Start Here

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HA-1500

AND

HA-1501

HA-1500, HA-1501 1889 & ?

Zimmerman Houses
163, 165 Williams
Bel Air
Private

These two houses were built by Mrs. Zimmerman, the mother of Mrs. John Reckord who lived across the street. One was built in 1889, but which one is impossible to tell, as is the date of the second house. Careful observation will show that the houses were originally identical Victorian houses with front ells. #163 has remained so. #165 has been much altered. It has had a two story bay window tacked in beside the ell, a second story bay window accurs on the north side, the first floor has acquired a brick coat, the front porch has been modernized, and a single story brick ell has been added to the back.

The houses belonged to various members of the Reckord family until recently.

HA-1500 (#163)
1315005604
HA-1501 (#165)
1315015604

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Zimmerman Houses
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
163, 165 Williams
CITY, TOWN
Bel Air
__ VICINITY OF
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
1st
STATE
Maryland
COUNTY
Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
George A. Monk Gregory O'Hensmeyer Telephone #:
STREET & NUMBER
163 Williams 165 Williams
CITY, TOWN
Bel Air
__ VICINITY OF
STATE, zip code
Maryland 21014

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Liber #: 1021/1059
Folio #: 658/520

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

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
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X_ORIGINAL SITE
X_GOOD	__RUINS	X_ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

163 Williams: A two and a half story L-shaped house with the ell to the street, now aluminum sided. It has a rather steeply sloped L-shaped gable roof. The windows in the gables are 1/1 double hung sash; the others are 2/2 except for a pair of 4 pane casements in the second story of the west elevation of the back building and the 6/6 windows of the second story sun porch in the northeast corner of a two story shed-roofed addition to the rear (east). The first floor west elevation of the ell has three bays (the entrance being in the south bay) while the second story has only two bays. Another entrance is in the south elevation of the ell next to where it joins the main block. The front porch has a hip roof carried on plain square posts. It continues around the ell on the south side. Two corbel capped chimneys rise from the roof ridges, one in the middle of the ell and one in the middle of the main block. There is a 9 pane over 2 panel back door near the middle of the rear elevation. This house appears to have been altered very little.

165 Williams: This house started out with the same shape. It has been altered more and to some degree unwisely. The first story has been sided in brick. A two story shed roofed ell has been added to the north half of the back of the original building, and then a single story gable roofed addition has been added to that. The north elevation has acquired a flat roofed hexagonal bay window with a molded cornice on the second story at the join of the ell with the main block. The south elevation has had a similar two story bay window tucked in between the ell and the main block and a decorative screen of cinder blocks to the front of that. The porch (shorn of its south 1/3) is now carried on double wrought iron posts too thin for good proportion. As a matter of fact, it takes some looking to see that these houses are essentially the same.

#163 has retained its integrity, #165 is mutton dressed as lamb and wearing too much lipstick at that.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

NA-1500
NA-1501

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
X 1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1889 & ? BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

These two houses identical in layout if #165 is stripped of accretions. They are typical L-shaped houses with the ell in front. Another pair were built on Roland Avenue in 1899. These were built by Mrs. Mary J. Zimmerman, the mother of Mrs. John Reckord whose house was just across Williams. The land was sold to Mrs. Zimmerman by E. Hall Richardson in 1889 (65/196); the Harford Democrat for April 12, 1889, said Mrs. Zimmerman was building one house. Which one it was and when the other was built, or for whom, is uncertain. They both formed a part of Mrs. Zimmerman's estate when she died in 1910 (will 14/100). In a codicil to the will she appointed her daughter Lydia A. Reckord and her grandson M. Atchison Reckord as executors of her will. In 1945 General Reckord, the surviving trustee, sold #163 Williams to Clinton L. Reckord (292/29) and #165 to Leland Reckord (292/395), so the corner remained a Reckord enclave. Clinton and Leland may have been living in the respective houses for a long time. Clinton sold 539 Rock Spring in 1918; of course he might simply have moved to a house not covered in the survey. Isabel, Clinton's widow sold 163 to Robert Bullis in 1967 (759/498), and he sold it to the present owner, George Allan Monk in 1971 (871/174). Leland sold 165 to Bascom Slimp Monk and his wife Dorothy Reckord Monk in 1963 (630/491) continuing the Reckord connection. The Monks must also be connected. Bascom Monk sold 165 to the present owner, Gregory V. Ottensmeyer, in 1978 (1059/520).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

HA-1500
HA-1501

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Harford Democrat

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

These properties occupy the following parcels in the Town of Bel Air:

163 = #513
165 = #512

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

DATE
10 December 1979

ORGANIZATION
Town of Bel Air

TELEPHONE
838-8700

STREET & NUMBER
39 Hickory Avenue

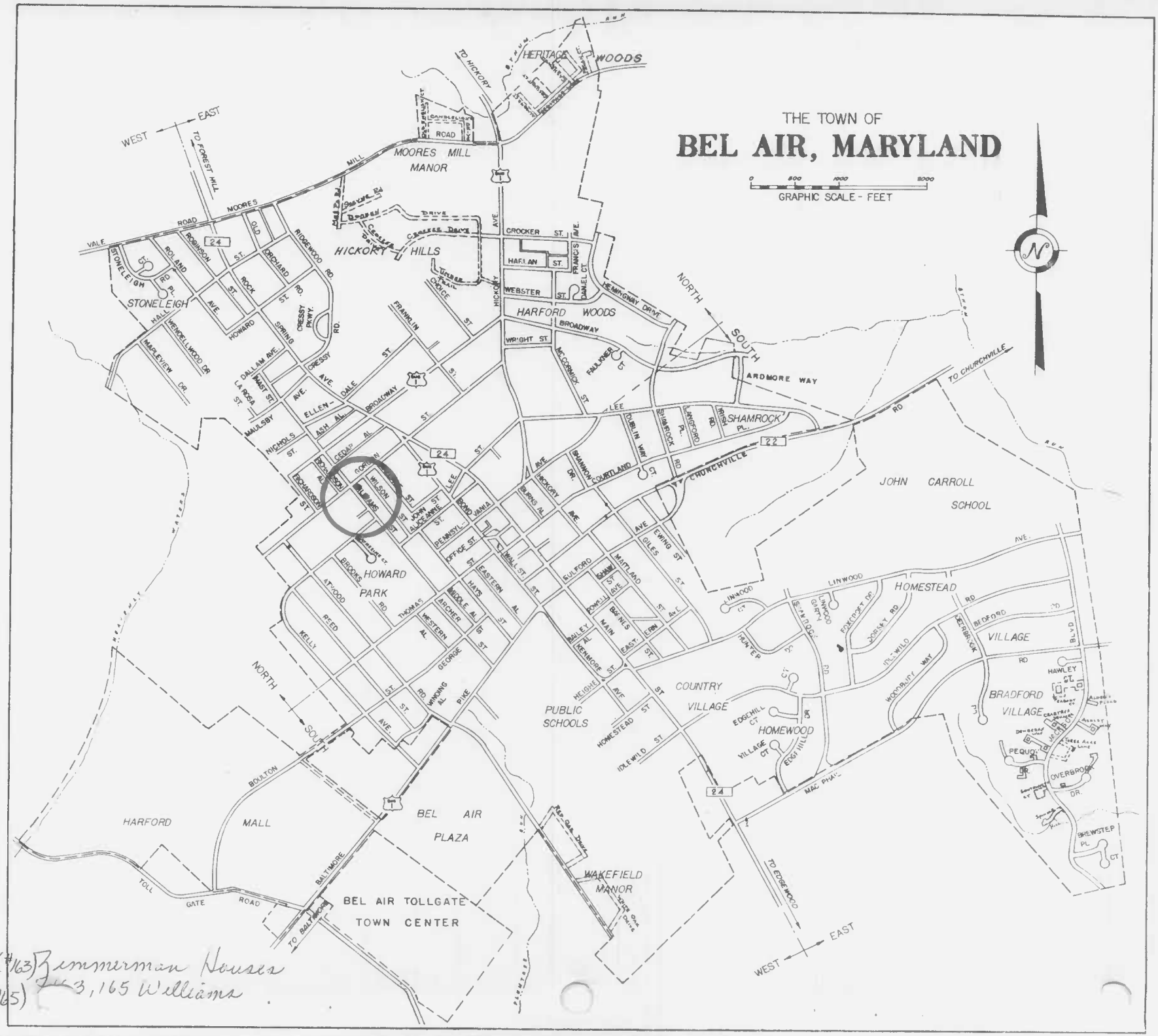
CITY OR TOWN
Bel Air

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



HA-1500 (#163) Zimmerman Houses
HA-1501 (#165) 163, 165 Williams

H7-1501

Zimmerman House, 165 S. Williams, Bel Air
n v w elev
M. Larsen, 1979

HA-1501 Zimmerman House, 163 Williams, Bel air
W+S elev
M. Lauw 1979

HA - 1500

Zimmerman House, 163 Williams, Bel Air
N + W elev
M. Larew, 1979

HA-1501 Zimmerman House, 165 S. Williams, Bel Air
w elev
M. Larew, 1979

HA-1501 Zimmerman House, 165 S. Williams, Belair
e elev
M. Lanus, 1979

HA-1501 Zimmerman House, 163 Williams, Bel Air
e elev
M. Larew, 1979

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---HA-1501---