

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Kenneth Walker's Store

and/or common Ely's Store, Swift's Store

## 2. Location

street & number (2101 Shuresville Road)  
SW Corner Darlington Rd. and Stafford Rd.  not for publication

city, town Darlington  vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district First

state Maryland county Harford

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Kenneth Walker

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone no.: \_\_\_\_\_

city, town Darlington state and zip code Maryland

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Court House liber

street & number 40 South Main Street folio

city, town Bel Air state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title \_\_\_\_\_

date \_\_\_\_\_  federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

The building commonly known as Walker's Store is located on the south-east corner of the intersection of Darlington Road and Stafford Road in the town of Darlington.

The building serves as both a store and a residence, and has evidently gone through a relatively complex construction sequence. The principal structure lies parallel to Stafford Road. It is two stories high, six bays long, and one room deep, with a partially enclosed porch extending the length of this facade. A single chimney is centered on the pitched gable roof. Asphalt shingle siding covers earlier weatherboard siding, which evidently conceals the early hewn log construction of the east portion of the building. The windows are fitted with 6/6 sash.

A two story wing with a pitched gable roof projects from the west portion of the rear facade, parallel to Darlington Road. A second chimney rises from the center of this rear wing. The windows in the wing are also 6/6, but are irregularly spaced. The large fireplace in the rear wing has been blocked up but appears to be otherwise unaltered. An early staircase to the loft has been removed.

A one story addition was later constructed to the rear of the store and abutting the early wing.

Evidence of hewn log construction has been found by the present owners in two distinctly separate parts of the building. While replacing the flooring in the floor of the store, it was determined that the east half of the main building was of log construction, and while installing a washing machine log walls were found in the rear or south half of the early wing. These two log sections did not appear to be joined and were thought to be two distinctly separate structures that form the earliest part of the present building.

This brief investigation of the building suggests that the Walker Store is one of the earliest buildings in Darlington and merits a more detailed analysis.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** **Builder/Architect**

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check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or  
Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Walker Store is considered to be the earliest building in Darlington. It is sited in the fork of the road north from the early town of Joppa and the road inland from Shure's Landing or Stafford and Lapidum. Believed by native Fred Jones and others to be the old "Red Store" or "Red Door Store" of Col. Rigbie (also see HA-4, HA-10, HA-11), the evidence of two early log structures within the existing building is indicative that this may be an accurate attribution.

Although the actual date of construction is unknown, the building has been used continuously as a store for generations and today carries a variety of goods ranging from heifer halters and hip boots to frozen foods and witty greeting cards.



130080411 HH - 80  
N. R. FIELD SHEET

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: ~~Ken~~ Kenneth Walker's Store  
 AND/OR HISTORIC: Ely's Store, Swifts, Store once perhaps Big bit's Store.

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Southwest corner of Darlington Road and Stafford Road  
 CITY OR TOWN: Darlington  
 STATE: Maryland CODE: COUNTY: Harford CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <del>Public</del> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Varies store hours</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input 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 <input type="checkbox"/>	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME: Kenneth Walker  
 STREET AND NUMBER: ~~Southwest corner of Darlington Road and Stafford Road~~  
 CITY OR TOWN: Darlington STATE: Maryland CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Clerk of the Circuit Court  
 STREET AND NUMBER: Harford County Courthouse 40 S. Main St  
 CITY OR TOWN: Bel Air STATE: Maryland CODE:

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: CODE:

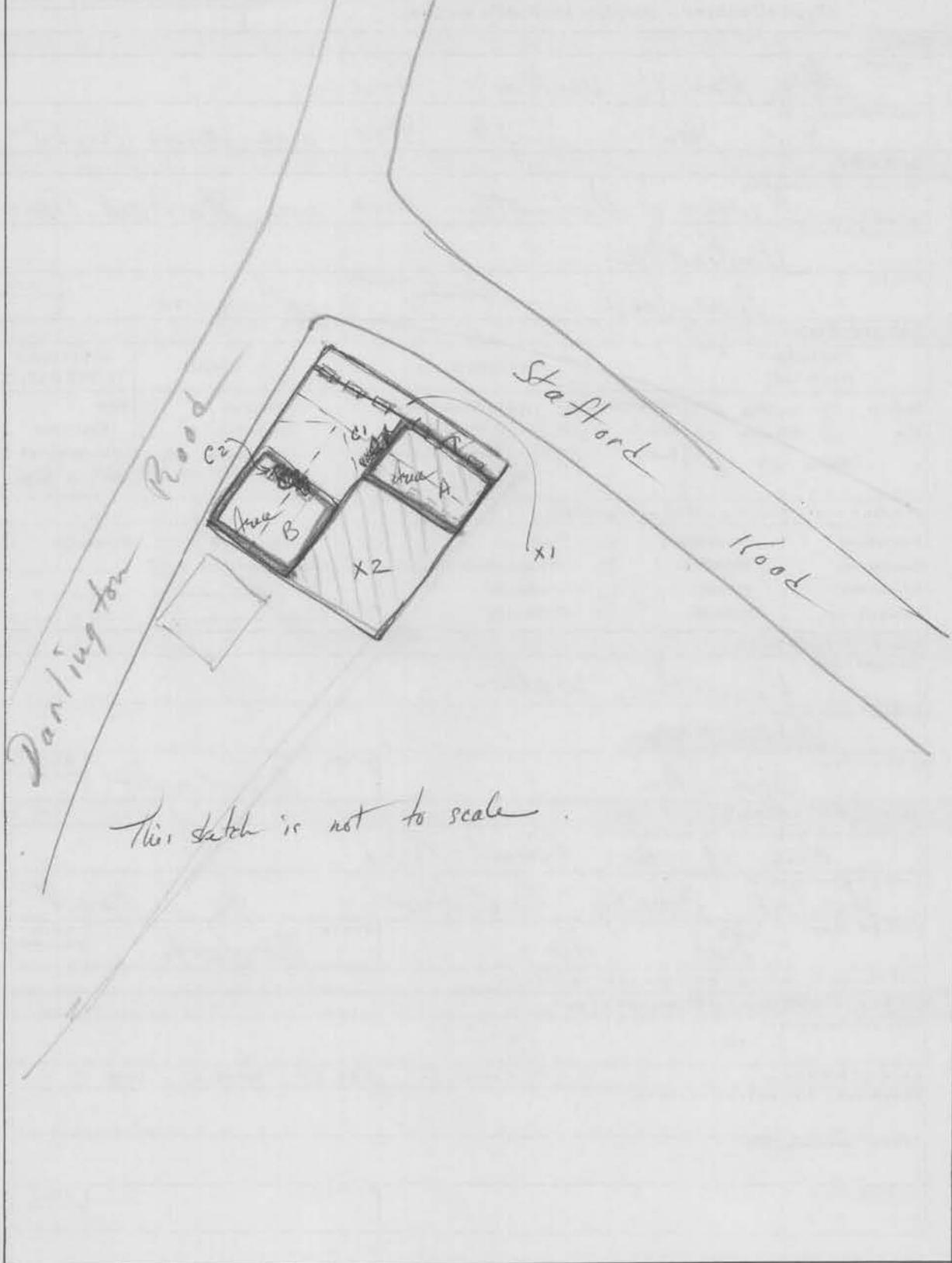
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:  
 COUNTY:  
 ENTRY NUMBER  
 DATE  
 FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>		Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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 type="checkbox"/>	19th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) perhaps the 1680's

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Historic</u>
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Archaeologic</u>
Art <input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Humanitarian <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Architecture</u>
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>		
	Music <input type="checkbox"/>		

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

*(This area is currently blank for the statement of significance.)*

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Jones, Fred, The Village of Darlington p. 5

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 ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Jean Ewisp

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historic Trust DATE: Feb '70

STREET AND NUMBER: 50 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

TITLE SEARCH

2101 Shuresville Road

Aquilla Massey - Tavern

HA-80

GRG 432/224	March 24	Grantor: Sidney and Esther Miller Grantee: Kenneth and Mary Walker Lying and being in the Village of Darlington at the angle formed by the Dublin-Stafford Rd. with the road from Darlington to Dethsford - Property has ref to "This line is a part of the second line of Phillip's Purchase and the last line of Arabia Petrea
GRG 417/495	Aug. 9, 1954	Grantor: James and Catherine Hummer Grantee: Signey and Esther Miller
GCB 298/135	July 26, 1946	Grantor: Charles and Pauline Swift Grantee: James and Catherine Hummer
SWC 225/1	Sept. 14, 1932	Grantor: Robert and Myrtle Swift Grantee: Charles A. Swift Charles Swift assumes mortgage of \$2500.00 from Robert Swift to Robert E. Prigg (DGW 204/234)
DGW 203/197	April 21, 1927	Grantor: Robert E. and Clara Prigg Grantee: Charles A. Swift
WSF 74/220	April 20, 1892	Grantor: Martha Vernay Grantee: Robert E. Prigg Part of all land conveyed Acreage: 1/2 A. Sum: \$1400.00
WSF 74/151	April 1, 1892	Grantor: Thomas H. Robinson, trustee Grantee: Martha Vernay Equity case decision 13 Oct. 1891 Plaintiffs Wm. Whiteford, Henry Harlan Admin, David Harlan Def. Joseph R. Ely and Others Sale 9 Nov. 1891 Sum \$2060.00 all those lots or parcels lately belonging to Joseph R. Ely except a small lot sold by the trustee to one A. B. Whitelock (3669-I-42) Equity Docket
HDG 32/126	May 21, 1846	Grantor: Aquilla Massey Grantee: Isaac J. Ely Sum: \$1000.00 Acreage: 1/2 acre "being part of a tract called "Arabia Petrea" and situated in the Village of Darlington at present occupied as a tavern stand by John L. Ward, bounded on the North East by the road

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

Title Search Continuation Sheet #1

2101 Shuresville Road  
Aquilla Massey - Tavern  
HA-80

leading from Darlington to Stafford, on the north west by the road leading from Darlington to Deths Ford on Deer Creek, on the southwest by the lands of Henry W. Hopkins, and on the southeast by land of said Hopkins and Dr. John Sappington.

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HA-80

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2101 Shuresville Road

Aquilla Massey - Tavern

HA-80

leading from Darlington to Stafford, on the north west by the road leading from Darlington to Deaths Ford on Deer Creek, on the southwest by the lands of Henry W. Hopkins, and on the southeast by land of said Hopkins and Dr. John Sappington.

(7)

Two log buildings underly this  
Frame building, asphalt shingle covering clapboard  
over various ages of wood construction. Building is a  
home and a general store. The store area is shaded,  
on sketch below.

Two stories, six bays <sup>on</sup> facing north with  
ridgeline running east-west, there is a long porch  
partly enclosed, along the first floor <sup>(x1)</sup> A chimney (C1)  
rises from the middle of the roof, center of bldg.

There is a wing running south ~~west~~ <sup>west</sup> the west wall  
~~end of the~~, windows here are irregularly spaced,  
(six lights on six, as elsewhere). A second  
chimney (C2) rises out of the ridgeline of  
the roof of this wing. The angle of  
this wall back from the facade is ~~not~~ under  
a true 90°. (A one-story addition to the store is shown <sup>x-2</sup>)

The Workers have found two sets of log  
walls. In replacing flooring in the store  
they found log timbers in approximately  
the area shown as Area A. Later  
in drilling for an electric cable for a workshop  
machine in Area B they found log  
walls still standing, not contiguous with  
Area A.

The huge existing fireplace in Area B  
is blocked off but undamaged, presumably.  
A <sup>carved</sup> staircase <sup>now removed</sup> once led to a left porch.

(3) Archaeological evidence is sought to corroborate: this is thought to be the first building in Darlington, and stands at the fork of the road north from Joppa and the road westward from Sherwin's Landing or Stafford and Lapibum. Believed by native Fred Jones and others to be the old "Red Store" or "Red Door Store" of Col. Regbie (HA 4, HA 10, 11), the finding of two separate sets of log walls indicates that this is <sup>one</sup> of the first five or ten buildings in this part of the county, perhaps the oldest.

~~Antiquarianism~~

Used as a store continuously for two hundred and thirty years, it now carries a variety of goods from kiper baltns and hip boots to frozen foods and ~~the same~~ witty greeting cards.

HA-80  
Kenneth Walker Store  
(Ely's Store, Swift's Store)  
2101 Shuresville Road,  
Darlington  
Harford County Dept. of  
Planning map from aerial  
photos taken March, 1990

