National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2024



Thomas Stone NHS Landscape

Thomas Stone National Historic Site

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Introduction

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI)

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) is a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the National Park System. Landscapes that are listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources and in which the National Park Service has, or plans to acquire, legal interest are included in the inventory. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, and condition. Cultural landscapes have approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into the Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS-CL) database. In addition, for landscapes not currently listed on the National Register and/or without adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, or the Keeper of the National Register.

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is compiled from primary and secondary sources and through on-site surveys of the landscape. The level of investigation is dependent upon scoping the need for information. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's integrity and an assessment of the landscape's condition. The CLI also includes historic maps, drawings, and images; photographs of existing conditions; and a site plan that indicates major features. The CLI documents the existing condition of park landscape resources and identifies impacts, threats, and measures to stabilize condition. This information can be used to develop strategies for improved stewardship. Unlike a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR), the CLI does not provide management recommendations or treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape, but it may identify stabilization measures.

The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS)

CRIS is the National Park Service's database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources, and cultural landscapes. Cultural Resources Inventory System (CRIS) replaces three legacy inventory systems: ASMIS (archeology), CLI (cultural landscapes), and LCS (historic structures); and it reinstates the former ERI (ethnographic resources). This Cultural Landscape Inventory document reflects the information in a corresponding CRIS Cultural Landscape record.

Statutory and Regulatory Foundation

The legislative, regulatory, and policy directives for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are:

- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)) Sec. 110
- Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3 (a and c)
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs
- Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Std. 2
- Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22; issued pursuant to Director's Order #28 (DO-28)

The NHPA requires the identification, evaluation, and nomination of historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places and the maintenance and expansion of an inventory of cultural resources. DO-28 requires a cyclic assessment of the current condition of cultural landscapes based on an assessment interval, with a default of six years.

Use

Beyond fulfilling legal and policy requirements, park staff can use the Cultural Landscape Inventory in the following ways:

- To learn about park cultural landscapes (all staff)
- To inform management decisions (park managers)
- To inform project planning and development (park managers, facility managers, project managers, compliance specialists)
- To monitor the condition of the cultural landscape and take measures to protect its significance and integrity (cultural resource managers, facility managers)
- To recognize the stabilization and treatment needs of landscape features and plan work within cultural landscapes to address the needs (facility managers, cultural resource managers)
- To understand the cultural value of natural systems in a cultural landscape (natural resource managers)
- To create programming and educational materials based on site history (interpretation and education specialists)
- To recognize impacts within cultural landscapes and enforce protection measures (visitor and resources protection staff)

General Information

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name: Thomas Stone NHS Landscape

Resource Classification: Cultural Landscape

CLI Identification Number: 300156

Parent Landscape: 300156

Inventory Status: Complete

Park Information

Park Name: Thomas Stone National Historic Site

Alpha Code: THST

Park Organization Code: 4850

Park District: THST

Region: Northeast

Restricted: Yes

Landscape Description:

The Thomas Stone NHS Landscape is the only cultural landscape identified at Thomas Stone National Historic Site. Established in 1978, the National Historic Site preserves and protects the resources of Thomas Stone's plantation, known as Haberdeventure, and commemorates his service to the United States as a signer of the Declaration of Independence and member of the Continental Congress. The National Historic Site is located in Charles County, in southwestern Maryland, roughly 25 miles south of Washington, DC, and near the independent villages of Port Tobacco (roughly 1.5 miles south) and La Plata (roughly 3 miles east).

The 328-acre National Historic Site is bounded on the east by Rose Hill Road, on the west by Hoghole Run, and on the north and south by low-density residential suburban development. The property represents the core area purchased by Thomas Stone in 1770 and used as his primary residence until he moved to Annapolis, Maryland, in 1783. A board plateau extends between Rose Hill Road and Hoghole Run with two drainages, Spring Branch and Eastern Drainage, flowing roughly west to the Run. The Main House, an irregular five-part Maryland manor-style house, is sited atop the plateau and surrounded by a patterning of agricultural fields, presently uncultivated and maintained as mixture of grasses and forbs. The Formal Garden Terraces extend south of the Main House and consist of three levels connected by earthen ramps aligned on center with the main block of the house. The Thomas Stone Burial Ground, containing nine burials of Stone family members, is situated on the southern edge a field roughly 300 feet from the Main House. A Tenant House and agricultural outbuildings, including a Horse Barn, Tobacco Barn, and Corn Crib, punctuate the landscape and are connected by drives and access roads. Contemporary additions to serve the property as a public park include a visitor center and parking area, maintenance buildings, recreational trails, and small-scale site furnishings.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

Thomas Stone National Historic Site possesses national-level significance under National Register of Historic Places Criterion B in the area of Politics/Government for its associations with Thomas Stone, a signer of the Declaration of Independence and a lawyer and politician; state-level significance for his brother Michael Jenifer Stone, a representative in the First Congress for Maryland under the Constitution of 1787 and state judge; and local-level

significance for his nephew William Briscoe Stone, also a state and local judge. The property is also significant at the state level under Criterion C in the area of Architecture for Habredeventure, the Georgian-style mansion built by Thomas Stone and later residence for Michael Jenifer and William Briscoe. The house was restored by the National Park Service in the 1990s after a devastating fire in 1977. The property also meets Criteria Consideration D (Cemeteries) and Criteria Consideration E (Reconstructed Properties) for the Thomas Stone Burial Ground and reconstructed portions of the Main House.

The period of significance for the property is 1770-1872, beginning with the date the house was built and ending the year of William Briscoe Stone's death. The condition of the landscape subsequently declined until the mid-1910s.

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION

The physical integrity of the Thomas Stone NHS Landscape is evaluated by comparing landscape characteristics and features present during the period of significance, 1770-1872, with the existing conditions as assessed in 2023. Many landscape characteristics and features from the period of significance remain today. Large areas of relatively uninterrupted fields are an important set of features conveying agricultural character from the historic period. The reconstructed Haberdeventure house, a tenant house, agricultural outbuildings, and circulation systems that connect them, as well as the Thomas Stone Burial Ground and Formal Garden Terraces, are surviving and prominent features in the landscape.

After 1872, the character of the landscape subsequently declined until the 1910s, after which new owners shaped the landscape to fit their needs, thus altering some of the historic landscape characteristics and features.
The main block of the Main House was reconstructed based on circa 1902 photographs following a 1977 fire, and the Sheep Barn is extant only as a ruin. Other buildings and structures have been added to support the property's current use as a public park. Successional vegetation has encroached on several field edges, divided some of the field areas, and shortened the axial southern view from the house across the terraces. Two non-historic ponds were added to the property sometime between 1945 and 1957.

Condition:
The overall condition of the Thomas Stone NHS Landscape is evaluated as "Good." Individual buildings and structures in the CRIS-HS database may have a "fair" condition assessment based on their specific components, materials, and present condition, however; the overall landscape condition is in good condition. In particular, the field areas, which were formerly agricultural fields, appear in good condition with limited to no woody material emerging and limited invasive material seen among the mixture of grasses and forbs.

Landscape Hierarchy Description:

The Thomas Stone NHS Landscape is the only cultural landscape identified at Thomas Stone National Historic Site. It encompasses the entirety of the National Park Service boundary.

Landscape Type:

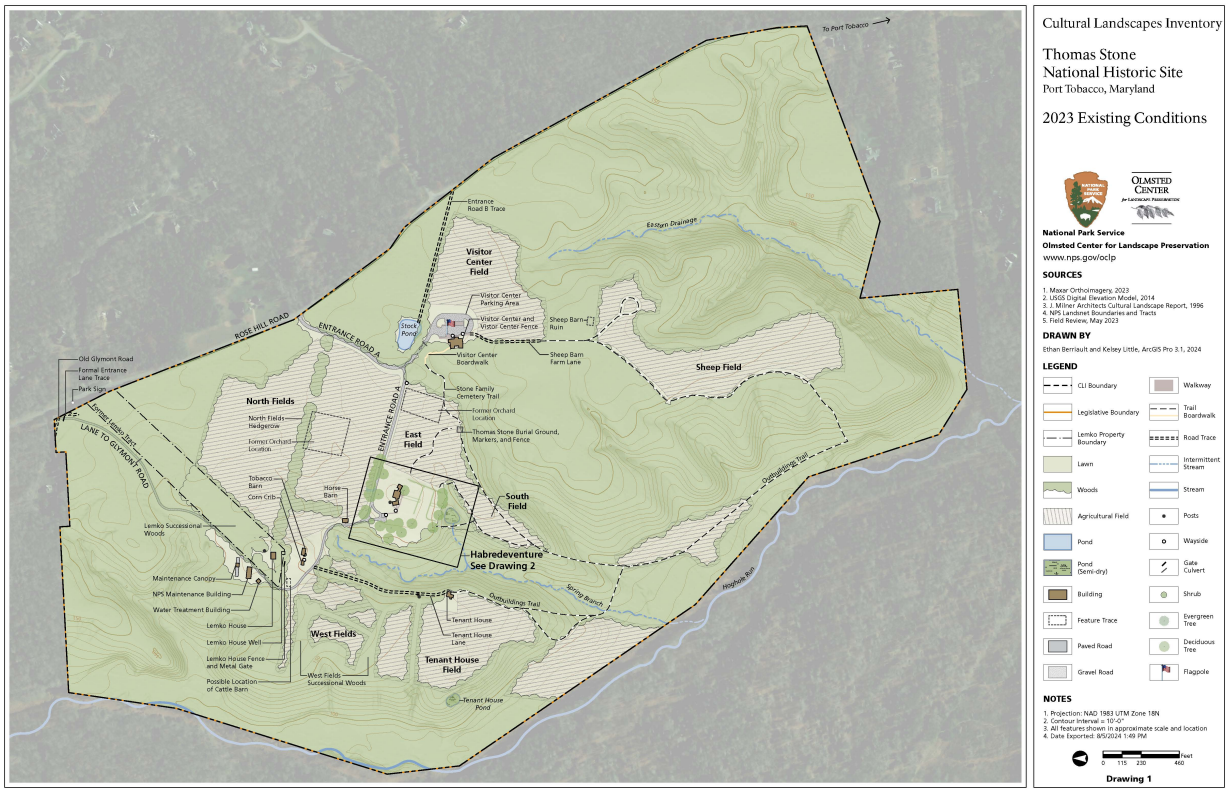
Historic Designed Landscape

Historic Vernacular Landscape

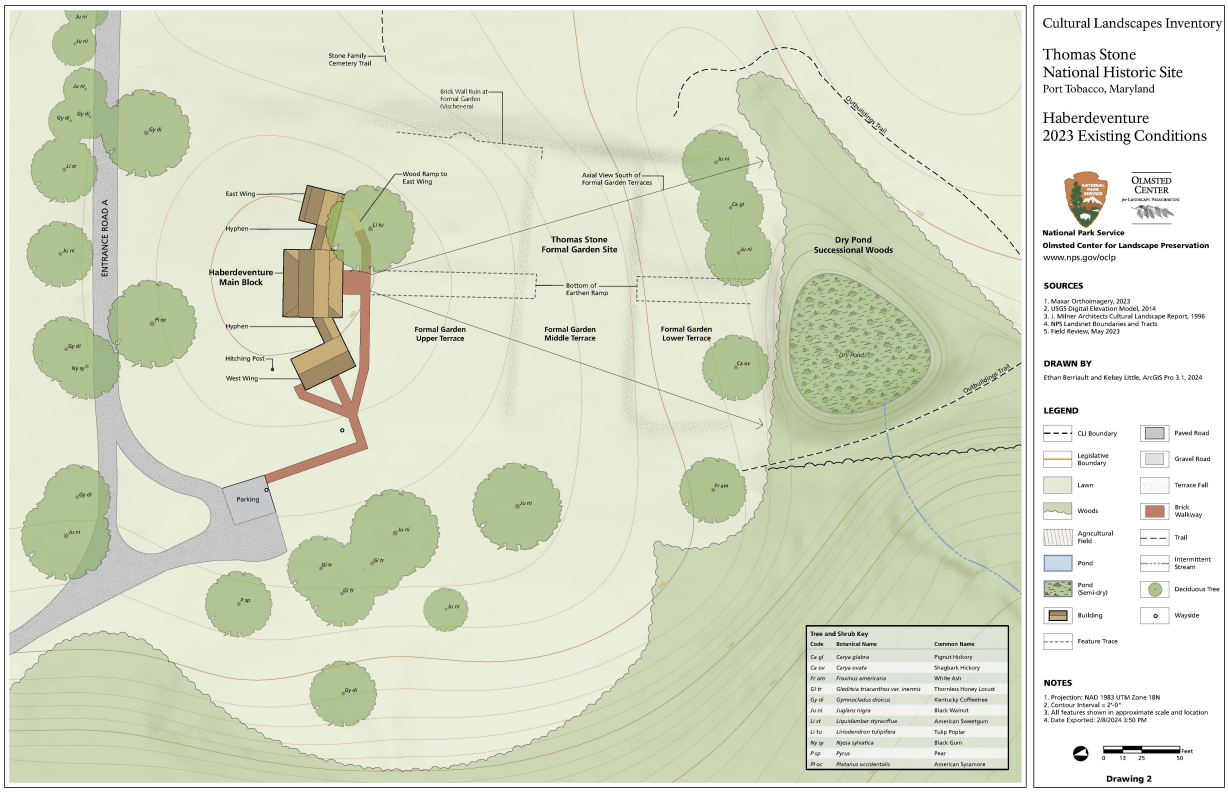
Other Names:

Other Name:	Haberdeventure	**Other Name Type:**	Both Current And Historic
Other Name:	Haber de Venture	**Other Name Type:**	Both Current And Historic
Other Name:	Habberdeventure	**Other Name Type:**	Historic
Other Name:	Thomas Stone National Historic Site	**Other Name Type:**	Both Current And Historic

Site Plan



Overview Map for Thomas Stone NHS Landscape, 2024.



Cultural Landscapes Inventory

Thomas Stone
National Historic Site
Port Tobacco, Maryland

Haberdeventure
2023 Existing Conditions

National Park Service
Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation
www.nps.gov/oclp

SOURCES

1. Maxar Orthoimagery, 2023
2. USGS Digital Elevation Model, 2014
3. J. Milner Architects Cultural Landscape Report, 1996
4. NPS Landnet Boundaries and Tracts
5. Field Review, May 2023

DRAWN BY

Ethan Berriault and Kelsey Little, ArcGIS Pro 3.1, 2024

LEGEND

CLI Boundary
Legislative Boundary
Lawn
Woods
Agricultural Field
Pond
Pond (Semi-dry)
Building
Feature Trace
Paved Road
Gravel Road
Terrace Fall
Brick Walkway
Trail
Intermittent Stream
Deciduous Tree
Wayside

NOTES

1. Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N
2. Contour Interval = 2'-0"
3. All features shown in approximate scale and location
4. Date Exported: 2/8/2024 3:50 PM

0 12.5 25 50 feet

Drawing 2

Detail Map for Thomas Stone NHS Landscape, 2024.

Concurrence Information

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence: Yes

Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence: 03/22/2024

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

Staff at the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation in Boston, Massachusetts, completed the CLI in cooperation with staff at Thomas Stone National Historic Site. Tim Layton, Historical Landscape Architect, served as lead author and Jeff Killion, CLI Coordinator, served as editor. Kelsey Little, GIS Specialist, completed the existing conditions mapping and Tim Layton, Lauren Laham, and Meaghan Papeika completed the existing conditions field work in May 2023. The cultural resource contact for the park is Kerry Gonzalez, Chief of Cultural Resource Management, who may be reached at kerry_gonzalez@nps.gov or 804-761-2780.

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Attachment File Path

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES INVENTORY
CERTIFICATION FORM

Thomas Stone NHS Landscape
Thomas Stone National Historic Site

Thomas Stone National Historic Site certifies the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for Thomas Stone NHS Landscape, including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Must Be Preserved and Maintained

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscape Inventory for the Thomas Stone NHS Landscape is hereby approved and accepted.

MELISSA COBERN Digitally signed by MELISSA COBERN Date: 2024.03.22 10:56:45 -04'00'

Superintendent, Thomas Stone National Historic Site Date

Park certification, March 22, 2024

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Interior Region 1
North Atlantic-Appalachian
1234 Market Street, 20th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107

1.A.2.(IR1-RSS)

Elizabeth Hughes, SHPO
Maryland Historical Trust
100 Community Place
3rd Floor
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023

Dear Ms. Hughes:

Enclosed you will find a copy of the Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) for the Thomas Stone National Historic Site (NHS) Landscape. We seek to reconfirm our agreement on previously evaluated resources and your concurrence on the status of previously unevaluated resources identified in this CLI for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The report has been prepared by a team of historical landscape architects with the National Park Service (NPS) Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation. The CLI program and the enclosed report continue the NPS efforts to update our cultural resource inventories.

Through the CLI program, the NPS is currently in the midst of a nationwide effort to inventory its cultural landscapes. The CLI is conducted in accordance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended). It is an inventory of baseline information for all historically significant cultural landscapes within the national park system, and it examines multiple landscape features that contribute to the significance of historic properties. The CLI process includes gathering information from existing secondary sources and conducting on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the property's overall significance. For landscapes found potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, the evaluation describes their character-defining features and assesses the landscape's overall historical integrity. It also raises questions about the landscape that need further study.

It is important to note that the CLI reports are not intended as comprehensive inventory reports for any one property, although for some properties they provide fuller documentation than for others. For example, the reports do not include a full architectural description of structures, but document structures as elements of the overall landscape, and similarly documents other characteristics such as vegetation, spatial organization, and views and vistas. The CLI is one component of the NPS inventory effort that also includes cultural resource inventories for historic structures, archeological sites, ethnographic resources, and museum objects. For example, the NPS Historic Structures Inventory (formerly List of Classified Structures) includes structural features of cultural landscapes, but the CLI takes a more encompassing approach to the properties, inventorying all above-ground features in each park in which the NPS has a legal or mandated interest.

SHPO concurrence, August 23, 2024, page 1.

Previous Historic Property Evaluation:

Thomas Stone National Historic Site was authorized November 10, 1978. Prior to that date, the property was designated as a National Historic Landmark (NHL) and documented in the National Register of Historic Places. The National Park Service acquired the property in 1981.

On November 11, 1971, the park was designated a National Historic Landmark under the name "Habre-de-Venture" and under NHL theme "War for Independence." Documentation for the NHL designation was completed in a National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form by Charles Snell in May 1971 (documentation unsigned). Significance was identified in the areas of Politics/Government for the eighteenth century, with specific dates of 1771-1787. The form identified Habre-de-Venture as the principal home from 1771 to 1787 of Thomas Stone, a Signer of the Declaration of Independence for Maryland, lawyer, planter, and politician, and noted Stone was buried in the family grave yard adjacent to the plantation house. In addition to the 1771 house and its hyphens and wings, the form noted the dependencies and grave were within the boundaries of the semicircular-shaped site. Acreage was reported as 360 acres.

On October 30, 1972, National Register documentation for the park was accepted under the name "Habre-de-Venture." Documentation was completed in an Inventory-Nomination Form by Mrs. Preston Parish in February 1972. National-level significance was identified in the areas of Politics/Government and Architecture for the eighteenth century, with a specific date of c.1775. The form described the life of Thomas Stone and his descendants and the home's "unusual floor plan," as well as alterations to the house and addition of a stable by subsequent owners. In addition to describing the 1771 house and its hyphens and wings, the form noted that the 1972 owner built a polygonal brick garden house and a gambrel roof garage (both since removed). The only mention of the grounds was, "Habre de Venture is a working farm where thoroughbred horses are bred and raised." Acreage was reported as 256 acres, which according to the form was, "needed to interpret the rural setting" during Stone's occupancy.

On April 26, 1988, the Keeper of the National Register concurred with your office, through a Determination of Eligibility (DOE) request, that five features in the park were ineligible for listing in the National Register. The carriage house/carriage shed (1850-1859, 1950s) was determined ineligible due to its deteriorated condition. The other four features were determined ineligible because of their post-1940s construction dates: garage/apartment (1940s-c.1972), garden house (1950s-1972), formal garden (1950s-1972), and stock pond (1960s). The carriage house/carriage shed, garage/apartment, and garden house have since been removed, but remnants of the formal garden remain, and the stock pond is still present. The 1988 DOE references the date of 1900 as the end of the site's period of significance but does not provide an explanation or source for this date. However, this date corresponds to the Preferred Alternative presented in the park's 1989 General Management Plan: "The landscape and farm structures will generally be managed to maintain a circa 1900 appearance, aiding the visitors' understanding of the present site condition and the changes in development and land use over time." (GMP 1988: 11)

In August 1988, John M. Wearmouth, a contracted historian, prepared draft documentation to amend the 1972 National Register documentation, but it was not submitted to your office or the Keeper for review and concurrence. The draft form proposed significance under Criterion B in the area of Politics/Government for Thomas Stone, his brother Michael Jenifer Stone, and nephew William Briscoe Stone. Criteria Consideration E, Reconstructed Properties, was identified since the central block of the Main House was rebuilt in the 1990s after a 1977 fire. The proposed period of significance was 1770-1875, beginning when Thomas Stone purchased the property and ending a few years after William died (date not explained in text). Contributing features in the form included: the

SHPO concurrence, August 23, 2024, page 2.

house (1771-1773), barn (ca.1830-1840), corn crib (ca.1830-1840), tenant house (ca.1840-1859, ca.1949-1959), horse barn (ca.1840-1850, ca.1940-1959); cattle barn/equipment shed (ca.1860-1879, ca.1925-1959, oldest portion originally a tobacco barn), and the family burial ground (ca.1787-1913). Despite the 1875 end date, the sheep shed (ca.1900-1939) is identified as a contributing feature. Acreage was reported as 321 acres.

On July 8, 1996, your office concurred with the National Park Service that three additional features in the park were ineligible for listing in the National Register due to their twentieth-century construction dates. They were the hog shed (1930s-1950s), the twentieth-century horse barn (1940s), and the 1940s addition to the ca.1850-1874 horse barn. All structures have since been removed.

In August 1997, Susan C. Boyle, a contracted historian, prepared draft documentation to amend the 1972 National Register documentation, but it too was not submitted to your office or the Keeper for review and concurrence. The draft form proposed significance under Criterion A in the areas of Politics/Government and Agriculture, Criterion B for Thomas Stone and William Briscoe Stone, Criterion C, in the area of Architecture, and Criterion D in the area of Archeology (Historic: Non-Aboriginal). Criteria Consideration D, Criteria Consideration D: Cemeteries, was also identified. The proposed period of significance was 1770-1900, beginning when Thomas Stone purchased the property and ending with the targeted date of restoration for the house, as directed in the park's 1988 General Management Plan. Contributing features in the form included: Haberdeventure (1772), tobacco barn (1830-1840), corn crib (1830-1840), tenant house (1840-1859, 1949-1959), horse barn (1840-1859), cattle barn/equipment shed (1869-1879, ca.1925-1959), burial ground and iron fence (1787-1913, fence 1860s), terraces (likely ca.1770-ca.1787), Entrance Drive A (1911, possibly earlier), Entrance Drive B (first half 20th century), Access Road (early 20th century), Access Road Trace (late 18th century), and field patterns and forest stands (18th century). Acreage was reported as 328 acres.

On March 10, 2023, your office, through a Determination of Eligibility (DOE) request, concurred with the National Park Service that the mid-twentieth-century features on the Lemko property, which was acquired in 2015, were not eligible for listing in the National Register and did not contribute to the significance of Thomas Stone National Historic Site.

Current Findings:

The enclosed CLI for Thomas Stone NHS Landscape fully evaluates the cultural landscape, particularly the associated landscape characteristics and features, and finds that the site's landscape retains integrity to the areas of Politics/Government and Architecture. As noted previously, one of the property's features compiled on the attached list has been described in the National Register. The CLI identifies 27 additional features related to natural systems and features, land use, topography, vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures, views and vistas, and small-scale features that contribute to the significance and historic character of the property's landscape. Thirty features have been evaluated as noncontributing because they are not historically significant, and four features have been evaluated as undetermined because additional research is needed.

We call your particular attention to the Landscape Description, Boundary Description, National Register Information and the Statement of Significance, and Analysis and Evaluation Summary in the enclosed CLI.

Based on the CLI, we seek your concurrence on the status of resources and features identified in this CLI:

SHPO concurrence, August 23, 2024, page 3.

- Thomas Stone National Historic Site possesses national and state-level significance under Criterion B in the area of Politics/Government for its associations with Thomas Stone, his brother Michael Jenifer Stone, and nephew William Briscoe Stone.
- Thomas Stone National Historic Site possesses state-level significance under Criterion C in the area of Architecture for the design and construction of Haberdeventure, the Main House that shares its name with the overall property.
- The property meets Criteria Consideration D: Cemeteries for the Thomas Stone Burial Ground established circa 1787 and Criteria Consideration E: Reconstructed Properties for reconstruction of the principal, central portion of the Main House in the 1990s that was lost to fire in 1977.
- The period of significance for the property is 1770-1872, which corresponds to the date the house was built and the year of William Briscoe Stone's death. The condition of the landscape subsequently declined until the mid-1910s.
- The categorization of contributing, non-contributing, and undetermined landscape characteristics and features (see attached list).

If you concur with these findings, we ask that you please sign on the space provided and return this letter to Jeff Killion, CLI Coordinator (Address: National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, 15 State Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02109). We would appreciate your response in **45 days**, if possible. Thank you for your attention to this inventory. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Killion at 508-455-8540 (cell).

Sincerely,

RACHEL MAZUR Digitally signed by RACHEL MAZUR Date: 2024.03.28 15:30:39 -04'00'

Rachel Mazur, Acting for Jonathan Meade
Associate Regional Director
Resource Stewardship and Science

Enclosure

cc:
Superintendent, Thomas Stone National Historic Site

I concur with the National Park Service categorizations of the landscape resources and features for the Thomas Stone NHS Landscape, as contributing, non-contributing, and undetermined.

_____ _____
Maryland State Historic Preservation Officer Date

SHPO concurrence, August 23, 2024, page 4.

NPS Cultural Landscapes Inventory –Thomas Stone NHS Landscape
Thomas Stone National Historic Site
List of Contributing, Non-Contributing, and Undetermined Landscape Features
March 2024

Contributing Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features

The following landscape characteristics and associated features contribute to the property's historic character, though not all are considered countable resources according to the National Register of Historic Places. Features marked with a (#) were listed in the National Register in 1972. Features marked with a (+) were listed or described in draft National Register documentation prepared in 1988. Features marked with a (*) are listed or described in draft National Register documentation dating to 1997.

Natural Systems and Features
- Hoghole Run
- Spring Branch
- Eastern Drainage

Land Use
- +* Thomas Stone Burial Ground

Topography
- +* Thomas Stone Formal Garden Terraces
- Spring Branch Ravine

Vegetation
- * North Fields
- * East Field
- * South Field
- * West Fields
- * Tenant House Fields
- * Sheep Field

Circulation
- * Thomas Stone Entrance Road A
- * Thomas Stone Entrance Road B Trace
- Thomas Stone Formal Entrance Lane Trace
- Old Glymont Road
- Lane to Glymont Road
- Tenant House Lane
- Sheep Barn Farm Lane

Buildings and Structures
- #+* Haberdeventure (Main House) [designated NHL in 1971]
- +* Horse Barn

SHPO concurrence, August 23, 2024, page 5.

+* Corn Crib
+* Tobacco Barn
Sheep Barn Ruin
+* Tenant House

Views and Vistas
Axial view south of Formal Garden Terraces

Small-Scale Features
+* Thomas Stone Burial Ground Fence
+* Thomas Stone Burial Ground Markers

Non-Contributing Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features

Vegetation
Visitor Center Field
North Fields Hedgerows
West Fields Successional Woods
Dry Pond Successional Woods
Lemko Successional Woods
Deciduous Trees South of the Formal Garden Terraces
Tulip Poplar at East Wing
Deciduous Trees at Visitor Center

Circulation
Outbuildings Trail
Stone Family Cemetery Trail
Visitor Center Parking
Visitor Center Brick Walkways
Visitor Center Boardwalk
Main House Parking
Main House Brick Walkways
Main House Wood Ramp to East Wing

Buildings and Structures
Lemko House
Visitor Center
Maintenance Building
Water Treatment Building
Maintenance Canopy
Brick Wall Ruin at Formal Garden

Constructed Water Features
Stock Pond
Dry Pond
Tenant House Pond

Small-Scale Features

SHPO concurrence, August 23, 2024, page 6.

Visitor Center Fence
Lemko House Well
Lemko House Fence and Metal Gate
Visitor Center Flagpole
NPS Signage and Waysides

Undetermined Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features

Vegetation
Deciduous Trees North of the Main House
Deciduous Trees West of the Main House
Trees Lining North Side of Entrance Road A

Small-Scale Features
Hitching Post

bcc:
Dennis Montagna, Region 1 History Program
Robert Page, Director, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation
Stephen Pisani, Region 1 Historic Architecture Program
Bethany Serafine, Region 1 History Program

SHPO concurrence, August 23, 2024, page 7.

Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor

Rebecca L. Flora, AICP, LEED ND / BD+C, Secretary
Elizabeth Hughes, MHT Director and
State Historic Preservation Officer

Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

6/10/2024

Jeff Killion
CLI Coordinator
National Park Service
Olmstead Center for Landscape Preservation
15 State Street, 6th Floor
Boston, MA 02109

Dear Mr. Killion,

Thank you for sharing the Cultural Landscape Inventory for Thomas Stone National Historic Site. We offer the following comments:

- It is noted several times in the narrative that the condition of the landscape declined between 1872 and the mid-1910s, but this is not further explained. A description of what changed in this period would help evaluate the justification for ending the Period of Significance in 1872.
- Considering the above, we recommend revising the Period of Significance to extend to 1913, when Margaret Graham Stone died. Ending in 1913 reflects the end of the Stone family tenure on the property. Additionally, the ca. 1900 sheep barn ruin cannot contribute if the period of significance ends in 1872.
- In order to concur with the determination that the property is significant at the state level under Criterion B for the association with William Briscoe Stone, additional information is required.
- Generally, we agree with the categorization of the contributing, non-contributing, and underdetermined landscape characteristics and features. However, as noted above the ca. 1900 sheep barn ruin is outside of the period of significance. If the period of significance does end in 1872, this cannot contribute.

Maryland Historical Trust • 100 Community Place • Crownsville • Maryland • 21032
Tel: 410.697.9591 • toll free 877.767.6272 • TTY users: Maryland Relay • MHT.Maryland.gov

SHPO concurrence, August 23, 2024, page 8.

We concur with the following:

- Thomas Stone National Historic Site possesses national and state-level significance under Criterion B in the area of Politics/Government for its associations with Thomas Stone and his brother Michael Jenifer Stone.
- Thomas Stone National Historic Site possesses state-level significance under Criterion C in the area of Architecture for the design and construction of Haberdeventure, the Main House that shares its name with the overall property.
- The property meets Criterion Consideration E: Reconstructed Properties for the reconstruction of the principal, central portion of the Main house in the 1990s that was lost to fire in 1977 and meets Criterion Consideration D: Cemeteries for the Thomas Stone Burial Ground.

If you have any questions, please contact Jessica French, National Register Administrator, at Jessica.French@maryland.gov or 410-697-9623.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Hughes
Director/State Historic Preservation Officer
Maryland Historical Trust

SHPO concurrence, August 23, 2024, page 9.

Re: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Re: CLI for Thomas Stone National Historic Site

Jessica French -MDP- <jessica.french@maryland.gov>
Fri 8/23/2024 12:02 PM
To:Killion, Jeffrey T <Jeff_Killion@nps.gov>
Cc:becky.roman@maryland.gov <becky.roman@maryland.gov>;Foulds, H Eliot <Eliot_Foulds@nps.gov>

Hi Jeff,

Sorry about the delay on this, the NR program has had a particularly busy August. My comments are in red.

--"It is noted several times in the narrative that the condition of the landscape declined between 1872 and the mid-1910s, but this is not further explained. A description of what changed in this period would help evaluate the justification for ending the Period of Significance in 1872."
The period ends in 1872 for the area of Politics/Government. The landscape condition after 1872 is unrelated to the area of Politics/Government. There is little info about the landscape until c.1900 when early photographs suggest a landscape in decline. No changes to CLI at this time. Concur.

---"Considering the above, we recommend revising the Period of Significance to extend to 1913, when Margaret Graham Stone died. Ending in 1913 reflects the end of the Stone family tenure on the property. Additionally, the ca. 1900 sheep barn ruin cannot contribute if the period of significance ends in 1872."
The family continued to occupy the farm until 1936 when it was sold to Charles S. Smith, not 1913. Margaret Graham Stone was not involved in Politics/Government, so extending the PoS to her death in the area of Politics/Government is not applicable. Extending to 1913 under the area of Agriculture could be considered if such techniques or practices at the property were unique. The area of Conservation could be considered is there was direct evidence that Margaret was intentionally managing the property to preserve its history. An updated National Register nomination will identify the significance of the property's landscape through time. The CLI will note in the Statement of Significance that significance in the areas of Agriculture and Conservation may be applicable, pending future National Register documentation. (Sheep Barn Ruin comment addressed below). Concur that the Period of Significance in the area of Politics and Government should end in 1872. Additional research is needed in the areas of Agriculture and Conservation. Additional research is needed to determine the periods of significance in these areas.

---"In order to concur with the determination that the property is significant at the state level under Criterion B for the association with William Briscoe Stone, additional information is required."
Comment is unclear as to what addition information is requested. The CLI states that he managed the property, and then bought it and lived there until his death in 1872. An updated National Register may discover additional information. No changes to CLI at this time. What decisions or accomplishments are attributed to Wiliam Briscoe Stone's tenure as a judge that justify state-side significance for politics? Thomas Stone and Michael Jenifer Stone contributions to Maryland's history as a state are well-defined. But there is not any research on William Briscoe Stone's politics conveyed in the CLI. Additional information is needed.

SHPO concurrence, August 23, 2024, page 10.

---"Generally, we agree with the categorization of the contributing, non-contributing, and underdetermined landscape characteristics and features. However, as noted above the ca. 1900 sheep barn ruin is outside of the period of significance. If the period of significance does end in 1872, this cannot contribute."
The Sheep Barn Ruin is identified as a contributing feature in the 1988 draft National Register, which was never finalized. The CLI evaluated this feature as Noncontributing. Dates of this feature vary; 1900-1939 (1988 draft NR), and 1840 (based on the method of carpentry and fasteners used, CLR 1996: 43, citing Rivoire, Research Summary, 69). Given the uncertainty of dates, the CLI will change evaluation of this feature to Undetermined. Concur.

I hope you have a nice weekend,

Jessica

On Wed, Aug 21, 2024 at 4:02 PM Killion, Jeffrey T <Jeff_Killion@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi Jessica, I am hoping we can get a confirmation of the decisions at our meeting regarding the Thomas Stone CLI. See below.
Thanks!

Jeff Killion
Historical Landscape Architect
Cultural Landscapes Inventory Coordinator, Interior Region 1, North Atlantic - Appalachian
National Park Service
Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation
15 State Street, 6th Floor
Boston, MA 02109
508.455.8540 (telework cell)

From: Killion, Jeffrey T <Jeff_Killion@nps.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 12, 2024 10:52 AM
To: Jessica French -MDP- <jessica.french@maryland.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: CLI for Thomas Stone National Historic Site

Hi Jessica, I am following up on our meeting last week and the agreement for your office to send an email regarding approval of the proposed solutions from the meeting. They are recapped below:

--"It is noted several times in the narrative that the condition of the landscape declined between 1872 and the mid-1910s, but this is not further explained. A description of what changed in this period would help evaluate the justification for ending the Period of Significance in 1872."

SHPO concurrence, August 23, 2024, page 11.

Geographic Information

State and County:

State	County
Maryland	Charles County

Size (Acres): 328.25

Land Tract Number(s)

101-01, 321.97 acres and 101-02, 6.28 acres (Lemko property)

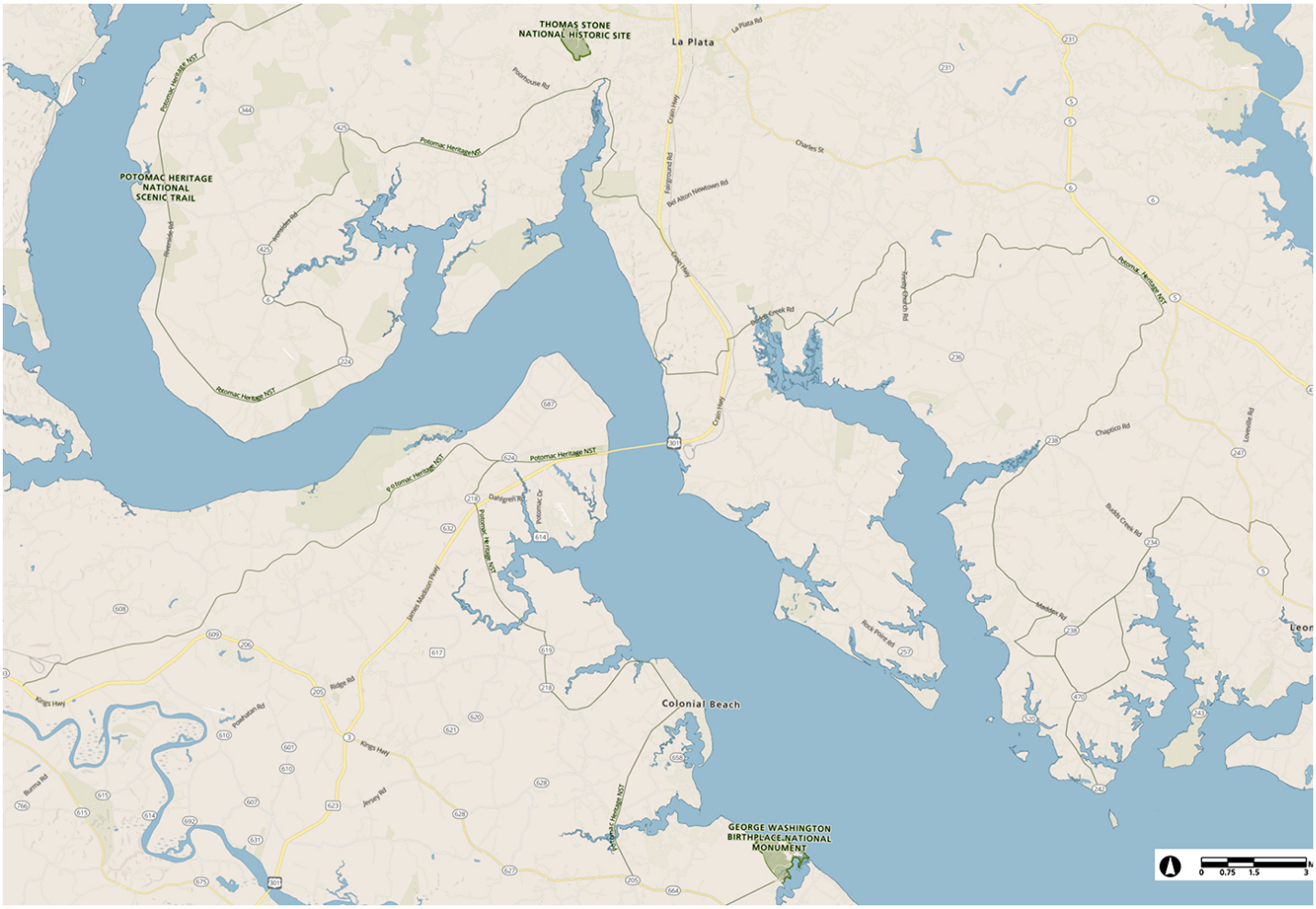
Boundary Description:

The CLI boundary for Thomas Stone National Historic Site is coterminous with the park's legislated boundary, comprising 328.25 acres owned in fee simple by the National Park Service. It is bounded on the east by Rose Hill Road, on the west by Hoghole Run, and on the north and south by low-density residential suburban development.

Boundary Coordinates

Source	Type of Point	Latitude	Longitude	Narrative
GIS	Area	38.53684342	-77.03786679	
GIS	Area	38.53631597	-77.03750517	
GIS	Area	38.53608129	-77.03734428	
GIS	Area	38.53593578	-77.03724452	
GIS	Area	38.53585594	-77.0372024	
GIS	Area	38.53559271	-77.03706353	
GIS	Area	38.53291697	-77.03565195	
GIS	Area	38.53134125	-77.03410188	
GIS	Area	38.53111247	-77.03364704	
GIS	Area	38.53045665	-77.03296719	
GIS	Area	38.52966225	-77.0321437	
GIS	Area	38.52618081	-77.0295695	
GIS	Area	38.52501033	-77.02926712	
GIS	Area	38.52451654	-77.029218	
GIS	Area	38.52323889	-77.03330216	
GIS	Area	38.523541	-77.03493189	
GIS	Area	38.52192429	-77.03469913	
GIS	Area	38.52173644	-77.03680472	
GIS	Area	38.52218758	-77.03776952	
GIS	Area	38.52432823	-77.03871913	
GIS	Area	38.52615604	-77.04146509	
GIS	Area	38.5300043	-77.04497571	
GIS	Area	38.53119734	-77.0451839	
GIS	Area	38.53471292	-77.04389706	
GIS	Area	38.5365041	-77.04361282	
GIS	Area	38.53671038	-77.04012421	
GIS	Area	38.53654593	-77.04010806	
GIS	Area	38.53663851	-77.03854174	
GIS	Area	38.53680261	-77.03855754	

Location Map:



Map of Thomas Stone National Historic Site (NHS). The park is at image upper center. (NPS Park Tiles)


Three Notch Rd
Hollywood Rd
ardtown
Nanjemoy Rd
iles

Regional Landscape Contexts:

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

This context describes the large-scale physical forms and patterns of the landscape, such as hill, plateau, ravine, or drumlin, etc. Thomas Stone National Historic Site lies within the Coastal Plain physiographic province of Maryland. The province is divided into three sections that include the Delmarva Peninsula Section that is bounded by the Atlantic Ocean and Chesapeake Bay; the Western Shore Lowlands Section that is bounded by the Chesapeake Bay, Patapsco River, and Fall Line; and the Western Shore Uplands Section that extends south from the Patapsco River and is bounded by the Chesapeake Bay and the Fall Line and Potomac River. The Western Shore Uplands Section features elevations extending up to 450 feet and tributaries to major rivers and the Chesapeake Bay that run slowly, meandering through relatively flat land.

Soil profiles in the study area are variable, extending from 20 to 40 inches before reaching a restrictive fragipan to greater than 80 inches. Soils consist of loams, silt loams, gravelly silt loams, and sand, with classifications that include Beltsville silt loam, Grosstown-Marr-Hoghole complex, Grosstown-Woodstown-Beltsville complex, and Hoghole-Grosstown complex. The Beltsville silt loam, on slopes ranging from 2 to 5 percent, covers about 45 percent of the park and is identified as a prime farmland soil by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. On slopes ranging from 5 to 10 percent, the Beltsville silt loam is identified as farmland soil of statewide importance. A band of soil within the Hoghole Run valley is identified as Potobac-Issue complex and is marked by frequent flooding and poor drainage characteristics compared to the surrounding soil types. (USDA Web Soil Survey: https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx)

Within the humid subtropical climate zone (Köppen climate classification Cfa), Thomas Stone National Historic Site generally experiences hot, humid summers and mild to cool winters moderated by the Chesapeake Bay. This climate qualifies the site for U.S. Department of Agriculture plant hardiness zone 7a, wherein plant health necessitates hardiness at a temperature as low as 0 to 5 degrees Fahrenheit.

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

This context describes the general human overlay on the physical form on the landscape. Thomas Stone National Historic Site is in southern Maryland in an area with historic roots dating from the mid-seventeenth century. The region was settled slowly, with agricultural production being the prominent lifestyle, which continues today. Although within commuting distance of Washington, DC, the immediate area retains much of its rural character. The Route 301 corridor, that includes the independent village of La Plata east of the park, features strip commercial development on both sides of the highway (see Regional Landscape Context graphic).

Type of Context: Political

Description:

This context describes the overlay imposed on the landscape through general land use, zoning, legal restrictions, transportation, utilities, population, and political jurisdiction (e.g., state, county, city, borough, or village).
Thomas Stone National Historic Site is located in Charles County, in southwestern Maryland, roughly 25 miles south of Washington, DC, 43 miles southwest of Annapolis, Maryland, and 28 miles northeast of Fredericksburg, Virginia. Nearby independent villages include Port Tobacco (roughly 1.5 miles south) and La Plata (roughly 3 miles east).

The 2020 Census for Charles County reported a population of 166,617, representing a 13.7% population increase since the 2010 decennial census. Zoning around the park is entirely Rural Conservation (zone RC) defined by the county as maintaining low-density residential development aimed at preserving the area's rural environment, natural features, and established character. The RC zoning also maintains existing agricultural and aquacultural activities and the land base necessary to support these activities. (Charles County website, https://www.charlescountymd.gov/government/planning-and-growth-management/planning-and-growth-management-publications)

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 03/22/2024

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

The Thomas Stone NHS Landscape meets the requirements of the management category “Must be Preserved and Maintained” because the property is nationally significant as defined by National Historic Landmark criteria and preservation of the property is specifically legislated. The house and grounds were designated a National Historic Landmark on November 11, 1971, under the name “Habre-de-Venture” and under NHL theme “War for Independence.” Enabling legislation approved on November 10, 1978, authorized the Secretary of the Interior to “acquire the Thomas Stone house and grounds, known as Haber-de-Venture, for establishment of Thomas Stone National Historic Site.” (FD 2017: 32)

Management Agreements:

Type of Agreement: Other

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

Agreement between GEWA and THST for shared administrative services covering administrative officer, information technology (IT) specialist, and administrative support assistant positions.(FD 2017: 34)

Type of Agreement: Other

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

Agreement with Charles County Sheriff to provide law enforcement assistance when needed. (FD 207: 34)

Type of Agreement: Other

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

Agreement with La Plata Fire Department to provide fire, emergency medical services and search and rescue service to the park. (FD 2017: 34)

Type of Agreement: Other

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative has a right-of-way for overhead power lines in the park that provide power to the park and surrounding communities. (FD 2017: 34)

Type of Agreement: Other

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

NPS Mid-Atlantic Exotic Plant Management
Team. Assistance from the MAEPMT is vital to the park's ability to manage invasive and nonnative plants. (FD 2017: 34)

Legal Interests:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Narrative: The park's legislated boundary contains Tract 101-01 and 101-02, both of which are held fee simple.

Located in managed wilderness?: No

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Lands Narrative:

Adjacent lands are lands outside the boundaries of the CLI project area, either inside or outside the park boundaries, that contribute to the significance. During Thomas Stone's tenure, the size of Haberdeventure was over three times larger than the National Historic Site's current 328 acres and extended west of Hoghole Run and northwest passed the run's headwaters. Today, these adjacent lands contain successional woods and are largely undeveloped. South of the National Historic Site is Rose Hill, the eighteenth-century home of Dr. Gustavus Richard Brown and presently a private farm and horse boarding facility.

National Register Information

National Register of Historic Places

Documentation Status: Entered Inadequately Documented

Documentation Narrative Description:

Thomas Stone National Historic Site was authorized November 10, 1978. Prior to that date, the property was designated as a National Historic Landmark (NHL) and documented in the National Register of Historic Places. The National Park Service acquired the property in 1981.

On November 11, 1971, the park was designated a National Historic Landmark under the name “Habre-de-Venture” and under NHL theme “War for Independence.” Documentation for the NHL designation was completed in a National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form by Charles Snell in May 1971 (documentation unsigned). Significance was identified in the areas of Politics/Government for the eighteenth century, with specific dates of 1771-1787. The form identified Habre-de-Venture as the principal home from 1771 to 1787 of Thomas Stone, a Signer of the Declaration of Independence for Maryland, lawyer, planter, and politician, and noted Stone was buried in the family grave yard adjacent to the plantation house. In addition to the 1771 house and its hyphens and wings, the form noted the dependencies and grave were within the boundaries of the semicircular-shaped site. Acreage was reported as 360 acres.

On October 30, 1972, National Register documentation for the park was accepted under the name “Habre-de-Venture.” Documentation was completed in an Inventory-Nomination Form by Mrs. Preston Parish in February 1972. National-level significance was identified in the areas of Politics/Government and Architecture for the eighteenth century, with a specific date of c.1775. The form described the life of Thomas Stone and his descendants and the home’s “unusual floor plan,” as well as alterations to the house and addition of a stable by subsequent owners. In addition to describing the 1771 house and its hyphens and wings, the form noted that the 1972 owner built a polygonal brick garden house and a gambrel roof garage (both since removed). The only mention of the grounds was, “Habre de Venture is a working farm where thoroughbred horses are bred and raised.” Acreage was reported as 256 acres, which according to the form was, “needed to interpret the rural setting” during Stone’s occupancy.

On April 26, 1988, the Keeper of the National Register concurred with the Maryland State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), through a Determination of Eligibility (DOE) request, that five features in the park were ineligible for listing in the National Register. The carriage house/carriage shed (1850-1859, 1950s) was determined ineligible due to its deteriorated condition. The other four features were determined ineligible because of their post-1940s construction dates: garage/apartment (1940s-c.1972), garden house (1950s-1972), formal garden (1950s-1972), and stock pond (1960s). The carriage house/carriage shed, garage/apartment, and garden house have since been removed, but remnants of the formal garden remain and the stock pond is still present. The 1988 DOE references the date of 1900 as the end of the site’s period of significance, but does not provide an explanation or source for this date. However, this date corresponds to the Preferred Alternative presented in the park’s 1989 General Management Plan: “The landscape and farm structures will generally be managed to maintain a circa 1900 appearance, aiding the visitors’ understanding of the present site condition and the changes in development and land use over time.” (GMP 1988: 11)

In August 1988, John M. Wearmouth, a contractor, prepared draft documentation to amend the 1972 National Register documentation, but it was not submitted to the Maryland SHPO or Keeper for review and concurrence. The draft form proposed significance under Criterion B in the area of Politics/Government for Thomas Stone, his brother Michael Jenifer Stone, and nephew William Briscoe Stone. Criteria Consideration E, Reconstructed Properties, was identified since the central block of the Main House was rebuilt in the 1990s after a 1977 fire. The proposed period of significance was 1770-1875, beginning when Thomas Stone purchased the property and ending a few years after William died (date not explained in

text). Contributing features in the draft form included: the house (1771-1773), barn (ca.1830-1840), corn crib (ca.1830-1840), tenant house (ca.1840-1859, ca.1949-1959), horse barn (ca.1840-1850, ca.1940-1959); cattle barn/equipment shed (ca.1860-1879, ca.1925-1959, oldest portion originally a tobacco barn), and the family burial ground (ca.1787-1913). Despite the 1875 end date, the sheep shed (ca.1900-1939) is identified as a contributing feature. Acreage was reported as 321 acres.

On July 8, 1996, the Maryland SHPO concurred with the National Park Service that three additional features in the park were ineligible for listing in the National Register due to their twentieth-century construction dates. They were the hog shed (1930s-1950s), the twentieth-century horse barn (1940s), and the 1940s addition to the ca.1850-1874 horse barn. All structures have since been removed.

In August 1997, Susan C. Boyle, a contracted historian, prepared draft documentation to amend the 1972 National Register documentation, but it too was not submitted to the Maryland SHPO or Keeper for review and concurrence. The draft form proposed significance under Criterion A in the areas of Politics/Government and Agriculture, Criterion B for Thomas Stone and William Briscoe Stone, Criterion C in the area of Architecture, and Criterion D in the area of Archeology (Historic: Non-Aboriginal). Criteria Consideration D (Cemeteries) was also identified. The proposed period of significance was 1770-1900, beginning when Thomas Stone purchased the property and ending with the targeted date of restoration for the house, as directed in the park's 1988 General Management Plan. Contributing features in the draft form included: Haberdeventure (1772), tobacco barn (1830-1840), corn crib (1830-1840), tenant house (1840-1859, 1949-1959), horse barn (1840-1859), cattle barn/equipment shed (1869-1879, ca.1925-1959), burial ground and iron fence (1787-1913, fence 1860s), terraces (likely ca.1770-ca.1787), Entrance Drive A (1911, possibly earlier), Entrance Drive B (first half 20th century), Access Road (early 20th century), Access Road Trace (late 18th century), and field patterns and forest stands (18th century). Acreage was reported as 328 acres.

On March 10, 2023, the Maryland SHPO, through a Determination of Eligibility (DOE) request, concurred with the National Park Service that the mid-twentieth-century features on the Lemko property, which was acquired in 2015, were not eligible for listing in the National Register and did not contribute to the significance of Thomas Stone National Historic Site.

According to research conducted for this CLI and the categories of National Register documentation outlined in the "CLI Professional Procedures Guide," the areas and periods of significance, or resources that contribute to its significance, are not adequately documented in the National Register. Therefore, for purposes of the CLI, the Thomas Stone NHS Landscape is considered "Entered-Inadequately Documented."

Eligibility: Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination

Concurrence Eligibility Date: 08/23/2024

Concurrence Narrative:

On August 5, 2024, Kerry Schamel-Gonzalez, THST Chief of Cultural Resources; Bethany Serafine, NER National Register Coordinator, and Bob Page, Eliot Foulds, and Jeff Killion at OCLP met with the Pennsylvania SHPO on a Teams call to discuss the first four comments in the June 10 SHPO letter. An email from the SHPO, dated August 23, agreed with the NPS's responses:

SHPO: "It is noted several times in the narrative that the condition of the landscape declined between 1872 and the mid-1910s, but this is not further explained. A description of what changed in this period would help evaluate the justification for ending the Period of Significance in 1872."
NPS: The period ends in 1872 for the area of Politics/Government. The landscape condition after 1872 is unrelated to the area of Politics/Government. There is little info about the landscape until c.1900 when early photographs suggest a landscape in decline. No changes to CLI at this time.
SHPO: Concur

SHPO: "Considering the above, we recommend revising the Period of Significance to extend to 1913, when Margaret Graham Stone died. Ending in 1913 reflects the end of the Stone family tenure on the property. Additionally, the ca. 1900 sheep barn ruin cannot contribute if the period of significance ends in 1872."
NPS: The family continued to occupy the farm until 1936 when it was sold to Charles S. Smith, not 1913. Margaret Graham Stone was not involved in Politics/Government, so extending the PoS to her death in the area of Politics/Government is not applicable. Extending to 1913 under the area of Agriculture could be considered if such techniques or practices at the property were unique. The area of Conservation could be considered is there was direct evidence that Margaret was intentionally managing the property to preserve its history. An updated National Register nomination will identify the significance of the property's landscape through time. The CLI will note in the Statement of Significance that significance in the areas of Agriculture and Conservation may be applicable, pending future National Register documentation. (Sheep Barn Ruin comment addressed below).
SHPO: Concur

SHPO: "In order to concur with the determination that the property is significant at the state level under Criterion B for the association with William Briscoe Stone, additional information is required."
NPS: Comment is unclear as to what addition information is requested. The CLI states that he managed the property, and then bought it and lived there until his death in 1872. An updated National Register may discover additional information. No changes to CLI at this time.
SHPO: What decisions or accomplishments are attributed to William Briscoe Stone's tenure as a judge that justify state-wide significance for politics?
NPS: Will change level of significance for William to local level.

SHPO: "Generally, we agree with the categorization of the contributing, non-contributing, and underdetermined landscape characteristics and features. However, as noted above the ca. 1900 sheep barn ruin is outside of the period of significance. If the period of significance does end in 1872, this cannot contribute."
NPS: The Sheep Barn Ruin is identified as a contributing feature in the 1988 draft National Register, which was never finalized. The CLI evaluated this feature as Noncontributing. Dates of this feature vary; 1900-1939 (1988 draft NR), and 1840 (based on the method of carpentry and fasteners used, CLR 1996: 43, citing Rivoire, Research Summary, 69). Given the uncertainty of dates, the CLI will change evaluation of this feature to Undetermined.
SHPO: Concur

Significance Level: National

Contributing: Individual

Classification: Site

Statement of Significance for National Register of Historic Places:

Thomas Stone National Historic Site is significant at the national level under Criterion B in the area of Politics/Government for its associations with Thomas Stone, an original signer of the Declaration of Independence. The property is also significant at the state level for Michael Jenifer Stone, his brother, and at the local level for William Briscoe Stone, his nephew, for their roles in Maryland state politics and law. The property is also significant at the state level under Criterion C in the area of Architecture for Habredeventure, the Georgian-style mansion built by Thomas Stone and later residence for Michael Jenifer and William Briscoe. The period of significance for the property is 1770-1872, which corresponds to the date the house was built and the year of William Briscoe Stone's death. The condition of the landscape subsequently declined until the mid-1910s. Note: Significance in the areas of Agriculture and Conservation may also be applicable. Research for these and other historic contexts, and their associated periods of significance, will be addressed in future National Register documentation.

CRITERION B

Politics/Government:
Thomas Stone National Historic Site possesses national-, state-, and local-level significance under Criterion B in the area of Politics/Government for its associations with Thomas Stone, his brother Michael Jenifer Stone, and nephew William Briscoe Stone. The property's primary association is with Thomas Stone, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Thomas Stone, the youngest signer from Maryland, studied law at Annapolis and was admitted to the Maryland bar in 1764. Stone took his seat in the Continental Congress in May 1776, and except for a part of the year 1777, he served until October 1778. He was again a delegate to the Continental Congress in 1784, and finally became a state senator from 1776 to 1787. Stone purchased the Haberdeventure property (442 acres) late in 1770 and began constructing a new house on the property the next year. It probably was completed by the end of 1773. Thomas and Margaret Stone and their three children lived at Haberdeventure until they moved to Annapolis about the middle of 1783. After Mrs. Stone's death in June 1787, Thomas returned to Haberdeventure, apparently living there until he died in October of that year.

Michael Jenifer Stone, one of Thomas Stone's younger brothers, represented Maryland in the First Congress under the Constitution of 1787, while it sat in New York. A Federalist, he served in Congress March 4, 1789, to March 3, 1791. During that time he and Judge Joshua Seney successfully secured 10-acres of land in Maryland for the site of the nation's new capital. Stone did not run again for this office, perhaps because he was appointed judge of Maryland's First Judicial District in 1791. At that time high state offices often were considered more attractive and lucrative to politicians and professional men than many similar new Federal government positions. Michael Jenifer Stone probably lived at Haberdeventure from 1787 until he married about 1794 and began building his own home, Equality, near today's Bel Alton, Maryland.

William Briscoe Stone, Michael Jenifer Stone's second son, was born in 1797 and also became a Port Tobacco lawyer and judge. Like his father, he became a chief judge in Maryland's first judicial district. From 1844 through 1846, the Honorable William Briscoe Stone sat on the bench of Maryland's Court of Appeals in Annapolis. Around 1820 he began managing the Haberdeventure property on behalf of his cousin Mildred Stone Daniel. He planned and supervised the improvements of the 1820s and early 1830s, which took place when the property was still owned by Mildred. These improvements probably included the "new kitchen," still extant, the general purpose barn [tobacco barn], adjacent corn crib, and old horse barn. By 1825, he was living at Haberdeventure, and that same year, his first child, Margaret Graham Stone, was born there. In July 1831, William Briscoe Stone purchased a large portion of the Haberdeventure property, including Thomas Stone's mansion house, and he lived there until his death in 1872. He was in charge of Haberdeventure for about 50 years, much longer than anyone else.

CRITERION C

Architecture:
Thomas Stone National Historic Site possesses state-level significance under Criterion C in the area of Architecture for the design and construction of Haberdeventure, the Main House that shares its name with the overall property. Constructed under the direction of Thomas Stone in 1771, Haberdeventure is a Georgian-brick and frame, five-part composition, with its wings and hyphens extending to the rear (south) on either side to form a semicircle. The main or central block is a 1-1/2 story over elevated basement brick

structure, 24 by 45 feet in size, with a gambrel and dormered roof. The walls are brick laid in Flemish bond, with glazed headers, and there is an exterior end chimney at either end. The north (front) and south elevations are each five bays wide, have center doors, and one-story porches extending across their facades. A center hall, with the stair set against the west (right) wall extends through the house. On the right is a hyphen and on the east, the large parlor. In 1928 the original and elaborate hand-carved paneling of the parlor was removed by the Baltimore Museum of Art, which replaced it with a fairly exact replica of the original paneling. The hyphen has the fireplace wall built well out into the room with the flue curving back to the wall and up to the ceiling. Hyphen walls are plastered. (Review comments, Kerry Gonzales, THST, 11 March 2024, 15 March 2024)

The west (or right) kitchen wing is a low two-story gable-roofed structure with brick ends and frame sides built at right-angles to the main axis. The second story, containing two bedrooms, was added over the kitchen about 1820. This west wing is joined to the center house by a hyphen. Originally gable roofed, one-story in height and containing the breakfast room, this passage has had its height increased to 1-1/2 stories by the addition of a gambrel roof with dormers to provide bathrooms on the second floor for the main house. The east (or left) wing is a low gambrel roofed one-and-a-half story frame structure with one-room on each floor. This wing may have served as Thomas Stone's law office. The east wing is connected to the main house by means of a one-story brick wing with gable roof. (Review comment, Kerry Gonzales, THST, 11 March 2024)

On January 1, 1977, a chimney fire gutted the center block of the house, leaving only its brick walls. Recognizing the need to protect Haberdeventure, Congress authorized the creation of Thomas Stone National Historic Site in 1978. The National Park Service restored the house in the 1990s, to its appearance in ca.1900 (see Criterion Consideration E below).

CRITERIA CONSIDERATION D: CEMETERIES

The Thomas Stone Burial Ground was established circa 1787 based on the earliest burials of Margaret and Thomas Stone who died within four months of each other that year. The burial ground was located roughly 300 feet southeast of the Main House and by circa 1860, the burial ground was defined by an iron fence along its perimeter. Seven other markers of extended Stone family members who died between 1841–1873, including two children, are in the burial ground. The last burial occurred in 1913 with the passing of Margaret Graham Stone. (NR draft 1988, Sec.8)

CRITERIA CONSIDERATION E: RECONSTRUCTED PROPERTIES

The principal, central portion of the Main House—the dwelling house proper—was completely gutted by fire January 1, 1977. The adjoining hyphens and end buildings connected by them to the manor house also were damaged in varying degrees by fire, smoke, and water. Exterior brick remains of the principal dwelling house are historically and architecturally by far the most important part of a building having a five-part composition, situated in an arc with the concave side (front) facing generally southward. The exterior was reconstructed in the early 1990s by the NPS Historic Preservation Training Center based on a 1902 photograph of the house. Much of the central interior was also reconstructed after the fire. (NR draft 1988, Sec.7; FD 2017: 11)

National Register Significance Criteria:

B - Associated with lives of persons significant in our past

C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Politics/Government

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

National Register Criteria Consideration:

D -- A cemetery

E -- A reconstructed building, object, or structure

National Register Periods of Significance (with Historic Context Themes):

Time Period: CE 1770 - CE 1872

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Shaping the Political Landscape	The American Revolution	The Declaration Of Independence	
Shaping the Political Landscape	The Law	Scholars, Judges, And Lawyers	
Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	Georgian (1730-1780)	

NRIS Information:

NRIS Name:	Habre-de-Venture
NRIS ID:	72001595
Primary Certification Date:	10/30/1972

State Register Documentation:

Identification Number:	CH-5
Name:	Habre de Venture (Thomas Stone House, Thomas Stone National Historic Site)

National Historic Landmarks:

National Historic Landmark?	Yes
Theme:	American Revolution, The
Contributing:	Individual
NHL ID:	
NHL URL:	
Date:	11/11/1971

Statement of Significance for National Historic Landmark:

World Heritage Site:

Is Resource within a designated National Natural Landscape: No

Chronology and Physical History

Chronology:

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
BCE 5000 - 1000	Altered	The Chesapeake Bay is formed when glaciers melt and flood the Susquehanna River valley while rising sea levels push to expand the boundaries of the estuary. (Chesapeake Bay Foundation)
BCE 3000 - 2300	Inhabited	Based on archeological evidence, American Indians occupy the future Thomas Stone National Historic Site. (AOA 2007: 22)
CE 1634	Settled	Jesuit missionaries move south from Piscataway to the area known as Portobaco, later Port Tobacco, to escape the Susquehannas who are hostile to Christians. (AOA 2007: 25)
CE 1682	Purchased/Sold	On March 16, the initial patent for Haberdeventure (then spelled Habberdeventure) is recorded to John Bearfoot. (CLR 1996: 19)
CE 1708	Purchased/Sold	John Bearfoot sells 150-acre property to John Lambert, a planter. (CLR 1996: 19)
CE 1770	Purchased/Sold	On December 13, Thomas Stone purchases Haberdeventure and Hansons Plain Enlarged from his uncle Daniel Jenifer. (CLR 1996: 22)
CE 1770 - 1783	Purchased/Sold	Thomas Stone increases his land holdings from 442 to 812 acres. purchasing lands adjacent to Haberdeventure. (CLR 1996: 22)
CE 1771 - 1772	Built	The main house is built. (DOE 1988: np)
CE 1783	Purchased/Sold	Thomas Stone purchases a home in Annapolis, Maryland, and moves there with his family. He turns over management of Haberdeventure to his brother, Michael Jenifer Stone. (CLR 1996: 25)
CE 1783 - 1800	Maintained	With his departure to Annapolis, Thomas Stone’s brothers, Michael Jenifer Stone and Walter Stone, managed Haberdeventure. The latter until his death in 1791 and the former until around 1800. (Review comment, THST staff, 11 March 2024)
CE 1787	Land Transfer	In June, Margaret Stone dies and Thomas Stone returns to Haberdeventure where he dies in October. Haberdeventure is inherited by Stone’s only son, Frederick. (NR draft 1988, Sec.8; CLR 1996: 27)
CE 1793	Land Transfer	Frederick Stone dies and Haberdeventure passes to Thomas Stone’s two daughters, Margaret and Mildred. (CLR 1996: 27)
CE 1798 - 1831	Farmed/Harvested	Haberdeventure is likely leased to tenant farmers. (CLR 1996: 29)
CE 1821 - 1831	Maintained	Michael Jenifer Stone’s son, William Briscoe Stone, manages Haberdeventure (CLR 1996: 27)
CE 1831	Purchased/Sold	William Briscoe Stone buys the Haberdeventure property and two other small parcels from his cousin, Mildred Stone Daniel. (CLR 1996: 27)

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1872	Land Transfer	William Briscoe Stone dies and leaves half of his estate to his wife, Caroline, and half to his unmarried daughter Margaret Graham Stone. (CLR 1996: 27,29)
CE 1875 - 1925	Altered	In the late nineteenth or early twentieth centuries, the garden terraces located south of the house are plowed. (CLR 1996: 37)
CE 1876	Farmed/Harvested	A tenant agreement with Margaret Graham Stone records a variety of crops raised and used to pay rent and that the tenant lived in the west wing of the Main House. (CLR 1996: 44)
CE 1913	Land Transfer	Margaret Graham Stone dies and Haberdeventure is inherited by her nephew, Michael Robertson Stone. (CLR 1996: 47)
CE 1913 - 1935	Farmed/Harvested	During the tenure of Michael Robertson Stone and his family, tenants occupy and farm Haberdeventure. (CLR 1996: 47)
CE 1936	Purchased/Sold	Charles Stevenson Smith purchased Haberdeventure from the heirs of Michael Robertson Stone. (CLR 1996: 29)
CE 1945	Purchased/Sold	Peter and Ruth Gardner Vischer purchase Haberdeventure from Charles Stevenson Smith. (CLR 1996: 29)
CE 1967 - 1975	Land Transfer	A number of land records are generated addressing rights-of-way, the subdivision of the Lemko parcel, and boundary surveys. Except for the Lemko outparcel, these property changes do not have a large impact on the core area of the property. (CLR 1996: 31)
CE 1971	Established	The site is designated a National Historic Landmark under the name “Habre-de-Venture” and under NHL theme “War for Independence.”
CE 1977	Destroyed	On January 1, fire completely guts the central portion of Habre de Venture. (NR draft 1988, Sec.7: 1)
CE 1978	Established	On November 10, legislation creating Thomas Stone National Historic Site is signed into law. (Public Law 95-625)
CE 1981	Purchased/Sold	On January 8, Charles F. Lombard, representing the estate of Helen C. Vischer, sells roughly 322 acres to the National Park Service. (NPS Lands Program, THST)
CE 1988	Demolished	On April 26, the Keeper of the National Register signs a Determination of Eligibility, concurred by Maryland State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), that the following were non-contributing to the significance of Thomas Stone National Historic Site: Carriage House, Garage, Garden House, Formal Garden (Vischer era), and Stock Pond. Subsequently, the park removed the structures and garden vegetation and left the Stock Pond in place.
CE 1991	Reconstructed	A phased reconstruction of the exterior of the house begins. (NR draft 1997: Sec.8: 4)
CE 1996	Demolished	On July 9, the Maryland SHPO signs a concurrence that the following were non-contributing to the significance of Thomas Stone National Historic Site: Hog Shed, Horse Barn, and Horse Barn addition. Subsequently, the park removed the structures.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1997 - 2000	Built	Park plans, designs, and constructs new visitor facilities that include a realignment of Entrance Road A, a new parking area, and a new picnic pavilion. (Review comment, THST staff, 11 March 2024)
CE 2001 - 2002	Altered	The Picnic Pavilion is modified to be a Visitor Center. (Review comment, THST staff, 11 March 2024)
CE 2002	Built	Park assembles prefabricated maintenance building after a tornado earlier in the year demolished the original building. (PEPC 15943)
CE 2002	Removed	Garage on the west side of the Thomas Stone House is removed. (Review comment, THST staff, 11 March 2024)
CE 2006	Altered	Following an existing underground telephone line, the park installs a fiber optic cable between the Main House basement and the Maintenance Building and Visitor Center. (PEPC 15943)
CE 2007	Maintained	Park paints all exterior wood, metal, windows, doors, shutters and trim surfaces at the Main House. (PEPC 18372)
CE 2007	Altered	Office and theater added to the Visitor Center, and a boardwalk is built behind the Visitor Center. (Review comment, THST staff, 11 March 2024)
CE 2009	Removed	Park removes an Eastern redcedar that grew as a volunteer in very close proximity to the Horse Barn. (PEPC 29092)
CE 2010	Maintained	Park completes in-kind roof replacements: metal for the Horse Barn, Corn Crib and Tenant House; wood shingles for the Tobacco Barn. (PEPC 32605)
CE 2011	Altered	Park installs alarm system communication antenna in inconspicuous location at the Main House. (PEPC 34597)
CE 2011	Altered	Park adds internal bracing to the gabled ends of the Horse Barn to prevent collapse and to straighten the roof which was leaning to the north. (PEPC 37300)
CE 2015	Purchased/Sold	On April 4, Willie Lemko, representing the estate of Nadija Lemko, sells roughly 6 acres to the National Park Service. (NPS Lands Program, THST)
CE 2015	Altered	New roof and gutters are installed at the Thomas Stone House. (Review comment, THST staff, 11 March 2024)
CE 2022	Removed	Park removes naturalized trees growing within 25 feet to the parks septic field near the Maintenance Building. (PEPC 109669)
CE 2023	Established	March 10, the Maryland SHPO signs a concurrence that the Lemko property is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and does not contribute to the significance of Thomas Stone National Historic Site.

Physical History:

INTRODUCTION

The following section provides information on the physical development and evolution of the site, organized by time periods. The text is extracted directly from selected portions of the February 1996 "Cultural Landscape Report, National Park Service, Thomas Stone National Historical Site," by J. Richard Rivoire, John Milner Architects, and Land Ethics; and the 2007 "Thomas Stone National Historic Site: Archeological Overview and Assessment" by Teresa S. Moyer, Center for Heritage Resource Studies, Department of Anthropology, University of Maryland. Historically, in park documents and among staff, use of the name Haberdeventure varies between describing the entire property and only the house. In this narrative, Haberdeventure is used to describe the entire property and Main House is used to describe the house, consisting of a central block, two hyphens, and two wings.

LANDSCAPE ORIGINS, to 1770

Sometime between 10000 to 8000 BCE, a very rapid change took place across eastern North America as the climate warmed and the glaciers retreated into southern Canada at the beginning of the Holocene epoch. The temperature rose so that each year several months of Arctic air gave way to a few months of tropical air. Pollen analysis showed that the forests circa 8000 BCE consisted abundantly of oak, followed by hemlock and hickory. (AOA 2007: 14, citing Delcourt and Delcourt 1981 and Little 1995: 31)

Archeological evidence of American Indians' relationship with the environment becomes more prevalent during the Archaic period, circa 8000 BCE. Environmental conditions helped human populations to grow through dependence on hunting small- to- medium-sized animals and gathering nuts, berries, herbs, and other vegetation. For instance, archeology at the Indian Creek V site in Greenbelt, Maryland, provided evidence of Early Archaic and Late Archaic peoples' use of plants. Nearly all the specimens of the botanical assemblage have documented ethnographic uses as medications, intoxicants, cordage, mats, baskets, decorative objects, dyes, and shelter. (AOA 2007: 14, citing Lee Decker 1991: 230-268) Some of the plants are also found at Thomas Stone National Historic Site and may point to American Indians' uses of their surroundings, such as foods of acorns and pokeweed or ferns used for food and medicine.

Archeological evidence of American Indians at Thomas Stone NHS has thus far followed the pattern of sites and artifacts found across southern Maryland. Few of the American Indian projectile points found at the park came from undisturbed contexts; nevertheless, archeologists have identified a Late Archaic occupation of about 3000 to 2300 BCE. (AOA 2007: 22, citing Cheek et.al. 1989: 17)

Although Spanish missionaries may have visited southern Maryland as early as the sixteenth century, the first detailed account comes from John Smith, an English captain. Smith traveled throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed and published his findings as a travel narrative and map. Historians and archeologists today use the map and descriptions with some caution to identify the tribal affiliations and settlement locations of American Indians (Figure 1). (AOA 2007: 25)

Captain Henry Fleet, an adventurer and trader with American Indians, described arranging a trade agreement with American Indians in the southern area of southern Maryland for furs and beaver skins in 1632. (Klapthor and Brown 1958: 3) Jesuit missionaries moved south from Piscataway to the area known then as Portobaco, later Port Tobacco, to escape the Susequehannas, who were hostile to Christians. Missionaries writing in 1634 described a beautiful river and a landscape rich in soil, trees, nuts, berries, animal life, and clean water. They also observed a few persons cultivating the land. (Klapthor and Brown 1958: 1) Over time, American Indians were pushed out of their historic territory by encroaching white settlements under colonial authority. (AOA 2007: 25, citing Klapthor and Brown 1958: 1-3)

Haberdeventure:
The initial patent for Haberdeventure (then spelled Habberdeventure) was recorded on March 16, 1682, in the name of John Bearfoot, a planter. On May 4, 1708, Bearfoot sold the 150-acre property to John Lambert, another planter, for "500 pounds of tobacco and caske...and for divers other good causes" It is possible that Haberdeventure was already farmed and occupied at this time since the deed also refers to "dwelling houses, messuages buildings barnes stables gardens orchards out houses -profits comodoties advantages and appurtenances." This parcel, the original Haberdeventure, was located in the southernmost portion of the present-day limits of the property, and adjoined properties called "Simpsons Delight" and "Bettys Delight." A portion of this tract extended to the west of Hoghole Run, outside the limits of the current property (Figure 2). (CLR 1996: 19, citing 65 Patents: N.S, #2: 22; Deeds: C#2: 107, Charles County)

In 1724 Lamber sold this same 150 acres to Robert Hanson for "2,000 pounds of tobacco and five barrels of Indian corn." This deed also suggests the property was improved, "with all & singular the houses, woods ways profits and appurtenances." Hanson's will, probated on September 27, 1748, devised this property to his daughter, Mary Hanson. She also inherited from her father an additional

75 acres called Hansons Plain, acquired by patent in 1725 (Figure 3). These 75 acres were located directly to the north of the original Haberdeventure patent, which comprises an important portion of the existing property today. (CLR 1996: 19, citing Deeds: L#2: 147, Charles County; Wills: AC#4: 252)

Both of these properties were sold by Mary Hanson and her husband Joseph Hanson Harrison to Daniel Jenifer in 1763 for 203 pounds sterling. The deed lists Hansons Plains as being "on a plain near the main road ... containing 75 acres by patent 12 March 1725, together with all Houses Edifices [remainder of deed torn]." During this period of history, it was common for original land patents not to border directly upon one another, leaving parcels of land vacant and unclaimed. The boundaries of early patent tracts both overlapped and left gaps due to the recording practices during the original patenting process. (CLR 1996: 19, citing Deeds: L#3:339, Charles County)

Such was the case in 1768, when Daniel Jenifer petitioned for some vacant land to be added to his current holdings of Haberdeventure and Hansons Plains. From this survey, it was determined that Haberdeventure "contains the exact quantity of 150 acres," Hansons Plains was proved to contain 86 acres, and an additional 206 acres of contiguous vacant land were added to the patent. Of this vacant land, the survey stated that "about 120 acres ... are cultivated and has on it one tobacco house about 20 x 30 feet and a dwelling house very sorry, shattered and leaky and about 1200 logs [sic]," indicating some timber cutting on the property. Jenifer patented the resurveyed tract under the name Haberdeventure and Hansons Plains Enlarged. In 1769, Jenifer advertised 342 acres of the property with two tenements for sale or rent. Given the approximate locations of the original Haberdeventure and Hansons Plains patents, it is possible that the location of the tobacco house and tenant house were in the vicinity of the existing farm complex. (CLR 1996: 19,22, citing Patents: BC&GS#32:527, Charles County; Maryland Gazette, March 9, 1769)

It is probable that Bearfoot used the Haberdeventure land to grow tobacco and perhaps some wheat and corn. However, as the land area was too large for him to work alone, and although there is no evidence that Bearfoot had enslaved people or servants, the common practice at the time was to work the land with the aid of indentured servants. (CLR 1996: 32, citing Walsh, "Plantation Management in the Chesapeake, 1620-1820," 393) The enslaved were not used as field labor until the latter part of the seventeenth century, and then initially only by wealthy landowners. (CLR 1996: 32, citing Walsh n.d.: 393) It is also possible that Bearfoot occupied the property. As stated in the property history, the evidence for this is inconclusive even though the deed mentioned dwelling houses, barns, stables, gardens, and outhouses. This was a stock phrase for legal instruments of sale at the time, thus buildings may or may not have actually been on site.

In a similar vein, it is difficult to determine much about the status of agriculture or property improvements while the property was owned by John Lambert, Robert Hanson, or Daniel Jenifer between 1708 and 1770. This was a period of change in Tidewater agriculture, as virgin land ran out and planters were faced with diminishing returns from worn out soils. (CLR 1996: 32, citing Walsh n.d.: 393) The destructive land practices of the seventeenth century were modified only by the wealthy and progressive farmers.

The property was tenanted during this period, probably by two leaseholders. (CLR 1996: 32, citing Maryland Gazette, March 9, 1769) Until 1750, it was common for owners of large rental properties to subdivide the unit into smaller farms and let long leases for three lives, "usually those of the initial renter, his wife and a child." (CLR 1996: 32, citing Walsh n.d.: 375) Beginning in the late 1750s, the life tenancy system was phased out in favor of short term leases that brought greater returns to the landlord. (CLR 1996: 32, citing Walsh n.d.: 386) Since the leases for Haberdeventure have not survived, and there is no other evidence for a three-lives lease at Haberdeventure, it is probable that the land was leased for shorter periods of time.

In exchange for the lease, the leaseholder was required to pay an annual portion of the tobacco crop, and typically to plant an orchard and build a house and a tobacco house. In Theophilus Hanson's 1767 survey of Haberdeventure and Hansons Plains Enlarged it is noted that the 120 acres of the vacancy he found adjoining Hansons Plains included "one tobacco house 20' x 30' and a dwelling house very sorry, shattered and leaky." (CLR 1996: 32, citing Wearmouth n.d.: 5) These structures

may have been built as the result of the required leasehold improvements on the property.

Although it was common for tenants to pay their leaseholds in tobacco, the price of tobacco was unstable, and the soils were generally becoming depleted, producing smaller crop yields. Since both Robert Hanson and Daniel Jenifer owned grist mills, corn and wheat may have replaced tobacco as the primary crops grown at Haberdeventure after about 1740. (CLR 1996: 32, citing Rivoire, Research Summary, 31; Review comments, Kerry Gonzales, THST, 11 March 2024 and 15 March 2024)



Figure 1. Detailed portion of John Smith's map of the Chesapeake region based on 1608 travels showing Maryland's Western Shore between the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay. The approximate site of Thomas Stone National Historic Site is indicated with a red dot. (Library of Congress, 1612; annotated by Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation--hereafter OCLP--2024)

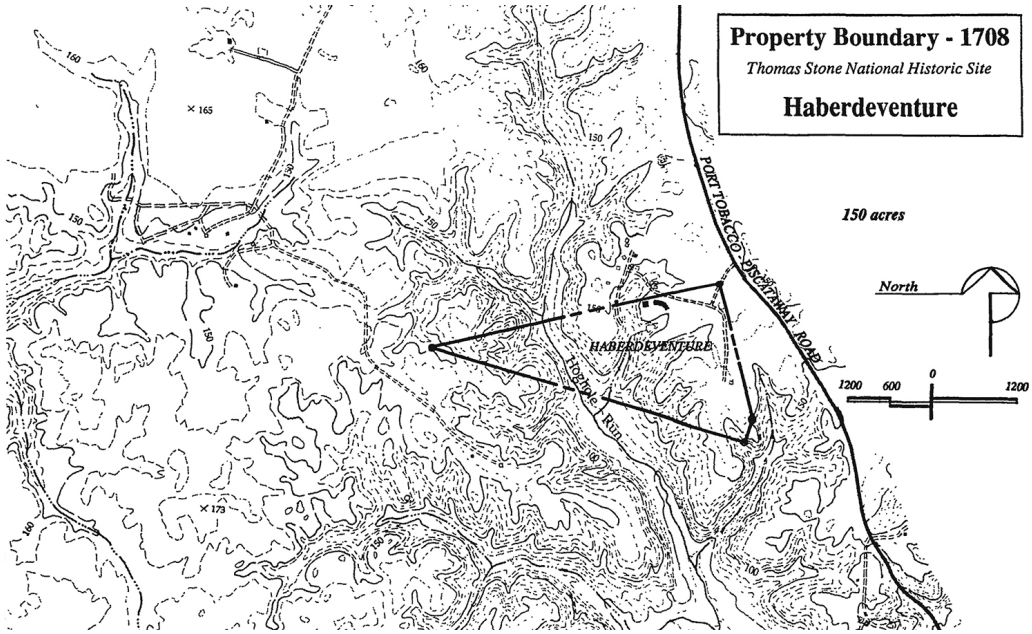


Figure 2. Haberdeventure property boundary, 1708. (CLR 1996)

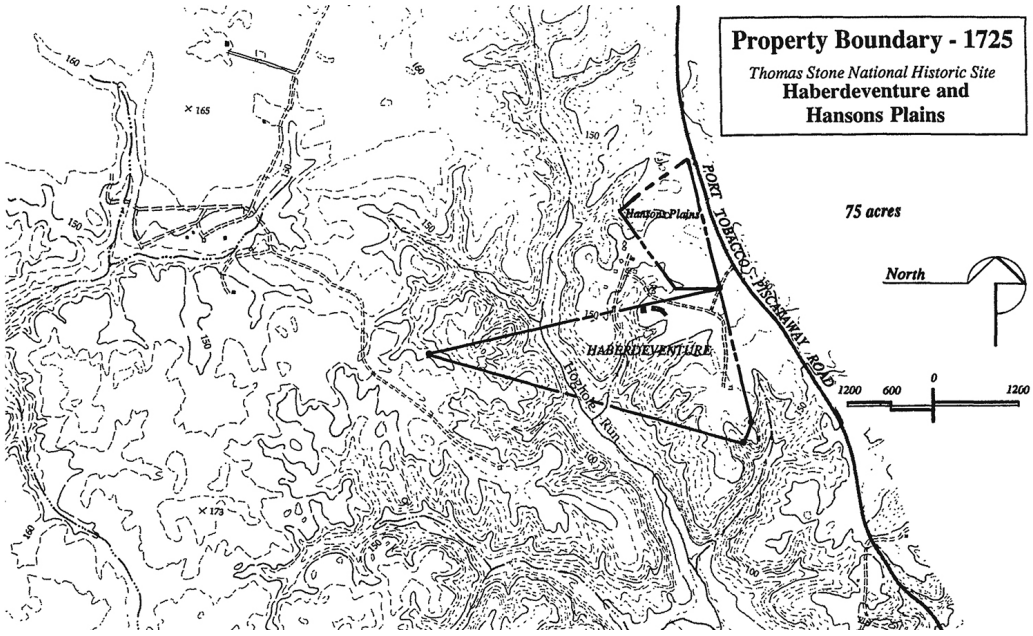


Figure 3. Haberdeventure property boundary, 1725. (CLR 1996)

THOMAS STONE RESIDENCY, 1770–1787

On December 13, 1770, Thomas Stone purchased Haberdeventure and Hansons Plains Enlarged from his uncle Daniel Jenifer for 400 pounds sterling (Figure 4). (CLR 1996: 22, citing Deeds: S#3: 127, Charles County) Prior to 1770, Thomas Stone lived and practiced law in Frederick, Maryland. Following his purchase of Haberdeventure, he moved there with his family, and set up his law practice in Port Tobacco. The tract, as resurveyed by Jenifer in 1768, comprised a property of 442 acres and was sold together with "all waters, watercourses, woods, underwoods, Houses Buildings Rail Hereditaments benefits, etc." (CLR 1996: 22, citing Deeds: S#3: 127, Charles County) The listing of "Rails" suggests that the property was fenced by this time or merely contained lumber cut for use as wood fencing. The listing of "Rents" in the deed also indicates that the property was being farmed by tenant farmers.

During the next few years, Thomas Stone considerably enlarged his holdings surrounding Haberdeventure by purchasing other lands which were adjacent to his own. By 1783 he owned a total of 812 acres, composed of: 442 acres of Haberdeventure and Hansons Plains Enlarged; 63 acres of Bridgets Delight; 260 acres of Simpsons Delight; and 47 acres of Distrest. (CLR 1996: 22, citing 1783 Tax Assessments, Charles County)

Stone bought Distrest in 1779 for 34.17.2 pounds sterling, Bridgets Delight in the same year for 120.17.4 pounds sterling, Simpsons Delight (Lindsays Rest) in 1780 for 100 pounds sterling, and an additional 240 acre portion of Simpsons Delight in 1782 through his brother Michael Jenifer Stone for 360 pounds sterling. (CLR 1996: 22,25, citing Deeds, Charles County) In 1782 he petitioned for possession of 30 to 35 acres of vacant land: "the land is poor as it is possible to be & has nothing on it but some bushes and oaks." The petition states that the land lies "upon the west side of the Main road from my House to Portobacco, about forty yards from the road through the woods." (CLR 1996: 25, citing Dearborn Collection, Houghton Library, Harvard University) Stone also made an acre-for-acre land swap, trading a parcel of land bordering the east side of Port Tobacco-Piscataway Road, for an additional part of St. Nicholas on the west side of the road. The road thus became the east

boundary of the Stone's dwelling plantation.

In 1783, Thomas Stone purchased a large house in Annapolis from his uncle, Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer where he moved with his wife and children. He continued to visit Haberdeventure, although management of his business affairs were turned over to his brother Walter, and management of Haberdeventure to his other brother, Michael Jenifer Stone. (CLR 1996: 25)

In 1785, Thomas Stone acquired 277 acres of Hansonton for 1000 pounds sterling. In 1787, Stone's holdings at Haberdeventure were consolidated in a new patent from a 1784 resurvey. (CLR 1996: 25, citing Patents: IC#B: 634-637, Charles County) His total contiguous holdings for Haberdeventure at the time of the resurvey and the time of his death in 1787 amounted to 1,077 acres and 35 perches, the largest extent of land holdings that Haberdeventure was to occupy (Figure 5). (CLR 1996: 25)

Thomas Stone also had other land holdings in the Port Tobacco area. Between 1770 and 1783, Stone purchased at least five additional tracts of land near Haberdeventure and Port Tobacco. Between 1777 and 1782, he acquired from various heirs, 231 acres known as Chandler's Hill and Welcome together with a mill seat purchased in 1777 for 525 pounds sterling. (CLR 1996: 25, citing 1783 Tax Assessments; Deeds V#3: 205, Charles County) This property was located at the head of Port Tobacco Creek and was the site of a water mill built before 1716. The mill and 20 acres of this land had been leased in 1716 to two brothers, Henry and Edward Neale, for a term of 80 years. (CLR 1996: 25, citing Deeds H#2: 4, Charles County) This lease agreement remained in effect until Thomas Stone purchased the rights to it in 1782 from the Reverend James Walton of St. Mary's County for 1000 pounds sterling. Thomas Stone and his heirs continued to operate the mill which became known as "Port Tobacco Great Mill" and which was a significant source of income for the family. (CLR 1996: 25, citing Deeds, Charles County; Rivoire, Research Summary, 27)

In 1779, Thomas Stone also acquired 120 acres called Addition to May Day, located just north of the mill site. In 1784, he purchased four small tracts located east of Port Tobacco near the old Salem Road, by now called Stage Coach Road. By 1787, the year of his death, Stone's land holdings in the area had increased to more than 2,000 acres. (CLR 1996: 25, citing Deeds: Z#3: 80, Charles County)

In 1787, the tract known as Chandlers Hills and Welcome (with the mill seat), were resurveyed and patented by Thomas Stone as Plenty. According to documents filed as part of an 1821 court proceeding involving Thomas Stone's estate, the 510 acres of Plenty were considerably better farmland than the Haberdeventure tract, although the improvements were not as extensive as at Haberdeventure. (CLR 1996: 27, citing Charles County Court Proceedings, 1826-1829: 272-286)

Thomas Stone and his immediate family occupied Haberdeventure for only about 10 years, between 1771 when the Haberdeventure house was built and 1783 when the family moved to Annapolis. However, the family was not alone for the years they spent at Haberdeventure. From the mid-1770s and until after Stone's death in 1787, the house at Haberdeventure was occupied by other members of Stone's extended family, including two of his younger brothers and three sisters. The plantation was also home to a number of servants and the enslaved. (CLR 1996: 33, citing Chancery Papers, 4647, Annapolis; Lee: 144, 146-147; Stone Family Papers, Maryland Historical Society)

By the time of his death in 1787, Thomas Stone had acquired approximately 2,000 acres in the vicinity of Port Tobacco, including Haberdeventure, Plenty, and the other lands. (CLR 1996: 33, citing Charles County Tax Assessments, 1783, Maryland Historical Society: Scharf Papers) While his letters relating to the management of his Charles County properties contain many references to the hiring or sale of the enslaved and the operation for his Port Tobacco Great Mill, there are very few references to agricultural production or practices at Haberdeventure. This evidence indicates that Thomas Stone purchased Haberdeventure to be used as a home, rather than as an income producing investment. (CLR 1996: 33)

Agriculture (1770–1787):
During the first thirteen years that Thomas Stone owned Haberdeventure, many improvements were made to the property. By 1783, the tax assessment lists the Haberdeventure and Hansons Plains Enlarged tract as containing "l good brick dwelling House Kitchen & nine other necessary Houses."

There is no information on what these “necessary houses” were, or how many of them were domestic support structures. (CLR 1996: 33, citing Rivoire, Research Summary, 66) In addition to the descriptions of existing farm buildings, the 1783 tax assessments provide a glimpse of the farm; the 442-acre Haberdeventure and Hansons Plains Enlarged tract was described as having “barren soil” and being “half cleared.” (CLR 1996: 33, citing Charles County Tax Assessments, 1783, Maryland Historical Society: Scharf Papers)

From this information, it appears that the currently existing area of Haberdeventure, land described as Haberdeventure and Hanson’s Plain Enlarged, was half cleared and half cultivated land. Half cleared, however, may not mean that the remaining area of the property was virgin timber. Farming practices during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries involved the clearing of land and the planting of crops for a period of one to three years. This was followed by a long fallow period in which the land was left uncultivated, sometimes as much as 20 years. The fallow period allowed native vegetation to return to the fields, gradually returning them to woodland, which improved the fertility of the soil. This was then followed by more clearing and cultivation. (CLR 1996: 33, citing Walsh n.d.: 393)

Apart from the land clearing for agricultural production, there is also an indication that a certain amount of timber harvesting was done on the properties owned by Thomas Stone. The timber was primarily cut for cord wood to make charcoal to supply a forge at Stone’s mill. In fact, clearing for agricultural activities, clearing after long fallows, and timbering for cordwood are compatible occupations. A twenty-year-old tree could be of sufficient size to cut for cordwood, as cordwood can be cut at a much younger stage than timber for lumber. (CLR 1996: 34, citing Michael Jenifer Stone Account Book, Kramer Collection, Southern Maryland Study Center; William Briscoe Stone Papers, Duke University)

Since Haberdeventure had poorer soil than Thomas Stone’s other Charles County properties, the Haberdeventure farm may have been used primarily for livestock and subsistence farming rather than growing cash crops. According to the 1782 tax assessments there were 22 head of black cattle at Haberdeventure and 48 head of cattle at Stone’s Chandlers Hills-Welcome Plantation. These numbers do not necessarily provide an exact indication of herd size for each property, but given their close proximity (within a half-mile of each other), cattle could easily have been moved from one property to another. (CLR 1996: 34)

The inventory of Thomas Stone’s Charles County estate lists the following animals on his lands at the time of his death in 1787: six horses and one colt, two oxen, four cows and calves, and five hogs and twelve shoats. This inventory would not have included the animals belonging to the other inhabitants and tenants of the property at that time, numbers that may have been significant in order to ensure food for all of the residents. In addition, the inventory detailed the following farm equipment: “one ox chain, five weavers slays, one pr. large hand mill stones, one plough and old axe, one old hoe and old spade, two flax wheels dam, and one woolen wheel.” (CLR 1996: 34, citing Inventory of Thomas Stone’s Charles County Estate, 1787-1788)

It is notable that no sheep are listed in the inventory, even though there is a woolen wheel for spinning. The account books kept by Michael Jenifer Stone between 1773 and 1781 indicate a number of entries for sheep and lambs, either bought or sold for Thomas Stone. This would indicate that there were sheep on the property during the Stone occupation, although possibly owned by someone other than Thomas himself. Chickens, turkeys, and potatoes were also purchased in large quantities, which signifies that the farm was not self-sufficient in food production for all of the residents at this time. (CLR 1996: 34, citing M.J. Stone Account Ledger, Kramer Collection, Southern Maryland Study Center) This was not an unusual condition on small plantations of the period, where the time and energies of the enslaved were put to cash crop production rather than ensuring self-sufficiency in food production. (CLR 1996: 35, citing Walsh)

In addition to the wool produced by the sheep, there are indications that two other materials for cloth making were produced on site: cotton and flax. Flax was a common field crop during this period as it was used to make linen cloth. The listing of “2 flax wheels damaged” indicates that linen was made and that the flax was probably grown. A list of items claimed by Michael Jenifer Stone from his sister

Betty Eden's estate included "50 lb. Cotton in seeds," suggesting that at least by that time, cotton was being grown. (CLR 1996: 35, citing William Briscoe Stone Papers, Duke University)

Other crops grown on the site included oats, corn, and wheat. Entries from 1777 to 1781 record more purchases of oats and com than receipts from the sale of these crops. (CLR 1996: 35, citing M.J. Stone Account Ledger, Kramer Collection, Southern Maryland Study Center) Again, this is consistent with farming practices of the period, which concentrated on the cash cropping of tobacco, rather than self-sufficiency in food or feed stuffs. (CLR 1996: 35)

There are also several references in historical accounts that at least some tobacco was grown at Haberdeventure. Most of the tobacco seems to have been produced at the leased Nanjemoy plantation, roughly 15 miles west from Haberdeventure. The account books indicate that tobacco was routinely used to pay accounts and buy other commodities. For example, in 1780, tobacco was delivered to Nanjemoy and Cedar Point in May of that year, and 120 pounds of tobacco was paid for eight sheep in December of the same year. (CLR 1996: 35, citing M.J. Stone Account Ledger, Kramer Collection, Southern Maryland Study Center; Rivoire, 37)

Although tenants occupied Haberdeventure before and after Thomas Stone's ownership, it is not known whether any portion of the farm was leased to tenants during his ownership. Other lands which Thomas Stone owned were tenanted, such as Chandlers Hills and Welcome, and the 20 acres associated with his Port Tobacco Great Mill. (CLR 1996: 35, citing William Briscoe Stone Papers, Duke University; Stone Family Papers, Maryland Historical Society; Stone Family of Maryland Papers, Library of Congress) Apart from tenants, Thomas Stone's lands were worked with enslaved labor, both those he owned, and those that were owned by family members living at Haberdeventure. While the records of purchases and sales are incomplete, there are records documenting some of the transactions for enslaved people. (CLR 1996: 35)

Both Thomas and his wife inherited enslaved people through their fathers' wills. By 1782, Thomas enslaved 35 people; 21 of whom lived at Haberdeventure, with the rest living at Chandlers Hills and Welcome. Stone occasionally separated family members to work different properties, but these lands were all within traveling distance of each other. (CLR 1996: 35, 1782 Tax Assessments, Maryland Historical Society: Scharf Papers; Rivoire, Research summary) There is no reference to where quarters for the enslaved were located. Housing for the enslaved typically consisted of small cabins or duplex quarters and were often built by the enslaved themselves. (CLR 1996: 36, citing Lee, William and Mary Quarterly, 63:3)

After moving to Annapolis, Thomas Stone both hired out and sold enslaved people. In 1787 he wrote to his brother Walter: "I shall have some Negroes to hire next year - Carpenter Tom for 1800 with his tools - Bob 1200 dO Sal for any thing above her victuals & clothes - Violet dO & Ann. Heath £7.10 - Gus £3. little Clare 50/…." (CLR 1996: 36, citing Stone Family of Maryland Papers, Library of Congress) Enslaved laborers educated into a trade were not an uncommon occurrence during this period. For example, one transaction on behalf of Michael Jenifer Stone listed an indenture for "a negro slave called Sam" in the "Brick makers, Bricklayers and Plaisters business..." and another to "hire of Michael J. Stone a negro Blacksmith called Jesse... including tools" (CLR 1996: 36, Stone Family Papers, Maryland Historical Society, MS 406, Box 1) It is not known whether these referenced enslaved people lived at Haberdeventure or at Michael Jenifer Stone's other properties. At his 1787 death, the estate of Thomas Stone listed a total of 20 enslaved people located in Charles County and an additional five at his Annapolis home. (CLR 1996: 36, citing Wills: AH#9: 459, 491, Charles County).

Gardens and Ornamental Landscape (1770–1787):
To date, there is some, but not conclusive documentary and physical evidence, that links the development of an ornamental landscape, including a series of formal garden terraces, to Thomas Stone's ownership of the site. The documentary evidence of the gardens at Haberdeventure revolves primarily around Thomas Stone's will and the inventory of his estate. His will mentions the existence of a garden and orchards: "It is my will and desire that my Brother Michael Jenifer Stone shall have a right to live at the house of Haberdeventure & use the garden, orchards & land he now uses…." The 1788 inventory of Stone's personal effects at Haberdeventure includes the listing of "A parcell old

gardain tools @ 30/" (CLR 1996: 36, citing Wills: AH#9: 459, 491, Charles County) These are the only currently known references to the presence of gardens and orchards on the site. Farms and plantations of the period typically had extensive orchards, and kitchen gardens were common.

The existence of a garden, not necessarily ornamental, is corroborated in a 1780 account entry listing: "To [cash] given to the Gardener for Gardain seeds of Sundry kinds." (CLR 1996: 36, citing M.J. Stone Account Ledger, Kramer Collection, Southern Maryland Study Center) This suggests that the Stone's employed a gardener, who may have been one of Thomas Stone's own enslaved, or a servant specifically hired for gardening.

The garden terraces located to the south of the house may be attributed to Thomas Stone. The terraces are consistent with late eighteenth-century design style, incorporating terraced falls and a ramped bilateral walkway. Archeological investigations of the terraces do not conclusively date them to the late eighteenth century, but the archeological reports interpret the secondary documentary information gathered as indicating such. The archeological evidence indicates that:
"The original garden was presumably composed of the three existing terraces with two "falls." The upper terrace may have served as a bowling green. The second terrace was reached from the first by an earthen ramp as was the third from the second. Presumably, a path bisected at least the second terrace leading to the third terrace. The central rectangle on the west side of the second terrace does not intrude into the hypothesized central aisle, supporting the supposition of a bisecting path." (CLR 1996: 37, citing John Milner Associates, 22)

Evidence was also found to support the fact that the paths and beds narrowed as they went away from the house, following the design laws of perspective, and increasing the apparent distance of the terraces. The garden was found to be broader than the house and its dependencies, consistent with design styles of the time, with a minimum width of 172 feet, to a maximum of 240. According to the archeological study, most of the evidence of plantings have been lost, since the garden terrace was plowed in the late nineteenth or early twentieth centuries. However, evidence of rectangular planting beds in the second terrace with beds along the edges of the terrace have been found. (CLR 1996: 37, citing John Milner Associates, 22)

The archeological investigations of the terraces also found evidence of post holes around the terrace perimeter and planting pits throughout the terraces. Even though these were not dated, and both post holes and planting pits could be from varying periods, it is possible that the terraces were fenced during the Thomas Stone period, since terrace fencing appears in other gardens of the period. (CLR 1996: 38)

Dr. Gustavus Richard Brown, Thomas Stone's brother-in-law, may have had some influence on the development of the gardens at Haberdeventure. Dr. Brown's interest in botany and garden design is well documented, and his garden at Rose Hill, constructed circa 1784, was "the most extensive and artistic to be found in Maryland." (CLR 1996: 38, citing Hayden, Virginia Genealogies, 173) The gardens at Rose Hill are larger and more imposing than those at Haberdeventure; however, the design principles are evident in a similar layout of three terraces with falls separating them, all wider than the house. The gardens at Rose Hill are outlined in geometric patterns with boxwood which are old enough to date from the period.

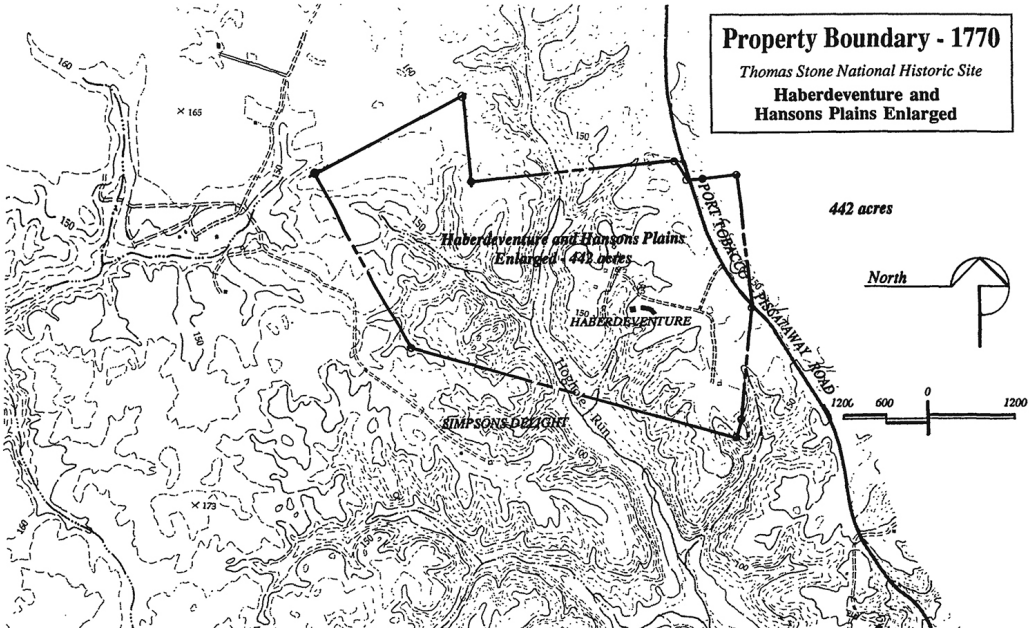


Figure 4. Haberdeventure property boundary, 1770, the year Thomas Stone purchased the property. (CLR 1996)

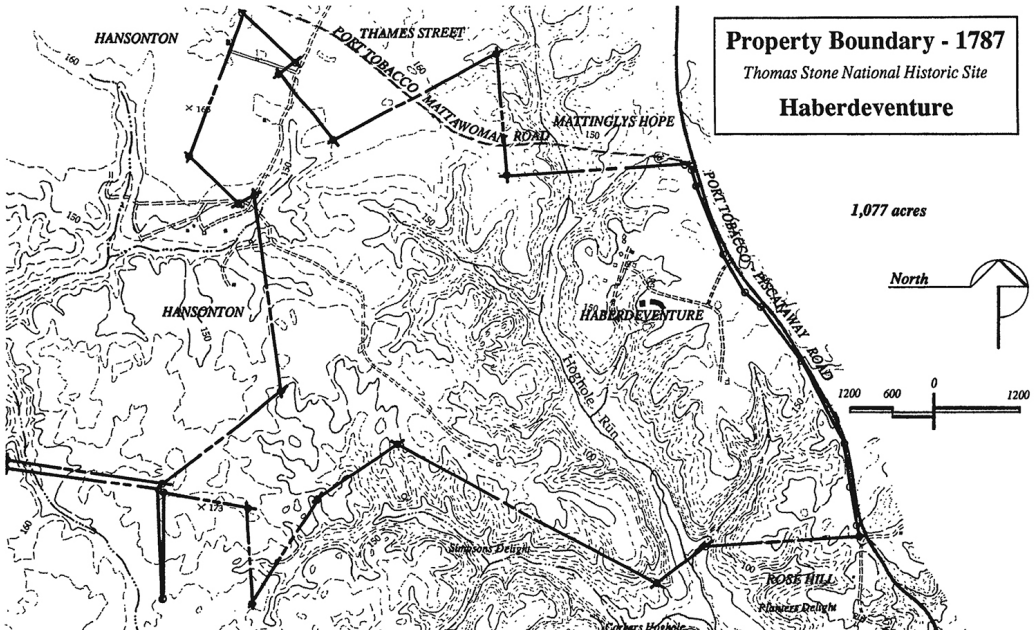


Figure 5. Haberdeventure property boundary 1787. (CLR 1996)

MILDRED STONE DANIEL, 1794–1831

Upon his death in 1787, Thomas Stone left his entire property to his only son, Frederick, who died intestate six years later in 1793. The property then passed to Thomas Stone's two daughters, Margaret and Mildred, who divided the estate between them, by which agreement Haberdeventure passed in ownership to Mildred Stone, the youngest daughter. (CLR 1996: 27, citing Charles County Court Proceedings, 1821-1826: 272-286) In court proceedings in 1827, the total acreage of the property was found to be 1,137 acres, 2 roods, and 13 perches. The property was valued at $5.50 per acre ($6,256.69) and the improvements valued at $1,588.00 more than the improvements on the Plenty property north of Port Tobacco. The additional 60 acres were a part of Distrest Corrected. (CLR 1996: 27, citing Letter from Mildred Daniel to W.B. Stone, no date, WB Stone Papers, Perkins, Duke University, Reel I)

The Stone sisters lived at Haberdeventure with their uncle, Michael Jenifer Stone, and his family and their aunt Grace Stone until Mildred married and moved to Stafford, Virginia prior to 1797. Margaret and her husband also moved to Virginia sometime between 1798 and 1809.

In 1831 Mildred sold the entire property in five parcels. A 228-acre portion that included the original Haberdeventure and Hansons Plains parcels, plus two additional small parcels of 42 and 30 acres, was sold to another cousin, William Briscoe Stone, for $1,787.25 (Figure 6). (CLR 1996: 27, citing Deeds: 1B#19: 395-398, Charles County) Two parcels went to Dr. Gustavus Brown, her cousin, which he renamed Palmoine. (CLR 1996: 27, citing Deeds: 1B#19: 391-395, Charles County)

Agriculture (1794–1831):
In his will, Thomas Stone directed that his brother, Michael Jenifer, should "use the garden, orchards and land he now uses," indicating that there was ongoing agriculture at the site, as well as a developed garden and orchards. Even though Thomas had devised the farm to his son, Frederick, Michael Jenifer continued to manage the property until 1798. (CLR 1996: 38, citing Orphans' Court Proceedings, 1797-1799, 442,464)

The price and demand for tobacco became increasingly volatile during the late eighteenth century, leading landowners to search for other crops to diversify their income. (CLR 1996: 38, citing Wiser, The Movement for Agricultural Improvement in Maryland) There is little documentation available to indicate whether farming practices or crops changed at Haberdeventure during this period, but there is evidence that tobacco continued to be produced on Thomas Stone's lands, since in the final account of Michael Jenifer Stone, he is paid in tobacco from the estate for acting as administrator. (CLR 1996: 38, citing Account of M. J. Stone, Guardian Accounts, 1790-1806: 89) It is also important to note that tobacco may not actually have changed hands, but instead have been only a paper exchange indicated in account books. (CLR 1996: 38, citing Wills: William Briscoe Stone Papers, Duke University) As stated previously, tobacco was being used as a medium of commercial exchange, more commonly than money. Cotton was also grown during this period, since a 1795 list of items claimed by Michael Jenifer from his sister Betty Eden who lived at Haberdeventure included: "50 lb Cotton in seeds." (CLR 1996: 38, citing Wills: William Briscoe Stone Papers, Duke University)

It is likely that the enslaved continued to work at least part of the farm while Stone family members lived at Haberdeventure. Thomas Stone had willed seven enslaved people to his daughters Margaret and Mildred, the remainder of the 25 enslaved people passing to Frederick. At Frederick's death, the people he enslaved would have passed to his sisters. In 1793, Margaret and Mildred manumitted four enslaved people inherited from their father's and brother's estates. (CLR 1996: 39, citing Deeds, N#4: 165,178)

Other family members living at the house also were enslavers. For example, in 1791, Grace Stone, who was then living at Haberdeventure, directed her brother Walter to sell all her enslaved people except Billy, and two female house servants, Luce and Sal. Michael Jenifer Stone also was an enslaver, but it is unclear if his enslaved people worked his own lands, Haberdeventure, or a combination of both. (CLR 1996: 39, Stone Papers, Maryland Historical Society, MS 406, Box l) The importation of enslaved people by John M. Daniel in 1794, indicates a lack of a workforce at Haberdeventure at that time. (CLR 1996: 39, citing Deeds: N#4: 326, Charles County; Rivoire, 42)

The site was leased to tenants during this period, both before and after Thomas Stone's family

members left Haberdeventure. The tax lists of 1798 show that the property was occupied by Dr. John M. Daniel who lived at the house and managed the property along with Margaret's lands at Plenty. The tax lists also show that Ign. Wheeler, Ign. Varden, and Edward Welch, lived at Haberdeventure, none of whom were related to the Stone family, and that there were two dwelling houses on the property. John M. Daniel and his wife Margaret, who owned the Plenty plantation, left Haberdeventure sometime before. (CLR 1996: 39, citing 1798 Federal Direct Tax Lists, Charles County)

From the period before 1808 when John M. Daniel and his wife Margaret left Haberdeventure, until sometime before William Briscoe Stone and Gustavus Brown purchased the property from Mildred Stone Daniel in 1831, the land was possibly leased to tenant farmers. (CLR 1996: 39, citing Account of Mr. Joseph Turner to the heirs of John M. Daniel, Deceased) A letter dated 1828 describes an individual named Rogerson who lived in a tenant house at Haberdeventure that was deemed less than habitable. In the letter, Mildred Daniel suggested to William Briscoe Stone, who was managing Mildred's property at that time, that this tenant repair the house as part of the terms of the new lease. (CLR 1996: 39, citing William Briscoe Stone Papers, Reel 1)

Gardens and Ornamental Landscape (1794–1831):
There is no documentary evidence currently available for the gardens and orchards during this period. As stated, the farm was tenanted between 1798 and William Briscoe Stone's purchase in 1831. Thus, while it would have been in the tenant's interest to maintain the orchards and produce gardens, it is questionable whether or not the ornamental gardens would have received any care during this period. (CLR 1996: 39)

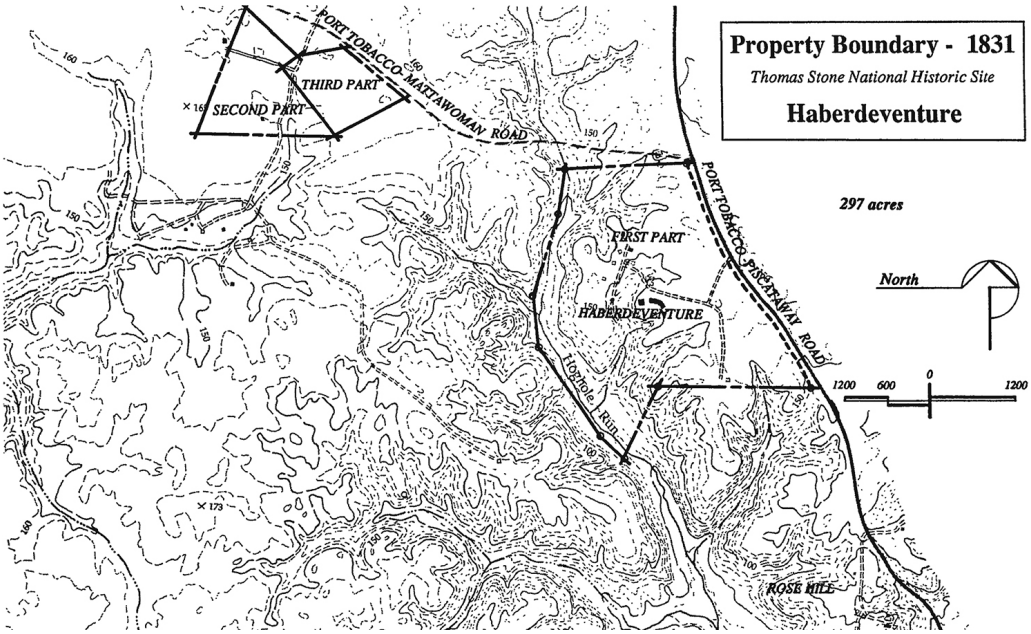


Figure 6. Haberdeventure property boundary, 1831. (CLR 1996)

WILLIAM BRISCOE STONE, 1831–1872

With the purchase of the 300-acre portion of Haberdeventure in 1831, William Briscoe Stone gained ownership of the farm that he had been managing and had lived on since about 1821. In 1848 he gained legal title to an additional 60 acres called Distrest Corrected. These were lands that had been Mildred's as well, although the deed was not executed until after her death. He also bought a portion of the third part of Haberdeventure from Frederick S. Brown and J.H. Cooksey on November 14, 1849, co-heirs with Caroline Stone of the late Dr. Gustavus Brown. This is the remaining portion of Haberdeventure which was sold to Dr. Brown by Mildred in 1831. (CLR 1996: 27, citing WM#I: 258, Charles County) William Briscoe Stone paid the Brown heirs $3,000.00 for a share of 359 acres which included the southern portion of the property bordering the Port Tobacco-Piscataway Road. (CLR 1996: 27, citing Charles County Land Records, Liber WM#1, folio 258) These lands do not appear on a property map since there were no metes and bounds descriptions included with the land transaction (see Figure 6).

Agriculture (1831–1872):
In the early 1820s, possibly as early as 1821, William Briscoe Stone moved to Haberdeventure and became its resident manager. The son of Michael Jenifer Stone, William Briscoe is thought to have occupied the house and land in exchange for representing his cousin Mildred in local business matters and the day-to-day running of Haberdeventure. There are repeated references to tenant farmers in the correspondence between William Briscoe and Mildred Stone Daniel. (CLR 1996: 40, citing William Briscoe Stone Papers, Reel 1) For example, in 1825 William wrote "I have not been so fortunate as to have gotten one pound of Tobacco for last year's rent & I fear from the excessive and unseasonable Drought that yr Tenants will be slow in their payments." (CLR 1996: 40, citing Stone Family Papers, Maryland Historical Society)

The clearest documentary references of farming practices at this time can be found in a proposed rent agreement between Mildred Stone Daniel and Gustavus Brown. This agreement, dated January 1, 1831, described a "piece of land intended for a meadow" and was to last for 8 years. The land

may in fact have been along Hoghole Run, since this is the only area of the farm wet enough to require “ditching.” Brown was to have the meadow “ditched grubbed cleared, inclosed [sic] & sown in Timothy during 1831” and could grow one crop of tobacco or some other crop. For the remainder of the lease, Brown was to keep the meadow sufficiently ditched, grubbed, cleared, enclosed and “sit” in Timothy, a common grass sown for hay. He was also to mow, cure, and stack the hay. Rent for the meadow was to be paid in one half the total stacks of hay produced. Brown was not to allow stock to graze on the meadow, and it was to be fenced, with “walling,” from material cut from Haberdeventure. Stone estimated that the meadow would produce from 8 to 12 tons of hay annually. (CLR 1996: 40, citing William Briscoe Stone Papers, Perkins Library, Reel 1, 1831)

William Briscoe Stone continued to farm, raising livestock and tobacco, corn, and wheat, and selling his produce through several commission merchants in Baltimore. (CLR 1996: 40, citing Invoices, Maryland Historical Society) More so than his predecessors, he took an active interest and involvement in the production and development of his farm. He was also actively involved in the Charles County Agricultural Society between 1848 and 1860, being named vice president in 1848 and serving on several committees in the intervening years. (CLR 1996: 40, citing 1848-1860, Port Tobacco Times and Charles County Advertiser)

In step with the agricultural trends of the period, William Briscoe Stone was interested in new equipment and agricultural practices which would increase the productivity of his farm. His farming notes describe experiments with the new liming technology and the introduction of crop rotation “applied 10 to 15 years ago on [an? facing?] land without apparent improvement. (CLR 1996: 41, citing William Briscoe Stone Papers, Reel 2) Running a 7-year experiment, in his first year he developed a fertilizer using oyster shells as a substitute for lime, and mixing them with ashes (high in phosphorous). He spread them on a blue grass meadow at a rate of 25 bushels to the acre. The following spring he added manure and additional ashes, tilled the field and planted tobacco. After the tobacco was harvested in the fall, he seeded blue wheat, inter-planted with clover. Inter-planting with clover provided the wheat with a source of nitrogen, and gave him a crop yield of 20 to 25 bushels an acre. This can be compared to farming practices today, which typically produce 45 bushels per acre. (CLR 1996: 41, citing Soil Conservation Service, Soil Survey of Charles County, Maryland)

The following year he cut the clover, probably for hay and gained “a fair yield.” The field was then put to pasture, and either the following year or two years later, again sown to wheat with a yield of 18 to 20 bushels. He then planted blue grass for pasture for the 6th year and in the 7th year manured with stable manure “made moist with strong [fell?] brine 1 bushel plaster 8 to 10 bushels wood ashes.” (CLR 1996: 41, citing William Briscoe Stone Papers, Reel 2) This is similar to his earlier fertilizer mixture of burnt oyster shells and ashes. He also probably purchased lime (termed plaster) at this time. It appears that he was beginning his crop rotation again since he then planted tobacco. His next entry reads “seeded in Wheat, large Crop, very thick in many places & now set in clover - about 4.5 acres. (CLR 1996: 41, citing William Briscoe Stone Papers, Reel 2)

Stone’s second experiment was a five-year fertilizing and crop rotation regime. In the first year he added “25 bushels burnt shells.” In the second year he planted corn with a “fair” crop of 5 or 6 barrels. In the third year, he planted wheat with a crop of 10 to 12 bushels, and in the fourth year fertilized with a mixture of “1 bbl mexican guano, .5 bushel salt, .5 plaster and 10 to 18(?) bushels ashes.” Planting in corn, this gave him a “better” crop. The fifth year he planted wheat and gained 12 to 15 bushels. He seeded in clover, although from his notes it is not possible to determine whether this was interplanted, as the previous experiment, or sown after the wheat harvest. (CLR 1996: 41)

His third experiment took place in “swamp land,” probably in the meadows next to Hoghole Run. In this instance he was experimenting with deep plowing: “ditched & subsoiled with 2 heavy Horses.” He planted in corn and “made about 4 or 5 time the usual crop, 6 to 8 bbls.” The second year wheat was planted and hailed a “fair” crop. (CLR 1996: 41)

William Briscoe Stone farmed his land with the aid of enslaved people until the time of the Civil War. He was one of the largest enslavers in the county, with 31 enslaved people listed in the 1850 census. While there are a number of account entries for shoes and clothing for the enslaved, only one entry

exists of purchasing enslaved people. (CLR 1996: 42, citing William Briscoe Stone Papers) In 1842, William Briscoe Stone purchased three enslaved people, Janet for $400, David for $100, and Henrietta, described as old, for $100, adding to the 24 enslaved people listed in the 1840 census. William Briscoe Stone apparently shared his enslaved labor with Gustavus Brown, his father-in-law at Palmoine. (CLR 1996: 42, citing Hamilton Collection, Southern Maryland Study Center; William Briscoe Stone Papers) For example, four of Brown's enslaved people were hired to build a stable at Haberdeventure for two and a half months in 1825. (CLR 1996: 42, citing Stone Family Papers, 406)

Stone was far from being an abolitionist, but it is clear from his writings and other records that he was uncomfortable with being an enslaver. (CLR 1996: 42, citing Rivoire, personal communication, 1994) Documents recording what happened to the enslaved during and after the Civil War have not been found, although it is possible that some of the former enslaved may have remained at Haberdeventure after the war. This is suggested by the fact that Margaret Graham Stone's servant, Maria Miles, was born at Haberdeventure of enslaved parents. (CLR 1996: 42, citing Oral Histories, Betty (Stone) Lybrook, Southern Maryland Study Center)

Even though the enslaved lived at Haberdeventure, it is not entirely certain where their quarters were. The existing tenant house, located west of the main house across Spring Branch, has been dated to William Briscoe Stone's period of ownership. According to oral histories of the site, three one-room cabins, each with an outside brick chimney, were located in a line off the southwest end of the existing tenant house. The one farthest to the west was the oldest, and was said to have been originally occupied by overseers. It was destroyed by fire in 1925, while the others had disappeared prior to that time. (CLR 1996: 43, citing Oral Histories: Betty (Stone) Lybrook and John Hoskins Stone and Lorina Butler Chambers; Southern Maryland Study Center)

Tobacco and wheat were the principal crops grown at Haberdeventure during the 1850s and 1860s. (CLR 1996: 43, citing Maj. W. B. Stone in Acct. with B. R. Spaulding, Baltimore, 1862) It is clear that the ending of slavery had an impact on the farm since William Briscoe began investing in mechanized farm equipment: in 1862 a gleaner, and then in 1863 a thrasher. (CLR 1996: 43, citing William Briscoe Stone Papers, Reel 2) By the time of his death in 1873, his personal inventory lists a wheat fan, a plough, two old cultivators, two pair cart wheels, one iron beam plough, one ox cart, horse power and thrasher, one corn sheller, and one old harrow. (CLR 1996: 43, citing Inventory personal estate of W. B. Stone)

In spite of the existence of some clear and detailed evidence of farming practices in use at this time, there is little indication of which areas of the farm were used for various purposes. An exception is the leases and agricultural notes indicating that the meadow bordering Hoghole Run was repeatedly used for hay production and perhaps for some cropping. (CLR 1996: 43)

The location of agricultural outbuildings also provides some indication of land uses on the farm. The three buildings that still survive from this period are the tobacco barn, the corncrib, and ruins of the sheep barn. Based on the method of carpentry and fasteners used, the sheep barn is thought to have been built about 1840. (CLR 1996: 43, citing Rivoire, Research Summary, 69) Its location in the southeast meadow points out that this area was probably used for sheep pastures. There are also references to a substantially sized "wash house" in 1825-1826 and 1876. (CLR 1996: 43, citing Stone Family Papers, Maryland Historical Society) This facility may have been used to wash sheep prior to sheering, but more likely to wash the fleeces before carding, along with the regular use of laundering clothes and household linens. Although there is no exact indication of its location, it would have needed a ready supply of water, and therefore would have been located close to a spring.

William Briscoe Stone also spoke of constructing a "corn House," in a letter to Mildred while he was overseeing Haberdeventure. This corn house was located a short distance east of the house, between the east "office" and the cemetery, and was demolished circa 1920. (CLR 1996: 43, citing Stone Family Papers, Maryland Historical Society; Oral Histories: Betty Stone Lybrook and John Hoskins Stone, Southern Maryland Study Center)

Gardens and Ornamental Landscape (1831–1872):
Little documentary evidence exists of changes to the gardens during this period of occupation of the

site. There is one unspecific reference to a flower garden in a letter to William Briscoe Stone, and a reference to planting sweet potatoes in another letter. (CLR 1996: 44, citing William Briscoe Stone Papers, Perkins Library, Reels 1 & 2) There are also invoice entries listing the purchase of a garden rake, garden rope, four weeding hoes, and one steel weeding hoe in 1858. (CLR 1996: 44, citing Stone Family Papers, MS 406, Box 1, Maryland Historical Society)

In the 1850 Census for Charles County, Stone is listed as a “farmer,” and his obituary states that he practiced law until 1844 when he was nominated as Chief Judge of Maryland’s First Judicial District, in which capacity he served until 1845. “Since that time he had been entirely engaged in agricultural pursuits, except on one occasion.” The occasion was his election to the state legislature in 1855, where he served for one term. With his keen interest in agriculture, William Briscoe Stone probably maintained and improved upon the orchards and vegetable gardens. There is no evidence that he changed or modified the ornamental landscape to align with landscape and garden design styles of the period. (CLR 1996: 44)

MARGARET GRAHAM STONE, 1872–1913

William Briscoe Stone died in 1872, leaving half his property, real and personal, to his unmarried daughter, Margaret Graham Stone. He left the other half of his property to his wife Caroline, for her use as long as she lived and upon her death to Margaret. Not long after her parents' death, Margaret sold a portion of the original Brown property acquired by her father in 1849. This was a 204.5-acre portion of Palmoine conveyed to Henry H. Owen for $1,600. It formed the western part of the property and lay entirely west of Hoghole Run. Margaret died in February 1913, leaving the remainder of her real property to her nephew, Michael Robertson Stone. (CLR 1996: 29, citing Wills: Liber JS 17, folio 504,505, Charles County (1871), probated 10 December 1872; Deeds: GAH#4: 546, Charles County, 1875; Charles County Land Records, Liber GAH 4, 546-547)

Agriculture (1872-1913):
Margaret Stone lived at Haberdeventure from her birth in 1827 to her death in 1913. By the time of her father's death in 1872, Margaret had already assumed management of the farm. It is likely that she owned the livestock on the farm, including some sheep, even though her father's inventory did not list any livestock.

Little is known about the exact details of the management of the farming enterprise, except that Margaret had tenants. One 1876 tenant agreement listed a variety of crops including corn, wheat, tobacco, oats, rye, potatoes, turnips, and "fodder" that was to be produced and used to pay rent. The tenant was allowed to keep 10 head of cattle and enough hogs for his own food, and was to maintain Margaret's 2 horses, 5 head of cattle, and flock of not more than 30 sheep. In addition to maintaining his own livestock, the tenant was allowed to occupy the west wing of the main house. (CLR 1996: 44, citing Wearmouth, n.d.: 11)

The agreement documents the existence of a garden, carriage house, a shed, and a stable in which Margaret Graham Stone retained three stalls for her own use. Also listed in the agreement are a meat house, an orchard, and a wash house. The agreement further mentions a house and garden occupied by John Washington, which may have been the existing tenant house across Spring Branch from the main house.

A number of the fields are described in the agreement as well, with their intended crops. (CLR 1996: 45, citing Wearmouth n.d.: 11) The middle field, located between the house and the cemetery was to be cultivated in corn and tobacco, including the orchard with tobacco between the rows. No animals were to be pastured in the orchard. The south field, the large area off the sheep barn, was to be kept as pasture, as was the field west of the barn. The field north of the house was not to be worked or grazed, indicating that it was probably used for hay production.

Further documentation of farm crops can be found in the inventory of Margaret Graham Stone's estate in 1912. Livestock listed includes 22 sheep and nine lambs, two cows, and one heifer. By this time, the farm apparently was being tenanted for one-third interest in the crops since Margaret's estate lists one lot of corn estimated at 12 barrels, one-third interest in 14 acres of growing wheat, and one-third interest in a crop of partially stripped tobacco, estimated to be 6000 pounds. (CLR 1996: 46, citing Inventory of personal estate of Margaret G. Stone, Inventories, 1912-1918: 19)

Access and circulation on the site at this time can be seen from the 1913 USGS map of the area (Figure 7). There are two access lanes shown off of Rose Hill Road, one along the present-day alignment (labeled Entrance Road A) and the second leading in a straight line heading southeast (Entrance Road B). Remnants of the second road presently exist on the site, but it is unclear which route was predominant during this period. Another road led to the north from the main house and outbuildings complex to Glymont Road. One additional interior access lane is shown on the map, leading from the intersection of the two access roads off Rose Hill Road to the sheep barn.

Gardens and Ornamental Landscape (1873-1913):
Margaret Graham Stone's obituary states:
"Her devotion to her old home was akin to that of a mother for her child, and rather than leave it to the

care of strangers she lived there many years alone, except for the companionship of a maid servant who proved faithful to the end." (CLR 1996: 47)

Although Margaret was obviously very attached to her home, there is no indication of the extent of her interest and activity in the gardens. From the earliest photographs of the site, taken approximately 10 years before her death at 88 years of age, the landscape appears in decline. A 1902 photograph of the house shows a locust tree to the west of the east wing, and a blooming black cherry (Prunus serotina) in the corner of the photograph (Figure 8). Another circa 1902 view of the house taken from the center of the second terrace towards the house indicates shrub plantings outlining the edges of the upper terrace and the central earthen ramp (Figure 9). There is a shrub located to the south of the porch steps and a tulip poplar (Liriodendron tulipifera) located to the west of the central ramp. Ivy is growing up the gable end of the west wing. (CLR 1996: 47)

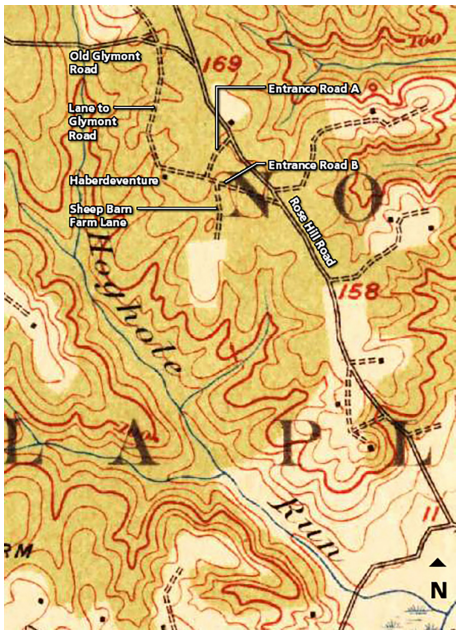


Figure 7. Detailed portion of a 1:62,500 map of Haberdeventure showing development of circulation features. (USGS, 1913; annotated by OCLP 2023)



Figure 8. Main house, south or rear elevation, view northwest, ca.1902. (CLR, citing Library of Congress)

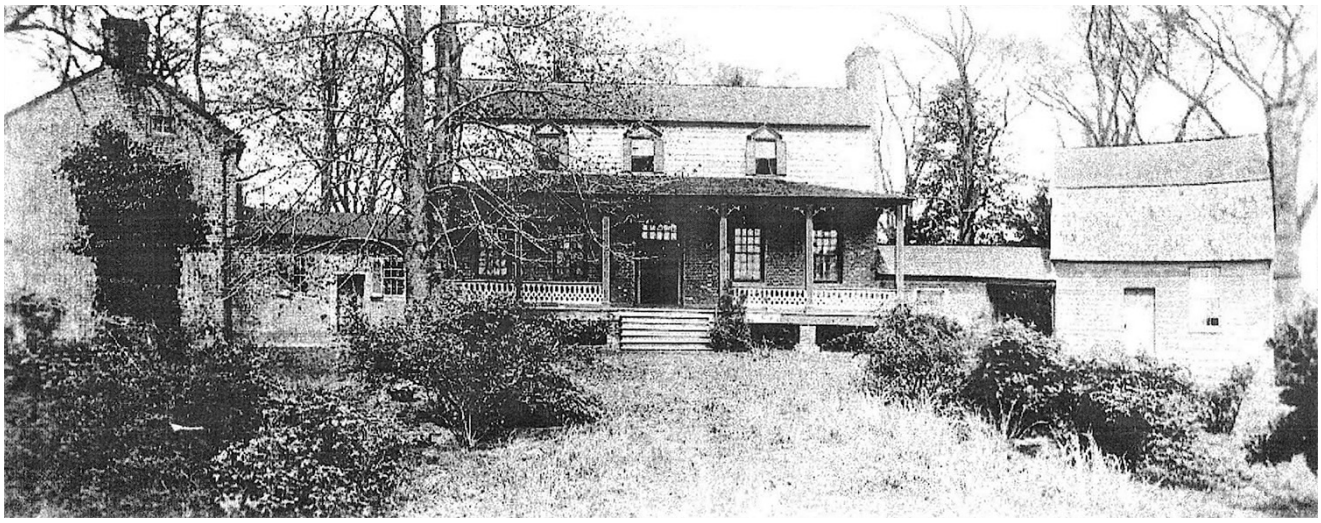


Figure 9. Main house, south or rear elevation, view northeast, ca.1902. (CLR, citing Baltimore Museum of Art)

MICHAEL ROBERTSON STONE, 1913–1936

According to 1980 oral history interviews with Margaret Dippold, daughter of Michael R. Stone, the family moved to Haberdeventure in 1913, upon the death of Margaret G. Stone. Michael R. Stone subsequently sold 112 acres in 1917 to Thomas Neale for $1,100. There were no other changes in the property, and his 1932 obituary states that he died at his home, "Habre de Venture" on Christmas Eve 1932. The family continued to occupy the farm until it was sold to Charles S. Smith in 1936. (CLR 1996: 29, citing 1932 Obituary, The Times-Crescent, La Plata, Maryland, January 1)

Agriculture (1913-1936):
Michael R. Stone's occupation of the site is the first period during which one can find a wealth of information about the layout of the farm and farm buildings, primarily from oral histories of three of his children, Dr. John H. Stone, Betty Stone Lybrook, and Margaret Stone Dippold.

The farm continued to be tenanted from 1913 until 1935, with the crop share from the leases being the main source of income for the family. At least one tenant farmer was located on the property at any given time. Tobacco was the primary cash crop, of which about 10 to 15 acres were planted per year, even though during the Great Depression, prices were down to six cents per pound. (CLR 1996: 47, citing Oral History Tapes, Margaret (Stone) Dippold and Dr. John Hoskins Stone, Southern Maryland Study Center; Oral History Interview: Margaret Dippold and Dr. John H. Stone, 1980)

At one point during this period, the black walnut trees were logged and sold off the farm due to a blight that was killing the trees. The majority of trees were located on the east side of the ravine, variously described as "far down ravine, ravine divided fields," which was most likely the Spring Branch ravine. (CLR 1996: 47, citing Oral History Tapes, Dr. John Hoskins Stone, Southern Maryland Study Center)

The 1937 aerial photograph, the earliest identified aerial photography available for this site, clearly shows the field patterns of this period (Figure 10). Although the photograph was taken after the property passed out of the hands of the Stone family in 1935, not enough time had passed for major field patterns to be obscured, and no new cutting and clearing is evident. The fields on the ravines east of Hoghole Run appear to be pastures at this point, and the sheep barn is completely cut off from the main house with woodland. The fields surrounding the house, the field in the southeast

corner of the property, and the fields to the west of the tenant house were well cultivated.

There were a number of outbuildings present during Michael Stone's residence on the site, some of which originated during an earlier period. A dairy and smoke house were located close to the main house, with a corncrib between the east wing and the cemetery. Northwest of the main house were located two tobacco barns, a cow barn, and a corn house. There was also a spring house in the ravine, and the remains of three enslaved cabins along the edge of the field near where the tenant house stands. Outhouses (privies) were located, one on the east side of the east wing, and one on the east side of the ravine. The outhouse on the east side of the ravine was apparently removed for fear it would contaminate the water supply of the spring house. (CLR 1996: 49, citing Oral History Tapes, Dr. John Hoskins Stone, Southern Maryland Study Center)

The farm operation seems to have been greatly reduced by the time of Michael Robertson's death in 1934. At that time his inventory lists 2 cows, 1 mule, 3 horses, and a variety of farm equipment. (CLR 1996: 49, citing Inventory of estate of Michael Robertson Stone) Access into the site during this period was accomplished from two directions: one off Rose Hill Road, along the present entrance road, and the other leading north to the Glymont Road. The second access to Rose Hill Road, leading directly from the house, was less used than the one curving to the north. There was an additional access alignment suggested on the 1937 aerial photograph. This alignment had apparently been discontinued by 1937, and lead from the intersection of Rose Hill Road and Glymont Road to the north facade of the house. There is little physical evidence remaining to date of this possible entrance drive, with only one gate post and hinge pintle dating to the twentieth century.

The 1937 aerial photograph also defined a number of farm lanes in use at this time. A well-used road led to the tenant house to the west of Spring Branch, and a lane ran from the intersection of the two access roads onto Rose Hill Road to the sheep barn. Another lane led south from the main house complex to access the fields along Hoghole Run.

Gardens and Ornamental Landscape (1913-1936):
According to oral histories. the family had a large garden, in which they raised food for the family. This was particularly important during the Great Depression years, allowing the family not to "suffer" or feel a sense of "panic" during this period. (CLR 1996: 50, citing Oral History Tapes: Margaret (Stone) Dippold, Southern Maryland Study Center) The garden was located about mid-way along the first segment of the existing entrance road, where they grew asparagus, white celery, gooseberries, strawberries, peas, limas, and "every vegetable you can think of... [we] even had parsnips." (CLR 1996: 50, citing Oral History Tapes: Betty (Stone) Lybrook, Southern Maryland Study Center) The garden was "fenced off, fertilized and mulched." (CLR 1996: 50, citing Oral History Tapes: Dr. John H. Stone, Southern Maryland Study Center) There was also a large orchard approximately 4 to 5 acres in size in the field north of the house, remnants of which can be seen on the 1937 aerial photograph, containing apple, peach, cherry, pear, and plum trees. The orchard trees were planted in rows, and tobacco planted between the rows. (CLR 1996: 50, citing Oral History Tapes: Betty (Stone) Lybrook, Southern Maryland Study Center) The aerial also reveals remnants of a second orchard in the field by the cemetery. In addition, there is evidence of ornamental plantings lining the entrance road from the curve to the house. These appear to the south of the drive as regularly spaced small trees or shrubs, and to the north of the drive, as larger trees.

Photographic documentation of the area surrounding the main house is fairly good for this period. Oral history identifies the trees around the house as lindens, with one old elm. All of the lindens had died by the 1930s. (CLR 1996: 51, citing Oral History Tapes: Betty (Stone) Lybrook, Southern Maryland Study Center) None of the trees in photographs from this period can be identified as lindens, but there appears to be an elm visible to the north of the house (Figure 11). The lindens may have been two of the stumps visible in another circa 1928 photograph showing the north facade of the house (Figure 12). Oral history describes the terraces as being "broken by shrubbery," "with roses along the terraces," mock oranges and rows of flowers. (CLR 1996: 51, citing Oral History Tapes: Betty (Stone) Lybrook, Southern Maryland Study Center) Unfortunately, the photographs of the period show only the upper terrace, although evidence of deciduous shrubs including crepe myrtle and roses can be seen. There is also an ivy-covered stump in evidence along the west wing. The circa 1920 photograph of the southern exposure of the main block contains a clump of what

appear to be daffodils in a planting bed to the east of the porch (Figure 13). There are climbing vines and a flower box visible on the porch, in a photograph of the same view taken later in the season (Figure 14).

Very little ornamental planting appears to have been present on the first terrace and directly around the house. The upper terrace seems to have been entirely grass, punctuated by chicken coops. (CLR 1996: 51, citing Wearmouth n.d.: 100) The circa 1920 photograph shows some vines being trained up the porch posts, but no additional ornamental plantings.

Apparently during this period the ravine of Spring Branch was also part of the ornamental gardens. Betty Lybrook, who was born at Haberdeventure in 1913 and lived there until 1935, describes it as "beautifully kept; beautifully planted and with walkways. Had a beautiful old spring house down there." (CLR 1996: 53, citing Wearmouth n.d.: 100) Clumps of Telemonious daffodils exist throughout the ravine today, although there is little evidence left of paths or intentional plantings. There were also several springs in the ravine, one of which was connected to a pump to supply water to the house. (CLR 1996: 53, citing Oral History Tapes, Dr. John H. Stone, Southern Maryland Study Center)

John Hoskins Stone recalled that the south side of the house where the terraced area is located, was "all terraced gardens" with crepe myrtle bushes in every corner of the walk and terrace; grape arbors at the base [south end] of the raised walkway." (CLR 1996: 53, citing Oral History Tapes, Dr. John H. Stone, Southern Maryland Study Center)



Figure 10. Detailed portion of aerial photograph showing Haberdeventure, 1937. Note the trees associated with the family cemetery in the field southeast of the house. (National Archives and Records Administration)

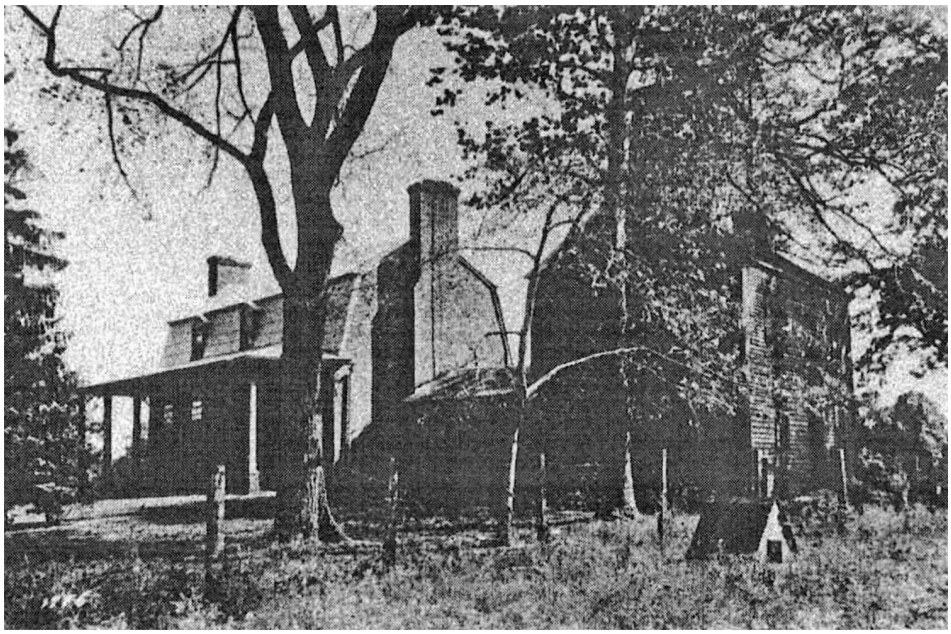


Figure 11. Main house, north or front elevation, view southeast, 1928. (CLR, citing Enoch Pratt Free Library)

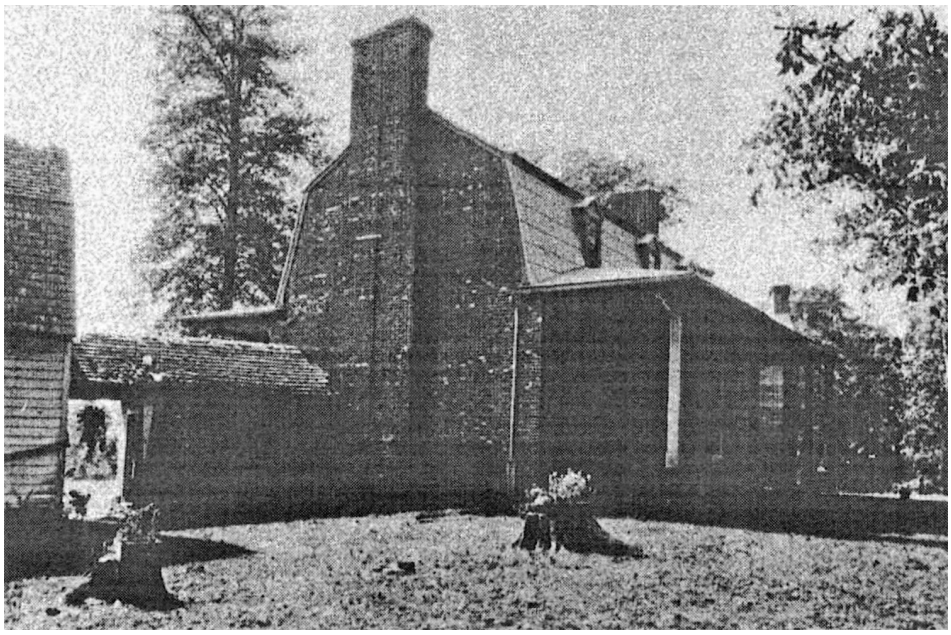


Figure 12. Main house, north or front elevation, view southwest, 1928. (CLR, citing Enoch Pratt Free Library)



Figure 13. Main house, south or rear elevation, view north, ca.1920. (CLR, citing Enoch Pratt Free Library)

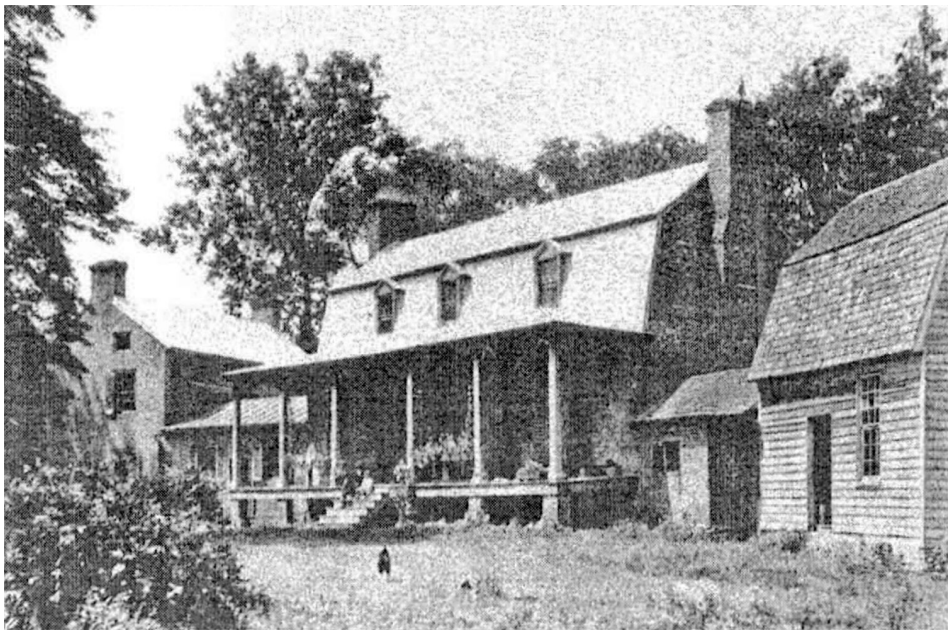


Figure 14. Main house, south or rear elevation, view northwest, ca.1920. (CLR, citing Enoch Pratt Free Library)

CHARLES STEVENSON SMITH, 1936–1945

The property boundaries of Haberdeventure, when purchased by Charles S. Smith from the heirs of Michael R. Stone, closely parallel the property boundaries of today. The property boundary followed Rose Hill Road on the east, Hoghole Run on the west, and the old Glymont Road to the north. Smith made no changes to the property lines during his ownership. (CLR 1996: 29, citing Deeds: WMA#62: 221, Charles County, 1936)

Little is known about the use of the property during the 1936 to 1945 period of Charles S. Smith's ownership. However, a 1936 photograph shows tobacco being planted on the third terrace to the south of the main house, and the 1937 aerial shows continued cultivation of the property (see Figure 10). (CLR 1996: 54)

THE VISCHERS, 1945–1981

In 1945 Peter and Ruth Gardner Vischer purchased the entire property that Charles Smith had acquired from the heirs of Michael R. Stone nine years earlier. (CLR 1996: 29, citing Deeds: 81: 47, Charles County) The deed identifies this tract as encompassing 367.2 acres of the original Haberdeventure tract patented to Thomas Stone in 1787 and an additional 5.8 acre part of an adjacent tract called Mattingly's Hope.

A number of land records were generated during the Vischers' tenure, specifically between 1967 and 1975. These addressed rights-of-way, the subdivision of the Lemko parcel, and boundary surveys. Except for the Lemko outparcel, these property changes did not have a large impact on the core area of the property. The changes are summarized below from research done by John Wearmouth:
(a) Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative, Inc. right-of-way acquired from Peter Vischer (August, 1967)
(b) Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative, Inc. proposed right-of-way granted by Helen Vischer (August 9, 1972)
(c) Survey along southern property line showing Andriej Lemko lot and Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative, Inc. right-of-way (April, 1973)
(d) Survey along southern property line showing additional property partitions including increase of Andriej Lemko holding as well as Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative Inc, right-of-way (May, 1973)
(e) Plan showing "Lots 1 and 2" and courses and distances (July 1974)
(f) Lemko inholder property courses and distances (July 1974)
(g) John W. Thompson property along northern Haberdeventure property, showing an addition of 0.684 acres to the Thompson holding (October, 1974)
(h) Re-subdivision plan of Haberdeventure showing final south boundary changes made by Helen C. Vischer (June, 1975). (CLR 1996: 31, citing Wearmouth, Appendix to Historic Base Map #4)

Recognition of the site's historical significance came on November 11, 1971, when it was designated a National Historic Landmark under the name "Habre-de-Venture" and under NHL theme "War for Independence." Unfortunately, tragedy struck on January 1, 1977, when a fire completely gutted the central portion of the house. Despite this loss, on November 10 of the following year, legislation creating Thomas Stone National Historic Site was signed into law. (Public Law 95-625) The Act authorized the Secretary of the Interior to acquire the home and grounds, and limited land acquisition to $600,000 and development to $400,000. Although the Act did not clearly state a specific purpose for the historic site, the legislative history taken from the congressional record provided a better description and purpose of the site. Robert E. Bauman, Representative from Maryland, made the following comments on the House floor on July 10, 1978:
"By the House's action today we have approved acquisition and repair of the Thomas Stone home by the National Park Service which already has designated Habre-de-Venture as a National Historic Landmark. This site could easily be restored to its full beauty and operated as a working colonial residence and farm, much as is done by the National Park Service at the birthplace of George Washington, "Wakefield" in Westmoreland County, Virginia." (GMP 1989: 1)

The Honorable Charles Mathias Jr., Senator from Maryland, commented on the floor of the Senate on October 12, 1978: "This provision of the omnibus parks bills will permit the acquisition, restoration, refurbishing, and opening to the public of this grand Georgian mansion…" (GMP 1989: 1)

Agriculture (1945-1981):
When the Vischers bought Haberdeventure in 1945, many of the fields were overgrown with scrub pine. (CLR 1996: 54, citing Washington Star, article, n.d. Southern Maryland Study Center) The period of the Vischers' ownership brought the farm back into intensive cultivation and also brought many changes to the landscape. A 1963 aerial photograph shows changes in field boundaries, although the major areas of agricultural lands remain constant (Figure 15). A new field was cleared in the eastern portion of the site, with the windrows of debris still visible. Many of the field boundaries have encroached into open field, such as in the "middle field" next to the cemetery, and areas of old field visible in the 1937 aerial to the south and along Hoghole Run have filled in to become forest.

While the farm was originally to be used for pig breeding, that enterprise failed and the Vischers committed more and more of the land to raise horses. (CLR 1996: 54, citing draft Historic Resources Study) Between 1949 and 1950, the Vischers had hired a farm overseer in the person of Mr. Post from Holland. At that time the livestock on the farm consisted of about 20 White-face shorthorn cattle, 2 or 3 Belgian draft horses, 1 race horse, and about 200 pigs. Crops grown on the farm included tobacco, corn, barley, oats, and hay.

The 1963 aerial photograph shows additional land cleared to the east of the main house, and north of the sheep barn (see Figure 15). By 1965 between 10 and 20 horses were kept on the farm. After Peter Vischer's death in 1967, the function of the farm diminished, and the property finally ceased to be used as a farm during the 1970s. (CLR 1996: 55-56, citing Wearmouth n.d.: 13)

Gardens and Ornamental Landscape (1945-1981):
The Vischers made extensive changes to the ornamental garden design, changes which may have destroyed remnants of earlier plantings. They planted a characteristic Colonial Revival garden, and even though it appears that they did not interfere with the formal terraces, they added several features to the lower terrace and Spring Branch ravine.

These added features included a pond at the base of the third terrace and a pool along the edge of the ravine. Remnants of formal plantings still exist along the edge of the ravine and in the area of the pool that date to the Vischer period, including boxwoods, yews, yuccas, and daffodils. The Vischers installed extensive foundation plantings along the upper portion of the first terrace, and planted a flower and herb garden along the east side of the terraces as well. This garden was divided from the terraces with a low brick wall, with steps leading down the incline. A large tree existing at the time formed the centerpiece of this garden. The north (front) facade of the house was rather plain in comparison, with only a foundation planting of boxwood along the front edge of the porch.

There is no documentation of extensive vegetable gardens during this period. The 1963 aerial photograph shows the loss of orchards in the field by the cemetery, and the continued decline of the orchard to the north of the house. (CLR 1996: 57)

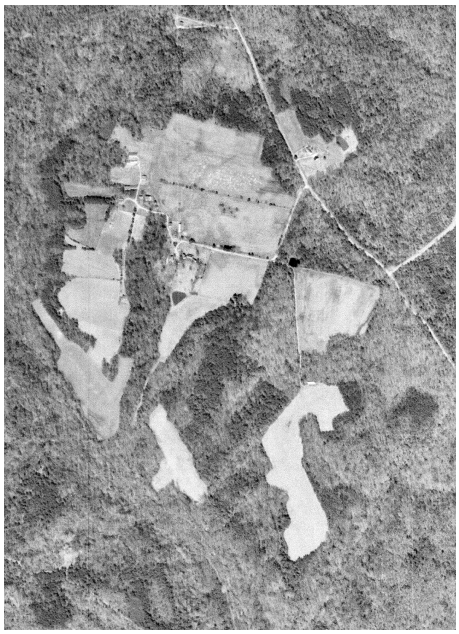


Figure 15. Detailed portion of aerial photograph showing Haberdeventure, 1963. (USGS)

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ADMINISTRATION, 1981–2024

The federal government acquired the property from Helen Vischer, Peter's second wife, in 1981 for $524,700. At this time, a 6.28-acre tract to the north of the main house, connecting to Rose Hill Road, was subdivided and conveyed by Helen Vischer to Nadija Lemko. An additional 0.3997-acre tract along the eastern boundary was conveyed to John M. and Roberta J. Wearmouth, leaving the Haberdeventure tract with 321.97 acres. (CLR 1996: 31, citing Deed: Liber 759, Page 81, Charles County) The existing boundaries of the Haberdeventure tract essentially coincide with those of the 1787 patent given to Thomas Stone for Haberdeventure and Hansons Plains Enlarged.

From 1981 to the present, National Park Service staff have maintained the open areas of the property as grassy meadows, perpetuating the open character of the farmland. Some encroachment of woodland into field boundaries has occurred, but the broad outline of the field patterns remains constant, as is visible in a 1994 aerial photograph and the 2023 Existing Conditions mapping (Figure 16). At the time of acquisition, most of the Vischer-era plantings were still intact. These were extensively documented by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) in 1985 (Figure 17). (CLR 1996: 57,60)

In 1988 two efforts were completed pertaining to the formal documentation of historic features at Thomas Stone National Historic Site. On April 26, the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places signed a Determination of Eligibility, concurred by the Maryland State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), that several structures did not contribute to the significance of the site: Carriage House, Garage, Garden House, Formal Garden (Vischer era), and Stock Pond. Subsequently, the park removed most of these mid-twentieth century structures and garden vegetation, but left the Stock Pond in place. In August, John M. Wearmouth, a contractor, submitted a draft National Register nomination to amend the 1972 documentation for the Main House. This documentation nominated the property as a site consisting of the Main House and several other contributing buildings and structures developed through the late nineteenth century. Presently, the 1988 nomination remains as a draft without formal concurrence.

In Spring 1989, the park completed a General Management Plan (GMP). The plan's preferred alternative recommended that site to be restored to its historic appearance circa 1900. The GMP called for the Main House to serve as the stage for interpreting Thomas Stone's life and political career. The landscape and farm structures were identified to be generally managed to maintain a circa 1900 appearance, aiding the visitors' understanding of the present site condition and the changes in development and land use over time. (GMP 1989: 11) A phased reconstruction of the exterior of the house was begun in 1991 and completed around 1997 and opened to the public. (NR draft 1997: Sec.8: 4) In 1996 the park completed a General Management Plan Revision/Environmental Assessment (GMP/EA) that made possible planning for a maintenance area and visitor center area, with both located away from the core of the site to minimize their presence in the agricultural landscape around the Main House.

On July 9, 1996, the Maryland SHPO concurred with the National Park Service that additional features did not contribute to the significance of the site: Hog Shed, 20th Century Horse Barn, and Horse Barn addition. Subsequently, the park removed the structures. In 1997-2000, the park planned, designed, and constructed additional facilities, including realignment of Entrance Road A, a new parking area, and a new visitor contact building. In 2002 the park built a prefabricated maintenance building after a tornado earlier that year demolished the original building. (PEPC 15943)

The park has conducted routine building maintenance and repairs and telecommunications and security improvements, documenting their Section 106 consultation process in the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) system. In 2015 the park purchased the roughly 6-acre Lemko parcel that had been a private in-holding since the park's establishment. Given the Lemko property's development in the mid-twentieth century, the park sought a Determination of Eligibility, and on March 10, 2023, received a signed concurrence from Maryland SHPO that the Lemko property was not eligible for listing in the National Register and did not contribute to the significance of Thomas Stone National Historic Site.



Figure 16. Detailed portion of a digital ortho quadrangle showing Haberdeventure, 1994. Note the family cemetery at the field edge southeast of the house. (USGS)

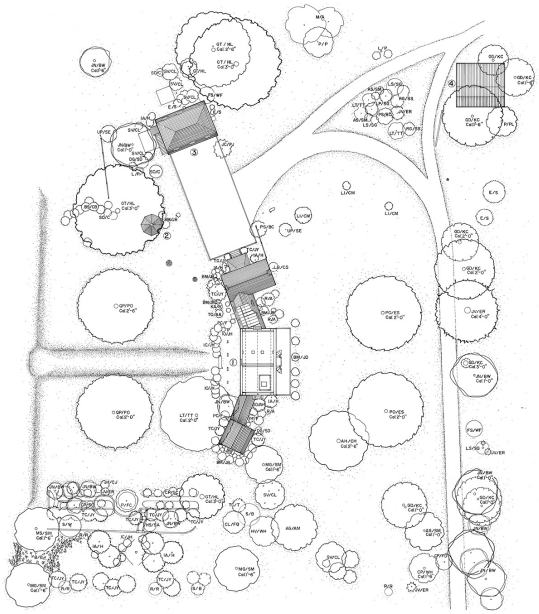


Figure 17. Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) of Vischer-era plantings and structures at Thomas Stone National Historic Site, 1985. (HABS)

Uses

Functions and Uses:

Major Category	Category	Use/Function	Historic	Current	Primary
Domestic (Residential)	Estate Landscape	Estate Landscape	Yes	No	Yes
Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	Outdoor Recreation	Yes	Yes	Yes
Recreation/Culture	Museum (Exhibition Hall)	Historic Furnished Interior	Yes	Yes	No
Agriculture/Subsistence	Farm (Plantation)	Farm (Plantation)	Yes	No	No
Agriculture/Subsistence	Agricultural Field	Agricultural Field	Yes	Yes	No
Landscape	Plaza/Public Space (Square)	Formal Garden	Yes	No	No
Landscape	Natural Area	Forest	Yes	Yes	No

Public Access:

Public Access: Other Restrictions

Public Access Narrative:

Thomas Stone National Historic Site is open seasonally from April to December and is closed in winter. During the spring, summer, and fall the park is open Thursday through Sunday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. There is no fee to visit Thomas Stone National Historic Site.

Associated Ethnographic Group

Ethnographic Study Status: No Survey Conducted

Ethnographic Narrative:

According to Dr. David Goldstein, Lead of Region 1 Tribal and Cultural Affairs, no study has been completed at Thomas Stone National Historic Site. As an information starting point, Dr. Goldstein recommended including content prepared for the 2022 Historic Resource Study (HRS), “New Perspectives on Haberdeventure Plantation in Charles County, Maryland, 1770–1787” by Dr. Amy Speckart, including:

“By the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, the Algonquian-speaking Potomac Piedmont people had occupied the Port Tobacco area for several hundred years. Hunter-gatherers, they lived in semi-permanent villages, raised corn, beans, and squash, and cultivated tobacco for ritual purposes. An English Jesuit mission among the Piscataway at “Portobacco” in 1642 failed to maintain a long-standing Indian community; by the late seventeenth century, many Piscataway had moved to Virginia. Meanwhile, English settlement hugged the coastline of major waterways.” (HRS 2022: 162)

“Mattawoman Creek formed the southern boundary of the Piscataway Indian Reservation created by the Maryland provincial government in the mid-seventeenth century. By 1700 the Piscataway moved further up the Potomac River, and the area formally opened for European settlement.” (HRS 2022: 33)

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

The historic integrity of the Thomas Stone NHS Landscape is evaluated by comparing landscape characteristics and features present during the period of significance, 1770–1872, with the existing conditions as assessed in 2023. Many landscape characteristics and features from the period of significance remain today. Large areas of relatively uninterrupted fields are an important set of features conveying agricultural character from the historic period. The reconstructed Haberdeventure house, a tenant house, agricultural outbuildings, and circulation systems that connect them, as well as the Thomas Stone Burial Ground and Formal Garden Terraces, are surviving and prominent features in the landscape.

After 1872, the character of the landscape subsequently declined until the 1910s, after which new owners shaped the landscape to fit their needs, thus altering some of the historic landscape characteristics and features. The main block of the Main House was reconstructed based on circa 1902 photographs following a 1977 fire, and the Sheep Barn is extant only as a ruin. Other buildings and structures have been added to support the property's current use as a public park. Successional vegetation has encroached on several field edges, divided some of the field areas, and shortened the axial southern view from the house across the terraces. Two non-historic ponds were added to the property sometime between 1945 and 1957.

Overall, the Thomas Stone NHS Landscape retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association. The cultural landscape has a diminished integrity of design and materials due to successional woody vegetation and the introduction of ponds during the mid-twentieth century.

INTEGRITY

The National Register of Historic Places defines integrity as the ability of a property to convey its significance through physical resources. The National Register program identifies seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Retention of these qualities is necessary for a property to convey its significance; however, not all seven aspects must be present to retain integrity. The following evaluation is based on a 1770–1872 period of significance for the Thomas Stone NHS Landscape.

Location:
Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred. During Thomas Stone's tenure, the size of Haberdeventure was over three times larger than the National Historic Site's current 328 acres. While the historic boundaries have changed over time as parcels were sold, the location of landscape features remains intact with the core property area bounded by Hoghole Run on the west and Rose Hill Road on the east.
Evaluation: Retains integrity of location

Design:
Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. The Thomas Stone NHS Landscape is an example of an agricultural plantation landscape and retains open field areas and a Main House set on a broad plateau above Hoghole Run. Non-historic successional vegetation has encroached on the edges of fields, divided the North Field into two parts, and fragmented the West Field. The symmetrical layout and on-axis connection of the Main House and Formal Garden Terraces demonstrates a formal landscape design of building and garden, however; the construction of the Dry Pond during the Vischer era and growth of non-historic successional vegetation in the South Field has shortened the designed view from the house across the terraces and formerly open field.
Evaluation: Diminished integrity of design

Setting:
Setting is the physical environment of a historic property. Relatively large, open fields arranged around the Main House were developed during the historic period and are presently extant, thus conveying an integrity of setting for the Thomas Stone NHS landscape. Contemporary additions for public park use, such as the Visitor Center and maintenance buildings, are located away from the Main House, agricultural buildings and structures, Formal Garden Terraces, and surrounding open fields. The park is planning to remove the mid-twentieth

century Lemko House and enhance the open agricultural setting of the National Historic Site.
Evaluation: Retains integrity of setting

Materials:
Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property. The integrity of the existing materials varies in the Thomas Stone NHS landscape. The Main House was reconstructed after a 1977 fire based on circa 1902 photographs that post-dates the end of the historic period. Agricultural outbuildings feature original construction materials, including foundations and piers. Major circulation features such as Entrance Road A and the Lane to Glymont Road are unpaved as they were during the historic period. Agricultural fields are open and maintained in a mixture of grasses species instead of crops. Contemporary materials include interpretive and directional signage, and visitor and maintenance buildings located in the landscape to minimize their presence.
Evaluation: Diminished integrity of materials

Workmanship:
Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory. Historic period workmanship is retained in the agricultural outbuildings and circulation systems that connect them, as well as in the stone markers and perimeter iron fence at the Thomas Stone Burial Ground. The Formal Garden Terraces are a surviving and legible earthen feature in the landscape demonstrating workmanship to sculpt a designed landform during the historic period.
Evaluation: Retains integrity of workmanship

Feeling:
Feeling is the property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time. During the historic period the property was an active agricultural landscape maintained by members of the Stone Family, tenants, and an enslaved population. Although the site is no longer used for agriculture, the landscape retains open fields, historic period buildings and structures, and connecting circulation features that convey the feeling of a late eighteenth and nineteenth century agricultural landscape.
Evaluation: Retains integrity of feeling

Association:
Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property. The landscape's present management as a National Historic Site in the National Park Service system preserves the association with the agrarian and estate landscape maintained during Thomas Stone's tenure and through the second half of the nineteenth century.
Evaluation: Retains integrity of association

The next section presents an analysis of landscape characteristics and their associated features and corresponding Historic Structures Inventory (HSI, formerly List of Classified Structures) names and numbers, if applicable. It also includes an evaluation of whether the feature contributes to the property's National Register eligibility for the historic period 1770–1872, contributes to the property's historic character, or if it is noncontributing, undetermined, or managed as a cultural resource. If a feature is non-contributing, it is evaluated as "compatible" (visually congruent with the historic character of the landscape) or "incompatible" (visually incongruent with the historic character of the landscape).

Landscape Characteristic: Natural Systems and Features

Historic Condition (to 1872):
Natural systems and features are the natural aspects that have influenced the development and physical form of the landscape, and can include geology, geomorphology, hydrology, ecology, climate, and native vegetation. Two small drainages, Spring Branch and the Eastern Drainage, collected runoff in valleys that ran roughly north-south across the landscape and emptied into Hoghole Run. Hoghole Run, flowing roughly northwest to southeast, formed the western boundary of the property when land transactions were completed in 1831, and emptied into the Port Tobacco Creek and then into the Potomac River. These watercourses and the valleys they moved through influenced the layout of agricultural fields in the Thomas Stone NHS landscape.

Evaluation:
Spring Branch, the Eastern Drainage, and Hoghole Run are presently extant as natural systems and features in the Thomas Stone NHS landscape. They approximately follow the courses established by the end of the historic period and Hoghole Run continues to define the western property boundary, as it did starting with William Briscoe Stone's tenure in 1831.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Hoghole Run	204014	Contributing					No
Spring Branch	204015	Contributing					No
Eastern Drainage	204016	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic: Land Use

Historic Condition (to 1872):
Land uses are the principal activities in a landscape that form, shape, and organize the landscape as a result of human interaction. Land uses were dominated by agricultural pursuits, including crops, pastures, woodlots, and raising livestock. Such activities were supported by residential uses by the Stone family, tenants, and enslaved people.

The Thomas Stone Burial Ground was established circa 1787 based on the earliest burials of Margaret and Thomas Stone who died within four months of each other that year. The burial ground was located roughly 300 feet southeast of the Main House and by circa 1860 was defined by an iron fence along its perimeter. Seven other markers of extended Stone family members who died between 1841–1873, including two children, are in the burial ground. The last burial occurred in 1913 with the passing of Margaret Graham Stone. (NR draft 1988, Sec.7: 4; https://www.nps.gov/places/the-stone-family-cemetery.htm)

Evaluation:
Although residential and agricultural uses have ceased, the broad patterns of these land uses are still visible through the restored house, stabilized outbuildings, and former agricultural areas now managed as meadows. Visitation predominately focuses on interpretative and recreational uses. The Thomas Stone Burial Ground is extant as are the perimeter iron fence and the markers of Thomas Stone, his wife, Margaret, William Briscoe Stone, his wife Caroline (Figure 18). Vegetation character at the end of the historic period is undetermined for the burial ground. By 1937, an aerial photograph shows a cluster of mature trees distinguishing the burial ground from the surrounding open fields (see Figure 10). By 1994 a digital orthographic quadrangle photograph shows no trees within the burial ground, but comparing this imagery with existing conditions shows the wooded edge encroaching north into the field and the burial ground (see Figure 16).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Thomas Stone Burial Ground	204017	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 18. Thomas Stone Burial Ground, perimeter fence, and grave markers. View northwest. (OCLP 2023, DSC-0554)

Landscape Characteristic: Topography

Historic Condition (to 1872):
Topography is the three dimensional configuration of the landscape surface characterized by features (such as slope and articulation) and orientation (such as elevation and solar aspect). The Formal Garden Terraces, located to the south of the Main House, are strongly believed to have been designed and constructed during Thomas Stone's tenure, in conjunction with the Main House. Archeological investigations of the terraces have not conclusively dated them to the late eighteenth century, but the archeological reports interpret the secondary documentary information gathered as indicating a late eighteenth century construction. (CLR 1996: 37) This includes two contemporaneous gardens in Annapolis that Thomas Stone may have been familiar with. Two of Stone's fellow Declaration signers, Charles Carroll and William Paca, had geometric, terraced gardens that extended from their homes. (CLR 1996: 108) During William Briscoe Stone's tenure, an 1835 letter notes "a flower bed" and his records include receipts for gardening equipment and tools. (CLR 1996: 44) Graphic evidence for the garden terraces appears in a 1934 photograph and a 1937 aerial photograph (see Figure 10). In the late nineteenth or early twentieth centuries, the garden terraces were plowed. (CLR 1996: 37)

West of the Main House, the Spring Branch Ravine is a topographic valley that separated the Main House and agricultural fields from the Tenant House and Tenant House Fields. The ravine channeled the Spring Branch that flowed roughly south to Hoghole Run. Oral histories describe a spring house and ornamental gardens developed in the ravine in the early twentieth century, and a swimming pool and bathhouse in the ravine during the Vischer tenure. (CLR 1996: 49; 53)

Evaluation:
The Formal Garden Terraces are extant and composed of three flat areas (upper terrace, middle terrace, and lower terrace) broken by two falls and connected by earthen ramps. There has been some erosion and settling of the earth forms over the last 200 years, however; the feature is highly visible and legible in the landscape as a constructed design element (Figure 19). Non-historic, successional woods are encroaching on the lower (southernmost) terrace and a Brick Wall Ruin from the Vischer era slightly protrudes above ground along the eastern edge of the upper terrace. The Spring Branch Ravine still conveys the Spring Branch through its topographic valley. Any remnants of twentieth century additions to the ravine, including the spring house, swimming pool, and bathhouse, survive as archeological features.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Thomas Stone Formal Garden Terraces	204018	Contributing					No
Spring Branch Ravine	204019	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 19. Thomas Stone Formal Garden Terraces. View northeast from the third terrace. (OCLP 2023, DSC-0550)

Landscape Characteristic: Vegetation

Historic Condition (to 1872):
Vegetation includes deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, and herbaceous plants and plant communities, whether indigenous or introduced in the landscape. Narrative records from the historic period describe the Haberdeventure property being farmed. The exact extent and configuration of fields is not recorded in narrative or graphic records. The Formal Garden Terraces were likely planted, but details supporting even a general planting configuration have not been discovered.

Evaluation:
Based on a Forest Stand Analysis that accompanied the 1996 Cultural Landscape Report, the majority of forested areas that surround open fields date from the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and thus are historically significant remnants from the Thomas Stone and William Briscoe Stone periods. Some encroachment of woodland into field boundaries has occurred, but the integrity of the field patterns seems to be largely intact. The consistency of field patterns is demonstrated in aerial photographs beginning in 1937 and extending to the present. The Formal Garden Terraces are presently covered in turf.

North Fields, East Field, South Field, West Fields, Tenant House Fields, Sheep Field.
These fields are clearly defined in a 1937 aerial photograph and in subsequent aerial photographs extending up to the present day. The fields' existence at the end of the historic period is supported by the Forest Stand Analysis that accompanied the 1996 Cultural Landscape Report and concluded the patterning for fields and forests date from the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries (Figures 20 and 21).

Visitor Center Field.
The Visitor Center Field is not present in a 1937 aerial photograph but appears in 1957 and 1963 aerial photographs and it presently extant.

North Fields Hedgerows.
A single tree is visible between the North Fields in a 1937 aerial photograph and then a linear hedgerow and perpendicular extension develops and is recorded in the 1957 and 1963 aerial photographs. The hedgerows are presently extant.

West Fields Successional Woods.
The presently extant West Fields appear as a single field west of Spring Branch Ravine in the 1937 aerial photograph. The 1957 and 1963 aerial photographs show the growth of hedgerows defining smaller field areas and presently, large clusters of successional woods frame small field areas.

Dry Pond Successional Woods.
Between 1945 and 1957, the Vischers added the Dry Pond south of the third terrace and in subsequent decades, the area around the pond transitioned from open fields or meadows to successional woods. The successional woods block the extent of a historic view from the Main House.

Lemko Successional Woods.
The Lemko parcel was an extension of the North Fields during the historic period and based on a 1994 aerial photograph, remained largely free of woody vegetation. Presently, the area west of the North Fields and east of the Lane to Glymont Road is filled with successional woody vegetation.

Deciduous Trees North of the Main House.
The May 2023 field inventory recorded two deciduous trees (an American sycamore and a Kentucky coffeetree) north of the Main House. The 1937 aerial photograph shows groupings of trees framing the main block of the house, but it is undetermined if these two specimens date back to the 1872 end of the historic period.

Deciduous Trees West of the Main House.
The May 2023 field inventory recorded 9 deciduous trees west of the Main House. The 1937 aerial photograph shows trees in this area with some appearing to define the wooded edge of the Spring Branch ravine. It is undetermined if any of these date back to the 1872 end of the historic period.

Trees Lining North Side of Entrance Road A.
The May 2023 field inventory recorded 13 deciduous trees and 6 evergreen trees lining the north side of Entrance Road A. The 1937 aerial photograph shows groupings of trees along the north side of Entrance Road A, but it is undetermined if any date back to the 1872 end of the historic period (Figure 22).

Deciduous Trees South of the Formal Garden Terraces.
The May 2023 field inventory recorded 5 deciduous trees south of the Formal Garden Terraces. These trees grew after the construction of the Dry Pond and currently block the extent of a historic view from the Main House.

Tulip Poplar at East Wing.
A large tulip poplar (Liriodendron tulipifera) stands south of the Main House's East Wing. The tree is not present in a sequence of photographs from circa 1902 to 1934 (Figure 23).

Deciduous Trees at Visitor Center.
Deciduous trees likely installed by August 2000 with completion of the Visitor Center building and the parking area's island.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
North Fields	204020	Contributing					No
East Field	204021	Contributing					No
South Field	204022	Contributing					No
West Fields	204023	Contributing					No
Tenant House Fields	204024	Contributing					No
Sheep Field	204025	Contributing					No
Visitor Center Field	204026	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	1124187	Yes
North Fields Hedgerows	204027	Noncontributing – Incompatible					No
West Fields Successional Woods	204028	Noncontributing – Incompatible					No
Dry Pond Successional Woods	204029	Noncontributing – Incompatible					No
Lemko Successional Woods	204030	Noncontributing – Incompatible					No
Deciduous Trees North of the Main House	204031	Undetermined					No
Deciduous Trees West of the Main House	204032	Undetermined					No
Trees Lining North Side of Entrance Road A	204033	Undetermined					No
Deciduous Trees South of the Formal Garden Terraces	204034	Noncontributing – Incompatible					No
Tulip Poplar at East Wing	204035	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Deciduous Trees at Visitor Center	204036	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 20. The East Field and the Stone Family Cemetery Trail, with cemetery markers visible in the distance. View southeast. (OCLP 2023, DSC-0550)



Figure 21. The Tenant House Fields and the Tenant House. The mowed Outbuildings Trail is visible at image far right. View north. (OCLP 2023, DSC-0498)



Figure 22. Entrance Road A and trees lining its north side. View west. (OCLP 2023, DSC-0526)



Figure 23. Southern elevations of Haberdeventure (Main House) showing the tulip poplar and the Vischer-era Brick Wall Ruin at the Formal Garden. View northwest. (OCLP, 2023, DSC-0545)

Landscape Characteristic: Circulation

Historic Condition (to 1872):

Circulation refers to the spaces, features, and applied material finishes that constitute systems of movement in a landscape. Serving as a working plantation for Thomas Stone and William Briscoe Stone, the Haberdeventure property needed circulation access from Rose Hill Road (the main route to Port Tobacco) and among the fields and outbuildings within the property.

Evaluation:
The existing roads, lane, and lane remnants can be dated pre-1913, based on their proximity to pre-existing buildings and structures. The historical location of the access roads and lanes therefore appears to be largely intact. (CLR 1996: 70)

Thomas Stone Entrance Road A.
Recorded on a 1913 USGS map and a 1937 aerial with both showing a northeast-southwest road beginning at Rose Hill Road and turning southeast-northwest parallel to the north facade of the Main House. The Lane to Glymont Road extends from Entrance Road A's terminus. The northeast-southwest section was slightly realigned around 2000 to create a wider turn onto the southeast-northwest section. The southeast-northwest section is finished with a tan, compacted stone and earth and the northeast-southwest section is finished with a courser, gray, compacted gravel. (see Figure 22).

Thomas Stone Entrance Road B Trace.
Recorded on a 1913 USGS map and a 1937 aerial with both showing a southeast-northwest road beginning at Rose Hill Road and ending at Entrance Road A. The connection between the two roads was lost in the 1950s with the construction of the Stock Pond. Entrance Road B is presently extant as a trace with the subtle graded edges of the trace ending at the edge of the pond.

Thomas Stone Formal Entrance Lane Trace.
The 1937 aerial shows a two-lane formal entrance road divided by trees in the center with an overall width of approximately 60 feet. The lane is on a northeast-southwest alignment with the center of the Main House, but ended in 1937 at the North Field. A trace is presently extant extending southwest from Old Glymont Road for roughly 130 feet before becoming illegible in woody vegetation.

Old Glymont Road.
Approximately 200-foot long compacted gravel road that extends west from a park entry on Rose Hill Road. The road ends at a sign marking a private driveway near the NPS boundary.

Lane to Glymont Road.
Extends from Entrance Road A and winds passed the agricultural outbuildings, turns northeast passed the NPS maintenance buildings, and continues to Old Glymont Road. At Entrance Road A, the lane's surfacing matches the entrance road and consists of a tan, compacted stone and earth. At the maintenance buildings, the surfacing transitions to a courser, gray, compacted gravel (Figure 24).

Tenant House Lane.
Extends southwest from the Lane to Glymont Road, borders the west side of the Spring Branch Ravine, and ends at the Tenant House. The surfacing is a mixture of turf and compacted earth with woody vegetation clearly marking the east and west sides of the lane (Figure 25).

Sheep Barn Farm Lane.
Mown turf and compacted gravel lane leading from the Visitor Center parking area south to the Sheep Barn Field. The lane is recorded on a 1913 USGS map and its alignment is visible on a 1937 aerial extending from Entrance Road B (Figure 26).

Outbuildings Trail.
Contemporary trail that extends from the Tenant House Lane south to the park boundary along Hoghole Run. The trail turns southeast and follow the boundary and then turns northeast and into the Sheep Field connecting up with the Sheep Barn Farm Lane (see Figure 21).

Stone Family Cemetery Trail.
Contemporary trail that consists of three segments that all lead to the Thomas Stone Burial Ground. The first segment leads from the Visitor Center, the second segment leads from the Main House, and the third segment leads from Entrance Road A (see Figure 20).

Visitor Center Parking.
Installed by August 2000 with completion of the Visitor Center building (Figure 27).

Visitor Center Brick Walkways.
Installed by August 2000 and includes a paved island between two sets of parking stalls and walkways on the east side of the Visitor Center building (see Figure 27).

Visitor Center Boardwalk.
A wood boardwalk installed by August 2000 that extends west of the Visitor Center building.

Main House Parking.
Three parking stalls and a handicap accessible aisle are located northwest of the Mian House and south of Entrance Road A. The handicap accessible stall and aisle are paved in asphalt with the other two stalls are finished with compacted stone and earth matching Entrance Road A.

Main House Brick Walkways.
Contemporary brick walkway extends from the Main House parking and provides access to the West Wing, south facade of the Main House, and wood ramp to the East Wing.

Main House Wood Ramp to East Wing.
Contemporary wood-constructed ramp providing a level entry to the East Wing.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Thomas Stone Entrance Road A	204037	Contributing	251183		Location	59421	Yes
Thomas Stone Entrance Road B Trace	204038	Contributing	251200		Location	59422	Yes
Thomas Stone Formal Entrance Lane Trace	204039	Contributing	251297				No
Old Glymont Road	204040	Contributing	251230				No
Lane to Glymont Road	204041	Contributing	251244				No
Tenant House Lane	204042	Contributing	251272				No
Sheep Barn Farm Lane	204043	Contributing	251286				No
Outbuildings Trail	204044	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	59423	No
Stone Family Cemetery Trail	204045	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	59423	No
Visitor Center Parking	204046	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	59427	Yes
Visitor Center Brick Walkways	204047	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	1124173	Yes
Visitor Center Boardwalk	204048	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	1617641	Yes
Main House Parking	204049	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Main House Brick Walkways	204050	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	279700	Yes
Main House Wood Ramp to East Wing	204051	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 24. Lane to Glymont Road. View northeast from near maintenance buildings. (OCLP, 2023, DSC-0435)



Figure 25. Tenant House Lane. View north. (OCLP, 2023, DSC-0488)



Figure 26. Sheep Barn Farm Lane. View north. (OCLP 2023, DSC-0506)



Figure 27. Visitor Center, parking area, brick walkways, and flagpole. View southwest. (OCLP 2023, DSC-0521)

Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures

Historic Condition (to 1872):

Buildings are elements constructed primarily for sheltering any form of human activity in a landscape, while structures are elements constructed for functional purposes other than sheltering human activity. Thomas Stone directed the construction of the Main House beginning in 1770. Other buildings and structures to support agriculture, tenants, and an enslaved population were added to the property in the decades leading to the end of the historic period.

Evaluation:
The Main House, Horse Barn, Corn Crib, Tobacco Barn, and Tenant House are all presently extant. The central or main block of the Main House was reconstructed in the early 1990s following a fire and the agricultural outbuildings and tenant house have additions from after the end of the historic period. Additional buildings and structures have been added to the property to support its present function as a public park.

Haberdeventure (Main House).
An irregular five-part Maryland manor-style house composed of three different early building methods and arranged in an arc. The main block is a brick, one-and-one-half story house with a gambrel roof. The west hyphen connects a small, two-story frame wing, set perpendicular to the hyphen. This wing has brick end walls with an internal chimney at the north and south ends. To the east of the main block is the east hyphen and a small, completely frame, one-and-one-half story, gambrel roof structure with no dormers, that served as Thomas Stone's law office. A fire destroyed the main block in 1977 and the exterior was reconstructed in the early 1990s by the NPS Historic Preservation Training Center based on a circa 1902 photograph of the house. Much of the central interior was also reconstructed after the fire (Figure 28, see also Figure 23). (FD 2017: 11)

Horse Barn.
Constructed between circa 1840 and 1850, this is a one-story frame structure with a gable roof that measures 30 by 24 feet. An addition, added around 1959, extended the structure 22 feet to the south until it was removed by the park. The original section rests on a fieldstone-mortar foundation and the twentieth century addition rests on a concrete foundation. The sides are sheathed with wooden clapboard siding, and the floor is earthen throughout (Figure 29). (NR draft 1988, Sec.7: 3).

Corn Crib.
Constructed between circa 1830 and 1840, this is a frame structure constructed on combination brick-stone piers. It is covered by a gable roof now sheathed with galvanized steel roofing. It is supported underneath on an east-west axis by four original brick piers, which are in addition to the peripheral pier supports. The Corn Crib measures 15.5 by 27 feet. (Figure 30). (NR draft 1988, Sec.7: 3)

Tobacco Barn.
Constructed between circa 1830 and 1840, this is a five bay, gable roof structure with vertical wood siding measuring 20 by 44 feet with the roof ridge nearly 30 feet above grade (see Figure 30). (NR draft 1988, Sec.7: 3)

Sheep Barn Ruin.
At the north end of the Sheep Field stood a timber frame structure, approximately 20 by 40 feet with a gable roof. The structure can be seen on a 1937 aerial photograph and by 1993, had collapsed. Wood framing members, fasteners, and pieces of metal roofing are presently extant in a wooded area immediately north of the sheep field. Based on the method of carpentry and fasteners used, the sheep barn is thought to have been built about 1840. (CLR 1996: 43, citing Rivoire, Research Summary, 69)

Cattle Barn Foundation Stones.
Loose stones arranged in 10-50-foot rectangle northwest of the corn crib mark the possible location of the cattle barn that was destroyed in a tornado in 2002. Aerial photographs (see Figures 10, 15, 16) of the cattle barn suggest the structure may have had a similar footprint as the tobacco barn (but not as tall), probably larger than the layout of the loose stones suggest. Future research is recommended to determine the exact location and dimensions.

Tenant House.
Constructed between circa 1840 and 1860, the one-story and a half frame structure consists of four parts: the main structure, two additions, and a porch. The original main part of the structure measures 14 by 26 feet. The house was enlarged between circa 1945 and 1955 with two one-room additions. The south addition measures 14.5 by 14 feet and the west addition measures 10.5 by 10.5 feet. Across the east side of the old structure is a 10 by 26 foot porch, probably of mid-twentieth century construction (see Figure 21). (NR draft 1988, Sec.7: 3)

Lemko House.
Constructed in 1956, the one story wood frame house is located on a former inholding tract acquired by the park in 2015.

Visitor Center.
The contemporary visitor contact center was completed in the late 1990s (see Figure 27).

Maintenance Building, Water Treatment Building, Maintenance Canopy.
Grouping of three buildings and structures located northwest of the Main House and farm outbuildings on the west side of the Lane to Glymont Road.

Brick Wall Ruin at Formal Garden.
Remnant of the Vischer-era brick wall constructed on the east end of the upper terrace in the Formal Garden Terraces. The brick wall was part of the Vischer's Colonial Revival garden design at the property and defined a formal, planted space within the upper terrace (see Figure 17). The structure was determined ineligible in a Determination of Eligibility signed by the Keeper of the National Register on April 26, 1988, and subsequently removed, however; a remnant remains at grade level (see Figure 23).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Haberdeventure (Main House) [individually listed in NR]	204052	Contributing	80059		Location	59408	Yes
Horse Barn	204053	Contributing	80064		Location	59412	Yes
Corn Crib	204054	Contributing	80061		Location	59410	Yes
Tobacco Barn	204055	Contributing	80060		Location	59409	Yes
Tenant House	204056	Contributing	80063		Location	59411	Yes
Sheep Barn Ruin	204057	Undetermined	251322				No
Cattle Barn Foundation Stones	204058	Undetermined					No
Lemko House	204059	Noncontributing – Incompatible			Location	246059	Yes
Visitor Center	204060	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	59426	Yes
Maintenance Building	204061	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	79602	Yes
Water Treatment Building	204062	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	59417	Yes
Maintenance Canopy	204063	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Brick Wall Ruin at Formal Garden	204064	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 28. The northern elevations of Haberdeventure (Main House). View southwest. (OCLP, 2023, DSC-0532)



Figure 29. Horse Barn. View northwest. (OCLP, 2023 DSC-0474)



Figure 30. Tobacco Barn, image left, and Corn Crib, image right. View southwest. (OCLP 2023, DSC-0459)

Landscape Characteristic: Views and Vistas

Historic Condition (to 1872):
A view is the expansive and/or panoramic prospect of a broad range of vision that may be naturally occurring or deliberately contrived. A vista is a controlled prospect of a discrete, linear range of vision, which is deliberately contrived. The Formal Garden Terraces, located to the south of the Main House, are strongly believed to have been designed and constructed during Thomas Stone's tenure, in conjunction with the Main House. In fact, the south facade of the house and the terraces were intended to function as the front of the house, with the north facade facing Entrance Road A being the back of the house. The terraces, constructed in three levels, were connected by earthen ramps aligned on center with the main block of the house. An axial view from the house was composed with the centered alignment of the ramps and symmetrical terraces. The view extended south and beyond the terraces to open fields and possibly to Hoghole Run and its valley.

Evaluation:
The axial view south of Formal Garden Terraces is presently extant but has been shortened by mid-twentieth century additions and successional woodland growth. Between 1945 and 1957, the Vischers added the Dry Pond south of the third (lower) terrace, and in subsequent decades the area around the pond transitioned from open fields or meadows to successional woods. Although the full extent of the view from the historic period is blocked, and presently ends at the south end of the third terrace, this condition is reversible.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Axial view south of Formal Garden Terraces	204065	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic: Constructed Water Features

Historic Condition (to 1872):
Constructed water features are built features and elements that utilize water for aesthetic or utilitarian functions in the landscape. Such features may have been present on the property between 1770 and 1872 to support domestic and agricultural uses, however; specific features are not presently extant.

Evaluation:
Constructed water features include two ponds that date to the Vischers' tenure and a third pond or topographic depression from earlier in the twentieth century.

Stock Pond.
The Stock Pond was completed between 1945 and 1957 based on a review of aerial photographs. The feature was determined ineligible by the Keeper of the National Register on April 26, 1988 (Figure 31).

Dry Pond.
The Dry Pond was constructed during the Vischer period, sometime between 1945 and 1957, and appears on a 1957 aerial photograph. This feature has encroached onto the third garden terrace and obscures the terraces' historic relationship to Spring Branch and the vista to Hoghole Run. During a May 2023 site visit, the Dry Pond contained no water. (CLR 1996: 79)

Tenant House Pond.
The Tenant House Pond may actually be a cleared area, dug out to create a hollow that was never intended to be filled with water. The 1937 aerial shows a clearing more than it shows a definite water feature (see Figure 10). A 1963 aerial clearly shows the Stock Pond and Dry Pond filled with water with Tenant House Pond appearing as a cleared hollow (see Figure 15). During a May 2023 site visit, the Tenant House Pond was dry.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Stock Pond	204066	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Dry Pond	204067	Noncontributing – Incompatible					No
Tenant House Pond	204068	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 31. Stock Pond. View west at end of the Entrance Road B Trace. (OCLP 2023, DSC-0522)

Landscape Characteristic: Small Scale Features

Historic Condition (to 1872):
Small-scale features are elements that provide detail and diversity for both functional needs and aesthetic concerns in the landscape. Small-scale features from the period 1770 to 1872 were likely ephemeral, supporting daily life on a plantation, and did not survive to the present. A notable exception is the development of the Thomas Stone Burial Ground in circa 1787 and the installation of burial markers and a perimeter iron fence.

Evaluation:
The Thomas Stone Burial Ground Fence and Markers date to the historic period and are presently extant. Other small-scale features presently extant in the Thomas Stone NHS landscape are associated with the mid-twentieth century development of the Lemko property, or the site's development as a public park beginning in 1978 and include various forms of signage and fencing.

Thomas Stone Burial Ground Fence.
Installed circa 1860, the 32 by 32-foot wrought iron fence features a spear-top picket style with a centered gate on south side anchored by two square ornamental iron posts with a finial top (see Figure 18). (NR draft 1988, Sec.7: 4)

Thomas Stone Burial Ground Markers.
Thirteen east-facing markers installed between circa 1787 and 1913 and arranged in three rows. The westernmost and middle rows contain four markers each and the easternmost row contains five footstones (see Figure 18).

Hitching Post.
The CRIS-HS record (ID #251265) notes an 1860 to 1880 erection date, however; it is difficult to find historic narrative or imagery references to support that date range. The Hitching Post is imbedded in the ground north of Kitchen Wing at the Main House. It is six inches in diameter by 3.5 feet high with a single ring for horse tethering. The current Hitching Post is a reconstruction with the original post in park storage (Figure 32).

Visitor Center Fence.
Likely installed by August 2000 with completion of the Visitor Center and recently rebuilt/replaced based on non-weathered rails observed during May 2023 site visit. The stacked rail fence is laid out in zig-zag or worm configuration with two fence runs extending from the visitor center. The first run extends roughly south from the Visitor Center and defines the west edge of the Sheep Barn Farm Lane. The second run extends roughly north from the Visitor Center and parallels the west edge of the parking lot access road.

Lemko House Well.
Built in the mid-1950s, this square well features a metal and concrete cap located about 40 feet south of the Lemko House.

Lemko House Fence and Metal Gate.
Built in the mid-1950s or later, wood post and rail fence marks the south boundary of the Lemko parcel. The fence is concealed by vegetation and features a metal panel gate for vehicular access from the Lemko House to the Lane to Glymont Road.

Visitor Center Flagpole.
Installed by August 2000 with completion of the Visitor Center (see Figure 27).

NPS Signage and Waysides.
Contemporary NPS entry signage, trail directional signage, and interpretive waysides.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Thomas Stone Burial Ground Fence	204069	Contributing	251146		Asset	279709	Yes
Thomas Stone Burial Ground Markers	204070	Contributing	80071		Asset	279692	Yes
Hitching Post	204071	Undetermined	251265		Asset	1124164	Yes
Visitor Center Fence	204072	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	1124176	Yes
Lemko House Well	204073	Noncontributing – Incompatible					No
Lemko House Fence and Metal Gate	204074	Noncontributing – Incompatible					No
Visitor Center Flagpole	204075	Noncontributing – Compatible			Asset	1124180	Yes
NPS Signage and Waysides	204076	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	59425	No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 32. Hitching Post. View southeast. (OCLP 2023, DSC-0541)

Condition

Assessment Interval (Years): 6

Next Assessment Due Date: 03/22/2030

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 03/22/2024

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The condition of the Thomas Stone NHS landscape is “good.” There is no evidence of major negative disturbances or deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Individual buildings and structures in the CRIS-HS database may have a “fair” condition assessment based on their specific components, materials, and present condition, however; the overall landscape condition is in good condition. In particular, the field areas, which historically supported agricultural uses, appear in good condition with limited to no woody material emerging and limited invasive material seen among the mixture of grasses and forbs. However, the spread of adjacent successional woodlands into the fields has occurred in some areas and should be closely monitored to maintain the historic field and forest patterns.

Impacts

Type of Impact: Adjacent Lands

Other Impact:

External or Internal: External

Impact Narrative: Suburban residential development is present off of Rose Hill Road. County zoning surrounding the National Historic Site is “Rural Conservation” that allows some low-density residential development by right and other development through a permitted review process.

Date Identified: 05/11/2023

Type of Impact: Erosion

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: The Formal Garden Terraces are presently covered in turf and appear stable. However, owing practices, visitor use, and loss of turf cover could exacerbate erosion of the historic landforms.

Date Identified: 05/11/2023

Type of Impact: Release To Succession

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: The South Field and West Field are reduced in size and fragmented compared to their historic extents and continued encroachment of successional woody vegetation is possible.

Date Identified: 05/11/2023

Type of Impact: Vegetation/Invasive Plants

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Both Internal and External

Impact Narrative: Limited invasive material was observed in the field areas among the mixture of grasses and forbs. Continued mowing and other maintenance practices are essential for preventing the introduction and spread of invasives. In the wooded areas, some Princess Tree (Paulownia tomentosa) specimens were observed that can have an unintended spread.

Date Identified: 05/11/2023

Treatment

Stabilization Measures

Treatment Documents

Treatment Type: Rehabilitation

Treatment Completed: No

Document Type: General Management Plan

Title:

IRMA Link:

Narrative:

The Preferred Alternative in the park's 1989 General Management Plan stated that "the landscape and farm structures will generally be managed to maintain a circa 1900 appearance, aiding the visitors' understanding of the present site condition and the changes in development and land use over time." (GMP 1989: 11) Although the document did not specifically cite an overall rehabilitation treatment type, the only treatment approach that aligns with the General Management Plan's direction to preserve certain features, restore others if supported by documentation, and add new and compatible development for public access and use, is rehabilitation.

The park completed a Cultural Landscape Report in 1996, which included a chapter addressing recommendations for treatment and further study. While acknowledging the "circa 1900 appearance" directed in the General Management Plan, the Cultural Landscape Report raised concerns about the appropriateness of this reference date given that the landscape use, maintenance, and overall condition were declining at that date with little work done by an elderly Margaret Graham Stone or her tenant farmers. (CLR 1996: 81-82)

The park's 2017 Foundation Document, articulates the purpose of the park, "to preserve and protect the resources of Thomas Stone's plantation, known as Haberdeventure, and commemorate his service to the United States as a signer of the Declaration of Independence and member of the Continental Congress." (FD 2017: 4)

Thomas Stone National Historic Site should seek project funding to update the Cultural Landscape Report, including a Part 2 on Landscape Treatment, to serve as the primary tool for management and treatment of the cultural landscape. The park should also update its 1972 National Register documentation (the 1988 and 1997 updates were not submitted to the Maryland SHPO or Keeper of the National Register for concurrence).

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography:

Citation Author	Citation Title	Year of Publication	Citation Publisher	Citation Type	Citation Location	Citation Number
Boyle, Susan Calafate	National Register of Historic Places, Inventory-Nomination Form, “Habre-de-Venture,” no#, Draft.	1997	n/a			
John Milner Associates, Land Ethics Inc., and J. Richard Rivoire	Cultural Landscape Report, National Park Service, Thomas Stone National Historic Site [CLR]	1996	National Park Service			
Moyer, Teresa S.	Thomas Stone National Historic Site: Archaeological Overview and Assessment [AOA]	2007	University of Maryland			
National Park Service	Foundation Document, Thomas Stone National Historic Site [FD]	2017	National Park Service			
National Park Service	General Management Plan, Thomas Stone National Historic Site, Maryland [GMP]	1989	National Park Service			
Parish, Preston Mrs.	National Register of Historic Places, Inventory-Nomination Form, “Habre-de-Venture,” #72001595	1972	National Park Service			

Snell, Charles W.	National Register of Historic Places, Inventory-Nomination Form, “Habre-de-Venture (Thomas Stone House),” #72001595	1971	National Park Service			
Wearmouth, John M.	National Register of Historic Places, Inventory-Nomination Form, “Habre-de-Venture,” no#, Draft	1988	n/a			
Speckart, Amy	New Perspectives on Haberdeventure Plantation in Charles County, Maryland, 1770–1787: A Historic Resource Study of Thomas Stone National Historic Site Port Tobacco, Maryland	2022	National Park Service			

Supplemental Information:

Supplemental Information Title: Charles County, Maryland

Supplemental Information Narrative:

https://www.charlescountymd.gov/government/planning-and-growth-management/planning-and-growth-management-publications

Supplemental Information:

Supplemental Information Title: The Stone Family Cemetery, Thomas Stone National Historic Site

Supplemental Information Narrative:

https://www.nps.gov/places/the-stone-family-cemetery.htm

Supplemental Information:

Supplemental Information Title: USDA Web Soil Survey

Supplemental Information Narrative:

https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx