

S-465
Elbert Sterling House
Upper Hill
Private

c. 1940

The Elbert Sterling house stands out in the historic black community of Upper Hill as a distinct variation in the type of dwelling erected during the first half of the twentieth century. The squarish story-and-a-half frame house was designed with an unusual cruciform shaped roof. A steeply pitched gable-front roof is combined with equally high side gables that yield the cross shape. Protruding through the roof at the intersection of the four ridge lines is a single-flue stove chimney. Unusual as well is the elevated foundation that raises the first floor well off the ground. With its distinctive architectural form and details, the Elbert Sterling house provides variation from the more common two-story, two- and three-bay houses that define the village.

The construction of this hybrid example of the bungalow style house is dated to a 1940 transfer of a parcel of land between Emanuel J. and Mollie Waters to Elbert and Sarah Sterling. Due to the second quarter of the twentieth century features of the exterior, including the glazed front door with its long oval pane and the six-over-one sash windows, the construction of the house is comfortably dated around the sale of the 1/8 acre lot.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: ELBERT STERLING HOUSE

MHT Inventory Number: S-465

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

- 1) Historic Period Theme(s): ARCHITECTURE
- 2) Geographic Orientation: EASTERN SHORE
- 3) Chronological/Development Period(s):
MODERN PERIOD
1930-Present
- 4) Resource Type(s): Single-family dwelling

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic ELBERT STERLING HOUSE

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 27871 Jim Moore Road not for publication

city, town Upper Hill vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Somerset

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Wayne Maddox

street & number P. O. Box 304 telephone no.:

city, town Upper Hill state and zip code Maryland 21868

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset County Clerk of Court liber 348

street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio 428

city, town Princess Anne state MD 21853

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. S-465

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

The Elbert Sterling house is located at 27871 Jim Moore Road in the historic black community of Upper Hill, Somerset County, Maryland. The story-and-a-half frame house faces west with the principal gable oriented on an east/west axis.

Estimated to date around 1940, the story-and-a-half frame structure is supported on a raised concrete block foundation and the exterior is clad with a layer of vinyl siding. The steeply pitched gable-front roof, as well as its side gables, are covered with asphalt shingles.

The west elevation is a three-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking six-over-one sash windows. The front door features a large oval glass. The entire first floor is sheltered by a single story, enclosed shed roof porch. The gable front wall of the upper story is pierced by paired six-over-one sash windows. Protruding through the center of the roof, at the intersection of the four roof ridges, is a single flue, stuccoed brick stove chimney.

The north and south side elevations are largely alike with single and paired six-over-one sash windows lighting the first floor and attic. The gable end is finished with an extended eave that joins with a cornice at the first floor height thereby creating a triangular pediment form.

The east (rear) elevation of the main block is extended by an enclosed shed roof kitchen, and the upper story is lighted by a paired six-over-one sash window.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
 and/or
 Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G
 Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

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The construction of this hybrid example of the bungalow style house is dated to a 1940 transfer of a parcel of land between Emanuel J. and Mollie Waters to Elbert and Sarah Sterling.(Somerset County Land Record, 117/191) Due to the second quarter of the twentieth century features of the exterior, including the glazed front door with its long oval pane and the six-over-one sash windows, the construction of the house is comfortably dated around the sale of the 1/8 acre lot.

S-465
Elbert Sterling House
27871 Jim Moore Road
Upper Hill, Somerset County, Maryland
Chain of title

348/428 George A. Sterling

to

Wayne Maddox
Terry Terrell

333/416 Elbert Sterling

to

6/30/1982 George A. Sterling

288/774 Elbert Sterling

to

9/2/1975 Elbert Sterling
George A. Sterling
1/8 acre

117/191 Manuel J. Waters (also known as Emanuel J. Waters)
Mollie Waters

to

4/3/1940 Elbert Sterling
Sarah Sterling
1/8 acre

MARION QUADRAI
MARYLAND-SOMERS
7.5 MINUTE SERIES ORTHOPHOTO

5860 III NE
(MONIE) 429

430

47'30"

431

1 150 000 FEET

432

433

S-465
ELBERT STERLING HOUSE
Upper Hill, Somerset County, MD
Marion, Marland Quadrangle, 1972





S-465

ELBERT STERLING HOUSE

UPPER HILL, SUMMERSET COUNTY, MD.

WEST ELEVATION

6/95, PAUL TOUANT, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG. [MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

1/1