

Gloucester County

Country Stores and Rural Post Offices
of
Gloucester County

FINAL REPORT

Prepared by

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for

The Virginia Department of Historic Resources
and
Gloucester County, Virginia

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ABSTRACT

Gloucester County's history dates to the time of the first European settlement in Jamestown of 1607. It was on Gloucester County's shores that Chief Powhatan had one of his royal villages. It was at this village that Pocahontas risked her life to save Captain John Smith.

Gloucester County grew rapidly in the 17th Century as many land grants were issued to the European gentry to farm the rich Virginia soil. Gloucester County of the 17th and 18th centuries was one of the richest counties in Virginia with grand plantations.

Gloucester County was ravaged in the Civil War due to its river access to the Chesapeake Bay, but experienced a rebirth after the Civil War, with the steamship lines that ran between West Point, Norfolk, and Baltimore. Citizens of Gloucester County clustered in small communities along the banks of the surrounding rivers, not only to profit from the steamship trade, but also for rich fishing and seafood harvesting.

Country Stores and Rural Post Offices sprouted along the Rivers during this period and were quite profitable. Many small communities had numerous stores for the burgeoning population. The advent of the automobile saw another growth in Gloucester County of stores and gas stations along major land-transportation routes. The two types of stores operated simultaneously until the 1930s, when increased trucking caused the demise of steamship travel. This caused many of the coastal communities difficulties in surviving.

The purpose of this survey is to document the development of country stores and rural post offices after the Civil War to the present day. The survey initially entailed inspecting thirty-three stores and rural post offices. Twenty-three were predetermined by the Gloucester County Historical Committee and a supplementary ten added by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR). Of the thirty-three stores surveyed, ten were to be surveyed at the intensive level and twenty-three at the reconnaissance level.

The entire county, which consists of approximately 143,000 acres, was reviewed and thirty-nine stores were surveyed. Of the thirty-nine stores surveyed, ten were surveyed at the intensive level and twenty-nine at the reconnaissance level. A student field trip guide, driving tour brochure and Draft Multiple Property Document were also completed. Upon completion of the survey and documentation, it was determined that Gloucester County required a comprehensive survey of historic structures, and a preservation plan to thwart demolition of historic structures due to increased development.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many people were involved in making this survey a success. This project was initiated by the Gloucester County Historical Committee who observed a need to document an aspect of Gloucester County's history that was rapidly fading. They acknowledged the disappearance of their material history and the need to document it. This led to the co-funding of this survey and their contribution of \$1500 to its success. The Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VHDR), which approved and also co-funded the project, had a number of individuals who assisted with their expertise. Mary Ruffin Viles, Architectural Historian from the VDHR Portsmouth Regional Office, administered and guided the effort along with E. Randolph Turner, the director of VDHR's Portsmouth Regional Office.

The initiation and much of the information on the Gloucester County Country Stores and Rural Post Offices came from the members of the Gloucester County Historical Committee. They assisted with much of the historical information, assisted in locating the properties, and made the final decision on the properties to be surveyed. Their time and information proved to be invaluable.

From the Gloucester County Government, Carol Steele, Director of Parks and Recreation, provided her input and assistance on the clarification of the project and on the creation of the tour guides. As the County liaison, her input and assistance was beneficial to the success of the project.

Equally important are the local residents of Gloucester County who provided information about not only properties that they worked in and around, but also about other areas of the County. It is for them that this project is intended to serve and also their future generation.

It has been a pleasure illustrating the interesting and complex history of this early county and it is hoped that these efforts to examine one context of buildings will provide the county with a tool and inspiration to further their efforts to continue such projects.

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INTRODUCTION/DESCRIPTION OF SURVEY

Initially the survey was specifically directed to properties identified by the Gloucester County Historical Committee as significant to Gloucester County's history. The twenty-four buildings identified by the Gloucester County Historical Committee, listed below, were then augmented by the consultant, Kimble A. David, who added fifteen buildings, which reflects the broad geography of Gloucester County. The area surveyed consisted of the entire county, which is approximately 143,000 acres. The contractor conducted the survey predominantly from October 1997 to February 1998.

List of Country Stores and Rural Post Offices From the Gloucester County Historical Committee

| | |
|--|---------------------------|
| C. B. Rowe and Son | Clay Bank Store |
| Minor Store | Sassafras Store |
| Freeport Store | Jenkins Store*** |
| Schley Post Office | Roanes Store |
| Nuttall's Store | James Store |
| Short Lane Store | J. M. Shackelford's Store |
| Bellamy Post Office and Store | Perrin Store |
| Maryus Post Office/Carol Williams Store | R. P. Gray Store |
| Selden | Deal's Store |
| Allmondsville* | Zanoni Store** |
| Trevilian's Store and Naxera Post Office | Woodland's Store*** |
| Edwin Hogg Store* | Poland's Store |

Besides the initial twenty-four buildings listed by the Gloucester County Historical Committee, the contractor identified fifteen more. Of the twenty-four buildings identified, (see list above) two were no longer standing (marked with *), one already qualified for nomination to the Virginia Landmarks Register (marked with **), and two were less than fifty years old (marked with ***), which is the minimum age for a historic structure. Therefore, the contractor was charged to survey additional structures to substitute for these five. The contractor traveled to communities on the county map to seek other country stores and rural post offices that may have still existed. In keeping with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources' (VDHR) guidelines, which includes meeting the fifty-year age, the contractor surveyed additional stores within the county.

In addition to the reconnaissance survey of twenty-nine structures, ten additional were to be surveyed at an intensive level. An intensive level survey required accessing the interior of the structure and photographing the various interior elements. It also entailed conducting additional research on the

specific structure to see if it was eligible for listing on the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places. Another requirement was that the building retains its original architectural integrity. Of the ten identified by the Gloucester County Historical Committee, (see list below) three were found ineligible (marked with *) due to either inability to access the interior or low architectural integrity, and two were no longer standing (marked with **). In lieu of these five, an additional five were chosen to complete the list of intensively surveyed properties.

**List of Country Stores and Rural Post Offices
Surveyed at the Intensive Level
From the Gloucester County Historical Committee**

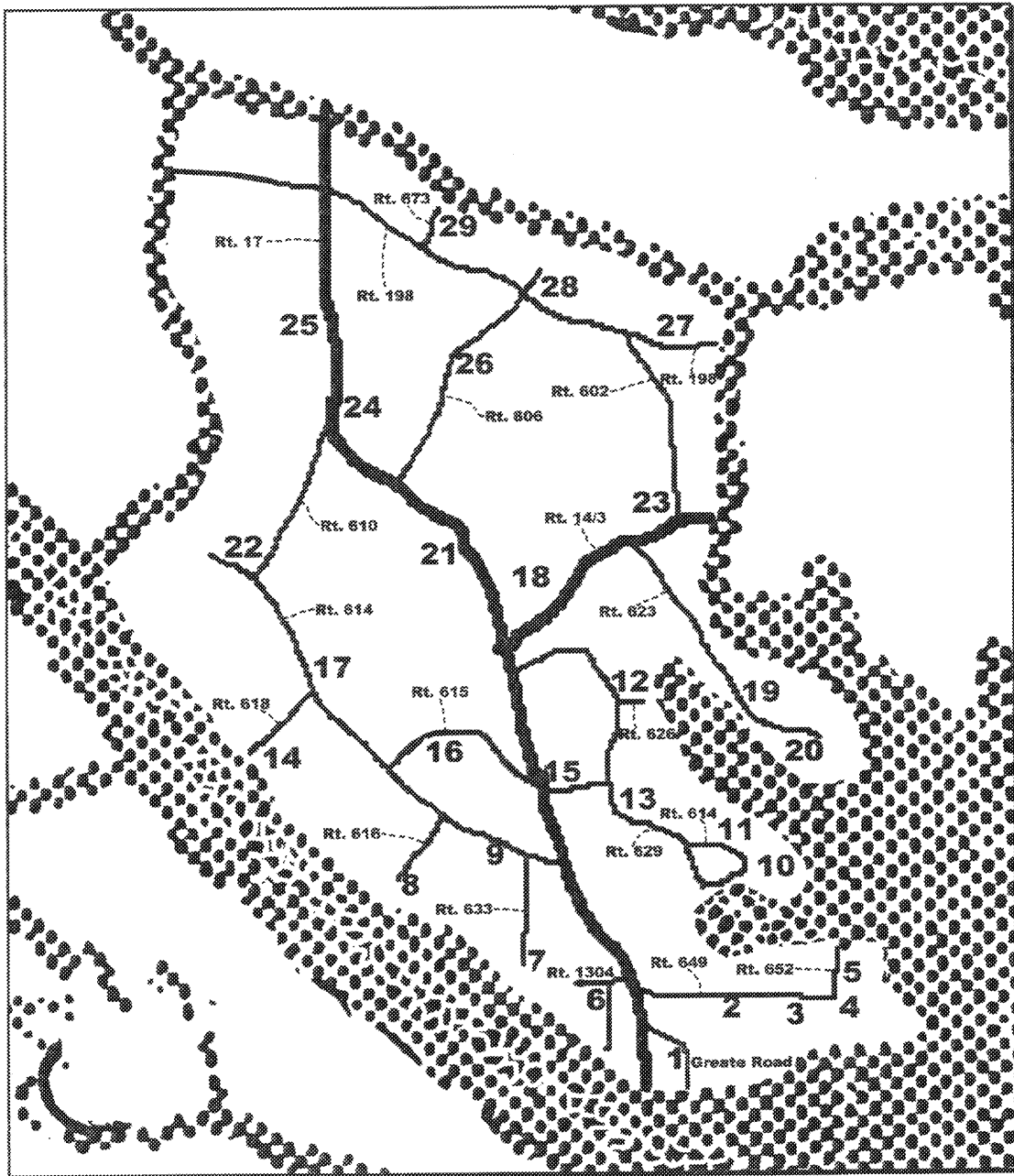
| | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Freeport Store | Clay Bank Store* |
| Nuttall's Store | Roanes Store* |
| Selden* | James Store |
| Allmondsville** | J. M. Shackelford's Store |
| Edwin Hogg Store** | R. P. Gray Store |

Once an initial survey of stores was conducted in October 1997, the contractor met with the Gloucester County Historical Committee to make changes to the original list to include the newly surveyed buildings and to removed demolished buildings from the list. The Gloucester County Historical Committee reviewed the final list, and the final list of buildings surveyed was confirmed by the contractor, County Representative and Gloucester County Historical Committee. A list of all buildings surveyed is located in Appendix A, and a list of buildings surveyed at the intensive level is located in Appendix F. The properties are mapped and listed on the following pages.

In addition to the reconnaissance and intensive survey of buildings, the contract also required the completion of a Draft Multiple Property Document, a student field trip guide, and a driving tour brochure. The Draft Multiple Property Document serves as an outline for the completion of a Multiple Property Document, which would nominate a group of related structures with common themes, trends, and patterns of history to the National Register of Historic Places. The student field trip guide aids elementary school teachers to raise awareness of their local history. The driving tour brochure is a promotional item, which is to be distributed to increase tourism to Gloucester County. These items, along with the individual survey forms and final survey report aids Gloucester County in their effort to augment and publicize their history.

Map of Gloucester County with Plotted Country Store and Rural Post Offices

(key on following page)



Map Not to Scale
Adapted from USGS map of Virginia

**Key to Map of Gloucester County
with Plotted Country Stores and Rural Post Offices**

| <u>Number on Preceding Map</u> | <u>Store (s) at Number Location</u> |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Poland's Store (036-5020) |
| 2 | Hall Brothers Store (C. B. Rowe and Son) (036-5004) W. E. and J. Edgar Pointer Store and Bena Post Office (036-5027) |
| 3 | J. B. Ashe and Brother (036-5002) |
| 4 | Robert Jenkins Store (036-5005) Jack Williams Store (036-5006) Carroll Williams Store (036-5007) |
| 5 | J. M Shackleford's Store and Severn Post Office (036-5010) |
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| 24 | Mason's Gas Station and Store (036-0186) |
| 25 | Adner Store (036-5015) |
| 26 | R. C. Brown General Merchandise (036-0188) Pinero Store and Post Office (036-5014) |
| 27 | E. C. Sutton and Dutton Post Office (036-5012) |
| 28 | Harcum Store and Post Office (036-5013) |
| 29 | Freeport Store and Post Office (036-5018) |

TIME PERIODS

Each property is presented in its specific Historic Context or Contexts, discussed on page 7, but these contexts are group by Time Period according to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources' (VDHR) standards. The Time Periods used to evaluated the buildings surveyed were Reconstruction and Growth (1865 – 1917), World War I to World War II (1917 – 1945), The New Dominion (1945 – Present). Though this may not appear to be an adequate representation of the Time Periods presented in the list below, the remaining country stores and rural post offices surveyed were constructed during these periods. A list of all properties surveyed in Chronological Order with Time Periods listed is located in Appendix C.

This list of Time Periods was provided by VDHR.

Prehistoric Native American Settlement

Archaeologists divide the prehistoric Native American record in Virginia into three general time periods. They include the Paleo-Indian period from ca. 9,500-10,000 B.C. to 8,000 B.C., the Archaic period from ca. 8,000 B.C. to 1,200 B.C., and the Woodland period from ca. 1,200 B.C. to A.D. 1,600. The Archaic and Woodland eras are further subdivided into early, middle, and late periods.

- Paleo-Indian (10,000 B.C. – 8,000 B.C.)
- Early Archaic Period (8,000 B.C. – 6,500 B.C.)
- Middle Archaic Period (6,500 B.C. – 3,000 B.C.)
- Late Archaic Period (3,000 B.C. – 1,200 B.C.)
- Early Woodland (1,200 B.C. – A.D. 300)
- Middle Woodland (A.D. 300 – 1,000)
- Late Woodland (A.D. 1,000 – 1,600)

European Settlement to Society (1607 – 1750)

The European Settlement to Society period is subdivided into three sub-contexts that pertain directly to the evolution of the initial settlement to the rise of the plantation system and expansion to the western portion of the commonwealth.

- Contact Period
- Rise of the plantation system and the peculiar institution of slavery
- Pioneer Era of Western Virginia

Colony to Nation (1750 – 1789)

Early National Period (1789 – 1830)

Antebellum Period (1830 – 1860)

Civil War (1861 – 1865)

Reconstruction and Growth (1865 – 1917)

World War I to World War II (1917 – 1945)

The New Dominion (1945 – Present)

HISTORIC CONTEXTS

The following is a summary of the Historic Contexts used by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VHDR) in identifying structures and sites. Though not all of these contexts were used in identifying Country Stores and Rural Post Offices of Gloucester County, they were consulted to ensure that structures falling into more than one context would be listed as having multiple contexts.

The Historic Contexts considered for the Gloucester County Survey were Domestic, Subsistence/Agriculture, Government/Law/Political, Religion, Social, Transportation/Communication, Commerce/Trade, and Industry/Processing/Extraction.

Properties containing rooming facilities or domestic living space were classified as Domestic. One property was considered in the Subsistence/Agriculture context due to its association with a granary and the shipping of grains. Properties containing post offices were listed as Government/Law/Political due to their function as a federal government service. One building was considered as having a religious function and qualifies under the Religion context. Properties containing social activities were considered in the Social Historic Context. Properties that sold gasoline or were associated with automotive or steamship travel were listed as Transportation/Communication. Properties containing country stores were listed as Commerce/Trade due to their specific function as a commercial concern within their community. One property was considered in the Industry/Processing/Extraction context due to its association with the timber industry.

If properties served more than one context or function, they were listed as having multiple contexts within this report. They are organized by frequency of multiple contexts. A complete list of buildings with their contexts is available in Appendix E.

The following list of Historic Contexts and their associated property types was compiled from VDHR.

CONTEXT: Domestic

Associated Property Types: Single-family dwellings; multiple-family dwellings; secondary domestic structures; hotels, motels or way stations; institutional housing; camps; temporary habitation sites.

CONTEXT: Subsistence/Agriculture

Associated Property Types: Farmsteads; agri-businesses; food processing sites; storage facilities; agricultural fields; animal facilities; fishing facilities; horticultural facilities; irrigation facilities.

CONTEXT: Government/Law/Political

Associated Property Types: Public administrative and service buildings; public works buildings; sites associated with important governmental events.

CONTEXT: Health Care/Medicine

Associated Property Types: Hospitals; clinics; sanitariums; medical businesses.

CONTEXT: Education

Associated Property Types: Schools; colleges; libraries; research facilities.

CONTEXT: Military/Defense

Associated Property Types: Fortifications; arms production facilities; military facilities; coast guard facilities; naval facilities; air facilities.

CONTEXT: Religion

Associated Property Types: Places of worship; ceremonial sites; church schools; church-related residences.

CONTEXT: Social

Associated Property Types: Meeting halls; community centers; clubhouses; civic facilities.

CONTEXT: Recreation/Arts

Associated Property Types: Theaters; museums; music facilities; sports facilities; outdoor recreation facilities; monuments/markers; works of art.

CONTEXT: Transportation/Communication

Associated Property Types: Rail-related, water-related, air-related, road-related and pedestrian-related buildings.

CONTEXT: Commerce/Trade

Associated Property Types: Professional, organizational and financial institutions; specialty stores.

CONTEXT: Industry/Processing/Extraction

Associated Property Types: Quarries; mills; factories; distilleries; shipyards; mines; forges; power plants; laboratories; dams; tanneries.

CONTEXT: Landscape

Associated Property Types: Designed landscapes; unoccupied land; underwater sites; natural features.

CONTEXT: Funerary

Associated Property Types: Cemeteries; graves and burials; mortuaries.

CONTEXT: Ethnicity/Immigration

Associated Property Types: Properties that exemplify the ethos of immigrant or ethnic groups.

CONTEXT: Settlement Patterns

Associated Property Types: House types; village and town plans.

CONTEXT: Technology/Engineering

Associated Property Types: Bridges; highways; dams; canals; railroads; transportation-related works; engines and machinery.

RECONSTRUCTION AND GROWTH (1865 – 1917)

This Time Period contains the largest group of historic country stores and rural post offices in Gloucester County. With its expansive waterfront and the rebirth of the steamship after the Civil War, Gloucester County was able to recover quickly after the lull during the Civil War. This period is also the most financially successful for the rural country store due to increased shipping and export of local resources.

Country Stores grew rapidly in this period and served multiple functions to their communities. Besides the country store, many of these stores contained domestic living space to accommodate travelers or the storeowner's family. It is also during this period that many post offices were established in Gloucester County. Just prior to the outbreak of the Civil War, there were only four post offices. By 1920, that figure had increased ten-fold.

There are two types of stores during this period. Most stores are located along or near the waterfront. These stores shipped goods and transported passengers, besides serving their local communities. They also facilitated the transportation of goods for inland stores. The other group of stores, inland stores, served their local communities and also dependent on the waterfront stores for mail and goods. This symbiotic relationship of these two types of stores was integral during this Time Period.

The success of stores in this Time Period was the impetus for the development of stores in the next Time Period, World War I to World War II (1917 - 1945). These early stores were the first to suffer, though, in the next Time Period, due to the demise of steamship travel. With increased trucking and the decline of the steamship, many of these stores struggled to adapt without water-related transportation. While a few tried to adjust to the 20th century, many did not last to survive the rapid modernization of rural life.

**Historic Contexts: Domestic, Government/Law/Political,
Transportation/Communication, Commerce/Trade**

These stores served a variety of functions with the Historic Contexts listed. Domestic applies to stores with dwellings or those that served as boarding houses for overnight travelers. This is most common in stores located on or near the waterfront. The Government/Law/Political Historic Context pertains to the appearance of a post office during the store's occupation. Transportation/Communication pertains to either road-related or water-related travel. In most cases, it applies to stores that transported goods via steamships or from the waterfront to inland stores. Commerce/Trade pertains to the country store.

Three early stores which exemplify this group of Historic Contexts and are located on the waterfront are Freeport Store and Post Office (036-5018), the Weaver Store and Clay Bank Post Office (036-5041), and the Cappahosic Store and Post Office (036-5036).

The Freeport Store is an example of a store that served as an overnight berth for passengers on a local steamship line. Its location in the northern part of the county on the Piankatank River allowed access to the adjoining counties to the west, north and east. This was the third store on this site as the previous two were washed away during hurricanes. Both were located near the shoreline. Edward Fairholt, who had purchased the store in c. 1878, built the third store away from the shore.



Figure 1: Freeport Store and Post Office (036-5018)
North facade

Similar in function to the Freeport Store is the Weaver Store and Clay Bank Post Office (036-5041), located in the western portion of the county along the York River. The York River served as a main transportation route for many counties in southeastern Virginia. While there were multiple stops along the York River in Gloucester County in the late 19th century, Clay Bank was not a regular stop until the early 20th century. The steamship stop provided local farmers with a means to sell and transport their crops. This area grew rapidly in the early 20th century with an additional store, Louis Groh and Son, Inc. (036-5031), discussed on page 39, which was constructed in the early 1920s. The Weaver Store and Clay Bank Post Office was the first large-scale store and boarding house constructed at this site.

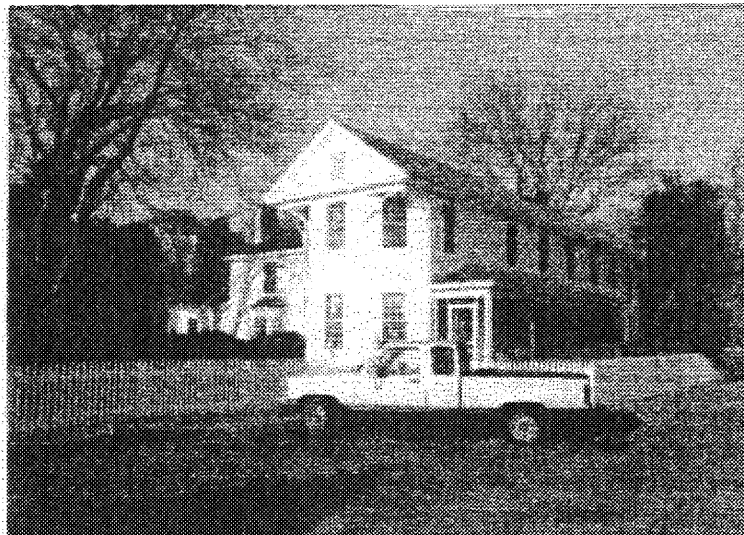


Figure 2: Weaver Store and Clay Bank Post Office, Boarding House (036-5041)
Southwest corner



Figure 3: Weaver Store and Clay Bank Post Office (036-5041)
Photo courtesy of the Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal
East façade

A store in Cappahosic has been on this site since the antebellum period, though the current building was constructed c. 1900. Of four post offices located in Gloucester County in 1860, this was the only waterfront post office in the county. It was also the point at which mail was left for transport to the other three inland post offices. In the late 19th and early 20th century, it remained the main postal drop for many inland communities. Increased competition from communities to the north and south, and the decline of the steamship as the main source of transportation ended commercial activity at this site.

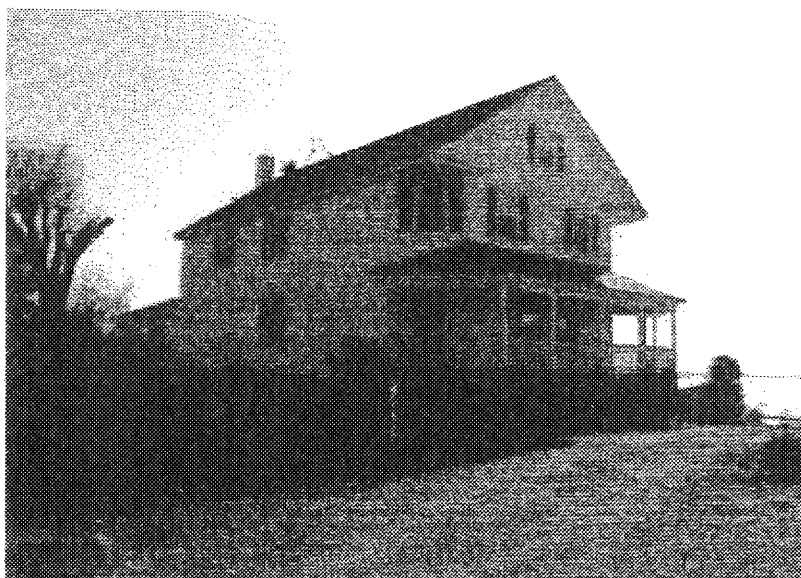


Figure 4: Cappahosic Store and Post Office (036-5036)
Northeast corner

Similarly with the first group of stores that share this Historic Context group, the Zanoni Store (036-0025) also served its community with supplies and mail. This store is land-locked though, but is near a wharf that was a stop for a steamship line that steamed the Ware River.

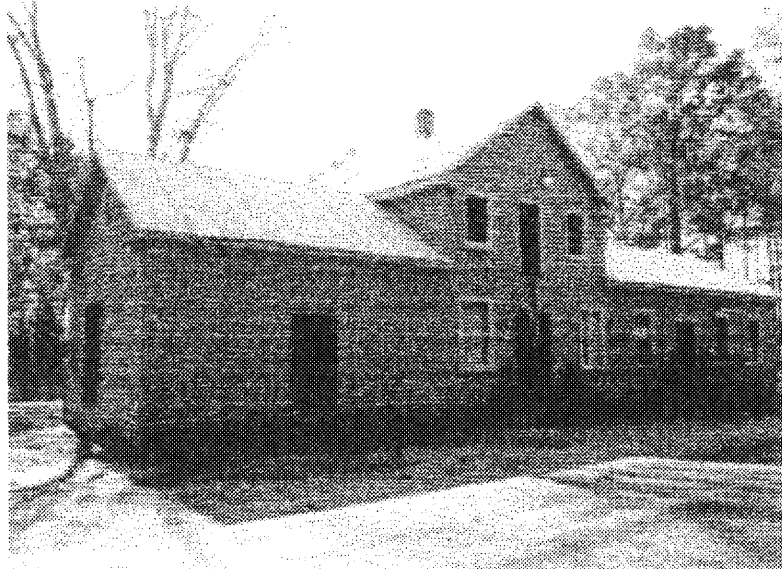


Figure 5: Zanoni Store and Post Office (036-0025)
Northeast corner

This line also served Roanes Store and Post Office (036-5030), which is approximately midway between the landing and Gloucester Courthouse. This large store, post office and boarding house was an overnight stay for passengers traveling on the steamships on the Ware River. The wharf that served this area is known as Roane's Wharf and was owned by the brother of the Alexander Roane, owner and operator of Roanes Store. Another store, Selden Store and Post Office (036-5023), discussed on page 26, was owned and operated by the brothers of Alexander Roane.

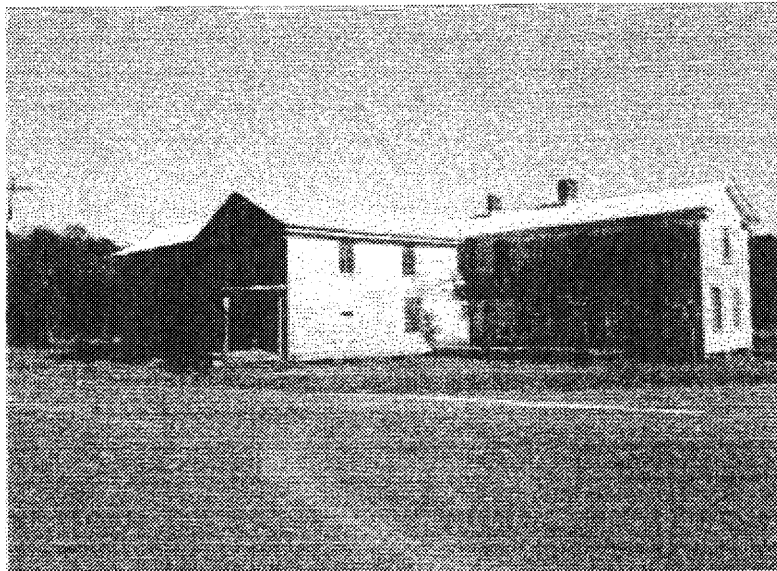


Figure 6: Roanes Store and Post Office (036-5030)
Southwest corner

Two other stores that benefited from the steamship line berthing at Roanes Wharf are located on Ware Neck north of the Ware River. Once the steamship unloaded its goods at Roane's Wharf it traveled to Hockley's Wharf and delivered goods for numerous stores on Ware Neck. Goods were transported via horse-and-cart to the community of Ware Neck and on to the community of Schley. Ware Neck had two stores dating from the late 19th century, Tazewell Thompson Store (036-5032) and Arthur Tab Store (036-5016). These two stores unlike their counterparts across the Ware River did not provide berthing space for travelers. Each store expanded early in its existence to house the proprietor and his family.

The two stores are located across the street from one another and both continued to operate into the late 20th century. This area continued to prosper after many stores declined in the 1930s and 1940s. In the 1950s it supported three stores, though this only lasted for approximately twenty years. There is currently only one in operation as a country store.



Figure 7: Tazewell Thompson Store (036-5032)
South façade

Arthur Tab Store is similar in form to two stores located south of Ware Neck on Robins Neck. Zanoni Store (036-0025) discussed on page 14 and Selden Store and Post Office (036-5023) discussed on page 26 were constructed with two stories, which comprises the central block. Wings were added at the turn of the 20th century to increase store space. It is unclear which store may have been the first to add the wings or if there is any relationship of owners. In one case, there were a number of Taliaferros who owned the Zanoni Store and Arthur Tab Store, but it has not been determined if they were related.



Figure 8: Arthur Tab Store (036-5016)
South façade



Figure 9: Arthur Tab Store (036-5016), c. 1890
Photo courtesy of the Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal
South façade

There are two land-locked stores, which reflect similar Historic Contexts. The transportation-related context pertains to road-related transportation facilitating the transport of local resources to the coastal communities for shipping to larger markets. These stores are located in rural farming communities.

The first store, Pinero Store and Post Office (036-5014) is located near the middle of Gloucester County. It received its goods and mail from steamships that stopped at Cappahosic in the 19th century. The relationship between the land-locked communities and coastal communities profited both stores.



Figure 10: Pinero Store and Post Office (036-5014)
West façade

Another store, which is also land-locked, is Trevilian's Store and Naxera Post Office (036-5034). The building consists of a main store, but had dwelling additions added to the rear of the store to accommodate the storeowner. While this is seen in previously discussed stores, this is an inland example.



Figure 11: Trevilian's Store and Naxera Post Office (036-5034)
South façade

**Historic Contexts: Government/Law/Political,
Transportation/Communication, Commerce/Trade**

This group of Historic Contexts is more common during the World War I to World War II (1917 – 1945) Time Period, than during Reconstruction and Growth (1865 – 1917). These stores are all located near a major water route and directly benefited from water-related travel and commerce. They are scattered throughout the county, ranging from the northernmost point to the east, southeast and southwest portions of the county. They also share early construction dates and were built between approximately 1880 to 1900. This early development is related to their proximity to the water. These stores unlike those previously discussed did not house people and the proprietors lived elsewhere. Most of the stores in this group of Historic Contexts are similar in form with one-story and front-gable roofs. Though additions and modifications have altered their present appearance, at the time of their construction, they looked almost identical.

The most distinct of these stores is the E. B. Brown Store and Schley Post Office (036-5025). This store was constructed similar to others that will be discussed later in the Reconstruction and Growth (1865 - 1917) Time Period. This store has an open mezzanine on the second story, which allowed for the storage of infrequently purchased goods and additional light to penetrate the interior. The store was owned by a local entrepreneur on Ware Neck in Gloucester County, who later constructed a store in the mid-20th century on another site on Ware Neck.

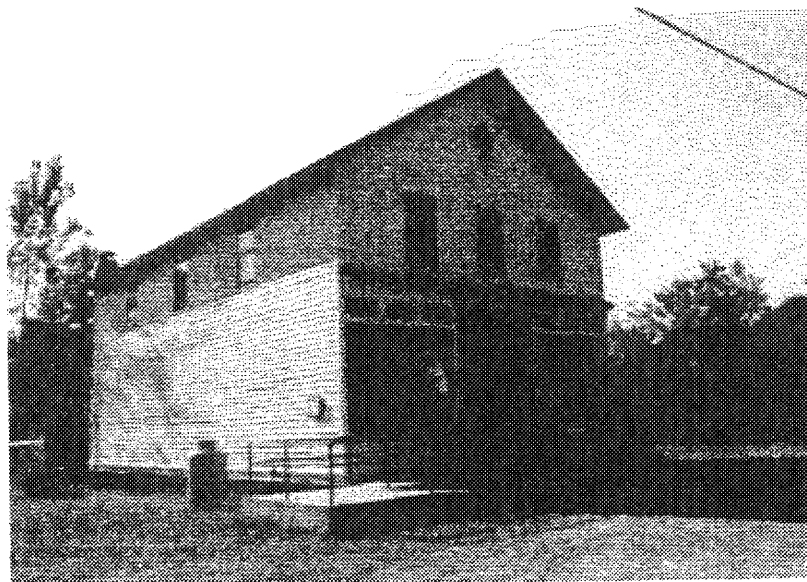


Figure 12: E. B. Brown Store and Schley Post Office (036-5025)
Northeast corner

The earliest of the stores is the Hall Brothers Store (036-5004). It was constructed in the 1880s and is located in the once bustling community of Bena. Located at the main intersection of the community, it once was surrounded by multiple stores. Though four stores remain, only two still operate as stores.



Figure 13: Hall Brothers Store (036-5004)
Northwest façade

One of the best examples of a small country store is the P. E. Muse Store and Coke Post Office (036-5019). This store was constructed in 1895 at the intersection-community of Coke. The store retains many original interior elements, including pressed metal ceiling, wood counter, and wood shelving.

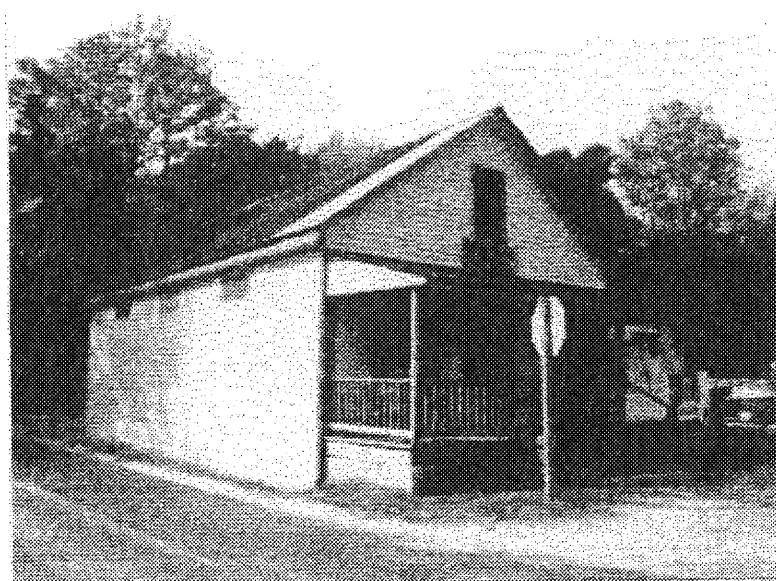


Figure 14: P. E. Muse Store and Coke Post Office (036-5019)
North façade



Figure 15: P. E. Muse Store and Coke Post Office (036-5019)
Interior, east wall

The other store in this group is Harcum Store and Post Office (036-5013) located in northern Gloucester County. This store is located on the major east-west route traversing northern Gloucester County connecting Mathews, and King and Queen County. It is located at a major intersection and was the hub of this intersection community. Like its counterparts, it received its goods and mail from a nearby steamship stop. The porch is a 1920s addition to accommodate increased automobile traffic along this east-west route.



Figure 16: Harcum Store and Post Office (036-5013)
Southwest corner

**Historic Contexts: Domestic, Government/Law/Political,
Commerce/Trade**

The two stores that share these Historic Contexts are dissimilar in form and developmental history. Each served as a dwelling for the storeowner, country store and local post office.

The earlier and larger of the two is J. B. Ashe and Brother (036-5002) located in the southeastern portion of Gloucester County. This was the second store to rise at Perrin. Perrin was first located on the waterfront to the south of the store. Upon the disbanding of the waterfront store, the post office was moved here. The store was operated by the Ashe family from its inception to its closure in the 1960s. The building was originally constructed as a one-and-one-half story store in the 1880s. Turn of the 20th century additions include an expansion of the store on the east side and a dwelling connected to the store via an ell on the south side.

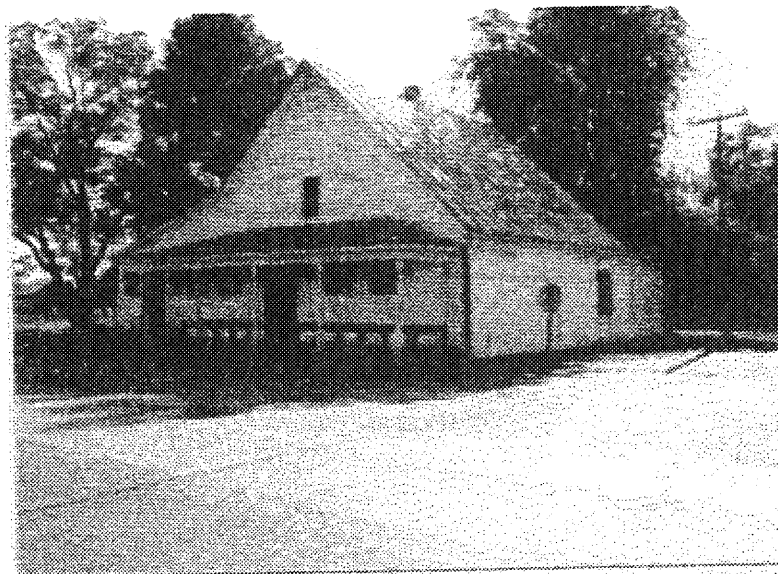


Figure 17: J. B. Ashe and Brother (036-5002)
Northwest corner

Deal's Store (036-5009) was constructed at the turn of the 20th century as a one-and-on-half story dwelling, but was expanded to two stories when the owner opened a store on the first story. Unlike the store at Perrin, this store was one of three in the community of Naxera, located on Robins Neck.

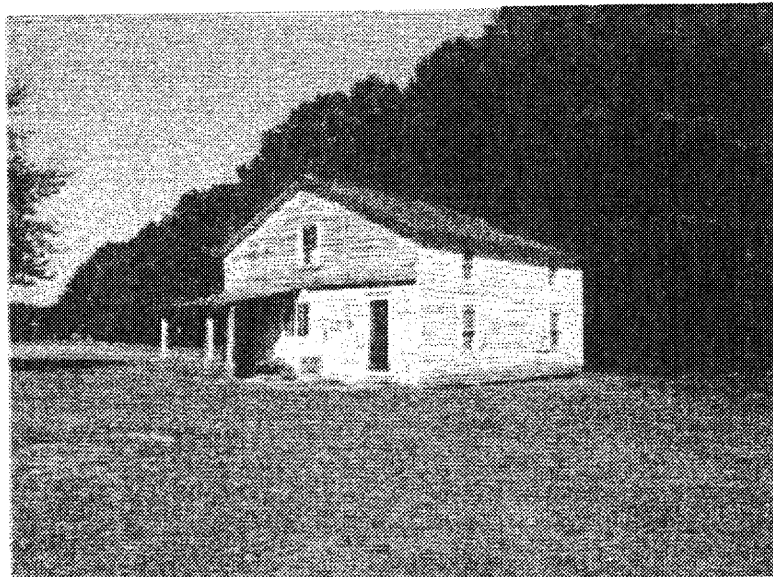


Figure 18: Deal's Store (036-5009)
West facade

Historic Contexts: Government/Law/Political, Commerce/Trade

The sole store in this group of Historic Contexts is the W. E. and J. Edgar Pointer Store and Bena Post Office (036-5027). This was the second story to rise at this intersection in southeastern Gloucester County. The first was the Hall Brothers Store (036-5004) discussed on page 20. The Pointer Store is similar in form to the E. B. Brown Store and Schley Post Office (036-5025) discussed on page 19. It also had an open mezzanine on the second story. Additions on the east and west side of the building were added in the early 20th century to accommodate the expansion of the post office.



Figure 19: W. E. and J. Edgar Pointer Store and Bena Post Office
(036-5027)
South façade

**Historic Contexts: Domestic, Government/Law/Political, Religion,
Transportation/Communication, Commerce/Trade**

The only store with these Historic Contexts is the Selden Store and Post Office (036-5023). This store at Selden was constructed originally as a church in 1888. Shortly thereafter, land was given for a church nearby and the store was converted to a commercial building. It was operated by the Roane family, who also operated Roanes Store and Post Office (036-5030) discussed on page 15. Roane's Wharf was located just north of this store and provided goods and mail. This was the second store at Selden and replaced a waterfront store constructed shortly after the Civil War.

The form of the store is similar to the Zanoni Store and Post Office (036-0025) and Arthur Tab Store (036-5016) with the wing additions to the central block. This was discussed previously on page 17.

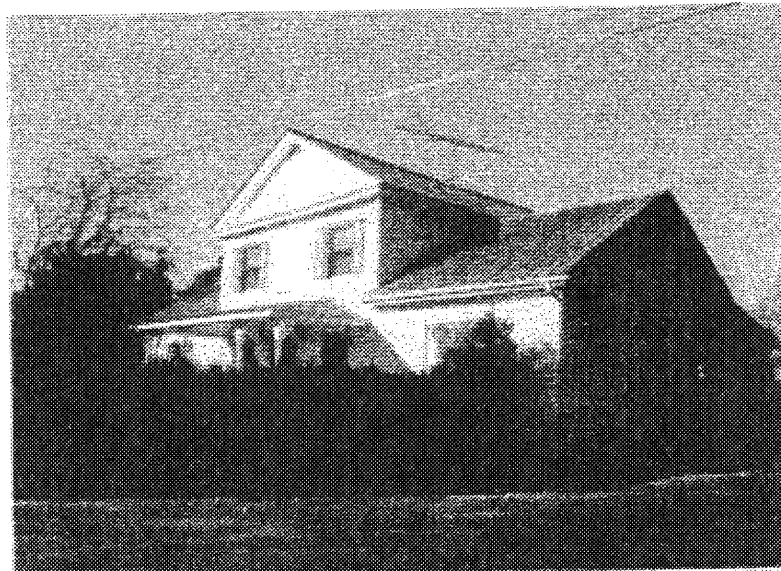


Figure 20: Selden Store and Post Office (036-5023)
Southeast corner

Historic Contexts: Domestic, Government/Law/Political,
Transportation/Communication, Commerce/Trade,
Industry/Processing/Extraction

The R. P. Gray Store and Signpine Post Office (036-5026) was constructed in 1894 by R. P. Gray. The store contained a general store, post office, butcher, the office for the lumber mill, and living quarters for the family. The store occupied the main portion of the interior on the first story. The butcher, post office and lumber mill offices were located in small rooms on the first story. The family lived on the second story until the Great Depression when R. P. Gray had his mill workers construct a house to the west of the store.

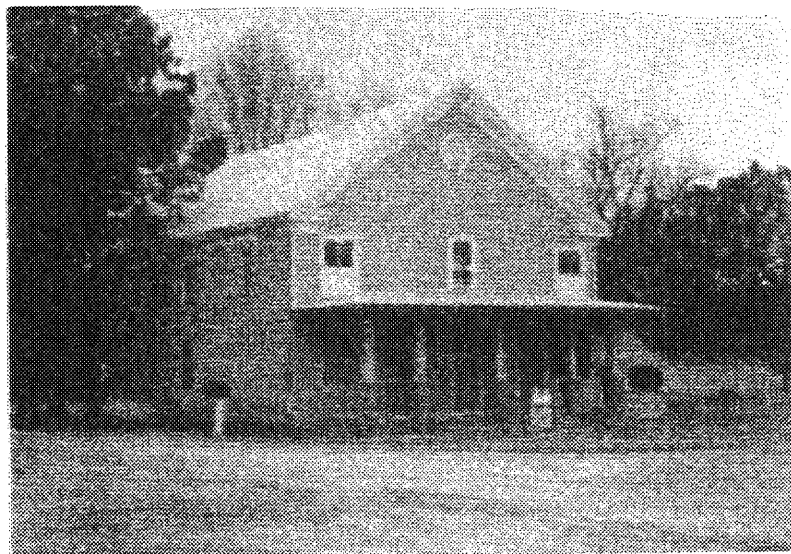


Figure 21: R. P. Gray Store and Signpine Post Office (036-5026), East façade



Figure 22: R. P. Gray Store and Signpine Post Office (036-5026), House West side

**Historic Contexts: Government/Law/Political, Social,
Transportation/Communication, Commerce/Trade**

J. M. Shackelford's Store and Severn Post Office (036-5010) has a very colorful history. Owned by the Shackelford family, it operated as a store and post office. It is near the Seavorne (Severn) River that is marked on historic 17th century maps. The store operated until the 1960s and was complemented by the fishing industry in this area. It was used during Prohibition as a drinking establishment and gambling parlor.

The building was originally constructed as a two-story building, which comprises the central portion. The open mezzanine seen in the E. B. Brown Store and Schley Post Office (036-5025), discussed on page 20, and W. E. and J. Edgar Pointer Store and Bena Post Office (036-5027), discussed on page 25), was closed, but can still be seen in the floor of the second story.



Figure 23: J. M. Shackelford's Store and Severn Post Office (036-5010)
South façade

WORLD WAR I TO WORLD WAR II (1917 – 1945)

The period between the two World Wars brought about changes to the United States that affected the rural communities of Gloucester County. The popularity of the automobile brought about the rise of a new type of country store. This county store was focused and designed to accommodate the automobile.

The "modern" country stores located in Gloucester County are very similar in style and form. They are oriented to automobile traffic and convenience of fueling the automobile. Their similarities join them together as a specific type. Most of the stores grouped in this category have a porch, which extends from the main façade over a poured concrete floor. The gas pumps were located between the porch roof supports and allowed for two vehicles to be serviced at the same time. Their only differences include; number of stories, roof type, size, and height.

Their focus is different from the traditional country stores that dot the rural countryside. Their focal point is the automobile, and secondarily, the country store and post office. Many of these "modern" buildings replaced late 19th century stores or were constructed in direct competition with their predecessors. While traditional country stores added gas pumps to the front of the buildings, their focus was still the country store.

These stores are located along major routes within the county. Route 17, which is the main north-south route that bisects the county, is dotted with four country stores that qualify in this category. Most are located in rural communities established prior to the construction of these stores and were in direct competition with a neighboring store at the intersection. Other stores are located along subsidiary roads that feed Route 17 and serve their small communities. One was constructed in the late 1930s and not only served as a gas station and country store, but is the only store of the group which was constructed with garage bays to service vehicles.

There are other stores constructed during this period, which are not similar to these "modern" stores. These store either replaced former stores, modeled after stores from the previous Time Period. They all differ in form and have no basic stylistic similarities.

Historic Contexts: Transportation/Communication, Commerce/Trade

There are four stores that have this grouping of Historic Contexts. They all have an automotive focus. Automotive-related transportation is the overlying theme of the stores in this period and will be reflected in most of the buildings reviewed herein. Three of the stores have prominent porches and would have once had gasoline pumps between the two porch supports.

The three earliest buildings in this group of Historic Contexts are similar in form and style. Their roof types vary from hipped to gable, but the buildings are essentially similar. They also share a common function, which was to serve as a store and gas station. These buildings are located on George Washington Memorial Highway (Rt. 17), which is the main north-south route in Gloucester County.

Farthest north is Adner Store (036-5015).

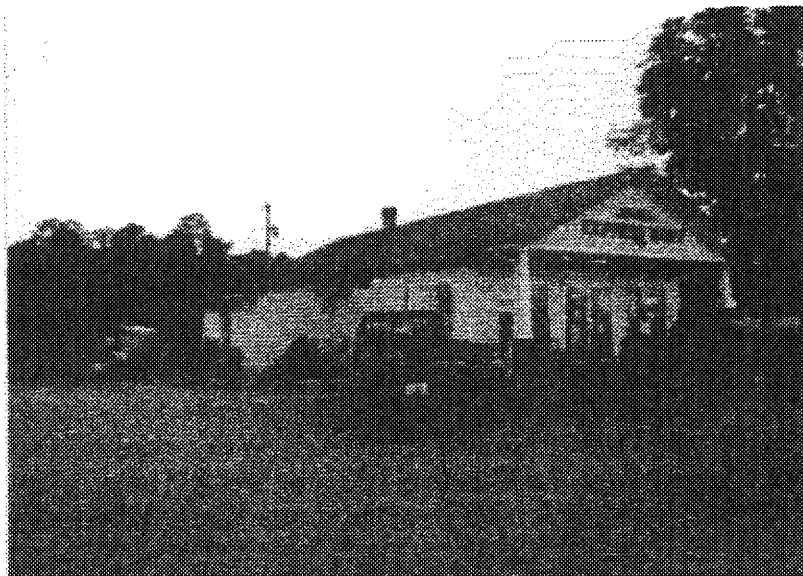


Figure 24: Adner Store (036-5015)
Southeast corner

The Mason family owned two of the three earliest buildings, Mason's Gas Station and Store (036-0186) and Mason's Esso (036-5024). They operated these stores in relatively close proximity to one another. Mason's Gas Station and Store (036-0186) is located at the intersection community of Woods Cross Roads on the east side of Rt. 17 and Mason's Esso (036-5024) is located on the west side of Rt. 17 south of Wood's Cross Roads near the community of Ark.



Figure 25: Mason's Gas Station and Store (036-0186)
Photo courtesy of the Gloucester-Mathews Gazette Journal
South corner

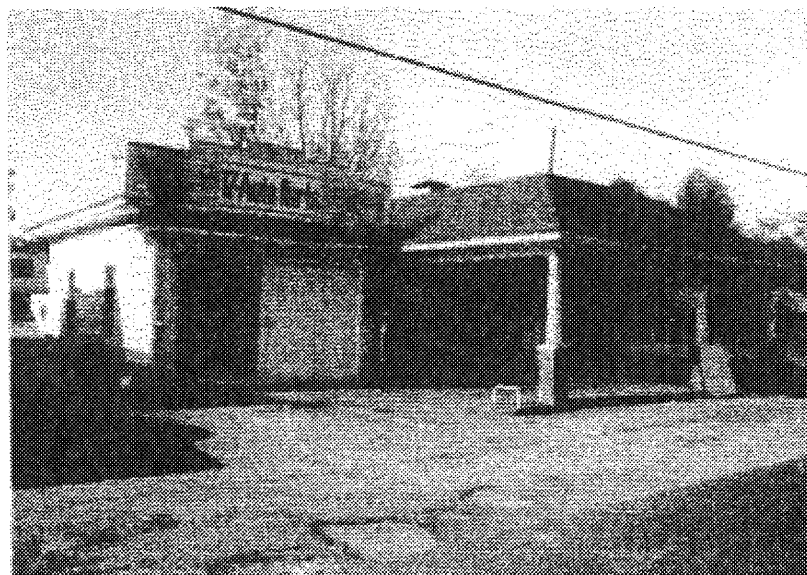


Figure 26: Mason's Esso (036-5024)
Southeast corner

The other two stores that share these Historic Contexts are Jack Williams Store (036-5006) and Sassafras Store (036-5035). Jack Williams Store (036-5006) was one of three stores owned by members of the Williams family in the community of Maryus. Jack Williams Store (036-5006) was the largest. This store once had gas pumps on an island in front of the full-front porch.

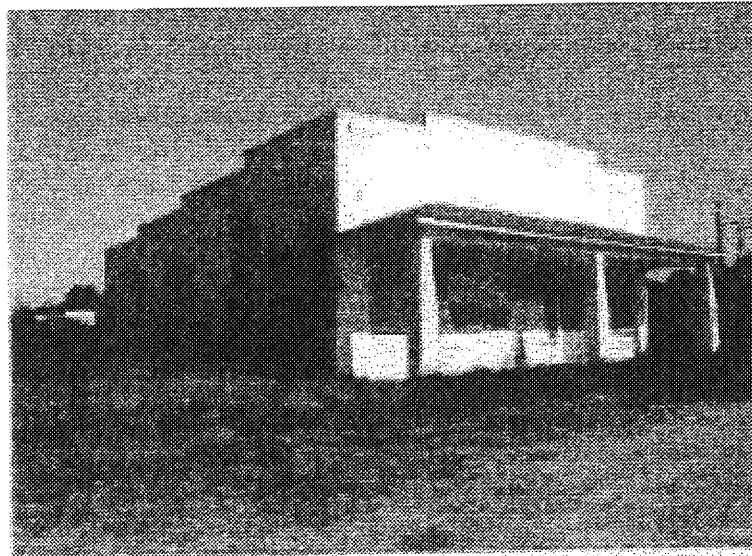


Figure 27: Jack Williams Store (036-5006)
Southwest corner

The Sassafras Store (036-5035) was one of a number of stores in the Sassafras community. Located near the York River, Sassafras was the first stop on the road leading from Allmond's Wharf, one of the largest wharves in Gloucester County. This store has a storefront on the front of the building and garage bays to the rear.

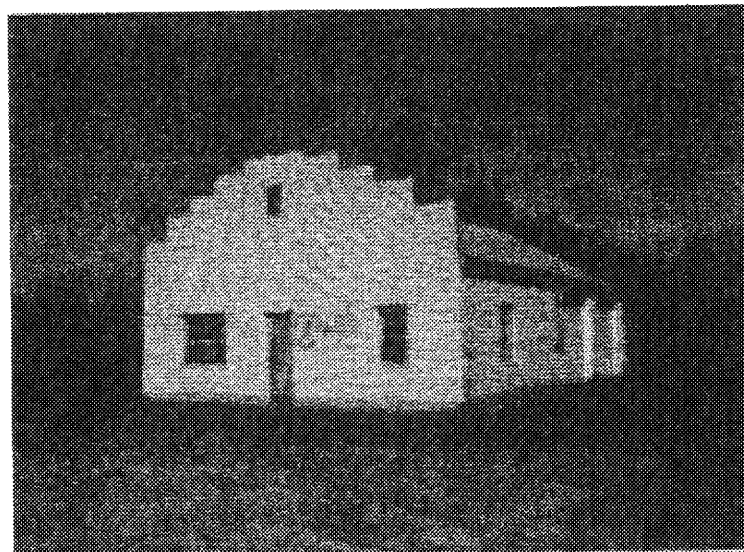


Figure 28: Sassafras Store (036-5035)
East façade

**Historic Contexts: Government/Law/Political,
Transportation/Communication, Commerce/Trade**

Similar to the Historic Context group of Transportation/Communication and Commerce/Trade discussed previously, the stores with these Historic Contexts have similar forms. Three of the four with this Historic Context group have prominent porches, which once had gas pumps between the porch piers. These buildings, like previously mentioned, have a variety of rooflines and stories, but their focus is automotive travel. The only addition to these building is a local post office.

The most notable of the group is the Horsley Store and Short Lane Post Office (036-5028). This store is located on George Washington Memorial Highway (Rt. 17), south of Gloucester County's seat. It is facing southwest to the intersection of George Washington Memorial Highway (Rt. 17) and Short Lane (Rt. 615), and has a monumental porch on the façade. The building was constructed by the Texaco Corporation and leased to the Horsley family. The insignia imbedded in the porch pediment emphasizes the association with the Texaco Corporation.

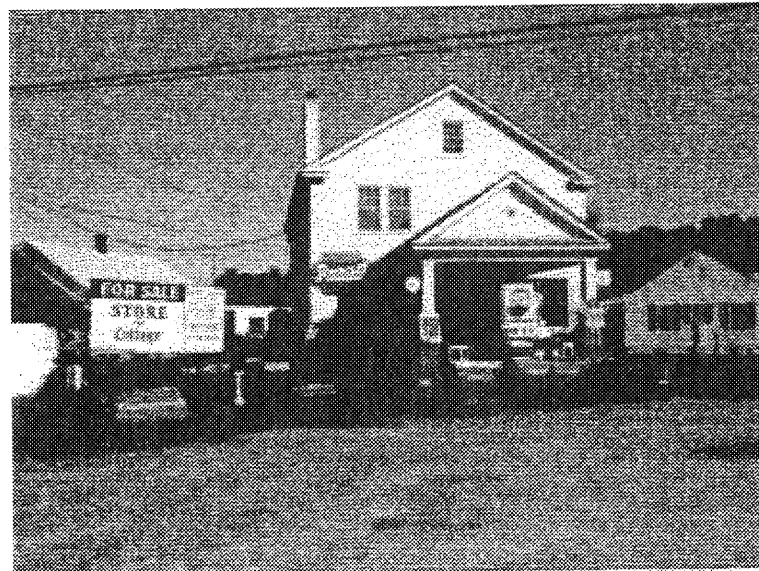


Figure 29: Horsley Store and Short Lane Post Office (036-5028)
Southwest façade

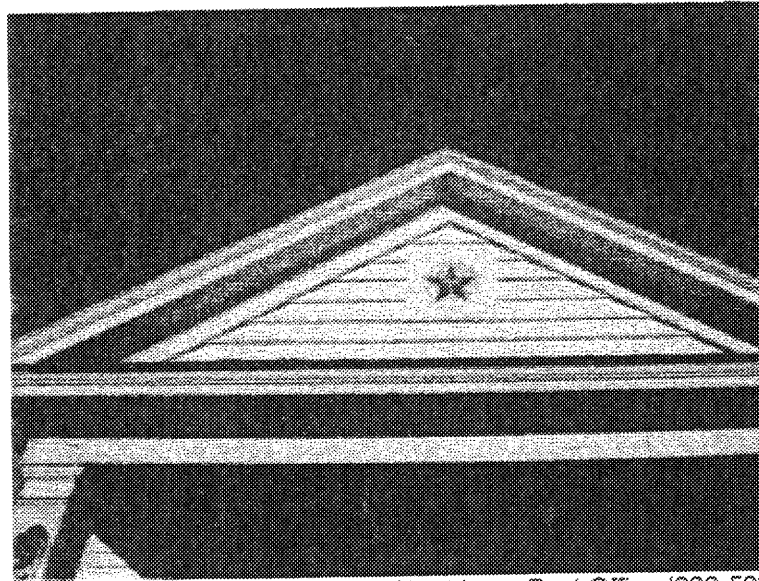


Figure 30: Horsley Store and Short Lane Post Office (036-5028)
Detail of Texaco insignia in porch pediment

Two stores similar in form and function are the Carroll Williams Store (036-5007) and E. C. Sutton and Son Store and Dutton Post Office (036-5012). Located in the south and north portions of Gloucester County, respectively, these stores were one of a number in their respective communities. The Carroll Williams Store was owned by the brother of the Jack Williams Store (036-5006) discussed on page 32.



Figure 31: Carroll Williams Store (036-5007)
Southeast corner

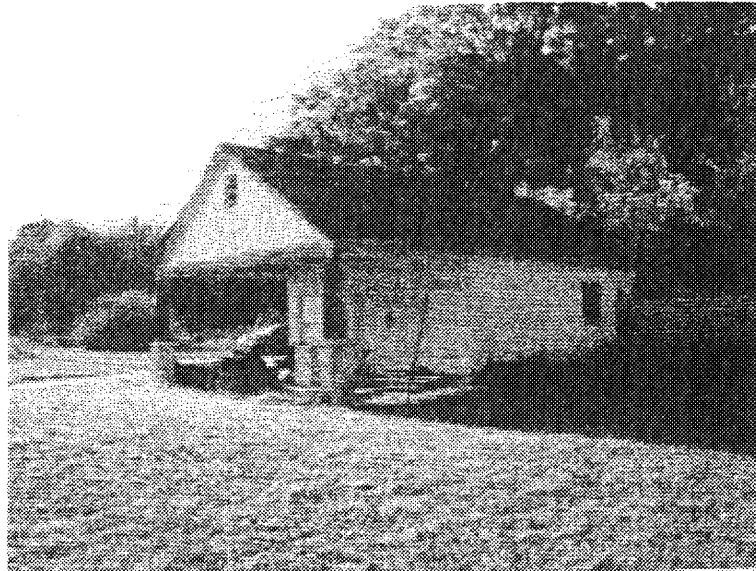


Figure 32: E. C. Sutton and Son Store and Dutton Post Office (036-5012)
Southeast corner

James Store Post Office and Store (036-5017) is similar in form to early stores, such as Hall Brothers Store (036-5004), discussed on page 21. It was constructed in 1925 to replace a 17th century brick store, which had burned in 1922. The James Store Post Office and Store (036-5017) site is important to Gloucester County's history as it was the former site of the Gloucester County Clerk of Court. James Store, as it is commonly known, was named for the James family, who owned the store after the Civil War.



Figure 33: James Store Post Office and Store (036-5017)
Southeast corner

**Historic Contexts: Domestic, Government/Law/Political,
Transportation/Communication, Commerce/Trade**

The two stores that share these Historic Contexts are very different in form. W. L. Horsley and Son (036-5021) is similar to stores with an automotive focus, like Horsley Store and Short Lane Post Office (036-5028) discussed on page 33. The porch is open on the first story to accommodate automobiles and retains gas pumps between the porch supports.

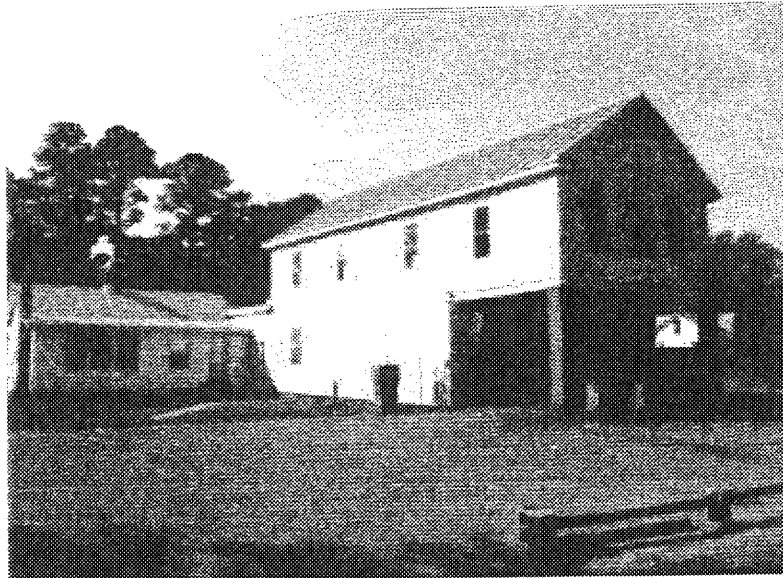


Figure 34: W. L. Horsley and Son (036-5021)
Northeast corner

Williams Store and Wan Post Office (036-5033) is similar to stores constructed in the Reconstruction to Growth (1865 - 1917) Time Period, such as Tazewell Thompson Store (036-5032) discussed on page 16. This store once consisted of the gable-front portion and had a dwelling ell added to the rear, which allowed additional commercial space and privacy for the proprietor's family.



Figure 35: Williams Store and Wan Post Office (036-5033)
South facade

Historic Context: Commerce/Trade

Poland's Store (036-5020) and R. C. Brown General Merchandise (036-0188) are the only two stores that only have Commerce/Trade as their Historic Context. The two stores are located in distinctly different communities. Poland's Store (036-5020) is located at Gloucester Point, the heaviest populated area of Gloucester County. R. C. Brown General Merchandise (036-0188) is located in the rural portion of the county near Pinero [see the discussion of the Pinero Store and Post Office (036-5014) on page 18].



Figure 36: Poland's Store (036-5020)
Southeast corner

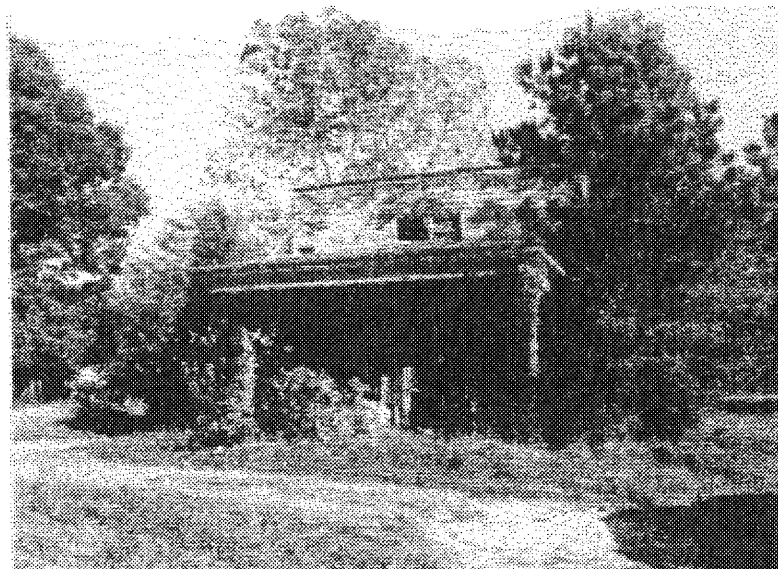


Figure 37: R. C. Brown General Merchandise (036-0188)
West façade

**Historic Contexts: Government/Law/Political, Subsistence/Agriculture,
Transportation/Communication, Commerce/Trade**

Louis Groh and Son, Inc. (036-5031) was constructed in the 1920s and served as a point for shipping local crops to larger markets. Louis Groh constructed a two-story store on the York River and built granary silos to the rear for grain storage. His business was quite prosperous while the steamships continued to operate. Upon the discontinuation of transportation via steamship, this store began to decline. It closed shortly after World War II. The building is completely overgrown and is suffering structural failure. It is treated with brick-patterned pressed-metal sheets.

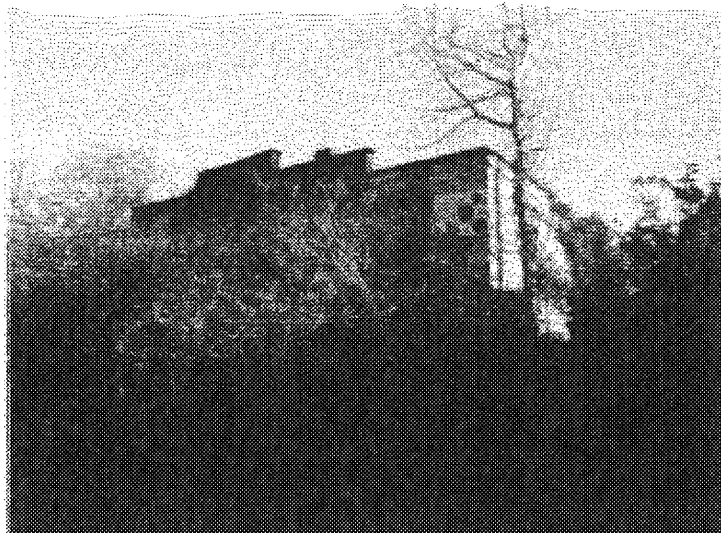


Figure 38: Louis Groh and Son, Inc. (036-5031)
Northwest corner, parapet only visible



Figure 39: Louis Groh and Son, Inc. (036-5031)
Photo courtesy Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal
North façade

**Historic Contexts: Domestic, Transportation/Communication,
Commerce/Trade**

The Center Fork Store (036-5022) is similar in form to the Horsley Store and Short Lane Post Office (036-5028) discussed on page 33. While the porch has been enclosed, it once served as shelter for automobiles fueling. It is located in a community, which once had additional stores and was along a major route parallel to the York River. There were few stores along this route since many were located on the waterfront.

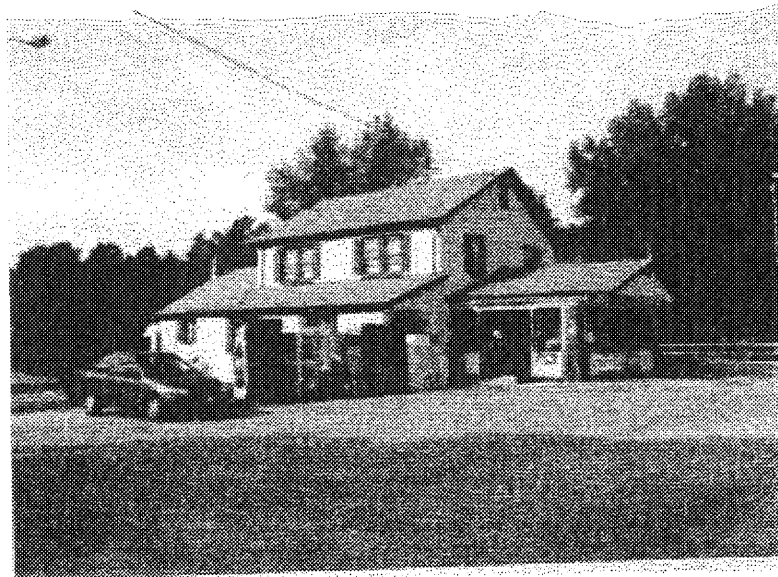


Figure 40: Center Fork Store (036-5022)
Southeast corner

THE NEW DOMINION (1945 – Present)

Most of the buildings, which fall into the last Time Period, are non-historic due to their late dates of construction. The earliest date of construction is circa 1946, which meets the fifty-year age limit of properties, but is the only one out of the five. Even though they are considered non-historic, they provide information to the development of the rural country stores and post offices. Their late construction dates reveal that the profitability of the country stores and rural post offices existed in some rural areas and that prospective storeowners of the 1950s still saw a need for these types of stores.

Of the five buildings in this Time Period, only one still serves its original function and is not vacant. Most of the stores closed in the late 1960s and early 1970s, which shows that the stability of the country store and rural post offices was declining. Their demise was concurrent with other country stores and rural post offices from the earlier Time Periods.

**Historic Contexts: Government/Law/Political,
Transportation/Communication, Commerce/Trade**

E. B. Brown and Son General Merchandise (036-5029) is the second store on Ware Neck that E. B. Brown constructed. The E. B. Brown Store and Schley Post Office (036-5025) is discussed on page 20. E. B. Brown constructed the second store for his son, Claude Brown, to operate. Claude Brown was the postmaster at Ware Neck and moved the post office from Arthur Tab Store (036-5016), discussed on page 17.

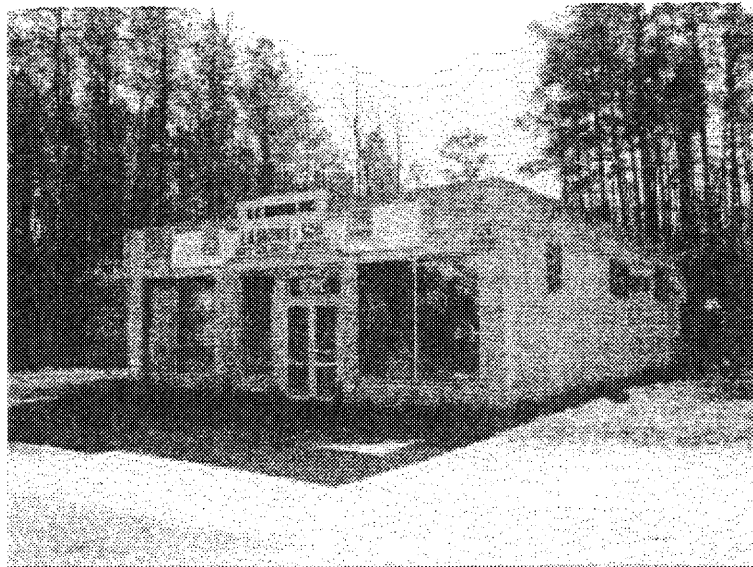


Figure 41: E. B. Brown and Son General Merchandise (036-5029)
Northwest corner

Historic Contexts: Transportation/Communication, Commerce/Trade

Robert Jenkins constructed a store at Maryus in the 1950s, which competed with three stores operated by the Williams family. This was one of three stores at the Maryus intersection. The Jenkins family operated a store in this area after the Civil War near the waterfront. His store is a simple one-story building constructed of concrete block. It was later converted to a pool hall. There are still gas pumps located at the northeast corner of the building.

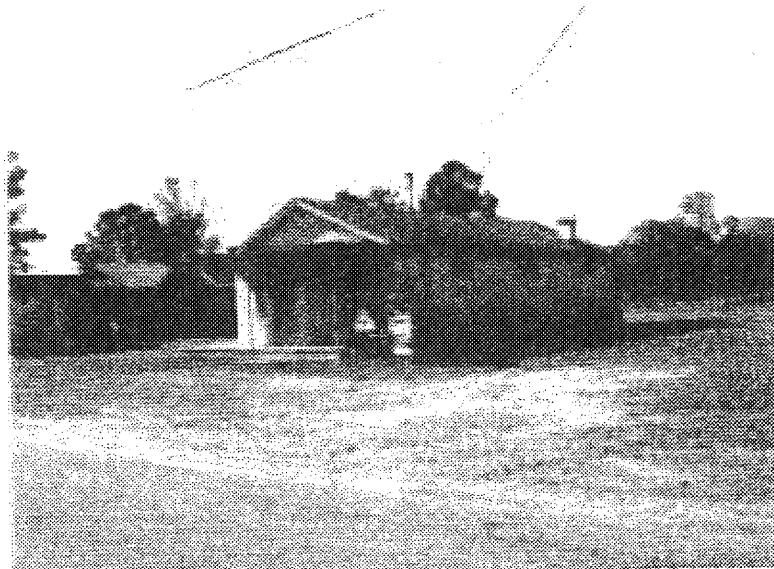


Figure 42: Robert Jenkins Store (036-5005)
Northeast corner

Historic Contexts: Government/Law/Political, Commerce/Trade

Woodland's Store and Roanes Post Office (036-5011) was constructed in the 1960s, when the Woodland family moved their store from Roanes Store and Post Office (036-5030), discussed on page 15. Stores post-dating World War II use modern materials and forms and this store is an excellent example of the change in basic form. By the 1960s, the porch has been replaced by a simple stoop.

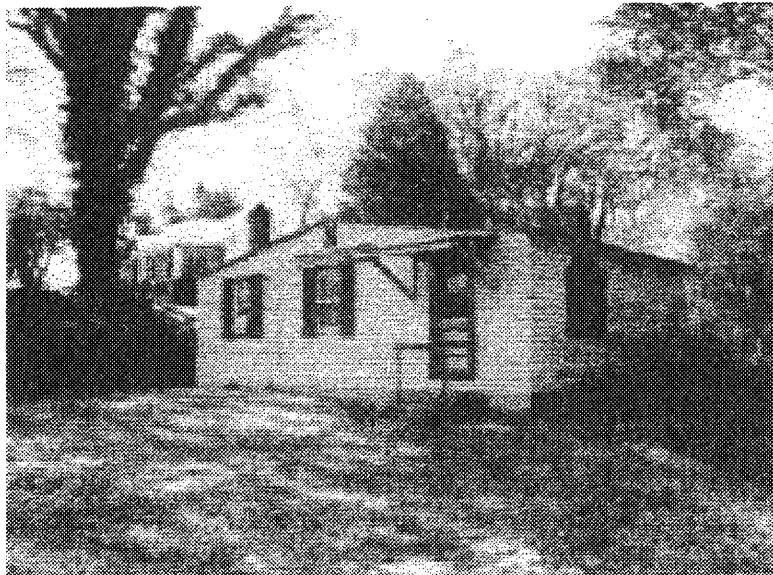


Figure 43: Woodland's Store and Roanes Post Office (036-5011)
East façade

Historic Contexts: Domestic, Commerce/Trade

Bland's Store (036-5008) is non-historic and was built after Edwin Hogg Store, located nearby, was burned in 1955. This store has a dwelling attached to the south side of the one-story store that is similar in form to the Hall Brothers Store (036-5004) and P. E. Muse Store and Coke Post Office (036-5019) discussed on page 21.



Figure 44: Bland's Store (036-5008)
East façade

Historic Context: Government/Law/Political

The Naxera Post Office (036-0184) is the only building among the surveyed buildings which does not have a Commerce/Trade Historic Context. It was constructed in 1974 when the Naxera post office was moved from Deal's Store (036-5009), discussed on page 24. This post office was more convenient to its patrons by providing twenty-four hour access.

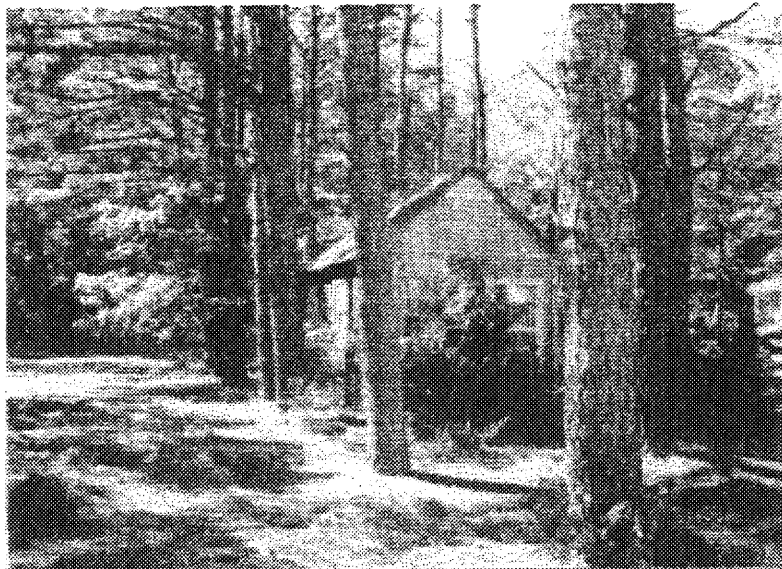


Figure 45: Naxera Post Office (036-0184)
East facade

RESEARCH DESIGN

The objectives of the survey were to perform a reconnaissance level survey on twenty-three stores and an intensive level survey of ten stores. The Gloucester County Historical Committee provided a list of twenty-three stores that were to be surveyed according to their designation of reconnaissance level or intensive level. (The designation by the committee is illustrated in the Introduction/Description of Survey section of this report on page 1). Since thirty-three stores were required, an additional ten were supplied by the Gloucester County Historical Committee.

Initially the stores were to be surveyed and documented using the Integrated Preservation System (IPS). Their history and the history of country stores in Virginia and the south were to be researched. Upon completion of the survey and research, the Draft Multiple Property Document, field trip guide, and driving tour brochure were to be written. Finally, upon the completion of these items, the survey report was to be written.

The methods used to complete the objectives stated above are described herein. Information collected during the survey process can be described in two parts. The first part consists of the physical survey of the buildings. The contractor identified styles and the various architectural elements of the main building and any subsidiary buildings. This included photographing the exterior of each structure on the site. The contractor took note of the location of the structures in relation to other structures and other communities. A main focus of this survey is the store's proximity to the water and major land routes. Since rivers are found on three sides of Gloucester County, waterfront activities and waterfront-related commerce played an important role in Gloucester County's development. Also, the relationship between waterfront stores and inland stores, and land routes were examined.

The second part consisted of talking to the local population on the subject of country stores and rural post offices. The information they provided led the contractor to other stores and post offices in Gloucester County. These stores were added to the survey to augment the stores supplied by the Gloucester County Historical Committee. It also assisted in compiling a history of each store and post office, and the stores and post offices in the general context within the county.

In addition to the field survey of structures, additional research was performed at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources' (VDHR) archives, Library of Virginia, Gloucester County Public Library, and Gloucester County Commissioner of the Revenue's Office. In the VDHR archives, the contractor discovered that five country stores had previously been surveyed. Two of these five were on the Gloucester County Historical Committee's initial list of country stores and rural post offices. One was already eligible for listing on

the Virginia Landmarks Register, the Virginia Department of Transportation surveyed another, another had a completed Preliminary Information Form, and two had only photographs in their files. At the Library of Virginia and the Gloucester County Public Library, the contractor collected historic information on Gloucester County and country stores. The Gloucester County Commissioner of the Revenue's Office provided information on dates of construction, ownership and property address. Information for each structure and general information was compiled and placed in the individual VHDR property forms, the Draft Multiple Property Document, field trip guide, driving tour brochure, and survey report.

It was expected that stores were to be found along the waterways and associated with small communities located at major intersections. In some cases, this was verified by the location of the store, but in other cases, stores were located nearby small communities. This was especially seen in the stores dating from the 1920s, which benefited from the advent of the automobile and the mobility it provided. While most storeowners were small entrepreneurs in their communities, it was discovered that some expanded their businesses and were involved in large-scale natural resource operations. This wealth afforded them the luxury of increased property and building ownership. The variety of business interests of the storeowners and relationship of storeowners to one another and their communities was much stronger than expected.

SURVEY FINDINGS

Currently, Gloucester County has 250 files of historic structures, sites, buildings, and objects with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR). Of these, 39 are country stores and rural post offices. Gloucester County has never had a comprehensive survey of historic structures completed, therefore VDHR files do not reflect accurate percentages of historic structures and sites found in Gloucester County. Only the 39 country stores and rural post offices were input into the Integrated Preservation System (IPS) this contract year by the consultant. VDHR and the Virginia Department of Transportation are concurrently inputting the additional 211 on file.

This report was organized according to the Time Periods located on page 5 and 6 as required by VHDR. The three Time Periods considered for this project were Reconstruction and Growth (1865 – 1917), World War I to World War II (1917 – 1945), and The New Dominion (1945 – Present). The properties were then subdivided into their individual Historic Context or Historic Contexts. Table 1, along with Chart 1, illustrate the distribution of properties in these Time Periods. A majority of the buildings were constructed in the first two periods listed and reflect the various changes to life in Gloucester County in relation to transportation and technology. This is discussed further in the next paragraphs where the properties are broken down by decades. A list of buildings with the construction dates and Time Periods is located in Appendix C.

Table 1: TIME PERIODS

| <u>Time Period</u> | <u>Associated Properties</u> |
|---|------------------------------|
| Reconstruction and Growth (1865 – 1917) | 18 |
| World War I to World War II (1917 – 1945) | 16 |
| The New Dominion (1945 – Present) | 5 |

Chart 1: TIME PERIODS

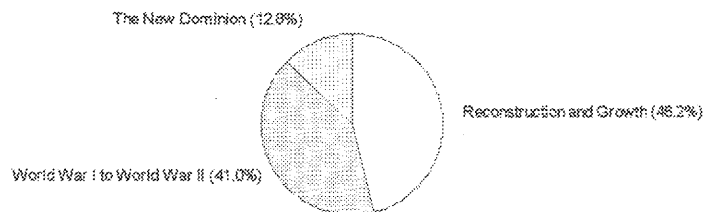
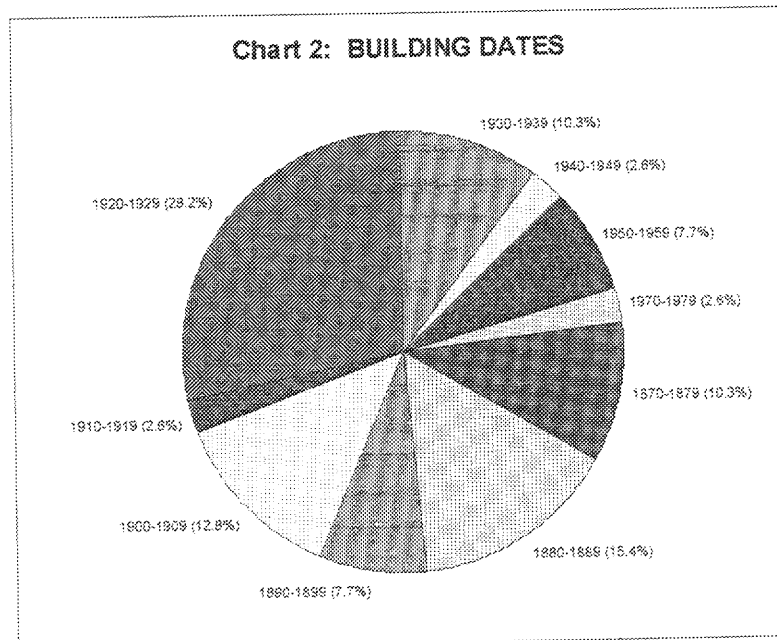


Table 2 reflects the construction dates of the evaluated country stores and rural post offices according to ten-year periods. The range of dates of the buildings covers a 100-year period. While most were constructed before 1930, the later buildings reflect the continuing need of country stores in this region of Virginia. The county's rural nature allowed these stores to continue to flourish into the latter 20th century. This is illustrated further in Chart 2.

| <u>Construction Dates</u> | <u>Associated Properties</u> |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1870-1879 | 4 |
| 1880-1889 | 6 |
| 1890-1899 | 3 |
| 1900-1909 | 5 |
| 1910-1919 | 1 |
| 1920-1929 | 11 |
| 1930-1939 | 4 |
| 1940-1949 | 1 |
| 1950-1959 | 3 |
| 1960-1969 | 0 |
| 1970-1979 | 1 |



By evaluating the numbers in Table 2, the first 20 years during the postbellum period saw a growth of economy and population. Many stores were able to prosper due to the steamship trade along Gloucester County's shores. This period is dependent on this type of travel until the 1920s. Gloucester County saw a jump in its economy in the 1920s, which coincides with the nation's prosperity. The effect of the mass production of the automobile also played a part in this increased construction. It is during the 1920s that country stores added gasoline pumps, and stores were constructed with the sale of gasoline as a main focus. The decline after the 1930s reflects the changing climate in this part of rural America due to the demise of the steamship trade and the effect of the Great Depression. The popularity of the automobile led to increased trucking and automobile travel. Goods were shipped via truck versus steamship, hence the decline of the steamship. Oddly enough, according to Gloucester County's residents, the years of the Great Depression were not as hard on the rural population. Storeowners and local residents implemented the barter system, which had been more widely used in the 19th century. While construction stopped during World War II, the development of "modern" America moved away from local stores in the rural areas. Still some stores were constructed during the post-World War II prosperity. Most of these were in direct competition with existing stores in rural communities. The advancements in automobile travel facilitated the move away from rural areas and country stores into shopping centers that developed along major highways in the 1960s and 1970s.

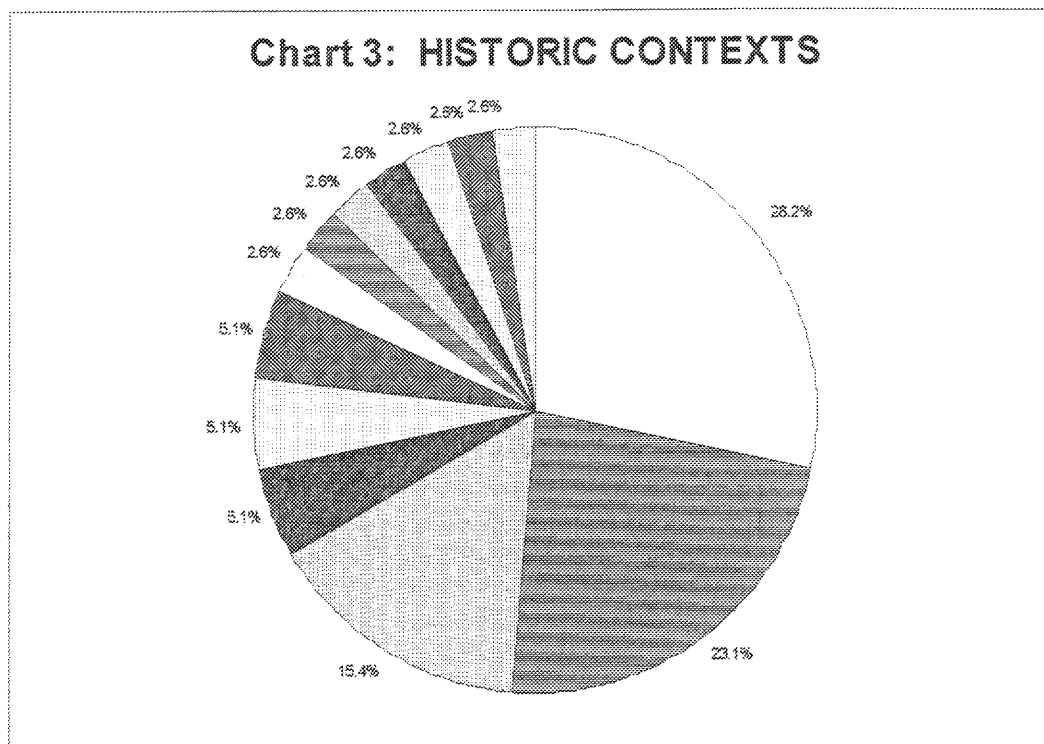
Of the 39 buildings surveyed all but three fall into multiple Historic Contexts. Multiple Historic Contexts apply due to the buildings' multiple functions. Therefore classifying these buildings into one Historic Context does not reflect their overall purpose or function. Table 3, and further illustrated in Chart 3, lists the number of buildings within each Historic Context grouping, except for the three buildings that served only one function and can only be classified in one Historic Context. Detailed information on each individual property listed with their Historic Context(s) is available in Appendix E. The Historic Contexts used by VDHR and are summarized on pages 7 through 9.

Most of the buildings fall into the multiple Historic Contexts of Domestic, Government/Law/Political, Transportation/Communication, and Commerce/Trade. In terms of specific function within the Historic Context they differ, but their common attribute is that they were constructed around the turn of the century and most are located in a remote area. Therefore these buildings served as a major source of stability for their owners and respective communities. These buildings served as boarding houses or dwellings, post offices, steamship stops or gas stations, and stores. They were the focus of their community. Those without a domestic Historic Context, but retain the other Historic Contexts listed above are located in more populous areas, but still serve as the center of their respective communities. These two multiple context groups consist of more than 50% of the stores surveyed.

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Table 3: HISTORIC CONTEXTS

| <u>Historic Contexts</u> | <u>Associated Properties</u> | <u>Percentage</u> |
|--|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Domestic Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade | 11 | 28.2% |
| Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade | 9 | 23.1% |
| Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade | 6 | 15.4% |
| Domestic Government/Law/Political Commerce/Trade | 2 | 5.1% |
| Government/Law/Political Commerce/Trade | 2 | 5.1% |
| Commerce/Trade | 2 | 5.1% |
| Domestic Government/Law/Political Religion Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade | 1 | 2.6% |
| Domestic Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade Industry/Processing/Extraction | 1 | 2.6% |
| Government/Law/Political Subsistence/Agriculture Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade | 1 | 2.6% |
| Government/Law/Political Social Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade | 1 | 2.6% |
| Domestic Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade | 1 | 2.6% |
| Domestic Commerce/Trade | 1 | 2.6% |
| Government/Law/Political | 1 | 2.6% |



The other Historic Context groupings vary slightly reflecting the functions of the buildings. While some have unique Historic Contexts, such as Religion, Subsistence/Agriculture and Industry/Processing and Extraction, most contain similar Historic Context groupings. The differences for the other 50% of buildings are relatively minor. These minor differences reinforce the basic similarities of the country store.

Besides multiple Historic Contexts, the properties can be evaluated by the number of properties associated with each Historic Context. Table 4 lists each Historic Context used to classify the surveyed buildings and the number of instances each context was used.

| <u>Historic Context</u> | <u>Associated Properties</u> |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Commerce/Trade | 38 |
| Transportation/Communication | 31 |
| Government/Law/Political | 29 |
| Domestic | 17 |
| Subsistence/Agriculture | 1 |
| Religion | 1 |
| Social | 1 |
| Industry/Processing/Extraction | 1 |

Of the 39 buildings surveyed all but one had some form of a commercial interest and 79% were related to either road-related or water-related transportation. 74% of the buildings had a post office at some time during their existence and 44% had some form of dwelling or boarding facility. These four most frequent Historic Contexts are seen throughout the county and link these buildings into their common themes. Their functions within their community reflect the importance of the country store. It was the center of its vast rural community, providing information, supplies, and a place for community gathering.

Another comparison of the relationship between Time Periods and Historic Contexts was evaluated to give a better sense of activity occurring during the assigned Time Periods (Table 5). A majority of buildings surveyed were constructed during the Reconstruction and Growth Period (1865 - 1917) and reflect the development of the rural post office and the foundation of organized commerce in their respective communities. These buildings also reflect the necessity of multiple function or adaptability of their structure. With resources not as readily available in rural areas, buildings were adapted for other functions or enlarged to accommodate additional functions. Examples of this are those that have the Social, Industry/Processing/Extraction and Religion Historic Contexts.

It is also during this period that the Domestic Historic Context is most prevalent. Dwelling space within stores is more economical and also allowed the owner to be available for longer hours during the day. This period also defines the post office. In 1860, Gloucester County only had four post offices, but by the turn of the 20th century the quantity had increased ten-fold.

The World War I to World War II (1917 - 1945) Time Period reflects an increase in the Transportation/Communication Historic Context. This era of the mass production of the automobile increased store construction. It also changed the more common steamship-mode of transportation to the automobile. We also see during this Time Period a move away from the construction of buildings with Domestic space. The prosperity of the early years of this Period allowed for storeowners to building separate dwelling structures. It is also during this Period that buildings constructed during the prior Time Period moved away from their Domestic function. The advancements during this period are staggering for Gloucester County as it moved away from its traditional agricultural and fishing economy

The last Time Period, The New Dominion (1945 - Present), is reflective of the final effort of the rural storeowner to compete with longer established stores. These stores did not prosper long as the move away from rural life led to the demise of the rural stores. The stores in this Time Period primarily focused on the basic need of their respective communities.

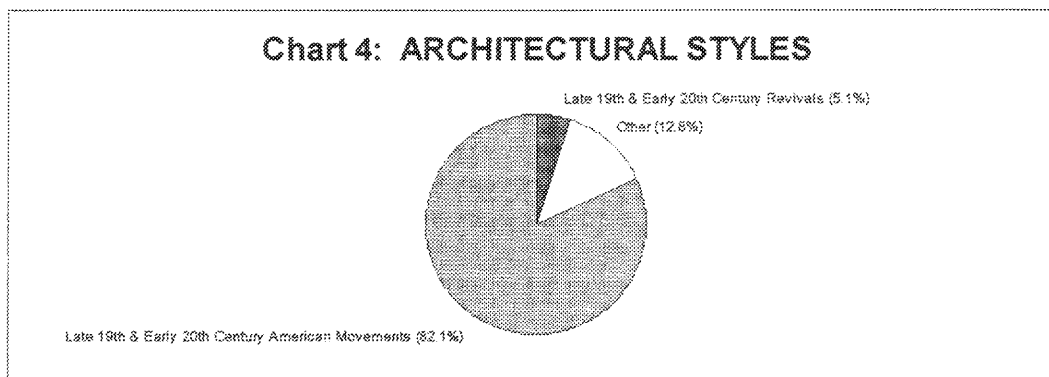
Table 5: TIME PERIODS and HISTORIC CONTEXTS

| <u>Historic Contexts</u> | <u>Time Periods</u> | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| | Reconstruction and Growth (1865 – 1917) | World War I to World War II (1917 – 1945) | The New Dominion (1945 – Present) |
| Domestic Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade | 9 | 2 | 0 |
| Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade | 3 | 5 | 1 |
| Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade | 0 | 5 | 1 |
| Domestic Government/Law/Political Commerce/Trade | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Government/Law/Political Commerce/Trade | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Commerce/Trade | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Domestic Government/Law/Political Religion Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Domestic Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade Industry/Processing/Extraction | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Government/Law/Political Subsistence/Agriculture Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Government/Law/Political Social Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Domestic Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Domestic Commerce/Trade | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Government/Law/Political | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Totals | 18 | 16 | 5 |

All of the buildings are categorized by a type of resource referred to as a "wuzit." While the buildings have multiple functions and Historic Contexts, the wuzit only reflects the main function or Historic Contexts. Therefore, 38 buildings were categorized as Commercial Buildings, since they have the Commerce/Trade Historic Context in common. The only exception is a post office, which falls into the Government/Law/Political context. This is also illustrated in Table 3.

Table 6 and Chart 4 illustrate the range of styles of the 39 buildings surveyed.

| <u>Architectural Style</u> | <u>Associated Properties</u> |
|---|------------------------------|
| Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century Revivals | 2 |
| Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements | 32 |
| Other | 5 |



Notably is the lack of specific or distinct style of the buildings surveyed. Most buildings were a compilation of more than one style with specific elements of distinct styles placed on the building for decoration or function.

The buildings that were constructed from the mid-1800s to 1880s are less ornate and more functional. Most are enlarged during the later part of the 19th century. Those constructed after the 1880s to the 1920s have more decoration and are more elaborate reflecting an increase in wealth of merchants. The buildings constructed during the 1920s to 1930s reflect the influence of the early 20th century American movements especially the Craftsman style. Later buildings of the 1940s through the 1970s reflect the simplicity of construction and the use of modern materials. These stores are the most minimal in terms of decoration and construction.

The simplicity of design of these buildings was the catalyst to use more generic or broader styles. Those that are classified as late 19th and Early 20th Century Revivals are more ornate and reflect minor classical, decorative elements. The overall simplicity of the buildings did not warrant the

assignment of specific styles. This determination was also made for the more simplified buildings with styles categorized in the late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements. The early buildings were very simple and basic. Those from the early 20th century reflect some Craftsman influence, but they still retain the simplicity of their 19th century counterparts. The post-World War II buildings reflect a variety of forms, which do not reflect any major movement. Their use of modern and traditional construction elements make it difficult to assign a modern style. They also reflect simplicity in construction that is carried forth to the latest building. A list of each building with its style and construction date is located in Appendix D.

Buildings are classified as Contributing/Historic or Non-Contributing/Non-Historic which are determined by their age at the time of the survey. Buildings must meet a fifty-year age criterion to be considered Contributing or Historic. There are exceptions to the fifty-year age criterion, but no stores in Gloucester County met those exceptions. Of the 39 buildings surveyed, four were Non-Contributing or Non-Historic due to their age and the remaining 34 were Historic or Contributing.

Another aspect of the buildings that can be reviewed is the condition of the building when it was surveyed. Buildings are also assigned a "threat" if a building is neglected and deteriorating or is going to be demolished. The conditions and threats are listed in Tables 7 and 8.

| <u>Threat</u> | <u>Associated Properties</u> |
|--|------------------------------|
| None Known | 22 |
| Vacant | 7 |
| Deteriorated/Neglected/Structural Failure/Vacant | 3 |
| Development | 2 |
| Deteriorated/Neglected/Vacant | 2 |
| Development/Vacant | 1 |
| Neglected/Vacant | 1 |
| Deteriorated | 1 |

While most of the properties surveyed are in good condition and have no known threat, there are still a number that are facing possible demolition. Just 56% of the properties surveyed have no known threat to their structure. The remaining 44% are either vacant, which is classified as a possible threat, or are facing potential demolition due to development or deterioration through neglect. Of the ten buildings surveyed at the intensive level; three are vacant, two are currently available for purchase and seven are still in operation as a

post office, store, or both. Statistically, these numbers are alarming as almost 50% of the surveyed buildings have the potential to be lost.

| <u>Condition</u> | <u>Associated Properties</u> |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| Good-Excellent | 6 |
| Good | 19 |
| Good-Fair | 6 |
| Fair | 4 |
| Poor | 3 |
| Deteriorated | 1 |

The Building Conditions reflect 80% of the buildings are in Good-Fair to Good-Excellent condition. These buildings could be rehabilitated to serve their original or another function. Comparing the Building Conditions to the Building Threats, the buildings designated as None Known, Vacant or Development in the Building Threats category, and the Building Conditions of Good-Excellent, Good and Good-Fair designations in the Building Conditions category, the numbers are consistent as 80% of the buildings fall into these joint classifications. This percentage is much more optimistic as these buildings have the potential to be reused.

An evaluation of the buildings is also performed on their potential eligibility in meeting the Criteria established by Department of the Interior for the National Register of Historic Places. A list of surveyed buildings follows with their potential eligibility to meet the criteria listed as well as the criteria considerations. A detail description of the criteria is listed in the Evaluation section on pages 63 and 64.

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| VDHR No. | Property Name | Wuzit | Potential Significance | Date of Construction |
|----------|---|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 036-0025 | Zanoni Store and Post Office | Commercial Building | Yes, Criteria A and C | 1885 |
| 036-0184 | Naxera Post Office | Post Office | No | 1974 |
| 036-0186 | Mason's Gas Station and Store | Commercial Building | No | 1920c. |
| 036-0188 | R. C. Brown General Merchandise | Commercial Building | No | 1920c. |
| 036-5002 | J. B. Ashe and Brother G. D. Ashe and Son G. D. Ashe and Son and Perrin Post Office | Commercial Building | No | 1880c. |
| 036-5004 | Hall Brothers Store C. B. Rowe and Son | Commercial Building | No | 1880c. |
| 036-5005 | Robert Jenkins Store Robert Jenkins Pool Hall | Commercial Building | No | 1950c. |
| 036-5006 | Jack Williams Store Cox Store | Commercial Building | No | 1937 |
| 036-5007 | Carroll Williams Store Maryus Post Office | Commercial Building | No | 1939 |
| 036-5008 | Bland's Store Brock's Store | Commercial Building | No | 1955-1960 |

| VDHR No. | Property Name | Wuzit | Potential Significance | Date of Construction |
|----------|--|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 036-5009 | Deal's Store Deal's Store and Nexera Post Office | Commercial Building | No | 1900c. |
| 036-5010 | J. M. Shackelford's Store and Severn Post Office | Commercial Building | No | 1875 |
| 036-5011 | Woodland's Store and Roanes Post Office | Commercial Building | No | 1950 |
| 036-5012 | E. C. Sutton and Son Store and Dutton Post Office | Commercial Building | No | 1920c. |
| 036-5013 | Harcum Store and Post Office Hazel's Store | Commercial Building | No | 1900c. |
| 036-5014 | Pinero Store and Post Office | Commercial Building | No | 1880c. |
| 036-5015 | Adner Store Adner Express Mart | Commercial Building | No | 1920c. |
| 036-5016 | Arthur Tab Store Tallero Store and Ware Neck Post Office Nuttall and Company and Ware Neck Post Office | Commercial Building | Yes, Criteria A and C | 1870c. |
| 036-5017 | James Store Post Office and Store | Commercial Building | No | 1925 |
| 036-5018 | Freeport Store and Post Office Freeport Manna | Commercial Building | Yes, Criteria A and C | 1900c. |

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| VDHR No. | Property Name | Wuzit | Potential Significance | Date of Construction |
|----------|---|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 036-5019 | P. E. Muse Store and Coke Post Office Minor Store and Coke Post Office Martin's Corner | Commercial Building | Yes, Criteria A and C | 1895 |
| 036-5020 | Poland's Store | Commercial Building | No | 1932-1933 |
| 036-5021 | W. L. Horsley and Son Bellamy Post Office | Commercial Building | No | 1920c. |
| 036-5022 | Center Fork Store Sphinx Market | Commercial Building | No | 1920c. |
| 036-5023 | Selden Store and Post Office C. W. B. Burkes Store Willows Bed and Breakfast | Commercial Building | No | 1888 |
| 036-5024 | Mason's Esso Harris Antiques | Commercial Building | No | 1920c. |
| 036-5025 | E. B. Brown Store and Schley Post Office Schley Post Office | Commercial Building | No | 1900c. |
| 036-5026 | R. P. Gray Store and Signpine Post Office | Commercial Building | Yes, Criteria A and C | 1894 |
| 036-5027 | W. E. and J. Edgar Pointer Store and Bena Post Office Bena Post Office, Mo's Stuff, Deal Tax Service | Commercial Building | Yes, Criteria A and C | 1904 |

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| VDHR No. | Property Name | Wuzit | Potential Significance | Date of Construction |
|-----------------|---|---------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 036-5028 | Horsley Store and Short Lane Post Office Roadside Antiques | Commercial Building | Yes, Criteria A and C | 1920c. |
| 036-5029 | E. B. Brown and Son General Merchandise C. C. Brown, Inc. | Commercial Building | No | 1946 |
| 036-5030 | Roanes Store and Post Office | Commercial Building | Yes, Criteria A and C | 1870c. |
| 036-5031 | Louis Groh and Son, Inc. | Commercial Building | No | 1920c. |
| 036-5032 | Tazewell Thompson Store Ware Neck Market | Commercial Building | No | 1870c. |
| 036-5033 | Williams Store and Wan Post Office Ware Neck Academy | Commercial Building | No | 1918-1920 |
| 036-5034 | Trevilian's Store and Naxera Post Office | Commercial Building | No | 1890c. |
| 036-5035 | Sassafras Store | Commercial Building | No | 1930c. |
| 036-5036 | Cappahosic Store and Post Office | Commercial Building | No | 1880c. |
| 036-5041 | Weaver Store and Clay Bank Post Office | Commercial Building | No | 1907 |

EVALUATION

Of the thirty-nine properties surveyed, ten were surveyed at the intensive level to evaluate their eligibility on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places. The evaluations of these buildings were considered under the four main criteria established by the Department of the Interior for the National Register of Historic Places. The criterion are listed below:

- Criterion A: Properties that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- Criterion B: Properties that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- Criterion C: Properties that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.
- Criterion D: Properties that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information in prehistory or history.

The buildings surveyed at the intensive level are considered under Criterion A and C due to their association of property types and architectural significance.

Aside from these criteria, there are criteria exceptions, listed below:

Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, or graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years shall not be considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:

- A. a religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
- B. a building or structure removed from its original location but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or

- C. a birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no other appropriate site or building directly associated with his or her productive life; or
- D. a cemetery which derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events; or
- E. a reconstructed building when accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and when no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or
- F. a property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own historical significance; or
- G. a property achieving significance within the past 50 years if it is of exceptional importance.

Of these criteria exceptions, none applied to this survey.

Of the ten buildings surveyed at the intensive level, their eligibility for listing using these criteria were as follows:

- 036-5004 Hall Brothers Store
Criteria A and C
Determined ineligible for listing on the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places by Virginia Department of Historic Resources E-team, October 1998. This property consists of a store, which was expanded shortly after it was moved in 1957-1958. There is also an historic shed on the site. It is representative of the smaller stores constructed after the Civil War near the waterfront.
- 036-5010 J. M. Shackelford's Store and Severn Post Office
Criteria A and C
Determined ineligible for listing on the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places by Virginia Department of Historic Resources E-team, October 1998. This store is reflective of the expansion of the country store at the turn of the 20th century to the 1920s. It has multiple additions and the open mezzanine was enclosed during the period of the additions. Near the water, this store benefited from local water-related industry.

- 036-5016 Arthur Tab Store
 Criteria A and C
 Determined eligible for listing on the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places by Virginia Department of Historic Resources E-team, October 1998. Similar in form to other stores in this general area, this building was originally constructed with two stories. This portion was expanded early with wings added to either side of the façade. It also had a dwelling added to the rear for the storekeeper. This is common in a number of stores in Gloucester County. Like others, it is located near the waterfront.
- 036-5017 James Store Post Office and Store
 Criterion A and C
 Determined ineligible for listing on the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places by Virginia Department of Historic Resources E-team, October 1998. Constructed to replace a 17th century store that burned in the 1920s, this store is similar to other one-story stores constructed at the turn of the 20th century.
- 036-5018 Freeport Store and Post Office
 Criteria A and C
 Determined eligible for listing on the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places by Virginia Department of Historic Resources E-team, October 1998. A store on this site dates to the antebellum period. This store was constructed in 1900c. to replace a store washed away during a hurricane. This complex of buildings, which includes a barn and several boat shelters, is located on the Piankatank River in northern Gloucester County. The second story served as an overnight berth and the first story is occupied by a store. It has similar Historic Contexts to other stores located on the waterfront.
- 036-5019 P. E. Muse Store and Coke Post Office
 Criteria A and C
 Determined eligible for listing on the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places by Virginia Department of Historic Resources E-team, October 1998. This store is similar to other one-story stores located throughout Gloucester County. This store retains many original elements, though closed for approximately thirty years. It continues to operate as a store.
- 036-5025 E. B. Brown Store and Schley Post Office
 Criteria A and C
-

Determined ineligible for listing on the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places by Virginia Department of Historic Resources E-team, October 1998. One of two stores owned by E. B. Brown on Ware Neck in Gloucester County, this store was the earlier and operated by E. B. Brown. It has an open mezzanine, which is similar to numerous stores located in the county. Altered after the store closed, most of the interior original elements have been replaced and the interior space has been compromised to accommodate a smaller post office.

036-5026 R. P. Gray Store and Signpine Post Office
Criterion A and C

Determined eligible for listing on the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places by Virginia Department of Historic Resources E-team, October 1998. The best example of a country store in Gloucester County is R. P. Gray Store. This store has a high architectural integrity and retains numerous original elements. The site includes a dwelling constructed during the Great Depression using lumber from an adjacent mill owned by the storeowner. There is also a well-house, barn, outhouse, and storage shed. All buildings retain historic treatment.

036-5027 W. E. and J. Edgar Pointer Store and Bena Post Office
Criteria A and C

Determined eligible for listing on the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places by Virginia Department of Historic Resources E-team, October 1998. Similar to other stores in Gloucester County, this store has a mezzanine. The mezzanine has been enclosed to accommodate a modern heating system, but the store retains original elements, including exterior weatherboard and beaded-board treatment on the interior. Located in viable intersection-community, it was a focus for its community with the post office, and co-existed with the Hall Brothers Store (036-5004).

036-5028 Horsley Store and Short Lane Post Office and Store
Criteria A and C

Determined eligible for listing on the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places by Virginia Department of Historic Resources E-team, October 1998. With its transportation focus, this building is the best example of a road-related store in Gloucester County. The property contains the store, dwelling, sheds and automotive shelter. It is similar in form to others located along major roadways in Gloucester County. It is an exceptional example due to its

construction by the Texaco Corporation and association with
this early supplier of gasoline.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Gloucester County has never had a comprehensive survey of historic structures conducted by County staff or the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR). This should be a priority as the county is growing rapidly in population and development is occurring at a phenomenal rate. The widening of George Washington Memorial Highway (Rt. 17) at Gloucester Point and the development occurring on this major thoroughfare near Gloucester Courthouse requires an immediate survey of historic structures lying along this route that are being directly impacted by local growth.

As a part of the a comprehensive survey, the development of a county-wide comprehensive historic context would also contribute to the planning of future projects in Gloucester County and provide a theme for Gloucester County's history in relation to the history of the Commonwealth of Virginia and United States.

Most of Gloucester County's larger industrial historic resources and farming-related historic resources have been demolished or are in the process of decay. This loss of historic resources is Gloucester County's main concern. A Preservation Plan would aid in the progressive development and ensure that important structures in Gloucester County are not lost due to inadequate information. It would also allow the public a forum to raise concerns as development occurs. Through a partnership with the County and its citizens, the County can preserve buildings that are of importance to its community.

A renewed interest in Gloucester County's heritage has also spawned an interest in preserving Gloucester County's historic buildings. Groups, such as the Guinea Heritage Association, are recording their regional history and collecting artifacts pertinent to their community. While this concerned group of citizens have been active collecting their oral and written history, they are only focusing on the southern portion of the county. Organizations like this would be beneficial for the entire county.

Programs in association with local colleges and universities would aid organizations to record and research their history.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Most information collected on individual resources surveyed was compiled from the Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal in the *Communities: Past and Present* series. The Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal has categorized their more recent articles dealing with country store and rural post offices and they are archived in the Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal library. This list below categorizes them alphabetically by community name.

Other information has been collected from discussions with many of Gloucester's residents, including numerous postmasters, storeowners, and former storeowners and postmasters. Their oral history is invaluable.

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| | |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Allmondsville | October 14, 1982 |
| Bena | October 19, 1989 |
| Clay Bank | May 12, 1983 |
| Coke | March 16, 1989 |
| Maryus | December 1, 1983 |
| Naxera | November 25, 1982 & October 8, 1992 |
| Perrin | January 20, 1983 |
| Roanes | September 30, 1982 |
| Severn | October 17, 1996 |
| Signpine | September 16, 1982 |
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Zanoni Store and Post Office (036-0025)

Naxera Post Office (036-0184)

Mason's Gas Station and Store (036-0186)

R. C. Brown General Merchandise (036-0188)

J. B. Ashe and Brother (036-5002)

Virginia State Planning Board. Map of Gloucester County. Richmond, 1939-
1941.

APPENDICES

- Appendix A: Address Report - List of Properties Surveyed by Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VHDR) Number including Property Name and Address
- Appendix B: Survey Index Report - List of Properties Surveyed by USGS Quad Map and VDHR Number including Property Name
- Appendix C: Chronological Report - List of Properties Surveyed by Year/Date, Time Period and VDHR Number including Property Name
- Appendix D: Architectural Style Report - List of Properties Surveyed by Architectural Style, Year/Date, VHDR Number including Property Name
- Appendix E: Historic Contexts Report - List of Properties Surveyed by Historic Context(s) and VDHR Number including Property Name
- Appendix F: Intensive Properties Report - List of Properties Surveyed at the Intensive Level by VDHR Number including Property Name
- Appendix G: Draft Multiple Property Document – Country Stores and Rural Post Offices of Gloucester County, Virginia

APPENDIX A

ADDRESS REPORT

IPS (INTEGRATED PRESERVATION SOFTWARE) GENERATED

| VDHR ID # | PROPERTY NAME | ADDRESS |
|-----------|--|---|
| 036-0025 | Zanoni Store and Post Office | 7452 Baileys Wharf Road (Rt. 626) |
| 036-0184 | Naxera Post Office | Route 614, between house Nos. 9220 & 9238 |
| 036-0186 | Mason's Gas Station and Store | Intersection of Rt. 17 and Rt. 610 |
| 036-0188 | R. C. Brown General Merchandise | Intersection of Rt. 606 and Rt. 605 |
| 036-5002 | J. B. Ashe and Brother G. D. Ashe and Son G. D. Ashe and Son and Perrin Post Office | 2499 Perrin Creek Road (Rt. 1101) |
| 036-5004 | Hall Brothers Store C. B. Rowe and Son | 8850 Guinea Road (Rt. 216) |
| 036-5005 | Robert Jenkins Store | 2480 Maundys Creek Road (Rt. 648) |
| 036-5006 | Jack Williams Store Cox Store | North side of Rt. 648 at intersection of Rt. 649 |
| 036-5007 | Carroll Williams Store Maryus Post Office | 1019 Maryus Road (Rt. 649) |
| 036-5008 | Bland's Store Brock's Store | 2904 Carmines Island Road (Rt. 1303) |
| 036-5009 | Deal's Store Deal's Store and Naxera Post Office | 9275 Robins Neck Road (Rt. 614) |

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| VDHR ID # | PROPERTY NAME | ADDRESS |
|-----------|---|--|
| 036-5010 | J. M. Shackelford's Store and Severn Post Office | 3051 Guinea Circle (Rt. 652) |
| 036-5011 | Woodland's Store and Roanes Post Office | Rt. 629 south of intersection of Rt. 628 |
| 036-5012 | E. C. Sutton and Son Store and Dutton Post Office | Rt. 198 between Rt. 703 & Dancers Creek |
| 036-5013 | Harcum Store and Post Office Hazel's Store | 7485 Dutton Road (Rt. 198) |
| 036-5014 | Pinero Store and Post Office | 10603 Farys Mill Road (Rt. 606) |
| 036-5015 | Adner Store Adner Mart | 12228 George Washington Memorial Hwy (Rt. 17) |
| 036-5016 | Arthur Tab Store Taliaferro Store and Ware Neck Post Office Nuttall and Company and Ware Neck Post Office | 6495 Ware Neck Road (Rt. 629) |
| 036-5017 | James Store Post Office and Store | 10290 John Clayton Memorial Hwy (Rt. 14/3) |
| 036-5018 | Freeport Store and Post Office Freeport Marina | 12068 Freeport Road (Rt. 673) |
| 036-5019 | P. E. Muse Store and Coke Post Office Eddie Minor's Store and Coke Post Office Martin's Corner | 4178 Shelly Road (Rt. 643) |
| 036-5020 | Poland's Store | Rt. 1208 between Rt. 1206 and Roper Road |
| 036-5021 | W. L. Horsley and Son Bellamy Store and Post Office | 6865 Belroi Road (Rt. 616) |
| 036-5022 | Center Fork Store Sphinx Market | 5362 Hickory Fork Road (Rt. 614) |

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| VDHR ID # | PROPERTY NAME | ADDRESS |
|-----------|--|--|
| 036-5023 | Selden Store and Post Office C. W. B. Burkes Store Willows Bed and Breakfast | 8303 Robins Neck Road (Rt. 614) |
| 036-5024 | Mason's Esso Harris Antiques | 8992 George Washington Memorial Hwy (Rt. 17) |
| 036-5025 | E. B. Brown Store and Schley Post Office Schley Post Office | 5578 Ware Neck Road (Rt. 623) |
| 036-5026 | R. P. Gray Store and Signpine Post Office | Intersection of Rt. 610 and Rt. 617 |
| 036-5027 | W. E. and J. Edgar Pointer Store and Bena Post Office Bena Post Office Mo's Stuff Deal Tax Service | 8833 Guinea Road (Rt. 216) |
| 036-5028 | Horsley Store and Short Lane Post Office Roadside Antiques | Intersection of Rt. 17 and Rt. 615 |
| 036-5029 | E. B. Brown and Son General Merchandise C. C. Brown, Inc. | Intersection Rt. 623 & Hockley Wharf Ln |
| 036-5030 | Roanes Store and Post Office | Intersection of Rt. 629 and Rt. 628 |
| 036-5031 | Louis Groh and Son, Inc. | Western Terminus of Rt. 616 |
| 036-5032 | Tazewell Thompson Store Ware Neck Market | 6477 Ware Neck Road (Rt. 623) |
| 036-5033 | Williams Store and Wan Post Office Ware Neck Academy | 7936 John Clayton Memorial Highway (Rt. 14/3) |
| 036-5034 | Trevilian's Store and Naxera Post Office | 4854 Free School Road (Rt. 629) |

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| <u>VDHR ID #</u> | <u>PROPERTY NAME</u> | <u>ADDRESS</u> |
|------------------|---|---|
| 036-5035 | Sassafras Store | Intersection Rt. 614 & Valley Front Lane |
| 036-5036 | Cappahosic Store and Post Office | 3138 Cappahosic Road (Rt. 618) |
| 036-5037 | Weaver Store and Clay Bank Post Office | 5950 Clay Bank Road (Rt. 616) |

APPENDIX B

SURVEY INDEX REPORT - ID#, NAME, USGS MAP

IPS (INTEGRATED PRESERVATION SOFTWARE) GENERATED

| VDHR ID # | PROPERTY NAME | USGS QUAD MAP |
|-----------|--|---------------|
| 036-0184 | Naxera Post Office | ACHILLES |
| 036-5002 | J. B. Ashe and Brother G. D. Ashe and Son G. D. Ashe and Son and Perrin Post Office | ACHILLES |
| 036-5004 | Hall Brothers Store C. B. Rowe and Son | ACHILLES |
| 036-5005 | Robert Jenkins Store | ACHILLES |
| 036-5006 | Jack Williams Store Cox Store | ACHILLES |
| 036-5007 | Carroll Williams Store Maryus Post Office | ACHILLES |
| 036-5009 | Deal's Store Deal's Store and Naxera Post Office | ACHILLES |
| 036-5010 | J. M. Shackelford's Store and Severn Post Office | ACHILLES |
| 036-5020 | Poland's Store | ACHILLES |
| 036-5023 | Selden Store and Post Office C. W. B. Burkes Store Willows Bed and Breakfast | ACHILLES |
| 036-5027 | W. E. and J. Edgar Pointer Store and Bena Post Office Bena Post Office Mo's Stuff Deal Tax Service | ACHILLES |
| 036-5034 | Trevilian's Store and Naxera Post Office | ACHILLES |

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| VDHR ID # | PROPERTY NAME | USGS QUAD MAP |
|-----------|---|---------------|
| 036-5008 | Bland's Store Brock's Store | CLAY BANK |
| 036-5011 | Woodland's Store and Roanes Post Office | CLAY BANK |
| 036-5019 | P. E. Muse Store and Coke Post Office Minor Store and Coke Post Office Martin's Corner | CLAY BANK |
| 036-5022 | Center Fork Store Sphinx Market | CLAY BANK |
| 036-5030 | Roanes Store and Post Office | CLAY BANK |
| 036-5031 | Louis Groh and Son, Inc. | CLAY BANK |
| 036-5037 | Weaver Store and Clay Bank Post Office | CLAY BANK |
| 036-0186 | Mason's Gas Station and Store | GLOUCESTER |
| 036-0188 | R. C. Brown General Merchandise | GLOUCESTER |
| 036-5014 | Pinero Store and Post Office | GLOUCESTER |
| 036-5021 | W. L. Horsley and Son Bellamy Store and Post Office | GLOUCESTER |
| 036-5024 | Mason's Esso Harris Antiques | GLOUCESTER |
| 036-5028 | Horsley Store and Short Lane Post Office Roadside Antiques | GLOUCESTER |
| 036-5033 | Williams Store and Wan Post Office Ware Neck Academy | GLOUCESTER |
| 036-5035 | Sassafras Store | GLOUCESTER |
| 036-5015 | Adner Store Adner Mart | GRESSITT |

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| VDHR ID # | PROPERTY NAME | USGS QUAD MAP |
|-----------|---|---------------|
| 036-5026 | R. P. Gray Store and Signpine Post Office | GRESSITT |
| 036-5036 | Cappahosic Store and Post Office | GRESSITT |
| 036-5013 | Harcum Store and Post Office Hazel's Store | SALUDA |
| 036-5018 | Freeport Store and Post Office Freeport Marina | SALUDA |
| 036-0025 | Zanoni Store and Post Office | WARE NECK |
| 036-5012 | E. C. Sutton and Son Store and Dutton Post Office | WARE NECK |
| 036-5016 | Arthur Tab Store Taliaferro Store and Ware Neck Post Office Nuttall and Company and Ware Neck Post Office | WARE NECK |
| 036-5017 | James Store Post Office and Store | WARE NECK |
| 036-5025 | E. B. Brown Store and Schley Post Office Schley Post Office | WARE NECK |
| 036-5029 | E. B. Brown and Son General Merchandise C. C. Brown, Inc. | WARE NECK |
| 036-5032 | Tazewell Thompson Store Ware Neck Market | WARE NECK |

APPENDIX C

CHRONOLOGICAL/TIME PERIOD REPORT

IPS (INTEGRATED PRESERVATION SOFTWARE) GENERATED

| VDHR ID # | YEAR | PROPERTY NAME | TIME PERIOD |
|-----------|---------|---|--|
| 036-5030 | 1870 ca | Roanes Store and Post Office | Reconstruction and Growth (1865 - 1917) |
| 036-5032 | 1870 ca | Tazewell Thompson Store Ware Neck Market | Reconstruction and Growth (1865 - 1917) |
| 036-5016 | 1875 ca | Arthur Tab Store Taliaferro Store and Ware Neck Post Office Nuttall and Company and Ware Neck Post Office | Reconstruction and Growth (1865 - 1917) |
| 036-5010 | 1875 | J. M. Shackelford's Store and Severn Post Office | Reconstruction and Growth (1865 - 1917) |

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| VDHR ID # | YEAR | PROPERTY NAME | TIME PERIOD |
|-----------|---------|---|---|
| 036-5002 | 1880 ca | J. B. Ashe and Brother G. D. Ashe and Son G. D. Ashe and Son and Perrin Post Office | Reconstruction and Growth (1865 - 1917) |
| 036-5004 | 1880 ca | Hall Brothers Store C. B. Rowe and Son | Reconstruction and Growth (1865 - 1917) |
| 036-5014 | 1880 ca | Pinero Store and Post Office | Reconstruction and Growth (1865 - 1917) |
| 036-5036 | 1880 ca | Cappahosic Store and Post Office | Reconstruction and Growth (1865 - 1917) |
| 036-0025 | 1885 | Zanoni Store and Post Office | Reconstruction and Growth (1865 - 1917) |
| 036-5023 | 1888 | Selden Store and Post Office C. W. B. Burkes Store Willows Bed and Breakfast | Reconstruction and Growth Growth (1865 - 1917) |

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| VDHR ID # | YEAR | PROPERTY NAME | TIME PERIOD |
|-----------|---------|--|--|
| 036-5034 | 1890 ca | Trevillian's Store and Naxera Post Office | Reconstruction and Growth (1865 - 1917) |
| 036-5026 | 1894 | R. P. Gray Store and Signpine Post Office | Reconstruction and Growth (1865 - 1917) |
| 036-5019 | 1895 | P. E. Muse Store and Coke Post Office Eddie Minor's Store and Coke Post Office Martin's Corner | Reconstruction and Growth (1865 - 1917) |
| 036-5009 | 1900 ca | Deal's Store Deal's Store and Naxera Post Office | Reconstruction and Growth (1865 - 1917) |
| 036-5013 | 1920 ca | Harcum Store and Post Office Hazel's Store | Reconstruction and Growth (1865 - 1917) |
| 036-5018 | 1900 ca | Freeport Store and Post Office Freeport Marina | Reconstruction and Growth (1865 - 1917) |
| 036-5025 | 1900 ca | E. B. Brown Store and Schley Post Office Schley Post Office | Reconstruction and Growth (1865 - 1917) |

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| VDHR ID # | YEAR | PROPERTY NAME | TIME PERIOD |
|-----------|-----------|---|--|
| 036-5027 | 1904 | W. E. and J. Edgar Pointer Store and Bena Post Office Bena Post Office Mo's Stuff Deal Tax Service | Reconstruction and Growth (1865 - 1917) |
| 036-5037 | 1907 | Weaver Store and Clay Bank Post Office | Reconstruction and Growth (1865 - 1917) |
| 036-5033 | 1918-1920 | Williams Store and Wan Post Office Ware Neck Academy | World War I to World War II (1917 - 1945) |
| 036-0186 | 1920 ca | Mason's Gas Station and Store | World War I to World War II (1917 - 1945) |
| 036-0188 | 1920 ca | R. C. Brown General Merchandise | World War I to World War II (1917 - 1945) |
| 036-5012 | 1920 ca | E. C. Sutton and Son Store and Dutton Post Office | World War I to World War II (1917 - 1945) |

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| VDHR ID # | YEAR | PROPERTY NAME | TIME PERIOD |
|-----------|---------|---|--|
| 036-5015 | 1920 ca | Adner Store Adner Mart | World War I to World War II (1917 - 1945) |
| 036-5021 | 1920 ca | W. L. Horsley and Son Bellamy Store and Post Office | World War I to World War II (1917 - 1945) |
| 036-5022 | 1920 ca | Center Fork Store Sphinx Market | World War I to World War II (1917 - 1945) |
| 036-5024 | 1920 ca | Mason's Esso Harris Antiques | World War I to World War II (1917 - 1945) |
| 036-5028 | 1920 ca | Horsley Store and Short Lane Post Office Roadside Antiques | World War I to World War II (1917 - 1945) |
| 036-5031 | 1920 ca | Louis Groh and Son, Inc. | World War I to World War II (1917 - 1945) |
| 036-5017 | 1925 | James Store Post Office and Store | World War I to World War II (1917 - 1945) |

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| VDHR ID # | YEAR | PROPERTY NAME | TIME PERIOD |
|-----------|-----------|--|--|
| 036-5035 | 1930 ca | Sassafras Store | World War I to World War II (1917 - 1945) |
| 036-5020 | 1932-1933 | Poland's Store | World War I to World War II (1917 - 1945) |
| 036-5006 | 1937 | Jack Williams Store Cox Store | World War I to World War II (1917 - 1945) |
| 036-5007 | 1939 | Carroll Williams Store Maryus Post Office | World War I to World War II (1917 - 1945) |
| 036-5029 | 1946 | E. B. Brown and Son General Merchandise C. C. Brown, Inc. | The New Dominion (1945 - Present) |
| 036-5005 | 1950 ca | Robert Jenkins Store | The New Dominion (1945 - Present) |
| 036-5011 | 1950 | Woodland's Store and Roanes Post Office | The New Dominion (1945 - Present) |

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| VDHR ID # | YEAR | PROPERTY NAME | TIME PERIOD |
|-----------|-----------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 036-5008 | 1955-1960 | Bland's Store Brock's Store | The New Dominion (1945 - Present) |
| 036-0184 | 1974 | Naxera Post Office | The New Dominion (1945 - Present) |

APPENDIX D

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE REPORT

IPS (INTEGRATED PRESERVATION SOFTWARE) GENERATED

| VDHR ID # | PROPERTY NAME | YEAR | ARCHITECTURAL STYLE |
|-----------|---|---------|---|
| 036-5026 | R. P. Gray Store and Signpine Post Office | 1894 | Late 19 th and 20 th Century Revivals |
| 036-5025 | E. B. Brown Store and Schley Post Office Schley Post Office | 1900 ca | Late 19 th and 20 th Century Revivals |
| 036-5037 | Weaver Store and Clay Bank Post Office* *each building on site was given an architectural style | 1907 | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements Late 19 th and 20 th Century Revivals Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5016 | Arthur Tab Store Taliaferro Store and Ware Neck Post Office Nuttall and Company and Ware Neck Post Office | 1870 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |

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| VDHR ID # | PROPERTY NAME | YEAR | ARCHITECTURAL STYLE |
|-----------|---|---------|--|
| 036-5030 | Roanes Store and Post Office | 1870 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5032 | Tazewell Thompson Store Ware Neck Market | 1870 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5010 | J. M. Shackelford's Store and Severn Post Office | 1875 | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5002 | J. B. Ashe and Brother G. D. Ashe and Son G. D. Ashe and Son and Perrin Post Office | 1880 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5004 | Hall Brothers Store C. B. Rowe and Son | 1880 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5014 | Pinero Store and Post Office | 1880 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5036 | Cappahosic Store and Post Office | 1880 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |

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| VDHR ID # | PROPERTY NAME | YEAR | ARCHITECTURAL STYLE |
|-----------|--|---------|--|
| 036-0025 | Zanoni Store and Post Office | 1885 | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5023 | Selden Store and Post Office C. W. B. Burkes Store Willows Bed and Breakfast | 1888 | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5034 | Trevilian's Store and Naxera Post Office | 1890 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5019 | P. E. Muse Store and Coke Post Office Eddie Minor's Store and Coke Post Office Martin's Corner | 1895 | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5009 | Deal's Store Deal's Store and Naxera Post Office | 1900 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5018 | Freeport Store and Post Office Freeport Marina | 1900 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |

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| VDHR ID # | PROPERTY NAME | YEAR | ARCHITECTURAL STYLE |
|-----------|---|-----------|--|
| 036-5027 | W. E. and J. Edgar Pointer Store and Bena Post Office Bena Post Office Mo's Stuff Deal Tax Service | 1904 | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5033 | Williams Store and Wan Post Office Ware Neck Academy | 1918-1920 | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-0186 | Mason's Gas Station and Store | 1920 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-0188 | R. C. Brown General Merchandise | 1920 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5012 | E. C. Sutton and Son Store and Dutton Post Office | 1920 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5013 | Harcum Store and Post Office Hazel's Store | 1920 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5015 | Adner Store Adner Mart | 1920 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |

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| VDHR ID # | PROPERTY NAME | YEAR | ARCHITECTURAL STYLE |
|-----------|---|-----------|--|
| 036-5021 | W. L. Horsley and Son Bellamy Store and Post Office | 1920 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5022 | Center Fork Store Sphinx Market | 1920 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5024 | Mason's Esso Harris Antiques | 1920 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5028 | E. B. Brown Store and Short Lane Post Office Roadside Antiques | 1920 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5031 | Louis Groh and Son, Inc. | 1920 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5017 | James Store Post Office and Store | 1925 | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5035 | Sassafras Store | 1930 ca | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5020 | Poland's Store | 1932-1933 | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |

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| VDHR ID # | PROPERTY NAME | YEAR | ARCHITECTURAL STYLE |
|-----------|--|-----------|--|
| 036-5006 | Jack Williams Store Cox Store | 1937 | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5007 | Carroll Williams Store Maryus Post Office | 1939 | Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements |
| 036-5029 | E. B. Brown and Son General Merchandise C. C. Brown, Inc. | 1946 | Other |
| 036-5011 | Woodland's Store and Roanes Post Office | 1950 | Other |
| 036-5005 | Robert Jenkins Store | 1950 ca | Other |
| 036-5008 | Bland's Store Brock's Store | 1955-1960 | Other |
| 036-0184 | Naxera Post Office | 1974 | Other |

APPENDIX E

HISTORIC CONTEXTS REPORT

| <u>VDHR #</u> | <u>PROPERTY NAME</u> | <u>HISTORIC CONTEXTS</u> |
|---------------|---|--|
| 036-0025 | Zanoni Store and Post Office | Domestic Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5014 | Pinero Store and Post Office | Domestic Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5016 | Arthur Tab Store Taliaferro Store and Ware Neck Post Office Nuttall and Company and Ware Neck Post Office | Domestic Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5018 | Freeport Store and Post Office Freeport Marina | Domestic Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5021 | W. L. Horsley and Son Bellamy Store and Post Office | Domestic Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5030 | Roanes Store and Post Office | Domestic Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5032 | Tazewell Thompson Store Ware Neck Market | Domestic Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |

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| VDHR # | PROPERTY NAME | HISTORIC CONTEXTS |
|----------|---|--|
| 036-5033 | Williams Store and Wan Post Office Ware Neck Academy | Domestic Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5034 | Trevilian's Store and Naxera Post Office | Domestic Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5036 | Cappahosic Store and Post Office | Domestic Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5037 | Weaver Store and Clay Bank Post Office | Domestic Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5004 | Hall Brothers Store C. B. Rowe and Son | Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5007 | Carroll Williams Store Maryus Post Office | Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5012 | E. C. Sutton and Son Store and Dutton Post Office | Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5013 | Harcum Store and Post Office Hazel's Store | Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5017 | James Store Post Office and Store | Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |

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| VDHR # | PROPERTY NAME | HISTORIC CONTEXTS |
|----------|--|--|
| 036-5019 | P. E. Muse Store and Coke Post Office Minor Store and Coke Post Office Martin's Corner | Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5025 | E. B. Brown Store and Schley Post Office Schley Post Office | Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5028 | Horsley Store and Short Lane Post Office Roadside Antiques | Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5029 | E. B. Brown and Son General Merchandise C. C. Brown, Inc. | Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-0186 | Mason's Gas Station and Store | Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5005 | Robert Jenkins Store | Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5006 | Jack Williams Store Cox Store | Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5015 | Adner Store Adner Mart | Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5024 | Mason's Esso Harris Antiques | Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5035 | Sassafras Store | Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5002 | J. B. Ashe and Brother G. D. Ashe and Son G. D. Ashe and Son and Perrin Post Office | Domestic Government/Law/Political Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5009 | Deal's Store Deal's Store and Naxera Post Office | Domestic Government/Law/Political Commerce/Trade |

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| VDHR # | PROPERTY NAME | HISTORIC CONTEXTS |
|----------|---|--|
| 036-5011 | Woodland's Store and Roanes Post Office | Government/Law/Political Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5027 | W. E. and J. Edgar Pointer Store and Bena Post Office Bena Post Office Mo's Stuff Deal Tax Service | Government/Law/Political Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5020 | Poland's Store | Commerce/Trade |
| 036-0188 | R. C. Brown General Merchandise | Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5023 | Selden Store and Post Office C. W. B. Burkes Store Willows Bed and Breakfast | Domestic Government/Law/Political Religion Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5026 | R. P. Gray and Signpine Post Office | Domestic Government/Law/Political Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade Industry/Processing/Extraction |
| 036-5031 | Louis Groh and Son, Inc. | Government/Law/Political Subsistence/Agriculture Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5010 | J. M. Shackelford's Store and Severn Post Office | Government/Law/Political Social Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5022 | Center Fork Store Sphinx Market | Domestic Transportation/Communication Commerce/Trade |
| 036-5008 | Bland's Store Brock's Store | Domestic Commerce/Trade |
| 036-0184 | Naxera Post Office | Government/Law/Political |

APPENDIX F

INTENSIVE PROPERTIES REPORT

| VDHR # | PROPERTY NAME |
|---------------|---|
| 036-5004 | Hall Brothers Store C. B. Rowe and Son |
| 036-5010 | J. M. Shackelford's Store and Severn Post Office |
| 036-5016 | Arthur Tab Store Taliaferro Store and Ware Neck Post Office Nuttall and Company and Ware Neck Post Office |
| 036-5017 | James Store Post Office and Store |
| 036-5018 | Freeport Store and Post Office Freeport Marina |
| 036-5019 | P. E. Muse Store and Coke Post Office Minor Store and Coke Post Office Martin's Corner |
| 036-5025 | E. B. Brown Store and Schley Post Office Schley Post Office |
| 036-5026 | R. P. Gray Store and Signpine Post Office |
| 036-5027 | W. E. and J. Edgar Pointer Store and Bena Post Office Bena Post Office Mo's Stuff Deal Tax Service |
| 036-5028 | Horsley Store and Short Lane Post Office Roadside Antiques |

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**National Register of Historic Places
Multiple Property Documentation Form**

This form is used for documenting multiple property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form (National Register Bulletin 16B). Complete each item by entering the requested information. For additional space, use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

New Submission Amended Submission

A. Name of Multiple Property Listing

Country Stores and Rural Post Offices of Gloucester County, Virginia

B. Associated Historic Contexts

(Name each associated historic context, identifying theme, geographical area, and chronological period for each.)

Reconstruction and Growth of the Rural Waterfront Communities in Gloucester County, Virginia (1866 – 1920)
Inland Communities and Their Relationship to the Waterfront in Gloucester County (1866 – 1935)
Impact of the Automobile on the Rural Community in Gloucester County (1920 – 1945)
Post-War Prosperity to Late 20th Century Decline of the Rural Community in Gloucester County (1946 – 1975)

C. Form Prepared by

name/title Kimble A. David, Architectural Historian

street & number P.O. Box 7638 telephone (757) 623 – 2752

city or town Norfolk state Virginia zip code 23509-0638

D. Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature and title of certifying official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

I hereby certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Table of Contents for Written Narrative

Provide the following information on continuation sheets. Cite the letter and the title before each section of the narrative. Assign page numbers according to the instructions for continuation sheets in How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form (National Register Bulletin 16B). Fill in page numbers for each section in the space below.

| | Page Numbers |
|--|--------------------|
| E. Statement of Historic Contexts (If more than one historic context is documented, present them in sequential order.) | E-1 to E-10 |
| F. Associated Property Types (Provide description, significance, and registration requirements.) | F-1 |
| G. Geographical Data | G-1 |
| H. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods (Discuss the methods used in developing the multiple property listing.) | H-1 to H-4 |
| I. Major Bibliographical References (List major written works and primary location of additional documentation: State Historic Preservation Office, other State agency, Federal agency, local government, university, or other, specifying repository.) | I-1 to I-3 |

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 120 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Statement of Historic Contexts

Introduction

The theme of County Stores and Rural Post Offices in Gloucester County, Virginia predates the period examined, but only those constructed after the Civil War remain and may be considered for these Historic Contexts. The only remaining country stores are those surveyed and listed in Section H. The chronological period selected is based upon store dates and their influences by particular periods and events in history. Their geography also plays an important role in their assignment of Historic Contexts. Country stores and rural post offices are found throughout Gloucester County, which comprises approximately 143,000 acres. The county is located in the southeastern portion of Virginia on the west side of the Chesapeake Bay. It is bound by rivers to the south and west and the Chesapeake Bay to the east.

History of Period Prior to Chronological Periods Defined in Historic Contexts

Gloucester County, Virginia's history dates to the time of the Jamestown settlement of 1607. On its southern shores was a royal village of Powhatan, chief of the local Indians, and father of Pocahontas. It is alleged that young Pocahontas saved the life of John Smith, a colonial settler at this royal village. By the mid-17th century, land grants were given to gentry-farmers to farm the rich land in Gloucester County.

Gloucester County is located north across the York River from Yorktown, Virginia. John Smith, upon a mapping expedition described Gloucester County, "Heaven and earth never framed better for man's habitation."¹ This is what prompted many colonial settlers and gentry farmers to plant tobacco in the fertile soil.

The earliest land grants were given in the early 1640s in what was then known as Charles River County. Shortly afterward, Charles River County was divided and Gloucester County became a part of York County. Finally in 1651, Gloucester County

¹ Sinclair, Caroline Baytop, Gloucester's Past in Pictures, The Donning Company Publishers, Virginia Beach, 1911, 10.

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was formed and separated from York County. Four parishes were established: Abingdon, Kingston, Petsworth, and Ware. In 1791, the Kingston parish became Mathews County and was carved from the northern portion of Gloucester County. The name, Gloucester, has two possible derivations, of which neither has been confirmed. Gloucester County may have been named for Henry, Duke of Gloucester, the third son of Charles I or for the County of Gloucester, in England.

Plantation houses were constructed mainly near Gloucester County's shores, which facilitated the transportation of their agricultural products. Rosewell, one of the most prominent and grand plantation houses of the 18th century entertained many distinguished Americans, including Thomas Jefferson. Ancestors of George Washington, Robert E. Lee and Queen Elizabeth II are buried at the plantation cemetery of Warner Hall. There are also two Colonial churches located in Gloucester County. Abingdon Episcopal Church is a cruciform-plan church located along the major north-south route.

Early maps from the 17th century show the importance of Gloucester County's many creeks and rivers. They served to transport goods from colonial plantations and were the main source of traveling for Gloucester County's citizens. Early rivers and creeks marked on these maps retain original names of some prominent Virginians, such as Seavorne (Severn) River, Cedar Bush Creek, Karters Creek, Claybank Creek, and Bennits (Bennetts) Creek.

Gloucester County remained mostly rural farmland in the 19th century. Small villages dotted the few dirt roads that connected small communities and plantations. Most communities were clustered at Tyndall's or Gloucester Point, the southernmost point in the county. They relied mainly on the shipping of seafood, fish, and agricultural goods. Agricultural goods were transported from the plantations to waterfront villages for shipping to more urban areas, such as Baltimore and Norfolk. These goods were transported via early steamships.

Steamships played an important role during the antebellum period. They facilitated the transportation of goods, passengers, mail, and local resources. While land routes had been established, they were slower and more tedious for traveling. Steamships were

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able to transport goods in day and were the most convenient form of travel. Since Gloucester County was mostly an agrarian society and there were no urban areas, the steamship provided contact with larger ports. This was important to the economy of Gloucester County, since its stability depended on the export of its resources and import of items not available in the County. Many coastal stores had multiple roles, as they were responsible for shipping agricultural goods, distributing goods to inland stores, and functioning as a local store. Not every store either on the waterfront or inland served these multiple functions. This is especially seen in the stores constructed after the Civil War.

Besides functioning as a market for local watermen and farmers, the stores also provided a location for social interaction and a meeting place for the widely scattered population. This became important after the Civil War with the establishment of post offices, which brought in daily traffic.

The Civil War isolated Gloucester County, as steamships no longer traveled on the many rivers surrounding it. This prevented transportation of goods to and from Gloucester County. As the communities began to revive after the Civil War, the reestablishment of the steamship routes aided in the rebirth. Work recommenced at the plantations and more regional resources were harvested for export along the waterways.

Reconstruction and Growth of the Rural Waterfront Communities in Gloucester County (1866 – 1920)

Shortly after the end of the Civil War, steamships that traveled on the rivers surrounding Gloucester County resumed their service to the waterfront communities. The route from West Point, Virginia to Baltimore, Maryland, which stopped on the banks of the York River in Gloucester County, was reestablished in 1865. This was the most important of the steamship routes that landed on Gloucester County's shores. This route delivered mail and goods, which were then distributed to the middle of the county to the rural communities. Other steamship lines that traveled on the northern and eastern rivers facilitated the transportation of similar goods to northern and eastern communities.

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Prior to the outbreak of the Civil War, there were four post offices established in Gloucester County. Three of them were land-locked; Gloucester Courthouse, Wood's Cross Roads, and Glenss. The fourth was located at a steamship stop at the midpoint of the county's boundary on its east side along the York River. This Colonial town, Cappahosic, has a long history that dates to an early land grant. By 1920, the end date of this Historic Context, the number of post offices increased ten-fold. This is due to the supplementary income and marketability of a post office. Since mail was not delivered, customers were required to pick up their mail at the store. This enabled the storeowner to have a constant flow of traffic in his establishment.

The earliest existing stores in Gloucester County are located on its eastern side. Two are located across the street from one another in a village on Ware Neck. This area was served by Hockley's Wharf located to the south on the Ware River. According to local oral history, a steamship stopped on the Ware River and unloaded its wares and mail for distribution. The two early stores in Ware Neck, Arthur Tab Store and Tazewell Thompson Store, served the entire neck. It is not until the early 20th century that the neck began to sprout other organized towns with post offices. Even with these additions in the early part of the 20th century, there was ample commerce available for multiple commercial interests. This is evident at Ware Neck. The earlier store is the Tazewell Thompson Store, and, according to local history, Arthur Tab built his store shortly after the opening of Tazewell Thompson's. The second owner of the Arthur Tab store initiated the post office in the 1880s. The advantage of the post office in the rural country store was the contact with the outside world. Postmasters, though, controlled the post office, not store owners, unless the storeowner was the postmaster. In many cases, the post office moved to another store upon the postmaster's retirement or death. This maintained the post office and also shifted the stability of the country store from one to the other. Similar situations existed in Bena, Virginia with the Hall Brothers Store, and W. E. and J. Edgar Pointer Store and Bena Post Office.

Another type of store in this Historic Context served their local population and travelers whom the steamships carried. Both the Freeport Store and Post Office, and Roanes Store and Post Office had boarding space on their upper stories for passengers on local steamships. The Weaver Store and Clay Bank Post Office had a separate building constructed at the turn of the century for steamship passengers. In these cases the

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function of the rural country store increased, serving more than only local residents. All of these buildings are on or near the waterfront and as their functions expanded it became necessary to increase the space in or around the store. In two cases, the buildings were expanded by additions, and in some cases, multiple additions. These stores bustled with activity at all hours to serve their multiple functions.

The waterfront stores also expanded to not only serve passengers, but also to ship local crops. One of the largest of these stores which is no longer extant is Allmond's Wharf. The wharf extended a half-mile into the York River. Grains and other local products, such as timber, were shipped from it. An extant example of large-scale shipping is Louis Groh, who operated a granary behind his store on the banks of the York River. After Weaver sold his store to Groh in the early 20th century, Groh expanded the complex to ship grains from the inland farms. As in all these cases, once the steamship travel was discontinued, these stores no longer had a means to transport products and lost their shipping clientele.

Other stores in this Historic Context just served their local populations, and benefited from water-related occupations. Fishing, oyster harvesting, and crabbing, along with cold storage were active along the waterways. Numerous small villages with stores sprouted near the waterfront to accommodate the local population.

Inland Communities and Their Relationship to the Waterfront in Gloucester County (1866 – 1920)

The inland communities were dependent on the land-routes, which connected their villages with the waterfront villages. Main routes in Gloucester County are Rt. 17, the main north-south road; Rt. 14/3, which connects Gloucester Courthouse with Mathews County; and Rt. 198, the main east-west route. Rt. 17 is the main road in Gloucester County and almost every road eventually connects with Rt. 17. This system of roads is organized according to the travel between waterfront villages and other inland communities. More frequently traveled roads are those that are fed by roads leading from waterfront villages. This system of roads was favorable to 19th and early 20th century travel by non-motorized means.

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The nine stores discussed in this Historic Context are grouped into two categories; those that have a direct relationship with the waterfront villages and those that had no direct relationship with the waterfront. Those that had a relationship with the waterfront villages date to the period prior to the turn of the 20th century. These stores depended on the waterfront villages to deliver their supplies, goods, and mail. They also served as the liaison between the local farmers and the waterfront village store to ship local agricultural products. Those without a direct relationship with a waterfront village served their local community.

Of the nine stores that fall into this category, two have no direct relationship with the waterfront. James Store Post Office and Store was the former site of the Clerk of Court for Gloucester County (that dates to the 1600s). A brick building was constructed in the 1600s and housed the clerk, a tavern and boarding house. Though the brick building no longer stands, a store has been maintained on this site for over 400 years. The current store replaced the brick store when it burned in the 1920s. The other store in this category, Williams Store and Wan Post Office, was one of the largest stores in Gloucester County. Comparatively, it only dates to 1918 and was the midpoint between James Store and Gloucester Courthouse. Neither serve their original purpose, but their landmark locations on the main route east, Rt. 14/3, to Mathews County mark a period when early land travel between counties was frequent.

Other stores in this category have a direct relationship to the waterfront and most are located east or west of the main north-south route, which bisects Gloucester County. One of the most prominent is the R. P. Gray Store and Signpine Post Office. R. P. Gray constructed a store and founded the village of Signpine (named for a large pine tree covered with tobacco signs at the intersection). R. P. Gray was involved in the lumber business and operated a planing mill to the west of the store. The store contains the main store space, a small post office space and an office for the lumber business. The upper story of this building was housing for the Gray family. Lumber was planed at the mill and shipped to Allmond's Wharf located to the southeast on the York River. Other types of lumber unavailable in Gloucester County were also shipped to R. P. Gray's Store from the York River at Allmond's Wharf. R. P. Gray Store also received its mail and other types of merchandise from Allmond's Wharf. This symbiotic relationship allowed both stores to prosper. Their decline occurred simultaneously when steamship

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travel dissipated in the 1930s due to the advancements in the automobile and expanded trucking. Though both these establishments operated after the discontinuance of the steamship lines until the 1960s, they only served the local population.

A similar situation occurred between the Cappahosic Store, and the Pinero Store and R. C. Brown General Merchandise. Mail and goods were transported from Cappahosic by horse-drawn carriage to the inlaying areas. Prior to the use of the automobile, these inland areas were remote and served the local population. The dissemination of information and goods to these areas was dependent on the steamships even miles away. These two stores, Pinero and R. C. Brown, are in close proximity to one another and were able to coexist within their community. This is also the case with the area known as Robins Neck. The village of Naxera was founded here and this area was supplied from wharves to the northwest and southwest. Like Pinero and R. C. Brown, once the automobile had inundated the American daily routine, these stores were competing with larger and less expensive stores. Their last stand, like the others in this Historic Context, occurred in the 1960s and as late as the early 1970s.

Impact of the Automobile on the Rural Communities in Gloucester County (1920 – 1940)

The turn of the 20th century brought about advancements in technology that impacted the lives of every American and changed the way Americans thought about traditional modes of living. The automobile would be the invention of the late 19th century that would change the face of the American landscape and Americans' daily routines.

The 1920s were the beginning of mass acceptance of the automobile due to increased growth of the automobile industry and the demand for automobiles by the middle and working classes. While the automobile was invented in the late 19th century, it did not achieve prominence until the 1910s. The automobile was first mass produced in 1914. In 1916 under the Federal Highway act, roads were to be paved for automobile use. The pavement of highways did not begin until approximately 1920. During the 1920s, the automobile gained its popularity. This coincided with the National wealth that developed between 1910 and 1920. This increased wealth led to the extension of credit in the mid-to late-1920s. 1929 was the height of automobile use. Highways had been

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paved, and almost every American family owned a car, the automobile industry was building five times as many automobiles as it had in 1914, and 23 million cars were on the road.

Land routes, which had been originally used to connect waterfront and inland communities, and used predominantly by horse-travel, were being occupied by automobiles. Most were seen along the major north-south route (Rt. 17) and east-west routes (Rt. 198 and Rt. 14/3). Travel was more convenient between communities by automobile and stores were constructed along the major routes to accommodate the automobile travel. Since numerous stores were located on the waterfront, they were quite a distance from the main roads. They were unable to compete with stores located directly on the main routes. These newer stores were also no longer dependent on the steamship to receive their goods and mail. Trucking enabled local farmers and timber mills to transport their local resources independently. This led to the demise of the steamship and the waterfront villages and stores.

The new country stores located along major routes were constructed to cater to the automobile. Gasoline, which was stored at the rear of the store in metal drums, was transformed into shiny pumps at the front. These hand-operated marvels allow the convenience of fueling, which in turn echoed the need for convenience in its housing. This led to the rise of a more "modern" country store.

These country stores are very similar in style and form. Minor differences include; number of stories, roof type, size, and height. Their similarities are more striking and join them together as a specific type. Most of the stores grouped in this category have a porch, which extends from the main façade over a poured concrete floor. The gas pumps were located between the porch roof supports and allowed for two vehicles to be serviced at the same time.

Their focus is different from the traditional country stores that dot the rural countryside. Their focal point is the automobile, and secondarily, the country store and post office. Many of these "modern" buildings replaced late 19th century stores or were constructed in direct competition with their predecessors. While traditional country stores added gas pumps to the front of the buildings, their focus was still the country store.

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The "modern" stores are located along major routes within the county. Route 17, which is the main north-south route that bisects the county, is dotted with four of the ten country stores that qualify in this category. Most are located in rural towns established prior to the construction of these stores and were in direct competition with a neighboring store at the intersection. The other five stores are located along subsidiary roads that feed Route 17 and serve their small communities. One of the ten was constructed in the late 1930s and not only served as a gas station and country store, but is the only store of the group which was constructed with garage bays to service vehicles.

Post-War Prosperity to Late 20th Century Decline of the Rural Community in Gloucester County (1946 – 1975)

Most of the stores during this period date to the years between 1946 to 1955. After World War II, the communities were revived by the return of the soldiers and the new financial stability of the post-World War II period. This era bred new entrepreneurs who opened stores that were more modern to compete with the long established late 19th century stores.

These stores are characterized by modern construction methods. Two are constructed of concrete block. The others are of frame construction and are clad with modern vertical board. They retain, though, traditional gable roofs. They preserve the minimal building styles of their predecessors and are not elaborately decorated. Their simplicity in style is reflective of the modern minimal movement and also the rural nature of life in these areas. Locals knew each store and were dependent on the post office for their mail, therefore their patronage was essential.

Of the five stores in this category, all were built in direct competition with early existing stores. In many cases, the postmaster moved the post office from the longer established store to the new store, which afforded longer post office accessibility. In one case, a store was established to compete with another, and one was built to replace a store that had been burned. In all these cases, at the time the store was constructed, it and the community were still viable. This would not last for many years

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as new development along the major roadways would offer more appealing goods, convenience of modern shopping, and lower prices.

Though these late entrepreneurs attempted to revive the rural standard in shopping, late 20th century means of shopping and acquiring mail were transforming the rural landscape. Shopping centers were being developed along George Washington Memorial Highway (Rt. 17) to accommodate automobile travel. Stores along the established route were also being suffocated by the new development. It is in the more remote areas that the revival occurred. Without avail, these stores closed only after approximately one to two decades in operation. By the 1970s, most of the stores were closed and mail was the only focus keeping the buildings occupied. As postmasters retired, post offices were closed during this period, closing more stores.

Conclusion

What links all these buildings together is their similarity in history as a reflection of the changes in American rural life. While the country store remained the staple of rural American life in the late 19th and early 20th century, the invention of the automobile would catapult country stores to the forefront and subsequently strangle their existence in rural life. The height of rural country store life was the years prior to the mass production of the automobile. The impact of the automobile caused the most development in rural Gloucester County in the early 20th century.

The many aspects of Gloucester County's Country Stores and Rural Post Offices have a common function in that they served their local population. Whether it was through providing goods and services or aiding in the transportation of crops or the bounty of the rivers, the stores provided stability to their individual communities. They were a place of meeting for local residents and a forum to discuss news, economic concerns, or local life and events. While not many remain operating in their original functions, their essence remains in their existence and individual history.

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Associated Property Types

Name of Property Type: COUNTRY STORES AND RURAL POST OFFICES OF
GLOUCESTER COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Qualifications for Listing

Buildings that qualify listing in the property type must firstly be located in Gloucester County. They, secondly, must have once operated as a country store, which is defined as a commercial concern that served a community named or unnamed. It may have contained a post office, but this is not a requirement for listing. The building must be standing and must retain moderate architectural integrity. It must also fall within one of the Associated Historic Contexts listed in Section B of the Multiple Property Document.

National Register Criteria for Evaluation

These buildings are considered under:

- Criteria A: Properties that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- Criteria C: Properties that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

There are no criteria exceptions.

There are seven elements¹ that determine whether properties retain their historic integrity. The buildings in this group qualify under the Feeling, Location, Setting, and Workmanship elements. The first three elements reflect directly on Criteria A, which is described in the Statement of Historic Contexts in Section E. The last element, Workmanship, is associated with Criteria C, listed above. These buildings were constructed in a rural setting and reflect simplicity of design and functionality. In some cases, there is an attempt to decorate the building, but buildings with decoration are few.

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The buildings as a group would meet the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places using Criteria A and C.

¹ Seven Elements which determine if a property retains historic integrity:

- Association: The direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property or district.
- Design: The combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property or district.
- Feeling: A property or district's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time.
- Location: The place where the historic property or district was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred.
- Materials: The physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property or district.
- Setting: The physical environment of a historic property or district.
- Workmanship: The physical evidence of the crafts or a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory.

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Geographical Data

The geographical boundaries of the multiple property listing of Gloucester County Country Stores and Rural Post Offices are the boundaries designated by the County of Gloucester located in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The area covered is approximately 143,000 acres and is bordered by the York River to the south and east, Mobjack Bay and the Chesapeake Bay to the west, Matthews County to the west, Piankatank River to the north, King and Queen County to the west, and Middlesex County to the north.

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Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods

Identification Methods

The multiple property listing of historic country stores and rural post offices of Gloucester County is based upon an inventory of buildings identified as significant to Gloucester County's history by the Gloucester County Historical Committee in 1997. Through a cost-share agreement with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) and the Gloucester County Historical Committee, thirty-nine stores were inventoried and documented in late 1997 and early 1998. Initially, twenty-three stores were designated as required for study by the Gloucester County Historical Committee. An additional ten were added to the request for proposal by VDHR, and the consultant added six additional country stores and rural post offices. The initial twenty-three stores were identified as contributing significantly to Gloucester County's history from the mid-1600s to the present day. Though some were no longer standing, the bulk of the initial list was documented.

Evaluation Methods

As historic contexts were not predetermined prior to the survey, the consultant surveyed additional properties based on the discovery of properties while traveling along roads in Gloucester County. Since most stores are associated with an established community or previously established community, the consultant visited communities listed on the 1995 Gloucester County map provided by the Gloucester County Department of Parks and Recreation. Once the buildings were physically documented, identifying architectural components and style, research was conducted on each store for regional and specific community history. In addition, information on the individual buildings and regional history was collected from local residents via oral history interviews and informal discussions. General history on rural stores was collected from libraries within Virginia.

Establishment of Historic Contexts

From the data collected in the field during the site visits and research from the regional libraries, historic contexts were assigned according to the dates of construction, location, and functions of the individual buildings. Since many of the buildings have functions or locations associated with specific functions in common, they fall within

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similar contexts with the only unique difference being the date of construction. Most fall within the period of Reconstruction to World War I (1866-1914) and reflect the prosperity of the water-related activities that dominated most of the boundaries of Gloucester County. The buildings that were constructed between World War I and World War II (1915 – 1940) reflect the influence of the automobile on the rural areas of the United States and the shift of the primary mode of transportation from water-related to land-related. The buildings constructed after World War II to the Modern Era (1945 – 1975) are the last to be constructed; either replacing former stores or are modern stores, which were in direct competition with their predecessors. This last group shows the final prosperity and subsequent decline of this type of property.

Conclusion

While many of the buildings no longer serve their original function(s) and are vacant and deteriorating, they are still the focal points of historic communities that once thrived in the earlier part of the 20th century. They are the only remains of the bustling intersection communities that existed in this region. It is their significance to their community, which resonates their historic integrity. Though in many cases, their architectural integrity is moderate to low, it is the historic integrity that was used as a basis for the survey and collection. These are the remaining buildings in Gloucester County that served the purpose of the Country Store and Rural Post Office to its many small communities.

The buildings surveyed and considered for this multiple property document are listed below by Associated Historic Contexts listed in Section B. The property name is the historic name. Dates of construction are also included.

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List of Country Stores and Rural Post Offices Surveyed for Multiple Property Document Divided by Associated Historic Contexts

Reconstruction and Growth of the Rural Waterfront Communities in Gloucester County (1866 – 1920)

Roanes Store and Post Office (1870 ca)
Tazewell Thompson Store (1870 ca)
Arthur Tab Store (1875 ca)
J. M. Shackelford's Store and Severn Post Office (1875)
J. B. Ashe and Brother (1880 ca)
Hall Brothers Store (1880 ca)
Cappahosic Store and Post Office (1880 ca)
Zanoni Store and Post Office (1885)
Selden Store and Post Office (1888)
P. E. Muse Store and Coke Post Office (1895)
Freeport Store and Post Office (1900 ca)
E. B. Brown Store and Schley Post Office (1900 ca)
W. E. and J. Edgar Pointer Store and Bena Post Office (1904)
Weaver Store and Clay Bank Post Office (1907)
Louis Groh and Son, Inc. (1920 ca)

Inland Communities and Their Relationship to the Waterfront in Gloucester County (1866 – 1935)

Pinero Store and Post Office (1880 ca)
Trevilian's Store and Naxera Post Office (1890 ca)
R. P. Gray Store and Signpine Post Office (1894)
Deal's Store (1900 ca)
Harcum Store and Post Office (1900 ca)
Williams Store and Wan Post Office (1918-1920)
R. C. Brown General Merchandise (1920 ca)
James Store Post Office and Store (1925)
Poland's Store (1932)

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Impact of the Automobile on the Rural Community in Gloucester County (1920 – 1945)

Mason's Gas Station and Store (1920 ca)
E. C. Sutton and Son Store and Dutton Post Office (1920 ca)
Adner Store (1920 ca)
W. L. Horsley and Son (1920 ca)
Center Fork Store (1920 ca)
Mason's Esso (1920 ca)
Horsley Store and Short Lane Post Office (1920 ca)
Sassafras Store (1930 ca)
Jack Williams Store (1937)
Carroll Williams Store (1939)

Post-War Prosperity to Late 20th Century Decline of the Rural Community in Gloucester County (1946 – 1975)

E. B. Brown General and Son Merchandise (1946)
Robert Jenkins Store (1950 ca)
Woodland's Store and Roanes Post Office (1950)
Bland's Store (1955 ca)
Naxera Post Office (1974)

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Major Bibliographic References

Most information collected on individual resources surveyed was compiled from the Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal in the *Communities: Past and Present* series. The Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal has categorized their more recent articles dealing with country store and rural post offices and they are archived in the Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal library. This list below categorizes them alphabetically by community name.

Other information has been collected from discussions with many of Gloucester County's residents, including numerous postmasters, storeowners, and former storeowners and postmasters.

Other texts consulted for general histories are listed.

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Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal

Communities: Past and Present

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Allmondsville | October 14, 1982 |
| Bena | October 19, 1989 |
| Clay Bank | May 12, 1983 |
| Coke | March 16, 1989 |
| Maryus | December 1, 1983 |
| Naxera | November 25, 1982 & October 8, 1992 |
| Perrin | January 20, 1983 |
| Roanes | September 30, 1982 |
| Severn | October 17, 1996 |
| Signpine | September 16, 1982 |
| Ware Neck | March 24, 1983 |

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Naxera Post Office (036-0184)

Mason's Gas Station and Store (036-0186)

R. C. Brown General Merchandise (036-0188)

J. B. Ashe and Brother (036-5002)

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