

DeKalb Smith House

121 B Washington Ave.

Chestertown, Md.

privately owned and rented as apartments

Moved to its present location in 1960 the large Victorian DeKalb Smith dwelling was constructed after 1883 for the former Comptroller of Maryland. Now set back between two lots it is difficult to view. The original location was where the present C & P Telephone Building is.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

K-360  
K-358

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Smith House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

presently 121 B Washington Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Md.

COUNTY

Kent

**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"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input 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 checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER apts.

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

John Allspach

Telephone #: 778-0778

STREET & NUMBER

Water St.

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Md. 21620

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

land on which it was built - ~~house~~

Liber #: WHG 66

Folio #: 283

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk of the Court

STREET & NUMBER

Kent County Court House

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Md.

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE J. R. McCrone Jr. February 1950

DATE

2/60

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

J. R. McCrone (?)

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Md.

K-354

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <i>Between 8/23/00 &amp; 11/1/00</i>

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The west facade of this home formerly faced directly on Washington Ave. and now is only a short distance behind 121 Washington Ave. and is broken into apartments. It is built on a cross gable plan and is a two and 1/2 story frame house in need of care in addition to some restoration. This facade is five bays wide. From l to r one views two 2/2 double hung and shuttered windows with lintels, on both the first and 2nd floors. The cornice of the north gable roof, directly above, is a plain box type. The west gable follows housing the central double door with one light transome and directly above it a 2/2 double hung and shuttered window with lintel. To the side are two elongated side lights. The topmost panes of these and the main window are stained glass. Continuing south there are two 2/2 double hung, shuttered windows with lintels on both first and second floors. In the gable is a 4 paned window, shuttered, with decorated balcony. Directly above this balcony window the framing has been constructed in a fan shaped design. The gable cornice is a rather simple decorated one while the turned posts and balusters of the balcony and the supporting brackets with drops are much more elaborate. In the peak of the gable is an additional decorative motif, which is used on all gables on the west, south and east sides of the house.

From the northern view one can see the additions. At the west end of the north side is a gable with its decorated cornice and motif at the peak. Fish scales sheath the gable and there are three side by side windows and behind them a multilayer capped chimney. Below the gable windows is a shed type roof with box cornice. All roof areas of the house are of composition type shingles. The first and second floors each house, from l to r, two narrow side by side windows, and then two 2/2 double hung windows. The single bay width of the rear, or east of this facade, before the next 2 1/2 story wing abutts it, has one 2/2 narrow window on each level. The first wing, north view, is two bays wide, with A roof and plain box cornice. On each level, from l to r, are a 2/2 window and a 1/1 narrow window. The second, 1 story wing with slight A roof with decoration and finial on the roof ridge, contains, from l to r, two 2/2 windows and a narrow elongated 6 pane window. The final 1 story wing with shed type roof is unbroken on this side.

The east side, or rear of the house, is very broken up. In the largest gable there are the plain box cornice and two 2/2 windows. A single dormer is on the roof to the north of this gable. On the second level are two 2/2 partially shuttered windows. To the south, on the second level and in the southern projection of the dwelling is a single 2/2 window and below it on the first level two 1/1 windows. This second floor makes a right angle at the corner while on the first floor below it the corner has been deleted to form a three sides bay with the east side housing a 1/1 window. There are brackets and a decorated cornice below the second floor right angle. The first 1 1/2 story wing, with its decorated ridge and finial is unbroken, while the final addition with shed roof has a door and 2/2 shuttered window.

The south facade contains two gables and a full view of the tall multilayer capped brick chimney rising from behind the tallest gable. Both gables,

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY      see next page

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

K-358

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 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 after 1883

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Contractor Walter T. Pippen

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A large Victorian dwelling which has been moved from its original location on Washington Avenue and has been converted into apartments, the DeKalb Smith house was built for a former Comptroller of Maryland.

7. continued

one being higher and more to the west, have the decorated cornice with center peak motif, and fish scale shingles. In the highest one are three side by side windows and in the second a two of the same. The cornice above the second floor and that above the three sided bay of the first floor are plain box type. The second floor, from l to r, contains 8 windows, while the first has 6. The easternmost bay on the first level has been extended and there is a flat shed type roof above it. In the addition with decorated ridge there is a single 2/2 window and in the final addition another 2/2 window. The entire house now sits on a cement block foundation and there is a full basement.

A photo of this house in Fred G. Usilton's History of Chestertown shows a porch around the present west and south sides with supporting posts and curved cornice.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Fred G. Usilton, "The History of Chestertown - Gem City on the Chester"

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.282 acres more or less

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION** beginning at a concrete monument on the east side of a 50' wide St. known as Washington Ave., said monument being on the sw corner of the herin described lands and the nw corner of the Coleman lands, and running thence, by and with east side of Washinton Ave. N 02° 00 min. Q 216.11 ft. to a point, the sw corner of the Allspach lands, and s 88° 36 min. 20 sec. w 3.70 ft. to a concrete monument, thence by and with said Allspach lands and lands of others over said monument, N 88° 36 min. 20 sec.

*continued on sep. sheet*

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

STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE	Kathleen B. White, Historic Site Surveyor	DATE	Oct. 1976
ORGANIZATION	Md. Historical Trust/City of Chestertown	TELEPHONE	
STREET & NUMBER		STATE	
CITY OR TOWN			

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

verbal boundary description continued from p. 4

E 28.9 ft. to a point and a corner of the aforementioned Coleman lands (this part of the Coleman lands was originally part of lot #35, a part of the Smith lands.); thence by and with said Coleman lands, the 3 following courses and distances:

- 1.) S  $02^{\circ}07'$  min. E 191.20 ft. to a pipe
- 2.) S  $89^{\circ}47'$  min. 30 sec. W 141.26 ft. to a pipe
- 3.) S  $77^{\circ}30'$  min. W 144.50 ft. to beginning.

(house has been moved from site described below.  
(present address - 121 B Washington Ave.)

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~~K-358~~

WHG 66/283 7/25/60 Kent and Queen Annes Hospital Auxiliary, Inc. and Edith H. Clark, Lucy Hines, Burtie Clements, and Jessie Graham Adkins (laters are heirs at law) to Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company. \*

WHG 66/389 7/28/60 Washington College and C and P Telephone Co. sale of lease to C and P.

WHG 66/281 7/25/60 Marion deKalb Clark, Executor of will of Ann B. Smith, deceased to Kent and Queen Annes Hospital Auxiliary, Inc.

Will  
ERB 1/356 3/24/51 of Ann B. Smith, above land and house to K & QA Hospital Auxiliary, Inc. "to be used as a home for ~~old~~ <sup>the</sup> and as a Convalescent Home for Hospital patients" to be run by the Auxiliary.

RAS 35/496 1/2/45 Ann B. Smith, Executrix of estate of Marion deK. Smith, deceased, Addie B. Smith, deceased, Marion deK. Smith, Jr. deceased, to Ann B. Smith, (only surviving heir)  
(except part conveyed by Ann B. Smith to George W. Baldwin and wife, 5/2/47, WHG 2/505)

\*WHG 66/286 7/25/60 quitclaim of Mary E. Cox and Rebecca E. Patterson to C & P Telephone Co. All heirs of Ann B. Smith are deceased, with the exception of above who are heirs of Bertie Cockey and thus they join in conveying their interest to C & P.

SB 5/347 6/22/83 Washington College to Marion deK Smith, lease for 99 years, ground rent of \$1.50 per acre per year, plus \$715, to be paid at inception of lease.

K-358

N

CEMETERY

VITA FOODS

FOODS (NEW) FARM

COUNTY

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD

KENT

LYNCHBURG STREET

POPLAR RD.

PROSPECT ST.

WASHINGTON AVENUE

AVENUE

MORGNEC

STREET

ELM STREET

GREENWOOD

VALLEY

STREET

COLLEGE

COLLEGE

STREET

STREET

STREET

KENT

STREET

MT. VERNON

CAMPUS

PINE

CEEDAR

SCHOOL

WASHINGTON U.S. 213

BROWN VIEW RD.

STREET

MILL

CALVERT

STREET

RIVER

SCHOOL

STREET

SCHOOL AVENUE

PHILOSOPHERS

KENT

BYFORD DRIVE

WALDO DRIVE

DAVID DRIVE

BARROLL DRIVE

SPRING ST.

ROW

STREET

CROSS

PARK COURT ST.

CHURCH ST.

AVENUE

STREET

BYFORD

COURT

TWILLEY LANE QUEEN

CANNON

HIGH

STREET

MAPLE

RIVERSIDE

TERRACE

MORRIS

STREET

U.S. 213

Chester

River

(K-358)





~~#866~~

Det Smith House  
121 B Washington Ave

K-358

1/77 W



~~H-306~~ De K Smith's house  
121 B. Wash. Ave.

K-358

1/17 S

This is very difficult to photograph as  
2 houses are very close on same lot  
& Tel. Co. large Bldg. is right next door