

CAPSULE SUMMARY
Smallwood State Park
MIHP # CH-706
Rison vicinity
Charles County, Maryland
SP=1957
Public

Smallwood State Park occupies approximately 629 acres located overlooking the Mattawoman Creek in northwestern Charles County, Maryland. The park was developed from the efforts of local citizens to preserve the eighteenth-century Smallwood's Retreat (MIHP # CH-12), the Charles County home of Revolutionary War hero General William Smallwood (b. 1732-d. 1792). Since 1957, the park has grown to encompass 629 acres and features the museum, a campground, a marina, and an art center.

The buildings and the management practices that have shaped the Smallwood State Park since 1957 are not yet fifty years old. The park landscape has been managed both for recreation and natural resources. Former agricultural fields have been allowed to reforest or have been used as dredge spoil sites. The park headquarters, concession, maintenance, and utility buildings, all dating post 1966, were constructed of brick or concrete block. The buildings do not exhibit exceptionally distinguished designs, nor are they associated with the work of modern masters. Thus, the landscape and the buildings contained in Smallwood State Park do not possess the qualities of exceptional significance under National Register Criterion Consideration G.

Smallwood's Retreat (MIHP # CH-12), originally constructed ca. 1760 and reconstructed 1957-1958, possesses the qualities of significance for its association with General William Smallwood (b. 1732-b. 1792), a notable Revolutionary War hero and dedicated public servant to the State of Maryland from Charles County (Criterion B and Criteria Consideration E). The brick John Grinder House (MIHP # CH-359) is an example of a mid-nineteenth century farmhouse that embodies the characteristics of its type, period and method of construction in Charles County (Criterion C) (Deale 1979). The Jenkins Tobacco Barn (MIHP # CH-367) is significant architecturally as a type of rare early nineteenth-century tobacco barn under Criterion C and Criteria Consideration B. The former farmsteads throughout the park are isolated and no longer represent their association with the broad pattern of agricultural history in this region of Charles County. The former Upham House #3 no longer retains the integrity of design, exterior materials, workmanship, or feeling from a ca. 1900 dwelling. The three prehistoric sites recorded within Smallwood State Park have not been evaluated.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CH-706

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Smallwood State Park
other N/A

2. Location

street and number MD Rte 224 not for publication
city, town Rison X vicinity
county Charles

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Maryland Department of Natural Resources
street and number 580 Taylor Avenue, E-3 telephone 410-260-8451
city, town Annapolis state MD zip code 21401

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charles County courthouse tax map and parcel: multiple
city, town La Plata liber folio

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- X Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- X Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report
- Other

6. Classification

Category		Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
X	district	X public	agriculture	landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
	building(s)	private	commerce/trade	X recreation/culture		buildings
	structure	both	defense	religion		sites
	site		domestic	social		structures
	object		education	transportation		objects
			funerary	work in progress	37	Total
			government	unknown		
			health care	vacant/not in use		
			industry	other:		
					Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	

7. Description

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Condition

	excellent	deteriorated
X	good	ruins
	fair	altered

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

RESOURCE COUNT

National Register Eligible resources = 3

Not Eligible Resources = 10

Unevaluated Resources = 5

TOTAL 18

SUMMARY

Smallwood State Park contains approximately 629 acres located in northwestern Charles County, Maryland (Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MdDNR) Acquisition list 2002; MdDNR 2002). Smallwood State Park occupies the southern shore of Mattawoman Creek near its confluence with the Potomac River. The highest point in the park is the a relatively level terrace standing at approximately 120 feet above mean sea level (amsl). Smallwood's Retreat (MIHP # CH-12), the centerpiece of the park, is located on this plateau in a clearing near the center of the park. The surrounding area is maintained in mowed lawns, gardens, a monument, and interpretive signs.

The northern boundary of the park is defined by Mattawoman Creek, a tidal tributary of the Potomac River. Topography within the park is gently rolling and is traversed by three drainages leading to Mattawoman Creek. These small streams widen as they approach the creek. Some of the smaller drainages are sluggish and terminate in densely vegetated wetland areas. The bottomland within Smallwood State Park is wooded with hardwood and pine. These areas support dense undergrowth.

The upland areas of Smallwood State Park support hardwood forests and pine forests. The trees range in age and size. Some former farm fields in the southwestern portion of the park have been fallow since the 1950s and exhibit secondary growth. Former farm fields in the northern portion of the park accommodates lawns, picnic areas, and parking for the Sweden Point marina.

Property acquisition for Smallwood State Park began in 1957 with the purchase of approximately 323 acres of agricultural land from three owners. In 1958, the Smallwood Foundation, Inc., transferred the ten acres that contained Smallwood's Retreat to the State of Maryland. During the 1960s, approximately 71 acres were acquired, including the privately-owned Sweden Point marina. The last major land purchase occurred in 1984 with the addition of 225 acres purchased from the Upham family; this acreage encompassed the longest section of shoreline in the park.

Construction of recreational facilities in the park is concentrated along the south shore of Mattawoman Creek. The primary recreation facilities include a campground and a large marina. The campground occupies a point southwest of Sweden Point. The campground contains a one-story, concrete-block comfort station (restrooms) constructed in 1966, four mini-cabins constructed in 1999, concrete camping platforms, picnic tables, fire rings and lantern posts. A paved loop road and gravel areas link campsites to campground amenities. Open woods surround the camping area. An arching wooden footbridge links the campground with the Sweden Point Marina. The bridge, constructed in 1981 (MdDNR drawing), has wood decking, railings and structural members. The span is supported by wood pilings across the tributary.

Several geographic features made Sweden Point an exceptional location for a recreational harbor. A naturally deep channel is located just offshore in Mattawoman Creek. Two tributaries that enter the creek just southwest of Sweden Point form a natural harbor where the moderate to steep slopes meet the waterline. This harbor provides boat access to the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay (Smallwood State Park website 2003). Development of the Sweden Point marina was completed in 1982. Riprap was installed along the shoreline. Boardwalks lead to wood docks. Dredge spoil from the 1980-1982 construction was dumped

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elsewhere on Sweden Point (McNamara 1978). The facilities constructed at Sweden Point included a public boat landing with wood docks and concrete boat ramps, wood docks, a concession stand, picnic tables, a fishing pier, an oil/storage building, and picnic tables (MdDNR DMI 2002).

After the acquisition of the former Upham property in 1984, the marina was expanded to include the cove between Sweden Point and Bullitt Neck. In 1990, a marina services building, paved parking areas, and wood docks accommodating 200 boat slips were completed. The boat slip area was dredged to a six-foot depth to accommodate vessels up to 36 feet in length (Smallwood State Park website 2003). Dredge spoil was used to raise the site grade substantially. Dredge spoil also was dumped on the former agricultural fields of the Upham property east of the marina. The dredge spoil sites are marked by broad low hillocks delineated by chain link fences and locked gates. Dirt and pea gravel lanes serve the dumps.

The former Upham House #3 houses the Mattawoman Creek Art Center. The building was rehabilitated extensively and expanded during the late 1990s to accommodate this new use. The Park Headquarters is a one-story brick building that was constructed in 1974. A one-story, concrete-block maintenance building is located south of the headquarters. New comfort stations were constructed near the Smallwood's Retreat in 1992 and a recycled tire playground was added near the comfort stations.

Smallwood State Park contains a total of 18 cultural resources predating 1960. Three resources are prehistoric archeological sites and two sites are related to demolished buildings on the former Upham property. Twelve buildings and one object dated prior to 1960 are located within the park boundaries. These buildings represent the historic Smallwood plantation and its reconstructed buildings, domestic buildings, and agricultural outbuildings. All buildings constructed for park activities date from post 1960.

METHODS

The overall purpose of this project is to provide the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MdDNR) with consistent data on the cultural resources contained within Smallwood State Park. The survey area consisted of MdDNR-owned lands within the park boundaries as of March 2003 based on a review of property maps verified by the state park personnel during a February 2003 meeting. No MdDNR leased properties were surveyed as part of this project. Property owned by other state agencies or private entities were not surveyed as part of this project.

Historical Research

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties forms and the archeological site files on file at MHT and MdDNR provided the base-line data for historical research conducted for the MdDNR-owned land unit. An analysis of the property types and occupation periods of cultural resources provided the basis for identifying the historic themes/historic contexts appropriate to evaluate the historic resources in the park. The development of historic contexts that encompassed the history of land prior to state ownership was synthesized from the architectural and archeological forms and expanded to incorporate information contained in historic maps and other secondary sources, such as published county and local histories and National Register documentation. Research in primary archival materials, such as deed research or genealogical materials available in local historical societies, was not conducted for this project.

Historical research also was undertaken to document the history of the MdDNR land unit. Research was conducted at MdDNR to provide an overview of how each unit came into existence and how the lands that comprise each unit were assembled. The purpose of this research was to determine the reasons behind the establishment of the land unit and subsequent management practices. Sources examined in this research effort included MdDNR real estate acquisition files, land unit files, personnel interviews, park master plans, and relevant secondary sources on the development of parks in the state of Maryland.

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Field Survey

Archeological reconnaissance survey focused on the relocation of archeological sites recorded in the archeological site files maintained by MHT. The data in the archeological site files was augmented through review of published literature and unpublished reports available at the MHT library. The mapped or reported location of each recorded site was visited and its condition was assessed, based on surface conditions, (e.g., undisturbed, plowed, eroded, graded/contoured, collected, vandalized, dredged, or other).

Architectural field survey comprised built resources constructed prior to 1960, the landscape elements associated with the individual resources, and the overall landscape of the MdDNR-owned land unit. The list of built resources included in the survey was compiled from the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties maintained at the MHT and the Detailed Maintenance List (DMI) provided by the MdDNR. The DMI, compiled during the late 1990s, contained information about building materials and components, as well as information on location, estimated construction date, dates of renovations, and an assessment of condition. The list of built resources for survey was refined through a review of 1:600 scale maps provided by MdDNR and through interviews with MdDNR personnel. No efforts were made to reconcile the building list for buildings identified as constructed post 1960 beyond information gathered from knowledgeable park personnel. Construction dates for built resources were assigned based on available MIHP or published documentation, MdDNR Detailed Maintenance Inventory (DMI), historic maps, building construction materials, stylistic ornamentation, and building typologies.

Architectural field investigations were conducted on the exteriors of all pre-1960 buildings to verify the character-defining features and materials of previously identified historic buildings as recorded on MIHP forms and to assess the integrity and overall physical conditions of the exterior materials of the resources. Previously unidentified resources constructed prior to 1960 also were surveyed. No additional architectural data or photographs were collected for pre-1960 MdDNR-owned buildings that are pending demolition for which MdDNR has obtained MHT concurrence letters or MHT Determinations of Eligibility classifying the resource as not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The architectural survey of built resources at Smallwood State Park was conducted in March 2003.

Building conditions of excellent, good, fair, poor, or ruin were assigned during the architectural survey based on the physical appearance of the exterior materials present on the resource at the time of the site visit. The building classifications do not necessarily reflect those condition assessments recorded in the MdDNR's DMI. For the purposes of this survey, excellent was defined as the overall absence of conditions requiring maintenance or cosmetic repairs. Good meant that building systems and materials appeared to be sound, with minimal problems noted. Cosmetic conditions, such as minor paint failure due to age of paint or minor deterioration of wood elements, could still be classified as good condition if they appeared to be correctable with minor repair. Fair condition was used to denote problems in several types of exterior materials or systems, such as deterioration in wood elements in several systems that could be corrected through maintenance, but without apparent structural damage. Poor denoted systematic problems in several materials or systems, such as large sections of missing siding or roofing, often resulting in evidence of structural failure. Ruin was used to classify buildings or structures that were no longer usable in their current condition.

DESCRIPTIONS

The following descriptions are organized by property type. The property classifications were assigned based on the primary historic function of the property as defined by the National Register of Historic Places (U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service 1997). The property categories are detailed in the accompanying table. Construction dates assigned to the built resources are based on secondary documentation, historic maps, site inspection, personal communications, and the MdDNR detailed

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Archaeological Data Removed

Archaeological Data Removed

RECREATION/CULTURE

Smallwood's Retreat (MIHP # CH-12) is the focus of Smallwood State Park. In 1957, the Smallwood Foundation, Inc., received state funding to reconstruct the late eighteenth-century plantation house for a museum. The reconstruction incorporated the extant original walls of the house. The Smallwood Foundation, Inc., also constructed the detached kitchen, an outhouse, a garden house, and a pump house in 1957. The area around the house is a level upland that is landscaped with a lawn and mature trees. A fenced kitchen garden is located west of the detached kitchen. In 1898, a granite memorial stone was located on a plot of ground northwest of the plantation house to commemorate the death of William Smallwood. The plot is fenced with iron fencing and is shaded by cedar trees and boxwoods.

Smallwood's Retreat (MIHP # CH-12) is a one-story, four-bay, brick building that rests on a rubble foundation. Common bond brick completes the foundation wall to the watertable. The first story walls are constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond with glazed headers. The foundation and exterior walls comprise the original fabric in the building. Two, four-light, wood-frame windows are located in the basement. The first floor windows are nine-over-nine-light units. The doorways contain six-panel wood units set under segmental arches. The gable ends are blind. The gable roof is sheathed with wood shingles. Three

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pedimented gable dormers project from the north and south roof elevations. The eaves along the north and south elevations are ornamented with a beaded dentiled cornice. A brick interior chimney projects from each gable end. The building is maintained in excellent condition.

The Smallwood Kitchen, constructed in 1957, is a one-story, wood-frame building. The detached kitchen rests on a brick foundation. The exterior walls are clad in wide weatherboards; each board has a half hollow decorative profile along the outer edge. The north and south elevations contain two, nine-over-six-light, wood-frame windows. A six-paneled door is located in the south elevation. The gable roof is sheathed with wood shingles installed in 2001. A large, shouldered, exterior-end, brick chimney is located on the west elevation. The kitchen is in good condition. A kitchen and herb garden has been recreated west of the kitchen.

The pit toilet, constructed in 1957, is located slightly down slope at the edge of the plateau southwest of the kitchen. The double-hole latrine rests on a concrete slab foundation. The exterior walls are clad with flush horizontal board siding. A centered wood door with a star cutout is located in the north elevation. The pyramidal roof is sheathed with wood shingles installed in 2001. The building is in good condition.

The Smallwood Garden House, constructed in 1957, is a wood-frame building is essentially square with cutaway corners. The building rests on a poured concrete foundation. The exterior walls are clad with flush horizontal wood boards. A wood door is located in the east elevation. The building contains a single, wood-frame, six-over-six-light, double-hung sash window in the east and west elevation. The south elevation is blind. The polygonal roof is sheathed with wood shingles replaced in 2001. The roof cap features a simple finial. The building is in good condition.

The one-story pump house, constructed in 1957, is located southeast of the garden house. The wood-frame building rests on a concrete slab foundation. The exterior walls are clad in flush horizontal wood boards. A single diagonal wood door occupies the east elevation. The pyramidal roof is sheathed with wood shingles applied in 2001 and features a simple finial. The building is in good condition.

DOMESTIC

The John Grinder Farm (MIHP # CH-359), constructed ca. 1850 (Deale 1979), is located southeast of Smallwood's Retreat (MIHP # CH-12). The house is set on an open plateau with lawn and trees. The dwelling is a two-story, painted, brick building that adopts a T-shaped ground plan. The main block is three-bays wide and one-bay deep with an ell. The foundation and exterior walls are brick laid in common bond (8:1). The windows in the main block are wood-frame, six-over-six-light, double-hung sash units. The first-floor windows have by brick jack arches. The remaining windows have wood sills and lintels. One window on the first floor front has a concrete lug sill. The central doorway contains a six-light over two-wood panel unit installed in 1961 (MdDNR DMI 2002). The doorway is accessed by a low concrete stoop outlined in brick. The stoop is sheltered by a gable hood supported by one smooth wood Doric column and one fluted Doric column. The porch hood is sheathed with composition roll roofing. A doorway on the east elevation of the main block contains a three-light over three-panel wood door. The intersecting gable roofs are sheathed with composition roll roofing. The roof over the rear wing intersects the roof over the main block at a lower level. The eave is boxed on the main block. Each gable end has a flush brick chimney. The two-story rear wing is flanked by one-story, shed additions constructed of stretcher bond brick. Doorways accessing the east and west elevations of the additions contain three-light over three-panel wood doors. A tall brick chimney stack rises from the exterior wall of the westernmost addition. The condition of the building is good. Paint failure was noted on the brickwork. The exposed bricks appeared to have an unfinished surface. Cracks in the mortar joints between the first and second story windows on the north elevation near the northeast corner of the building were noted. This area should be investigated to determine if the jack arch over the window is

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failing structurally.

The MIHP form completed in 1979 as part of a survey of historic buildings of Smallwood State Park (Deale 1979) included a description of gable-roof, wood-frame outbuilding that contained hand-hewn structural members. This outbuilding was reported in deteriorated condition; the outbuilding was removed in 1981.

The former Upham House #3 currently is the Mattawoman Creek Art Center. The former residence, constructed ca. 1900, is located on a high bank overlooking the water. A house in this location appeared on a USGS Indian Head quadrangle map surveyed in 1900 and 1911 and published in 1913 (USGS Indian Head quad map 1913). The two-story, wood-frame dwelling has a four bay façade and originally occupied an L-shaped ground plan. The dwelling has a central brick chimney with a corbelled cap. In 1992, the building was clad with asbestos siding and had an intersecting gable roof sheathed with composition roll roofing. During the late 1990s, the building was rehabilitated to accommodate the art center, which occupied the building in 1992. Rehabilitation included refinishing the exterior in stucco, installing modern one-over-one-light, double-hung sash windows throughout the building, installing metal standing-seam roofing and a metal soffit, enclosing the full-façade wraparound porch, and constructing a large one-story addition attached on the southwest elevation of the original building. The current entrance is through a modern glass door located in a circular entranceway that links the older building with the new addition. A covered, wood, two-story fire escape stairway is attached to the rear elevation. The art center is a successful reuse of this building; however, the redesigned building no longer retains its integrity of design, exterior materials, workmanship, or feeling from a ca. 1900 dwelling.

The area surrounding the Mattawoman Creek Art Center is sited on a promontory overlooking Mattawoman Creek. A wooded embankment descends to the creek's shore. The upland area around the center is maintained as a lawn with a few mature trees. Sculptures are exhibited around the house. A gravel parking lot is located near the house.

Several outbuildings are located near the center. A shed dated from 1967 is located east of the house. The former Upham Pump House, dated from ca. 1950, is located in a gully approximately 100 feet north of the front elevation of former Upham House #3. The pump house is partially buried by the northeastern slope of the gully and faces southeast. The building measures approximately seven feet wide by sixteen feet deep. The foundation and exterior walls are constructed from cinder block and poured concrete. The flat concrete-slab roof projects over the front elevation and the centrally-located door. Exterior concrete roof supports connect diagonally from the roof overhang to the retaining walls. Retaining walls extend away from the structure to the ravine walls. The main entry is a single, centered doorway framed by four-by-six-inch members; the door is missing. This pump house is in poor condition. The roof is collapsing. Cracks are visible in the walls and roof and water has penetrated the interior.

A barbecue also was identified in the gully. The brick grill is located northwest of the pump house. It is in fair condition and is overgrown with briars. It appears unused.

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE

The early nineteenth-century Jenkins Barn (MIHP # CH-367) (Smallwood Tobacco Barn) is located north of the Grinder House (MIHP # CH-359) and southeast of Smallwood's Retreat (MIHP # CH-12). The barn originally was located on Bryans Road in Charles County. The tobacco barn was documented during the early 1980s by the Maryland Historical Trust, which identified the barn as "a rare survival, typical of colonial tobacco barn design, and is one of two remaining in Charles County" (Smallwood Foundation, Inc. 1985). In 1980, to prevent its destruction, the Maryland Historical Trust surveyed the barn, verified its construction date to the early nineteenth century, and numbered the timbers as the barn was dismantled. The barn was stored at Smallwood State Park by the Historical Society of Charles County. In 1984, the Historical Society of Charles County transferred

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ownership of the barn to the Smallwood Foundation, Inc., which subsequently re-erected the barn for use as an interpretative center (Smallwood Foundation, Inc. 1985).

The three-bay tobacco barn is a wood-frame post-and-beam construction that measures 40 x 31 feet. The barn has a steeply-pitched gable roof over the main block and identical, one-bay, one-story, shed roof wings along both side elevations. Construction materials included hand-sawn mortise-and-tenon members and feathered edge horizontal siding (Smallwood Foundation, Inc. 1985). The foundation was not visible. Currently the exterior walls are clad with rusticated, horizontal clapboard siding. This siding is secured to the barn frame with new cut nails and some new wire nails. The clapboarding does not contain evidence of earlier nail holes or repairs. The clapboarding that sheathes the main block and shed wings is continuous. The gable roof of the main block and the shed roofs of the wings are covered with cedar shakes and a fascia board encloses the eaves. This barn has three entrances, one per bay. The main entry is the largest and leads into the central bay. This vertical board wood door is attached to the frame with heavy metal strap hinges. This door has a sliding, removable horizontal crossbeam that secures the door from the outside. The doors on the wings are identical vertical wood boards and are secured with identical, lighter strap hinges. This barn is surrounded by a brick herringbone walkway. Mowed lawns encircle the area. A plaque located on the clapboarding of the front elevation identifies the building as a "Southern Maryland Tobacco Barn Circa 1800." The building is in good condition. Shrinkage has created some empty knotholes and a few warped clapboards.

Two other agricultural complexes are located within the park boundaries. These isolated resources mark the locations of farmsteads on two parcels that were acquired for the park in 1957.

The ruins of several former agricultural outbuildings that date from ca. 1920 (USGS 15 minute Indian Head, Maryland, Quadrangle maps 1913, 1925) are located northwest of the park headquarters building on the former Gallahue property. The most intact buildings in the complex are a corncrib and a barn. The one-story, wood-frame corncrib is slightly elevated on wood corner posts. The walls are clad with non-flush vertical wood slats. The door in the front elevation is constructed of vertical wood boards. The gable roof is sheathed in metal standing seam. The corncrib is in poor condition. The foundation post on the northwest corner has deteriorated causing the building to lean. The exterior cladding is deteriorated and some slats are missing. The door is also missing boards.

The ruin of a former barn is located north of the corncrib. One gable end wall and one section of the side elevation are standing. The other walls are collapsed. The wood-frame walls are clad with vertical boards. Sections of the collapsed gable roof are sheathed with corrugated metal. The barn type is not evident from the ruin. A former shed addition across the front elevation contains animal pens. A shed roof addition is attached to the northeast corner of the former barn.

An isolated tobacco barn is located on the former Milstead property near the southwestern boundary of Smallwood State Park. In 1979, this property contained a house, a garage, three barns, and several sheds; these resources have been removed. The tobacco barn, constructed ca. 1900, stands on the north side of a former farm road (USGS 15 minute Indian Head, Maryland, Quadrangle map 1913). The barn is surrounded by second-growth trees and overgrown with vines. The one-story tobacco barn appears to be constructed of recycled materials. The foundation incorporates a log sill that is supported on brick piers in some areas and on stone boulders at other places. The wood sill rests on the ground along the south elevation. The structure of the barn incorporates hand-hewn beams, round logs, and stripped saplings. The exterior of the barn is clad with vertical boards with hinged two-board sections that provide ventilation to the building along the side and end elevations. The gable roof is sheathed with standing-seam metal, although a portion of the roof retains wood boards. The openings are located in the side elevations. Two pairs of openings on either side of the building form two interior aisles; no doors are extant. Wood board flooring is laid over the wood sills on either side of and between the aisles. A shed roof addition spans two bays of the south elevation. The barn is in poor condition. Deterioration was noted along the wood sills and ends of the boards. Cladding boards are loose or missing from the exterior. No

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doors are extant. The southeast corner of the shed addition has collapsed. The building is overgrown with vines.

Table of Resources at Smallwood State Park

MIHP/Site #	MdDNR DMI #	MHT NAME	MdDNR/ Other Names	County	Quad	Address	Property Category	Property Sub-Category	Property ID	Date of Resource	Condition	Resource Count	Notes	MHT Concurrency
CH-359	27	John Grinder Farm	Manager's Residence	Charles	Indian Head	Mason Springs Chicamuxen Road (MD 224)	Domestic	Single Dwelling	farm house	ca. 1850	good	building-1		
		Smallwood's Cemetery plot	Smallwood's Cemetery plot	Charles	Indian Head	Smallwood Road	Funerary	cemetery	monument	1898	good	object-1	Commemorative marble stone installed 1898.	
CH-12	1	Smallwood's Retreat (Governor Smallwood House)	Smallwood House	Charles	Indian Head	Smallwood Road	Domestic	Single Dwelling	house	ca. 1760; 1957	good	building-1	Reconstructed 1957-58 as a museum using original walls.	
CH-667		Upham House # 1		Charles	Indian Head		Domestic	Single Dwelling	house	1937	demo'd	site-1	Following MHT DOE of not eligible, building was removed.	
	015		Former Upham Tobacco Barn	Charles	Indian Head	Upham Area	Agriculture/ Subsistence	Storage	barn	1937	demo'd	site-1	Tornado destroyed barn in 2001	

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	002		Smallwood Garden House	Charles	Indian Head	Smallwood Road	Recreation/Culture	Museum	storage	1957	good	building-1		
	007		Smallwood Kitchen House	Charles	Indian Head	Smallwood Road	Recreation/Culture	Museum	kitchen	1957	good	building-1		
	024		Smallwood Old Toilet	Charles	Indian Head	Smallwood Road	Domestic	Secondary Structure	vault toilet	1957	good	building-1		
	003		Smallwood Pump House	Charles	Indian Head	Smallwood Road	Recreation/Culture	Museum	pump house	1957	good	building-1		
	011		Pump House	Charles	Indian Head		Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	pump house	1966				
	010		Shower Building	Charles	Indian Head	Camping Loop	Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	shower building	1966	good			
	021		Former Upham Outbuilding	Charles	Indian Head	Upham Area	Domestic	Secondary Structure	outbuilding	1967	poor			
	014		Former Upham House 6	Charles	Indian Head	Upham Area	Domestic	Single Dwelling	house-rental	1971	good			
	006		Park Office	Charles	Indian Head	Smallwood Road	Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	office	1974	fair			
	012		Concession Building	Charles	Indian Head	Sweden Point Rd	Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	concession	1982	good			
	013		Oil/Storage Building	Charles	Indian Head	Sweden Point Rd	Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	storage	1982	good			
	026		Former Upham Pump House	Charles	Indian Head	Upham Area	Domestic	Secondary Structure	pump house	1985	fair			
	025		Pump House	Charles	Indian Head		Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	pump house	1985	good			
	033		Marina Services Building	Charles	Indian Head	Sweden Point Rd	Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	concession	1990	good			

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	032		Pole Barn	Charles	Indian Head	Smallwood Road	Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	storage	1990	good			
	029		Comfort Station-Men's	Charles	Indian Head	Smallwood Road	Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	comfort station	1992	good			
	031		Comfort Station-Women's	Charles	Indian Head	Smallwood Road	Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	comfort station	1992	good			
	009		Radio House	Charles	Indian Head	Near Manager's House	Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	storage	1992	fair			
	034		Mini-Cabin 1	Charles	Indian Head	Camping Loop	Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	rental cabin	1999	good			
	035		Mini-Cabin 2	Charles	Indian Head	Camping Loop	Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	rental cabin	1999	good			
	036		Mini-Cabin 3	Charles	Indian Head	Camping Loop	Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	rental cabin	1999	good			
	037		Mini-Cabin 4	Charles	Indian Head	Camping Loop	Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	rental cabin	1999	good			
	038		Comfort Station	Charles	Indian Head	Sweden Point Rd	Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	contact station	2000	good			
	017		Former Upham House 3	Charles	Indian Head	Upham Area	Domestic	Single Dwelling	house	ca. 1900	good	building-1	Extensively renovated as Mattawoman Creek Art Center late 1990s. On 1900, 1911 USGS quad map.	
			Former Milstead Tobacco Barn	Charles	Indian Head	off Stump Neck Road	Agriculture/Subsistence	Processing	tobacco barn	ca. 1900	poor	building-1	On 1913 USGS quad map surveyed 1900 and 1911.	
			Former Gallahue Barn	Charles	Indian Head	Smallwood Road	Agriculture/Subsistence	Processing	barn	ca. 1920	poor	building-1	Not on 1913 USGS quad map.	

Table of Resources at Smallwood State Park

MHP/Site #	MdDNR DMI #	MHT NAME	MdDNR/ Other Names	County	Quad	Address	Property Category	Property Sub-Category	Property ID	Date of Resource	Condition	Resource Count	Notes	MHT Concurrency
			Former Gallahue Corncrib	Charles	Indian Head	Smallwood Road	Agriculture/ Subsistence	Storage	corncrib	ca. 1920	poor	building-1		
			Former Upham Pump House	Charles	Indian Head	Upham Area	Domestic	Secondary Structure	outbuilding	ca. 1950	poor	building-1		
CH-367	028	Jenkins Tobacco Barn	Smallwood Tobacco Barn	Charles	Indian Head	Smallwood Road	Agriculture/ Subsistence	Processing	tobacco barn	early 19th c; moved in 1980 and reassembled 1985	good	building-1	Moved from Bryans Rd to become interpretive center.	

CH-367

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1957

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

X National Register

X 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.)

SUMMARY

Smallwood State Park occupies approximately 629 acres located overlooking the Mattawoman Creek in northwestern Charles County, Maryland (Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MdDNR) 2002). The eighteenth-century Smallwood's Retreat (MIHP # CH-12), the Charles County home of Revolutionary War hero General William Smallwood (b. 1732-d. 1792), is the centerpiece of the park. Smallwood State Park was developed from the efforts of local citizens to preserve the house and establish a museum. Since 1957, the park has grown to 629 acres and features the museum, a reassembled early nineteenth-century tobacco barn (MIHP # CH-367), a campground, a marina, and an art center.

The purpose of this Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) form is to evaluate Smallwood State Park as a potential historic district and to assess each MdDNR-owned resource constructed prior to 1960 applying the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR Part 60.4[a-d]), the criteria for Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 83B, Title 5), and guidance for the evaluation of cultural landscapes. Elements examined as part of this analysis included spatial patterns and land use, topography, water features, circulation networks, cultural traditions, buildings and structures, clusters, and archeological sites.

As a park, the appropriate historic context for evaluating the park is the theme of public recreation during the period 1957 to the present. The buildings and the management practices that have shaped the park since 1957 are not yet fifty years old. Thus, Smallwood State Park as defined by its current legal boundaries must possess the qualities of exceptional significance to qualify for listing as a historic district under National Register Criterion Consideration G. The park landscape has been managed both for recreation and natural resources. Areas formerly under agriculture have been allowed to reforest or have been used as dredge spoil sites. The park buildings were constructed since 1966. The park headquarters, concession, maintenance, and utility buildings were constructed of brick or concrete block. The buildings constructed post-1966 do not exhibit exceptionally distinguished designs, nor are they associated with the work of modern masters. Thus, the landscape and the buildings contained in Smallwood State Park do not possess the exceptional significance under Criterion Consideration G to qualify for listing as an historic district in the National Register of Historic Places.

Smallwood's Retreat (MIHP # CH-12), originally constructed ca. 1760 and reconstructed 1957-1958, is the building most closely associated with General William Smallwood (b. 1732-b. 1792), a notable Revolutionary War hero and dedicated public servant to the State of Maryland from Charles County (Criterion B). By the 1930s, Smallwood's Retreat was a standing ruin. In 1938, Smallwood Foundation, Inc., purchased the house and 10 acres house to restore the building as a museum. The reconstruction incorporated the extant walls of the house and then reconstructed the roof and interior following contemporary historical documentation. In general, reconstructed properties are not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places unless

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they meet Criterion Consideration E. In the case of Smallwood's Retreat, this property was reconstructed using the historic foundation and first floor walls. The house is maintained in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner. The detached kitchen, pit toilet, garden house, and pump house, all constructed in 1957 do not possess the qualities of significance for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The buildings have no significant association with Smallwood and are less than fifty years of age. The landscape also dates from the 1957-1958 reconstruction of the building.

The early nineteenth-century Jenkins Barn (MIHP # CH-367) (Smallwood Tobacco Barn) originally was located on Bryans Road in Charles County. The tobacco barn was documented during the early 1980s by the Maryland Historical Trust, which identified the barn as "a rare survival, typical of colonial tobacco barn design, and is one of two remaining in Charles County" (Smallwood Foundation, Inc. 1985). In 1980, to prevent its destruction, the Maryland Historical Trust surveyed the barn, verified its construction date to the early nineteenth century, and numbered the timbers as the barn was dismantled. In 1985, the barn was reassembled using extant original material and duplicated materials using period techniques as required (Smallwood Foundation, Inc. 1985). The barn possesses significance under National Register Criterion C for its architectural value as an early and rare surviving type of a once-prevalent building type. The current setting of the tobacco barn is appropriate. The barn in its current location appears to meet Criteria Consideration B for moved properties.

The John Grinder House (MIHP # CH-359) is an example of a mid-nineteenth century farmhouse constructed in Charles County. On the exterior, the simply-styled brick farmhouse embodies the characteristics of its type, period and method of construction (Criterion C) (Deale 1979). The former farmsteads throughout the park are isolated and no longer represent their association with the broad pattern of agricultural history in this region of Charles County. The former Upham House #3, constructed ca. 1900, was a simply-styled, wood-frame farmhouse. Modifications to the building to convert it to an arts center since 1992 have impacted the dwelling's integrity. The dwelling no longer retains its integrity of design, exterior materials, workmanship, or feeling from a ca. 1900 dwelling. The three prehistoric sites recorded within Smallwood State Park were not evaluated as part of this investigation.

PARK HISTORY

Smallwood State Park is focused on the eighteenth-century Smallwood's Retreat, the Charles County home of Revolutionary War hero General William Smallwood (b. 1732-d. 1792). Smallwood State Park grew out the efforts to preserve the house and operate it as a museum. In 1938, a group of southern Maryland residents formed the Smallwood Foundation, Inc., to rehabilitate Smallwood's Retreat, the home of Revolutionary War General William Smallwood. Using donations and memberships, the organization bought Smallwood's Retreat and ten acres of surrounding land in 1939. H. Chandlee Forman documented Smallwood's Retreat in 1934 and included a photograph of the house in his "Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland" (Forman 1934, reprinted 1982). In 1940, the house was documented by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) (MD-38). HABS documentation included drawings of the condition of the building and proposed restoration drawings. Architect Tarquin M. Rachele of Delaware completed the drawings under contract to the Office of the National Parks, Buildings, and Reservations, Branch of Plans and Design, P.W.A. 1940, Department of the Interior (Deale 1979).

The State of Maryland became involved in the reconstruction of the house in 1957 when it provided \$25,000 to help the foundation continue its rehabilitation work. After it became clear that more money was needed, the foundation proposed that the state finish the rehabilitation. The foundation in return would deed the house and the ten acres to the state to become the centerpiece of a new state park (Smallwood Foundation, Inc. 1962:1-2). This proposal was appealing because it satisfied several stated objectives of the Maryland Department of State Forests and Parks.

During 1952, the Maryland Department of State Forests and Parks published a master plan for Maryland state parks and recreation areas. One objective contained in the 1952 plan included establishing parks throughout all Maryland counties, but particularly

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expanding parks in the southern counties of Charles, St. Mary's, and Calvert. Parks and recreation areas were under-represented in these counties. A second objective included adding sites of historic interest to the park system. It was hypothesized that parks should also include scenic, historic, and geological sites along with recreational opportunities. Providing access to water resources along the Chesapeake Bay and Maryland's rivers was another objective contained in the document (Maryland State Planning Commission 1952: 123-125). When the Smallwood Foundation, Inc., approached the state for assistance, the establishment of a park centered on Smallwood's Retreat met several of the state's objectives for expansion of the state park system.

When state monies were appropriated for the reconstruction of the house, the final plans were overseen by Colonel C.P. Sankston, an architect with the Maryland Department of Public Improvement; H.P. Hopkins, a Baltimore restoration architect; and, Colonel Walter Simpson, an engineer (Deale 1979). The reconstruction incorporated the extant walls of the house and then reconstructed the roof and interior following historical documentation. At the same time, additional lands for the park were acquired. In 1957, the State of Maryland acquired three parcels of former agricultural land totaling 323 acres surrounding Smallwood's Retreat (MdDNR Acquisition List 2002). The house and the park were dedicated in 1958 during the tercentenary celebration of the founding of Charles County. In addition to the house, construction of a complement of outbuildings completed the museum complex. The outbuildings included a detached kitchen, a garden house, a latrine, and a pumphouse. The kitchen was sited next to the house and the other service outbuildings were grouped southwest of the house. The Smallwood Foundation, Inc., continued its involvement with the house museum, agreeing to use its membership funds and donations to buy furnishings and landscape the grounds. The organization also agreed to keep the house museum open to the public on weekends between April 1 and December 1 (Smallwood Foundation, Inc. 1962:1-2).

In a 1962 report, the Smallwood Foundation, Inc., made several recommendations for the park's development. According to the report, "(t)hey are convinced if this site is properly developed it will become one of the show places of the State and will be a credit and an asset to the State." The foundation recommended acquiring approximately 285 additional acres; developing the museum to include a colonial plantation similar to General Smallwood's estate, including slave quarters, a stable, and a small tobacco barn; staffing the park with enough employees to operate the house five days a week and to care properly for the park; finishing furnishing the house; and, adding restrooms, picnic areas, an interior road system, and bath houses to support recreation activities. The foundation also recommended dredging an inlet on the former Norman Alden property to provide a yacht basin. The foundation requested that the state spend \$100,000 on land acquisition, \$100,000 on capital improvements, and \$50,000 on additional furnishings and incidental expenses (Smallwood Foundation, Inc. 1962:1-2).

Some of the construction that occurred at Smallwood State Park, classified as a historic and scenic park, in the 1960s corresponded to the foundation's 1962 recommendations. For fiscal year 1965, the General Assembly appropriated \$150,000 for land acquisition and construction (Maryland Board of Natural Resources 1965:104). Construction of a comfort station and camping and picnic areas on the former Alden property were completed by fall 1966. At the same time, revisions to the master plan were begun; the master plan was completed in fiscal year 1967 (Maryland Board of Natural Resources 1966:112; 1967:120).

Smallwood Road served as the main internal road to access to the Smallwood's Retreat. This road historically was a county road prior to the acquisition of Stump Neck by the U.S. Navy in 1941-1942 and the completion of MD Route 224. Smallwood Road was transformed into an internal park loop road. The county transferred the remaining road right-of-way to the park in 1969. Surveying and final construction drawings for the main internal road system and the picnic loops were completed in fiscal year 1968, as were preliminary drawings, site layout, and electrical service for a maintenance complex and contact station/office (Maryland Board of Natural Resources 1968:90).

The state's 1971 Action Program for Development proposed a larger scale of development for the park. The program called for more than \$1.4 million to be spent on 14,450 linear feet of roads, parking for 388 cars, a park office, a residence, trails, a nature

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center building, an amphitheater, four comfort stations, six picnic pavilions, and two boat launching ramps with 1,130 linear feet of docks. Planning for these improvements was scheduled for spring 1973. The proposed schedule included a design phase between September 1973 to May 1974, and construction phase between August 1975 and July 1976 (MdDNR Annual Report 1971:35). These proposals guided park development for the next decade and were implemented as funding became available. In 1974, a new one-story, brick park office was completed (MdDNR DMI 2002). The amphitheater and nature center never were constructed. The boat launches and docks were funded between 1978 and 1982.

As the result of four additional land purchases, the park expanded to its present size of 629 acres (Maryland Department of Natural Resources 1984:3). Plans for obtaining 225 acres from Kathleen M. Upham, which occurred in 1984, were discussed as early as 1975. Acquisition of the Upham property was to provide land for "day-use facilities," including picnic areas, playfields, pavilions, trails, game courts, and possibly a swimming pool. The benefits of acquiring the land included providing an additional one-half mile of scenic shoreline along Mattawoman Creek; direct access to state Route 224; and, a buffer between the park and adjoining lands. Moreover, acquisition of the land would prevent other types of development on the property that would adversely affect the park, and remove the burden of providing day-use facilities at Purse State Park (Cheers March 1975). In January 1975, when the Department of Natural Resources began to consider acquiring the property, the Upham property was used for crop farming, pasture, and orchards of holly and apple trees. Buildings on the property included five wood-frame residences and 10 to 12 farm outbuildings that were deteriorating (Cheers January 1975:1).

Sweden Point Marina, formerly owned by J. Carl Hill, was purchased by the state in 1969 ("Marina planned at Smallwood" 1976). This property allowed for the development of a marina in the park. Planning for the marina began in 1976. By 1982, the previous marina buildings and structures were replaced with a new concession building, a new service building, new docks and boardwalks, a fishing pier, a timber footbridge linking the marina and camping ground, and a parking lot (MdDNR 1988). At this time, the shoreline was strengthened with stone riprap and other erosion control measures. When the former Upham property was acquired in 1984, the marina was expanded northward into the cove. New facilities included 200 boat slips, piers, a marina services building, and additional parking. Dredge spoil was placed in the former agricultural fields on the Upham property located east of the marina (Maryland Department of Natural Resources 1988:1; MdDNR DMI 2002).

As of 2003, the primary attractions at Smallwood State Park are the reconstructed General Smallwood house, the marina, boat launching ramps, picnic and camping areas, and nature trails (Marina 2002:1). The new access road from MD Route 224 was completed in 2000.

An additional attraction in the park is the Mattawoman Creek Art Center. The Mattawoman Creek Art Center is located in a former Upham residence. The center opened in 1992. During the late 1990s, the house was renovated and a large new addition was completed. The center now contains studios and art education space, exhibition space, and a reception center. The Mattawoman Creek Art Center is a nonprofit, volunteer organization whose mission statement is as follows:

To introduce new art forms, concepts and ideas to Charles County and the Southern Maryland region through innovative programming. To perpetuate and grow a sense of community among artists and the residents of Southern Maryland by the application of policies and procedures which will facilitate the free exchange of ideas among artists and neighbors. To present exhibits of regional, national and international art. To program workshops, lectures, demonstrations and seminars with professional artists for participants of all levels of experience and artistic involvement ("what is our mission" www.mattawomanart.org/info.htm). The center is located on a rise overlooking Mattawoman Creek. The manicured lawn is shaded by a few mature trees. Sculptures ornament the lawn areas surrounding the house. A gravel parking lot is located near the house. Otherwise parking is available in the paved lots near the marina.

In 1979, the built resources in Smallwood State Park were surveyed as part of an architectural survey conducted by the Maryland

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Historical Trust (Deale 1979). Recommendations of the survey included the continued use of the Smallwood Retreat (MIHP # CH-12) and outbuildings as a museum and the John Grinder House (MIHP # CH-359) as a residence. The Milstead house and agricultural outbuildings were evaluated as having little historical or architectural significance. In 2003, the only building standing on the former Milstead property is an isolated tobacco barn. In 1979, the Gallahue agricultural outbuildings were not included in the survey and the Upham property was not yet owned by MdDNR. Smallwood's Retreat was considered as reconstructed in 1957 and was therefore less than fifty years of age. No properties located within Smallwood State Park have been evaluated during recent architectural surveys conducted in Charles County (Smith 1999; Hardy 2002). In 2001, the Maryland Historical Trust determined that Upham House # 1, constructed in 1937, was not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places; the house and outbuilding have since been removed (Mazurek 2001).

EVALUATION

The purpose of this Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) form is to evaluate Smallwood State Park as a potential historic district and to assess each MdDNR-owned resource constructed prior to 1960 applying the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR Part 60.4[a-d]) and the criteria for Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 83B, Title 5). In order to undertake this evaluation, it is appropriate to discuss the park as a cultural landscape applying the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes (McClelland and Keller 1995) and Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes (Birnbaum 1996). Elements examined as part of this analysis included spatial patterns and land use, topography, water features, circulation networks, cultural traditions, buildings and structures, clusters, and archeological sites.

Smallwood State Park, founded in 1957, is focused on Smallwood's Retreat museum complex near the center of the park and recreational activities overlooking Mattawoman Creek in the north section of the park. The recreational activities include camping, the marina, and the arts center. Smallwood's Retreat and outbuildings were opened as a museum in 1958. Recreational facilities were constructed beginning in 1965 and are less than fifty years of age. The Mattawoman Creek Art Center, opened in 1992, occupies a ca. 1900 farmhouse that was extensively rehabilitated during the late 1990s and has a large new addition appended to it.

The activity areas located in the north section of the park are linked by an internal road network that incorporates portions of two rural county roads and farm roads on the former Upham property. The main roads are paved; the farm roads are unpaved. Smallwood Road was a former county road that led past Smallwood's Retreat and followed the south shore of the Mattawoman Creek. This county road was closed after the U.S. Navy purchased Stump Neck in 1941-1942 and closed access to this area. Within the park, the former county road was redesigned as a loop road during the 1960s. The Charles County Commissioners transferred the remaining road right-of-way to the park in 1969. The road provides access to the Smallwood museum and the John Grinder House (MIHP # CH-359). Sweden Point Road leads to the marina complex. The current access road to the park from MD Route 224 was completed ca. 2000. No internal access roads link the north and south sections of the park.

Mattawoman Creek is the primary water feature in the park. The creek forms the northern boundary of the park. Two major drainages traverse the park and enter the Mattawoman Creek in the small cove between Sweden Point and the camping loop.

As a park, the appropriate historic context for evaluating the park is the theme of public recreation during the period 1957 to the present. The buildings and the management practices that have shaped the park since 1958 are not yet fifty years old. Thus, Smallwood State Park as defined by its current legal boundaries would need to possess the qualities of exceptional significance for listing as a historic district under National Register Criterion Consideration G. The park landscape has been managed both for recreation and natural resources. Areas formerly under agriculture have been allowed to reforest or have been used as dredge spoil sites. The park buildings built since 1966 are constructed of modern materials. Park headquarters, concession, maintenance, and

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utility buildings were constructed of brick or concrete block. The buildings constructed post-1966 do not exhibit exceptionally distinguished designs, nor are they associated with the work of modern masters. Thus, the landscape and the buildings contained in Smallwood State Park do not possess the exceptional significance under Criterion Consideration G to qualify for listing as an historic district in the National Register of Historic Places.

Historically, the land comprising Smallwood State Park supported agriculture. Originally, General William Smallwood owned over 4,000 acres. It is not documented that all the land currently in the park was owned by him, but it is probable. After Smallwood's death in 1792, his acreage was subdivided. Family members retained ownership of Smallwood's Retreat (MIHP # CH-12) and approximately 1200 surrounding acres until 1868, when the acreage was purchased by John Grinder. Grinder operated a brickyard in Washington, D.C. (Deale 1979). During the late nineteenth century, tenants operated a series of farms on the 1,200 acres. J. Wesley Carpenter, a relative of the Grinder family, was one of the tenants (Deale 1970). During the 1920s and 1930s, the Carpenter heirs began to subdivide the acreage and sell it to owners outside the family. The Staiger and Upham properties were part of the larger acreage.

Evidence of the former agricultural history of the park has been largely erased from the landscape due to the introduction of recreational activities. The former Milstead and Gallihue farmsteads in the southern portion of the park are represented by isolated agricultural outbuildings located in reforested areas. These isolated utilitarian buildings do not represent significant associations with the broad pattern of agricultural history in this region of Charles County.

The only buildings retained on the former Upham property in the northern section of the park are Upham House #3 and several pumphouses. Although this area has retained open fields that were formerly used for agriculture, these fields currently are dredge spoil sites. The former Upham House #3 was constructed ca. 1900. It was a simple wood-frame farmhouse. Modifications that had occurred to the building prior to 1992 included cladding with asbestos shingle siding. Since 1992, the building was rehabilitated as an art center. The exterior walls were stuccoed and the windows replaced. A modern addition was appended along one elevation to provide classrooms, studio, and reception spaces. While art center is a good reuse of this building, the building no longer retains its integrity of design, exterior materials, workmanship, or feeling from a ca. 1900 dwelling.

Smallwood's Retreat (MIHP # CH-12) presents special challenges in applying the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. This building originally was constructed ca. 1760 by General William Smallwood (b. 1732-b. 1792), a noted Revolutionary War hero and dedicated public servant to the State of Maryland from Charles County. By the 1930s, Smallwood's Retreat was essentially a ruin. A 1934 photograph published by H. Chandlee Forman in "Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland" depicted a shell. The foundation and first floor exterior walls were standing. The door, doorway, and window openings were in place; the windows were broken out (Forman 1934, reprinted 1982). In 1940, documentation of the house (MD-38) was completed by the Historic American Buildings Survey. This documentation included drawings depicting the condition of the building and proposed restoration drawings. The drawings were completed by Tarquin M. Rachele of Delaware under contract to the Office of the National Parks, Buildings, and Reservations, Branch of Plans and Design, P.W.A. 1940, Department of the Interior (Deale 1979).

In 1938, Smallwood Foundation, Inc., purchased the house and ten acres to rehabilitate as a museum. This goal was accomplished during the 1950s, when the State of Maryland contributed funding. The reconstruction plans were overseen by Colonel C.P. Sankston, an architect with the Maryland Department of Public Improvement; H.P. Hopkins, a Baltimore restoration architect; and, Colonel Walter Simpson, an engineer (Deale 1979). The reconstruction incorporated the extant walls of the house and then reconstructed the roof and interior following contemporary historical documentation. At the same time, the detached kitchen, pit toilet, garden house, and pump house were constructed. The landscape also was rehabilitated at this time. Mowed lawns surround the house. Boxwoods and a kitchen garden were planted as part of the interpretive plan for the house museum.

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In general, reconstructed properties are not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places unless they meet Criteria Consideration E. In the case of Smallwood's Retreat, this property was reconstructed using the existing historic foundation and first floor walls while the roof and interior was constructed of new materials. The building was reconstructed on its original foundation, incorporating the original walls. The house is maintained in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner. The building has a strong association with General Smallwood, a noted Charles Countian who served his country during the Revolutionary War and in the governance of the State of Maryland throughout his life (Criterion B). This property was the center of the family plantation. It is documented that Smallwood was buried in the family burial plot in Charles County, but the exact location of the plot remains undocumented. Smallwood's Retreat (MIHP # CH-12) meets the Criteria Consideration E for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. This property has a significance that is older than fifty years; therefore, it does not need to meet Criterion Consideration G for properties that have achieved significance within the last fifty years. While Smallwood's Retreat does have a strong association with General William Smallwood, the supporting outbuildings constructed for the museum have no association with Smallwood and do not possess the qualities of significance for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

The early nineteenth-century Jenkins Barn (MIHP # CH-367) (Smallwood Tobacco Barn) originally was located on Bryans Road in Charles County. The tobacco barn was documented during the early 1980s by the Maryland Historical Trust, which identified the barn as "a rare survival, typical of colonial tobacco barn design, and is one of two remaining in Charles County" (Smallwood Foundation, Inc. 1985). In 1980, to prevent its destruction, the Maryland Historical Trust surveyed the barn, verified its construction date to the early nineteenth century, and numbered the timbers as the barn was dismantled. In 1985, the barn was reassembled using extant original material and duplicated materials using period techniques as required (Smallwood Foundation, Inc. 1985). The barn possesses significance under National Register Criterion C for its architectural value as an early and rare surviving type of a once-prevalent building type. The current setting of the tobacco barn is appropriate. The barn in its current location appears to meet Criteria Consideration B for moved properties.

The John Grinder House (MIHP # CH-359) is an example of a mid-nineteenth century farmhouse constructed in Charles County. On the exterior, the simply-styled brick farmhouse embodies the characteristics of its type, period and method of construction (Criterion C) (Deale 1979).

Three prehistoric sites recorded within Smallwood State Park have not been evaluated. The construction of the first phase of the marina during the late 1970s determined that construction of recreational facilities would not impact the sites (McNamara 1978).

RESOURCE HISTORY

The prehistoric and historic contexts relevant to Charles County have been organized around chronological periods and themes identified by the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) in its cultural resources documents (Weissman 1987; MHT 2000).

PREHISTORIC CONTEXT

The Paleo-Indian/Early Archaic Period (ca. 11,000-6,500 B.C.)

The Paleo-Indian/Early Archaic period spanned the time from about 12,000 to 6,500 B.C. The continuity of adaptive pattern throughout these periods (Gardner 1979, 1983) found in archeological investigations at the Flint Run Paleo-Indian Complex in the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia suggests that grouping them is warranted. Diagnostic artifacts for the early portion of this temporal period (Paleo-Indian period) include Clovis, Mid-Paleo, and Dalton projectile point types. Side-notched and corner-notched projectile points such as Palmer, Kirk, and Warren types are associated with the later portion (Early Archaic) (Custer 1984:43;

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Gardner 1980:3). Most of these projectile point types have been identified in collections from southern Maryland (Wanser 1982).

The environment at this time was conditioned by the transition between Late Pleistocene and Holocene climates. Climatic episodes defined by Carbone (1976) for the Shenandoah Valley are broadly applicable to the study area. Episodes pertinent to the Paleo-Indian period are the Late Glacial (ca. 15,000 - 8,500 B.C.) and the Pre-Boreal/Boreal (8,500 - 6,700 B.C.) (Custer 1984; Kavanagh 1982; Steponaitis 1983). The Late Glacial represents the terminal Pleistocene and the "last effects of the glaciers upon climate in the Middle Atlantic area" (Custer 1984:44). Pollen records suggest that tundra conditions existed as far south as central Pennsylvania at about 9,300 B.C. (Kavanagh 1982:8). Farther south, pollen and faunal assemblage data indicate a "mosaic" pattern of vegetation (Custer 1984:44). Carbone described the Late Glacial vegetation in the Shenandoah Valley as composed of microhabitats, including mixed deciduous gallery forests near the river, mixed coniferous-deciduous forest and grasslands in the foothills and valley floor, coniferous forest on the high ridges, and alpine tundra in the mountains (Kavanagh 1982:8). Steponaitis (1983:39) has suggested that the Late Glacial vegetational assemblage along the Patuxent River drainage in Anne Arundel County "may have included spruce and pine as the dominant woody taxa, with stands of deciduous trees occurring in the more protected areas." It is probable that the faunal assemblage included Pleistocene megafauna, although the extent of human reliance on these animals is debated (Custer 1984; Gardner 1980; Kavanagh 1982).

The Pre-Boreal/Boreal climatic episode was a period of transition from the late Pleistocene into the full Holocene. Climatic change involved warmer summer temperatures, with continued wet winters. Vegetation shifted in response to these changes, and for the Shenandoah Valley, Carbone (1976:186) suggested "the expansion of coniferous and deciduous elements and a reduction in open habitats." Subarctic woodland probably covered the high elevations, with coniferous forests on the slopes and a mixed coniferous-deciduous forest on the valley floors and footlands (Carbone 1976:186). The faunal assemblage may have included moose, bear, elk, deer, and smaller game animals (Kavanagh 1982; Johnson 1986).

Gardner (1979, 1983) has identified six site types in the Shenandoah Valley Paleo-Indian settlement system. These may be more widely applicable in the Middle Atlantic (Custer 1984). They include: (1) quarry sites; (2) quarry reduction stations; (3) quarry-related base camps; (4) base camp maintenance stations; (5) outlying hunting stations; and, (6) isolated point finds. High-quality lithics were the focal point for the settlement system, and hunting was the subsistence base (Custer 1984; Gardner 1979; Stewart 1980).

The rationale for including the traditional Early Archaic in the Paleo-Indian period is that the settlement and subsistence patterns seem not to have changed substantially. This notion is supported by evidence of continuity in lifeways from a number of areas in the Middle Atlantic, including Delaware (Custer 1984), the Shenandoah Valley (Gardner 1980), and the Great Valley of Maryland and Pennsylvania (Stewart 1980). It appears that the settlement/subsistence regime had begun to incorporate a more diversified resource base by the Kirk phase, which perhaps can be viewed as transitional to the Archaic. For example, Stewart (1980:6) has interpreted the use of rhyolite in the Great Valley during this phase as indicative of expansion into new environmental zones as the hunting-based economy refocused on more diverse species. In Northern Virginia, Johnson (1986:2-11) noted larger numbers of sites and projectile point finds from the Kirk phase, which he has interpreted as a result of the diversifying subsistence base.

Archaic Period (ca. 6,500-1,000 B.C.)

The Archaic Period encompassed the periods traditionally referred to as Middle Archaic (6,500 - 3,000 B.C.) and Late Archaic (3,000 - 1,000 B.C.). Diagnostics of the Middle Archaic include bifurcate base points like St. Albans, LeCroy, and Kanawha, as well as the Stanly, Morrow Mountain, Guilford, and Neville types (Custer 1984; Stewart 1980). The date of 6,500 B.C. marks the emergence of the full Holocene environment and corresponds to the beginning of the Atlantic climatic episode. This episode involved a warm and humid period that continued to about 5,000 B.C., followed by a cooling trend (Custer 1984:62-63). Gardner

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has summarized human adaptation in response to the Holocene environment:

By 6,500 B.C., the Post-Pleistocene conditions had changed so dramatically that the adaptations of the long-lived Paleo-Indian-Early Archaic system could no longer function in a viable manner. The hunting emphasis was thus abandoned and general foraging rose to pre-eminence. This resulted in a major settlement shift away from a primary focus on sources of cryptocrystalline stone and the distribution of generalized, but seasonally available set of resources [Gardner 1987:77].

Diagnostics of the Middle Archaic found in southern Maryland include most of the known projectile point types of the Middle Atlantic Region; these include the Stanly/Neville, Morrow Mountain, and Stark stemmed forms, and the Guilford lanceolate form. Relatively few archeological sites containing Middle Archaic artifacts have been examined within Maryland Research Unit 11 (Wesler et al. 1981); although this may be due, in part, to inundation of lower river areas caused by sea level rise during the Middle Holocene. A number of sites containing Middle Archaic diagnostic artifact types have been reported along Zekiah Swamp, but these have not been studied in detail.

The Late Archaic occurred roughly within the Atlantic/Sub-Boreal Transition (3,000 - 700 B.C.). This was a warm, dry period that "culminated in the xerothermic or 'climatic optimum' around 2,350 B.C., when it was drier and 2 degrees C warmer than modern conditions" (Kavanagh 1982:9). Vegetation patterns included the reappearance of open grasslands, and an expansion of oak-hickory forests in the valley floors and on hillsides.

Diagnostics of the Late Archaic in the study area are thought to include Piscataway, Vernon, Holmes, Susquehanna Broadspear, and Dry Brook projectile points. Scattered campsites focused on major rivers appear to have formed a major element within the settlement pattern (Wesler et al. 1981:181). The large number of Late Archaic diagnostic projectile points recovered along Zekiah Swamp indicate that exploitation of this interior zone was an important part of the local settlement system. Schmitt (1952) identified a Zekiah Swamp variant of the Fishtail point that probably dates from the Late Archaic.

It is interesting to note that Custer does not accept the broadspear and fishtail styles as cultural markers. Instead, he interprets them as "a distinctive set of tools and knives that are in no way connected with special groups of people" (Custer 1984:79). His interpretation is in accord with the earlier empirical work by Cook (1976a) and Dunn (1984) indicating that such points were used as knives. Custer feels that such points are cutting tools, and postulates that the Bare Island/Lackawaxen (locally, Holmes) point type continued as the associated projectile through the Late Archaic.

Woodland Period (1,000 B.C. to A.D. 1600)

In general, this period corresponds to the Sub-Atlantic climatic episode (ca. 940 B.C. - modern times). While it has been customary to characterize the environment after at least 3,000 B.P. as approximating modern conditions, it also is apparent that climatic changes of varying intensities took place during this period. The episodic nature of climatic change documented for the Shenandoah Valley by Carbone (1976, 1982) can be seen to have continued, at least in attenuated form, into the Late Holocene. The episodes or perturbations that characterized the Late Holocene represent minor changes in comparison to the variations that took place earlier in the Holocene; nonetheless, evidence indicates that "locally significant changes did occur" (Bryson and Wendland 1967:281).

The short-term perturbations that characterized the Late Holocene climatic structure are of interest because it appears that times of environmental stress can be expected at periods of transition between episodes (Carbone 1976; Custer 1980). Carbone (1976:200) noted three of these possible stress periods: (1) 3,000 - 2,600 B.P., Sub-Boreal/Sub-Atlantic transition; (2) 1,750 - 1,305 B.P., Sub-Atlantic/Scandic transition; and, (3) 870 B.P., Neo-Atlantic/Pacific transition. Wendland and Bryson proposed that:

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The step-wise model of climatic change suggests that dependent environmental variables, i.e., climatic "proxies," should record these abrupt discontinuities in their own response to the climate. If climatic discontinuities are sufficiently abrupt and of sufficient magnitude, environmental subsystems which respond to the climate should contain discontinuities in their record, thus providing a "proxy" indicator of the covariate, climate [Wendland and Bryson 1974:10].

They analyzed pollen record discontinuities and cultural continuities worldwide, and demonstrated that the potential stress periods noted above were characterized by botanical and cultural discontinuities on a global level. On the regional level, correspondences between climatic/environmental patterns and cultural sequences during the Woodland have been noted for the Middle Atlantic as a whole (Carbone 1982), and for the Shenandoah Valley (Fehr 1983).

The Early Woodland subperiod can be dated from about 1,000 - 500 B.C. (Gardner 1982). Characteristic ceramics of the period include steatite-tempered Marcey Creek and Seldon Island wares, and sand-tempered Accokeek wares. Fishtail and corner-notched projectile point forms have been found in association with these early ceramics in southern Maryland and nearby areas. Wesler et al. (1981) also include Popes Creek Net-Imprinted ceramics in the Early Woodland, although this type more often is viewed as a marker of the Middle Woodland (Gardner 1982; Stewart 1981). The Calvert and Rossville projectile points apparently are associated with Accokeek and Popes Creek ceramics (Wesler et al. 1981:183).

Gardner (1982:58-60) has proposed two settlement pattern models for the Late Archaic to Early Woodland on the Inner Coastal Plain. The "fusion-fission" model suggests that macro-social population units fused seasonally along both fresh and salt water estuaries to exploit fish runs, and that populations dispersed seasonally to form micro-social unit camps involved in exploiting other resources. The "seasonal shift" model suggested that the same population formed macro-social and micro-social unit camps in both fresh water and salt water zones, and moved laterally between these zones on a seasonal basis (Gardner 1982:59).

Diagnostics of the Middle Woodland (ca. 500 B.C. - A.D. 1000) in the Coastal Plain include Popes Creek Net-Imprinted and Mockley ceramics. Other Middle Woodland sites are identified by projectile points including Fox Creek, Selby Bay, and (for the terminal Middle Woodland) Jack's Reef types. Middle Woodland subsistence is thought to have depended heavily on riverine and estuarine resources; no definite evidence for horticulture has been found in the region for this period. Site location generally is associated with the presence of aquatic resources.

On the Coastal Plain, the shell-tempered Townsend series dominated after A.D. 900 (Clark 1980:18). Crushed-rock tempered Potomac Creek ware appeared somewhat later and was prevalent in the Inner Coastal Plain/Fall Line areas (Egloff and Potter 1982:112). Moyaone ware is a minority type associated with the Potomac Creek ceramic tradition (Stephenson et al. 1963:120-125). The greatest concentration of Potomac Creek ceramics is restricted to the inner coastal plain of the Potomac River, where it is thought to be associated with early seventeenth century Conoy Indian groups, such as the Piscataway in Maryland and the Tauxent and Potomac (Patawomeke) groups in Virginia (Egloff and Potter 1982:112; Cissna 1986:15; Clark 1980:8; Potter 1982:133-135; Potter 1993:125). Both Townsend and Potomac Creek ceramic types have been identified on the Western Shore. Triangular projectile points are also a diagnostic artifact of the Late Woodland period, and they persisted until European contact.

Wesler et al. (1981:109) have summarized the general Late Woodland pattern of the Western Shore as follows: the basic subsistence pattern was one of staple agriculture, supporting large agricultural villages usually in floodplain settings. Hunting and gathering were not neglected, as upland campsites and estuarine shell middens are well known.

The period after A.D. 1500 was characterized by increasing social and political centralization among many native Algonquian groups of the Virginia-Maryland Tidewater. Ethnohistoric and archeological data suggests that the Piscataway, Patawomeke, and

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other groups in Virginia and Maryland may have formed an interdistrict alliance in the inner coastal plain prior to European contact (Potter 1993:151). Potter (1993) suggests that the small chiefdoms south of the Potomac River, such as the Patowomckes, withdrew from the alliance by the late sixteenth century. The remnant groups on the Maryland shore later were known as the Conoy chiefdom.

Native American proto-historic and early historic period settlement patterns in western Charles County are poorly documented. It is likely that they were similar to those of the Patowomekes and North Carolina Algonquians, which were characterized by a palisaded capital town or village that housed the werowance and a number of outlying hamlets, where a majority of the population lived (Potter 1993:175).

Some sources have suggested that Spanish missionaries visited Charles County during the sixteenth century as they explored the Chesapeake Region. However, substantial European contact with native peoples in the area did not occur until the seventeenth century. During his voyages up the Potomac in 1608, John Smith identified the Indian village of "Potopaco;" the seventeenth century English trader Henry Fleet also visited "Patobanos" (Klaphor and Brown 1958:2-6). By about A.D. 1650, most Indians had left the lower Potomac, and had moved up the Potomac River to Piscataway villages in Prince George's County (Klaphor and Brown 1958:7). One of these palisaded villages, Moyaone, was excavated by Ferguson during the 1930s (Stephenson et al. 1963). In an ossuary, Ferguson found large quantities of Potomac Creek ceramics in context with seventeenth century European trade goods (Ferguson and Stewart 1940). The Susquehannock Wars of 1675-1676 dealt a severe blow to Indian-white relationships in the Potomac region. Several Charles County residents served in the militia during this struggle, and some were killed (Klaphor and Brown 1958:30).

HISTORIC CONTEXT

Contact and Settlement Period (1570-1750)

In 1632, Cecil Calvert inherited a charter for a new English colony in the northern Chesapeake from his father, George Calvert, who had secured the Maryland grant from Charles I. In 1634, approximately 150 English colonists settled at St. Mary's City along the eastern shore of the St. Mary's River estuary. The Virginia Colony's success with tobacco cultivation encouraged early Maryland colonists to adopt a similar agricultural economy. Small plantations planted in tobacco dominated Maryland's economy during the seventeenth century (Menard et al. 1988:185).

Population grew steadily, although settlement occurred primarily within what is now St. Mary's County. The earliest patent issued for land in what became Charles County occurred in 1638 (Hardy 2002). Between 1645 and 1646, a rebellion led by Richard Ingle severely reduced the population of this early settlement; however, Maryland recovered from the rebellion through the 1650s and 1660s, despite continued political turmoil. Other early patents issued in the vicinity of Smallwood State Park included 5,000 acres called "Mattawoman Neck" to Thomas Cornwallis; this property has been identified as Cornwallis Neck. Cornwallis owned the property until 1688 (Maymon et al. 1996).

Charles County was established in 1658, shortly after Ingle's Rebellion. The county originally included all the land between the Wicomico River and the Potomac River. The creation of Prince George's County in 1695 defined the northern boundary of Charles County (Walsh 1977:2-3).

Charles County's early population grew steadily. In 1660, the population numbered approximately 900 persons. By 1670, the population numbered approximately 1,884 (Hardy 2002). However, settlement was sparse by modern standards (Walsh 1977:1-6). The colonial legislature tried to encourage the growth of towns through the establishment of ports. Between 1649 and 1670, colonial documents referred to "Stump Neck Town," a trading port located in the vicinity of Chicamuxen. Apparently this port

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town did not develop (Maymon et al. 1996). In 1684, the legislature established tobacco inspection ports at Port Tobacco and Nanjemoy Creek (Klaphor and Brown 1958:33).

During the seventeenth century, the Pamunkey tribe of Native Americans maintained a village in the Charles County region (Walsh 1977:4). The Pamunkey tribe was friendly to the white settlers, and the proprietary officials used them as a barrier to the more hostile Seneca tribe. In 1665, the Provincial Council instructed the Pamunkeys to remain at their village near the headwaters of Mattawoman Creek, and the Council further forbade white settlers from living within three miles of the Pamunkey town. In 1689 the Pamunkeys left Maryland for what is now Fairfax County, Virginia (Semmes 1937:464-474, 719).

Lord Baltimore envisioned a stratified society for his Maryland colony dominated by gentry with large manor holdings. During the second half of the seventeenth century, freeholders farming a few acres came to dominate the colony. The new colonists usually were young, single men who found the opportunities for advancement better in Maryland than in England (Menard 1975:57-153, 161, 213-277 & passim). The typical freeholder of this time period entered the colony as an indentured servant. Upon completion of his indenture, he could expect to acquire a small freehold. However, the mortality rate for the Chesapeake region was extremely high. Because comparatively few immigrants were women, the population was not self-sustaining during these years. Instead, Maryland remained primarily a land of immigrant men (Menard 1975:213-278; Walsh 1977:7-15).

Rural Agrarian Intensification (1680-1815)

By the close of the seventeenth century, significant changes in Maryland's demographic and economic conditions resulted in the transformation of Maryland society. Maryland's population became more diverse. A self-sustaining, native-born white population began to develop and, as a result, the Chesapeake Bay society region began to undergo social and economic stratification. Families formed networks, and successful families accumulated sufficient wealth to found economic dynasties. During the first quarter of the eighteenth century, a socially and politically dominant gentry class emerged. Late-arriving immigrants, lacking the upward mobility of their seventeenth century counterparts, emigrated westward in search of greater opportunity (Kulikoff 1986:261-313; passim).

Although most of the earliest immigrants were men, some women also entered the colony as indentured servants. Upon completion of their term, these women could marry and begin raising families. Children of these families were more resistant to local climate and disease, making them less susceptible to an early death. Since native-born women tended to marry at an earlier age, they produced large families (Menard 1975:193-200).

The Smallwood family was one example of a dynasty that illustrates this trend. Bayne Smallwood (b. ca. 1711-d. 1768), the father of General William Smallwood (b. 1732-d. 1792), who built Smallwood's Retreat (CH-12), was a noted Charles Countian. William Smallwood's mother was Priscilla Hebard, a member of a prominent Virginia family. Bayne Smallwood was a merchant and tobacco planter who assembled a large plantation on the banks of the Mattawoman Creek, known as "Mattawoman Plantation." Bayne Smallwood served in the Lower House of the Maryland Assembly representing Charles County between 1730 and 1765 and as a justice of the Charles County Court (Deale 1979; Smallwood State Park website). General William Smallwood was educated in England, attending Eton College. During the 1750s, Smallwood returned to Maryland. He undertook the management of the family estates. Bayne Smallwood transferred some property to William in 1760. It is presumed that William built the house known as "Smallwood's Retreat" (CH-12) at this time. William Smallwood served in the French and Indian War and began his public career serving in the Lower House of the Maryland Assembly between 1761 and 1774. General Smallwood served with distinction during the Revolutionary War. He was commissioned as commander of the Maryland Line of the Continental Army and served in the war in various capacities until 1783. He continued his public service career as the Governor of Maryland between 1785 and 1788. After serving as governor, he retired to his estate in Charles County until called upon to serve in the Maryland Senate in fall 1791.

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Smallwood was a wealthy man, owning approximately 4,350 acres in Charles County; 4,138 acres of which were located in the 7th District, the area where the house is located. Smallwood's acreage in the 7th District comprised 23 separate patents or portions of older patents. These landholdings varied in size from 18-acre "Smallwoods Islands" to the 455-acres "Smallwoods Enlargement" (Charles County 1783). Priscilla Smallwood, William's sister, was one of the wealthiest women in Charles County; she inherited wealth from her mother (Lee 1994). Other Smallwood family members were established in several districts of Charles County, particularly in districts 4 and 5 (Davis et al. 1995).

In 1790, William Smallwood owned 56 slaves and produced a yearly crop of 3,000 pounds of tobacco. Smallwood probably also grew other crops as has been documented by his close neighbors, George Washington on the Virginia shore of the Potomac River, and the Mason family in Charles County (Copeland and MacMaster 1975). Fisheries also provided an important source of income for residents located along the river and its many creeks, such as the Mattawoman Creek.

Smallwood never married and had no direct heirs. He died in February 1792 and was buried in the family plot on the estate, although he was an active member of the Anglican Old Durham Church. His grave was marked by a chestnut tree. Smallwood left no will. The court ordered his property sold, and the property was divided into smaller parcels. Smallwood's nephew Robert H. Grayson, the son of Eleanor Grayson, one of Smallwood's sisters, acquired the house and some of the surrounding acreage (White 1970; Deale 1979; Lee 1994).

During the eighteenth century, the average tobacco planter earned a modest annual income of approximately £100. Mid-sized land holdings of between 50 and 249 acres were more common due to land speculation and to increased land purchases by former indentured servants (Wesler et al. 1981). Settlements were widely dispersed, and urban areas developed slowly. Port Tobacco served as the main social, political, and economic center of Charles County from its establishment as the county seat in 1727 until the latter half of the nineteenth century (Klaphor and Brown 1958:46).

The economy of Charles County stabilized during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Tobacco continued to provide the major source of county revenue; however, concern over soil depletion forced farmers to diversify crops. Many planters, especially those in the Wicomico and Port Tobacco river valleys, grew wheat and corn as the market for cereal grains expanded both at home and abroad. Although grain cultivation increased, tobacco remained the staple crop in Charles County (Rivoire 1990:20). The shift to wheat was influenced by the decline in tobacco prices, soil exhaustion, and the inferior type of tobacco raised along the Potomac River. By 1794, three gristmills operated in Charles County. The Bruners gristmill was located just northeast of General Smallwood's house along a tributary of the Mattawoman Creek (Griffith 1794).

The African-American population was of utmost importance to agriculture during this period. Declining numbers of white indentured servants forced farmers to search elsewhere for a cheap, reliable labor force to cultivate their crops. Planters relied ever more heavily upon African-American slaves. Slavery was introduced into Charles County during the early seventeenth century. By 1712, the number of enslaved persons was 724. The 1790 census listed a slave population of 10,085 in Charles County; slaves comprised 44.5 per cent of the total population (Klaphor and Brown 1958:68).

The Potomac River served as a primary waterway that provided access to Charles County. In 1785, Governor William Smallwood negotiated the first joint compact between Maryland and Virginia to control the use of the Potomac River. The Potomac River was considered a common highway for the purposes of navigation and commerce. Citizens owning property along the shores were allowed to built wharves and other improvements that did not disrupt navigation or fisheries (LeCompte 1924). The first of 15 ferries chartered by the Virginia colony also was established during the eighteenth century to provide service between Maryland and Virginia (Brown et al. 1976:19).

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The first major road in the county, a section of the inter-colonial post road that linked the Potomac River and the town of Benedict, was built at the turn of the eighteenth century (Wesler et al. 1981:125). Griffith's *Map of Maryland* (1794) depicted an arterial road system that radiated from Port Tobacco. Many of these roads led to warehouses and landings on the Potomac and Patuxent rivers. The roads were considered good for that time period. The roads were reported as passable since the soil was not excessively sandy (Lee 1994).

Transportation systems dictated settlement patterns in Charles County during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. New hamlets were established at the intersections of interior transportation systems, but they remained small and widely dispersed (Wesler et al. 1981:126).

During the Revolutionary War, county citizens supported the independence movement by forming an association for non-importation; by creating and maintaining a defensive local militia; and, by instructing their delegates to vote for separation from Britain. As a result of these activities, British raiding parties destroyed property and alarmed county residents, who were particularly fearful of British-inspired slave insurrections. Properties along the Potomac River were especially susceptible to British attacks, as English warships regularly patrolled those waters (Klaphor and Brown 1958:50-57; Lee 1994:151).

The growth of the county was disrupted temporarily by the War of 1812, because most of the properties along the lower Potomac were plundered by British troops. The infamous British raid that resulted in the burning of Washington, D.C., was launched from Benedict, a town situated along the Patuxent River. British forces raided this town before marching on Washington (Klaphor and Brown 1958:101-104).

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Agricultural-Industrial Transition (1815-1870)

Agricultural diversification stimulated a period of economic stability during the early nineteenth century. Nineteenth century settlement patterns in Charles County were dictated by its basically agricultural economy and its limited transportation options. A "public fording place" over Mattawoman Creek was located on the road between Port Tobacco and Piscataway around 1805 (Klaphor and Brown 1958:109). Some new hamlets developed at intersections of interior transportation systems, providing services to local farming communities (Rivoire 1990:20); however, these villages were small and towns remained widely dispersed (Klaphor and Brown 1958:99). A gazetteer for 1807 listed only five towns in Charles County.

Travel to Washington or Baltimore was accomplished by steamboat or stagecoach. Steamboat transportation provided the principal link between Charles County and the larger urban centers, although improvements were made in overland transportation. By 1815, a steam ferry that operated between Washington, D.C. and Potomac Creek, Virginia, made regular stops at several communities in Charles County. By 1854, the county also was serviced regularly by two steamboat lines (Klaphor and Brown 1958:118; Brown et al. 1976:39). A daily mail stagecoach for Charles County was in operation by 1855 (Klaphor and Brown 1958:117).

Tobacco remained the dominant crop of the county throughout this period. In 1840, the county produced 3.25 million pounds of tobacco, an amount that comprised 13.2 per cent of the state's total output. By 1860, Charles County's output had increased to 4.5 million pounds, or 12.2 per cent of Maryland's production (Wesler et al. 1981:124). During this period of

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increasing productivity, much of Charles County retained its dependence on slave labor. The local fishing industry also was particularly productive in the years prior to the Civil War (Hardy 2002).

By 1850, African-Americans accounted for approximately 65 per cent of Charles County's total population. Although slavery was on the decline by mid-century, over 90 per cent of the African-Americans in Charles County were slaves (Fields 1985:10-13). By mid-century the white population of Charles County declined; between 1790 and 1850, the number of whites in the county fell from 10,124 to 5,665 (Fields 1985:13). The decline in the white population can be traced primarily to the unstable or falling tobacco prices that encouraged white emigration to cheaper, more fertile western lands (Wesler et al. 1981:126).

The period between 1854 and 1868 was tumultuous for both Maryland and the nation as the sectional confrontation over slavery mounted. Although the state remained loyal to the Union, questions of loyalty and emancipation became divisive issues during the war years (Walsh and Fox 1974: 309).

Charles County's dependence upon tobacco, as well as its sizeable slave labor force, resulted in strong Confederate sympathies. County voters went solidly Democratic in the election of 1860; in 1861 a county convention voted to "oppose federal coercion." When the Civil War began, Charles County's white citizens overwhelmingly favored the Confederacy; they enlisted in the Confederate army and illegally transported mail to the troops further south. As a result, the county was occupied throughout the war by Union forces who were stationed in camps extending from Mattawoman Creek to Liverpool Point (Hardy 2002). The heaviest occupation occurred from October 1861 to April 1862, when General Joseph Hooker's division was stationed in the county to repel a Confederate invasion of the north feared by Gen. George McClellan. The Federal Navy patrolled the Potomac and its tributaries to discourage smuggling of food and medical supplies from Maryland to Virginia (Newmann 1976:213).

During this time, the *Port Tobacco Times* released an editorial stating that Federal troops were stationed "supposedly to protect citizens, instead negroes are taken with no remuneration, and threats of violence if we seek to recover them" (Klaphor and Brown 1958:123). The county's freed slaves became Union sympathizers and comprised a substantial portion of the 7th Regiment, Maryland Volunteers, U.S. Colored Troops; this force occupied Camp Stanton near Benedict in 1863 before joining the Union Army of the Potomac (Klaphor and Brown 1958:129).

Although no major battles were fought in Charles County during the Civil War, the conflict indirectly curtailed the economic well-being of its residents. The war altered previously established economic patterns. Traditionally, much of the state's trade activity had been oriented to the South; however, by 1860, the majority of trade activity shifted North (Walsh and Fox 1974: 333).

By 1864, the monetary value of slave property in Maryland virtually had collapsed (Walsh and Fox 1974: 334). Slavery was abolished in Maryland at the conclusion of the Civil War and landowners in Charles County were forced to adjust to a dramatic change in the labor force. Immediately following the war, the county suffered economically and was one of the most depressed areas in the state. The loss of slave labor temporarily devastated tobacco production until a system of sharecropping and tenant farming was established (Wesler et al. 1981:128). Small-scale farmers were forced to vacate their land and, as a result, much of this previously cultivated land reverted to forest (Camp 1977:49-51). Nonetheless, the county's postbellum economy retained its dependence upon tobacco, with its intensive demands for labor (Camp 1977:50).

Industrial/Urban Dominance (1870-1930)

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From the close of the Civil War to the early twentieth century, Charles County experienced minimal economic or population growth. From 1870 to 1930, the population fluctuated between 15,000 and 18,500. Many large landowners sold their estates and large landholdings were divided into smaller farms. In 1880, 83.5 per cent of the land in Charles County was in agriculture; by 1930, 69 per cent of the acreage was in agriculture. Tobacco remained the primary crop with over 5 million pounds of tobacco raised in 1880 to over 4 million pounds raised in 1930 (Wesler et al. 1981). Although some African-Americans moved into cities following emancipation, it was not unusual for freed slaves to remain on territory familiar to them from the time of slavery. The number of African-Americans in Charles County remained virtually unchanged between 1860 and 1880. In 1880, African-Americans still comprised 58 per cent of Charles County's total population (Fields 1985:176).

Maryland's industrial sector experienced the greatest economic growth during this period. Older industries flourished, while new industries were established, and dramatic demographic shifts accompanied this industrial growth. In Maryland, there was an exodus from the farms to cities and towns. For the first time, more Marylanders were engaged in industry than agriculture (Walsh and Fox 1974: 396).

There were some efforts at economic diversification in Charles County during this period. Many owners of large estates on the Potomac River resumed commercial fishing. The U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries noted in 1876 that the Chapman's Point fishery produced shad and two kinds of herring, as well as rockfish, white perch, catfish, and mullet sucker. By 1897, the Potomac River supported more commercial fisheries than any other river on the East Coast. The U.S. Fish Commission established a substation at Chapman's Landing during the late nineteenth century to maintain supplies (Tilp 1978:17-19).

In some cases, land use shifted from a reliance on tobacco farming to timber harvesting. Soils that had been exhausted by tobacco monoculture were reforested with pine and gum trees that could tolerate poor soil conditions. Land owners began to utilize their holdings for commercial timberings. By 1958, 70 per cent of the land area of Charles County was timbered, and timber products ranked second to tobacco for farm incomes (Klaphor and Brown 1958:161).

The first major non-agricultural facility to be located in Charles County was a naval station that was constructed on Mattawoman Neck between 1890 and 1918. The Indian Head Ordnance Station grew to contain a naval powder factory, an ordnance proving ground, an acid plant, and a facility for manufacturing torpedo explosives (Klaphor and Brown 1958:144). Private manufacturing enterprises geared primarily towards food processing also grew steadily during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The county's first cannery opened at La Plata in 1883; by 1920, 29 manufacturing facilities operated in Charles County (Wesler et al. 1981:129), including the prominent Morgan Monroe Caviar Factory, which processed sturgeon roe (Brown et al. 1976:30).

The first railroad service arrived in the county in 1872 when the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad constructed a line between Bowie in Prince George's County and Popes Creek in Charles County. The new railroad line stimulated the creation of several new hamlets and post offices in the county, including La Plata, Waldorf, and White Plains. The arrival of the railroad also sounded the death knell for river towns like Port Tobacco, which lost its designation as county seat to La Plata in 1895 (Klaphor and Brown 1958:138; Wesler et al. 1981:129).

Existing roads within the county were improved during the first decades of the twentieth century to accommodate automobile traffic. The first all-weather road in the county, the Old Livingston Road, extended from the Naval Powder

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Factory at Indian Head to Washington, D.C. This road was paved after World War I (Camp 1977:44). The state extended its highway system into Charles County in 1910, and the Crain Highway (the present Route 301) was extended to the Potomac River in 1922 (Wesler et al. 1982:129). Although road conditions improved, steam boats and ferries continued to provide the primary means of transportation within the county as late as 1920.

Modern Period (1930 - Present)

The population of Charles County remained constant throughout the early twentieth century; between 1900 and 1940, the number of residents remained between 16,000 and 17,500 (Camp 1977:46). However, Charles County's rural character and proximity to Washington, D.C. attracted the attention of affluent families seeking a country retreat. This movement spurred a period of major restoration activity in Charles County. Between 1925 and 1945, investors from outside Maryland purchased many of the county's major architectural landmarks. Gorham Hubbard acquired Mt. Aventine in 1938. Oak Grove, Araby, and Truman's Place, all National Register listed properties, were purchased and rehabilitated during this approximately 20-year span. These new landowners formed a unique social and economic circle that influenced local politics (Rivoire 1973, 1991).

Interest in General Smallwood's Retreat (CH-12) also reflected this trend. The Smallwood Foundation, Inc., was formed in 1938 by a group of southern Maryland residents. Using donations and memberships, the foundation was able to purchase the house and ten acres from the local landholder. The building (MD-38) was documented by the Historic American Buildings Survey in 1940 and drawings were prepared for the eventual reconstruction of the building using the existing extant walls. A photograph taken by Chandlee Forman published in 1934 depicted Smallwood's Retreat with Flemish bond brick walls resting on its brick and stone foundation on three elevations (Forman 1934, reprinted 1982). The roof and the south elevation were missing. The reconstruction of the building was not completed until 1957-1958, when the Smallwood Foundation, Inc., was able to convince the Maryland Government to allocate funds to complete the project. In part, the acquisition of the Smallwood Retreat also met program needs established in the early 1950s for the expansion of the state park system. The State of Maryland was looking for areas to provide parks in Charles County, a county underrepresented in the overall system, and they were encouraging the purchase of historic sites (Maryland State Planning Commission 1952). In 1954, the state appropriated money for the restoration of Smallwood's Retreat and the work was completed in 1957-1958.

In 1942, the U.S. Naval Propellant Plant, currently named U.S. Naval Surface Warfare Center, Indian Head, expanded from Cornwallis Neck to Stump Neck. By 1942, the Explosives Investigation Laboratory was established on 1,500 acres of Stump Neck (Maymon et al. 1996). The expansion of the naval installation required the rerouting of county roads, since the former county road followed the south shore of the Mattawoman Creek through naval property. MD Route 224 was completed during the 1940s. The alignment of the former county road, now called Smallwood Road, was retained to provide access to Smallwood's Retreat, but was continued no further. In 1969, the Commissioners of Charles County transferred the former road right-of-way to the state.

By the end of World War II, Charles County had emerged as a recreational and residential suburb of the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. Between 1950 and 1980, the population of the county rose dramatically from 23,415 to 72,751 (*Baltimore Sun* 1988:19). The dualization of Indian Head Highway during the 1970s made the northwestern portion of the county more accessible to those who worked in the Washington metropolitan area and stimulated an influx of suburban commuters (Camp 1977:62).

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Currently, Charles County is changing rapidly from a rural to suburban environment. Farmers comprise only a small minority of the county's population. Although the number of residents earning their income from agriculture dropped from 32 per cent in 1940 to 3 per cent in 1970 (Camp 1977:49), Charles County was the second highest tobacco-producing county in the state (Baltimore Sun 1988:19). The U.S. Naval Ordnance Station at Indian Head continued to serve as a major employer of the region, and stimulated area commercial development and housing construction. In addition, the improved transportation routes and proximity to Washington, D.C., has increased the numbers of housing subdivisions in this region of the county. However, large areas of the county continue to retain a rural flavor. Some areas, such as Mattawoman Creek, are being preserved as wildlife management areas to protect fish and wildfowl habitats.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 629

Acreage of historical setting 629

Quadrangle name Indian Head

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries of the survey area comprise all property owned by Maryland Department of Natural Resources within the legal boundaries of Smallwood State Park as of February 2003.

11. Form Prepared By

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organization R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.

date 6/30/04

street and number 241 E. 4th Street, Suite 100

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city or town Frederick

state MD zip code 21701

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.

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Name Smallwood State Park

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Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Smallwood State Park, Charles County, Maryland
Continuation Sheet

Number Photo log Page 1

The following information is the same for each photograph:

1. MIHP # CH-706
2. Smallwood State Park
3. Charles County, Maryland
4. R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.
5. March 2003
6. MD SHPO

Photo #

1. Smallwood's Retreat House (CH-12), looking south.
2. Sweden Point and Site 18CH206, looking southwest towards camping loop.
3. 1898 Smallwood monument, looking southwest.
4. Smallwood Kitchen, looking northeast.
5. Smallwood Pit Toilet, looking south.
6. Smallwood Garden House and Smallwood Pump House, looking southeast.
7. The John Grinder Farmhouse (CH-359), looking east.
8. Former Upham House #3, currently Mattawoman Creek Arts Center, looking northeast.
9. Former Upham Pump House, looking northeast.
10. Jenkins Tobacco Barn (CH-367), looking northwest.
11. Former Gallahue corncrib, looking west.
12. Former Gallahue barn, looking northwest.
13. Former Milstead tobacco barn, looking northeast.



CH-706

Smallwood State Park

Charles Co. MD

RCGA

March 2003

MD SHPo

Smallwood's Retreat Hse (CH-12), looking S

1 of 13



CH-706
smallwood State Park
Charles Co. MD

RCGA

March 2003

MD SHPo

Sweden Pt and site 18CH206, looking SW

2 of 13



Gen. WILLIAM SMALLWOOD

1791 - 1868
Major-General in the
Confederate Army
Born in ...
Died in ...

CH-706
Smallwood State Park
Charles Co., MD

REG-A
March 2003

MD SH Po
1898 Smallwood monument looking SW

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CH-706
Smallwood State Park
Charles Co. MD
RC6-A
March 2003
MD SHPO
Kitchen, looking NE
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CH-706
Smallwood State Park
Charles Co. MD

RECA

March 2003

MD SHPo

Pit toilet, looking S

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CH-706
Smallwood State Park

Charles Co. MD

RCE A

March 2003

MD SH Po

Garden Hse + PumpHse looking SE

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CH-706
Smallwood State Park
Charles Co. MD

RCGA
March 2003

MDSHP
John Grinder Farmhse (CH-359) looking E

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CH-706
Smallwood State Park
Charles Co., MD

RCG-A
March 2003

MD SH Po

Upham Hse #3, looking NE
8 of 13



CH-706
Smallwood State Park
Charles Co MD

RCGA
March 2003

HD SHPO
Upham pump hse, looking NE

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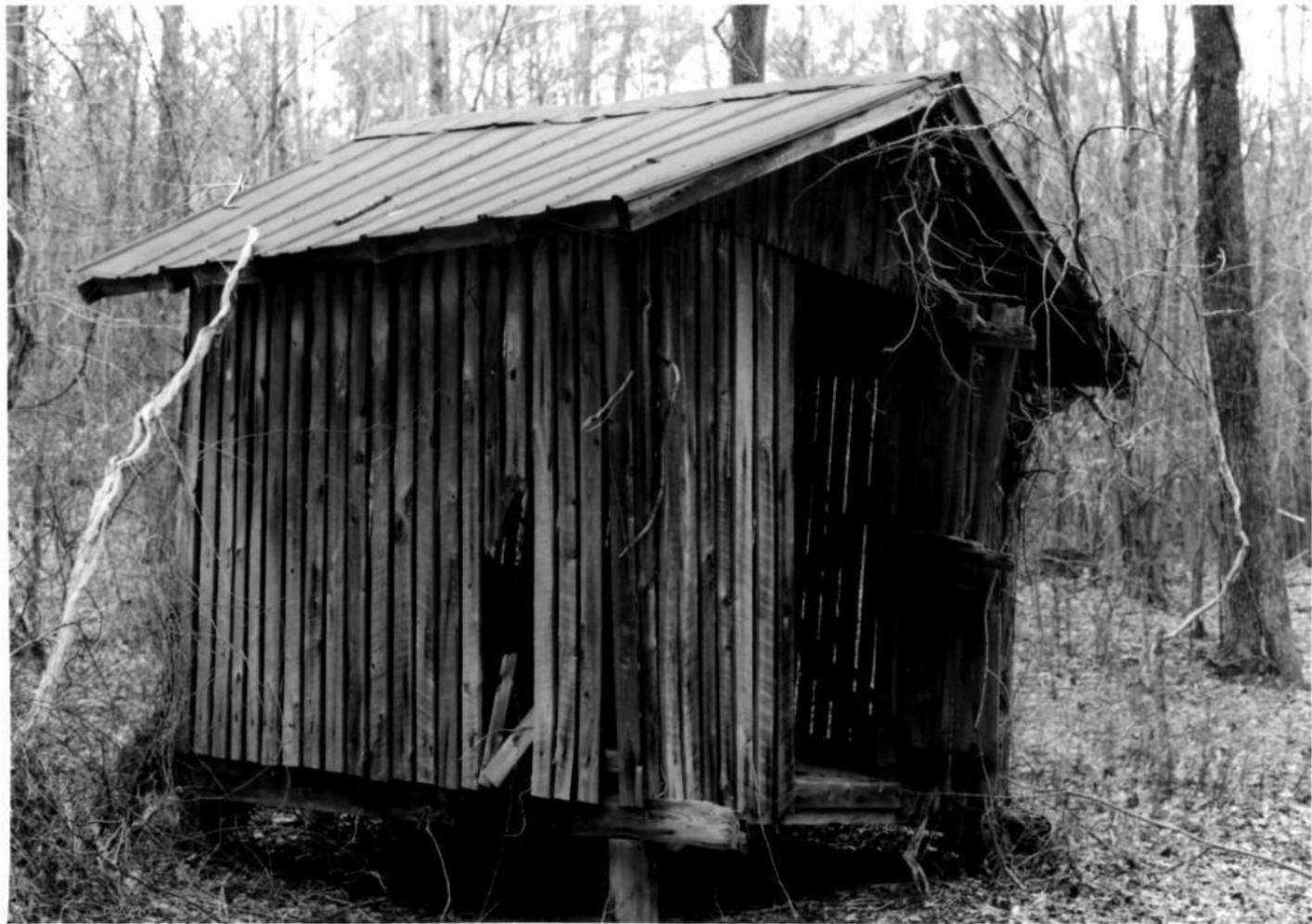
CH-706
Smallwood State Park
Charles Co. MD

REGA
March 2003

MD SHPO

Jenkins tobacco barn (CH-367) looking NW

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CH-706
Smallwood State Park
Charles Co. MD

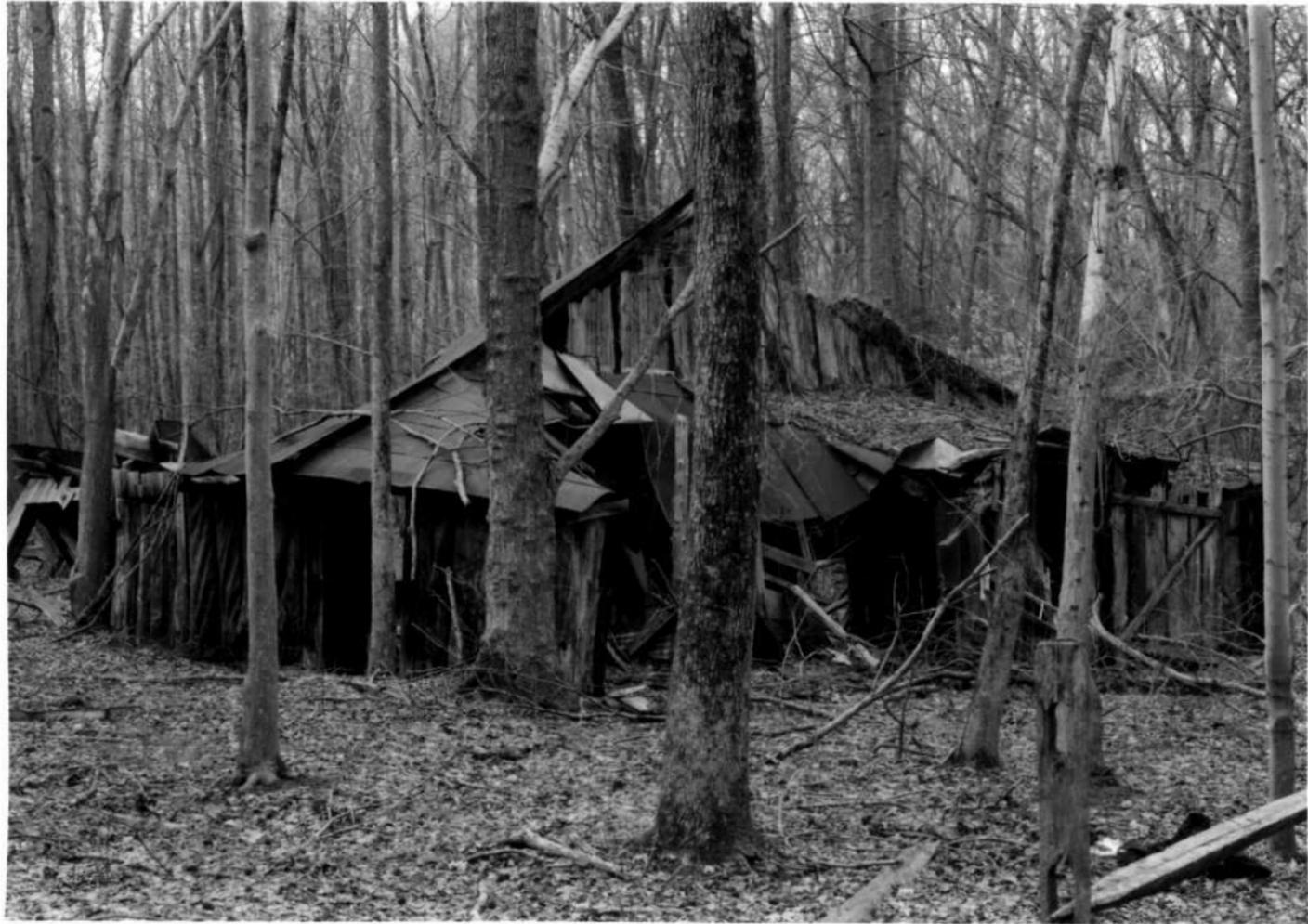
REG A

March 2003

MD SHPO

Gallahue cornerrib looking W

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CH-706

Smallwood State Park

Charles Co. MD

RCGA

March 2003

MD SHPo

Gallahue barn, looking NW

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CH-706
Smallwood state Park
Charles Co. MD

RCB-A

March 2003

MD SHPO

Milstead tobacco barn, looking NE

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