

John H. Stallings Frame House
AL-III-B-140
West Side of Old Oldtown Road
Spring Gap

This frame house on the southeastern end of Martins Mountain was the home of John H. Stallings, who served as a County Commissioner during the Civil War, from 1863 to 1865. Because he was an official of the Union Government, Stallings was in danger from Confederates who were camped by the C & O Canal near his farm. To avoid capture by them, Stallings was forced to walk through the woods and over the mountain to get to Cumberland to conduct county business.

Like many old homes in rural areas, the John H. Stallings Frame House has two front doors, one for every day use and another leading to the parlor, used exclusively for visitors. Although the plain board and batten house has been partially covered with german siding, many of the pegged six over six light windows remain to help retain some of its original appearance.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

John H. Stallings Frame House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

West side Old Oldtown Road

CITY, TOWN

Spring Gap

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER Storage

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Jacob Mullenax

Telephone #: 359-5257

STREET & NUMBER

Old Oldtown Road

CITY, TOWN

Spring Gap

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21560

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

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 177

Folio #: 317

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

AL III-B-140

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

John Stalling's Frame House stands on the western side of Old Oldtown Road near Spring Gap, Maryland.

This building originally consisted of a four bay wide, two story tall rectangular structure. Wall construction is frame with plain board and batten. The southern facade has been covered with german siding.

The high foundation is made of uncoursed rock-faced ashlar stone with a plain water table. The gable flank roof is covered with tar paper. Eaves consist of a box cornice, soffit (sloped on gabled ends) and bed mould.

One corbeled brick chimney is located on the interior of the original part of the building. Another brick chimney is located inside end on an addition.

Two entrances on the southern facade are replaced frame and glass doors with plain frames. Windows include original pegged six over six light windows and replaced four over one light windows, all with plain frames and wooden slipsills.

An addition abutting the northern facade is frame with german siding and a shed tar paper roof. It rests on posts, has two entrances, and six light casement windows.

The hip roofed front porch is supported by rough hewn logs, the roof is supported by plain square posts with various types of railing.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

AL-III-B-140

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	
10-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
1500-1599	<input checked="" 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	
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	
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This frame house on the southeastern end of Martin's Mountain was the home of John H. Stallings. ⁽¹⁾ "The name Stallings is familiar in Allegany County, and has been identified prominently in the affairs of the County for many years, politically and as farmers and merchants." ⁽²⁾ Although Stallings was a farmer with a large farm family of ten children, he served courageously, as a County Commissioner during the uneasy years of war, from 1863 to 1865. ⁽³⁾

His farm near the C & O Canal at Spring Gap was in an area frequently raided by Confederates who periodically sabotaged the canal. Mr. Stallings, as an official of a "Unionist" government, was in danger from Confederates who even "arrested a Unionist farmer" in nearby Oldtown. ⁽⁴⁾ To avoid capture by Confederates who frequented the roads and pastures of the area, Stallings was forced to "walk through the woods, over the mountain, to get to Cumberland" to conduct county business. ⁽⁵⁾

Although the plain board and batten house has been partially covered with german siding, many of the pegged six over six light windows remain to help retain some of its original appearance. Like many old homes in rural areas, this has two front doors, one for every day use, and another exclusively for visitors leading to the parlor.

- (1) Interview with Mrs. Nola (Stallings) Wheeler, Spring Gap, 3/6/79.
Note: In Thomas and William's biography of Stalling's son, Thomas, Mrs. Wheeler is listed among the grandchildren of John H. Stallings.
- (2) James W. Thomas and T.J.C. Williams, History of Allegany County (Philadelphia: L.R. Titsworth and Company), p. 1127
- (3) Will H. Lowdermilk, History of Cumberland (Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company), p. 413

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

Continued

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Thomas, James W. and Williams, T.J.C. History of Allegany County. Philadelphia: L.R. Titworth and Co., 1923.
 Lowdermilk, Will H. History of Cumberland. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1971. Reprint of the 1878 edition.
 Stegmaier, Harry Jr. et. al. Allegany County, A History. Parsons, West Va.: McClain Printing Company, 1976.
 CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 460.7 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

David A. Dorsey, Historic Sites Coordinator

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Site Survey

DATE

3/16/79

STREET & NUMBER

County Office Building
3 Pershing Street

TELEPHONE

777-5944

CITY OR TOWN

Cumberland,

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

(3) Continued

Thomas and Williams p. 1128

(4) Harry I. Stegmaier, Jr. et al., Allegany County, A History (Parsons, W.Va.: McClain Printing Company), p. 180

(5) Interview, cited

INVENTORY NO: _____

DATE: 9/3

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor

NAME OF PROPERTY: Stalling's mansion

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: around Millstone

DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: South

TAX MAP # 51
NAME OF OWNER: Jacob Mullenax 177° 31' 135" no acreage given
AL MB-140

ADDRESS: _____
Spring Gap ph. # 395-5257

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

WINGS, ADDITIONS: on N Shed add. german siding

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
 OTHER: Coverings german siding

WALL FEATURES: Belt Course, Pilasters, Others _____ rock faced

FOUNDATIONS: High, Low, Brick, Stone uncoursed ashlar stone

WATER TABLE: None, Plain, Beveled, Moulded Brick Plain frame steps

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

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: S. - 2 15 light
HARDWARE: original () replaced (✓)
FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN
Paneled, Vertical, 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, Dormers # _____
MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt original () replaced ()

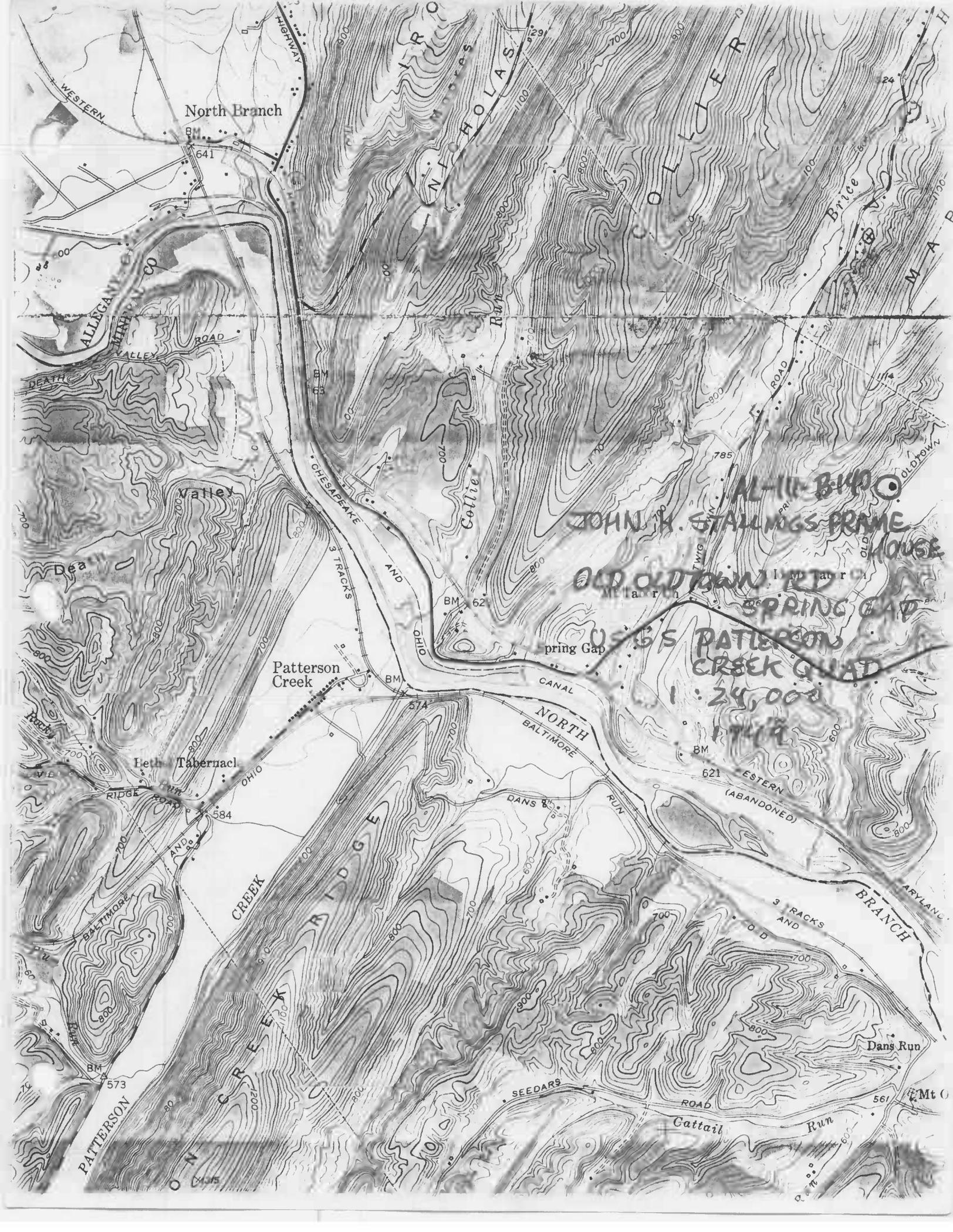
PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed (✓) hip (✓) gable () on posts

CHIMNEYS: Number: 2 Brick (✓) Stone () Corbeled () original (✓) replaced ()
Location: Flush end () Inside end () Outside end () Central () Interior ()

ARCHES: Door & Windows: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, Semicircular

COMMENTS: (Coedermilk, 413) Mr. Wheeler 3/6/78 said her

USE: _____
SIGNIFICANCE: _____
DATE CONSTRUCTED: _____
CONDITION: great grandfather John Stallings a county commissioner
during civil war had to walk through woods to
count. Because rebels on roads & pastures - anti
county commissioners. SEE Twp Vol I p 669 & 1127



North Branch

Valley

Patterson Creek

Heth Tabernacl

AL-III BMD
JOHN H. STALLINGS PRIME HOUSE

OLD OLD TOWN RD
SPRING GAP

US S PATTERSON CREEK QUAD

1:24,000

WESTERN

ALLEGANY CO
MINERAL CO

CHESAPEAKE

NORTH BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE

CREEK RIDGE

PATTERSON

CREEK RIDGE

SEEDARS

Cattail

Run

BRANCH

Dans Run

Mt O

IRDO
NICHOLAS

COLLETT

Brice

M A

OLD TOWN

AL-III BMD

SPRING GAP

US S PATTERSON

CREEK QUAD

1:24,000

ESTERN

(ABANDONED)

MARYLAND

Dans Run

Mt O

BM 641

BM 62

BM 514

584

BM 621

BM 573

561

24

24

24

24

24

24

24

24

24

24

24

24

24

24

24

24

24

24

24



A2-111-B-140

John H. Stallings frame House
Old Oldtown Rd, Spring Gap

David A. Dorsey

9/5/78

Northeast



AL-III-B-140

John H. Stallings frame house
Old Oldtown Rd, Spring Gap

David A. Dorsey

9/5/78

Southwest