

HA-282

1870, 1888, 1932

Second National Bank Building  
(Cameron & Reed Offices)  
30 Office Street  
Bel Air  
Private

All of the buildings around Courthouse Square are good examples of adaptive reuse; perhaps this well-bred Greek Revival structure has changed the most. It was built in 1870 by John Armstrong. Victorian in form, it was first a tavern until local option laws rendered liquor illegal if not scarce. In 1888 it was completely renovated - but still Victorian - and became the home of the newly incorporated Second National Bank. After the bank moved up the street in 1901, the building was given over to law offices, a use that continues today. Its classical cloak dates to the present century. This distinctive building recapitulates the enterprises traditionally clustered around the Courthouse: taverns, banks, and law offices.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Second National Bank Building

AND/OR COMMON

30 Office Street

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

30 Office Street

1st

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Bel Air

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

Maryland

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 checked="" 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 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

30 Office St., Inc.

Telephone #: 838-7575

STREET & NUMBER

30 Office Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21014

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #: 543

Folio #: 266, 268

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

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

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED	1888 & 1932	DATE _____

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

This two story aluminum sided building with a hipped roof and off-center chimney is on the north east corner of Office and Bond Streets in Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. It was built in 1870 and extensively renovated in 1888 and 1932. Its present appearance and floor plan is the result of the 1932 renovation. No photo of the former configuration has been located, but archival and structural evidence suggest that the first floor plan was two rooms on a northern axis upstairs and down, with or without a porch on the Bond Street (west) side. A small enclosed stairway runs up the east side of the back (north) room. The building was first used as a tavern and the owner lived upstairs. The present hall and open string, single run staircase possibly a result of the 1888 renovation, but that stair was described as being in the Queen Anne style, so this stair may be from the 1932 renovation. After the 1888 renovation the building had a porch on the west which was enclosed in the 1932 renovation at the time the building's present Greek Revival appearance was constructed. Between 1888 and 1932 the floor plan consisted of one longitudinal room on a northern axis downstairs. This was the banking room of the Second National Bank of Bel Air. It had a counter of polished red oak by Joseph Thomas & Son of Baltimore, the bottom part of which was paneled, with a cage of polished brass wire. In the northern end of the room were two small enclosures of wire screen for the cashier's office and a consulting room. Upstairs were two rooms, one the president's office and the other the directors' room.

The present look of the building is from the 1932 renovation. The (then) frame structure is five bays on Office Street and four on Bond Street. The shape is that of a fat and warped L caused by the projectic of the enclosed porch into the right of way of Bond Street and the addition of a bathroom and office on the north end of the Bond Street side. The windows are double-hung sash, 6/6 flanked by decorative shutters. The entry is in the second bay from the west end of the Office Street elevation. The door has six panels and is framed in sidelights of three panes and a four pane top light with single pane corner blocks. A stone foundation can be seen on the Bond Street side.

The present interior downstairs dates from 1932. To the east of the hall are two rooms, the south room is an office and is slightly larger than the north room which is used as a conference room. The stairway rises in the west side of the hall. The cellar stair is underneath and a small bathroom is opposite the cellar door. The enclosed porch is divided into several rooms of irregular shape, the first, almost triangular, is the reception room. The second floor plan echoes the first, but the division of the eastern rooms may date from the 1888 arrangement. An open stair to the attic occupies the west half of the hall. The stairrails, balusters, and newel posts look earlier than Queen Anne.

A large irregularly shaped attic and a cellar under the eastern four bays complete the interior of the building, but a passageway to the very irregularly shaped building next door (#28 Office Street) also owned by 30 Office Street, Inc., was constructed to the north of #30 in the early 1970's.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" 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 1870; 1888; 1932

BUILDER/~~XXXXXX~~ John Armstrong

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This pleasant Greek Revival structure harbors within it an older Victorian structure. Captain Richard Bouldin sold the lot to John Armstrong in the fall of 1869. By the fall of 1870 Armstrong was building the east part of the present structure for use as a tavern and restaurant. He lived above the public rooms. The local option law of 1875 theoretically dried Bel Air up, although the newspapers of the day suggest a great deal of "business as usual". At any rate the tavern business was rendered illegal. The following year Armstrong mortgaged the premises to the Bel Air Mutual Building Association #1. He defaulted on the mortgage and the property was sold to Millard F. Minnick in August 1886. Short of a month later he sold it to Stevenson Archer who sold it in December 1888 to the Second National Bank.

The Second National Bank of Bel Air, as one might suspect, Bel Air's second bank, was organized in 1888 with a capital of \$60,000. J.T.C. Hopkins was elected president, and Frank S. Evans, former bookkeeper of the Harford National Bank, became cashier. The bank renovated the Armstrong building and moved in late in the year. In May of 1889 Walter Finney became cashier on the death of Frank Evans. Later that year the bank bought the lot next east on Office Street on which stood the notorious Red Fiddle, "a white elephant" or speakeasy whose patrons had rendered the night profane in spite (or perhaps because of) local option. The bank razed the building and the lot remained empty until William Robinson bought it in 1912 and built his office building there.

The bank continued at 30 Office Street until it built the building at 12 Office Street in 1900. In 1901 the 30 Office Street building was sold to W. Beatty Harlan for \$2500. Harlan was a local attorney, the son of Dr. David Harlan of Churchville and brother of Judge Henry David Harlan. The building became law offices, a function it continues to the present day. The property passed to Richard Dallam, president of the Harford Mutual Fire Insurance Co., in 1912, to J. Myrckle Wells in April 1917 and to William Robinson, who owned #28 next door in October 1917. In 1932 the law firm of Philip Close and Frank H. Jacobs, Jr., bought and extensively remodeled the building giving it the present configuration.

In 1960 Joseph S. Jacobs, brother and heir of Frank H. Jacobs, Jr., sold a half interest in the property to 30 Office Street, Inc., the present owners. The other half was conveyed to the corporation by Brodnax Cameron the same month.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

NA-307

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This parcel occupies parcel 829 in the Town of Bel Air.

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

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

M. Larew, Architectural Historian

24 January 1979

ORGANIZATION

Town of Bel Air

DATE

838-8700

STREET & NUMBER

39 Hickory Ave.

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

Neither the exterior nor much of the interior of this building can be seen as dating to earlier than 1932. The original fabric is under there, but its appearance is much different today.

The history of this building almost recapitulates the history of the street on which it stands - tavern, bank, and law offices - all businesses historically centered around the courthouse. While its exterior has been radically changed, it provides a visually attractive and sturdy anchor to Office Street, a street of pleasant, human scale buildings which have been the locations of most of Bel Air's commercial history.

HA 282  
N. R. FIELD SHEET  
1302824911

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: Cameron & Beed Offices

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Northeast Corner Office & Bond Streets

CITY OR TOWN: Bel Air

STATE: Maryland CODE: COUNTY: Harford CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input type="checkbox"/>	In Process <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/> Offices	Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <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"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Prof. Services.</u>
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: Thirty Office Street, Inc

STREET AND NUMBER: 30 Office Street

CITY OR TOWN: Bel Air STATE: Md CODE:

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Two story frame house (aluminum  
clapboard siding) facing south <sup>west</sup> on the  
obtuse angle of Office & Bond Streets.

L shaped, 5 bays x 2 on Office Street  
4 x 2 on Bond Street. The roof is a  
hip roof at the corner. Windows 6/6.

Iron paneled with 4 lights over, 3 lights  
at each side, 1 light at each upper corner.

One chimney rises along the inside half  
wall to the ridge line - formerly from  
a heating fireplace.

Stone foundations.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

*unknown*

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| Aboriginal <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/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"/> | _____                                    |
| <u>Commerce</u> <input type="checkbox"/> | Architecture <input 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.)

*Residence converted to offices.  
Remodeled in about 1932 by present owner.*

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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:	COOE	COUNTY	COOE

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** COOE: \_\_\_\_\_

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-282
NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:
UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Easting/Northing
U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:
PRESENT FORMAL NAME: 30 Office St.
ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME:
PRESENT USE: offices
ORIGINAL USE: tavern
ARCHITECT/ <del>ENGINEER</del>
BUILDER/ <del>CONTRACTOR</del> John Armstrong
PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE: Excellent (X) Good ( ) Fair ( ) Poor: ( )
THEME: Architecture
STYLE: as remodeled 1930's Greek
DATE BUILT: 1870 /Revival

COUNTY: Harford
TOWN: Bel Air
LOCATION: 30 Office St. Bel Air, Maryland 21014
COMMON NAME: 30 Office St.
FUNCTIONAL TYPE: Commercial
OWNER: 30 Office St., Inc. ADDRESS: 30 Office St. Bel Air, Md. 21014
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Yes ( ) No ( ) Restricted (X)
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( )
  - 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(X) Asphalt Shingle( ) 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( ) Towers( ) Cupolas( ) Dormers( ) Chimneys( ) Sheds( ) Ells( ) Wings ( ) Other:

Roof Style: Gable( ) Hip(X) Shed( ) Flat( ) Mansard( ) Gambrel( ) Jerkinhead( ) Saw Tooth( ) With Monitor( ) With Bellcast( ) With Parapet( ) With False Front( ) Other:

Number of Stories: 2

Number of Bays: 5

Approximate Dimensions: 27' x 39'

Entrance Location: Office St.

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

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

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

NK-222

1932 renovation of an 1888 renovation of an 1870 tavern bldg. Most of interior changed then: porch enclosed, bathroom added - downstairs east rooms renovated. Staircase 1888? Architrave door surrounds, Greek Revival entry added.

RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

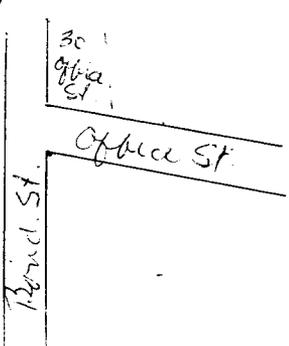
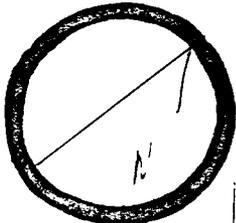
Pass through to #28 added in 1970's

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Tavern, bank, law offices.

REFERENCES:

MAP: (Indicate North In Circle)



SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

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

M. Larew  
 RECORDED BY:  
 Town of Bel Air  
 ORGANIZATION:  
 25 January 1979  
 DATE RECORDED:

HA-282

First National Bank of Maryland

10' Alley, Title in County Commissioners of Harford County  
Right to use in common to lot owners on southeast side.

M. 25.87 S

RR SPIKE  
N 55° 13' W 14.78'

RR SPIKE  
N 15° 18' W 29.60'

Melvin P. Johnson

N 75° 39' E 0.62'  
N 15° 39' E 4.79'  
N 75° 39' E 3.71'

N 45° 16' W 40.90'

BRICK BUILDING

STREET  
(20-26)

cut in stop

315° 16' E 35.68'

N 75° 39' E 20.28'  
(28)

cut in walk  
Beginning

N 74° 44' E 44.49'  
ANNEXATION  
C. 1972

Thirty Office Street, Inc.  
Jan. 4, 1960 GRG 543-266  
Jan. 8, 1960 GRG 543-268  
2 STORY FRAME BLDG

30 OFFICE ST.  
OFFICE

Street Line  
10'  
S 40° 34' E 16.21'  
N 40° 34' W 39.06'

BOND STREET 66' WIDE



OWEN C. DEATON  
ENGINEER & SURVEYOR  
BEL AIR, MD.

LOT IN TOWN OF BEL AIR, MD.  
TO BE CONVEYED BY DONALD G. RUSSELL  
AND WIFE TO CITY OFFICE STREET

Original line of Court House Lot

Stone

TITLE30 Office StreetOwners: Thirty Office Street, Inc.

- 543/266            4 January 1960  
Brodnax Cameron & Julia Duryea Sprigg Cameron  
                  to  
30 Office Street, Inc.  
1/2 interest
- 543/268            8 January 1960  
Joseph S. Jacobs, Widower  
                  to  
30 Office Street, Inc.  
1/2 interest
- 223/412            19 July 1932  
William E. Robinson & Mary, w.  
                  to  
Philip H. Close & Frank H. Jacobs, Jr., Trustees  
for law firm
- 158/39            1 October 1917  
J. Myrckle Wells & Lida,  
                  to  
William E. Robinson  
\$2600
- 145/127            23 April 1917  
Richard Dallam & Josephine  
                  to  
J. Myrckle Wells  
\$2200
- 137/280            26 June 1912  
W. Beatty Harlan & wife Mabel  
                  to  
Richard Dallam  
This is the "Second National Bank" lot - see  
plat 102/358; also known as lots 1 & 2  
on the Smith-Webster plat (139/57)

102/356                   4 September 1901  
 Second National Bank  
                           to  
 W. Beatty Harlan  
 \$2500

63/122                   14 January 1889  
 Richard E. Bouldin & Martha W. & Allen  
 Hoffman  
                           to  
 2nd National Bank  
 \$1825  
 (This is lot #2 on SW Plat)

62/355                   10 December 1888  
 Stevenson Archer & Jane W.  
                           to  
 2nd National Bank  
 \$1800  
 Corner of Bond & Office Street   30 Office Street  
 lot today

57/142                   25 October 1886  
 Milliard F. Minnick  
                           to  
 Stevenson Archer  
 \$1000  
 (same lot as 62/355)

56/454                   31 August 1886  
 Stevenson Archer & George Van Bibber, Trustees  
 in Bel Air Mutual Bldg. Assoc. #1 vs.  
 John Armstrong & w. (F/177, 1876)  
                           to  
 Millard F. Minnick

23/140                   5 November 1869  
 Richard E. Bouldin & w.  
                           to  
 John Armstrong

18/10                    Charles D. Bouldin & Mary, w.  
                           to  
 Richard E. Bouldin  
 \$670.18  
 the larger lot

12/211                    16 March 1861  
 Otho Scott  
                           to  
 Charles D. Bouldin  
 \$500

17/273                    4 September 1834  
 Ephraim Little  
                           to  
 Otho Scott  
 \$1030 - 2 pieces including the 30 Office Street  
 lot described: where the store house and printing  
 office stands (the Lee Lot - #20 Office St.)

11/189                    23 January 1828  
 William Richardson to Ephraim Lytle  
 & Daniel Wann  
 part of Lot #8 in the Bel Air plat  
 \$600

3/508                     30 November 1819  
 Robert Richardson  
                           to  
 William Richardson  
 \$100  
 part of #8 on Bel Air plat  
 74'3" on Bond Street x 120'1" along the  
 Thomas Hays lot

1/32                      Buckler Bond    3 March 1817  
                           to  
 Robert Richardson  
 \$180  
 improvements  
 all of #8 but the 28 x 74.25 lot at Main & Office

P615                      part of  
                           7 March 1802  
 Jacob Norris  
                           to  
 Buckler Bond  
 L30 Current  
 part of #8 and all of #5

I56                        Acquilla Scott    5 December 1789  
                           to  
 Jacob Norris  
 L10 Current  
 #5 & #8 except the corner lot on Main Street

223/412

0-----0  
(Duly Stamped)  
( \$6.50 )  
0-----0

Trfd. August 5, 1932

Delivered to Frank H. Jacobs, Jr., Bel Air, Md.

THIS DEED, made this 19th day of July, in the year 1932, by WILLIAM E. ROBINSON and MARY R., his wife, of Harford County, State of Maryland, parties of the first part, hereinafter called "Grantors" and PHILIP H. CLOSE and FRANK H. JACOBS, JR., of said County and State, trustees, parties of the second part, hereinafter called "Trustees".

WITNESSETH, that in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars, cash in hand paid by said trustees, to said Grantors the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, and of the provisions hereinafter contained, and for divers other good and valuable considerations moving between the said parties hereto each to the other, the said Grantors hereby grant, bargain, sell and release to the said trustees, and their successors, heirs and assigns, all that lot of land situate in the Town of Bel Air in said County in possession of the said Grantors, and their predecessors in title since the deed from Richard E. Bouldin and wife to John Armstrong, dated the 27th day of September, 1869 and recorded on the 5th day of November, 1869 among the Land Records of said County in Liber A. L. J. No. 23, folio 140, and BEGINNING for the same at the southwest corner of the stone wall of the building formerly the old Second National Bank Building, formerly the residence of said Armstrong, which said corner is at the end of the South 82 degrees 30 minutes East 24-5/10ths feet of the lot No. 1 as shown on the Plat of several lots and deed from Smith Webster Company to Richard Dallam, dated the 13th day of November, 1913, and recorded as aforesaid in Liber J. A. R. No. 139, folio 55, and running thence with the next succeeding line of said Lot No. 1, with and binding on the so-called northerly side of Office Street, magnetically to date, North 83 degrees 35 minutes East 30-1/10th feet to the end of said line, then leaving the said northerly side of Office Street and running for a new dividing line through the lots of said Grantors and 75/100ths feet distant westerly at right angles from the westerly wall of the office building occupied by W. E. Robinson & Company, and on the lot No. 2 described in a deed from Richard Dallam and wife to said William E. Robinson dated the 20th day of November, 1912 and recorded as aforesaid in Liber J. A. R. No. 139, folio 313, North 7 degrees 20 minutes West 33-63/100ths feet, to an intersection with the southerly side of another brick wall of said office building at right angles to said first mentioned brick wall, then with and binding on the southerly side of said other brick wall and with the said southerly side prolonged and extended South 82 degrees 40 minutes West 64-75/100ths feet to a stake now set in the present hedge fence in or on the northeasterly side of Bond Street, then running with and binding on said hedge fence and with and binding in or near the northeasterly side of Bond Street, South 32 degrees 08 minutes East 32-50/100ths feet to a stake set in said hedge fence and also in said northerly side of the so-called Office Street on the line thereof extended South 83 degrees 35 minutes West to said stake, then with said line and with said northerly line of Office Street as extended North 83 degrees 35 minutes East 18-17/100ths feet to the corner of said wall and beginning hereof, as surveyed by Somerville and Somerville, July 2, 1932. The said lot hereby intended to be conveyed being parts of the lands described and intended to be conveyed in the two following deeds, that is to say, - one from J. M. P. Wells and wife to the said William E. Robinson, dated the 1st day of October, 1917, and recorded among the Land Records of Harford County in Liber J. A. R. No. 139, folio 39, and the other from Richard Dallam and wife to said William E. Robinson, dated the 20th day of November, 1912 and recorded as aforesaid in Liber J. A. R. No. 139, folio 313.

Witnessed with all and showing the rights and interests therein before me this 19th day of July 1932

William Richardson to Ephraim Litle and Daniel Wann, dated the 23rd day of January, 1828, and recorded as aforesaid in Liber H. D. No. 11, folio 189. And as well together with all and singular the ways, roads, streets, alleys and easements, privileges and appurtenances belonging or in anywise appertaining to said lot hereby intended to be conveyed, and usable or capable of use in connection therewith, or any part thereof, and in particular the right and easement to construct and continuously maintain from the lot aforesaid hereby intended to be conveyed and from the buildings thereon, an underground covered drain or drains to carry off from said premises hereby conveyed waste or drip or surface water and sewage and empty and deposit said water and sewage matter in the well cistern or cess pool or any addition thereto hereafter added or connected therewith, situate either beneath the said wing of said office building extending towards Bond Street, or on other contiguous land of said William E. Robinson described in the aforesaid deeds to him from Smith Webster Company and from Richard Dallam. TO HAVE AND TO HOLD to the said Philip H. Close and Frank H. Jacobs, Jr., trustees, their successors, heirs and assigns, in fee simple, absolute, but subject to the following building restriction upon said lands hereby intended to be conveyed as above described, and into whomsoever said lot may pass or descend, that is to say,- No addition to the present building on said lot hereby intended to be conveyed, excepting eaves or spoutings, window shutters or basement entrances shall be constructed along the Northwesterly side of said building for one-half the distance thereof, or 13-6/10 feet, measured Southwesterly from the Northerly corner thereof, nearer to the Southerly or Southwesterly side of said other brick wall of said office building than twelve (12) feet measured at right angles southeasterly from said wall, but any addition to said remaining one-half, or 13-6/10 feet, of said side of said present building, as well as any addition to the Southwesterly side of said present building either contiguous or adjacent to it, or an additional building on said lot may be constructed at any time hereafter forever, up to but not nearer than six (6) feet, exclusive of eaves or spoutings, window shutters or basement entrances, measured at right angles Southeasterly from said southerly or southwesterly side of said other brick wall of said office building or from its extension South eighty two (82) degrees forty (40) minutes West to the stake aforesaid. AND the said Grantors hereby covenant that the said trustees shall quietly enjoy said land and easements aforesaid and rights, privileges and easements hereby intended to be conveyed, and further covenant that they will hereby warrant specially said lands, privileges and easements hereby intended to be conveyed, and will execute such further assurances thereof and hereof as may be requisite or necessary. AND the said Grantors and the said Trustees, parties hereto as aforesaid, hereby mutually covenant each with the other, and their respective heirs and assigns, and successors, heirs and assigns, that the aforesaid spaces of twelve (12) feet and of six (6) feet shall be forever kept open and clear and free from obstructions, excepting as aforesaid, for the better securing to the said parties hereto, their said heirs, successors and assigns the mutual benefit, advantage and easement of necessary light and air not less than as hereunder provided to be enjoyed by each of said parties.

WITNESS our hands and seals.

Test: Lucille Gray

WILLIAM E. ROBINSON (SEAL)

MARY R. ROBINSON (SEAL)

FRANK H. JACOBS, JR. (SEAL)

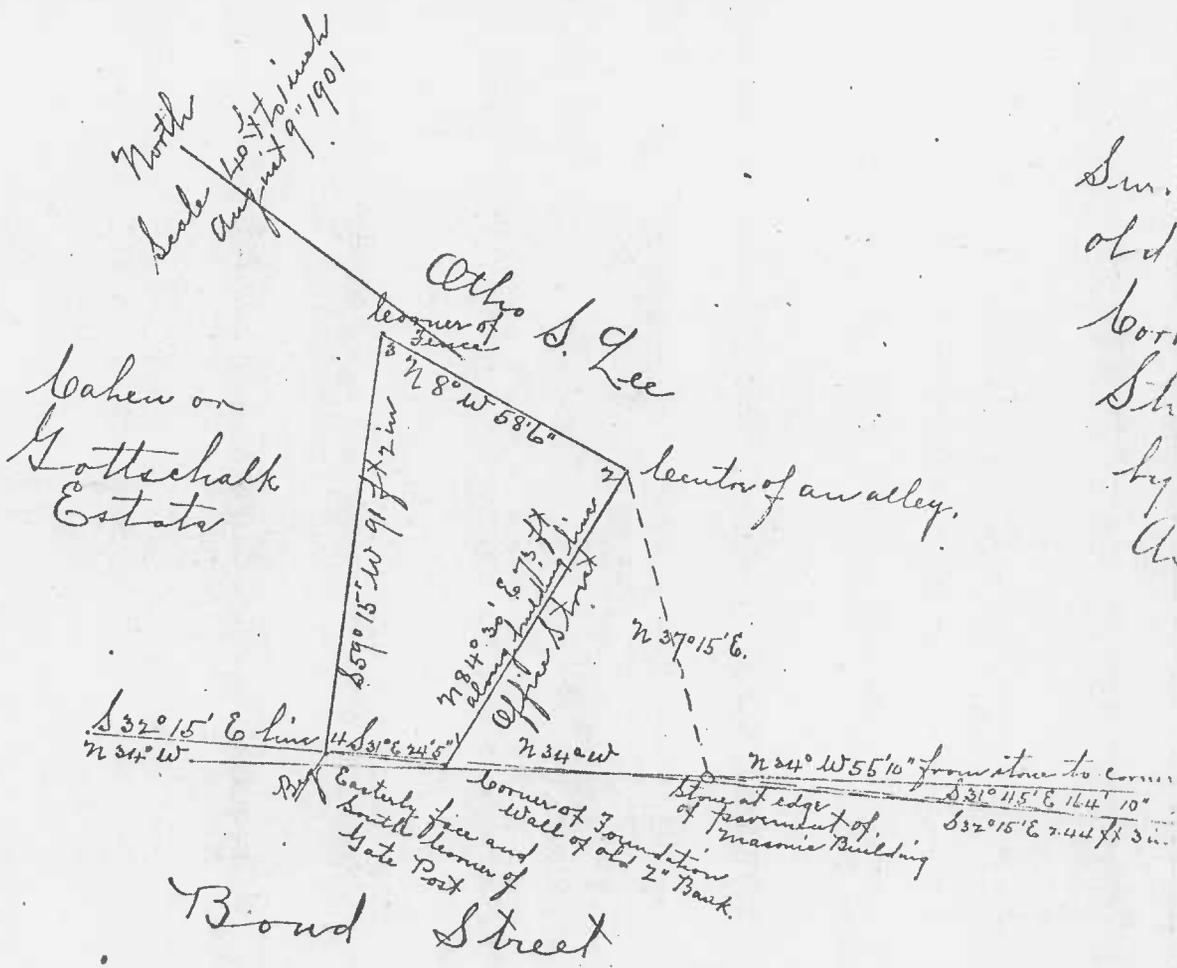
Trustee  
PHILIP H. CLOSE, Trustee (SEAL)

STATE OF MARYLAND, HARFORD COUNTY, SCT:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 21st day of July, in the year 1932, before me, the subscriber, a Notary Public of the State of Maryland, in and for Harford County, duly commissioned and qualified and residing at Bel Air, personally appeared William E. Robinson and Mary R., his wife, and Philip H. Close and Frank H. Jacobs, Jr. and each acknowledged the foregoing instrument of writing to be their respective act and deed.

IN WITNESS my hand and Notarial Seal.

162 / 358



2nd Natl BK to W. Beatty Harlan

2045 1/2 in. 139/57

This Deed made this Second day of September in the year 1857 by Charles S. Rampley and Laura A. Rampley his wife and Stephen J. Seneca do grant to William Oldfield of the County and State aforesaid, his heirs and assigns a certain tract or parcel of land situate and lying in Harford County aforesaid and being a part of land called "McCray's Hard Purchase" or by whatsoever name or names the same may be called which comes within the description following to wit,

BEGINNING for the same in the centre of the public road leading from  
 to St Clair's Bridge at a place bearing North 26 degrees West  
 in the ground on the South side of said road and running thence  
 said Ramply and said Oldfield south twenty-sixth degrees east  
 to a stone <sup>thence</sup> bounding on said Oldfield's land three courses North  
 two tenths perches South eighty one and one half degrees east  
 North fourteen and one half degrees east twelve and four tenths  
 eighty and one half degrees east



501

degrees and a half east one hundred and eight feet and three inches bounding one part of  
 ing from said William Richard's land to the beachward thence north thirty nine degrees  
 thirteen feet eight inches thence north fifty one degrees east twenty one feet  
 four inches and thence north thirty nine degrees west fifty five feet and  
 eleven inches and thence south through the lot to the place of beginning  
 together with all the improvements thereon and the right of passage  
 and egress and return to be enjoyed by the said land to be  
 the lot of ground was as aforesaid described to them the said  
 Little and Daniel Wood and their heirs and assigns forever  
 only proper use and behoof of the said Ephraim Little and Daniel  
 and their heirs and assigns forever and the said William Richard  
 in consideration of the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds  
 of lawful money of Great Britain to him the said William Richard  
 and with the said Ephraim Little and Daniel Wood and their  
 and assigns that the said William Richard will not exercise that piece  
 parcel of land lying between the north seventy seven and two  
 degrees east one hundred and eight feet and three inches line  
 line hereby granted and so called being the second line through  
 the Court house lot nor erect anything thereon nor do any thing  
 thereon which will interfere with the said being used as a way  
 and that he the said William Richard will permit and  
 allow the said Ephraim and Daniel and their heirs and assigns  
 to use the said piece of parcel of land so lying as aforesaid lot  
 the Court house lot and the line aforesaid as a way for themselves  
 and all other persons with houses carriages and all other things and  
 that they and all others may have and use it as fully as they may  
 the public highway and that he the said William Richard will  
 grant to the said Ephraim and Daniel a right of way in every  
 direction over said piece of parcel of land so lying between  
 aforesaid for themselves and their heirs and assigns and all  
 persons to be taken as aforesaid fully with houses carriages and  
 all other things as they may now upon any public highway and  
 the said William Richard for himself and his heirs with his  
 covenant grant promise and agree to and with the said Ephraim  
 and Daniel that he the said William Richard the said piece  
 of parcel of land and the aforesaid hereby granted hereby granted  
 and sold and conveyed and parcel thereof to them the said Ephraim  
 and Daniel and their heirs and assigns against him the said  
 William Richard and all persons claiming the same by through or  
 him will warrant and by those persons for ever defend  
 him against the said William Richard both himself  
 his heirs and assigns his executors administrators  
 assigns executors administrators  
 presence of

Witness the hand of  
 the said William Richard  
 the said Ephraim Little  
 the said Daniel Wood  
 the said William Richard  
 the said Ephraim Little  
 the said Daniel Wood

The Bouldin family was prominent in Bel Air for nearly a century from 1830 to 1920. Charles D. Bouldin and his sons, William, Richard, Robert, and Charles H., were leaders in politics, journalism, commerce and medicine. Among them they owned and edited eight newspapers from 1830 to 1871, seven in Bel Air and one in Towson. They also were innkeepers, shopkeepers, and held political office, sometimes all at the same time. Dr. Robert Bouldin was the only one who kept to one profession and even he was also a newspaper man, helping to edit Richard's paper while Richard was in the Union Army.

In politics Charles D. was an early adherent of Andrew Jackson. So were his sons, but when the Democratic party in Maryland split in the 1850's, sons William and Richard joined the American, or Know-nothing, Party. Both edited papers for that party. In 1857 William's Bel Air paper, The National American, had two mottoes: "The Union, The Constitution, and States' Rights" and "Americans only shall rule America." As the Civil War approached, the family split, as so many other Maryland families did. Charles D. and Richard went for the Union, and William sympathized with the South. All, however, backed the Constitutional-Union Party and then the Union Party that ruled Maryland until 1867. When the Union Party split back into Democrat and Republican the brothers found themselves on opposite sides, William as a Democrat and Richard as a Republican.

### Bouldin Family

What follows is a brief outline of the activities of the various family members. Very little is known about Charles H.

#### Bouldin Family Newspapers

Charles D. (1796-1882)

The Harford Republican  
1830-1847

William (1820-1893)

The Harford Republican  
1847-1855

The National American (Bel Air)  
1856-1858

The Baltimore County American (Towson)  
1858-?

also edited brother Richard's National American (Bel Air) 1862-1864 while Richard was in the Union Army

The Harford Union  
1865-1868

The Harford Democrat (with James D. Walters) 1868-1871

The Bel Air Record  
1869-1870

NA-28

Richard (d. 1921)

The National American  
1858-1865

Charles D.

1830-1847 • editor, Harford Republican  
1836 clerk of County Court  
1841 clerk of County Commission  
1848 storekeeper  
1850 innkeeper, Eagle Hotel  
1854 ran Accommodation Stage Line  
1855 innkeeper, Main St. and the Baltimore Pike  
1861-1863 Sheriff  
1861 Magistrate, coroner  
1862 Harford County Committee of Public Safety  
1882 died at Dr. Robert's home near Jerusalem Mills. He was 86.

William

1847-1855 editor, Harford Republican  
1850 store opposite the Methodist Episcopal Church  
1851 Magistrate; wife Sallie died at age 26  
1856-1871 editor of various newspapers in Bel Air and Towson  
1863 deputy Clerk of Court  
1871 store at the west end of Main St.  
1872 store on Office Street (probably 20 Office St.) where William Jr. officiated; William Sr. had a store at Main and Conowingo.  
1878 shirt manufacturer on Fayette St. in Baltimore  
1893 died in Baltimore aged, 73. Left three children, William Jr. of New York, Mrs. Hunt of Omaha, and Mrs. A. Preston Gilbert of Bel Air.

AK 232

Captain Richard

1858-1865 editor, National American  
1862 draft officer in Bel Air  
Sept. 1862- lieutenant, then Captain, Company C. Maryland  
Oct. 1864 Seventh Union Regiment. Wounded in action. In  
1863 his unit was at Bolivar Heights above Harpers'  
Ferry. The Maryland Seventh served from just after  
Antietam through the Richmond campaign including  
The Wilderness Spotsylvania Court House, Cold  
Harbor, Petersburg, and Appomattox.  
1866 store at 20 Office Street  
1868 same store in partnership with his brother  
Charles H.  
1869-1886 federal job at the Customs House in Baltimore  
1880 Mrs. Richard ran a school for young ladies in the  
former inn at Main Street and the Pike. Richard  
probably got home only on weekends.  
1886-1892 store at 34 Main  
1891 Post Master  
1892 bankrupt; house & store goods sold  
1893 ran the Eagle Hotel  
1894 wife Martha dies at age 54. Three daughters  
survive

Dr. Robert

1863 deputy Sheriff  
1865-1917 Medical doctor, first at his father's home  
and then at his own home near Jerusalem Mills  
1917 died. Never married.

Stevenson Archer (1826 - 1898) was the son of Judge Stevenson Archer (1786 - 1848) and the grandson of Dr. John Archer (1741 - 1810). Archer graduated from Princeton in 1846 and was admitted to the bar in 1850. He was elected to the state legislature in 1854 as a whig and subsequently to the U.S. House of Representatives for four consecutive terms (1866 - 1874). He was Chairman of the Maryland Democratic State Central Committee from 1887 to 1890. Elected State Treasurer in 1886 and twice re-elected, Archer resigned in April 1890 when he was charged with "Malfeasance in office and misappropriation of the funds of the State". He pleaded guilty to embezzlement of \$132,000 in state funds and was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary. Neither the court nor the subsequent legislative investigating committee ever found out what he did with the money, and he never said except to insist that "No part of the State's money or securities was ever used by me in gambling, stock speculation, or for political purposes ..." The State never recovered all of the funds since he was (illegally) unbonded during the period of his major peculations, so his bonding agents could not be held responsible, although the State pursued them in the courts for some time.

Petitions requesting Archer's pardon began to reach the Governor by the end of 1892 on the grounds that Archer was very ill and not likely to live. In 1893 a delegation of Harford Countians, including George L. Van Bibber, Judge James D. Watters, and Jacob H. Plowman, went to Annapolis to present petitions from every county, but to no avail. Governor Frank Brown finally pardoned him in May 1894 about a year early. During his prison term Archer served as a steward in the hospital.

On his release, he was met by two nephews, George L. Van Bibber and Stevenson Williams and taken to Baltimore's City Hospital. Apparently he lived his remaining years in Baltimore where he died, at City Hospital, in August 1898 at the age of 72 from chronic bladder disease. He was survived by his wife and four children, Percy F., Mrs. Benjamin Silver, Stella and Blanche F.

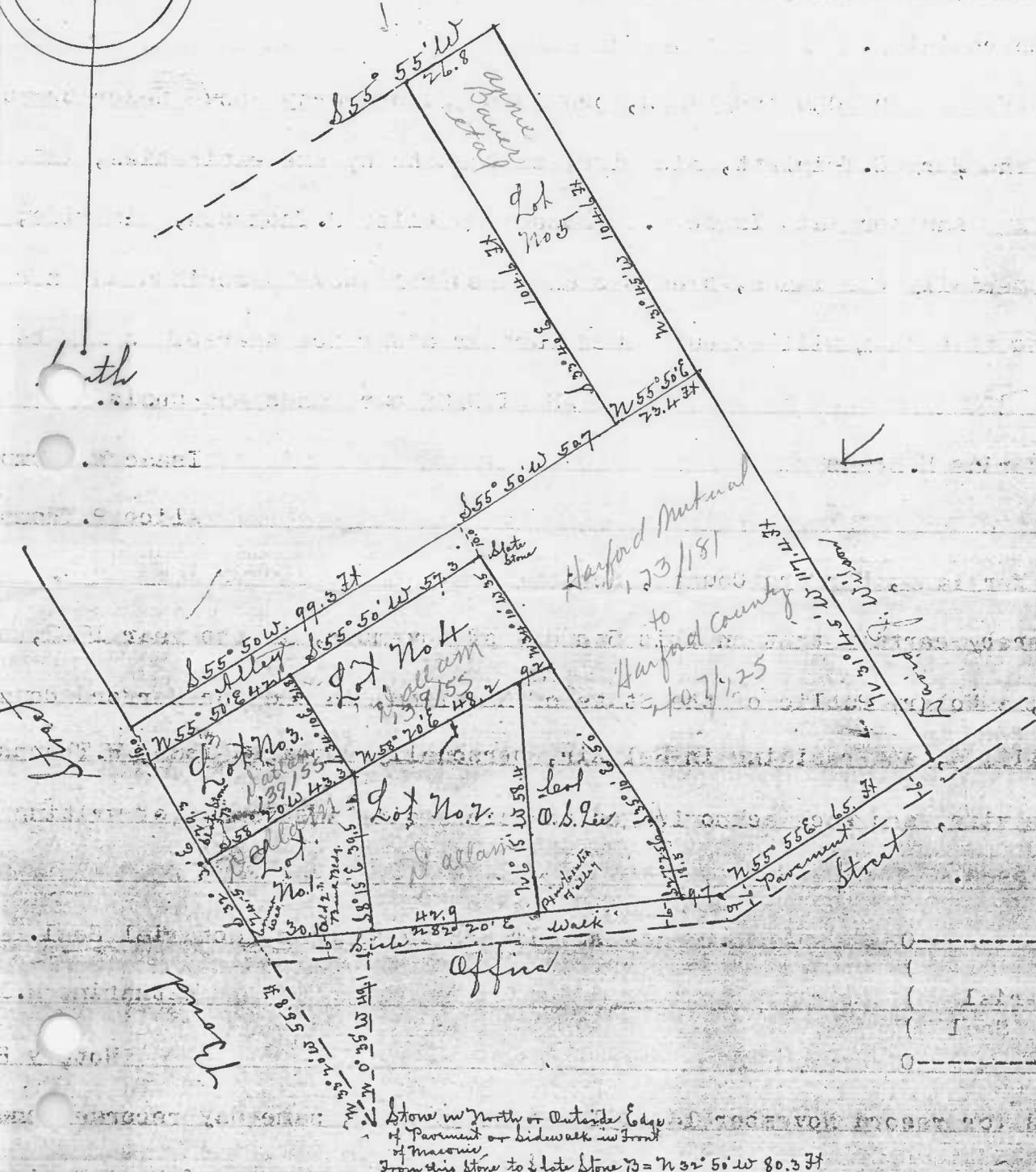
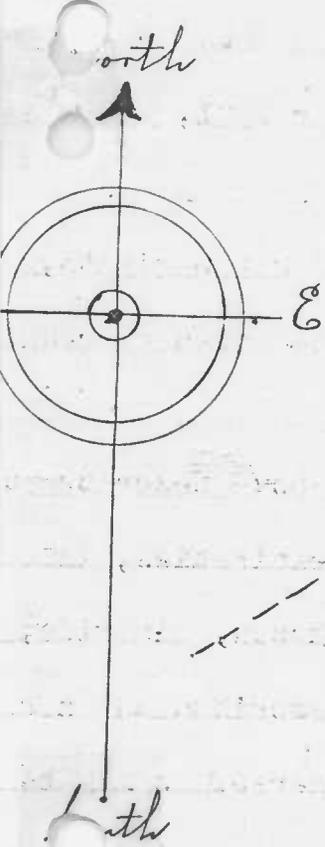
Sources: Harford Democrat  
Margaret Law Callcott, The Negro in Maryland  
Politics, 1870 - 1912 (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins  
 Press, 1969), pp. 51 - 52.  
A Short Biography of Those Whose Portraits Adorn  
the Walls of the Harford County Court House, pp. 1-3.

e within named attorney appointed to make this acknowledgment, and ac-  
ng instrument of writing to be the act and deed of said Smith-Webster Com-

Sarah O. Wright

N.P.

139/57



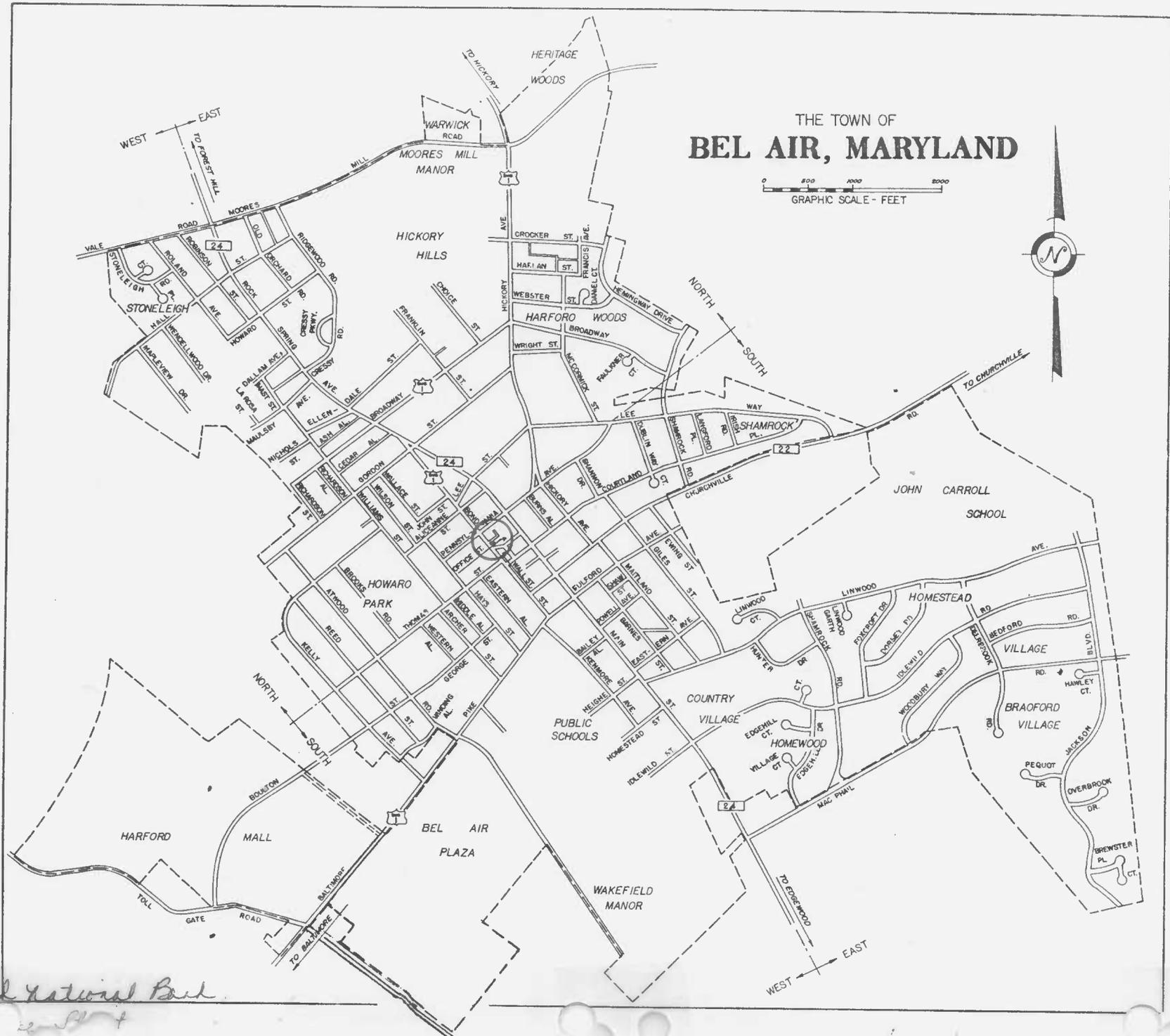
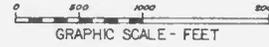
A Plan

proposed sub-division  
ties at the corner of Bond & Office Sts  
in the town of Bel Air, Md.

W. E. Somerville & H. Co Aug 16, 1912  
ember 14, 1912 at 10.30 A.M., same day recorded and examined per

John A. Robinson, Clerk.

# THE TOWN OF BEL AIR, MARYLAND



HA-282 Second National Bank  
30 of 40



BANK

1904



OFFICES

1962

TRACED by  
M. LAREW

30 OFFICE ST.  
BEL AIR

SCALE 1" = 50'



HA-282







N TO R · REAR of 28 OFFICE ST. + 30 OFFICE ST. BEL AIR  
FACING NORTH

M. L. AREW, 1937

HA-282



HA-282

L = 30 office st, Bel Air  
s elev.

M. Larew, 1978