HO-1002 Somerville Double Tenant House 8505-07 Main Street, Ellicott City Private

Description:

The Somerville Double Tenant House is set close to the road and faces north toward the road, and it is a one and one half-story, four-bay by one-bay frame structure. It has a rubble stone foundation, vinyl siding, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and an east-west ridge. There are two cross gables on the north elevation. There is a one-story, one-bay by one-bay shed-roofed wing on both the east and west ends. These wings are set on CMU piers and have asphalt shingles on the roof. There is a brick chimney in the center of the main block. The north elevation has two center doors that are boarded up, with a single six-over-six sash to each side in the main block and a six-over-six sash in each wing. The interior of 8505 Main Street has one room in the main block, one room in the east wing, and two rooms in the south addition. There is a winder stair in the southeast corner. 8507 Main Street has one room in the main block, one room in the shed addition on the west, and two rooms to the south. There is an enclosed winder stair in the southwest corner. The second story is one open room.

Significance:

The Somerville Double Tenant House was inherited by four members of the Somerville family from Michael J. Kuhn in 1890. It is possible that he constructed the double tenant house here, but if so, it must have been near the end of his ownership, in the 1880s. Otherwise, it was the Somerville's who added the house to provide rental income, and the building is clearly indicated on the 1899 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Ellicott City. In 1908 Charles Somerville, who was living in Baltimore City, acquired the whole property from the other owners. This house always remained a tenant house, and, unfortunately, nothing is known of the residents of either half of it. The Somerville Double Tenant House has some pretensions on the exterior, with the cross gables and the shed-roofed wings, but it is smaller than most tenant houses. The only chimney was in the main, front room, suggesting that this doubled as the kitchen and parlor. There have been several attempts to demolish the house in the 2000s, but the historic district commission has rebuffed them.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

historic											
HISTORIO	Somerville Do	ouble Tenant House									
other											
2. Location	1										
street and number	er 8505-07 Main	Street						_	not for	publi	cation
city, town	Ellicott City							_	vicinity		
county	Howard										
3. Owner o	f Property	(give names a	and mailing a	addresse	es of all	owners					
name	Throneroom (Corp.									
street and number	er 8775 Cloudle	p Ct., Suite P					telephon	е			
city, town	Columbia			state	MD		zip code		21045		
4. Location	of Legal I	Description	Ě								
	stry of deeds, etc.					liber	9947 folio	664			
		of Additiona	map 25	tax p	oarcel	207	ta	ax ID r	umber		
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7.	D	es	cri	pti	on
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excellent	X deteriorated		
good	ruins		
fair	altered		

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

Summary:

The Somerville Double Tenant House is set close to the road and faces north toward the road, and it is a one and one half-story, four-bay by one-bay frame structure. It has a rubble stone foundation, vinyl siding, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and an east-west ridge. There are two cross gables on the north elevation. There is a one-story, one-bay by one-bay shed-roofed wing on both the east and west ends. These wings are set on CMU piers and have asphalt shingles on the roof. There is a brick chimney in the center of the main block. The north elevation has two center doors that are boarded up, with a single six-over-six sash to each side in the main block and a six-over-six sash in each wing. The interior of 8505 Main Street has one room in the main block, one room in the east wing, and two rooms in the south addition. There is a winder stair in the southeast corner. 8507 Main Street has one room in the main block, one room in the shed addition on the west, and two rooms to the south. There is an enclosed winder stair in the southwest corner. The second story is one open room.

Description:

House, exterior

The Somerville Double Tenant House is located at 8505-8507 Main Street, on the south of the street, in Ellicott City, in northeastern Howard County, Maryland. The house is set close to the road and faces north toward the road, and it is a one and one half-story, four-bay by one-bay frame structure. It has a rubble stone foundation, vinyl siding, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and an east-west ridge. There are two cross gables on the north elevation. There is a one-story, one-bay by one-bay shed-roofed wing on both the east and west ends. These wings are set on CMU piers and have asphalt shingles on the roof. There is a brick chimney in the center of the main block.

The north elevation has two center doors that are boarded up, with a single six-over-six sash to each side in the main block and a six-over-six sash in each wing. The east wing window has one corner pinned, and the other corners and not visible for examination. The main block window muntins may be pinned, though they are very small and are more likely nails. There is a two-bay, one-story porch in the center, and the deck, posts, and railings have been completely rebuilt with three square wood posts. It has a wood box cornice and a hip roof with asphalt shingles. Each of two cross gables has a six-over-six double-hung sash.

The west elevation of the wing has no opening, while the second story of the main block has a six-oversix sash set to the south. There are wood weatherboards beneath the vinyl siding.

On the south elevation, 8507 Main Street has a one-story, one-bay by one-bay shed-roofed addition on the east bay and a similar addition to it on the west side of it. The east addition has a slightly flatter pitch to the roof than that of the main block, and it has asphalt shingles and vinyl siding on the walls. The west addition has an even flatter shed roof with asphalt roll roofing, and this roof is much

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Name Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

deteriorated. The west addition has a window opening on the south, with a sash broken out, and the west elevation has a door with four lights over three lying panels. The south addition has the remains of a six-over-six sash. 8505 Main Street has a two-story, two-bay by one-bay addition that has a shed roof with asphalt shingles and vinyl siding. The first story of the south elevation has a six-over-six sash set to the west, while the second story has a one-over-one sash in the center. There is also a one-story shed-roofed addition on the east side of this south addition, south of the east wing. It also has asphalt shingles and vinyl siding.

The east elevation of the southeast addition has a six-over-six sash in the south bay and a door in the north bay that have five lying panels. The second panel from the top was converted to a window. The south wing has no opening on the second story and the east wing has no openings. The second story of the main block has a six-over-six sash set south of center.

House, interior

The interior of 8505 Main Street has one room in the main block, one room in the east wing, and two rooms in the south addition. The main block room has carpeting, plaster on lath, plain baseboard, and plain head-cut trim. The north door is a new flush hollow-core door. There is a stove chimney on the west elevation that projects into the room, and there is a heat vent in the ceiling next to it. There is a winder stair in the southeast corner that is enclosed and has a vertical-board door. New boards were added to enclose the stair and make a closet on the north side. There is one doorway on the east elevation, and it leads into the wing. The south elevation has two doorways into two rooms, one of them a modern bathroom and the other a modern kitchen. The east wing has no special features. The second story north chamber has a closet added on the southwest, next to the chimney. The stair railing has a newel post that is 1 by 4 inches at the bottom and tapers to 1 by 2 inches at the top. There are two horizontal railings that are about ½- inch by 3 inches in section. The windows have plain head-cut trim. A new hollow-core door has been added to the south elevation, and this doorway has pulvinated architrave with a bead on each side. The south chamber is one step down and has plaster on lath and a ceiling of drywall that is coming down.

8507 Main Street has one room in the main block, one room in the shed addition on the west, and two rooms to the south. The main block room has carpeting, plain baseboard, and drywall over circular-sawn lath and plaster. The lath is fastened with cut nails. The studs are circular-sawn 2 by 4s. There is plain head-cut trim. The east wall has a shallow projection of 3 to 4 inches, and there is a grate in the ceiling here. There is an enclosed winder stair in the southwest corner that has beaded-edge vertical boards and a matching door that has two steps below it. All of the hardware is new. The north door has three lights over three lying panels, and the other interior doors are either new or missing.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Name Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 2

The northwest room has 3 ½- to 4 ½-inch tongue-and-grooved pine flooring that runs east-west and is blind-nailed with cut nails. The joists run north-south, are circular-sawn, and are 2 inches by 5 ½ inches and spaced 23 to 24 inches on centers. The southeast room has a modern bathroom with no historic features. The southwest room east wall is all new, and there is evidence in the ceiling of an earlier wall here that is painted. The vertical boards suggest that it was an exterior wall, and there is a wide post in line with these boards in the south wall. It is not clear if this was a full wall enclosing this room, or whether this was an open porch with only an enclosed wall above the ceiling. The doorway into this room never had a door, but the trim matches the doorway to the modern bathroom and the wood thresholds also match, suggesting that there were two small enclosed rooms on the south side originally.

The second story is one open room. The flooring appears to be pine, but is painted, runs east-west, and varies between 2 ½ and 4 ½ inches. There is plain baseboard and drywall on the walls and ceiling. There are knee-walls, and the ceiling follows the rafters and collar beams. The east wall has a shallow projection in the center where the center chimney is. The openings have plain head-cut trim. There is no railing around the stairway, though it appears that there was one that has been cut off.

8. Signific	ance			Inventory No. HO- 1002
Period	Areas of Significance	Check and j	ustify below	
1600-1699 1700-1799 _X 1800-1899 1900-1999 2000-	agriculture archeology X architecture art commerce communications community planning conservation	 economics education engineering entertainment/ recreation ethnic heritage exploration/ settlement 	 health/medicine industry invention landscape architecture law literature maritime history military 	performing arts philosophy politics/government religion science social history transportation other:
Specific dates	N/A		Architect/Builder N/A	
Construction da	ites c. 1890s			
Evaluation for:	National Register	N	flaryland Register	Xnot 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:

The Somerville Double Tenant House was inherited by four members of the Somerville family from Michael J. Kuhn in 1890. It is possible that he constructed the double tenant house here, but if so, it must have been near the end of his ownership, in the 1880s. Otherwise, it was the Somerville's who added the house to provide rental income, and the building is clearly indicated on the 1899 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Ellicott City. In 1908 Charles Somerville, who was living in Baltimore City, acquired the whole property from the other owners. This house always remained a tenant house, and, unfortunately, nothing is known of the residents of either half of it. The Somerville Double Tenant House has some pretensions on the exterior, with the cross gables and the shed-roofed wings, but it is smaller than most tenant houses. The only chimney was in the main, front room, suggesting that this doubled as the kitchen and parlor. There have been several attempts to demolish the house in the 2000s, but the historic district commission has rebuffed them.

Significance:

The Somerville Double Tenant House was inherited by four members of the Somerville family from Michael J. Kuhn in 1890. Kuhn had acquired the property in 1861, and it is possible that he constructed the double tenant house here, but if so, it must have been near the end of his ownership, in the 1880s. Otherwise, it was the Somerville's who added the house to provide rental income, and the building is clearly indicated on the 1899 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Ellicott City. This area was not covered in the earlier map, which could indicate that there was too little built here to warrant its inclusion, but nothing definitive can be made of this possibility. The construction of the building is consistent with the last quarter of the nineteenth century, but there is too little here that might date it more narrowly. In 1908 Charles Somerville, who was living in Baltimore City, acquired the whole property from the other owners, probably his sisters. They also did not live in Ellicott City. Charles Somerville was apparently foreclosed upon and the property was sold in 1916. It changed hands several times rather rapidly before being acquired by John and Anne Rice of New Jersey in 1919. They clearly used this as a rental property, as did the family who purchased it in 1936, Joseph and Virgile McAllister and their son, Rev.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Name Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

Joseph McAllister. The McAllisters built and lived in the foursquare at 3675 College Avenue (HO-1003) in Ellicott City. The double house on Main Street always remained a tenant house.¹

Unfortunately, nothing is known of the residents of either half of this double tenant house. There has been no study of tenant or worker's housing in Ellicott City, but recent research on Elkridge suggests that the most common worker's housing had two rooms down and two rooms up, set front to back, occasionally with a third room attached to the back of the first story. This third room was often, but not always, added. In the mid-nineteenth century these houses tended to be very simple vernacular structures, both inside and out, though some were later given up-to-date stylistic treatments. The Somerville Double Tenant House has some pretensions on the exterior, with the cross gables and the shed-roofed wings, but it is smaller than most tenant houses. The only chimney was in the main, front room, suggesting that this doubled as the kitchen and parlor. The wing room was so disposed to be functionally flexible, and could have been sleeping or living space. There were apparently two small rooms on the rear, but these have been greatly altered on both halves of the building, rendering an interpretation of their use problematic. One of them could have been used as a kitchen, if it had a chimney that has since been taken down, and the other as a pantry/laundry/work space. Both spaces were small, and the presence of two doorways that appear to be original suggests that they were always two separate, small spaces; if one was the kitchen, it would have been cramped. The picturesque exterior arrangement of the spaces, with lean-to rooms on each side, leaves only one second-story chamber. The back sides of the house have been added to and altered, probably in the third quarter of the twentieth century. There have been several attempts to demolish the house in the 2000s, but the historic district commission has rebuffed them.

¹ Sanborn Map Company, "Ellicott City, Maryland," 1899, Sheet 2.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO- 1002

See footnotes

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property _	.14 A		
Acreage of historical setting _	.14 A		
Quadrangle name	Ellicott City	Quadrangle scale:	1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries consist of the property lines for tax map 25, parcel 207, which encompasses all of the historic structures on the property.

11. Form Prepared by

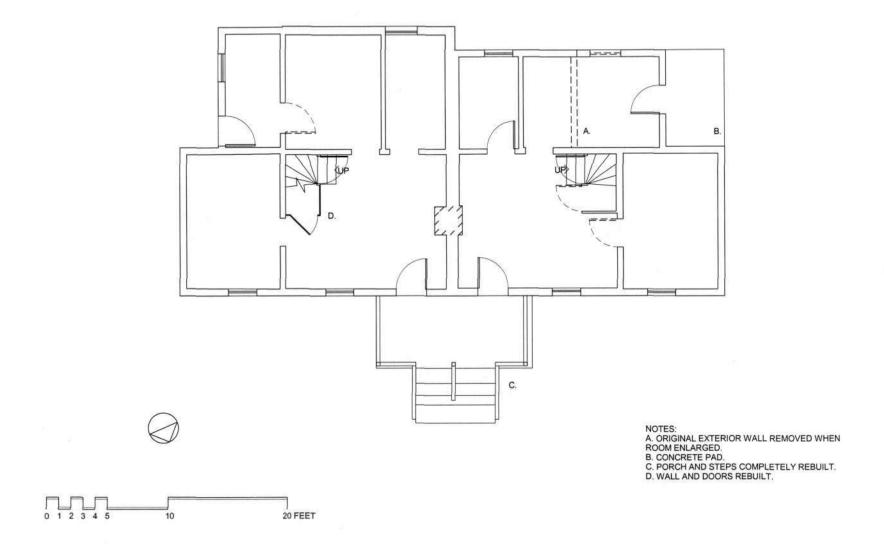
name/title	Ken Short		
organization	Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	December 2009
street & number	3430 Courthouse Drive	telephone	410-313-4335
city or town	Ellicott City	state	Maryland

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

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

return to:

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



HO-1002 SOMERVILLE DOUBLE TENANT HOUSE 8505-07 MAIN ST., ELLICOTT CITY

FIRST FLOOR PLAN -- MEASURED BY KEN SHORT & STEVE ROLLS -- DRAWN BY KEN SHORT -- NOVEMBER 2009

Somerville Double Tenant House (HO-1002) 8505-07 Main Street, Ellicott City

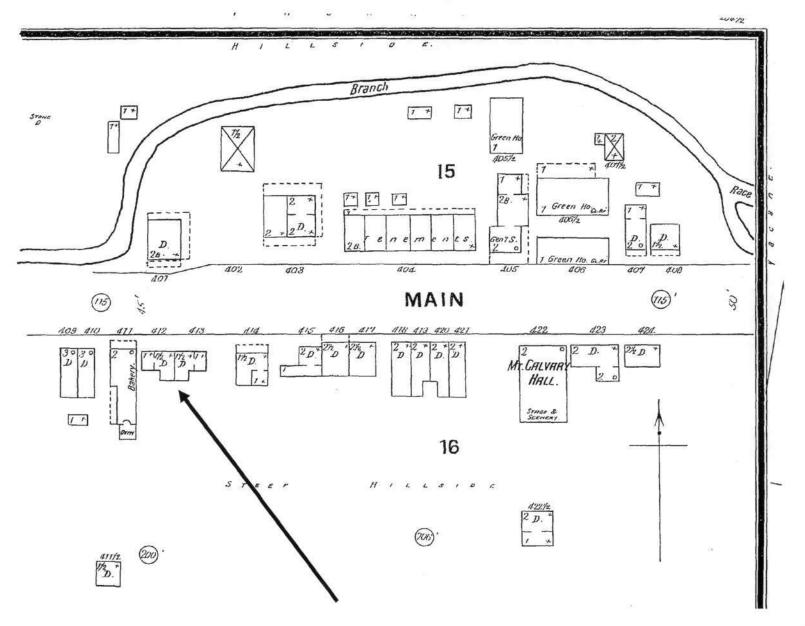
CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER- ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
Salisbury Bates, LLC/MD Corp	Throneroom Corp/?	3/27/2006	MDR 9947-664	Deed – Fee Simple	\$175,000	6,100 sq. ft.	Begin @SW cor. Lot 298 plat of G. Hunter Sykes 3/22/1910
Lawrence E. Williams, Jr. /?	Salisbury Bates, LLC/?	12/6/2004	MDR 8893-178	Deed – Fee Simple	\$127,000	6,100 sq. ft.	With right to pump & water on lot owned by German Bldg. Assoc. of Ho. Co. deed 101-485, 1916
Lawrence E. Williams, Jr. & Pamela Regina Williams/?	Lawrence E. Williams, Jr. /?	6/24/2004	MDR 8451-001	Deed – Fee Simple	\$0	6,100 sq. ft.	Inter-spousal transfer
Lawrence E. Williams, Jr. /?	Lawrence E. Williams, Jr. & Pamela Regina Williams (H/W)/?	9/1/2000	MDR 5216-138	Deed – Fee Simple	\$0	6,100 sq. ft.	
Charles A. & Rhonda Roqueta (H/W)/Howard	Lawrence E. Williams, Jr.	10/27/1986	CMP 1550-562	Deed – Fee Simple	\$56,000	6,100 sq. ft.	
Jack W. & Lucy C Gebhard (H/W)/Howard	Charles A. & Rhonda Roqueta (H/W)/?	5/6/1976	CMP 766-394	Deed – Fee Simple	\$10.00	6,100 sq. ft.	
Ruth M. & George E. Schlipper (H/W)/ Franklin Co., PA	Jack W. & Lucy C Gebhard (H/W) /?	7/12/1962	WHH 386-272	Deed – Fee Simple	\$5.00	6,100 sq. ft.	Lots 297 & 298 on sales plat of Jonathan Ellicott & Sons
Guinevere M. Warfield, unmarried/Howard	Ruth M. & George E. Schlipper (H/W)/?	12/31/1959	RHM 346-68	Deed – Fee Simple	\$5.00	?	
Grace M. Dorsey/Balto. Co. Joseph B. McAllister/ Wash. DC, Ruth & George Schlipper (H/W)/Fred. Co, MD	Guinevere M. Warfield/Howard	12/31/1959	RHM 346-65	Deed – Fee Simple	\$5.00	6,100 sq. ft.	2 nd parcel below V.C. McAllister d. 2/1/1959
Lawrence T. Doyle/Balto. City	Virgile C. McAllister, Rev. Joseph B. McAllister Grace M. Dorsey, Ruth M Schlippery	7/9/1956	RHM 285-94	Deed – Fee Simple	\$5.00	1. ? 2. ?	
Virgile C. McAllister, widow/Balto. City	Lawrence T. Doyle	7/9/1956	RHM 285-92	Deed - Fee Simple	\$5.00	1. ? 2. ?	2. Fronts 50' on south side Baltimore & Fred. State Rd.
Virgile C. McAllister, Widow/Balto. City	Rev. Joseph B McAllister	5/11/1955	RHM 267-576	Deed – Fee Simple	\$5.00	1. ? 2. ?	VCM reserves right to dispose of property JBM d. 10/20/1954
Anna E. Curran/Howard	Joseph B. & Virgile C.	11/16/1937	BM, Jr.	Deed -	\$5.00	?	

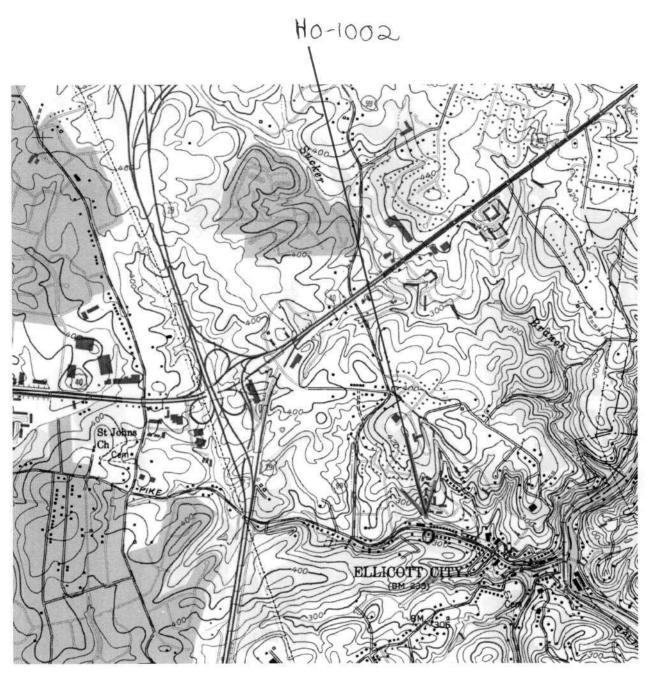
Somerville Double Tenant House (HO-1002) 8505-07 Main Street, Ellicott City

CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER- ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
	McAllister (H/W)/Howard		158-482	Fee Simple			
Joseph B. McAllister, Sr. & wife Virgile C. /Howard Rev. Joseph B. McAllister, Jr./Washington D.C.	Anna E. Curran/Howard	11/16/1937	BM, Jr. 158-481	Deed – Fee Simple	\$5.00	?	
John Rice/Trenton, NJ	Joseph B. McAllister, Sr. Rev. Joseph B. McAllister, Jr./Howard	4/28/1936	BM, Jr. 154-198	Deed – Fee Simple	\$5.00	?	
Dulaney C. Higinbotham & wife Elizabeth C./Howard	John & Anne D. Rice/NJ	11/18/1919	HBN 108-441	Deed – Fee Simple	\$5.00	?	Refers only to 101-485
Anne D. & John Rice (H/W)/NJ	Dulaney C. & Elizabeth C. Higinbotham (H/W)/Howard	10/17/1919	HBN 108-440	Deed – Fee Simple	\$5.00	?	Refers only to 101-485
German Building Assoc. of Howard County, MD	Anne M. Dougherty, unmarried/Howard	6/12/1916	101-485	Deed – Fee simple	\$5.00	6,100 sq. ft.	Begin. at SW corner lot 298 lots 297 & 298 George W. Carr, Pres, 101-487 – Mort. for \$1,100
Charles C.J. Somerville not lis	sted as grantee after 1908 morts	gage to German	Building Assoc	Not clear ho	w this changes h	ands - no indication	n of foreclosure
Kate A, Somerville/Balto. City, Susan B. Dorsey & husb. Ira E. Dorsey/Carroll	Charles C.J. Somerville/Balto. City	1/17/1908	85-82	Deed – Fee Simple	\$5.00	Lots 290, 291, 292, 293, 297 & 298	Susan B. married Ira E. Dorsey
Michael J. Kuhn	Kate A., Susan B., Walter E. & Charles C.J. Somerville	Probated 5/6/1890	Wills I.S. 3 - 39				
George W. Johnson & wife	Michael J. Kuhn	2/21/1861	EPH 7 - 227				



HO-1002 Somerville Double Tenant House 8505-07 Main Street, Ellicott City Sanborn Map, 1899



HO-1002 Somerville Double Tenant House 8505-07 Main Street, Ellicott City Ellicott City quad

HO-1002 Somerville Double Tenant house 8505-07 Main Street, Ellicott City Howard County, Maryland Ken Short, photographer

Photo Log Nikon D-70 camera HP Premium Plus paper

HP Gray Photo print cartridge

HO-1002_2009-11-25_01 East & north elevations

HO-1002_2009-11-25_02 North elevation

HO-1002_2009-11-25_03 South elevation

HO-1002_2009-11-25_04 Interior of 8507, main room, vw. southwest



HO-1002 Somerville Double Tenant house 8505-07 Main Street, Ellicott City Howard County, MD Ken Short Nov. 25, 2009 MD SHPO East & North Elevations.



HO-1002 Somerville Double Tenant house 8505-07 Main Street, Ellicott City Howard County, MD Ken Short Nov. 25, 2009 MD SHPO North Elevation



40-1002 Somerville Double Tenant house 8505 - 67 Main Street, Ellicott City. Howard County, MD Ken Short Nov. 25, 2009 MD SHPO South Elevation



40-1002 Somerville Double Terant house 8505-07 Main Street, Ellicott City Howard County, MD Ken Short Nov. 25, 2009 MD. SHPO Interior of 8507, main room, view 4/4 Southwest