

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Property Name: _____ Inventory Number: ~~CH-985~~ CH-985

Address: 8850 Fairground Road, Charles County - in the vicinity of Bel Alton

Owner: Rollins, Brian G and Martha T

Tax Parcel Number: 43 Tax Map Number: 55

Project MD 301 Agency State Highway Administration (SHA)

Site visit by SHA Staff: no yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Eligibility recommended Eligibility **not** recommended

Criteria A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None

Is property located within a historic district?: no yes Name of District: _____

Is district listed?: no yes

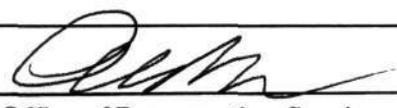
Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project Review and Compliance Files

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The circa 1900 farm complex at 8850 Fairground Road comprises a single family home and several out buildings. The wood frame dwelling is two stories in height and has a side gable roof with cross gables at either end. The house is clad with German siding. An enclosed, one-story, hipped roof porch sits off-center, towards the south corner of the main elevation (west). A garage and two barns are located to the southeast of the house. The post-1950s garage is one story in height, is clad with vertical wood siding, and is covered by a front gable roof. A two-story barn is sited to the east of the garage. This post-1950s structure is also clad with vertical wood siding, but has a front gambrel roof clad with metal sheeting. Further to the east is a circa 1900 barn. This barn is two stories in height, is clad with vertical wood siding, and is covered by a front gable, metal roof. A one-story, shed roof extension supported by wood posts is located on the south elevation of the barn.

Most inhabitants of Charles County were engaged in farming at the time of the first settlement. The barn was the principle building erected on a farm which provided space for cows, horses, equipment, and hay, straw or tobacco storage. Throughout the 19th century, barns increased in size or were newly built to include space for smaller

Prepared by EHT Tracerics, Inc.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended	Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Consideration <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
	<u>11/3/99</u>
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	Date
Reviewer, NR Program	Date

animals, such as poultry and pigs, and as a place for the threshing and storage of grain. Their size also increased during the 19th century as the introduction of improved equipment led to more efficient and profitable operations, and, consequently, to increased need for storage facilities. Typically, livestock was housed on the lower level, while the upper level was reserved for the storage of hay and straw, and the threshing and storage of feed grains.

Charles County's late 19th- and early 20th-century history is dominated by industrial and urban development. The greatest impact upon community growth came from the railroad. The completion of the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad's (B&P) mainline from Bowie in Prince George's County to Pope's Creek in Charles County in 1872 prompted local entrepreneurs to establish stores and other commercial facilities near the railroad stations. The B&P Railroad also made inland farms accessible, thus, increasing their value and revitalizing the practice of agriculture in Southern Maryland. La Plata station still stands at the intersection of the rail line with Charles Street.

Towards the end of the first quarter of the 20th century, road improvements and developments also contributed to Charles County's community evolution. In particular, the Robert Crain Highway, later expanded as part of U.S. 301, attracted new development to older communities along its corridor. Crain Highway brought commercial development on La Plata's west side and contributed to the Charles County seat's overall growth in the 1920s and 1930s.

World War II and the increasing dependence upon motor vehicles played a very important role in La Plata's community development. Charles County continued its relative isolation from large-scale residential and commercial development until after Crain Highway was dualized and designated U.S. 301 in the 1960s. Earlier trends in travel-related services and entertainment along the Crain Highway grew somewhat when the highway was extended across the Potomac River to Virginia through southern Charles County and over the new Harry W. Nice Bridge in 1940, thus completing a route from New York to Florida.

The dwelling, built circa 1900, and the outbuildings, ranging in date from circa 1900 to the latter half of the 20th century, are not eligible for the National Register. While this farm complex is an example of the agricultural and residential development surrounding La Plata, these resources lack significance related to events, persons, or architecture. The dwelling has been significantly altered and the property is not an intact example of a turn-of-the-century farm. Criterion D, information potential, was not assessed for this study.

30.00 A.
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CH-985

U.S. 301

CONSOLIDATED RAIL CORP.

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BLUE SKY
A 8/126

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49/17A

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AS9:500

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SWEETNEY

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JOSEPH
HAYNE

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Charles County, MD
Tax Map 55

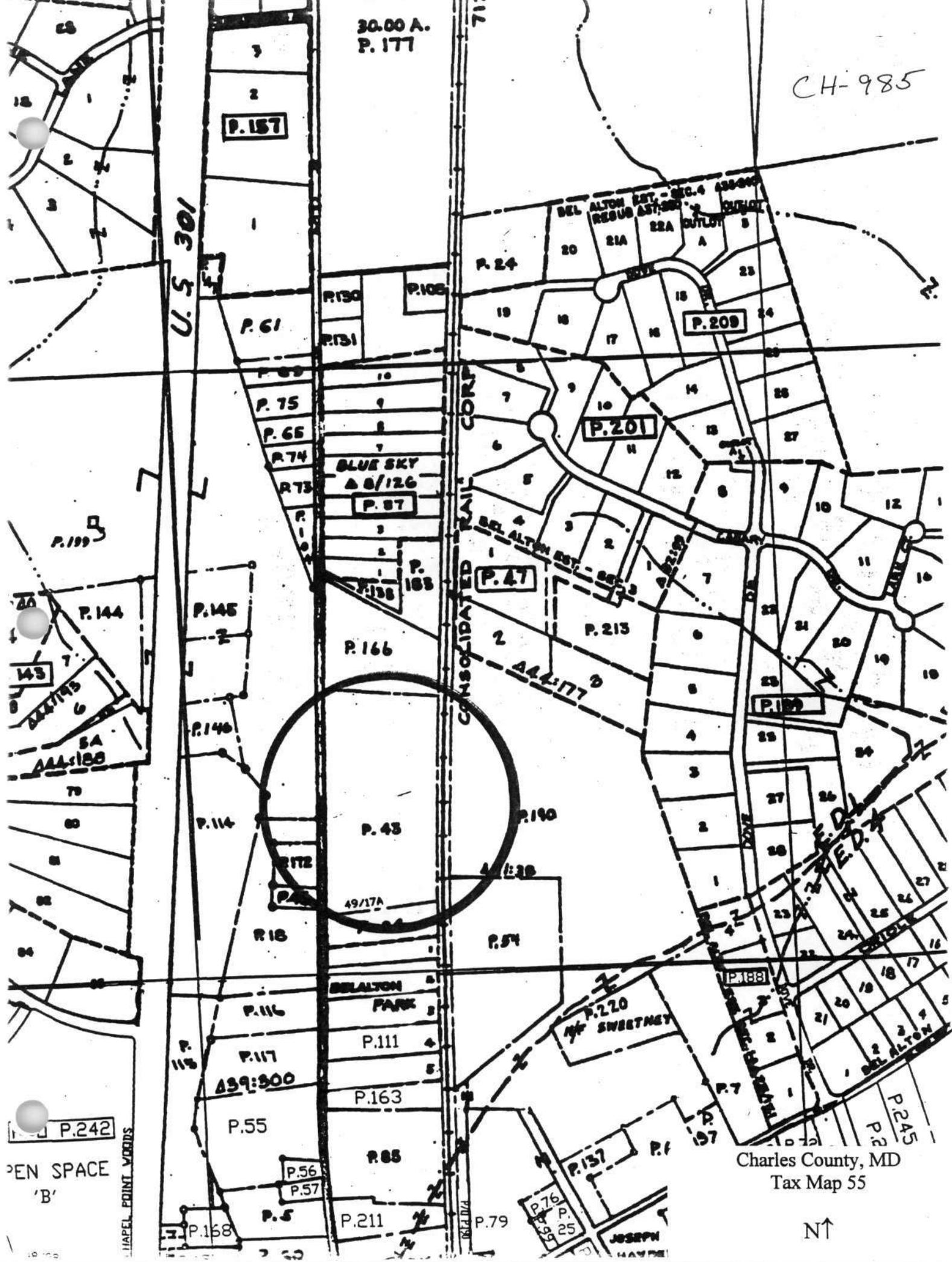
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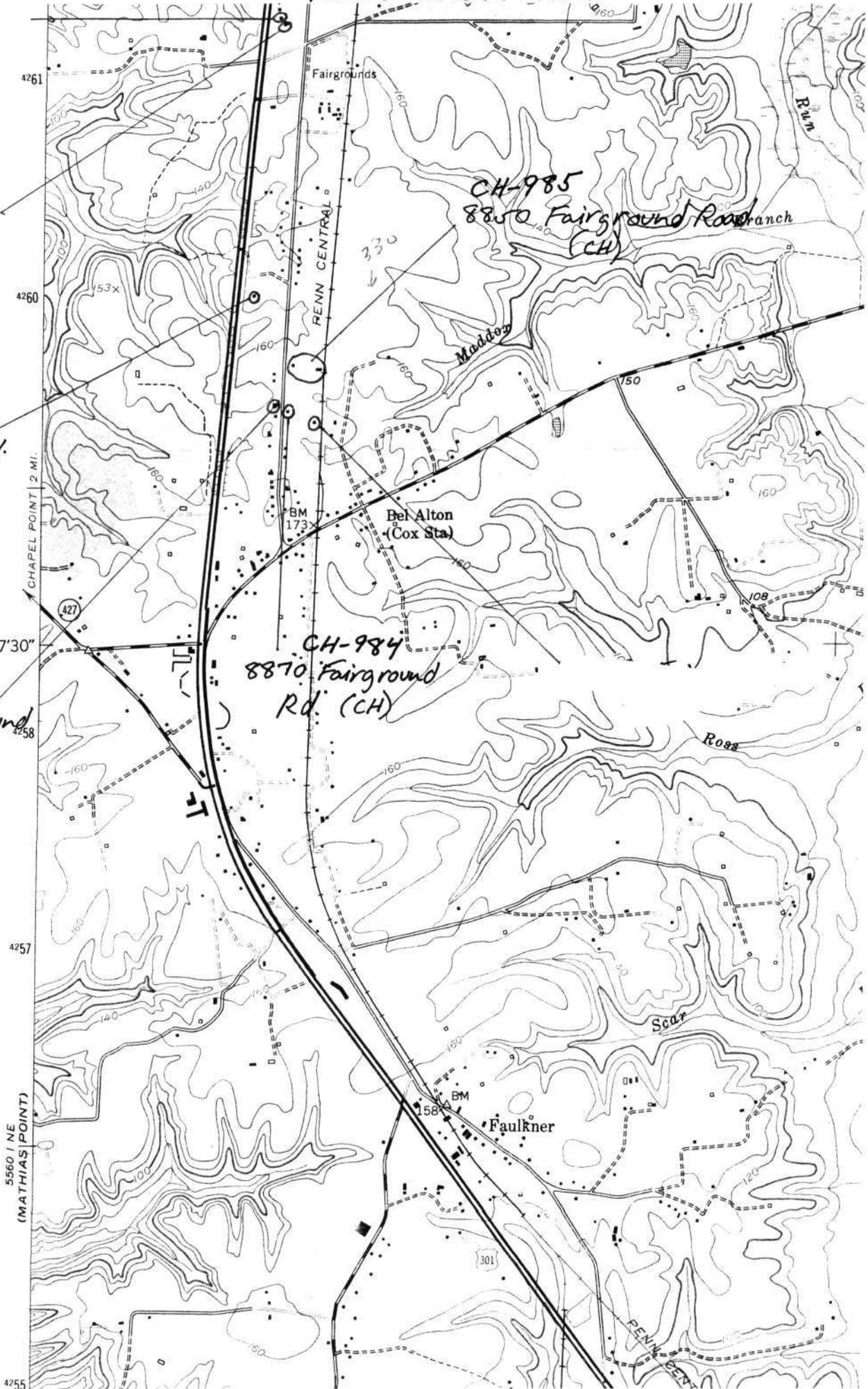
OPEN SPACE
'B'

HAPEL POINT WOODS

19 198



POPE'S CREEK QUAD



CH-1000
8280 Crain
Hwy. (CH)

CH-987
8600 Crain Hwy.
(CH)

CH-986
8905 Fairground
Rd. (CH)

CH-984
8870 Fairground
Rd. (CH)

CH-985
8850 Fairground Road
(CH)

5560 LINE
(MATHIAS POINT)

4255

4257

27'30"

4258

4260

4261

960

330

Bel Alton
(Cox Sta)

Maddox

Ross

Scar

Faulkner

301

Fairgrounds

Run

RENN CENTRAL

BM
173

BM
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~~AS0096~~ CH-985

8850 Fairground Rd

Charles County, MD

Traceries

June 1999

MD SHPO

View looking northeast

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~~1999~~ CH-985

8850 Fairground Road
Charles County, MD

Traceries

June 1999

MD SHPO

View looking northeast

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