

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #75A-3 Building Date: late 19th c.  
early 20th  
Building Name: Old Ritchie Store  
Location: 8809 Ritchie Road Spur, Upper Marlboro, Maryland

Private/Office/Occupied/Excellent/Inaccessible

Description

The Old Ritchie Store is a two-part two-story frame building. It faces north toward the triangle formed by the intersection of the Ritchie, Forestville and Marlboro Roads. The westerly section has a front-gable facade, two irregular bays wide; the easterly section has a nearly flat roof which slopes gently to the rear and is enriched by a crown molding. Viewed from the north, the building appears to have a three-bay facade; entrance is in the central bay through a modern glass double door. The entire first story of this north facade is covered with brick veneer, and sheltered by a one-story porch supported by brick piers. The first story of the east section is constructed of concrete block, while the second story of both sections is covered with German siding painted white.

Significance

The Old Ritchie Store consists of a composite building which is a noticeable and unusual landmark at the intersection of the Ritchie, Forestville and Marlboro Roads. The westerly front-gabled section dates from the second half of the nineteenth century, when it served as a general store; the easterly nearly-flat-roofed section was added early in the twentieth century, and served as a mortuary until circa 1926. At the end of the nineteenth century, this land which included a general store, belonged to J. Suit Ritchie. In 1913, Ritchie conveyed the 1/2 acre parcel on which the store stood to his sons, Carl and Aubrey Ritchie. By that time, the Ritchies had constructed an addition on the east side of the store building; the addition was a typical vernacular store-front structure, with nearly-flat roof and crown-molded front cornice. The addition was built as a mortuary and was run by Seth Ritchie, brother of Carl and Aubrey Ritchie who operated the adjoining grocery store. The mortuary operated until circa 1926; since then the complex building has housed a series of commercial operations, and presently houses a law office. The building changed hands in 1985; renovation work has been undertaken in recent years, including the installation of modern doors and store windows, and more work is planned.

Acreage: .15 acre

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Old Ritchie Store

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 8809 Ritchie Road Spur  not for publication

city, town Upper Marlboro  vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's County

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" 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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Beall Investment Limited Partnership

street & number 2806 West Avenue telephone no.:

city, town Forestville state and zip code Maryland 20747

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber #6072

street & number Main Street folio 825

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Sites

date 1974  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records History Division, M-NCPPC

city, town Riverdale state Maryland

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input checked="" 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 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 Old Ritchie Store is a two-part two-story frame building. It faces north toward the triangle formed by the intersection of the Ritchie, Forestville and Marlboro Roads. The westerly section has a front-gable facade, two irregular bays wide; the easterly section has a nearly flat roof which slopes gently to the rear (south) and is enriched by a crown molding.

Viewed from the north, the building appears to have a three-bay facade; entrance is in the central bay through a modern glass double door. The entire first story of this north facade is covered with brick veneer, and sheltered by a one-story porch supported by brick piers. Second story windows have green louvered shutters. The first story of the east section is constructed of concrete block, while the second story of both sections is covered with German siding painted white. The roof is of metal.

The building is constructed on a slope, so that from the rear one enters the second story at grade level. There is a one-story shed-roofed porch, with railing, across the rear south facade. There is an exterior brick stove chimney centered in the south gable end of the western section.

# 8. Significance

<b>Period</b>	<b>Areas of Significance—Check and justify below</b>			
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) local history

**Specific dates** late 19th Century;  
early 20th Century **Builder/Architect**

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 Old Ritchie Store consists of a composite building which is a noticeable and unusual landmark at the intersection of the Ritchie, Forestville and Marlboro Roads. The westerly front-gabled section dates from the second half of the nineteenth century, when it served as a general store; the easterly nearly-flat-roofed section was added early in the twentieth century, and served as a mortuary until circa 1926.

The farmland on which this small commercial crossroads was established had been part of the land holdings of Samuel Berry; John S. Ritchie acquired 200 acres of this land (Craufurds) in 1878. At the end of the century, Ritchie conveyed part of the land, including a general store, to his son J. Suit Ritchie.<sup>1</sup> According to local tradition, this front-gabled store building contained an upstairs room for local social events. The commercial space on the ground floor had a molded tin ceiling (now covered).<sup>2</sup>

In 1913, J. Suit Ritchie conveyed the 1/2 acre parcel on which the store stood to his sons, Carl and Aubrey Ritchie. By that time, the Ritchies had constructed an addition on the east side of the store building; the addition was a typical vernacular store-front structure, with nearly-flat roof and crown-molded front cornice. The addition was built as a mortuary and was run by Seth Ritchie, brother of Carl and Aubrey Ritchie who operated the adjoining grocery store.<sup>3</sup>

The mortuary operated until circa 1926; since then the complex building has housed a series of commercial operations, as well as an upstairs apartment. It presently houses a law office. The building changed hands in 1985; renovation work has been undertaken in recent years, including the installation of modern doors and store windows, and more work is planned.<sup>4</sup>

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. #75A-3

cf. Notes, Item #8  
cf. Chain of title

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 0.15 a.

Tax map 74, p. 98

Quadrangle name Upper Marlboro, MD Section A

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	<u>Susan G. Pearl, Research Historian</u>		
organization	<u>Historic Preservation Commission</u>	date	<u>September 1985</u>
street & number	<u>c/o County Planning Division, M-NCPPC</u>	telephone	<u>952-3521</u>
city or town	<u>Upper Marlboro,</u>	state	<u>Maryland</u>

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory 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  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

#8. Continued

Notes

- 1 Prince George's County Land Records, HB #13:422; JB #5:448.
- 2 Conversation with present owner, April and September 1985.
- 3 Prince George's County Land Records #79:539; Prince George's County Tax Assessments, 1900-1923; conversation with present owner.
- 4 Conversation with present owner.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

1702104611

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1** NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Old Ritchie Stores

**2** LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Ritchie Road & Ritchie Road Spur

CITY, TOWN

Ritchie

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Prince George's

**3** CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES RESTRICTED
- YES UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER

**4** OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5** LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Prince George's County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Upper Marlboro

STATE

Maryland

**6** REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED    DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is an old country crossroads area that is fast becoming suburbanized. There are several, older commercial buildings and older houses. Some may date from the late 1800's, but most appear to be ca. 1900. One building in particular is interesting. It is a two-part structure, on the south corner. It sits on a high brick basement, and the entrance is here in the (north) gable facade. Above, there is a long, frame, A-roofed section, which is joined on the east wall by a "false-front", flat-roofed part. Both sections have German siding and 2/2 windows.

**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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This was a small, rural commercial center, that probably had its heyday in the early 1900's. Even during the late 1800's, it was mostly a series of farms, but apparently John S. Ritchie had a store or similar building here.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

10/8/74

STREET & NUMBER

8787 Georgia Ave.

TELEPHONE

589-1480

CITY OR TOWN

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438

Chain of Title

Old Ritchie Stores  
P.~~A~~. #75A-3

6072:825 22 March 1985 Deed	Eunice Shanks and Shirley Ryon Beall Investment Limited Partnership, 3 parcels including parcel 98 on tax map 74, .148 acre on south side of Ritchie Road Spur part of parcel described in #5165:75 and 79.
5165:75 27 July 1979 Deed	Shirley B. Ryon, Personal Representative of the estate of Aubrey T. Ritchie, to Eunice Shanks; 6.446 square feet called Parcel 2 and described in 482:334.
CMH #2:302 28 April 1978 Will	Testator, Aubrey T. Ritchie; Item #2: 1/2 interest in 6,450 square feet of land with garage and apartment, Parcel #2 in #482:334. Shirley Ryon, personal representative.
482:334 9 Sept. 1937 Deed	Carl S. Ritchie to Aubrey T. Ritchie; Parcel 2 containing 6,450 square feet along an abandoned county road between Forestville and Marlboro. This is the same land conveyed to Carl and Aubrey Ritchie in 79:539.
79:539 24 Sept. 1913 Deed	J. Suit Ritchie to Carl and Aubrey Ritchie; 13/22 acres of land lying in the Spaulding district along the road leading from Ritchie to the County Alms House. Acquired by J. Suit Ritchie from John S. Ritchie in JB#5:448.
JB#5:448 7 Jan. 1899 Deed	John S. Ritchie and Mary E. Ritchie to J. Suit Ritchie; 135 acres being part of the land described in HB#13:422.
HB#13:422 30 May 1878 Deed	Joseph K. Roberts and Caleb Magruder, Jr., Administrators of the estate of Samuel Berry by Equity 892, to John S. Ritchie; 212 acres from the lands of Samuel Berry.

4467/288  
7.44A P.18

TRANSMISSION

R-R

I-1  
1260

DOMINION HOLDINGS  
OF MARYLAND, INC.  
4736/072  
15.06A  
P.157

I-3

PARCEL 'B'  
RITCHIE  
ELEM. SCHOOL  
17.65 A.

CHAS E NELSON  
650/242  
52.02A  
P.25

CHAS  
E  
E

R-R

DOMINION HOLDINGS  
OF MARYLAND, INC.  
4736/072  
12.52A  
P.156

7517

RITCHIE ROAD  
SHOPPING CENTER

BURGESS'  
ADDITION TO

8647

9864

8341

R-55

RITCHIE

G-M

R-R

I-1

BALTIMORE FED. SAV.  
AND LOAN ASSOCIATION  
5466/027  
7.58A  
P.131

KATHLEEN NICHOLSON, ETAL  
11.49A  
P.23

C-2

C-1

RITCHIE

MARLBORO  
ROAD

75A-3

FORESTVILLE  
PARK

D.M.  
PATTISON  
5678/943  
2.05A  
P.102

HAROLD  
H. SMITH  
4092/795  
2.95A  
P.133

R-T

RITCHIE



P.G. #75A-3

Old Ritchie Store  
Prince George's County, MD.  
Susan G. Pearl  
April 1985  
North elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G. #75A-3

Old Ritchie Store

Prince George's County, MD.

Susan G. Pearl

April 1985

South elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.