

F-4-65
Kuhn Log House
Wolfsville vicinity
Private

Ca. 1933

The Kuhn Log House is a two-story exposed log dwelling with square notched corner joints and a one-story porch. The logs have marks on the north gable end and the west elevation indicating possible additions which have been removed. The house was built about 1933 to replace an earlier structure which burned in 1932. The weathered condition of the logs and the unusual square notched corners suggest that the materials were salvaged from an earlier building, although the current owner has no information other than its approximate date. The square notch was an outgrowth of the common V-notch used throughout the Mid-Atlantic region where German building techniques were prevalent from the late 18th century through the last quarter of the 19th century. An interesting comparison may be made with a 1940 log house showing the more usual rounded logs and extended, saddle notched corners of early 20th century log buildings in the Edgar M. Frushour Homestead (F-4-67).

F-4-65
Kuhn Log House
Wolfsville
Frederick County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont
(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery
Counties, and Baltimore City)

Chronological/Development Period:
Modern Period A.D. 1930 - Present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes
Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning

Resource Types:

Category: Building

Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use:
Domestic/single dwelling/residence

Known Design Source: None

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Kuhn Log House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 14022 Wolfsville Road not for publication

city, town Wolfsville vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Frederick

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input 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 checked="" 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"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name John E. and Pauline R. Doyle

street & number 14026 Wolfsville Road telephone no.:

city, town Smithsburg state and zip code Md. 21783

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber 791

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street folio 319

city, town Frederick state Md. 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. F-4-65

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 1

The Kuhn Log House is a two-story exposed log dwelling built about 1933 with square notched corner joints, located on the west side of Wolfsville Road about 1/2 mile south of the Frederick-Washington County line near Wolfsville, Frederick County, Maryland. It was built to replace an earlier log structure on the same site which burned in 1932. The principal elevation faces east and has a one-story porch.

The house has three bays on the first story and two bays on the second story. The entrance is in the center bay. The sash is 2/2, although the second story has 1/1 replacement windows. The porch has chamfered posts and a concrete deck. The cornice is boxed and a small molding strip is seen just below the cornice on both the east and west elevations. The roof is standing seam metal and an exterior concrete block chimney is located on the south gable end. A patched section in the roof at the north gable end identifies the original location of the chimney. The north elevation has a boarded opening in the westernmost of the two bays, and outlines in the logs on this elevation suggest that an extension possibly two stories in height was once located adjacent to the gable end, but has been removed. A break in the logs indicates a possible stove pipe tie to the original interior chimney. However, the current owner stated he had no knowledge of any additions to the building. The west elevation has two bays with 2/2 sash. A row of vertical beam ends exposed in the mortar between the horizontal logs suggests a porch or shed addition may also have been on this elevation as well as the north. The south elevation has two bays with modern vertical wood siding in the gable. A 1/1 attic window is also located in the gable. The interior was not accessible for this survey.

The weathered condition of the logs and their traditional squared-off shape strongly suggests that they may have been part of another early structure prior to being used to rebuild the Kuhn Log House. No information on this possibility is available; however, further research, especially oral history among local residents, may reveal more facts regarding its construction.

8. Significance

Survey No. F-4-65

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 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 type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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	C. 1933	Builder/Architect
check:	Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	
	and/or	
	Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
	Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Kuhn Log House is the only identified square-notched log structure in Frederick County. This technique is an outgrowth of the almost universal V-notching common to most German-built log structures in the Mid-Atlantic region from the mid-18th century to the late 19th century. The stability given to wood buildings by the V-notching technique was less necessary as building methods in the late 19th century came to include stronger machine-cut nails and improved log shaping. Square notches were also easier to construct. The relatively late date of the Kuhn Log House in 1933 may be due to strong local building traditions and economic necessities caused by the Depression of the 1930's. Charles C. E. Kuhn purchased the 2-acre lot in 1908 from Melvin Spessard and wife. The structure which burned in 1932 was presumably a 19th century building existing at that date. The possibility that the logs may have been salvaged from another 19th century building remains to be researched; however, a comparison with the Edgar M. Frushour Homestead (F-4-67), a 1940 log house, shows that the prevailing features of "modern" log construction in the 1930's and 1940's were rounded logs with saddle notched, extended log crowns. If the Kuhn Log House were built with new materials in 1933, it would be logical to expect at least some of these features to be present.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. F-4-65

Doyle, Mr. John E., telephone interview, April 12, 1992
Land Records of Frederick County

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property 2 acres

Quadrangle name Myersville, Md.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

Concurrent with Tax Map 17, Parcel 76

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janet L. Davis, Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Frederick County Planning & Zoning Dept. date May 1992

street & number 12 E. Church Street telephone 696-2958

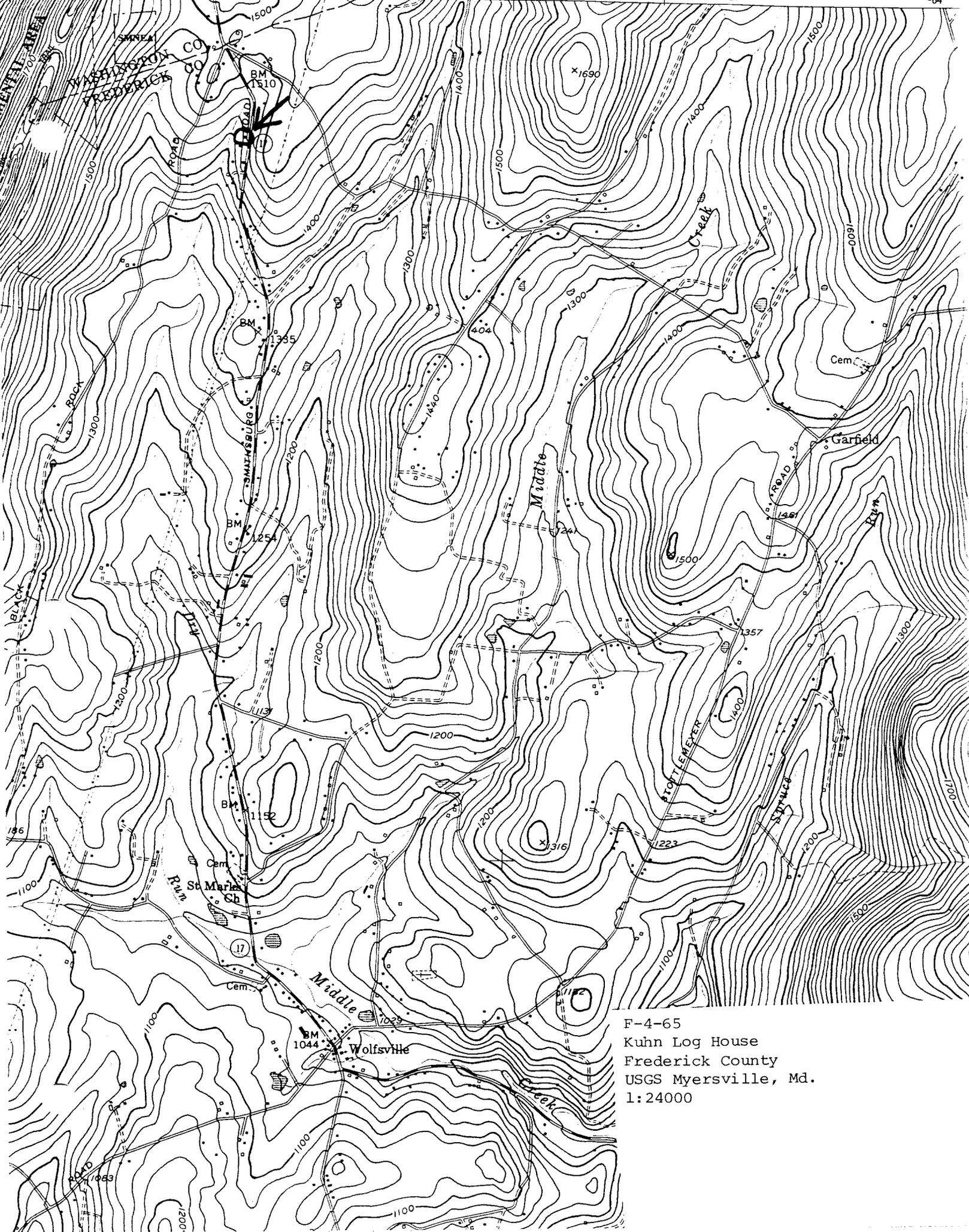
city or town Frederick state Md. 21701

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

100 COMMUNITY PERC.
 CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
 514-7600



F-4-65
 Kuhn Log House
 Frederick County
 USGS Myersville, Md.
 1:24000



F. 4-65

Kuhn Log House

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

May 1972

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.

Southern - Center view

12



F-4-65

Kuhn Log House

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Lewis

May 1972

Weg. 2000 Md. SHPO, Townsville, Md

Northwest corner view

a/2