

HO-1162
Davis-Williams House
11350 Old Frederick Road
private

Description:

The Davis-Williams House is a two-story, three-bay by one-bay frame structure covered in aluminum siding, with a two-story, two-bay by one-bay frame ell on the rear. The main block has a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a northwest-southeast ridge. There is no chimney in the main block. The ell had a gable with a southwest-northeast ridge, but the roof and southeast wall have completely collapsed. Both the ell and the main block have been severely altered, and the main block shows signs of significant deterioration. The southwest elevation center bay has a new door. The southeast elevation of the main block has aluminum siding over asbestos shingles on what appears to be homasote, all over top of hexagonal asphalt shingle siding.

Significance:

The land upon which the Davis-Williams House sits was part of a woodlot on the farm owned by Albert and Mary Shipley. The Shipleys sold the half-acre tract to Charles Davis for \$35.00 in 1881, indicating that there were no significant improvements on the property at that time. According to the 1880 census, Charles Davis was a 25-year-old mulatto working as a farm hand, probably for Benjamin F. Shipley, with whom he lived. In 1885 he was assessed for a new house, valued at \$133, which is undoubtedly the existing dwelling. Given the low assessment, the house probably consisted of only the main block, with either one large room downstairs or two small ones, and likely two chambers above. The ell was most likely added later, as the Davis family grew. Charles Davis died in 1942 and his widow, Mary, the following year. Their house was inherited by their three children, who sold the property in 1951 to Janie Beatrice Williams and her husband John Lee Williams; it remains in the possession of their daughter, Rochester Arvinia Smith.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-1162

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Davis-Williams House

other

2. Location

street and number 11350 Old Frederick Road not for publication

city, town Marriottsville vicinity

county Howard

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

name Michael & Rochester Smith

street and number 3109 Rheims Rd telephone

city, town Baltimore state MD zip code 21244

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Courthouse liber 838 folio 418

city, town Ellicott City tax map 10 tax parcel 164 tax ID number

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	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<u> </u> 1 <u> </u> 0
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<u> </u> 0 <u> </u> 0
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<u> </u> 0 <u> </u> 0
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<u> </u> 1 <u> </u> 0
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			<u> </u> 0 <u> </u>

7. Description

Inventory No. HO-1162

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.

Summary:

The Davis-Williams House is a two-story, three-bay by one-bay frame structure covered in aluminum siding, with a two-story, two-bay by one-bay frame ell on the rear. The main block has a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a northwest-southeast ridge. There is no chimney in the main block. The ell had a gable with a southwest-northeast ridge, but the roof and southeast wall have completely collapsed. Both the ell and the main block have been severely altered, and the main block shows signs of significant deterioration. The southwest elevation center bay has a new door. The southeast elevation of the main block has aluminum siding over asbestos shingles on what appears to be homasote, all over top of hexagonal asphalt shingle siding.

Description:

The Davis-Williams House is located at 11350 Old Frederick Road, about 2 ½ miles south of Marriottsville, in northern Howard County, Maryland. The house is set close to the road and faces southwest toward it, on a small lot that slopes up to the northeast.

It is a two-story, three-bay by one-bay frame structure covered in aluminum siding, with a two-story, two-bay by one-bay frame ell on the rear. The main block has a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a northwest-southeast ridge. There is no chimney in the main block. The ell had a gable with a southwest-northeast ridge, but the roof and southeast wall have completely collapsed. Both the ell and the main block have been severely altered, and the main block shows signs of significant deterioration.

The southwest elevation has brick veneer added at the bottom over top of asbestos shingles that are laid on top of plywood. The brick has partially collapsed. The center bay of the first story has a new door. The west bay has a large, newer, six-over-six metal sash and the south bay has a boarded-up large window opening. The second story west and south bays each have a large six-over-six metal sash, and there is no opening in the center bay. The boxed cornice is wrapped in aluminum and some of it is down. What appears to be the top plate is exposed as a result, and has approximately 1-inch-diameter holes drilled into it in an apparently irregular placement.

The southeast elevation of the main block has brick veneer at the bottom that is bowed out, and aluminum siding over asbestos shingles on what appears to be homasote, all over top of hexagonal asphalt shingle siding. There are no openings on the first or second stories, but there is a vent in the gable end. The eaves are boxed. The southeast elevation of the ell had an enclosed porch that is partially collapsed and buried under the collapsed southeast wall of the ell.

The northeast elevation of the ell has a new exterior brick chimney that is partially collapsed at the top. The first story has a metal four-over-four sash to the east and a similar window to the north that is

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-1162

Name Davis-Williams House
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

boarded up. The second story has a six-over-six metal sash on each side of the chimney. The wall is partially missing in the east bay. There is no opening in the gable end.

The northwest side of the ell has an enclosed, shed-roofed one-story modern addition. The second story of the ell has no openings. The main block has brick veneer at the base and no openings on the first or second stories, or in the gable end. The eaves are boxed.

The interior was not accessible but several features were visible due to exposure from the collapse. The east corner post appears to be about 4 inches square, with an up-brace. The original wood siding was probably weatherboards, but was too deteriorated to determine with certainty. The ell has knotty pine paneling on the first story. The second story has two sizes of studs with horizontal wood siding. The north corner post apparently has a down-brace. The roof has solid wood board sheathing.

8. Significance

Inventory No. HO-1162

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 checked="" 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	N/A		Architect/Builder	N/A
Construction dates	c. 1881-1884			

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.)

Summary:

The land upon which the Davis-Williams House sits was part of a woodlot on the farm owned by Albert and Mary Shipley. The Shipleys sold the half-acre tract to Charles Davis for \$35.00 in 1881, indicating that there were no significant improvements on the property at that time. According to the 1880 census, Charles Davis was a 25-year-old mulatto working as a farm hand, probably for Benjamin F. Shipley, with whom he lived. In 1885 he was assessed for a new house, valued at \$133, which is undoubtedly the existing dwelling. Given the low assessment, the house probably consisted of only the main block, with either one large room downstairs or two small ones, and likely two chambers above. The ell was most likely added later, as the Davis family grew. Charles Davis died in 1942 and his widow, Mary, the following year. Their house was inherited by their three children, who sold the property in 1951 to Janie Beatrice Williams and her husband John Lee Williams; it remains in the possession of their daughter, Rochester Arvinia Smith.

Significance:

The land upon which the Davis-Williams House sits was part of a woodlot on the farm owned by Albert and Mary Shipley. The Shipleys sold the half-acre tract to Charles Davis for \$35.00 in 1881, indicating that there were no significant improvements on the property at that time. According to the 1880 census, Charles Davis was a 25-year-old mulatto working as a farm hand, probably for Benjamin F. Shipley, with whom he lived. Also living with Benjamin Shipley, and listed ahead of Charles, was Laura V. Davis, a black cook who was listed as age 18. Albert and Mary Shipley lived next door to Benjamin and had a 15-year-old black housekeeper living with them named Laura P. Davis. One wonders if the Laura Davis living with Benjamin Shipley was actually much older than the age listed, and was possibly the mother of both Charles and Laura P. Charles had probably arranged to acquire the lot because he was getting married and was looking to set up house on his own. His family might have had a long-term association with the Shipley family, which may have helped him to convince them to sell a lot off of one of their farms. In 1885 he was assessed for a new house, valued at \$133, which is undoubtedly the

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-1162

Name Davis-Williams House
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

existing dwelling. It is not clear whether it took Davis a few years to build his house after acquiring the land, or whether it took the tax assessor a few years to notice it.¹

Given the low assessment, the house probably consisted of only the main block, with either one large room downstairs or two small ones, and likely two chambers above. The ell was most likely added later, as the Davis family grew. In 1900 Charles was still working as a farm hand, and his birth year was listed as 1850, putting him at age 50 at that time (older than what the 1880 census suggested). He and his wife, Mary, had three children, the oldest of whom was also working as a field hand. Mary, who had been born in 1863, was working as a washer woman, in addition to keeping house, in order to help make ends meet. The occupations of all of the Davises were common throughout the post-Civil War era and well into the twentieth century for rural African Americans who had been provided few skills and held little real estate, forcing them to survive by whatever jobs were made available to them. These were often low-paying, so the ability to acquire a home lot and build even a small dwelling was notable.²

Charles Davis died in 1942 and his widow, Mary, the following year. Their house was inherited by their three children, Cornelius Davis, Susie King, and Romaine Hall. They sold the property in 1951 to Janie Beatrice Williams and her husband John Lee Williams, and it remains in the possession of their daughter, Rochester Arvinia Smith.

¹ U. S. Bureau of the Census, District 3, Howard County, Maryland, 1880. Howard County Commissioners of the Tax, Assessment, District 3, 1876-96, Maryland State Archives.

² U. S. Bureau of the Census, District 3, Howard County, Maryland, 1900.

Davis-Williams House (HO-1162)

11350 Old Frederick Road

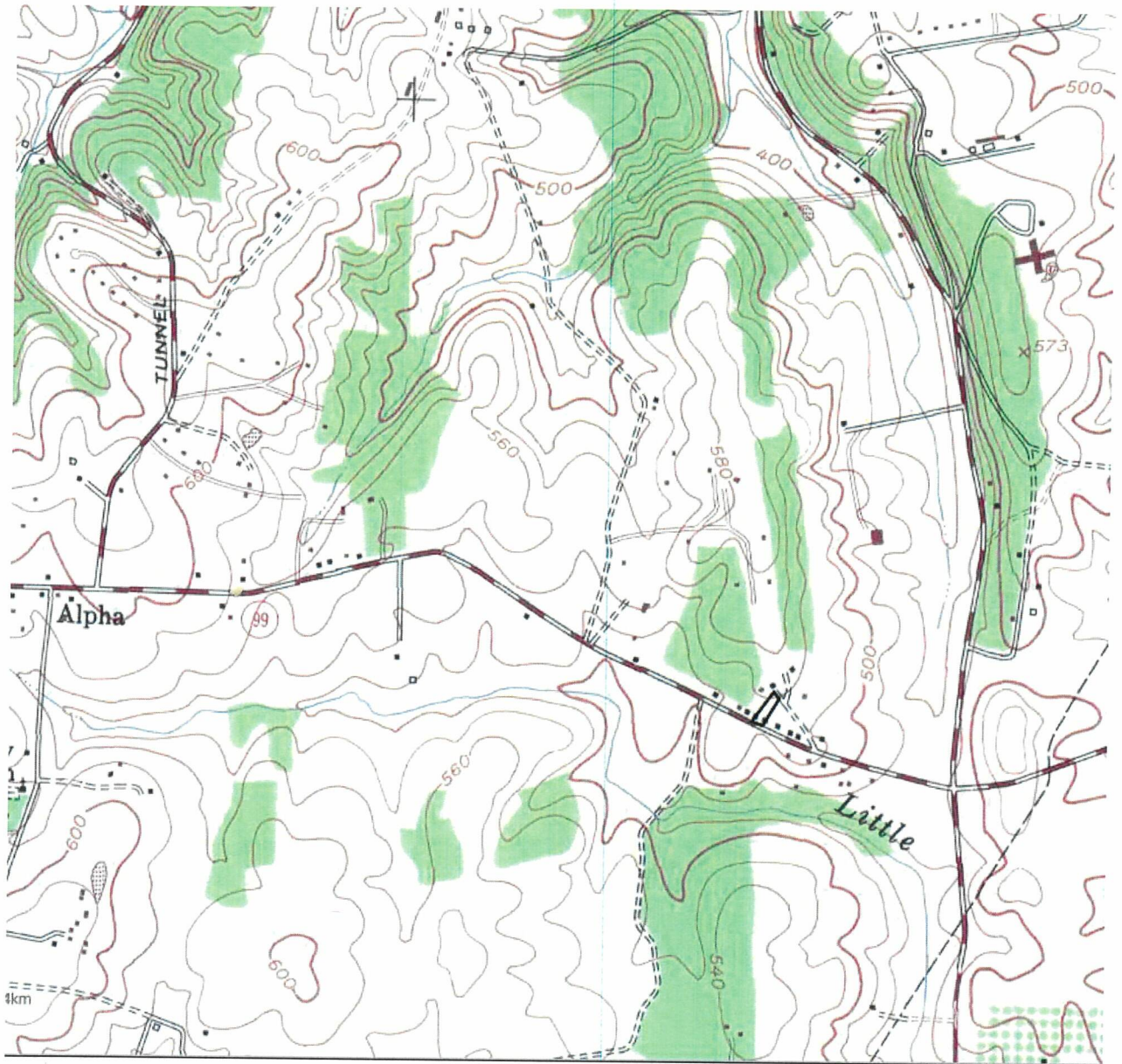
CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER- ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
John Williams & wife Charlene M. / ?	Michael A. Smith & wife Rochester Arvinia / ?	23 May 1977	CMP 838-418	Deed- Fee simple	\$5.00	?	
John Williams / Howard	John Williams & wife Charlene M.	22 January 1974	CMP 667-486	Deed- Fee simple	\$5.00	?	
John Williams, personal rep. of Janie Beatrice Williams, dec'd, etal, children / ?	John Williams / ?	23 November 1973	CMP 661-365	Deed- Fee simple	\$1.00	?	JBW d. 7 April 1973 8 kids: Russell Lee Williams; Rochester Arvinia Smith; Mary Melvin Williams; Edward Grandsville Williams; Mabel Elizabeth Mack; James Joseph Williams; Benjamin Augustus Williams; John Williams.
Susie O. King & husband William / Howard Romaine D. Hall & husband Charles / Balto. City Cornelius Davis / Balto. Co.	Beatrice Williams & husband John Lee	? Nov. 1951	CMP 642-594	Deed-Fee simple	\$5.00	?	Chas. Davis d. 20 October 1942 widow Mary Davis d. 1943, interstate. Only children are S.O. King, R.D. Hall, & C. Davis

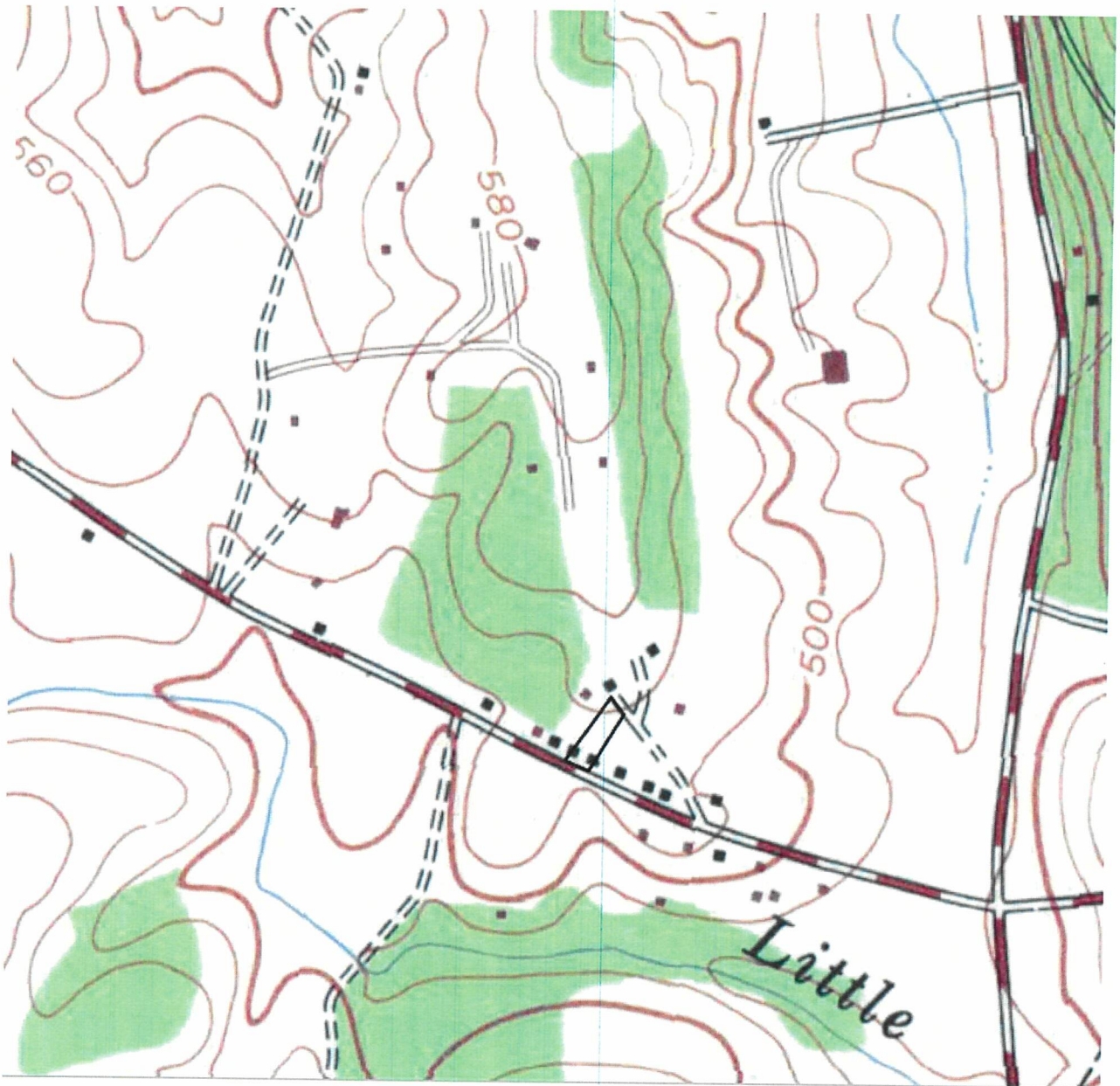
Davis-Williams House (HO-1162)
 11350 Old Frederick Road

CHAIN OF TITLE

Albert E. Shipley & wife Mary F. / Howard	Charles Davis / Howard	7 May 1881	LJW 43-590	Deed-Fee simple	\$35.00	½ A.	P/o a lot of woodland in below. On north side of Old Frederick Road.
Joshua A. Shipley & wife Mary Ann / ?	Albert E. Shipley / ?	17 April 1866	WWW 25-195	Deed-?	\$5.00 & L & A	1) ? 2) 15 A 3) 22 A 4) 15 A. woodland	



HO-1162
Davis-Williams House
11350 Old Frederick Road
Sykesville quad



HO-1162
Davis-Williams House
11350 Old Frederick Road
Sykesville quad



HO-1162

"Davis - Williams House"

11350 Old Frederick Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2017-12-06

MD SHPO

House, southwest & southeast elevations

1 of 4

0-1162

"Davis - Williams House"

1350 Old Frederick Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2017-12-06

MD SHPO

House, southeast elevations

2 of 4



H10 - 1162

"Davis - Williams House"

11350 Old Frederick Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2017-12-06

MD SHPO

House, northeast elevation

3 of 4

H10 - 1162

"Davis - Williams House"

11350 Old Frederick Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2017-12-06

MD SHPO

House, northwest elevation

4 of 4