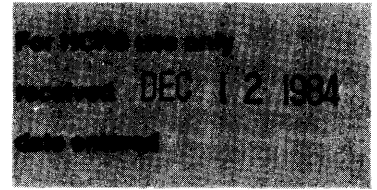


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections



## 1. Name

historic Drane, James, House

and/or common Drane, James, House

## 2. Location

street & number Accident-Bittinger Road n/a not for publication

city, town Accident  vicinity of Sixth congressional district

state Maryland code 24 county Garrett code 023

## 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

## 4. Owner of Property

name Kolb Farms, Inc., Clark A. Kolb, et al.

street & number Route 1, Box 206

city, town Accident  vicinity of Maryland state 21520

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Garrett County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Oakland state Maryland 21550

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust  
Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date October 1983  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

# 7. Description

G-II-B-010

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>n/a</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Number of Resources		Number of previously listed
Contributing	Noncontributing	National Register properties
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings	included in this nomination: <u>0</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> sites	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures	Original and historic functions
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects	and uses: residential
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> Total	

### DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

Believed to be the oldest standing structure in Garrett County (c.1800), the James Drane House is sited on high ground to the east of the town of Accident approximately 150 yards north of the Accident-Bitteringer Road and one-half mile east of Maryland Route 219. The house is located in a small orchard on a gently sloping hillside. A small cemetery about 100 yards to the north marks the site of Zion Lutheran Church (dedicated in 1851). Included in the cemetery is a simple brown (fieldstone) headstone marked "J.D. June 27, 1828." The Drane House is a long rectangular log-and-frame structure, a true story-and-a-half high with a pitched gable roof. An exterior stone chimney centered on the west gable wall remains in ruins. The Drane House consists of two distinct sections. The principal facade of the original section of the house faces north toward the cemetery. The door is offset to east of center and is flanked by a single window on either side. There are no windows in the low second story on this facade. Plain, wide weatherboard siding extends the full length of this facade. The addition to the east measures approximately 17 feet long and 18½ feet wide, making the enlarged house 43 feet long. This addition is two bays long, one room deep and is of log construction with what appears to be V-notched corner joints. The only opening in the north wall of the addition is a single 6/6 window in the east bay of the first story. The interior of the original house consists of a hall and parlor plan with the larger hall to the west and the parlor to the east, separated by a vertical beaded board partition. This house is somewhat unusual in that the exterior entrance and the interior stair are located in the smaller of the two rooms. The large west room was heated by a massive stone chimney that almost certainly served as the cooking fireplace as well. Also of interest are several beaded batten doors with molded battens and mid-19th century hardware. Carefully hewn ceiling joists are visible in the east room on the first floor. The roof is of common rafter construction and appears to date entirely to the second period of construction. The rafters consist of roughly shaped poles joined and pegged at the ridge.

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National Park Service**

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**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Continuation sheet Drane, James, House Item number 7 Page 1  
Garrett County, Maryland

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Believed to be the oldest standing structure in Garrett County (c.1800), the James Drane House is sited on high ground to the east of the town of Accident approximately 150 yards north of the Accident-Bittinger Road and one-half mile east of Maryland Route 219. The house is located in a small orchard on a gently sloping hillside and is oriented on an east-west axis, with the principal facade facing north. A small cemetery about 100 yards to the north marks the site of Zion Lutheran Church (dedicated in 1851). Included in the cemetery is a simple brown (fieldstone) headstone marked "J. D. June 27, 1828." The unmarked grave of Drane's wife Priscilla, who died in 1836, is said to be located next to this grave.

The Drane House is a long rectangular log-and-frame structure, a true story-and-a-half high with a pitched gable roof. An exterior stone chimney centered on the west gable wall collapsed in February 1970 and remains in ruins, with the heavy wood lintel piece still in situ.

The Drane House consists of two distinct sections. According to local tradition, the smaller east section is the earlier part and was constructed circa 1800 or before, probably by the Lamar family. The larger section to the west is attributed to James Drane and is believed to date to circa 1810.

A careful examination of the building makes it clear, however, that the west section predates the smaller east section, and also raises puzzling questions about the original construction of the house. In particular, the first story of the west section is constructed of an unorthodox combination of log and heavy timber frame construction, while the second story is entirely of log construction. Previous descriptions of the house have failed to take note of the log construction found at the eastern end of the first story, and it has been interpreted as a one story frame house with Tidewater antecedents enlarged by the addition of a second story constructed with the more common local material of hewn logs. This appears to be incorrect, however, as the entire east gable wall is of log construction and the easternmost portion of both facade walls is log as well (see plan). While V-notched log construction is clearly visible at the east end of the original house, heavy timber framing is visible for the western 2/3 of the south facade and to the south of the west chimney. It is not at present possible to determine the wall construction on the north facade but the wall has a hollow sound in places (generally the lower portion of the wall) and sounds very solid elsewhere. Since the entire upper story is of log construction, two possibilities seem likely: either the original house was constructed using an extremely unusual mix of construction practices, or the house was originally entirely of log construction and portions of the lower walls were sufficiently damaged (presumably by termites but possibly by fire or other natural causes) that they had to be removed and were replaced with timber framing. The latter explanation, while somewhat unorthodox, is the most logical way to explain this unusual combination of materials. At some future date the rehabilitation or continued decline of the building should allow access to more of the early wall fabric and a more complete description and explanation should be possible.

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Drane, James, House

Continuation sheet Garrett County, Maryland Item number 7 Page 2

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

It should be noted that the original location of the stair argues persuasively against the upper half-story being an added feature, due to the headroom required for the stair to be functional.

The principal facade of the original section of the house faces north toward the cemetery. The door is offset to east of the center and is flanked by a single window on either side. The east window is fitted with 6/6 sash while the west window has replaced 2/2 sash dating to the late 19th or 20th century. There are no windows in the low second story on this facade. Plain, wide weatherboard siding extends the full length of this facade. These boards are secured with machine nails and continue uninterrupted across the seam between the original house and the addition. The outline of an early gable roofed entrance porch is visible above the north door; a more recent lean-to porch in a state of collapse extends across all three bays of the original building.

A large exterior stone chimney on the west gable wall collapsed in 1970, but remains partially intact. The approximate form of the large firebox remains discernible and the heavy wood fireplace lintel is lying among the fallen stones. Portions of the lower wall are exposed where several weatherboards have fallen off to the south of the chimney, revealing heavy timber framing.

On the south or rear facade of the original house, there are three windows with replaced 2/2 sash on the first story; a long rectangular window opening to east of center pierces the low second story. This opening is fitted with a narrow double sash window mounted on its side. Small gaps and knotholes in the siding on this facade make it possible to determine that the lower portion of this wall is constructed of both heavy timber frame and of horizontal log. The log construction extends from the original southeast corner of the building approximately seven feet to the west and then is abruptly terminated below the sill of the east window. The upper portion of the wall is entirely of log construction.

The east gable wall of the original house has been covered by the later east addition, but portions of this wall remain visible from the inside of the addition. This entire wall is of log construction joined at the corners with V-notching.

The addition to the east measures approximately 17 feet long and 18½ feet wide, making the enlarged house 43 feet long. This addition is two bays long, one room deep and is of log construction with what appears to be V-notched corner joints. The addition consists of the three exterior walls but lacks an independent fourth wall where it is joined to the earlier structure. This

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Continuation sheet Drane, James, House Garrett County, Maryland Item number 7 Page 3

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

junction is accomplished with vertical hewn posts that are triangular in section and are jamed into the interior corners at the joint and are pegged to both the gable wall of the original house and the facade walls of the addition. As previously noted, the exterior siding runs continuously across the seam between the two sections and also is carried uninterrupted across the east gable wall, concealing the location of the enlarged house with no clear evidence of a junction between the two sections, and thus dates to the second period of construction.

The only opening in the north wall of the addition is a single 6/6 window in the east bay of the first story. Similar 6/6 windows in the east gable wall are located in the center and were installed after a stone chimney was demolished. The opening for this chimney was framed in when it was removed, but the opening in the original log wall clearly defines the original size and location. There are two windows on the south facade fitted with replaced 2/2 sash.

The interior of the original house consists of a hall and parlor plan with the larger hall to the west and the parlor to the east, separated by a vertical beaded board partition. While the hall-parlor plan is a relatively common plan form in the early 19th century, this house is somewhat unusual in that the exterior entrance and the interior stair are located in the smaller of the two rooms, bearing comparison with a side passage plan. The large west room was heated by a massive stone chimney that almost certainly served as the cooking fireplace as well. There is no evidence that there was ever a fireplace on the east gable wall of the original house. A brick stove chimney on the east side of the interior partition is presumably a later feature. Little early detail survives inside. The random width beaded board partition and the architrave trim on the interior door are the most notable early features. This architrave trim is relatively simple, consisting of a Greek ogee/astagal backband applied to a beaded fascia board. Other pieces of molded trim have evidently been reused as baseboard or toe nailers in several places. Molded baseboard trim survives in the west room of the second floor. Also of interest are several beaded batten doors with molded battens and mid-19th century hardware. Carefully hewn ceiling joists are visible in the east room on the first floor. The stair to the second floor was originally located in the southeast corner of the east room (now the middle room). The stair has been completely removed but a ghost outline remains visible on the first story flooring and a seam in the second story flooring is clearly defined under the linoleum on the second floor. The interior sheathing in the southeast corner of the first floor room also bears evidence of the original stair configuration.

On the second floor, the two room plan is repeated, and it is possible that the east room was further partitioned at one time to create a small stair passage across the south wall to increase privacy.

The first floor of the east addition is partitioned to form one large room to the east and a stair and pantry to the west. The pantry is only accessible from the east room of the original house, however. The hewn and unbeaded ceiling joists were originally left exposed on the first story and were whitewashed. In

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Continuation sheet Drane, James, House Item number 7 and 10 Page 4  
Garrett County, Maryland

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

the early 20th century the ceiling was sheathed with narrow beaded boards typical of the period.

The second story also consists of a single room with the stair and a closet partitioned off to the west. The walls and ceiling of the second story chamber are sheathed with random width beaded boards secured with machine nails. This sheathing appears to date to circa 1840-1860.

The roof is of common rafter construction and appears to date entirely to the second period of construction. The rafters consist of roughly shaped poles joined and pegged at the ridge. Some collar beams were later scabbed on over the middle room, while the collars in the east addition appear to be original and are spiked in with large wrought nails. The only other wrought nails that could be identified were used to nail down the flooring in the second story of the original house.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Verbal boundary description and justification:

The nominated property, approximately 5 acres, comprises the Drane house and associated cemetery within their immediate setting. Boundaries are defined by a roadway on the west; the northern line of a fence surrounding the cemetery on the north; a small stream on the south; and an imaginary line projected from the eastern line of the cemetery fence on the east. Beyond these boundaries lies open agricultural land which is not essential to the setting of the resource.

Boundaries are accurately depicted on the USGS quad accompanying this documentation.

# 8. Significance

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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" 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** pre-1800, 1801      **Builder/Architect** unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Applicable Criteria: A, C  
 Applicable exceptions: none  
 Significance evaluated: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The James Drane House is significant for its architecture, and for its association with the early settlement of Garrett County. The house was constructed c. 1800 by James Drane, the first permanent settler in the Accident area, itself an early community in Garrett County. Drane emigrated to Western Maryland from the tobacco farming area of Prince George's County, and was one of several early farmers who attempted tobacco culture in Garrett County; these efforts were ultimately thwarted by the cool climate and the great distance to market. The Drane House derives additional significance from its architecture, representing a highly unusual combination of log and frame construction techniques, and an uncommon variant of the hall-and-parlor plan type. Despite its deteriorated condition, the house retains sufficient integrity to reflect its association with James Drane, and to stand as the object of further architectural study.

For History and Supporting documentation, see Continuation Sheet No. 5

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

G-II-B-010

Schlosnagle, Stephen et al. Garrett County: A History of Maryland's Tableland. (Parsons, W.V: McClain Printing Co., 1978).

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approximately 5 acres

Quadrangle name Accident, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

**UMT References**

A 

1	7	6	4	4	8	4	10	4	3	8	7	8	16	10
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

1	7	6	4	4	8	4	10	4	3	8	7	6	18	10
Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

1	7	6	4	4	7	0	10	4	3	8	7	6	16	10
Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

1	7	6	4	4	7	2	10	4	3	8	7	8	4	10
Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

**Verbal boundary description and justification**

See Continuation Sheet No. 4

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

state n/a code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Orlando Ridout, V - Historic Sites Survey Coordinator

organization Maryland Historical Trust date August 3, 1983

street & number 21 State Circle telephone (301) 269-2438

city or town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature  11-29-84

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For HCRS use only

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

Entered in the

National Register

date 1/11/85

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

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**National Register of Historic Places  
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Continuation sheet Drane, James, House Item number 8 Page 5  
Garrett County, Maryland

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The Accident tract came into the hands of William Deakins in 1775. Although he did not receive his official patent to the land until 1786, he appeared to have sold it in 1778 to a Captain David Lynn, who immediately contracted to sell the tract to Colonel William Lamar, a sale which did not finally take place until 1817. Lamar, however, took over the maintenance of the land, paying taxes on it and settling his brother-in-law, James Drane on it in 1798.

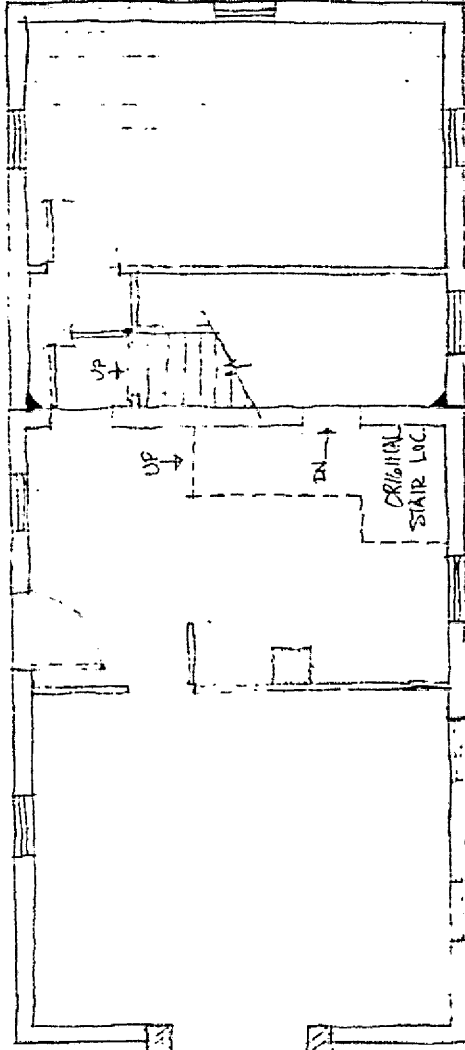
James Drane was born in 1735 in Prince George's County, Maryland. In 1779 he married Priscilla Lamar and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the county militia. In 1790 Drane was listed in the first census with one child and four slaves, but soon moved west. He is included in the Allegany tax assessment rolls in 1798 but not in the Allegany County census of 1800, suggesting that he and his family were in transit around this time. By 1801, however, they were in residence in a small timber-framed house on the Accident tract, where they commenced tobacco farming. With their six slaves, they successfully raised tobacco for several years. James Drane was one of several men in what is now Garrett County to have attempted tobacco culture. It is generally agreed that the climate was too cool and the markets too far away for a successful trade. In addition, slavery was frowned upon by the German Amish and Mennonite settlers who began to settle the land soon after Drane came.

26'-1"

Period I

17'-1"

Period II



Location of early chimney

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JAMES DRANE HOUSE  
ACCIDENT, MARYLAND  
GARRETT COUNTY



0 10 Called North  
Measured Sketch Plan

ORLANDO RIDOUT V