

HO-953

Harman Tenant House/Taylor House  
5706 (formerly 1956) Furnace Avenue  
Elkridge

Description:

The Harman Tenant House/Taylor House is located at 5706 (formerly 1956) Furnace Avenue in Elkridge, in northeastern Howard County, Maryland. The house faces northeast toward the road. The house is a 1 1/2-story, three-bay by one-bay frame structure with wood shingles fastened with wire nails, a rubble stone foundation, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a northwest-southeast ridge. The northwest bay is a one-bay addition with a shed roof that slopes down to the northwest. The northeast elevation has a new porch across the front. The interior of the house has a two-room plan, with one room in front of the other and two rooms similarly arranged in the northwest addition. The northeast room has a patch in the floor on the northwest wall where the fireplace and hearth formerly stood. The southwest room, behind the paneling on the northwest wall, has a wood mantel that had the mantelshelf and bed mould removed before it was covered. The mantel is mortised and tenoned and pinned where the frieze board is attached to the sideboards. To the north of the fireplace is an enclosed winder stair. *The second story floor plan of the main block matches that of the first story.*

Significance:

The Harman Tenant House/Taylor House is located on lot 28 of the original plat of Elkridge Landing. The half-acre lot was sold to Enos Harman in 1837 for only \$100. Given the low price of this sale, it would seem that Harman purchased an empty lot. The 1860 Martenent Map of Howard County shows two buildings owned by Harman in the exact locations of this tenant house and his other property. Harman was a farmer who lived in Anne Arundel County and this property was always an investment for him. He died intestate in April 1891, and after an Equity Court case that enabled his heirs to sell his property, both Elkridge tenant houses were auctioned to the public. The house was purchased by Francis Shanabrook for only \$300, and Shanabrook, an 81-year old real estate agent and resident of Prince George's County, also bought it as an investment. In September 1894 he agreed to sell it to Spencer and Maria Taylor, but it was not until February 1905 that an order was issued by the Circuit Court that a deed be executed to the Taylors. The house remained in the family until at least 1980. As originally built, this house was typical of worker housing, with a floor plan that was common in eighteenth-century London and was brought to North America by British settlers. It had a two-room plan on both the first story and the attic story, with gable-end fireplaces and a tight center winder stairway between them. There are no passages on either floor, thus affording little privacy to the occupants.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-953

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

historic Harman Tenant House/Taylor House  
other

### 2. Location

street and number 5706 Furnace Avenue not for publication  
city, town Elkridge vicinity  
county Howard

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

name Charles & Stacey White  
street and number 6166 Lawyers Hill Road telephone 410-796-2802  
city, town Elkridge state MD zip code 21075

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 38, 621  
city, town Ellicott City liber 6844 folio 317

### 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
- Other

### 6. Classification

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

## 7. Description

Inventory No. HO-953

### Condition

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

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

#### Summary:

The Harman Tenant House/Taylor House is located at 5706 (formerly 1956) Furnace Avenue in Elkridge, in northeastern Howard County, Maryland. The house faces northeast toward the road. The house is a 1 1/2-story, three-bay by one-bay frame structure with wood shingles fastened with wire nails, a rubble stone foundation, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a northwest-southeast ridge. The northwest bay is a one-bay addition with a shed roof that slopes down to the northwest. The northeast elevation has a new porch across the front. The interior of the house has a two-room plan, with one room in front of the other and two rooms similarly arranged in the northwest addition. The northeast room has a patch in the floor on the northwest wall where the fireplace and hearth formerly stood. The southwest room, behind the paneling on the northwest wall, has a wood mantel that had the mantelshelf and bed mould removed before it was covered. The mantel is mortised and tenoned and pinned where the frieze board is attached to the sideboards. To the north of the fireplace is an enclosed winder stair. The second story floor plan of the main block matches that of the first story.

#### Description:

The Harman Tenant House/Taylor House is located at 5706 (formerly 1956) Furnace Avenue in Elkridge, in northeastern Howard County, Maryland. The house faces northeast toward the road.

#### Exterior

The house is a 1 1/2-story, three-bay by one-bay frame structure with wood shingles fastened with wire nails, a rubble stone foundation, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a northwest-southeast ridge. The northwest bay is a one-bay addition with a shed roof that slopes down to the northwest. The northeast elevation has a new porch across the front. The first story east bay has a door with six lights over three lying panels. The center bay has a six-over-six double-hung sash, and the north bay has a window that is overgrown. The second story of the main block has two six-over-three double-hung sash, and the cornice has a wood soffit. The southeast elevation has no openings. The southwest elevation has a new porch across the rear, with the west end enclosed. The west bay has a door into the addition, and the door has three lying lights over three lying panels. The center bay has a six-over-six sash, and the south bay has no opening. On the second story the south bay has a new three-light sash. There is an interior brick chimney on the northwest gable end. The northwest elevation of the addition, on the first story, has two 20th-century six-over-six double-hung sash. There is no opening in the enclosed porch and no opening in the gable end of the main block.

#### Interior, first story

The interior of the house has a two-room plan, with one room in front of the other and two rooms similarly arranged in the northwest addition. The northeast room flooring appears to be pine with traces of graining over it. The flooring is tongue-and-groove, runs northeast-southwest, and is 4-3/4 to 5 inches wide, though only several boards are visible. There is matting that is nailed down over the flooring, with several layers of linoleum and carpet on top of it. The room has plain baseboard, beaded-interior-edge architrave, and plaster on sawn lath. The sash are mortised and tenoned and pinned at the corners, with ovolo muntins and 9-inch by 11-inch lights. On the side of the sash are screwed pivoting anchor-shaped cast-iron sash holders. The front door has a cast-iron-rim lock marked "RUSSWIN" and has a porcelain knob. There is a patch in the floor on the northwest wall where the fireplace and hearth formerly stood. A doorway has been cut through on the northwest, west of the original fireplace location. There is a doorway on the southwest elevation, set to the south, leading to the southwest room. The door is missing from this location.

The southwest room has plywood on the floor and paneling on the walls, and the baseboard and architrave are covered. There is a drop ceiling over top of plaster. The sash matches that in the front room. Behind the paneling on the northwest wall is a wood mantel that had the mantelshelf and bed mould removed before it was covered. The mantel is mortised and tenoned and pinned where the frieze board is attached to the sideboards, and it has a beaded interior edge only. The fireplace is closed off, but is

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-953

Name Harman Tenant House/Taylor House  
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

constructed of brick and is wide, not studded out, suggesting that there was originally a working fireplace here. To the west of the fireplace is a closet with a beaded-edge vertical-board door hung on heavily-painted butt hinges. To the north of the fireplace is an enclosed winder stair, with the door to the stairway missing. There is a closet underneath the stair that has a beaded-edge vertical-board door and a cast-iron rim lock labeled "RECO." The door has cast-iron butt hinges with three knuckles marked with "PATENT."

The northwest addition is divided by a new sheetrock wall. The floors are covered, and there is plain baseboard. The original walls have plaster on circular-sawn lath with cut nails. The northeast elevation has a four-panel door to the east with plain mitered trim and a six-over-six sash to the north that matches those in the main block. There are ceiling tiles that are angled at the northwest end to follow the pitch of the rafters. The two northwest windows are modern wood sash with clamshell mouldings. The southeast wall, to the south, has boards on it, and there was a sink and stove here at one time. The ceiling on the southeast half is all new dimensional lumber, as are the rafters. The southwest wall has a door set to the south with three lying lights over three lying panels. There is a piece of symmetrical architrave that has a pulvinated center and two beads to each side of it, with a bead on the outer edge, too. The wall is plaster on circular-sawn lath with cut nails. The original house wall frame is partly exposed in the south corner and has a sawn girt that is 3 inches by 10 inches and runs northeast-southwest. The girt is mortised and tenoned and pinned to the west corner post with what appears to be a center tenon, and is numbered with a Roman numeral II that was cut with a chisel. The studs are 3 inches deep by 3-3/4 inches wide and are tenoned into the girt on the northwest. The southwest wall has a girt that is only 1-1/2 by 10 inches, and the studs bypass it to go up through the second story, it appears.

### Interior, second story

The second story floor plan of the main block matches that of the first story, with no rooms in the addition. The northeast chamber has random-width flooring that appears to be pine and runs northeast-southwest. It is sash-sawn, and one can still see the saw marks on the face of the boards. The flooring varies between 4 and 7-1/2 inches wide and is tongue-and-grooved. There is plain baseboard, and the architrave has a beaded interior edge only. The walls have plaster on circular-sawn lath with cut nails. The exterior siding is visible here and is weatherboards. The studs are 3 inches deep by 4 inches wide, with one pair spaced 16 inches on centers, and another spaced 24 inches on centers. The corner post is full height, and is 3 3/4-inches deep by 7 1/4-inches long, with a small piece nailed on the side in the front wall in which to nail the plaster lath. The studs in the front wall are also full height. The top of the corner post is notched for the plate to be dropped into it, with the notch set near the outer face of the post. The plate is one inch wide by 2-1/2 inches deep, and sits about one-half inch above the top of the corner post. The notch is set in about 1-1/4 inches from the outer face of the corner post. The corner post is hewn and may have some adz marks on it. The rafter feet have a bird's-mouth cut and lap over top of the plate, but it is not possible to see what the rafter feet do when they pass beyond the plate. The plate does not continue over to the other corner post. Rather, in the center of the northeast wall is a stud with a block of wood on top of it for the rafter foot to rest on. This block is riven on the interior face, is 9 inches long by 2-1/2 inches high, and is 1-1/2 inches deep. There are several cut nails wedged between the stud and the block, and it is not clear how this block is connected to the stud or how it is resisting the forces on the rafter. It is also not clear if this is an alteration or the result of some kind of deterioration. The roof follows the pitch of the rafters and the collar beams at the front and the back.

The southwest chamber has the same flooring, baseboard, and walls as the northeast chamber. The rear rafters are 3 inches wide by 4 inches deep, are sash-sawn, and are spaced 23-1/2 to 25-1/2 inches on centers. There is a new sash on the southwest elevation, set to the west, in what may be an original opening, with the trim missing. There is a plastered brick chimney on the northwest wall, with an open winder stair to the north of it. The stair has three horizontal rails between the winders and no rails at the top of the stairs. There have been no rails at the top of the stairs for a long time, as there is heavy paint on the woodwork in this location, though there are several nail holes where rails used to be. The rear plate appears to be different from the front plate, with the rear plate notched for the studs to go up on the exterior side and help hold the plate in place. The plate is also notched above the southwest window as if there was not a window here, but there was a stud instead. The stud below the center of the window is rotted on the top, as if the sill had water leaking into it, suggesting that a window may have been here for some time. It is not

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## 7. Description

Inventory No. HO-953

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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 type="checkbox"/> altered

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Inventory No. HO-953

Name Harman Tenant House/Taylor House  
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

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The northwest addition is divided by a new sheetrock wall. The floors are covered, and there is plain baseboard. The original walls have plaster on circular-sawn lath with cut nails. The northeast elevation has a four-panel door to the east with plain mitered trim and a six-over-six sash to the north that matches those in the main block. There are ceiling tiles that are angled at the northwest end to follow the pitch of the rafters. The two northwest windows are modern wood sash with clamshell mouldings. The southeast wall, to the south, has boards on it, and there was a sink and stove here at one time. The ceiling on the southeast half is all new dimensional lumber, as are the rafters. The southwest wall has a door set to the south with three lying lights over three lying panels. There is a piece of symmetrical architrave that has a pulvinated center and two beads to each side of it, with a bead on the outer edge, too. The wall is plaster on circular-sawn lath with cut nails. The original house wall frame is partly exposed in the south corner and has a sawn girt that is 3 inches by 10 inches and runs northeast-southwest. The girt is mortised and tenoned and pinned to the west corner post with what appears to be a center tenon, and is numbered with a Roman numeral II that was cut with a chisel. The studs are 3 inches deep by 3-3/4 inches wide and are tenoned into the girt on the northwest. The southwest wall has a girt that is only 1-1/2 by 10 inches, and the studs bypass it to go up through the second story, it appears.

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Continuation Sheet

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certain if the empty mortise above the window was ever used.

To the southeast of the house is another dwelling constructed apparently in the 1950s.

## 8. Significance

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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Construction dates

c. 1837-60

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 reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

### Summary:

The Harman Tenant House/Taylor House is located on lot 28 of the original plat of Elkridge Landing. The half-acre lot was sold to Enos Harman in 1837 for only \$100. Given the low price of this sale, it would seem that Harman purchased an empty lot. The 1860 Martenent Map of Howard County shows two buildings owned by Harman in the exact locations of this tenant house and his other property. Harman was a farmer who lived in Anne Arundel County and this property was always an investment for him. He died intestate in April 1891, and after an Equity Court case that enabled his heirs to sell his property, both Elkridge tenant houses were auctioned to the public. The house was purchased by Francis Shanabrook for only \$300, and Shanabrook, an 81-year old real estate agent and resident of Prince George's County, also bought it as an investment. In September 1894 he agreed to sell it to Spencer and Maria Taylor, but it was not until February 1905 that an order was issued by the Circuit Court that a deed be executed to the Taylors. The house remained in the family until at least 1980. As originally built, this house was typical of worker housing, with a floor plan that was common in eighteenth-century London and was brought to North America by British settlers. It had a two-room plan on both the first story and the attic story, with gable-end fireplaces and a tight center winder stairway between them. There are no passages on either floor, thus affording little privacy to the occupants.

### Significance:

The Harman Tenant House/Taylor House is located on lot 28 of the original plat of Elkridge Landing. Judging from Christopher Colles's map of the Old Post Road, published in 1789, there was no building on lot 28 at that time. Lot 28 was at the corner of the Old Post Road (later Elkridge Street, now Paradise Avenue) and Market Street (now Furnace Avenue). The half-acre lot was sold to Enos Harman in 1837 for only \$100. This was one of two lots that Harman purchased here. In 1825 Elkridge suffered a fire that destroyed nine of its ten houses, and given the low price of this sale, it would seem that Harman purchased an empty lot. The 1860 Martenent Map of Howard County shows two buildings owned by Harman in the exact locations of this tenant house and his other property. Elkridge Landing was founded for the primary purpose of shipping tobacco from the surrounding farms, but by 1750, with the establishment of Caleb Dorsey's iron furnace, it became an early industrial center for what was then Ann Arundel County. Industry continued to play an economic role in the town, with the result that housing was needed for its workers. Harman was apparently responding to this need. (1)

Elkridge was periodically revisited by calamity, including a devastating flood in 1868 that also wiped out the town of Sykesville. It has typically been assumed that this flood destroyed the buildings along Furnace Avenue, given their proximity to the river. If so, Harman must have rebuilt on the old foundation. It is possible that this house predates the flood, though what has been observed of the building fabric was not dateable to a narrow time frame. The Transfer Book from 1864 to 1869 does not list Harman, but it is not clear whether this indicates that nothing happened to the house in the flood, or that it was replaced with another of the same value before the records could reflect the loss of the first structure. In 1876 the two lots were assessed together for \$125, with the Furnace Avenue house worth \$400. Two years later the 1878 Hopkins Atlas of Howard County also



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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
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Specific dates

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Construction dates

c. 1837-60

Evaluation for:

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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 reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

### Summary:

The Harman Tenant House/Taylor House is located on lot 28 of the original plat of Elkridge Landing. The half-acre lot was sold to Enos Harman in 1837 for only \$100. Given the low price of this sale, it would seem that Harman purchased an empty lot. The 1860 Martenent Map of Howard County shows two buildings owned by Harman in the exact locations of this tenant house and his other property. Harman was a farmer who lived in Anne Arundel County and this property was always an investment for him. He died intestate in April 1891, and after an Equity Court case that enabled his heirs to sell his property, both Elkridge tenant houses were auctioned to the public. The house was purchased by Francis Shanabrook for only \$300, and Shanabrook, an 81-year old real estate agent and resident of Prince George's County, also bought it as an investment. In September 1894 he agreed to sell it to Spencer and Maria Taylor, but it was not until February 1905 that an order was issued by the Circuit Court that a deed be executed to the Taylors. The house remained in the family until at least 1980. As originally built, this house was typical of worker housing, with a floor plan that was common in eighteenth-century London and was brought to North America by British settlers. It had a two-room plan on both the first story and the attic story, with gable-end fireplaces and a tight center winder stairway between them. There are no passages on either floor, thus affording little privacy to the occupants.

### Significance:

The Harman Tenant House/Taylor House is located on lot 28 of the original plat of Elkridge Landing. Judging from Christopher Colles's map of the Old Post Road, published in 1789, there was no building on lot 28 at that time. Lot 28 was at the corner of the Old Post Road (later Elkridge Street, now Paradise Avenue) and Market Street (now Furnace Avenue). The half-acre lot was sold to Enos Harman in 1837 for only \$100. This was one of two lots that Harman purchased here. In 1825 Elkridge suffered a fire that destroyed nine of its ten houses, and given the low price of this sale, it would seem that Harman purchased an empty lot. The 1860 Martenent Map of Howard County shows two buildings owned by Harman in the exact locations of this tenant house and his other property. Elkridge Landing was founded for the primary purpose of shipping tobacco from the surrounding farms, but by 1750, with the establishment of Caleb Dorsey's iron furnace, it became an early industrial center for what was then Ann Arundel County. Industry continued to play an economic role in the town, with the result that housing was needed for its workers. Harman was apparently responding to this need. (1)

Elkridge was periodically revisited by calamity, including a devastating flood in 1868 that also wiped out the town of Sykesville. It has typically been assumed that this flood destroyed the buildings along Furnace Avenue, given their proximity to the river. If so, Harman must have rebuilt on the old foundation. It is possible that this house predates the flood, though what has been observed of the building fabric was not dateable to a narrow time frame. The Transfer Book from 1864 to 1869 does not list Harman, but it is not clear whether this indicates that nothing happened to the house in the flood, or that it was replaced with another of the same value before the records could reflect the loss of the first structure. In 1876 the two lots were assessed together for \$125, with the Furnace Avenue house worth \$400. Two years later the 1878 Hopkins Atlas of Howard County also

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No HO-953

Name Harman Tenant House/Taylor House

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

shows both of these buildings in the same location. (2)

Harman was a farmer who lived in Anne Arundel County and this property was always an investment for him. He died intestate in April 1891, and after an Equity Court case that enabled his heirs to sell his property, both Elkridge tenant houses were auctioned to the public. Each lot was described as simply having a small house. The house was purchased by Francis Shanabrook for only \$300, and Shanabrook, an 81-year old real estate agent and resident of Prince George's County, also bought it as an investment. In September 1894 he agreed to sell it to Spencer and Maria Taylor for \$50 down and an additional \$400 plus six percent interest. Taylor would pay \$8.34 at the first of each month until the property was paid off and then receive a deed to the property. Spencer Taylor was an illiterate laborer, about 47 years old, and he went to work for Sarah Hobbs, an Elkridge storekeeper and widow, at the time he contracted to purchase the Furnace Avenue house. Taylor was first employed as a day laborer, but in 1898 Hobbs agreed to pay Taylor \$10.00 a month and act as agent for Shanabrook, so that most of Taylor's income she gave directly to Shanabrook. After two years, Taylor's pay was increased to \$12.00 a month. He reported taking home 60 cents a month for the first two years and one dollar after that, and finally stopped working for Mrs. Hobbs after 2 1/2 years, in 1900. During that time Shanabrook was supposed to give Hobbs notes in exchange for the payments, and Hobbs would pass them on to Taylor as a receipt. Taylor later claimed that he did not always receive these notes. Taylor could not move into the house until March 1895 because it was being rented to someone else. By 1900, he believed that he had paid more than the purchase price on his house and had demanded a deed, which Shanabrook refused to give, claiming that Taylor was in arrears for some of the payments. Taylor then sued Shanabrook, who admitted that he could not remember what was done and did not have adequate records to prove his claims. Several of his claims were shown to be false, and the circumstantial evidence suggested that Taylor's claims were legitimate. Shanabrook died during the trial and it was not until February 1905 that an order was issued by the court that a deed be executed to the Taylors. The house remained in the family until at least 1980. (3)

As originally built, this house was typical of worker housing, with a floor plan that was common in eighteenth-century London and was brought to North America by British settlers. It had a two-room plan on both the first story and the attic story, with gable-end fireplaces and a tight center winder stairway between them. There are no passages on either floor, thus affording little privacy to the occupants. The front fireplace has been removed, perhaps when central heating was put in, enlarging the room as a result. Houses of this floor plan were often built in rows in urban locations, and despite the extra space available on this lot, the traditional plan was retained. The house was not given a cellar, possibly because of the high water table likely for land so close to the Patapsco River, though many lower and middle class houses in Howard County seem not to have had cellars originally. The finishes were very simple. The front room probably served as a parlor and the rear room as the kitchen, though the fireplace here was not overly large and retains most of a simple, but complete, wood mantel, not just a shelf. The house was expanded with a one-story addition to one side, and this was given its own front door. This addition has been heavily rebuilt, making it unclear just when it was built and what its original function was: additional living space or commercial or work space. Regardless, the original section of this house has not been substantially altered and remains a good example of worker housing in the nineteenth century. (4)

According to the present owner, the house has been vacant since 1980, when the son of the former owner, who was living here, was sent to prison for murder. The house will probably be demolished in 2008.

### Notes:

- 1). Christopher Colles, *A Survey of the Roads of the United States of America, 1789*. (Cambridge, Mass., Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1961). Niles Weekly Register, 3rd ser., vol. 4, no. 10, 7 May 1825, p. 159. Noted in: Joetta Koppenhoefer, "Elk Ridge: the River, the Railroad, the Boulevard." In *Elk Ridge: A Bicentennial Journal*. June 1976, pp. 1-2. Simon J. Martenet, *Martenet's Map of Howard County, Maryland* (Baltimore, 1860).
- 2). Koppenhoefer, "Elk Ridge." In *Elk Ridge: A Bicentennial Journal*, p. 1. Howard County Commissioners, *Transfer Book, 1859-71*, Maryland State Archives. Howard County Commissioners of the Tax, *Assessment, District 1, 1876-96*, Maryland State Archives. G. M. Hopkins, *Atlas of Howard County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, 1878).
- 3). U. S. Bureau of the Census, *Anne Arundel County, Maryland, 1870, 1880*. Anne Arundel Circuit Court, Equity 1470,

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No HO-953

Name Harman Tenant House/Taylor House

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

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Chancery Book SH 22-329, Maryland State Archives. Baltimore Sun, 28 August 1891, p. 3, col. 6. Howard County Circuit Court, Equity 1405, Maryland State Archives.

4). Peter Guillery, *The Small House in Eighteenth-Century London: A Social and Architectural History*. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2004). Bernard L. Herman, *Town House: Architecture and Material Life in the Early American City, 1780-1830*. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2005). Gwendolyn Wright, *Building the Dream: A Social History of Housing in America*. (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1981).

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. HO-953

See continuation sheet. *footnotes*

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property .1999 A

Acreage of historical setting .5 A

Quadrangle name Relay

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries consist of all of the property on tax map 38, p. 621, which encompasses all of the historic structures.

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Ken Short

organization Howard County Dept. of Planning &amp; Zoning

date 9/17/2008

street and number 3430 Courthouse Drive

telephone 410-313-4335

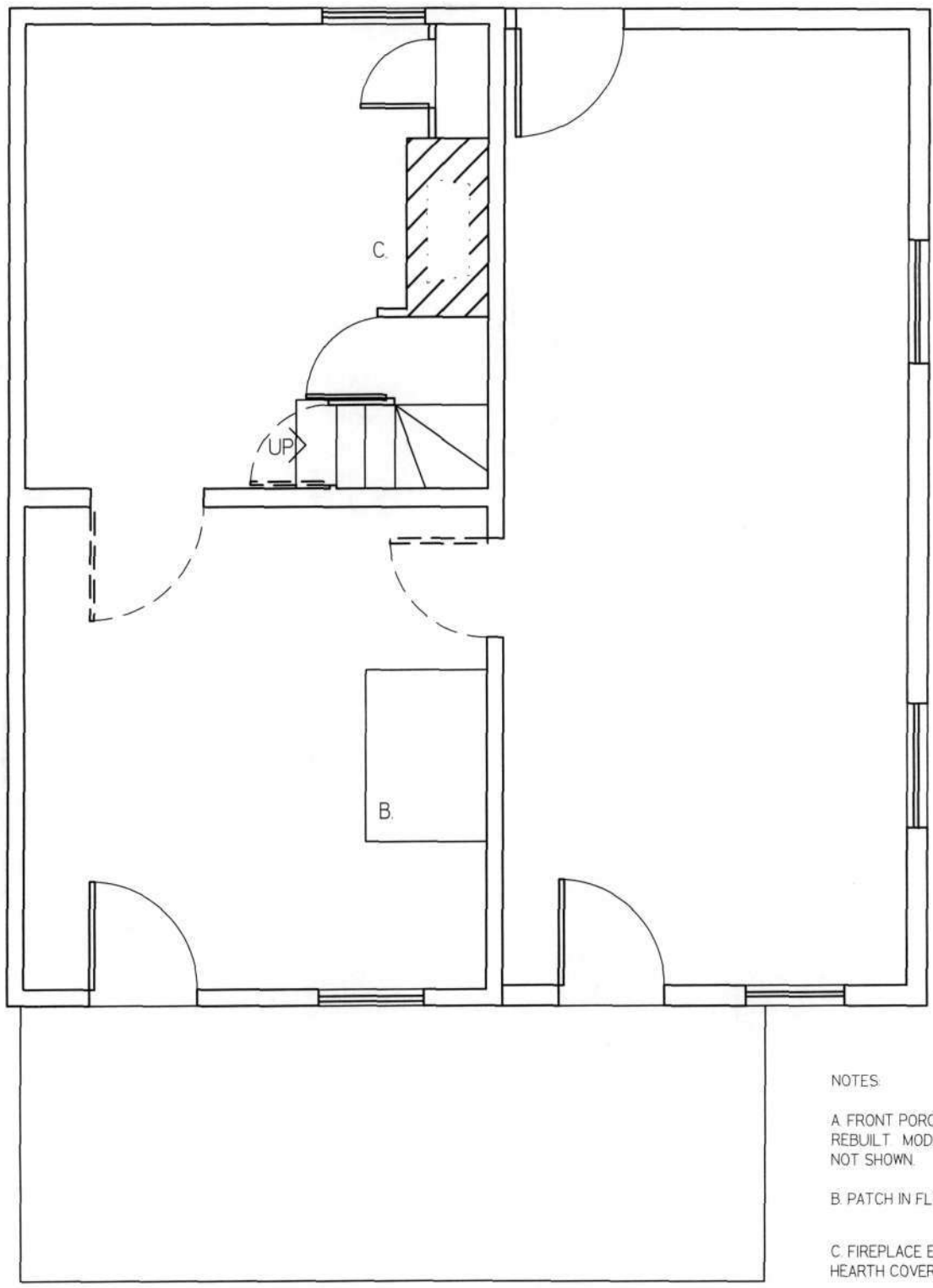
city or town Ellicott City

state MD zip code 21043

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  
410-514-7600

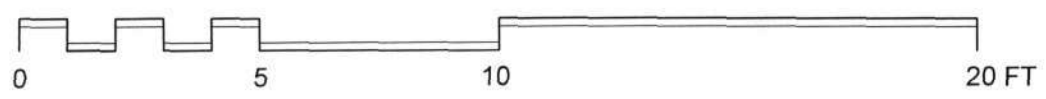


NOTES:

A FRONT PORCH COMPLETELY REBUILT MODERN REAR PORCH NOT SHOWN

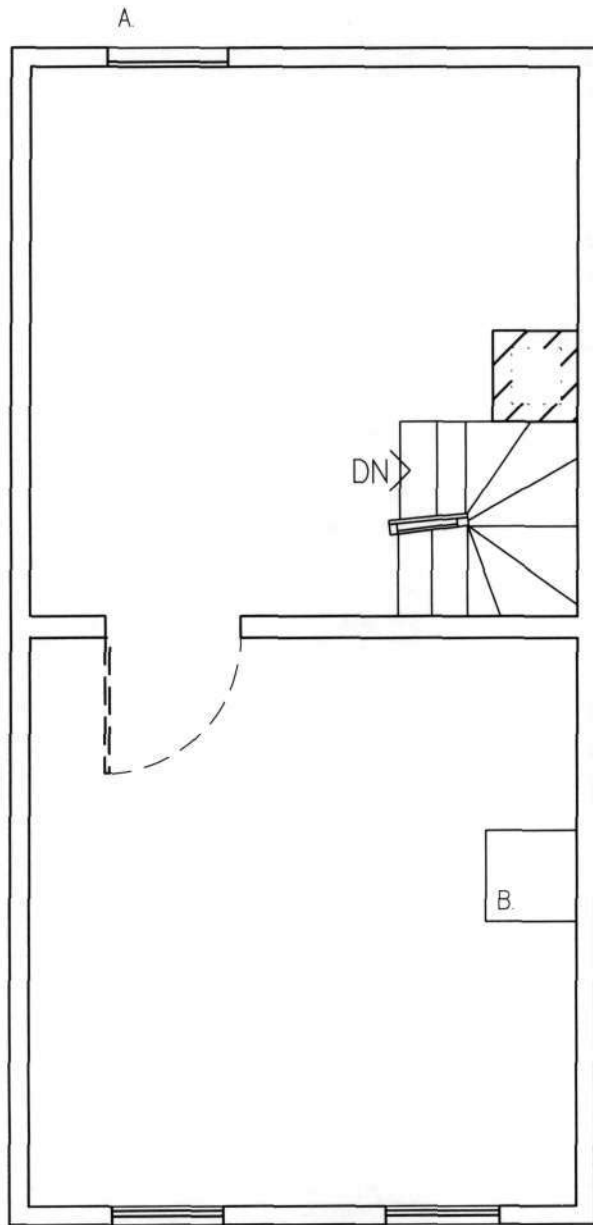
B PATCH IN FLOORING

C FIREPLACE ENCLOSED AND HEARTH COVERED WITH PLYWOOD



# H0-953 5706 FURNACE AVENUE, ELKRIDGE

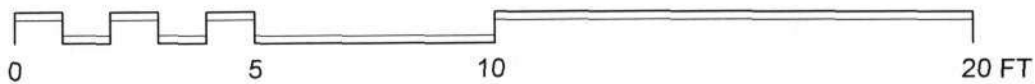
FIRST FLOOR PLAN -- MEASURED BY KEN SHORT AND CLAIRE BOMAN -- DRAWN BY KEN SHORT -- APRIL 2008



NOTES

A NEW SASH

B PATCH IN FLOORING



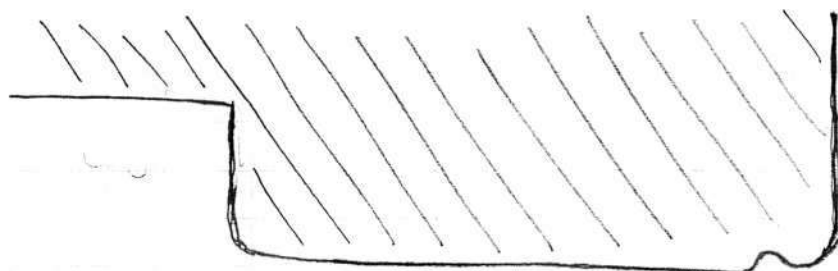
40-953 5706 FURNACE AVENUE, ELKRIDGE

SECOND FLOOR PLAN -- MEASURED BY KEN SHORT AND CLAIRE BOMAN -- DRAWN BY KEN SHORT -- APRIL 2008

1/2

5706 Furnace Ave, Elkridge HO-953  
SE Rm Window Architrave

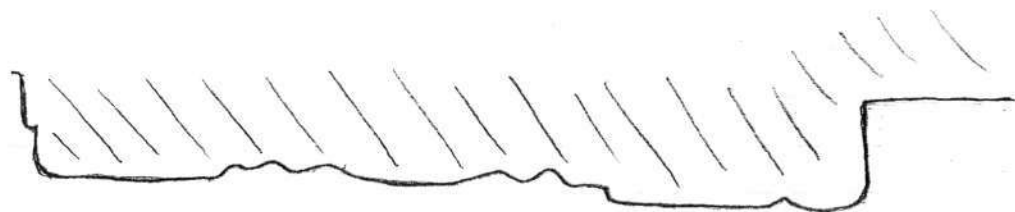
CB  
8 Apr. '08



2/2 5706 Furnace Ave., Elkridge  
N. Addn. W. Rm Door Architrave

HO-953 CB

8 Apr. '08





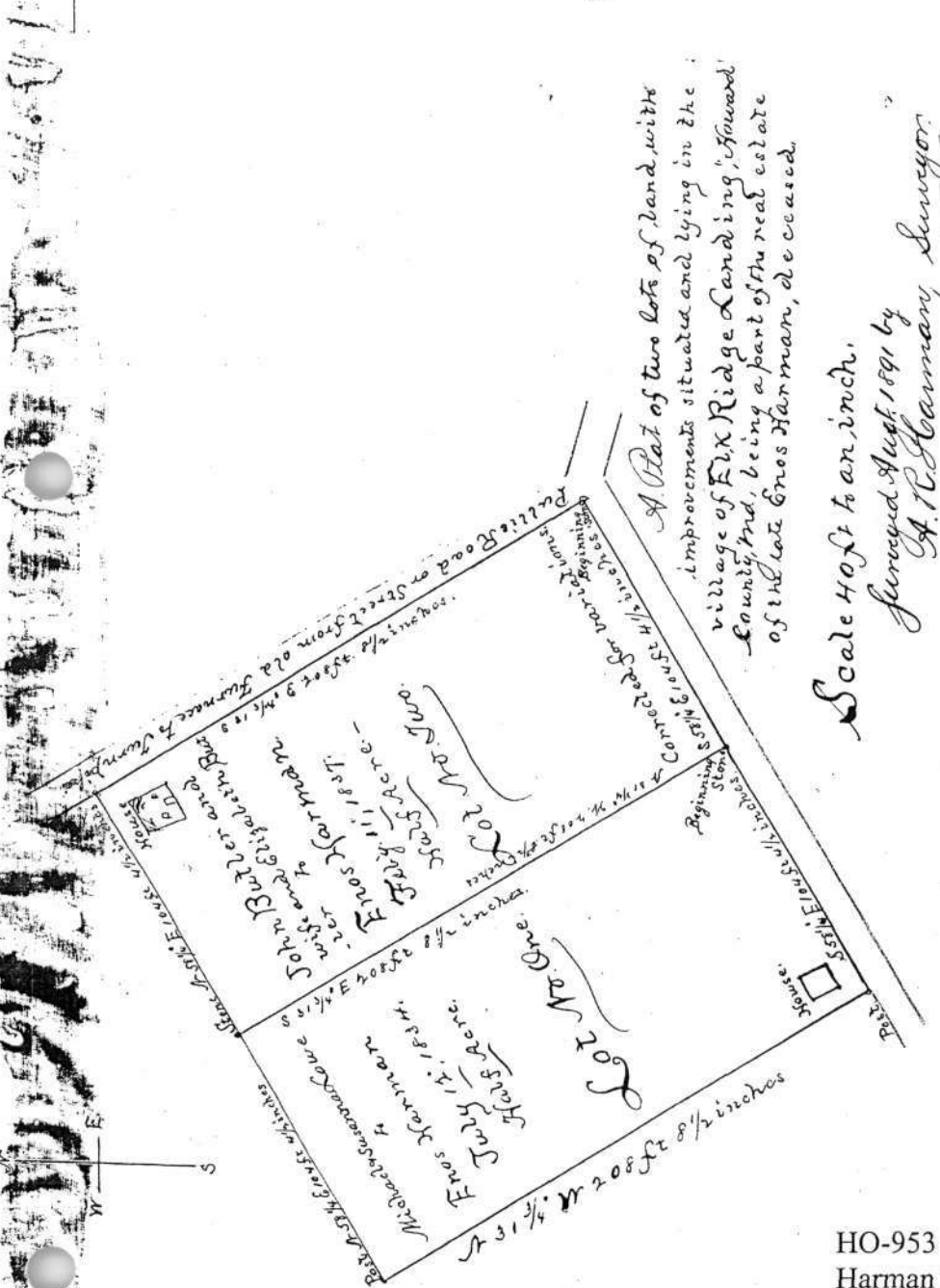
Harman Tenant House Taylor House (HO-953)  
5706 Furnace Avenue  
CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER- -ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
Samuel T. Carter, pers. Rep. of Henrietta Elizabeth Carter/late of Howard	Charles G. & Stacy A. White (H/W)?	1.17.2003	MDR 6844-317	Deed - fee simple	\$55,000	8711.9 sq. ft.	Estate 15555
Henrietta T. Carter, pers. rep. of Louise Elizabeth Sewell/Howard	Henrietta T. Carter/?	5.20.1980	CMP 1001-134	Deed - fee simple	\$0	8711.9 sq. ft.	
Henrietta T. Carter, pers. rep. of Rosie Taylor/ Howard	Estate of Louise Elizabeth Sewell	5.20.1980	CMP 1001.132	Deed - fee simple	\$0	8711.9 sq. ft.	RT d. 7.7.1974 AFT d.
Philip T. Sybert/Howard	Albert Franklin Taylor & wf. Rosie/Howard	1.9.1942	BM, Jr. 173-103	Deed - fee simple	\$5.00	8711.9 sq. ft.	Survey by W. E. Talbott 3.8.1937
James Mitton Taylor individually & as trustee of Marie Taylor <i>et al</i> /Howard	Philip T. Sybert/?	1.9.1942	BM, Jr. 173-98	Deed - fee simple	\$5.00	1 A	Will R D of W 5-117 6.7.1911 where she resided
Fillmore Beale, admin. Of Francis Shanabrook/P. G.	Spencer & Marie Taylor (H/W)/Howard	3.15.1905	WWLC 80-119	Deed - fee simple	\$450	1 A	Equity 2.28.1905 S. & M. Taylor v. Shanabrook
John F. Williams, trustee/Balto. City	Francis Shanabrook/?	12.8.1891	JHO 58-116	Deed - ?	\$300	½	AA Co. Equity 1470 7.11.1891 Amanda E. Cromwell, <i>et al</i> v. Hone N. Harman, <i>et al</i> Sold 8.31.1891 Village of Elkridge Landing Lot 2 on plat by Amos R. Harman, 8/1891
John Butler, <i>et al</i> & wf. Emily Elizabeth Blue A. A. Co.	Enos Harman/A.A.	2.11.1837	AA Co. WSG 21-615	Indenture	\$100	½ A	#28 on plat of Elkridge Landing p/o "Hanover"
William Hammond of John/A. A.	William Townshend/A.A.	10.11.1785	NH 2-322	Indenture	£ 25	½ A	

Ordered this twelfth day of November 1891 by the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County that the sales made and reported by the trustee aforesaid and the same are hereby finally ratified and confirmed, no cause to the contrary having been shown, although due notice appears to have been given as required by the order nisi passed in said cause. And the trustee is allowed the usual commissions and such proper expenses as he shall produce vouchers for to the Auditor.

J. Thomas Jones,

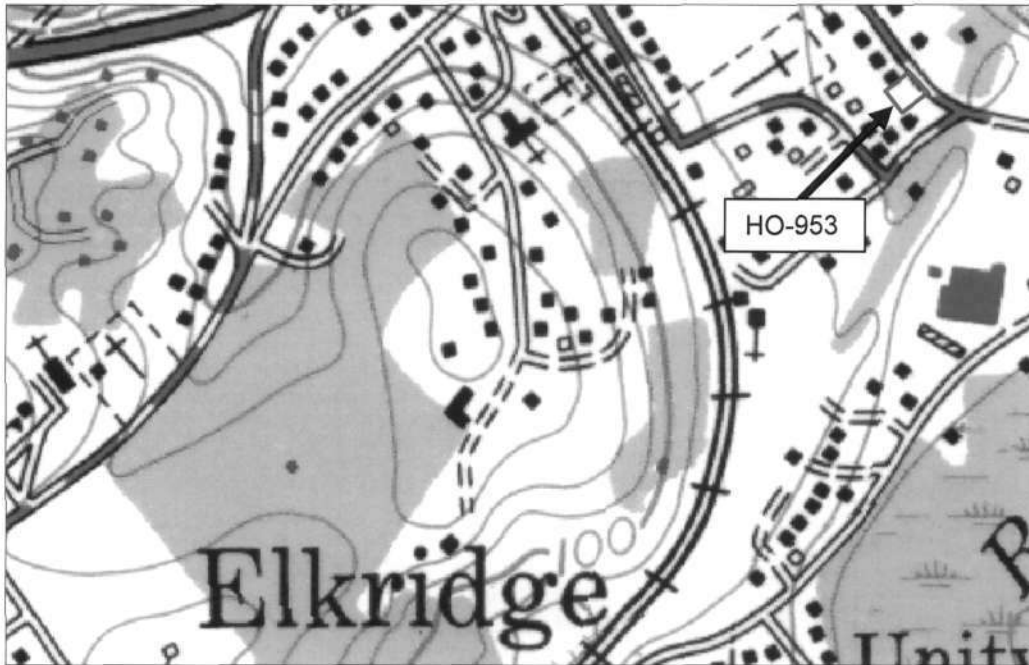
On October the 9<sup>th</sup> 1891, the following plat was filed



HO-953  
 Harman Tenant House/Taylor House  
 5706 (formerly 1956) Furnace Avenue, Elkridge  
 Plat in Anne Arundel County Circuit Court,  
 Equity 1470, Chancery Book SH 22-373  
 1891

HO-953  
Harman Tenant House, site (Taylor House)  
5706 Furnace Avenue, Elkridge  
Relay Quadrangle

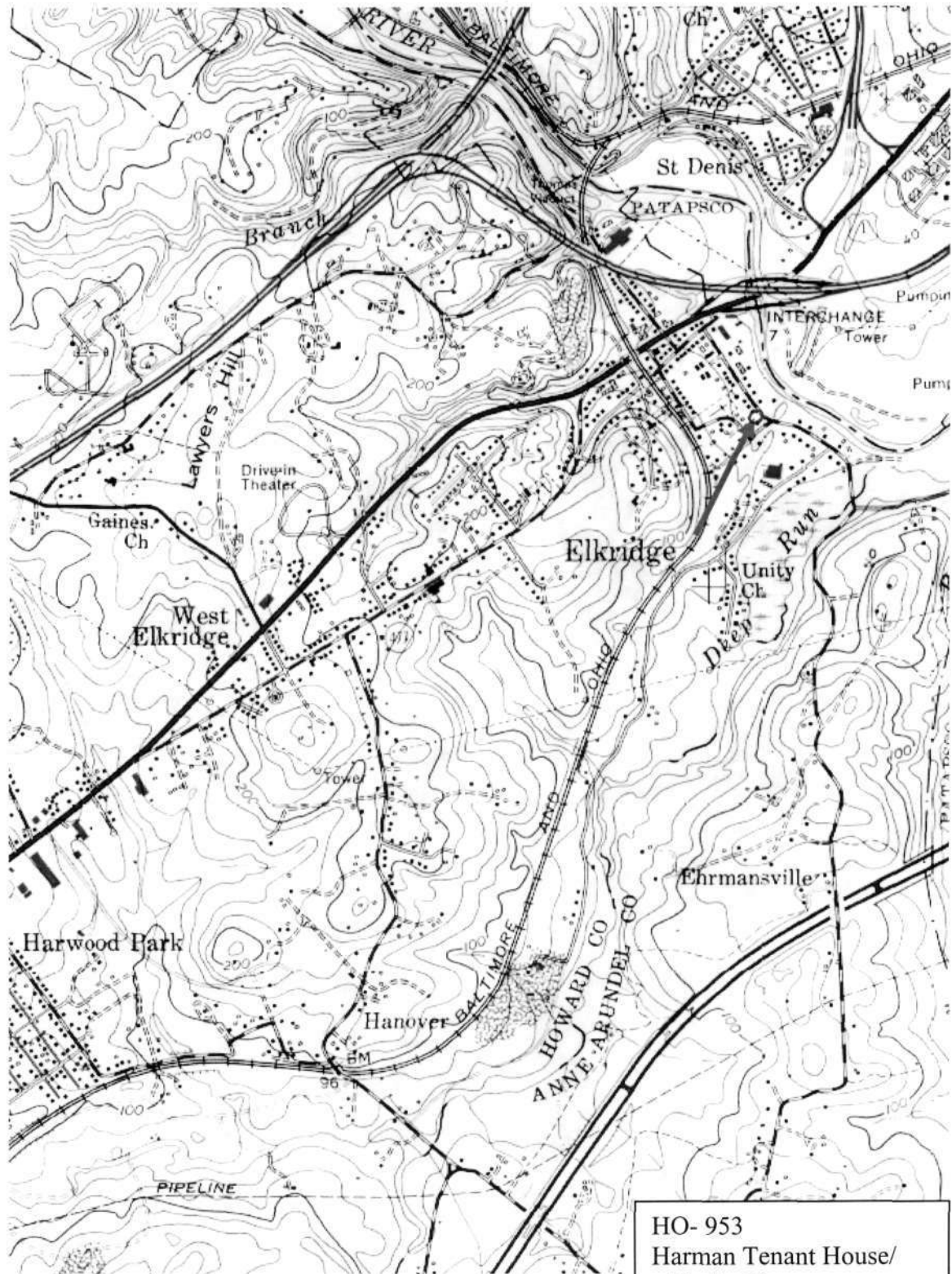
demolished c. 2009



National Web Map Service 6" OPM, '07-08  
With MD iMap Planning Cadastre parcel bounds

Howard County Tax Map 38, p. 621





HO- 953  
Harman Tenant House/  
Taylor House  
5706 Furnace Avenue.  
Elkridge  
Relay Quad

HO-953

Harman Tenant House/Taylor House  
5706 (formerly 1956) Furnace Avenue, ElkrIDGE  
Howard County, Maryland  
Ken Short, photographer

Photo Log

Nikon D-70 camera  
HP Premium Plus paper  
HP Gray Photo print cartridge

HO-0953\_20080408\_01  
House, northeast elevation

HO-0953\_20080408\_02  
House, northeast & northwest elevations

HO-0953\_20080408\_03  
House, southwest & southeast elevations

HO-0953\_20080408\_04  
House, southwest room, view northwest



HO-953

Harman Tenant House /  
Taylor House

5706 (formerly 1956) Furnace Ave  
Elkridge, Howard Co. MD

Ken Short, photographer

4-8-08

House, northeast elevation

1/4





HO-953

Hannan Tenant House / Taylor  
House

5706 (formerly 1956) Furnace Ave  
Elkridge, Howard Co. MD

Ken Short, photographer

4-8-08

House, northeast & northwest elevations

2/4



◀ |||| HO-953 |

Harman Tenant House / Taylor  
House

5706 (formerly 1956) Furnace Ave  
Elkridge, Howard Co, MD

Ken Short, photographer

4-8-08

House, southwest & southeast elevations

| 3/4

||||▶



◀||| HO-953

Harman Tenant House / Taylor  
House

5706 (formerly 1956) Furnace Ave  
Elkridge, Howard Co. MD  
Ken Short, photographer

4-8-08

House, southwest room,  
view northwest

4/4

