

WI-570
Smith's Industry
Pittsville vicinity
Private

c. 1820, c. 1847

One of the oldest dwellings to survive in the vicinity of Pittsville is the two-story frame dwelling that stands on a tract of land known as "Smith's Industry." The chain of title for the parcel traces ownership back to Isaiah Smith, a prosperous Worcester County planter who died in 1847. At the time of his death his estate was valued at \$6,237.69 $\frac{1}{4}$, which included 17 slaves that comprised over half the inventory's worth. The two-story frame dwelling dates from two distinct periods, the early nineteenth century and the late 1840s. Supported on a continuous brick foundation with a partially excavated cellar, the c. 1820 three-bay frame structure, now covered with wood shingles, was enlarged before Isaiah Smith's death with a Greek Revival trimmed addition. In fact the estate inventory lists a cupboard in the "New Room." Distinguishing the west end addition is an elaborate Greek Revival entrance with a paneled door flanked with diamond-shaped muntin sidelights and a bold corner block surround. When the addition was attached during the late 1840s, the early nineteenth-century house was resheathed with plain weatherboard siding, however several of the original window openings retained their ovolo molded backbands.

At the time of Isaiah Smith's death in 1847, he devised his plantation to his two sons, Levin S. H. Smith and Henry J. B. Smith, both of whom appear in the mid nineteenth-century United States censuses for Worcester County. Levin S. H. Smith, the older of the two sons, resided in their parent's house, and he is designated at the site on the Pittsburg district map in the Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas published in 1877. He is also included in the patron list as a "lumberman and farmer" with title to 780 acres. The younger brother, Henry J. B. Smith, and his family probably occupied the family farm as well since he is not designated on the atlas nor in the patron list. He name does surface, however, in an 1872 transaction which transferred

ownership of the family lands to William Birckhead in trust for the benefit of the Henry J. B. Smith's creditors.

In a second title transfer, Levin S. H. Smith, is identified as insolvent, and the estate trustee, Samuel A. Graham transferred ownership of part of the Smith estate to W. F. Ward. During the first half of the twentieth century, the Smith's Industry farm with 80 acres was held by Levin G. Holloway and his heirs. In 1953, the 80-acre farm was acquired by William H. and Radia M. Parsons, in whose family the property remains.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-570

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Smith's Industry

other _____

2. Location

street and number Pittsville Road not for publication

city, town Pittsville vicinity _____

county Wicomico

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

name Carroll C. and Beverly A. Parsons

street and number 8734 Pittsville Road telephone 410-896-9130

city, town Parsonsburg state MD zip code 21849

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court liber 1006 folio 574

city, town Salisbury tax map 22 tax parcel 68 tax ID number 4-009290

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
 Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
 Recorded by HABS/HAER
 Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
 Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	<u>3</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<u>3</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
				Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	

7. Description

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Condition

excellent deteriorated
 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.

The property historically known as Smith's Industry is located on each side of Pittsville Road south of its intersection with Race Bridge Road north of Pittsville, Wicomico County, Maryland. The house faces north with the principal gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Built in stages during the first half of the nineteenth century, the oldest portion of the five-bay dwelling is the three-bay eastern end which dates around 1820. During the mid nineteenth century, around 1850-60, a two-story, two-bay addition was attached to the west gable end. The house is supported by a partially excavated common bond brick foundation, and the exterior is clad with wood shingles over plain weatherboard siding. The steeply pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Joining the house on the lot is a concrete block pump house and a small board-and-batten frame barn.

The north (main) elevation is an asymmetrical five-bay façade with an entrance located in the second bay from the northeast corner. A partially glazed turn of the 20th-century door is flanked by six-over-six sash windows. The front door is framed by a molded surround which is trimmed with an ogee profile backband. The adjacent windows have ovolo molded backband surrounds, and the eastern window retains an inner beaded edge. The eastern three bays are sheltered by a turn of the 20th-century turned post porch featuring a center cross gable. The adjacent two bays, which define the mid 19th-century addition, are marked by pairs of six-over-six sash windows on each floor. The window frames are trimmed with ogee molded surrounds. Trimming the base of the roof is a boxed cornice enhanced with mid 19th-century bed and crown moldings. Piercing the roofline are portions of interior end and an off-center brick chimney stacks.

The east gable end features an exterior gable roofed cellar entry covered by a low pitched gable roof. The door is a reused section of feather-edged, vertical board paneling. The first and second floors are lighted by six-over-six sash windows flanking the interior end brick stack. The stack is also pierced by small attic windows which have lost their sash. Trimming the edge of the roof is a molded bargeboard.

The south (rear) wall is an asymmetrical façade as well with a small shed roofed kitchen addition extending from the southeast corner. The kitchen addition is supported on a foundation of rusticated concrete blocks. The balance of the rear wall is defined by a variety of early and mid 19th-century window and door openings. Adjacent to the shed kitchen is a board-and-batten door and a flanking six-over-six sash window framed by an ovolo molded surround. These two openings mark the older section, whereas the mid 19th-century addition is enhanced with an elaborate Greek Revival entrance sheltered under a collapsing porch. The Greek Revival door is flanked on each side by delicately executed diamond pane sidelight windows, and the entrance is framed by a wide mid 19th-century molded surround featuring plain corner blocks. The westernmost bay is marked by a six-over-six sash window trimmed with an ogee molded surround. Where the porch roof has collapsed and exposed the braced frame structure it is clearly evident where the mid 19th-century addition was laid up against the west gable end of the older braced frame structure. The second floor is lighted by six-over-six sash windows, and the base of the roof is trimmed with a boxed cornice.

The west gable end is defined by pairs of six-over-six sash windows on the first and second floors, and smaller window sash light the attic. The pairs of windows flank an interior brick stack. The gable end is flush and trimmed with a molded bargeboard.

The interior of the house was not seen.

Standing off the southeast corner of the house is single-story, gable-roofed concrete block well house. To the northeast of the house is a small, gable-front frame barn sheathed with board-and-batten siding.

8. Significance

Inventory No. WI-570

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

Specific dates **Architect/Builder**

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

National Register 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 projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

One of the oldest dwellings to survive in the vicinity of Pittsville is the two-story frame dwelling that stands on a tract of land known as “Smith’s Industry.” The chain of title for the land traces the ownership to Isaiah Smith, a prosperous Worcester County planter who died in 1847. At the time of his death his estate was valued at \$6,237.69 ¼, which included 17 slaves that comprised over half the estate worth.¹ The two-story frame dwelling dates from two distinct periods, c. 1820 and the late 1840s. Supported on a continuous brick foundation with a partially excavated cellar, the c.1820 three-bay frame structure, now sheathed with wood shingles, was enlarged with a Greek Revival trimmed addition during the late 1840s. In fact the estate inventory created at the time of Isaiah Smith’s death lists a cupboard in the “New Room.” Distinguishing the west end addition is an elaborate Greek Revival entrance with a paneled door flanked with diamond-shaped muntin sidelights and a bold corner block surround. When the addition was attached during the 1840s, the early nineteenth-century section was resheathed with plain weatherboard siding, however, the original window openings retained their ovolo molded backbands.

At the time of Isaiah Smith’s death in 1847, he devised his plantation lands to his two sons, Levin S. H. Smith and Henry J. B. Smith, both of whom appear in the mid nineteenth-century United States censuses for Worcester County. Levin S. H. Smith, the older of the two sons, resided in their parent’s house, and he is designated at the site on the Pittsburg district map in the Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas published in 1877.² He is also included in the patron list as a “lumberman and farmer” with title to 780 acres.³ The younger brother, Henry J. B. Smith, and his family probably occupied the family farm as well since he is not designated on the atlas nor in the patron list. His name does surface, however, in an 1872 title transfer which transferred ownership of the family lands to William Birkhead in trust for the benefit of Henry J. B. Smith’s creditors.⁴

In a second title transfer, Levin S. H. Smith, is identified as insolvent, and the estate trustee, Samuel A. Graham transferred ownership of part of the Smith estate to W. F. Ward.⁵ During the first half of the twentieth century, the Smith’s Industry farm with 80 acres was held by Levin G. Holloway and his heirs.⁶ In

¹ Worcester County Inventory, dated 17 January 1848 filed 7 March 1848, filmed records at the Worcester County Courthouse.
² John L. Graham, ed. *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*, Wicomico County Bicentennial Committee, p. 13.
³ *Ibid.* p. 51.
⁴ Wicomico County Land Record, TF, Jr. 3/219, 11 April 1872.
⁵ Wicomico County Land Record, SPT 5/142, 24 October 1882.
⁶ Wicomico County Land Record, JTT 24/301, 25 March 1899.

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Name Smith's Industry
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

1953, the 80-acre farm was acquired by William H. and Radia M. Parsons, in whose family the property remains.⁷

⁷ Wicomico County Land Record, JWTS 345/148, 17 February 1953.

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Continuation Sheet

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WI-570
Smith's Industry
Pittsville vicinity, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title

Map 22, Parcel 68

1006/574

William H. Parsons

to

2/28/1984

Carroll C. Parsons
Beverly A. Parsons

JWTS 345/148

Maggie Holloway Esham, Roy Holloway and Mae Holloway, Rosa
Holloway Shull, Stella Holloway Tingle

to

2/17/1953

William H. Parsons and Radia M. Parsons
80 acres-being in all respects the same land which Frank Holloway
died siezed

JWS 235/69

Mary G. Holloway, et al.

to -

8/6/1941

Frank Holloway
Levin G. Holloway died intestate and left as heirs-at-law Mary G.
Holloway, et al.

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Name Smith's Industry
Continuation Sheet

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JTT 24/301 Sallie E. Ward, widow, et al. Heirs of W. F. Ward, late of Wicomico Co.
to
3/25/1899 Levin G. Holloway
\$500 80 acres

SPT 5/142 Samuel A. Graham, trustee for the benefit of creditors of Levin H. S.
Smith, insolvent
to
10/24/1882 W. F. Ward
Trustees sale, Lot No. 4

TF, Jr. 3/219 Henry J. B. Smith
to
4/11/1872 William Birckhead
180 acres... Whereas the said Henry J. B. Smith being indebted to
sundry parties on judgment and otherwise and being unable to pay
the same without a sale of my real estate have proposed and agreed
to assign and convey the following property hereinafter described to
William Birckhead in trust for the benefit of his the said Henry J. B.
Smith's creditors... all that home farm where I now reside containing
600 acres more or less & called Smith's Industry... being the same farm
that was devised to him by the last will and testament of his father
Isaiah Smith and meant to embrace all the lands I now own situated in
Pittsburg District

Maryland Historical Trust

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Name Smith's Industry
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 4

Seventh Census of the United States, 1850, Worcester County Population Schedule, transcribed by Ruth T. Dryden, p. 145.

Henry J. B. Smith, 29, farmer
Sarah H. Smith, 22
Isaiah T. L. Smith, 5 months
Nancy Smith, 75
Lovey C. C., 34
Amanda J. R. Smith, 35

Levin S. H. Smith, 39, farmer
Amelia M. Smith, 30
Isaiah G. T. Smith, 7
Sarah H. J. Smith, 5
Robert H. I. Smith, 3
Nancy M. C. Smith, 7 months

Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Worcester County Population Schedule, transcribed by John C. Barnes, p.

Henry J. B. Smith, 40, M, farmer, 4000 value of real estate, 10,000 personal property
Sarah Smith, 33
Isaiah Smith, 11
June Smith, 43

Levin S. H. Smith, 50, m, farmer, 1000 value of real estate, 10,000 personal property
Amelia Smith, 40
Sarah Smith, 16
Humphrey Smith, 13
Martha Smith, 10
Milly, Smith, 8

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Name Smith's Industry
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 5

Worcester County
Will Book
LPT 1/368

Last Will and Testament of Isaiah Smith

Filed
12/14/1847

Executors Levin S. H. Smith
Henry J. B. Smith

Item 1 I give and devise unto my two sons namely Levin S. H. Smith and
and Henry J. B. Smith All the lands and premises and improvements
where I now live as also all and every part and parcel of land which I own
and possess attached to or adjoining the same including the lands which
Robert G. F. Smith has a deed...

Item 2 I give and bequeath unto my son Levin S. H. Smith One negro boy
Negro boy named Isaac one named Daniel Asbury and one Lott of
Blacksmith tools and also one still with all that relates there to....

Beloved wife...Nancy Smith

Worcester County
Inventory

Inventory of the Estate of Isaiah Smith

mentions several outbuildings including a loom house, meat house and shoe
makers shop

Filed 3/7/1848

1900 bricks
1 lot of studing and laths
1 lot of old scrap iron in shop
4500 2 foot shingles
4 old hogshead and 3 old barrels in the Barn
mentions cook house
1 cupboard in the New Room
1 corner cupboard in the dining room
1 carpet in parlor floor
1 carpet in dining room

17 slaves
Total of Inventory

total \$ 3,396.00
\$ 6,237.69 ¼

**Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form**

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Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 6

GHM 6/283

Certificate of Qualification as Justice of the Peace for Levin S. H. Smith

4/3/1843

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. WI-570

Graham, John L. *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*. Wicomico County Bicentennial Committee.

Wicomico County Land Records, various volumes, Wicomico County Courthouse.

Worcester County Land Records, various volumes, Worcester County Courthouse.

Worcester County Wills, various volumes, Worcester County Courthouse.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 80 acres

Acreage of historical setting 80 acres

Quadrangle name Pittsville, Maryland

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant	date	7/2/2001
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

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.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



W1-570

Smith's Industry

PITTSVILLE VIC., WICOMICO CO., MD.

NORTHEAST ELEVATION

7/01, PAUL THOMAS, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEED. MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

1 of 4



W1-570

SMITH'S INDUSTRY

PITTSVILLE VIC, WILSON CO., MD.

NORTH ELEVATION

7/01, PAUL TOWART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEH./MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

2004



W1-570

SMITH'S INDUSTRY

PITTSVILLE VIC, WISCONSIN Co., ILL.

EAST ELEVATION - CELLAR ENTRY
WITH REUSED LEATHER-EGG
PANELING,

7/01, PAUL TOWART, PHOTOGRAPHER
NEG / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

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W1-570

SMITH'S INDUSTRY

PITTSVILLE VIC., WICOMICO CO., MD.

SOUTH ELEVATION ENTRANCE

NEG. / MD HISTORICAL TRUST

9/06, PAUL TONARD, PHOTODUPLICATION

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