## SFChronicle MAY 9 197 House

Los Angeles

Watergate figure John W. Dean III is reported to have purchased a canyon home near the exclusive Trousedale Estates section of Los Angeles for \$100,000.

Author Gwen Davis, who has just published a novel with a political theme and lives near Dean's new home, said she saw him in the neighborhood. Then yesterday she said the former presidential counsel came to

her door asking to use the telephone.

"I told him the phone in the bar wasn't tapped," she said. "I offered him a cup of coffee, but he said. No stimulants."

She said the financial transactions for Dean's purchase of the home are still in escrow.

Dean reportedly moved to California so that his wife, Maureen. could be near her mother who is seriously ill.

She said she understood from Dean that he also chose the location because it offered him a chance for obscurity, away from Washington and the site of Watergate in volvements.

Dean recently sold his Alexandria, Va., home to Senator Lowell Weicker (Rep-Conn.), a member of the Senate Watergate Committee.

Associated Press