

**CH-159**  
**Joseph Smith House**  
**Marshalls Corner vic.**  
**Private**

**circa 1900**

The Joseph Smith House displays the typical center-gable vernacular I-house form so common in rural dwellings of the late-19th and early 20th centuries in Charles County. Its 2-story, single-pile frame structure features a slightly raised center gable, three facade bays, and a full-width hipped roof front porch. The house is "T" shaped in plan with an original "T" extension at the rear.

The Joseph Smith House is a typical example of the vernacular I-house form. With its minimal adornment and standard form, it is representative of the dwelling houses of many middle-class Charles County farmers of the turn of the 20th century. Its historically rural setting remains intact.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. CH-159

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name Joseph Smith House

common/other name \_\_\_\_\_

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number 7821 Bumpy Oak Road not for publication \_\_\_\_\_

city or town La Plata vicinity X state Maryland code MD

county Charles code 017 zip code 20646

=====

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

N/A

=====

4. National Park Service Certification

N/A

=====

5. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property (Check all that apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Is this property listed in the National Register?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Listing \_\_\_\_\_

No X

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-159

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Vernacular Victorian I-house  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation pier: brick (infilled w/ concrete block)  
roof cross gable: asphalt shingles  
walls frame: aluminum siding  
other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

=====  
8. Statement of Significance  
=====

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-159

=====  
Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance circa 1900  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates circa 1900  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation Undefined  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1

===== :  
 9. Major Bibliographical References  
 =====

(Cite the books, articles, legal records, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Brown, Jack D., et al. *Charles County, Maryland, A History*. Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Charles County Land Records, Charles County Courthouse, La Plata, Maryland.

Klapthor, Margaret Brown. *The History of Charles County, Maryland*. La Plata, MD: Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.

===== :  
 10. Geographical Data  
 =====

Acreage of Property 24 acres

**Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)**

The property at 7821 Bumpy Oak Road is designated as Parcel 43 on Map 32, Grid 2 on the Charles County Property Map.

**Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)**

The Joseph Smith House has been associated with Parcel 43, Map 32 since its construction circa 1900.

===== :  
 11. Form Prepared By  
 =====

name/title Kathryn Gettings Smith, Architectural Historian  
 organization Charles County Planning Dept. date Dec. 2, 1998  
 street & number P.O. Box B telephone 301-645-0689  
 city or town La Plata state MD zip code 20646

===== :  
 12. Property Owner  
 =====

name Elizabeth V. & Charles A. Taylor  
 street & number 7821 Bumpy Oak Road telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 city or town La Plata state MD zip code 20646  
 =====

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. Ch-159

Section 7 Page 1

Joseph Smith House  
name of property  
Charles County, Maryland  
county and state

=====

The Joseph Smith House displays the typical center-gable vernacular I-house form so common in rural dwellings of the late-19th and early 20th centuries in Charles County. Its 2-story, single-pile frame structure features a slightly raised center gable, three facade bays, and a full-width hipped roof front porch. The house is "T" shaped in plan with an original "T" extension at the rear.

The house occupies a level 24-acre plot scattered with a few mature trees. A gravel loop driveway provides access to the house along its south side, and several mature trees frame the facade. Open fields extend off to the east, west, and south.

Erected on what appears to be a brick pier foundation infilled with concrete block, the house is constructed of wood framing and clad in aluminum siding. Three interior end chimneys break the ridge line, one at each of the three gable ends. The cross gable roof has been reclad in asphalt shingles and terminates in open eaves. A full-width half hipped roof porch supported on square wood posts extends across the width of the facade. Two 1-story frame additions set on concrete block foundations have been added in the corners of the "T." Both have asphalt-shingled shed roofs and are clad in aluminum siding. Other alterations include the replacement of the main entry door and the pouring of a concrete porch floor.

The house's facade shows a variation on the three single bays up and down design typical of vernacular I-houses. In this version, the door is set slightly off center, and the two flanking window bays each contain a pair of double-hung 2/2 wood sash windows, while the entry bay contains a single-leaf replacement panel-and-light metal door. Centered on the facade, above the door, is another pair of 2/2 windows. This pair is flanked by single 2/2 windows on either side. The original window casings were obscured when the aluminum siding was applied. The facade composition is crowned by a raised center gable pierced by a lunette window.

Both gable ends of the I-house are pierced by two windows, one on the first story and one on the second. Both sets are situated towards the east side of the wall. Again, these openings hold original 2/2 wood sash.

The north side of the rear "T" contains one original second story window. The first story of this elevation is obscured by a 1-story shed addition. The addition is pierced by two 6/6 wood sash windows. Turning to the rear, or west side, of the house, we see two original second story windows piercing the rear wall of the

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-159

Section 7 Page 2

Joseph Smith House  
name of property  
Charles County, Maryland  
county and state

=====  
front I-house section. Two added window openings pierce the rear gable end of the "T." One contains 1/1 wood sash, while the other holds a 6/6 wood sash. An additional 6/6 sash fills the single opening on the west side of the southwest corner addition.

The south elevation of the "T" is again pierced by only one original window, located at the second story. The 1-story frame shed added at the southwest corner is broken up by three bays on its south elevation. A single-leaf panel-and-light wood door occupies the center bay, while the flanking bays each hold a 6/6 wood sash window. The doorway is sheltered by a metal awning.

OUTBUILDINGS:

A single outbuilding shares the Joseph Smith House site. It is a 1-story, side gable frame shed. The asphalt shingled roof is in poor repair, and the door and window fixtures are missing. Clad in wood vertical boards, the shed appears to date to the first half of the 20th century, likely built between the 1920s and 1930s.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-159

Section 8 Page 1

Joseph Smith House  
name of property  
Charles County, Maryland  
county and state

=====

The Joseph Smith House is a typical example of the vernacular I-house form. With its minimal adornment and standard form, it is representative of the dwelling houses of many middle-class Charles County farmers of the turn of the 20th century. Its historically rural setting remains intact.

The house stands on land once incorporated in a tract known as "Mattingly's Hope." The Mattingly family property was subdivided in 1879 after the death of John H. and Ann T. Cox, and portioned off to several family members. Ida Estelle Robey, daughter of John H. Cox, acquired Lot #9 of "Mattingly's Hope" in 1883. In 1887, Robey sold 80-acres of this lot to John Benjamin Mattingly, a descendent of the original owners. John and his wife Anna J. Mattingly sold the 80-acres to Francis E. Mattingly in 1891. In 1898, Joseph Smith acquired a 10-acre section of this tract for \$70. In addition to this 10 acres, Smith had acquired another 5 acres of land from the Jenkins family in 1895. Smith had the present house built shortly after his 1898 acquisition, around 1900.

Joseph Smith continued to own the 15 acres until 1936, when the Eastern Shore Trust Company sued Joseph Smith, apparently for the non-payment of a debt. On October 7, 1936 the 15 acres and the dwelling house were sold at public auction to the County Trust Company for \$690. The same day, the County Trust Company resold the property to the current owners, Elizabeth & Charles Taylor, for \$750.

The house remains essentially intact. Although modernized by exterior finishes and small additions, the house retains its vernacular I-house form, and many of its original features.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-159

Joseph Smith House  
name of property  
Charles County, Maryland  
county and state

=====

**HISTORIC CONTEXT:**

**Geographic Organization:** Western Shore

**Chronological/Development Period (s):**

Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-  
1930

**Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme (s):**

ARCHITECTURE

**RESOURCE TYPE(S)**

**Category:** Building

**Historic Environment:** Rural

**Historic Function (s):** DOMESTIC/Single dwelling

**Known Design Source:** Unknown

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. Ch-159

Joseph Smith House  
name of property  
Charles County, Maryland  
county and state

=====  
**Chain of Title:**

Parcel 1:

September 17, 1895:

John J. & Antoinette Jenkins,  
Francis P. & C. Grace Jenkins, and  
Josephine Jenkins to Joseph Smith  
\$50  
5 acres  
Assigned to John J. Jenkins in  
division of real estate of George P.  
Jenkins  
Charles County Land Records  
Liber JST 7 Folio 577

Parcel 2:

Parcel 2A:

June 15, 1891:

L. Allison Wilmer (Trustee for  
estate of Henry C. Maddox), John H.  
& Kate Hancock to J. Benjamin  
Mattingly  
\$220  
40 acres--land on which Henry C.  
Maddox resided  
Public sale held December 24, 1889  
Charles County Land Records  
Liber JST 4 Folio 253

Parcel 2B:

November 9, 1883:

Marcellus Thompson, Commissioner in  
Division of Real Estate of John H.  
Cox to Ida Estelle Robey  
Lot #9-Part of "Mattingly's Hope"  
Petition for the Division of the  
Real Estate of John H. & Ann T. Cox  
made June 16, 1879  
Charles County Land Records  
Liber BGS 6 Folio 689

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-159

Joseph Smith House  
name of property  
Charles County, Maryland  
county and state

=====

March 15, 1887:

Ida Estelle Robey (daughter of John H. Cox) & Isiah Robey to John Benjamin Mattingly  
\$750  
80 acres, Part of "Mattingly's Hope," Lot #9 in division of real estate of John H. Cox, allotted to Ida Estelle Cox  
Charles County Land Records  
Liber JST 1 Folio 304

Parcels 2A & 2B:

August 6, 1891:

J. Benjamin & Anna J. Mattingly to Francis E. Mattingly  
\$800  
Two parcels:  
Parcel 2A: 40 acres on public road from Port Tobacco to Pomfret where Henry C. Maddox formerly resided  
Parcel 2B: 80 acres on west side of public road; part of "Mattingly's Hope"  
Charles County Land Records  
Liber JST 4 Folio 256

July 22, 1898:

Francis E. & Sarah E. Mattingly to Joseph Smith  
\$70  
10 acres, A division of a tract commonly known as "Mattingly's Hope" surveyed July 5, 1898 by S. Henry Cox  
Charles County Land Records  
Liber Folio 425

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-159

Joseph Smith House  
name of property  
Charles County, Maryland  
county and state

=====

Parcels 1 & 2:

October 7, 1936:

Russell T. Howard, Sheriff to County  
Trust Company  
\$690  
Two parcels: 5 acres + 10 acres  
Public sale resulting from court  
ruling made August 14, 1936 in  
Eastern Shore Trust Company vs.  
Joseph Smith  
Charles County Land Records  
Liber 63 Folio 625

October 7, 1936:

County Trust Company to Elizabeth V.  
& Charles A. Taylor  
\$750  
Two parcels:  
Parcel 1: 5 acres, part of a tract  
known as "Littleworth" and allotted  
to John J. Jenkins by commissioners  
elected to divide the real estate of  
the late George P. Jenkins  
Parcel 2: 10 acres, surveyed by S.  
Henry Cox (July 5, 1898) on west  
side of road leading from Port  
Tobacco to Pomfret  
Charles County Land Records  
Liber 63 Folio 627

RESOURCE SKETCH MAP

10/98

K.G. SMITH

JOSEPH SMITH HOUSE  
CHARLES COUNTY, MD

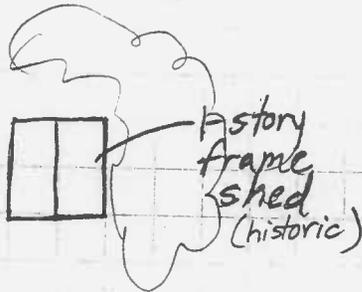
CH-159

7821 Bumpy Oak Rd.

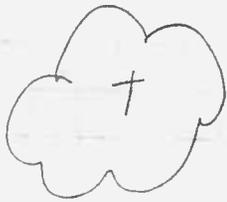
Charles County, MD



tree line



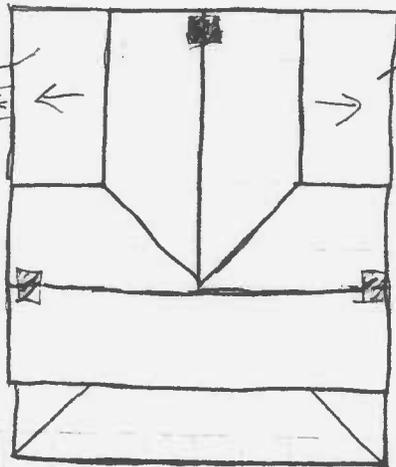
1-story  
frame  
shed  
(historic)



field

1-story  
frame  
addn.

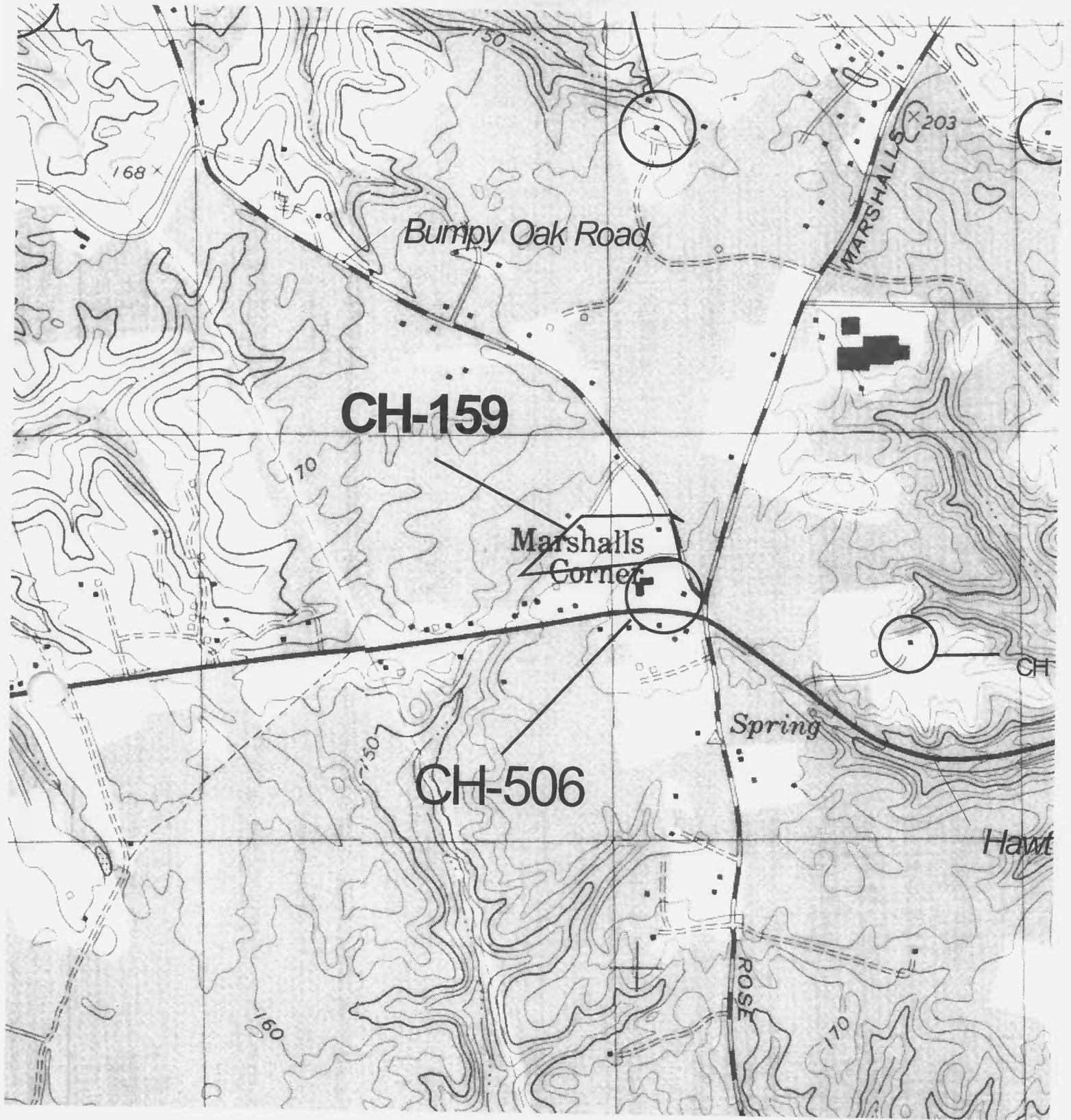
1-story  
frame  
addn.



7821



Bumpy Oak Road



Joseph Smith House  
Charles County, MD

CH-159

PORT TOBACCO, MD QUAD



CH-159

JOSEPH SMITH HOUSE  
CHARLES COUNTY, MD

K.G. SMITH

10/98

MARYLAND SHPO

FACADE, LOOKING WEST

1 OF 4



CH-159

JOSEPH SMITH HOUSE  
CHARLES COUNTY, MD

K.G. SMITH

10/98

MARYLAND SHPO

LOOKING SE

2 OF 4



CH-159

JOSEPH SMITH HOUSE

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

K.G. SMITH

10/98

MARYLAND SHPO

LOOKING NE

3 OF 4



CH-159

JOSEPH SMITH HOUSE  
CHARLES COUNTY, MD  
K.G. SMITH

MARYLAND SHPO

10/98

SHED, LOOKING NW

4 OF 4