

CAPSULE SUMMARY
CT-82
Smithville Hall
10420 Southern Maryland Boulevard
Dunkirk, Calvert County
Ca. 1921
Private

Located in Dunkirk in the northern section of Calvert County, Smithville Hall was constructed circa 1921 for the Junior Order United American Mechanics, Smithville Council No. 196. It remained under their ownership until 1950, when the property was sold to Luther E. and Margaret Whittington, who operated a general store and the Dunkirk Post Office from the premises. According to oral history, the Junior Order United American Mechanics rented the first story of the building as a general store as early as the 1940s, with the hall being located on the second story. Furthermore, Smithville Hall was often referred to as a town hall, rather than a lodge, indicating that additional community functions took place within the building. The general store and post office continued to operate from the Smithville Hall until the 1970s, and shortly thereafter the property passed out of the Whittington family. Since 1996, the building has served as a dentist's office.

The wood-frame building rises two stories in height and stands three bays square. Altered significantly in 1996, the building retains its form and original window configuration. Currently, the building is clad in vinyl siding and is covered by a hipped roof of asphalt shingles. All of the windows have been replaced with 6/6 vinyl sash and snap-in muntins. The porch was removed from the east elevation and the main entry was moved to the north elevation and set in a vestibule that was constructed during alterations in 1996. At that time, the two-story addition on the west elevation was also constructed.

7. Description

Inventory No. CT-82

Condition

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered |

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Smithville Hall is located at 10420 Southern Maryland Boulevard in Dunkirk, in the northern part of Calvert County, Maryland. Constructed circa 1921, the hall was erected for the Junior Order United American Mechanics and later served as a general store and post office. The wood-frame building rises two stories in height and stands three bays square. Altered significantly in 1996, the building retains its form and original window configuration. Currently, the building is clad in vinyl siding and is covered by a hipped roof of asphalt shingles. All of the windows have been replaced with 6/6 vinyl sash and snap-in muntins. The porch was removed from the east elevation and the main entry was moved to the north elevation and set in a vestibule that was constructed during alterations in 1996. At that time, the two-story addition on the west elevation was also constructed.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The façade or north elevation is three bays wide with a centered entry. The entry, set within a one-story projecting vestibule, consists of a single-leaf, fifteen-light door flanked by five-light sidelights. The wood-frame vestibule features a half-hipped roof and is accessed by two concrete steps with a metal railing. Flanking the vestibule are two 6/6 vinyl replacement windows, set within vinyl surrounds with no molding. The three openings on the first story are mimicked at the second story by three 6/6-vinyl replacement windows, also set with vinyl surrounds with no molding. On the west side of the main block is a two-story, two-bay-wide wood-frame addition that was constructed in 1996. The north elevation of this addition features a two-bay-wide porch with a shed roof and square post supports. A concrete ramp for the disabled leads to this porch. The addition is accessed via a single-leaf entry, which is adjacent to a fixed octagonal-shaped vinyl window with nine lights. Set above the porch is a single 6/6-vinyl window with a vinyl surround with no molding.

The west elevation of Smithville Hall is largely comprised of the two-story rear addition and there are no openings visible. A twenty-light fixed vinyl window, within a narrow vinyl surround, lights the west elevation of the vestibule. The rear or south elevation stands four bays in width on the main block and one bay in width on the addition. Both the first and second stories of the main block are pierced by four 6/6-vinyl replacement windows set within square-edged vinyl surrounds. Likewise, the addition is pierced at both the first and second stories by a 6/6-vinyl window with a vinyl surround with no molding.

On the east elevation, which originally served as the main façade, there are three openings at both the first and second stories. The center opening has been altered to accommodate a window opening, rather than the door that originally stood there. Louvered plastic shutters currently cover this window opening and the sash is not visible. It appears that the shutters are covering a false opening to give symmetry to the elevation. The center bay is flanked by 6/6 vinyl replacement windows. These three openings are mimicked at the second story by three 6/6-vinyl replacement windows. Like the other windows throughout the building, vinyl surrounds with no molding frame them. A fixed twenty-light vinyl window in a narrow vinyl surround pierces the east elevation of the vestibule.

INTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The interior of the building was also extensively altered in 1996 and no visible historic fabric remains. The original one-room plan has been divided to accommodate the current dentist office that occupies the building. As such, the large open space has been divided into a waiting room, reception area, office, four exam rooms, and small room for x-ray equipment. Throughout the first floor is wall-to-wall carpeting covering the floors, wallboard cladding on the walls, and an acoustic tile drop ceiling. Further, there is a plain rubber baseboard and the windows are framed by wood surrounds with a narrow beaded edge. The four single-leaf, six-panel metal doors, leading to the waiting room, reception desk, x-ray storage room, and office, are framed by molded wood surrounds. In the hall leading to the exam rooms are built-in cabinets providing storage space for medical supplies. The reception area features a large curved built-in desk with a Formica top. Now removed, the original stair stood in the northwest corner of the main block, behind what is now the reception desk.

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The two-story addition houses a bathroom, a closet, and a quarter-turn enclosed stair. Like the first floor of the hall, the second story has been altered with the installation of wall-to-wall carpeting, wallboard cladding, and the new division of rooms to create offices and a large kitchen and eating area.

NON-CONTRIBUTING OUTBUILDING

To the west side of Smithville Hall is a modern small, one-bay-wide shed clad in vinyl siding.

8. Significance

Inventory No. CT-82

| Period | Areas of Significance | Check and justify below | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine | <input type="checkbox"/> performing arts | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2000- | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social history | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | | <input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: | |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|---------|
| Specific dates | c1921; 1950 | Architect/Builder | Unknown |
| Construction dates | c1921; 1996 | | |

Evaluation for:

National Register Maryland Register not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

Located in Dunkirk in the northern section of Calvert County, Smithville Hall was constructed circa 1921 for the Junior Order United American Mechanics, Smithville Council No. 196. It remained under their ownership until 1950, when the property was sold to Luther E. and Margaret Whittington, who operated a general store and the Dunkirk Post Office from the premises. According to oral history, the Junior Order United American Mechanics rented the first story of the building as a general store as early as the 1940s, with the hall being located on the second story. Furthermore, Smithville Hall was often referred to as a town hall, rather than a lodge, indicating that additional community functions took place within the building. (1) The general store and post office continued to operate from the Smithville Hall until the 1970s, and shortly thereafter the property passed out of the Whittington family. Since 1996, the building has served as a dentist's office.

THE FRATERNAL HALL IN CALVERT COUNTY

Within Calvert County, there are a number of fraternal halls dating primarily to the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Closely related both architecturally and functionally to the community hall, which was built for the expressed use of the surrounding residents, the fraternal hall not only functioned as a meeting place for the associated organization, but also as a public meeting place. For this reason, the fraternal hall, like the community hall, was often thought of by the local community as a town hall, although it had no direct municipal connection. Oral history indicates that this was the case with Smithville Hall, built for the Junior Order United American Mechanics circa 1920.

Through the years Calvert County has hosted a number of fraternal organizations, both national and regional. Whereas fraternal organizations in urban areas tend to be geared towards professional advancement, such organizations in rural locations like Calvert County with highly dispersed populations serve a more basic social function in bringing together individuals who might otherwise have little contact with their neighbors. Even in rural communities, however, fraternal organizations were a means to political recognition and commercial networking, and prominent local citizens invariably belong to one or several fraternal organizations. Fraternal organizations in Calvert County have traditionally been sexually and racially segregated, a condition which exists to the present day on a voluntary basis.

Beginning in the late 19th century and continuing into the early 20th century, the Junior Order United American Mechanics, or Jr. O. U. A. M., had a substantial presence in Calvert County. The parent organization of the Junior Order United American Mechanics, the United American Mechanics, was established in 1853 as a workingmen's organization committed to fighting against labor pressures from increasing immigration, specifically the Irish, German and Roman Catholics. (2) In 1885, the Junior Order broke from its parent organization and established itself as an independent group. Over the next half century, the numbers of immigrants to the United States increased, fueling anxieties about "American" job security. At that time, the Junior Order United American Mechanics increased their membership significantly with those united against "the ignorant, the vicious and the lawless

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Name Smithville Hall (preferred)

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of the Old World as a constant menace to our institutions.” (3) Membership was extended to literate white male American citizens between the ages of 16 and 50 “of good moral character” and who believed in a “Supreme Being as the Creator and Preserver of the Universe,” provided he did not engage in the selling of “spirituous or malt liquors.” (4) Initiation rites contained elaborate costume rituals and symbolic role playing centered around the principles of virtue, liberty and patriotism, with the initiate taking the role of the Puritan arriving in the New World, or of a soldier at camp. (5) Despite the obvious xenophobic and racist undertones, the Junior Order was a charitable organization dedicated to assisting “Americans” in obtaining employment and achieving in business. Additionally, they cared for sick or disabled members and the families of deceased members, supported the National Orphans Home, and promoted the reading of the Bible in public schools. (6)

Although never near the size of the Freemasons, at the height of its popularity in the first half of the 20th century the Junior Order boasted 200,000 members nationwide. (7) In Calvert County, the Junior Order appears to have been most prominent during the first half of the 20th century. During this period, at least two other councils are known to have existed, including Loyal Council No. 153 in Owings and Patuxent Council No. 192 in Lower Marlboro. Furthermore, both the Owings and Lower Marlboro councils shared their halls with an organization called the Daughters of America, suggesting that this organization was the female counterpart to the Junior Order, of which only men could be members. By the close of the Second World War, however, many Junior Order halls began to close due to lack of membership, a trend that was occurring in Junior Order councils throughout the country.

HISTORY OF SMITHVILLE HALL

In 1920, the Smithville Council No. 196 of the Junior Order United American Mechanics purchased a half-acre parcel of land in Smithville, now Dunkirk, for the construction of a lodge. It is likely that the building became known as “Smithville Hall” during this period, as the term “hall” was used for Junior Order buildings. Said to have originally been built as a one-story structure, the drastically altered building is currently a two-story, hipped-roof structure. (8) During the second quarter of the 20th century, Smithville Hall appears to have been used by local residents as a community hall, as well, a function that has led to the description of the building as a “town hall.” (9)

By the late 1940s the Junior Order no longer used the building for meetings, renting it instead for use as a general store. (10) The general store was run by Luther and Margaret Whittington, who lived in the now-demolished dwelling house located directly to the northwest of the hall. (11) As a general store, the first floor was a large open room with aisles for groceries and other supplies. The “general” store was so named because of the general nature of items carried. First and foremost in the country general store was the agricultural and livestock merchandise such as feed, seeds for planting, small tools and supplies such as rope and nails. Fishing, oystering and crabbing supplies such as bait, nets and cages would have been sold in many stores, as well, particularly in the late 19th and early 20th centuries with the rise of the seafood industry in Calvert County. Basic food items, primarily dry goods, such as flour and salt, were carried as well, and to a lesser extent perishable items such as freshly-butchered meats and dairy products. Availability of perishable items such as meats, dairy products, fruits and vegetable, before refrigeration became readily accessible in the second quarter of the 20th century would have been periodic, with local butchers or farmers delivering fresh items in relatively small quantities. Most county residents, however, would have such items supplied on their own farm.

Tobacco, toiletries, newspapers and other periodical publications and medicines were an essential component of the general store, which featured a variety of painkillers, tonics and elixirs, and other general remedies. General stores frequently carried sweets and sodas, as well, the latter deriving from general store medicine tonics and achieving its current popularity by introduction in country general stores of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Many general stores also carried cloth, or basic apparel for the rural residents engaged in agricultural or maritime pursuits. Standard items included farming and fishing apparel such as overalls and cotton shirts or waterproof gear, underwear, socks and shoes, as well as more luxury items such as collared shirts, dresses and hats. Small gifts and toys were also common in the general store. Following the introduction of gasoline-powered automobiles and

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Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name Smithville Hall (preferred)

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

boats, gasoline fuel pumps became a major component to the general store, along automobile, railroad and water routes.

In addition to stocking basic goods and necessities, the country general store also provided a variety of services to the rural and small town resident. General stores frequently contained local post offices where patrons could retrieve and post mail, or send money orders. The Dunkirk Post Office was operated out of the southwest corner of Smithville Hall from 1953 until 1975. (12) In 1985, Smithville Hall was sold to John and Patricia Yatsko who operated a printing press and a business machinery repair shop in the building. (13) Following his purchase of the building in 1994, Charles Varipapa undertook an extensive renovation of Smithville Hall to accommodate his dental practice.

CHAIN OF TITLE

December 22, 1887: Laura A. Welch and John F. P. Welch to Kate Plummer
Land Records of Calvert County
Liber JS 1, Folio 223

December 10, 1890: Kate Plummer and John E. Plummer to Thomas M. Chaney
Land Records of Calvert County
Liber JS 3, Folio 41

January 11, 1906: Thomas M. and Emma Chaney to Ida Sherbert
Land Records of Calvert County
Liber AAH 5, Folio 209

December 4, 1920: Ida V. Sherbert to Smithville Council No. 196, Junior Order United American Mechanics
Land Records of Calvert County
Liber AAH 5, Folio 210

Parcel I:

June 8, 1950: Trustees of Junior Order, Smithville Council No. 196 to Luther E. and Margaret E. Whittington
Land Records of Calvert County
Liber AWR 24, Folio 299

Parcel II:

February 27, 1970: Virgil Idowes, Albert Moulard, and Vernon Whittington, members of the Smithville Council, Junior Order United American Mechanics, to Luther E. and Margaret E. Whittington
Land Records of Calvert County
Liber JLB 117, Folio 288

All Parcels:

October 1, 1985: Luther Edward Whittington, Jr. to John and Patricia A. Yatsko
Land Records of Calvert County
Liber ABE 349, Folio 71

February 1, 1991: John and Patricia A. Yatsko to O'Brien Homes Sales, Inc.
Land Records of Calvert County
Liber ABE 546, Folio 819

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Name Smithville Hall (preferred)

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Number 8 Page 3

November 28, 1994: O'Brien Homes Sales, Inc., T/A O'Brien Realty to Charles A. Varipapa
Land Records of Calvert County
Liber ABE 773, Folio 498

ENDNOTES

1. Wayne L. Nield, II, "Smithville Town Hall, CT-82," May 1976, Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Form for State Historic Sites Survey, Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, MD.
2. "Junior Order United American Mechanics," on the World Wide Web at www.bessel.org/jouam.htm.
3. "Constitution, By-Laws, Order of Business and Rules of Order of the State Council of Maryland, Junior Order of United American Mechanics; also Constitution, By-Laws, Order of Business and Rules of Order of Subordinate Councils," revised 1922, Special Collections, Calvert County Historical Society, Prince Frederick, MD, p. 5.
4. "Junior Order United American Mechanics Official Application for Membership," 1930, Special Collections, Calvert County Historical Society, Prince Frederick, MD.
5. Ritual of the Junior Order United American Mechanics, 1909, Special Collections, Calvert County Historical Society, Prince Frederick, MD.
6. "Constitution, By-Laws of the Junior Order."
7. "Junior Order United American Mechanics."
8. LaVerne Howard, interview by Carrie E. Albee, Dunkirk, MD, June 4, 2002.
9. Nield.
10. Notes on Smithville Hall, CT-82, Vertical Files, Calvert County Planning and Zoning Department, Prince Frederick, MD.
11. Howard.
12. Notes on Smithville Hall, CT-82, Vertical Files, Calvert County Planning and Zoning Department, Prince Frederick, MD.
13. Howard.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CT-82

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 0.54 Acres

Acreage of historical setting 0.50 Acres

Quadrangle name Lower Marlboro

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Smithville Hall has been associated with Parcel 111, as denoted on Tax Map 6, since its construction circa 1920.

11. Form Prepared By

| | | | |
|-------------------|--|-----------|----------------|
| name/title | R. Weidlich and C. Albee, Architectural Historians | | |
| organization | E.H.T. Tracerics, Inc. | dat | 8/26/02 |
| street and number | 1121 Fifth Street, N.W. | telephone | 202/393-1199 |
| city or town | Washington | stat DC | zip code 20001 |

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600

**Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form**

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Name Smithville Hall (preferred)

Continuation Sheet

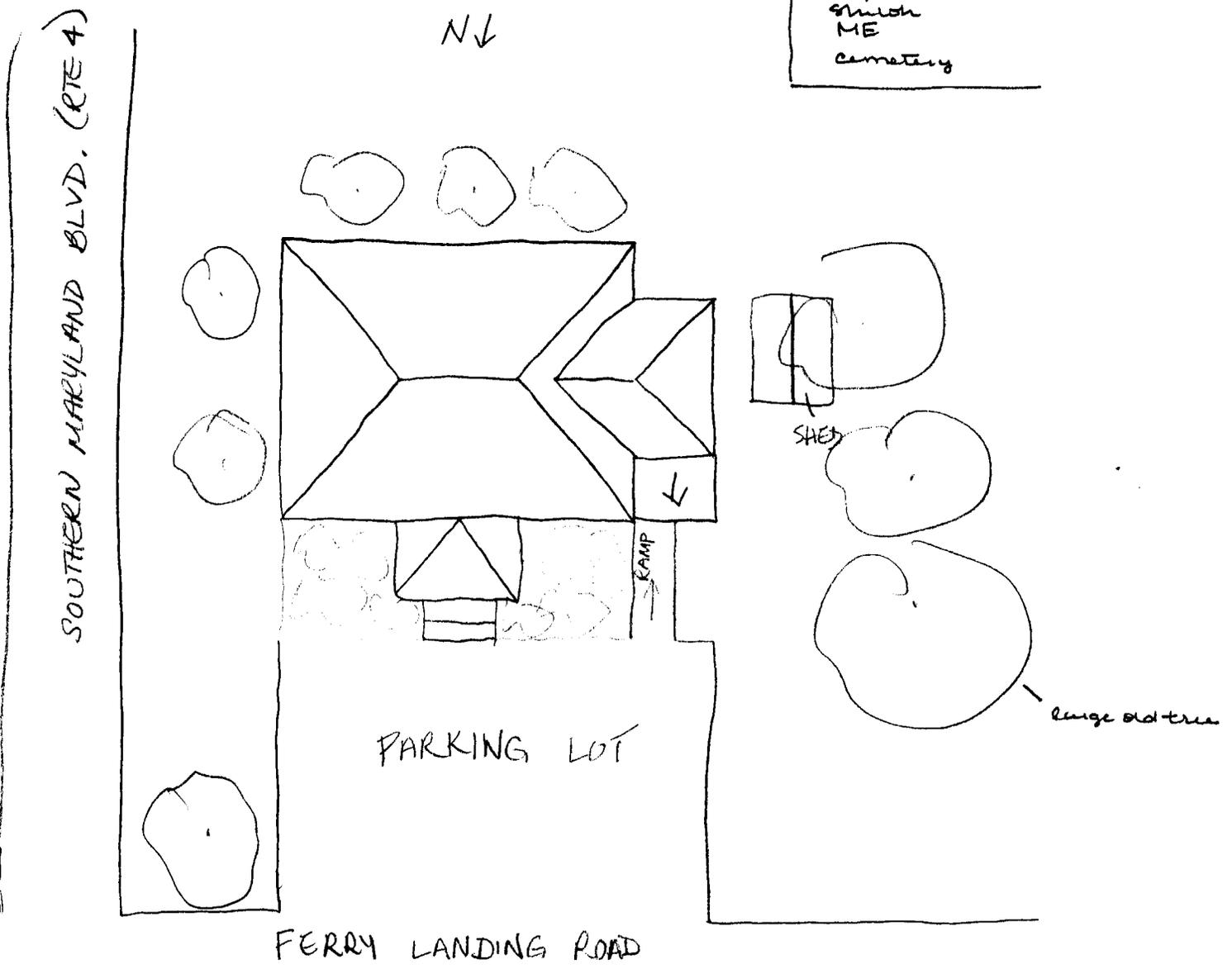
Number 9 Page 1

"Smithville Hall, CT-82," Historic Sites Files, Calvert County Planning and Zoning Department, Prince Frederick, MD.

RESOURCE SKETCH MAP
CT-82
SMITHVILLE HALL
10480 SOUTHERN MARYLAND BLVD.
DUNKIRK, CALVERT COUNTY, MD

N ↓

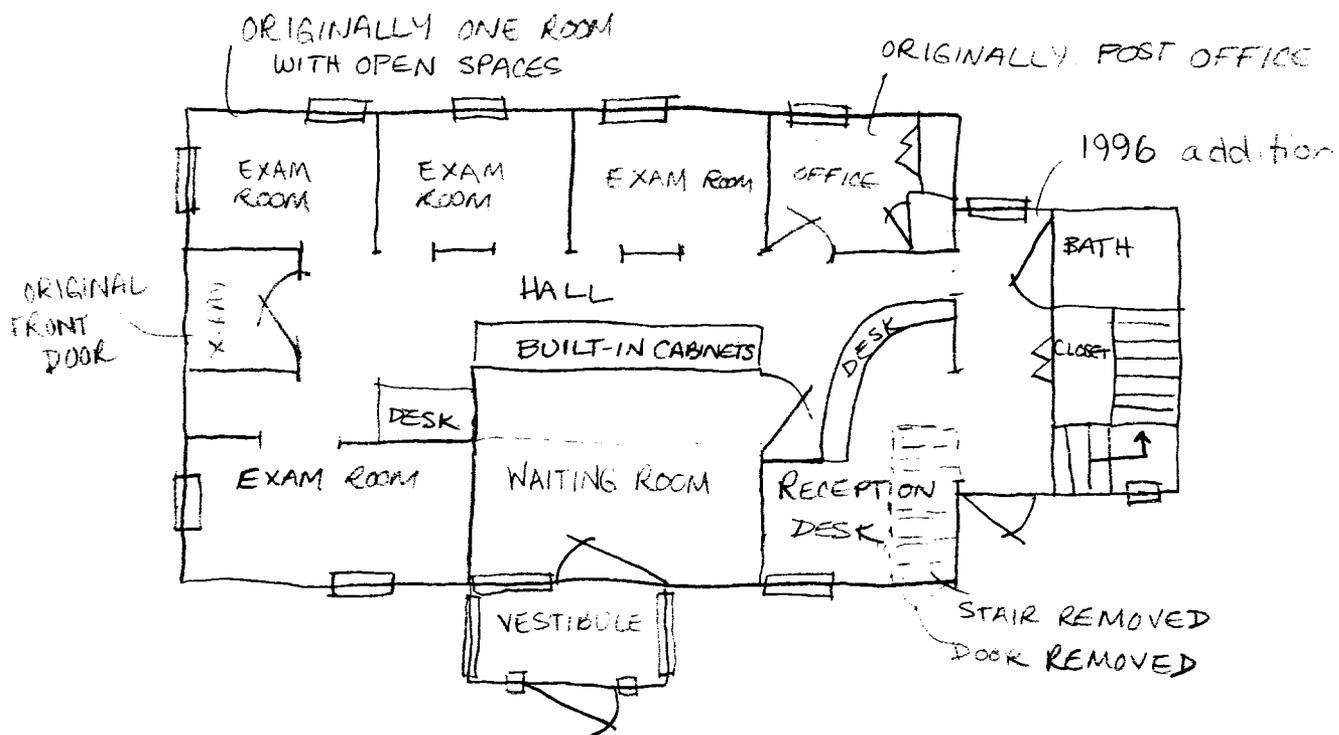
Smith
ME
cemetery



CT-82

CT-82
SMITHVILLE HALL
10420 SOUTHERN MARYLAND BLVD.
DUNKIRK, CALVERT COUNTY, MD

FIRST FLOOR
NOT DRAWN TO SCALE N ↓
JUNE 2002



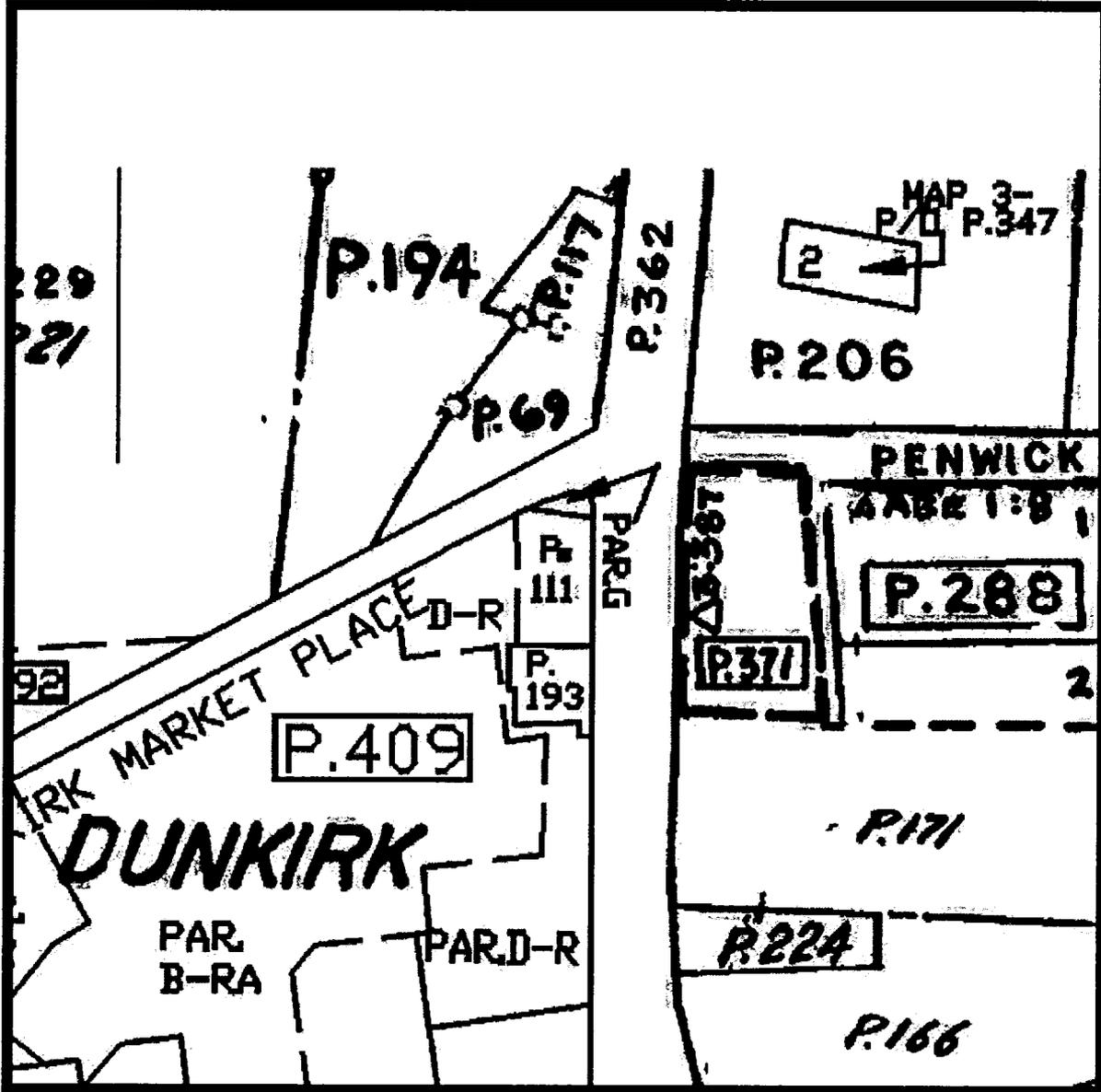
CT-82



Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation
CALVERT COUNTY
Real Property Data Search

[Go Back](#)
[View Map](#)
[New Search](#)

District - 03 Account Number - 021114



Property maps provided courtesy of the Maryland Department of Planning ©2001.
For more information on electronic mapping applications, visit the Maryland Department of Planning
web site at www.mdp.state.md.us

5661 1 SW
353 (BRISTOL)

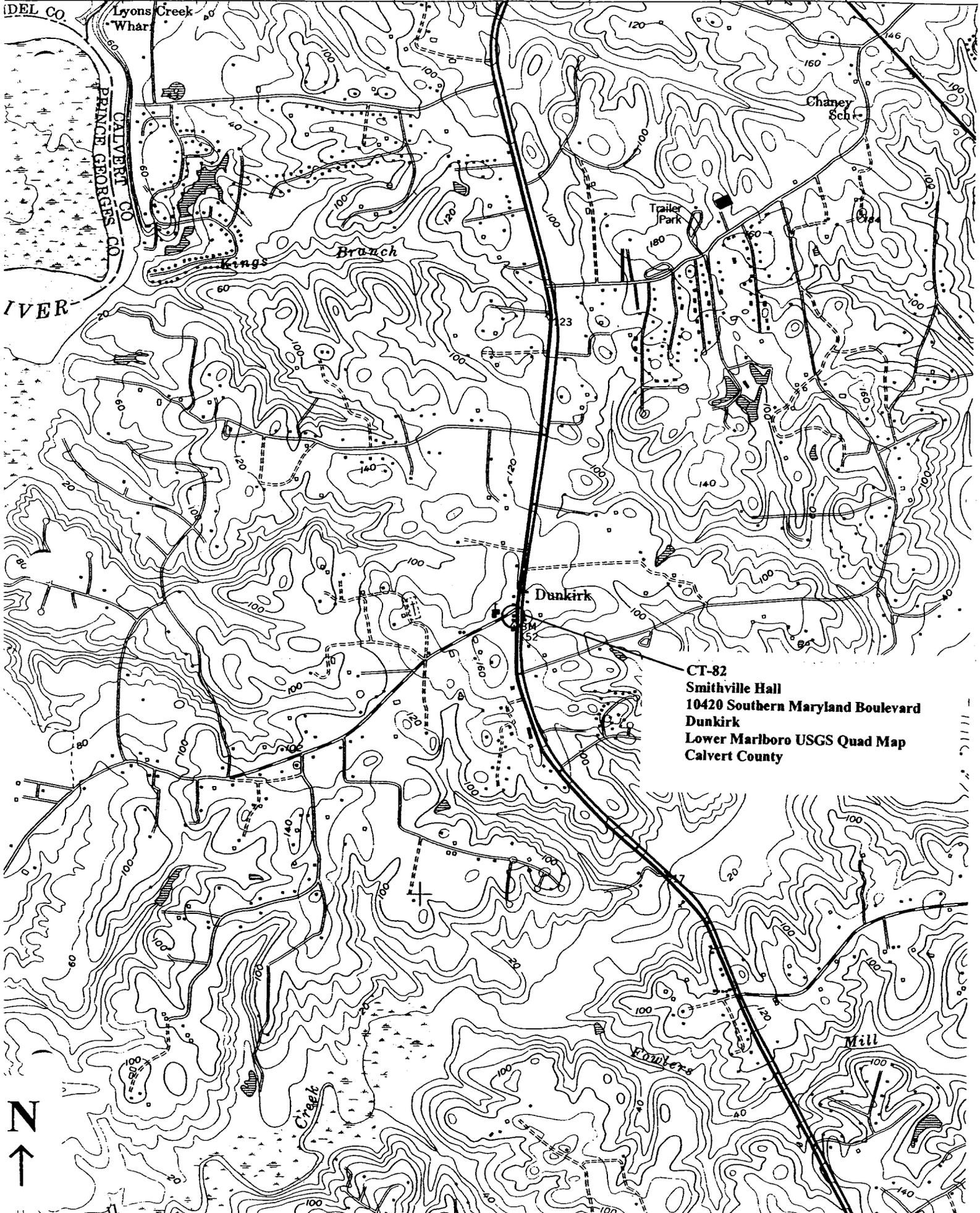
354

355 40'

7.3 MI. TO U.S. 301
BRISTOL 3.2 MI.

900 000 FEET

1.4 MI. TO MD. 4



CT-82
Smithville Hall
10420 Southern Maryland Boulevard
Dunkirk
Lower Marlboro USGS Quad Map
Calvert County





07-26?

Smith & Wall

10420 Southern Maryland Boulevard

Calvert County, MD

EUT Tracer 03

June 2002

Maryland 9110

North Eastern Linking Southeast

1 of 5



CT-82

Smithville Hall

6420 Southern Maryland Boulevard

Calvert County MD

EHT Tracer 25

June 2001

Maryland SHPO

Northwest Corner, Looking Southeast

2 of 5



ST-82

Smithville Hall

10420 Eastern Maryland Boulevard

Calvert County, MD

SHT Traces

June 2002

Maryland SHPO

Southeast Corner, View Looking Northwest

3 of 5



ST-22

Smithville Hall

1030 Southern Maryland Boulevard

Calvert County, MD

EHT Tracer 05

June 2002

Maryland SHPO

East Elevation View 1025+

4 or 5



CT-82
Smithville Hall
10420 Southern Maryland Boulevard
Calvert County, MD
EHT Traceries
June 2002
Maryland SHPO
Interior, 1st Floor, Reception Area, Looking East
5 of 5

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Smithville Town Hall

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
(MD Route 4) Southern Maryland Boulevard

Third

CITY, TOWN
Dunkirk

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

___ VICINITY OF

STATE
Maryland

COUNTY
Calvert

3 CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | PRESENT USE |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE | PUBLIC ACQUISITION | ACCESSIBLE | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> PARK |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: |

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mr. Luther Whittington

Telephone #: 257-6000

STREET & NUMBER
2000

CITY, TOWN
___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Calvert County Courthouse

Liber #: AWR 24
Folio #: 299

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Prince Frederick

STATE
Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" 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

Although the colors have changed on the decorative trim, older members of the community say that this building has changed little.

It is a two-story structure three bays wide with the front (east) entrance in the middle on the first story with two side-by-side windows in the middle of the second story. The building is three bays deep as well with a side entrance on the west end of the north side which leads to the upper story. The windows are 2/2 with original, wavy panes measuring 27 by 13 inches. Two of the original shutters remain, and they are one-piece shutters constructed of 3 1/4-inch tongue-and-groove boards. These shutters measure 63 inches by 31 1/4 inches and are fastened with deadbolt latches.

The exterior covering is 6-inch horizontal, overlapping clapboard. The metal roof is hipped and formed by equilateral triangles which form a point in the center. The entire structure is raised off the ground one foot and rests on brick pilings placed 4 feet apart.

Originally, the lower story of the building was occupied by a large one-room general store, and the upper story contained one large room that served as the town hall.

The lower portion of the building has been partitioned off to accommodate a smaller grocery and antique shop. Behind the building lies the panelling which once covered the interior. It was a 29-inch-high chair rail constructed of vertical tongue and groove.

The upper story remains intact and has been used for storage since 1948 when the present owner acquired the building. The walls and ceiling are covered with 1 1/2-inch tongue and groove with a natural wood grain finish. The ceiling assumes the shape of a gambrel roof. There is a small stage at the east end of the room.

Both stories contain much original hardware and molding including corner blocks on the windows and doors.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| ERIOD | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES 1921

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Shppard

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building has played a double role in the community since its erection in 1921. Since the nearest shopping centers to the Dunkirk area are Prince Frederick and Upper Marlboro, each being a dozen miles away, stores like the one which occupied the first level of this building have had a large economic importance. A small but diverse inventory provided the farmers and other citizens with food, fuel, feed, and even some clothing. The store also contained the Dunkirk post office between 1955 and 1975. Although the present owner attempts to keep a small grocery running, the present development trends in the neighborhood make its future dim.

According to older citizens, the structure was built for the Trustees of Smithville Council No. 196 Junior Order United American Mechanics, and the meeting hall in the upper story was the only assembly place, besides the churches, in the immediate area. The deed proves the Trustees purchased the land in 1920. Up into the 1940's this room housed citizen groups and meetings of various kinds and saw the production of more than one Christmas play and Easter pageant.

It is fair to say that since 1921 infinite less formal meetings were held either in the store or in front of it where neighbors could chat while picking up mail and groceries. In rural communities where there is often only a weekly newspaper, such places as stores and post offices provide a means for communicating local information of all sorts.

The materials and craftsmanship displayed in both the interior and exterior are of a type and quality which, although common in their day, are now rare. Wooden clapboard siding and tongue and groove panelling have been replaced by aluminum and pressed paper.

The early 20th Century atmosphere of the Dunkirk area is giving way to late 20th Century development, and a new post office and new grocery sit opposite the old town hall. It may seem to have lost its relevance, but through its history, architecture, and present function this structure stands as a document of a quickly passing life style.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.34 acres

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

Wayne L. Nield II, Historic Sites SurveyorMay 1976

ORGANIZATION

c/o Calvert County Historic District Commission

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Prince Frederick

STATE

Maryland

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

we have a good right to sell the same to the said Ida Sherbert and that we will warrant and defend the same to the said Ida Sherbert, her heirs and assigns against the lawful claims and demands of all persons.

In testimony whereof we the said Thomas M. Chaney and Emma Chaney hereunto set our hands and seals this Eleventh day of January, nineteen hundred and six.

Test:

Wm. H. Ward

Thos. M. Chaney

Emma Chaney

Seal
Seal

Calvert County, State of Maryland to wit:

Before me the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace in and for the said County, personally appeared Thomas M. Chaney and Emma Chaney who acknowledged the foregoing deed to be their act.

In witness thereof I have set my hand and seal this Eleventh day of January, nineteen hundred and six.

Wm. H. Ward, J. P. Seal

Recorded Dec. 7, 1920

Ed. exam. per. Arthur W. Harkness, Clerk.

Orig. to Wm. S. Jones, Dec. 14, 1920 by mail.

U.S.P.S. Stamp

50^c

Know all men by these presents that I, Ida V. Sherbert, of Calvert County and State of Maryland, for and in consideration of four hundred and fifty dollars (\$450) to me paid by the Trustees of Smithville Council No. 196, Jr. O. U. G. M. of the County and State aforesaid, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, do grant, sell and convey unto the said Trustees of Smithville Council all that parcel of land situated in the village of Smithville, which was sold and conveyed by deed, dated Jan. 11, 1906 by Thomas M. Chaney and Emma Chaney to Ida V. Sherbert and described as follows: Commencing at the North East corner of Shiloh M. E. Church yard and running west with the line of the said Church yard one hundred and thirty feet, thence North one hundred and fifty three feet, thence East one hundred and thirty feet to the public road; thence South with the public road to the beginning, supposed to contain one half an acre of land, more or less, with all the tenements and appurtenances belonging thereto, to have and to hold the same to the Trustees of Smithville Council No. 196, Jr. O. U. G. M., their successors and their assigns forever. In testimony whereof, I, the said

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Ida V. Sherbert hereunto set my hand and seal this fourth day of December, nineteen hundred and twenty,
 Test: Ida V. Sherbert 

Calvert County, State of Maryland to wit;

Before me the subscriber, a Notary Public in and for the said County personally appeared Ida V. Sherbert, who acknowledged the foregoing deed to be her act,

In witness thereof I set my hand and seal this fourth day of December, nineteen hundred and twenty,

James S. Jones
 Notary Public,



Recorded Dec. 7, 1920 and exam. per.

Arthur C. Harnness, Clerk

Orig. to Ann S. Jones Dec. 14, 1920 by mail

This deed made this 20th day of November, in the year nineteen hundred and twenty, by Harriet G. Bond, a widow, of Calvert County and State of Maryland, John B. Gray and Gertrude B. Newmead,

Whom as the property hereinafter described and intended to be jointly conveyed together with certain other property therein described became limited to the said John B. Gray by way of mortgage dated the 1st day of January, 1898, and recorded among the land records of Calvert County, Maryland, in Libr. S. B. S. No. 5, folio 168, to secure the payment of the sum of \$1,600.00 with interest; and whereas said property also became limited to the Safe Deposit & Trust Company by way of Mortgage dated August 24, 1898, and recorded among said land records in Libr. S. B. S. No. 5, folio 320, to secure the payment of the sum of \$72.00; and whereas said last named mortgage was duly assigned by said the Safe Deposit & Trust Company to said Gertrude B. Newmead by a short assignment recorded with said mortgage among said records dated February 15th, 1899; and whereas said John B. Gray and Gertrude B. Newmead have agreed to release the property hereinafter particularly described from the liens of their respective mortgages and unite herein in order that said property may be conveyed clear of said mortgages, expressly reserving, however, their respective liens upon the remainder of said mortgaged property.

Now, therefore, this deed witnesseth that in consideration of the sum of one hundred dollars the said Harriet G. Bond, John B. Gray and Gertrude B. Newmead do grant and convey unto Arthur Carr, his heirs and assigns, in fee simple, all that lot or parcel of land situated in the First Election District of Calvert County, Maryland, on Battle Creek, and particularly described as follows: Beginning for the same at a small perpendicular tree standing on the North side of the mouth of Bridie's Cove, thence (1) North 80 degrees East, 8 1/2 perches to a small oak tree standing by a gully; thence (2) North 2 1/2 degrees West, 13 1/2 perches to a stake; thence (3)

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PERRY B. VAN VLECK
AWR 38/593, JLB 9/209
125.60A
P.3

MAPS-P.21

MAPS-P.22

DUNKIRK

WARD ROAD

EDWARD L. NOYES
JLB 82/334, JLB 108/642
35.79A
P.6

A. GORMAN LYONS
JLB 55/55
26.31A
P.7

SOUTHERN MEMORIAL GARDENS, INC.
JLB 51/350
43.40A
P.50

GERARD P. NORRELL
JLB 170/121
15.26A
P.213

IRVING W. BUNGER
JLB 55/74
14.29A
P.40

J. AUBREY SUNDERLAND
RAN 40/493
6A.54A
P.8

CHARLES STEIN, et al
JLB 91/479
152.53A
P.15

JAMES H. KING
JLB 34/115
7.48A
P.95

MILTON JONES
JLB 70/148
8.25A
P.93

WESLEY B. PARKER
GND 15/140, AWR 7/52
15.97A
P.13

CHARLES E. FONNER
JLB 47/551
81.00A
P.53

DOROTHY B. J. WARD
W/R MKD 1/120
122.14A
P.12

FLORENCE E. LANE
GND 13/145
P.17

MAYSL N. VARLOUSKY
JLB 45/165
22.00A
P.14

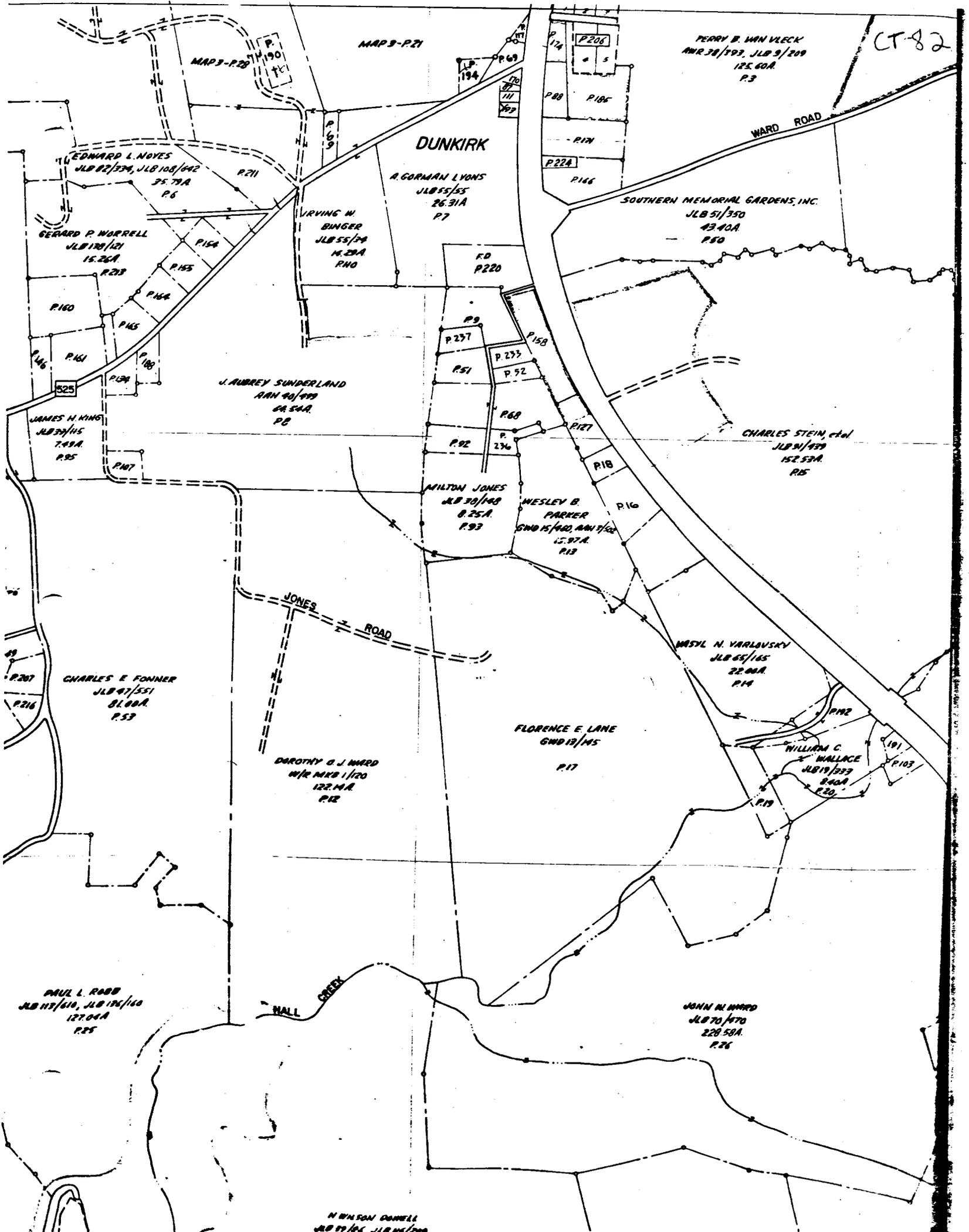
WILLIAM C. WALLACE
JLB 19/337
8.00A
P.20

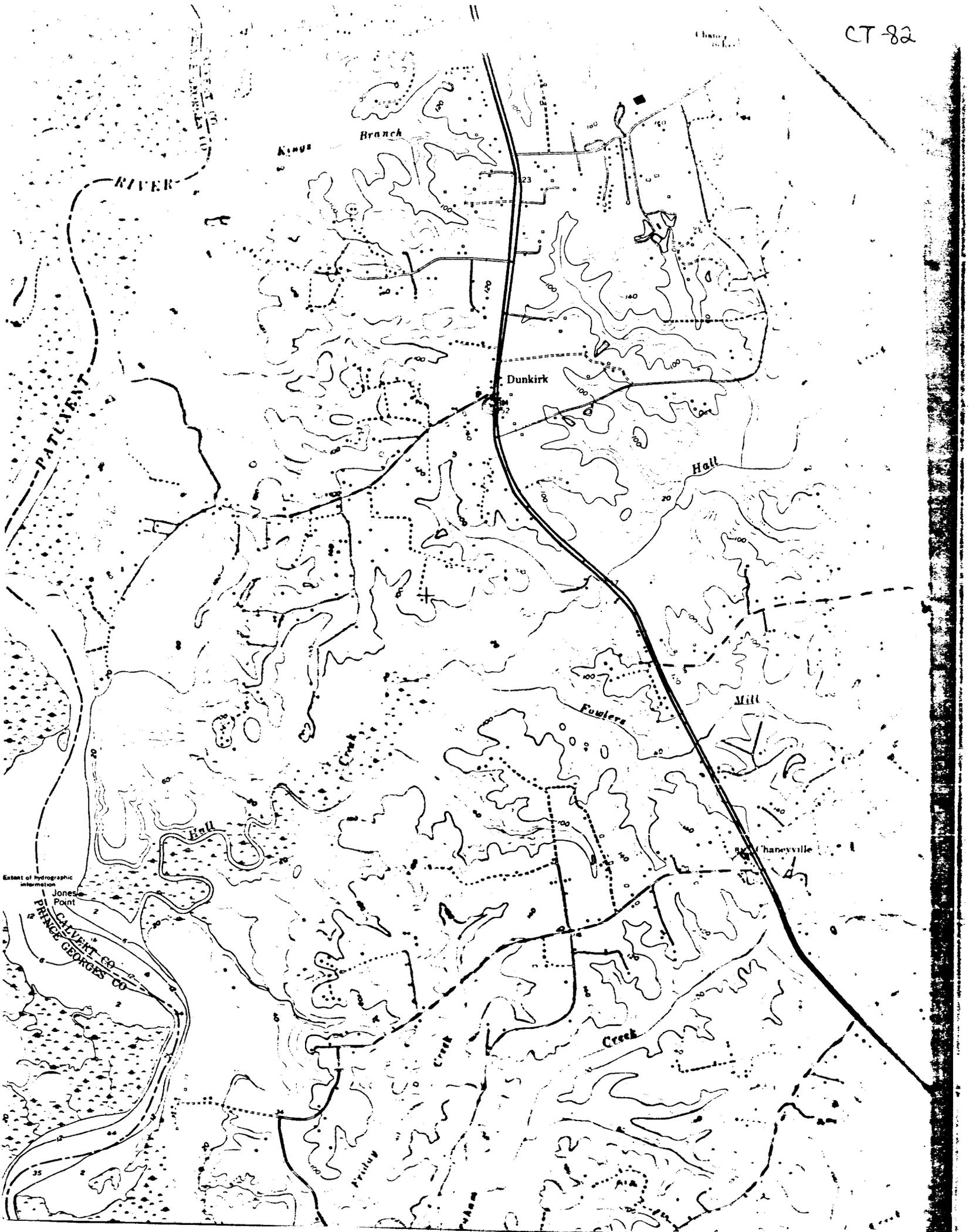
PAUL L. ROBB
JLB 113/610, JLB 126/160
127.04A
P.25

JOHN M. WARD
JLB 70/470
220.50A
P.26

HALL CREEK

N. WILSON CORWELL
JLB 70/161, JLB 161/100







The BAR
ANIT
Used FURN
GLASS WA

CLV: 2
Sm. Meeting
CT-32

B-5

W. Nield
Spring '76