

HA-256

Before 1883

Minnick-Cameron House
52 E. Broadway
Bel Air
Private

It is the tower that makes this house interesting. Towers are few in Town; indeed, Bel Air seemed to prefer square to round in a period when many houses bulged with round excressences. This tower, added to the rather ordinary rectangular house after 1904, could not quite achieve roundness. Its trim gives it a distinctive Stick Style appearance.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Minnick House
AND/OR COMMON
Cameron House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
52 E. Broadway 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	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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: rental

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mignon A. B. Cameron Telephone #: 838-5620
STREET & NUMBER
310 N. Toll Gate Road
CITY, TOWN
Bel Air _____ VICINITY OF _____ STATE, zip code
Maryland 21014

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Harford County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
Main Street
CITY, TOWN
Bel Air STATE
Maryland

Liber #: 751
Folio #: 419

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
DATE
_____ FEDERAL _____ STATE _____ COUNTY _____ LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

- EXCELLENT
- GOOD
- FAIR
- DETERIORATED
- RUINS
- UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

- UNALTERED
- ALTERED

CHECK ONE

- ORIGINAL SITE
- MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two and a half story ship-lap sided house with a tower and a dormer is at 52 E. Broadway in the Town of Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. The house is unique in Bel Air for its octagonal tower, built after 1904. The house itself is much older and probably originally had two hipped roof dormers in its steeply pitched gable roof. The house is in three sections: the front block 2 bays wide on the side, the slightly smaller two story back section and behind that a single story section.

The windows are 6/6 double-hung sash except for the narrow windows in the hexagonal bay window in the south bay of the east elevation. The original hipped-roof front (south) porch has been screened in but it retains its original posts, chamfered with a filet at the neck.

The octagonal tower with a cone shaped octagonal roof topped by a crocket rises to three full stories; vertical members at the angles and horizontal members marking the windows and the stories like a string course are reminiscent of the Stick Style. A chimney with a corbelled cap rises in the ridge of the front block east of center.

The interior has been completely altered to make the three apartments.

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 checked="" 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 before 1883

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This gable roofed house with the only tower on Broadway, and one of the few towers in Town, was built minus the tower- before 1883 by Harvey Jones. In that year he sold the house, occupied by John Wilgis, to Benjamin Minnick (48/141). Local legend has it that the back building was moved from Stevenson A. Williams lot at the corner of Main and Gordon where the post office is today. Minnick owned, among other things, a lumber yard and warehouse at the railroad station with Edward Ferry. Minnick mortgaged the railroad property, this property, and a lot on Bond Street to August Martin the same year (55/44). In the middle of July 1900, ill and aware of the impending collapse of his financial fortunes, Minnick transferred the Broadway property to his wife for \$460 (100/171). That did not save the property. Minnick died intestate August 5, 1900, and his creditors sued (equity 73/193).

This parcel was sold to Kate B. Webb, a widow living in Baltimore City (102/288). The property was forced to sale again in 1908 after the equity case of Frances Inglehart vs. Kate B. Webb et al. Richard Bode paid \$3900 for it (122/457). Bode sold it to Thomas W. Hall in 1919 for \$5250 (162/319). That is high, but housing was tight right after the war. Probably the tower had been added. Otherwise the house was in the same configuration in 1930 as it was in 1904.

The Halls lived in the house 26 years; two daughters live across the street at 53 Broadway today. After Thomas Hall's death, his widow and children sold the house in a straw transaction to William James who returned it to daughters Mary Harris Hall and Henrietta Howard Hall (1945, 288/20,22). The Misses Hall sold it to John and Clara Wilson in 1958 (502/6), and the Wilsons sold it to Mignon Cameron (Mrs. Broadnax) in 1967 (751/419).

The house is divided into three apartments.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Harford Democrat

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property occupies parcel #297 in the Town of Bel Air, 105'11" x 208'6"

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

STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marilynn M. Larew, Architectural Historian

9 May 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: CAMERON HOUSE
52 BROADWAY

- 751/419 18 August 1967
 John W. Wilson & Clara, wife
 to
 Mignon A. B. Cameron
 105'11" (Broadway) x 208'6"
- 502/6 30 August 1958
 Mary Harris Hall, unmarried, & Henrietta
 Howard Hall, divorced
 to
 John W. Wilson & Clara, wife
- 288/22 21 February 1945
 William S. James
 to
 Mary Harris Hall and Henrietta Howard Hall
- 288/20 21 February 1945
 Mary H. Hall, widow, Mary Harris Hall,
 Henrietta Howard Hall, Edward H. Hall, and
 Thomas White Hall
 to
 William S. James
 part of the land devised by Thomas W. Hall
 (will 18/198). The grantors are his heirs.
- 162/319 12 March 1919
 Richard A. Bode
 to
 Thomas W. Hall
 \$5250
- 122/457 24 April 1908
 J. Rayton Stifler & Walter W. Preston, trustees
 to
 Richard A. Bode
 \$3900
 Stifler and Preston were trustees in the
 equity case Frances Inglehart vs. Kate B.
 Webb et al, 27 February 1908
- 102/288 10 July 1901
 Jacob A. Doxen, trustee
 to
 Kate B. Webb, widow, of Baltimore City
 Doxen was trustee in the equity case
 Harford National Bank vs. Martha C. Minnick
 et al (equity 73/193). The defendants were
 the widow and heirs of Benjamin F. Minnick
 who died intestate 5 August 1900. This case
 forced to sale Minnick's real property -
 much more than this property - for debt.

100/171 31 July 1900
 Benjamin F. Minnick
 to
 Martha C. Minnick, his wife
 \$460
 This conveyance was an attempt to save the house and lot from the oncoming financial disaster. The ploy failed (see above) because it, like much of the rest of the property, was mortgaged. (see below)

55/44 11 November 1883
 Benjamin F. Minnick
 to
 August Martin
 \$5000 mortgage
 1. This property on Broadway
 2. A lot on Bond Street
 3. The property at the train station

48/141 15 August 1883
 Harvey S. Jones and Sarah, wife
 to
 Benjamin F. Minnick
 \$1000

36/2 11 October 1877
 Andrew Smallsbeck & Annie, wife
 to
 Harvey S. Jones
 \$2000
 Three lots and improvements on Broadway. This one is in the center.

27/437 11 September 1872
 William Munnikhuysen & Elizabeth, wife
 to
 Andrew Smallsbeck
 \$300

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
 21 STATE CIRCLE
 SHAW HOUSE
 ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FIELD SHEET
 Individual Structure Survey Form

SURVEY NUMBER: HA-256

NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:

UTM REFERENCES:
 Zone/Easting/Northing

U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:

PRESENT FORMAL NAME:
 Cameron Apts.

ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME:
 Smallsbeck House

PRESENT USE: Apartments

ORIGINAL USE: private residence

ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:

BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:

PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:

Excellent () Good (X)
 Fair () Poor: ()

THEME: Architecture

STYLE: Vernacular

DATE BUILT:
 1883

COUNTY: Harford
 TOWN: Bel Air
 LOCATION: 52 E. Broadway
 Bel Air, Maryland 21014
 COMMON NAME:
 Cameron House
 FUNCTIONAL TYPE:
 OWNER: Mignon Cameron
 ADDRESS: 310 N. Toll Gate Road
 Bel Air, Md. 21014
 ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:
 Yes () No () Restricted (X)
 LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:
 Local (X) State () National ()

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

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() Wood Shingle() Asphalt Shingle(X) Sheet Metal()
 Built Up() Rolled() Tile() Other:
6. Engineering Structure:
7. Other:

Appendages: Porches(X) Towers(X) Cupolas() Dormers(X) Chimneys() Sheds() Ells()
 Wings () Other:

Roof Style: Gable(X) Hip() Flat() Mansard() Gambrel() Jerkinhead()
 Saw Tooth() With Pediment() With Tallcast() With Parapet() With False Front()
 Other:

Number of Stories: 2½
 Number of Bays: 3
 Approximate Dimensions: 30' x 55'

Entrance Location: E. Broadway

TREAT TO PRESERVE:
 No Threat (X) Terminate() Relocate()
 Develop() Relocate()
 Alteration () Other:

LOCAL AUTHORITY:
 Positive() Negative()
 Mixed() Other:

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

HA-256

Windows 6/6 ex bay in e. elev
screened porch orig. posts chamfered w/filet
dormer hipped

RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

early Broadway house
tower after 1904

REFERENCES:

MAP: (Indicate North In Circle)



Map
Church ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ X
E. Broadway

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

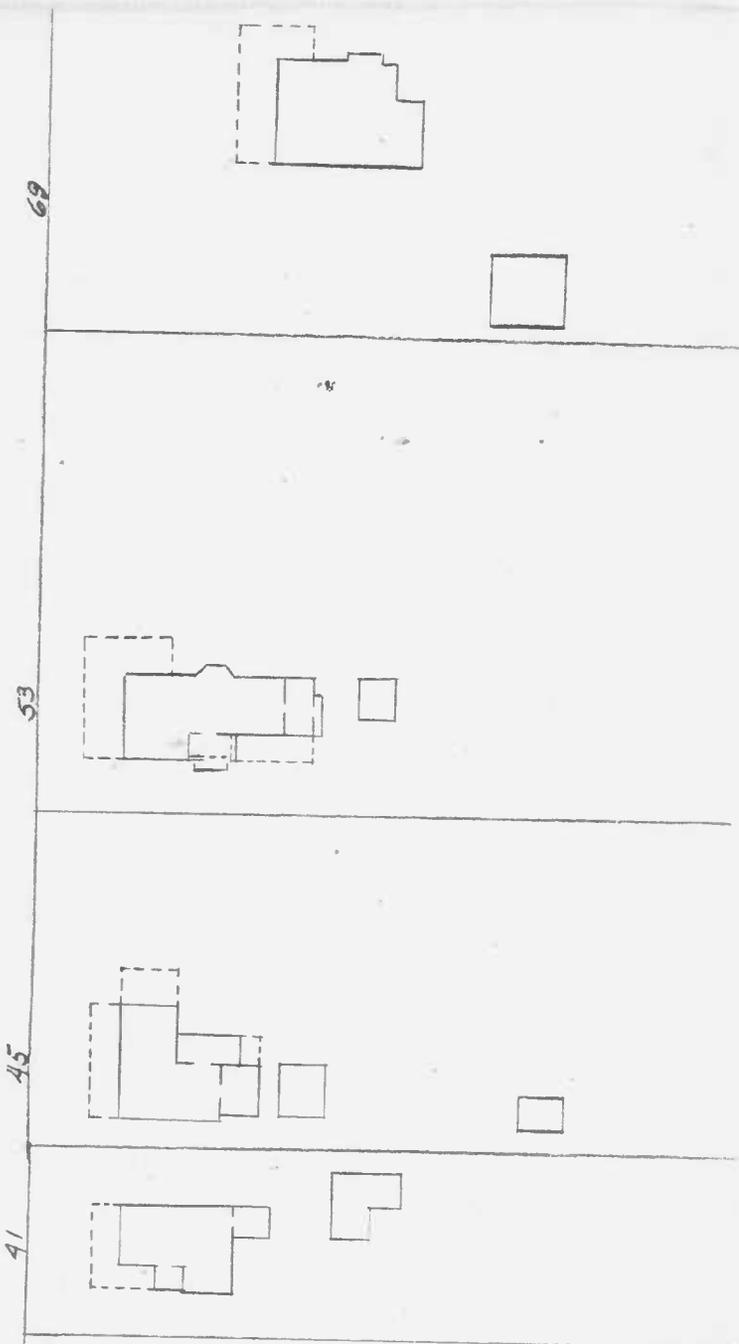
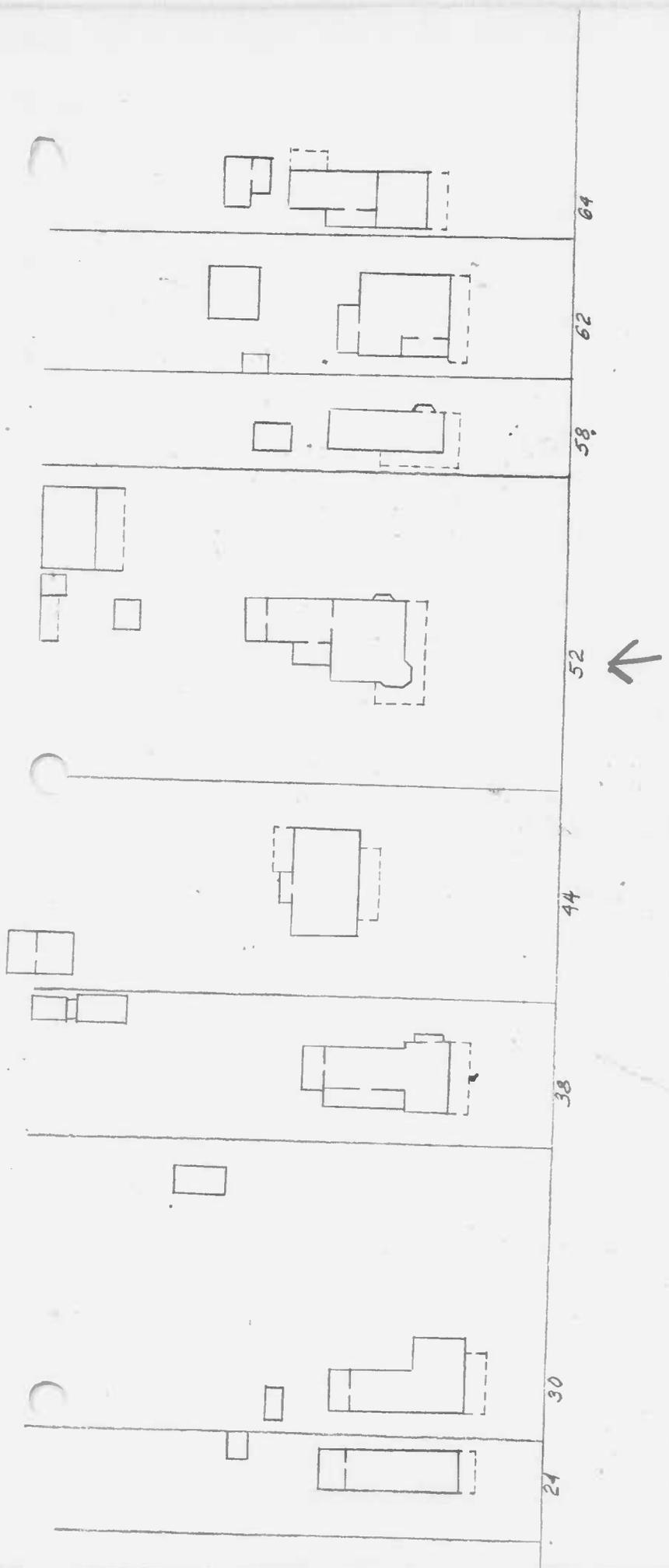
Open Lane() Woodland() Scattered Buildings()
Moderately Built Up() Densely Built Up()
Residential(X) Commercial(X)
Agricultural() Industrial()
Roadside Strip Development()
Other:

M. Larew

RECORDED BY:
Town of Bel Air

ORGANIZATION:

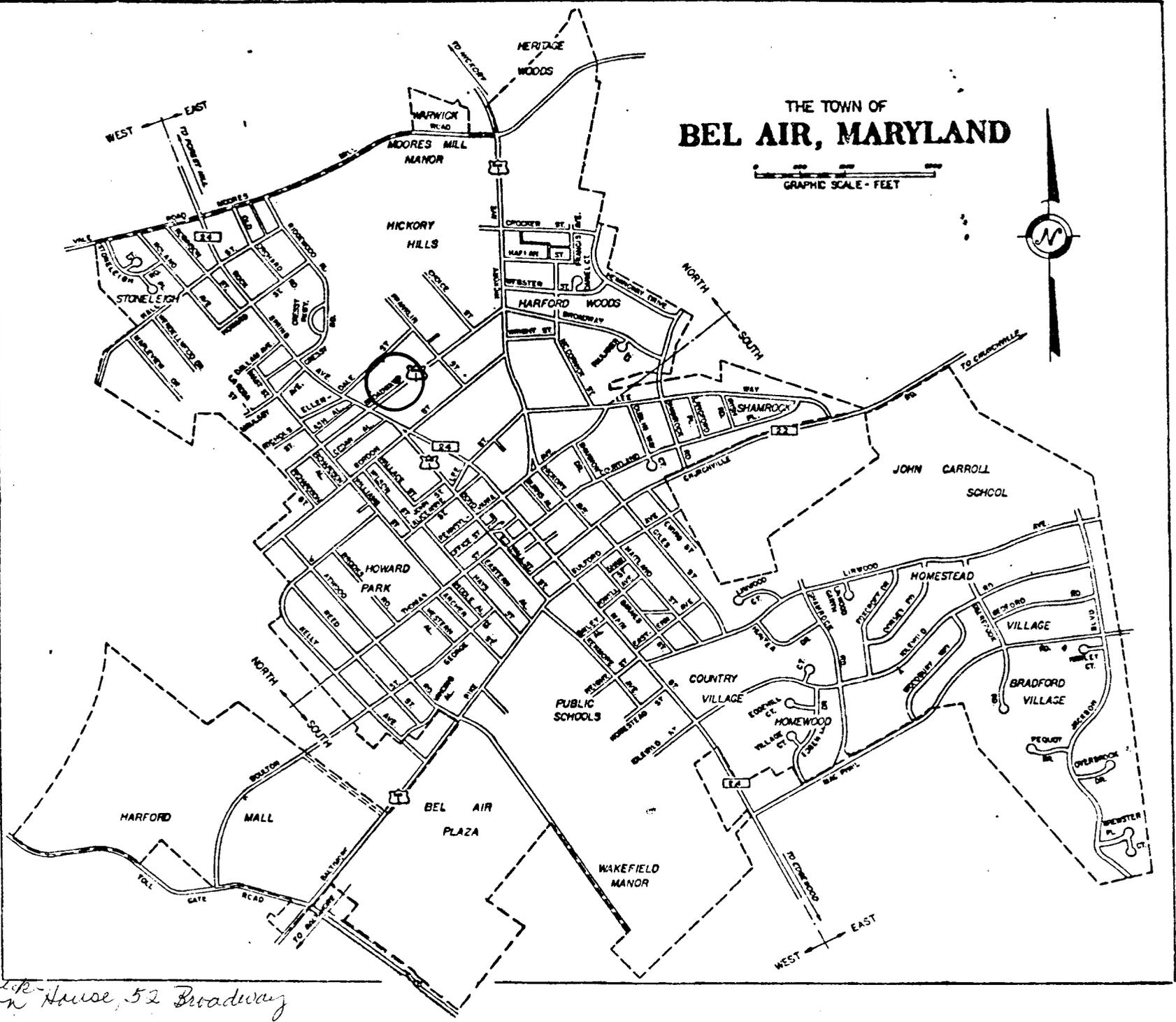
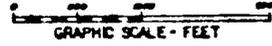
25 August 1979
DATE RECORDED:



*Minnick House
52 E. Broadway
Bel Air*

HA-256
1930 Sanborn Map

THE TOWN OF BEL AIR, MARYLAND



HA-256

*Small black
Cameron House, 52 Broadway
Bel Air*





