

AL-III-B-010

DAVIS LOG HOUSE  
Route 51  
Oldtown, Maryland  
ca. 1800

The Davis Log House is a good example of early log architecture in Allegany County. The land on which the house sits was originally part of a property known as "Big Spring". It was granted to Lawrence O'Neale of Montgomery County on May 3, 1791. The house is a one story, three bay wide, rectangular building constructed of logs with "V" notching. Originally a stone chimney was placed at the flush end of the building.

HISTORIC SITE  
SURVEY INVENTORY

0100205504

AL-III-010

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON: log house				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: Maryland Route 51 at Cresap Mill Road				
CITY OR TOWN: north of Oldtown				
STATE Maryland			COUNTY: Allegany	
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments vacant
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: Mr. & Mrs. Thomas M. Shryock				
STREET AND NUMBER: Route 1				
CITY OR TOWN: Oldtown			STATE: Maryland	
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Allegany County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER: 30 Washington Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Cumberland			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 143-416 & 197-448				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved <input type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>The house stands on the southwesterly side of Maryland Route 51, across from the intersection of Cresap Mill Road, to the north of Oldtown in Allegany County.</p> <p>The house, which appears to have been moved to its present location behind a newer house, is a one story structure with a low gable roof and three bays along the front. The logs are laid to the peak of the roof and are "V" notched.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE			
<b>PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century			
<b>SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)</b> probably 19th			
<b>AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/> Historic <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> Art <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> Communications <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> Industry <input type="checkbox"/> Invention <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape <input type="checkbox"/> Literature <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Political <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- losophy <input type="checkbox"/> Science <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- itarian <input type="checkbox"/> Theater <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>  <p style="text-align: center;">This log house, although probably not on its original site and possibly altered somewhat, is typical of the house built throughout western Maryland by the early settlers.</p>			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Allegany County Land Records, Courthouse, Cumberland, MD.

**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:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Ronald L. Andrews, Historic Site Survey		DATE 6/6/75
ORGANIZATION Tri-County Council for Western Maryland, Inc.		
STREET AND NUMBER: Algonquin Motor Inn, Suite 510		
CITY OR TOWN: Cumberland	STATE Maryland	

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

Significance of this property is:

National  State  Local

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature



Patterson Creek, MD - WV Quad  
 U.S.G.S. · 7.5 minute series  
 1949  
 scale 1:24,000

Site #: Al-III-010  
 log house  
 Maryland Route 51 at  
 Cresap Mill Road  
 North of Oldtown



Log House  
Maryland Route 51 at Cresap Mill Road  
North of Oldtown  
Allegheny Co., Maryland  
S E view  
December, 1974

SE

A1-III-010

RONALD L. ANDREWS

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

0101935201

AL-III-B-024

AL-III-B-010

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Log House

AND/OR COMMON

Davis Log

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Route 51, Oldtown N.W. of Oldtown

CITY, TOWN

Oldtown

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany

**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 type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

John Davis

Telephone #: 395-5557

STREET & NUMBER

Wilson Road

CITY, TOWN

Oldtown

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 443

Folio #: 571

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland,

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**AL-III-B-024  
AL-III-B-010**CONDITION**

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR  
 DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The Log House is located on Route 51 west in Oldtown, Allegany County.

The Log House is a one story, three bay wide, rectangular building. The building is constructed of logs with "V" notching. The roof is gabled and is covered with replaced asphalt shingles. The entire structure rests half on a high stone foundation and half on high stone pilings. Windows in the building have plain trim and no longer have any glass. Entrances are located on both the front and rear sides and both are of the board and batten variety. Although the building no longer has a chimney, originally a huge stone chimney was located at one end of the structure. This provided a large fireplace for the kitchen which was located in the basement.<sup>1</sup>

Although the Davis Log House is somewhat deteriorated, it nevertheless remains a good example of early log architecture in Allegany County.

<sup>1</sup> Interview with John Davis, present owner, August 25, 1976

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

013-8-11-2A

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1700-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" 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
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
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

The Davis Log House is a good example of early log architecture in Allegany County. The Land on which the house sits was originally part of a property known as "Big Spring". It was granted to Lawrence O'Neale of Montgomery County on May 3, 1791. "Big Spring" remained in the O'Neale family until 1846 when it was sold by James Smith, Trustee.<sup>1</sup> Thus, it is possible that the cabin was built by a member of the O'Neale family in the early 19th Century.

Architecturally the house is typical of single story log buildings in the county. According to the present owner, John Davis, who lived in the structure in the early part of the present century, the building originally had a large stone chimney. This provided a hearth for the kitchen which was located in the basement of the house.

<sup>1</sup> Allegany County Land Records, Cumberland, Maryland

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

450-a-III-A

AL-III-B-024  
AL-III-B-010

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Allegany County Land Records, Cumberland, Maryland

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

John Nelson, Joan Baldwin, & Steve Beale

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historical Sites Survey

DATE

9/1/76

STREET & NUMBER

507 National Highway

TELEPHONE

777-8991

CITY OR TOWN

LaVale,

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

INVENTORY NO. ~~A1 III B 24~~ A-L-III-B-024 443/571

DATE: 8/25/76

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor

NAME OF PROPERTY: Log House

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: Rt. 51, Oldtown, Md.

DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: North

NAME OF OWNER: John Davis 395-5557

ADDRESS: ~~Oldtown, Md.~~ Wilson Rd. Oldtown, Md.

STORIES: 1(✓) 2( ) 3( ) 4( ) 5( ) 6( ) BAYS: 1( ) 2( ) 3(✓) 4( ) 5( ) 6( ) 7( ) ( )

WINGS, ADDITIONS:

Dwelling Shape: (square, cross, rectangular)

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- (✓) FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)
- ( ) BRICK: Bond type- common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
- ( ) STONE: Bond type- rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
- (✓) LOG ✓ notching
- ( ) Other: Coverings ~~stucco~~

WALL FEATURES: BELT COURSE, PILASTERS, OTHERS \_\_\_\_\_

FOUNDATIONS: HIGH, LOW, BRICK, STONE

WATER TABLE: NONE, PLAIN, BEVELED, MOULDED BRICK

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1( ) 2/2( ) 6/6( ) 9/6( ) 9/9( ) other( )  
pegged ( ) nailed( ) wide ( ) narrow ( ) mitred ( ) pediment ( )

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: one rear, one front  
HARDWARE: original( ) replaced( )  
FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN  
Paneled, Verticle, Horizontal Boards

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: (crown, fascia, soffit, bed)  
original( ) replaced( ) Rafter Ends, Modillions, Dentils, Frieze, Architrave

ROOF: GABLE FRONT, GABLE FLANK, HIP, SHED, MANSARD, GAMBREL, FLAT, BOMERS #  
MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt original( ) replaced( )

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed( ) hip( ) gable( )

CHIMNEYS: NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ BRICK( ) STONE( ) CORBELED( ) original( ) replaced( )  
LOCATION: Flush end( ) Inside end( ) Outside end( ) Central( ) Interior ( )

ARCHES: Door and window: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, Semicircular

COMMENTS:

Use - no longer used  
Significance - architects  
Date Constructed - ~~1900-1905~~ Early 1940s  
Condition - poor

Davis

had huge chimney  
4 porch  
Kitchen in basement

TITLE SEARCH

Log House  
Route 51  
Oldtown, Maryland  
AL-III-B-24

## Historical Chain of Title

Allegany County Deed, Liber 443, Folio 571  
grantee: Charles Elmer Davis  
grantor: Jefferson Davis  
February 12, 1971

Allegany County Deed, Liber 139, Folio 406  
grantee: Charles E. Davis & Olive P. Davis  
grantor: William A. Dolan & Catherine Dolan  
January 9, 1922 "Big Spring Resurveyed"

Allegany County Deed, Liber 192, Folio 666  
grantee: William A. Dolan et. ux.  
grantor: D. James Blackiston  
May 25, 1908  
Consideration: \$700.00  
(John Davis lost land in mortgage foreclosure)

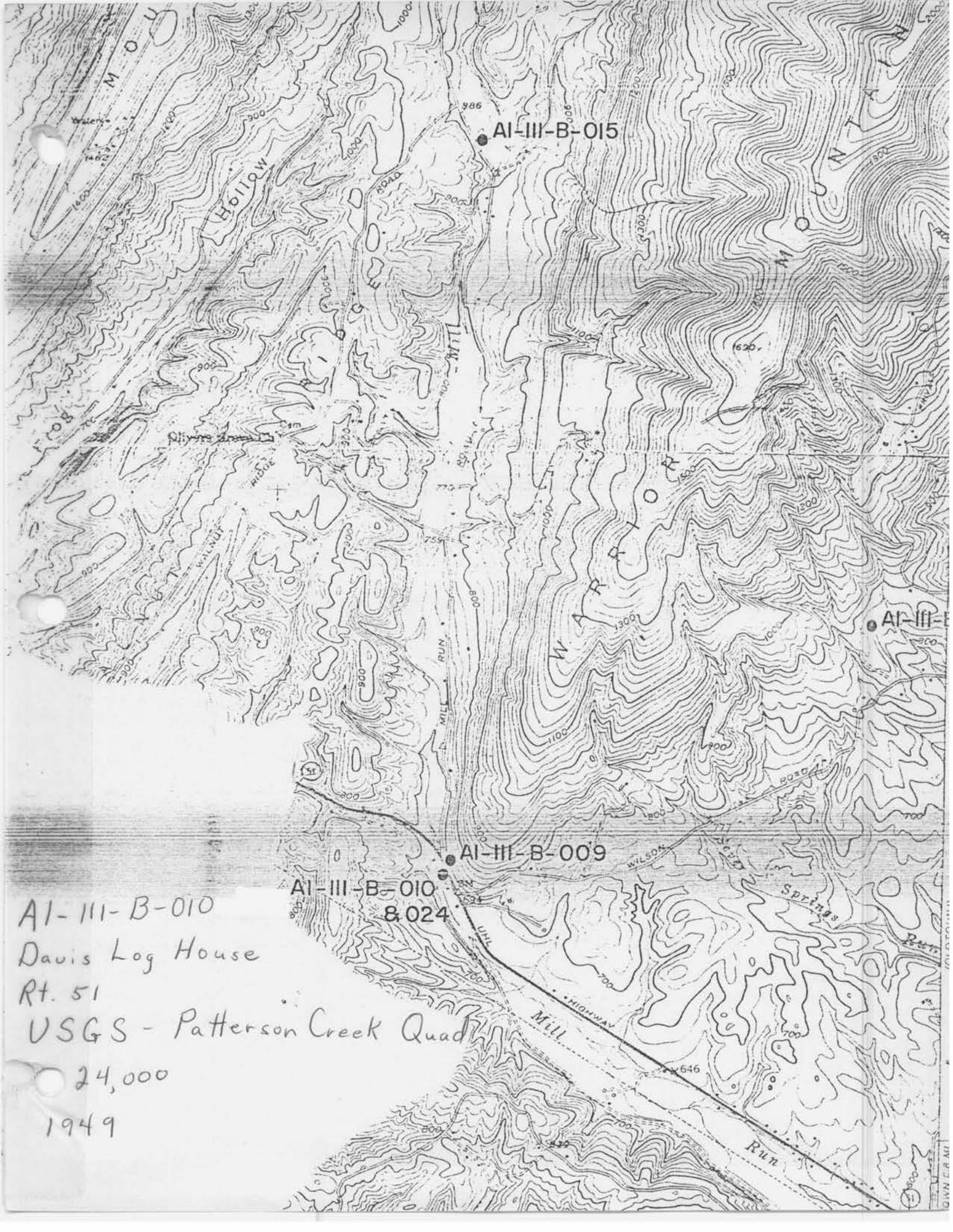
Allegany County Deed, Liber 78, Folio 592  
grantee: John W. Davis  
grantor: Margaret Schenzer  
April 4, 1896  
Consideration: \$1,150.00

Allegany County Deed, Liber 18, Folio 2  
grantee: John B. Shutzer  
grantor: Thomas Ruby  
October 16, 1958  
Consideration: \$1,250.00

Allegany County Deed, Liber 17, Folio 43  
grantee: Thomas Ruby  
grantor: Elsie McElfish  
April 1, 1858  
Consideration: \$650.00

Allegany County Deed, Liber 1, Folio 637  
grantee: David McElfish, Jr.  
grantor: James Smith, Trustee  
March 8, 1846  
Consideration: \$812.16

The property known as "Big Spring", was originally granted to Lawrence O'Neale of Montgomery County on May 3, 1791 and granted by the State of Maryland Patent on July 30, 1800.



AI-III-B-015

AI-III-B-009

AI-III-B-010  
8,024

AI-III-B-010  
Davis Log House  
Rt. 51  
USGS - Patterson Creek Quad

24,000  
1949



Davis Log House

~~AI-III-B-024~~ AL-III-B-010

51 Rt. N.W. of Oldtown

John E. Nelson

8/25/76

Northeast



Davis Log House

A1-~~III~~-B-024 AL-III-B-010

Rt. 51 N.W. of Oldtown

John E. Nelson

8/25/76

Southwest