

HA-232

World War I

Thomas House  
122 Alice Anne Street  
Bel Air  
Private

Typical of the shotgun style tenant houses built in Bel Air between 1875 and 1920, this little house has only one decorative touch - the scroll brackets on the stock turned posts supporting the front porch.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

house

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

122 AliceAnne Street

1st

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: rental

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

John W. Thomas

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

108 Archer Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21014

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #: 155

Folio #: 405

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland 21014

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

h. 1. 2. 3. 5.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED    DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This small, rectangular 2 story house, 2 bays wide and 3 bays (plus shed) long, presents its gable end to the street. The balloon structure is covered with asphalt siding and has a tin roof. The only ornament is the small front porch with a tin shed roof, three stock pillars and a wedge of thick but pleasant wooden scrollwork where the porch roof meets the pillars. All of the windows are long Victorian double-hung, two over two, except the hall window on the second floor in the south elevation. That window is three-quarters the length of the others. A shed addition one bay wide and one bay deep on the rear contains the furnace room and a back porch.

The first floor interior is composed of three rooms, living room, bedroom ( or dining room), and kitchen, one right behind the other. The center room has a 2' 8" closed staircase running up the south wall. The stairs open one way into the bedroom and one way into the kitchen, with one step down either way. The shed-roofed furnace room and porch are behind the kitchen and are original.

The second floor has three (3) bedrooms, a hall and a bathroom.

AK-232

# 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      1914-17                                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      C. Robie Grafton

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This small shot-gun style house unadorned save for thick but pleasant bits of carving decorating the angle between the porch posts and the shed roof, is one of three identical houses built on AliceAnne Street between 1914 and 1917 by C. Robie Grafton. (The others are 120 and 124.) He purchased lot #51 in Richardson's Addition in 1914 for \$350 and placed these three houses on the 75 foot lot, giving each lot 25 feet frontage.

Richardson's Addition once encompassed most of the northwest quarter of what is now the Town of Bel Air. The land had been the property of E. Hall Richardson (1825-1887). Richardson was a member of a family prominent in Harford County since before the Revolution. He was a medical doctor who had read medicine with Professor Durbar in Baltimore and graduated from Washington University (Baltimore) in 1848. He was active in the civic and educational life of Bel Air and was a founding member of the Presbyterian Church. The Addition (Harford County Land Records 132/500) descended to his heirs who sold lot #51 to Grafton in 1914.

Grafton (1875-1964), who sold second hand buggies and tires in Bel Air in 1909, moved to Baltimore in the 1930's where he operated an auto paint, upholstery and door panel store.

Grafton sold it to Ella Thomas in 1917 (Harford County Land Records 155/405).

The house is a well-preserved example of very simple working-man's housing, examples of which can be found all over the country where wooden construction was cheap. It could have been built anytime from around 1840 to the First World War. In the south it is called a "shot-gun" house from the fact that the rooms are laid out one behind the other and a shot-gun blast fired in the front room will penetrate every room in the house. These houses are more commonly found in large urban areas having lots with narrow frontages and great depth, but as we have seen, Mr. Grafton re-divided the lot he bought so as to accommodate three small houses.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

"E. Hall Richardson," The Biographical Cyclopedia of Representative Men of Maryland and D.C. (Baltimore, 1879), pp 705-6.

Obituary, Charles Robie Grafton, The Evening Sun (Baltimore),  
23 October 1964.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

This property occupies parcel 531 in the Town of Bel Air and is approximately 25' (AliceAnne.) x 200'.

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

STATE	COUNTY

STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

M. Larew

ORGANIZATION

Town of Bel Air

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

39 Hickory Avenue

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland 21014

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

122 Alice Anne

John W. Thomas

- 155/405 C. Robie Grafton and Anna M. (wife) of Baltimore County grant to Ella Thomas 9 May 1917
- 145/125 Mary C. Richardson et al to C. Robie Grafton and Anna M. (wife) 1 April 1914
- 137/142 4 March 1912  
J. Wilson Richardson and Harriet (wife) (J. Wilson now sojourning in Canada) and Wm. P. Finney and Eleanor (wife) of Chester Co., Pa., and Wm. P. Finney, Jr. of Baltimore City convey to Henrietta G. Rouse and Mary Richardson for \$4700 to J. Wilson and \$5 to each of the others, that parcel of land known as "Joshua's Meadows" (now called "Indian Hill") and such parts of Richardson's Addition as have not been conveyed to others by E. Hall Richardson and Alice A. (wife) Alice = ex. of E. Hall described in 2 deeds:
- 11/112 to E. Hall Richardson and Alice from Henry Richardson et al 5 August 1859 Joshua's Meadows Enl.
- 16/364 Samuel Galloway, admin. Thos. A. Hays to E. Hall Richardson 23 October 1865 conveyed part of Joshua's Meadows Enl., part of Poplar Neck and part of Scott's Improvement enlarged.  
See Platt of Richardson's Addition

1302324604  
N. R. FIELD SHEET

HA 232

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

MD. HISTORICAL TRUST  
BOX 1704  
ANNAPOLIS, MD. 21404

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Thermos' house

AND/OR HISTORIC: \_\_\_\_\_

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 122 Alice Anne Street

CITY OR TOWN: Bel Air

STATE: Maryland COUNTY: Harford

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME: John Wesley Thermos

STREET AND NUMBER: RD 3 Box 427

CITY OR TOWN: Bel Air STATE: Md DATE: 2/0/14

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**

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: \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER: DATE: FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input 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"/>	Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>		Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input type="checkbox"/>	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

One of several small frame houses built after similar plans, dimensions.

Frame, two bays by two, windows 2/2. Facing south. The ridgepole runs N-S.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |                                       |  |  |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| Abar iginal <input type="checkbox"/>    | Education <input type="checkbox"/>    | Political <input type="checkbox"/>                           | Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/>  |
| Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>    | Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>  | Religion/Phi-<br>lasaphy <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/Human-<br>itarian <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | _____                                    |
| Cammerce <input type="checkbox"/>       | Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> | Theater <input type="checkbox"/>                             | _____                                    |
| Communciations <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.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

About 80 - 100 years old, these frame houses are built of materials inadequate for this climate, and are small for any but the a family of 3 or 4 at the most.

Upkeep varies considerably - asphalt shingles add insulation but detract from appearance of the neighborhood.

Similar houses: 109, 111, 113, 115<sup>W</sup> Aliceaue ST; 120, 124 Aliceaue Street; two houses on West Pennsylvania Avenue, unnumbered; 127, 129, 133 Thomas St, 200, 124, 129, 205 S. Breker Street. Conditions vary from excellent to dilapidated.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

*(This section is currently blank, containing only a diagonal line.)*

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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	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-232
NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:
UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Easting/Northing
U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:
PRESENT FORMAL NAME:
ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME:
PRESENT USE: Single Family Dwelling
ORIGINAL USE:
ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:
BUILDER/CONTRACTOR: C. Robie Grafton
PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE: Excellent ( ) Good ( ) Fair (x) Poor: ( )
THEME: Architecture
STYLE: Vernacular: shot-gun
DATE BUILT: 1914-17

COUNTY: Harford
TOWN: Bel Air
LOCATION: 122 AliceAnne Street
COMMON NAME: house
FUNCTIONAL TYPE: Private Residence
OWNER: John W. Thomas ADDRESS: 108 Archer Street Bel Air, Md. 21014
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Yes ( ) No (x) Restricted ( )
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local (x) State ( ) National ( )

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Structural System

- Foundation: Stone(x) Brick( ) Concrete( ) Concrete Block( )
- Wall Structure
  - Wood Frame: Post and Beam( ) Balloon(x)
  - Wood Bearing Masonry: Brick( ) Stone( ) Concrete( ) Concrete Block( )
  - Iron( ) D. Steel( ) E. Other:
- Wall Covering: Clapboard( ) Board and Batten( ) Wood Shingle( ) Shiplap( )  
Novelty( ) Stucco( ) Sheet Metal( ) Aluminum( ) Asphalt Shingle(x)  
Brick Veneer( ) Stone Veneer( )  
Bonding Pattern: Other:
- Roof Structure
  - Truss: Wood(x) Iron( ) Steel( ) Concrete( )
  - Other:
- Roof Covering: Slate( ) Wood Shingle( ) Asphalt Shingle(x) Sheet Metal( )  
Built Up( ) Rolled( ) Tile( ) Other:
- Engineering Structure:
- Other:

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: 2

Number of Bays: 2 x 3 plus shed

Approximate Dimensions: 13 x 42

Entrance Location: AliceAnne

THREAT TO STRUCTURE: No Threat( ) Zoning( ) Roads( ) Development( ) Deterioration(x) Alteration ( ) Other:
---

LOCAL ATTITUDES: Positive( ) Negative( ) Mixed( ) Other:
--

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

HA-232

porch (front) - shed roof (tin) supported by three stock posts. Thin wooden scrollwork in angle between posts and roof

Rear shed addition ( 1 x 1 ) = furnace room and back porch

Second floor, three bedrooms, hall and bath.

First floor, three rooms in a straight row: living room, bedroom (or dining room), kitchen plus porch and furnace room.

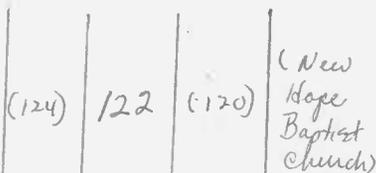
RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Working-man's housing, built around the turn of the century in the black district of Bel Air.

REFERENCES:

MAP: (Indicate North In Circle)



Alice Anne St.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

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

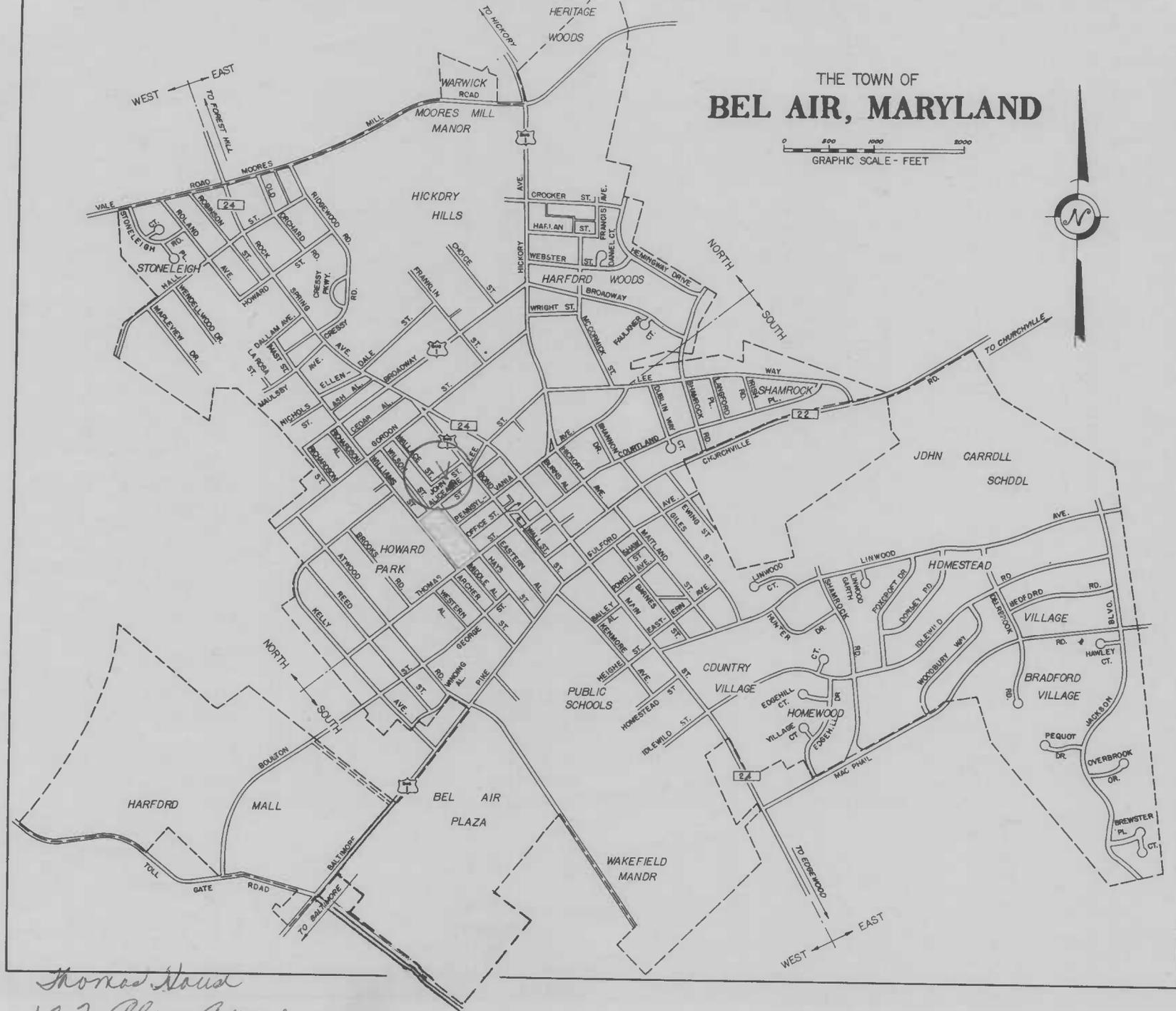
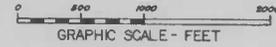
Marilynn Larew

RECORDED BY:  
 Town of Bel Air

ORGANIZATION:  
 7/31/78

DATE RECORDED:

# THE TOWN OF BEL AIR, MARYLAND



HA-232

Thomas Houd  
122 Alice Anne



122 ALICE ANDR. BEL AIR  
SOUTH & EAST ELEVATIONS

M. HAREW, 1976

HA-232



122 Alice Anne

7-31-78

HA-232