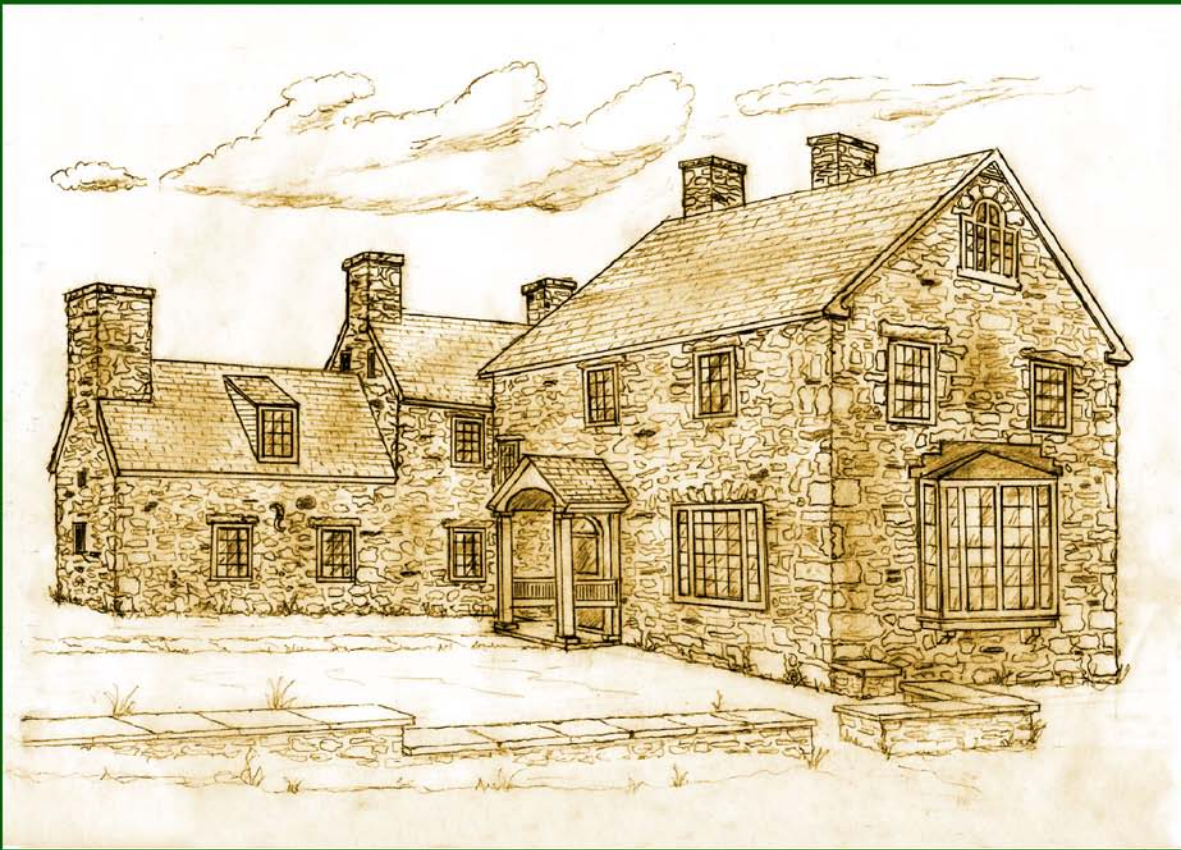


Harford Glen

An Outdoor Classroom & Preserve



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Table of Contents

Preface	8
Acknowledgements	9
About the Author	10
1. Early Land Grants Along Lower Winters Run	11
Enter Captain Thomas Clagett	13
Other Early Property Owners.....	15
Nathaniel Hollingsworth Acquires <i>Claggetts Forest</i>	16
2. Settlement of Harford Glen Historic Area	19
Joel Carter (1825-1835)	21
Charlotte Jane Hall in Trust (1835-1868)	22
Julian G. Hare (1868-1873)	24
Wakeman H. Bevard (1873-1906).....	25
G. Albert Getty (1906-1910).....	25
Harry C. Kilmer (1910-1911)	25
William M. Longley (1911-1915).....	25
Robert A. Fisher (1915-1929).....	27
Isaac A. Pennypacker (1929-1942).....	29
U.S. Government (1942-1948).....	29
Harford County Board of Education (1948 to present).....	29
3. Willow Grove Spoke Works and Wheel Factory	31
About Wheelmaking	32
Willow Valley Spoke Works	37
J. C. Hollingsworth Wheel Factory.....	40
J. C. Hollingsworth Wheel Co. & General Merchandisers ...	45

4. Ring Factory Road – Meaning of the Name	51
Legend Number 1 – Barrel Rings	51
Legend Number 2 – Wagon Wheel Rings	52
Legend Number 3 – Spinning Rings.....	53
Legend Number 4 – Factory Manager’s Name.....	56
Legend Number 5 – Loop or Ring in the Road.....	57
5. Wakeman Bevard Farms Historic <i>Glen Echo</i>	59
Smokehouse	60
Corncrib	62
Springhouse.....	63
Running Water	65
Icehouse	66
Tenant House	69
Orchard.....	69
Canning	71
Stump Cutter	71
6. U.S. Government Prepares for Long War	73
History of Edgewood Arsenal.....	73
Winters Run – The Watershed	75
Atkisson Dam Project	79
The Dam Legacy	81
7. Board of Education Acquires Dam Project	83
Board of Education Makes Preparations.....	83
County Groups Get Involved	85
Harford Glen – New Name of the Park.....	86
Planning, Then Action	87
First Five Years of Progress.....	90
Fishing at Harford Glen	93
Outdoor Residential Program Gets Started.....	96
Positioning for the Future	97

8. Harford Glen As the Visitor Sees It Today	101
Report’s Executive Summary	101
Full-time Staff Assigned, 1989	102
The Harford Glen Foundation, 1990.....	103
Peninsula Bridge, 1991	105
Winters Run Bridge, 1993	107
Geology Trail, 1993	109
Master Plan Report, 1993.....	109
New Dormitories, Road, and Parking Lot, 1997-1998	111
Catch and Release Fishing Pond, 1997-1998.....	111
Picnic Tables, 1998	112
Ropes Course, 1994 and 1998.....	113
The Glen Celebrates Fifty Years, 1998.....	113
Log Cabin, 2000-2003	114
Hydraulic Ram, 2002	115
Potpourri of Projects	116
Maryland Green Center, 2005.....	118
What’s in a Name? 2006.....	118
Invasion of the Bugs, 2006	119
9. Harford Glen – A Vision for Tomorrow	123
Perhaps Another Mission	125
Appendix A: Land Owners – Harford Glen Historic Area	127
Appendix B: Harford Glen – The Many Accolades	131
Index	139

Preface

Harford Glen is unique. Historically, its origins date to the early settlement of the county and architecturally there still exist structures going back to the nineteenth century. Topologically, there are wetlands, stream valleys, forested hillsides, meadows, and, along part of Plumtree Run, a beautiful gorge. Ecologically, there are twenty-nine species of mammals, more than one hundred twenty-five varieties of birds, seventeen different reptiles and amphibians, ten kinds of butterflies and dragonflies, and more than five hundred fifty varieties of plants, including forty different wildflowers.

And best of all – it is an outdoor educational classroom room for the students of Harford County.

This book begins with the original one-thousand-acre land patent known as *Clagett's Forrest* and traces the history of the land first developed by the Hollingsworth family. The farm known as *Glen Echo*, where the present-day historic structures are, had almost a dozen owners before it was turned over to the Harford County Board of Education in 1948. These families are chronicled.

As well, the Hollingsworth factory that gave Wheel Road its name is covered, along with several legends about how nearby Ring Factory Road received its unusual name. All the existing historic buildings are discussed, placing them in context of when they were an essential part of farm life.

The last chapter deals with the Harford Glen Environmental Education Center today and outlines the vision the leaders share for making it even better for tomorrow.

The path from its first settlement to today's Environmental Education Center was a long journey and not without setbacks and disappointments. But the visionaries persevered and the county's future leaders richly benefit from their dedicated and tenacious work. In 1998 the Glen commemorated fifty years of being in the school system and in 2004 celebrated twenty-five years of residential outdoor education. This is that story for you to enjoy and more importantly – to celebrate.