

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Maryland
COUNTY:	Baltimore City
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	APR 24 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Davidge Hall

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Medical College

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
522 West Lombard Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Seventh

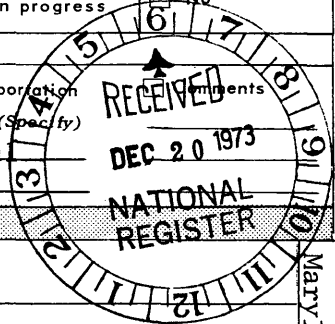
STATE: Maryland CODE: 24 COUNTY: Baltimore City CODE: 510

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input 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"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	Medical
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scientific	



4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Trustees of the University of Maryland

STREET AND NUMBER:
522 West Lombard Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Baltimore

STATE:
Maryland

CODE:
24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Land Record Office of the Superior Court of Baltimore City

STREET AND NUMBER:
Room 610, Baltimore City Court House

CITY OR TOWN:
Baltimore

STATE:
Maryland

CODE:
24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation

DATE OF SURVEY: 1965 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation

STREET AND NUMBER:
Room 402, City Hall

CITY OR TOWN:
Baltimore

STATE:
Maryland

CODE:
24

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One) Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One) Altered Unaltered

(Check One) Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Davidge Hall is located northeast of the intersection of Lombard and Greene Streets, in the center of the University of Maryland medical school buildings. The architect, Robert Cary Long, Sr., used the Pantheon in Rome as a model. The wooden facade, attached to the brick building, is comprised of a portico with a pediment and eight Doric columns, showing little of the usual ornamentation.

The exterior does not reveal the round shape of the main interior room, except for a very low dome rising above a high drum. The interior is unique in its superposition of the circular amphitheaters under the wooden dome; the two lecture rooms, each 60 feet in diameter, were originally know as "Anatomical Hall" and "Chemical Hall." To ensure secrecy during human dissection, the design included a concealed spiral staircase and several dissecting rooms hidden between the sloping seat of the lecture hall and the rectangular outer walls. A section of rectangular rooms provides space for offices and a library between the round lecture hall and the porch.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1811-1813

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry		<u>Medicine</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Davidge Hall of the University of Maryland is the oldest building in the United States which has been used continuously for medical education.¹ It is named for Dr. John Beale Davidge, an anatomist and surgeon who settled in Baltimore in 1796. In 1807 the Maryland state legislature authorized the formation of the College of Medicine of Maryland; Dr. Davidge was its first dean, and his colleagues included Drs. Nathaniel Potter, James Cocke, and John Shaw. Dr. Davidge had conducted anatomy lectures since 1802 first in his home and then in a small laboratory near Sarataga and Liberty Streets, but this building was destroyed by an angry mob since public opinion at that time violently condemned the dissection of the human body. As a result, practical anatomy was abandoned in the first session of the college, which held its first commencement for five graduates in 1810.

Plans for a new building began; with funds provided by a lottery, a plot of ground at Lombard and Greene Streets was purchased from Colonel John Eager Howard, a Revolutionary hero and a former Maryland governor. The architect was Robert Cary Long, Sr. (1770-1833), a leading Baltimore-born architect of the nineteenth century.² Long's design of Davidge was one of the first Pantheon schemes in this country, with both a dome and a pedimented colonnade.³ The builders were Messrs. Towson and Mosher. The cornerstone was laid on April 7, 1811, and the building was first used as an educational institution in 1812, the same year in which a charter was granted to the College of Medicine of Maryland. Lectures in anatomy, chemistry, and physiology were delivered here, and dissection was carried out secretly, often practiced on bodies obtained from grave robbers and delivered by means of a hidden doorway and staircase. The College was given legislative authority to add other branches of learning, and today the University of Maryland is the oldest institution of its kind in this contry which began as a medical school.⁴

¹School of Medicine, University of Maryland at Baltimore, "Welcome to Davidge Hall," April 22, 1970, p. 1.

²Richard Hubbard Howland and Eleanor Patterson Spencer, The Architecture of Baltimore - A Pictorial History, Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1953, p. 54.

³Ibid., p. 57

⁴William T. Snyder, Jr., Baltimore Magazine, February, 1943, p. 42.

(See continuation sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Anson, Cherrill. "The Days of the 'Body Snatchers'". Baltimore Sun, October 21, 1962.

Cordell, Eugene Fauntleroy, M.D. "Historical Sketch of the University of Maryland School of Medicine (1807-1890)." Baltimore: Press of Isaac Friedenwald, 1891.

(See continuation sheet)

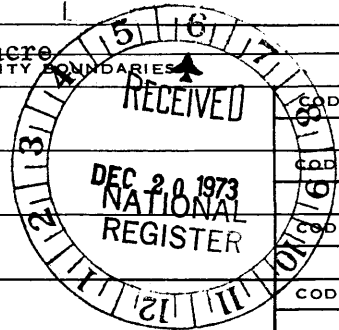
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	° ' "	° ' "		39° 17' 20.5"	76° 37' 24.5"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Joyce Maclay and Catherine Black

ORGANIZATION: Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation DATE: June 13, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: Room 402, City Hall

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Orlando Ridout IV
 Title: State Preservation Officer for Maryland
 Date: June 25, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/24/74

ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 4.23.74

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Maryland	
COUNTY	Baltimore City	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
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	APR 24	1974

(Number all entries)

Davidge Hall

Number 8. Significance Continued.

Notable persons connected with Davidge Hall include the Marquis de Lafayette, who received an honorary LL. D. there while on a triumphant tour of the United States in 1824. In the following year, the medical school gave Ephraim McDowell an honorary M.D., his only medical degree, in recognition of his performance of the first successful abdominal surgery.

An old church building at the southeast corner of Lombard and Greene Streets actually bore the name of Davidge Hall until it was razed in 1957, at which time the name was transferred to the Pantheon-style building across the street (known previously by various names, including Anatomy Hall and the Medical College). Davidge Hall is now the central building of the modern medical school group, and contains classrooms, a medical museum, and alumni offices. It is being restored by the Medical Alumni Association of the University of Maryland.

Number 9. Major Bibliographical References Continued.

Howland, Richard Hubbard and Spencer, Eleanor Patterson. The Architecture of Baltimore - A Pictorial History. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1953. Pp. 54-59.

Scharf, J. Thomas. Chronicles of Baltimore. Baltimore: Turnbull Brothers, 1874. Pp. 291,301.

School of Medicine, University of Maryland at Baltimore. "Welcome To Davidge Hall." April 22, 1970.

Snyder, William T., Jr. Baltimore Magazine. February, 1943. Pp. 41-42.

Weston, B. Latrobe. "Two Baltimore Architects and Their Buildings." Evening Sun, September 10, 1941.

