

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:
Allibone Road
Northeast side of Sandy Hook Road, about 0.6 miles north of

CITY OR TOWN:
Street

STATE Maryland	CODE 24	COUNTY: Harford	CODE 025
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<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	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>household utility</u> <u>(abandoned)</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
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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	CODE 24
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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	CODE 24
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Maryland Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY: 1971 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER:
2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Annapolis

STATE: Maryland	CODE 24
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

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

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>household utility</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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			LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	39°	37'	17"	76°	18'	41"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
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

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.

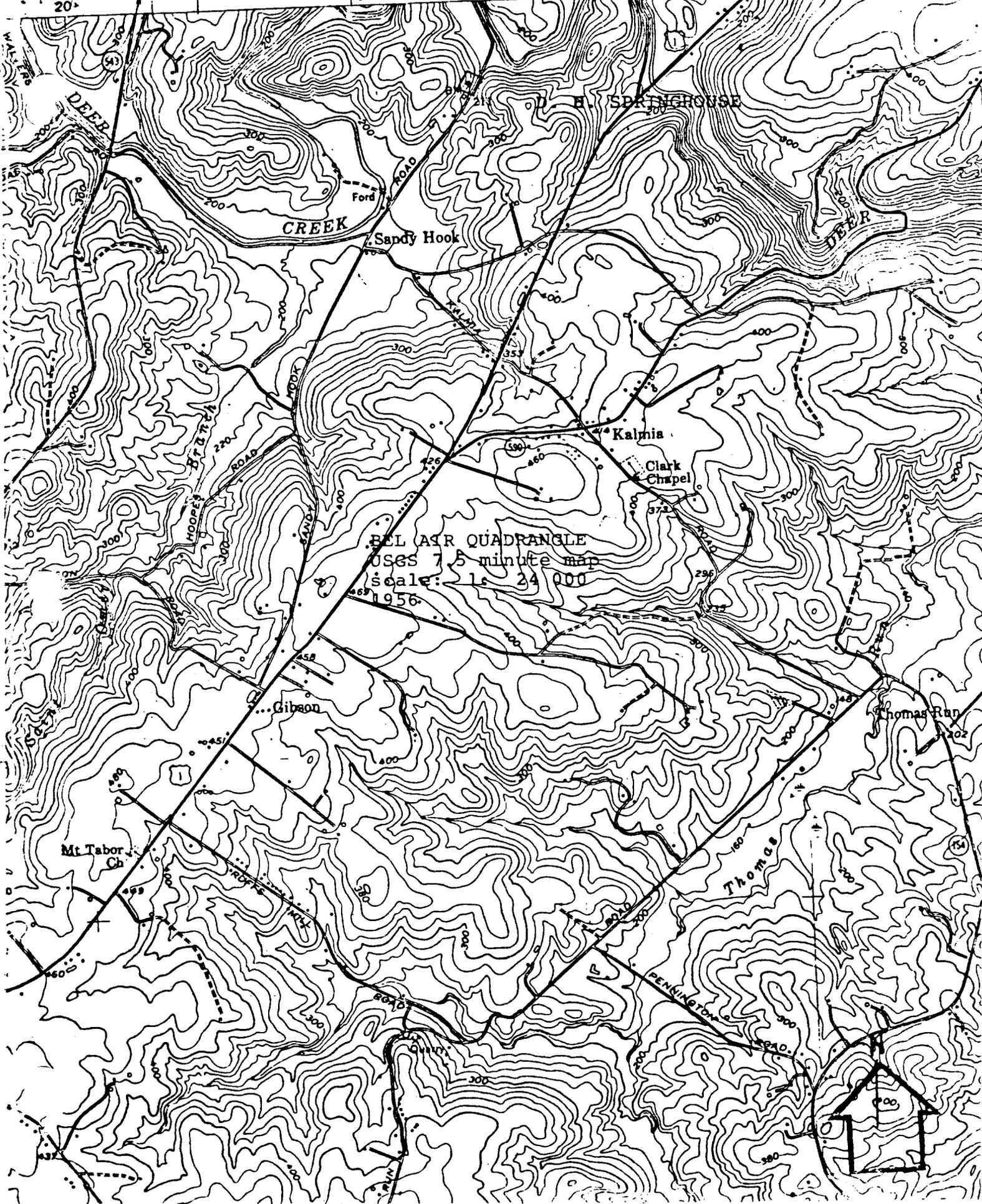
WHITEFORD 7.4 MI.
ADY 1 MI.

5763 III NE
(DELTA)

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

NK-44

15



BEL AIR QUADRANGLE
 USES 7.5 minute map
 scale: 1:24,000
 1956





P.H. Springhouse HA-44

Please Credit to:

Maryland Historical Trust
2525 Riva Road
Annapolis, MD. 21401

HA 44