

AL-VI-B-237

J. Koontz House  
Klondike  
Private

early 19th century

The Koontz log house stands two stories tall, and measures two bays square, with a one-bay deep vertical plank addition covering the rear. The house is situated below the crest of Big Savage Mountain, and faces the Georges Creek Valley to the east.

The early 19th century J. Koontz House was built by a prominent family of early German settlers. Jacob Koontz appears on the 1787 list of settlers west of Fort Cumberland. When his son, John acquired the property in 1832, he either finished or remodeled a log house built up to twenty years earlier, or he built the house new at that time.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

J. Koontz House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Klondike Road, approximately 2 miles southwest of Klondike

CITY, TOWN

Klondike

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany County

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES- RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES- UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<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

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Koontz Coal Company

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

C/O Jim Oberhaus Braddock Estates

CITY, TOWN

Frostburg

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
Maryland 21532

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

STATE  
Maryland 21502

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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 J. Koontz log house is located a half mile south of Hersick road. Access is through a large surface mine that is currently being worked to within 60 feet of the house. The house is situated below the crest of Mt. Savage, and faces the Georges Creek Valley to the east. The surrounding land comprises open fields and a few areas of recent light forest growth.

Squirrel Run, a tributary of Georges Creek, begins as a spring running through the ruins of a small stone springhouse, slightly southwest of the house. Flowing west to east, it forms a small ravine between the south facing dwelling on its northern bank and the Koontz family cemetery on the knoll to the south. A large, south-facing frame bank barn on a stone foundation stood west of the house. (demolished summer, 1981). A few old fruit trees remain in an orchard southwest of the barn.

The Koontz log house stands two stories tall, and measures two bays square, with a one-bay deep vertical plank addition covering the rear. The one-story addition's shed roof joins the main roof to form a continuous saltbox profile. A porch, now collapsed, covered the south and west sides of the house. As the land slopes to the south, the stone cellar is fully exposed on the facade with an entrance slightly east of center. The southward sloping cellar floor is formed by bedrock, exhibiting numerous plant and animal fossils.

Entrances appear in the west bay of the facade and the east end of the kitchen addition. The main structure, whose logs are V-notched at the corners, is covered with lapped wooden siding. Narrow beaded architraves frame the 6/6 sash windows. Standing seam metal covers the roof.

Two chimneys heat the dwelling a large stone block at the west end, accommodating a fireplace in the cellar as well as on either floor, and a brick stove-flue in the center of the kitchen's rear wall. The floor plan, identical on either floor, comprises one 14' 6" wide room running the 22' depth of the house to the west, with two unheated rooms adjoining it to the east. These rooms on the first floor were joined by a door. The boxed stair turns in the southeast corner of the main room. A door leads from this room to the kitchen. A trap door gave access to the cellar in the northwest corner.

Exposed joists are mortised and tenoned into the central summer beam. Partition walls are formed by tongue-and-groove beaded boards. A small, slightly quirked ogee molding ending in an astragal frames the doors and windows.

The barn was not examined in detail by this writer. The cemetery is enclosed by a wrought iron fence. Jacob Koontz and other members of his family are buried here.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 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		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input 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                      1832                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The early 19th century J. Koontz House was built by a prominent family of early German settlers. Jacob Koontz appears on the 1787 list of settlers West of Fort Cumberland. When his son John acquired the property in 1832, he either finished or remodeled a log house built up to twenty years earlier, or he built the house new at that time. All the moldings and finishing materials date to the 1830's, although older features, such as the jack-arched cellar fireplace and the three-room floor plan, appear in the house. The scant fenestration in the two-bay facade is also a regressive feature.

The use of a cellar fireplace is also seen at the Thomas Wright House, AL-VI-B-036, c.1815 structure built nearby for a settler of English descent.

In 1871, the Koontz heirs sold the mineral rights of the 852 acre farm, to Alexander Shaw for \$235,000.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Allegany County Records

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

Merry Stinson, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Bureau of Mines

DATE

January 1982

STREET &amp; NUMBER

21 State Circle, Shaw House

TELEPHONE

(301) 269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

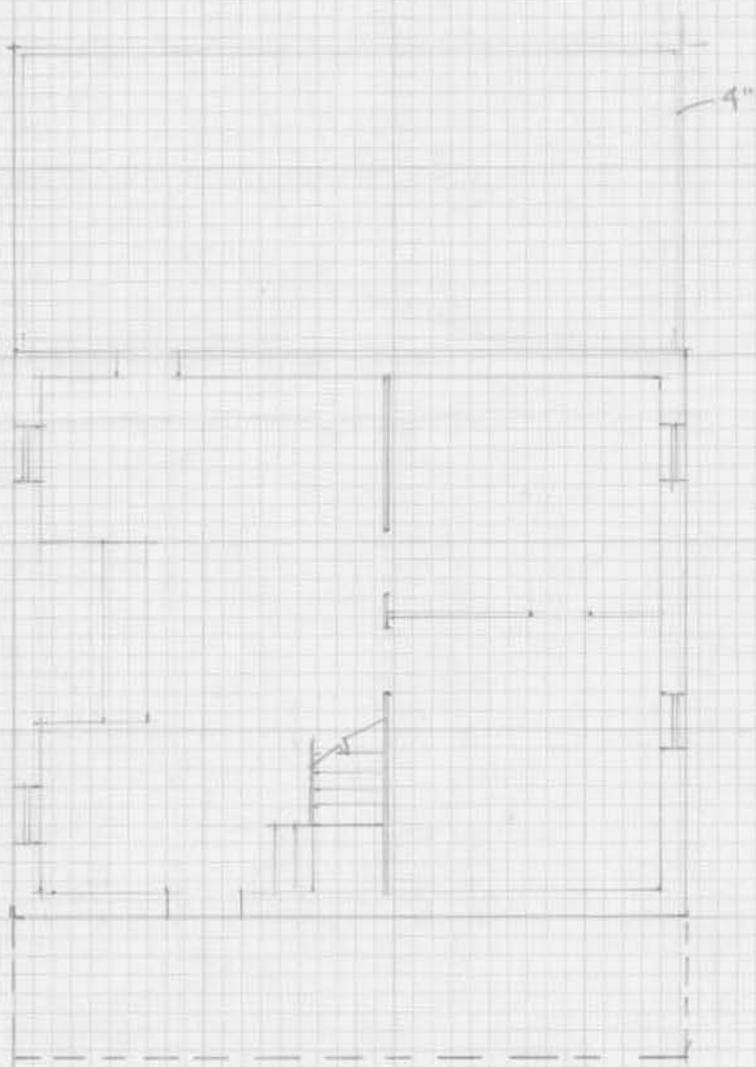
STATE

Maryland 21401

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



AL-VI-B-237 J. County

1/8" scale

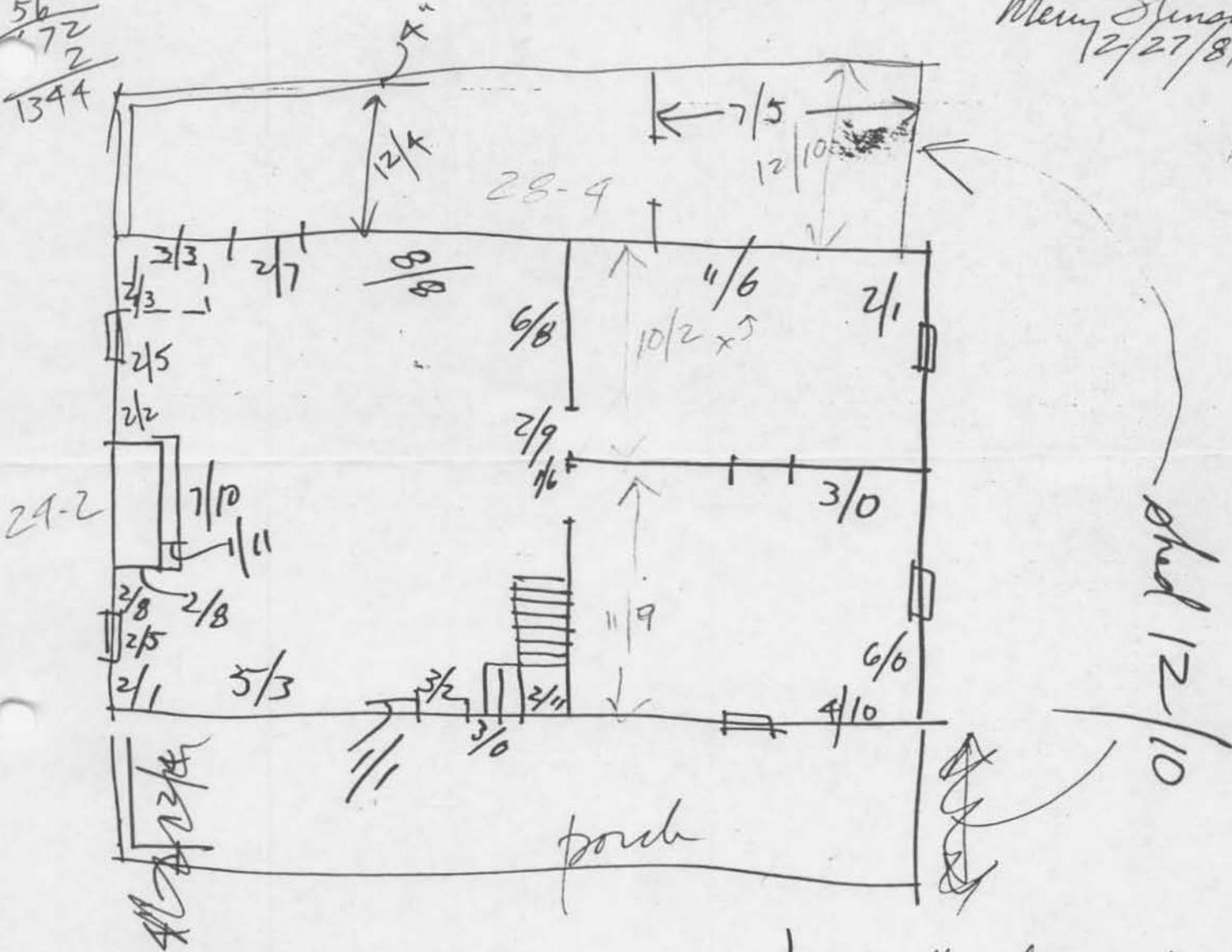


Orlando - please add addition openings from photo if you like -

Weng

J. Koontz  
Mary Stinson  
12/27/81

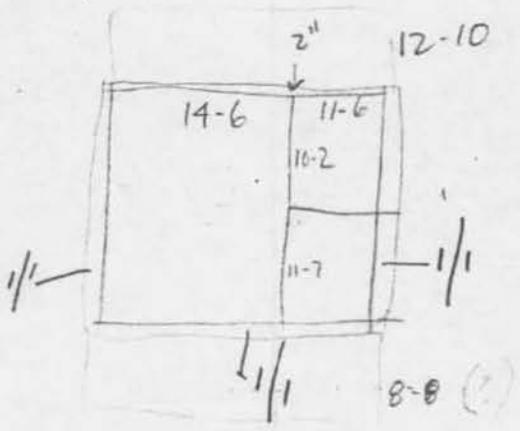
3'  
28  
24  
112  
56  
72  
2  
1344

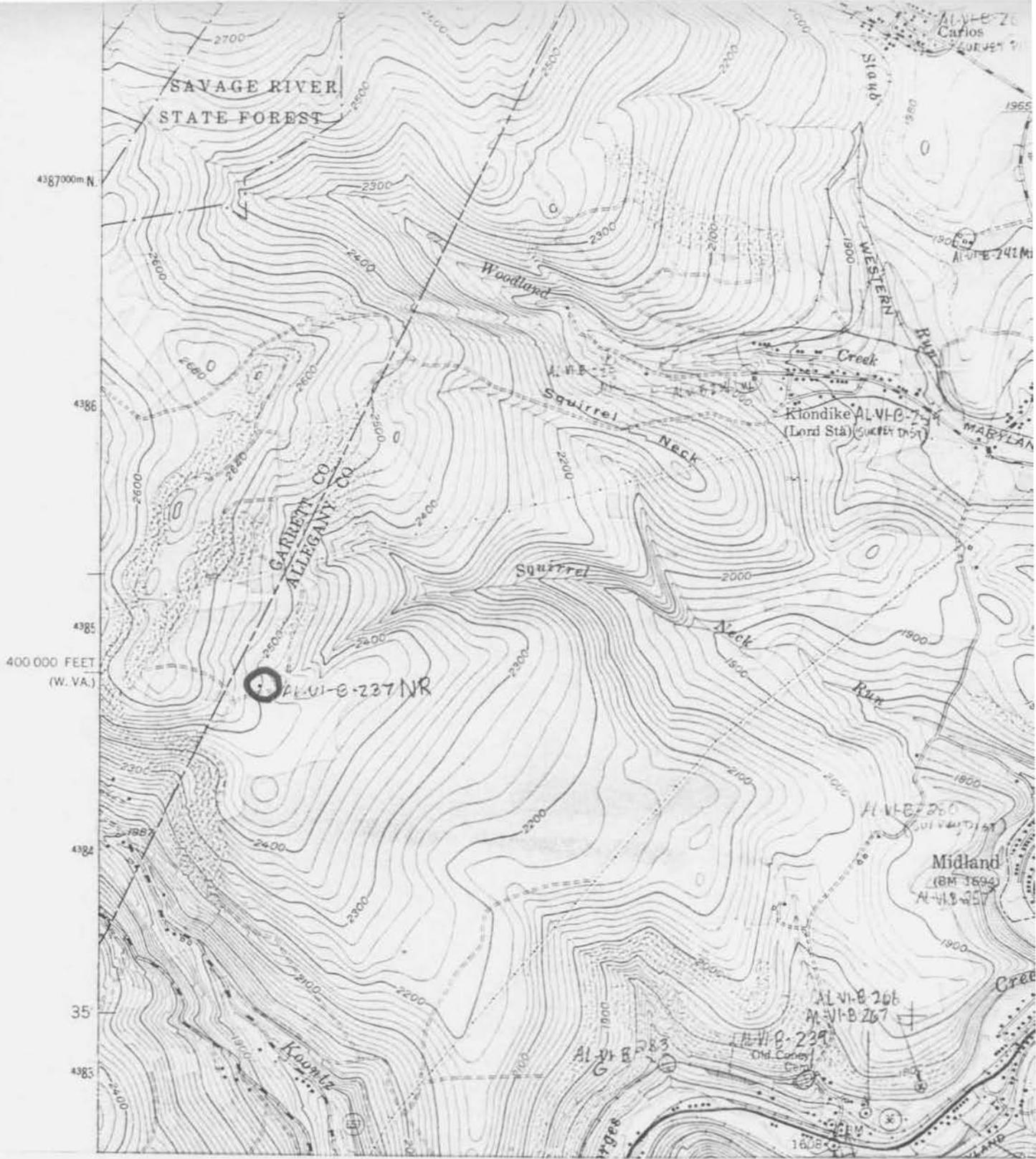


Small, early quilt roof  
astragal

118, 8  
118, 8

24-2 + 28-4





Lonaconing, MD-WV  
 USGS 7.5 Minute Series  
 Scale 1:24,000  
 1950; photorevised 1974

AL-VI-B-237  
 J. Koontz House  
 Klondike Road  
 approximately 2 miles  
 southwest of Klondike



AL-VI-B-237

J. Koontz Farm

Allegany Co., MD

Donna Ware 3/81

Facade: E elevation



AL-VI-B-237

J. Koontz Farm

Allegany Co., MD

Donna Ware 3/81

Rear: W elevation



AL-VI-B-237

J Koontz Farm

Allegheny Co., MD

Donna Ware 3/81

S gable end



-VI-  
AL ~~NA~~ B-237

FIGURE 9  
=

J. KOONTZ LOG HOUSE



AL-VI-B-237

J. Koontz Farm

Allegany Co., MD

Donna Ware 3/81

Hs: Interior: 1st floor/staircas



AL-VI-B-237

J. Koontz Farm

Allegheny Co., MD

Donna Ware 3/81

Hs: Interior: 1st floor



AL-VI-B-237  
J. Koontz Farm  
Allegheny Co., MD

Date stone taken from House

Photo: Brenda Crawford

12/82

Stone was removed from chimney



J. K. 1841

12/82

AL-VI-B-237  
J. Koentz Farm  
Allegheny Co. MD

Datestone taken from House

Photo : Brenda Crawford

12/82

Stone was taken from chimney