

CAPSULE SUMMARY
CT-1281
Smith's Store
9470 H. G. Trueman Road
Lusby, Calvert County
Ca. 1900
Private

Smith's Store is located at 9470 H. G. Trueman Road in Lusby, Calvert County, Maryland. Smith's Store served as a general store and meeting place for the local community from the early years of the 20th century through 2001. Constructed circa 1900, the original portion features commercial space on the first floor and residential space on the second. According to oral history, the store was leased during the 1920s and 1930s to the Woodburns. After 1943, Reiman and North Smith, who operated the business until 1985, enlarged the store. The property was conveyed to Donald Jefferson, who re-opened the store as DJ's Mini Mart. Currently vacant, Smith's Store is an excellent example of the early-20th-century rural general store.

Smith's Store was constructed in three distinct phases. The main block of the wood-frame building, constructed circa 1900, stands two stories in height and five bays in width. The main block is clad in weatherboard and asbestos shingles and is covered by a hipped roof of asphalt shingles. After 1943, the central portion of the overall building was constructed to provide additional commercial space. This section features weatherboard cladding, a three-bay-wide front porch, and an arched parapet roof. On the south side of the store is a 1993 wood-frame addition with a parapeted shed roof, which serves as a freezer for the convenience store. On the rear of the building are two porch additions. A wood-frame garage stands to the north of the store.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CT-1281

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Smith's Store (preferred)
 other DJ's Mini Mart

2. Location

street and number 9470 H.G. Trueman Road not for publication
 city, town Lusby vicinity
 county Calvert

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

name Agnes Jefferson
 street and number 9485 H.G. Trueman Road telephone 410/326-3528
 city, town Lusby state MD zip code 20657-2800

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse tax map and parcel: M39, P141
 city, town Prince Frederic liber ABE folio 107

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
- Other

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
			Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	2	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense		sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic		structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education		objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	2	0
		<input type="checkbox"/> government		Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
			0	

7. Description

Inventory No. CT-1281

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Smith's Store, located at 9470 H. G. Trueman Road in Lusby, Calvert County, was constructed in three distinct phases. It is set close to the road on a level, grassy lot with parking to the front and side of the building. The main block of the wood-frame building, constructed circa 1900, stands two stories in height and five bays in width. The main block is clad in weatherboard and asbestos shingles and is covered by a hipped roof of asphalt shingles. After 1943, the central portion of the overall building was constructed to provide additional commercial space. This section features weatherboard cladding, a three-bay-wide front porch, and an arched parapet roof. On the south side of the store is a 1993 wood-frame addition with a parapeted shed roof, which serves as a freezer for the convenience store. On the rear of the building are two porch additions. A wood-frame garage stands to the north of the store.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The façade or west elevation of the main block is two bays in height and five bays in width. The first story is pierced by two single-leaf wood flush doors and three 1/1 replacement windows. There are five evenly spaced window openings at the second story with five 1/1 replacement windows. On the main block of the building, all of the windows are framed by square-edged wood surrounds. To the north of the main block is a 1993 wood frame addition that is recessed from the façade. It is accessed on the west elevation by a single-leaf wood flush door.

Adjacent to the south wall of the main block is the circa 1940 one-story addition that served as a convenience store. The three-bay-wide store projects to the west of the main block by several feet. Dominating the façade of this section is a one-story, three-bay wide porch that extends across the full width of the addition. It features a half-hipped roof that is supported by square wood posts. Set beneath the porch is a recessed centered entry with a single-leaf plate glass metal door and one-light sidelights. One-light fixed metal display windows flank the entry. One of the dominant architectural details on this elevation is the parapet roof with a round-arched central section. To the south of the circa 1940 addition is the 1993 addition. This section of the building is clad in vinyl German siding and has no openings on the west elevation.

On the south elevation, the two additions obscure the main block of the building. In fact, the south elevation of the 1993 addition is all that is visible from this vantage point. It features a one-light metal awning window that is set in the upper portion of the wall. At the southeast corner of the addition is a single-leaf metal flush door.

On the rear or east elevation of the building, all three of the construction phases are visible, as they are on the façade. A full-width enclosed rear porch obscures the first story of the main block. The porch is enclosed with weatherboard cladding and features a shed roof with rolled asphalt sheeting and exposed rafter tails. The porch is pierced by a single-leaf wood flush door and a window opening that has been boarded shut with plywood. An interior brick chimney with stretcher-bond construction rises from the roof of the porch. On the rear of the enclosed porch is a one-story wood-frame porch that has also been enclosed with plywood and weatherboard cladding. A single-leaf wood door accesses it.

The east elevation of the circa 1940 convenience store is pierced by a single window opening that has been boarded shut with plywood. As seen on the main block, there is also an enclosed rear porch on this section of the building. The porch features wood German siding and a shed roof with rolled asphalt sheeting. There are no openings on the east elevation of the 1993 addition.

The north elevation of the building is largely confined to the main block. However, the circa 1940 addition projects slightly to the west, with a single one-light fixed window on the north wall of the projection. The main block is pierced at the first story by a single window opening that has been boarded shut. A paired window opening that has been boarded shut with plywood also pierces the modest addition on this elevation. The second story of the main block features two 2/2 windows. Like those on the façade, these windows are framed with square-edged wood surrounds.

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INTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The main block of Smith's Store has been altered and currently features a three-room irregular plan on the first floor. The entire front section of the building is currently one large room that was used as both a store and a bar. The floor is covered with linoleum floor tiles and the walls and ceiling are clad in wallboard with in-boards. Square-edged surrounds frame the four doors that access this room. Likewise, the windows also feature square-edged surrounds and molded wood sills. There is a built-in L-shaped counter for the bar with fixed barstools at the front. A door along the northeast wall of the room leads to living space at the rear, including a living room and a kitchen. The living room features wall-to-wall carpeting, wood paneling on the walls, and an acoustic tile drop ceiling. The kitchen has also been altered to serve as a kitchen for both the bar and the residential space above. A large built-in industrial sink lies along the west wall of the kitchen. At the southeast corner of the bar is a single-leaf door that leads to the enclosed straight stair.

The second floor of the main block was altered in the 1980s and currently contains two bedrooms and a bathroom. The floors are covered with wall-to-wall carpeting. Other alterations include wood paneling on the walls and acoustic tile drop ceilings. The two bedrooms contain the original horizontal-panel, single-leaf wood doors with rim locks and metal knobs.

The circa 1940 store addition features a one-room plan with vinyl floor tiling on the floors and wallboard with in-boards on the walls. The ceilings were originally clad in the same manner as the walls, but a drop ceiling with acoustic tiles has been installed over the original ceiling. Wood shelving lines the walls of the store and the original display case and counter lie at the northwest corner of the room. The south wall of the store is largely comprised of the refrigerated section, with ten plate glass doors opening onto the cold storage shelves. Adjacent to these doors is a single-leaf entry leading to the freezer section that was constructed in 1993. Featuring a poured concrete floor, this section is pierced by oversized, single-leaf metal doors to accommodate the delivery of merchandise.

OUTBUILDINGS

The one-story, wood frame garage was constructed circa 1940. Set on a concrete block foundation, the one-bay-wide garage is clad in asbestos shingles. The front-gabled features standing-seam metal cladding. The door has been removed from the façade or south elevation of the garage.

8. Significance

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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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates c1900; 1943 **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates c1900; 1943

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 reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

Smith's Store is located at 9470 H. G. Trueman Road in Lusby, Calvert County, Maryland. Smith's Store served as a general store and meeting place for the local community from the early years of the 20th century through 2001. Constructed circa 1900, the original portion features commercial space on the first floor and residential space on the second. According to oral history, the store was leased during the 1920s and 1930s to the Woodburns. After 1943, Reiman and North Smith, who operated the business until 1985, enlarged the store. The property was conveyed to Donald Jefferson, who re-opened the store as DJ's Mini Mart. Currently vacant, Smith's Store is an excellent example of the early-20th-century rural general store.

HISTORY OF GENERAL STORES IN CALVERT COUNTY

At the turn of the 20th century, Calvert County was populated with dozens of country general stores. General stores were located in small towns or along rural transportation routes, both land and water, particularly crossroads, waterway landings, and at railroad freight or flag stops. In Calvert County, most of the known general stores date to the late 19th and early 20th centuries and adopt the form of a late Victorian era dwelling. They are often two-story wood-frame buildings with gable or cross-gable roofs and wide front or side porches. Most known general stores in Calvert County either began as dwellings, with the store being built onto or into them at a later date, or the store was originally built in conjunction with a residence. Often the proprietor of the store would live in the building or would rent out the residence to family or employees. This explains the prevalence of a domestic architectural form and language for general stores of this time period throughout the county. Although not taking the form of a Queen Anne-style building, Smith's Store is representative of the vernacular dwellings that were constructed during the early years of the 20th century.

The "general" store was so named because of the general nature of items carried. First and foremost in the country general store was the agricultural and livestock merchandise such as feed, seeds for planting, small tools and supplies such as rope and nails. Fishing, oystering and crabbing supplies such as bait, nets and cages would have been sold in many stores, as well, particularly in the late 19th and early 20th centuries with the rise of the seafood industry in Calvert County. Basic food items, primarily dry goods, were carried as well, such as flour and salt, and to a lesser extent perishable items such as freshly-butchered meats and dairy products. Availability of perishable items such as meats, dairy products, fruits and vegetable, before refrigeration became readily accessible in the second quarter of the 20th century would have been periodic, with local butchers or farmers delivering fresh items in relatively small quantities. Most county residents, however, would have such items supplied on their own farm.

Tobacco, toiletries, newspapers and other periodical publications and medicines were an essential component of the general store, which featured a variety of pain-killers, tonics and elixirs, and other general remedies. General stores frequently carried sweets and sodas, as well, the latter deriving from general store medicine tonics and achieving its current popularity by introduction in country general stores of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Many general stores also carried cloth, or basic apparel for the rural

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residents engaged in agricultural or maritime pursuits. Standard items included farming and fishing apparel such as overalls and cotton shirts or waterproof gear, underwear, socks and shoes, as well as more luxury items such as collared shirts, dresses and hats. Small gifts and toys were also common in the general store. Following the introduction of gasoline-powered automobiles and boats, gasoline fuel pumps became a major component to the general store, both along automobile, railroad and water routes.

In addition to stocking basic goods and necessities, the country general store also provided a variety of services to the rural and small town resident. As described above, general stores frequently contained local post offices where patrons could retrieve and post mail, or send money orders. Such was not the case at Smith's Store, which was less than a mile from the Lusby Store and Post Office.

General stores began to decline in popularity and number following World War II (1941-1945), largely due to the appearance of supermarkets, department stores, and other specialized merchandise stores. Some general stores adapted to the changes taking place by becoming gas station convenience stores that catered less to the local community and more to transient patrons. Such was the case with Smith's Store, in which the main store addition was constructed circa 1940 to serve as a convenience store, a role it fulfilled until 2001.

HISTORY OF SMITH'S STORE

Situated in the small community of Lusby, Smith's Store has a strong link with the lives of local residents. The current store building, now vacant, was constructed in three phases, with the original structure being constructed circa 1900. During the 1920s and 1930s, oral history suggests that the building was leased to the Woodburns, who operated the store for a period of time.(1) Deed research supports this statement, indicating that between 1916 and 1941, the heirs of Mary S. Tucker, who died intestate in 1916, owned the property. Tucker's heirs, Emma Frances Hungerford, Edward S. Pardoe, Samuel W. Pardoe, and Agnes F. Griffith, owned the property for twenty-five years, before selling the 110-acre tract of land to J. Wilmer and Ruth Gott in 1941. Two years later, they sold two acres of land, including the store, to Reiman Smith.

In 1943, Mr. Smith purchased the property and took over the business with his wife North Smith, renaming it "Smith's Store." Under the ownership of Reiman and North Smith in the 1940s, a large one-story addition was built onto the south side of the existing structure out of lumber from Reiman Smith's own sawmill across the street.(2) During this period, the store was just one building within a complex of commercial structures owned by the Smiths that included a barbershop, an automobile repair shop, and a bakery. William Alexander Foote, who cut hair and sold pig's feet to his customers, operated the barbershop out of the existing garage.(3) At this time, the gas pumps were also added to the front of the store to attract passing motorists.(4)

Under the Smith's ownership, the first story of the original store was converted into a bar. Current owner Agnes Jefferson recalls that the bar was segregated, with whites and blacks entering through separate doors and once inside, were seated in separate areas.(5) At that time, there was a jukebox set in the divider between the two areas within the bar. Following desegregation, the dividing wall was removed and the bar was opened as one large space.

In 1954, Reiman and North Smith's nephew Donald Jefferson, who they raised from a baby, and his new bride Agnes moved into the apartment above the bar.(6) In addition to helping run the store, Jefferson also operated and maintained the school buses for Calvert County and farmed the nearby land, growing tobacco, corn, and strawberries. Following the death of North Smith in 1985, Donald Jefferson inherited the store and following extensive renovations to the building, re-opened it as DJ's Mini-Mart. (7) During this period, Agnes Jefferson operated a short-order grill in the back of the store, and the bar, which was now closed, was used for storage. (8) The store remained in operation until 2001.

CHAIN OF TITLE

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Continuation Sheet

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June 7, 1887: , Robert R. and Mary E. Grover to Thomas R. Grover, Mortgage
Land Records of Calvert County
Liber JS 1 Folio 51

December 28, 1897: , William H. Hellen, assignee, to Thomas R. Grover
Land Records of Calvert County
Liber GWD 1 Folio 406

No Date: , Thomas R. Grover to Mary S. Tucker
Will Records of Calvert County
Liber VCC 1 Folio 381

1916: , Mary S. Tucker to Edwards S. Pardoe, Emma Frances Hungerford, Samuel W. Pardoe, and Agnes F. Griffith
Will Records of Calvert County

February 11, 1941: , Emma Frances and James W. Hungerford, Edwards S. and Daisy M. Pardoe, Mildred F. Griffith, and Samuel W. Pardoe to J. William and Ruth M. Gott
Land Records of Calvert County
Liber AAH 46 Folio 93

August 11, 1943: , J. Wilmer and Ruth M. Gott to Reiman D. Smith
Land Records of Calvert County
Liber AAH 49 Folio 533

No Date: , Reiman Smith to North Smith
Will Records of Calvert County
Liber GLH 2 Folio 396

October 9, 1963: , North Smith to Donald and Agnes Jefferson
Land Records of Calvert County
Liber JLB 60 Folio 505

December 5, 1988: , Donald Jefferson, for the Estate of North Smith, to Donald Jefferson
Land Records of Calvert County
Liber ABE 498 Folio 104

December 5, 1988: , Donald Jefferson to Donald and Agnes Jefferson
Land Records of Calvert County
Liber ABE 498 Folio 107

ENDNOTES

1. Agnes Jefferson, interview by Carrie E. Albee, Lusby, MD, June 4, 2002.
2. Jefferson.
3. Oliver Foote, Agnes Jefferson and Eugene Ward, interview by Robin Weidlich, Lusby, MD, June 11, 2002.

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4. Jefferson.
5. Jefferson.
6. Jefferson.
7. Jefferson.
8. Jefferson.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CT-1281

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 7.32 acresAcreage of historical setting 110 acresQuadrangle name Cove PointQuadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Smith's Store has been associated with Tax Map 39, Parcel 141 since its construction circa 1900.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title R. Weidlich & C. Albee, Architectural Historiansorganization EHT E.H.T. Tracerics, Inc.date 8/27/02street and number 1121 Fifth Street, N.W.telephone 202/393-1199city or town Washingtonstate DC zip code 20001

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
410-514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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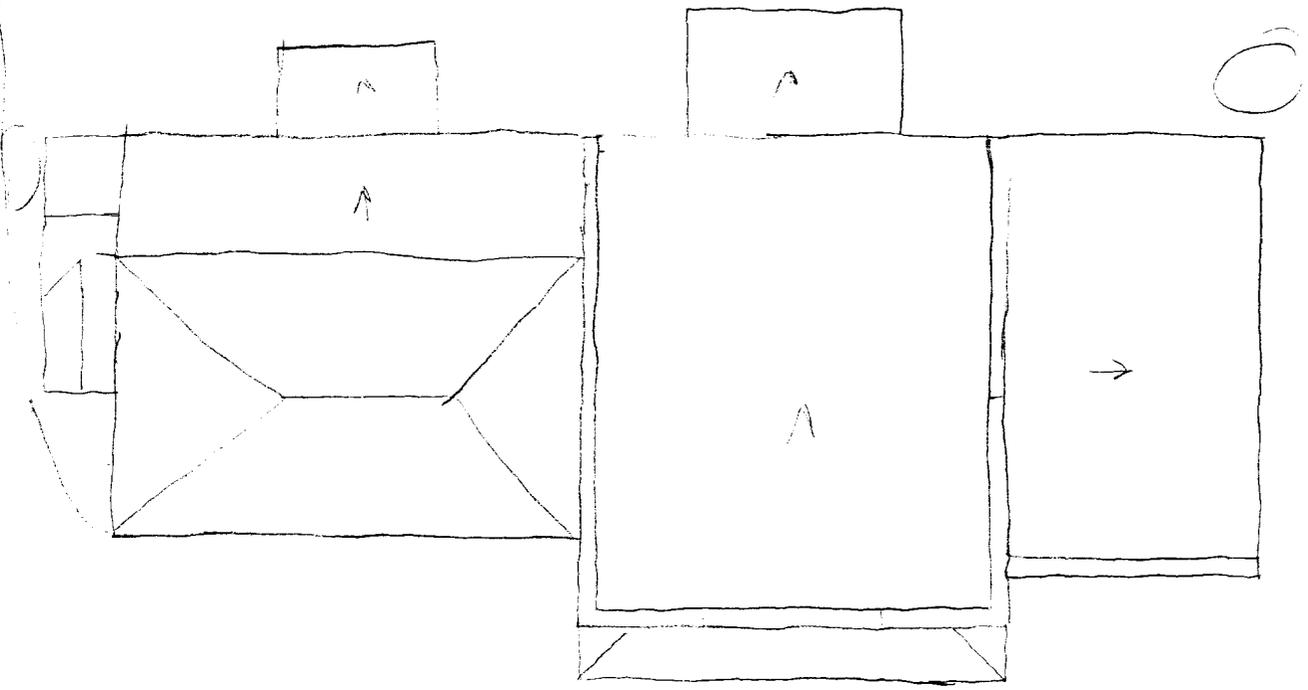
Jefferson, Agnes, interview by Carrie E. Albee, Lusby, MD, June 4, 2002.

RESOURCE SKETCH MAP
CT-1281, SMITH'S STORE
9470 H.G. TRUMAN ROAD
LUSBY, CALVERT COUNTY, MD

NOT DRAWN TO SCALE N ←

wooded

wooded



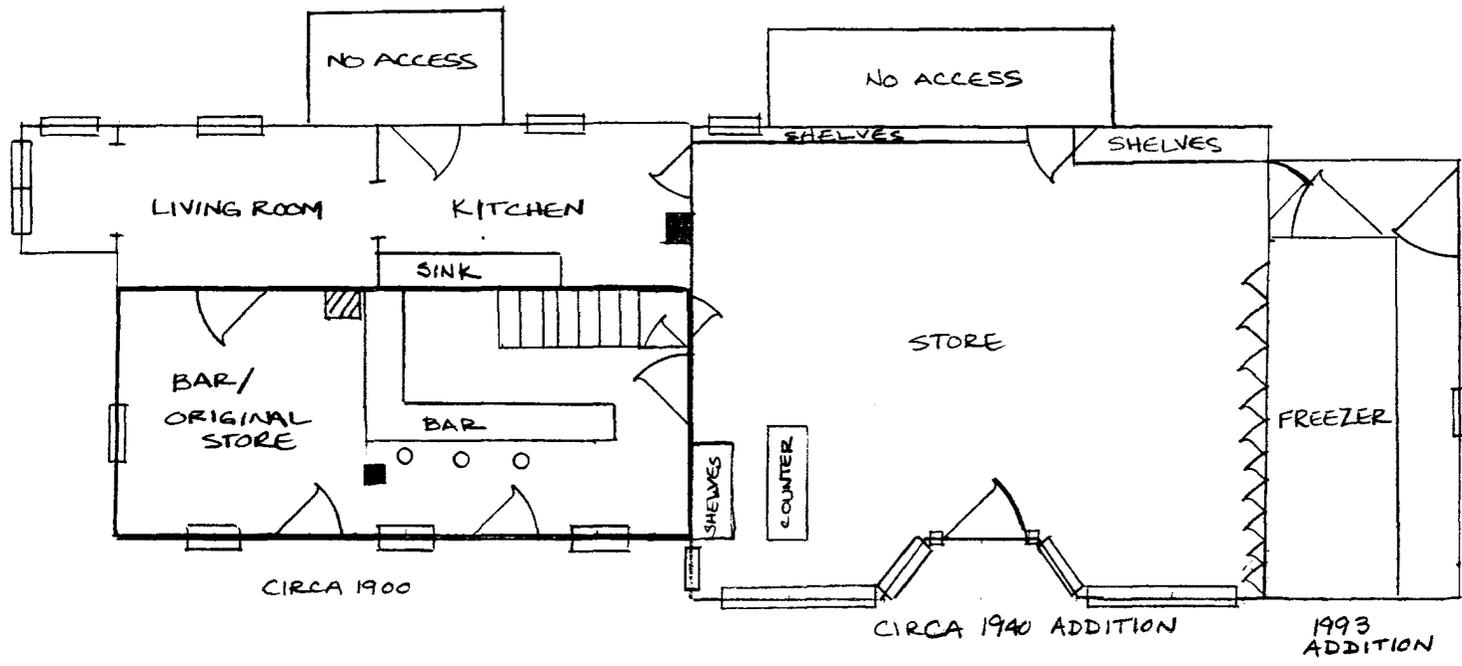
gravel lot

paved lot

H.G. TRUMAN ROAD

5-2-02 JER

CT-1281



CT-1281
 SMITH'S STORE
 9470 H.G. TRUEMAN ROAD
 LUSBY, CALVERT COUNTY, MD

FIRST FLOOR
 NOT DRAWN TO SCALE \nwarrow

07-1391

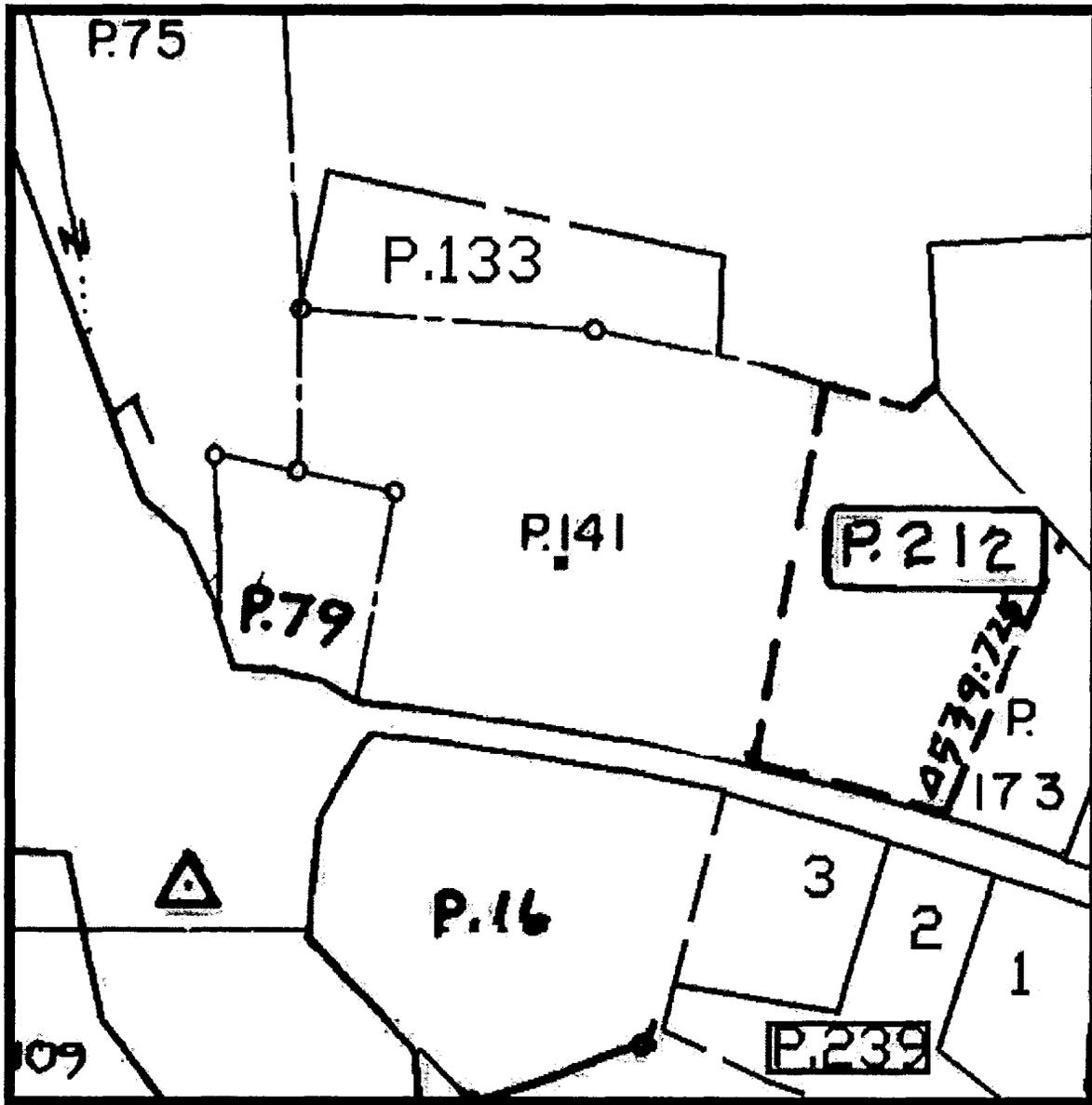
CT-1281



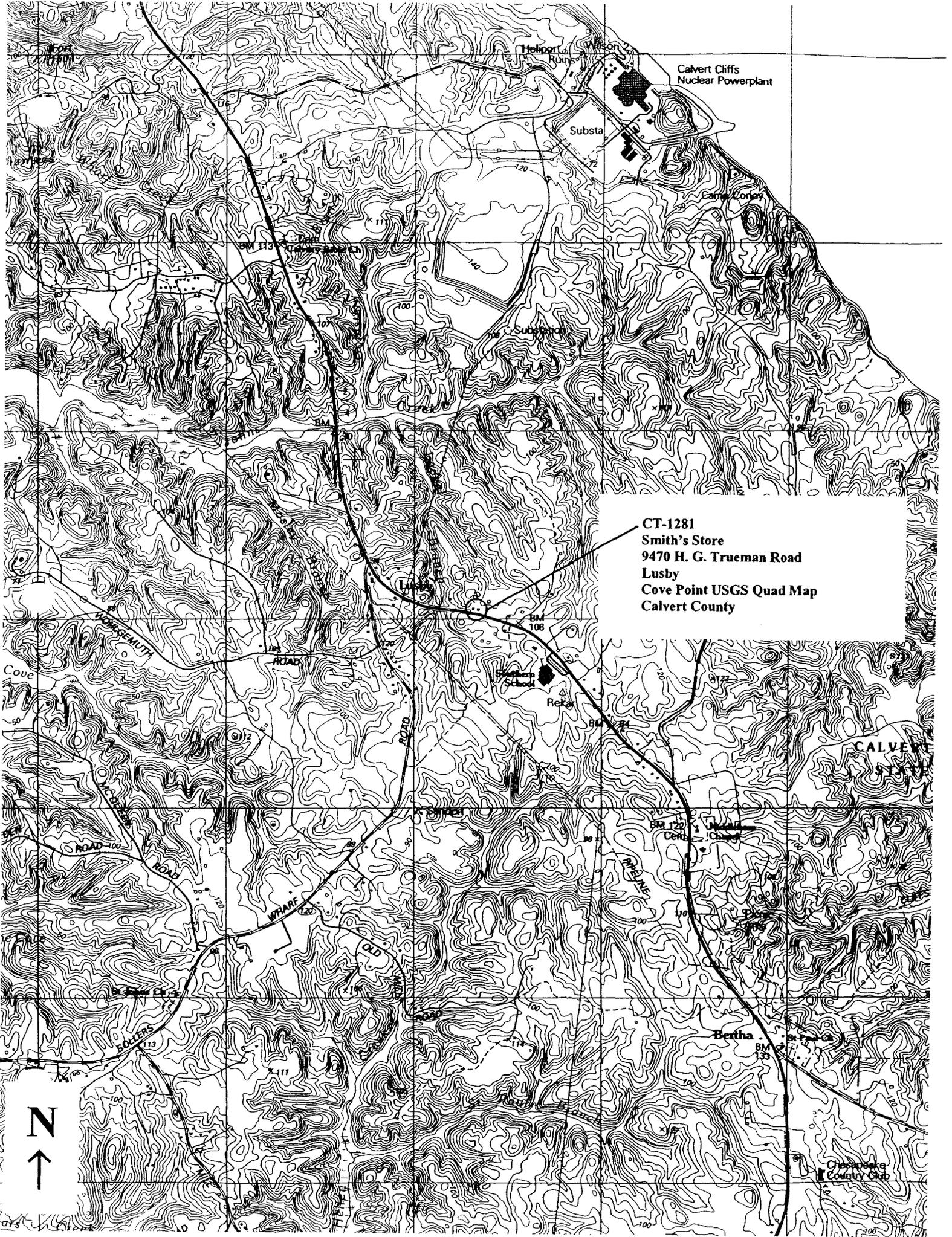
Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation
CALVERT COUNTY
Real Property Data Search

Go Back
View Map
New Search

District - 01 Account Number - 023721



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For more information on electronic mapping applications, visit the Maryland Department of Planning
web site at www.mdp.state.md.us



CT-1281
Smith's Store
9470 H. G. Trueman Road
Lusby
Cove Point USGS Quad Map
Calvert County



Chesapeake
Country Club



CT-1281

Smith's Store

9470 H.G. Trueman Road

Calvert County, MD

EHT Traceries

May 2002

Maryland SHPO

Southwest Elevation, View Northeast

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Smith's Store
9470 H. G. Trueman Road
Calvert County, MD
EHT Tracerics
May 2002
Maryland SHPO
Southeast Elevation, View North

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Smith's Store

9470 H. G. Trueman Road

Calvert County, MD

EHT Tracerics

May 2002

Maryland SHPO

Northeast Elevation, View South

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Smith's Store

9470 H.G. Trueman Road

Calvert County, MD

EHT Tracerics

May 2002

Maryland SHPO

West Corner, View East

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Smith's Store

9470 H.G. Trueman Road

Calvert County, MD

EHT Tracerics

June 2002

Maryland SHPO

Interior, Store, View West

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Smith's Store

9470 H.G. Trueman Road

Calvert County, MD

EHT Traceries

June 2002

Maryland SHPO

Interior, Bar, 1st Floor, View Southeast

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CT-1281

Smith's Store

9470 H.G. Trueman Road

Calvert County, MD

EHT Tracerics

June 2002

Maryland SHPO

Interior, 1st Floor, Kitchen, View Southeast

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