Fisher Farmhouse HO-866 Howard County 8416 Elko Drive, Ellicott City Ca. 1856 Private

The Fisher Farmhouse (8416 Elko Drive) is a ca. 1856, wood-frame, 2-story, 5-bay, end-gable, I-house, with two rear kitchen ell additions (ca. 1895 and 1940s) and a block garage addition (ca. 1940s).¹ Both the exterior and interior were extensively remodeled in ca. 1895 and ca. 1940s. The house has asphalt or asbestos siding and an asphalt roof and retains wood six-over-six windows. The house is set on a stone and concrete cellar that was excavated in the late 19th century and middle of the 20th century. Little or no foundation is visible from the exterior and is parged where visible. An interior brick fireplace chimney is located at each of the gable ends of the ca. 1856 main house. The house is in fair condition due to deferred maintenance in recent decades. The current owners are beginning repairs and rehabilitation.

The Fisher Farmhouse has significance as a mid-19th century vernacular farmhouse located near Ellicott City in Howard County, Maryland. Although the house has been altered over time and its rural setting has been lost, its mid-19th century I-house form remains clearly legible. The house represents the type of modest dwelling that served generations of Howard County's large farm families in the 19th century through the World War II period. Although houses like this would have once been common in the Ellicott City area (and are still seen in other areas of the county), mid-19th century vernacular farmhouses are relatively rare in this densely developed section of the county. The house gains additional significance for its turn of the 20th century owner Jacob Kirn, who was a local house builder who renovated the house and constructed the first kitchen addition in ca. 1895.

¹ The ca. 1856 date for house is derived from deed research (Asbury Fisher bought the property in 1855) and from map research (the house appears on the ca. 1860 Martenet's Map), which accord with the appearance of the house.

street and number8416 Elkocity, townEllicott CicountyHoward Ci 3. Owner of Property	o Drive not for publication City vicinity
2. Location street and number 8416 Elko city, town Ellicott City county Howard City 3. Owner of Property	County
city, townEllicott CitycountyHoward City3. Owner of Property	County
city, townEllicott CitycountyHoward City3. Owner of Property	County
county Howard C 3. Owner of Property	County
3. Owner of Property	
3. Owner of Property name James Ak	(give names and mailing addresses of all owners)
name James Ak	
	ters, Jr. and Deborah Patton
street and number 8416 Elko	o Drive telephone n/a
city, town Ellicott Ci	Sity state MD zip code 21043
4. Location of Legal D	escription
courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Land Records liber 7652 folio 381
city, town Columbia	tax map 31 tax parcel 389 tax ID number 01-17359

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Co	ount	
district	public	agriculture	landscape	Contributing	Noncont	ributing
X_building(s)	private	commerce/trade	recreation/culture	1	0	buildings
structure	both	defense	religion	0	0	sites
site		X_domestic	social	0	0	structures
object		education	transportation	0	0	objects
		funerary	work in progress	1	0	Total
		government	unknown			
		health care	vacant/not in use	Number of Co	ontributing	Resources
		industry	other:	previously lis	ted in the Ir	ventory
				0		10

7. Description

Inventory No. HO-866

Condition

excellent	deteriorated
good	ruins
X_fair	altered

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

Introduction

The Fisher Farmhouse (8416 Elko Drive) is a ca. 1856 vernacular wood-frame farmhouse with 19th and 20th century additions located south of Ellicott City in Howard County, Maryland, near the confluence of Route 104, Route 100, and Route 108. The house, which is the only building left on the site, is set on an .82-acre lot surrounded by mid-20th century suburban development.

House - exterior

Main house (ca. 1856)

The Fisher Farmhouse (8416 Elko Drive) is a ca. 1856, wood-frame, 2-story, 5-bay, end-gable, I-house, with two rear kitchen ell additions (ca. 1895 and later) and a block garage addition (ca. 1940s).¹ The house has asphalt or asbestos siding and an asphalt roof and retains wood six-over-six windows. The house is set on a stone and concrete cellar that was excavated in the late 19th century and middle of the 20th century. Little or no foundation is visible from the exterior and is parged where visible. An interior brick fireplace chimney is located at each of the gable ends of the ca. 1856 main house. The house is in fair condition due to deferred maintenance in recent decades. The new owners are beginning a restoration.

The primary facade of the Fisher Farmhouse faces north and was originally oriented to Waterloo Road. The window and door openings are asymmetrically placed. The 1st story has five bays with the front door in the center bay. The 2nd story has three bays. The 2nd story openings are vertically aligned with the center bay, the easternmost bay, and the westernmost bay and are located very near the eaves. The front door is a half-glass wood door with one light over three panels. The front facade retains louvered wood shutters. A mid-20th century porch extends across the 1st story. The porch has a concrete floor, square wood posts, and a flat roof.

The west facade of the Fisher Farmhouse has no window opening on the 1st or 2nd stories. A pair of attic vents flanks the chimney. The gable end displays a variety of sheathing materials. The 1st and 2nd stories are covered with asbestos or asphalt siding. The gable is sheathed with wood fish scale shingles. The deep eaves have been encased in metal sheathing. A turn of the 20th century saw-cut wood bracket is located in the peak of the eaves.

Only the western bay of the of the south elevation of the Fisher Farmhouse is visible because two kitchen additions (ca. 1895 and later) project from the south (rear) facade of the Fisher Farmhouse. The visible western bay of the south facade has one vertically aligned window opening on the 1st and 2nd stories.

Only the 2nd story of the east elevation of the Fisher Farmhouse is visible because the 1-story garage addition (ca. 1940s) projects from the east facade. The 2nd story of the ca. 1856 building has one window opening that is located south of the ridgeline (this window opening has ca. 1940s interior trim indicating that the window opening may have been added. A pair of attic vents flanks the chimney. The gable end displays a variety of sheathing materials. The 2nd story is covered with asbestos or asphalt siding. The gable is sheathed with wood fish scale shingles. The deep eaves have been encased in metal sheathing. A turn of the 20th century saw-cut wood bracket is located in the peak of the eaves.

First kitchen addition (ca. 1895)

The first kitchen addition (ca. 1895) consists of a 2-story wood-frame rear ell that extends from the center bays of the main ca. 1856 house. Jacob Kirn, a regional builder who owned the house from 1895-1901, constructed the addition and likely added other turn-of the century ornamentation, such as wood brackets and decorative shingles during a renovation of the house at that date.

The west elevation of the first kitchen addition has one window opening on both the 1st and 2nd stories. The window openings are graduated and vertically aligned.

¹ The ca. 1856 date for house is derived from deed research (Asbury Fisher bought the property in 1855), from map research (the house appears on the ca. 1860 Martenet's Map), which accord with the appearance of the house.

Inventory No. HO-866

Name Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

The south, gable-end of the 1st kitchen addition has one window opening on the 1st story and two window openings on the 2nd story. The window opening on the 1st story is located in the eastern bay and the window openings are vertically aligned and graduated. There are attic vents that originally flanked the chimney (now gone). A bulkhead extends from the cellar. The gable end displays a variety of sheathing materials. The 1st and 2nd stories are covered with asbestos or asphalt siding. The gable is sheathed with wood fish scale shingles. The eaves have been encased in metal sheathing. A turn of the 20th century saw-cut wood bracket is located in the peak of the eaves. A wood trellis is attached to the house at the 1st story. The trellis has wood posts, ball finials, and saw-cut wood brackets.

The east elevation of the first kitchen addition is covered by the second kitchen addition.

Second kitchen addition

The second kitchen addition consists of a 2-story wood-frame rear ell that extends from the eastern bays of the main ca. 1856 house and covers the east elevation of the first kitchen ell. It is difficult to precisely date the second kitchen addition because it employs both reused older features and new features that replicate older features. While it may have been built at in ca. 1945, at the same time as the garage, some interior features perhaps indicate an earlier ca. 1920s-1930s date of construction.

The 1st story of the second kitchen addition has 3 bays: a double window over the sink, a back door, and a window that lights the utility room. The 2nd story has two window openings that are vertically aligned with the kitchen window opening and back door. A 1-story porch extends across the second kitchen addition. The porch has a CMU foundation, a wood structure with turned posts and wood saw-cut brackets, and a shed roof. The back door is a wood half-glass door with four lights over three panels.

Because the garage addition projects from the east elevation of the second kitchen addition, only the 2nd story of the addition is visible. The 2nd story has one window opening.

Garage (ca. 1945)

A block (terra cotta or concrete) garage (ca. 1945) extends from the east elevation of the ca. 1856 house and second kitchen addition. The north elevation of the garage has a vehicle bay with a recent paneled garage door. A wood trellis and pergola extends from the north facade and frames the entry. The east facade has three window openings with brick sills and steel lintels, which hold six-over-six wood windows. The south (rear) elevation has a door opening and holds a wood half-glass door with four lights over three panels.

House - interior

Main house (ca. 1856)

The interior of the Fisher Farmhouse (ca. 1856) has an altered center passage, hall and parlor floor plan. The interior of the house was extensively remodeled in ca. 1895-1901 when Jacob Kirn, a local builder, owned the house. Another period of remodeling occurred in the 1940s, when the Smiths purchased the property. The current owners are doing some essential structural repairs and are removing some of the ca. 1940s finishes.

The floor plan of the main house (ca. 1856) originally consisted of a center passage, hall and parlor floor plan on the 1st floor and a passage and two chambers on the 2nd floor. Alterations to the 1st floor that appear to date from the ca. 1895 renovation include all new door and window moldings, which have bullseye corner blocks, and new banister and newel post on the stair. The cellar may have been excavated in ca. 1895 and the door to the cellar added at that date. Wood strip floors were laid over the wide pine plank flooring and a new mantel was installed on the parlor fireplace. Ca. 1940s-1960s alterations in the 1st floor of the main house include demolition of the partition between the passage and the hall, application of stone veneer on the hall fireplace, construction of built-ins surrounding the fireplace in the hall and parlor, and installation of paneling and dropped ceiling in the parlor.

Inventory No. HO-866

Name Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 2

The second floor of the main house also has alterations that appear to date from both the ca. 1895 and ca. 1940s remodeling. Some original trim, which has a plain profile, mitered corners, and a bead, remains in the eastern chamber. A few four-panel doors with rim locks remain. Some doors and windows display the ca. 1895 bulls eye corner block moldings, and some have ca. 1940s plain, arts and crafts style moldings and two-panel doors.

The joists in the cellar of the main house consist of both hewn logs and later sawn joists. The logs are notched at the ends and rest on bricks set on the stone cellar walls. This configuration suggests that the joists originally rested on wood sills that are now gone and that house did not originally have an excavated cellar. Portions of the stone foundation have been reinforced with mid-20th century poured concrete. The cellar under the ca. 1895 addition is poured concrete and was likely excavated in the mid-20th century. There is no cellar under the 2nd kitchen addition or garage.

Additions (ca. 1895 and ca. 1940s)

The first kitchen addition (ca. 1895) has one room on the 1st floor (now used as a dining room) and a passage, bathroom, and office on the 2nd floor.

The second kitchen addition (ca. 1940ss) has a kitchen and utility room on the 1st floor and a bedroom on the 2nd floor.

The garage consists of a large one-story area with parking and workshop space.

Site

The Fisher Farmhouse is located on a remnant of the original farm. The house's lot is .82 acres, which is part of a 20th century suburb that was developed on the farm beginning the in the 1960s. A U-shaped drive leads to the primary entry. The overgrown drive to the barn (now gone) is also visible south of the house. A paved walk leads from the front door to a second walk that leads to the neighborhood church constructed as part of the subdivision. The property is landscaped with mature specimen trees, shrubs, and ornamental plants.

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and j	ustify below	
1600-1699 1700-1799 X1800-1899 X1900-1999 2000-	 agriculture archeology architecture art commerce communications 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	ca. 1856, ca. 1895, ca	a. 1940s	Architect/Builder Jaco	b Kirn (ca. 1895 addition)
Construction da	tes ca. 1856, ca. 1	895, ca. 1940s		
Evaluation for:				
	National Register	N	laryland Register	X not evaluated

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

The Fisher Farmhouse has significance as a mid-19th century vernacular farmhouse located near Ellicott City in Howard County, Maryland. Although the house has been altered over time and its rural setting has been lost, its mid-19th century I-house form remains clearly legible. The house represents the type of modest dwelling that served generations of Howard County's large farm families in the 19th century through the World War II period. Although houses like this would have once been common in the Ellicott City area (and are still seen in other areas of the county), mid-19th century vernacular farmhouses are relatively rare in this densely developed section of the county. The house gains additional significance for its turn of the 20th century owner Jacob Kirn, who was a local house builder who renovated the house and constructed the first kitchen addition in ca. 1895.

A couple of stories passed onto the current owners include a legend that slaves built the Fisher Farmhouse. The date of construction does not rule this rumor out. Another anecdote is that POWs were used to excavate the cellar during World War II. A member of the Howard County Historical Society has confirmed with the owner that POWs were held in the area and were used for manual labor, also perhaps lending credence to the tale.

Owners and residents

In 1855, Asbury Fisher bought the sixty acres of land where the Fisher Farm is located from Jane Scott. The 1860 Census lists Fisher as a Farm Manager, likely indicating that he managed another farm in the area, in addition to farming his plot. In 1860 Asbury (aged 45) lived at the farmhouse with his wife Mary (aged 42) and their eight children, Mortimer (aged 17), Catherine (aged 15), John (aged 13), Georgianna (aged 11), William (aged 8), Howard (aged 6), Sarah (aged 4), and Charles (aged 1). Their property was valued at \$2000 and their personal estate at \$100.² By 1870, Asbury Fisher was listed as a farmer; Mortimer, Catherine, and John had left home; Asbury and Mary had had an additional child, Frank (aged 7); and the value of the property had risen to \$7000.³ The Fishers owned the property until 1890, when Howard Fisher (son of Asbury) sold the farm to William R. Davis. The Davis family owned the property for five years, until 1895, when they sold it to Jacob Kirn.

The Kirns owned the house from 1895 to 1901. Jacob Kirn was a house builder with an office in Catonsville. Several drawings for projects that he worked on have been discovered while the current owner have been working on the house. Kirn added the first rear addition, added the exterior decorative ornamentation, and substantially remodeled the interior. Between 1901 and 1913, Kirn also deeded land on the north side of Waterloo Road to his married children where they built houses and the area was known as "Kirn Hill". The 1910 census lists Jacob Kirn (aged 61) as a farmer (although in 1920 he is again listed as a house carpenter). In 1910, Jacob lived with his wife Mary (aged 58), and seven of their nine living children, Clara (aged 33), Jacob (aged 27) - a house carpenter,

² Department of Commerce – Bureau of the Census, Census of United States: 1860, Population Schedule, page 60.

³ Department of Commerce – Bureau of the Census, Census of United States: 1870, Population Schedule, page 14.

Inventory No. HO-866

Name Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

Charles (aged 27) - a house carpenter, August (aged 24)- a house carpenter, Grover, (aged 23) - a house carpenter, Frederick (aged 16) - who farmed the family land, and Ruth (aged 14).⁴

Jacob and Mary Kirn sold to Frederick Heber in 1901. In 1900, Frederick Heber (aged 28), a German immigrant who moved to the U.S. in 1882, lived nearby with his cousin's family and worked as a farm laborer.⁵ By 1920, Frederick (aged 48) had married Katherine (aged 42), who emigrated from Germany in 1895 and became a citizen in 1901, and they were farming their land. They shared the house with their six children, Elizabeth (aged 16), George (aged 15) - a laborer on their farm, Karoline (aged 13), Henry (aged 11), Dora (aged 10), and Frank (aged 8).⁶ In 1932, Frederick Heber and his wife Katie sold five parcels from the farm. Frederick Heber died in 1940s and left the property to his wife, Katie Heber. Five days later, Katie sold the remaining property to Carl and Bertha Wilkins.

The Wilkins defaulted on their mortgage and the farm sold to Ralph and Mary Smith in 1942. The Smiths constructed the garage addition and subdivided the property. Ralph Smith died March 30, 1968 and Mary Smith sold the house to Darrell and Sharon Merrill. By then the property was reduced to its current lot, known as Lot No. 2 of Glen-Mar. Four owners have owned the property since 1973. The current owners have owned the property since 2003.

⁴ Department of Commerce – Bureau of the Census, Thirteenth Census of United States: 1910, Population Schedule, E.D. 51, Sheet 15B and 16A.

⁵ Department of Commerce – Bureau of the Census, **Twelfth Census of United States:** 1900, Population Schedule, E.D. 79, Sheet 12.

⁶ Department of Commerce – Bureau of the Census, Fourteenth Census of United States: 1920, Population Schedule, E.D. 56, Sheet 1A.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO-866

Department of Commerce – Bureau of the Census. Census of United States: Population Schedule, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930.

Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of Howard County, Maryland, 1878. Ellicott City, MD: Howard County Bicentenial Commission, Inc., 1975.

Howard County Land Records, Dorsey Building, Columbia. See attached chain of title for specific libers and folios.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property _	36,154 SF		
Acreage of historical setting	60 acres		
Quadrangle name	Savage Quad	Quadrangle scale:	1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary corresponds to Map 31, Grid, 19, Parcel 389, which is the building's current legal lot.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title Jennifer Goold, Historic Sites Surveyor							
organization	Howard County Department of Plann	ing & Zoning date	December 1, 2004				
street & number	3430 Courthouse Drive	telephone	410-313-4355				
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

Inventory No. HO-866

Name Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

Lanier, Gabrielle M. and Bernard L. Herman. Everyday Architecture of the Mid-Atlantic. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1997.

Martenet, Simon J. Martenet's Map of Howard County, Maryland. Baltimore, 1860.

HO-866 Fisher Farmhouse 8416 Elko Road, Ellicott City Howard County

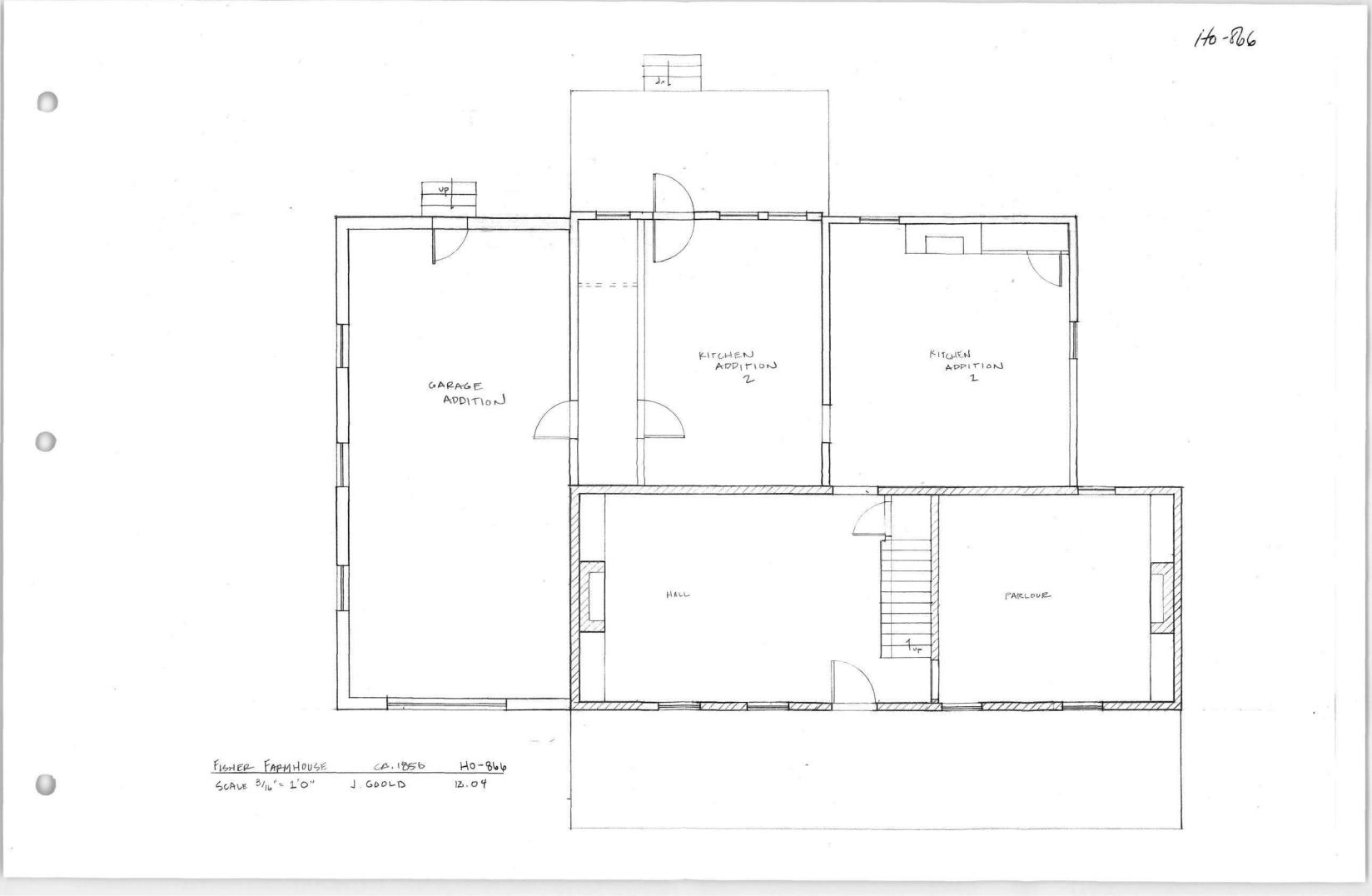
CHAIN OF TITLE

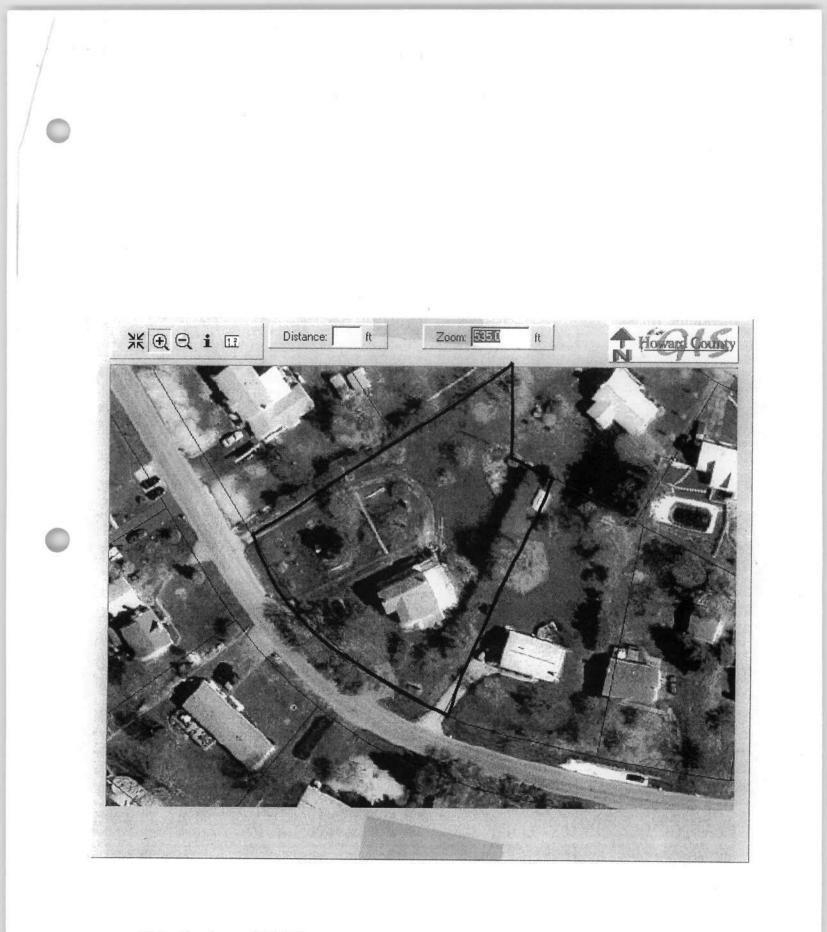
GRANTOR	GRANTEE	DATE	LIBER	FOLIO	TRANS.	PRICE	ACREAGE	COMMENTS
Donn M. Elliott	James Akers Jr. and	04-21-	7652	381	Deed	300,000	36,154	
	Deborah Patton	2003				34	square feet	
William O'Flanagan	Donn M. Elliott	03-07-	1972	749	Deed	146,200	36,154	
		1989				C0	square feet	
Darrell Delwood	William A.	08-21-	1395	560	Deed	113,500	36,154	
Merrill and Sharon	O'Flanagan and	1985					square feet	
Lynn Merrill	Anne L.							
- 10-	O'Flanagan							
Darrell Delwood	Elkridge National	07-06-	644	30	Mortgage	30,000	36,154	
Merrill and Sharon	Bank	1973					square feet	
Lynn Merrill								
Mary T. Smith	Darrell Delwood	07-06-	644	29	Deed	5.00	36,154	Ralph W. Smith died March 30, 1968.
	Merrill and Sharon 1973	1973					square feet	Being known and designated as Lot No.
	Lynn Merrill							w on a Plat of Glen-Mar, which plat is
								recorded amond the land records of
								Howard County in Plat Book R.H.M 6,
								folio 23.
Ralph W. Smith and	The Catonsville	12-21-	176	582	Mortgage	7,500		
Mary T. Smith	National Bank	1942	170	562	Mongage	7,500		
The Catonsville	Ralph W. Smith	12-21-	176	579	Deed	5.00		
National Bank	and Mary T. Smith	12-21-	170	519	Deeu	5.00		
James D. C.	The Catonsville	1942	176	577	Deed	1,000		The menority was cald 12th day of Mar
	National Bank	1942	1/0	511	Deed	1,000		The property was sold 13th day of May, 1942 to The Catonsville National Bank
Downes, Attorney	National Bank	1942						and the second
								for \$1000 plus the balance of principal
								and interest due under the first mortgage
								on said property held by the Eureka
								Maryland Assurance Corporation for
								\$3,624.77 because Carl E. Wilkins and
								Bertha G. Wilkens defaulted on their
								mortgage.

HO-866 Fisher Farmhouse 8416 Elko Road, Ellicott City Howard County

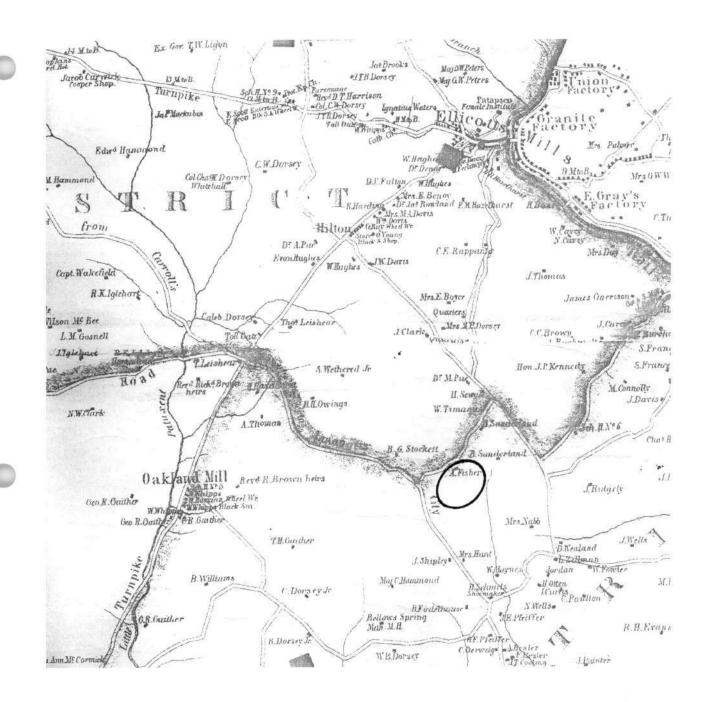
CHAIN OF TITLE

Carl E. Wilkins and Bertha G. Wilkins	Eureka-Maryland Assurance Corporation	07-17- 1940	167	479	Mortgage	3400		
Katie Heber	Carl E. Wilkins and Bertha G. Wilkins	07-17- 1940	167	477	Deed	5.00		Frederick J. Heber died July 12, 1940.
W. Herbert Mellor	Frederick J. Heber and Katie Heber (Howard County)	06-26- 1917	103	580	Deed	5.00		
Frederick J. Heber and Katie Heber (Howard County)	W. Herbert Mellor	06-21- 1917	103	579	Deed	5.00		
Jacob Kirn and Mary E. Kirn	Frederick J. Heber	06-01- 1901	73	629	Deed	3800.00		
William Reese Davis and Susan Davis (Howard County)	Jacob Kirn and Mary E. Kirn	09-30- 1895	63	581	Deed	482.00 and assumption of two mortgages		
Howard D. Fisher (Howard County)	William R. Davis (Howard County)	03-15- 1890	55	461	Deed	5.00	60 acres	Same parcel of land that was conveyed to Asbury Fisher, father of Howard D. Fisher.
Jane Scott (Howard County)	Asbury Fisher (Howard County)	10-06- 1855	16	385	Deed	1500.00	60 acres	

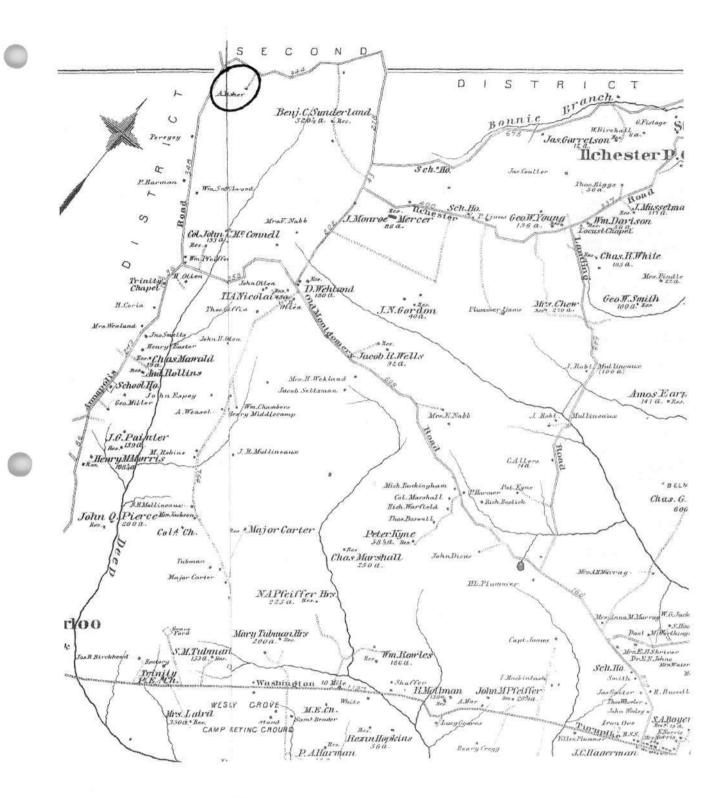




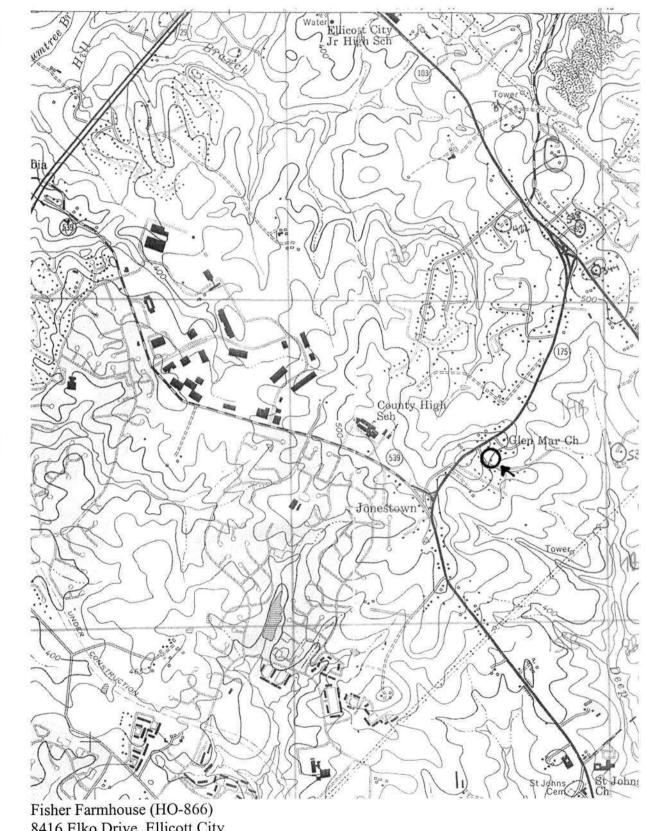
Fisher Farmhouse (HO-866) 8416 Elko Drive Ellicott City, Howard County *Site Plan/Aerial Photo*



Fisher Farmhouse (HO-866) 8416 Elko Drive, Ellicott City Howard County 1860 Martenet's Map



Fisher Farmhouse (HO-866) 8416 Elko Drive, Ellicott City Howard County 1878 Hopkins Atlas



8416 Elko Drive, Ellicott City Howard County USGS Savage Quad



- HD-866
- Fisher farmhouse
- Howard County, MD
- Jennifer Goold
- December 2004
- MD SHPO

106-1

View SE. Shows house in setting.

((1+1))

SZ 2-N

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H0-866 Fisher Farmhour Howard County, MD Jennifur Goold December 2004 MD SHPO 0(110) ZZ 1-N N I- 2121 262 620< 15.0N> 1182-TSA View E. Shows house insetting. 2007



HO-866 Fisher Farmhouse Howard County, MD Jennifer Goold December 2004 MD SHRO View NE. Shows house. 3067

262 1212 -1 N N-S-00 (044>0 461-5011 <N0.36 >040



- HO-866
- Fisher Farmhouse Howard County, MD Jenni Fer 60010 December, 2004
- ND SHPO

4067

View N, Shows house.

292-1211



- Ho- 260 Fisher Farmhouse Howard County, MD
- Jennifer Goold
- NDSHPO
- View NW. Shows house.
- 5067

297 1717 -1 N N-3 24 (044)0 ART-2611 <No.34 >038



HO-860 Fisher Farmhouse Howard County, ND. Sennifer Goold December 2004 MD SHPO View W. Shows house.

6007

297 1717 -1 N N-5 04 (044)0



HO-866 Fisher Farmhouse Howard County. MD. Jennifer Goold December 2004 MD SHPO View S. Shows diving room 297 1717 - 1 N N-4 39 (044)0 addition. Jof 1