AL-II-A-126
GREEN RIDGE STATE FOREST
U.S.G.S.: FLINTSTONE QUAD
DNR#: NONE

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON "STONE RINGS"

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER West of Merten Avenue
Green Ridge STate Forest

CITY, TOWN Flintstone X VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6

STATE MARYLAND

COUNTY ALLEGANY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	X PUBLIC	__OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
__BUILDING(S)	__PRIVATE	X UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
X SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	X ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

Green Ridge State Forest

NAME Maryland Department of Natural Resources Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER Taylor Avenue

CITY, TOWN Annapolis ___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code Maryland 21401

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Liber #:
Folio #:

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Allegany County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER Washington Street

CITY, TOWN Cumberland

STATE Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

AL-II-A-126

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
X FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

On the west slope of Polish Mountain near its summit is an archeological site consisting of a series of stone rings. The site is located on a relatively level area just west of Merten Avenue about 1-3/4 miles south of U.S. Route 40 approximately five miles east of Flintstone in Green Ridge State Forest, Allegany County, Maryland.

Present is an apparent old road bed along which are staggered a series of stone rings. At intervals areas of ground were made level and enclosed with circular stone borders. Most of the rings were 8' to 10' in diameter and quite regular in form. The stones are local and are placed without mortar about 6 inches to 1 foot high and several feet in width.

The original use of these rings is not known. There appear to be approximately 15-20 such structures placed parallel to the supposed road site.

The Maryland State ARcheologist, Tyler Bastian, was consulted about this site and visited Green Ridge State Forest in September, 1975. Mr. Bastian had no explanation for the presence of the rings, but it was his opinion that they were not left by Indians. He felt that perhaps they were associated in some way with a local industry. A copy of Mr. Bastian's field notes regarding this site is attached.

Other man-made stone configurations have been found in the western Maryland mountains. One group of stone "piles" is located in Sidling Hill Wildlife Management area, on the west slope of the ridge. Mr. Bastian also visited this site in 1975 Near Fifteenmile Creek off Yonkers Road at Green Ridge State Forest is another site with rock piles and apparent evidence of a settler's homestead. (See form A-20)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	X ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	__ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
X 1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The stone rings remain a mystery. They are obviously man made but their age, purpose and their creator is unknown. The state archeologist is of the opinion that the rings were not left by Indians. As far as possible local histories have been checked for accounts of occupation of a local industry that could have produced the rings. No clues were found. Deed records for this site were not traceable. It would seem that the most productive form of research would be additional on-site archeological work to locate any possible artifacts relating to the site.

The rings are very significant for the information they may yield about the history of Allegany County. Since no explanation has been found for the existence of the rings, they are a valuable artifact and could provide important cultural data.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Notes compiled by Tyler Bastian, State Archeologist, September 17, 1975.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE: Paula Stoner & Douglass Reed

ORGANIZATION: Preservation Associates

DATE: February, 1979

STREET & NUMBER: P. O. Box 202

TELEPHONE: (301)432-5466

CITY OR TOWN: Sharpsburg

STATE: Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

DNR Survey - MHT # A-13 AL-II-A-126 17 Sep 75 T. Bastian 6.

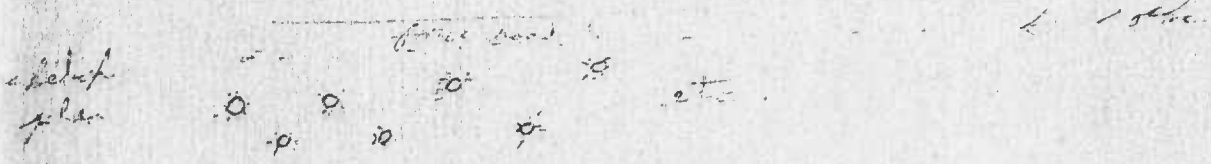
Polish Mountain Stone Pile Group

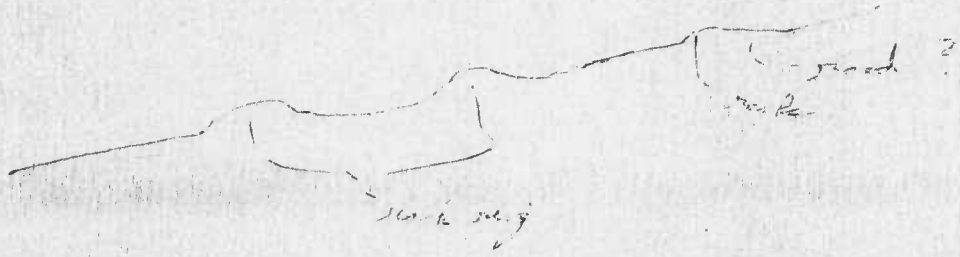
Reached south from pt 40 on Mentor Ave about 1 3/4 mi. On west side of road; about 300 ft from road. Park in short side space. This group was shown to Mash Is. cl. by Paul Williams, Forester at Green Ridge State Forest. It consists of two ~~[illegible]~~ staggered rows of circles parallel and downslope about 20 feet from a long straight apparent ~~[illegible]~~ former road. Rocks are alligned irregularly in elongated piles along the downslope side of the "road". Mash said timber growth indicated disturbance in the "road" area.

The rock piles were actually circles of remarkable symmetrical interior shape 6-16 ft in interior diameter; most are about 8 ft. The circle are 2 or 4 ft. thick and 6 ft to 1 ft. high. For many the centers is below the level of the surrounding ground ~~[illegible]~~ [illegible] [illegible] than 6". There are dozens of the circles parallelling the road for [illegible] [illegible] feet. No explanation comes to mind, but they are certainly [illegible]

AL II A 126 19 Sep 75 7.
T. Eastern

[illegible] Mtn stone piles





sketch cross section

Pane Mountain Rock Pile Group

Not visited, but described by Paul Williams as similar (follow or circular in shape) to the Polish Mtn piles (rings) but not as many. Located on east side of Pane Mtn at head of Deep Hollow where he hunted. He was raised at head of a creek ~~[illegible]~~ next south of Deep Hollow. Not willing to take me there as it is a long deep hike. He seems sincere and reliable, however.

~~[illegible]~~ Keyser quad

FLINT-STONE QUAD

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1975

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty ——— 4 LANE 6 LANE Light-duty

(PAW PAW) 5363 III SW

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A-13
Green Ridge St Forest
Stone rings Site
N. view
Sept. 1978

Route Stones
[illegible]

A-13

Green Ridge St. Forest

Stone rings site

S.W. View

Sept. 1978

A-L-II-A-126

Paula Stoner
Preservation Associates