Urban Planning☐ Prehistoric☐ Engineering☐ Religion/Philosophy☒ Other (Specify)☐ Historic☐ Industry☐ Sciencehousehold☐ Agriculture☐ Invention☐ Sculptureutility☒ Architecture☐ Landscape☐ Social/Humanitarian☒ Art☐ Literature☐ Theater☐ Commerce☐ Military☐ Transportation☐ Communications☐ Music☐ Conservation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Primarily interesting because of its extraordinarily fine craftsmanship, the D. H. Springhouse has several other points of interest.

The owner of the remote farm on which the springhouse was built was Judge William Smithson who thirty years earlier, in 1775, had been a signer of the famous Bush River Declaration, prototype of the Declaration of Independence. Smithson was a Lord Justice of the Court in Harford Town in 1780 and served many sessions as justice of the Circuit Court in Bel Air until 1801.

There is an unresolved mystery surrounding the craftsman-architect-stonemason who built the springhouse. Two sources say that his initials were "D. H.," the letters that are carved on a plaque on the east wall of the springhouse. A third source gives him another name and no explanation of the inscription. A former owner who knew several of Smithson's descendants says that "D. H." was David Holland, a man fanatically devoted to his craft. He denies the legend that Holland was an alcoholic who worked only for an unstinted supply of cider. The historian William Stump Forwood wrote in 1879 that he knew of a David Hopkins who, according to him, built many of the fine Stump-family houses at Rock Run, Stafford, and Darlington, before working on the D. H. Springhouse. Forwood terms this latter building "[Hopkins'] monument . . . [a] beautiful piece of stonecutting known far and near . . . [which] bears the initials of the builder and the date of its construction."

A springhouse has interest as an element of country living on a comfortable if not luxurious scale and as a combination of utilitarian architecture and natural beauty. This particular springhouse is a superb little building of excellent craftsmanship, contrasting dramatically with its isolated setting.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview with Paul B. Harlon, at Churchville, October 14, 1971.

Forwood, William Stump. "Homes on Deer Creek." Article 1 of 5 in a series in the newspaper, Aegis-Intelligencer, Bel Air, Maryland. December 19, 1879.

List of deeds traced in Harford County Land Records by Jean Ewing, Maryland Historical Trust, November 1971.

[see continuation sheet]

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			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	° ' "	° ' "	39°	37'	17"
NE	° ' "	° ' "	76°	18'	41"
SE	° ' "	° ' "			
SW	° ' "	° ' "			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: two acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Jean Ewing, Field Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

July 5, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:

2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN:

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

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

Orlando Ridout IV
Orlando Ridout IV

Title State Liaison Officer for Maryland

Date July 10, 1972

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Form 10-300a
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Harford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

"D. H. Springhouse"

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES, continued

Preston Walter W. History of Harford County. Baltimore: Sun
Book Office, 1901. pp. 219-221.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1300 444305 #A-44

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME
COMMON: D. H. Stone Springhouse
AND/OR HISTORIC: Bald Hill Farm, ~~and Schoolhouse~~ David Hollander Spring house

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER: North side of Sandy Hook Road about 0.5 mi north of
CITY OR TOWN: HICKORY near Hickory Albion Road
STATE: Maryland CODE: COUNTY: Harford CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>		

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
OWNERS NAME: Mr Coy Tharpe and Mr Harry Green
STREET AND NUMBER: Tharpe & Green Mill
CITY OR TOWN: Churchville STATE: Maryland CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Clerk of the Circuit Court
STREET AND NUMBER: Harford County Courthouse 40 S. Main St
CITY OR TOWN: Bel Air STATE: Maryland CODE:

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:

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

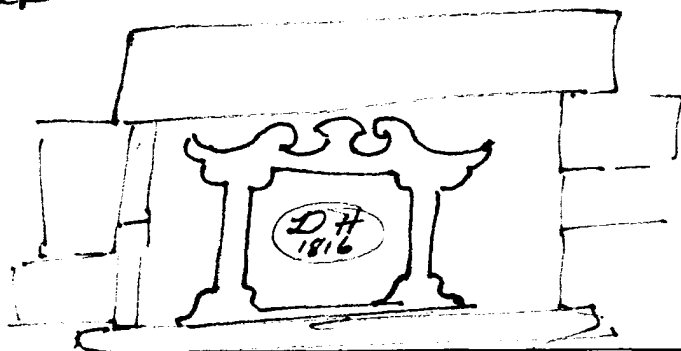
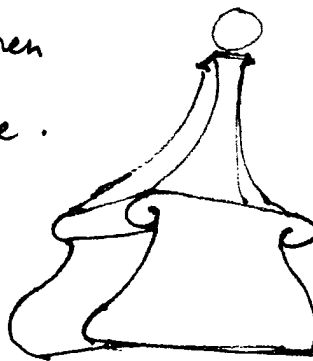
CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Unique stone-carving on the little
~~the~~ stone springhouse with a school room
 over it, (used now to store grain) Remarkable
 stone-carving for such a small building
 in rural area, legend ~~it~~

gives this building special interest.
 It faces southwest, ^{steep} slate roof/ridge line
 runs NW ~~to~~ SE. Finished granite
 throughout, the SE facade has a
 finial at the peak with a ball on a
 high pedestal as shown
 resting on an ionic base.

Below this a recessed
 tablet surrounds an
 oval inscribed with
 the initials D H
 over the date 1816
 Other stonework



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal ☐Education ☒Political ☐Urban Planning ☐Prehistoric ☐Engineering ☐

Religion/Phi-

Other (Specify) ☐Historic ☐Industry ☐losophy ☐Agriculture ☒Invention ☐Science ☐Art ☐Landscape ☐Sculpture ☒architectureCommerce ☐Architecture ☐

Social/Human-

Communications ☐Literature ☐itarian ☐Conservation ☐Military ☐Theater ☐Music ☐Transportation ☐

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Remarkable stone-cutting on a rural outbuilding - Legends about its origin include the story that "D.H." was an alcoholic craftsman and was paid in cider for his labors.

includes two huge carved lintels for large windows to the springhouse and two large key stone lintels for windows on the northeast side. A small fireplace is ~~on~~ the lower level outside the springhouse door inside a brick arch.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

BLL AIR USE 75 TOPO Q 4 D

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 ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: <i>Blair</i>		
ORGANIZATION: <i>Maryland Historic Trust</i>	DATE: <i>Nov '69</i>	
STREET AND NUMBER: <i>50 State Circle</i>		
CITY OR TOWN: <i>Annapolis</i>	STATE: <i>Md</i>	CODE

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.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Lanny

Here are 13 more slides of HA 44
the D H Spring house.

According to Paul Harlan who
bought the farm from the
Webster family and sold to the
present owner Coy Sharpe, D. H.
was David Holland who worked
for the Websters (- for "Greek Ned"
Webster, not "Fat Ned", his first cousin!)
The room above is the old
Webster family school room. There
is a fire place on the lower
level... I thought that slide was
at Annapolis.

David Holland carved and assembled
a mantelpiece block that I must get
listed too.

Two slides are at Annapolis (MHT)
a distance shot of the site, setting, (A)
and a detail of carving in that
east gable. (B). I suggest you
show A, 1, 2, B, 3, 4, 5 etc...
Note the narrow base to that

Mr. Ridout

HA-44

spire which is all one piece with
the large peak stone. Note
deterioration of wood work and
dislocation of stones.

The floor of the school room should
show to be fallen in near the
door.

That is a great arch
in and the lintel is beautiful.

The fireplace was in the corner

beside my right elbow when I
took

below the ice in

but the spring is a beauty.

The dark slides come up
all right in the projector. don't
worry.

Thanks for promoting Harford
County for us.

Jean

20

WHITEFORD 7.4 MI.
ADY 1 MI.

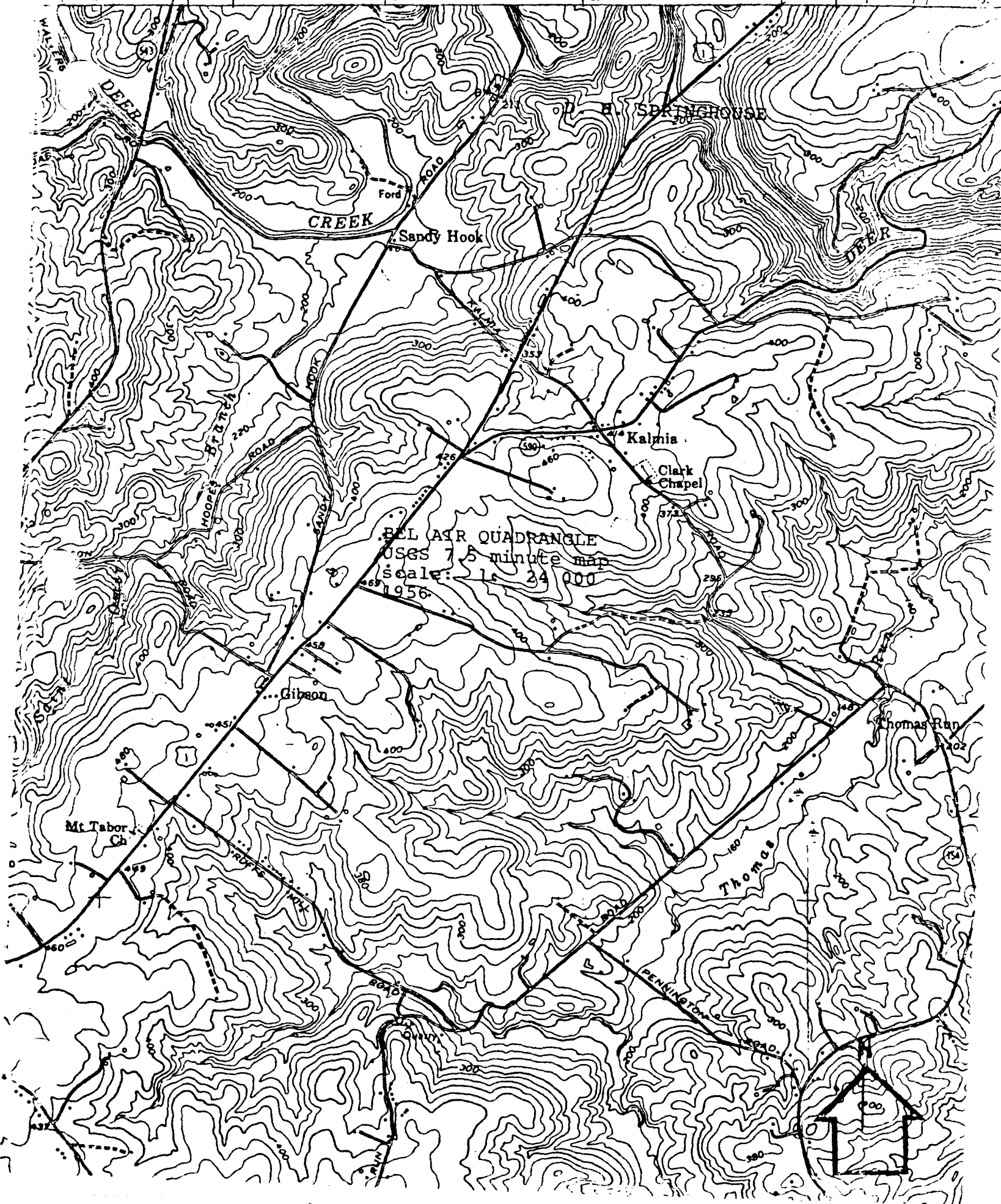
187

5763 III NE
(DELTA)

188

CONOWINGO 7 MI.
POPLAR GROVE 1.2 MI. 17'30"

NN-44





P.H. Springhouse HA-44

Please Credit to:

Maryland Historical Trust
2525 Riva Road
Annapolis, MD. 21401

HA 44