

THOMAS STONE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE LA PLATA, MARYLAND

Summary Report

of

Additional Research Findings

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February, 1993





INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the results of a research project initiated in June 1992 and concluded in January 1993. The purpose of this research was to supplement the existing Historic Structures Report (1987) and the Historic Resource Study (1988) with additional historical and architectural documentation to provide as firm a foundation as possible for development of the Cultural Landscape Study and Strategic Plan for the Thomas Stone National Historic Site.

The Scope of Work for this project called for additional documentary research on the following topics and sub-topics:

- A. History and use of the land comprising the Thomas Stone Site during its period of ownership by the Stone family, including land history, agricultural use, slaves and tenants, and identification of former agricultural and ancillary domestic support buildings and related features.
- B. History and evolution of the main house, including the house in a local architectural context, local and regional architectural precedents, identification of builders and craftsmen, materials relating to the building's architecture and use, biographical data on descending owners/occupants, 1770-1936, the history of furnishings and room usage during the Stone family's ownership, and additional photographic documentation.

Due to budgetary and scheduling considerations, this research was limited to investigation of documentary materials in various archival collections in Maryland and Washington, D.C., principally those of the Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, the Maryland State Archives-Hall of Records, Annapolis, the Charles County Courthouse and the Southern Maryland Studies Center, both La Plata, and the Library of Congress. A number of smaller public and private manuscript collections were also reviewed.

This project revealed the existence of an extraordinary amount of documentation for the history of ownership and use of the Thomas Stone house and property, far exceeding initial expectations. The Stone Family Papers of the Maryland Historical Society and the extensive manuscript holdings of the Southern Maryland Studies Center proved

especially rich in this regard. In addition, the Center's collections fortunately include microfilm copies of the comparably significant William Briscoe Stone Papers at Duke University. These manuscript collections, together with local court, land and probate records, yielded a considerable amount of important historical data, measurably improving what had previously been known of the history of the Thomas Stone site.

Typed abstracts of the documents collected during the course of this research project have been compiled in a separate volume. Copies of these abstracts and copies of the original documents and other research notes have been deposited with the Southern Maryland Studies Center of the Charles County Community College, La Plata.

Because this research report is to be considered a supplement to the existing Historic Structure Report and Historic Resource Study, the information contained in those reports is not restated except in such instances where correction, revision or expansion was considered appropriate.

NOTE

Throughout this Summary Report the Thomas Stone Site is identified by its historic name, Haberdeventure.

Thomas Stone always used "Haberdeventure" when referring to his Charles County home, as did all descending owners during the 166 years the property remained in the possession of the Stone family.

Except in rare instances (and always by non-family members), the spellings Haber D'Venture or Habre de Venture do not occur until after William Briscoe Stone's death in 1872. His daughter Margaret Graham Stone also used "Haberdeventure" in all of her business transactions and in her 1904 will, though her tombstone reads that she was born and that she died at "Havre de Venture." In 1936, when Michael Robertson Stone's heirs sold the property to Charles Stevenson Smith, the property name was still given as "Haberdeventure." It was only after 1936 that the spelling Habre de Venture came in to common usage.

In view of these facts, and the focus of the restoration and interpretation of the property to the period during which it was owned by the Stone family, use of the alternative spellings of the name Haberdeventure would be inappropriate.

Frequently cited archival repositories and other sources of information are abbreviated in the Endnotes as follows:

ARCHIVAL COLLECTIONS/LOCATIONS:

Annapolis: Maryland State Archives-Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

La Plata: Charles County Courthouse, La Plata, Maryland.

LC: Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

MESDA: Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts, Winston-Salem,

North Carolina.

MHS: Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Maryland.

SMSC: Southern Maryland Studies Center, Charles County Community

College, La Plata, Maryland.

WBS Papers William Briscoe Stone Papers, Perkins Library, Duke University,

Duke University: Durham, North Carolina.

OTHER:

Gentry: Harry Wright Newman, Charles County Gentry (Baltimore:

Geneological Publishing Co., 1971).

Homeplaces: J. Richard Rivoire, Homeplaces: Traditional Domestic

Architecture of Charles County, Maryland (La Plata, Maryland:

Southern Maryland Studies Center, 1990).

HRS: Historic Resource Study, John M. Wearmouth, 1988.

HSR: Historic Structure Report, James T. Wollen, 1987.

Lee: Jean B. Lee, "The Social Order of a Revolutionary People:

Charles County, Maryland, 1733 - 1786" (Ph.D. dissertation,

University of Virginia, 1984).

Papenfuse, et al. Edward C. Papenfuse, et al., A Biographical Dictionary of the

Maryland Legislature, 1635-1789, 2 vols. (Baltimore and London:

The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1979, 1985).

Stones of Povnton

Manor: Harry Wright Newman, Stones of Poynton Manor (Washington,

D.C.: privately published, 1937).

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SECTION I

THE STONE FAMILY OF HABERDEVENTURE

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL PROFILES OF DESCENDING OWNERS/OCCUPANTS, 1770-1936

The complexity of the history of ownership, occupancy, development and use of the Thomas Stone National Historic Site is such that some knowledge of the individual members of the Stone family who lived there and played a part in this history is necessary, regardless of whether or not they actually owned the property.

Thomas Stone and his immediate family occupied Haberdeventure for only about ten years. In 1783 they moved to a house in Annapolis which remained their principal residence until Thomas Stone's death in 1787. During the time that Thomas and his family lived in Annapolis the Haberdeventure plantation was occupied and managed by Thomas Stone's brother, Michael Jenifer Stone, who continued to influence the use and development of the property for some ten years after his brother's death. Between the mid-1770s and 1797 the Stone household at Haberdeventure included other family members who also figured in the history of the property although, like Michael Stone, they did not possess privileges of ownership.

William Briscoe Stone, the son of Michael Jenifer Stone, purchased Haberdeventure from Thomas Stone's daughter in 1831, but had been occupying the house since the early 1820s, possibly as early as 1821. It was William B. Stone and his father who actually had the most measurable impact on the architectural evolution of the surviving historic house during the 166 years it descended in the ownership of the Stone family.

I.1. THOMAS STONE:

Born in 1743, Thomas was the son of David and Elizabeth (Jenifer) Stone. David Stone, (1709-1773), was a great-grandson of Governor William Stone, (ca. 1603-ca.1659/60), and maintained his dwelling plantation near Nanjemoy Creek, Charles County, on part of Poynton Manor, a 5,000-acre tract originally granted to Governor Stone in 1654. Elizabeth (Jenifer) Stone, (ca. 1719-by 1778), was a

daughter of Dr. Daniel Jenifer, (ca. 1693-1728).² Dr. Jenifer maintained his seat at His Excellency's Gift, the inherited plantation of his second wife, the former Elizabeth (Mason) Rogers, which was located about one mile southwest of Haberdeventure.³ Elizabeth Stone's brothers were statesman Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, (1723-1790), and Daniel Jenifer, (ca. 1725-1795), an affluent Port Tobacco merchant.⁴ David Stone's first wife was a daughter of Samuel Hanson, (ca. 1685-1740), a brother of Robert Hanson, (ca. 1680-1748), who figured in the early history of Haberdeventure and whose plantation, Betty's Delight, bordered that land to the south.⁵ By this marriage David had two sons, David and Samuel, and two daughters, Mary and Anne.⁶ By his marriage to Elizabeth Jenifer, David fathered five sons, Thomas, Michael Jenifer Stone, John Hoskins Stone, Frederick Stone, Daniel Jenifer Stone and Walter Stone, and three daughters, Grace Stone, Elizabeth Anne (Betty Anne) Stone who married Townshend Eden, and Catherine Stone who married Robert Scott.⁷

Thomas Stone is said to have received his education in county schools and later to have studied law under Thomas Johnson of Annapolis.⁵ In 1765 Stone was admitted to the courts of Baltimore, Frederick and Prince George's counties, Maryland, and the Mayor's Court of Annapolis. The following year he was admitted to the Charles County Court and then, in 1768, the Provincial Court.⁵

It was probably about the time he began practicing law in Charles County that Thomas Stone married Margaret Brown, daughter of Dr. Gustavus Brown of "Rich Hill," a Scotsman who settled in Charles County in 1708. Margaret was the youngest of Dr. Brown's 14 known children and was unmarried at the time of her father's death in 1762.

Although both Thomas Stone and his wife Margaret were associated with prominent local families, Margaret's background differed in that her father possessed considerable wealth and amply provided for the education and personal welfare of all of his children. His will, in which he styled himself as a "Practitioner in Medicine and Laird of Mainside and the House of Byers, Roxbury, Scotland," devised to his (second) wife, Margaret, his Durham Parish plantation, Middleton, for "her support & maintenance & the support & maintenance of my two Children by her named Gustavus Richard Brown and

Margaret Brown."¹² After the mother's death or marriage the plantation and "the negroes and their increase & other Chattles [at Middleton]" were to pass to son Gustavus Richard, but if Gustavus Richard died in his minority the plantation was to continue to be maintained and the profits applied toward Margaret's support "until the Day of her marriage or arrival to the age of twenty four." Dr. Brown also bequeathed to his daughter the sum of £300 sterling "out of the sums due me in Scotland," the money to be invested "on Heritable security" and the "increase arising yearly" to be used for her education and support "until she arrives to the age of twenty five years or marriage." Dr. Brown stipulated that "my Daughter Margaret Brown be brought up and educated at the Discretion of my wife and my Daughter Frances Moncure or if my said wife should marry again or dye the said Margaret to live and remain with her said sister Mrs. Moncure."¹³ In a codicil to his will, Dr. Brown made a further bequest to his daughter of "my negro wench Eleanor or Nell...and the child she had since she was in my possession and all her increase."¹⁴

It is traditionally said that Thomas Stone's 1770 purchase of the Haberdeventure-Hansons Plains tract on which he established his Charles County seat was made possible by a £1,000 dowry Dr. Brown left to his daughter in his will. Dr. Brown's will makes no such provision. He did, however, bequeath to Margaret's brother, Gustavus Richard Brown, the sum of £1,000 sterling, with the condition that if Gustavus Richard should die in his minority the £1,000 to "go & be Divided in equal parts amongst all of my Daughters who may be living at the time of his death." If Margaret contributed her own money toward the £400 sterling purchase price of the Haberdeventure land it may have derived from the £300 sterling her father requested be invested until her marriage or attaining age 25. Other evidence suggests that Thomas and Margaret Stone were assisted in the purchase of Haberdeventure and subsequent land acquisitions by Margaret's brother, Dr. Gustavus Richard Brown (see Section II: Land Ownership History).

Thomas and Margaret Stone are thought to have been occupying their new home at Haberdeventure by 1773, by which time Margaret had given birth to a daughter, Margaret, born in 1771, followed by another daughter, Mildred, born in 1773, and a son, Frederick, born in 1774. Thomas's public career began the following year and rapidly gained momentum throughout the late 1770s,

necessitating extended absences from his home and family.19

In 1776 Margaret Stone received an inoculation for smallpox to which she had a severe reaction, the effects of which remained with her throughout the rest of her life.²⁰ His wife's poor health and the difficulties in managing his affairs in absentia undoubtedly influenced Thomas Stone's decision to decline acceptance of an appointment as a Delegate to the Continental Congress in February 1777: "...Having been for the two years past totally engaged in publick Business my private affairs now call for some Attention and will for the present year require all the Duty of a Senator will allow me to put them in a Condition to afford a tolerable support to my family."²¹

By this date the Haberdeventure household included Thomas and Margaret, their three children, Thomas Stone's two younger brothers, Walter and Michael Jenifer Stone, three of Thomas Stone's sisters, Grace, Elizabeth Eden and Catherine Scott, and Catherine's son, Alexander.²² Seven adults and four children occupying a house containing no more than four principal living spaces was undoubtedly cause for occasional strained relationships, though such extended families residing together was not uncommon, and all of the adults occupying Haberdeventure had themselves grown up in similar circumstances.23

In 1783 Thomas Stone purchased a large house in Annapolis from his uncle, Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, and moved there with his wife and children.²⁴ His house at Haberdeventure, however, continued to be occupied by his sisters and brothers, and possibly other family members as well.²⁵ Stone spent most of his time in Annapolis from that time forward, turning over his local business affairs to his brother Walter and management of the Haberdeventure plantation to his other brother, Michael Jenifer Stone.²⁶

Although Thomas Stone had moved his family to Annapolis he remained a leading "presence" in Charles County which he continued to consider his home. His real estate holdings adjoining the old port town and county seat, Port Tobacco (then known as Charles Town), and the town's convenient proximity to his Haberdeventure plantation no doubt led him to take an active interest in maintaining the county seat in that location when, in 1783, its removal to a new

site at the mouth of Port Tobacco River was being considered. On December 9 of that year Stone wrote his uncle, Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, then Intendent of the Revenue:

" - I am informed the Petition for removing our Court house to Chappel point is shortly to be discussed in the Assembly. the scheme appears to Me to absurd and unjust....the people of the Town have so negligently managed that the Petitioners will have every advantage & I am informed Ridgate had a Remonstrance signed by many respectable Inhabitants which he has put where it can't be found - It is very certain Portobacco is more in the Center of the County and therefore more convenient for the people to attend Court than Chappel point - There is already a Court house at Port° which might be made good with a little Repairing - there is a Protestant Church convenient for the Inhabitants. Many people upon the faith of the Courthouse being continued where it is have built houses & bought property in Portobacco which will be exceedingly lessened in Value by removing the Court house - People are at present well accommodated at Port^o & it is at the meeting of all the Main Roads of County - It is impossible that there can be a Town of any Consequence at Chappel point because there is no Subject to export which will bring any considerable trade & because there is no reason to expect Manufacturers to settle there -- about 800 hogsheads of Tobacco & not one Ship load of Wheat is all which will be exported unless people from distant parts bring these Commodities to the new Town merely for the sake of incurring an expense in favor of it. the same quantity of Goods will be sold at the New Town which are now sold at Port° provided all the houses in the latter are burned down. for while they remain I apprehend it being a more convenient place for people to come to than the new Town. that the trade will be carried on at Port & there will only be a Court house & perhaps a Tavern & one Shop at Chappel Point. the division will hurt both - add to this We are to be taxed for building a Court house with our other burthens & all this merely to answer the Convenience of a few to whom the point is more convenient than the present Town......ⁿ²⁷

Margaret (Brown) Stone, whose health steadily declined through the 1780s, died in June 1787. Thomas died several months later. Both were interred at the Haberdeventure estate.

Thomas and Margaret were survived by their three children. Their son, Frederick, who attended Princeton, died intestate in Philadelphia in 1793.²⁰ The two daughters, Margaret and Mildred, may have lived at Haberdeventure with their aunts and uncles following the death of their parents, or possibly with their mother's brother, Dr. Brown, at neighboring Rose Hill.²⁰ In 1793, a few months before Margaret's marriage to Dr. John Moncure Daniel, the two sisters made a verbal agreement dividing their inherited estate between them. By this agreement Mildred Stone assumed sole ownership of the home plantation, Haberdeventure, and Margaret the plantation called Plenty and remaining lands.³⁰

I.1.a MICHAEL JENIFER STONE:

Born in 1747, Michael Jenifer Stone was a younger brother of Thomas Stone and pursued a similar career in law and politics. In 1780 he was elected to the Lower House of the Assembly from Charles County and served until 1783 when his brother Thomas moved to Annapolis. In 1789 he was elected to the United States Congress and two years later was appointed Chief Judge of the 1st Judicial District of Maryland, a position he maintained until 1802.

Michael Jenifer Stone apparently began living at Haberdeventure not long after his brother purchased the land in 1770, was still living there at the time of Thomas Stone's death in 1787, and is believed to have continued to make Haberdeventure his principal residence until about 1797.4

It can be argued that from the early 1770s until Thomas Stone's death in 1787 Haberdeventure was much more the home - and the daily responsibility - of Michael Jenifer Stone than it ever was his brother's. Indeed, records show that Michael began assuming responsibility for the management of Thomas Stone's home plantation off and on beginning as early as 1774.⁵ Following the move of Thomas Stone and his family to Annapolis, Michael lived at Haberdeventure "rent free" in exchange for managing the plantation and caring for his three sisters and a young nephew, Alexander Scott, who also made Haberdeventure their home.⁶

In his will, Thomas Stone appointed Michael Jenifer Stone guardian of his son, Frederick, and stipulated that he, Michael, "shall have a right to live at the house of Haberdeventure & use the garden, orchards & land he now uses without accounting to Frederick for the same."⁷

Documents relating to the administration of Thomas Stone's estate indicate that Michael continued to manage his late brother's properties and maintain his home at Haberdeventure until after the marriage of his two nieces, Margaret and Mildred Stone.⁸ According to a record of his marriage and the births of his children said to have been written by Michael Jenifer Stone, he married Mary (Polly) Hanson Briscoe on March 28, 1793. Their first child, Frederick Daniel Stone, was born on March 22, 1794. Those named as being present at these two events suggests that both the wedding and the birth of their child occurred at Haberdeventure.⁹ By 1797 Michael Stone had established his residence at "Equality," located several miles southeast of Haberdeventure, where he was living at the time of his death in 1812.¹⁰

I.1.b. WALTER STONE

The youngest of Thomas Stone's brothers, Walter is said to have lived with the Thomas Stone family off and on from the early 1770s until about the time of Thomas Stone's death in 1787. When, in the mid-1780s, Walter established himself as a merchant-in-trade with their elder brother, John Hoskins Stone, Thomas Stone turned over to him the management of his Charles County business affairs.

Walter Stone, to whom Thomas Stone seems to have been particularly attached, never married.³ He died in 1791 while at Sweet Springs, Boutecourt County, Virginia.⁴ His will is of interest for his expressions of sentiment toward his family: "If I had been possessed of a large Estate it would have given me much pleasure to have bequeathed it to my relations because knowing their honest worth I am satisfied they would have made good use of it."⁵

Walter's will included modest bequests to his sisters Catherine Scott and Betty Anne Eden, a gold watch to his "most dear and affectionate niece Margaret Stone," and to his "very dear" niece, Mildred Stone, "a gold locket or bracelet" to be purchased for her out of his estate." Walter named his sister Grace Stone residual heir, but if Grace predeceased him or died intestate then all that she inherited was to pass to his niece Margaret Stone.⁶

Shortly before his death Walter wrote a letter addressed to his brother Michael J. Stone at Haberdeventure requesting that "after my man Henley has served you six years I manumit & forever release him from slavery."

I.1.c. GRACE STONE:

Documentary evidence indicates that Grace Stone, the spinster sister of Thomas Stone, began living at Haberdeventure by the early 1770s, quite possibly when Thomas Stone moved his family into the newly completed house.1 Accounts of income and expenses relating to Haberdventure for the period 1773-1781 contain numerous entries for moneys given to or bills paid on behalf of Grace Stone.² In 1783 Grace wrote to her brother Walter expressing regret at his absence since "quitting Haberdeventure." An accounting of medical charges from Brown and Waring, Port Tobacco, itemizes charges for medicines and attendance on several slaves at Haberdeventure belonging to Grace Stone in 1791 and 1792.4 Grace Stone also witnessed the marriage of her brother Michael Jenifer and Mary (Briscoe) Stone in 1793 and the birth of their daughter Mary Ann in 1796, both of which are believed to have occurred at Haberdeventure.⁵ It is suspected, though not known with certainty, that Grace Stone remained at Haberdeventure until her death in 1808.⁶ If not, then she was most likely residing with her brother Michael and his family at "Equality" following their move to that place ca. 1797.⁷

I.1.d. CATHERINE (STONE) SCOTT:

Among the most interesting and informative documents relating to the Stone family household at Haberdeventure during the 1770s and 1780s are depositions filed in 1802 in response to a Bill of Complaint brought against Thomas Stone's heirs by Catherine Scott's son, Alexander.¹

Alexander Scott alleged that his mother, who died intestate in 1801, was owed certain moneys by Thomas Stone during his lifetime that were never paid.² In a responding Plea and Answer filed by Margaret Daniel, Mildred Daniel and Michael Jenifer Stone, it was stated that Catherine "came to the house of [Thomas] Stone [in 1775] a mourning and almost destitute widow - weak in body and affected with an habitual asthma and deeply distressed with the loss of her husband [Robert Scott] who had gone to Sea and was never more heard of ... " The Daniels and Michael Stone further testified that Catherine, accompanied "by the complaintant, then a very small boy, two servants and one horse...was received with affection into the family of the said Stone [and was] supported in ease and comfort, nursed in sickness and indulged in her eccentricities." The respondents further claimed that during this period Thomas Stone was "poor, with a wife and three children of his own, also two younger brothers, Michael J. Stone and Walter Stone, and two sisters, the late Mrs. Elizabeth [Betty Anne] Eden and Miss Grace Stone who lived with him and were almost solely dependent on him for support." depositions conclude with lengthy discussion of the financial hardships suffered by Thomas Stone as a result of his sacrifices to public service and the unstable economic conditions "of a struggling country" during the Revolutionary War.

It is inferred in these depositions that Catherine Scott continued to live at

Haberdeventure following Thomas Stone's death.³ This is also suggested by Thomas Stone's will in which he bequeathed to his sister "Mrs. Scott" the sum of £15 annually until her son Alexander came of age.⁴

Alexander Scott had attained majority by 1798 inasmuch as in that year he "imported" seven slaves to Charles County from Virginia.⁵ It is not known if Catherine was still living at Haberdeventure at the time of her death. She may have resided with her son, who is thought to have been living in Port Tobacco at that time.

I.1.e. ELIZABETH (STONE) EDEN:

Little is presently known about Thomas Stone's sister, Elizabeth (Betty Anne) Eden. Her husband, Townshend Eden, was deceased by 1785 and his estate was administered by Walter Stone.¹ According to the 1802 Chancery Court case discussed above, "Mrs. Elizabeth Eden" was living at Haberdeventure between 1775 and 1780.² Betty Anne, as she was generally known, was not a beneficiary of the will of her brother, Thomas. She was, however, bequeathed sums of money and personalty in the 1791 will of her brother Walter.³ The record of Michael J. Stone's 1793 marriage lists a "Mrs. Eden" as having been among those in attendance.⁴ A document dated 1795 lists an assortment of livestock, furniture and other items "Michael J. Stone retained of the Chattells of Mrs. Betty Eden, Decd.n5

I.2. MILDRED (STONE) DANIEL:

The youngest child and second daughter of Thomas and Margaret Stone, Mildred was born in 1773, presumably at Haberdeventure.¹ In 1783 she moved with her parents, brother and sister to Annapolis where they lived until her mother's death in June 1787.² Mildred and Margaret probably both remained at Haberdeventure after their mother died, their father apparently being physically and emotionally unable to assume sole responsibility for their care.³ Between the time their mother died and the death of their father only four months later, Mildred and Margaret were undoubtedly looked after by their

uncles Michael Jenifer Stone and Dr. Gustavus R. Brown, and their aunts Grace and Catherine. Whether the girls continued to live at Haberdeventure after their father died is not known. According to a comment on Thomas Stone's death contained in a contemporary letter written by Port Tobacco merchant Robert Fergusson, they were "to live with Dr. Brown." 5

Mildred and her sister were well provided for under the terms of their father's will, though his numerous debts and the extended time it took to settle the estate left them with less ready cash than it did other assets. Thomas Stone's will named as his principal heir his only son Frederick. When Frederick died intestate in Philadelphia of yellow fever in 1793, all of the Stone estate, including land and personalty, passed directly to Mildred and Margaret. Almost immediately after their brother's death the sisters made an agreement whereby Mildred Stone assumed full possession of that part of their father's estate known as Haberdeventure, and Margaret all other lands.

According to the records of the Daniel family, Mildred Stone married her cousin, Travers Daniel, Jr. of Stafford County, Virginia, on July 15, 1791.¹⁰ On December 15, 1793, at Haberdeventure, Margaret married Travers Daniel's brother, Dr. John Moncure Daniel.¹¹

From various records associated with the Thomas Stone estate, and entries in the 1798 Federal Direct Tax lists for Charles County, it appears that Dr. John Moncure Daniel made his home with Margaret at Haberdeventure and took over management of the properties she held as a result of the earlier division of the Stone estate between the two sisters. Following her marriage to Travers Daniel, Jr., Mildred evidently moved to Stafford, Virginia, while Margaret and Dr. John Daniel remained at Haberdeventure, where they are known to have been living in 1798. Margaret and her husband eventually moved to Virginia, where Margaret died in 1809 and her husband in 1813. 13

After her marriage and move to Virginia, Mildred Stone Daniel evidently never returned to Haberdeventure to live and leased the lands to tenants. ¹⁴ By the early 1820s the house was occupied by her cousin, William Briscoe Stone. In 1831 Mildred Stone Daniel sold the Haberdeventure estate in five parcels to her cousins William B. Stone and Gustavus Brown. ¹⁵ These conveyances ended

the ownership of Haberdeventure by Thomas Stone's lineal heirs. Mildred Stone Daniel, who was predeceased by her husband, died at her home near Stafford, Virginia, in 1837.¹⁰

I.3. WILLIAM BRISCOE STONE:

The second son of Thomas Stone's brother, Michael Jenifer Stone, William Briscoe Stone was born April 13, 1797, possibly at Haberdeventure but just as likely at "Equality" where his parents are known to have been living by November of that year.¹

Like his father and his uncles, William was educated in law and in 1818 commenced practice in Port Tobacco.² By August 1821, William B. Stone was representing Mildred Daniel and the heirs of Margaret Daniel in their local legal affairs, and by 1824 had taken up residence at Haberdeventure.³ It appears that William's occupancy of the former home of Thomas Stone - and that of his father, Michael Jenifer Stone - may have been by an arrangement whereby William managed the estate in exchange for its rent.⁴ By the time he moved to Haberdeventure the house was in need of considerable repair, suggesting that it had been vacant for an extended period of time or else had been occupied by tenants indifferent to its physical decline.⁵

In 1825 William Briscoe Stone married Sarah Anne Caroline Brown, daughter of Gustavus Brown and granddaughter of Dr. Gustavus Richard Brown of Rose Hill, the brother of Margaret (Brown) Stone.⁶ About the time of their marriage, Caroline (Brown) Stone's father was renting a portion of the Haberdeventure estate.⁷ In 1831, William B. Stone and his father-in-law purchased separate parcels of the then recently resurveyed and divided Haberdeventure tract.⁶ The part of Haberdeventure purchased by Brown, lying on the west side of Hog Hole Run and on which he built a large, Federal-style frame house, was renamed Palmoine, while Stone's share, on which the Thomas Stone house and most of the significant improvements existed, continued to be known by the name Haberdeventure.

William Briscoe Stone continued to practice law, but had apparently relocated his office from Port Tobacco to Haberdeventure by the mid-1830s. The first of

William and Caroline's children, Margaret Graham Stone, was born at Haberdeventure in 1827.¹⁰ Margaret never married and lived at Haberdeventure throughout her life. Their second child, a son they named Thomas, was born in 1829.¹¹ Thomas married Betty Edelen, daughter of John and Eleanor (Dent) Edelen, and lived on Betty's inherited estate, Ellenborough, near Popes Creek.¹² Thomas and Betty (Edelen) Stone were the parents of Michael Robertson Stone, the last Stone owner of Haberdeventure. William and Caroline's third child, Mary, was born in 1830 and in 1858 married John Grant Chapman.¹³ The youngest child, named Caroline, was born in 1841. She died in 1850 and was interred at Haberdeventure.¹⁴

William B. Stone was by his own definition a "country lawyer." His writings, particularly his letters to his wife and children, reveal him to have been far more concerned with his home and his family than achieving public recognition in law or politics. His first venture into the political arena seems to have occurred in 1840 when "the friends of the present Administration of the general government of the United States" elected him a Charles County delegate to a Whig convention in Baltimore. In 1844, with the sponsorship of his politically influential friend and colleague, Walter H. J. Mitchell, he was appointed Chief Judge of Maryland's 1st Judicial District, a position previously held by his father, Michael Jenifer Stone. In 1846, however, his appointment was rescinded through the efforts of his political opponents. Stone then returned to private practice, but in 1855 was elected to the Maryland Legislature. He served only one term and then retired altogether from politics and the practice of law.

William Briscoe Stone died at Haberdeventure "of a brain disorder" on December 1, 1872.²² His wife Caroline died the following March.²³ Both were interred at Haberdeventure. In accordance with the terms of Stone's will, sole ownership of Haberdeventure passed to his daughter, Margaret Graham Stone.²⁴

I.4. MARGARET GRAHAM STONE:

Born at Haberdeventure in 1827 and the eldest child of William Briscoe and Sarah Anne Caroline (Brown) Stone, Margaret was clearly her parents' favored

child.¹ This may be as much due to the fact that she was eldest as it was because she was afflicted with an arthritic or rheumatic condition that remained with her throughout her life.²

It is readily apparent from surviving letters and other papers associated with the William Briscoe Stone family that Margaret assumed a managerial role in her parents' affairs long before their health began declining in the 1860s, and in the years before her father's death was solely responsible for the management of Haberdeventure.³

Following her parents' deaths Margaret capably handled the running of the farm, a doubtlessly arduous task given the severely depressed economic climate that then existed in Charles County as a result of the Civil War.⁴ She was even able to maintain the house at a time when most other landmark buildings in the county, including Rose Hill, were falling to ruin.⁵ Around 1900, however, Margaret's health began to deteriorate and the house and land entered a period of decline.⁶ By this time Margaret was inhabiting only the main part of the house and the west hyphen, which she had converted to a kitchen. The west wing (and possibly the east wing as well) had long before been given over to tenants who farmed the property.⁷

Margaret G. Stone died at Haberdeventure on February 2, 1913, and was the last of the Stone family to be buried there. Her will, written in 1904, devised the Haberdeventure estate to her nephew, Michael Robertson Stone, while most of her livestock and many household furnishings were bequeathed to other family members and her long-time servant, Maria Miles.

I.5. MICHAEL ROBERTSON STONE:

Born in 1866 at Ellenborough, Popes Creek, Charles County, Michael Robertson Stone was the son of Thomas and Betty (Edelen) Stone and a grandson of William Briscoe Stone.¹ He is said to have lived at Ellenborough until moving to Haberdeventure in 1913.²

The last member of the Stone family to own Haberdeventure, Michael R. Stone did not pursue a career in law or politics. He was instead a professional

educator, first as a teacher in the local school system.³ When he moved to Haberdeventure he taught in a one-room school located about three miles from his new home and which was attended by most of his children.⁴ Later, he served 12 years as Superintendent of Charles County Schools, then resumed teaching and retired in about 1927.⁵ In 1909, Stone married Bessie Louise Gough whose family lived in the Trinity Church-Newport area of Charles County.⁶ Five of their seven children were born at Haberdeventure.⁷

Michael R. Stone died at Haberdeventure on Christmas Eve, 1932.⁸ His will, written in 1914, left one-third of all his real and personal estate to his wife and the balance in trust for the use and benefit of his surviving children.⁹ His widow and several of their children continued to live at Haberdeventure until 1936 when the property was sold to Charles Stevenson Smith.¹⁰

ENDNOTES TO SECTION I:

- 1. Papenfuse, et al., II:766, 788; Stones of Poynton Manor: 8, 20-21. J. Richard Rivoire Collection, Series II: Gunston and Poynton Manor files, SMSC.
- 2. Ibid. Rivoire Collection, Series IV: The Jenifers and Coates Retirement.
- 3. Ibid. Elizabeth was given an unconditional estate in His Excellency's Gift by her first husband, an affluent Port Tobacco merchant. The plantation was highly developed, with a large dwelling and numerous dependencies.
- 4. Ibid.
- 5. Papenfuse, et al., I:406, 407. Gentry: 221-229. See also Sections II and VI:1.
- 6. Papenfuse, et al., II:784-788.
- 7. Ibid. Stones of Poynton Manor: 20-21. Thomas Stone's brother, John Hoskins Stone, lived in Annapolis. He held many important public offices, including Governor of Maryland, 1794-1797. The Stone Family Papers, MHS, contain a number of letters he wrote to his brother Walter concerning their brother Thomas's financial affairs.
- 8. Papenfuse, et al., II:787.
- 9. Ibid. Alan F. Day, A Social Study of Lawyers in Maryland, 1660-1775 (New York and London: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1989), pp. 640-641. Stone's political career is extensively discussed in Part I of the HRS.
- 10. Harry Wright Newman Collection, SMSC. Sigismunda Chapman, Alexander, Brown, Chapman and Associated Families (Richmond, Virginia: Dietz Publishing Company, 1946). In Robert G. Stewart's Robert Edge Pine: A British Portrait Painter in America, 1784-1788 (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1979), it is stated that Thomas and Margaret Stone married in 1768 in Frederick, Maryland (p. 89).
- 11. Ibid. Wills, AD#5:219, La Plata. Papenfuse, et al., II:487. Brown's first wife was Frances Fowke, who died in 1744. His second wife was the widow Margaret (Black) Boyd.
- 12. Wills, AD#5:219. Brown's Middleton plantation, where he first settled before moving to "Rich Hill," was located in the Nanjemoy area, not far from Poynton Manor.
- 13. Margaret (Brown) Stone's elder half-sister, Frances, married Dr. John Moncure of Stafford County, Virginia. Their daughter, Frances Moncure, married Travers Daniel and had two sons, Dr. John Moncure Daniel and Travers Daniel, Jr., respective husbands of Margaret and Mildred (Stone) Daniel.
- 14. Wills, AD#5:221, La Plata.

- 15. Papenfuse, et al., II:788. HRS, Part 2:6. Stones of Poynton Manor: 27.
- 16. Wills, AD#5:219, La Plata.
- 17. Ibid.
- 18. Papenfuse, et al., II:787: Stones of Poynton Manor: 27: Daniel Family Bible Records, Harry Wright Newman Collection, SMSC. HRS, Parts 1 and 2.
- 19. Papenfuse, et al., II:786-788. Lee: 322-323. WBS Papers, *Duke University*. Stone Family Papers, *MHS*. HRS, Part 1.
- 20. Papenfuse, et al., II:787. HRS, Part 1.
- 21. Etting Papers, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa. (Photocopy in the Jean B. Lee Collection, SMSC.)
- 22. Chancery Papers, 4647, *Annapolis*. Lee: 144, 146-147. Stone Family Papers, *MHS*.
- 23. Lee: 146-147. Papenfuse, et al., II:786. Stones of Poynton Manor: 20-21. (See also Note 11 above.)
- 24. HRS, Part 1:44.
- 25. Chancery Papers, 4647, Annapolis, Lee: 146-147.
- 26. Lee: 145-146. HRS, Part 1. Stone Family Papers, MHS.
- 27. Bamberger Collection, New Jersey Historical Society. (Photocopy in Jean B. Lee Collection, SMSC.)
- 28. Papenfuse, et al., II:787. Frederick's grave has never been found, nor any record of his burial. Some historians believe his body may have been returned to Haberdeventure. Most histories say Frederick died in Princeton, but the Daniel Bible Records say Philadelphia.
- 29. Glassford & Company Ledgers, #123:121, LC. Interestingly, Stone did not appoint a guardian for his daughters in his will.
- 30. See Sections I:1.2 and II.

I.1.a.

- 1. Papenfuse, et al., II:785-786.
- Ibid.
- 3. Ibid.
- 4. Chancery Papers, 4647, Annapolis. Lee: 146-147. See Sections I:1.2, II and VII. While Michael Stone is believed to have made Haberdeventure his principal "home," he did not always reside in the house. For example,

in March 1782 he wrote his brother Walter "I live where I did last year having procured the Houses by an extravagant price." His letter was headed "Theobalds Hill," as was another letter he wrote Walter in April the following year (both Stone Family Papers, MHS). It is very likely that "Theobalds Hill" was the house and property formerly occupied by attorney James Key and purchased by Michael's uncle, Dr. Gustavus Brown, in 1778 (see Section II, Note 16).

- 5. WBS Papers, *Duke University*. Michael Jenifer Stone Account Book, Kremer Collection, *SMSC*. Stone Family Papers, *MHS*.
- 6. Chancery Papers, 4647.
- 7. Wills, AH#9:459, La Plata, (Appendix 3).
- 8. WBS Papers, Duke University. Stone Family Papers, MHS. Kremer Collection, SMSC. Orphans' Court Proceedings, 1791-1796: 22; 1797-1799: 10, 45, 85, 442, 464, La Plata.
- 9. Kremer Collection, SMSC. Michael J. Stone was 46 years old when he married Polly Briscoe. It is possible that he had been previously married although no evidence of this has been found among the Stone family records. He clearly was not married in 1786 when his brother John Hoskins Stone, in a letter to Walter Stone, quipped: "...it is said that Michael is about to be married to one of the Miss Grahames. This I can't credit as they are as Ugly as Sin itself and as poor as Job Michael has been so much with old Mr. [Daniel] Jenifer and his sons and has contracted so much of their way of thinking and acting that I fear it will stick by him. Few men change for the better after they are 30 years of Age I hope he will be one of the few exceptions to this rule as I really think there is great reason to wish for a change" (Stone Family Papers, MHS). Michael and Mary (Briscoe) Stone had five children: Frederick Daniel Stone, born in 1794; Mary Ann Stone, born in 1796; William Briscoe Stone, born in 1798; Elizabeth Jenifer Stone, born in 1800; Eleanor Stone, born in 1803 (Kremer Collection, SMSC).
- 10. This is based on a November 9, 1797 letter written by Michael Jenifer Stone headed "Equality" (WBS Papers, *Duke University*).

1.1.b.

- 1. Chancery Papers, 4647, Annapolis. Lee: 145-146. WBS Papers, Duke University.
- 2. Lee: 146-147. HRS, Part 1.
- 3. Stone Family Papers, MHS. Harry Wright Newman Collection, SMSC.
- 4. Wills, AK#11:47, La Plata. In a ca. 1790 list of questions concerning Haberdeventure signed by Michael Jenifer Stone and thought to have been addressed to Walter Stone, inquiry is made of potential "marriages...respecting Peggy [Margaret], Grace, Milly [Mildred] & yourself" (Stone Family of Maryland Papers, LC).

- 5. Ibid.
- 6. Ibid.
- 7. Ibid. Henley was manumitted by Michael Stone in 1798 (Deeds, IB#2:281, La Plata).

1.1.c.

- 1. Chancery Papers, 4647, Annapolis.
- 2. Michael Jenifer Stone Account Book, Kremer Collection, SMSC.
- 3. Stone Family Papers, MHS.
- 4. WBS Papers, Duke University.
- 5. Kremer Collection, SMSC.
- 6. Wills, HB + BH#13:46, 51, La Plata.
- 7. That Grace Stone may have lived her later years at Equality is suggested by the fact that she left all of her estate, including slaves, to Michael Stone's daughters.

I.1.d.

- 1. Chancery Papers, 4647, Annapolis.
- 2. Ibid.
- 3. Ibid. A 1789 letter signed by M. J. Stone and thought to have been written to Walter at Haberdeventure inquires if the "girls" were in need of anything "also Grace and Mrs. [Catherine] Scott...let me know particularly how Betsy [Elizabeth aka Betty] is" (Stone Family of Maryland Papers, LC).
- 4. Wills, AH#9:454, La Plata.
- 5. Deeds, IB2: 292, La Plata.

1.1.e.

- 1. Stones of Poynton Manor. 20-21.
- 2. Chancery Papers, 4647, Annapolis.
- 3. Wills, AK#11:47, La Plata. See also Section I.1.d. Note 3.
- 4. Kremer Collection, SMSC.
- 5. WBS Papers, Duke University.

1.2.

- 1. Harry Wright Newman Collection, Stone and Daniel files, SMSC. HRS, Part 1:9.
- 2. HRS, Part 1: 43-44. It is assumed, based on estate inventories and letters, that the Stones remained in Annapolis until about the time Margaret Stone died.
- 3. HRS, Part 1: 60-62.
- 4. See Section I:1.1.
- 5. Merchant Robert Fergusson, in a letter addressed to George Gray dated October 12, 1787, discusses the death of Thomas Stone in Alexandria "where he had gone to embark on board a vessel for the West Indies, his friends expecting a change of climate and objects would better his health of body and mind. His daughters are to live with Dr. Brown." (Glassford & Company Ledgers, 123:121, LC.)
- 6. This is based on Stone's will and inventories, family correspondence, the administration accounts relating to the Stone estate, and depositions in the Chancery Court Proceedings. See also HRS, Parts 2 and 3.
- 7. Charles County Court Proceedings, 1826-1829: 272-286, La Plata
- 8. Ibid. The agreement was verbal, but attended by witnesses.
- 9. Chancery Papers, 4647, Annapolis. Stone Family Papers, MHS.
- 10. Daniel Family Bible Records, Harry Wright Newman Collection, SMSC. Charles County Court Proceedings, 1826-1829: 272, La Plata. Margaret was the second wife of Dr. John Daniel. Dr. Daniel's first wife, whom he married at St. Johns Church, London, was Maria Nivens. She died in October 1792, just ten months after their marriage.

The Daniel Family Bible contains the following entry: "John Moncure Daniel and Margaret Stone were married on the fifteenth day of December 1793 in the presence of Michael J. Stone, G. R. Brown, Mary Stone, Mildred Stone, Margaret Brown and Elizabeth Brown." The 1791 date given for the marriage of Mildred and Travers Daniel is contradicted by the above entry as well as by an 1821 court case in which it is expressly stated that Margaret and Mildred made their agreement after their brother's death (1793) and "before the marriage either of the said Margaret or Mildred and after they had attained to full age" (Charles County Court Proceedings, 1826-1829: 272, La Plata). The 1794 patent for the tract known as Addition to May Day gives the two sisters as "Margaret Stone and Mildred Daniel" (Patents, IC#G:396 and IC#K:41, Annapolis). In the Stones of Poynton Manor and the HRS, Mildred's date of marriage is given as 1791.

- 11. Daniel Family Bible Records.
- 12. 1798 Federal Direct Tax, Charles County, MHS. In a letter dated January 25, 1796, John M. Daniel was referred to as "a Resident of this County"

- (Kremer Collection, SMSC).
- 13. Daniel Family Bible Records. HRS, Part 2.
- 14. See Sections II, V and VI
- 15. Deeds IB#19:391, La Plata.
- 16. Wills, Deed Book (Wills) LL:92, Stafford County Courthouse, Stafford, Virginia.

1.3.

- 1. See Section I:1.c., Note 7.
- 2. WBS Papers, Duke University.
- 3. Ibid. Charles County Court Proceedings, 1821-1827: 272-286, La Plata. Stone Family Papers, MHS.
- 4. See Sections I and VI.
- 5. See Section VI: VI.2., and Appendix 6.
- 6. Stones of Poynton Manor: 35-36. Caroline's father, a physician, was the eldest son of Dr. Gustavus Richard Brown of Rose Hill (d. 1804). He died at Palmoine in 1841. Caroline's mother, Sarah (Fowke) Brown, died at Palmoine in 1849. Her will manumitted six slaves and made provision for their maintenance "should any of [them] from old age or sickness become unable or disqualified to support themselves." Caroline's sister was Catherine Cooksey and her brothers Frederick S. and Dr. Catsby Graham Brown (d. 1858). Caroline Stone's parents were buried at Haberdeventure. Sarah Brown's will provided her son Catsby money to "purchase two tombstones (not head and foot stones merely) to be placed over the graves of my late dear husband Gustavus Brown and myself." (Wills, DJ#16:231, 493, and JS#17:232, La Plata.)
- 7. See Sections II, IV and V.
- 8. Deeds, IB#19, 391, La Plata.
- 9. After about 1834 many of William B. Stone's personal and business letters are noted as having been written at Haberdeventure (WBS Papers, *Duke University*, Stone Family Papers, *MHS*, and Louise Stone Matthews Collection, *SMSC*).
- 10. *Times-Crescent*, February 7, 1913. See Section I:1.4.
- 11. Stones of Poynton Manor: 35.
- 12. Betty (Eleanor) Edelen was the daughter of John Edelen, a prominent Port Tobacco merchant who, in 1831, was elected *President Pro Tem* of the Maryland Senate. Their home, Ellenborough, still stands, and is arguably

- one of the finest surviving examples of late-Federal architecture in Charles County (See *Homeplaces*, pp. 166-172). There are several remarkable letters exchanged between Betty (Edelen) Stone and her Haberdeventure in-laws in the Louise Stone Matthews Collection, *SMSC*.
- 13. The Stone-Chapman wedding, thought to have been held at Haberdeventure, was the social "event" of the season, "the bride did not look very pretty but was very composed. The groom was very much frightened and almost as white as the wall." (Gen. Walter H. J. Mitchell Collection, SMSC.
- 14. From Caroline's tombstone in the Haberdeventure cemetery. In the 1850 Charles County census, Middleton District, William B. Stone's age is given as 52 and his occupation a farmer, "wife Caroline, 41, 3 daughters, son Thomas, 21, law student." Stone's real estate was valued at \$18,000.
- 15. From an 1841 letter written by Stone to John M. Daniel, WBS Papers, *Duke University*.
- 16. This is clear from all of Stone's letters preserved in the WBS Papers, *Duke University*, The Stone Family Papers, *MHS*, and the Louise Stone Matthews Collection, *SMSC*.
- 17. P. D. Brown Collection, SMSC. Stone had previously held the position of Deputy Attorney General according to an account of taxes paid by the county to George Mackubin, Treasurer of the Western Shore of Maryland, between 1830 and 1835 (Louise Stone Matthews Collection, SMSC).
- 18. WBS Papers, (July 1, 1844), *Duke University* and Stone Family Papers, *MHS*.
- 19. Ibid., and from Stone's obituary published in the *Port Tobacco Times and Charles County Advertiser*, December 6, 1872.
- 20. Ibid. During the 1850s Stone practiced law in partnership with John Wilson Mitchell, Port Tobacco (John W. Mitchell Collection, MHS and John W. Mitchell Papers, SMSC).
- 21. Ibid. William B. Stone remained active in local agricultural and social affairs throughout the late 1850s and the 1860s. In 1861 he was invited, with his friend Walter H. J. Mitchell and his brother Frederick, to publicly respond to the question "who was " Thomas Stone and John Hoskins Stone. In 1869, with Dr. Stonten Dent, he delivered an address to the Port Tobacco Temperance Society (Port Tobacco Times and Charles County Advertiser, January 31, 1861 and April 16, 1869).
- 22. Ibid.
- 23. From her tombstone at Haberdeventure.
- 24. Wills, JS#17:504, La Plata.

1.4.

- 1. This assertion is based on family correspondence in the WBS Papers, *Duke University* and Stone Family Papers, *MHS*. On February 7, 1827 Mildred Stone Daniel wrote William B. Stone: "Dr. Daniel tells me you have a very sweet little girl, and that cousin Caroline talks of calling her Margaret I was much pleased to hear that she had selected a name so dear to me as Margaret Stone will be" (William B. Stone Papers, *MHS*).
- 2. Ibid. Margaret is said to have been "bed ridden" and nearly paralytic in her final years (Oral Histories, John Hoskins Stone, 1987, SMSC). In 1854 a relative arranged for a custom-made carriage to be provided for Margaret whose wheels could be taken off so that it could be brought into the house without her having to be removed (WBS Papers, James Dempsey to W. B. Stone, May 14, 1854, WBS Papers, Duke University).
- 3. Port Tobacco Times and Charles County Advertiser, September 8 and 18, 1872.
- 4. See Section II.
- 5. Homeplaces: pp. 27-31.
- 6. Oral Histories, Betty (Stone) Lybrook and John Hoskins Stone (1987), SMSC. See also Sections III, IV and V.
- 7. HRS, Part 2.
- 8. Port Tobacco Times and Charles County Advertiser, February 7, 1913.
- 9. Louise Stone Matthews Collection, SMSC. See also Sections IV and VII.

1.5.

- 1. See Section I:1.3 Note 12.
- 2. Oral Histories, Margaret (Stone) Dippold (1980), SMSC. See also Section I:1.4, Note 9.
- 3. The Times Crescent, January 1, 1932. Oral Histories, Margaret (Stone) Dippold (1980), Betty (Stone) Lybrook (1987), and John Hoskins Stone (1987), SMSC.
- 4. Ibid. (Oral Histories.)
- 5. Ibid. (Obituary.)
- 6. Ibid. (Obituary and Dippold interview.)
- 7. Ibid.
- 8. Ibid. (Obituary.)
- 9. Wills, GAW#21:334, La Plata.

10. Deeds, WMA#62:221, La Plata.

SECTION II

LAND HISTORY OF THE THOMAS STONE ESTATE 1770-1936

On December 13, 1770, Thomas Stone made his first purchase of land in Charles County. This was the 442 acre tract known as "Haberdeventure and Hansons Plains Enlarged." for which Stone paid £400.1

The land Stone purchased was already under cultivation and had long been owned by close relatives of Stone's. Perhaps more importantly, the property was strategically located at the junction of two of Charles County's principal public thoroughfares. The most important of these was the Port Tobacco-Piscataway Road (now Rose Hill Road) which essentially formed the tract's east boundary. Established in the latter part of the seventeenth century, this was a major arterial route linking Port Tobacco - then a center of transatlantic trade and communications for the entire region and the county's seat of government - to Alexandria and all points north. From Port Tobacco travelers could continue south to the crossing of the lower Potomac at Laidler's Ferry. The Port Tobacco-Piscataway Road was the most heavily trafficked of all of Charles County's public thoroughfares throughout the eighteenth century and well into the nineteenth century.²

Between the early 1770s and 1783 Thomas Stone purchased at least eight additional tracts, totaling about 1,300 acres, lying on both sides of the Port Tobacco-Piscataway Road and near or contiguous to his original purchase.³ By 1787 Stone's landholdings in the vicinity of Haberdeventure and Port Tobacco had increased to more than 2,000 acres.⁴

In 1787 Stone had most of his principal holdings lying north of Port Tobacco resurveyed into two tracts which he then patented under the names Haberdeventure and Hansons Plains Enlarged (1,077 acres), and Plenty (510 acres).⁵ The home plantation, which he and descending owners always called *Haberdeventure*, was created in 1787 from seven separate but contiguous parcels.⁶ This included the original 442 acres as well as confiscated British property he acquired in 1782 that had formerly been part of the Lords

Baltimores' Panquia Manor reserve.⁷ The tract he named Plenty was a resurvey of the Chandlers Hill-Wellcome land Stone purchased in 1777.⁸ Stone also owned several additional tracts, including part of May Day, and three small parcels lying east of Port Tobacco near the old Port Tobacco-Spring Hill Road (now Stage Coach Road).⁹

In the 17 years between his first and last purchases of land in Charles County, Stone invested well in excess of £5,500.¹⁰ This was a considerable sum, and certainly exceeded what he could have possibly earned as an attorney or from profits realized from his investments.¹¹ None of the real property Stone acquired was ever sold by him in his lifetime, though he did on occasion enter into agreements with neighboring landowners in which small amounts of acreage were traded.¹²

When considered in the context of the financial difficulties he began experiencing in the early 1780s, Stone's relatively rapid accumulation of real estate and the amounts of moneys paid for their purchase convincingly argues for the probability that he received considerable assistance in his purchases from a close family member. Given the facts as they are currently known, this person was more than likely Thomas Stone's brother-in-law, Dr. Gustavus Richard Brown. There was no other member of Stone's family who possessed the resources Stone required, and Dr. Brown was a very wealthy man indeed. Dr. Brown was also very attached to his sister Margaret, a relationship that had continued since childhood. Perhaps the most convincing evidence of Dr. Brown's involvement in Stone's acquisitions of land is that not long after Thomas Stone purchased Haberdeventure, Dr. Brown bought several tracts lying south of and contiguous to that plantation on which he built his elegant home, Rose Hill. It should also be recalled that when he died in 1787 Thomas Stone named Dr. Brown one of the executors of his will.

The land records and surviving family correspondence relating to Thomas Stone's properties are extensive, and from them much valuable information about the Stone family can be gleaned. This is especially true during the 44 years the properties descended in the ownership of Thomas Stone's heirs following his death.¹⁶ Even though Stone's daughters, Margaret and Mildred, divided the estate between them by a *parole agreement* in 1794, the histories of the Haberdeventure and Plenty plantations remained intertwined until Plenty was sold in 1827.¹⁹

One of the more interesting facts revealed by the research into the history of ownership

and use of the Thomas Stone estate is that the mill which stood upon the Chandlers Hills-Wellcome land Stone bought from Henry Smith in 1777 and later patented as Plenty was clearly essential to the Stones' financial solvency from the time of its purchase until the marriage of his daughters.²⁰ During Thomas Stone's lifetime the yearly income derived from the mill was often critical, and his surviving letters frequently contain reference to its operations.²¹ There are also extensive records documenting the daily operation of the mill throughout the time it was owned by the Stone family, particularly between 1790 and the 1820s.²² Thomas Stone sometimes engaged in disputes with various individuals hired to run the mill, the records of which reveal as much about his personal character and his business acumen as any other of his surviving writings.²³

The mill, sometimes referred to as the Port Tobacco Great Mill, had been in continuous operation for more than 60 years before Thomas Stone purchased the land on which it was located. Originally developed by Edward Digges, the mill was operated under an 80-year lease conveyed by the property's original owner. The leasehold subsequently passed into the possession of the Jesuits, and it wasn't until 1782 that Thomas Stone purchased the 13 years remaining on the lease the Jesuits held. The value of the mill is clearly reflected in the amount of money Stone paid for the privilege of full ownership and control: £1,000. The mill seat was a highly developed complex consisting of mill buildings and dwellings for the miller and workers, as well as a forge. Stone's heirs sold the mill seat with the Plenty tract in 1827, but the mill, later known as Cox's Mill, continued in operation until well after the Civil War. Vestiges of the mill site still survive.

ENDNOTES TO SECTION II:

- 1. Deeds, S#3:127, La Plata. The deed was dated December 13, 1770 but not recorded until March 20, 1771. The HRS States that Stone was living in Frederick County at the time he purchased the land, but in the deed he is identified as "of Charles County." It is also stated in the HRS that the grantor, Daniel Jenifer. Thomas Stone's uncle, had acquired the land through his marriage to Mary Hanson, daughter of Robert Hanson, who had inherited the property in 1748. The record shows, however, that Robert Hanson's daughter. Mary, heir to the Habereventure-Hansons Plains land, married Joseph Hanson Harrison, not Daniel Jenifer, and that Jenifer purchased the land sold to his nephew from Joseph and Mary (Hanson) Harrison in 1763 (Deeds, L#3:339 and Wills, AC#4:252, La Plata). The Haberdeventure portion of the tract consisted of 150-acres patented to John Barefoot in 1685 (Patents, NS#2:22 and 21:505. Annapolis). Barefoot sold the same land to John Lambeth (aka Lambert) in 1708 who in turn conveyed the 150 acres to Robert Hanson in 1724 (Deeds, C#2:107 and L#2:147, La Plata). Hanson's Plains, originally 75-acres, was patented to Robert Hanson in 1725. Robert had acquired the original (1723) warrant by assignment from his brother Samuel (Patents, I.L.#A:624, Annapolis). General Walter H. J. Mitchell Collection, SMSC, contains a number of early survey plats of parts of Haberdeventure and bordering tracts once owned by Thomas Stone.
- 2. The Port Tobacco-Piscataway Road was a link in a favored inland route used by those traveling between major population centers on the eastern seaboard. William Briscoe Stone's letters show that this northern access to Haberdeventure was the one he used most often when traveling to and from Alexandria, Washington, Baltimore and Annapolis. See also Page 4 and Section VI.2.c.
- 3. See Deeds, S#3:127, V#3:205, 273, 344, 393, 402, 411, 435, 588, 590, 591, *La Plata*, and 1782 Tax Assessments, Port Tobacco Lower East Hundred and Fifth District, General (Appendix 1).
- 4. See Deeds, Z#3: 50, 80, 131, La Plata.
- 5. Patents, IC#B:634, 638, Annapolis.
- 6. Ibid., 634.
- 7. Ibid. Deeds. V#3:591, La Plata.
- 8. Ibid., 638. Deeds, V#3:205, La Plata.
- 9. These were Shaws Barrens, Shaws Trouble, Mobberly and Hopewells Discovery (Deeds, Z#3:80, *La Plata*).
- 10. This figure was probably closer to £6,000, and does not include the £4,500 Stone paid or his house and adjacent building lots in Annapolis (HRS, Part 1: 44).
- 11. Stone's most significant income-producing investment was the Port Tobacco Great Mill and, to a degree, his slaves.

- 12. Deeds, Z#3:50, La Plata. In 1787 Thomas Stone signed a Bond of Conveyance in which he assigned to Dr. Brown a 20-acre "field" (lying on the west side of present-day Valley Road) "in consideration of [his] services to my family as a Physician." Brown entered the Bond in the county land records in 1789 (Deeds, D#4:609, La Plata) and the land was formally conveyed to Dr. Brown by Margaret and Mildred Stone in 1793 (Deeds, N#4:182, La Plata). Stone evidently also traded land with his neighbor to the west, Richard Gambra, which included part of a tract called Thames Street (WBS Papers, Duke University and Deeds, S#3:162 and IB#9:398, La Plata).
- 13. This opinion is shared by other historians and will be argued in a forthcoming publication authored by Jean B. Lee, Ph.d., Professor of History, University of Wisconsin.
- 14. Dr. Brown inherited a considerable estate from his father in 1762. He had many income producing properties and other investments in Port Tobacco and elsewhere, and was a widely known physician. Brown, and his neighbor at LaGrange, Dr. James Craik, attended George Washington in his last illness.
- 15. This is clearly shown in the elder Dr. Brown's 1762 will. Also see Parts I.1. and I.2 of this report.
- 16. See Note 13 above. Thomas Stone began aggressively purchasing land in 1777, the same year Dr. Brown purchased what was to be his Rose Hill estate (Deeds V#3:211, La Plata). In 1772 Stone won a suit of eviction against James Key, attorney, who was occupying the land Dr. Brown eventually purchased in 1778 (Stone Family of Maryland Papers, LC, Deeds, V#3:260, La Plata). Brown bought 237-acres from Key in 1778 and shortly after the conveyance was recorded sold 70-acres of the same tract to Stone (Deeds, V#3:273, La Plata).
- 17. Wills, AH#9:459, La Plata.
- 18. WBS Papers, *Duke University*. Stone Family Papers, *MHS*.
- 19. Ibid. Deeds, IB#17:405, La Plata. From 1819 to 1827 William Briscoe Stone represented the heirs of Margaret (Stone) Daniel in legal matters involving the Plenty plantation and the operation of the mill (WBS Papers, Duke University and Stone Family Papers, MHS).
- 20. Ibid.
- 21. Ibid. HRS, Part 1:52, 54, 59-60.
- 22. WBS Papers, Duke University and Stone Family Papers, MHS.
- 23. Ibid.
- 24. Deeds, H#2:4 and V#3:588, La Plata.
- 25. Deeds, V#3:590, La Plata. In 1716 William Chandler conveyed to Henry and Edward Neale, sons of Anthony Neale, an 80-year lease on "a parcel of land near the head of Portobacco Creek being part of Chandler Hill & where a water mill now stands which was formerly built by Mr. Edward Digges dec^d & has been lately [?] by Anthony Neale " (Deeds, H#2:4). A history of the Mill property is

the 1782 Thomas Stone deed (V#3:590).

- 26. Ibid.
- 27. Ibid. 1783 Tax Assessment, Sixth District, Land (Appendix 2).
- 28. See Deeds, IB#17:405, WM#3:483, JHC#1:491, JST#3:131, TBM#88:41, all *La Plata*.

SECTION III

AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES AND PRODUCTION AT HABERDEVENTURE

There is a considerable amount of historical information relating to the agricultural use of Haberdeventure while owned by the Stone family. This information, be it in the context of Haberdeventure or the region, is relatively simple to interpret, largely due to the fact that local agricultural customs, from the cultivation of the soil to crops and marketing strategies, remained fairly static from the earliest years of colonization to the Civil War.¹

Until recent years, Charles County's economic base was largely dependent on the production and export of tobacco.² However, beginning about the time of the American Revolution and more so during the opening decades of the nineteenth century, local planters increasingly augmented their tobacco with cereal grains for which there was an expanding regional and European market.³

From the latter part of the eighteenth century and throughout the first half of the nineteenth century, most area farmers sold their tobacco and grain crops through commission merchants in Baltimore and Alexandria. Many of these merchant houses maintained stores in Port Tobacco where farmers could charge goods against realized or anticipated profits.

Charles County's economy suffered dramatically as a result of the Civil War and the ending of slavery.⁶ Many farms were abandoned, while those who continued farming looked to less labor intensive products and simpler methods of marketing. Toward the end of the nineteenth century truck farming was becoming increasingly common, with produce sent by rail or by water to markets in Baltimore and Washington, or merely sold within the local community.⁷

It was discussed in Section I that the 442 acres purchased by Thomas Stone in 1770 had long been occupied and cultivated. Tobacco was almost certainly the principal cash crop produced, supplemented with grain crops for the planters' own use. This

practice might have changed in the decades preceding Thomas Stone's ownership. Both of the property's two previous owners, Robert Hanson and Daniel Jenifer, owned grist mills, so corn and wheat may have replaced tobacco as the more important crops after about 1740.⁸

Historical evidence supports the conclusion that Thomas Stone was less interested in the Haberdeventure-Hansons Plains tract as an income-producing investment as he was in its suitability as the site for his new home. This was as true in 1787 as it was in 1770. Thomas Stone's letters relating to the management of his Charles County properties deal primarily with the hiring or sale of slaves and the operation of the Port Tobacco Great Mill. Scant mention is ever made of agricultural production at Haberdeventure. 10

The Michael Jenifer Stone accounts for the years 1773-1781 contain numerous entries for the purchase and sales of livestock and crops in Thomas Stone's name.¹¹ Income was clearly derived from the cultivation and sales of tobacco; however, most of the tobacco appears to have been produced during this period at the Stones' Nanjemoy plantation rather than Haberdeventure.¹² Interestingly, entries from 1777 to 1781 record far more moneys Stone expended for the purchases of oats and corn than profits realized from the sale of these same crops. Also purchased in significant amounts were sheep, chickens and turkeys, and potatoes.¹³

According to the 1782 tax assessments there were 22 head of cattle at Haberdeventure and 48 head of cattle at Stone's Chandlers Hills-Wellcome plantation.¹⁴ These two plantations were within a half-mile of each other, so cattle could easily have been shifted between one property and another. In 1783 the 442 acres of Haberdeventure were described as "1/2 cleared."¹⁵ Considering the number of ravines and hillsides that crisscross the land it would seem that during Thomas Stone's occupancy all of the upper terraces and shallower inclines were open land, used for cultivation and for the grazing of livestock.¹⁰ The 1782-1783 assessments, together with other documents from the same period, indicate that a certain amount of timbering was done on the properties Stone owned, probably including his home plantation.¹⁷ The timber was primarily harvested for cordwood to make charcoal for the operation of a forge at Stone's mill.¹⁸

Not long after moving to Annapolis in 1783, Stone's debts had increased to the extent

that he was increasingly anxious that the slaves he owned and could spare be hired out or sold. In 1782 Stone owned a total of 35 slaves, 21 at the Chandlers Hills-Wellcome plantation and 14 at the Haberdeventure plantation. Eleven of the 35 were children under the age of 14.21 At his death in 1787 Stone owned 25 slaves, 20 living upon his Charles County estates and five at his home in Annapolis. Seven of the Charles County slaves were under the age of 13, leaving only 14 slaves who might have worked the land. However, only seven of the 14 were adult males, and two of these were highly valued for their skills as carpenters. At least three of Stone's female slaves were probably house or kitchen servants. This then reduces to about six the number of Stone's slaves who may have worked the fields, a very small number indeed considering that Stone's estate comprised more than 2,000 acres. 22

The codicil to Thomas Stone's will provided that his brother Michael could continue to occupy the "house of Haberdeventure," and "use the garden, orchards & land he now uses." This and other records show that Michael Jenifer Stone, not Thomas Stone, managed all aspects of the agricultural activities at Haberdeventure. Further evidence of this is the fact that the inventory of Thomas Stone's personal estate in Charles County lists only seven horses, two oxen, four cows and calves, "5 hogs & 12 shoats," and farm implements consisting only of a plow and "1 old hoe & old spade."

Among other items inventoried as part of Stone's Charles County estate were "5 Weavers slays," "1 Wollen Wheel," and "2 flax Wheels damaged." These items suggest that sheep were probably raised on the property and their wool used for cloth making, and that cotton and flax might also have been raised.²⁰ Further suggesting the cultivation and harvesting of cotton at Haberdeventure is a 1795 listing of items claimed by Michael Stone from the personal effects of his deceased sister, Catherine Scott, which included "50 lb Cotton in seeds."²⁷

Michael Stone, as Frederick Stone's guardian and an executor of Thomas Stone's will, and in accordance with Thomas Stone's wishes, continued to manage the Haberdeventure estate until his administration accounts were closed in 1798.²⁸ It is unlikely that little if any change in agricultural practices occurred at Haberdeventure during the last decade of the eighteenth century.²⁹

As discussed in Sections I and II of this report, Thomas Stone's family left Haberdeventure sometime before 1808. From that time until 1831 the land was

probably leased to tenants. The renting of Haberdeventure to tenants may have begun prior to 1808, however, inasmuch as the 1798 tax lists show that in that year the property was occupied by Dr. John M. Daniel and three other individuals not related to the Stone family.³⁰

By the early 1820s, possibly as early as 1821, the Haberdeventure property had become the home of William Briscoe Stone, a son of Michael Jenifer Stone.³¹ Stone evidently occupied the house and land under the terms of an agreement with his cousin, Mildred Daniel. The precise terms of this agreement are not yet known, but it appears that Stone "paid" for his occupancy and use of the house and land by representing his cousin in her local business affairs and acting as Haberdeventure's resident manager.³² Letters exchanged between Mildred Daniel and William Stone nearly always contain some reference to a tenant at Haberdeventure or rents they owed.³³

One document that sheds some light on agricultural practices at Haberdeventure in the early nineteenth century is a draft proposal prepared by William Stone as part of a rent agreement between Gustavus Brown (Stone's father-in-law), and Mildred Daniel. Dated January 1831, the lease involved a "piece of land intended for a meadow" that Brown was to rent for eight years. Stone proposed that in the first year (1831) Brown would have the meadow "ditched grubbed cleared enclosed & sown in Timothy," though he could also plant beforehand "tobacco or any other crop." The land was to remain in timothy for the duration of the lease, and Stone estimated the meadow would produce from eight to twelve tons of hay annually. Brown was not required to pay any rent for the first two years, but afterward was to pay rent in the form of "stacks of hay" that would be equally divided between Brown and Stone. Brown was allowed to take any "fencing stuff (walling)" he might need from "land most convenient to the same." The "walling" was probably wattling fence of brush and saplings to keep livestock from grazing in the meadow inasmuch as Stone required that "The said meadow not to be depastured. That is no stock of any Description at any time to be allowed to be upon the same."34

William Briscoe Stone, who purchased that part of the Haberdeventure estate bordering the east side of Hog Hole Run in the fall of 1831, appears to have raised livestock and such crops as tobacco, corn and wheat on the property, selling his produce through several commission merchants in Baltimore.³⁵ Between 1848 and 1860 Stone became actively involved in the Charles County Agricultural Society and for several years was its

vice president.³⁶ He often was named the chairman of various awards committees at annual agricultural fairs, and seems to have possessed particular interest in technological advances in agricultural implements and machinery.³⁷ At the county's 1848 fair he was awarded a premium for the "best acre of wheat" grown on a Charles County farm.³⁶

William B. Stone also engaged in experimentation with fertilizers, and in 1856 was elected a county delegate to an important "Guano Convention" in Baltimore.³⁹ An undated document in Stone's handwriting describes in considerable detail experiments with different mixtures of fertilizers, ploughing techniques and crop rotation on three separate pieces of land of about 4 1/2 acres each and on which corn, tobacco and wheat were alternately raised. Soil types, the mix and preparation of the fertilizers, and the annual yield and quality of the crops over a seven-year period were carefully chronicled.⁴⁰

Records from 1852 to 1860 show that tobacco, corn and wheat were the principal crops raised at Haberdeventure, just as they were on practically every farm in Charles County. By 1862 and with the ending of slavery, Stone began investing in mechanical cultivators and wheat thrashers. The 1873 inventory of his personal estate includes a wheat fan, several different types of plows, two cultivators, a corn sheller and a "Horse Power & Thrasher" among his farm equipment and implements. The only livestock listed in the inventory were two horses, three steers, "5 Milch Cows [and] 2 Heiffers." Although Stone had previously erected a large sheep barn on the property, no sheep are listed in the inventory. Since William Stone's daughter Margaret had assumed management of the farm several years before her father's death, it is possible that sheep and other livestock were on the farm but were owned by her.

Margaret G. Stone lived on and managed Haberdeventure until her death there in 1913. She apparently continued to use the land much as her father had done, but with a greater dependence on tenants. Margaret also seems to have supplemented her crops with vegetables raised for a local market, particularly potatoes and turnips.⁴³ An 1876 draft lease agreement for Haberdeventure describes how certain fields were utilized by stipulating that the tenant was "to cultivate what is generally called the middle field [between the house and cemetery] in Corn and Tobacco, the orchard to go in with the middle field for tobacco no stock of any kind to be pastured in the orchard. The south field to be kept for pasture as also the field west of the barn. The north field not to be

worked or grazed."⁴⁴ At the time of her death her livestock consisted of three cows and "22 sheep and 9 lamb," growing crops of corn and wheat, and tobacco "partly stripped."⁴⁵

Following Margaret's death Haberdeventure passed in ownership to her nephew, Michael Robertson Stone. Between 1913 and 1936 the land continued to be cultivated by tenant farmers who paid their rents in shares of the crops and other produce. According to several of Stone's children, the sale of agricultural products, particularly tobacco, was a principal source of income. The Stones also introduced a large orchard that was located near the existing entrance gate, and maintained an extensive vegetable garden for their own use. Canning was done in the old dairy and meat houses that formerly stood near the existing west wing, and the prepared foods stored on shelves in the cellar of the house. At the time of Michael Stone's death in 1934 there were only a few head of livestock (2 cows, a mule and 3 horses), and farming equipment consisting of three barrows, a com planter, a "Fertilizer Distributor," a hay rake, a com planter, and two horse drawn plows.

By the 1910s many of Haberdeventure's fields had begun to revert to woodland, signifying decline in property's agricultural use and productivity, and by the mid 1940s the complexion of the farm's landscape had undergone a nearly radical change: In a ca. 1947 newspaper article it was observed that "In past years Habre de Venture has lost much of its former fertility and scrub pine has overgrown many of the fields that once grew tobacco and other farm crops...[In 1945] Habre de Venture was the picture of decayed agricultural grandure...one field, now being cleared of 20-foot pines, still shows the marks of com rows."

ENDNOTES TO SECTION III:

- 1. This statement is based on research data collected by the compiler of this report for a forthcoming publication on pre-Civil War agricultural practices and building customs in Charles County. There are also numerous reference works on local agricultural history that are available. The General Walter H. J. Mitchell Collection and The Hamilton Family Papers, SMSC, are excellent primary sources for local agricultural practices here between the late eighteenth century and the post-Civil War period.
- 2. Ibid. See also Margaret Klapthor Brown, *History of Charles County, Maryland* (La Plata, Maryland: Charles County Tercentenary Committee, 1958), pp. 149-161.
- 3. Ibid. Homeplaces, pp. 20-21.
- 4. Ibid. See also J. Richard Rivoire Collection, Series II: Port Tobacco, Rosemary Lawn and Thainston files, SMSC.
- 5. Ibid., all notes.
- 6. Ibid.
- 7. Brown, pp. 150-161.
- 8. Hanson's Mill stood on part of his dwelling plantation, Betty's Delight. Jenifer held an interest in a mill on land he acquired in 1763 east of Port Tobacco.
- 9. See Sections II and VI:VI.1. and VI.2.
- 10. In a November 1785 letter Thomas requested his brother Walter "know of Ostro what corn he will make & desire him to send 40 barrells to Haberdeventure of the corn made & what will be due him can be had at Turners who will own me 50 barrells let Turner know I shall want my corn & fodder paid this fall as per agreement Tell Ostro to make out an account of corn got at the mill & wheat, he has only sent me an Account of corn used" (Stone Family of Maryland Papers, LC). None of Stone's surviving letters specifically reference agricultural activities at Haberdeventure. According to his daughters, after 1785 his brother Michael was allowed the use of Haberdeventure and the profits derived applied toward his support and that of their sisters, Grace Stone and Catherine Scott (Chancery Papers, 4647, Annapolis).
- 11. Kremer Collection, SMSC.
- 12. Ibid. In a letter written in 1785, John Hoskins Stone encourages Walter Stone to sell tobacco and pork from the Nanjemoy plantation as quickly and as profitably as possible to assist in defraying some of Thomas Stone's debts (Stone Family Papers, *MHS*). The Nanjemoy plantation was rented, not owned, by Thomas Stone. This may have been the former plantation of David Stone, but much more likely that of his deceased brother Frederick (Michael Jenifer Stone Account Book, Kremer Collection, *SMSC*).

- 13. Ibid. In a 1785 letter to his brother Walter, Thomas Stone requests that 40 barrels of corn be sent from the Chandlers Hills-Welcome Plantation "to Haberdeventure." Corn and wheat were clearly raised on the more fertile lower lands of the Chandlers Hills-Welcome farm for use and sales (Stone Family of Maryland Papers, *LC*).
- 14. 1782 Tax Assessments, Charles County, Port Tobacco Lower East Hundred and Fifth District, General (Appendix 1). In 1785 Stone claimed he owned only "...one stallion, one plow horse, one mare & one colt, some cattle 12 or 13 head I believe [and] some hogs..." (Stone Family of Maryland Papers, LC).
- 15. 1783 Tax Assessments, Charles County, Fifth District, Land (Appendix 2).
- 16. This conclusion is based on post-1900 topographical maps of the property.
- 17. Michael Jenifer Stone Account Book, Kremer Collection, SMSC. WBS Papers, Duke University. The 1783 assessments describe arable land as well as lands valuable for their timber.
- 18. Michael Jenifer Stone Account Book, Kremer Collection, SMSC, and receipts in the WBS Papers, *Duke University*.
- 19. Lee, 322-323. HRS, Sections I and 2. Stone Family of Maryland Papers, LC.
- 20. 1782 Tax Assessment, General (see Note 15 above).
- 21. In the 1782 Tax Assessment slaves are divided according to age and sex.
- 22. Ibid.; Wills, AH#9:491, La Plata. See also Sections II and V.
- 23. Wills, AH#9:461, La Plata.
- 24. Kremer Collection, SMSC and WBS Papers, Duke University; Chancery Papers, 4647, Annapolis. See also Section 1.1.a. In an undated (ca. 1790) note to his brother Walter, Michael Jenifer Stone inquires about "Hab." How does it stand? Is the orchard kept up, etc.?" suggesting that Walter assumed a management role during Michael's absence while serving in Congress (Stone Family of Maryland Papers, LC).
- 25. Wills, AH#9:491, La Plata.
- 26. Ibid.
- 27. WBS Papers, Duke University.
- 28. Orphans' Court Proceedings, 1797-1799, pp. 442, 464, La Plata.
- 29. See Sections II, IV, V and VI.
- 30. See Section V.
- 31. See Sections II and VI.2.
- 32. Ibid.

- 33. Ibid., particularly Section V.
- 34. WBS Papers, Duke University.
- 35. Ibid.; Stone Family Papers, *MHS*. The General Walter H. J. Mitchell Collection and The Hamiltons of Port Tobacco Papers, *SMSC*, contain extensive information on commission merchants who had stores in Port Tobacco.
- 36. Port Tobacco Times and Charles County Advertiser: February 24 and June 15, 1848.
- 37. Ibid., October 1, 1850, October 12, 1854, November 8, 1855; November 10, 1857, November 1, 1860.
- 38. Ibid., November 16, 1848.
- 39. Ibid., May 15, 1856.
- 40. WBS Papers, Duke University.
- 41. Ibid.; Stone Family Papers, MHS. An undated receipt, thought to be ca. 1840, shows Stone to have netted about \$900. from the sale of 25 hogsheads of tobacco presumably produced at Haberdeventure (WBS Papers, Duke University). In 1862 Stone's tobacco yielded only 13 hogsheads, but with a net return of \$856.80, and 187 bushels of wheat for which he netted \$255.55 (P.D.Brown Collection, SMSC).
- 42. Inventories, 1869-1878:234, La Plata.
- 43. HRS, Part 3:11, 12.
- 44. See Appendix 9.
- 45. Inventories, 1912-1918:19, La Plata.
- 46. Oral Histories: Margaret Stone Dippold (1980), Betty Stone Lybrook (1987), John Hoskins Stone (1987), SMSC.
- 47. Ibid.
- 48. Inventories, 1933-1936:279, La Plata.
- 49. 1937 aerial view of Haberdeventure. James Birchfield, "Historic Farm is Brought Back to Production," (Washington Star, n.d.), Historic Sites File, SMSC. The article was written two years after the property was purchased by Peter Vischer. Vischer bought Haberdeventure from Charles S. Smith in 1945.

SECTION IV

SLAVES

While considerable research data has been assembled relating to slaves associated with the Stone family and Haberdeventure, certain gaps in information remain and questions left unanswered. Nevertheless, the record clearly shows the ownership and use of slaves to constitute a significant part of Haberdeventure's history.

Thomas Stone grew up in a slave-owning family, as did all of his Charles County forebearers. When Thomas' father died in 1774 he owned 53 slaves, some of whom eventually passed in ownership to Thomas.¹ Thomas Stone's wife also came from a slave-owning family. Her father, Dr. Gustavus Brown, owned 45 slaves at the time of his death in 1762, and in his will bequeathed her "my negroe wench named Eleanor or Nell," Nell's child and all of Nell's "future increase."²

The records of Thomas Stone's purchases, sales, hire and inheritance of slaves are incomplete. It is known that in 1774, Thomas Stone received £185 "From Samuel Tillot for 5 Negroes." In the same year Stone purchased "one negroe man slave...called Peter" for £52.10, and another slave "called Bob" for £95.4 In 1777 Stone hired "a negroe man named Will" from his sister Catherine Scott, and in 1778 received a number of slaves on the settlement of his parents' estate. In 1782 Thomas Stone purchased (together with the tracts Chandlers Hills and Wellcome) "negroe Rachel and negroe Luce," and shortly afterward "one negroe woman slave named Jeane...for £41 gold and silver."

By 1782 Thomas Stone owned 35 slaves, 21 of whom were occupying Stone's Haberdeventure plantation.⁷ The total number of slaves, adults and children, included at least three slave families.⁸ It is known that Stone occasionally separated members of a slave family to work different properties, but these lands were all within easy traveling distance of each other.⁹

After Thomas Stone moved his family to Annapolis in 1783, and as his debts began to increase, his slaves became much more of a disposable asset than they had been

before. In the spring of 1785 he directed that as many of his Charles County slaves as possible be hired out; by the end of that year he was as anxious to hire out his slaves as he was to sell them.¹⁰ In a November 1785 letter to his brother Walter, Thomas wrote "...I want much to have my affairs sorted. I shall have some Negroes to hire next year - Carpenter Tom for 1800 with his tools - Bob 1200 d° Sal for any thing above her victuals & clothes - Violet d° & Ann. Heath £7.10. - Gus £3. little Clare 50/..."¹¹

The 1787 inventory of Thomas Stone's personal estate lists 20 slaves as part of his Charles County property and an additional five slaves at his home in Annapolis.¹² In his will, Stone bequeathed at least five of these slaves to his daughter Margaret and four to Mildred.¹³ Those remaining passed in ownership to Frederick, whom he named as his principal beneficiary.¹⁴

It is at about this point that determining the identity and number of slaves belonging to or associated with the Haberdeventure estate becomes increasingly difficult. This is largely due to the fact that there was more than one slave-owning member of the Stone family occupying Haberdeventure at the time of Thomas Stone's death. Several of these family members had been living there since the mid-1770s and continued to make Haberdeventure their home for some time after Thomas Stone died. It is logical to conclude that at least some of the slaves owned by other members of the family, such as Michael Jenifer Stone, Grace Stone and Catherine (Stone) Scott, lived on and worked the Haberdeventure plantation, either as house servants, field hands, carpenters or blacksmiths, or in some other capacity. As difficult as it may be to ascertain the shifting population of slaves living at Haberdeventure during the 1770-1790 period, it is reasonably certain that there were at least twenty in residence at any given time. However, this figure is possibly conservative given that it represents less than half of the slaves collectively owned by those who made up the Haberdeventure household during that period.

Whether Thomas Stone's daughters, Margaret and Mildred Stone, included a division of slaves as part of their 1793 agreement is not known. Nor is it known what eventually happened to many of those slaves named in Thomas Stone's inventory. There is documentary evidence that some of these slaves were sold and others hired out, but the record is incomplete. It seems almost certain that the sisters would have depended upon a fairly sizable slave population to maintain their respective plantations and the home house at Haberdeventure. In view of this likelihood, it is interesting that in

October 1793 Margaret and Mildred Stone, as "representatives of our Dear Father Thomas Stone and our dear brother Frederick Stone deceased" manumitted the slave "Henry commonly called Henry Semple (late slave to the said Frederick Stone)...Henry's wife Ibe and their two children Kitty and Nancy" in consideration of Henry's "faithful service to our Dear Parents and brother, and from a sentiment of fond reverence for these relatives."²⁰

The diminished number of slaves working the Stone properties by this date was evidently a matter of some concern inasmuch as two days before his marriage to Margaret Stone, Dr. John Moncure Daniel moved a slave by the name of George to Haberdeventure from his plantation in Stafford County, Virginia.²¹ This was followed, in 1796, 1798 and 1799, by the "importation" of an additional eight slaves from Virginia to Haberdeventure by Dr. Daniel.²² According to the 1798 Direct Tax lists for Charles County there were only eight slaves associated with the properties held by Margaret and Mildred Daniel, and all were recorded as owned by Dr. John M. Daniel.²³ Of these slaves, four were said to be exempt from taxation due to disabilities.²⁴ The record indicates that all were living on the Haberdeventure estate.²⁵

Dr. John Moncure and Margaret (Stone) Daniel moved from Haberdeventure to Dr. Daniel's Stafford, Virginia, plantation some time after 1800 and were living there when Margaret died in 1809.²⁰ It is possible that Grace Stone, Thomas Stone's spinster sister who herself owned at least eight slaves, may have continued to live at Haberdeventure until her death in 1809.²⁷ If so, her slaves, including several "house servants," may have occupied the property during this period.²⁶ In her will, Grace Stone manumitted two of her slaves and directed that the others be divided between the three daughters of her brother, Michael Jenifer Stone.²⁹

After Margaret and Dr. John M. Daniel left Haberdeventure, which was actually owned by Margaret's sister Mildred, the property was leased to tenants, a practice that continued up until the time Mildred sold Haberdeventure in 1831.³⁰ A portion of the estate was rented to Gustavus Brown, a slave owner who undoubtedly worked the land using his own labor force.³¹ The same is true of William Briscoe Stone, who also owned slaves and who is thought to have been occupying the Haberdeventure house by 1821.³² The record shows that Brown and Stone frequently shared their slaves, particularly those who possessed carpentry skills. One example of this practice is that at least three of Brown's slave carpenters assisted in the repairs to the house and the

building of a stable at Haberdeventure in 1825-1826.³³ At the time of his death in 1841, Gustavus Brown owned 27 slaves, some of whom are known to have worked for William Briscoe Stone at various times and/or who later came into his possession through his marriage to Brown's daughter, Caroline, in 1825.³⁴

William Briscoe Stone does not seem to have been a large slave owner, which was also true of his father, Michael Jenifer Stone, who owned only eight slaves when he died in 1812.³⁵ It is known that William B. Stone did own at least eleven slaves between 1826 and 1862, some of whom he frequently hired out and at least two of whom possessed considerable skills as carpenters.³⁶ Stone probably did not own more than this number at any one time, as indicated by itemized receipts for shoes and other articles of clothing purchased for his slaves in 1834 and 1838.³⁷ Surviving documents relating to the Stone family do not cover the years 1860-1866 as fully as they do other periods in Haberdeventure's history, so it is not known if William B. Stone, like some of his fellow Charles County planters, manumitted any of his slaves as the inevitability of Civil War drew closer. The possibility that some of these former slaves may have remained at Haberdeventure after the War is suggested by the fact that Margaret Graham Stone's servant, Maria Miles, was born at Haberdeventure of slave parents.³⁸

According to members of the Stone family who lived at Haberdeventure, and from others who worked on the farm during the first decades of the twentieth century, slaves who died at Haberdeventure were buried in an area immediately adjacent to the existing Stone family cemetery. Until the 1920s this area was enclosed by a post and wire fence.³⁰

ENDNOTES TO SECTION IV:

- 1. Inventories, 1774-1775:17, La Plata. David Stone's inventory of slaves lists 6 adult males (over 18), 12 women and 35 children. The women and children were counted as family units. At least 12 of the slaves named in Thomas Stone's 1787 inventory are believed to have been formerly owned by his father.
- 2. Wills, AD#5:219, *La Plata*.
- 3. Michael J. Stone Account Book, Kremer Collection, SMSC.
- 4. Deeds, 5#3:523, 533, La Plata. Peter was described as already being in Stone's possession; Bob was guaranteed to be "sound & Healthy and free from all manner of Disorder and Defect whatsoever."
- 5. Chancery Papers: 4647, *Annapolis*; This was by private agreement between the surviving heirs of David and Elizabeth Stone (Lee: pp. 144,216).
- 6. Deeds, V#3:588, 591-592, *La Plata*. Jeane was part of the confiscated British property of Lloyd Dulany.
- 7. 1782 Tax Assessments, Port Tobacco Lower East Hundred and Fifth District, General (Appendix 1).
- 8. Ibid. In the 1782 assessments slaves are divided by age groups and sex. The determination that there were at least three different slave families is based on ages of the slaves and identification of individual relationships from records associated with slaves owned by Thomas Stone, including his own writings.
- 9. From Stone's own writings and other accounts.
- 10. Lee: 322-333. HRS: Part 1:51, 52.
- 11. Stone Family of Maryland papers, L.C.
- 12. Wills and Inventories, AH#9:491, La Plata.
- 13. Ibid., 459.
- 14. Ibid.
- 15. Chancery Papers: 4549, *Annapolis*. See also Section I:I.1,a-e.
- 16. Michael Jenifer Stone Account Book, Kremer Collection; Stone Family Papers, MHS.
- 17. This figure is based on Stone's inventory and documents associated with slaves owned by other family members.
- 18. Ibid.
- 19. Stone Family Papers, MHS.

- 20. Deeds, N#4:165, La Plata. This document is very unusual among manumission records for the sentiments expressed. Interestingly, none of these slaves are listed in Thomas Stone's inventory; possibly the whole family lived with Frederick Stone while he was away at school, or they were previously given to Frederick and therefore no longer part of Stone's estate. Perhaps only Henry was with Frederick in 1787 and that his "wife and children" did not come about until later.
- 21. Deeds, N#4:326, La Plata.
- 22. Ibid., IB#2:91, 473, 545, La Plata.
- 23. 1798 Federal Direct Tax, Charles County, Part 3 (slaves).
- 24. Ibid.
- 25. Ibid.
- 26. Daniel Family Bible Records, Harry Wright Newman Collection, SMSC. HRS, Part 2: 10.
- 27. Wills, HB & BH#13: 46, 51, *La Plata*.
- 28. Ibid. Stone Family Papers, MHS. Among the Stone Family Papers is an undated (ca. 1790) letter written by Grace Stone to her brother Walter discussing to some length her slaves Luce and Sall, who she described as "good House servants & perhaps I can never meet with such again." Luce and Sall are both known to have lived at Haberdeventure.
- 29. Wills, HB & BH#13:46, La Plata,
- 30. See Section I: 1.2.; Section III; and Section VI: VI.4.
- 31. Ibid., Section III.
- 32. Ibid.
- 33. Ibid., and Section VI: VI.2., 3. and 4.
- 34. WBS Papers, *Duke University*. Among these documents is a lengthy discussion of slaves who worked on both properties in 1826. One of Brown's slaves who came into Stone's possession was named Orlando (Inventories, 1837-1841:474, *La Plata* and Stone Family Papers, *MHS*. See also Section I:1.3, Note 6.
- 35. Papenfuse, et al., I:785, 786.
- This figure is based on a compilation of slaves named in receipts and letters. In 1837 a Richard Mankin hired from William B. Stone "John...and William your servants" (WBS Papers, *Duke University*). In an 1846 letter to Stone from his brother, Michael J. Stone, John and William are identified as carpenters who were then building a house, kitchen and quarter (Stone Family Papers, *MHS*).

- 37. P. D. Brown Collection, SMSC. William Briscoe Stone Papers, and Stone Family Papers, both MHS.
- 38. Oral Histories, Betty (Stone) Lybrook (1987), SMSC.
- 39. Ibid., also John Hoskins Stone (1987) and Lorina Butler Chambers (1988).

SECTION V

TENANTS

The ownership history of Haberdeventure shows that the property purchased by Thomas Stone in 1770 from his uncle, Daniel Jenifer, had been occupied by tenants at least since the 1730s, and was still being cultivated by resident leaseholders when Stone assumed ownership. In addition, the confiscated British property Stone acquired in 1782 and which was resurveyed in 1787 as part of Haberdeventure-Hansons Plains Enlarged, was occupied by tenants and had been for an extended period of time.

It is not known if Thomas Stone's home plantation, or any part of it, was leased to tenants following his 1770 purchase and the 1787 resurvey and patent. According to his will, the land was "used" by his brother, Michael Jenifer Stone.³ However, other lands owned by Thomas Stone were tenanted, such as the tracts Chandlers Hills and Welcome, and the 20 acres associated with his Port Tobacco Great Mill.⁴

The earliest currently known evidence of the occupation and use of Haberdeventure by tenants after Thomas Stone's death is found in the 1798 Federal Direct Tax lists for Charles County.⁵ According to this record, the Haberdeventure plantation, then owned by Travers and Mildred (Stone) Daniel, was occupied by Dr. John Moncure Daniel as well as by Ignatius Wheeler, Ignatius Varden and Edward Welch. It is possible that at least one of the last three named may have been an overseer.

As discussed in other sections of this report, the Haberdeventure estate was vacated by Thomas Stone's heirs sometime between 1800 and 1809, and the property rented to tenants from that time until 1831 when it was sold to Gustavus Brown and William Briscoe Stone.⁶

One important piece of evidence of the rent of these properties during the early nineteenth century is in the form of an itemized statement prepared by Port Tobacco attorney, Joseph Turner, "for the heirs of John M. Daniel." This document principally concerns income realized from the rent of the Plenty plantation between 1813 and 1816, but also includes income and payments associated with Haberdeventure.

By about 1821 William Briscoe Stone was occupying and managing the Haberdeventure lands owned by his cousin Mildred (Stone) Daniel. In surviving letters exchanged between 1825 and 1831, frequent mention is made of tenants who were farming the land and payment of rents.⁹ For example, in 1825 Stone 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.**

In an 1828 letter, Mildred Daniel discusses repairs needed to a house at Haberdeventure occupied by a tenant named Rogerson and asks Stone to "bargain with the next tenant, and get him to do it [the repairs] on the best terms you can out of the rent he is to pay.**

In the 1820s William Briscoe Stone's father-in-law, Gustavus Brown, rented the part of the Haberdeventure estate lying on the west side of Hog Hole Run, but he is not thought to have occupied that land until after he purchased it from Mildred Daniel in 1831.**

The occupation and farming of Haberdeventure by tenants continued throughout the 1800s and up until the heirs of Michael Robertson Stone sold the property to Charles Smith in 1936. In 1872, Margaret G. Stone advertised for rent "that part of Haberdeventure now occupied by J. H. Mattingly." After her parents died, Margaret executed an agreement with a tenant farmer which allowed him to use the west wing of the house as his residence. The administration accounts relating to Margaret's estate (1913), record payments made to Samuel Robey and Dennis Brooks for "farm work," fertilizer and "tobacco sales." Oral history interviews with surviving children of Michael Robertson Stone contain numerous references to tenants who lived on and farmed Haberdeventure between 1913 and the early 1930s.

ENDNOTES TO SECTION V:

- 1. See Sections I.1., II, III and VI.1.
- 2. Ibid. The vacant land was noted in 1767 as having on it a tobacco house and a dwelling in poor condition (HRS, Part 2:5).
- 3. Wills, AH#9:459, La Plata.
- WBS Papers, Duke University; Stone Family Papers, MHS; Stone Family of 4. Maryland Papers, LC. Through much of the 1780s' the mill lands were leased and the rent paid in shares of crops, primarily corn and wheat. There are a number of surviving letters of agreement between Michael Jenifer Stone and various tenants during the 1790s in the Stone Family Papers, MHS, though none of these specifically name any of the lands comprising the Thomas Stone estate. One of these agreements, dated 1796, was with a tenant named Nathan McDaniel and typifies a lease arrangement. In this document McDaniel agreed "to be overseer...for the year 1797 and to endeavor to make a good crop thereon and to secure the same and also to take care of all the stock and other property put under his are and in all respect to behave and conduct himself as an industrious good and faithful overseer and manager-." McDaniel was to be provided 400 pounds of fat pork (used as food for the slaves) and 4 barrels of corn at the beginning of the year and 4 bushels of wheat "after harvest...and also 1/6 part of all the crop he makes during the year." Stone was to also supply McDaniel with "4 negroe men, 4 Drought Horses and 4 oxen to work on the land & all necessary tools" and "allow [McDaniel] one cows milk for himself." This agreement was witnessed by William Stone Griffin with whom Stone had made a similar arrangement in 1794. In this document Griffin agreed "to be the overseer and manager [for Stone] on his plantation" and to "overlook" the "negroes of the said Stone and make them diligently work and do their business. He [is?] to correct and whip them whenever directed by the said Stone and in all things conduct himself with care and Fidelity toward the said Stone and obey his commands in and about his business..." For farming the land and maintaining himself and Stone's slaves Griffin was provided 4 barrels of corn, 4 bushels of wheat, one cows milk and 400 pounds of fat pork. Instead of payment in shares of the crops Griffin was paid "25 pounds current money."
- 5. 1798 Federal Direct Tax, Charles County. The assessment entries are arranged alphabetically by the name of the owner and is divided in four parts: land, dwellings valued in excess of \$100., slaves, and total tax on assessed value.
- 6. See Sections I.1. and I.2., III and VI.1.
- 7. P. D. Brown Collection, SMSC.
- 8. Ibid. Several entries are recorded in the name of Travers Daniel, Sr., the husband of Mildred (Stone) Daniel.
- 9. These are found primarily in the WBS Papers, *Duke University* and the Stone Family Papers, *MHS*.

- 10. Stone Family Papers, MHS. See also Sections III and VI.4 and Appendix 6.
- 11. WBS Papers, Duke University.
- 12. In a court case involving a Charles H. Jenkins it was recorded that depositions were taken on February 13, 1829 "at the house of Gustavus Brown in Port Tobacco" (WBS Papers, *Duke University*).
- 13. Port Tobacco Times and Charles County Advertiser, September 4, 1872. This was more than likely the former Palmoine estate of her grandfather which Margaret sold to Henry Owen in 1875 (Deeds, GAH#4:546, La Plata).
- 14. HRS, Part 3:11-12.
- 15. Inventories, 1912-1918:19, *La Plata*.
- 16. Oral Histories: Margaret (Stone) Dippold (1980), Betty (Stone) Lybrook (1987) and John Hoskins Stone (1987), *SMSC*.

SECTION VI

ARCHITECTURE

VI.1. GENERAL OVERVIEW (1685-1936)

When Thomas Stone purchased the 442 acres known as Haberdeventure-Hansons Plains Enlarged in December 1770 certain improvements were already in existence. It is unlikely that any of these buildings dated to the Thomas and John Barefoot period of ownership (1685-1708), even though the 1708 Barefoot-Lambeth deed infers that some building activity had taken place on the 150-acre Haberdeventure tract by that time.¹ John Lambeth also may have made additional improvements to the land before selling the 150 acres to Robert Hanson in 1724.² The 75 acres of Hansons Plains patented to Robert Hanson in 1725 is not thought to have been occupied prior to that date.³

It is much more likely that whatever buildings existed when Thomas Stone purchased these lands in 1770 were contemporary with Robert Hanson's period of ownership. Hanson died in 1748 and in his will devised these two tracts "with their appurtenances" to his daughter, Mary. Hanson did not himself occupy this land, but they were physically contiguous to his highly developed plantation, Betty's Delight. Hanson's daughter, Mary, also did not live on this land. She subsequently married Joseph Hanson Harrison and sold the two tracts to Daniel Jenifer in 1763. It is known that certain improvements were in existence when, in 1768, Daniel Jenifer had the two tracts resurveyed and combined with an additional 206 acres of previously unclaimed land. In 1769 Jenifer advertised 342 acres of Haberdeventure-Hansons Plains Enlarged for sale or rent and described it as including "two tenements."

Thomas Stone is believed to have begun construction of his new home in 1771. It is likely that some older buildings were standing on the site he selected. By 1783 the property was improved by "1 good brick dwelling House Kitchen & nine other necessary Houses," some of which may have

predated Stone's purchase of the land. The "nine other necessary Houses" probably included domestic support dependencies, barns, stables, and quarters.

Other improved properties making up Thomas Stone's estate as it existed in 1783 included a tract called Bridgett's Delight on which stood "1 old dwg. House, Kitchen, Barn with other out Houses"; Simpson's Delight on which there was "1 old dwg. & kitchen [and] 3 other old Houses all out of repair"; Chandler's Hills on which there was "a small brick dwelling house...a kitchen with a brick chimney...a corn house & a large barn, a water mill...and a small house inhabited by a miller,"; and Moberly, which had on it a small dwelling with a log kitchen, "a good tobacco house & another building very small." 10

It does not appear that any significant building activity took place on the Haberdeventure plantation between 1783 and 1821.¹¹ According to the 1798 Federal Direct Tax lists, improvements in existence at that time included the principal dwelling that, with three dependencies, received the comparatively high valuation of \$1,800.00.¹² There were also two other small dwellings on the property, probably quarters or tenements, that had a combined value of \$70.¹³ Agricultural buildings were not numbered nor valued in the 1798 assessment. Assuming that there were at least three, then the total number of buildings standing in 1798 is close to that recorded in 1783.

The Haberdeventure plantation is not believed to have been occupied by any member of the Stone family between about 1808 until 1821 when William Briscoe Stone took up residence.¹⁴ By this date the house and most of the other buildings had clearly fallen into disrepair.¹⁵ Between 1821 and 1831 extensive rehabilitation work was done to the house and outbuildings, and new buildings constructed.¹⁶ This work continued after Stone's purchase of the house and part of the land in 1831, particularly between the mid-1830s and 1850 when the house was enlarged and other improvements made.¹⁷

Except for roofing and other repair work to the house, and maintenance of outbuildings, little construction activity took place at Haberdeventure after William B. Stone's death in 1872. By the mid-1920s many of the earlier structures, including quarters and dependencies, had disappeared. The most

significant change to the house occurred in the decade preceding its sale, when the paneling of the east room was removed and the roof of the west hyphen altered.

VI.2. THE THOMAS STONE HOUSE: CONSTRUCTION, REPAIRS AND ADDITIONS, 1770-1928

It is generally accepted that Thomas Stone commenced construction of his house shortly after his 1770 purchase of the Haberdeventure-Hansons Plains Enlarged tract. This assumption relies upon two bricks in opposite ends of the south wall of the original central block of the house, one of which is inscribed "D. Stone" and the other "D. Stone Avg 1772."

The overall architecture of this portion of the existing, five-part structure, together with recorded and surviving evidence of its original carpentry and finish details, conforms with local building customs during the period 1760-1780.¹ It can then be assumed that this "circa 1771" construction date is probably correct. But, if building commenced in 1771 it was at least another two years before the house was completed. Evidence of this is contained in a letter Thomas Stone wrote to Baltimore merchant Robert Christie in 1773. Dated September 17th of that year and written from Annapolis, Stone requested Christie to send to him at Port Tobacco "150 lbs of white lead ground in oil," and in a postscript asks "if any proper stone for steps to be had I should be obliged by your sending also sufficient for two doors."²

Given the extent of documentary materials associated with Haberdeventure's history throughout the period of Stone family ownership, it is both surprising and disappointing that this letter is the only known documentary evidence that specifically relates to the building of, or physical changes to, the house during Thomas Stone's lifetime.

Thomas Stone moved with his wife and three children to their new home in Annapolis in 1783, and continued to live there until about June 1787.³ As outlined in Section I, during the 1770s and 1780s the house at Haberdeventure was occupied by two of Thomas Stone's brothers, three of his sisters, a nephew, and possibly other family members. Although Stone

made his Annapolis house his principal residence after 1783, he clearly visited his Charles County house often inasmuch a number of his surviving letters are noted as written from Haberdeventure.

Architectural and archeological evidence indicates that the existing west hyphen of the house was built after completion of the construction of the main block.⁵ There is also archeological evidence that the existing hyphen may overlay an earlier structure, possibly a framed breezeway that previously connected the house to its original kitchen.⁶

Precisely when the existing west hyphen was built is not known, though it appears to have been within at least a decade or so of the house. It is doubtful that this structure was intended merely to serve as a connecting passage between the house and the kitchen. Very possibly it was built to accommodate the extended household that occupied Haberdeventure beginning in the early 1770s, during which time space would have been at a premium. Perhaps the hyphen was used as a family dining area, thus allowing one of the two principal first-floor rooms to be converted to a bed-sitting room.⁷

In his 1787 will Thomas Stone stipulated that his brother, Michael Jenifer Stone, should "have a right to live at the house of Haberdeventure" and that he was to "keep the houses in repair." An invoice, thought to have been from merchant Robert Fergusson of Port Tobacco, itemizes various building materials, including nails, hinges, window glass and plank, as well as plastering and masonry tools that were purchased by Michael Stone between August 1794 and March 1795. The same invoice also lists purchases made by "Miss Gracey Stone," suggesting that the purchases were charged against the estate of Thomas Stone, of which Michael Jenifer Stone was an administrator and Grace Stone a beneficiary. It is conceivable that the building materials Stone purchased might relate to the building of the west hyphen. 10

The Stones' house at Haberdeventure was evidently kept in good repair through to the end of the 1790s for in 1798 the house, together with three dependencies, received an assessed value of \$1,800., ranking it among the

most valuable residential properties in Charles County at that time.¹¹ By 1808, however, the Stone family had moved from the property, and from that time until about 1821 the house is believed to have been left vacant or perhaps occupied by tenants.¹²

An 1825 letter and account of moneys spent on the repairs to Haberdeventure establishes with certainty that William Briscoe Stone was living in the house at least by May of that year.¹³ The contents of this document, combined with other records, indicate that Stone may have begun living at Haberdeventure as early as the summer of 1821.¹⁴ The 1825 record of repairs to the house, one of the earliest and certainly one of the most significant documents relating to the architectural evolution of the Thomas Stone house, reads in part:

"You will have here a view of the repairs I have Done & some I have not even yet completed - I have not been so fortunate as to have gotten one pound of Tobacco for last year's rent & I fear from the excessive & unseasonable Drought that yr Tenants will be slow in their payments. (The Drought has prevented the Tobacco being got ready & prised) - you surely have not resolved to be silent & I hope will come & bring or permit my relations to visit Haberdeventure. In my last I said other repairs were necessary but of this you cannot be a competent judge unless you visit the place..."

The letter and accompanying itemization of materials and labor costs primarily concerns work to the house, although Stone also discussed several other buildings and a recently built stable. The materials used in the rehabilitation of the house included cypress shingles, white pine plank, 400 pounds of "cut nails," window glass and putty, "5 brass knob locks," and bricks. The account included payments on "Peter Robeys Bill (a House Joiner)," the hire of "4 negroe carpenters for 2 mos & 1/2," and charges for "Bricklayers work." According to Stone's figures he had expended \$497.70 on the work on the house. At the bottom of the lists of charges Stone noted that he had "not yet paid for all of the Brick Work nor is it yet Done," and that

he had had "the Top of the roof of the main building covered - it took about 12,000 shingles & some planks the piazzas covered."¹⁵

There are several additional aspects to the 1825 document that warrant mention. First, it is apparent that the repairs were being done under an agreement previously worked out between William B. Stone and his cousin, Mildred Daniel, Haberdeventure's owner, and that the work had been going on for some time. Stone stated that "it was for & is to my convenience that the com House etc. was built," so building activities had obviously commenced well before the earliest entry in the 1825 account, work that may well relate to an invoice for building materials paid for by Stone in 1821.17 Secondly, the extent of repairs made to the house and the materials itemized suggest that the building(s) had been allowed to deteriorate for quite some time. Third, this document contains the earliest reference to the house having covered porches. The fact that "piazzas" were in existence and requiring repair suggests they may have been original features. 18 Also of interest is the inclusion of charges for masonry work. Only 1500 bricks are itemized, but Stone clearly states that the brickwork had not been completed. It is possible that the "brick work" included the existing cellar entry, which is an early to mid-nineteenth century addition.19

Despite the apparent extent of the rehabilitation of the house in 1825 and the reshingling of the "Top of the roof," additional repairs were still necessary according to an 1828 letter written by Mildred Daniel to William B. Stone:

"I certainly cannot expect my poverty...should induce you to live in a house which does not exclude the rain. I am therefore willing that the roof should be made tight..."²⁰

No further work is believed to have been done to the house until about 1840 when William Briscoe Stone had the existing west wing built and made repairs and changes to the interior of the main block. The precise date when this was done has not been firmly established. Unfortunately, none of the documents that have been found and which are connected with the work are dated.²¹ However, the content of some of Stone's letters indicate that the building of the west wing probably occurred between 1839 and 1845, which

would be consistent with the surviving original interior woodwork and carpentry details of the existing wing.

In an undated tongue-in-cheek letter Stone wrote to John Fergusson of Port Tobacco, Stone inquired as to when Fergusson's "man" Allen would finally be available to work on his (Stone's) house, and complained that "I have suffered so much in my little family comforts & concerns for want of our [k]itchen & the time having elapsed when you promised to send your man [Allen], that I could wait patiently no longer [and engaged another workman]."²²

In another undated letter, thought to have been written in 1843, Stone wrote his daughters, Margaret and Mary, that

"The neglect of workmen - the delay of material written for - the rain etc. etc. - keeps our old house yet unfinished - the plastering moreover is much too wet yet for use, & we must bear for some time to come the inconvenience -"23

A third undated document thought to be associated with the building of the west wing and repairs to the house is a list of building materials found among a collection of miscellaneous papers of William B. Stone's.²⁴ These materials included flooring, timbers, window and doors, and casings and other trim for a "kitchen" that in type and amount conforms to the size, fenestration and detailing of the west wing of Haberdeventure. Also itemized were shingles, framing and flooring for two "piazzas," as well as other materials consistent with the nineteenth century changes to the main block of the house depicted in ca. 1900 photographs.

One other document that *is* dated and which may also relate to the repair and expansion of the house is an invoice for four barrels of lime Stone purchased in 1840 from Baltimore merchant B. H. E. Sanders. On the bottom of the invoice Sanders wrote

"The Glass Hoops you wish cannot be had in our city: the Glass Makers or agents say the necks of Porter

Bottles are Generally used for the purpose you want. Break the necks from the Bottom of the Bottle when you have the ring desired. Lighting rods in our City are always put up with the necks of Bottles."²⁵

It does not appear that any substantive changes were made to the exterior of the house after this date except, possibly, the rehabilitation of the "office." This work included replacement of its underpinning and most of the framing of the first-floor exterior walls. Information revealed by archeological investigations indicate that this work may have taken place between about 1840 and 1860 and thus may be contemporary with the ca. 1840 construction of the west wing and the concurrent rebuilding of the front and rear porches of the main block.²⁰

The earliest photographs of the exterior of Haberdeventure that have been found date ca. 1902. These show the house much as it appeared by about 1870.²⁷ The same photographs, though showing only the south facade, indicate that the exterior trimwork, including the porch columns, were painted in contrasting colors. The roof surfaces of the main block, south porch, east hyphen and the "office" are all wood shingled, while those of the west hyphen and west wing are sheathed with metal. Recent investigation of the roof frame and nailers of the west wing revealed that metal roofing was used at the time it was built.²⁸ It is probable that it was at the time the wing was built that the roof of the west hyphen was also sheathed with metal.

Changes to the interior of the house between about 1840 and 1900 included replacement of the newels and possibly the balustrades of the main stair, and the apparent removal of paneled wainscoting from the west wall of the central hall.²⁰ Another change that is thought to have taken place, but which has not been definitely confirmed, was the removal of original paneling from the fireplace walls of the two bed chambers of the main block. Other work to the central block is documented in a letter related to the removal of the east room paneling in 1928 in which it is said that the flooring of that room was not as "ancient" as the paneling.³⁰ Possibly other areas of flooring in the house had been replaced as well. The only other known changes to the interior for which there is historical documentation was the conversion of the west

hyphen for use as a kitchen. This occurred before 1878, possibly during William Briscoe Stone's lifetime, and undoubtedly coincided with the adaption of the west wing for occupancy by tenants who farmed Haberdeventure.³¹

In Margaret Stone's 1913 obituary the house was described as being in a "first class state of preservation." By about 1920, however, the exterior appearance of the house began to show signs of deterioration, and its appearance depicted in the ca. 1900 photographs was changed by the removal of the porch balustrade and dormer shutters, and the re-roofing of the main block and east hyphen and "office" with metal. 33

The last and most dramatic changes to Haberdeventure during the Stones' ownership occurred between 1925 and 1928. The first was the raising of the roof of the west hyphen to provide a second-floor connecting passage between the main block and west wing. The newly created space also contained several small rooms that were used as "a nursery." The second was the sale and removal of the eighteenth-century paneling of the east first-floor room of the main block.

The historical value of this woodwork in the context of both Haberdeventure and the Stone family was evidently not lost on Michael Robertson Stone, who agreed to the sale of the paneling to the City of Baltimore and the Baltimore Museum of Art in 1927.³⁵ In one of his letters to Blanchard Randall, the museum's president who arranged for its purchase, Stone equated the removal of the woodwork to "a funeral.³⁶

The process of finalizing the sale and then the removal of Haberdeventure's paneling took two years, during which time numerous letters were exchanged between Stone and museum officials.³⁷ The museum had initially agreed to purchase the woodwork for \$5,000, which Stone later asked to be increased to \$10,000, claiming that in their original discussions he had not anticipated there being "such a clean sweep of the interior," and that fabricating and installing appropriate replacement woodwork would be more costly than he had estimated.³⁰ The museum finally agreed to the increased price, possibly by getting Stone to include with the purchase the eighteenth-century portraits of Thomas Stone, Dr. Gustavus Brown and Margaret (Black) Brown.³⁰ The

paneling was removed in August 1928 and the replacement woodwork installed shortly afterward.⁴⁰ According to John Hoskins Stone, a son of Michael R. Stone, the space created for the installation at the museum was smaller than the room from which the paneling was removed.⁴¹ In order to make the paneling conform to the space provided several panels were deleted. Also according to Stone, the entrance door to the room that is part of the museum installation is not part of what was removed from Haberdeventure, but instead "from some other place."⁴²

VI.2.a. LOCAL PROTOTYPES

The eighteenth-century core of the Thomas Stone house is remarkably similar to the house known as Stagg Hall in Port Tobacco.¹ Both are single-pile dwellings with a central stair passage, and with heated bed chambers within a gambrel roof distinguished by nearly vertically angled lower slopes.² Both houses were also built over full cellars and possess exterior chimneys. Other similarities include the design of their dormer windows, the configuration of their stairs, and the treatment of the chimney breasts of their principal rooms.³ In fact, the only significant difference between these two structures is that Stagg Hall is of frame rather than brick construction and that it is of slightly smaller dimensions.⁴

The home of a prosperous Port Tobacco merchant, Stagg Hall is believed to have been constructed in the late 1740s, and was undoubtedly well known to Thomas Stone.⁵ The house has proved invaluable in providing prototypical details for the restoration of the exterior of Haberdeventure's original central block, and will undoubtedly continue to provide similarly useful information in future phases of the restoration project.

Other local eighteenth-century houses that relate to Haberdeventure are La Grange and Rose Hill. Although both are significantly larger and of different architectural styling, they nevertheless possess certain related features. La Grange, built about 1766, was the home of Dr. James Craik, George Washington's personal physician and an

associate of Thomas Stone's brother-in-law, Dr. Gustavus Brown.⁶ La Grange would have been very familiar to Thomas Stone, as would have Rose Hill, the home of Dr. Brown, located adjacent to Haberdeventure.⁷ Rose Hill was built about a decade after Haberdeventure, but Dr. Brown is known to have had considerable influence on Thomas Stone and is thought to have measurably contributed toward Thomas Stone's acquisition of Haberdeventure and other lands.⁶

Haberdeventure's two-story west wing, built by William Briscoe Stone ca. 1840, is of interest for its combination of brick and frame construction. Frame buildings with brick ends are fairly common to this region, and many examples dating from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries survive. Among the better known examples in Charles County are La Grange and Rose Hill, and Milton Hill, built ca. 1820.° As a kitchen-service structure, Haberdeventure's west wing is unusual for its overall size, balanced interior plan, and finishes.

Haberdeventure's east "office" is thought to date from the eighteenth century based on its roof frame and extensive use of wrought nails. 11 The building's underpinning and the framing timbers of the lower exterior walls were largely replaced in the nineteenth-century and again by the National Park Service. 12 Its numerous overhauls have removed any early details which might have provided further evidence of its actual age and original architecture. The surviving roof frame, however, is of considerable interest for its use of heavy purlins between the upper and lower roof slopes, and the fact that the upper rafters were butted and nailed to a thin ridge piece. 13 There are no other gambrel-roofed eighteenth-century buildings in the county with similarly framed roofs. 14 In basic size, interior plan and overall exterior design, the "office" closely resembles the eighteenth-century wing of Locust Grove located not far from Haberdeventure. 15

VI.2.b. CARPENTERS/ARTISANS

Research has revealed the names of many individuals who are

believed to have been involved in the building of the ca. 1771 portion of Haberdeventure and its later additions. Only one, however, is specifically identified in the papers of the Stone family. This is Peter Robey, a "House Joiner," employed by William B. Stone during the rehabilitation of the house in 1825.1

Historical evidence suggests that certain relatives of Thomas Stone's may have participated in the building of his house. His father, David Stone, owned carpentry and joiner tools as well as heavy carts for hauling timbers according to the 1774 inventory of his estate.² Samuel Stone, Thomas's brother who died in 1778, also owned carpentry and joiner tools.³ One of Thomas Stone's cousins, Thomas Stone who died in 1786, is also known to have been a carpenter-joiner.⁴ In addition, Thomas Stone owned at least two slaves whom he referred to as "carpenters," as did his brother, Samuel.⁵

It is reasonable to conjecture that at least one or two of these relatives was involved in building the Thomas Stone house, and that the "D. Stone" inscribed in two bricks on Haberdeventure's south facade is Thomas Stone's father.⁶ However, there were at least 25 other carpenter-joiners who were living and working in Charles County during the time the central block and west hyphen were built.⁷ Evidence that some of these builders and artisans possessed considerable design, carpentry and carving skills is reflected in the sophistication of such surviving eighteenth-century houses as La Grange (ca. 1766) and Rose Hill (ca. 1784).⁶

It should be considered that at the time Thomas Stone built his house there was an extraordinary amount of building activity taking place in the nearby port town and county seat of Port Tobacco. Contemporary accounts document a number of these buildings as being of substantial size and architectural refinement. The amount of building then taking place is also known to have attracted builders and artisans to the area from as far as Alexandria and Baltimore. Any one or several of these craftsmen could have been engaged by Stone in the building of Haberdeventure and in executing its woodwork. The handsome corner

cupboards, now at the Baltimore Museum of Art, and certain joinery details of the window sash are thought to be unique in a local historic architectural context.¹² This suggests that the work may have been executed by someone possessing above average skills who may not have been native to the area.¹³

The carpenters employed in later phases of Haberdeventure's architectural development, particularly between about 1825 and 1850, are much more easily identified from the extensive papers associated with William Briscoe Stone.

As previously stated, in his 1825 letter to Mildred (Stone) Daniel, and the accompanying account of expenditures relating to the repairs of the house and the building of his stable, Stone names Peter Robey as having been employed to oversee the work. Stone had also hired "4" negroe carpenters" to assist Robey.14 These men are not identified by name, but other documents indicate that they were slaves owned by Stone's father-in-law. Gustavus Brown. 15 Also itemized in 1825 was money paid for "Bricklayers work." The bricklayer is not named, but it is extremely likely that it was William Kendrick, a mason who was actively working in the county at that time and with whom Stone was well acquainted. 16 It is possible that both Peter Robey and William Kendrick were involved in building the existing west wing about 15 years later since both were still engaged in the building trade at that time.17 Two other individuals who undoubtedly assisted in this construction work were William B. Stone's slaves, John and William, both of whom were carpenters.¹⁸

It is not known who may have been employed in working on the house during Margaret G. Stone's ownership. General maintenance work to the house and other buildings was probably done by her various tenants.

VI.2.c. LANDSCAPING: GARDENS AND OTHER DESIGN FEATURES

The history of Haberdeventure's ownership and occupancy indicate

that the south terraces are very likely contemporary with the 1770-1787 period in the property's development. The possibility that this landscaping feature might have been introduced between Thomas Stone's death and William B. Stone's occupancy of the house is extremely remote. It is just as unlikely that the terraces were installed at any time after 1825.

Thomas Stone evidently possessed at least a moderate interest in gardening. The inventory of his Charles County estate lists "a parcel old gardain tools" among his effects there, and at his home in Annapolis there were numerous flower pots, garden hoes and rakes, a pair of "Garden shears," and "1 wooden Garden Roller, Iron frame." The only other possible documentary evidence for a garden at Haberdeventure is an entry in the Michael Jenifer Stone accounts of 1773-1781 for cash "given to the Gardener for Gardain seeds of Sundry kinds."

Thomas Stone's interest in ornamental gardening may have originated with his father-in-law, Dr. Gustavus Richard Brown, whose own interests and activities in horticulture are far better documented.³ In fact, it may have been Dr. Brown who designed the terraces at Haberdeventure. Though they are not as large nor as dramatic, the terraces at Haberdeventure have some resemblance to those Dr. Brown created at Rose Hill ca. 1784, and on which he planted boxwood in patterns of "semi-circles and rectangles," portions of which still survive.⁴ Whether the terraces at Haberdeventure were originally ornamented by boxwood or other plantings is not known.

One highly intriguing piece of evidence suggesting that a formally landscaped setting for the house may have once existed or been planned are traces of what seem to have been a broad approach drive that appears in the 1937 aerial view. This roadway would have been entered at the junction of what were two major public thoroughfares in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries: the old Port Tobacco-Piscataway Road (now Rose Hill Road) and the Port Tobacco-Mattawoman Road (later Glymont Road and now abandoned.)⁵ The

aerial view suggests that this possible entrance road was in direct axial alignment with the front and rear doors of the original central section of Haberdeventure, and in direct axial alignment with the terraces and the surviving earthen ramp. If such an approach drive existed in the eighteenth-century that is physically related to the positioning of the house and terraces, it would considerably enhance Haberdeventure's landmark stature.

Whatever formal plantings that may have existed at Haberdeventure in the eighteenth-century probably did not survive into William Briscoe Stone's period of ownership. Considering that the property was not occupied by the Stone family during the first two decades of the nineteenth-century, and that during this time the house and many of the other buildings had fallen into serious disrepair, it is reasonable to conjecture that any ornamental gardens or plantings installed in the eighteenth-century had suffered the same or worse fate. If anything did survive, their condition might have been such that they were removed during the rehabilitation of the house in 1825.

No specific references to formal landscaping or gardens has been found for the nineteenth century beyond an allusion to a flower garden contained in an 1835 letter.⁷ In 1858, William B. Stone purchased a number of garden tools and "garden rope" from William Boswell's store in Port Tobacco, but these are thought to have been for a vegetable rather than ornamental flower garden.⁶

In oral history interviews with several of the children of Michael Robertson Stone the terraces are described as having been bordered by plantings of flowers interspersed with crepe myrtle, and that the earthen ramp between the upper and lower terraces was flanked by grape arbors. Some of the border plantings are depicted in a series of photographs of the house taken in 1926.

VI.3. DOMESTIC DEPENDENCIES

The 1783 tax assessment record for Haberdeventure vaguely defines the

improvements separate from the house to have included "Kitchen and nine other necessary Houses." It is therefore not known how many of these "nine other" buildings might have been domestic support structures. However, like other similarly well-developed plantations in the area, they most likely consisted of a meat house, a dairy, a stable and/or carriage house and perhaps an office or "studdy." There may also have been a spinning house.

The numerical listing and descriptions of improvements on a given property in the 1783 tax assessments generally covered all buildings, regardless of their location and function. Thus, the "nine other necessary Houses" might have been scattered over the entire 442 acres that then comprised Stone's Haberdeventure estate. The 1798 Federal District Tax assessments, on the other hand, separated the principal residence with two acres and the improvements thereon from the balance of the property, but only when the assessed value of the principal residence exceeded \$100. The entry for Haberdeventure includes one house and three outbuildings on two acres with an assessed value of \$1,800.4 By this time the original kitchen was almost certainly attached to the house by the existing west hyphen, but nevertheless might have been counted as a separate building. In the 1798 assessment it was usually only the most important outbuildings that were numbered, while in 1783 even buildings that were "worth nothing" were counted. Therefore, it is possible that more than three dependencies were in existence in 1798. At Haberdeventure, the eighteenth-century kitchen is the only original dependency whose location has been definitely established. The surviving "office" is believed to have been in existence by 1783, and most certainly by 1798, but possibly was relocated from (or repositioned on) its original site. Even if this building had been moved, it would have been originally located close to the house and therefore would have been one of the three outbuildings listed in 1798.5

Except for the "office" it is not known what if any of the buildings standing in 1783 and 1798 remained at the time William Briscoe Stone began living at Haberdeventure. His 1825 letter to Mildred Daniel concerning repairs to the dwelling mentions a "wash House" that was in existence and apparently in need of rehabilitation. Stone's letter infers that this was probably a largish structure inasmuch as he had contemplated "repairing the whole of the wash

House using one part as a corn House."⁷ At this same time Stone built a new stable adjacent to where he had built a "corn House etc." a year or two earlier.⁸ No other dependencies are mentioned in this document; however, it is clear from the text that the repair work was being done in accordance with an agreement Stone had with Mildred Daniel that involved other buildings.⁹

With the exception of the "wash House," no historical references have been found identifying domestic dependencies existing at Haberdeventure during the nineteenth century beyond that contained in a letter Stone wrote to John Fergusson of Port Tobacco in which he complained of the inconvenience of not having a kitchen. This letter was probably written ca. 1840, and it is assumed that the kitchen had burned. It is fairly certain that this is the same building whose foundations were revealed during archeological investigations of the existing west wing. 11

According to members of the Stone family, several early dependencies remained in use until about 1920. This included a frame, "5-sided" dairy that had a pyramid roof and a paved floor, and a timber-framed, gable-roofed meat house. These buildings are said to have been located close to the west side of the west wing.12 Neither of these buildings appear in the earliest photographs (ca. 1902) of the house. The Stones' descriptions of the dairy suggest that it may have had eighteenth-century origins.¹³ Also described by the Stones was a large, two-story, corncrib on brick piers which formerly stood a short distance from the east end of the "office."14 It is said that this building was older than the surviving corncrib. The descriptions also suggest that it probably housed rooms for both corn and grain storage. It is probable that this is the "corn House" referred to in 1825. The location of this building is considered to be of some importance since it is apparent from William B. Stone's 1825 letter that he built his new stable adjacent to where the "corn House etc." stood. The 1934 aerial views of the property show what appears to be traces of a large drive between the existing driveway and the chimney end of the "office." If Stone built a stable in this general location it may be that he built a carriage house here as well. 15

VI.4. SLAVE AND TENANT HOUSING

As discussed in Section V of this report, the Haberdeventure estate was occupied by a significant number of slaves between the early 1770s and about 1794. These slaves undoubtedly lived in small cabins or possibly duplex quarters, but where these buildings might have stood has yet to be determined. Slave dwellings were undoubtedly among the "nine other necessary Houses" existing at Haberdeventure in 1783. In 1798, only nine slaves were occupying Haberdeventure, by which time some of the older slave cabins might have disappeared or been in ruins. The 1798 tax assessment lists only two other "dwellings" on the land. These were given a combined value of \$70, indicating that they were probably one-room structures of mean construction and finishes. Whether these "dwellings" were occupied by slaves or tenants is not known.

No historical documentation has been found indicating what, if any, slave housing existed at Haberdeventure when William B. Stone moved there in the early 1820s. It is known, however, that the property was then occupied by tenants. Invoices for building materials purchased by Stone in the mid-1840s and in 1858 are thought to relate to his construction of at least two small dwellings at Haberdeventure.

According to surviving members of the Stone family who lived at Haberdeventure, there once existed at least three one-room "cabins," each with an outside brick chimney. These are said to have formed a line extending off from the southwest end of the existing tenant house and to have been "slave cabins." The cabin that stood furthest away was said to have been the oldest, and to have originally been occupied by "overseers." This building remained standing until about 1925 when it was destroyed by fire. The others had fallen to ruin many years before.

The existing tenant house at Haberdeventure has not been architecturally investigated. Observable construction details indicate that it was probably built during William B. Stone's period of ownership, and may be the building for which Stone purchased materials in 1858.¹⁰

VI.5 AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS

Until its acquisition by The National Park Service, Haberdeventure had remained in agricultural use throughout its recorded history. However, no agricultural buildings survive that pre-date William Briscoe Stone's period of ownership, and even most of the buildings he is known to have constructed have long since disappeared.

It is not precisely known what agricultural buildings existed on the property during Thomas Stone's ownership. Presumably, they included shelters for the eight horses and 22 head of cattle for which Stone was assessed in 1782, as well as buildings for curing tobacco, and storing hay, corn and grain.¹

This research has revealed only one early reference to an agricultural building that formerly existed at Haberdeventure. This is the "corn House" mentioned in William B. Stone's 1825 letter to his cousin Mildred Daniel.² This building thought to have been located a short distance east of the house, between the east "office" and the cemetery, was demolished ca. 1920.³

The three earliest agricultural-use buildings that survive are the tobacco barn, the corncrib and the sheep barn, the last now in ruins. All three of these buildings were constructed during William B. Stone's ownership of the property. The earliest and most architecturally interesting of the three is the sheep barn.4 Its carpentry and original fasteners suggest a construction date of about 1840 and it is one of exceedingly few surviving examples of its form and function in Charles County. This building's historical interest is enhanced by the fact that the Stone family consistently owned large numbers of sheep beginning as early as the 1770s and continuing throughout the nineteenth century.⁵ Sheep were still being raised at Haberdeventure at the time of Margaret Stone's death in 1913.6 Thomas Stone's brother, Samuel, raised sheep for wool and owned numerous pieces of cloth making equipment.⁷ The listing of "5 weavers slays [and] 1 Woolen Wheel" in the inventory of Thomas Stone's Charles County estate suggests that sheep were also raised at Haberdeventure for wool and cloth making.⁶ The "wash house" referenced in 1825/1826 and 1876 was probably for washing sheep prior to shearing.

ENDNOTES TO SECTION VI:

VI.1.

- 1. Deeds, C#2:107, La Plata. Lambeths name is spelled variously as Lambeth or Lambert in his land transactions. The inclusion of the phrase "together with all buildings barnes stables gardens..." is fairly standard in deeds of conveyances and was not necessarily a description of what in fact existed at the time.
- 2. Deeds, L#2:147, *La Plata*. Lambeth had originally sold the land to Robert's father, John Hanson, but for unexplained reasons the conveyance was not recorded until ten years after John Hanson died.
- 3. Patents, IC#B:634, Annapolis.
- 4. Wills, AC#4:252, La Plata.
- 5. Ibid., and Notes 2, 3.
- 6. Deeds, L#3:339, La Plata.
- 7. Patents, BC & GS#32:527, Annapolis.
- 8. Maryland Gazette, March 9, 1769.
- 9. 1783 Tax Assessments, Charles County, Fifth District, Land (Appendix 2).
- 10. Ibid., Fifth and Sixth Districts. All of these improvements were in existence at the time Stone purchased these lands.
- 11. No reference has been found for the construction of any buildings at Haberdeventure between these years in any of the Stone papers that have been examined.
- 12. 1798 Federal Direct Tax, Charles County, Part 2: Dwellings. The \$1,800 valuation placed the house among the top 10% of all dwellings assessed for more than \$100 in Charles County that year. For an analysis of building valuations in the 1798 assessment see *Homeplaces*, pp. 16-18.
- 13. Ibid. See Sections I and III.
- 14. See Section I:1.3.
- 15. See Section VI.2.
- 16. Ibid. See Appendix 6.
- 17. Ibid.

VI.2.

- 1. Several historic Charles County homes have dated bricks placed similarly to those at Haberdeventure, the date on the left-hand brick usually one year earlier than that on the right-hand side. Documentation indicates they marked the beginning and completion date of construction. If this can be correctly applied to Haberdeventure, then construction might well have commenced in 1771.
- 2. Myers Collection, #758, New York Public Library. (Photocopy in Jean B. Lee Collection, SMSC.)
- 3. See Sections I and II.
- 4. Ibid.
- 5. HSR:39. The door accessing the hyphen from the main block is clearly an original feature. The surrounding masonry reflects the probability that it was originally sheltered by a structure considerably smaller than the existing west hyphen.
- 6. Ibid. See also John Milner Associates, "Archeological Studies of the Garden and House at the Thomas Stone National Historic Site (18 CH331), Charles County Maryland," (1992).
- 7. This is a conjectural opinion based on the history of the use of the house, ca. 1771-1787 and the relative sophistication of the design and finishes of the hyphen. Having beds in formal ground-floor rooms was not an uncommon practice.
- 8. Wills, AH#9:459, La Plata.
- 9. WBS Papers, Duke University.
- 10. Ibid. It is equally possible that these same materials were used in rehabilitation or construction work at the Stones' mill. It is suggested in the HRS that these materials were used by Stone in construction of Equality, but this is not likely.
- 11. See Section VI.1., Note 12.
- 12. See Sections I, III and V.
- 13. Stone Family Papers, MHS. (See Appendix 6.)
- 14. See Section I:I.3.
- 15. See Note 13 above.
- 16. Ibid.
- 17. On September 12, 1821, Stone purchased from Josiah H. Davis, Alexandria, Va., 10,000 "smooth sh[ave]d shingles, 6,000 laths, 6,502 feet merch^d w.o. Boards" and 1,041 feet "merch^d 5/4 Boards." (P. D. Brown Collection, SMSC.)

- 18. Porches were rarely an original feature on surviving eighteenth-century houses in Charles County whose architecture has been documented. See *Homeplaces*, pp. 25-28.
- 19. The existing east hyphen is clearly a nineteenth-century addition to the house and probably replaced a smaller shed entry of frame construction.
- 20. WBS Papers, Duke University.
- 21. These records are found in the WBS Papers, *Duke University*, Stone Family Papers, *MHS*, and the Louise Stone Matthews and P. D. Brown Collections, *SMSC*.
- 22. WBS Papers, *Duke University*. A merchant and Chief Judge of the Orphans' Court, Fergusson lived at Mulberry Grove just south of Port Tobacco. He died in 1847. Fergusson owned 77 slaves at the time of his death, but none by the name of Allen. Among these slaves were two, Sam and Philip, who were named "carpenters." (Inventories, 1846-1849:311, *La Plata*.)
- 23. Louise Stone Matthews Collection, SMSC.
- 24. P. D. Brown Collection, SMSC. (See Appendix 6.)
- 25. Louise Stone Matthews Collection, SMSC. The forged iron rings that exist on the face of the east chimney of the central block are believed to have been used for the purpose described and thus are datable to ca. 1840.
- 26. Ronald W. Deiss, "Archeological Excavations at the Thomas Stone NHS, Port Tobacco, Maryland," (National Park Service, 1986) pp. 78-80.
- 27. File copies, John Milner Architects, Inc.
- 28. The original sheathing boards survive intact. Neither these boards, nor the upper faces of the rafters over which they were applied show any evidence of a pre-1940 covering of wood shingles. The existing roof rafters are clearly contemporary with the balance of the wing's framing system.
- 29. This is evidenced in the ca. 1909 photograph of the east "parlor" and hall entrance door in which the west wall of the hall appears.
- 30. Baltimore Museum of Art Papers, *MHS*. In his instructions to the contractor who removed the woodwork, Blanchard Randall wrote: "...excepting the floors which I am assured is not of the same ancient date as the paneling...".
- 31. HRS, Part 3:11.
- 32. Times-Crescent, February 7, 1913.
- 33. See photographic file.
- 34. Oral Histories, Betty Stone Lybrook (1987), SMSC.
- 35. Baltimore Museum of Art Papers, MHS.

- 36. Ibid.
- 37. Ibid.
- 38. Ibid.
- 39. Ibid.
- 40. Ibid. Oral Histories, Betty Stone Lybrook and John Hoskins Stone (1987), SMSC.
- 41. Ibid., (Oral Histories).
- 42. Ibid.

VI.2.a.

- 1. See *Homeplaces*, pp. 62-67. Stagg Hall is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.
- 2. Ibid.
- 3. ibid.
- 4. Ibid.
- 5. Ibid. The house is thought to have been built by John Pamham ca. 1746 based on historical evidence.
- 6. See Homeplaces, pp. 78-85.
- 7. Ibid., also p. 31.
- 8. See Section II.
- 9. See *Homeplaces*, pp. 78-85. J. Richard Rivoire Collection, Series II: Milton Hill, *SMSC*.
- 10. There are no surviving service structures of this size and architecture surviving in Charles county.
- 11. HSR: 58-70.
- 12. Ibid.
- 13. Ibid., and personal examinations.
- 14. The only known surviving example of a purlined-framed roof in Charles County is La Grange, however, this was not an unusual method of framing in the Chesapeake region in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries as evidenced by many surviving examples.
- 15. Locust Grove is listed in the National Register. J. Richard Rivoire Collection,

Series II: Locust Grove/Beech Neck, SMSC.

VI.2.b.

- 1. See Appendix 6.
- 2. Inventories, 1774-1775: 17, *La Plata*.
- 3. Wills, AF#7:158, 179, La Plata.
- 4. Inventories, 1785-1791, 269, 277, *La Plata.* Letter, Thomas Stone to Walter Stone. November 24, 1785, Stone Family of Maryland Papers, *LC*.
- 5. Wills, AF#7:179, La Plata. HRS, Part 1:52. Stone Family Papers, MHS. In a November 24, 1785 letter, Thomas Stone requested that a number of his slaves be hired out. Those on which he placed the highest value were "carpenter Tom" and "Bob," also a carpenter. (Stone Family of Maryland Papers, LC.)
- 6. See Section VI.2., Note 1.
- 7. From MESDA research files and compiler's research.
- 8. See Section VI.2.a., Notes 6 and 7.
- 9. J. Richard Rivoire Collection, Series I and Series II: Port Tobacco Historic District, SMSC. About the time Stone was building his house construction activity was also taking place on a site less than a quarter-mile from Haberdeventure and on land Stone and his brother-in-law, Dr. Gustavus Brown, were later to acquire. This was property owned by Pryor Theobald and leased to James Key, a Port Tobacco attorney. In July 1771 the following letter was entered in the county land records at Theobald's request: "Sir: I will not without your consent make any further repairs on the Land I first Leased to be charged you or deducted out of the Rent except finishing the Kitchen underpinning the Dwelling House Plaistering it mending and altering the Chimneys to prevent their smoaking and putting a New Roof on the Office. [Signed] James Key" (Deeds, S#3:185). See also Section II, Note 16.
- 10. Ibid.
- 11. lbid.
- 12. Compiler's judgment based on extensive work in documenting local historic architecture.
- 13. Ibid.
- 14. See Appendix 5.
- 15. Stone Family Papers, MHS. WBS Papers, Duke University.
- 16. WBS Papers, *Duke University*. J. Richard Rivoire Collection, Series II: St. Mary's Church, Newport, *SMSC*.

- 17. Ibid.
- 18. See Section V.

VI.2.c.

- 1. Wills, AH#9:491, La Plata.
- 2. Michael J. Stone Account Book, Kremer Collection, SMSC.
- 3. Historic Sites Files: Rose Hill, SMSC.
- 4. Henry Chandler Forman, Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland (Easton, Maryland: privately published, 1934), p. 78. Several early aerial views of Rose Hill's gardens are in the Photograph Collection of the SMSC.
- 5. See Section II.
- 6. There is no known historic property in Charles County that survives or is known to have existed that had a symmetrical arrangement of entrance road, house and terraces.
- 7. This was in the context of a discussion of Caroline (Brown) Stone's health in which a cousin wrote of her outside activities at Haberdeventure: "a horse shoe hoe in a flower garden would do her no harm exercise in some cheerful scene is the best physic for her." WBS Papers, *Duke University*.
- 8. Stone Family Papers, MHS.
- 9. Oral Histories: John Hoskins Stone (1987), SMSC.
- 10. These, together with other photographs dated 1934, are in the Graphics Collection, MHS.

VI.3.

- 1. 1783 Tax Assessments, Charles County, Fifth District, Land (Appendix 2).
- 2. The term "studdy" applied to an office or similar outbuilding and appears frequently in the assessment records when building functions are given in more detail than this particular entry.
- 3. See Section III.
- 4. 1798 Federal Direct Tax, Charles County, Part 2.
- 5. The only reference found to an "office" at Haberdeventure is contained in the 1873 inventory of the estate of William Briscoe Stone: "Kitchen furniture & lot of old lumber in the office."
- 6. See Appendix 6 and Appendix 9.

- 7. Ibid.
- 8. Ibid.
- 9. Ibid.
- 10. WBS Papers, Duke University.
- 11. Ronald W. Deiss, "Archeological Excavations at the Thomas Stone NHS, Port Tobacco, Maryland," (National Park Service, 1986). SJS Archeological Services, Inc., "Tests at Thomas Stone National Historic Site" (1990).
- 12. Oral Histories, Betty Stone Lybrook and John Hoskins Stone (1987), SMSC.
- 13. Ibid.
- 14. Ibid.
- 15. Ibid. See Appendix 6.

VI.4.

- 1. 1783 Tax Assessments, Charles County, Fifth District, Land (Appendix 2).
- 2. 1798 Federal Direct Tax, Charles County, Part 3.
- 3. Ibid., Part 1.
- 4. See Sections III and V.
- 5. WBS Papers, *Duke University*. P. D. Brown Collection, *SMSC*. Stone Family Papers, *MHS*. One undated receipt, thought to date from the late 1840s, itemizes building materials Stone purchased from commission merchants Thompson and Spalding. These materials included 3,000 bricks, 6 barrels of lime, 2,000 sawn lath, 5,014 feet "cullings" [probably scantling], 641 feet y[ellow] pine flooring, 40 lbs. 20d "spiking" and 2 kegs of nails (P. D. Brown Collection, *SMSC*). The 1858 account was for building materials Stone purchased from William Boswell, Port Tobacco, between May and November of that year, including nails, window glass, flooring, "cullings" and paint (Stone Family Papers, *MHS*). Either of these invoices could have been associated with the building of the surviving historic tenant house.
- 6. Oral Histories: Betty Stone Lybrook and John Hoskins Stone (1987), Lorina Butler Chambers (1988) SMSC.
- 7. Ibid. This was probably the house described as occupied by John Washington in the 1876 lease agreement (Appendix 9).
- 8. Ibid., John Hoskins Stone.
- 9. Ibid.
- 10. In a recent cursory examination by the compiler evidence was found that the

building was most likely constructed in the 1840s or 1850s.

VI.5.

- 1. 1782 Tax Assessments, Charles County, Fifth District, General (Appendix 1).
- 2. See Appendix 6.
- 3. Oral Histories: Betty Stone Lybrook and John Hoskins Stone (1987), SMSC.
- 4. Based on compiler's investigation of the building ruins.
- 5. See Section III.
- 6. Inventories, 1912-1918: 19, *La Plata*. In her will Margaret bequeathed to her nieces, Kate Chapman and Susan Chapman, "my flock of sheep."
- 7. Wills and Inventories, AF#7:179, La Plata.
- 8. Inventories, AH#9:491, La Plata.

SECTION VII

FURNISHINGS HISTORY OF THE THOMAS STONE HOUSE 1770-1936

This research project has revealed a considerable amount of information concerning the furnishings history of Haberdeventure. On the basis of factual, documentary evidence, much of what has been learned contradicts the commonly held belief that most of the furnishings that existed at Haberdeventure in the early twentieth century belonged to Thomas Stone.¹ In truth, the only article in the Haberdeventure house in this century that can be proved to have been owned by Thomas Stone is his portrait which was sold to the Baltimore Museum of Art in 1928. This portrait was undoubtedly one of the "2 portrait pictures" of Thomas and his wife Margaret by Robert Edge Pine that were hanging in Stone's Annapolis house at the time of his death in 1787.² It is probable that these portraits never hung at Haberdeventure during Stone's lifetime.³

It is reasonable to assume that Haberdeventure was fairly comfortably furnished during the ten years or so that Thomas Stone lived there. It is also reasonable to assume that most of these furnishings were removed from the house when the Stones moved to Annapolis in 1783.

In 1785, Thomas Stone claimed he owned only a "trifle" amount of furniture at Haberdeventure. This was probably true inasmuch as the 1788 inventory of his Charles County estate lists only a very small amount of furniture among his possessions there. Far more opulently furnished was his Annapolis townhouse, where Stone's extensive law library was also kept. In his will Stone bequeathed most of the furniture at Haberdeventure to his two daughters, Margaret and Mildred. What remained passed to his son Frederick. His will also directed that "my house in Annapolis...Books & furniture (except pictures) be sold" in order to pay his daughters their legacies and discharge his debts.

When their brother Frederick died intestate in 1793 all of Thomas Stone's real and personal estate passed directly to Margaret and Mildred Stone.⁷ Mildred Stone is believed to have moved to Virginia before 1798 and Margaret was living in Virginia when she died in 1809.⁸ It is likely that when the sisters left Haberdeventure they took

with them the most valuable articles of furniture.9

As discussed in Section I of this report, the household at Haberdeventure between the mid-1770s and Thomas Stone's death in 1787 included several of Stone's brothers and sisters. There can be little doubt that when Stone moved his family to Annapolis in 1783 the furniture he took with him was replaced by other furniture owned by these various family members. A major portion of this replacement furniture was probably owned by Thomas's brother, Michael Jenifer Stone.

Michael Jenifer Stone made Haberdeventure his principal residence from the time Thomas Stone completed building the ca. 1771 portion of the existing house until about the time he relinquished administration of his brother's estate in 1798. While Michael Stone may have purchased certain items for his personal use, he is known to have inherited furnishings on the deaths of his parents and his brother Walter. He also inherited his brother Walter's library, as well as the far more extensive library of his uncle, Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer. Presumably, all of this was kept at Haberdeventure until about 1797 when Michael Jenifer Stone moved to Equality.

It is not known what, if any, furniture was left at Haberdeventure after the Stone family moved from there prior to 1808. Since the house was evidently left vacant or possibly inhabited by tenants, it is doubtful that anything of significant value remained at the time William Briscoe Stone took up occupancy in the early 1820s.¹³

Following the 1825 rehabilitation of Haberdeventure and William Stone's marriage that same year to Caroline Brown, the household furnishings were probably composed of articles brought from Equality, and with items that Caroline brought from her own home. Some of Caroline's possessions may have included the portraits of her great-grandparents, Dr. Gustavus Brown and Margaret (Black) Brown, purchased by the Baltimore Museum of Art from Michael R. Stone in 1928.¹⁴

Receipts in various collections of Stone family papers show that William Briscoe Stone began purchasing new furniture for the house beginning about 1828 and extending through the 1850s.¹⁵ In 1828 he purchased several large beds and a mahogany bureau from John Edelen, a Port Tobacco merchant, and 12 maple chairs from Jacob Hiss in Baltimore in 1838.¹⁶ Not long afterward he bought "35 yds carpeting" and other articles from Thompson and Spalding, Commission Merchants.¹⁷ In October 1852 he wrote to

his children, then visiting in Baltimore, that "Yr mother is ready for the carpet and fire Irons. I hope they will be good & not neglect[ed] to be sent by the first vessel..." His letter continues

"If the funds admit & you choose to buy your mother a pair of table covers, also Mary a piano cover - also if you like a center table & cover, or a pair of small oblong stands...these are about 12 to 15 inches & 2-2 1/2 feet on the top with 4 feet...very fine for chess or backgammon players..."

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It is said the Thomas Stone's law library remained at Haberdeventure until this century when Margaret G. Stone, in a fit if pique, sold it. However, Thomas Stone directed in his will that his library be sold together with the contents of his Annapolis house. Therefore, it seems likely that any library of books that existed at Haberdeventure were probably brought there by William B. Stone. The oldest of these books may have been those retained from his father's very large library, including books Michael Jenifer Stone inherited from his uncle in 1790 and from his brother Walter in 1791. But there is evidence that some of Thomas Stone's papers, and perhaps some books, might have been left at Haberdeventure. This is contained in a letter written in May 1858 to the "Misses Stone" at Haberdeventure from one of Mildred (Stone) Daniel's daughters:

"Directly after getting home yesterday I paraded my antique letters with a great deal of ostentation - when to my great-grief I found that the one I so valued of Charles Carroll's was wanting! I hope you will enclose it - to me immediately, as I would not lose it - for any consideration -"19

The 1873 inventory of the estate of William Briscoe Stone lists furniture whose descriptions indicate they were probably purchased for the house after about 1825.²⁰ Some of these furnishings appear in the ca. 1910 interior view of the first floor east room. Also itemized in the 1873 inventory is one "Lot of law & miscellaneous books." These received a relatively high valuation of \$100.²¹ This appraised value suggests a large library of bound books in good condition.

In an obituary published in 1913 on the death of Margaret G. Stone it was said that her grandfather, Michael J. Stone,

"wrote the first Constitution for the State of Maryland. This original

document is said to have been found at Habre d'Venture among old papers, a few years ago, but was so moth eaten and worn that it fell to pieces upon being handled."²²

The obituary further stated that

"Born in 1825, Miss Stone spent all of her life at the old family homestead, a brick mansion, of the Old Colonial type, which was built by Thomas Stone, the Signer, in 1764, and which is still in a first class state of preservation. Much of the furnishings of this ancient place is of the old colonial type and there are many interesting relics of Revolutionary days. The blankets used by the deceased up to the time of her death were made in the time of George the Third and bear interwoven in them the crown of that English King. Among the pictures that decorate the walls and are of especial interest, are those of Thomas Stone, Dr. Brown...and a copy of the Declaration of Independence, made many, many years ago."²³

In her will, dated 1904, Margaret G. Stone left certain furnishings and pieces of family silver to various nieces and nephews, and her bedroom and kitchen furnishings to her "faithful colored servant, Maria Miles." All the remaining furniture in the house was left to Margaret's nephew, Michael R. Stone, to whom she also devised the Haberdeventure property.²⁵

Following Michael Robertson Stone's death in 1934 some pieces of furniture were removed from the house by his heirs. Other furnishings were sold, and some pieces were left in the house when Haberdeventure was conveyed to Charles S. Smith in 1936.²⁰

In the late 1970s the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts catalogued a number of pieces of eighteenth-century furniture associated with the Stone family of Haberdeventure that were owned by descendants living in Charles County.²⁷ Additional furnishings dating from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries that are said to have originated from Haberdeventure have also been identified in private collections in Charles County and elsewhere during the course of this research project.²⁸

ENDNOTES TO SECTION VII:

- 1. This is based on recent discussions with members of the Stone family and others who were living in the county at the time the property was sold to Smith in 1936. The belief that much of the furnishings had formerly belonged or been directly associated with Thomas Stone was no doubt given credence by noted genealogist Harry W. Newman's 1937 publication, *The Stones of Poynton Manor*, in which he says "it was not uncommon during the past couple of decades to go into an antique shop of Maryland or the vicinity and be shown a certified statement that such and such a piece of furniture came from Haber de Venture.
- 2. Inventories, AH#9:459, 491, La Plata. Baltimore Museum of Art Papers, MHS. Robert G. Stewart, Robert Edge Pine: A British Portrait Painter in America, 1784-1788 (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1979), pp. 87-89. According to Stewart, the portrait of Thomas Stone was "undoubtedly painted in 1785, when both Pine and Stone would have been in Annapolis." The companion portrait of Margaret Stone was also painted by Pine in 1785.
- 3. Ibid. A copy of the Thomas Stone portrait was "painted by Pine or one of his family" at a later date. The copy portrait, and the 1785 portrait of Margaret Stone, descended in the family of Margaret (Stone) Daniel and are now owned by the National Portrait Gallery.

In 1928 the Baltimore Museum of Art purchased the 1785 Thomas Stone portrait from Michael R. Stone, as well as two additional portraits. These were of Dr. Gustavus Brown and his second wife, Margaret Black Boyd Brown, the parents of Thomas Stone's wife Margaret and her brother Dr. Gustavus R. Brown of Rose Hill. These two portraits may have descended to Margaret Brown Stone and have hung at Haberdeventure during Thomas Stone's lifetime. It is equally possible that they descended to Caroline Brown Stone, wife of William Briscoe Stone, and were therefore not part of Haberdeventure's original furnishings.

- 4. Wills and Inventories, AH#9:491, La Plata.
- 5. Ibid.
- 6. Ibid., 459.
- 7. See Section I: I.1. and I.2.
- 8. Ibid., I.2.
- A search in the Virginia archives has not revealed any records relating to the probate of Margaret Daniel's estate. Mildred Daniel's 1837 will and inventory suggests that she possessed various items of Stone family furniture, books and silver (Deed Books LL:9 and LL:138, Stafford Courthouse, Stafford, Virginia). See also Note 19.

- 10. See Section I: I.1.a.
- 11. Wills, AK#11:47, La Plata.
- 12. Wills.
- 13. See Section VI: VI.2.
- 14. Baltimore Museum of Art Papers, MHS. Wills, AL#12:213, La Plata.
- 15. These receipts are found primarily in the following collections: Louise Stone Matthews and P. D. Brown Collections, SMSC, the Stone Family Papers, MHS, and the WBS Papers, Duke University.
- 16. P. D. Brown and Louise Stone Matthews collections, SMSC.
- 17. WBS Papers, Duke University.
- 18. Walter bequeathed to his brother "my Printed books, my wearing apparel, my case of bottles, my Desk & Book Case & my Huntsmans Horn" (Wills, AK#11:47, *La Plata*). Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, whose dwelling plantation, Stepney, was located near Annapolis, left his nephew Michael "the Debt he owes me, three hundred pounds current money and my Library except such Books as are written in the French language & those I bequeath to my Friend James Madison now a Member of the House of Delegates of the United States" (Anne Arundel County Wills, 1790, *Annapolis*).
- 19. Ibid. The Daniel files in the Harry Wright Newman Collection, SMSC, contains two letters written in 1944 by a Miss Vivian Daniel of Paris, Texas. In one she wrote "I have found some more data on the Stones in our family papers and letters which came into the family through Thomas [Stone's] daughter, Margaret, who married my great-grandfather, John Moncure Daniel, Sr." Later, she wrote "I own the Family Bible of John Moncure Daniel of Stafford Co., Va., who married Margaret Eleanor Stone, eldest [daughter] of Thomas Stone...There was a letter in the Bible, written by Margaret (Daniel) Conway...to...my father, dated in 1873, giving him information on the Stone family she had, by word of mouth, from her mother, Margaret [Stone] Daniel, & also dleamings from a manuscript found in the family papers of Mrs. Margaret Daniel, the sister of Frederick Stone & eldest daughter of Thomas Stone. I am trying to assemble in some sort of order, a miscellaneous lot of family papers I have been asked to sift & line up in a way the younger generation can easily understand.
- 20. Inventories, 1869-1878:234, *La Plata*.
- 21. Ibid.
- 22. Times-Crescent, February 7, 1913.
- 23. Ibid. The copy of the Declaration of Independence dates from the early nineteenth century and remains in the ownership of the Stone family.
- 24. Louise Stone Matthews Collection, SMSC.

- 24. Louise Stone Matthews Collection, SMSC.
- 25. Ibid. See also Section I:1.5.
- 26. Oral Histories, Betty (Stone) Lybrook and John Hoskins Stone, 1987, *SMSC*; personal communication with Mrs. Lybrook, 1992.
- 27. Communications with MESDA research staff, 1992.

SECTION VIII

PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION

Since the inception of Phase I of the Thomas Stone project in 1991 more than 200 photographs documenting the interior and exterior of the house, grounds, outbuildings and general farm views have been collected. More than two-thirds of these images post-date 1940. Of the balance, most date between 1925 and 1938. Only five of all the photographs collected were taken before 1920.

Attempts to locate additional pre-1920 photographs or other pictorial representations of Haberdeventure as part of this research project have been largely unsuccessful, although one highly important view of the south elevation of the house was found. This photograph, taken from the southeast, is a companion to the ca. 1902 straight-on view of the same elevation from the National Park Service files, and proved invaluable in documenting the nineteenth-century metal roofing of the west wing and west hyphen. Both of these views document the exterior of the house as it probably existed ca. 1870. These views are also remarkably similar to the engraving of the south elevation of the house which appears in William Broadbeard's 1861 publication, *The Book of the Signers*. The engraving does not show the east hyphen or the west kitchen wing, however.

The ca, 1902 views of the south elevations, a third close-up view of the south side of the east "office" of the same data, and the ca. 1909 Pickering photographs of the interior of the east first-floor room and the Thomas Stone grave constitute the earliest known images. Except for these, all of the photographic documentation that has been gathered show the house as it appeared after 1920. The most important of these later views include the Gischner photographs at the Southern Maryland Studies Center, the Pickering photographs at Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, and the HABS photographs by Frances Benjamin Johnston. One collection that was found during the course of this research, and owned by the Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, consists of a series of seven photographic views of the north and south elevations of the house that were taken in 1926. The views of the south side of the house are of interest for documenting plantings on the terrace that are not seen in other photographs of about the same period. There are several ca. 1934 photographs of Haberdeventure in

the same collection. One of these shows the north drive paralleling the house.

Inquiries made among various members of the Stone family yielded a collection of nine color photographs of the interior of the house taken ca. 1960. These are among the more important photographs that depict the interior as it appeared before the fire, and will be extremely useful in the reconstruction of the main stair hall and west first-floor room of the main block. These significantly augment other interior views, including a ca. 1958 full frontal view of the main stair, and a series of color photographs given to the National Park Service by Charles Lombard, the son of Mrs. Helen Vischer.

No pre-1920 photographs depicting the west elevation of the west wing or the north elevation of the main block have been found, nor have any photographs been located that depict either of the two outbuildings that formerly stood southwest of the west wing. However, a shadow of what appears to have been a gable-roofed structure can be seen in one of the Gischner photographs (1934). This may have been the meat house, but just as possibly a woodshed that is said to have stood on the site of the existing garage. In an older, pre-1926 view of the south side of the house taken from the southwest, the corner of a wood-shingled roof is distinctly shown. The shaping of the corner is clearly that of pyramid-shaped roof and is most likely that of the dairy described by member of the Stone family who lived at Haberdeventure between 1913 and 1936.

While efforts to locate early, pre-1920 photographs of the house, former ancillary buildings and the grounds have met with limited success, there can be little doubt that such photographs do exist. It is recommended that a more aggressive search be made to locate such photographs, including advertising in historical journals with national circulations, and contacting major archival institutions throughout the United States, particularly those known to possess manuscripts associated with the Stone family of Haberdeventure.

1782 Tax Lists, Charles County (General Assessments) Scharf Papers, *Maryland Historical Society*

Port Tobacco Lower East Hundred:

Owner:	Thomas Stone, Esq.			
Land:	Chandlers Hills (211a.) Welcome (200a.) Addn. to May Day (120a.)	£974	0	0
Slaves:	4 male & female slaves under 8 yrs. 0 slaves 8-14	40	0	0
	5 male slaves 14 to 45 yrs. 5 female slaves 14 to 36 0 males above 45 and females above 36	350 300	0	0
Plate: Stock:	0 9 Horses			
	48 Black Cattle	184		_
Value of oth Total Amour		78 £1926	0	0
Assessed Ti		43	6	.8
	Free Male Persons above 18 yrs of age: er of white Inhabitants:	0		
Fifth Distric	et:			
Owner:	Thomas Stone, Esq.		•	
	monta o torro, aoq.			
Land:	887 a	£920	7	6
Land: Slaves:	4 male & female slaves under 8 yrs. 3 male and female slaves from 8-14 6 male slaves from 14-45 3 female slaves from 14-36	59 75 420 180	0 0 0	0 0 0
	887 a 4 male & female slaves under 8 yrs. 3 male and female slaves from 8-14 6 male slaves from 14-45	59 75 420	0	0

1783 Tax Lists, Charles County (Land Assessments) Scharf Papers, Maryland Historical Society.

Key:

- 1. Name of land
- 2. Present owner
- 3. Number of acres
- 4. Value
- 5. Survey, resurvey or escheat
- 6. Name of original survey
- 7. Situation, general quality and soil
- 8. Improvements
- 9. Quantity of wooded timber land

Fifth District:

- Haberdeventure & Hansons Plains Enld 1.
- 2. Thomas Stone
- 3. 3442 a.
- 4. £607.15.0
- 5. resurvey
- 6.
- 7. Barren soil
- 8. 1 good brick dwelling House Kitchen & nine other necessary Houses
- 9. 1/2 Cleared
- 1. **Bridgets Delight**
- 2. 3. Thomas Stone
- 63 a.
- £47.5.0
- resurveyed
- **6.** '
- near Port^o Creek: Broken & mostly stiff 1 old dwg House, Kitchen, Barn with other out Houses, good peach orchd
- 9. the whole [?]
- Simsons Delight
- Thomas Stone
- 3. 260 a.
- 4. £195.0.0
- 5. Survey
- 6. (Simpson's Delight, aka "Simson's Delight")
- 7. near Port° Creek stiff
- 1 old dwg & Kitchen. 3 other old Houses all out of repair 8.

9.

Distrest 1. 2. **Thomas Stone** 3. 47 a. 4. £23.10 -5. Survey 6. poor Barron 7. no improvements 8. all woods 9. Sixth District: Chandlers Hill with a Mill Seat 2. **Thomas Stone** 3. 231 a. 4. £922.0,0 5. 6. 7. 1/2 mile from Town a light gravelly soil & some parts hilly A small brick dwelling house old and yet unfinished and much out of repair a indifferent kitchen with a brick chimney a corn house & a large barn, a water mill with two pair of stones and a small house inhabited by a miller Except a branches of wood this 9. land is all arable Moberly pt of 2. Thomas Stone 3. 23a. 4. 5. £17.5.0 6. a very poor stiff soil 3 miles from town a small dwelling house a log^d Kitchen, a good Tobacco house & another building 8. very small, 25 apple trees & a few peach 23 acres arable 9. 1. Shaws Trouble 2. 3. **Thomas Stone** 46 a. **4**. **5**. £28.15.0 6. 2 miles from Town a very poor stiff soil 7. no improvements

9.

Shaws Barrens
 Thomas Stone
 52 a.
 £32.10.0
 2 miles from Town a very poor stiff soil no improvements
 52 acres woodland properly called
 Addn to May Day*
 Thomas Stone
 120 a.
 no improvements
 no improvements
 120 a. wood land with Rail & board timber

^{*} This entry very faded and difficult to read

1787 Will of Thomas Stone Wills, AH#9:459 - 462, *La Plata*.

Abstract

"...being in a weak state of health..."

"I desire that my body may be buried at haberdeventure near to that of my dear wife according to the rites of the Protestant church"

- item 2: "to my dear Daughter Margaret Stone Negroes Bob Violet & all her Children & Bet also the sum of Two thousand pounds Current money...six silver Table spoons & six teaspoons one best bed & furniture my Chariot & Carriage horse & one half her dear mother's clothes-"
- item 3: "to my dear daughter Milly Stone Negroes Charity Phill young Clare & Sall also two thousand pounds Current money six silver Table spoons and six silver teaspoons one best bed & furniture, my Clock, riding Chair, best Mahogany Chairs, one good chair horse & household furniture to the amount of fifty pounds Current money-"
- "To raise money to pay my daughters portions & to discharge my debts, if the debts due me are not sufficient, I direct that my house in Annapolis the lotts on the south side of the street my share of the Baltimore Iron Works, Books & furniture (except pictures) be sold by my executors..."
- item 5: "all the rest & residue of my Estate real & personal except the Legacy after mentioned I give & bequeath to my son Frederick to him & his heirs forever-"
- item 6: "To my brother Michael Jenifer Stone what [he] owes me except what is due for Negroe Harry bought of Samuel Stones Estate & constitute him Executor of that Estate."
- item 7: "I constitute & appoint my Brother Michael J. Stone Guardian to my son Frederick & request his particular are of him."
- item 8: "I constitute my brother Michael J. Stone & my friend Doct' Gus' R^d Brown Executors of this my last Will & Testament & revoke all former Wills.

T. Stone

Stephen West, Sophia West, Stephen West, Jr. - Wit.

"It is my will & desire that my daughters Peggy and Milly always have a right before marriage to reside at the house of Haberdeventure supporting themselves out of their own Estates except board while they live at Haberdeventure which they are to have out of the profits of the Income of the Estate left to Frederick if it will afford the same leaving

[&]quot;A codicil to my last Will and Testament"

sufficient for his maintenance and education."

"It is my will & 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 without accounting to Frederick for the same the houses to be kept in repair out of the profits of Frederick's Estate-"

"It is my will & desire that my Sister Mrs. Scott be allowed out of the Profits of Frederick's Estate such sum not exceeding fifteen pounds per year as my brother "Michael J. Stone may think necessary for her more comfortable support until her son Ally comes of Age -" (same to "Sister Gracy...until she marries.")

20 July 1787

J. H. Stone, Walter Stone, John Gilbert - wit.

T. Stone

Inventory of Thomas Stone's Charles County Estate (1788) Wills, AH#9:491, Maryland State Archives.

An Inventory of the Goods and Chattels of Tho. Stone Esq. late of Charles County deceased appraised by us the subscribers in Current money dollars at seven shillings & six pence -

Bob Jack Phil Harry Tom Triplet Jerry Small Guss James Evans Violetta Ann Heth Clare Sall Eba Charity Nell Patience Gerrard Charlotte 2 Bay Geldings 2 d° d° 1 sorrel Mare 1 Horse	37 years 40 d° 25 d° 25 d° 40 d° 17 d° 17 d° 1 d° 4 d° 23 d° 21 d° 18 d° 16 d° 22 d° 25 d° 13 d° 2 d° 3 Months 9 years old 17 d° 11 d° d° 8£ 1 Colt 2 years old 6 £	£ 70 70 80 70 55 65 61 50 50 50 50 10 10 10	s 0	<i>P</i> 0
2 Oxen 10 £ 4 Cows and Calve 5 Hogs @ 30/. 12 Shoats @ 5/1 Chariot & hamess £ 100 - 1 Ph 1 Riding Chair 45 £ part of old ch 1 old saddle & bridle 30/ 1 old plate 1 old saddle & old port Mantua .2 1 Spinnet £ 9. Clock 25 £ 1 Dressing table & glass .3 £	naton & harness 40 £ nair 20/ ated bridle 10/	22 10 140 46 2 1 34	10	
4 old Chairs 15/. 1 Carpet 4 £ 3 brass Candlesticks 2 pr. Candl 1 Tea Chest 25/. 1 pr An Irons 1 1 best feather bed & bed stead 0	1	4 1 1 30 24	15 15 6	
1 d° d° d° 16 £ 1 d° d° 8 £ 1 d° d° & furniture 7.10 - 2 Musketts & Bayetts @ 20/ 1 G A parcell old gardain tools @ 30/ 12 patty pans 1 old stew pan	/ 3 pots & 1 d 25/	7 4 2	10 10 15 7	

45 ounces silver plate @ 8/4 per ounce	18	15	
6 Table Cloths @ 15/. 13 Napkins @ 2/	5	16	
5 dishes 12 plates queens china	1	10	
5 butter pots @ 2/. 4 gallons Maderia wine 40/	2	10	
2 gallons Rum & 2 Jugs 15/	_	15	
10 lbs 14 oz loaf sugar @ 16 ^d 3 lbs Coffee @ 1/6		19	
1 ibs Hysons Tea 1 pint Vinegar		19	
	1	10	
2 quarts honey @ 8/ 1 Case with 12 bottles 16/	1	18	9
1 Barrel Barley 11/3 10 lbs Rise 7/6	2		9
3 hair trunks 50/. 1 small glass broke 1/	2	11	
5 Weavers Slays @ 3/. 2 pr hamesses 1/6d		13	
1 Ox Chain @ 7/6. 1 pr Steeliards 7/6	_	15	
1 pr large hand Mill stones 50/	2	10	_
1 small cross cut saw @ 5/. 1 Curring knife 7/6		12	6
1 plough & old ax 10/. 1 old hoe & old spade 1/	•	12	
A parcel old Tubs @ 5/		5	
1 Phial Ippicacuaha [?]		12 5 3	9
1 steel Mill 55/ 1 large old pine Chest 7/	3		
2 flax Wheels damaged @ 7/6			
1 Wollen Wheel 7/		7	
The deceas'd wearing Apparel	80	•	
Mooring Apparol of the wife of the deceased	80		
Wearing Apparel of the wife of the deceas'd	50		
£15	515	2	

In witness whereof we have set our hands and seals this third day of January 1788

Henry Hagan

Will^m McPherson

Catherine Scott Walter Stone - Next of kin Will. Hanson Dan Jenifer Jun' - Creditors

At the foot of which Inventory is the following Inventory
Charles County 31st March 1788 Then came Michael Jenifer Stone & Doct' Gustavus
Richard Brown joint Executors of Thomas Stone Esq' late of Charles County decd &
severally made oath on the holy Evangels of Almighty God that the foregoing is a true &
perfect Inventory of all & singular the Goods & Chattels of the said decd lying & being in
the County aforesaid that came to their hands or possession at the time of making
thereof that what hath since of shall hereafter come to their hands or possession they
will return in an additional Inventory that they know of no concealment of any part or
parcel of the decd Estate by any person whatever that if they shall hereafter discover
any concealment or suspect any to be they will acquaint the Orphans Court or the
Register thereof with such concealment or cause of suspicion that it may be enquired
into according to Law - 9 1/2 sides - Certd by John Muschett Reg' of Wills.

Inventory of Thomas Stone's Annapolis Estate (1788) Wills, AH#9:494, *Maryland State Archives*.

An Inventory and appraisement of the Goods and Chattels of Thomas Stone, Esq' late of Charles County deceased lying and being in Annarundel County in Current Money dollars at 7/6 appraised this day of January 1788 -

p. 1, col. 1:	£	S	p
2 walnut dining Tables & Covers 1 small Mahogany Table. d° 1 Mahogany sideboard & Cover 1 Walnut dressing Table 1 Walnut breakfast Table 2 Mahogany knife Cases with 2 doz Ivory handled knives & forks in each 1 Ink stand & sand box	4 1 7 1 1	10 10 10 5	
p. 1, col. 2:			
1 Mahogany Couch with red Cover halfwork	5		
5 Mahogany old leather bottomed Chairs 5 Walnut d° d° 11 Green Windsor Chairs 1 large Mahogany gilt looking Glass 17 wine glasses broken setts 9 decanters, some damaged	3 2 3 4 1	15 10 6 15	
p. 2, col. 1:			
1 broken pitcher 1 cloth brush 2 small gilt leather trunks 1 lead letter presser		10	
18 China Cups & 18 saucers 12 d° Tea Cups & 12 saucers	2		
1 1/2 pint glass Tumbler, 12 China Cups & 12 saucers 1 old Japanned bread baskett & 4 waiters 2 China Chocolate Cups & 7 d° saucers 2 broken China potts 3 glass & 4 China salts damaged	1	5	
2 China butter boats 1 broken China cream jugg - 2 glass sugar dishes tops wanting. 1 japanned, 1 Tin, 1 China Tea canester		8	
1 sett old Castors, glass with silver tops 1 Mahogany Tea board 1 dozen Table matts	1	,	

1 old black Shagreen knife Case		5	
4 gilt paper decanter stands			
5 oyster knives, 1 pruning knife			
1 pr old brass copper scales & weights		7	6
1 old Tin Case 2 Carpenters rules			
1 pocket spye glass black leather cover			
1 Hom Cup 1 [?] glass 1 pr		8	
common Siezars			
1 pr Tongs & shovel 1 pr brass Iron			
mounted And Irons 1 pr very old	1	10	
broken bellows 1 Fender			
1 stained pine Table		6	
3 pr tongs 1 shovel 1 pr doggs		15	
1 large painted pine book Case	1	10	
5 old Maps in frames	1		
1 New d° without frames			
1 Mahogany dining Table	5	_	
1 old walnut desk with Lampes	2	5	
1 old Mahogany Tea Chest	•		
p. 2, col. 2:			
1 old Mahogany knife Tray & 9 green		10	
handled knives & forks		_	
1 small old pine Table		2	
1 old pine chest containing 1 painted		7	6
Tin Candle box 1 stone pott with		7	6
some patent sage, 1 large old Tin			
Canester			
1 Common high post bedstead & 1 suit	46		
furniture check Curtains 1 Mattress-	16		
1 feather bed, 1 boulster, 1 pillow, 1 pr			
sheets, 3 single blanketts. 1 Cotton			•
Counterpain	7		
1 Cott- 1 Mattress, 1 bed. 1 pr sheets 1 boulster, 1 pillow, 4 single blankets	/		
1 small Maple dressing Table with		6	
Callico cover		U	•
1 pr small and irons with brass [?]		12	
1 fender		12	
3 Callico window Curtains		15.	
2 old d°		10	
1 black leather trunk 1 queens ware		2	6
water bottle		_	U
1 pewter bedpan 1 pewter Chamber		15	
pott 2 old earthen d°		10	
11 Walnut red bottomed Chairs	4	2	6
1 silver mounted sword	3	_	U
1 [?] with a little red back	J		
1 japaned sugar box 1 glass apparatus		7	6
		,	J
for impregnating water with fixed			
air entirely damaged 1 Walnut dressing Table with green Cover	1	5	
1 Traillul diessing Table Will Gleen Cover	1	J	

1 small Bed 3 old Scotch Carpets	10	15	
1 Large new mattress 2 small pieces of old fearnought used as hearth Cloths & passage Carpet	5	10 [.]	
2 single blanketts		16	
1 old fire Screen worked		15 5	
1 Iron fender		5	
p. 3, col. 1:			
1 old Mahogany dressing table	1		
& old window Curtains 1 pr small and Irons & fender		3	9
1 close stool Chair without a pan	•	U	3
1 Bed do with a pan	2	10	
1 small pine Table old			
3 hogarths prints	•	5	
1 old bed & Mattress	1	10	
2 Jack stands		1	
12 new Mahogany Chairs with	04	40	
hair bottoms 2 d° armed	24 5	10	
2 new Mahogany Card Tables 2 Oval looking Glasses with gilt	5		
frames 1 small do with Sconces	20		
1 pr brass and Irons - 1 pr Tongs. 1 shovel			
1 brass fender	6		
4 window Curtains printed Cotton	3		
1 Large Carpet	16		
14 blue & white China dishes assorted			
2 d° soup tureens 1 of them dam ^d			
2 d° sauce d° 2 d° butter boats			
2 d° butter boats 3 d° baking dishes	9		
3 d° baking dishes 1 d° salad d°			
14 d° soup plates			
45 d° dining d°	•		
9 d° breakfast d°		•	
22 d° desert d°			
1 pine Cupboard		15	
2 queens ware pudding dishes		_	_
1 old Tin Canester 1 old sugar d°		2	6
4 small flag Chairs			
1 old pine Table 1 Table brush 1 old painted Sugar box with Sugar		15	
broken & chopped	····	13	
2 brass Candlesticks, 1 old Umbrella			
1 Warming pan, damaged			
p. 3, col. 2:	,		
d ald distal Matters of had done to the second	^		
1 old dutch Mattress, 1 bed, 1 pr sheets	3		
1 pr blanketts, 1 silk Rugg			

4 flat Irons, 1 old Chaffin dish			
1 shovel, 1 pr Tongs 1 pr Common and			
Irons very sorry 1 Tin funnell	1		
1 small gilt leather trunk 1 Teapot			
& old sugar without a top	_		
3/4 of a box 30 lb Sperma. Cati Candles	3	15	
1/2 Barel Split peas		10	
1 Pipe maderia wine	90		
4 bottles wine, 30 d° Hock	6		
6 d° Claret	_		
100 Bacon	3	15	
500 lb Hay	1	5 7 5 1	
7 bottles peach brandy		7	
5 yds very old coarse cloth		5	
1 old mended China bowl			
4 sheets paper 1 old Japaned		6	
plate warmer	•		
4 old diaper Table Cloths 2 pr old	_		
sheets 2 old blanketts 1 old	2	10	
Mattress			
6 window blinds 1 Mail Pillion			
1 small old hair trunk		10	
1 pr Kitchen and Irons & 2 spits	_		
1 watering pott & 1 pr Garden shears	1	10	
2 old pine Tables 1 half bushel		_	
3 Tubs 1 pail & 2 Piggins		5	
2 Iron potts 1 pr flesh forks 2 ladles	_		
1 frying pan 1 old grid Iron	1		
1 Skillet 1 bread Toaster			
1 shovel 1 pr Tongs old 1 Iron		_	•
pestle 2 pott hooks & 1 Crook		7	6
1 old Iron Tea kettle broken top			
1 Large Copper boiler 2 old stew	_	40	
pans 1 old Coffee pott 1 old	4	10	
Chocolate pott			
p. 4, col. 1:			
0 T	·		
3 Tin pans - 3 sauce pans 1 flower		_	
box - 1 cullinder - 1 Tin old Mugg		6	
1 Tea Kettle 1 old Coffee Mill			
1 fish Kettle			
1 Tin funell 1 paper box 1 dripping		_	
pan 2 old snuffer stands		3	
1 old Tin Kettle			
2 old spades - 2 garden hoes & rakes			
1 poll ax 1 wood saw		15	
1 old wheel barrow - 1 pr old scales			
1 Wooden Garden Roller, Iron frame	1		
2 old [Caddows?]			
1 Negroe Man named [?] ab' 29 years old	60		
1 Negroe Woman Rachael40	35		

1 Negroe Girl Betty11 1 Negroe boy Jack10 1 Old Negroe Woman Clare60 2 pine book Cases A parcel of Empty bottles A parcel of various Lumber 14 Earthen potts & 1 jugg 1 Pockett pistol 1 Dressing Glass 1 Mattress 2 old blanketts 1 small bedstead			25 35 1 10 1 2	10 10 15 10 15	
			£501	5	9
Law Library containing 530 Volumes Other Library containing 258 volumes bound & 121 pamphlets unbound	_ 		454 85	1 5	4
1 Cow 1 New 2 old tooth brushes 1 Razor Case & 4 Razors	-1		6	1 2 15	6
2 portrait Pictures 4 french plate Candlesticks 2 d° snuffer stands & 2 pr	- ₁		45 4 1	7	6
Snuffers 1 ditto small waiter	_		1		
Plate					
Large Tankard Large Coffee pott Table Spoons					
p. 4, col. 2:		•			
1 soup spoon 6 desert spoons 11 Tea spoons 4 salt shovels 1 marrow spoon 1 pr Tea tongs 1 punch Ladle 1 Cream pott 1 punch strainer	51_		10		
Oleanda a Mallana			£1150	8	1
Charles Wallace Tho. Harwood		Appraisers			
John Davidson Dan. of St. Tho' Jenifer		Creditor Creditor			
Grace Stone W. Stone		Nearest of I	kin-		

At the foot and on the back of which Inventory is the following probate -

Charles County 31st March 1788 Then came Michael Jenifer Stone and Doc' Gustavus Rich^d Brown Joint Executors of Thomas Stone Esq' late of Charles County dec^d and severally made Oath on the holy evangels of Almighty God that the foregoing is a true and perfect Inventory of all and singular the goods and chattels of the said dec^d being and lying in Annarundel County that came to the hands or possession at the time of making thereof that what hath since or shall hereafter come to their hands or possession they will return in an additional Inventory that they know of no concealment of any part or parcel of the dec^d Estate by any person whatsoever that if they shall herefter discover any concealment or suspect any to be they will acquaint the Orphans Court or the Register thereof with such concealment or cause of suspicion that it may be enquired into according to Law - Cert^{ed} by

John Muschett, Reg' of Wills

16 1/2 sides

William Briscoe Stone to Mildred Daniel, 1825. Stone Family Papers, MS 406, Box 1, *Maryland Historical Society*

My Dear Cousin

You will have here a view of the repairs I have Done & some I have not even yet completed - I have not been so fortunate as to have gotten one pound of Tobacco for last year's rent & I fear from the excessive & unseasonable Drought that yr Tenants will be slow in their payments. (the Drought has prevented the Tobacco being got ready & prised) - you surely have not resolved to be silent & I hope will come & bring or permit my relations to visit Haberdeventure. in my last I said other repairs were necessary but of this you cannot be a competent judge unless you visit the place, & when visited or not you shall not be teased on that subject by me or mine - you will also perceive I have expended much more on the stable comhouse etc than my limit. I will only mention two reasons, one why you should extend the limit the other why you should not, & as the first by first etc I shall take that order viz that it was for & is to my convenience that the corn House etc was built - contra that the building is a substantial one & if I had Done as I might by repairing the whole of the wash House using one part as a corn House I should have been within the letter of our agreement - There is another mode by which these repairs may be priced. viz by choosing a person or persons to measure & value them. I believe this would be most Disadvantageous to you but should you think I am wrong or extravagant in my charges you will of course point out any other method & let the amount of repairs be ascertained - I believe I have the bills of all material purchased etc. Write to me. Yr. friend & cousin W. B. Stone

Statement of money expended in repairs Done to Haberdeventure by W. B. Stone -

1825		
Sept 15	To 1000 Ft. W. P. plank @ 1.25	12.50
•	To freight on D°	2.
	To Hawling D°	1.
	To 10000 Cypress shingles @ 4.	40.00
	To freight on D° @ 75	7.50
	To 200 lbs cut nails @ 7 1/2	15.00
	To freight & Hawling	3.00
March 4	To 20,000 shingles @ 4	80.00
	To freight @ 75	15.00
	To Hawling @ 20 ct	4.00
	To 200 lbs cut nails @ \$7 1/2	15.00
	Freight	.50
May 3	To 1000 ft W. P. plank @ 1.25	12.50
·	Freight & Hawling	3.00
	To 4000 - shingles @-3.50	[inked out]
	To freight @ 75	3.00
	To 1500 Bricks @ 6	8.00
	To freight - 2 -	2.50
	To Hawling Bricks & shingles	3.00
	To 2 bbls. stone lime	2.50 [?]

1825 Sept 15 omitted May 20th	To freight To 1 box glass - 200 pains To 20 lbs putty @ 10¢ Freight To 80 lbs nails @ 9 ¢ To 5 Brass knob locks @ 1. To 6 pr Hinges @ 50	50		1.00 9.00 2.00 .50 [?] 7.20 7.50 3.00 \$249.95
Page	3 Charges brot up -			\$249.95
٠.	To glazing 120 pains - @ 5. To Hawling scantling from the To Peter Robeys Bill (a Houte of 4 pages against the History of 4	ıse joiner)		6.00 10.00 51.75
	To the Hire of 4 negro carped 2 mos & 1/2 @ 12. per modern to feeding & maintaining satime @ 4\$ per d°	onth for ea	ch ne	120.00 [?] 40.00
	To Bricklayers work			25.00
			Whole A	mt 497.70
Char	ges for Stable			
To 10 To fro To 10 To H To H @ To fe	ire of 4 carpenters 1/2 month 12. per month for each eding & maintenance awling scantling from the	18.75 30.00 12.50 9.00 2.00 24.00 8.00 5.00 \$109.75	say	30.00 \$537.70
				<u>\$527.70</u>

I would here remark that I have not yet paid for all the Brick Work nor is it yet Done. This is the only part of the above not actually done & paid for - I have had the Top of the roof of the main building covered - it took about 12,000 shingles & some planks the piazzas covered.

Building Materials List, ca. 1840. P. D. Brown Collection, 850114, Southern Maryland Studies Center

	Price	Dos	Cts
1264 feet flooring to piazzas & framing 4073 feet shingling and framing roof 18 windows & 2 door frames 154 feet solid 2 bead and flushs 3 by 7 feet 42 feet per yard 42 feet jambs to Kitchen Doors 168 feet [?] and molding to Kitchen Doors 168 feet inside casing to windows and Doors 18 feet 3/4 molding 12 feet faetia 16 steps to Kitchen	6 3 3/4 12 1/2 208 4 10 10 2 4 75	75 127 19 9 1 16 16	84 13 3/4 25 34 68 80 25
1 door frame and Ledge Door 542 feet of flooring to Kitchen 142 studed portion 13 feet of faetia round the stairway 42 toung and grove portion [partition?] 62 feet shelving in the Kitchen 106 light of sash [?] P & G 288 feet cornice 90 feet plane casing P H plate 8 P H Post 432 feet [casing?] 308 feet flooring 188 base 2 door/180 feet casing Door frames front 2 door double worked 71 feet 4 door single work [71?] feet 6 carpet strips	2 4 4 5 15 20 10 7 2 11 7 [2.62 1/2?] 200	10 1 3 15 57 9 30 6 20 12 21 17 3	50 84 42 52 68 00 93 60 00 24 16 68 60 00 32 00
[Page Two:]			
8 steps 7 feet long 90 feet of barge Board double 50 feet d'single 40 feet corner Board 1 seller Door & frames 32 feet at 6 seller windows 54 feet 54 Bars 6 seller steps and 6 lintens	150 8 6 4 14 14	12 7 3 1 [4?] 7 4	00 20 00 60 [48?] 56 32 75
160 feet round the piazzas 3 mortice locks 2 outside locks	[3?] 75	4 2	80 25 [50?]
2 cas[t?] locks to hanging 2 old Doors at to mending floor at Seller [Door?] 34 feet 15 pair of but hinges	8 25	2 3	50 50 72 75

972	1 1/2	14	58
to [silling?]	·	4	00
to tearing off old shingle 1740 feet	50	8	70
to caping Piazza		· 4	25
to framing Piazzas sill post & plates		20	00
to ? & Piazza Post	25	2	00
3665 feet of framing at	150		

Inventory of William Briscoe Stone, 1873. Inventories, 1869 - 1878: 234-237, La Plata.

Appraisers: George P. Jenkins & William J. Owen

1 Gray Horse	\$45.00
1 Gray Mare	75.00
1 Yolk Steers	50.00
5 Milk Cows @ \$15.00 each	75.00
2 Heiffers @ \$15.00 each	30.00
1 Wheat Fan	2.00
1 Plough	3.00
2 old Cultivators	.50
2 pair Cart Wheels	8.00
1 Iron Beam Plough	4.00
1 Ox Cart	15.00
"Horse Power & Thrasher (old)"	20.00
1 Com Sheller	8.00
1 old Cutting Box	1.00
1 Grind Stone	1.00
2 old Dung Forks	.25
1 Pick	.75
1 old Carriage & Gear	20.00
1 old Stove	20.00
225 Feet Plank	6.00
1 old Wagon	5.00
1 old Harrow	.50
8 good Beds @ \$20.00 ea.	160.00
Bed Clothing,	10.00
2 pair good Blankets	10.00
1 pair good Large Blankets	10.00
3 Large Blankets	. 6.00
4 Small d°	4.00
4 good Bed Stands	20.00
5 indifferent d°	15.00
Bureau & Glass	10.00
2 Wash Stands, Bowls & Pitchers	6.00
4 good Counterpanes	6.00
Lot of indifferent Counterpanes	2.00
Brass Andiron & Fender	2.50
8 Wooden Bottom Chairs	2.00
1 old Fender & Andirons	1.00
2 Mattresses	20.00
Large Parlor Andirons & Fender	5.00
8 Mahogany Chairs	32.00
1 doz. Cane Bottom Chairs	12.00
1 Mahogany Sofa	10.00
1 Marble Table	10.00
Lot of Law & Miscellaneous Books	100.00
Parlor Carpet	15.00

1 small Mahogany Table & Cover Dining Tables & Covers Candle Stand	5.00 10.00 .25
10 Cane Bottom Chairs	2.50 ·
1 old Sofa	3.00
1 Wooden Safe	4.00
Sideboard	10.00
Andirons & Fender	2.00
Shovel & Tongs	1.50
Dining Room Carpet	10.00
	4.00
2 Rugs 6 lbs Silver 72 oz.	72.00
Lot of Glassware & Pitchers	3.50
	4.00
Set of China	1.50
1 Castor	.25
Candle Sticks	.50
2 lamps	5.00
Lot of Lumber	12.00
"Kitchen furniture & lot of old lumber in the office"	8.50
3 Table Cloths & 2 old Bed Room Carpets	6.50
·	\$1,022.65

1876 Lease Agreement From a Photocopy of the handwritten original, "Appendix A," Historic Resource Study, 1988.

This agreement made this [blank] day of [blank] in the year eighteen hundred & seventy six between Margaret G. Stone & [blank] both of Charles County witnesseth

That the said Margaret G. Stone agrees to rent to the said [blank] for the year eighteen hundred & seventy seven (his tenancy to commence on 1st day of January 1877 & to end on 31st Dec. 1877) the farm lying near Port Tobacco in Charles County generally called Haberdeventure. Said Margaret however Excepts from this renting the dwelling house both yards & garden carriage house & shed to the same three stalls in the stable to be selected by said Margaret. She also reserves the right to keep meat for her family use in the meat house. The dwelling house herein mentioned does no include the west wing as now occupied by Mr. Owens and the said Margaret also reserves the right to keep on the farm five head of cattle two horses & a flock of sheep not exceeding thirty & to have pasturage of the same

and the said [blank] agrees to pay the said Margaret one third part of all the corn wheat & Tobacco oats Rye potatoes & turnips fodder & provender of all Kinds whatever as rent for said farm.

and the said [blank] agrees not to keep more than ten head of cattle on said farm. and not more hogs than necessary for meat for his family & those to be kept Exclusively in the field back of the barn or in pens & no sheep

and the said [blank] agrees to feed all the Horses Cattle & Sheep kept by said Margaret (out of her own corn & provender) without any charge for the same

and said [blank] agrees to get fire wood & fencing stuff from the places designated & pointed out by said Margaret & from no other places.

He also agrees to cultivate what is generally called the middle field in Corn & Tobacco, the orchard to go in with the middle field for tobacco no stock of any sort to be pastured in the Orchard. The South field to be kept for pasture as also the field west of the barn. The north field not to be worked or grazed

also the said Margaret reserves what is generally called the wash house & also the house & garden now occupied by John Washington. She also reserves the fruit in the orchard

Will of Margaret G. Stone (dated 3 August 1904). Louise Stone Matthews Collection, 850029, Southern Maryland Studies Center.

Abstract

- item 2: To niece, Margaret S. L. Robertson, wife of Powhatan W. Robertson of Washington, D. C., "the Brass Andirons and Fender in the parlor of my dwelling house."
- item 3: To Powhatan W. Robertson "my five old Brown Tea Plates and the old Hall Clock in my dwelling house."
- item 4: To "my little friend Dorothy Mitchell, the Bureau and Washstand in the room over the parlor in my dwelling house."
- item 5: To my niece Kate G. Chapman, "my old Graham Bowl."
- item 6: To my niece Susan P. Chapman, "all my silver spoons."
- item 7: To Frederick Stone Matthews, son of John Matthews and Jennie Stone Matthews, "my Silver Coffee Pot, Cream Pot and Silver Ladle."
- item 8: To Louise Matthews, sister of Frederick Stone Matthews, "my old Briscoe Silver Can."
- item 9: To my faithful colored servant, Maria Miles, "the Bedstead, Bed, Bedding, Covering, and all Bed Furniture belonging thereto, in the room which I habitually use as my Bed-Chamber, and the Washstand, Wash Bowl and Pitcher in said Bed-Chamber, also the safe or Cupboard in the dining room in my dwelling house, and the Stove, Cooking Utensils and all Kitchen Furniture in my Kitchen.
- item 10: To my cousin, Thomas S. Stone, 'the copy of the Declaration of Independence hanging in the dining room in my dwelling house."
- item 11: To my nieces, Kate G. Chapman and Susan P. Chapman, my flock of Sheep.
- item 12: All rest and residue of the Fumiture in my dwelling house...and all Horses, Cattle, Stock...vehicles and Farming Implements "on my farm known as Haberdeventure"...to my nephew Michael R. Stone.
- item 13: Various sums of money from bank and railroad stock to nieces & nephews.
- item 14: To nephew Thomas S. Stone, Stock cert. \$500.00, in trust for benefit for "my aforesaid servant, Maria Miles," for her natural life and then her heirs.
- item 15: "I give and devise to my nephew Michael R. Stone...my farm situated near Port Tobacco...commonly called Haberdeventure...and all the woodland

attached thereto...in fee simple. I should be glad to feel that this farm will remain in the possession of some one of the Stone name for may years; and I earnestly request the said Michael R. Stone not to dispose of this land for at least twenty years after my death, nor to do any thing by which said farm may be encumbered within that period."

item 18: Appoints cousin Thomas S. Stone executor.

Inventory of Margaret G. Stone Inventories, 1912 - 1918: 19, *La Plata*.

Appraised by Henry G. Robertson and H. Holland Hawkins

22 sheep & 9 lamb to Catherine G. Chapman	\$125.00
1 dark brown (horned) cow	25.00
1 light red " cow	
1 dark red " heiffer	
1 lot of corn estimated w/12 barrels @ \$3. per	
1/3 interest in growing crop of wheat (14 acres)	25.00
1/3 interest in crop of tobacco partly stripped	4 40 00
estimated to be 6000 lbs. @ 7¢ per pd.	140.00
1 silver coffee pot, 1 cream pot, 1 ladle to	05.00
Frederick Stone Matthews	35.00
1 Silver can (Briscoe) to Louise Matthews	5.00
1 lot (3 doz.) silver spoons to Susan P. Chapman	25.00 50.00
1 pr. andirons, etc. to Powhatan W. Robertson	50.00
1 grandfather clock to Powhatan W. Robertson	100.00 1.00
1 brown china platter	25.00
1 mahogany bureau (antique) to Dorothy Mitchell	15.00
mahogany washstand (antique) to Dorothy Mitchell china bowl to Catherine G. Chapman	1.00
1 washstand (antique) pitcher & bowl to Maria Miles	12.00
1 curly maple bedstand (antique) to Maria Miles	20.00
1 cookstove & utensils to Maria Miles.	10.00
1 old safe in kitchen & 3 old chairs to Maria Miles	.50
3 kitchen tables to Maria Miles	2.50
1 safe or cupboard in dining room to Maria Miles	3.00
1 pr. brass andirons w/fender	3.00
1 center table (antique)	10.00
2 bed stands (àntique) @ \$20.00 ea.	40.00
1 bureau #2 (antique)	20.00
1 wardrobe (plain)	3.00
1 woodstove #1, \$1.00, 1 woodstove #2, \$2.00	
1 curly maple bed stand (antique)	20.00
6 bedroom chairs	
1 bedroom rocking chairs	1.00
6 parlor chairs (antique)	
2 " rocking chairs	5.00
12 wicker bottom chairs	10.00
1 davenport (hair cloth) (antique) in parlor	25.00
1 mahogany table in parlor (antique)	25.00
1 pr. mahogany dining tables (antique)	50.00
1 sideboard (antique)	25.00
1 desk (antique)	20.00 20.00
1 sofa in dining room (antique) 1 small walnut table	5.00 5.00
2 rocking chairs in dining room (old) @ \$1.00 ea.	5.00
2 rooking chairs in diffing room (old) & \$1.00 6a.	

1 marble top table 1 parlor carpet & rug 1 lot old books (antique) 1 mantel clock 6 cut glass goblets, 6 cut glass wine glasses	8.00 5.00 10.00 2.50 10.00 5.00 5.00 2.00 2.00 1.00 25.00
	\$1,114.50
Additional:	
5 Mortgages on real estate: 1 B&O RR certificate	\$3,025.00 500.00
Cash in House: Cash in bank	36.83 322.50
	\$5,008.83

Page 22: Value of real estate:

"One Farm known as Habre de Venture" assessed as containing 500 acres with buildings, \$7,000.00.

Submitted by Ely Brable

PROPOSED OUTLINE FOR THE THOMAS STONE CULTURAL LANDSCAPE REPORT

April 23, 1993

1. Introduction

1.1 Overview of the Site

A short historical description of the site and area, and a discussion of the historical significance of the site. A summary of the existing conditions of the site.

1.2 Purpose

1.2.1 Project Background

Details of existing documentation on the site.

1.2.2 Project Goals

1.2.3 Administrative Context for the Project

A discussion of the enabling legislation and the Park management goals as defined in the existing General Management Plan.

1.3 Methodology and Scope

An overview of the scope of the project, the methods used to collect information and document the site history and conditions, limitations encountered, and an overview of the findings of the project.

2. Site History

2.1 Regional Context of Haberdeventure

2.1.1 Geographic Location

A general historical context of the Chesapeake region (general sources listed), narrowing into Port Tobacco and LaPlata area.

2.1.2 Transportation Routes

2.1.3 Adjacent Land Use

Setting and surrounding areas with an indication of potential future threats to the site.

2.2 Historical Context

An overview of the history of the site and the people who were associated with it. family tree in appendix

★ 2.3 Property History

A detailed history of the ownership of Haberdeventure, with an emphasis on how the property boundaries changed.

* 2.4 Land Use and Agricultural History

- 2.4.1 A History of Agriculture in Charles County
- 2.4.2 Agriculture at Haberdeventure

2.5 The Landscape vernacular vs designed (minor)

- 2.5.1 An Overview of Landscape Design during the Late 18th Century
- 2.5.2 Site Access and Circulation at Haberdeventure
- 2.5.3 Gardens and Ornamental Landscapes at Haberdeventure
- 3. Site Analysis and Evaluation
 - 3.1 General Summary
 - 3.2 Existing Landscape Features

An analysis of specific character-defining features and site relationships, with an evaluation of their significance and integrity.

3.3 Evaluation

Evaluation of the significance and integrity of the site and its features based on National Register criteria.

4. Recommendations for Further Study

Appendix: Supporting Project Information

appartist

Bibliography
Property Surveys
Forest Patterns
Late 18th Century Plant Lists mid 19th Century
List of Historic Plant and Seed Sources.
FAMILY TREE

TO BE APPENDED TO THE REPORT WHEN COMPLETED IN LATER PHASES

1. Treatment Recommendations

Strategic Plan

Select appropriate treatment based on significance and integrity as well as park management goals.

- 2. Landscape Treatment Record
 - a. As-built drawings
 - b. Specifications, field notes