

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET 1601825204

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON:				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Griffith Log House				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Damascus Road (Rte. 108)				
CITY OR TOWN: Damascus				
STATE: Maryland		COUNTY: Montgomery		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		OWNERSHIP <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		STATUS <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" 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"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	<u>Abandoned</u>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		_____
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: Mayne Realty Company				
STREET AND NUMBER: 3311 Olney/Sandy Spring Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Olney			STATE: Maryland	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Montgomery County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Rockville			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: None				
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The building, built in several sections, is of log and frame construction. The house was originally a single room, log-cabin with a stone end-chimney. Later, a second room was added on the opposite side of the chimney, making the house a central chimney structure. Still later, rooms and a porch were added across the north wall and a kitchen, at the west end.

The east section has a basement with stone foundation walls and an outside entrance on the south side. Log floor joists are tapered and notched to fit over the sill. Log walls are joined at the corners with inverted "V" notches. Along the east wall, the staircase rises in a single run to the second floor; below the staircase is a closet with a wall of vertical beaded boards; the ballusters, now gone, were rectangular and fit into mortises in the treads. The chair-rail consists of two members, a beaded board surmounted by a narrow horizontal rail with a groove on the outside face. The fireplace, on the west wall, has a flat brick arch inserted into the originally larger opening in the stone chimney base. The room has no partition walls.

On the second floor, there are several rooms. A bedroom at the chimney end has a brick fireplace. At the east end is a boxed staircase to the attic; the partition wall being of vertical boards with a bead on the outer face.

A second partition wall, between hall and bath, is constructed of vertical boards with a bead on both faces. In the attic, there is evidence that the floor joists were cut and the floor area around the attic staircase reframed, indicating that the staircase is a later addition.

The roof framing of the east section, consists of rafters nailed to the outer floorboard and half-lapped and pegged at the ridge. Collars are half-lapped, half-dovetailed between each pair of rafters. Angle braces lie in the notches on the outer faces of the rafters. Over the rafters, nailers support the roof sheathing (now a tin roof). At the gable ends, round logs run vertically from the end plate (actually the uppermost log of the end wall) to the end rafters, to which they are nailed. Beaded clapboards are nailed directly onto these log supports. On the west end wall, the clapboards now form an interior partition between the two sections of the houses.

The west section of the house is also two stories, but was probably 1-1/2 stories originally. It sits on a stone foundation, without a cellar; log joists have holes for a pegged, random-width floor. The fireplace, on the east wall, has been in-filled with brick. A chair-rail consists of a

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

simple board fascia. On the west wall is a boxed staircase to the second floor; at the lower end is a single tread outside the boxed section, which begins with winders leading to a straight run. The "box" consists of plain vertical boards.

The second floor is a single room. Log walls run about four feet from the floor level. Above this, the structure is framed with wall posts and studs mortised into tenons on the top log. This suggests that the west section was once 1-1/2 stories and that the roof has been raised. There is additional evidence for this in the gable end of the east section, which has what appears to be a "ghost" where a lower roof once adjoined the end wall. Above the level of the top log, the stone chimney steps back from the framed section.

The attic of the west section is more crudely constructed than that of the east section. The floor joists are notched over the plates. Log rafters rest on a floorboard and are joined at the ridge with a vertical joint. Collars and angle braces are nailed onto the rafters rather than being joined.

The rooms across the front are one story, with a shed roof and frame construction. They have stone foundations without a cellar. The floor joists rest on girts that are mortised, tenoned and pegged into the sill of the older sections and the sill of the addition. The floor joists are joined to the sill and girt by a modified, inverted tusk tenon, the lower shoulder of the tenon sloping to fit a mortise cut with a sloping face. The walls of these rooms have braced frames with members mortised, tenoned and pegged together.

The rooms added at the west end are of a much later date. The framing members are sawn, although the floor joists are of log. Chimney stacks are of brick and are designed for stoves.

West of the house is a log smokehouse. It is constructed with inverted "V" notches. Rafters are birdmouthed over the plate; collars are half-lapped and pegged over each pair of rafters are half-lapped and pegged. At the gable ends, log supports for the clapboard wall run from the top log to the end pair of rafters. Beams for hanging meat rest in notches in the second log from the plate on either sidewall.

Tentative Interpretation for Further Examination.

The "Griffith Log House" was obviously built in a number of separate sections over a considerable period of time. The west section, as a 1-1/2 story building, probably predates the east section. It would have had an external chimney with a stone stack set back from the gable end. Subsequently, the east section was built in one campaign, and the older house was relegated to service uses. At this time, the brick stack was also added to provide a sufficiently tall chimney; this brick stack was free-standing from the new wing.

On the exterior of the west gable end of the east section, a "ghost" of a lower roofline for the west section is faintly visible; this would suggest that when the east section was built, the west section was still 1-1/2 stories and that its roofline was simply extended around the sides of the chimney to abut the new section. At still a later date, the framed section was added onto the west section; this may have been done when the range of rooms were added across the north end. The new attic floor joists were laid with the one at the east end supported by the top of the old stone chimney, which was now completely enclosed with the large house. Still later, perhaps as late as the twentieth century, the low service rooms to the west of the house were added.

Construction details suggest that the smokehouse was built about the same time as the east section of the house.

M 14-9

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Newspaper Clipping: Montgomery County Courier, 2/27/74
Montgomery County Judgment Records, Liber JA #3, F.259

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:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	COUNTY:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

MNCPPC

DATE

6 Dec 73

STREET AND NUMBER:

8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

12.

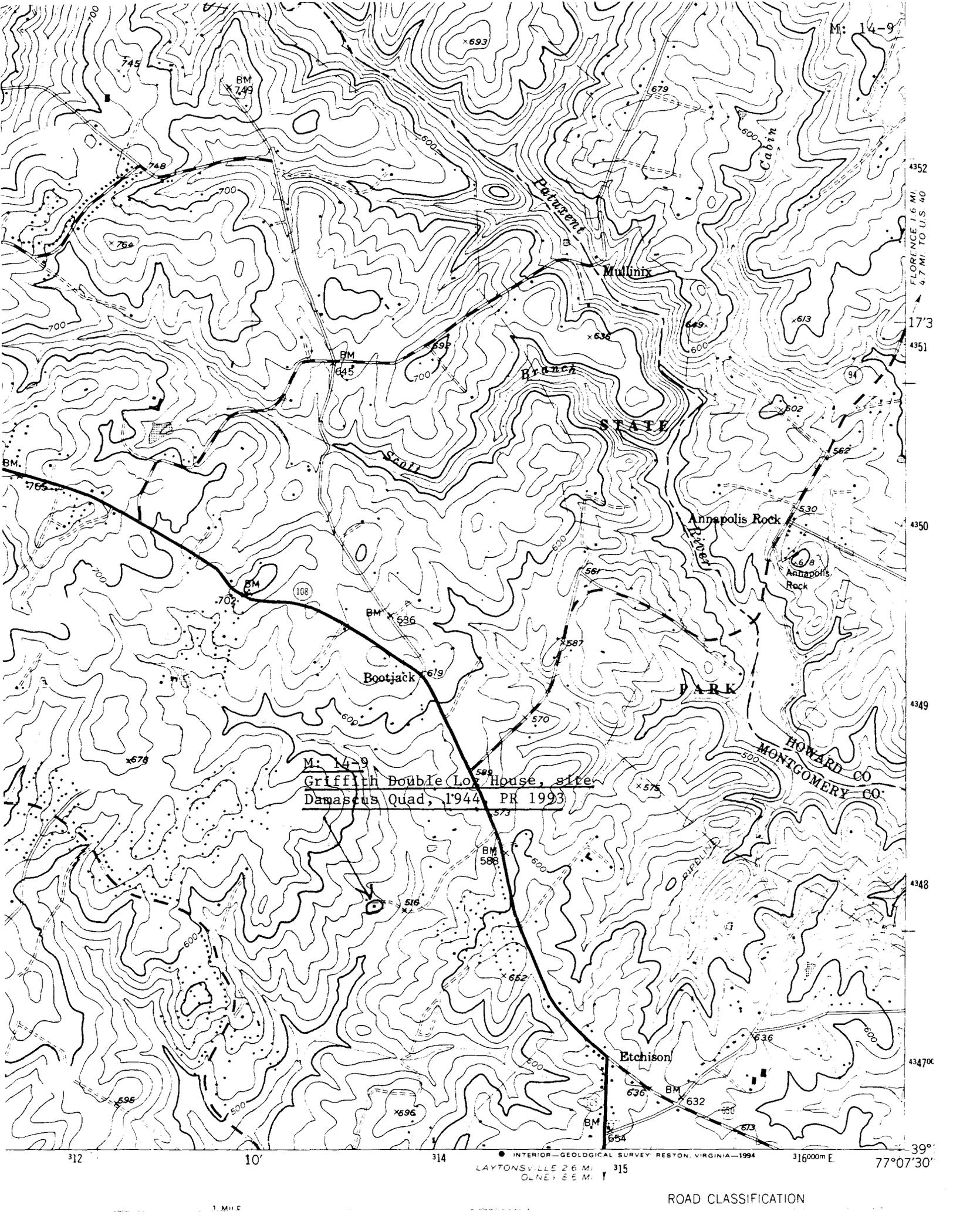
State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National State Local

Signature _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



M: 14-9

4352
FLORENCE 1.6 MI
4.7 MI TO U.S. 40

17°3

4351

4350

4349

4348

434706

39°

77°07'30"

M: 14-9
Griffith Double Log House, site
Damascus Quad, 1944 PR 1993

• INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY RESTON, VIRGINIA—1994

LAYTONSVILLE 2.6 MI
OLNEY 5.5 MI

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

1 MIC



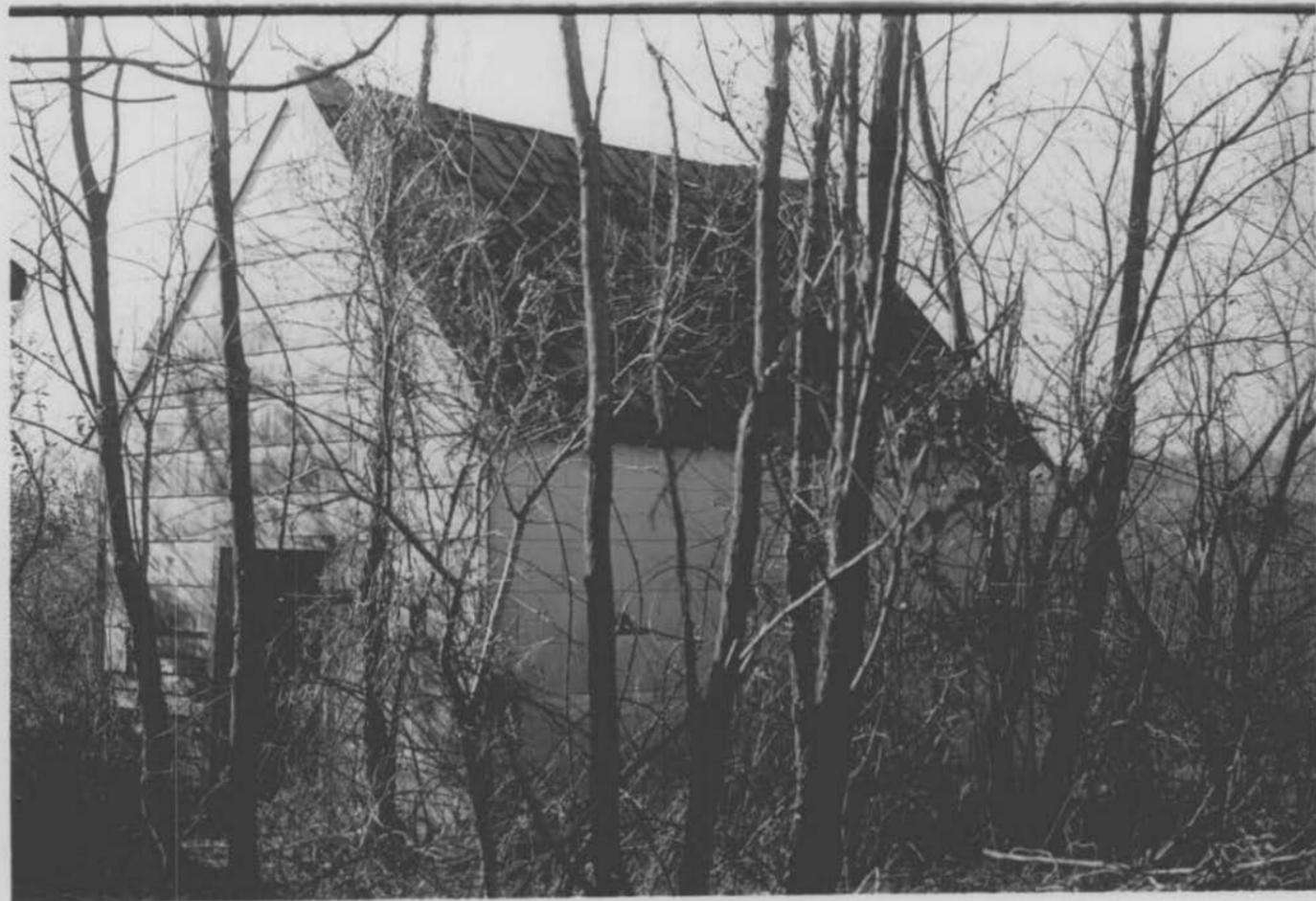
M; #14-9

NAME GRIFFITH DOUBLE-LOG HOUSE

LOCATION OFF RT. 108 AT ETCHISON, Md

FACADE N

PHOTO TAKEN 12/6/73 M. DWYER



NAME GRIFFITH DOUBLE-LOG HOUSE / LOG SMOKE HOUSE M: #14-9

LOCATION OFF RT. 108 W. OF ETCHISON, MD

FACADE NE

PHOTO TAKEN 12/6/73 M. DWYER



NAME GRIFFITH DOUBLE-LOG HOUSE

M: #14-9

LOCATION Rt. 108 W. OF ETCHISON, Md.

FACADE ATTIC - WEST GABLE END OF EAST (OLDER) SECTION OF HOUSE

PHOTO TAKEN 12/6/73 M. DWYER



NAME GRIFFITH DOUBLE-LOG HOUSE

M: #14-9

LOCATION OFF RT. 108 AT ETCHISON, Md

FACADE ATTIC - W. GABLE END OF THE EAST (OLDER) SECTION OF HOUSE

PHOTO TAKEN 12/6/73 H. DWYER



M: #14-9

NAME GRIFFITH DOUBLE-LOG HOUSE

LOCATION off Rt. 108 W. OF ETCHELSON, Md.

FACADE NE CORNER OF HOUSE

PHOTO TAKEN 12/6/73 M. DWYER



M: #14-9

NAME GRIFFITH DOUBLE-LOG HOUSE

LOCATION OFF RT. 108 W. OF ETCHISON, MD

FACADE LOG SLEEPERS AT N.W. ENTRANCE TO HOUSE

PHOTO TAKEN 12/6/73 M. DWYER



N: #14-9

NAME GRIFFITH DOUBLE LOG HOUSE

LOCATION OFF RT. 108 W. OF ECHISON, Md.

FACADE LOG SLEEPERS AT NW ENTRANCE TO HOUSE

PHOTO TAKEN 12/6/73 M. DWYER



NAME GRIFFITH DOUBLE-LOG HOUSE

M: #14-9

LOCATION OFF RT. 108 W. OF ETCHELSON, Md.

FACADE INTERIOR - FRAMING DETAIL AROUND CENTRAL
CHIMNEY, SECOND STORY LEVEL

PHOTO TAKEN

12/6/73 C. OWENS



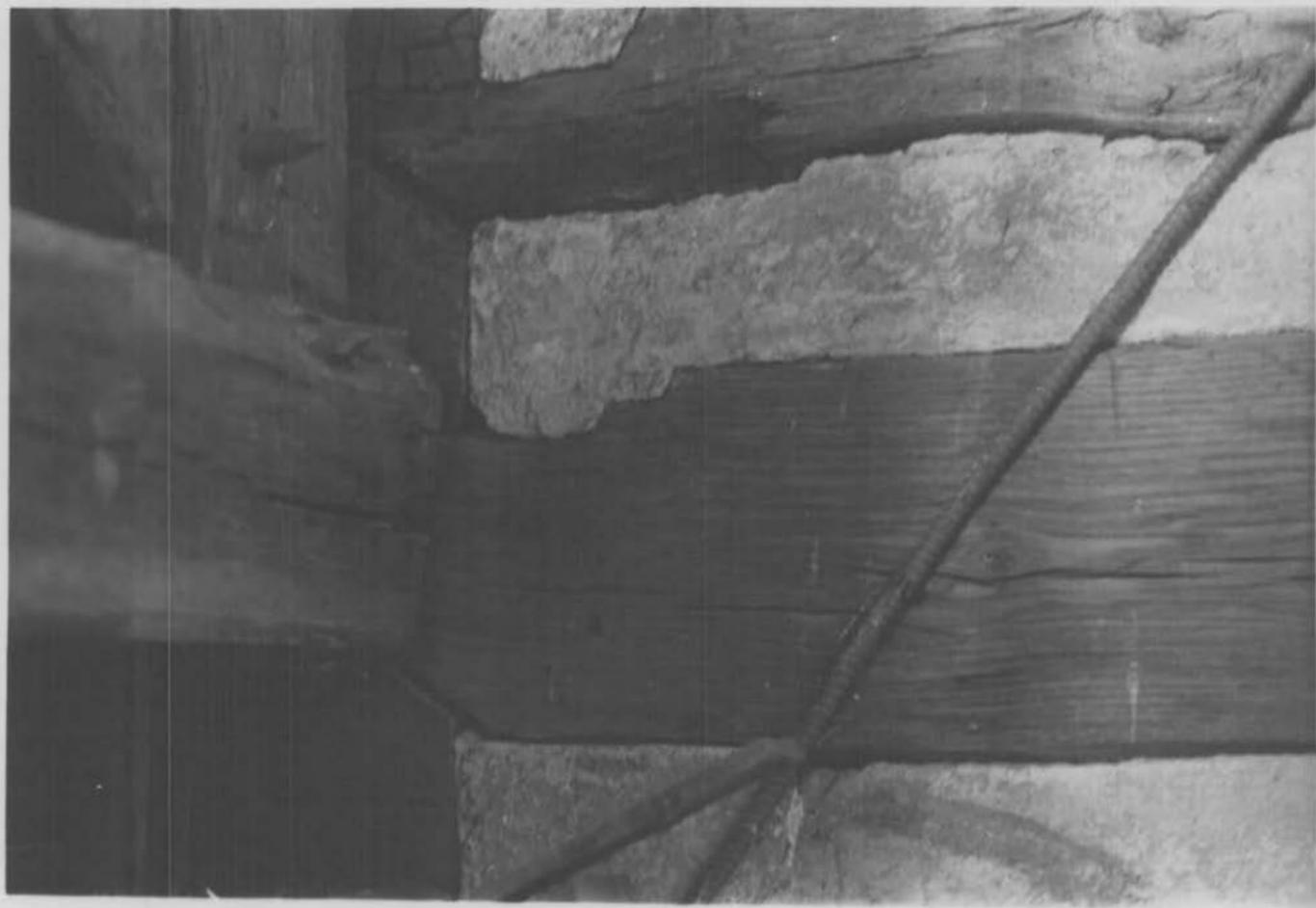
M: #14-9

NAME GRIFFITH DOUBLE-LOG HOUSE

LOCATION OFF RT. 108 WEST OF ECHISON, Md

FACADE STAIRWAY, 2ND. FLOOR IN EAST SECTION
OF HOUSE

PHOTO TAKEN 12/6/73 M. DWYER



NAME GRIFFITH DOUBLE- LOG HOUSE N: #14-9
LOCATION OFF RT. 108 W. OF ECHISON, Md.
FACADE INTERIOR - WHERE WALLS JOIN AT TOP OF CHIMNEY BASE
PHOTO TAKEN 12/6/73 C. OWENS



M: #14-9

NAME GRIFFITH DOUBLE-LOG HOUSE

LOCATION OFF RT. 108 W. OF ETCHISON, Md

FACADE FIREPLACE AT CENTER OF HOUSE - W. SIDE

PHOTO TAKEN 12/6/73 M. DWYER



M: # 14-9

NAME GRIFFITH DOUBLE-LOG HOUSE - / SMOKE HOUSE

LOCATION OFF RT. 108 AT ETCHISON, Md.

FACADE E - INTERIOR

PHOTO TAKEN 12/6/73 H. DWYER



M: #14-9

NAME GRIFFITH DOUBLE-LOG HOUSE

LOCATION OFF RT. 108 W. OF ECHISON, Md

FACADE INTERIOR - WALL FRAMING AT TOP OF CHIMNEY BASE

PHOTO TAKEN 12/6/73 M. DWYER



M: #14-9

NAME GRIFFITH DOUBLE-LOG HOUSE

LOCATION OFF RT. 108 W. OF ECHISON, Md.

FACADE INTERIOR WALL FRAMING AT TOP OF CHIMNEY BASE

PHOTO TAKEN 12/6/73 C. OWENS