SMITH LOG HOUSE

AL-VI-B-046
Church Hill, Midland
ca. 1856

The Smith Log House was constructed ca. 1856 as a Cumberland and Pennsylvania Railroad Company House. During that time the railroad was completing its third section, that of Borden Yard in Frostburg to the Town of Lonaconing. Company houses of this type (two story log structures) were fairly common among the railroad and coal businesses of the George's Creek area. The house has since been sheathed by weatherboarding and enlarged by a one story shed-roofed addition.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

0102825504

AL-VI-B-046

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Smith Log House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Church Hill

CITY, TOWN

Midland

X VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		X NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

George Smith

Telephone #: 463-6126

STREET & NUMBER

Church Hill

CITY, TOWN

Midland

X VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Liber #: 466

Folio #: 517

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

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-VI-B-046

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
X FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Smith Log House is located on Church Hill in Midland. It consists of a two story, three bay wide rectangular log structure that has since been re-covered with weatherboarding. The northwest side of the house now includes a one story shed-roofed addition sheathed by vertical boards and plain battens. A low stone foundation underlies the entire structure. Double hung wooden sash frames with two over two lights are found on the main block while both six over six and one over one lights are found on the rear addition. Two entrance-ways are found, one southeast and the other northeast, and both have their original vertical paneled doors. One bay shed roofed hoods cover both doors. A replaced soffit and frieze run the perimeter of the asphalt-covered gabled roof. There are two original corbeled brick chimneys located within the structure, and they have central and inside end locations.

The Smith Log House presently stands in fair condition and is structurally sound. The rear frame addition coupled with the weatherboard siding have altered the original appearance of this two story log house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

AL-VI-B-046

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	X COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	X TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	X INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1856 BUILDER/ARCHITECT C & P Railroad

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Smith Log House was constructed ca. 1856 as a Cumberland and Pennsylvania (C & P) Railroad Company House.[1] During that time period, many of the coal and railroad companies provided housing for their employees of the George's Creek area. Most of the dwellings were the basic two story, rectangular log structures found so commonly in Allegany County. The Schurg Log House, located approximately 100 yards from the Smith Log, was built with the same floor plan at generally the same time.

The Cumberland and Pennsylvania Railroad consisted of four main tracks (built in different years) which were each 9 miles long: 1) Cumberland to Mt. Savage - laid in 1845 by the Maryland and New York Iron and Coal Company; 2) Cumberland to Eckhart - built in 1846 by the Maryland Mining Company; 3) Borden Yard (Frostburg) to Lonaconing - completed in 1857 by the C & P Railroad; 4) Lonaconing to Piedmont - bought by the C & P Railroad from the George's Creek Coal and Iron Company in 1863.

The Cumberland and Pennsylvania Line was incorporated by the Maryland Legislature in 1850 with a capital stock of one million dollars. Among the directors of the corporation was one wealty New Yorker by the name of Warren Delano. His grandson, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, became President of the United States.

This Allegany County Railroad had a total of 97 miles of track, including 33 miles of main line, 16 miles of branch lines and 48 miles of other tracks. It served the booming coal industry well, and included quite an adequate passenger service. The Cumberland and Pa. Railroad holds a deep-seated place in the heritage of Allegany County and was importantly operational until the mid 1940's.[2]

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1 Interview with Mrs. George Smith, November 30, 1976.
2 Hunt, J. William. "Across the Desk" Cumberland News and Evening Times. (September 10, 1961 and April 25, 1965)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

AL-VI-B046

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Allegany County Land Records, Cumberland, Maryland

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .55 acres

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 Historic Sites Survey

DATE
12/6/76

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

PS-1108

INVENTORY NO. A1-U1-B-046

DATE: 11/30/76

466/517
.55 acres

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor

NAME OF PROPERTY: SMITH LOG HOUSE

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: CHURCH HILL, MIDLAND

DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: 150°

NAME OF OWNER: GEORGE SMITH 463-6126

ADDRESS: [illegible], MIDLAND

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

WINGS, ADDITIONS: [illegible]

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

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: _____
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, DORMERS #
MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt original( ) replaced(✓)
SIDE 1 BAY SHED ROOF

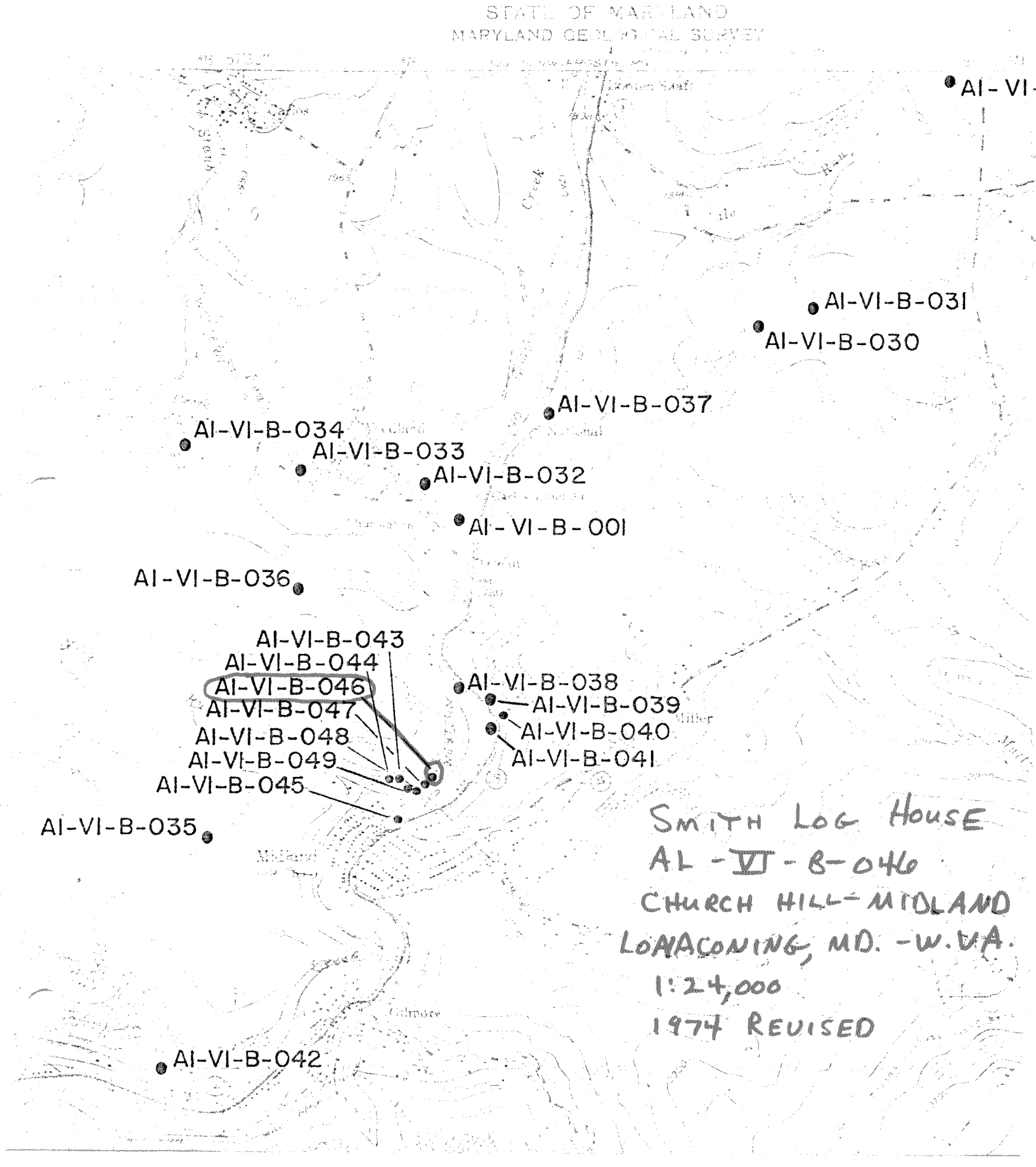
PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed( ) hip( ) gable( )

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 - Private Residence
Significance - C&P Railroad House
Date Constructed - [redacted] ca. 1856
Condition - Fair

SECTION VI QUADRANGLE B



Smith Log House

AL-VI-B-046

Church Hill, Midland

John Nelson

11/30/76

West