

HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #69-14 Building Date: N.A.

Building Name: Crawford's Adventure Spring

Location: Cheverly Nature Park, Lockwood Street and Belleview Avenue

Public/Park/Occupied/Good/Accessible

Description

The Crawford's Adventure spring is located in the Cheverly Nature Park, west of Belleview Avenue and north of Lockwood Street in the Town of Cheverly. The 11.25 acre nature park has a high central ridge which slopes to the east and west. The spring is located in a drainage gully which runs along the base of the east side of the slope. The spring is marked by a large beech tree which rises directly above it. It was not improved by a concrete basin as the Magruder Spring was, and appears at this time as simply a part of the drainage creek bed.

Significance:

The Crawford's Adventure Spring is significant as a landmark in the area of the County bordering the northeast boundary of the District of Columbia. It has had a significant role in the evolving local history of the area. The spring derives its name from its location on an original 1685 land grant of 500 acres from Charles, Third Lord Baltimore to James Cranford. Originally called Cranford, His Adventure, the land over the years became known as Crawford's Adventure. According to local tradition the spring has used by British troops under General Ross as they retreated along the Bladensburg-Marlboro Road on the evening of August 25th, 1814. This use is possible but has not been substantiated by accounts of the day. The spring was set aside as a park on Section 7 of the Town of Cheverly, platted February 2, 1925.

Acreage: 11.25

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Crawford's Adventure Spring

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Crawford's Adventure Spring Park, Crest & 59th Avenues not for publicationcity, town Cheverly vicinity of congressional district 5state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Town of Cheverly

street & number 6401 Forest Road telephone no.: 773-8360

city, town Cheverly state and zip code Maryland 20785

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 218

street & number Main Street folio 481

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland 20772

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Historic Sites and Districts Plan

date July 1981 federal state county localdepository for survey records Historic Preservation Commission
14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive, C.A.B. #4010city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. P.G.#69-14

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Crawford's Adventure spring is located in the Cheverly Nature Park, west of Belleview Avenue and north of Lockwood Street in the Town of Cheverly. The 11.25 acre nature park has a high central ridge which slopes to the east and west. The spring is located in a drainage gully which runs along the base of the east side of the slope, bordering the rear yards of 3402 and 3404 Belleview Avenue. The spring is marked by a large beech tree which lies directly above it. It was not been improved by a concrete basin as the Magruder Spring was, and appears at this time as simply a part of the drainage creek bed.

8. Significance

Period	Area 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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify

Local History

Specific dates _____ **Builder/Architect** _____

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or
Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Crawford's Adventure Spring is significant for its reoccurring importance in the evolving history of the area of Prince George's County bordering on the northeastern boundary of the District of Columbia. The Spring's significance as a water source during the 19th and 20th century makes it a local landmark.

The Crawford's Adventure Spring is located on an original 1685 land grant of 500 acres, from Charles, Third Lord Baltimore to James Cranford.¹ Originally called Cranford, His Adventure, the land over the years became known as Crawford's Adventure. The Crawford's Adventure tract was in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, a part of the extensive landholdings of Benjamin Stoddert, first U.S. Secretary of the Navy.² In the division of Stoddert's estate in the early 1830's, 152½ acres of Crawford's Adventure, containing the spring, was purchased by Thomas Newman.³ The 152½ acre parcel passed through a succession of ownerships. The spring was noted on an 1887 plat by T.L. Billopp, County Surveyor, dividing the farm into 30½ acre parcels.⁴

According to local tradition the Spring was used by British troops under General Ross as they retreated from Washington, D.C. through Bladensburg on the evening of August 25, 1814. Their retreat followed the course of present day Route 202.⁵ It is entirely possible that the troops used the spring, because it is located just south of Route 202. Its use has not been established by reports of the day, however.

A 30½ acre tract containing the Crawford's Adventure Spring was purchased in 1924 by Robert Marshall, an Ohio land developer.⁶ It was platted February 2, 1925 as Section 7 of Marshall's garden suburb of Cheverly. Marshall had been acquiring parcels of land in the area since 1918 and by 1926 had purchased and platted approximately one square mile to form the Town of Cheverly.

The Crawford's Adventure Spring was located in a small public park in the center of a traffic circle on the Section 7 plat.⁷ The street pattern

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G.#69-14

See notes, #8

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 11.25 acresQuadrangle name Washington East E

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Zone	Easting	Northing

B

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Zone	Easting	Northing

C

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marina King, Architectural Historianorganization Historic Preservation
Commissiondate December 1988street & number 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Dr., CAB #4010 telephone 301-952-4609city or town Upper Marlboro state Maryland 20772

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

for Section 7 never developed as it was initially platted, however, and a number of lots in the vicinity of the spring remained unbuilt. The spring remained as public property when the town was incorporated in 1931. Town Ordinance #2 accepted all public rights-of-way and parks designated on the recorded plats of the town. In 1979 the Town Government, using Maryland State open space funds, purchased the surrounding undeveloped lots and create an 11.25 acre nature park surrounding the Crawford's Adventure Spring.⁸

Notes

- 1 Hienton, Louise Joyner, Prince George's Heritage, "Tracts Laid Out in Charles County Prior to April 23, 1696," The Maryland Historical Society, 1972; and L22:F165.
- 2 Prince George's County Land Records, AB6:227.
- 3 Ibid.
- 4 Land Records of Prince George's County, JWB 8:638. Plat in possession of Raymond W. Bellamy, Jr, Cheverly Avenue, Cheverly, Maryland.
- 5 "Drive-It-Yourself-Tour, The 1814 British Invasion Route," The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772.
- 6 Land Records, 218:481.
- 7 Land Records, SDH 7:41.
- 8 Abandonment Case, Equity E-4816, 13 September 1979.

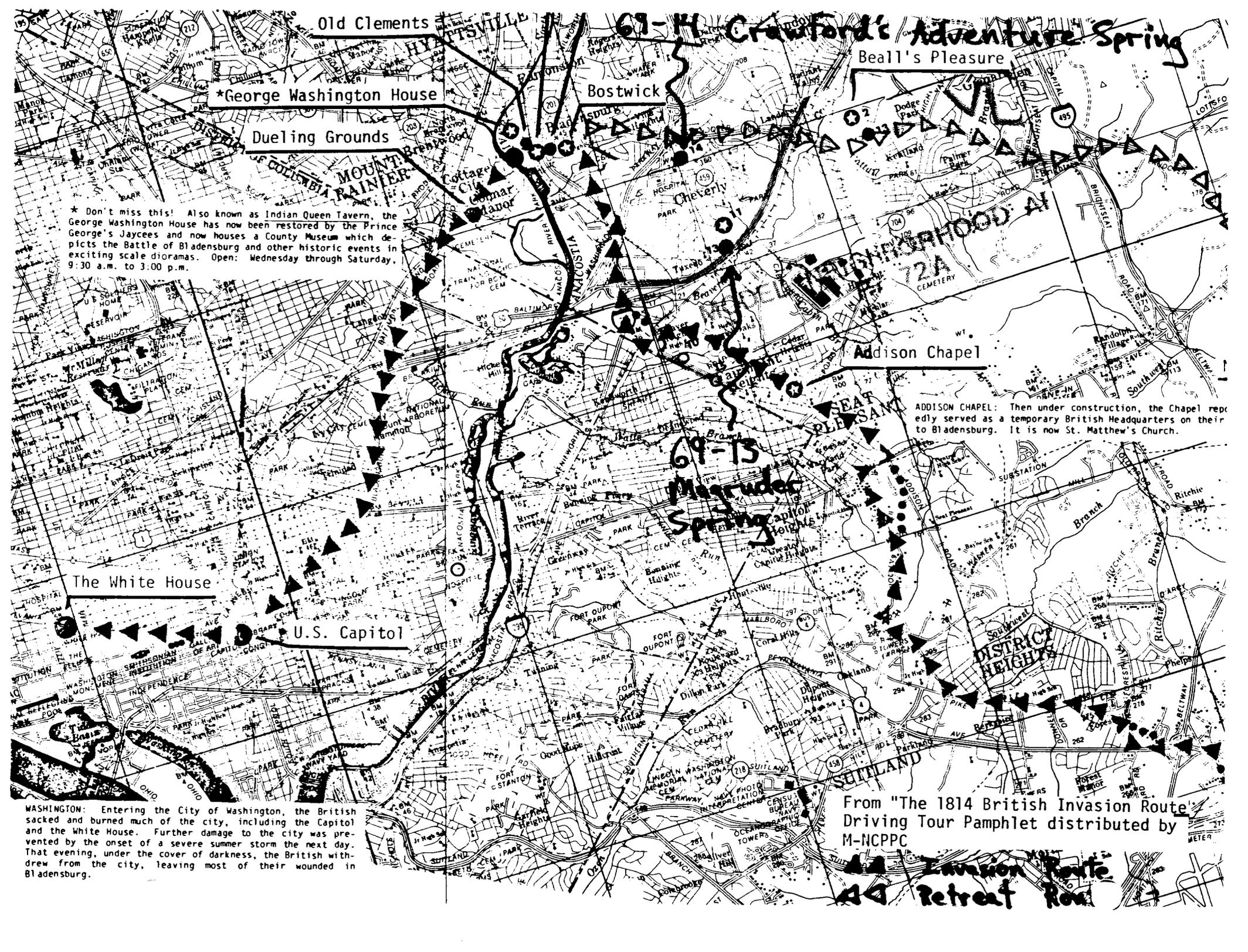
Chain of Title
Crawford's Adventure Spring
P.G. #69-14

- 218:481
24 July 1924
Deed
Madison Whipple to Robert Marshall. For \$8,000 grantor conveys land obtained from William Penn Hawes et. al. Lot 1 in a plat by Edward Latimer, recorded 4:450, 30½ acres.
- 216:138
1 July 1924
Deed
William Penn Hawes et. al. to Madison Whipple. By decree of Circuit Court, Equity #6147, Whipple acquires title to Lot #1 of Crawford's Adventure. Begins at the center of the spring, 30½ acres. Same in deed from Lorin Saunders, Trustee, to Whipple, 4:441.
- 4:441-50
21 November 1901
Indenture
Lorin M. Saunders, Trustee, under Deed of Trust from Madison Whipple and others dated 23 June 1887, for the first part; Madison Whipple, Orange S. Firmin and George J. Easterday for the second part and Madison Whipple for the third part. Saunders holds land in trust for parties of second part who now wish to partition. For \$10 grantor conveys to Madison Whipple Lot #1 of Crawford's Adventure, 30½ acres.
- JWB 32:569
29 May 1894
Indenture
Wallace C. Babcock to George Easterday. For \$3,000 Babcock conveys his 1/5th share in Crawford's Adventure.
- JWB 8:638
23 June 1887
Indenture
Madison Whipple and wife, Joseph Barton and wife for the first part; Orange Firmin, Edward Fitzki and Wallace Babcock for second part; Lorin M. Saunders as Trustee for third part. For \$5,000 grantors convey to Lorin Saunders Crawford's Adventure, farm formerly owned by Horatio Newman, 156 acres. In trust for parties of first and second part.
- JWB 6:32
22 December 1885
Indenture
Joseph K. Roberts and Frank T. Browning to Madison Whipple and Joseph Barton. Grantors appointed Trustees to sell real estate in cause Mary Kowald vs. Maurice LeMat, Trustee. Crawford's Adventure, formerly owned by Horatio Newman, 152 acres. Whipple and Barton highest bidders at \$1,500.
- JWB 1:439
12 December 1882
Deed
Eugenia C. Frear and William H. Frear to Maurice LeMat, Trustee. For \$5 grantors convey 152¼ acres, same conveyed by Edward C. Carrington to Eugenia Frear, FS 4:82. LeMat to hold property in trust for Frear's use.
- JWB 1:438
14 December 1882
Deed-Quit Claim
Lorin M. Saunders to Maurice LeMat, Trustee of Eugenia Frear. For \$250 grantor conveys 152¼ acres, Crawford's Adventure.

- 2 -

FS 4:82
10 September 1866
Deed

Edward C. Carrington, Trustee to Eugenia C. Frear.
By order passed 1860, in matter of petition for
division of real estate of Thomas Newman (#158
Commissions). Carrington appointed Trustee for sale
of real estate, Crawford's Adventure, 152½ acres.



69-H Crawford's Adventure Spring

*George Washington House

Duelling Grounds

Bostwick

Beall's Pleasure

* Don't miss this! Also known as Indian Queen Tavern, the George Washington House has now been restored by the Prince George's Jaycees and now houses a County Museum which depicts the Battle of Bladensburg and other historic events in exciting scale dioramas. Open: Wednesday through Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Addison Chapel

ADDISON CHAPEL: Then under construction, the Chapel reportedly served as a temporary British Headquarters on their way to Bladensburg. It is now St. Matthew's Church.

69-13 Magruder Spring

The White House

U.S. Capitol

DISTRICT HEIGHTS

WASHINGTON: Entering the City of Washington, the British sacked and burned much of the city, including the Capitol and the White House. Further damage to the city was prevented by the onset of a severe summer storm the next day. That evening, under the cover of darkness, the British withdrew from the city, leaving most of their wounded in Bladensburg.

From "The 1814 British Invasion Route" Driving Tour Pamphlet distributed by M-NCPPC

▲▲ Invasion Route
▲▲ Retreat Route



P.G. #69-14

Crowford's Adventure Spring

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

Nov 1988

Nag: Maryland SHPO