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# Thomas Stone

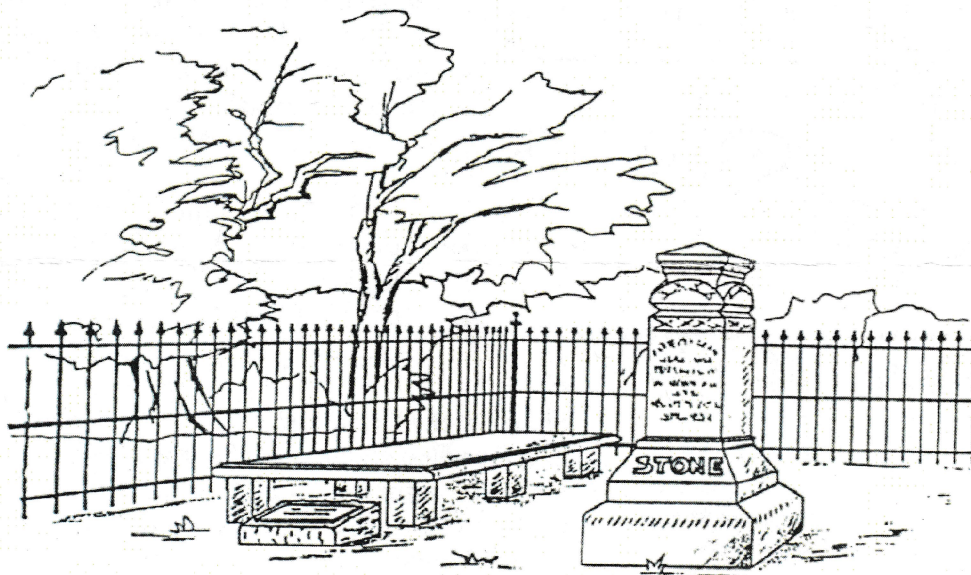
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Thomas Stone National Historic Site  
Port Tobacco, Maryland



## The Cemetery

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### Thomas Stone

From 1787 to 1913 this was the burial site for generations of Haberdventure residents. Thomas Stone, a signer of the Declaration of Independence is buried here. The faded letters on his grave read: *"Son of David and Elizabeth Stone, departed this life on the 5<sup>th</sup> of October 1787 - aged 44 years. The Archives of Maryland will show the offices of trust he has held. He was an able and faithful lawyer, a wise and virtuous patriot, an honest and good man."* These simple words speak of a quiet, often unrecognized patriot. Thomas Stone did not seek the limelight, but simply carried out his duties as a young leader in an emerging nation.

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## Servants and Slaves

As you walk around the gated cemetery, look for four small stones. These stones mark the boundaries of another cemetery at Haberdeventure; close in proximity, but worlds away from the main cemetery in culture. Buried here are the slaves and possibly the servants of the Stone Family. Oral tradition tells us that the graves were marked by small wooden crosses and were surrounded by a wire fence.

Few written records survive about those buried outside this iron fence. When the Stone family sold Haberdeventure in 1935, they had specific instructions about the cemetery.\* Unfortunately, time and the elements have taken their toll, and no visible signs of this second cemetery remain today.

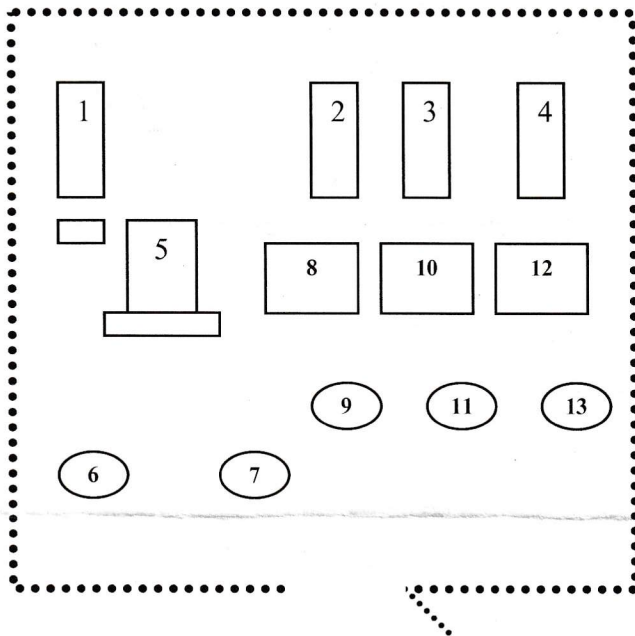
\* (Deed of Sale, Haberdeventure 1935) *“The cemetery of the Stone family is to be closed to further burials. Members of the family to have the right to visit said cemetery. The colored slave cemetery to permit the burial of one colored woman a former slave after which said cemetery shall also be closed”*

The woman mentioned in this Deed of Sale was not buried at the property, for reasons unknown.

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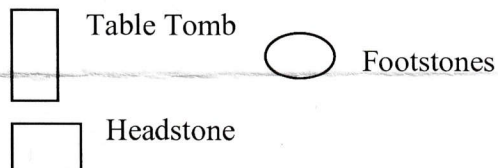
## For Your Safety

Please watch your step as you walk through the fields to the cemetery. You may enter through the iron gate, but please do not climb on fences. Do not touch, sit or lean against gravestones.



There are two different styles of grave markers seen in this cemetery. The earliest graves are marked with table tombs; these monuments consist of a stone slab resting on columns or legs. The more recent burials are marked with both head and foot stones. The head stones have the full name engraved on them and the accompanying foot stones are marked by initials.

#### Map Key



1

Thomas Stone  
(1743- 1787)

Signer of the Declaration of Independence and founding member of the Stone family at Haberdeventure. He built this home in the early 1770's, and owned the property until he died. Thomas Stone requested that he be buried next to his wife here at their country home.

2

Margaret Brown  
Stone (1751- 1787)

Wife of Thomas Stone. Her dowry may have helped Thomas purchase Haberdeventure. She predeceased Stone by just 4 months after fighting an unknown illness for years.

3	Gustavus Brown (1783- 1841)	Nephew of Margaret Stone. He rented part of Haberdeventure from Mildred (Stone) Daniel, daughter of Thomas and Margaret Stone. He purchased part of the plantation from her in 1831.
4	Sally Brown (1788- 1849)	Wife of Gustavus Brown. She and her children inherited her husband's land when he died.
5&6	Sarah Anne Caroline Stone (1807- 1873)	Wife of William Briscoe Stone and daughter of Gustavus and Sally Brown.
5&7	William Briscoe Stone (1797- 1872)	Son of Thomas Stone's younger brother Michael Jennifer, he aided Mildred Stone Daniel in running Haberdeventure. He purchased the house and part of the plantation from her in 1831. He continued to live at Haberdeventure until his death.
8&9	Margaret Graham Stone (1825- 1913)	Daughter of William Briscoe and Sarah Anne Caroline Stone, she inherited Haberdeventure from her father, and ran the plantation for 40 years.
10&11	C.G. Stone (1840- 1850)	Young daughter of William Briscoe and Sarah Anne Caroline Stone, she died here at age 10.
12&13	H. G. Cooksey (1846- 1850)	Grandson of Gustavus Brown by his daughter Catherine and her husband Joseph H. Cooksey. He died at age 4, just six months before his cousin C. G. Stone.