

HO-325

Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Houses

8329-8333 Main Street, Ellicott City

Private

### **Capsule Summary**

#### **Description:**

Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Houses is a two-story, four-bay by one-bay frame structure with a rubble stone foundation, weatherboards, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and an east-west ridge. There is an interior brick chimney on the southeast and northwest gable ends, the northwest one having a pair of Bishop's caps. There is a two-story shed-roofed ell on the southwest side of the main block, with a one-story addition on the southwest of the ell, to the west, that has a shed roof that slopes down to the southeast, and a two-story addition on the southwest, set to the south, that has a shed roof that slopes down to the northwest. On the northeast elevation, the first story east-center bay has a new oak door. In the center is a sallyport with a door that had one light over three panels; the light has been replaced with plywood. The north-center bay has a door with one light over two panels. There is a one-story, four-bay porch with four Tuscan columns. On the interior the main block has four rooms divided by a sallyport or exterior passage between them, creating two units of two rooms, with a one-room ell of the same width on the back of each unit and a smaller addition on the rear of each ell. The units are a mirror image of each other with a fireplace on the gable end of the front room and an enclosed winder stair on the gable end of the rear room that rises to the attic.

#### **Significance:**

A plat of the partition of the lands of George Ellicott, made in May 1835, does not show any improvements on this lot while another plat, apparently made in 1839, clearly shows the U-shaped footprint of the house. The deed of partition created in May 1836 for the lands of George Ellicott describes Lot 72 as containing "Caleb Merryman's new frame house built upon the said lot." It is not clear whether the house was complete or still under construction, but the sum of all the information indicates that the house Merryman built on Lot 72 must have been completed in 1836, even if it was begun in late 1835. Merryman sold it in 1837 to John Forrest, who only owned the duplex for a year, selling it to Henry Thorn of Washington, D. C. in 1838. Undoubtedly the house in Ellicott City was simply an investment, which he retained until 1879, and it is not known who may have rented either half of the duplex. It was purchased by local pharmacist Benjamin Mellor and remained in his family until 1940. As with Thorn, Mellor almost certainly bought the building as an investment and likewise, it is not known who his tenants might have been. The building is one of a very small number of surviving early frame buildings in the core of Ellicott City and was clearly built with an urban mentality, filling the entire street frontage, and having a sallyport to provide access from the street to the rear of the lot.

Inventory No. HO-325

**1. Name of Property** (indicate preferred name)

## historic Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Houses

other

## 2. Location

street and number 8329-8333 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 | Jacko LLC |
|------|-----------|

|                   |                     |           |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| street and number | 9222 Crownwood Road | telephone |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|

|            |               |       |    |          |       |
|------------|---------------|-------|----|----------|-------|
| city, town | Ellicott City | state | MD | zip code | 21042 |
|------------|---------------|-------|----|----------|-------|

#### 4. Location of Legal Description

|                                     |                          |       |             |     |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|-------------|-----|
| courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. | Howard County Courthouse | liber | 19100 folio | 162 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|-------------|-----|

|            |               |         |     |            |    |               |
|------------|---------------|---------|-----|------------|----|---------------|
| city, town | Ellicott City | tax map | 25A | tax parcel | 75 | 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                                                             |                                 |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| _____ district           | _____ public         | _____ agriculture    | _____ landscape               | Contributing                                                               | Noncontributing                 |
| <u>  X  </u> building(s) | <u>  X  </u> private | _____ commerce/trade | _____ recreation/culture      | <u>      1      </u>                                                       | <u>      0      </u> buildings  |
| _____ structure          | _____ both           | _____ defense        | _____ religion                | <u>      0      </u>                                                       | <u>      0      </u> sites      |
| _____ site               |                      | _____ domestic       | _____ social                  | <u>      0      </u>                                                       | <u>      0      </u> structures |
| _____ object             |                      | _____ education      | _____ transportation          | <u>      0      </u>                                                       | <u>      0      </u> objects    |
|                          |                      | _____ funerary       | <u>  X  </u> work in progress | <u>      1      </u>                                                       | <u>      0      </u> Total      |
|                          |                      | _____ government     | _____ unknown                 |                                                                            |                                 |
|                          |                      | _____ health care    | _____ vacant/not in use       |                                                                            |                                 |
|                          |                      | _____ industry       | _____ other:                  |                                                                            |                                 |
|                          |                      |                      |                               | <b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b> |                                 |
|                          |                      |                      |                               | <u>      1      </u>                                                       |                                 |

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## 7. Description

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### Condition

|                                          |                                             |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent       | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good            | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered |

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

### Summary:

Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Houses is a two-story, four-bay by one-bay frame structure with a rubble stone foundation, weatherboards, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and an east-west ridge. There is an interior brick chimney on the southeast and northwest gable ends, the northwest one having a pair of Bishop's caps. There is a two-story shed-roofed ell on the southwest side of the main block, with a one-story addition on the southwest of the ell, to the west, that has a shed roof that slopes down to the southeast, and a two-story addition on the southwest, set to the south, that has a shed roof that slopes down to the northwest. On the northeast elevation, the first story east-center bay has a new oak door. In the center is a sallyport with a door that had one light over three panels; the light has been replaced with plywood. The north-center bay has a door with one light over two panels. There is a one-story, four-bay porch with four Tuscan columns. On the interior the main block has four rooms divided by a sallyport or exterior passage between them, creating two units of two rooms, with a one-room ell of the same width on the back of each unit and a smaller addition on the rear of each ell. The units are a mirror image of each other with a fireplace on the gable end of the front room and an enclosed winder stair on the gable end of the rear room that rises to the attic.

### Description:

#### *Exterior*

Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Houses stand at 8329-8333 Main Street in Ellicott City, Howard County, Maryland. They stand on the southwest side of the street and are set close to the sidewalk, facing northeast to the road.

This is a two-story, four-bay by one-bay frame structure with a rubble stone foundation, weatherboards, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and an east-west ridge. There is an interior brick chimney on the southeast and northwest gable ends, the northwest one having a pair of Bishop's caps. There is a two-story shed-roofed ell on the southwest side of the main block, with a one-story addition on the southwest of the ell, to the west, that has a shed roof that slopes down to the southeast, and a two-story addition on the southwest, set to the south, that has a shed roof that slopes down to the northwest.

The northeast elevation, on the first story, has a new one-over-one sash in the east bay. There are fake blinds and hinge mortises where real ones once were. The frame has one rabbet cut into the face, which is typical for this building. The east-center bay has a new oak door with nine panels, the center one being glazed, and a small one-light transom, all in a typical frame. In the center is a sallyport with architrave that has one rabbet and a door that had one light over three panels; the light has been replaced with plywood. The north-center bay has a door with one light over two panels that have sunken fields and ogee panel moulds. The frame and the transom bar have one rabbet, and there are four lights in the transom. The north bay has an older one-over-one sash with a typical frame, fake blinds, and broken

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shutter hinges. The siding mostly has a 6-inch weather, with some as much as 6 ½ inches. It is face-nailed and has a narrow rabbet cut on the bottom of the back side to lap. There is a one-story, four-bay porch with a new wood deck, four Tuscan columns, a railing with square balusters, and a wide, beaded-board ceiling. There is one large granite step for each door, now set abutting each other in the center. The roof is a semi-hip with new standing-seam copper. The second story has four new six-over-six sash with fake blinds. There is a wood box cornice.

The northwest elevation has a parged foundation and the same siding as on the north, but the weather ranges from 7 ½ to 8 ¼ inches, with most close to 8 inches. On the first story the siding continues across the ell but on the second there is a corner board at the west end of the main block, then the same siding on the ell, which is probably re-used. The addition has German siding. The main block has no openings on the first or second stories, while the gable end has two four-over-four sash. There are plain, tapered rake boards. The ell has a six-over-six sash on both the first and second stories, with the typical frame. The addition has a six-over-six sash in a beaded-interior-edge frame.

The southwest elevation on the first story has a four-panel door set to the south on the addition to the northwest. The ell has a new six-over-six sash to the south of the addition. There is a six-panel door in the center of the ell, leading into the sallyport, that has sunken fields, no panel moulds, new hinges, and a new frame and trim. There is a new six-over-six sash to the south of the sallyport. This wall has aluminum siding that covers much of the opening frames. The southeast addition has a one-over-one sash and exterior wood stairs to the second story. The second story has three new six-over-six sash, with the east bay covered by the addition. Above the sallyport there is a vertical strip of Formstone. The southeast addition has a new door with one light over two panels. The southeast elevation of the northwest addition has aluminum siding and a six-over-six sash in the center. The northwest elevation of the southeast addition has a four-panel door set to the north on the first story and a new one-over-one sash to the west. The second story has no openings. The southeast elevation of the building is mostly covered by the neighboring building.

The siding in the sallyport matches the northeast elevation, but some of it has a weather of only 4 inches. There is no evidence of a doorway on either side of the main block leading to the stair passage. There is a doorway on the southeast side, to the ell of 8329, that is covered with plywood and appears to have been cut through later. There is no frame to the opening now. There is a dirt floor at the southwest end, and missing flooring in the center where there are steps down to the narrow basement under the sallyport. At the southwest end of the main block, where the ell is attached, there is a typical door frame, with later infill to each side of dimensional lumber. Above the door frame is weatherboard infill. There are new 2 by 4s put down on the floor and a new drop ceiling, some of which is wafer board.

*Interior*

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The main block has four rooms divided by a sallyport or exterior passage between them, creating two units of two rooms, with a one-room ell of the same width on the back of each unit and a smaller addition on the rear of each ell. Each unit is described separately.

### 8329 Main Street

#### *Interior, first story*

The main block has two rooms, with that to the southwest being less deep and containing the stairs. There is one room in the ell and two rooms in the addition to the southwest of the ell.

The northeast room has random-width flooring that runs northwest-southeast and varies between 3 ¼ and 5 ½ inches wide. There is new baseboard and chair rail, the walls and ceiling appear to be drywall, and there is also new crown moulding. The northeast window and architrave are new, as are the door and transom. There is a fireplace with exposed brick on the southeast wall, set to the south, that has splayed brick jambs and a splayed brick jack arch. The hearth has been infilled with wood and there is no mantel. The southwest wall has four Tuscan columns. The center bay is open while the flanking bays have mirrors. This wall is now 10 ½ inches thick. The northwest wall is riven lath and plaster with a wallpaper that has a tan ground with short, cream-colored squiggles and random gold dots. This was all removed at the bottom and the whole wall was drywalled. The studs are sash-sawn, are 3 by 4 inches, and have the 4-inch face set out. They have a stub tenon on the bottom inner half, sitting in a mortise in the sill, which then sits on the stone wall. The flooring butts the studs and passes in between them, with uneven ends.

The southwest room flooring, walls, and trim match the northeast room. The northwest end is closed off for a modern powder room. The southeast end has a new angled wall with a flush door and open shelves in front of the staircase. This wall has a column at the southwest end that does not match those in the northeast room and appears to be a fairly recent addition. Behind the hollow core door is a six-panel door to what was originally a closet under the stairs but is now the stairs to the basement. The door has sunken fields with no panel moulds, is mortised and tenoned and pinned, and is not clearly hand-planed. The architrave has two rabbets and a small, quirked bead on the inner edge. It now has a plain cast iron rim lock with porcelain knob but originally had a cabinet lock on the inside. The hinges are cast iron butts with three knuckles. The northeast wall, between the new door and the original door, has drywall over tongue-and-grooved, random-width beaded boards. The bead is run on the tongue-side of each board, on both sides. They have a white paint or primer, then a dark brown on top, then pencil lines where shelves were built in. A door jamb survives near the center of the wall and it had a strike plate on the southwest side, so the hinges were on the northeast jamb. Inside the closet/stairs the northeast wall is plaster and the ceiling is plaster on riven lath. The stair newel has a stub tenon on the bottom, sitting in a notch cut in the floor. The bottom side of the stairs all have cut nails and heavy layers of whitewash, with a green paint on top. The stair originally started to rise to the southeast from this room

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but now rises to the northeast from the ell. On the bottom of the straight treads are angled cuts and one winder has a triangular patch to convert it to a straight tread. Others appear to have been taken up and flipped around, since the angles go in the wrong direction. Many of the straight treads are of two, wedge-shaped pieces and suggest the winder treads were re-used. The straight run stringer is nailed to the inner face of the newel, with vertical boards on the outer side of the stringer. The outer face of these boards is now hidden from inspection. At the southwest end, where the flooring changes from this room to the ell under the stairs there is a mortise cut in the top of the sill for a stud that must have been removed when the bottom of the winder was converted to a straight run. The baseboard on the southeast wall under the stairs is mitered at the south corner to turn and run along the southwest wall.

The ell room has the same flooring as the main block, but it runs northeast-southwest. There is beaded-edge-and-center vertical-board half-wainscot. On the southeast is a closed-off window opening that is very deep and has a stud in the middle of the opening that may be for the building added to the southeast. The stairs ascend to the northeast on the southwest wall, near the east corner. There is now a wide opening between the main block and the ell and it appears there was a doorway in the center of this wall, but the only clear evidence for this is a patch in the floor where the wall probably originally was. There is a fireplace on the southwest wall, set to the south, and the firebox has been bricked in. The parged surround is rough, unfinished plaster suggesting that there was an insert here from the beginning that covered it. The hearth has been infilled. The wood mantel has two reeded strips on each side, with scroll brackets that also have reeding and support the mantel shelf. The frieze has two ogees with a bead between them, all run horizontally. There is later infill in the floor, especially to the northwest of the fireplace, where a large cooking fireplace originally stood. In the center of the southwest wall is a four-panel door with sunken double fields, new butt hinges, and a plain cast iron rim lock with porcelain knobs. It is built with wedged through tenons and has very tiny pins. The head-cut trim has a quirked bead on the inner edge. This doorway had to go in after the original fireplace was taken out. The southwest wall, to the west, has a new six-over-six sash with plain narrow trim that has a quirked bead on the inner edge; this is older, but it is not clear just how old. The northwest wall has newer bead board that hides the doorway that was here, but there are cracks in the plaster above the bead board that apparently mark the opening. The northwest wall, at the west end, has circular-sawn lath and the stud at the south jamb of the doorway is sash sawn and 3 by 4 inches, with the 3-inch edge turned out. There is new lumber to the north of the stud that infills the doorway.

In the ell addition the northeast room has laminate on the floor and the walls are beaded-edge vertical boards from floor to ceiling, with a textured coating on them. There is a drop ceiling and above it is bead-board that originally had a dark varnish. The window and door architrave is all head-cut, with a quirked bead on the inner edge. The southeast window is new and there is a new four-panel door on the northwest. On the southwest is a new bifold door.

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The southwest room in the ell addition has bead-board on the bottom half of the southeast and southwest walls, with the top half covered by what appears to be plywood. There is also bead-board on the northwest wall, and it has a textured coating on it. The northwest window is new and the trim matches that in the ell addition northeast room. There is also new baseboard, chair rail, drywall on the northeast wall, and drop ceiling.

### *Interior, second story*

The second story has a similar floor plan to the first.

The northeast chamber floor has linoleum, new baseboard throughout, and there is drywall on the walls, with wallpaper. The attic joists are exposed and have lath nail holes on the bottom edge. There is drywall between the joists. The sash and architraves are new. The joists run northeast-southwest and have a mix of tool marks, with one side of many being adzed and the other side sash-sawn, though there are some with pit-saw marks. There are also circular-saw marks on the bottom edge of some joists, which could be later replacements or the marks from later alterations. On the southeast is a chimney stack of exposed brick, set against the southwest partition wall. It has splayed jambs and a splayed brick jack arch, and has a Franklin stove insert. The hearth has been rebuilt and is raised slightly, with the brick laid in Portland cement. The brick of the firebox is cut slightly on each jamb just below the jack arch in order to fit in the top of the stove, which was just a little too wide for the firebox opening, and there is Portland cement repointing in some of the brickwork and between the top of the stove and the bottom of the jack arch. It is not clear whether the stove is an early addition, with later work to the brick, or whether the stove is a much more recent addition, but it at least had to have been removed and re-set when the hearth was re-laid. The architrave on the southwest doorway has a quirked bead on the inner edge and a new square backband probably added when the walls were drywalled. The door is missing. To the west of this doorway is another doorway that is completely new and gives access to a modern bathroom in the northwest end of the southwest room. The southwest wall is plaster on riven lath. There is a new doorway on the northwest wall, for access to 8333.

The southwest room is a stair passage with an enclosed winder stair on the southeast. To the south is a new door and frame for the rise from the first story. To the east the door is missing from the flight to the attic. The frame is typical, with a narrow rabbet in the center and a beaded interior edge. The hinge mortises have been filled. The doorway in the northeast wall has hinge mortises on the southwest side, suggesting the door opened into the southwest (stair passage) room, unless the trim has been moved. The architrave is typical. The southwest wall has later sawn lath and plaster. The doorway here has no door and there are no hinge mortises visible. There is some new trim added, as well as a new two-light transom.

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The ell chamber is one large, open room that extends across the whole rear of the building (both units). The floor has linoleum, the walls have drywall with new trim and sash, and the ceiling slopes down to the southwest.

### *Interior, attic*

The attic has carpeting and drywall. The chimney on the southeast was plastered but is now exposed brick. There is a wide dormer on the southwest that is all new construction. It is unclear whether the southeast gable had windows originally that were later closed, and a dormer added, or whether there was always a dormer to get light and air to this space. There is a doorway on the northwest that is also of new construction.

### *Interior, basement*

The basement is under the main block, with a small bump-out at the southwest end, to the west, under the ell; there must have been a ladder stair here to get down to the basement originally. The flooring above here is completely rebuilt. The walls are rubble stone. The existing stairs are built with sash-sawn boards and cut nails. The top of the stringer is supported by a large spike driven into the side of the fireplace wall, under the bottom edge of the stringer rather than through it. The stair newel has three mortises cut into it and appears to be a re-used sill. The first-story joists are sash sawn, run northeast-southwest, are 3 inches wide by 9 ½ - 10 inches deep, and are spaced 23 - 24 ½ inches on centers. The hearth trimmers have a through tenon and an exposed peg. They are only set on the edge of the stone buttress and have a small lap cut in them. The hearth support is now missing. There is a solid stone buttress on the southeast to support the fireplace. The southeast wall at the east end has a basement window opening that is now closed off by the later building to the southeast. The ell only has a crawl space, and the joists appear thinner and run northwest-southeast. There is a large stone fireplace support on the southeast. The northwest wall has a doorway into the basement under the sallyport.

The sallyport has three small joists, 3 inches deep by 4 inches wide, and a wide plank, all of which run northwest-southeast and support boards above that run northeast-southwest and must have been the original floor for the first story of the sallyport. These boards are sash-sawn, are 1-inch thick, and have two holes drilled through them in several locations. The holes align in pairs and many are filled with short wood pegs that are squared on the end. The holes seem consistent with holes found in rafted lumber.

### **8333 Main Street**

#### *Interior, first story*

The northeast room has laminate on the floor, plain new baseboard, new chair rail and crown moulding, and drywall. The front door was originally six panels and retains the two bottom panels, which have sunken fields and no panel moulds. The top four panels have been cut out for one large light. The door

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is hung on cast iron butt hinges with heavy paint and has a plain cast iron rim lock, with metal knobs, that is not original; there is a ghost on the inside of the door of a larger rim lock. The door appears to be original. There is a four-light transom that has 8-inch by 11-inch lights, ovolo muntins, and is mortised and tenoned and pinned at the corners. The architrave has one rabbet in the center and a quirked bead on the inner edge. It is mitered at the corners. The southwest wall has horizontal re-used boards added to it. There is a fireplace on the northwest wall that is set against the southwest wall. It has exposed brick that has been re-pointed with Portland cement. The hearth has been re-laid in brick and the firebox has splayed brick jambs and a brick jack arch. The northeast window is an old one-over-one sash with an original spring latch. The architrave is original but does not have a bead on the inner edge, but has the inner stop, instead. There are parting beads, as well. The southeast wall is plaster on riven lath fastened with cut nails. There are several layers of whitewash under a medium-brown paint, all later covered with drywall. The studs are sash-sawn 3 by 4s, with the 3-inch edge set out. There is a down-brace from the north wall that is sash-sawn, is 2 by 5 ½ inches, and is let into the studs. The ceiling is also plaster on riven lath. The southwest wall, to the west, next to the fireplace, has a light green wallpaper with vertical lines of leaves and small flowers in purple and yellow.

The southwest room is narrow, with the southeast end enclosed for a bathroom and closet with all-new construction. The floor is laminate and is higher than the floor level in the ell. The northwest wall has a six-panel door with sunken fields and no panel moulds. It is mortised and tenoned and pinned and has cast iron butt hinges with five knuckles and heavy paint. The joints appear to be fast. There is a small cast iron spring latch on the door, which originally only had a cabinet lock. The architrave has one narrow rabbet that is smaller than that in the northeast room, with a quirked bead on the inner edge. This is now a stairway to the cellar but was originally a closet under the stairs to the second story, with a plaster ceiling. Some riven lath survives on the west wall, but all the plaster on the wall is missing. The northwest wall has spray foam in it that covers much of a down-brace from the southwest corner of the main block. The bottom half of the second-story stairs has been rebuilt and the risers may be reused; they are sash sawn and have cut nails. The northeast wall has riven lath with some plaster on the northeast face of the studs set to the east of the brick stack. On the northeast partition wall, the lath and plaster to the north have been completely removed. At the east end are studs that have sawn lath and plaster on the northeast side, with drywall on top of the plaster. The southwest side now just has drywall, but there is a jamb in place for a doorway between the two rooms; it has been cut back some but retains an olive-green paint with a light grey on top and a cream paint last. The southwest wall has all new studs.

The ell has a new doorway and trim into this room from the main block. It also has laminate on the floor and has new baseboard, chair rail, and crown moulding. The stairway to the second story is enclosed along the northwest wall in the north corner, with a straight run at the bottom. There are 2 ½ treads below the door. The bottom half of the stringer is added on the inside face of the upper half of the stringer. The southeast wall of the bottom half of the stair has a beaded horizontal board at the ceiling

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level, with the end of the bottom of the newel at the south end of this board, where this was originally open beneath the board for winder stairs at the bottom. The door to the stairs has six panels that are sunken and flat on the southwest face and have sunken fields on the northeast face. It is mortised and tenoned and pinned and is hand-planed. It is hung on new hinges and has been both cut down and lowered when the ceiling was dropped. There is no clear evidence that it ever had a lock, but it had some sort of latch or pull based on older holes in it. This door was clearly moved, but there is no evidence to determine when. The northwest window is a six-over-six sash that is mortised and tenoned and pinned at the corners, has ovolo muntins and 9-inch by 12-inch lights, and has parting beads and a spring latch. The architrave is new since it has chatter marks. There is a wide opening on the southwest giving access to the addition. South of this opening is a new window.

The addition has laminate flooring, new baseboard and chair rail, and drywall. The southeast window has a six-over-six sash that is mortised and tenoned and pinned, has ovolo muntins, and has 10-inch by 12-inch lights. It does not have parting beads but has an early spring latch. The architrave has a quirked bead on the inner edge. The northwest window matches the southeast and has new architrave installed over top of the old. The wall is built out here and partially covers the sash on the interior. There is an exterior door on the southwest that has four panels with sunken double fields and ogee panel moulds. It is mortised and tenoned and pinned, is hung on butt hinges that have three knuckles and pins, and it has a plain cast iron rim lock with metal knobs.

### *Interior, second story*

The second story has the same floor plan as the first, but there is no addition. In the southwest room, the stairs are at the northwest end and have architrave with one rabbet in the center and a quirked bead on the inner edge. The stairs are enclosed and continue to the attic, and the door here has six panels with sunken fields and no panel moulds on the outer side, while on the inner side the panels are sunken and flat. It is mortised and tenoned and pinned. It has a keyhole plate latch, with brass knobs, that appears to be original and has cast iron butt hinges with five knuckles and heavy paint, and probably has fast joints. The bottom steps have dust corners. The stair stringers are cut at the top and the bottom with reverse curves. There is a doorway on the southwest side of the room that has new jambs but has an old, two-light transom that is mortised and tenoned and pinned and has a wide center ovolo muntin. It is set with the mouldings on the southwest side. The door is missing but was hinged on the northeast side of the northwest jamb; the southeast jamb is new material. The southeast end of this room is partitioned off for a kitchenette, using new material. There is a transom in the southwest wall of the kitchenette that matches the transom in the doorway of this room. the doorway on the northeast has typical architrave on both sides; the door was hinged on the southwest side, on the southeast jamb, and had a rim lock with a strike plate on the southwest side of the northwest jamb.

The northeast chamber has random-width, tongue-and-grooved pine flooring that runs southeast-northwest and varies between 3 and 5 inches. On the northwest wall is a fireplace with a raised brick

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-325

Name Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Houses  
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 8

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hearth that is rebuilt. There are splayed brick jambs, a splayed brick jack arch, and the brick is now exposed. There are ghosts on the floor for a closet on the northwest wall, north of the fireplace and in-line with it. There are nail holes on the side of the joist directly above these ghosts that suggests it was a board wall, with a door in the center. The ceiling on the northeast half of the chamber has been opened to expose the attic joists, which are 3 ½ inches by 5 ½ inches and run north-south. Some of the joists are adzed on one side and some are pit-sawn. The ceiling of the southwest half of the room is tongue-and-grooved boards fastened with cut nails. This is probably reused attic flooring. The southeast wall has drywall that is furred out over plaster, with a red, cream, and blue wallpaper printed with a Revolutionary War theme that includes Carpenter's Hall, a drummer, a cannon, a red roundel with George Washington, the signing of the Declaration of Independence, a British officer on horseback, and more. The south wall is plaster on riven lath. A stud here is 2 by 4 inches but is original. The northeast wall is furred out and insulated, and has new sash and trim.

### *Interior, attic*

The attic flooring has random-width, tongue-and-grooved pine that is face-nailed. Most of it is 5 to 8 inches wide, with two narrow filler pieces. The northeast half of the flooring has been removed to create a loft, with a railing added that has old balusters and handrail. The joists are exposed here and have both sash-saw and circular-saw marks; they are original but have been fiddled with. The northwest gable end has two four-over-four sash that are mortised and tenoned and pinned, have ovolo muntins, 8-inch by 10-inch lights, and have no parting beads. The trim is new but the sash are probably original. The brick chimney stack is between the windows and the brick is exposed.

### *Interior, basement*

The basement is under the main block and has a bump-out on the southwest, to the south, under the ell, with good quoins at the corner, and must be for original access to the basement. The rubble stone walls retain traces of whitewash. Steel has been added on the northeast wall and the north end of the northwest wall for added support to the foundation. There is a small opening on the southeast, with brick jambs, to under the sallyport; it appears to be cut through later. It contains a wood frame with horizontal iron bars, three of which survive and four have been cut out. The first-story joists run northeast-southwest, are sash-sawn, are 3 inches by 10 – 10 ½ inches, and are spaced 23 – 25 ½ inches on centers. The flooring above is random-width, sash-sawn, tongue-and-grooved, and runs southeast-northwest. There is a solid stone fireplace support on the northwest. The hearth trimmers have through tenons into the header, with exposed pegs. At the other end they are notched on the bottom and set into the stone wall. A large ledger plank on the header/joist supports one end of the hearth boards while the other is set on top of a ledge in the stone wall. There is a small window opening on the northwest, near the north corner, with brick jambs. It is now boarded over and was either cut through later or has been altered and repointed. There is also an opening cut through the southwest wall into the ell. The ell joists and flooring are all new.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. HO-325

| 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering                  | <input type="checkbox"/> invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999            | <input type="checkbox"/> art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/<br>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/<br>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** Caleb Merryman, builder

**Construction dates** c. 1836

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.)

### Summary:

A plat of the partition of the lands of George Ellicott, made in May 1835, does not show any improvements on this lot while another plat, apparently made in 1839, clearly shows the U-shaped footprint of the house. The deed of partition created in May 1836 for the lands of George Ellicott describes Lot 72 as containing "Caleb Merryman's new frame house built upon the said lot." It is not clear whether the house was complete or still under construction, but the sum of all the information indicates that the house Merryman built on Lot 72 must have been completed in 1836, even if it was begun in late 1835. Merryman sold it in 1837 to John Forrest, who only owned the duplex for a year, selling it to Henry Thorn of Washington, D. C. in 1838. Undoubtedly the house in Ellicott City was simply an investment, which he retained until 1879, and it is not known who may have rented either half of the duplex. It was purchased by local pharmacist Benjamin Mellor and remained in his family until 1940. As with Thorn, Mellor almost certainly bought the building as an investment and likewise, it is not known who his tenants might have been. The building is one of a very small number of surviving early frame buildings in the core of Ellicott City and was clearly built with an urban mentality, filling the entire street frontage, and having a sallyport to provide access from the street to the rear of the lot.

### Significance:

In January 1837 Caleb Merryman received a deed to this property, Lot 72, from Jonathan Ellicott of Jonathan in exchange for a yearly rent of \$24. This creation of a ground rent gave Merryman control of the use of the land while the ownership of the land was retained by Ellicott. The deed also notes "Caleb Merryman's new frame house built upon the said lot," which explains the arrangement between Ellicott and Merryman; by only renting the land Merryman was able to put his money into the construction of the building, while Ellicott insured development of his property and a steady stream of income. With the partition of Ellicott lands in Ellicott City in 1830 and the arrival of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at the same time, development along the Frederick Turnpike on the Howard County (then still part of Anne Arundel County) side of the Patapsco took off, and Merryman was part of this surge in development. A plat of the partition of the lands of George Ellicott, made in May 1835 does not show

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-325

Name Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Houses  
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

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any improvements on this lot while another plat, apparently made in 1839, clearly shows the U-shaped footprint of the house. The deed of partition created in May 1836 (the previous inventory erroneously dates the deed to May 1835) for the lands of George Ellicott describes Lot 72 as containing the new frame houses in much the same language as the 1837 deed. It is not clear whether the house was complete or still under construction, but the sum of all the information indicates that the house Merryman built on Lot 72 must have been completed in 1836, even if it was begun in late 1835. Caleb Merryman was probably born in 1798 and apprenticed to Folger Pope as a painter and glazier in Baltimore. He ran away from Pope in 1815 and it would seem that Pope had little regard for the teenager, offering only a six-cent reward for his return and refusing to pay any charges incurred in securing the lad.<sup>1</sup>

Merryman married Louisa Andrews in Baltimore in 1823 but nothing more is known about Merryman until he shows up in Ellicott City in October 1835 offering for sale a "... handsome new frame double house, two stories high, suitable for one or two families, being 30 feet front, having two convenient kitchens – and several out houses." This property, which sounds much like the two frame houses under consideration, was located near the Patapsco Hotel at the east end of town and apparently does not survive, but it seems to establish a pattern for Merryman in what he was building. He further stated: "The subscriber being a painter of considerable business, in his profession and intending to leave Ellicott's Mills for a distance, the stand will be an excellent one for a painter." Whether or not he sold his house, clearly, Merryman did not leave since he built another frame double house at the west end of the burgeoning town. Having acquired title to his newest building in January 1837, he almost immediately sold it, the deed being dated in April of that year. Merryman remained in the area, applying for the benefit of the insolvency laws in 1839. The 1850 census places him in the Catonsville area of Baltimore County, and still occupied as a painter, though he could not be located on the 1850 map of the County. He eventually moved to Reisterstown and died there in 1883, at the age of 87.<sup>2</sup>

John Forrest only owned the duplex for a year, selling it to Henry Thorn of Washington, D. C. in 1838. Thorn was a native of Maryland but apparently had just recently moved to the nation's capital and opened a lumber and coal business that was very successful. He apparently was able to retire by 1870, when the census listed him simply as a "gentleman" with real estate worth \$50,000. Undoubtedly the

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<sup>1</sup> Baltimore County Land Records, TK 260-44. Howard County Land Records, JLM 2-101. Anne Arundel County Land Records, WSG 21-175. See especially folio 202 for Lot 72. *Baltimore Patriot*, 10 October 1815, p. 3.

<sup>2</sup> "Maryland Marriages, 1666-1970", database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:F4NR-3YZ:16> January 2020), Caleb Merryman, 1823. *Baltimore Gazette and Daily Advertiser*, 17 October 1835, p. 4. *Baltimore Sun*, 16 November 1839, p. 3. U. S. Bureau of the Census, District 1, Baltimore County, Maryland, 1850. U. S. Bureau of the Census, District 4, Baltimore County, Maryland, 1880. Undated clipping in Byers scrapbook, L1990.82.1, Historical Society of Howard County. "Find A Grave Index," database, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QVLC-B94K:12> June 2020), Caleb Merryman, 1883; Burial, , ; citing record ID , Find a Grave, <http://www.findagrave.com>.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-325

Name Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Houses  
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

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house in Ellicott City was simply an investment, which he retained until 1879, and it is not known who may have rented either half of the duplex. It was purchased by local pharmacist Benjamin Mellor and remained in his family until 1940. As with Thorn, Mellor almost certainly bought the building as an investment and likewise, it is not known who his tenants might have been.<sup>3</sup>

The building is of note for a number of reasons. It is one of a very small number of surviving early frame buildings in the core of Ellicott City and was clearly built with an urban mentality, filling the entire street frontage, and having a sallyport to provide access from the street to the rear of the lot, even though the west side of the property faced onto a side street. It seems to have been built from the start as rental housing and the plan is unusual in having only one primary room in the main block, along with a cross-passage that holds the stairway, behind the main front room. While it would seem likely that an entrance originally existed from the sallyport to the passage, there was no break in what appeared to be original siding that would indicate the former presence of a door. The use of the tight winder stairs for the primary staircase is one feature that is typical of rental units, and their survival here, though altered on the first story, is also significant. Where most local nineteenth-century duplexes would place the fireplaces back-to-back in the center, the sallyport interfered with that arrangement, requiring them to be placed on the gable end. Rather than being centered in the room they are set to one corner so that the chimney could exit the roof at the ridge with minimal bending. In 8333 a patch in the wall between the front room and the cross-passage suggests that the doorway between these two spaces was originally located in line with the front door; it is now near the fireplace, which would be inconvenient when the fireplace was in use.

Each unit had a large kitchen ell adjoining the cross-passage, with a large fireplace on the back wall; its position suggests that the ell, which was originally only one story, had a gable roof. Evidence of the fireplace could only be found in 8329, which also had the rear door on the south wall, to the west. This doorway was later converted to a window, probably when the window on the east got blocked by a building on the lot to the east. These units were also unusual for having a basement, access for which seems to have been from the kitchen ell. This is suggested by a bump-out in the foundation in the corner under the kitchen, and it makes sense since the basement would have been used primarily for food storage. Access to it from the kitchen would have been the most convenient, though it appears likely that it had a ladder stair and may have only had a hatch in the floor. The second story had only one chamber and the stairway, which continued to the attic space. The latter was almost certainly finished from the beginning. The small number of rooms is also consistent for rental housing, which was typically geared to the worker class, though the separate cross-passage is unusual for worker housing. The passage also existed on the second story, but the main chamber to the front was larger than the room below because each extended above half of the sallyport. There was no indication on either floor of either unit that part of the passage was closed off to create a small chamber, but the significant changes

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<sup>3</sup> U. S. Bureau of the Census, 4<sup>th</sup> Ward, Washington, DC, 1870. Thorn could not be located in the 1850 or 1860 census for the city. *Washington, DC, Evening Star*, 23 December 188, p. 9. *Washington, DC Critic-Record*, 24 December 1881, p. 3.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-325

Name Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Houses  
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 3

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made to these spaces could have obliterated any evidence. This seems like a significant waste of space for worker's housing if it was not partitioned, though undoubtedly some use was found for it.

Throughout the nineteenth century each unit received a number of alterations and additions. The winder stair at the first story of both units was straightened so that it was now accessed from the kitchen ell rather than the passage, and the large kitchen fireplace was taken down. Both units got an addition to the rear of the ell, and this probably became the new kitchen, thus enabling the old fireplace to be removed. In 8329 the fireplace was replaced with a smaller one, containing a late-nineteenth century wood mantel, and a door was cut through to the sallyport. This doorway likely replaced the rear door when that was converted to a window, as noted above. The window was probably necessary to replace the window on the southeast, which was covered over by the construction of the adjoining building and placing it in the sallyport would have provided too little light. The former kitchen of 8333 does not seem to have been given a new fireplace. In both units this remodeled kitchen probably became a dining room. The original partition wall between the front room and cross-passage in 8329 was mostly removed and replaced with a columnar screen, perhaps as early as when the kitchen fireplace was removed. The wall between the passage and original kitchen was also opened to a degree. The front porch appears to have been added around this time, though it is not clear whether these changes were piecemeal or all part of one large building episode. A second story was added to the ells to add another bedroom; due to later alterations here, there was no clear evidence of a partition wall in this addition, though the function of the building suggests that there must have been one. In the late twentieth century much of the building was rented by one tenant and partitions in this area were removed. Similarly, a doorway was cut through the partition between the two front chambers, and a second story was put on the addition to the ell of 8329. On the second story of 8333 the ceiling in the north half of the north chamber, and the attic flooring above it, were removed to create a loft, though the floor joists were wisely not cut out. The building received some flooding in 2016, was repaired and put back into service, then damaged again in the 2018 flood. Examination of the building was made in 2021 just prior to a major remodeling, which enabled some exploratory work where walls were to be altered. No further examination was made after the remodeling, but the sallyport was reportedly eliminated and a stairway placed here. The fate of the original winder stairs is unknown.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. HO-325

See footnotes

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 1786 sq. ft.

Acreage of historical setting 1786 sq. ft.

Quadrangle name Ellicott City

Quadrangle scale: 1:24000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries consist of the outlines of the property, tax map 25A, parcel 75, which encompasses all of the historic buildings and features on the site.

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## 11. Form Prepared by

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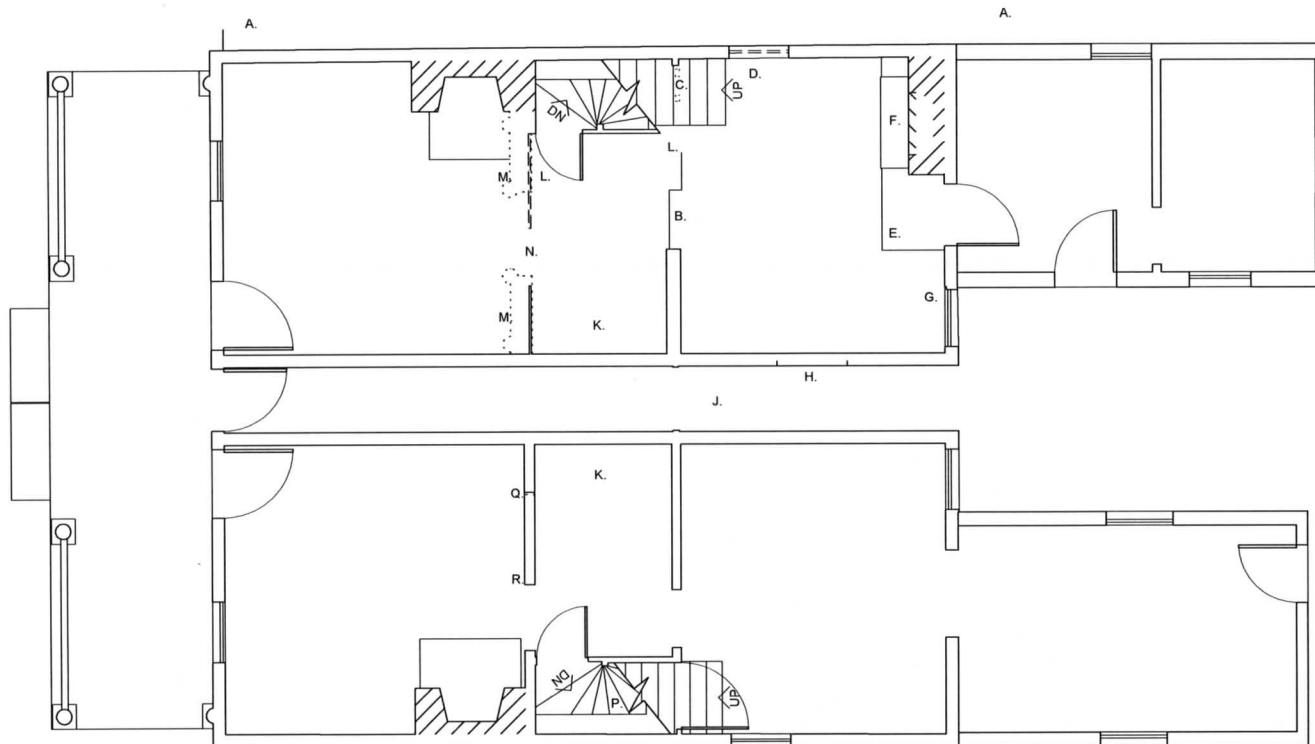
|                 |                                               |           |              |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| name/title      | Ken Short                                     |           |              |
| organization    | Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning | date      | March 2023   |
| 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:

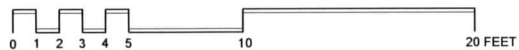
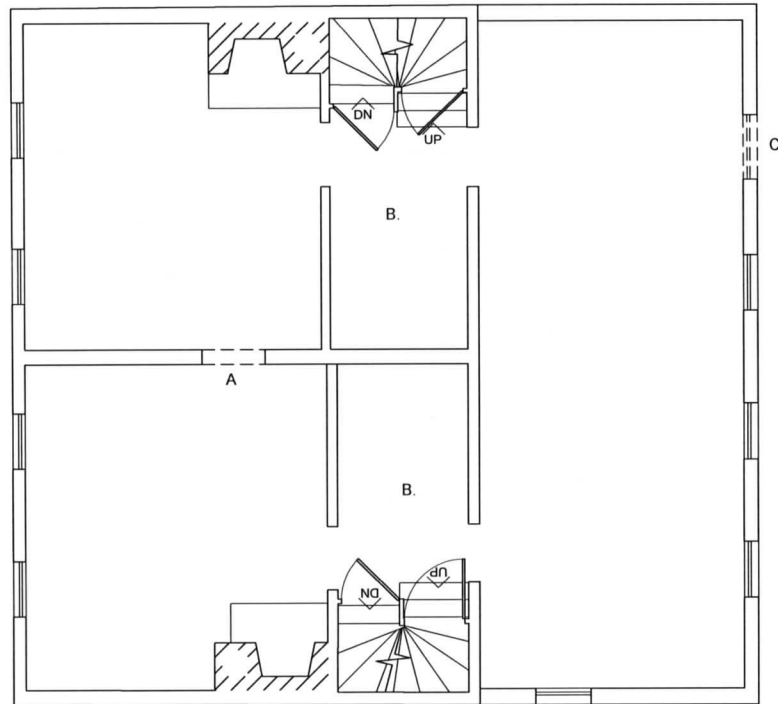
Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600



NOTES:

- A. ADJOINING BUILDING NOT SHOWN.
- B. SEAM IN FLOORING WHERE ORIGINAL DOORWAY APPARENTLY WAS.
- C. MORTISES IN FLOORING BELOW EXISTING STAIRS FOR ORIGINAL STUDS THAT WERE REMOVED WHEN THE BOTTOM OF THE STAIRS WERE STRAIGHTENED. STAIR TREADS REBUILT WITH OLD WINDER TREADS.
- D. WINDOW OPENING CONVERTED TO SHELF.
- E. SEAM IN FLOORING WHERE ORIGINAL KITCHEN FIREPLACE STOOD.
- F. LATE 19TH C. FIREPLACE NOW BRICKED IN.
- G. DOORWAY CONVERTED TO WINDOW AT UNKNOWN DATE, WITH MODERN, NARROWER FRAME AND SASH NOW ADDED.
- H. DOORWAY CUT THROUGH AND NOW CLOSED OFF.
- J. FLOORING IN PART OF THE SALLEYPORT NOW MISSING.
- K. MODERN POWDER ROOM AND PARTITIONS NOT SHOWN.
- L. MODERN PARTITION WALL NOT SHOWN.
- M. TWENTIETH CENTURY WALL SHOWN DOTTED IN TO REVEAL ORIGINAL WALL BEHIND.
- N. ORIGINAL DOORWAY LOCATION BASED ON ONE SURVIVING JAMB.
- P. MODERN STAIRS REPLACE ORIGINAL.
- Q. ORIGINAL DOOR JAMB LOCATION APPROXIMATE.
- R. THIS SECTION OF WALL COMPLETELY MODERN.

HO-325 CALEB MERRYMAN'S TWO FRAME HOUSES 8329-8333 MAIN STREET, ELLICOTT CITY  
 FIRST FLOOR PLAN -- MEASURED BY KEN SHORT & PETE MORRILL -- DRAWN BY KEN SHORT -- AUGUST 2021



NOTES:

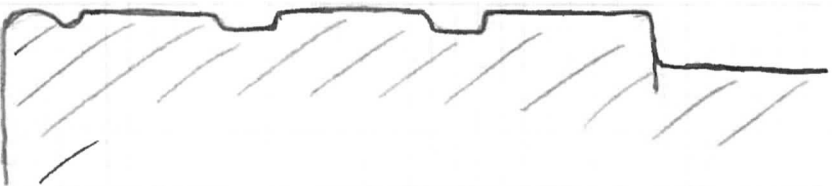
- A. DOORWAY CUT THROUGH LATER.
- B. MODERN PARTITION WALLS NOT SHOWN.
- C. DOORWAY CUT THROUGH TO MODERN ADDITION, NOT SHOWN.

HO-325 CALEB MERRYMAN'S TWO FRAME HOUSES 8329-8333 MAIN STREET, ELLICOTT CITY  
 SECOND FLOOR PLAN -- MEASURED BY KEN SHORT & PETE MORRILL -- DRAWN BY KEN SHORT -- AUGUST 2021

1/1

8329-8333 Main Street  
Basement Door Rehitrave  
(40-325)

KMS  
9 Aug. 2021



8329  
(Heavy  
Paint)

8333  
(Very  
Heavy  
Paint)



Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Houses (HO-325)  
8329-8333 Main Street, Ellicott City  
**CHAIN OF TITLE**

| GRANTOR/HOME                                                  | GRANTEE/HOME                                                                        | DATE               | LIBER/<br>FOLIO | INSTRU-<br>MENT      | CONSID-<br>ERATION | ACREAGE                            | NOTES                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| C and D Realty, Inc. /?                                       | Jacko LLC /?                                                                        | 31 October<br>2019 | 19100-162       | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$475,000          | 1. 1839 sq. ft.<br>2. 1787sq. ft.  | 8329 & 8333                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Clinton R. Hare / Howard<br>Co.                               | C and D Realty, Inc. / MD                                                           | 30 July<br>1987    | CMP<br>1704-287 | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$95,000           | 1839 sq. ft.                       | <b>8329</b>                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Clinton R. Hare & wife<br>Michelle W. / MD                    | Clinton R. Hare / MD                                                                | 28 October<br>1986 | CMP<br>1599-280 | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$0                | 1839 sq. ft.                       | <b>8329</b>                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| William M. Weiss & wife<br>Phyllis M. / Howard Co.            | Clinton R. Hare & wife<br>Michelle W. / ?                                           | 15 July<br>1983    | CMP<br>1194-431 | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$10.00            | 1839 sq. ft.                       | <b>8329</b>                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| M. Hunter Kesmodel /<br>Howard Co.                            | Clinton R. Hare & wife<br>Michelle W.<br>William M. Weiss & wife<br>Phyllis M. / MD | 22 April<br>1981   | CMP<br>1050-748 | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$66,000           | 1839 sq. ft.                       | <b>8329</b>                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| William F. Kirkwood III &<br>wife Paulette C. / Howard<br>Co. | M. Hunter Kesmodel /<br>Howard Co.                                                  | 7 January<br>1976  | CMP<br>751-332  | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$5.00             | 1839 sq. ft.                       | <b>8329</b> p/o below<br>[description is actually for<br>8333 but calls it 8329]                                                                                                                        |
| Harry M. Harrison & wife<br>Marie C. / ?                      | William F. Kirkwood III<br>& wife Paulette C. / ?                                   | 18 January<br>1967 | WHH<br>464-314  | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$5.00             | 1. 1839 sq. ft.<br>2. 1786 sq. ft. | 1. “to the northeast corner of<br>the two story frame duplex<br>dwelling” <b>[8329]</b><br>2. beginning “at the northwest<br>corner of the double house<br>standing on the lot” <b>[8333]</b>           |
| Caleb D. Rogers & wife<br>Elizabeth B. / Howard Co.           | Harry M. Harrison & wife<br>Marie C. / ?                                            | 22 October<br>1953 | MWB<br>249-436  | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$5.00             | 1839 sq. ft.                       | With “the right and privilege<br>to use the water from the well<br>which is on the dividing line”<br>between this lot and the lot to<br>the west <b>[8329]</b>                                          |
| Rebecca Dorsey, widow /<br>Howard Co.                         | Caleb D. Rogers & wife<br>Elizabeth B. / Howard Co.                                 | 17 March<br>1948   | MWB<br>203-173  | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$5.00             | 30' x 150'                         | Next to lot 71, on Frederick<br>Turnpike & Merryman St.<br>Merryman's new frame house<br>W.R.D. d. 9 May 1935. Will<br>RLP 8-127 leaves property to<br>widow Rebecca<br><b>[8329 &amp; 8333 – land]</b> |
| Vernon L. Bush & wife<br>Idella D. / Baltimore Co.            | Caleb D. Rogers /<br>Baltimore Co.                                                  | 17 March<br>1948   | MWB<br>203-171  | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$5.00             | 7277 sq. ft.                       | Subject to annual rent of \$24<br><b>[8329 &amp; 8333 – building]</b>                                                                                                                                   |

Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Houses (HO-325)  
8329-8333 Main Street, Ellicott City  
**CHAIN OF TITLE**

| GRANTOR/HOME                                                                                        | GRANTEE/HOME                             | DATE                   | LIBER/<br>FOLIO   | INSTRU-<br>MENT      | CONSID-<br>ERATION | ACREAGE                                      | NOTES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Charles E. Miller & wife<br>Grace E. / Howard Co.                                                   | Vernon L. Bush & wife<br>Idella D. / ?   | 13 August<br>1946      | BM Jr.<br>192-53  | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$5.00             | 7277 sq. ft.                                 | But land from Barrett to<br>Miller subject to \$24/yr.<br>ground rent<br><b>[8321, 8329 &amp; 8333 –<br/>building]</b>                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| James Clark, trustee /<br>Howard Co.                                                                | Charles E. Miller & wife<br>Grace E. / ? | 16 January<br>1940     | BM Jr.<br>165-447 | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$1,800            | 4500 sq. ft.                                 | Equity 3749, 15 January 1940<br>Sarah Mellor Rhodes, et al v.<br>Adeline Mellor Barrett, et al<br>Lot 47 of Geo. Ellicott's land<br>Lot 71, begin. @ Caleb<br>Merryman frame house on lot<br>72 <b>[8321]</b>                                                                                           |
| Adeline Mellor Barrett, et al,<br>heirs<br>George O. Mellor, admin. of<br>William Edward Mellor / ? | Charles E. Miller & wife<br>Grace E. / ? | 16 January<br>1940     | BM Jr.<br>165-449 | Deed –               | \$1,000            | Lot 30' x 150'                               | Benjamin Mellor, dec'd 4<br>November 1912. Will<br>RDofW 5-174. Bequeathed<br>this property to widow,<br>Emma J., for life, remainder<br>to his 5 children. Emma J. d.<br>26 April 1936<br>@ corner of Main &<br>Merryman streets, lot 72<br>Yearly rent of \$24<br><b>[8329 &amp; 8333 – building]</b> |
| Reuben D. Rogers & wife<br>Nellie P. / Howard Co.                                                   | William R. Dorsey /<br>Howard Co.        | 28 February<br>1930    | HSK<br>139-80     | Deed – ?             | \$5.00             | ?                                            | Lots in Howard & Baltimore<br>Co. Rogers is substitute<br>trustee, will of Reuben M.<br>Dorsey & others and Eugenia<br>Rogers Smith & others<br>See deed of partition [no<br>reference]<br>Ground rents on 2 lots<br><b>[8329 – land]</b>                                                               |
| Reuben D. Rogers, et al                                                                             | Eugenia Rogers Smith, et<br>al           | 16<br>December<br>1929 | HSK<br>138-208    | Edde of<br>Partition | –                  | A. 32 sq. p.<br>B. ?<br>C. 59 sq. p.<br>D. ? | Reuben M. Dorsey will TBH<br>2-243. Equity 2-69<br>Partition of ground rents<br>3 parcels                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Houses (HO-325)  
8329-8333 Main Street, Ellicott City  
**CHAIN OF TITLE**

| GRANTOR/HOME                               | GRANTEE/HOME                                            | DATE                    | LIBER/<br>FOLIO | INSTRU-<br>MENT | CONSID-<br>ERATION | ACREAGE                                                                                                                       | NOTES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                            |                                                         |                         |                 |                 |                    | E. ?<br>F. ?<br>G. ?<br>H. ?<br>J. 49 sq. p.<br>K. ?<br>L. ?<br>M. 33 sq. p.<br>N. ?<br>P. 30' x 150'                         | A. lot 51<br>B. parcel 274 in Baltimore<br>Co. & p/o lot 23<br>C. [lot 70]<br>D. lot 324<br>E. lot 146<br>F. parcel 321<br>G. lot 148<br>H. lot 150<br>J. lot 231<br>K. lot 139<br>L. lot 53<br>M. lot 232<br>N. lot 153<br>P. lot 44 (lot 72 of Ellicott<br>Partition) first of 15 lots in<br>Robert Mickle to Reuben M.<br>Dorsey – goes to Reuben D.<br>Rogers <b>[8329 – land]</b> |
| Henry Thorn / Washington,<br>DC            | Benjamin Mellor /<br>Baltimore Co.                      | 24<br>September<br>1879 | LJW<br>41-301   | Deed –          | \$900              | Lot 30' x 150'                                                                                                                | Lot 72, begin. @ NE corner<br>of "John Forrests new Frame<br>House." rent \$24/yr.<br><b>[8329 &amp; 8333 – building]</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Robert Mickle, trustee /<br>Baltimore City | Reuben M. Dorsey /<br>Howard Dist., Anne<br>Arundel Co. | 9 August<br>1841        | JLM<br>2-135    | Indenture       | \$6,610.16         | A. 32 sq. p.<br>E. ?<br>G. ?<br>H. ?<br>J. 49 sq. p.<br>K. ?<br>L. ?<br>M. 33 sq. p.<br>N. ?<br>P. 30' x 150'<br>R. 27 sq. p. | Private sale<br>P. lot 44, to the east side of a<br>road" called Merrymans<br>street"<br>A. lot 51<br>E. lot 146<br>G. lot 148<br>H. lot 150<br>J. lot 231<br>L. lot 53<br>M. lot 232<br>N. lot 153<br>R. lot 235<br>+ more <b>[8329 – land]</b>                                                                                                                                       |

Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Houses (HO-325)  
8329-8333 Main Street, Ellicott City  
**CHAIN OF TITLE**

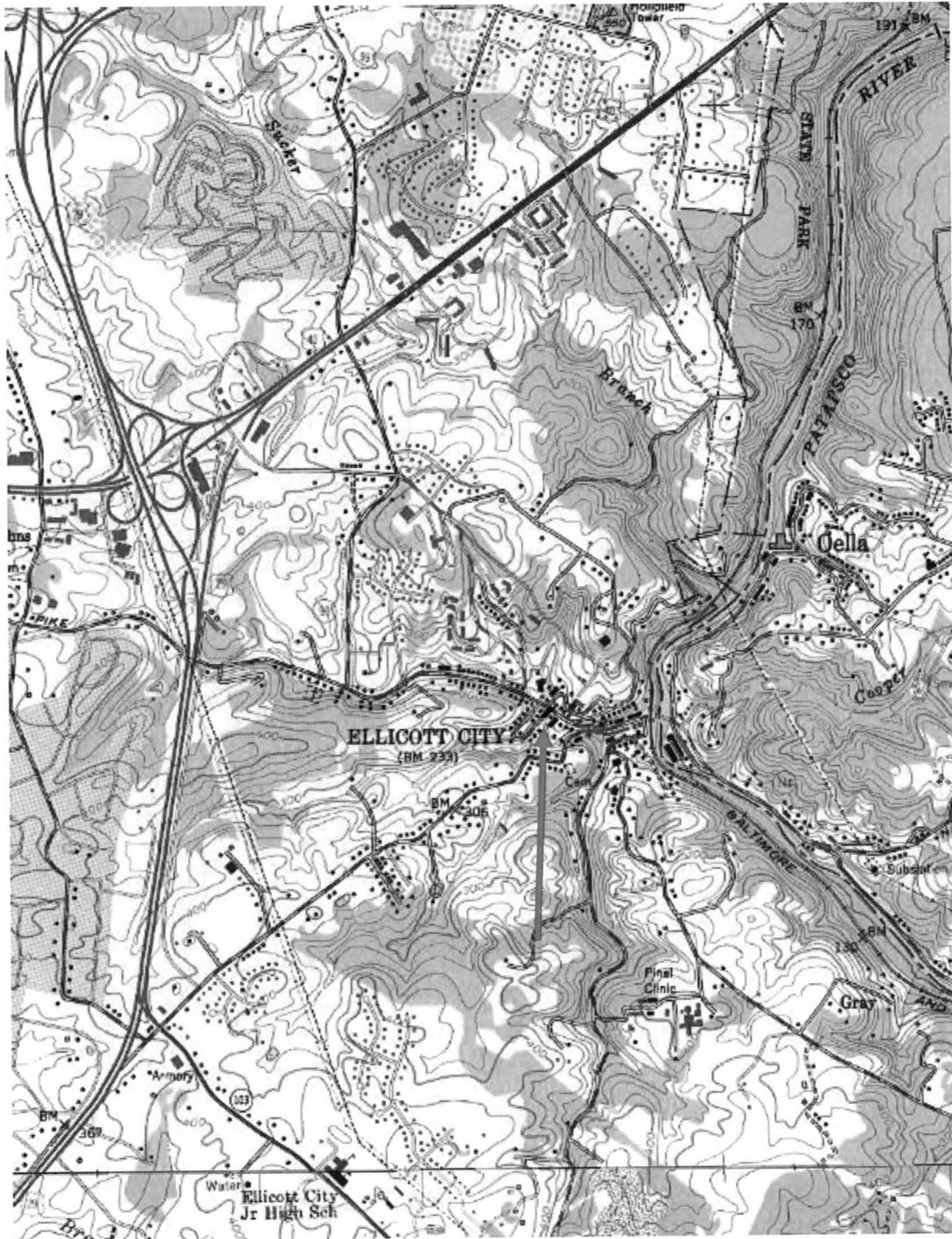
| GRANTOR/HOME                                                                                                                                                                                         | GRANTEE/HOME                                  | DATE                   | LIBER/<br>FOLIO  | INSTRU-<br>MENT      | CONSID-<br>ERATION           | ACREAGE        | NOTES                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Nathaniel H. Ellicott & wife<br>Thomasina<br>Jonathan H. Ellicott<br>Benjamin H. Ellicott & wife<br>Mary Ann<br>Samuel Ellicott<br>Sarah Ellicott, widow of<br>Jonathan Ellicott / Baltimore<br>City | Robert Mickle / Baltimore<br>City             | 19 July<br>1839        | WSG<br>24-285    | Indenture            | Release<br>from all<br>debts | —              | Jonathan Ellicott & Sons<br>indebted to many &<br>embarrassed<br>Numerous parcels<br><b>[8329 &amp; 8333 – land]</b>                                                                           |
| John Forrest / Anne Arundel<br>Co.                                                                                                                                                                   | Henry Thorn /<br>Washington, DC               | 16 April<br>1838       | WSG<br>23-103    | Indenture            | \$1.00                       | Lot 30' x 150' | Lot 72, begin. @ NE corner<br>of "John Forrests new Frame<br>House." rent \$24/yr.<br>Messuage or tenement<br><b>[8329 &amp; 8333 – building]</b>                                              |
| Caleb Merryman / Baltimore<br>Co.                                                                                                                                                                    | John Forrest / Anne<br>Arundel Co.            | 6 April<br>1837        | WSG<br>22-177    | Indenture            | \$1.00                       | Lot 30' x 150' | Lot 75 [must be error-<br>describes lot 72], begin. @<br>NE corner of "Caleb<br>Merrymans new Frame House<br>built upon the said lot." rent<br>\$24/yr.<br><b>[8329 &amp; 8333 – building]</b> |
| Jonathan H. Ellicott of<br>Jonathan / Baltimore City                                                                                                                                                 | Caleb Merryman /<br>Baltimore Co.             | 14 January<br>1837     | WSG<br>21-623    | Indenture            | \$24/yr. rent                | Lot 30' x 150' | Lot 72, begin. @ NE corner<br>of "Caleb Merrymans new<br>Frame House built upon the<br>said lot." <b>[8329 – building]</b>                                                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                               |                        |                  |                      |                              |                |                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Bruce A. Kelbel & wife<br>Doris A. / ?                                                                                                                                                               | C and D Realty, Inc. / MD                     | 2 December<br>1988     | CMP 1926-<br>467 | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$95,000                     | 1786 sq. ft.   | <b>8333</b>                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Edna L. Abend / ?                                                                                                                                                                                    | Bruce A. Kelbel & wife<br>Doris A. / ?        | 9 December<br>1980     | CMP<br>1031-523  | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$62,000                     | 1786 sq. ft.   | <b>[8333]</b>                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Allen C. Abend / Howard<br>Co.                                                                                                                                                                       | Edna L. Abend / Howard<br>Co.                 | 13<br>December<br>1978 | CMP<br>920-577   | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$5.00                       | 1786 sq. ft.   | <b>8333</b><br>A. C. A. & E. L. A. divorced<br>27 July 1978                                                                                                                                    |
| William F. Kirkwood III &<br>wife Paulette C. / Howard<br>Co.                                                                                                                                        | Allen C. Abend & wife<br>Edna L. / Howard Co. | 26<br>November<br>1975 | CMP<br>747-277   | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$5.00                       | 1786 sq. ft.   | <b>8333</b><br>See WHH 464-314                                                                                                                                                                 |

Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Houses (HO-325)

8329-8333 Main Street, Ellicott City

**CHAIN OF TITLE**

| GRANTOR/HOME                                                                                                               | GRANTEE/HOME                                  | DATE                    | LIBER/<br>FOLIO | INSTRU-<br>MENT      | CONSID-<br>ERATION | ACREAGE      | NOTES                                                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mary Brightwell Steward & husband John Arthur Steward, Jr.<br>Mary B. Steward, guardian of Randolph Eugene Brightwell, Jr. | Harry M. Harrison & wife Marie C.             | 15<br>September<br>1962 | WHH<br>389-377  | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$5.00             | 1786 sq. ft. | Randolph Eugene Brightwell<br>d. 29 May 1961<br>His widow Mary C. now<br>married to J. A. Steward, Jr.<br>[8333]                                           |
| Russell W. Harrison & wife Virginia / Howard Co.                                                                           | Randolph Eugene Brightwell, unmarried         | 18<br>September<br>1959 | RHM<br>339-581  | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$5.00             | 1786 sq. ft. | [8333]                                                                                                                                                     |
| White L. Jones & wife Mary Edith / Howard Co.                                                                              | Russell W. Harrison & wife Virginia / ?       | 29<br>September<br>1954 | MWB<br>261-35   | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$5.00             | 1786 sq. ft. | [8333]                                                                                                                                                     |
| Helen E. Peddicord, widow / Howard Co.                                                                                     | White L. Jones & wife Mary Edith / Howard Co. | 19 June<br>1951         | MWB<br>229-166  | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$5.00             | 1786 sq. ft. | [8333]                                                                                                                                                     |
| Caleb D. Rogers & wife Elizabeth B. / Howard Co.                                                                           | Helen E. Peddicord / ?                        | 18 June<br>1949         | MWB<br>210-547  | Deed – fee<br>simple | \$5.00             | 1786 sq. ft. | [8333] part of lot in 203-171<br>& 203-173<br>H. E. P. must bear expense of<br>piping water from well to east<br>of her dwelling & to repair<br>the pipes. |



HO-325  
Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Houses  
8329-8333 Main Street, Ellicott City  
Ellicott City quad



HO-325  
Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Houses  
8329-8333 Main Street, Ellicott City  
Ellicott City quad

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
**Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No: HO-325

Name: Caleb Merryman Double Frame House  
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 1



Photo 1 of 19: North elevation. 8/2/2021



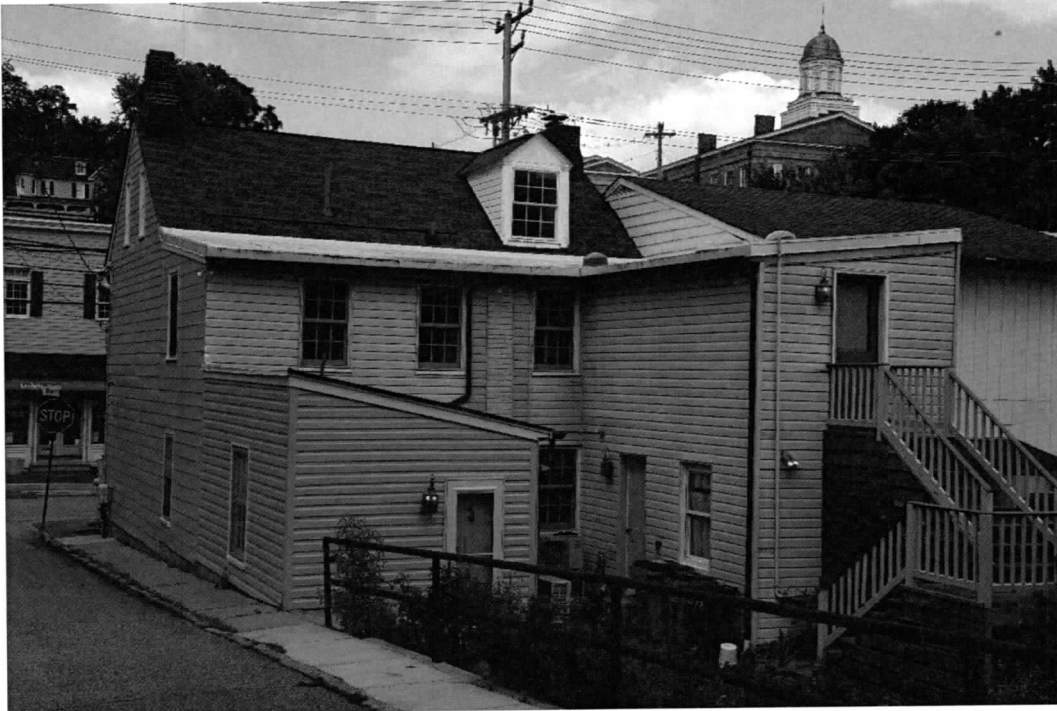
Photo 2 of 19: North & west elevations. 8/2/2021

**Maryland Historical Trust  
Maryland Inventory of  
Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No: HO-325

Name: Caleb Merryman Double Frame House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number Photos Page 2



**Photo 3 of 19: West & south elevations. 8/2/2021**

**Maryland Historical Trust  
Maryland Inventory of  
Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No: HO-325

Name: Caleb Merryman Double Frame House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number Photos Page 3

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**Photo 4 of 19: Sallyport, first story, view north. 8/2/2021**

**Maryland Historical Trust  
Maryland Inventory of  
Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No: HO-325

Name: Caleb Merryman Double Frame House  
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 4



Photo 5 of 19: 8333 – Ell, view northwest to stairs. 8/2/2021



Photo 6 of 19: 8333 – Ell, stair door latch. 8/2/2021

**Maryland Historical Trust  
Maryland Inventory of  
Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No: HO-325

Name: Caleb Merryman Double Frame House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number Photos Page 5

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**Photo 7 of 19: 8333 – South room stairs, view down from second story showing alteration at bottom. 8/2/2021**



**Photo 8 of 19: 8333 – South room stairs showing dust corners. 8/2/2021**

**Maryland Historical Trust  
Maryland Inventory of  
Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No: HO-325

Name: Caleb Merryman Double Frame House  
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 6



Photo 9 of 19: 8333 – North chamber, view southwest. 8/2/2021

**Maryland Historical Trust  
Maryland Inventory of  
Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No: HO-325

Name: Caleb Merryman Double Frame House  
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 7

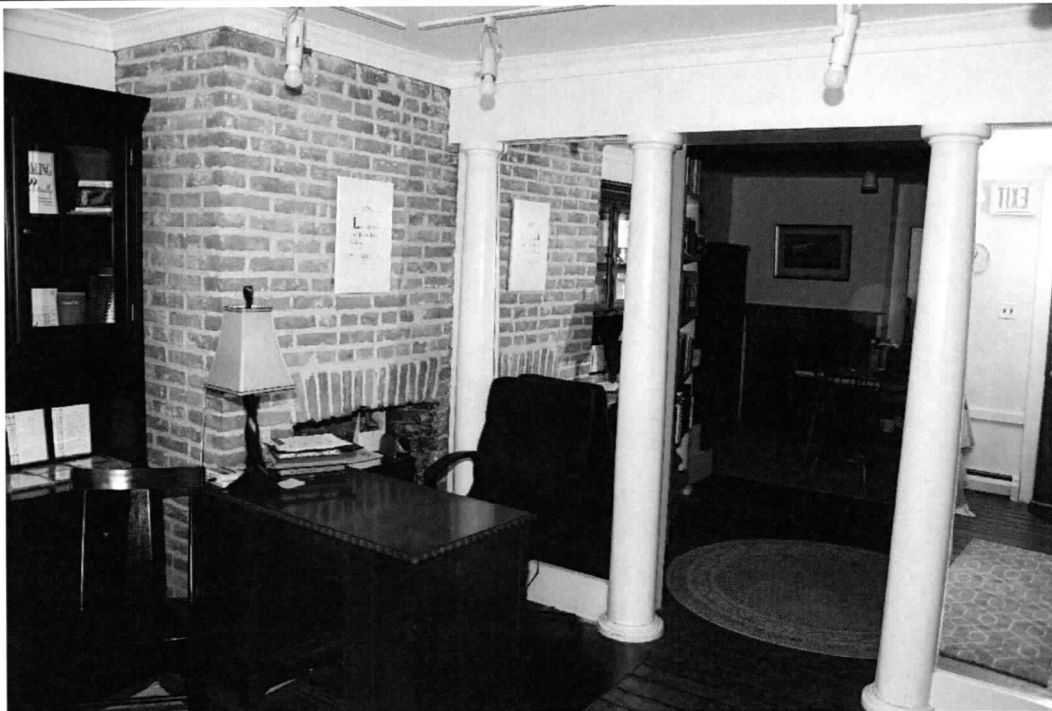


Photo 10 of 19: 8329 – North room, view southeast. 8/2/2021



Photo 11 of 19: 8329 – South room & ell, view northeast to stairs in south room. 8/2/2021

**Maryland Historical Trust  
Maryland Inventory of  
Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No: HO-325

Name: Caleb Merryman Double Frame House  
Continuation Sheet

Number    Photos    Page 8

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Photo 12 of 19: 8329 – South room, door to cellar. 8/2/2021

**Maryland Historical Trust  
Maryland Inventory of  
Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No: HO-325

Name: Caleb Merryman Double Frame House  
Continuation Sheet

Number   Photos   Page   9  



Photo 13 of 19: 8329 – South room, bottom of first story stair treads with seams showing reused winders. 8/2/2021



Photo 14 of 19: 8329 – South room, floor under stairs with mortises for south wall studs. 8/2/2021

**Maryland Historical Trust  
Maryland Inventory of  
Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No: HO-325

Name: Caleb Merryman Double Frame House  
Continuation Sheet

Number    Photos    Page 10



Photo 15 of 19: 8329 – Ell, fireplace on south. 8/2/2021



Photo 16 of 19: 8329 – North chamber, fireplace on east. 8/2/2021

**Maryland Historical Trust  
Maryland Inventory of  
Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No: HO-325

Name: Caleb Merryman Double Frame House  
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 11



Photo 17 of 19: 8329 – South room stairs. 8/2/2021

**Maryland Historical Trust  
Maryland Inventory of  
Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No: HO-325

Name: Caleb Merryman Double Frame House  
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 12

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Photo 18 of 19: Sallyport, basement, view south. 1/18/2015

**Maryland Historical Trust  
Maryland Inventory of  
Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No: HO-325

Name: Caleb Merryman Double Frame House  
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 13



Photo 19 of 19: 8329 – Cellar, view south. 8/2/2021

**PHOTO LOG**

Name of Photographer: Ken Short  
Date of Photographs: 2 August 2021, 8 January 2015  
Location of Original Digital File: MD SHPO

*Photographs inserted on continuation sheets.*

Photo 1 of 19:  
North elevation.  
HO-0325\_2021-08-02\_01.tif

Photo 2 of 19:  
North & west elevations.  
HO-0325\_2021-08-02\_02.tif

Photo 3 of 19:  
West & south elevations.  
HO-0325\_2021-08-02\_03.tif

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
**Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No: HO-325

Name: Caleb Merryman Double Frame House  
Continuation Sheet

Number    Photos    Page 14

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**Photo 4 of 19:**

Sallyport, first story, view north.

HO-0325\_2021-08-02\_04.tif

**Photo 5 of 19:**

8333 –Ell, view northwest to stairs.

HO-0325\_2021-08-02\_05.tif

**Photo 6 of 19:**

8333 –Ell, stair door latch.

HO-0325\_2021-08-02\_06.tif

**Photo 7 of 19:**

8333 –South room stairs, view down from second story showing alteration at bottom.

HO-0325\_2021-08-02\_07.tif

**Photo 8 of 19:**

8333 –South room stairs showing dust corners.

HO-0325\_2021-08-02\_08.tif

**Photo 9 of 19:**

8333 –North chamber, view southwest.

HO-0325\_2021-08-02\_09.tif

**Photo 10 of 19:**

8329 – North room, view southeast.

HO-0325\_2021-08-02\_10.tif

**Photo 11 of 19:**

8329 – South room & ell, view northeast to stairs in south room.

HO-0325\_2021-08-02\_11.tif

**Photo 12 of 19:**

8329 – South room, door to cellar.

HO-0325\_2021-08-02\_12.tif

**Photo 13 of 19:**

8329 – South room, bottom of first story stair treads with seams showing reused winders.

HO-0325\_2021-08-02\_13.tif

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
**Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No: HO-325

Name: Caleb Merryman Double Frame House  
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 15

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**Photo 14 of 19:**

**8329 – South room, floor under stairs with mortises for south wall studs.**

**HO-0325\_2021-08-02\_14.tif**

**Photo 15 of 19:**

**8329 – Ell, fireplace on south.**

**HO-0325\_2021-08-02\_15.tif**

**Photo 16 of 19:**

**8329 – North chamber, fireplace on east.**

**HO-0325\_2021-08-02\_16.tif**

**Photo 17 of 19:**

**8329 – South room stairs.**

**HO-0325\_2021-08-02\_17.tif**

**Photo 18 of 19:**

**8329 – Sallyport, basement, view south.**

**HO-0325\_2021-08-02\_18.tif**

**Photo 19 of 19:**

**8329 – Cellar, view south.**

**HO-0325\_2021-08-02\_19.tif**

NOTE: Per the *Standards & Guidelines*, the preparer may submit up to 20 images in print form or on continuation sheets. Printed photographs must accompany all grant-funded and National Register nomination projects. If you elect to provide more than 20 images, please include them as digital files only on archival CDs. Each photo log should clearly indicate for which photo numbers there are hard copy prints or images on continuation sheets, and for which photo numbers there are additional digital images available on CD only.

Ho-325

circa 1835

Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Buildings  
Ellicott City  
Private

These two frame buildings facing north on the southeast corner of Main Street and Merryman Street were constructed circa 1835 by Caleb Merryman on a tract of land called "Mount Misery", conveyed to Elias, John and George Ellicott by Thomas, Elias and William Brown.

Two two bay wide, one room deep, two and a half story frame structures are covered by a single gabled roof (running east-west) and share a one story high central alley and second and attic floor wall. Wide brick chimneys are inset into their exterior east and west walls. An open, hipped roof, one story high porch runs along the north elevation supported by five doric columns. Rectangular entrance doors, surmounted by four light transoms (the east now holds an air conditioner), rest on either side of the central rectangular alley entrance door.

An early two story high, shed roofed addition runs along the entire south elevation with further appendages on the east and west sides of its south wall.

The interior features original brick mantle pieces, wide, random width floors, original hardware and original woodwork. The second floor living room on the west side has been completely renovated by Mr. Allen Abend, the present owner, who has exposed all the supporting studs and half the ceiling joists, creating a cathedral ceiling effect.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Ho-325

Dist 2

MAGI # 1403255404

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Buildings

AND/OR COMMON

The Abend House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

8329 - 8333 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Howard

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☒ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO limit

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☒ OTHER: office**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Allen C. Abend

Telephone #: 461-2173

STREET &amp; NUMBER

8333 Main Street

Office telephone 796-4420

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City

VICINITY OF

Maryland

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE.

Tax Map 25-A p.75

Liber #: 747

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Hall of Records

Folio #: 277

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Howard County Court House

Land Access: 2450

Building Access: 9200

Total Access: 11650

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Howard County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1977

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

21 State Circle, Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

**7 DESCRIPTION**

|                                               |                                       |                                             |                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <b>CONDITION</b>                              |                                       | <b>CHECK ONE</b>                            | <b>CHECK ONE</b>                                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GOOD                 | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR                 | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED    |                                             | DATE _____                                        |

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The Caleb Merryman House faces north on the southeast corner of Main Street and Merryman Street. Originally it was constructed of frame which has been covered with aluminum siding. Two two bay wide, one room deep, two and a half story frame structures are covered by a single gabled roof which runs east-west. A one story high alley runs between the two frame houses which share a common second floor and attic wall. Wide brick chimneys are inset into their exterior east and west walls.

Very soon after these buildings were constructed and prior to 1878 (see attachment 3) a two story high, shed roofed addition was built along their south wall. (See figure 1.) On the west it holds a first and second floor double-hung rectangular window with six-over-six lights, decorated with deep forest green shutters. Along the south wall of this addition may have been four similar windows. Only three are now evident as a two story high, one bay wide, one bay deep shed roofed addition springs from the first east bay of the south wall. See figures 1, 2 and 3. Its south wall holds a rectangular, double-hung window with one-over-one lights. Above a similar second floor window holds six-over-six lights. A square brick chimney is located in its northeast corner. A one story high, shed roofed addition springs from the south wall of addition I (see figure 1, 2 and 3).

A hipped roof, one story high open porch runs along the entire north elevation which faces Main Street. It is supported by five round wooden columns and two half columns attached to the east and west sides of the north wall. Two single granite steps, lying side by side, lead to the wooden porch and the two rectangular entrances which are separated by a rectangular door which leads into their common alley. Four light transoms surmount the east and west entrances. That on the east now holds an air conditioning unit.

The interior of the west side building is now owned by Mr. Allen Abend, an architect who is in the process of sensitively restoring this side of the duplex. The second floor living room has been completed, uncovering the original brick fireplace and random width floors as well as exposing the studs and ceiling joists of the room. Half the attic floor boards have been removed and the roof trusses revealed to create a cathedral ceiling effect of spaciousness. On the south side of the room, attic random width floor boards have been used for the ceiling (running east-west) above which is a pleasant attic loft.

Future plans include creating one large south room on the second floor addition which now holds partitions.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# **8 SIGNIFICANCE**

| PERIOD                                        | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW        |                                                        |                                                 |                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC          | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION                  | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE                    | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS                     | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE        | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION                     | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY               | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                            | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING                   | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE                       | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT        | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS                 | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY                      | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|                                               |                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION                     |                                                 |                                              |

SPECIFIC DATES      circa 1835      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      Caleb Merryman

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Merryman two frame buildings are of both architectural and historical significance as well as an example of Ellicott's Community Planning.

An early Ellicott Deed dated May 2, 1836 refers to these two frame buildings as "new" in the following passage:

"at the end of a line drawn up the South line of the Turnpike road North forty nine degrees and fifteen minutes West twenty feet from the north west corner of Caleb Merryman's new frame buildings on Lot number seventy two . . . .". (Ann Arundel Land Records WSG21-215)

This would indicate that the buildings were in existence in May, 1836 and were probably built some time between 1830-1835. An Ann Arundel deed dated 14 of January, 1837 between Jonathan H. Ellicott of Jonathan of Baltimore City and County and Caleb Merryman of the same county, in which Mr. Ellicott conveyed the land and Mr. Merryman's new frame buildings built upon the said lot to Mr. Merryman, located these lots on a tract of land called "Mount Misery". (WSG21-623)

"Mount Misery" was "part of 107 acres more or less conveyed by deed dated July 11, 1818 to Elias Ellicott, John Ellicott and George Ellicott by Thomas Brown and William Brown . . ." (WSG 21 - 178)

The plat of the Ellicotts dealing with a portion of this tract by William Dawson, Jr., Surveyor, dated July 25, 1836, (see attachment 2) exemplifies how the Ellicotts sub-divided their land and cut out streets. Notice that a puregrid is not followed. The contour of the land and granite cliffs dictate the street pattern which is a necessary and interesting element in the community planning of Ellicott Mills by the Ellicotts. In addition the Ellicotts held on to the land, leasing it for a term of ninety-nine years and requiring a yearly rent on same. In the case of Caleb Merryman he was required to pay a yearly rent of "twenty - four dollars lawful money of the United States free and clear of all deductions for taxes and assessments of every kind and nature whatever levied". (WSG 21-623)

Architecturally, the building is noteworthy as an example of an early frame duplex with central alley. Most houses of this period were of ashlar granite block or brick construction. The uncovering of the original studs and ceiling joists as well as the beam which continues through to the east side of the duplex by Mr. Abend is of particular significance architecturally. In addition the second floor brick mantle piece and chimney have been uncovered and put into safe working order. Machine cut and headed nails have been uncovered which were manufactured between the years 1815 and 1830's. Thence the construction of the building might be between those same years. Wide, random width attic floors also reveal an early date of construction. ✓ The shed roof, two story high addition along the south elevation dates prior to 1878 for the Hopkin's Atlas shows the configuration of the building to include the addition.

The building in 1835 was a one room up and one room down with attic and probably out door kitchen and toilet facilities. By 1878 the building had been enlarged to an additional first and second floor room. Very early additional appendages have been added on the south to provide kitchens.

The exposure of the roof structure indicates the lack of a ridge beam. The rafters are fastened with a tongue and mortice joint and pegged.

Noteworthy historically and architecturally, this building should be place on the National Register of Historic Places.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Howard County Land Records  
Private research compiled by Mr. Allen Abend, owner of the west side of Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Buildings.  
Interview with Mr. Allen Abend at his home September 20, 1977.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1786 square feet

Please see attachment I, Tax Map 25-A

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see liber 747, folio 277  
Howard County Land Records

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland

COUNTY Howard

STATE

COUNTY

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist

ORGANIZATION

Office of Planning & Zoning-Comprehensive Planning Section 465-5000 x257

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

3450 Court House Drive

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Ellicott City

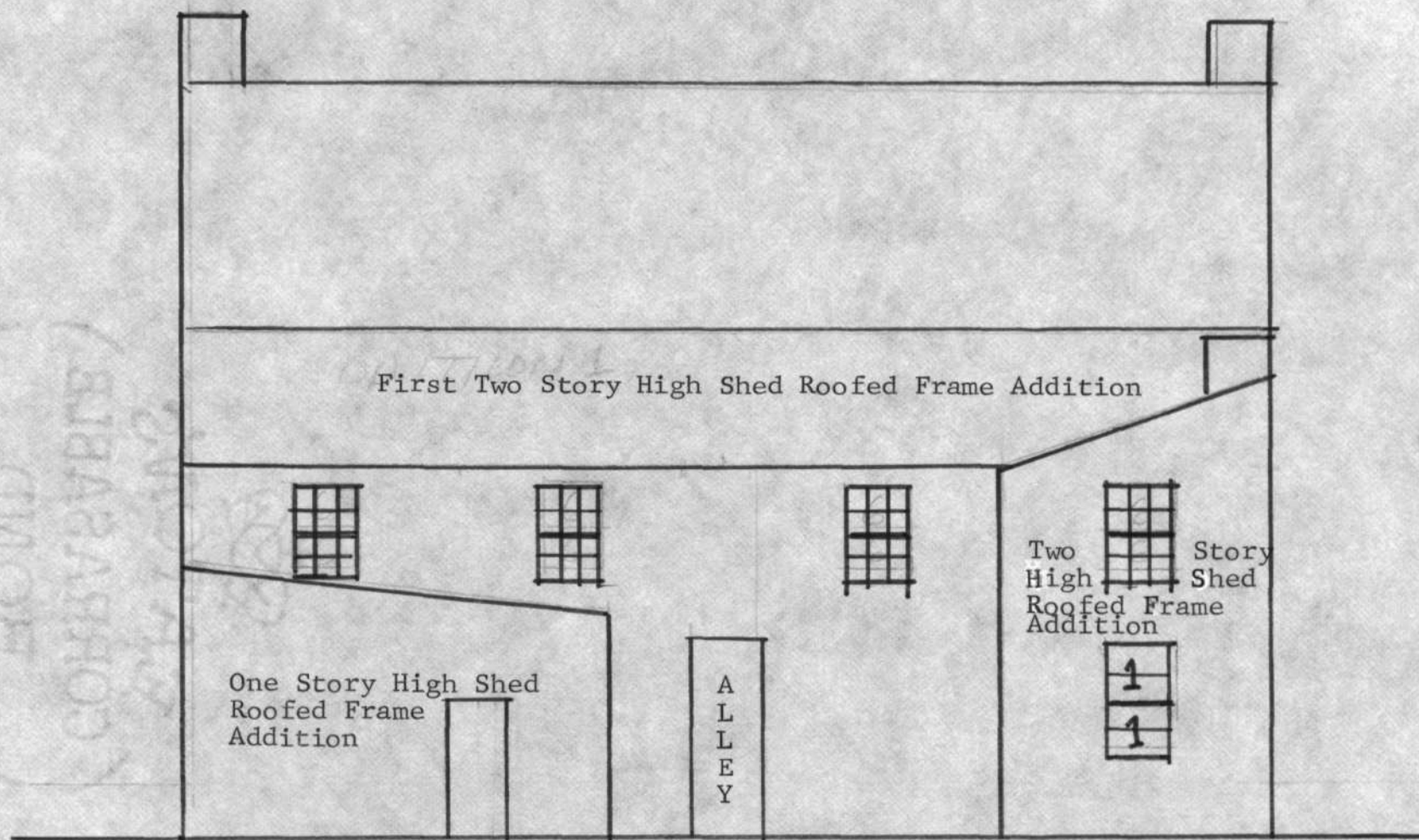
STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory 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.

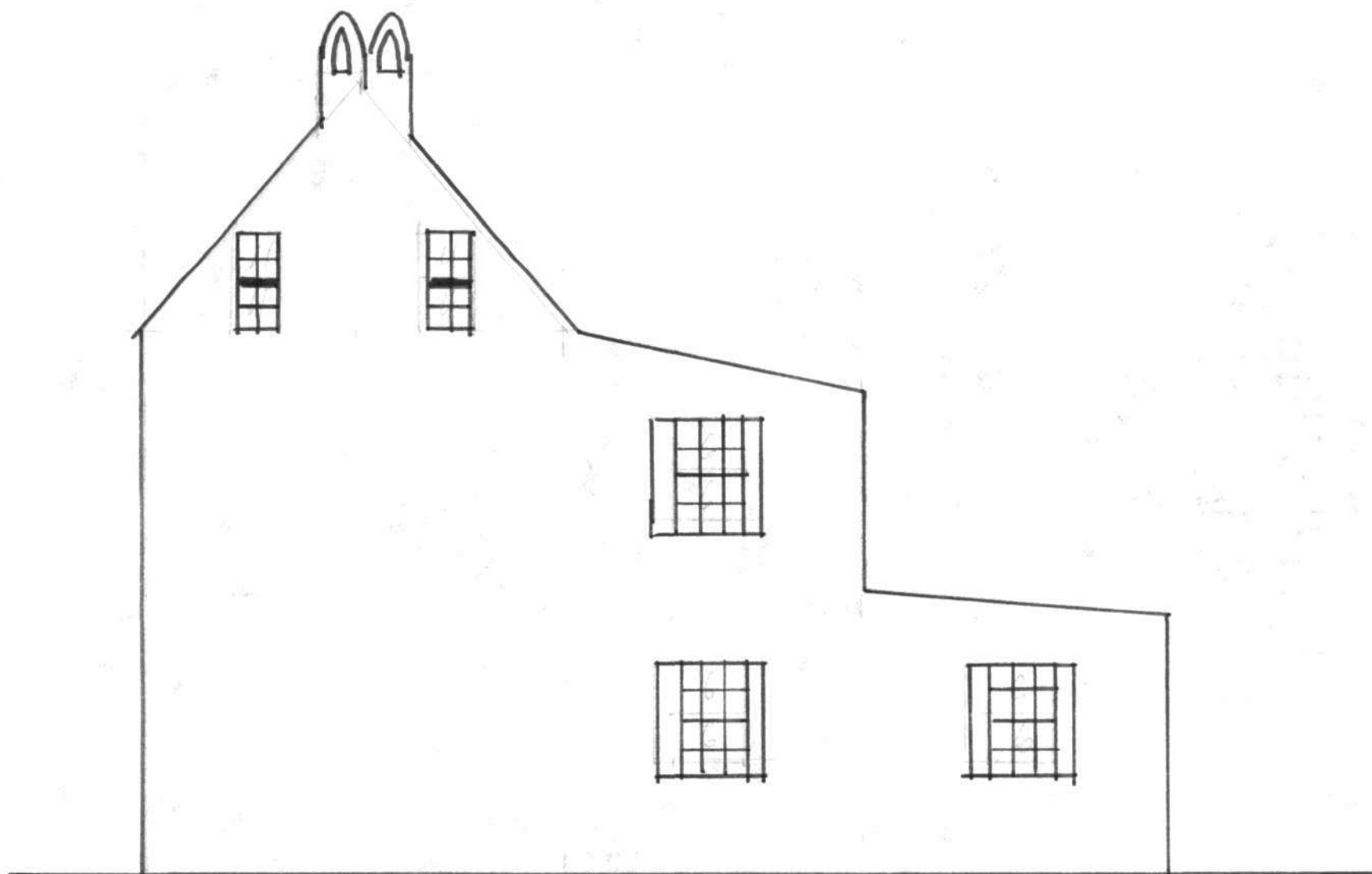
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



NOT TO SCALE

Figure I. South Elevation of Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Buildings

HO-325



NOT TO SCALE

Figure 2. West Elevation of Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Buildings

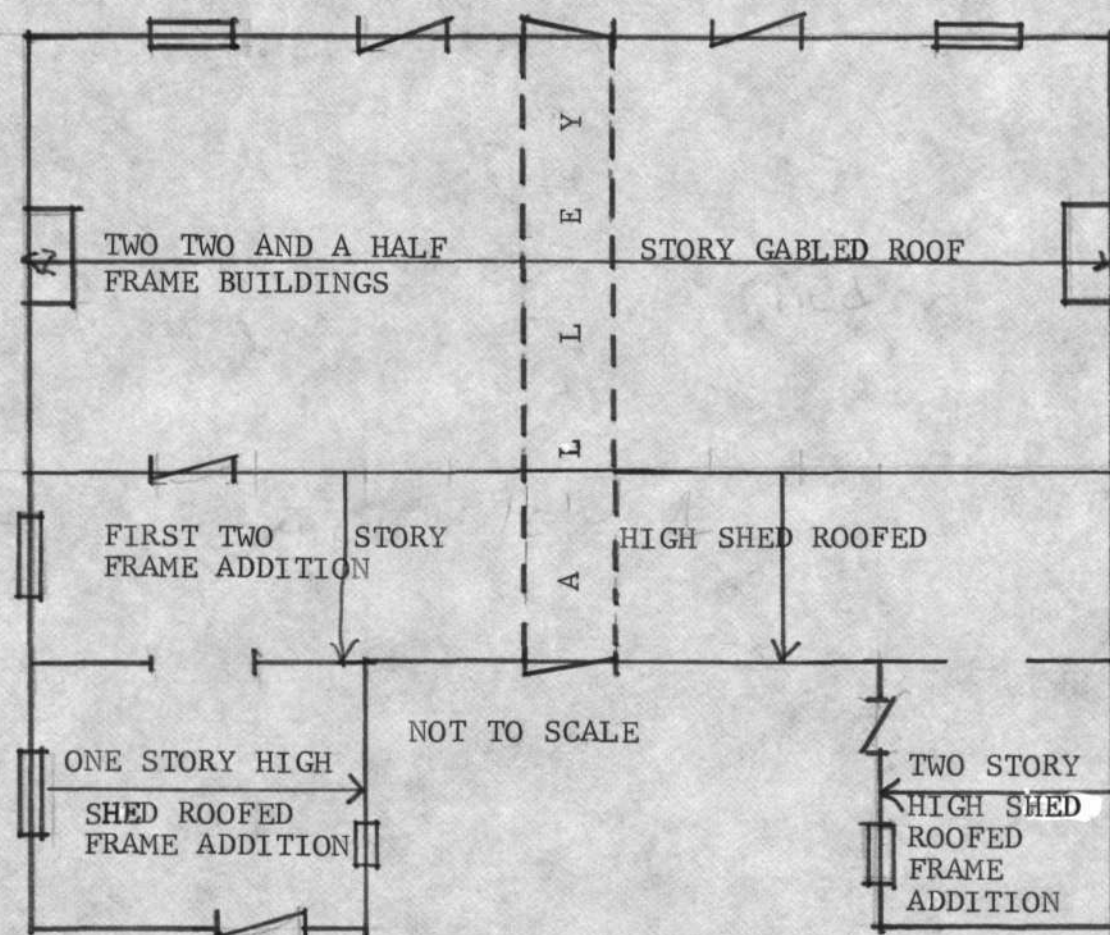
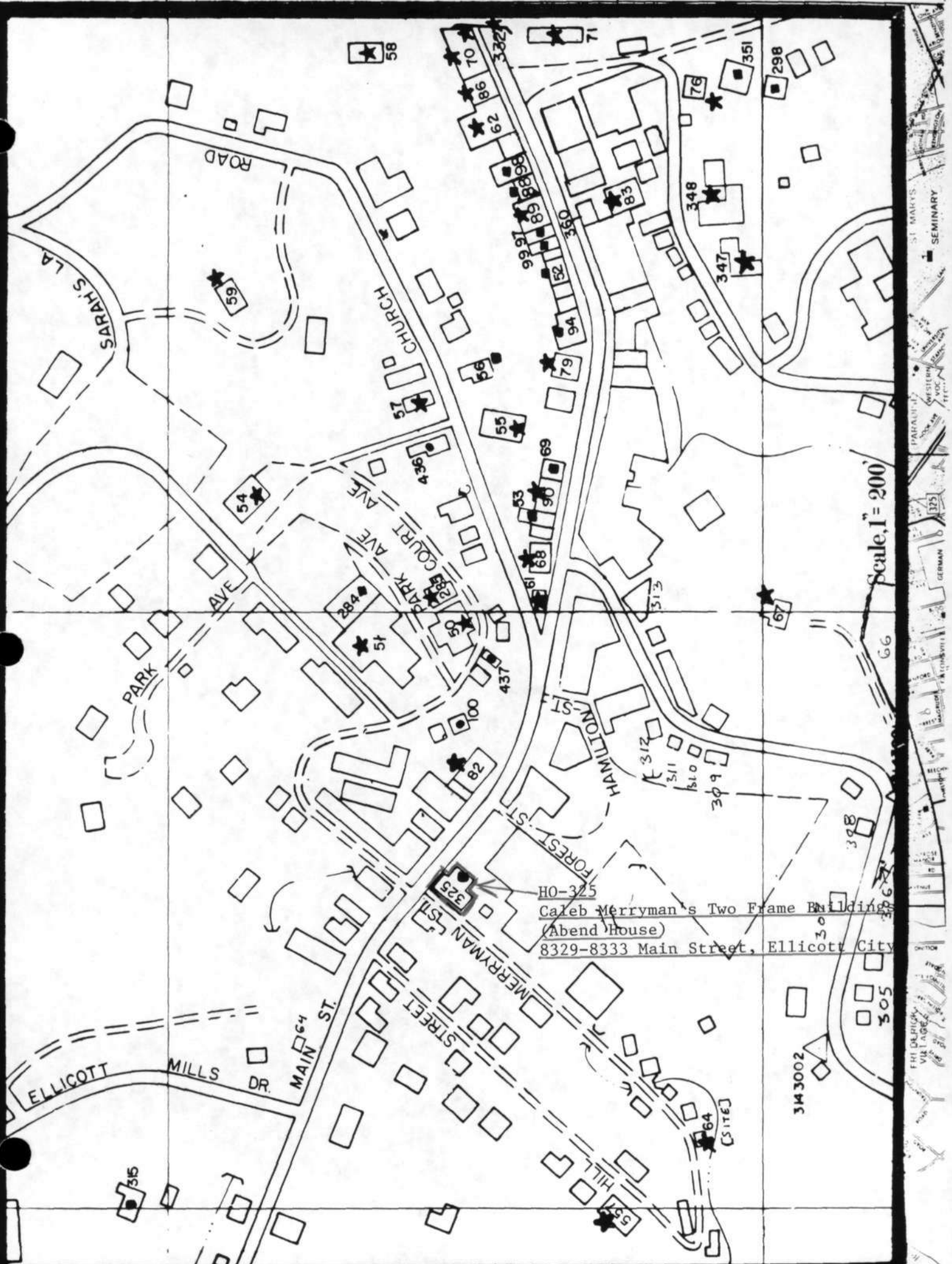
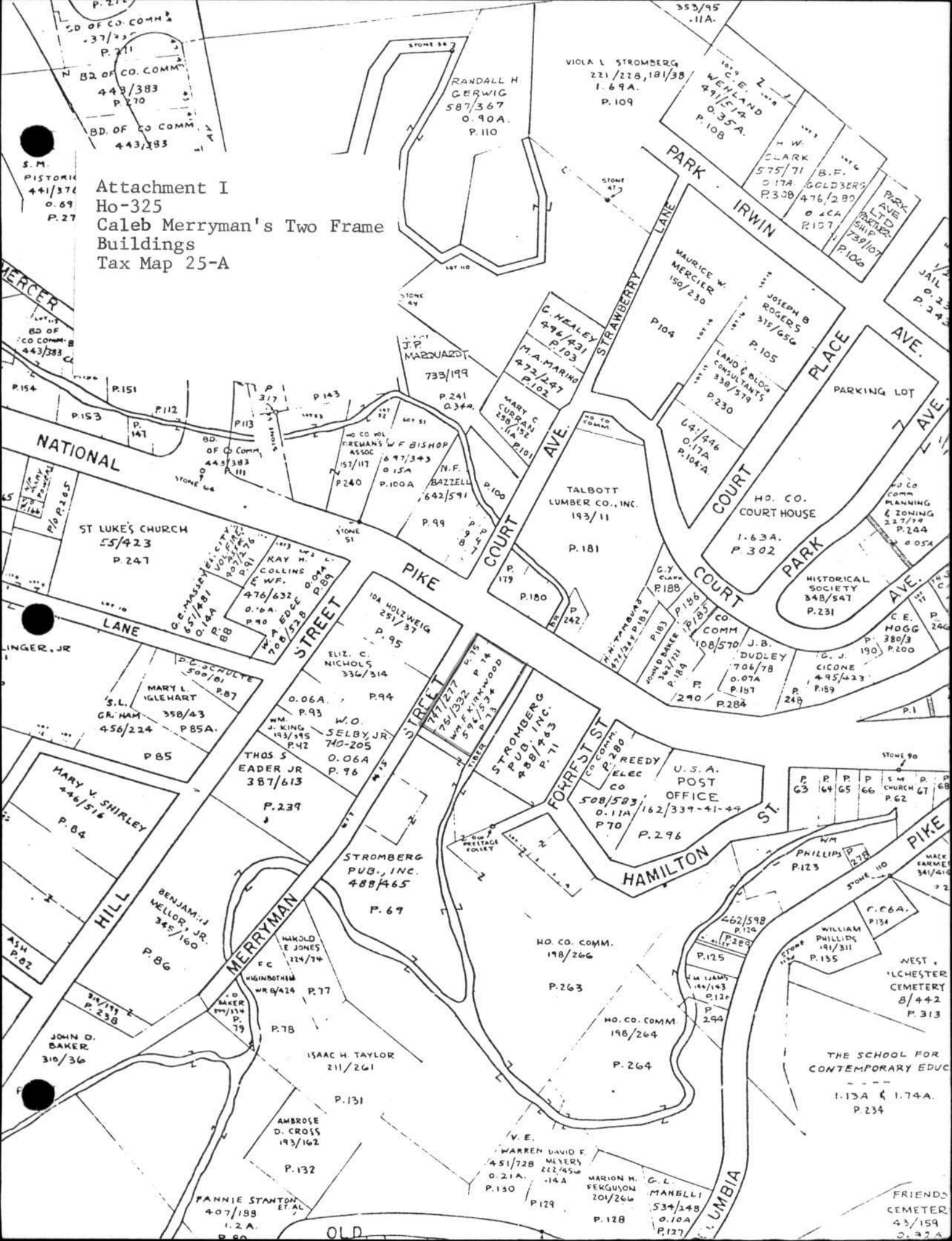


Figure 3. Site Plan of Ho-325 Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Buildings



HO-325  
 Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Buildings  
 (Abend House)  
 8329-8333 Main Street, Ellicott City

Attachment I  
Ho-325  
Caleb Merryman's Two Frame  
Buildings  
Tax Map 25-A



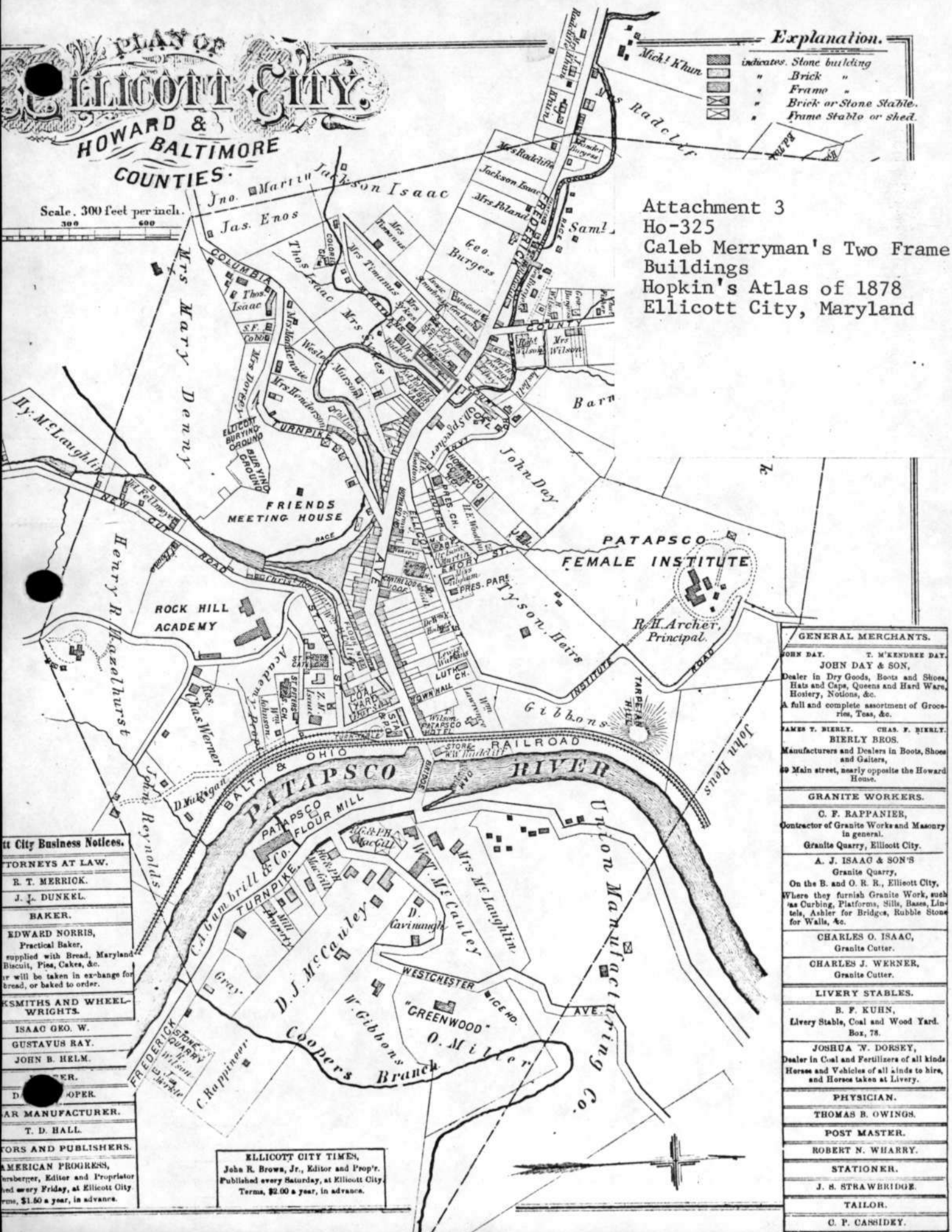


July 23, 1836

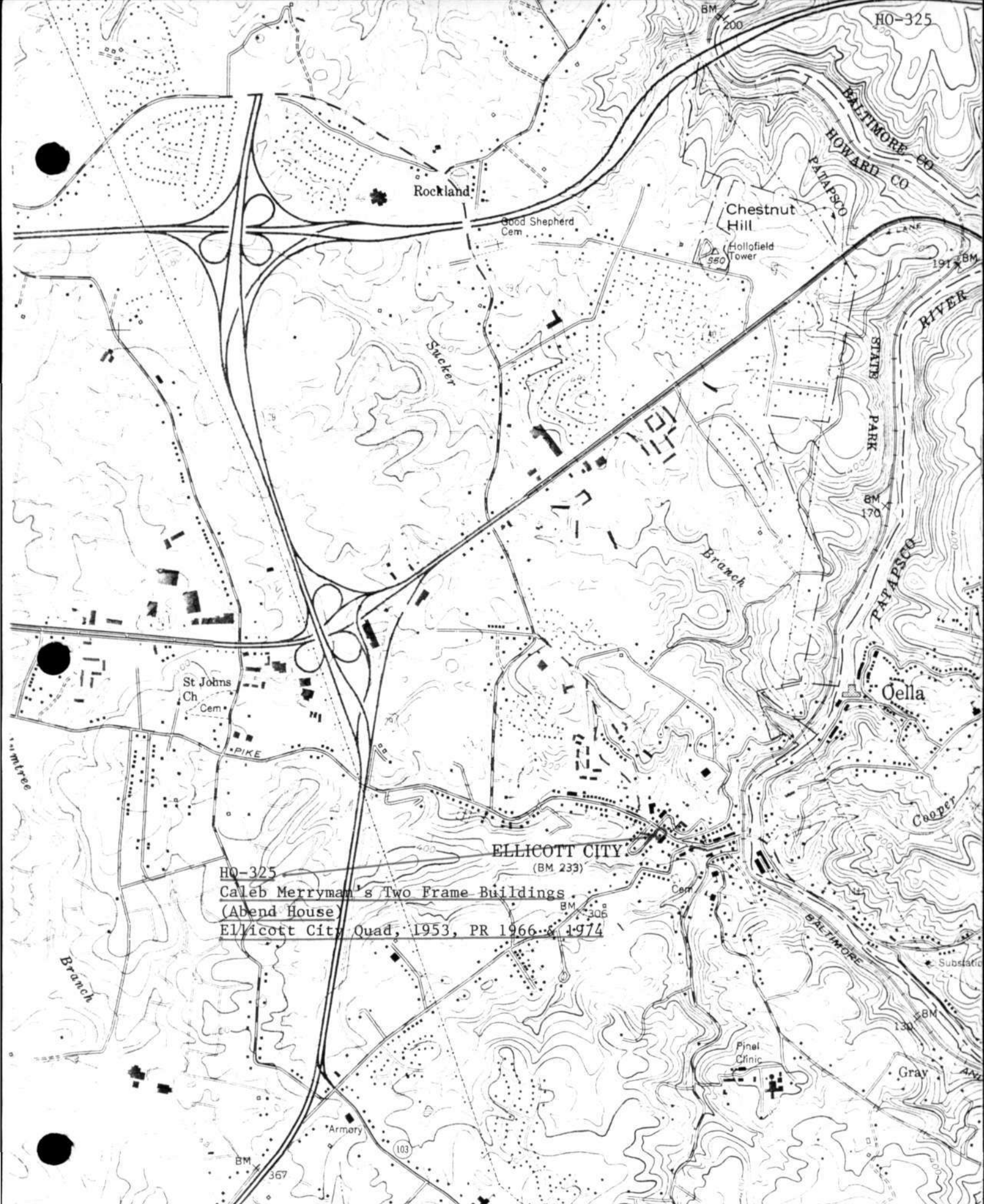


Recorded the 25<sup>th</sup> day of July 1836

This Indenture made this twenty third day of July in the year of our  
 thousand eight hundred and thirty six between John Gibson  
 of the City of Baltimore in Maryland of the one part and James Murray of the  
 same place of the other part Witnesseth that it here is by two decrees of the  
 High Court of Chancery of the State of Maryland bearing date the eighth day  
 of October last should and ought to have been made and is



HQ-325



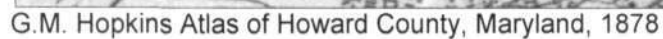
HQ-325  
Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Buildings  
(Abend House)  
Ellicott City Quad, 1953, PR 1966-4-974

50' 342 343 345 47'30" 346

(SAVAGE) 5662 III NE  
SCALE 1:24,000

1 MILE

Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Buildings (Abend House, Kirkwood's Double House)  
8329-8333 Main Street (MD 144), Ellicott City  
Martenet's Map of Howard County Maryland, 1860

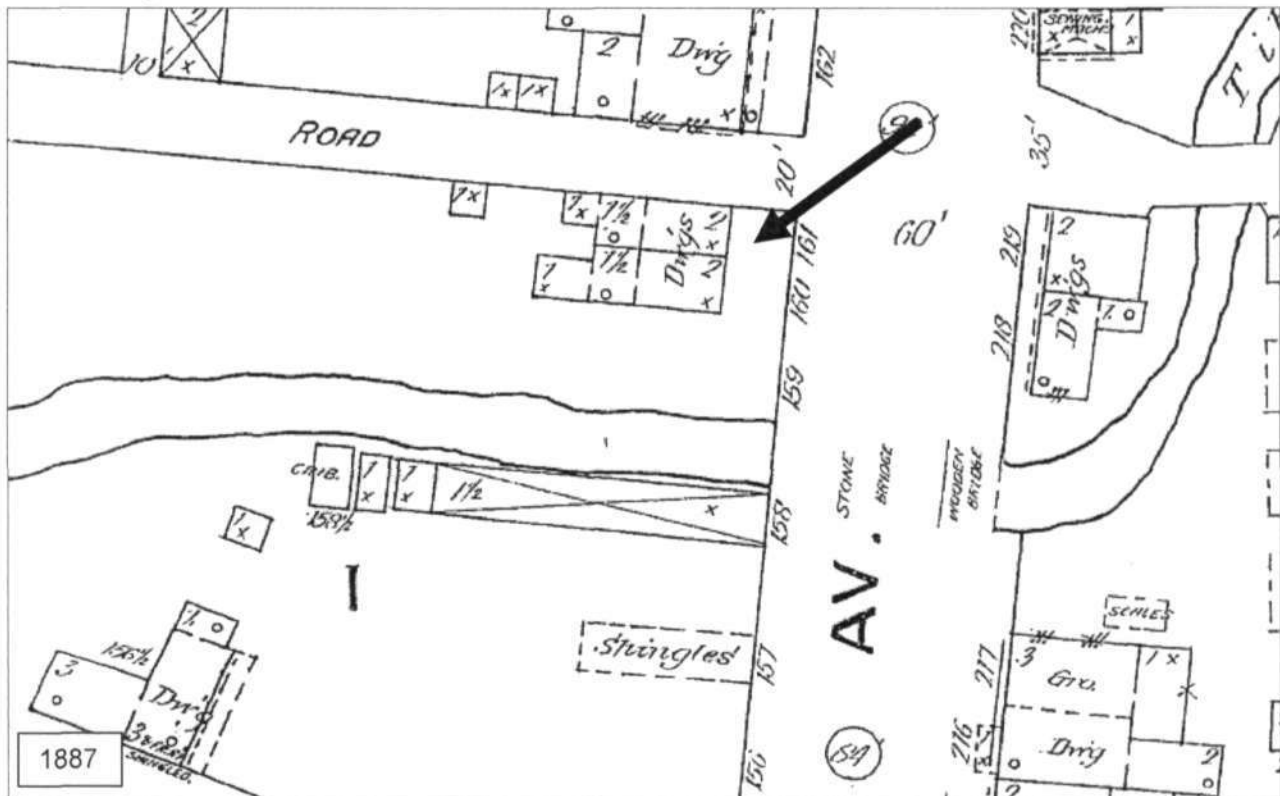


HO-325

Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Buildings (Abend House, Kirkwood's Double House)

8329-8333 Main Street (MD 144), Ellicott City

Sanborn Maps

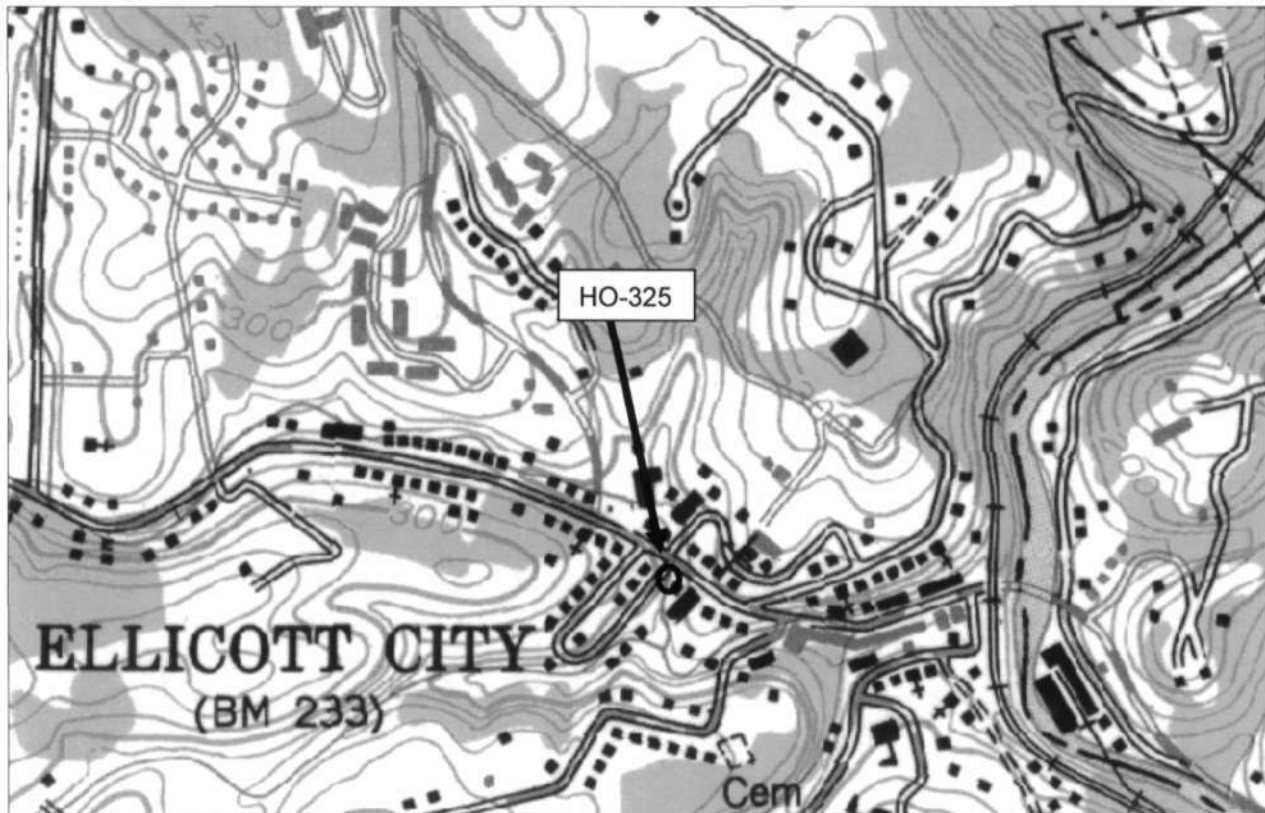


HO-325

Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Buildings (Abend House, Kirkwood's Double House)

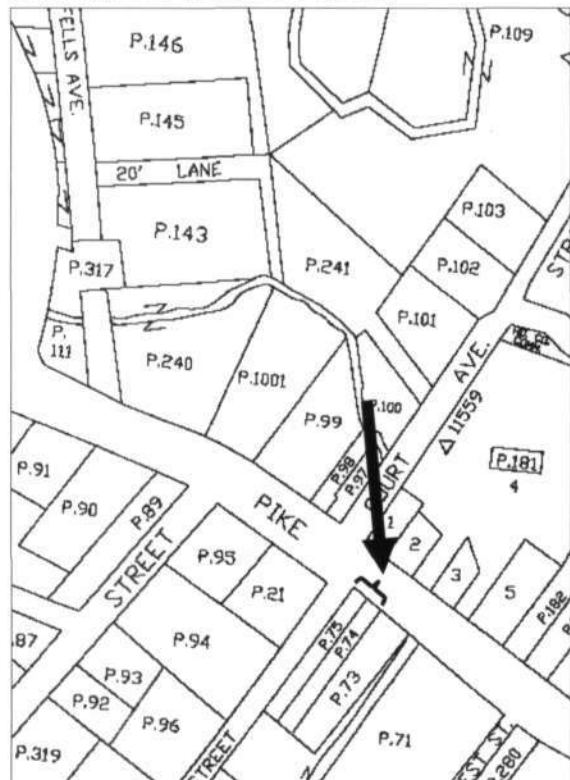
8329-8333 Main Street (MD 144), Ellicott City

Ellicott City quad 1953, Photorevised 1966 and 1974



Tax Map 25A, Parcels 74 and 75

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



HO-325

Caleb Merryman's Two Frame Buildings (Abend House, Kirkwood's Double House)

8329-8333 Main Street (MD 144), Ellicott City

Photos by Jennifer K. Cosham, 11/28/2012

Northeast elevation



East elevation





HO-325  
ABAND HOUSE  
NORTH  
SEPT. 1977

NEG 17A-18

CLEORA BARNES THOMPSON  
PLANNING CONSULTANT  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



~~HO-303~~

HO-325

8331 & 8333 Main St

8331 & 8333

Willcoff City

Kirkwood double house SE 8/72