

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

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RECEIVED SEP 16 1976

DATE ENTERED

DEC 13 1976

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
 INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

 SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
 TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS
1 NAME

HISTORIC

(Thornbrough (Thornburgh), Thomas, House)

AND/OR COMMON

"Ar-Qua Springs" (preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

5 w of Arden
County Route 37

CITY, TOWN

Arden

 VICINITY OF

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Second

STATE

West Virginia

CODE
54

COUNTY

Berkeley

CODE

003

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**
 DISTRICT
 BUILDING(S)
 STRUCTURE
 SITE
 OBJECT
OWNERSHIP
 PUBLIC
 PRIVATE
 BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
 IN PROCESS
 BEING CONSIDERED
STATUS
 OCCUPIED
 UNOCCUPIED
 WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
 YES: RESTRICTED
 YES: UNRESTRICTED
 NO
PRESENT USE
 AGRICULTURE
 COMMERCIAL
 EDUCATIONAL
 ENTERTAINMENT
 GOVERNMENT
 INDUSTRIAL
 MILITARY
 MUSEUM
 PARK
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE
 RELIGIOUS
 SCIENTIFIC
 TRANSPORTATION
 OTHER:
4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Robert E. and Doris R. Hughes

STREET & NUMBER

Route 1, Box 221A

CITY, TOWN

Martinsburg

 VICINITY OF

STATE

West Virginia

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Berkeley County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Kings and Queen Streets

CITY, TOWN

Martinsburg

STATE

West Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Berkeley County Historical Society and Berkeley County Historical Landmarks
Commission Survey

DATE

1973-1974

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Berkeley County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Martinsburg

STATE

West Virginia

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" 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

The Thomas Thornbrough House, now called "Ar-Qua Springs," is a rectangular building with sections of stone (coursed rubble) and logs (covered with weatherboarding). The two-story house has five irregular bays (three windows and two doors) on the ground floor of the entrance (east) front and three gabled dormers with flush siding on the second floor of both east and west elevations.

The house has three stone interior chimneys (the south end chimney is surmounted with a brick cap) and a porch which extends the length of the front. The east elevation also has early siding on the log section, and it, as well as the south side, have what appear to be the original architraves, doors, sashes, hardware, etc. The windows of these sections have 6/6 lights, and the ground floor windows have one-panel, louvered shutters.

The stone core of the Thornbrough house was built in the mid eighteenth century as a two-bay, 1½-story structure, and the weatherboarded log section was apparently added shortly thereafter. The original gable roof (the outlines of which are still faintly visible on the south side) was replaced by a steep gambrel roof about 1820 to create a full second floor; the regular placement of three dormers on the east and west sides adds symmetry to what would otherwise be an irregular composition.

Few major changes appear to have been made since the first quarter of the nineteenth century other than the removal, in about 1960, of a large washhouse with its massive fireplace which was attached to the north end of the building.

An examination of turn-of-the-century photographs show that a gabled porch has been removed and two windows have been altered on the west side. The narrow, bracketed columns of the east porch have been replaced by square wooden columns, and the wooden shingles were replaced by slate and later asphalt roofing. Also, the siding on the north and west sides dates from a 1950s renovation.

The interior of the stone section consists of a large room on the first floor served by a fireplace (now plugged) and two smaller rooms on the second level. The log unit is divided into dining room, den, kitchen, bath and laundry on the lower floor and into two bedrooms, family room and bath on the upper floor. There are two fireplaces on the first level of the log section and a nicely curved, but narrow, stair between floors.

An early stone springhouse, rectangular in shape and measuring roughly 15' x 20', is located to the northeast of the main house. It is a two-story, coursed-rubble structure with a gabled roof. The lower room has always served as a springhouse, while the second floor may have been used as a smokehouse or some sort of a cabin or storage area.

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 checked="" 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/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> _ART	<input type="checkbox"/> _ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> _MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> _THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> _1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> _COMMERCE	<input checked="" 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

"Ar-Qua Springs" is one of the older houses in what is now Berkeley County, West Virginia. Begun in the mid-eighteenth century, the stone and log building has served mostly as a farmhouse, but it also may have been used at times as a meeting place for early Quakers of the area. Settled as part of the Ross-Bryan tract of 1735, this was one of the first locations west of the Blue Ridge to receive permanent white inhabitants, and the fact that many around the community of Arden were Quakers is an interesting facet in the history of that religious sect. The old Thornbrough house is simple in lines and style, yet its plan and detail present an important glimpse of construction techniques of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

The colony of Pennsylvania had not only been a haven for Quakers since its inception; for many years into the eighteenth century it was politically under their control. As the number of inhabitants increased and the proportion of Quakers decreased, however, pressures and influences caused many of the sect to seek a new place of abode. By an order of the Lieutenant Governor and Council of Virginia dated April 23, 1735, Alexander Ross, a Friend, and Morgan Bryan, both of Chester County, Pennsylvania, were granted leave to survey and settle up to 70,000 acres (1,000 acres for each family settled up to a maximum of seventy families) in north-western Virginia south of the Potomac River. The large expanse provided an opportunity for numerous Pennsylvania and New Jersey Quakers to take an old wagon road from the area around Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, to a concentration in the valleys around Winchester, Virginia, and what is now the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia.

Among those who received land from this grant was George Hobson, who was deeded 937 acres on Middle Creek, including the ground on which "Ar-Qua Springs" is located. In 1750 Thomas Thornbrough received a grant of 862 acres from Thomas, Lord Fairfax, land which was part of the former grant to Hobson. As with so much of the area, it appears that this acreage was in conflict between the Ross-Bryan grant and the claims of Fairfax to the Northern Neck. Whatever the problems involved, though, the situation seems to have been amicably settled; Thornbrough completed his survey in October 1751, and he either built all or part of the house that now bears his name.

Thomas Thornbrough must have come to the area in 1740, at least ten years before the land deal with Hobson was completed, for records of the Sadsbury Monthly Meeting of Friends in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, indicate a certificate of removal for him and his family to Hopewell Monthly Meeting (which included the section around "Ar-Qua Springs") on March 5, 1740.

Thornbrough's house apparently began as a one-story, limestone dwelling which soon was increased to about three times its original size by the addition of a fine log unit. Tradition holds that the small stone section had at times been used as a meeting place for Quakers, but records do not show it as an established meeting-house. There is a good possibility, however, that meetings were held here, for

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8. SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

it was not unusual that private homes were used, especially during winter months when travel was difficult and many were allowed the privilege of meeting away from Hopewell Meetinghouse.

As members of the Middle Creek Meeting, the Thornbroughs became quite prominent in Quaker affairs. Benjamin, Thomas' son and owner of "Ar-Qua Springs" from 1762 to 1787, was a representative from Hopewell to the Western Quarterly Meeting in November 1758, an official visitor to Friends on Smith Creek who desired to join Hopewell in 1760, an appointee to a meeting at Pipe Creek, Maryland, to consider a quarterly meeting in 1771, a committee member of Hopewell during part or all of the period 1759-1776, and a clerk of that meeting during some part of his association. The strict rules of the sect were apparently too much for Benjamin, though, and he was "disowned" in 1782 for "not attending meeting." At least two other owners of "Ar-Qua Springs" were also Quakers, these being Solomon Miller, who held the property from 1787 to 1795, and Samuel Chenowith, who continued in ownership from 1795 to 1843.

For most of its existence, the house has been associated with the land and farming. It was a small residence, no doubt, when first constructed, for the stone section contains only one room on the first floor and probably had a small living space in what would have been the attic. The log addition provided at least two additional rooms on the first level, each with a large fireplace, and a loft area approached by nicely curving, but narrow steps. The building underwent a major change about 1820; it was then that the gambrel roof and dormers are believed to have been placed, increasing the effective floor space and providing an attic above the second level.

"Ar-Qua Springs" is a comfortable structure in a picturesque setting. Its past association with Quakers who entered the area with the intention of settling to constructive lives as farmers, craftsmen and merchants is important, for the Eastern Panhandle is the only section in present West Virginia where that sect played an appreciable role in opening up new territory.