Capsule Summary
SM-839
Avenue General Store and Storehouse
Avenue
Private circa 1925

Stores strategically located at crossroads in rural communities such as Avenue, Maryland, provided sorely needed access to supplies, produce, meat, and anything else that rural customers may need. The Avenue General Store and Storehouse, constructed circa 1925, are excellent examples of commercial buildings that provided rural residents with a wide variety of consumer amenities. Although lacking architectural embellishment, the store is nonetheless typical of the types of undifferentiated commercial buildings erected during the period. Due to the decreasing number of general stores, further documentation is recommended.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. SM-839

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic	Avenue General Store and Storehouse
other	

2. Location

street and number	21020 Coltons Point Road	__	not for publication
city, town	Avenue	x	vicinity
county	St. Mary's		

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

name	Medley Enterprises				
street and number	Route 247			telephone	N/a
city, town	Loveville	state	Md	zip code	20656

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	St. Mary's County Courthouse	tax map and parcel	TM-46, P-30	
city, town	Leonardtown	liber	MRB 477	folio 21

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
_____social
_____transportation
_____work in progress
_____unknown
_____vacant/not in use
_____other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
2	_____	Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
0

7. Description

Inventory No. SM-839

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.

Located on the east side of Colton's Point Road in the rural crossroads community of Avenue, Maryland is the Avenue General Store and Storehouse. Oriented on a southwest/northeast axis, the store is situated on a one acre lot. A contributing four bay, frame storehouse stands immediately to the southeast from the general store. The lot is relatively flat and is bounded b a wooded lot to the northeast, a residential lot to the southeast, and the road to the northwest and southwest.

The store is a four bay, two story, single pile, frame building with a one story wing and two story rear ell. Constructed circa 1925, the store is clad with asbestos shingles and the roof is covered with corrugated metal. A single interior chimney flue is visible in the middle of the roof of the main block and an exterior brick chimney flue is visible in the rear of a one story addition to the northwest.

The primary or southwest elevation is dominated by a partially enclosed front porch. The enclosed portion is pierced by three picture windows. The unenclosed potion permits entry into the store. The second floor of the main block is pierced by four, six-over-six, double-hung sash windows. The southwest side of a rear one story addition is pierced by a single six-over-six window.

Other elevations were not investigated.

8. Significance

Inventory No. SM-839

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
__ 1600-1699	__ agriculture	__ 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	__ transportation
	__ conservation		__ military	__ other:

Specific dates **Architect/Builder**

Construction dates

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 projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Stores strategically located at crossroads in rural communities such as Avenue, Maryland, provided sorely needed access to supplies, produce, meat, and anything else that rural customers may need. The Avenue General Store and Storehouse, constructed circa 1925, are excellent examples of commercial buildings that provided rural residents with a wide variety of consumer amenities. Although lacking architectural embellishment, the store is nonetheless typical of the types of undifferentiated commercial buildings erected during the period. Due to the decreasing number of general stores, further documentation is recommended.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. SM-839

Hammett, Regina Combs. History of St. Mary's County, Maryland: 1634-1990. Ridge, Md: Self-published, 1994.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property: one acre
Acreage of historical setting: same
Quadrangle name: Stratford Hall
Quadrangle scale: 1:24 000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The lot is relatively flat and is bounded b a wooded lot to the northeast, a residential lot to the southeast, and the road to the northwest and southwest. A more specific description of the properties boundaries can be found in St. Mary's County Land Records Liber MRB 477, Folio 21.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	St. Mary's County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	August, 2000
street & number	22740 Washington Street	telephone	301-475-4662
city or town	Leonardtown	state	Maryland

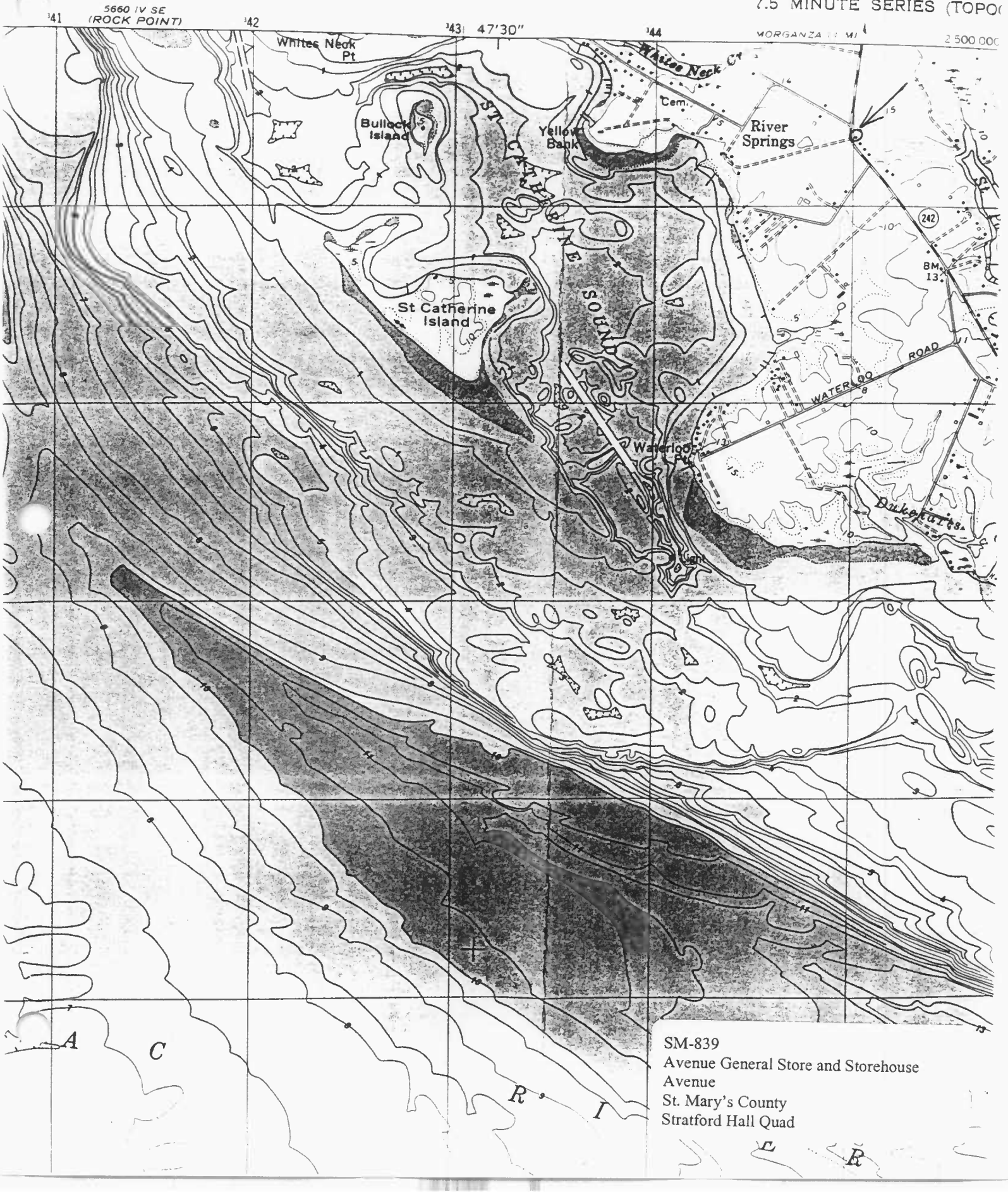
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

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 21032-2023
410-514-7600

MMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
ISION OF MINERAL RESOURCES

STRATFORD HALL
VIRGINIA – M
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPO



SM-839
Avenue General Store and Storehouse
Avenue
St. Mary's County
Stratford Hall Quad

SM-839
Avenue General Store + Storehouse
St. Mary's County
Kirk Ranzetta
Sept/00
Md SHPO
Looking SE
1 of 2

SM-839
Avenue General Store & Storehouse
St. Mary's County
KXK Ranzetta
Sept/00
Md SHPO
Looking SE (storehouse)
2 of 2