

**CAPSULE SUMMARY**

**CT-1283**

**Lusby Store and Post Office**

**9315 Pardoe Road**

**Lusby, Calvert County**

**1879-1889**

**Private**

The Lusby Store and Post Office is located at 9315 Pardoe Road in Lusby, Calvert County, Maryland. Built between 1879 and 1889, under the ownership of Catherine E. Lusby, the Lusby Store and Post Office has been a well-known public meeting place in the Lusby area for over a century. Like many general stores in Calvert County, the Lusby Store supplied local residents with necessary goods while at the same time served as the Lusby Post Office until the 1950s. At that time, postal service was moved to the new Lusby Post Office across the street. In 1959, George and Irene Pardoe purchased the property and operated the store under the name "Pardoe's Store" until 1979. The Lusby Store and Post Office is an excellent and relatively intact example of the rural country store and post office in Calvert County.

The general store stands two-and-a-half stories in height and three bays in width. The wood-frame building rests on a brick pier foundation and is clad in weatherboard with cornerboards. Corrugated metal sheeting covers the front-gabled roof. A one-story, wood-frame addition stands at the southeast corner of the store. The interior of the structure exhibits many original features, retaining its original one-room plan with tongue-and-groove beaded board on the walls and ceiling. The Lusby Store and Post Office has been vacant since the late 20th century.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CT-1283

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Lusby Store and Post Office (preferred); Pardoe's  
 other Red Oak Liquors

### 2. Location

street and number 9315 Pardoe Road not for publication  
 city, town Lusby vicinity  
 county Calvert

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

name John T. Crane  
 street and number 1470 Turner Road telephone 410/326-4880  
 city, town Lusby state MD zip code 20657-2906

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County tax map and parcel: M39, P211  
 city, town Prince Frederic liber KPS folio 709

### 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	1	
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense		
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic		
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education		
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	1	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:		
			<b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b>	
			0	

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## 7. Description

Inventory No. CT-1283

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### Condition

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

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

The Lusby Store and Post Office was built between 1879 and 1889 on a parcel of land located at the intersection of Pardoe Road and Sollers Wharf Road in the small village of Lusby. The general store stands two-and-a-half-stories in height and three bays in width. The wood-frame building rests on a brick pier foundation and is clad in weatherboard with cornerboards. Corrugated metal sheeting covers the front-gabled roof. A one-story, wood-frame addition stands at the southeast corner of the store. The interior of the structure exhibits many original features, retaining its original one-room plan with tongue-and-groove beaded board on the walls and ceiling. The Lusby Store and Post Office has been vacant since the late 20th century.

### EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The primary, or north, elevation is characterized by a central entranceway approached by a modern wood stair. The entranceway features double-leaf doors, each with two lights and two raised panels on each door, and a two-light transom. The door surround, which is not mitred, is defined by a flat, thick backband with a bead on the inside edge. This molding is original to the structure and is seen on all the openings with the exception of those architraves that have been replaced with modern mitred strips of molding, as in the case of the first-story west window on the north elevation. Flanking the entrance are two 6/6 windows, one on each side. There is no fenestration on the second story. At the garrett level is an opening with one two-light window sash, originally part of a 2/2 window.

The east elevation, facing Pardoe Road, is defined by the projecting one-story, one-room addition at the southeast corner with a small 6/6 window. The only other fenestration evident on the east elevation of the store is a 6/6 window on the second story in the northeast corner of the building. Affixed to the building directly adjacent to this window is the old metal sign for Red Oak Liquors.

The rear, or south, elevation consists of a single entry on the first story, with a modern replacement door. At the attic level is a window opening with the sash missing. The only other window on this elevation is on the shed-roof addition, but it is currently boarded up.

The west elevation, adjacent to Sollers Wharf Road, is pierced by a single window opening on the first story, which has been blocked by an air conditioning unit, and three windows on the second story. The two outer windows are 6/6, while the center window is a single six-light sash. This center window exhibits what appears to be later, square-edged archtrave molding suggesting that the window was put in to ventilate a bathroom built into the second story after the construction of the building.

### INTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The first floor of the Lusby Store and Post Office is a single open room, with doors in the front and rear walls creating a straight axis which bisects the room. An enclosed staircase to the second floor is located in the southwest corner of the room. The walls are finished in a combination of tongue-and-groove beaded board and flush vertical boards, while the ceiling clad entirely in beaded board. The floor is finished in narrow wood strips, with quarter-round crown molding. Shelves have been built along the east and south interior walls of the store, and a large modern refrigeration case has been installed on the west wall.

The second floor of the store was not accessible at the time of the survey.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. CT-1283

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 checked="" 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 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** 1879-1889; 1950 **Architect/Builder** Unknown

**Construction dates** 1879-1889

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.)

The Lusby Store and Post Office is located at 9315 Pardoe Road in Lusby, Calvert County, Maryland. Built between 1879 and 1889, under the ownership of Catherine E. Lusby, the Lusby Store and Post Office has been a well-known public meeting place in the Lusby area for over a century. Like many general stores in Calvert County, the Lusby Store supplied local residents with necessary goods while at the same time served as the Lusby Post Office until the 1950s. At that time, postal service was moved to the new Lusby Post Office across the street. In 1959, George and Irene Pardoe purchased the property and operated the store under the name "Pardoe's Store" until 1979. The Lusby Store and Post Office is an excellent and relatively intact example of the rural country store and post office in Calvert County.

### HISTORY OF LUSBY STORE AND POST OFFICE

Built as a store between 1879 and 1889 for Catherine E. Lusby and her husband William, the Lusby Store and Post Office was continuously operated as such until the late 1980s. During the first half of the 20th century, the building functioned as a general store, with the Lusby post office located in it for a time. Catherine Lusby purchased the two-and-a-half-acre parcel of land on which the building was constructed for \$25 on February 12, 1879. Ten years later, the property was conveyed to Ella E. Lusby, who retained ownership with her husband Thomas until 1900. At that time, Joseph Bafford purchased the property for \$500. During the ownership of Joseph and Clara Roberta Bafford, who also owned and operated Bafford's Store on Solomons Island, the store was a popular gathering place for local men, both white and African-American. The Baffords continued to own the Lusby Store and Post Office until 1959, when it was sold to George and Irene Pardoe for \$8,000. In the 1950s, the Lusby post office was moved to a freestanding one-story building across the street on the east side of Pardoe Road. In the mid-1980s, the general store, then known as Pardoe's Store, was closed and reopened as a liquor store under the name of Red Oak Liquors. The liquor store closed in the late 1980s and the building has remained vacant since that time.

### THE GENERAL STORE IN CALVERT COUNTY

General stores such as the Lusby Store and Post Office were, during the late 19th and early 20th century, the primary commercial building type in Calvert County to serve as a public meeting place. General stores were located in small towns or along rural transportation routes, both land and water, particularly crossroads, as in the case of the Lusby Store and Post Office, waterway landings, and at railroad freight or flag stops. General stores in Calvert County frequently 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.

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.

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Name Lusby Store and Post Office (preferred); Pardoe's

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

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 such as flour and salt were carried as well, 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. Some store owners, stocked freshly butchered meat from their own livestock for sale in the store. Most county residents, however, would have such items supplied on their own farm. Already prepared food, such as is common in gas station convenience stores today, was uncommon in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, but by the mid-20th century many general stores offered prepared foods such as cold cut sandwiches or even had a grill.

Tobacco products, 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 elixers, 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 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.

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 in the case of Lusby Store, post offices were commonly found in general stores. Such an arrangement was attractive to the proprietor of a store because it drew in customers, as well as convenient for the community because it provided an opportunity to do two errands in one trip. General stores were often the first, and sometimes the only, location in the area to have a telephone, and residents would come substantial distances to make a telephone call.

Country general stores were more than just places to purchase goods. Wide front porches with chairs or interior seating areas arranged around wood heating stoves were provided for the customers by the proprietor specifically to encourage social interaction which preserved the customer base and provided the proprietor, as well, with the opportunity to visit and catch up on local news and gossip. Local residents and store proprietors knew one another, sometimes their entire lives, and visits to the store for both business and social purposes became part of their routine. It is interesting to note, as well, that as opposed to churches and schools, the Lusby Store, and other general stores, were not racially or sexually segregated, but were freely patronized by both women and men, whites and African Americans. (1) Evenings, however, when the general store stayed open late, were largely reserved for the men of the community who would gather on the porches in the summer or around the wood stove in the winter to talk, play cards or checkers, or listen to the radio. Single men were known to have spent just about every night at their local general store, whereas married men visited less frequently. Lusby Store and Post Office was, during the second quarter of the 20th century, a particularly popular location for the men of the area to gather and socialize in the evenings. (2)

General stores began to decline in popularity and number following World War II, largely due to the appearance of supermarkets, department stores, and other specialized merchandise stores. Faced with these pressures, the proprietors of general stores either adapted their merchandise to the changing market, converted the stores into dwellings, or abandoned the building altogether. Once the post office was removed out of the Lusby Store and Post Office in the 1950s, the store became less active, and in the 1980s, it was converted into a liquor store. The store eventually closed and the building is currently vacant.

### CHAIN OF TITLE

February 12, 1879: Elizabeth Hall to Catherine E. Lusby  
Land Records of Calvert County

# Maryland Historical Trust

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Continuation Sheet

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Liber SS 5, Folio 231

May 16, 1889: Catherine E. Lusby and William A. Lusby to Ella E. Lusby  
Land Records of Calvert County  
Liber JS 2, Folio 114

September 25, 1900: Thomas E. Lusby and Ella E. Lusby to Joseph J. Bafford  
Land Records of Calvert County  
Liber GWD 2, Folio 22

No Date: Joseph J. Bafford to C. Roberta Bafford  
Will Records of Calvert County  
Liber MKB 1, Folio 32

July 22, 1959: C. Roberta Bafford, widow to George Earl Pardoe and Irene L. Pardoe, wife  
Land Records of Calvert County  
Liber JLB 26, Folio 323

March 28, 1979: George Earl Pardoe and Irene L. Pardoe, wife to Richard B. and Stephanie Greene  
Land Records of Calvert County  
Liber ABE 245, Folio 47

April 27, 1993: Richard B. Greene and Stephanie Greene, wife to DFD, Inc.  
Land Records of Calvert County  
Liber ABE 663, Folio 925

February 15, 2000: DFD, Inc. to John T. Crane, Jr.  
Land Records of Calvert County  
Liber KPS 1246, Folio 709

### ENDNOTES

1. Oliver Foote, Agnes Jefferson and Eugene Ward, interview by Robin J. Weidlich, Lusby, MD, June 11, 2002.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. CT-1283

See continuation sheet.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 0.65 acres

Acreage of historical setting 2.50 acres

Quadrangle name Cove Point

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The Lusby Store and Post Office has been Associated with Parcel 211 as denoted on Tax Map 39, since 1889.

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title R. Weidlich and C. Albee, Architectural Historians

organization E.H.T. Traceries, Inc.

date 8/27/02

street and number 1121 Fifth Street, N.W.

telephone 202/393-1199

city or town Washington

state 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**

Inventory No. CT-1283

Name Lusby Store and Post Office (preferred); Pardoe's

Continuation Sheet

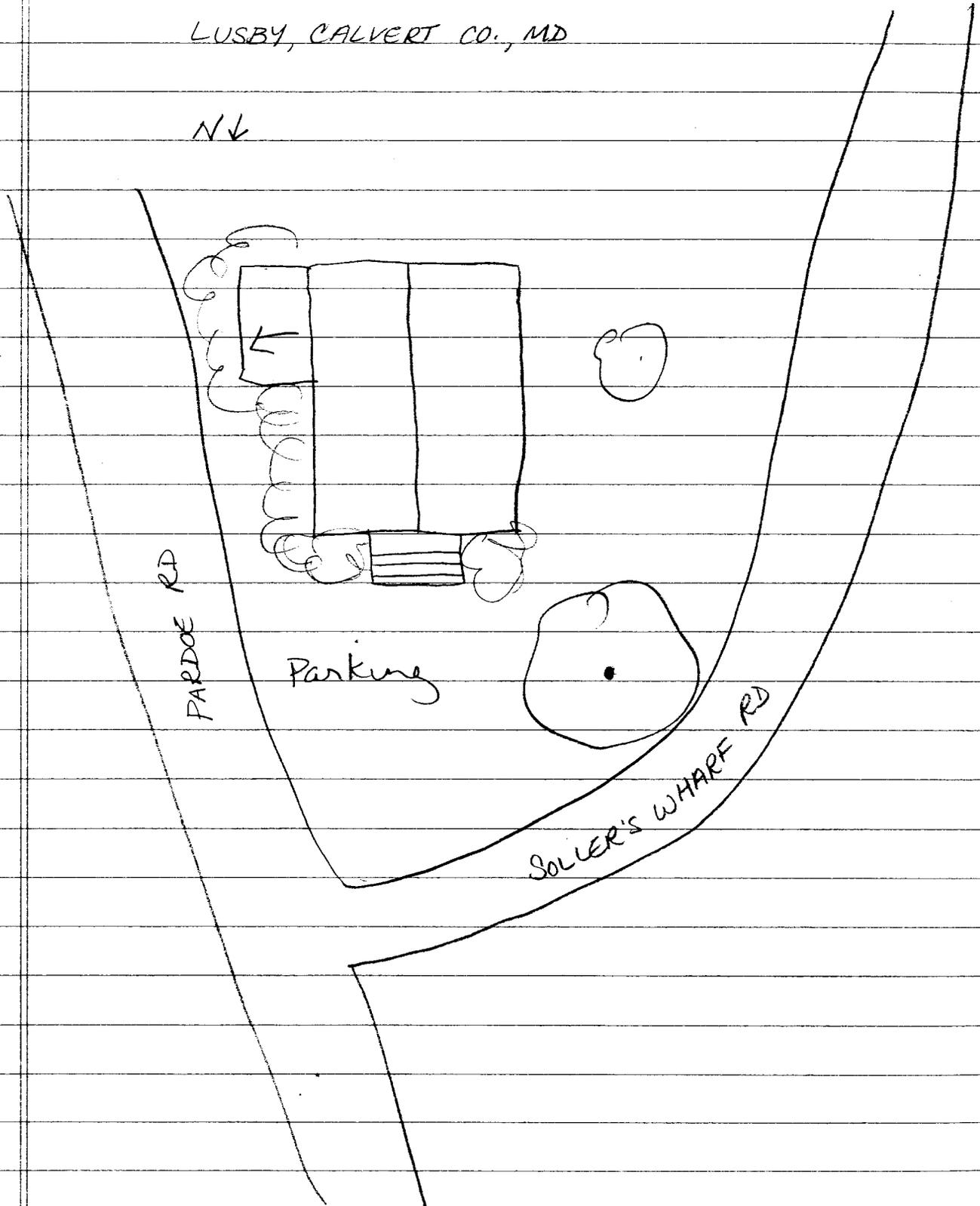
Number   9   Page   1  

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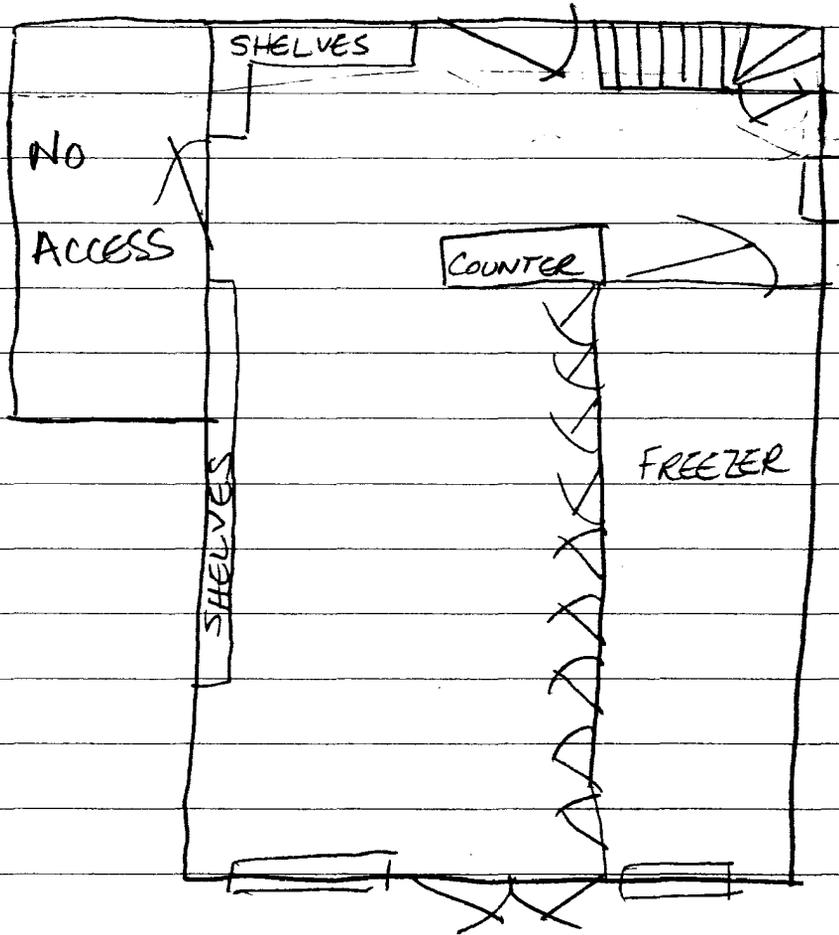
Foote, Oliver, Agnes Jefferson and Eugene Ward, interview by Robin J. Weidlich, Lusby, Maryland, June 11, 2002.

RESOURCE SKETCH MAP  
CT-1283  
LUSBY STORE AND POST OFFICE  
9315 PARDOE ROAD  
LUSBY, CALVERT CO., MD

N ↓



CT-1283  
LUSBY STORE AND POST OFFICE  
9315 Pardoe Rd  
Lusby, Calvert Co., MD



FIRST FLOOR

NOT DRAWN TO SCALE N ↓

JUNE 2002

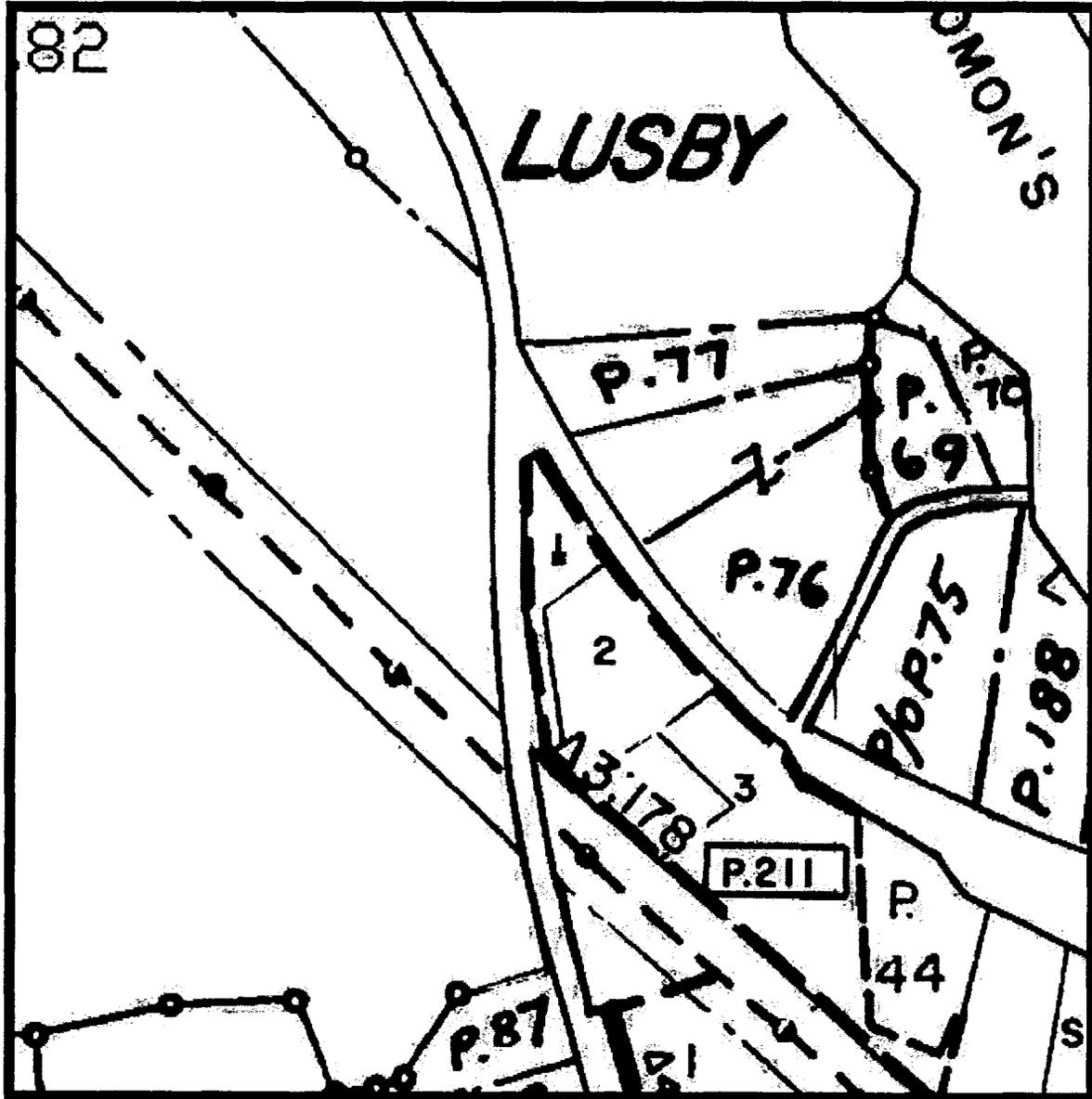
CT-1283



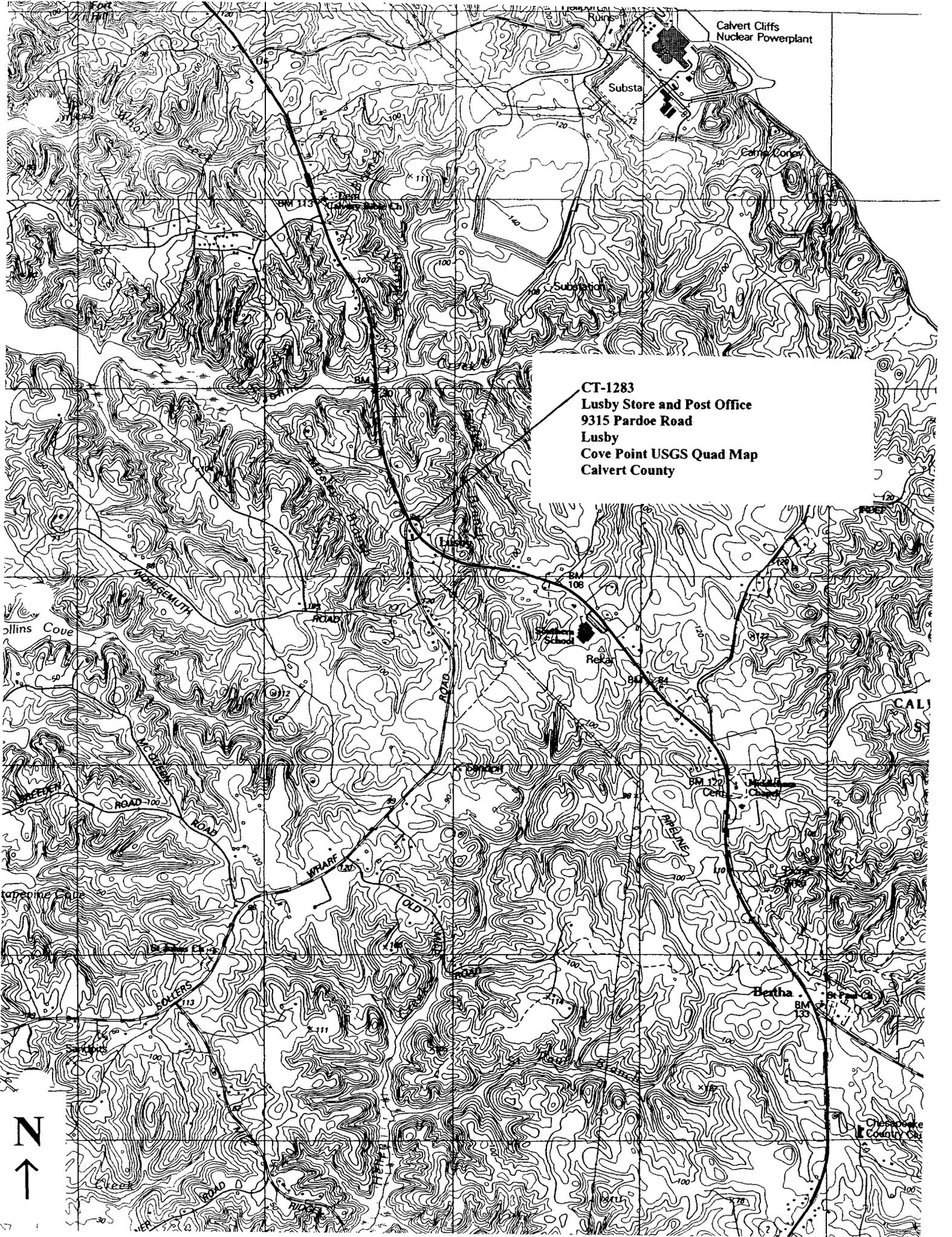
Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation  
CALVERT COUNTY  
Real Property Data Search

Go Back  
View Map  
New Search

District - 01 Account Number - 215558



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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](http://www.mdp.state.md.us)



Calvert Cliffs  
Nuclear Powerplant

Substa

CT-1283  
Lusby Store and Post Office  
9315 Pardoe Road  
Lusby  
Cove Point USGS Quad Map  
Calvert County

CALV

Country Ch





CT-1283

Lusby Store and Post Office

9315 Pardoe Road

Calvert County, MD

EHT Traceries

June 2002

Maryland SHPO

North Elevation, View South

1 of 5



CT-1283

Lusby Store and Post Office

9315 Pardoe Road

Calvert County, MD

EHT Tracerics

June 2002

Maryland SHPO

Northwest Corner, View Southeast

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Lusby Store and Post Office

9315 Pardoe Road

Calvert County, MD

EHT Tracerics

June 2002

Maryland SHPO

South Elevation, View North



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Lusby Store and Post Office

9315 Pardoe Road

Calvert County, MD

EHT Traceries

June 2002

Maryland SHPO

East Elevation, View West

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CT-1283

Lusby Store and Post Office

9315 Pardoe Road

Calvert County, MD

EHT Traceries

June 2000

Maryland SHPO

Interior, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, View South

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