Scout Camp Road Tenant House
CH-691
Hughesville vic.
Private

C. 1945; Additions

The Scout Camp Road Tenant House is a well-preserved, unadorned one-story, frame side-passage dwelling located on a fifty acre farm near the St. Mary's County line. Built in three stages, the original structure faces south and is sited directly on Scout Camp Road. Erected at the end of the second World War, it has a 2-room hall and parlor plan, with front and rear porches as an integral part of the original structure. Not long after its construction, a rear shed addition was built followed by a final addition which extended the west wall. Several outbuildings contribute to the site's significance, including a privy located near the dwelling and two tobacco barns, a shed and chicken house sited behind the dwelling in an open, cultivated field. While the property has been associated with the Canter family since the 19th century, oral tradition asserts that this was the home of an African-American family having the surname Washington.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CH-691

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic	Scout Camp Road Tenant House
other	

2. Location

street and number	16090 Scout Camp Road	___	not for publication
city, town	Hughesville	X	vicinity
county	Charles		

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

name	Ernest H. Murphy, Jr., et al				
street and number	P.O. Box 48			telephone	301-274-3329
city, town	Hughesville	state	MD	zip code	20637-0048

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Charles County Courthouse	tax map and parcel:	47 p. 30		
city, town	LaPlata	liber	2427	folio	427

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
___ Other _____

6. Classification

Category
___ district
X building(s)
___ structure
___ site
___ object

Ownership
___ public
X private
___ both

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

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
6	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
6	0	Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory 0

7. Description

Inventory No. CH-691

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.

The Scout Camp Road Tenant House is a well-preserved, unadorned one-story frame, side-passage dwelling located on a fifty acre farm near the St. Mary's County line. Built in three stages, the original structure faces south and is sited directly on Scout Camp Road. It has a hall and parlor plan and was erected at the end of the second World War. Front and rear porches were an integral part of the original structure. Not long after its construction, a rear shed addition was built, followed by a final addition which extended the west wall. Several outbuildings contribute to the site's significance including a privy located not far from the dwelling and two tobacco barns, a shed and chicken house sited behind the dwelling in an open, cultivated field.

The original structure, along with the first rear addition, stands on a concrete block foundation, while the latest addition rests on a continuous block foundation. The entire structure has a metal seam roof which is pierced by a single interior brick chimney. Original wood weatherboard siding sheaths the exterior with the exception of the rear wall of the most recent addition. This addition has been reclad with 4x8 panels intended to resemble vertical plank. All nails found throughout were modern.

The original front elevation consists of four bays. Two 4/4 shuttered windows lie to the west of the off-centered entrance while a single 4/4 window lies to the east. The shed roof porch, covering the easternmost 3/4 of the dwelling appears to be aligned with the entranceway. Four square wooden posts support the porch roof. The east wall includes a single 4/4 shuttered window. The rear elevation is defined by a rear kitchen door protected by a shed porch at the northeast corner. A small, generally square portion of the porch is enclosed and accessible through a door sheltered by the porch roof. This unique space has a fixed 6-light window, as well as interior nail hooks, and functioned as a meathouse.

The first addition simply extends the rear wall beyond the meathouse and includes only a 4/4 light window. The later addition adds a single 6/6 window to the front elevation and two 6/6 windows to the new west wall.

The interior currently consists of five rooms. The original kitchen occupies the easternmost end with direct outside access through the rear porch door. The remaining portion of the original dwelling consists of a somewhat larger room entered from the front door. A passage in the rear connects these two rooms. The first addition built on the north wall created an additional room, most likely a bedroom opposite the general living room. Finally, two bedrooms were added to the west end. The interior is very simply finished with wallboard and square edged wood surrounds around doors and windows. The floors are of unfinished wood.

OUTBUILDINGS

To the west of the dwelling along the treeline is a vertical board, shed roof privy. A farm lane extends northward behind the dwelling to a small recently improved chickenhouse and a combination equipment shed and all purpose shed. Beyond these, two large tobacco barns with vertical board siding are found.

8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-691

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

Specific dates c. 1945 **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates c. 1945

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.)

First constructed c. 1945, the Scout Camp Road Tenant House is significant as a well-preserved example of an unadorned vernacular structure which was once a common part of the Charles County landscape. Tenancy replaced the system of enslaved labor after the Civil War and continued well into the middle of the 20th century. This parcel was acquired by Richard C. Swann from Sarah E.D. Canter et al in 1884. By the 1940's it was known as "Hickory Woods" and was incorporated into Richard C. Swann's "Home Place" by the time of his death. In 1947, the fifty acres were parceled off again and sold to Frank W. Canter. According to the current owner, a Canter family descendent, the house was long occupied by an African-American family with the surname of Washington.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CH-691

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 47

Acreage of historical setting 47

Quadrangle name Hughesville

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The Scout Camp Road Tenant House is associated with Charles County Property Tax Map 47, Grid 6, Parcel 30.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Cathy Currey/Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	Charles County Planning Dept.	date	4/30/01
street and number	200 Baltimore Street	telephone	301-396-5815
city or town	LaPlata	state MD	zip code 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

Chain of title:

August 14, 1884	Sarah E.D. Canter et al to Richard C. Swann. 50 acres known as "Farthings Discovery", "Nutwell's Addition" and "Nutwell's Rest". 7:354
September 15, 1947	Mary L. Herbert , Mabel Boblits and Edward Boblits to Frank W. Canter. More recently known as "Hickory Woods" 85:551
August 30, 1972	Marguerite C. Canter and Charles Richard Canter 261:668
September 3, 1997	Estate of Charles Richard Canter to Murphy family 2427:427

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, La Plata, Maryland.

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

CH-691
Scout Camp Road Tenant House
Hughesville vic.
Hughesville Quad
ville
High
Sch
180
197
170
BM 172
180
ABANDONED
180
100
CHARLES CO
SAINT MARYS CO
N
160

CH-691
SCOUT CAMP ROAD TENANT HOUSE
HUGHESVILLE VIC.
2/2001
C CURREY
MAD SHPO
LOOKING NORTHWEST
1 of 5

CH-691
SCOUT CAMP ROAD TENANT HOUSE
HUGHESVILLE VIC.
31 2001
C. CURREY
MD SHPO
REAR ELEVATION
2 OF 5

CH-691
SCOUT CAMP ROAD TENANT HOUSE
HUGHESVILLE VIC.
2/2001
C. CURREY
MD SHPO
REAR PORCH & ATTACHED MEAT HOUSE
3 OF 5

CH-691
SCOUT CAMP ROAD TENANT HOUSE
HUGHESVILLE VIC.
2/2001
C CURREY
ND SHPO
PRIV. LOOKING SW
4 of 5

CH-691
SCOUT CAMP ROAD TENANT HOUSE
HUGHESVILLE, VIC.
31001
C. CURRY
MD SHPO
OUTBUILDING, LOOKING N
5 OF 5