

K-361

Davis House
Near Still Pond
c. 1850's

According to local tradition, the existing structure replaces a large house which once stood on this property and burned to the ground. If indeed an earlier house stood in this same spot, it's hard to imagine one to be any larger than the present one which appears to have been built in the mid-19th century.

In the 1877 Atlas, this property is listed as owned by Dr. Thomas C. Kennard (b. 1809, d. 1883),¹ whose headstone is located in a private graveyard behind the house. Another stone with the inscription 'Dr. Kennard B-1834 D-1879" may mark the grave of his son.

This brick house is composed of two, two-story sections, one five bays long, the other four bays long and both two rooms deep. Like many houses of the mid-19th century, the south walls are constructed of very uniform brick with narrow mortar joints. The others are stuccoed.

The outstanding features of the Davis House are the entry porches which have bracketed cornices, round Doric columns and wooden balustrades of elongated lozenge patterns. The central entrances, both front and back, have double doors with sidelights and transoms. The central window above also has sidelights and all of the windows have large wooden lintels. At the juncture of the low-pitched roof with the walls is a plain Greek Revival cornice with brackets and frieze that matches the porches. In all likelihood, the roof had a deck with balustrade to match those of the

K-361 2

porches.

The house name is derived from the Davis family who owned the farm for 80 years, mostly in this century.

K-361
Davis House
Mt. Holly
Private

19th Century

This is a good example of a mid-19th century vernacular house. Square in plan, it has central stair hall and entrances and small entrance porches. The building is built of brick and has a shallow hipped roof. Inside is a stair with mahogany newel and handrail and curly maple balusters. There is a graveyard behind the house.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

K-361
MAGI #1503615404

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC _____
AND/OR COMMON _____
Davis House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER _____
Still Pond Harmony Woods Road (MD 298) JLK
2/5/94

CITY, TOWN _____ CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT _____
Still Pond VICINITY OF First

STATE _____ COUNTY _____
Maryland Kent

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME _____
Mrs. Phillip D. Prickett, Sr. Telephone #: _____

STREET & NUMBER _____
Box 2387, Fostertown Road

CITY, TOWN _____ STATE, zip code _____
Mt. Holly _____ VICINITY OF New Jersey 08060

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, _____
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Kent County Court House

STREET & NUMBER _____

CITY, TOWN _____ STATE _____
Chestertown Maryland 21620

Liber #: **WHG 77**
Folio #: **393**

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE _____

DATE _____

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR _____
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN _____ STATE _____

7 DESCRIPTION

K-361

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<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 present owner reports that the existing house replaces an earlier burned structure. This house appears to be of the 1850 style with no extensive alterations. Exterior woodwork is deteriorating, but the interior in good condition. Front walls are of rubbed brick in running bond; sides and rear are in plain, rough-surface stucco.

The entrance hall is the most elaborate interior in the house. Newel post and hand rail are mahogany and balusters curly maple. The front vestibule ceiling has molded plaster ornaments in the corners and center. Unusual stair brackets are used on the open string stair.

A graveyard, about 500 feet behind the house, has fine monuments but is not maintained. One stone for a Dr. Kennard, B. 1834, D. 1879, another for a Dr. Thos. C. Kennard 1809 - 1883 are both visible.

The main house and the main entrance porch have carved brackets in the cornice. Second front entrance porch and rear porch have dentil cornice.

In form the Davis House is a five bay, central hall plan house with a low hipped roof and enclosed end chimneys. There is a four bay side wing which also has a flat roof and appears to be a contemporary of the main house. There are front entrances to both the main house and wing. They have one bay entrance porches which are covered with hipped roofs supported by bulky wooden columns. Balusters are of crossed "sticks".

Fenestration is even; sash is 6/6 throughout. Above the main house entrance, the window has side lights. All windows have wooden lintels, louvered shutters, and projecting sills.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-361

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
<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 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Davis House is a very typical vernacular building of the mid-19th century. It is well made rather than skillfully designed, spacious rather than graceful. It is, however, an architectural document of its period and worthy of preservation and a handsome building.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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

Karl Miller

ORGANIZATION

Kent County Historical Society

DATE

September, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Church Alley

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Maryland 21620

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





DAVIS HOUSE

K-361
MHT - ~~K-320~~

FAIRLEE - STILL POND RD - RT. 298

KENNEDYVILLE, MD.

FRONT FROM SOUTHEAST

C. ENGSTROM AUG. 1977



DAVIS HOUSE

K-361
MHT-~~K-320~~

FAIRLEE - STILL POND RD. - RT. 298

KENNEDYVILLE, MD.

STAIRWAY - MAIN HOUSE

C. ENGSTROM AUG. 1977