CH-906

outbuildings at 12595 Poplar Hill Road

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the "vertical files" at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

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Last Updated: 10-11-2011

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property Name: _____ Inventory Number: ~~CH-0001~~ CH-906

Address: 12595 Poplar Hill Road, Charles County - in the vicinity of Waldorf

Owner: Adams, Helene A

Tax Parcel Number: 21 Tax Map Number: 16

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 barn complex at 12595 Poplar Hill Road comprises a cedar lined entrance leading to several outbuildings. The entrance is marked by a rough-cut stone pier with a carved cap. The concrete foundation of a former outbuilding is still visible to the southeast of the tree-lined entry. A two-story barn and a one-story outbuilding are located to the east of the foundation. The barn has a front gable roof. A large sliding wood door marks the entrance. The barn is clad with vertical wood siding and is covered by metal sheeting. The one-story outbuilding has a front gable roof and a single-leaf door. The building is clad with asbestos siding ad has a corrugated metal roof.

Most inhabitants of Charles County were engaged in farming at the time of the first settlement. The barn was the principle building erected on a farm which provided space for cows, horses, equipment, and hay, straw or tobacco storage. Throughout the 19th century, barns increased in size or were newly built to include space for smaller animals, such as poultry and pigs, and as a place for the threshing and storage of grain. Their size also increased during the 19th century as the introduction of improved equipment led to more efficient and profitable operations, and, consequently, to increased need for storage facilities. Typically, livestock was housed on the lower level,

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended __ **Eligibility not recommended** X

Criteria: X **A** __ **B** X **C** __ **D** **Consideration** __ **A** __ **B** __ **C** __ **D** __ **E** __ **F** __ **G** __ **None**

_____ 10/22/99

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

_____ _____

Reviewer, NR Program **Date**

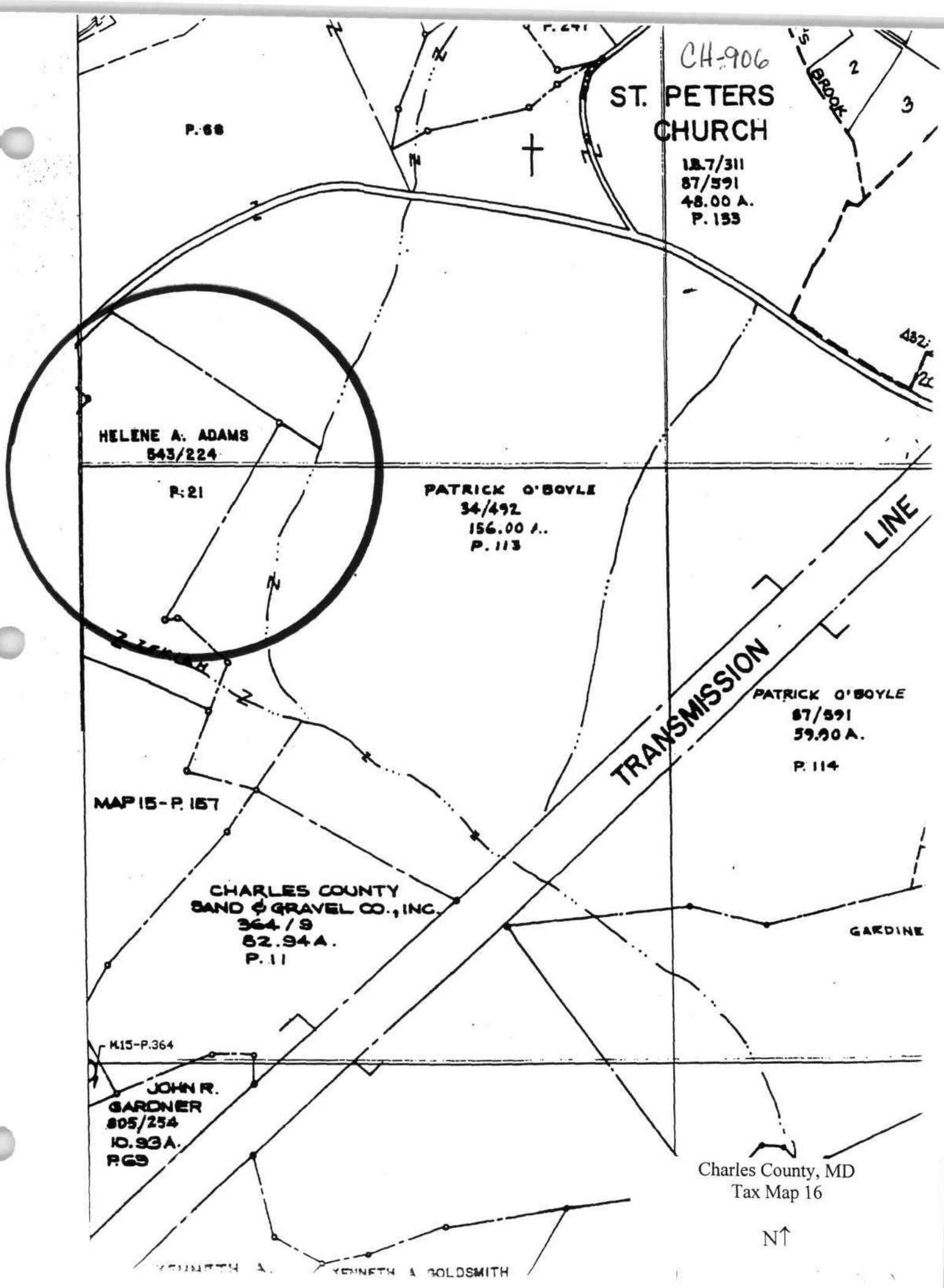
while the upper level was reserved for the storage of hay and straw, and the threshing and storage of feed grains.

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

In the first part of the 20th century, the economy of Charles County was based upon agricultural production, especially tobacco. Charles County was one the of the largest producers of tobacco in the State of Maryland. With its economy geared toward agricultural, Charles County was primarily rural and the housing introduced after World War II was on a small scale in comparison to other areas in the country.

Towards the end of the first quarter of the 20th century, road improvements and developments also contributed to Charles County's community evolution. In particular, the Robert Crain Highway, later expanded as part of U.S. 301, attracted new development to older communities along its corridor. Waldorf became an important interchange on the Crain Highway between the rest of Southern Maryland and Washington, D.C. and expanded in the 1920s both commercially and residentially. In 1922 in anticipation of the Crain Highway, J. Spence Howard surveyed and subdivided the village of Waldorf, which came to include such amenities as a hotel, a general store, several small shops, a two-room school, restaurants and entertainment establishments equipped with slot machines.

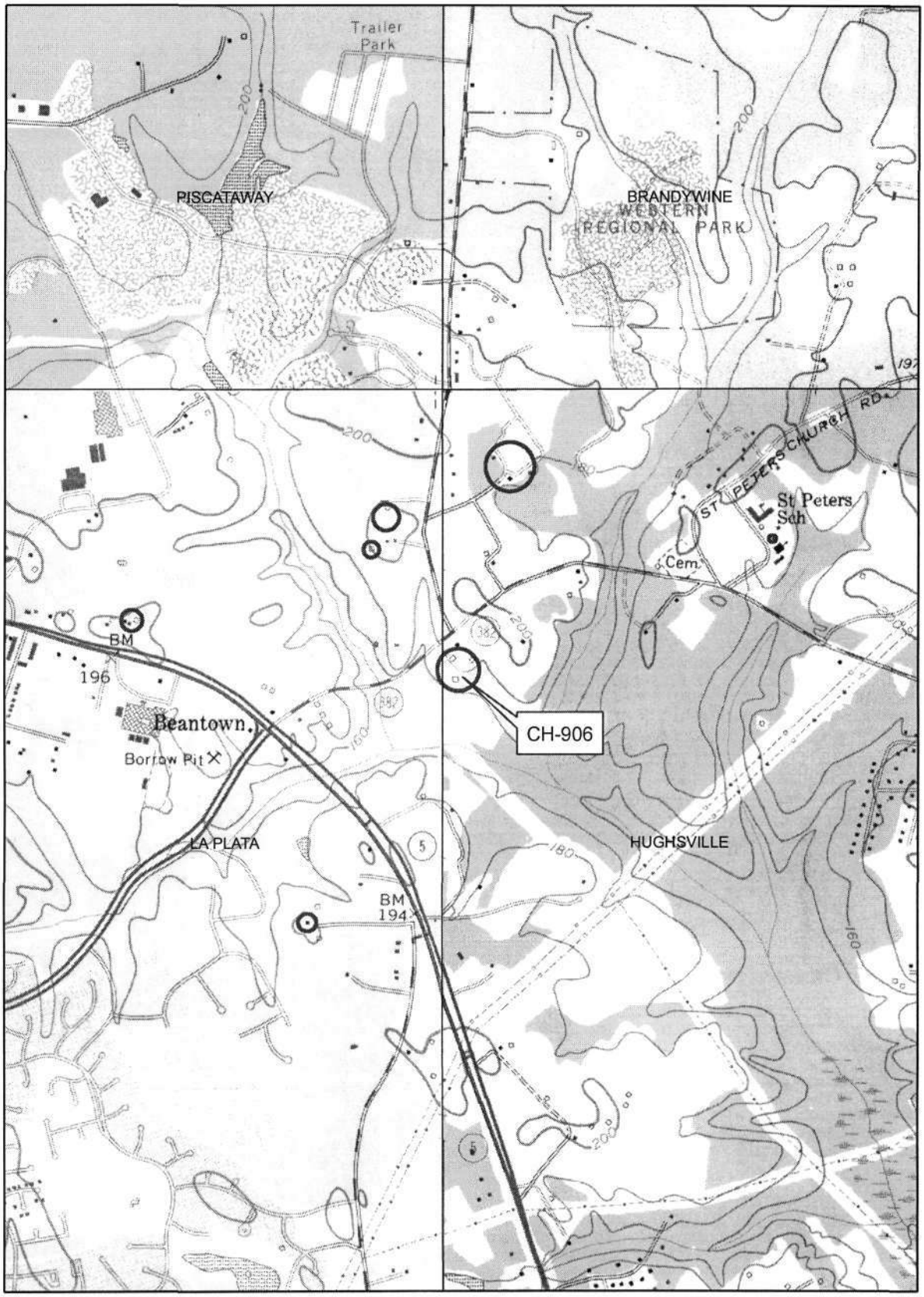
Built circa 1920, this barn complex is not eligible for the National Register. While it is an example of agricultural development surrounding Waldorf, this resource lacks significance related to events, persons, or architecture. Criterion D, information potential, was not assessed for this study.

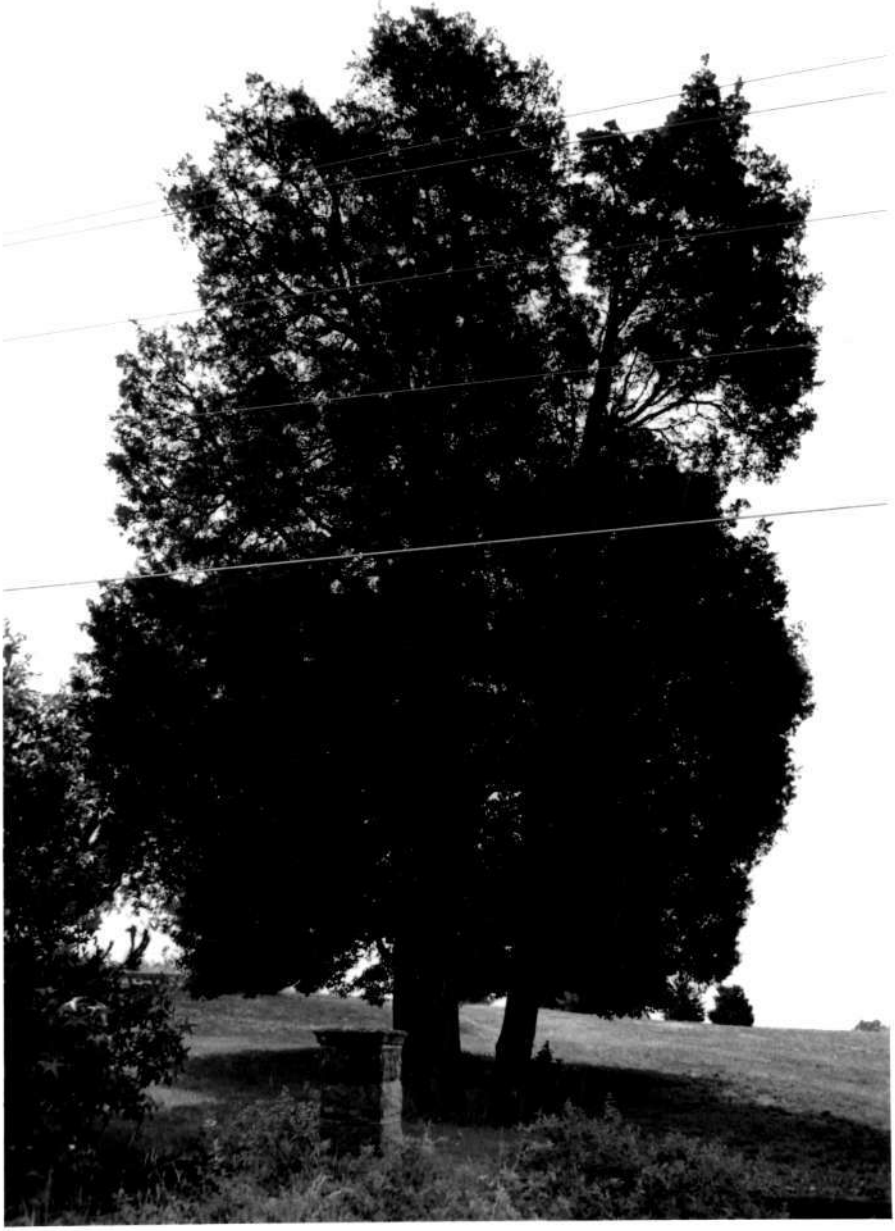


Charles County, MD
Tax Map 16

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CH-906
Hughsville
Quad





CH-906

[redacted]

12595 Poplar Hill Road
Charles County, MD
Traceries
June 1999
MD SHPO
View looking southeast
1 of 3



CH-906
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12595 Poplar Hill Road
Charles County, MD
Traceries
June 1999
MD SHPO
View looking east
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12595 Poplar Hill Road
Charles County, MD
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June 1999
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View looking east
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