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Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland	
COUNTY: Baltimore County	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.1.24.0001	DATE 1/31/71

1. NAME

COMMON:

Fort Garrison, Garrison Fort

AND/OR HISTORIC:

Oulton's Garrison, Risteau's Garrison, Olton's Garrison, Oldton's Garrison, Garrison's Forest Fort

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

(no number) Garrison Farms Court

CITY OR TOWN:

Stevenson vicinity

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

COUNTY:

Baltimore County

CODE

005

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific

Comments

Transportation

Other (Specify)

Vacant

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

Baltimore County Bureau of Recreation and Parks

STREET AND NUMBER:

301 Washington Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Towson

STATE:

Maryland

CODE

24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:

Baltimore County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

Washington Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Towson

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

Maryland Register of historic sites and landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY:

1970

Federal

State

County

Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER:

Post Office Box 1704 (50 State Circle)

CITY OR TOWN:

Annapolis

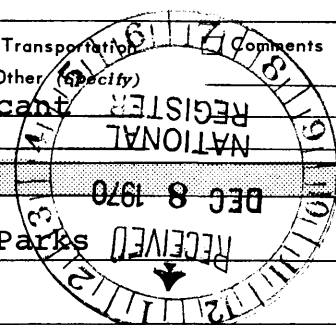
STATE:

Maryland

CODE

24

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Baltimore

ENTRY NUMBER: 71.1.24.0001

DATE: 1/31/71

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fort Garrison is located on the north side of Garrison Farms Court east of Stevenson Road, north of the Baltimore Beltway (near exit 21) and south of Glenmar and Keyser Road, Maryland.

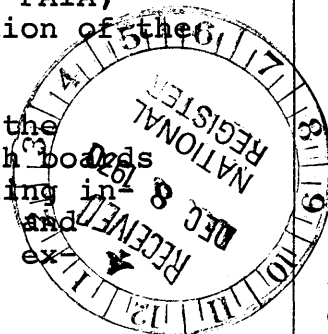
Fort Garrison is a rectangular, fieldstone building built in the 1690's approximately forty-eight feet long and eighteen feet wide with one stone fireplace on the east end-wall whose chimney is enclosed within that wall. Originally a one-story building with a steep roof, early nineteenth-century alterations raised the height of the fort building adding a second story loft and a wood shingle roof. The second-story windows on the exterior flare inward for twenty inches, creating larger interior openings. The door sills are raised thirty-seven inches above the ground. The ceiling height of the one-room fort is seven feet ten inches.

In a copy of the "Report on Inspection of Fort Garrison," October 28, 1963, from Dr. Henry Chandlee Forman, FAIA, historian and architect, he described the alteration of the fort:

"After a hole had been knocked through the loft ceiling, the old loft partition of rough boards and battens was found to go through the ceiling indicating that ceiling, of machine-made laths and plaster, was put in later. The rough boards extended to the roof.

"'Fort Garrison' gives evidence of some antiquity, but just how old it is is difficult to judge from what is left. The rafters are pegged together, and the collar beams are pegged to the rafters. The oak frames of the old louvers or loopholes, the casement windows, and the outside doors are held together with pegs about one inch in diameter. The loft floor is of random width oak boards, some 14 inches wide, held down by nails; the nails could not be identified as rose-headed. In fact no rose-headed nails in the building were located; but that does not mean that the edifice did not have them. ..."

"It is possible that the shell of the structure served as a fort and that about 1800 the building was entirely remodeled as a farm outhouse. ..."



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

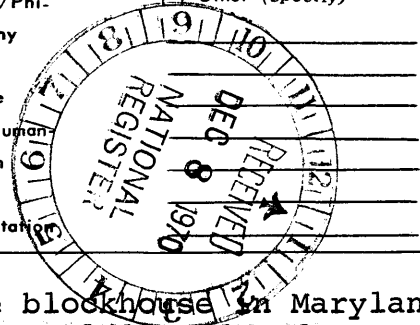
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1695 to 1705 Alterations about 1820

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  |  |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The sole remaining original stone blockhouse in Maryland, Fort Garrison was constructed following a 1693 order from Governor Francis Nicholson and his Council. It originally served as a stronghold against Indian attacks during the last decade of the seventeenth century and again in 1755 it was used during the French and Indian War.

As early as 1681 the Council of Maryland proposed sending a group of rangers to each county to watch for Indian attacks. At first, rangers were recruited on an emergency basis only; however, during the subsequent decade, the Council ordered that a fort be constructed in Baltimore County near the falls of the Patapsco River and near the Susquehanna River giving permanence to their function and a place for the rangers to live as well as defense against Indian attack. The site chosen for the garrison near the Slaughterhouse Run branch of the Jones Falls was convenient to two Indian trails, one used by the Senecas and one by the Delawares. Fort Garrison was the fruition of this order.

In 1694 John Oldton (Oulton, Olton) received an appointment as Captain of the rangers. It is possible that Oldton supervised the construction of Fort Garrison. Oldton ( -1709), who had moved to Baltimore County before 1688, is most often associated with the fort which is sometimes called Oldton's Garrison. He also was granted a patent (1696) for the land within the boundaries on which the fort was built.

During Oldton's command, Daniell Welsh, Henry King, Thomas Robards, Tobias Stanberry, Josias Bridges and Mosses Edwards, his six rangers, scouted Baltimore County looking for Indians and marking trails, some of which trails revolved into twentieth-century roads (e.g. Joppa Road and Rolling Road.)

Rangers were expected to use the fort as a garrison during the winter. Alternating weeks half of the rangers would explore the frontier from Monday to Saturday, leaving

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Recorders: John W. McGrain, Chairman, Fort Garrison Committee, Baltimore County Historical Society, 9811 Van Buren Lane, Cockeysville, Maryland; and Nancy Miller, Historian, Maryland Historical Trust, P. O. Box 1704, Annapolis, Md.

William B. Marye, "The Old Indian Roads," Maryland Historical Magazine, Volume XV #3 (Sept. 1920), 210, 215.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

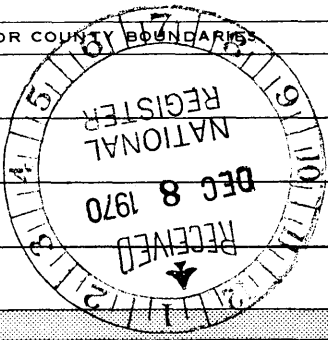
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds 39° 23' 53"	Degrees Minutes Seconds 76° 42' 31.5"		Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	
NE	39° 23' 58"	76° 42' 26.5"				
SE	39° 23' 54"	76° 42' 26.5"				
SW	39° 23' 54"	76° 42' 31.5"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **4 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Mrs. Preston Parish, Keeper of the Maryland Register**

ORGANIZATION: **Maryland Historical Trust**      DATE: **Dec. 2, 1970**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Post Office Box 1704 (50 State Circle)**

CITY OR TOWN: **Annapolis**      STATE: **Maryland**      CODE: **24**

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION      NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National     State     Local

Name Orlando Ridout IV  
**Orlando Ridout IV**

Title State Liaison Officer for Maryland

Date **DEC 3 1970**

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

Ernest A. Connelly  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
**JAN 25 1971**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:  
William J. Stuntz  
Keeper of The National Register

Date **JAN 5 1971**

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Baltimore County	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
91.1.24.0001	1/25/71

(Number all entries)

Fort Garrison

## #6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS continued

1965 - County

Baltimore County Historical Society

Depository for Survey Records:

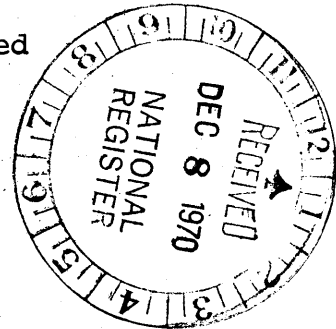
Baltimore County Historical Society

Agriculture Building

9811 Van Buren Lane

Cockeysville, Maryland 21030

Code: 24



## #8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

the remainder to defend the fort. The government, in Annapolis, provided their supplies and pay, and also dispatched Bibles and religious books to the rangers to read while "...Rang[ing] out upon Publik Service..." (Archives of Maryland, Volume XX, 204).

Until 1698, when Oldton was relieved of his commission, no Indians threatened the garrison: life there in the 1690's was uneventful. After he left it is doubtful if the fort was used at all. The vanguard of settlement had reached, if not exceeded, its location, thereby ending its usefulness as a frontier outpost.

The garrison and the land it stood on changed hands several times before the fort again saw duty. In 1755, after General Braddock's defeat in the French and Indian War, Captain John Risteau, a Maryland ranger who owned Fort Garrison, reactivated it to defend Baltimore County. However, neither French nor Indians attacked the garrison. Without a threat of invasion and with the expansion of settlement the usefulness of the building as a point of defense again dwindled.

The significance of Fort Garrison as an example of a Maryland frontier outpost was unrecognized until the mid-twentieth century. In 1965 Baltimore County Bureau of Recreation & Parks acquired the fort in order to preserve this remnant of Maryland's early history.

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(Continuation Sheet)

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COUNTY	
Baltimore County	
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71.1.24.0001	1/25/71

(Number all entries)

Fort Garrison

#9 REFERENCES continued

\_\_\_\_\_, "The Baltimore County 'Garrison' and the Old Garrison Roads," Maryland Historical Magazine, XVI (June 1921), 105-149.

Henry Chandlee Forman, Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland, Easton, Maryland: the Author, 1934.

\_\_\_\_\_, Old Buildings, Gardens and Furniture in Tidewater Maryland, Cambridge, Maryland: [Tidewater Publishers], 1967.

Raphael Semmes, Captains and Mariners of Early Maryland, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1937.

Rev. Hobart Smith, The Garrison Church - Sketches of the History of St. Thomas' Parish, Garrison Forest, Baltimore County, Maryland, 1742-1852, Rev. Ethan Allen (ed.), no place: James Pott, 1898.

Matt Smith, "Fort Garrison Only Relic of Indian Defense in Area," Baltimore American, February 8, 1959.

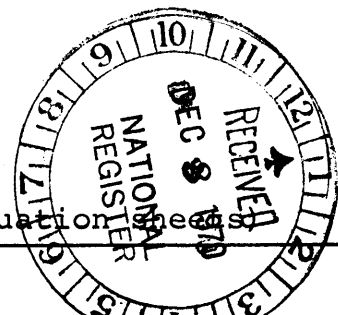
The Sun (Baltimore), August 23, 1961.

Land Records: (1) Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland, Liber 4447 folio 90.  
(2) Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

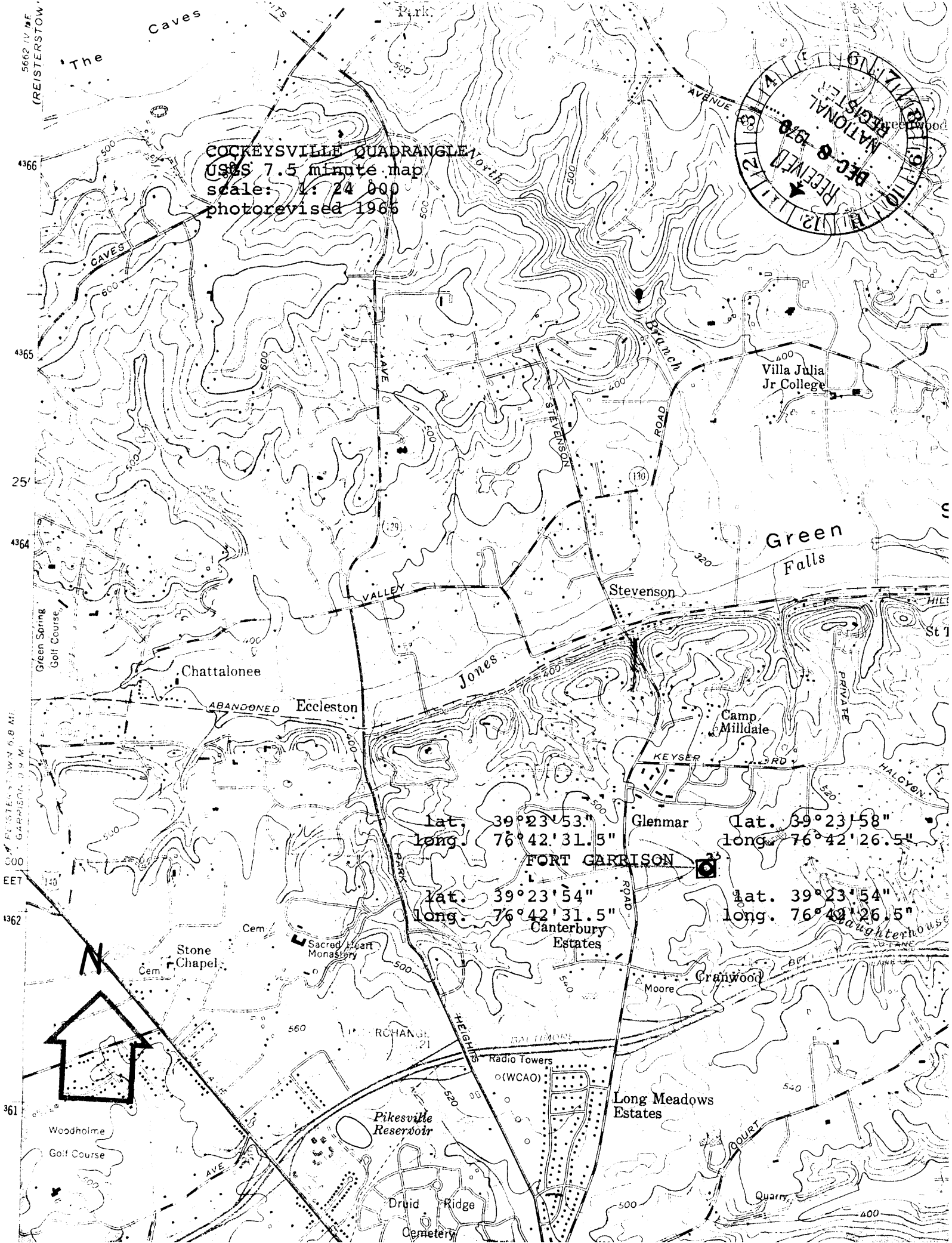
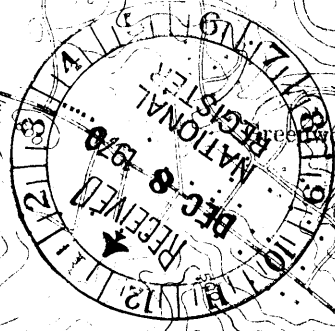
Archives of Maryland, Volume XX, Proceedings of the Council of Maryland 1693-1696/7, Baltimore: Maryland Historical Society, 1900.

Forman, H. Chandlee, FAIA, Easton, Maryland:

A copy of a "Report on Inspection of Fort Garrison" submitted by Mr. John Sprinkle & Mr. John McGrain, Chairmen of the Baltimore County Historical Society, before 1969. Permission for use dated October 25, 1970 to the Maryland Historical Trust.



COCKEYSVILLE QUADRANGLE  
 USGS 7.5 minute map  
 scale: 1:24 000  
 photorevised 1966



lat. 39°23'53"  
 long. 76°42'31.5"

lat. 39°23'58"  
 long. 76°42'26.5"

lat. 39°23'54"  
 long. 76°42'31.5"

lat. 39°23'54"  
 long. 76°42'26.5"



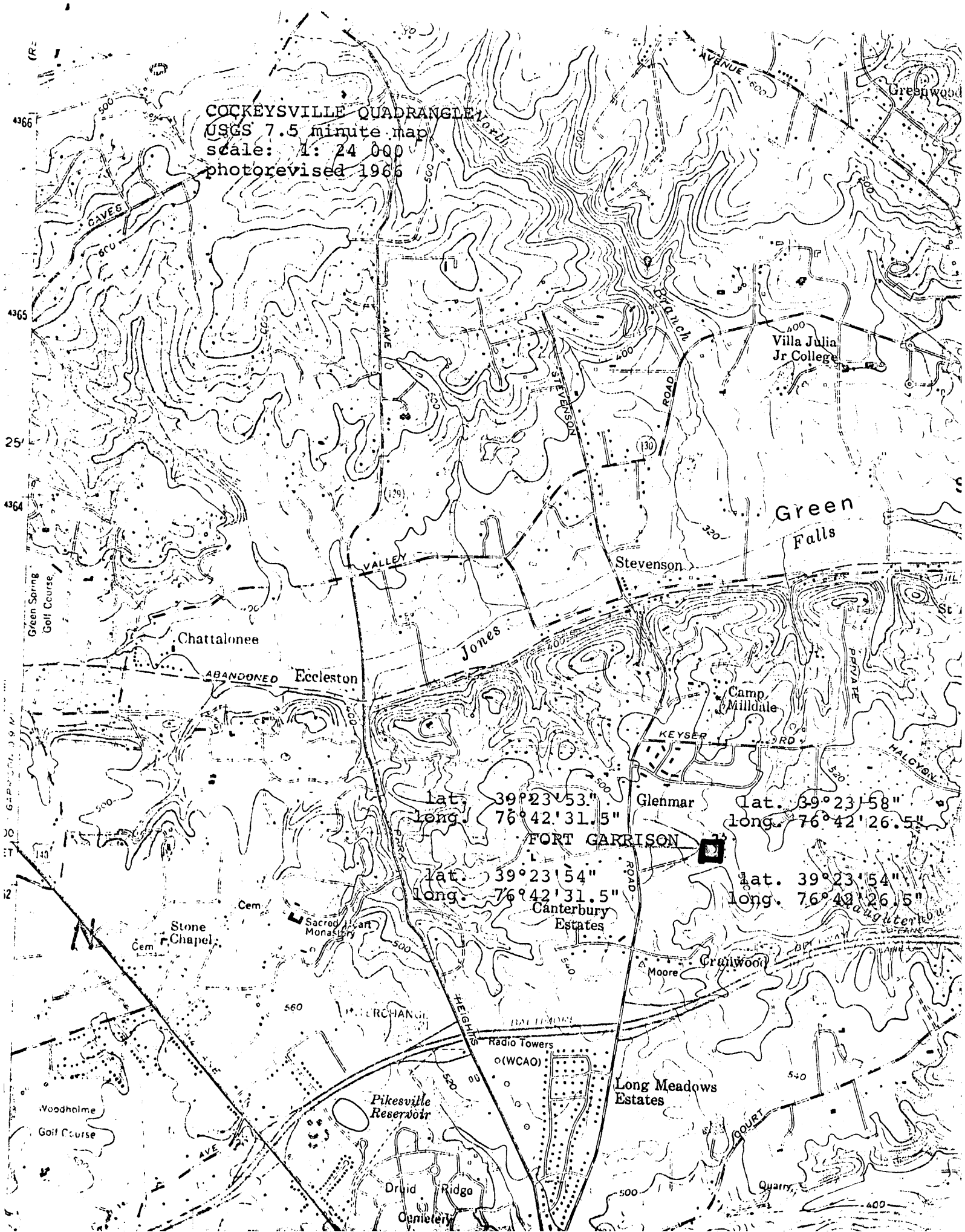
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 Green Spring Golf Course  
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Stevenson  
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The Caves  
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 Stone Chapel  
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 Sacred Heart Monastery  
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 Woodholme  
 Golf Course  
 500  
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 Druid Ridge  
 Cemetery

AVENUE  
 BRANCH ROAD  
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 300  
 200  
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 Villa Julia Jr College  
 400  
 300  
 200  
 100  
 000  
 Stevenson  
 130  
 129  
 Jones  
 400  
 300  
 200  
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 Camp Milldale  
 PRIVATE  
 KEYSER ROAD  
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 400  
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 200  
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 Glenmar  
 FORT GARRISON  
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 Cranwood  
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 Long Meadows Estates  
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 Quarry

COCKEYSVILLE QUADRANGLE  
USGS 7.5 minute map  
scale: 1: 24 000  
photorevised 1966



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long. 76° 42' 31.5"

lat. 39° 23' 58"  
long. 76° 42' 26.5"

lat. 39° 23' 54"  
long. 76° 42' 31.5"

lat. 39° 23' 54"  
long. 76° 42' 26.5"

FORT GARRISON

Canterbury Estates

Long Meadows Estates

Pikesville Reservoir

Quarry

Druid Ridge Cemetery

Stone Chapel

Sacred Heart Monastery

Greenwood

Villa Julia Jr College

Green Falls

Stevenson

Chattalonnee

ABANDONED Eccleston

Jones

KEYSER RD

Waughter Ln

Woodholme Golf Course

Radio Towers (WCAO)

Greenwood

4366  
4365  
25  
4364  
30  
27  
12