

HO-1102

Ellicott City Garage (Reedy Electric)

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

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Last Updated: 03-25-2016

HO-1102
Ellicott City Garage
8289 Main Street, Ellicott City
Private

Description:

The Ellicott City Garage is a two-story, five-bay by five-bay brick structure with a concrete foundation and a flat roof. The northeast elevation has brown tapestry brick. The first story has four brick piers with wood shingle infill between them. The end bays each have a new one-over-one sash. The center three bays, between the two interior piers, have a one-over-one sash in the east-center and center bays and a recessed door with nine lights over one lying panel, above two panels at the bottom. Between the first and second stories a panel is formed in brick, and this currently holds a business sign. The second story has four wider expanses of brick wall above the first-story piers, and each section has a similar paneled brick effect. There are five one-over-one sash, three in the center. There is a brick dentil cornice with a parapet above. The southwest elevation is four bays, with five-to-one common bond red brick. On the first story the west and west-center bays both have new metal roll-up doors. The south-center bay has paired 16-light steel sash with a steel lintel and concrete sill, and the south bay has a single, similar, 16-light steel sash. On the second story the end bays each have a single, similar, 16-light steel sash, while the two center bays each have paired 16-light steel sash.

Significance:

The Ellicott City Garage was in business at least by 1918, but it is not known when the company was formed. The business was operated by Robert J. Taylor, who had the local dealership for Dodge and Ford automobiles in 1919. In late 1920 it was announced that Taylor, along with Edward W. Talbott, president of the Patapsco Bank, would construct a new concrete garage building on the site. They intended to start construction after the first of the year, and hoped to have it completed by June. It is not known who was the architect or contractor of the building. After the move to the new building in 1921 the garage intended to specialize in selling only Ford automobiles and Fordson tractors, and had a repair shop on the premises, as well. However, in 1926, in addition to Ford sales, they were also distributors of Chrysler automobiles. The property was purchased by Paul Morsberger, who had become the new agent for Ford, in 1927. The garage moved to the Gaither building, where they continued to sell Chrysler automobiles, and their old building became known as the Ellicott City Motor Company. The building was vacant in 1959. Morsberger retained ownership of the building until his death in 1960, and his widow finally sold it in 1967. Two years later it was acquired by the Reedy Electric Company, who was probably responsible for the unfortunate wood shingle infill of what must have been large, plate-glass showroom windows. Otherwise, the building remains largely as built on the exterior.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-1102

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Ellicott City Garage

other Reedy Electric

2. Location

street and number 8289 Main Street not for publication

city, town Ellicott City vicinity

county Howard

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

name RESI LLC

street and number 8289 Main Street telephone

city, town Ellicott City state MD zip code 21043

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Courthouse liber 8225 folio 214

city, town Ellicott City tax map 25A tax parcel 70 tax ID number

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
				Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
				<u>0</u>	

7. Description

Inventory No. HO-1102

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair altered

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

The Ellicott City Garage is located at 8289 Main Street, on the south side of the street, in Ellicott City, in northeastern Howard County, Maryland. The building is set close to the road and faces northeast toward the road. It is a two-story, five-bay by five-bay brick structure with a concrete foundation and a flat roof.

The northeast elevation has brown tapestry brick. The first story has four brick piers with wood shingle infill between them. The end bays each have a new one-over-one sash. The center three bays, between the two interior piers, have a one-over-one sash in the east-center and center bays and a recessed door with nine lights over one lying panel, above two panels at the bottom. Between the first and second stories a panel is formed in brick, and this currently holds a business sign, "Reedy Electric Co." The second story has four wider expanses of brick wall above the first-story piers, and each section has a similar paneled brick effect. There are five one-over-one sash, three in the center. There is a brick dentil cornice with a parapet above.

The southeast elevation has five-to-one common bond red brick. The center and east-center bays are recessed about 8 inches and have raw, un-struck mortar joints, with the outline of a gable-roofed building on the wall. The east bay has no openings. The south and south-center bays each have paired 16-light steel sash on both the first and second stories, with steel lintels and concrete sills. The top of the wall has terra cotta tile coping.

The southwest elevation is four bays, with five-to-one common bond red brick. On the first story the west and west-center bays both have new metal roll-up doors. The south-center bay has paired 16-light steel sash with a steel lintel and concrete sill, and the south bay has a single, similar, 16-light steel sash. On the second story the end bays each have a single, similar, 16-light steel sash, while the two center bays each have paired 16-light steel sash. There is a gutter at the eave. The northwest elevation abuts a building and is completely hidden.

8. Significance

Inventory No. HO-1102

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

Specific dates	N/A	Architect/Builder	N/A
Construction dates	1921		

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The site on which the Ellicott City Garage is located was owned by Joseph Leishear beginning in 1886. The 1910 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map notes two separate properties, a grocery and dwelling to the east, with several outbuildings behind it, and a warehouse to the west. A stone house, formerly occupied by John Forrest, stood on the site, and was probably the building containing the grocery. The other building was likely where Leishear operated his business until taken over by his son, Joseph Leishear, Jr. The son sold the business c. 1919 and the building was vacated in 1920. The Ellicott City Garage was in business at least by 1918, when they were acting as a representative of the Baltimore Republic Truck Co., but it is not known when the company was formed. The business was operated by Robert J. Taylor, who had the local dealership for Dodge and Ford automobiles in 1919. In late 1920 it was announced that Taylor, along with Edward W. Talbott, president of the Patapsco Bank, would construct a new concrete garage building on the site. They intended to start construction after the first of the year, and hoped to have it completed by June. It is not known who was the architect or contractor of the building. After the move to the new building in 1921 the garage intended to specialize in selling only Ford automobiles and Fordson tractors, and had a repair shop on the premises, as well. However, in 1926, in addition to Ford sales, they were also distributors of Chrysler automobiles.¹

The property was purchased by Paul Morsberger, who had become the new agent for Ford, in 1927. The garage moved to the Gaither building, where they continued to sell Chrysler automobiles, and their old building *became known* as the Ellicott City Motor Company. The Ellicott City Garage business was auctioned off in early 1928. The building was vacant in 1959.² Morsberger retained ownership of the building until his death in 1960, and his widow finally sold it in 1967. Two years later it was acquired by the Reedy Electric Company, who was probably responsible for the unfortunate wood shingle infill

¹ Sanborn Map Company, "Ellicott City, Maryland," 1910. *Baltimore Sun*, 27 October 1918, p. 27. *Baltimore Sun*, 16 February 1919, p. D8. "Another New Garage for Ellicott City," *Ellicott City Times*, 5 November 1920, p. 1, col. 6. *Baltimore Sun*, 4 July 1926, p. TS11.

² *Ellicott City Times*, 19 May 1927, p. 1, col. 3. *Baltimore Sun*, 15 January 1928, p. 10, col. 8. Sanborn Map Company, "Ellicott City, Maryland," 1919, updated to 1959.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-1102

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

of what must have been large, plate-glass showroom windows. Otherwise, the building remains largely as built on the exterior.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO-1102

See footnotes

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 7,215 sq. ft.
Acreage of historical setting 7,215 sq. ft.
Quadrangle name Ellicott City Quadrangle scale: 1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries consist of the outlines of the property, tax map 25A, parcel 70, which encompasses all of the historic buildings and features on the site.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Ken Short		
organization	Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	September 2012
street & number	3430 Courthouse Drive	telephone	410-313-4335
city or town	Ellicott City	state	MD

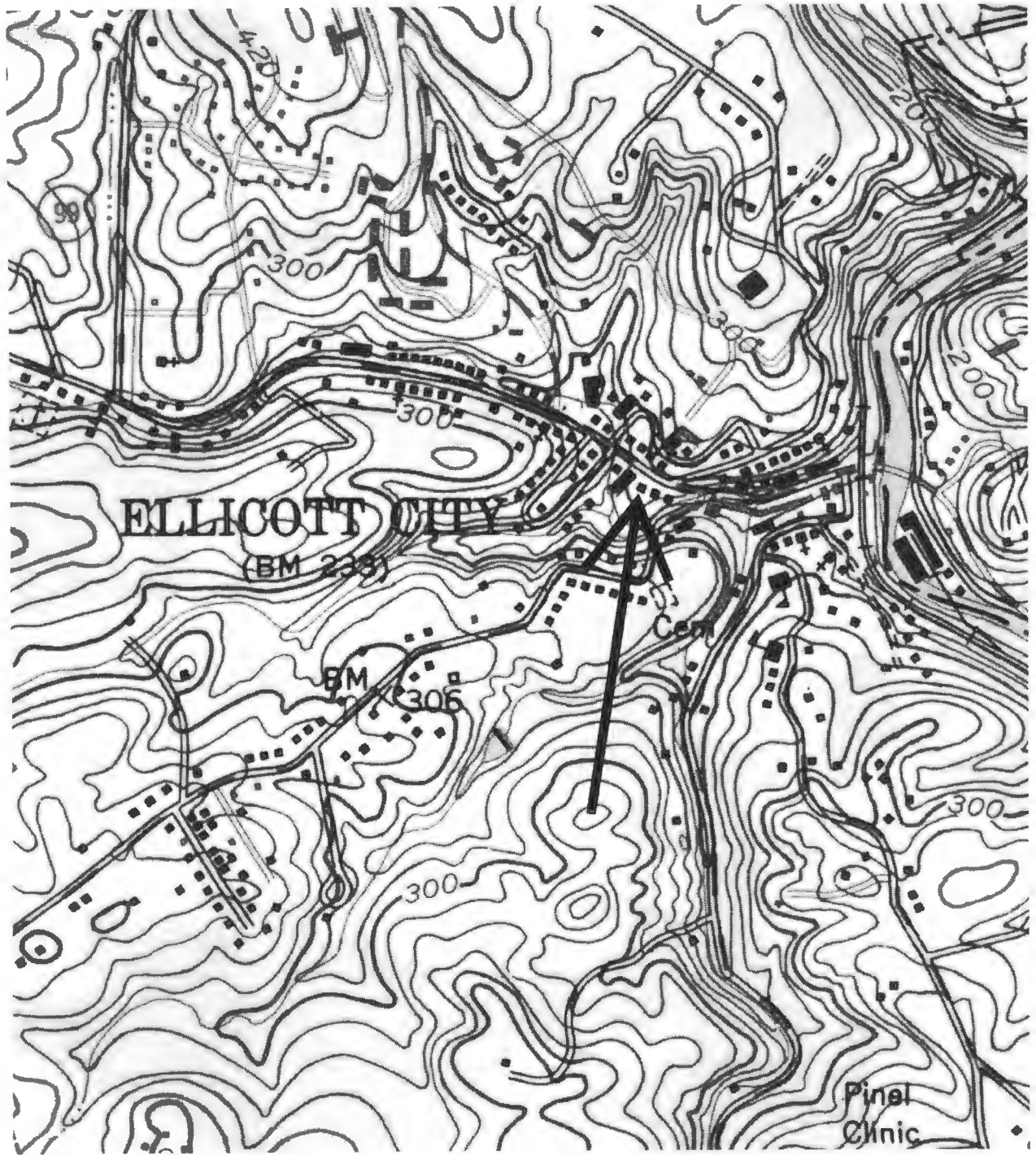
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

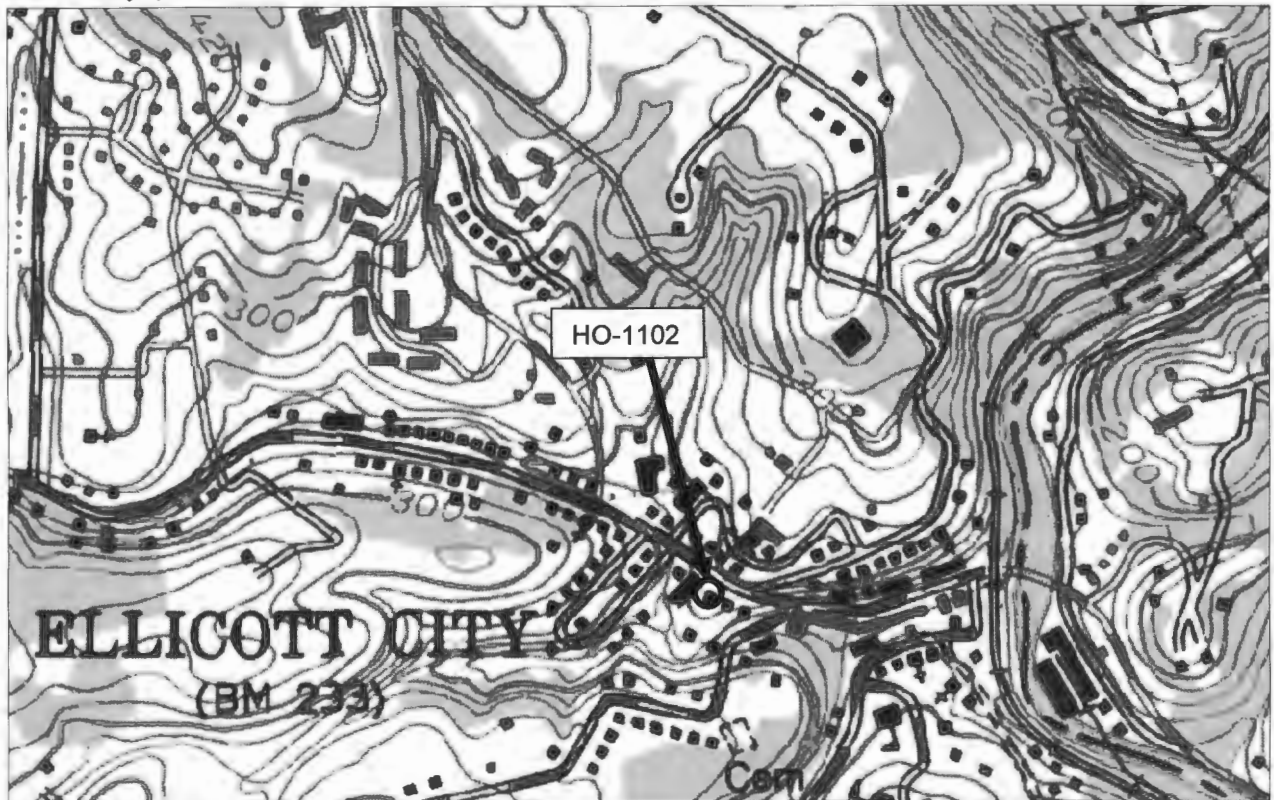
Ellicott City Garage (HO-1102)
 8289 Main Street, Ellicott City
CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER- ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
Reedy Electric Co. / MD Corp.	Resi LLC / MD	29 December 2003	MDR 8225-214	Deed – fee simple	\$550,539.86	7,215 sq. ft.	
Kimbel E. Oelke & wf Mary / ?	Reedy Electric Co. / Md Corp.	2 May 1969	CMP 508-583	Deed – fee simple	\$5.00	7,215 sq. ft.	
Alice E. Morsberger, widow / King Co, Wash.	Kimbel E. Oelke & wf Mary / Howard	26 July 1967	CMP 472-292	Deed – fee simple	\$5.00	1) ? 2) ?	1) Stone house of John Forrest formerly stood on Main St. 2) On Hamilton St., Plat 1, Lots 9, 10, 11, 12, partition of RE of George Ellicott PLM d. 5/5/60
Guinevere M. Warfield, unmarried / Howard	Paul L. Marsberger & wf. Alice E. / ?	5 November 1955	RHM 274-343	Deed – fee simple	\$5.00	1) ? 2) ?	+ easements
Paul L. Morsberger & wf. Alice E. / Howard	Guinevere M. Warfield / ?	5 November 1955	RHM 274-340	Deed – fee simple	\$5.00	1) ? 2) ?	
Robert J. Taylor & wf Helen S. / Balto. Co Edward W. Talbott & wf Sallie E. / Howard	Paul L. Morsberger / ?	26 May 1927	HBN 130-401	Deed – fee simple	\$5.00	1) ? 2) ?	(a) south side Main St. stone house of Forrest formerly stood here
Jospeh H. Leishear, Jr. & wf. Bessie S. / Howard	Robert J. Taylor Edward W. Talbott	30 October 1920	HBN 111-197	Deed – fee simple	\$5.00	?	
Joseph H. Leishear, widower / Howard	Joseph H. Leishear, Jr., son	1 July 1912	WWLC 93-258	Deed – fee simple	\$5.00 & love & affection	?	
Mary Inloes, admin'x.	Joseph H. Leishear (Sr.)	2 April 1886	LJW 50-412				See also 51-22



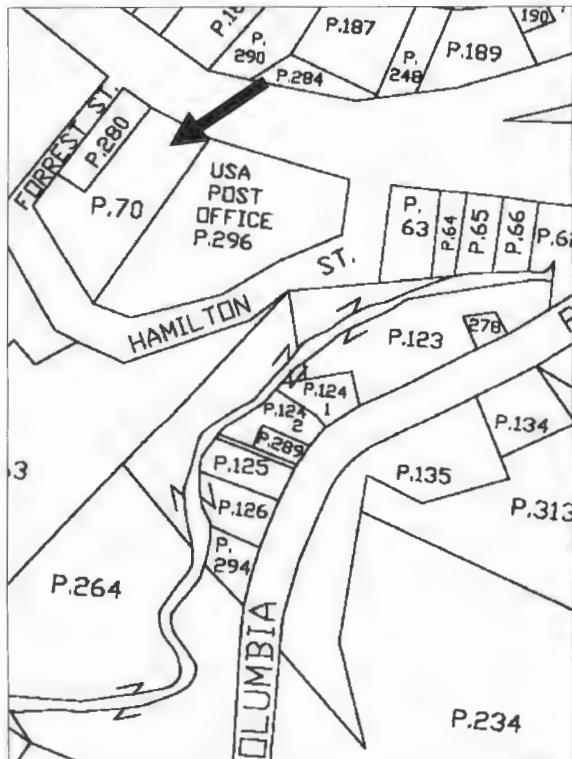
HO-1102
Ellicott City Garage
8289 Main Street, Ellicott City
Ellicott City quad

HO-1102
Ellicott City Garage (Reedy Electric Co.)
8289 Main Street (MD 144), Ellicott City
Ellicott City quad 1953, Photorevised 1966 and 1974



Tax Map 25A, Parcel 70

National Web Map Service 6" Orthophoto Map, c. 2010



HO-1102
Ellicott City Garage (Reedy Electric Co.)
8289 Main Street (MD 144), Ellicott City
Photo by Jennifer K. Cosham, 11/28/2012



HO-1102
Ellicott City Garage
8289 Main Street, Ellicott City
Howard County, Maryland
Ken Short, photographer

Photo Log

Nikon D-70 camera
HP Premium Plus paper
Epson Matte Black UltraChrome ink cartridge

HO-1102_2012-08-13_01
Northeast elevation

HO-1102_2012-08-13_02
Southwest and southeast elevations



REEDY ELECTRIC CO



HO-1102

Ellicott City Garage

8289 Main Street, Ellicott City

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2012-08-13

MD SHPO

Northeast elevation

1 of 2



HO-1102

Ellicott City Garage

8289 Main Street, Ellicott City

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2012-08-13

MD SHPO

Southwest and southeast elevations

2 of 2