

HA-227

1909-1910

Esley House  
5 S. Hickory Avenue  
Bel Air  
Private

The Esley Family home is a very late example of Bel Air's favorite 19th century house, the three bay house with a front gable. It even has the ubiquitous round-headed 2/2 window in the gable. It differs from many of its fellows in having a center hall plan rather than a side hall and is, as a result, somewhat wider than them. Robert Esley built the house in 1909 or 1910 for his family. His surviving children still own it, and Miss Hazel Esley lives there.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC  
Esley House  
AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
5 S. Hickory 1st  
CITY, TOWN  
Bel Air \_\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF \_\_\_\_\_ CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
STATE  
Maryland COUNTY  
Harford

**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	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME  
Miss Hazel Esley & Mr. Walter B. Esley Telephone #: 838-7084  
STREET & NUMBER  
5 S. Hickory  
CITY, TOWN  
Bel Air \_\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF \_\_\_\_\_ STATE, zip code  
Maryland 21014

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, LIBER #: 1052  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Harford County Courthouse FOLIO #: 815  
STREET & NUMBER  
Main Street  
CITY, TOWN  
Bel Air STATE  
Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
DATE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY, TOWN STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This three bay, two and a half story shiplap sided house with a steep gable roof is at 5 S. Hickory in the Town of Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. It is a late example (c 1909) of this style and is somewhat wider than usual in front (west). Otherwise it has all of the characteristics of its type: front gable with round headed 2/2 window, 2/2 windows except for the 2/4 ground floor front, center entrance with a two pane transom over a single pane over two panel door, louvered wooden shutters at all principle windows, hip roof porch on stock turned posts. The back building is a two bay ell to the east. On the south elevation of the back building is a single story shed roofed kitchen addition with a back porch that has a wooden handrail. The rear of the ell, rather than the side, is a more common place for this kitchen addition; the slope of the lot may have dictated its position here. The entrance to the basement is in a small gable roofed projection in the south bay of the ell at basement level.

The main block of the house is not divided in a symmetrical center hall way. The livingroom is to the north of the entrance hall, not separated from the hall. A closed string single run staircase rises in the south wall of the 'hall'. It has turned balusters and a square panelled newel with a vase shaped finial. To the south of the staircase is a small chamber, once the parlor, now a bedroom.

To the east of the livingroom, in the back building, is a large diningroom. South of that in the little shed addition, is the kitchen.

The second story has three bedrooms and a bath. An enclosed stair to the attic is over the main staircase to the west.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input 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		

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SPECIFIC DATES	1909-1910	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This late Victorian house, built in the first decade of the 20th century, has a brief history. It is virtually unchanged since Robert Esley built it in 1909-1910 for his young family: his wife Agnes and his three children, Hazel, Robert and Elizabeth. Only Hazel and Robert remain. Miss Hazel lives alone in the house since the death of her sister Elizabeth, who was for many years the secretary to lawyer Glasgow Archer, Jr. Robert lives in New Jersey.

The house resembles those built around Town, particularly on Broadway, between 1875 and 1890. It and #9 next door to the south were built "out of time" in the early years of this century, showing how a favorite and useful style can linger in the country districts.

116-1077

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property occupies parcel #911 in the Town of Bel Air, 80' x 115'

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Marilynn Larew, Architectural Historian

27 September 1979

ORGANIZATION

Town of Bel Air

DATE

838-8700

STREET & NUMBER

39 Hickory Avenue

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

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

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

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

TITLE: 5 S. Hickory

1052/815                    19 January 1978  
Zero, Inc.  
                              to  
Hazel C. Esley & Walter B. Esley  
brother & sister  
80' x 115'

1052/813                    19 January 1978  
Hazel C. Esley  
                              to  
Zero, Inc.  
Agnes B. Esley and H. Elizabeth Esley are dead

547/331                    31 March 1960  
Benjamin R. Cadwalader  
                              to  
Agnes B. Esley, Hazel C. Esley, & H. Elizabeth Esley

547/321                    31 March 1960  
Agnes B. Esley, widow  
                              to  
Benjamin Cadwalader  
Robert E. Esley is dead

253/164                    28 February 1938  
Dorothy Howard  
                              to  
Robert E. Esley & Agnes

253/163                    28 February 1938  
Robert E. Esley & Agnes  
                              to  
Dorothy Howard

127/211                    18 August 1909  
Joseph T. Deckman & Florida  
                              to  
Robert E. Esley  
\$350  
80' x 115'

109/275

25 May 1903  
Charles Robie Grafton & Fireside  
Permanent Building Association  
to  
Joseph T. Deckman  
80' x 165'

104/20

14 January 1902  
Charles L. Dallam & Isabel  
to  
Charles Robie Grafton  
168' (Penna) x 130' (Dallam Pl.- Hickory)

1362274604 HA 227

MD. HISTORICAL TRUST  
BOX 1704  
ANNAPOLIS, MD. 21404

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

**1. NAME**

COMMON: Esley house

ANO/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: 5 Dallam Place, east side between

CITY OR TOWN: Bel Air Churchills Road and  
Courtland Street

STATE: Md CODE: COUNTY: HARFORD CODE:

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Building</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Occupied</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: <u>Restricted</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Structure</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Private</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Private Residence</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	_____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNERS NAME: Hazel C. & H. Elizabeth Esley

STREET AND NUMBER: 5 Dallam Place

CITY OR TOWN: Bel Air STATE: Md CODE: 21014

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

STREET AND NUMBER: HARFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE 40 S. MAIN ST.

CITY OR TOWN: BEL AIR STATE: MARYLAND CODE:

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER DATE FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Good</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Unaltered</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Original Site</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

One of many frame houses built by local firms in the 1870-1920's. Clapboard, 2 stories, 3 bays x 2 facing west. The roof/ridgeline running north-south.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian
- 15th Century
- 16th Century
- 17th Century
- 18th Century
- 19th Century
- 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>     | Education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>    | Political <input type="checkbox"/>           | Urban Planning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>    | Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>             | Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>           |
| Historic <input type="checkbox"/>       | Industry <input type="checkbox"/>                | Science <input type="checkbox"/>             | _____  |
| Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>    | Invention <input type="checkbox"/>               | Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>           | _____  |
| Art <input type="checkbox"/>            | Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>               | Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/> | _____  |
| Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>       | Architecture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Theater <input type="checkbox"/>             | _____  |
| Communications <input type="checkbox"/> | Literature <input type="checkbox"/>              | Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>      | _____  |
| Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>   | Military <input type="checkbox"/>                |  | _____  |
|   | Music <input type="checkbox"/>                   |  | _____  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

One of 25 or 30 little frame houses undistinguished in themselves but adding up to a pleasant scene on their wooded lots with well-established shrubs and flourishing gardens.

In this case the group is only 2, (# 9 next door) and the area is needed for commercial-office expansion within two blocks of the Courthouse.

Not large or impressive enough to make office reuse feasible.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Empty box for major bibliographical references.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

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

STATE:	COOE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **JEAN S. EWING**

ORGANIZATION: **MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST** DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET AND NUMBER: **50 STATE CIRCLE**

CITY OR TOWN: **ANNAPOLIS** STATE: **MARYLAND** CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST 21 STATE CIRCLE SHAW HOUSE ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401  HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FIELD SHEET Individual Structure Survey Form	SURVEY NUMBER: HA-227 NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER: UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Easting/Northing U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP: PRESENT FORMAL NAME: Esley House
COUNTY: Harford	ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME: same
TOWN: Bel Air	PRESENT USE: private residence
LOCATION: 5 S. Hickory	ORIGINAL USE: same
COMMON NAME: Esley House	ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:
FUNCTIONAL TYPE:	BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:
OWNER: Miss Hazel Esley ADDRESS: 5 S. Hickory Bel Air	PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE: Excellent( ) Good(x) Fair( ) Poor( )
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Yes( ) No( ) Restricted(x)	THEME: Architecture
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local(x) State( ) National( )	STYLE: Vernacular
GENERAL DESCRIPTION:	DATE BUILT: 1909-1910
Structural System 1. Foundation: Stone(x)Brick( )Concrete( )Concrete Block( ) 2. Wall Structure A. Wood Frame: Post and Beam( )Balloon( ) B. Wood Bearing Masonry: Brick( )Stone( )Concrete( )Concrete Block( ) C. Iron( ) D. Steel( ) E. Other: 3. Wall Covering: Clapboard( )Board and Batten( )Wood Shingle( )Shiplap(x) Novelty( )Stucco( )Sheet Metal( )Aluminum( )Asphalt Shingle( ) Brick Veneer( )Stone Veneer( ) Bonding Pattern: Other: 4. Roof Structure A. Truss: Wood( )Iron( )Steel( )Concrete( ) B. Other: 5. Roof Covering: Slate(x)Wood Shingle( )Asphalt Shingle( )Sheet Metal( ) Built Up( )Rolled( )Tile( )Other: 6. Engineering Structure: 7. Other: 2 corbelled Appendages: Porches(x)Towers( )Cupolas( )Dormers( )Chimneys(x)Sheds( )Ells( ) Wings( ) Other: Roof Style: Gable(x)Hip( )Shed( )Flat( )Mansard( )Gambrel( )Jerkinhead( ) Saw Tooth( )With Monitor( )With Bellcast( )With Parapet( )With False Front( ) Other: Number of Stories: <u>2½</u> Number of Bays: <u>3</u> Approximate Dimensions: _____ Entrance Location: <u>S. Hickory</u>	
THREAT TO STRUCTURE: No Threat( )Zoning( )Roads( ) Development(x)Deterioration( ) Alteration( )Other:	LOCAL ATTITUDES: Positive( )Negative( ) Mixed( ) Other:

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

front gable round beaded 2/2 windows 2/2 w/ shutters Transom 2 panes door 1 pane over 2 panel 3 br & bath closed string stair, turned balusters, panel newel w/ vase shaped finial woodwork corner block w/ circles molded surround

RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Late example of the front gable Victorian One family house

REFERENCES:

MAP: (Indicate North in Circle)



Handwritten notes on a map grid including 'E. Penna', 'S. Hickory', and other markings.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

- Open Lane( ) Woodland( ) Scattered Buildings( ) Moderately Built Up( ) Densely Built Up( ) Residential(X) Commercial(X) Agricultural( ) Industrial( ) Roadside Strip Development( ) Other:

Marilynn Larew

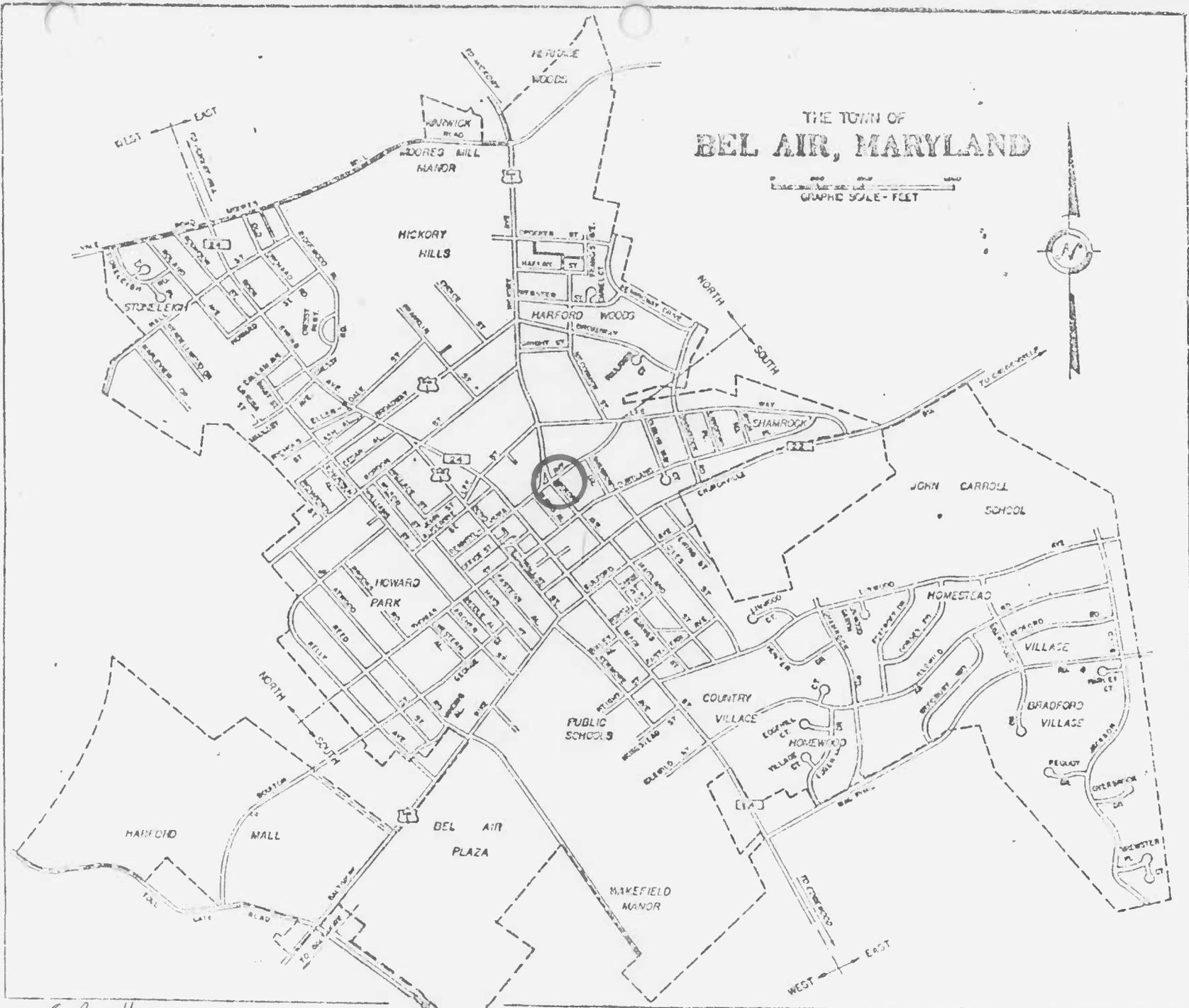
RECORDED BY: Town of Bel Air

ORGANIZATION: 27 September 1979

DATE RECORDED:

# THE TOWN OF BEL AIR, MARYLAND

GRAPHIC SCALE - FEET



HA-227

Esley House  
5 S. Hickory











HA- 227

Esley House, L. N. 1879  
v. 11  
M. L. Luce, 1879



