

Capsule Summary
SM-551
Leonardtwn Supermarket
Leonardtwn
Private

c. 1910s-1920s

The original section of the Leonardtown Supermarket was constructed between the 1910s and 1920s by Aloysius F. and Sarah M. King. The King family purchased the tract as well as the "Old Tavern" or "Beacon Building" in 1894 from Leo Wathen at a public auction. A few years after the purchase, they erected this gable front, concrete block commercial building between the old First National Bank of St. Mary's building (now demolished) to the north and the so called "Beacon building" (now demolished) to the south. As owners of the St. Mary's Beacon, a local newspaper, as well as the Leonardtown Supermarket, the King family demonstrated their diversified commercial interests in Leonardtown.

The store was initially known as the "A & P"--a local branch of one of the first chain supermarkets that began in America. Ironically, the Leonardtown Supermarket closed its doors c. 1990, a victim of larger chain supermarkets such as Food Lion and Super Fresh located at "strip developments" on the periphery of town. Today, despite several unsympathetic additions, the Leonardtown Supermarket still retains some of its historic fabric including its rusticated concrete block walls, 1950s signage, and its overall shape and form.

SM-551, Leonardtown Supermarket
St. Mary's County
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization: Western Shore
Chronological/Developmental Period: Industrial Urban Dominance, 1870-1930
Historic Period Theme: Architecture, Commerce

Resource Type

Category: Building
Historic Environment: Town
Historic Function and Use: Grocery Store, Supermarket
Known Design Source: None

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
 HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. SM-551

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Leonardtown Supermarket

and/or common

2. Location

Just S of the Leonardtown square, on the E side of Washington Street
 street & number

not for publication

city, town Leonardtown vicinity of _____ congressional district 3

state Maryland county St. Mary's

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 checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 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 First National Bank of St. Mary's

street & number 5 East Park Avenue telephone no.: 301-475-8081

city, town Leonardtown state and zip code Maryland 20650

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse liber EWA 777

street & number _____ folio 39

city, town Leonardtown state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title _____

date _____ federal state county local

pository for survey records _____

city, town _____ state _____

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<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.

Contributing Resource Count: 1

The Leonardtown Supermarket is located on the east side of Washington Street in the heart of Leonardtown's business district. The building is oriented on a east/west axis on a slender .18 acre lot and bounded to the north by the First National Bank of St. Mary's (SM-344) an office building to the south, a parking lot to the east, and Washington Street to the west.

Originally constructed in the early-1920s, the Leonardtown Supermarket is a one story, gable-front, rusticated concrete block building with a gable roof and several subsequent alterations. The primary or west elevation consists of a three bay brick front shaded by a full width metal awning. The three bays, while currently boarded over, consist of a centrally located glass pane and metal door flanked on either side by large picture windows. Immediately above the metal awning is a metal sign that reads "Leonardtown Supermarket." Another electrically lit sign lies perpendicular to the wall surface and also reads "Leonardtown Supermarket." Both signs display the Coca-Cola trademark as well. A change in materials (from brick to rusticated concrete block) seen on the north and south sides of the building suggest that the false front was added at a later date (c. 1950s). This newer brick extension has a flat roof that extends to the juncture of the concrete block and newer brick section. It is at this point that the original section of the store begins. The walls of the original section are constructed of rusticated concrete block like those found at nearby St. Paul's Church (SM-274) and the Jones House (SM-547). The store's gable front, however, is covered with asphalt siding (with an imitation brick motif) and exhibits a wood fascia board. The north and south sides of the original section do not exhibit any windows or doors but does exhibit an enclosed cornice. The gable roof of the original section is covered with asphalt shingles.

Another large frame addition covered with aluminum siding is located to the rear or east of the rusticated concrete portion of the building. This modern addition is topped by a large gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The interior of the supermarket was not investigated.

8. Significance

Survey No. SM-551

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/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" 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
check: Applicable Criteria: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

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

The original section of the Leonardtown Supermarket was constructed between the 1910s and 1920s by Aloysius F. and Sarah M. King. The King family purchased the tract as well as the "Old Tavern" or "Beacon Building" in 1894 from Leo Wathen at a public auction. A few years after the purchase, they erected this gable front, concrete block commercial building between the old First National Bank of St. Mary's building (now demolished) to the north and the so called "Beacon building" (now demolished) to the south. As owners of the St. Mary's Beacon, a local newspaper, as well as the Leonardtown Supermarket, the King family demonstrated their diversified commercial interests in Leonardtown. The store was initially known as the "A & P" a local branch of the one of the first chain supermarkets that began in America.

Ed Stokel was a stockboy at the store for several years and can still recall the day to day activities of the store. Ed remembers that a summer camp manager would ride his boat from across Breton Bay and buy over a \$100 of groceries at the store and then bring them down to the boat and back to the summer camp. This weekly occurrence demonstrates the increased desires for a readily accessible store where a wide variety of groceries and provisions could be obtained quickly. In the 1950s, the market was purchased by Richard L. Curry and John A. Joseph who later added on to the west side of the building a new brick storefront. Another frame addition was added to the east side of the building sometime in the 1950s or 1960s. Despite these changes, the store still retains some of its historic fabric including its rusticated concrete block walls, signage, and its overall shape and form. The Leonardtown Supermarket closed its doors c. 1990, a victim of the larger chain supermarkets such as Food Lion and Super Fresh. The First National Bank currently owns the property and is planning on reusing the building for office space.

SM-551, Leonardtown Supermarket
St. Mary's County
8.1 Significance

Chain-of-Title (Please note that all deeds were found in the Land Records of St. Mary's County located at the County Courthouse in Leonardtown, Maryland unless otherwise noted.)

Reference: Liber EWA 777, Folio 39
Grantee: First National Bank of St. Mary's
Grantor: Eui Sung Lee, et al
Date: May 19, 1993
Note: This .18 acre (7,846 sq ft) tract was purchased for \$180,000.

Reference: Liber MRB 320, Folio 479
Grantee: Eui Sung Lee, et al
Grantor: John A. and Phyllis Joseph and Cecelia T. Curry
Date: November 8, 1986

Reference: Liber 308, Folio 240
Grantee: John A. Joseph and Cecilia T. Curry
Grantor: Roy L. Kaufman-granted power of sale by Jung Hyun Kim and Ae Ja Kim
Date: September 10, 1986
Note: The property was sold for \$145,000.

Reference: Liber MRB 209, Folio 153
Grantee: Roy L. Kaufman, trustee
Grantor: Jung Hyun Kim and Ae Ja Kim
Date: July 29, 1986
Note: As a result of a circuit court case (CA No. 86-604), the property is sold at auction.

Reference: Liber CBG 57, Folio 383
Grantee: Richard L. and Cecilia T. Curry and John A. and Phyllis Joseph
Grantor: Oliver R. and Betty M. Guyther
Date: July 30, 1955

Reference: Liber CBG 57, Folio 381
Grantee: Oliver R. and Betty M. Guyther
Grantor: Sarah M. King
Date: June 30, 1955
Note: This deed describes the property as the "Tavern Lot and Addition", "Part Tudor Hall Property," and "Part Joseph H. Key Lot."

Reference: Liber CBG 37, Folio 132
Grantee: Aloysius F. and Sarah M. King
Grantor: Mary R. Fowler
Date: May 21, 1952

Reference: Liber CBG 37, Folio 129
Grantee: Mary R. Fowler
Grantor: Aloysius F. and Sarah M. King
Date: May 21, 1952
Note: This lot was once part of two parcels. The first is called "The Old Tavern and Lot Attached" and contained one acre. The other lot contained 1/8 of an acre.

— SM-551, Leonardtown Supermarket
St. Mary's County
8.2 Significance

Reference: Liber JJG 2, Folio 2

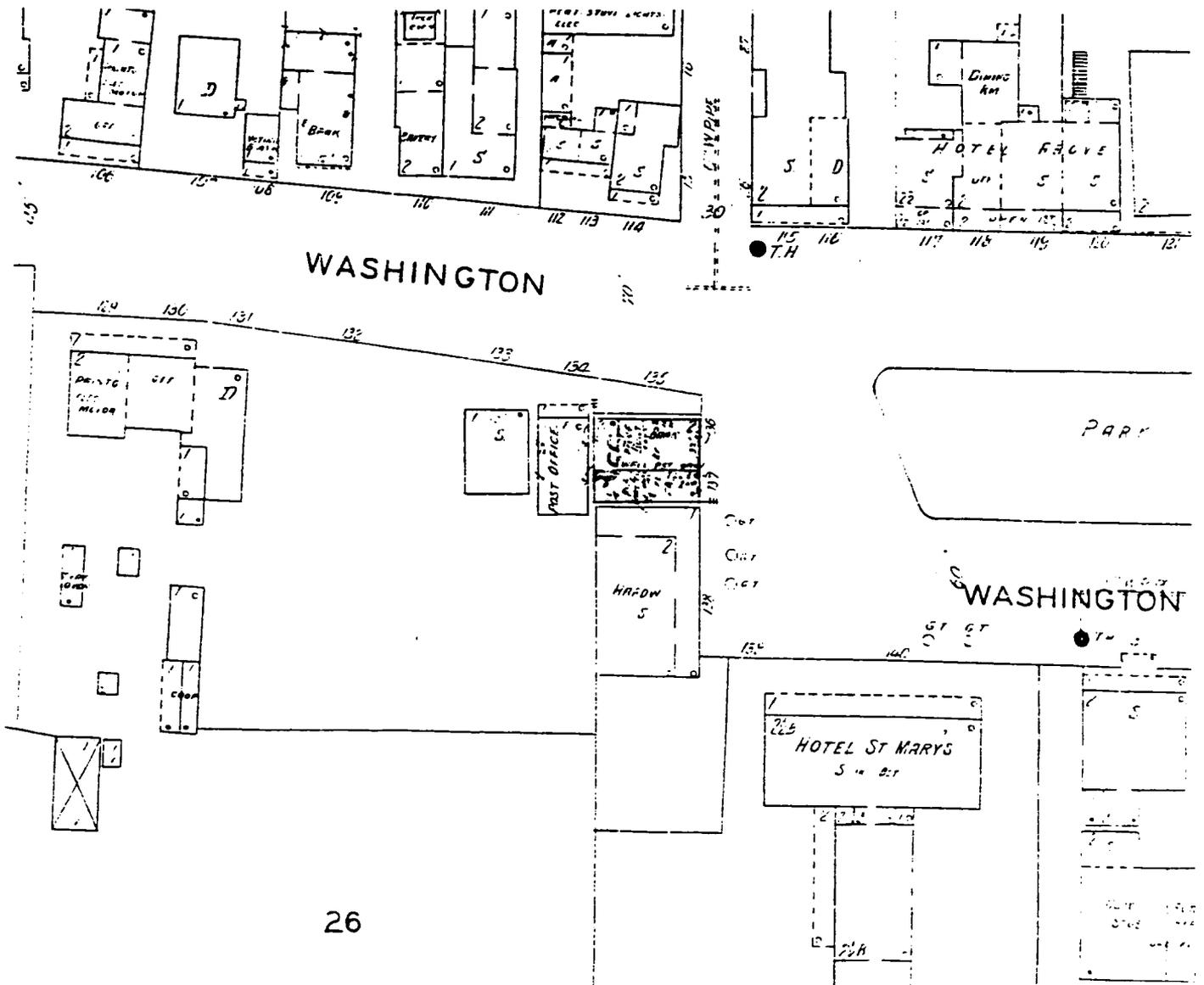
Grantee: Francis V. King

Grantor: Leo M. Wathen, sheriff

Date: August 12, 1894

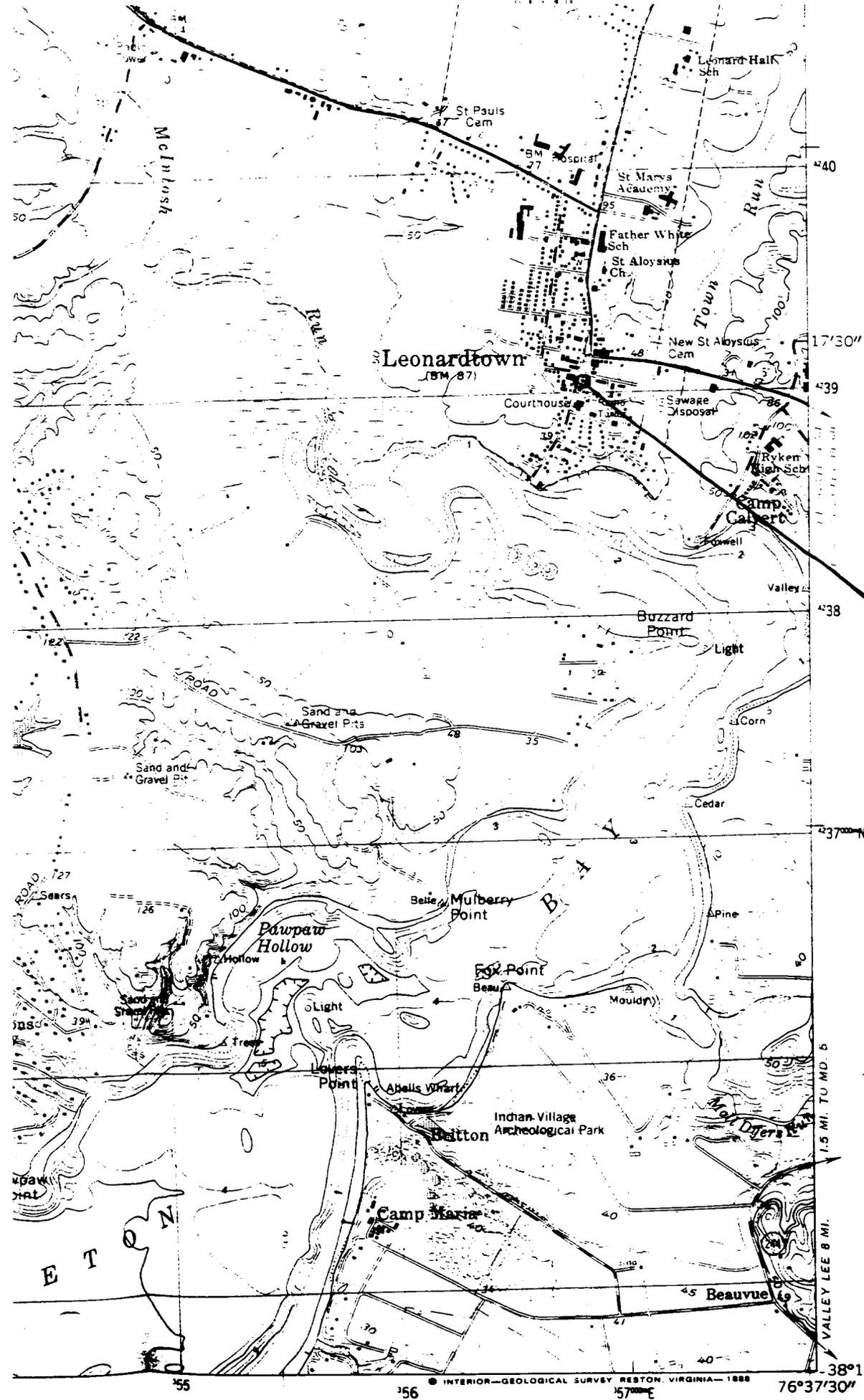
Note: Here the property was sold at auction to Francis V. King. King later sold a portion of this property to the First National Bank of St. Mary's to begin their first branch in April of 1903. A rusticated concrete block store building was later built on the remaining portion immediately to the south of the bank building.

SM-551, Leonardtown Supermarket
 St. Mary's County
 8.3 Significance



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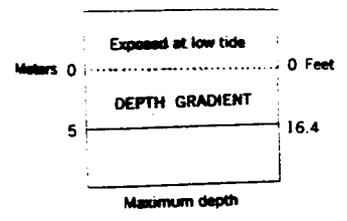
1928 Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map of Leonardtown showing the location of the store building immediately to the south of the Post Office on the east side of Washington Street.



Feet	Meters
1	3048
2	5096
3	9144
4	12192
5	15240
6	18288
7	21336
8	24384
9	27432
10	30480

To convert feet to meters multiply by 3.048
 To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808

SM-551
 Leonardtown
 Supermarket



LEONARDTOWN, MD.
 SW/4 LEONARDTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE
 38076-C6-TB-024
 1963
 BATHYMETRY ADDED 1982
 PHOTOREVISED 1984
 DMA 5660 I SW SERIES V833

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
 Heavy-duty ————— Light-duty - - - - -

(PIN-Y POINT)
 5660 II #



