

D-233  
S. W. Woolford Store  
Woolford  
c. 1820, c. 1870  
Private

Central to the nineteenth century commercial life of the village of Woolford, formerly Milton, and before that Loom Town, is the S. W. Woolford store, a composite frame building dating from two principal periods. The two-story, gable-front main block was erected around 1870 during the ownership of Samuel W. Woolford (1837-1926), while the single story gable roofed side wing predates his ownership. The single-story side wing is characteristic of the small gable roofed buildings that served as store buildings during the early to mid nineteenth century, and the reciprocal sawn framing members exposed under the shed roof prove that it predates the taller two-story, gable-front main block.

Samuel W. Woolford was a sizable land owner and businessman in the Church Creek election district during the third and fourth quarters of the nineteenth century. He resided at Liberty Hall, the main portion of which he financed around 1860-70. The two-story, gable-front main block of the store was surely financed by him. In the Milton business directory of the Lake, Griffing and Stevenson atlas he advertised the Samuel W. Woolford & Company store, and he is included in the atlas patron list as a merchant owning 300 acres. On his property bordering Church Creek, he also operated the S. W. Woolford & Co. canning factory, which was one of a handful of early packing houses in Dorchester County that surfaced during the 1870s. Samuel Whitefield Woolford lived a relatively long life for his time, he was 89 years old when he died in 1926. Liberty Hall

farm was sold as was the Woolford store, which was acquired by Claude R. Brooks in 1927. The Brooks family held title to the commercial property and operated the store from 1927 to 1983.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-233

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

historic S. W. Woolford Store

other \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Location

street and number 1614 Taylor's Island Road \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Cambridge vicinity \_\_\_\_\_

county Dorchester

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

name Edwin L. and Ruth L. Bramble

street and number 1614 Heliport Road telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city, town Cambridge state MD zip code 21613

## 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber MLB 570 folio 767

city, town Cambridge tax map 51 tax parcel 93 tax ID number 9-194843

## 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 checked="" 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	_____	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	_____	_____ structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	_____	_____ objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	_____	_____ 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**  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

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Inventory No. D-233

### Condition

excellent       deteriorated  
 good             ruins  
 fair               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.

### DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The S. W. Woolford Store is a two-story, two-part nineteenth century frame structure standing at 1614 Taylor's Island Road in the village of Woolford, Dorchester County, Maryland. The two-story, three-bay, gable-front frame section dates around 1870, while a single story gable roofed side wing predates the main store building by a half century. Dating around 1830-40, the single-story wing currently houses the Woolford post office. The nineteenth century part of the store is supported on a low brick foundation, and the exterior is clad with asbestos shingles. The roofs of the nineteenth century sections are covered with corrugated metal. While the first floor of the main store remains for retail purposes, the second floor has been converted into apartments. It formerly housed a lodge hall. The nineteenth century store has been extended to the east with a shed roofed addition.

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The S. W. Woolford Store stands at 1614 Taylor's Island in the village of Woolford in the Church Creek Election District. Supported on a low brick foundation, the two-story, three-bay rectangular frame main block is extended to the east by an earlier single-story gable roofed wing that houses the Woolford post office. The exterior is clad with asbestos shingles over German siding, on the main block, and the original siding on the side wing is undetermined. The steeply pitched roofs of both sections are covered with corrugated metal over wood shingles.

The south (main) elevation of the two-story gable-front section has a center entrance and flanking six-over-six sash windows fitted with iron grilles and two-panel shutters. A section of weathered German siding is exposed under a shed roofed porch that extends across the full front of the two-story section as well as the post office and east end addition. The center door is a modern replacement. The second story of the main block is defined by three replacement window openings. Piercing the gable end is a pointed arch opening, originally a window, and now fitted with a louvered vent. The edge of the roof is finished with extended eaves with returns at the base of the roof.

The east side of the two-story main block is partially covered by the single story gable roofed side wing that predates the main block by forty to fifty years. Largely covered by later materials such as asbestos shingles, the joist ends are exposed under the shed roofed porch. Reciprocal sawn kerf marks are evident on the exposed wood surfaces. The east gable end of the wing is finished with a flush eave trimmed with a plain bargeboard. On the east side of the main block, behind the early nineteenth century side wing, is an enclosed staircase that provides access to the second floor apartments. The main block is also extended on the east side by a shed roofed section.

The interior of the main block and post office have been remodeled with the historic fabric either covered or removed. The second floor was not seen.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. D-233

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

### 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.)

### SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

Central to the nineteenth century commercial life of the village of Woolford, formerly Milton and prior to that Loom Town, is the S. W. Woolford store, a composite frame building dating from two principal periods. The two-story, gable-front main block was erected around 1870 during the ownership of Samuel W. Woolford (1837-1926), while the single story gable roofed side wing predates his ownership. The single-story side wing is characteristic of the small gable roofed buildings that served as store buildings during the early to mid nineteenth century, and the reciprocal sawn framing members exposed under the shed roof prove that it predates the taller two-story gable-front main block.

### HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Samuel W. Woolford was a prominent land owner and businessman in the Church Creek Election District during the third and fourth quarters of the nineteenth century. He resided at Liberty Hall, the main portion of which was built around 1860-70. The two-story gable-front main block of the store was surely financed by him as well. In the Milton business directory of the Lake, Griffing and Stevenson Atlas he advertised the Samuel W. Woolford & Company store, and he is listed in the atlas patron list as a merchant owning 300 acres. On his property bordering Church Creek he also operated the S. W. Woolford & Company canning factory, which was one of a handful of packing houses that surfaced in Dorchester County during the 1870s.<sup>1</sup> Samuel Whitefield Woolford lived a relatively long life; he was 89 years old when he died in 1926. Liberty Hall farm was sold as was the Woolford store, which was acquired by Claude R. Brooks in 1927.<sup>2</sup> The Brooks family held title to the commercial property and ran the store from 1927 to 1983.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> R. Lee Burton, Jr., *Canneries of the Eastern Shore*, Tidewater Publishers: Centreville, Maryland, pp. 90-94.

<sup>2</sup> Dorchester County Land Record, JFD 20/281, 17 May 1927, Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland.

<sup>3</sup> Dorchester County Land Record, PLC 226/787, 23 May 1983, Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland.

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

Inventory No. D-233

Name S. W. Woolford Store  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 1

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S. W. Woolford & Company Store  
1614 Taylor's Island Road  
Woolford, Dorchester County, Maryland

Map 51, Parcel 93

MLB 570/767 C. Edward Abend and Bonnie M. Abend

to

3.20.2004 Edwin L. Bramble and Ruth L. Bramble

\$130,000

273/466 Terry Lee Groves and Dinah T. Groves

to

5.15.1992 C. Edward Abend and Bonnie M. Abend

\$77,200.00

PLC 241/776 Michael C. Scilipoti and Judith A. Scilipoti

to

10.15.1986 Terry Lee Groves and Dinah T. Groves

\$35,000

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**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
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Name S. W. Woolford Store

**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 2

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PLC 226/787

Anna Jones Brooks

to

5.23.1983

Michael C. Scilipoti and Judith A. Scilipoti

\$30,000 upon the death of J. William Brooks, 12.28.1981)

RSM 108/525

Frederick C. Malkus

to

3.14.1958

J. William Brooks and Anna Jones Brooks

RSM 108/522

Ruby E. Brooks, widow, and others

to

3.14.1958

Frederick C. Malkus

RSM 98/334

Frederick C. Malkus

to

11.25.1955

Ruby E. Brooks, widow, and others

Whereas, Ruby E. Brooks, widow, J. William Brooks and Anna Jones Brooks, his wife, Reginald L. Brooks and Aileen Tall Brooks, his wife, Archie S. Brooks and Golda T. Brooks his wife, Claude Rupert Brooks,

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

Inventory No. D-233

Name S. W. Woolford Store

**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 3

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Carole Lee Brooks Armiger and John Walter Armiger, her husband,  
and Nicie Brooks Mesmeringer and John C. Mesmeringer, her husband,  
did by deed even date convey unto Frederick C. Malkus,....

...all that lot or parcel of land, together with the improvements thereon,  
situate, lying and being on the northward side of the State Road leading  
through the village of Woolford, in the Church Creek Election District,  
...according to a Certificate of Survey made by Alfonso J. DeLiguori,  
surveyor, dated November 21<sup>st</sup>, 1955...containing 18,850 square feet of  
area, upon which there is a store and the local United States Post Office.

RSM 98/329

Rubye E. Brooks, widow, J. William Brooks, and Anna Jones Brooks,  
Reginald L. Brooks and Aileen Tall Brooks, Archie S. Brooks, and Golda  
T. Brooks, Claude Rupert Brooks, Carole Lee Brooks Armiger, and John  
Walter Armiger, and Nicie Brooks Mesmeringer and John C. Mesmeringer

to

11.25.1955

Frederick C. Malkus

JFD 21/313

Lillie C. Woolford, widow, et al.

to

12.29.1927

Calvin Harrington

\$7,000 75 acres Liberty Hall..excepting Lot No. 1 with Baptist Church  
and Lot No. 2, Store House and lot sold to Claude R.  
Brooks

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

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Name S. W. Woolford Store

**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 4

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JFD 20/281

Lillie C. Woolford, widow

to

5.17.1927

Claude R. Brooks

1877 Lake, Griffing &  
Stevenson Atlas

Samuel W. Woolford & Co., Dealers in Dry Goods.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. D-233

Dorchester County Land Records, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 19,166 square feet

Acreage of historical setting \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name Church Creek Quadrangle

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

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

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## 11. Form Prepared by

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name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Chesapeake Country Heritage & Preservation	date	10.16.2012
street & number	Cedar Hill, 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.

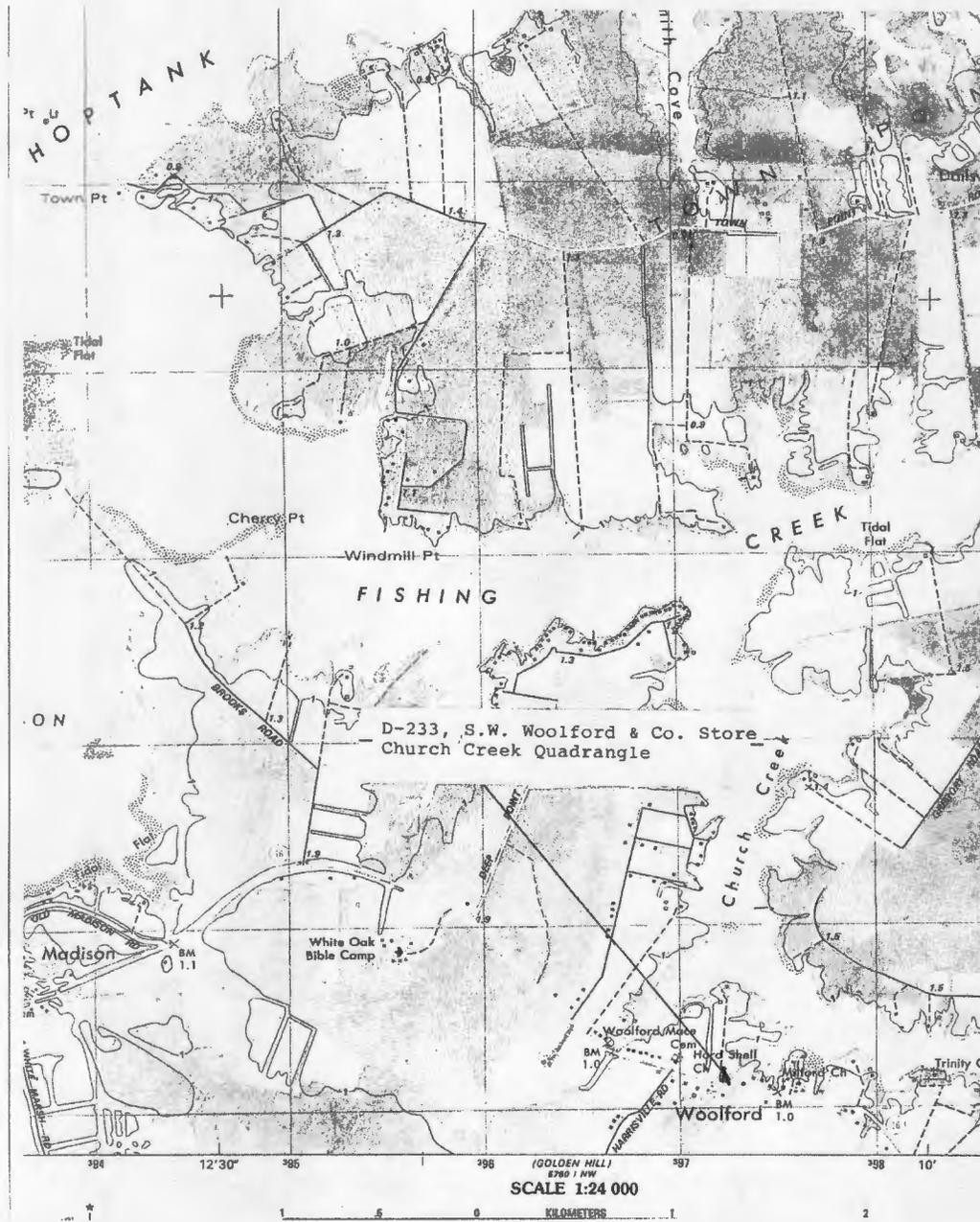
return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-233

Name S. W. Woolford Store  
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1







D-233

WOOLFORD STORE

WOOLFORD, DOUKITESTER Cr. MD.

SOUTH ELEVATION

10.2012, PAUL B. TOURANT, PITTS-  
"NET/MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

#1 of 3



GREEN SPORTS

BUD LIGHT



D-233

WOOLFORD STORE

WOOLFORD, DORCHESTER Co. MD.

SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

10.2012 PAUL B. TONNET, PHOTO.

WES. JMD HISTORICAL TRUST

#2 OF 3



D-233

WOLFORD STORE

WOLFORD, DURHAM CO. NC.

EAST ELEVATION

10.2012, PAUL B. TONAH, PITTS.

W+Z. / W.D. HISTORICAL TRUST

# 3 OF 3

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Woolford Store

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Rt. 16, Taylor's Island Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
Woolford

STATE: Maryland COUNTY: Dorchester

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Mr. and Mrs. Reginald L. Brooks

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Woolford STATE: Maryland 21677

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Dorchester County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
High Street

CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge STATE: Maryland 21613

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 098/326

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">           (Check One)  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered    <input type="checkbox"/> Unciteded         </div> <div style="width: 45%;">           (Check One)  <input type="checkbox"/> Moved    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site         </div> </div>
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>The woolford Store is a large frame structure composed of a two story portion, with a one story wing set a right angles thereto. Its walls are covered with asbestos shingle-like siding and the roof is covered with tin. The facade is three bays long, with a leanto porch over the first story. A small portion of the porch is enclosed, but the windows and center door are all exposed. The windows have tall paneled shutters and the double doors have removeable panels to cover the glass when the store is closed. On the second story are three shorter windows and in the gable is a miter arch window/louwer. There is a wide overhanging eave with return cornice on the gable. Irregular fenestration is found on the side of the deep building.</p> <p>Inside, portion of the building is used as a post office. Early shelves and counters are around the room.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**6. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	osophy	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	itarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Woolford Store and Post Office is a rare survival for the 20th century when post offices are large and new and when the pressure of commercialism forces the small store owner to expand and remodel. The building is a good survival from the last quarter of the 19th century and resembles the store at Andrews.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Blank area for Major Bibliographical References.

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:  
 District 9, Map 51, p. 92

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust      DATE: April, 1975

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis      STATE: Maryland      21401

**12 State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)**

Significance of this property is:  
 National       State       Local

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature

16x1.43

50%

D-233



Woolford Stone + P.O.

D-233

M. Bourne April 1975 :