

CH-624

Waldorf Store and Post Office, (Berry/Howard Store)

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

Last Updated: 11-21-2003

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☐

Property Name: Waldorf Store and Post Office Inventory Number: CH-624
Address: 3190 Leonardtown Road City: Waldorf Zip Code: 20601
County: Charles USGS Topographic Map: LaPlata, MD Quad
Owner: Pleas E Dillard, Jr. Is the property being evaluated a district? ☐ yes
Tax Parcel Number: 226 Tax Map Number: 15 Tax Account ID Number: 022626
Project: Waldorf Industrial Park Em. Tower - Chas. Co. Govt. Agency: FCC
Site visit by MHT Staff: ☐ no ☐ yes Name: _____ Date: _____
Is the property located within a historic district? ☐ yes ☒ no

If the property is within a district

District Inventory Number: _____

NR-listed district ☐ yes Eligible district ☐ yes District Name: _____

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ☐ yes ☐ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ☐

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ☐ yes ☒ no

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The Waldorf Store and Post Office is a two-story front gable commercial structure, located on the north side of Leonardtown Road, near the historic Popes Creek Railroad intersection. Considered one of the early commercial structures built in Charles County, its significance appears to be dramatically limited due to the many alterations and modifications that have occurred throughout its time. While some elements of the original configurations remain, the majority of the building fabric has been compromised with a multitude of "mismatched" additions, providing functionally needed spaces for its varied uses. Finally, what original fabric does remain is in a very deteriorated condition. This property is not recommended for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Prepared by: Kate Mahood,
Architectural Historian

Date Prepared: 6/11/03

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended ☒

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Comments: _____

Kate Mahood
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Kate Mahood
Reviewer, NR Program

7/17/03
Date

7/21/03
Date

CH-624

Click here for a plain text ADA compliant screen.

	Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation CHARLES COUNTY Real Property Data Search	Go Back View Map New Search
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Account Identifier: District - 06 Account Number - 022626

Owner Information

Owner Name:	DILLARD, PLEAS E JR ET AL	Use:	COMMERCIAL
Mailing Address:	7450 POPLAR ST CHARLOTTE HALL MD 20622-3020	Principal Residence:	NO
		Deed Reference:	1) / 3154/ 352 2)

Location & Structure Information

Premises Address	Zoning	Legal Description
3190 LEONARDTOWN RD WALDORF 20601	CB	0.583 AC ON RT 5 WALDORF DOUBLE EAGLE TAVERN

Map	Grid	Parcel	Sub District	Subdivision	Section	Block	Lot	Group	Plat No:
15	4	226						80	Plat Ref:

Special Tax Areas	Town Ad Valorem Tax Class
Primary Structure Built 0000	Enclosed Area 5,041 SF

Property Land Area	County Use
25,395.00 SF	

Stories	Basement	Type	Exterior
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Value Information

	Base Value	Value As Of 01/01/2001	Phase-in Assessments As Of 07/01/2002	As Of 07/01/2003
Land:	177,760	177,700		
Improvements:	50,230	70,100		
Total:	227,990	247,800	241,196	247,800
Preferential Land:	0	0	0	0

Transfer Information

Seller: BERRY, J HORACE	Date: 03/13/2001	Price: \$250,000
Type: IMPROVED ARMS-LENGTH	Deed1: / 3154/ 352	Deed2:
Seller:	Date:	Price:
Type:	Deed1:	Deed2:
Seller:	Date:	Price:
Type:	Deed1:	Deed2:

Exemption Information

Partial Exempt Assessments	Class	07/01/2002	07/01/2003
County	000	0	0
State	000	0	0
Municipal	000	0	0

Tax Exempt: NO
Exempt Class:

Special Tax Recapture:

* NONE *



MAHOOD AND ASSOCIATES, LLC

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY ♦ HISTORIC PRESERVATION ♦ ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

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410-266-5608 (P) 410-266-5570 (F)

KATE@MAHOODASSOCIATES.COM

CH-624
OLD WALDORF
STORE & POST
OFFICE

Scale
N.T.S.

Date
7/8/03

Design By

Source
USGS BRANDYWINE, LAPLATA,
HUGHESVILLE, & PISCATAWAY QUADRANT

Job No. _____



WALDORF STORE AND
POST OFFICE
WALDORF, MD
CHAS. COUNTY

CH-624

KATE MAHOOD
05-30-2003

MD SHPO

View of Front (South) Facade and
Side (West) View
Photograph # 1 of 3



WALDORF STORE AND
POST OFFICE
WALDORF, MD
CHAS. COUNTY

CH-624

KATE MAHOD
05-30-2003

MD SHPO
View of Side (East) Facade
Photograph # 2 of 3



WALDORF STORE AND
POST OFFICE
WALDORF, MD
CHAS. COUNTY

CH-624

KATE MAHOOD
05-30-2003

MD SHPO

View of Rear (North) and Side (East)
Facade
Photograph # 3 of 3

Waldorf Store and Post Office
CH-624
Waldorf
Public

Circa 1900

Although significantly altered, the Waldorf Store and Post Office is one of a handful of surviving early commercial structures in Charles County. Located near the intersection of Leonardtown Road and the Popes Creek Railroad, the store and post office served an important role in Waldorf's development from a crossroads village to a regional commercial center. Although once such buildings could be found at virtually every crossroads, only a handful of similar buildings have survived throughout the county.

The former Waldorf Store and Post Office building was originally a typical two-story, three bay, front gable commercial structure built at the turn of the twentieth century. Despite alterations, notable features include cornice returns and a lunette window in the attic story gable wall.

Inventory No. CH-624

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic	Waldorf Store and Post Office (preffered)
other	Berry/ Howard Store

2. Location

street and number	3190 Leonardtown Road	not for publication
city, town	Waldorf	vicinity
county	Charles	

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

name	J. Horace Berry			
street and number	3669 Old Washington Road		telephone	301-645-3343
city, town	Waldorf	state	MD	zip code 20602

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Charles County Courthouse	tax map and parcel:	Map 15	P.22
city, town	LaPlata	liber	102	folio 248

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	
				Contributing	Noncontributing
☐ district	☐ public	☐ agriculture	☐ landscape	☐	☐ buildings
☒ building(s)	☒ private	☐ commerce/trade	☒ recreation/culture	☐ 1	☐ sites
☐ structure	☐ both	☐ defense	☐ religion	☐	☐ structures
☐ site		☐ domestic	☐ social	☐	☐ objects
☐ object		☐ education	☐ transportation	☐	☐ Total
		☐ funerary	☐ work in progress	☐ 1	
		☐ government	☐ unknown		
		☐ health care	☐ vacant/not in use		
		☐ industry	☐ other:		
				Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory 0	

7. Description

Inventory No. CH-624

Condition

☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated
☐ good	☐ ruins
☐ fair	☒ altered

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

The former Waldorf Store and Post Office building is a two-story front gable commercial structure built at the turn of the twentieth century. It is located on the north side of Leonardtown Road near the historic Popes Creek Railroad intersection. The building is situated in an intensely developed section of the county and is currently surrounded by late twentieth century construction. Although substantially altered notable features include cornice returns and a lunette window in the attic story gable wall.

The original front gable, three bay building has had several alterations and additions. Most notable is a circa 1930 two story three bay, side gable wing attached to the east elevation which dramatically extends the façade along Leonardtown Road. The storefront façade has also been significantly modified with the addition of brick facing covering the exterior up to the second story windows, and modified first floor fenestration. Finally, at least five additional building periods are visible from the rear or northern elevation.

The building is of frame construction with stucco covering the primary wall surfaces. Asphalt shingles cover the roof. Two shallow shed porches are present on the façade and are supported upon square wooden posts. The foundation was not visible at the time of the survey.

The first floor of the façade has been substantially altered, obscuring the original configuration. Currently it includes a central doorway flanked by a sash double-hung wood window with 6/6 lights near the west wall, and a 1-light fixed large storefront window near the east wall. The side gable wing includes two doors in the westernmost bays and a single light fixed storefront window near the east wall.

The second floor remains fairly intact with the exception of replacement 1/1 light double-hung windows in the front gable façade. The side gable wing features three original 6/6 light wood double-hung sash windows. An exterior square chimney stack is positioned in the interior of the L where the side gable wing meets the original front gable structure.

The second story eastern elevation of the main front gable building includes two 1/1 replacement windows in their original position, while the third bay is incorporated into the side gable wing. On the opposite western façade are three replacement 1/1 light windows also in their original position.

A historic postcard of the Post Office and Store dating from the early 1900's documents the building's early form. In this photograph the store consists of the main front gable building as well as several one story additions to the western and rear elevations. A first floor front gable porch supported on wooden posts appears at the façade. Also discernable is the original weatherboard wall covering. Although the eastern façade is less visible, this image seems to predate the two story side gable wing.

8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-624

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
___ 1600-1699	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ health/medicine	___ performing arts	
___ 1700-1799	___ archeology	___ education	___ industry	___ philosophy	
<u>x</u> 1800-1899	<u>x</u> architecture	___ engineering	___ invention	___ politics/government	
___ 1900-1999	___ art	___ entertainment/ recreation	___ landscape architecture	___ religion	
___ 2000-	<u>x</u> commerce	___ ethnic heritage	___ law	___ science	
	___ communications	___ exploration/ settlement	___ literature	<u>x</u> social history	
	___ community planning		___ maritime history	___ transportation	
	___ conservation		___ military	___ other:	

Specific dates	Circa 1900	Architect	Unknown
Construction dates	Circa 1900	Builder	Unknown

Evaluation for:

___ National Register ___ Maryland Register x 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.)

Although significantly altered, the Waldorf Store and Post Office is a good example of early commercial architecture in Charles County. Located near the intersection of Leonardtown Road and the Popes Creek Railroad, the store and post office served an important role in Waldorf's development from a crossroads village to a regional commercial center. Although once, such structures could be found in every crossroads community, only a handful of similar structures have survived throughout the county.

The introduction of the railroad in Charles County following the Civil War not only provided efficient inexpensive land transportation, but affected significant physical change in the landscape itself. Along with revolutionizing the way farmers brought goods to market, the railroad caused several entirely new centers of commerce to emerge.

A railroad through the County had been proposed as early as 1854, but was delayed by the Civil War. In 1867, the idea was revived, and the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad began construction of a line between Bowie, Maryland and Pope's Creek in Charles County. Later, the Pennsylvania Railroad acquired the line and proceeded to connect it to Washington, DC via Bowie. The first regular daily passenger service from Cox's Station (present day Bel Alton) to Bowie began running in January 1873.

New "railroad" towns began to spring up along the railroad's route. Initially, each town consisted of little more than a small station, several houses, and a corner store. White Plains, Waldorf, and La Plata were all formed after the construction of the railroad, and grew up around their railroad stations. Waldorf was first established in 1872 along the B & P Railroad line. Originally known as Beantown Station, for the nearby community of Beantown, the railroad village was renamed Waldorf around the time the first post office was established there in 1880.

Commercial growth in Waldorf proceeded quickly in the last decades of the 19th century. Established businesses moved to the new village to take advantage of its proximity to the railroad, while new businesses emerged. One such established business, Peter Trotter's Wheelwright shop in Bryantown, announced in 1877 that it would open a new shop at Beantown Station. Other early businesses located in Waldorf included Kerr's Store, the J.B. Ryon & Brothers Store, both general merchandise establishments, a bowling alley, and a barber shop. In addition, two hotels were erected in Waldorf during the early decades of the railroad's operation. One of these

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No CH-624

Name Waldorf Store and Post Office (preffered)

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

was Trotter's Hotel. Two hotels appear on an 1885 map of Waldorf, one on either side of present day Route 5, just east of the railroad tracks.

During the early twentieth century the store was occupied by Joseph H. Howard and Russell Howard, then trading as Joseph H. Howard & Son. After Joseph Howard's death in 1931, his real estate, including joint stock and property, was sold by his son and heirs to relinquish outstanding debts. The estate was not settled until 1939 when James P. Ryon acquired the property and took over the operation of the store. Ryon ran a store there until 1946 when he sold the property to Alexius M. Edelin. Six years later Edelin sold the building to the current owner J. Horace Berry.

Although altered over the last century, existing architectural evidence and historic photographs illustrate that the Waldorf Store and Post Office shared many of the characteristics of vernacular nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial architecture in Charles County. These characteristics include a building site near a prominent intersection of road and railroad, a front gable orientation, and a one story front or wrap around porch.

These characteristics are also found at the Gallant Green Store (CH-602) which dates to the first decade of the twentieth century and is located at the intersection of the railroad tracks and Gallant Green Road. Another example includes the Nanjemoy Store and Post Office (CH-194).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CH-624

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property .583
Acreage of historical setting .583
Quadrangle name LaPlata Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property is associated with Charles County Property Map 15, Grid 4, Parcel 226.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Cathy Currey/Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	Charles County Planning Department	date	10/23/2000
street and number	200 Baltimore Street	telephone	301-396-581
city or town	LaPlata	state MD	zipcode 20646

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 INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-624

Section 8 Page 1

Old Waldorf Store and Post Office
name of property
Charles County, MD
county and state

Chain of title:

August 21, 1939 Walter J. Mitchell and John F. Mudd for the late Joseph H. Howard and
Russell Howard, formerly trading under the name Joseph H. Howard and
Son.

WMA 70 Folio 644

January 10, 1946 James P. and Ula J. Ryon to Alexius M. Edelin.

TBM 82 Folio 501

June 11, 1952 Alexius M. Edelin and Catherine B. Edelin to J. Horace Berry. bounded on
the south by state road, west by Dr. George O. Monroe, east by land of
Thomas A. Middleton . Part of the property of the late Joseph H. Howard
property formerly known as "Storehouse and Dwelling".

Liber 102 Folio 248

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-624

Section 9 Page 1

Old Waldorf Store and Post Office

name of property

Charles County, Maryland

county and state

Major Bibliographic References:

Brown, Jack D., et al. Charles County, Maryland, A History. Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Charles County Land Records, Charles County Courthouse, LaPlata, Maryland.

Klapthor, Margaret Brown. The History of Charles County, Maryland. LaPlata, MD: Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.

RESOURCE SKETCH MAP

Date: 12/2/99

North arrow:



Name: OLD WALDORF STORE & POST OFFICE

Address: Leonardtown Rd.

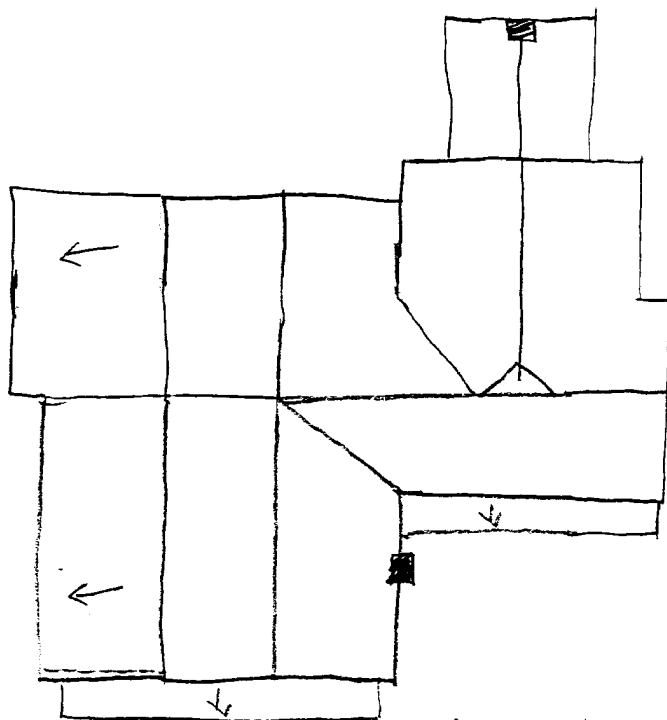
CH - 624

Charles County, Maryland

Waldorf

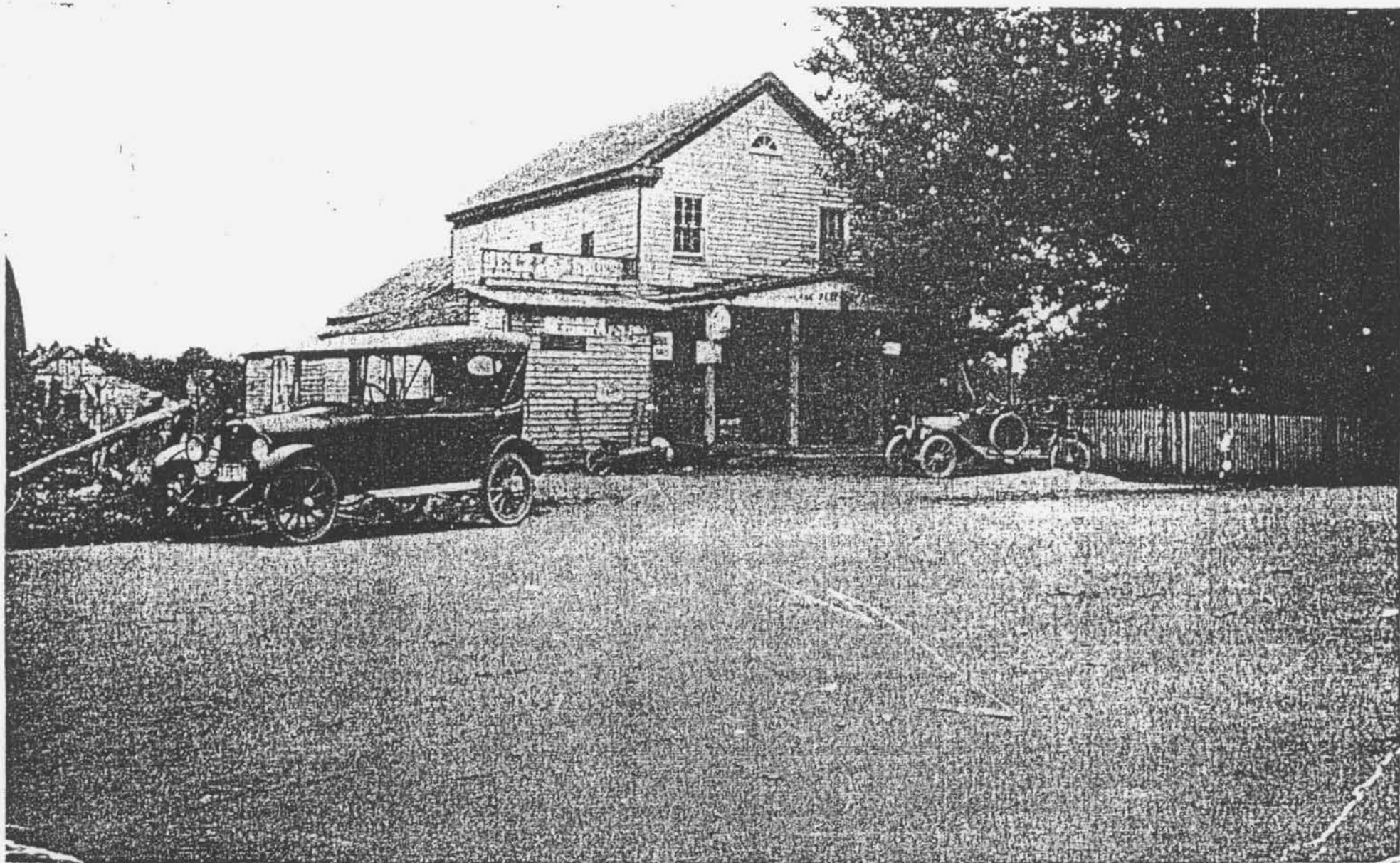
☒ Vicinity

- gravel -



paved area

LEONARDTOWN ROAD



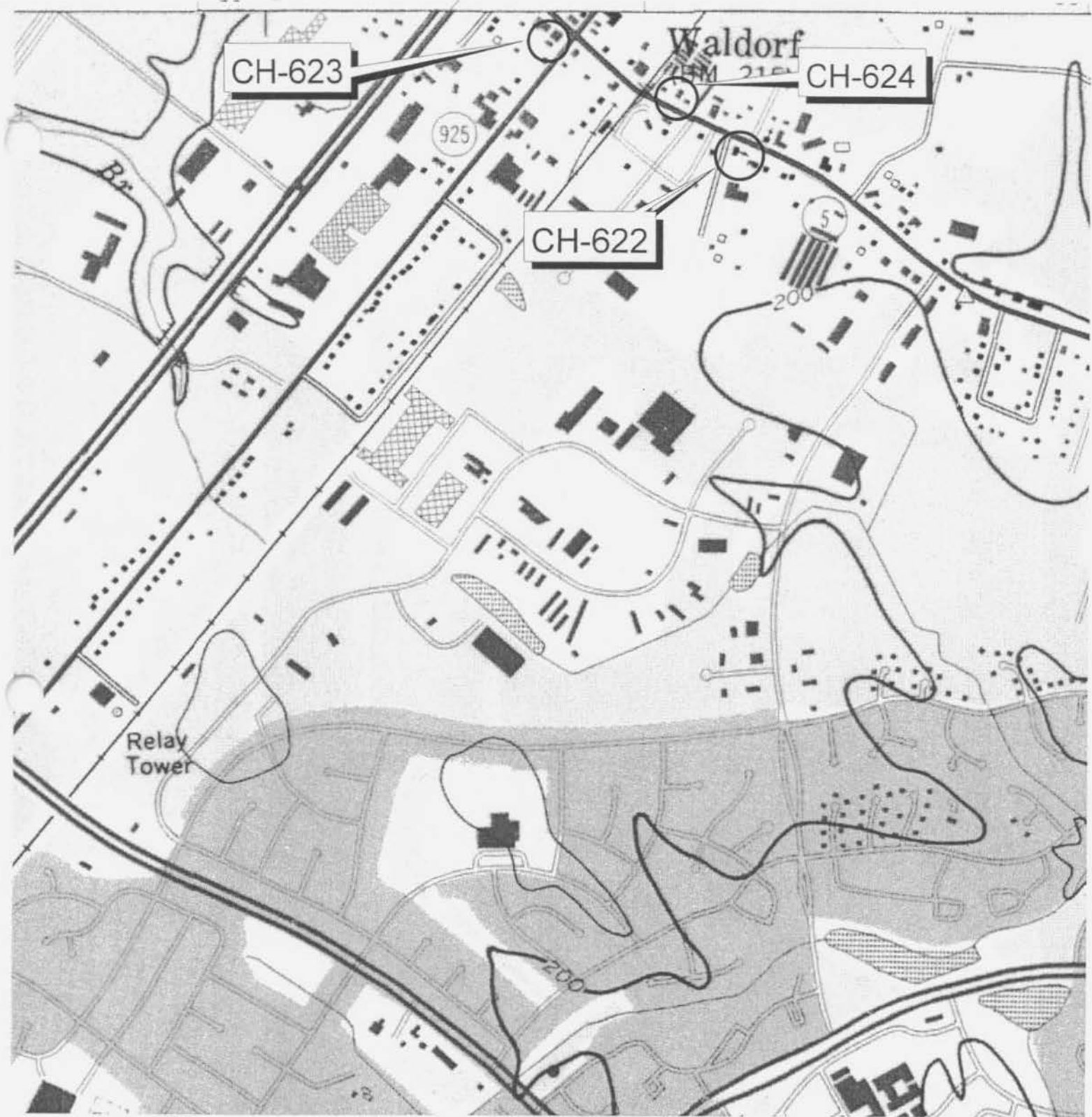
POST OFFICE, Waldorf, Md.

building still stands - approx 110 years old)

Copy from early postcard

Early 1900's Berry/Howard Store across from U.S. Post Office (sometimes moved across to Kings Store)

CH-624



Old Waldorf Store & Post Office
CH-624
Charles County, MD
LaPlata, MD Quad



CH-624

WALDORF STORE & POST OFFICE
CHARLES COUNTY, MD

11/99

K.G. SMITH

MARYLAND SHPO
LOOKING NW

1 OF 2



CH-624

WALDORF STORE & POST OFFICE
CHARLES COUNTY, MD

11/99

K. G. SMITH

MARYLAND SHPO

~~100~~ NORTH ELEVATION

2 OF 2