Tompkinsville Store and Post Office **Circa 1930**
CH-729
Tompkinsville
Private

The Tompkinsville Store and Post Office is a simple 1 story, front gable frame structure that stands directly on the south side of Rock Point Road. Believed to have been constructed around 1930, the store faces east and is three bays in width at the façade and three bays in length on the eave elevations.The structure includes typical Craftsmen-style details including a 6-light and panel door and 3/1 windows throughout. The Tompkinsville Store and Post Office is a good example of the very simple commercial structures built in Charles County during the first half of the 20th century. Believed to be constructed by members of the Frere family, this building as well as others along Rt. 257 are associated with the construction of the Southern Maryland Truckline during the 1920's, the first large scale State road improvement project in Charles County.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CH-729

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic	Tompkinsville Store and Post Office
other	

2. Location

street and number	15089 Rock Point Road	___ not for publication
city, town	Tompkinsville	___ vicinity
county	Charles	

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

name	William J. and Louise C. Frere				
street and number	15095 Rock Point Road			telephone	Unknown
city, town	Newburg	state	MD	zip code	20664-3206

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Charles County Courthouse	tax map and parcel:	86, p 68		
city, town	La Plata	liber	158	folio	743

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
___ agriculture
___ commerce/trade
___ defense
X 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	
1	___	buildings
___	___	sites
___	___	structures
___	___	objects
1	___	Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
0

7. Description

Inventory No. CH-729

Condition

___	excellent	___	deteriorated
___	good	___	ruins
X	fair	___	altered

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

The Tompkinsville Store and Post Office is a simple 1 story, front gable frame structure that stands directly on the south side of Rock Point Road in one of Charles County's many small crossroads villages that developed in the late 19thand early 20th centuries. Believed to have been constructed around 1930, the store faces east and is three bays in width at the façade and three bays in length on the eave elevations. The roof is now covered in asphalt shingles and is pierced by a chimney in the rear of the structure at the ridge line. A hipped roof porch resting on four simple square wood posts extends the full width of the front elevation. Above the porch is a diamond shaped grate which provides attic ventilation. The structure includes typical Craftsmen-style details including a 6-light and panel door and 3/1 windows throughout. The store has been reclad in vinyl siding. While currently serving as a private residence, evidence of its former commercial use exists in the presence of a concrete block island which once held gas pumps, but now contains only an early light fixture and post. The interior was not available at the time of the survey.

8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-729

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
__ 1600-1699	__ 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	__ landscape architecture	__ religion
__ 2000-	X commerce		__ law	__ science
	__ communications	__ ethnic heritage	__ literature	__ social history
	__ community planning	__ exploration/ settlement	__ maritime industry	__ transportation
	__ conservation		__ military	__ other:

Specific dates	circa 1930	**Architect/Builder**	Unknown
Construction dates	circa 1930		

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.)

The Tompkinsville Store and Post Office is a good example of the very simple commercial structures built in Charles County during the first half of the 20th century. Believed to be constructed around 1930 by members of the Frere family, this building as well as others along Rt. 257 are associated with the construction of the Southern Maryland Truckline in Charles County during the 1920's.

Running north-south through the center of the county, the Crain Highway as it was later named, (Route 301 today) eventually linked Charles County to Baltimore and points north. Robert Crain, a prominent county resident, was instrumental in lobbying the state for funds to build the highway. Originally known as the Southern Maryland Trunk Line, it was renamed Robert Crain Highway after its most fervent supporter. Ground was broken for this concrete-paved highway on September 30, 1922 which extended from Lancaster Wharf in Rock Point through LaPlata, White Plains and Waldorf on its way to Baltimore. The highway made automobile travel speedy and convenient for both farmers transporting goods to market in Baltimore, and for passengers doing business or visiting outside the county. The road also opened the area to tourism, as urban and suburban dwellers sought to escape to the country for a day or a weekend.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CH-729

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1

Acreage of historical setting 1

Quadrangle name Colonial Beach North

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The Tompkinsville Store and Post Office is associated with Charles County Property Tax Map 86, Parcel 68.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Cathy Currey/Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	Charles County Planning Dept	date	10/30/01
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:

1962 Phyllis M. Frere, widow to William J. Frere and Louise C. Frere
158/743

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.

CH-729 Charles County, MD
Name: TOMPKINSVILLE STORE
Location: TOMPKINSVILLE
Quad: COLONIAL BEACH NORTH

CH-729
TOMPKINSVILLE STORE & PO
CHARLES CO. MD
C. CURREY
MD SHPO
5/2001
LOOKING W

CH-729
TOMPKINSVILLE STORE & PO
CHARLES CO, MD
C. CURREY
MD SHPO
5/2001
LOOKING NW
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