

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

Property Name: _____ Inventory Number: ~~12002~~ CH-884

Address: 5440 Washington Avenue, Charles County - in the vicinity of La Plata

Owner: Bennett, Arnett W and Susan A

Tax Parcel Number: 419 Tax Map Number: 23

Project MD 301 Agency State Highway Administration (SHA)

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

Eligibility recommended ___ Eligibility **not** recommended X

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

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

Is district listed?: X no ___ yes

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

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

The c. 1930 one-and-a-half-story, three bay wide house has a side gable roof with a single dormer. The roof extends off the west (main) elevation and is supported by six posts, creating a small porch of the main entrance. The windows are six-over-one and appear to be modern replacements. A side entrance has a front gable roof and is supported by two posts. The roofing material appears to be asphalt shingle and the house is set far from the road. The house's exterior portrays influences of the Bungalow style, although its architecture is vernacular in design.

The county seat for the government of Charles County is located in La Plata and the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad La Plata Station is located along Charles Street. Robert Crain Highway was completed in 1927 and it provided the most direct way to Baltimore and points north of Charles County. Crain Highway, now known as US 301, was transformed from a local road into a bypass for traffic traveling between Florida and New York with the introduction of the Harry W. Nice Bridge in 1940. Washington Avenue intersects Charles Street in the center of downtown La Plata and it is a major north-south access road for the county seat.

Prepared by EHT Tracerics, Inc.

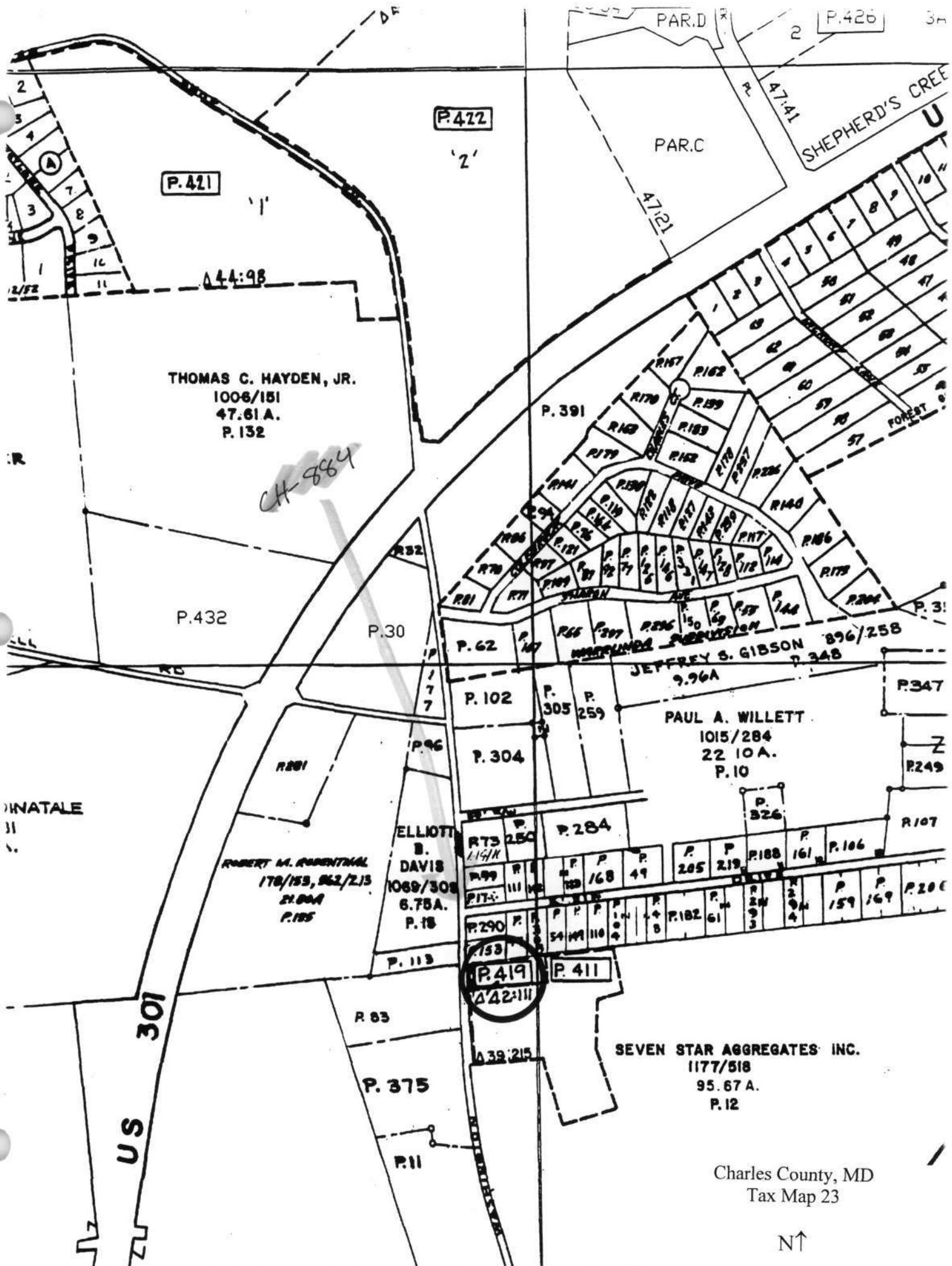
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended ___ Criteria: ___ A ___ B <u>X</u> C ___ D	Eligibility not recommended <u>X</u> Consideration ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G ___ None
_____ Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	_____ Date
_____ Reviewer, NR Program	_____ Date



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The population of Charles County in the middle of the 20th century numbered less than 25,000 people and the economy was based upon agricultural production, especially tobacco. Charles County was one the of the largest producers of tobacco in the State of Maryland. Although Charles County was still primarily rural, by the 1930's, La Plata began to grow significantly because of the development of Crain Highway. Non-agricultural business began to increase around La Plata and the county seat's position within Charles County became economically more diverse. Development, including housing, increased as a result of Crain Highway and the influx of new businesses and investment into the area.

This house is not eligible for the National Register because of its lack of significance related to events, persons or architecture. Criterion D, information potential, was not assessed for this study.



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THOMAS C. HAYDEN, JR.
1006/151
47.61 A.
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JEFFREY S. GIBSON
896/258
9.96A

PAUL A. WILLETT
1015/284
22 10A.
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ROBERT M. ROBERTSON
178/153, 262/213
21.80A
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ELLIOTT B. DAVIS
1069/308
6.78A.
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SEVEN STAR AGGREGATES INC.
1177/518
95.67 A.
P.12

US 301

PAR.D

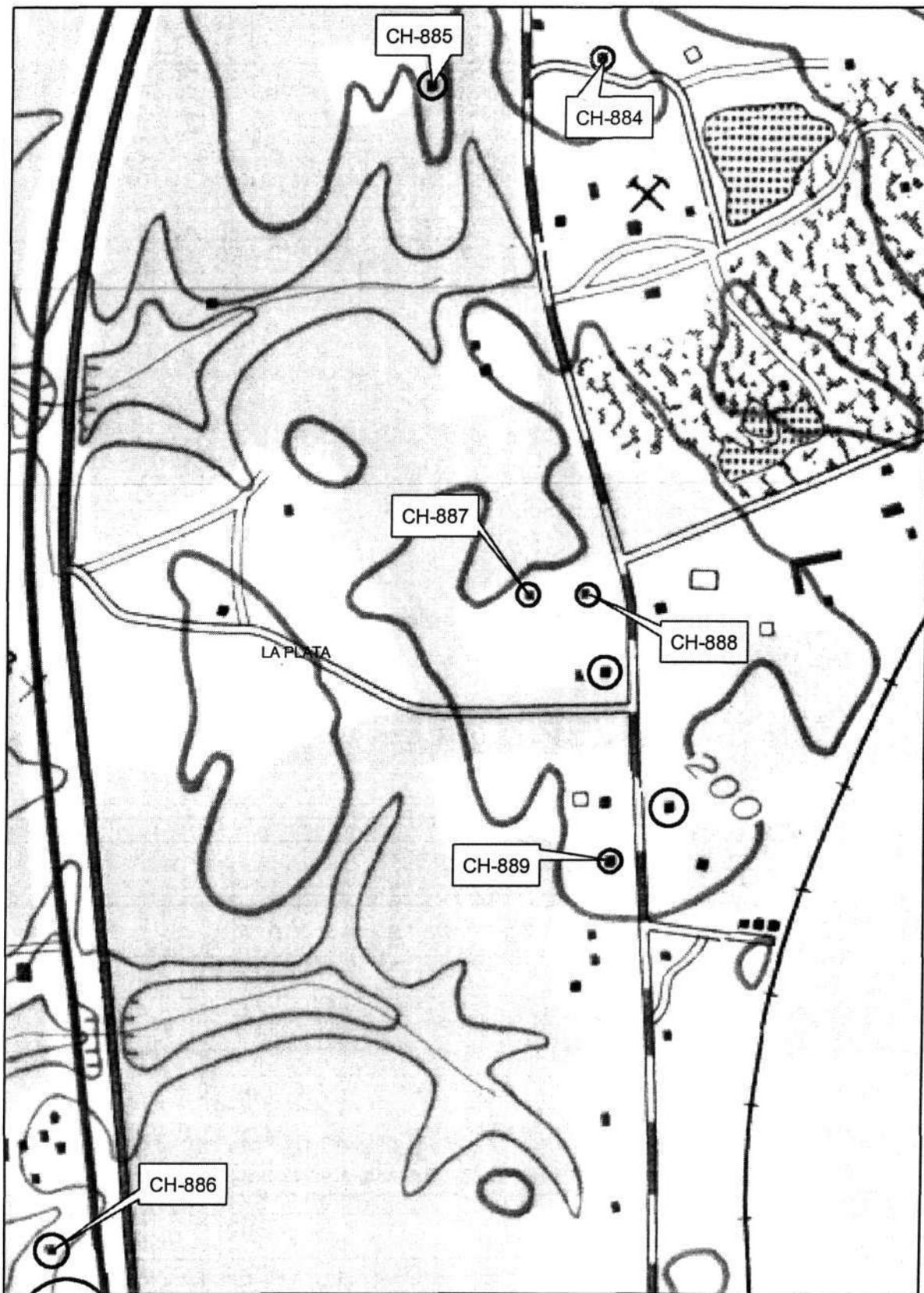
PAR.C

SHEPHERD'S CREEK

Charles County, MD
Tax Map 23

N↑

CH-884
LA PLATA
Quad





~~HEAD~~ CH-884

5440 Washington Avenue
Charles County, MD

Traceries

June 1999

MD SHPO

View of West Elevation

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