

HA-1050

SUMMARY

Wm. H. Divers House
428 Calvary Road
Churchville, Maryland 21028

This log house - set off by itself on a farm near Churchville - is a rare survivor in a landscape that once was dotted with them. Probably built ca. 1850 by William H. Divers, the structure is a classic log house with v-notched logs, square-pegged floorboards, and a floor plan with one room downstairs and two rooms upstairs.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

William H. Divers House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

428 Calvary Rd., (west side of Md. Rte. 136, north of Snake Lane)

CITY, TOWN

Churchville

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mack Roberts

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

428 Calvary Road

CITY, TOWN

Churchville

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21028

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This 1-1/2 story gable-roofed log house covered in asphalt siding is located on the west side of Calvary Road, north of Snake Lane.

Measuring 22'5" by 18'4", this house is constructed of 10 1/2" v-notched logs. Facing south, the house has a central entrance with a vertical board door flanked by one 6/6 window with beaded trim on each side. A single brick chimney is located in the west end. The south slope of the roof has a recent shed-roofed dormer; each gable contains one window, and there is a window (blocked-up) in the north side.

The interior contains one room on the first floor and two rooms on the second. The fireplace in the west wall of the first floor room is flanked on the south by a cupboard and winder staircase and on the north by a door to a vestibule (originally leading to a one-room addition on the west, which has been torn down). The fireplace mantel, surprisingly elegant, is 6'11" long and has a cavetto cornice and an opening surround consisting of a fillet-ovolo-fillet. The floor boards measure 15 1/2" and have 1" square pegs.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This log house, set off by itself in the middle of a farm near Churchville, is a rare survivor in a landscape that at one time was dotted with them. Unfortunately, its history is cloudy. The house may have been built in the middle of the 19th century by William H. Divers, who purchased 60 acres of the tracts "Pacas Enlargement", "Stoney Ridge", and "Websters Forest" for \$850 in 1847.¹ It is not clear from whom the previous owners, George and Elizabeth Walker, had purchased the property. Both the 1858 and the 1878 Maps of Harford County show a building belonging to W. H. Divers in this location. In 1914, his son sold the property to George W. Elsner for \$4500.²

The structure itself is a veritable treasure. The original structure has survived intact--sheathed in asphalt siding and under linoleum, to be sure, but, consequently, in a remarkable state of preservation. With its v-notched logs and square-pegged floorboards, and its floor plan with one room downstairs and two rooms upstairs, the structure is a classic log house exhibiting methods of construction used for over a century. One feature that should be noted specially is the mantelpiece, which is surprisingly elegant for this relatively primitive house.

1. Liber HDG 33, folio 461.
2. Liber JAR 147, folio 4.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land, Will and Equity Records of Harford County
1858 Jennings & Herrick Map
1878 Martenet's Map

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

Natalie Shivers

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Historic District Commission

DATE

12/79

STREET & NUMBER

45 South Main Street

TELEPHONE

838-6000 X 207

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

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

131050404

HA 1050

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1. NAME

COMMON: Roberts - Divers log house

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: About 100 yards southwest of Roberts' house on the west side of Md 136 (Calvary Road) at Grafton Lane

CITY OR TOWN: Churchville

STATE: Md COUNTY: Harford

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	<u>Vacant housing</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Mack Roberts

STREET AND NUMBER: RFD

CITY OR TOWN: Churchville STATE: Md

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

STREET AND NUMBER: HARFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE

CITY OR TOWN: BEL AIR STATE: MARYLAND

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>This log house is covered with clapboard covered in turn by asphalt sheets. Inside lath and plaster cover the log construction.</p> <p>Oblong, it faces south, 1 1/2 stories high, about 17' x 13'. A chimney rises inside the west end wall from a large fireplace on the first floor. The south slope of the roof is broken by three small windows under a flat dormer roof.</p> <p>Windows are are small and scarce: One on each side of the front door, 6 over 6, one in the north wall, none in either end wall except for a 4-light casement sash in each end wall upstairs.</p> <p>A doorway was cut through the south wall at the west end to give access to the steep stairs to the upper floor - a duplex for tenant farmers or slaves.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This early house survived years as
 a slave quarters and tenant house and
 vacancy.
 Now mildly interesting to its owner
 recently retired.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

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

STATE:		COUNTY:	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **JEAN S EWING**

ORGANIZATION: **MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST** DATE: _____

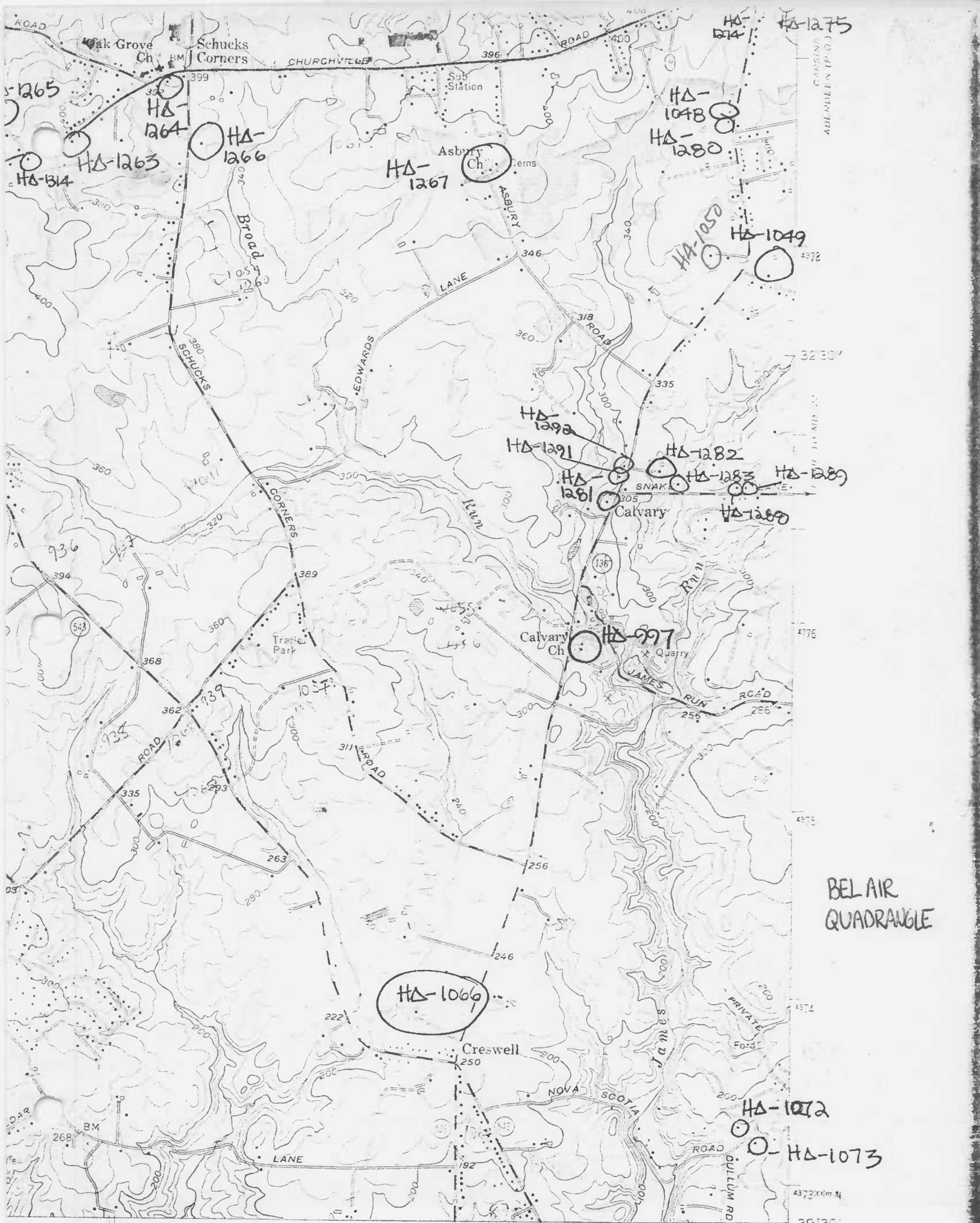
STREET AND NUMBER: **2525 RIVA ROAD**

CITY OR TOWN: **ANNAPOLIS MARYLAND**

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:
 National State Local

Signature _____



CANGINE
ABLE IN (P. 9)

BEL AIR
QUADRANGLE

17°30"

390

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1975

1.5 MI. TO MD. 7

392000m E

39°30'

76°15'



William H. Divers House HA-1050
Churchville, MD 21028

Natalie Shivers 1/80
Southeast



William H. Divers House HA-1050
Churchville, MD 21028

Natalie Shivers 1/80
Northwest