

QA-61

John R. Smith Farm

late 18th century

Price vicinity

Private

The story-and-a-half frame house on the John R. Smith farm is typical of a house form widely found on the Eastern Shore in the 18th and the first half of the 19th centuries. The original house had a hall-parlor plan with two rooms up and two rooms down. A mid-19th century addition expanded the house three additional bays to the east and enlarged the house by four more rooms. The subsequent alterations have left little visible fabric of the original house. Despite the generally plain appearance of the house, however, several features are significant. Most important of these is the tilted false plate eave construction, a feature that may have been used to some extent in this area but which has not survived in any numbers.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

John R. Smith Farm, Samuel Everett Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

North side of Rabbit Hill Road

CITY, TOWN

Price

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

John R. Smith

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21617

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #: CWC 107

Folio #: 441

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland 21617

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

QA-61

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The John R. Smith Farm is located on the north side of Rabbit Hill Road approximately one mile northeast of Price, Maryland. The house and farmhouse are adjacent to the west side of the old Kent and Queen Anne's Railroad. The house and at least one outbuilding predate the railroad, however.

This small frame house was constructed in two different stages. The original house, dating to the 18th century, was 1 1/2 stories high, three bays wide, and one room deep, with brick chimneys at either end of a steeply pitched gable roof. In the 19th century the house was enlarged three more bays to the east, continuing the same basic lines of the early dwelling. In the early 20th century an open porch was constructed across the entire south facade, and in more recent years a lean-to addition was made to the east end of the rear facade to accommodate a modern kitchen and bath. Both sections of the house rest on continuous common-bond brick foundations and are covered with wood shingle siding and an asphalt shingle roof.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION

The front facade of the original house faces south toward Rabbit Hill Road. The door is located in the center bay, flanked by a single 2/2 window on each side. There are two 6/6 shed roof dormers on the second floor. The first floor window sash and door are all late 19th century replacements. The dormer windows appear to have been reworked when the house was enlarged.

The chimney on the west gable is flush, with one 2/2 window to the right on the first floor. The chimney on the east gable was an exterior stack, but has been demolished. The later addition completely covered the original east gable wall.

On the rear facade of the original section, there are two 2/2 windows on the first floor and two 6/6 shed dormers on the second floor.

The 19th century addition extended the lines of the original house, but the floor level of the addition is two steps lower than the original house. This difference is apparent in the foundation as well as the lower placement of the first floor openings and the second floor dormers.

On the front or south facade of the addition, there is a center door opening onto the porch, flanked

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION

by a single 6/6 window on each side. On the second floor, there are two 6/6 shed roof dormers. On the east gable, a flush brick chimney rises from the center of the roof. A small opening near the center of the foundation wall allows access to a crawl space under the first floor. There are no other openings in this facade. The center and east bay of the rear facade are covered by the modern lean-to addition, leaving a single 6/6 window in the west bay of the first floor and two 6/6 shed dormers on the second floor.

The interior of the original house has been through one major alteration and is currently being modernized. The original floor plan evidently consisted of two rooms, a large hall to the west and a smaller parlor to the east, with a winder stair in the southwest corner of the hall. In the late 19th or early 20th century, the winder stair was removed and a steep, straight-run enclosed stair was inserted across the east end of the hall, directly in front of the south door. This left two roughly equal rooms flanking a centrally located enclosed stair. It was probably at this time also that the exterior chimney on the east gable was demolished and replaced with a smaller

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.3 DESCRIPTION

stove chimney. The second floor was also reworked, with single chambers flanking the enclosed stair. The original beaded partition was demolished to make room for the new stair, and new board and plaster walls were installed. Surviving early fabric includes reused beaded batten doors hung on wrought H hinges, one 6-panel door, and some beaded baseboard. The floors and much of the interior plaster is replaced. One section of original plaster applied to riven lathing has survived above the stair, and an examination of the eaves and roof reveals the 18th century roof framing, tilted false plate eave construction, and riven clapboard siding. Wrought nails remain in the riven plaster lathing, the riven clapboard siding, and in the roof framing. Little else of significance has survived.

The later addition is divided into two rooms on each floor. The east room on the first floor evidently served as a kitchen, and retains the beaded wainscot paneling popular in the late 19th century. A steep, enclosed ladder stair to the left of the gable chimney allows access to the second floor. The only notable feature in the west room on the first floor is the seam

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.4 DESCRIPTION

in the floor that outlines the demolished chimney.

The two second floor rooms are three steps lower than the second floor of the original house. The rooms are plastered but otherwise left plain. The roof of this section is framed with rafters reused from an earlier building.

Meat House

To the rear of the dwelling house is a frame meat house 10 feet 8 inches wide and 12 feet long. It is oriented on a north-south axis, with a single batten door centered on the south gable. The exterior is covered with vertical board and batten siding nailed to the sill, an intermediate rail, and the top plate. The roof is corrugated metal; the eaves are boxed-in and left plain. The heavy framing members are hewn; the collar beams are secured with machine nails.

Other outbuildings include a late 19th century barn and combined crib/granary to the northwest of the house, and an implement shed and outbuilding to the northeast. A dairy barn stood to the north until recent years.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

QA-61

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The story-and-a-half frame house on the John R. Smith farm is typical of a house form widely found on the Eastern Shore in the 18th and the first half of the 19th centuries. The original house had a hall-parlor plan with two rooms up and two rooms down. A mid-19th century addition expanded the house three additional bays to the east and enlarged the house by four more rooms. The subsequent alterations have left little visible fabric of the original house. Despite the generally plain appearance of the house, however, several features are significant. Most important of these is the tilted false plate eave construction, a feature that may have been used to some extent in this area but which has not survived in any numbers. The only other recorded examples in Queen Anne's County are found at My Lord's Gift (QA-116), the Poplar Grove Quarter (QA-191A),

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

CONTINUATION SHEET

8.1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

and in the meat house at the C. C. Harper Farm (QA-11). Also of interest is the riven clapboard siding on the east gable of the original house.

QA-61

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

7/15/80

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

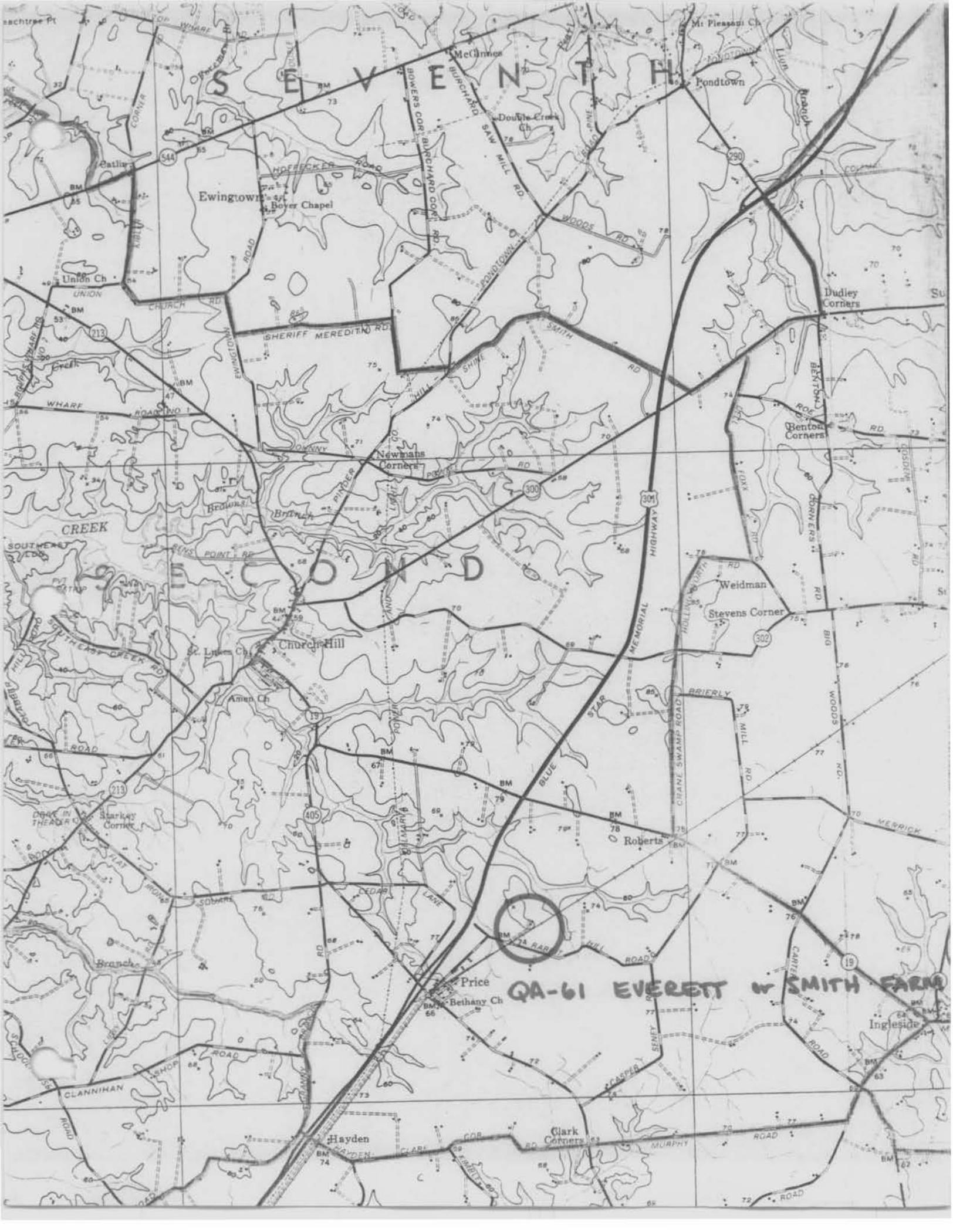
Maryland 21617

Field Notebook QA-XVI; May 14, 1980.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



EVERETT

Ewingtown

Fondtown

Newmans Corners

Church Hill

Price

QA-61 EVERETT W SMITH FARM

Ingliside

Hayden

Clark Corners

Dudley Corners

Bentons Corners

Weidman

Stevens Corner

Roberts

Union Ch

Boyer Chapel

Double-Cross Ch

Union Ch

Bedford

Amen Ch

Starkey Corner

Branch

Clannihan

McInnes

Burchard Corn

Shime

Pinder

Point

Blue Star

Hill

Clay

Seney

Murphy

Mi Pleasant Ch

Woods Rd

Smith Rd

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Star

Blue Star

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QA-61
John R. Smith Farm

Mary McCarthy
Spring/Summer 2003
Digital color photo on file at MHT





QA-61

Dr. James Smith Farm

Price vicinity

Orlando Ridout V 1980

Front facade from Southwest



QA-61

Dr. James Smith Farm

Price vicinity

Orlando Ridout V 1980

Rear facade from north



QA.

Samuel Everett Farm # 61
QA-61

April 1974
JWU