Gallant Green Store **circa 1900**
CH-602
Gallant Green
Public

The Gallant Green Store is the last surviving commercial structure at Gallant Green Station, once a stop on the Southern Maryland Railroad. This two story, front gable frame structure is typical of commercial architecture during the late 19th and early 20th century and was once a common part of the Charles County landscape. Today only a few such structures survive. With the exception of a later one story addition to the rear, Gallant Green Store retains a good deal of its original materials and character and stands as an important reminder of the region's commercial heritage.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CH-602

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic	Gallant Green Store
other	

2. Location

street and number	14901 Woodville Road	___	not for publication
city, town	Gallant Green	___	vicinity
county	Charles		

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

name	Paul R. and Hannelore Nimmerichter				
street and number	15405 Mt. Pleasant Road			telephone	301-579-4970
city, town	Waldorf	state	MD	zip code	20607

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Charles County Courthouse	tax map and parcel:	17-20-16		
city, town	LaPlata	liber	1178	folio	500

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
___ district
x building(s)
___ structure
___ site
___ object

Ownership
___ public
x private
___ both

Current Function
___ agriculture
x commerce/trade
___ defense
___ domestic
___ education
___ funerary
___ government
___ health care
___ industry
___ landscape
___ recreation/culture
___ religion
x social
___ transportation
___ work in progress
___ unknown
___ vacant/not in use
___ other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
0

7. Description

Inventory No. CH-602

Condition

___	excellent	___	deteriorated
x	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.

Gallant Green Store stands at the crossroads of Woodville Road, Gallant Green Road and what was once the Southern Maryland Railroad tracks in the northeastern section of Charles County. The original two story front gable frame structure was built circa 1900 with subsequent additions to the rear and sides. These additions include a one story front gable wing attached to the rear of the store, a later metal shed addition to the rear of this, and a shed addition running the length of the western façade. The latter probably represents a portion of an earlier porch. A modest gable ornament is found on the rear or southern elevation which may indicate either a change in the building's original orientation or missing ornamentation on the northern façade.

The building is sheathed in German siding and rests on a poured concrete foundation. The low pitch roof is covered with asphalt shingles on the earliest section, and corrugated metal on the later additions. Cornices are open. A single interior brick chimney with a corbeled cap is situated near the eave wall on the western elevation.

The northern façade has two second story window openings currently covered with plywood, but still featuring square-edged surrounds. The first floor has two symmetrically positioned replacement windows that are smaller than the original configuration. These are currently metal double-hung 6/6 light windows. A one story shed porch is supported by four square wooden posts. The doorway currently includes a boxed-in plywood foyer extending onto the porch floor.

The eastern façade is positioned adjacent to the railroad tracks. The two story original structure includes two second floor windows boarded with plywood. Wooden shutters, possibly original, have been adhered to the exterior of the plywood panels. Below this, running the length of the original building is a narrow shed addition with an exterior metal single panel door near the original rear wall.

The southern elevation consists of a single window opening centered under the gable ridge of a much smaller composition. This window is also currently boarded up with shutters on top of plywood. A modest gable ornament is found at the ridge and represents a nod to the Queen Anne style. This would have been visible to visitors travelling north, both by rail and road.

The western elevation consists of the same second floor fenestration that appears on the northern and eastern facades. On the first floor two separate shed additions are present. The first, extending from the original two story block, probably represents an earlier enclosed porch. The enclosure includes two metal double-hung 6/6 light windows. The rear shed addition extends from the one-story rear wing and is of a slightly lower elevation than the previous roofline. This includes a single fixed one light window. A single paneled metal door is also present.

8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-602

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

Specific dates	Circa 1901-1942	Architect	unknown
Construction dates	Circa 1901	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.)

Gallant Green Store was constructed circa 1901 and served the commercial needs of the surrounding community for at least fifty years. This two story, front gable frame structure is the last surviving commercial structure at Gallant Green Station and one of the few remaining commercial structures associated with the railroad that survives in Charles County. Ideally located between the intersection of two main thoroughfares and the railroad tracks, the store illustrates the impact of railroad transportation patterns on the surrounding landscape.

The railroad first came to Charles County in 1873 and quickly led to the development of several towns. Perhaps the best known of these today are White Plains, Waldorf, and LaPlata. Gallant Green Station was connected to the Southern Maryland Railroad, a spur intended to run from Brandywine to the St. Mary's River. This line began its run in the 1880's but was never completed beyond Hughesville. The line filed for bankruptcy in 1886 after which the Washington, Potomac and Chesapeake Railroad assumed the line. In 1942 the United States Government acquired the railroad to supply the Patuxent Naval Air Station.

Although this spur was never completed beyond Hughesville, it still brought consistent reliable transportation for both passengers and products to the residents in the Gallant Green area. Intersections where road and rail met became promising locations for merchants who could take advantage of the concentration of people and the availability of goods. While the rest of the county remained largely stagnant, the areas along the rail lines grew in response to the increased economic activity.

In the early 1900's George Carroll began acquiring property in the Gallant Green area including 17 acres purchased with Woodville and Gallant Green Road. This property had previously been owned by Sylvester Mudd.

For over twenty years George Carroll operated a general merchandise. He had extensive dealings with Baltimore merchants where much of the commercial goods sold at the store originated. As evident from his estate records, Carroll was also involved in the tobacco industry, either serving as agent or small planter.

After Carroll's death in the early 1920's, the store and the associated seventeen acres were sold at public auction to Anton Arch for $2900. Arch sold the property in

1955.

In form and style the store represents the continued reliance on utilitarian forms in commercial architecture throughout the region. The store exhibits the common characteristics of commercial architecture throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries including a front gable orientation and simple ornamentation. Somewhat uniquely, the store features a modest nod to popular stylistic flourishes in the Queen Anne style decorative gable.

Today Gallant Green store is not only the last surviving commercial structure at Gallant Green Station, but one of the few remaining commercial structures associated with the railroad that survives in Charles County.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CH-602

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	2.25		
Acreage of historical setting	2.25		
Quadrangle name	Hughesville	Quadrangle scale	1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property at 14901 Woodville is and has been historically associated with Charles County Property Map 17, Grid 20, Parcel 16.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Cathy Currey/Historic Site Surveyor		
organization	Charles County Planning Department	date	9-1-2000
street and number	P.O. Box B	telephone	301-396-581
city or town	LaPlata	state MD	zipcode 20675

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

Chain of title:

March 20, 1893	James Naylor and Catherine E. his wife to Thomas Bowan. **$100**. 17 a. "adjoining the lands of James D.P. Halback, George H. Carroll, Catherine Francis and Helen Gardiner and the Southern Maryland Railroad on the east. Part of same sold by virtue of mortgage from Sylvester Mudd to Thomas H. Gristher and purchased by Gristher from Naylor. **J.S.T. No.6 Folio 34**
January 2, 1901	Margaret Forbes, et al, (Naylor heirs) to George W. Carroll. 17 a. previously conveyed to Thomas Bowan, now deceased by James and Catherine Naylor. **Liber 12 Folio 456**
November 13, 1924	Hester A. Carroll, widow to Anton Arch. **$2900**; 17 a. buildings and improvements thereupon being at or near Gallant Green Station, from Equity #1712. **W.M.A. 43 Folio 139**
May 4, 1955	Anton Arch and Cacilia, his wife to Bernard H. Vennemann and R. Ondrejack 2 1/4 a. **Liber 117 Folio 463**

Major Bibliographic References:

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

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

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

Pearl, Susan, G. Marina King and Howard S. Berger. *Historic Contexts in Prince George's County.* Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Upper Marlboro, MD., 1991.

RESOURCE SKETCH MAP

Date: 11/24/99

North arrow:

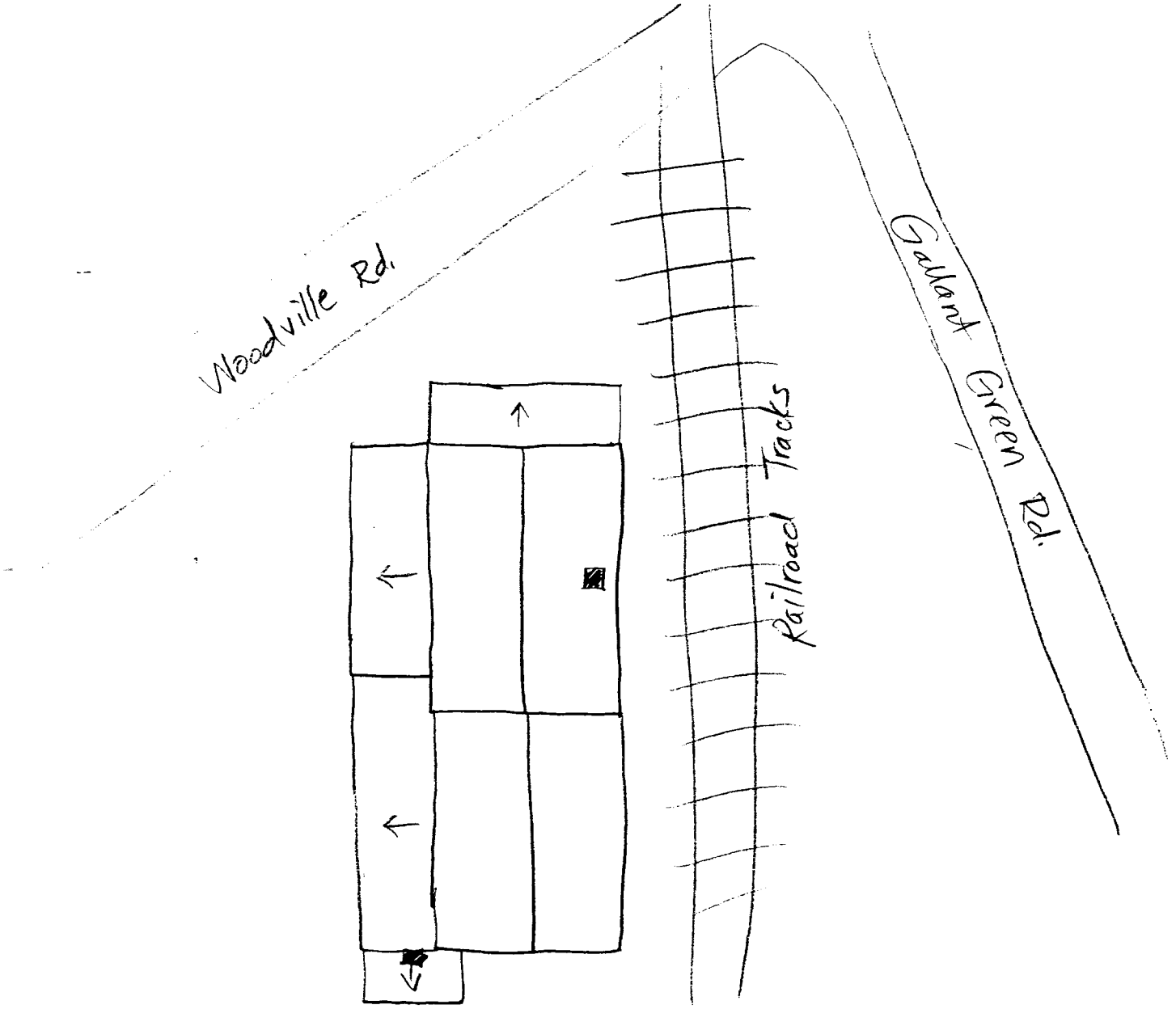
Name: GALLANT GREEN STORE

Address: 14901 Woodville Rd.

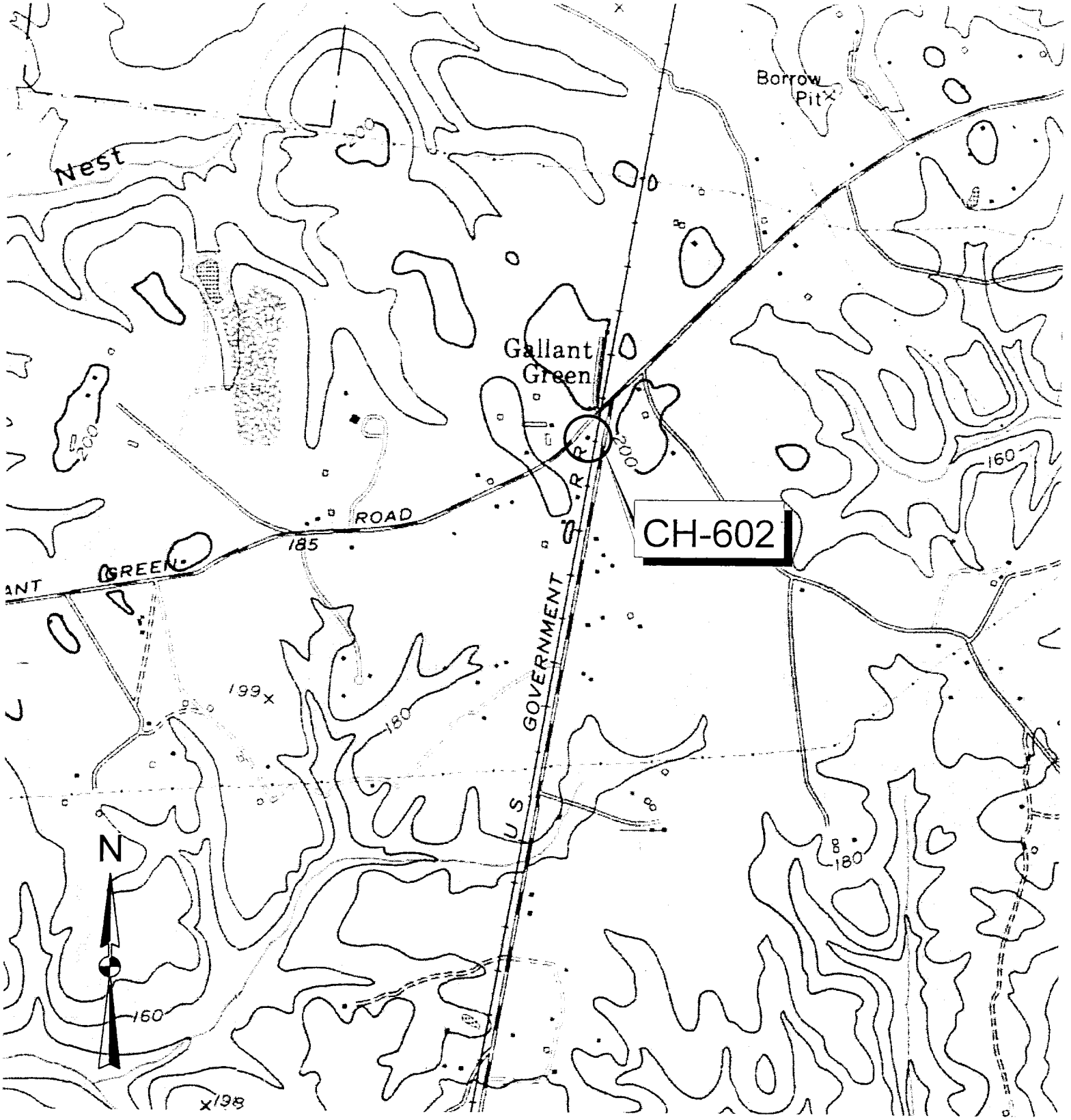
CH - 6002

Charles County, Maryland

Gallant Green ☐ Vicinity



Not drawn to scale



Gallant Green Store
CH-602
Charles County, MD
Hughesville, MD Quad

GALLANT GREEN
STORE AND BAR

CH-602
GALLANT GREEN STORE
CHARLES COUNTY, MD
K. G. SMITH
11/99
MARYLAND SHPO
LOOKING SOUTHEAST
1 OF 2

BUD LIGHT

CH-602
GALLANT GREEN STORE
CHARLES COUNTY, MD
K.G. SMITH
11/99
MARYLAND SHPO
LOOKING NW
2 OF 2