

HA-1800
1936
Bel Air
Private

The Herman Pyle House, 108 W. Broadway, faces south in a block of working-man's houses of the 1920s and 1930s. Built in Richardson's Addition in 1936-1937, it is a small 1 story, 3 bay, clapboard, front-gable cottage. The house is better preserved and a trifle more elegant than the rest and has apparently changed little, at least on the exterior, since it was built.

Building began west of Main St. in Richardson's Addition in the 1880s; it and the Hayes Addition begun at the same time are the oldest extensions of the town. It is a mix of styles from Victorian to brick rancher, and a mix of classes as well, with working-man's housing along the north and south edges and middle class homes through the center. This small working-man's cottage was built by baker Herman Pyle, in 1936 or 1937, when he gave up his bakery on North Main Street. It is an example of the move away from the 2 story front gable house toward single level working-man's houses in Bel Air.

HA-1800
Herman Pyle House
Bel Air, Harford Co.

FRAMEWORK FOR IDENTIFYING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

3. Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period:

11. Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930

12. Modern Period 1930 - present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme:

2. Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community
Planning

Resource Type:

Category: Architecture

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function and Use: Private Residence

Known Design Source: unknown

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. HR-1000

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Herman Pyle House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 108 W. Broadway n/a not for publication

city, town Bel Air vicinity of congressional district 3rd

state MD county Harford

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture	<u> </u> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial	<u> </u> park
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment	<u> </u> religious
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> </u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government	<u> </u> scientific
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial	<u> </u> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<u> </u> military	<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name James V. Farrell

street & number 108 W. Broadway telephone no.: 836-8481

city, town Bel Air state and zip code MD 21014

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse liber 1436

street & number folio 207

city, town Bel Air state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

repository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. AA-1800

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 type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	unknown	

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing resource count: one

The Herman Pyle House, 108 W. Broadway, faces south in a block of working-man's houses of the 1920s and 1930s. Built in 1936-1937, it is a small 1 story, 3 bay, clapboard, front-gable cottage. The house is better preserved and a trifle more elegant than the rest and has apparently changed little, at least on the exterior, since it was built.

The house is a simple gable-roofed rectangle with a shed-roofed front porch carried on 4 plain square posts, an entry in the middle bay, a small, square bay in the middle of the east elevation which carries 2 windows, and a single bay shed-roofed back (north) porch carried on 2 plain square posts. The blue siding is set off by white trim in the gable ends and around all openings. The interior was not accessible. According to neighbors it has 5 rooms.

8. Significance

Survey No. HA-1000

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1930 **Builder/Architect** unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Building began west of Main St. in Richardson's Addition in the 1880s; it and the Hayes Addition, begun at the same time, are the oldest extensions of the town. It is a mix of styles from Victorian to brick rancher, and a mix of classes as well, with working-man's housing along the north and south edges and middle class homes through the center.

This small working-man's cottage was built by baker Herman Pyle, in 1936 or 1937, when he gave up his bakery on North Main Street. It stands in a row of similar cottages, perhaps the least altered and best preserved, an example of the move away from the 2 story front gable house toward single level working-man's houses in Bel Air.

Pyle's daughter, Evelyn Finney (Mrs. William O.), who lived around the corner at 310 Williams St. [HA-1786], inherited the house and the smaller cottage next door at 106 [HA-1799] on the death of her mother, Bertha Pyle, and it stayed in the Finney family until 1987. William O. Finney occupied it (and, earlier or later, the cottage at 106 -- neighbors' memories are not clear) on the death of his wife, when he sold the home place to his son Donald.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. HA-1300

Harford County Land Records
Interview with Mrs. Burcham, 27 April 1993.
Interview with Mrs. Keithley, 4 May 1993.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Bel Air

Quadrangle scale 1:20,000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

Zone	Easting			Northing					

B

Zone	Easting			Northing					

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Parcel 252 in the Town of Bel Air, 75' (West Broadway) x 150'.
Includes 106 West Broadway [HA-1799].

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dr. Marilyn M. Larew

organization _____ date 6-2-93

street & number RD 1 Box 219 New Park Rd. telephone 717-993-3557

city or town New Park state PA 17352

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCP
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
(410) 514-7400

HA-1799
House
106 W. Broadway

HA-1800
Herman Pyle House
Bel Air, MD 21014

owner: James V. Farrell owns both on one title

1436/207 3 Sept 1987
Donald R. Lam
to
James V. Farrell
\$85,000
lots 4, 5, 6 in block D of Richardson's Addition

1380/776 26 Feb 1987
Donald C. Finney and William H. Finney
to
Donald Lam
\$68,680

927/872 1 June 1973
William O. Finney, widower
to
Donald C. Finney and William H. Finney

620/67 6 June 1963
Zero, Inc.
to
William O. Finney and Evelyn Pyle Finney

620/65 6 June 1963
Evelyn P. Finney
to
Zero, Inc.
Evelyn inherited it from her mother, Bertha C. Pyle.
Herman, her father, had died. These deeds are to put
William on.

242/14 20 July 1936
W. Wylie Hopkins, Trustee
to
Herman B. Pyle and Bertha C.
Hopkins was trustee to sell real estate as the result
of a suit (#10002, Equity Docket 2/19) between W. Wylie
Hopkins, Administrator, et al, and Dean & Foster (N.
Howard Dean and Joseph T. Foster). He sold it
privately to the Pyles.

- 223/417 19 July 1932
Howard S. O'Neill and M. Madeline and
Farmers & Merchants National Bank of Bel Air
to
James O'Mara
- 213/253 15 Aug 1929
John L. G. Lee, assignee in mortgage of Jacob Doxen and
Elizabeth
to
Howard S. O'Neill
\$50
- 174/236 the mortgage
 5 May 1921
Jacob A. Doxen and Elizabeth
owe
Charles L. Vail and Cornelia H.
\$3200
- 173/177, 178 5 May 1921
Doxen and wife to and from V. Page Evans
possibly to get Elizabeth on
- 153/488 6 Dec 1916
J. Grover Davis and M. Agnes
to
Jacob Doxen
assumes 3 mortgages on 3 parcels
parcel 2 is 4, 5, 6, the mortgage is \$180 (149/459),
29 May 1915
- 150/152 29 May 1915
Henrietta Rouse, et al
to
J. Grover Davis
Rouse et al own Richardson's Addition

HA-1800
Herman Pyle House
Bel Air, Harford Co.
Bel Air Quadrangle





