

PH0005282

CT-35

Form 10-300
(July 1959)

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: Calvert	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 22 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Cedar Hill

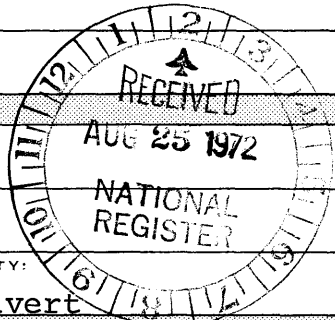
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Bigger

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Buena Vista Road (East Side)

CITY OR TOWN:
Barstow *2 mi W of*

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24 COUNTY: Calvert CODE: 009



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Eric Schneider

STREET AND NUMBER:
Cedar Hill, Buena Vista Road

CITY OR TOWN: Barstow STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Hall of Records

STREET AND NUMBER:
St. John's College Campus, College Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Maryland Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER:
2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland CODE: 21401

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Calvert

ENTRY NUMBER: MAY 22 1973

DATE: MAY 22 1973

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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)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p> Cedar Hill is one of the few remaining cruciform dwelling houses existing in Maryland. It is built of brick and stands one-and-one-half stories tall, except the porch tower, which is two full stories. All the walls are laid in Flemish bond above a single-step water table. The chimney stacks are laid in English bond above the "shoulders" of the fireplaces. With the exception of the northwest door and window of the porch tower, there are segmental arches above the windows. The former have flat brick arches of a different color, reminiscent of rubbed brick. The basement arches have segmental undersides and flat uppersides. </p> <p> The southeast part of the cross consists of a large, full-size, one-and-one-half story section. The opposite side consists of a small cubical porch. The chimneys on the gables of the main axis are on the outside of the wall, while the chimney on the southeast is fully within the gable, allowing a stair to be constructed in one corner (northeast). </p> <p> Beneath the main axis and tower is a full cellar. (In the southeast is a partial cellar dug after the original construction and probably during the twentieth century when heating was installed). The huge fireplace in the southwest part of the cellar definitely suggests the room was used as a kitchen, but this contradicts evidence found in eighteenth century inventories which locates the kitchen on the first floor of the house.¹ </p> <p> The southwest cellar room is separated from another room, corresponding to the stair hall above, by two large semi-circular brick arches. A stair to the first floor hall rises below the main stair to the second floor. Cedar Hill was constructed with summer beams in the basement ceiling. </p> <p> On the main floor, the porch has an exterior door, two large windows, and an arched opening to the stair hall. Beneath the windows are seats supported on scrolled uprights extending the length of the wall. Since the window and door trim matches that in most of the house, the tall arched opening between the porch and the stair hall seems incomplete because it lacks the keystone and imposts in the trim. </p> <p> The stair has a huge raised panel soffit, square newels, the first with flutes, a well-shaped hand rail and square balusters. The newels and rail are walnut; the balusters are painted. </p> <p style="text-align: center;">(See Continuation Sheet)</p>	
<p>¹Inventories and Accounts (Calvert County), 1714, Liber 36C folio 25, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

5. SIGNIFICANCE

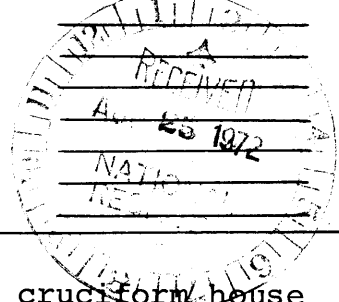
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) C. 1730-C. 1750

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 type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Cedar Hill is significant as an example of a cruciform house built in the eighteenth century that is typical of seventeenth century architecture. Bond Castle in Calvert County, which burned in the twentieth century, was a better known example of the same type of architecture.¹

The exterior and the floor plan of Cedar Hill correspond to documents describing the house of John Bigger, which was built before 1714.² However, the interior details, the support system in the basement, and the roof construction indicate a date in the second quarter of the eighteenth century. The absence of Calvert County records before the 1880's compounds the difficulty of documenting the date of Cedar Hill.

The name Cedar Hill dates from the nineteenth century. The house and its surrounding lands were originally called Bigger, after its first owner, John Bigger. A Calvert County tobacco planter, Bigger supplemented his income through mercantile activities. He bought goods in England and sold them to his neighbors in return for their tobacco. As Aubry Land of the University of Georgia has indicated, most colonial Maryland fortunes were founded by merchant planters.³ In addition to his business life, Bigger served in the Calvert County militia, in the colonial assembly, and as a treasurer of King William School in Annapolis.

(See Continuation Sheet)

¹ See Hugh Morrison, Early American Architecture from the First Colonial Settlements to the National Period, (New York: 1952), 160-2.

² Inventories and Accounts (Calvert County), 1714, Liber 36C, folio 25, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

³ Aubry Land, lecture given at the Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Maryland, November 29, 1970. Dr. Land's lecture will appear in the summer 1972 issue of the Maryland Historical Magazine.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Primary Sources: Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland
 Cedar Hill, near Barstow, Maryland. Cedar Hill Cemetery, Tombstone inscription.
 Maryland State Library, Annapolis. U.S. Census. 1800-1850. Calvert County.
 Anne Arundel County Probate Records. (See Continuation Sheet)

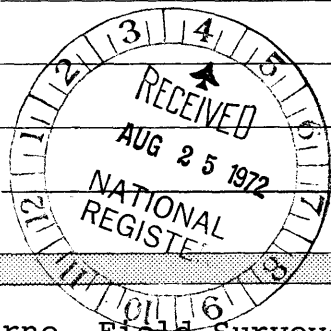
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	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	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NE	38°	32'	11"	76°	38'	12"			
SE	38°	32'	04"	76°	37'	42"			
SW	38°	31'	48"	76°	37'	42"			
	38°	31'	47"	76°	38'	13"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 120 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Nancy Miller, Historian, and Michael Bourne, Field Surveyor

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust DATE: July 6, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
 2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland 21401 CODE: 24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

National State Local

Name Orlando Ridout IV
 Orlando Ridout IV

Title State Liaison Officer for Maryland

Date July 11, 1972

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

Robert K. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 5/22/73

ATTEST:
J. Bradford
 Acting Keeper of The National Register

Date 5/18/73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Calvert	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

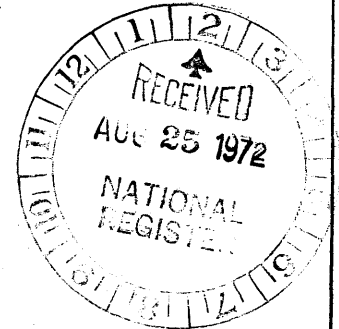
MAY 22 1973

(Number all entries)

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS continued

Historic American Buildings Survey
1969 Federal
Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.

Code: 11



7. DESCRIPTION continued

Northeast off the hall is the parlor with one raised panel wall, paneled window seats and wainscot, and glazed corner cabinet with an arch like that in the hall. The cabinet is decorated with a carved shell and fluted columns. A late mantel has been applied over the paneling, reducing the opening of the fireplace. Late Federal trim with corner blocks has been applied around the door and windows.

On the opposite side of the hall is a smaller room that has original window trim and a Federal mantel with an opening smaller than that of the original fireplace. Beyond the hall (southwest) is a cross-hall, or corridor, with exterior doors on both ends, and the present dining room. As in the two front rooms the size of the diningroom fireplace was reduced and trimmed with a Federal mantel, this one with gouge carving. Flanking the fireplace is an enclosed stair and a passage leading to the present kitchen which was enlarged from a closet with a small window. A large string of frame additions is built on the southeast side of the house.

On the second story, the rooms correspond with those below. The porch chamber has a very low ceiling and three windows with a superb view of the Patuxent River. Each room has very simple trim and two panel doors. Above the diningroom there has been some alteration to accomodate a modern bath.

Most of the construction details are exposed in the attic which extends above the whole house.

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Calvert	
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(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

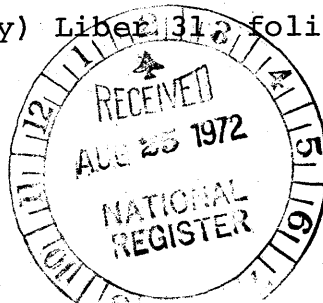
After John Bigger's death, his considerable estate and cruciform house became the property of his widow, Anne Bigger, who subsequently married Patrick Andrew. Andrew continued living in Bigger's house after his wife died, even though John Bigger's will had stipulated that the property was to go to his nephew, Kendal Head. Head conveyed the title to James Carroll of Annapolis who brought suit against Andrew and won an ejectment.

In the 1730's, the house was rented to, and then bought by, Thomas Crompton. Architectural details in Cedar Hill indicate that the house was built during the Crompton period. Documentary evidence indicates that he did live in a cruciform house similar to Cedar Hill.⁴

Crompton died in 1743. His widow married James Weems, a wealthy Calvert County planter who held Bigger in trust for Thomas Crompton's son Thomas Crompton until 1767. The house and land remained in the Crompton family passing to Thomas Crompton's (d. 1773) daughter, Mary Crompton Gantt, and then to his grandson, Dr. Thomas Gantt (d. 1829). After Dr. Gantt's death, Cedar Hill became the property of his son, Virgil Gantt, who operated a farm there until 1871.

The next owner was Mason Locke Weems, the President of Weems Steamboat Line which operated passenger boats on the Chesapeake Bay between Baltimore and southern Maryland. The house had a succession of owners in the twentieth century. In the 1940's, Charles Smith Hamilton and his wife restored Cedar Hill. The current owners, Mr. and Mrs. Eric Schneider, are continuing a restoration program for the house.

⁴Inventories (Calvert County) Liber 312 folio 19, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.



Form 10-300a
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Calvert	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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(Number all entries)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES continued

Calvert County Land Records

Chancery Papers

Chancery Records

Colonial Probate Records

Debt Books

Patent Records

Provincial Court Deeds

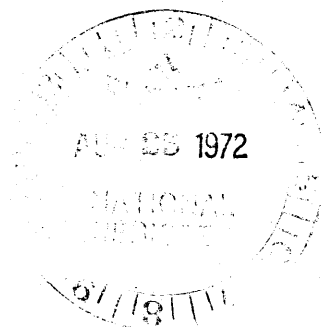
Rent Rolls

Testamentary Papers

Secondary Sources:

Morrison, Hugh. Early American Architecture from the First Colonial Settlements to the National Period. New York: Oxford, 1952.

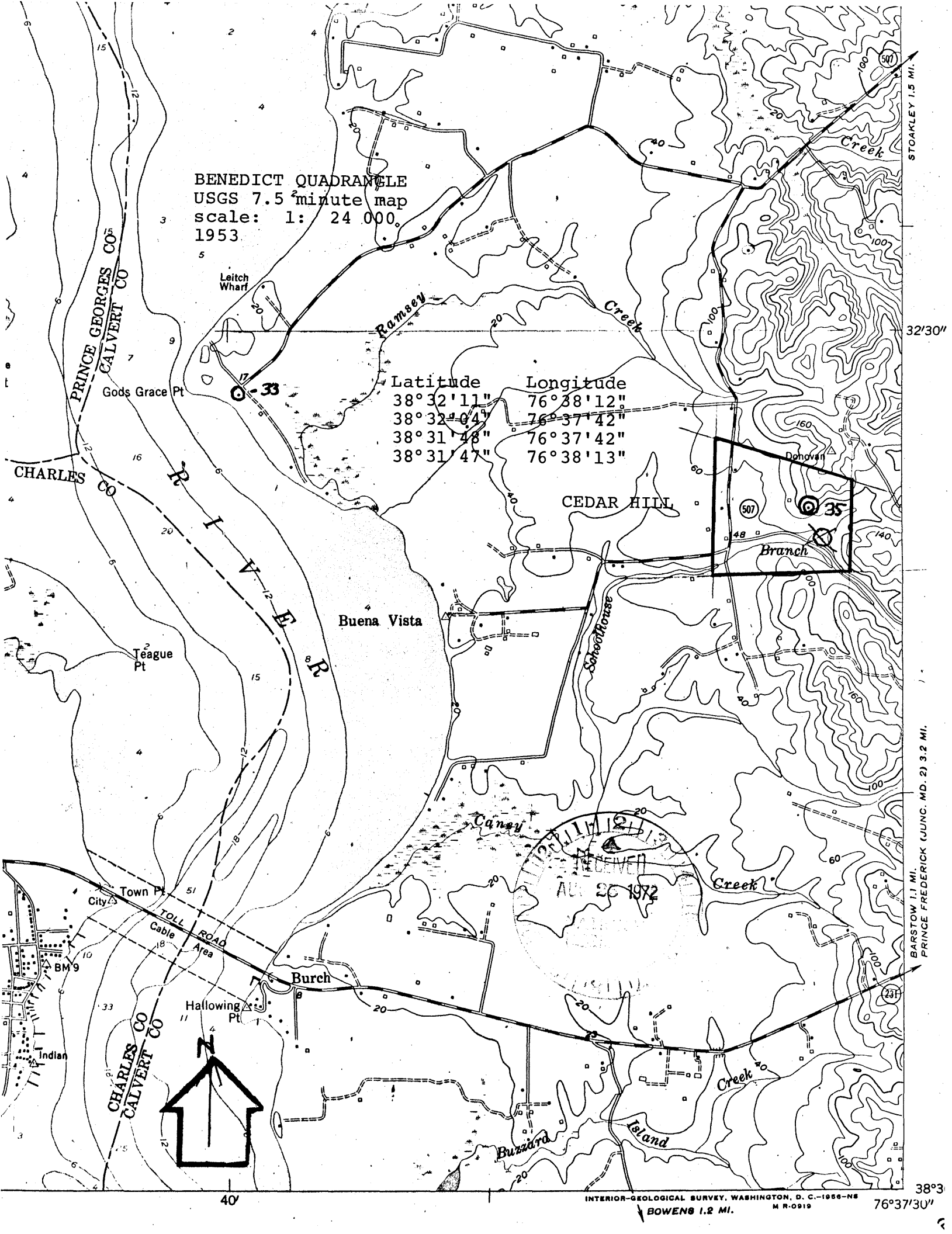
Stein, Charles Francis. History of Calvert County. n.p.: the author and the Calvert County Historical Society, 1960.



BENEDICT QUADRANGLE
 USGS 7.5 minute map
 scale: 1: 24 000.
 1953.

Latitude	Longitude
38° 32' 11"	76° 38' 12"
38° 32' 04"	76° 37' 42"
38° 31' 48"	76° 37' 42"
38° 31' 47"	76° 38' 13"

RECEIVED
 AUG 20 1972
 U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



STOKLEY 1.5 MI.

32°30'

BARSTOW 1.1 MI.
 PRINCE FREDERICK (UNCL. MD. 2) 3.2 MI.

38°3'

76°37'30"

40'