

HA-1350

1881

Bel Air Times Building
38 S. Bond Street
Bel Air
Private

Brick commercial buildings were relatively rare in Bel Air in the 19th century. This building with the round-headed window in the front gable so beloved of local builders also has a wide overhang with exposed rafters and a segmental arched door surround, making it unusually stylish. It was built to be the office of the Bel Air Times, a Republican newspaper edited by Nicholas N. Nock, formerly of the Baltimore American.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Bel Air Times Building
AND/OR COMMON
Potters Mill

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
38 S. Bond 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 type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" 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	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:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Charles Spalding et al Telephone #: 838-7500
STREET & NUMBER
54A N. Main Street
CITY, TOWN STATE, zip code
Bel Air VICINITY OF Maryland 21014

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

Liber #: 402
Folio #: 454-481

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
DATE
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN STATE
_FEDERAL _STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input 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 DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This long, narrow one and a half story brick building is at 38 Bond in the Town of Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. The original building, 20' x 40', is brick, laid in common bond. It has a slate gable roof and a deep overhang with projecting rafters. A round-headed six pane casement window is in the front (east) gable. The entrance is in the south bay of the east elevation, recessed with a panelled wooden surround. The round-headed transom is blocked; the door has a single pane over two panels. Two plate glass show windows occupy the west bay. Another door is in the east bay of the north elevation. It has 4 panes over 3 panels. The transom is a single large pane. A stove chimney rises outside the west gable of this section at the north end. The windows in this section are 6/6 double-hung sash.

Two more sections, both of cinder block, complete the building. The one immediately behind the main block is 20' long. It shows a "mansard" roof, but the roof is probably flat. The windows are multi-paned steel frame. The next addition has a flat roof and 2/2 double-hung sash windows with the mutins horizontal.

The front building has been recently painted yellow with brown trim. The next building is painted (not recently) red. The final addition shows bare cement block.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
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 1881 BUILDER/ARCHITECT _____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This is one of Bel Air's few brick commercial buildings dating from the 19th century. The front portion was built in 1881 by the Republican Publishing Company of Harford County; incorporators included E. H. Webster, W. H. Dallam, George McComas, W. B. Baker, Richard B. McCoy, and Jesse Hiller. The newspaper they founded was called The Bel Air Times, and as the corporate name suggests, its politics were Republican. They hired Nicholas N. Nock from the Baltimore American to be editor, a position he held until 1900. Nock, a Union army veteran, died in 1911 at the age of 67. While he was in Bel Air he also served 4 terms as postmaster. He left for Philadelphia where he became an editor with Lippincott Publishing Company.

In 1902 the Times Publishing Company bought the newspaper (108/33) and sold it in 1916 to John A. Robinson and Henry Whitaker (153/370). Whitaker sold out to Robinson in 1920 (169/393), and Robinson owned and edited the paper until 1941. Subsequent editors were Vaughan Flannery and Paul Capron, Jr. Flannery changed the name of the paper to the Harford Gazette. In 1951 John D. Worthington, owner of The Aegis bought the paper and it ceased publication.

The building is now vacant, owned by realtor Charles Spalding. A motorcycle accessory shop is going into the building soon.

The original building was 20' x 40'. By 1904 it was 20' x 60'. By 1930 it had reached its present length.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Aegis, The Harford Democrat
 Wright, Our Harford Heritage, p. 397
 Courthouse Portraits Book, p. 32
 1904, 1930 Sanborn Maps

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property occupies parcel # 209 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

Marilynn M. Larew, Architectural Historian

22 September 1979

ORGANIZATION

Town of Bel Air

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

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST 21 STATE CIRCLE SHAW HOUSE ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401 HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FIELD SHEET Individual Structure Survey Form	SURVEY NUMBER: HA-1350
	NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:
	UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Easting/Northing
	U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:
	PRESENT FORMAL NAME: Vacant
COUNTY: Harford	ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME: Bel Air Times Bldg.
TOWN: Bel Air	
LOCATION: 38 S. Bond Street	PRESENT USE: vacant
	ORIGINAL USE: newspaper publishing
	ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:
COMMON NAME: Potters Mill	BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:
FUNCTIONAL TYPE: commercial	
OWNER: Charles Spalding	PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:
ADDRESS: 54A N. Main Bel Air, Md.	Excellent() Good() Fair(x) Poor()
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Yes() No() Restricted(x)	THEME: Architecture
	STYLE: Vernacular
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local(x) State() National()	DATE BUILT: 1881
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() Novelty()Stucco()Sheet Metal()Aluminum()Asphalt Shingle() Brick Veneer(x)Stone Veneer() Bonding Pattern: common Other: 4. Roof Structure A. Truss: Wood()Iron()Steel()Concrete() B. Other: 5. Roof Covering: Slate(x)Wood Shingle()Asphalt Shingle()Sheet Metal() Built Up()Rolled()Tile()Other: 6. Engineering Structure: 7. Other: Appendages: Porches()Towers()Cupolas()Dormers()Chimneys()Sheds()Ells(x) 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: <u>1½</u> Number of Bays: <u>2</u> Entrance Location: <u>South Bond</u> Approximate Dimensions: <u>20' x 210'</u>	
THREAT TO STRUCTURE: No Threat()Zoning()Roads() Development()Deterioration() Alteration()Other:	LOCAL ATTITUDES: Positive()Negative() Mixed() Other:

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

eaves deep overhang round head 6 pane casement
 in gable entrance recessed in panelled surround
 round headed transom (blocked) door 1 pane over
 2 panel 2 plate glass show windows
 windows of main block 6/6
 flat arch & sill
 ell many pane steel frame

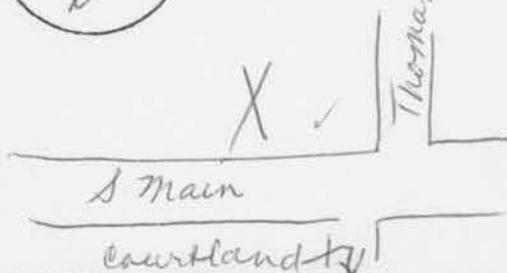
RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Office of the Bel Air Times 1881

REFERENCES:

MAP: (Indicate North in Circle)



SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

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

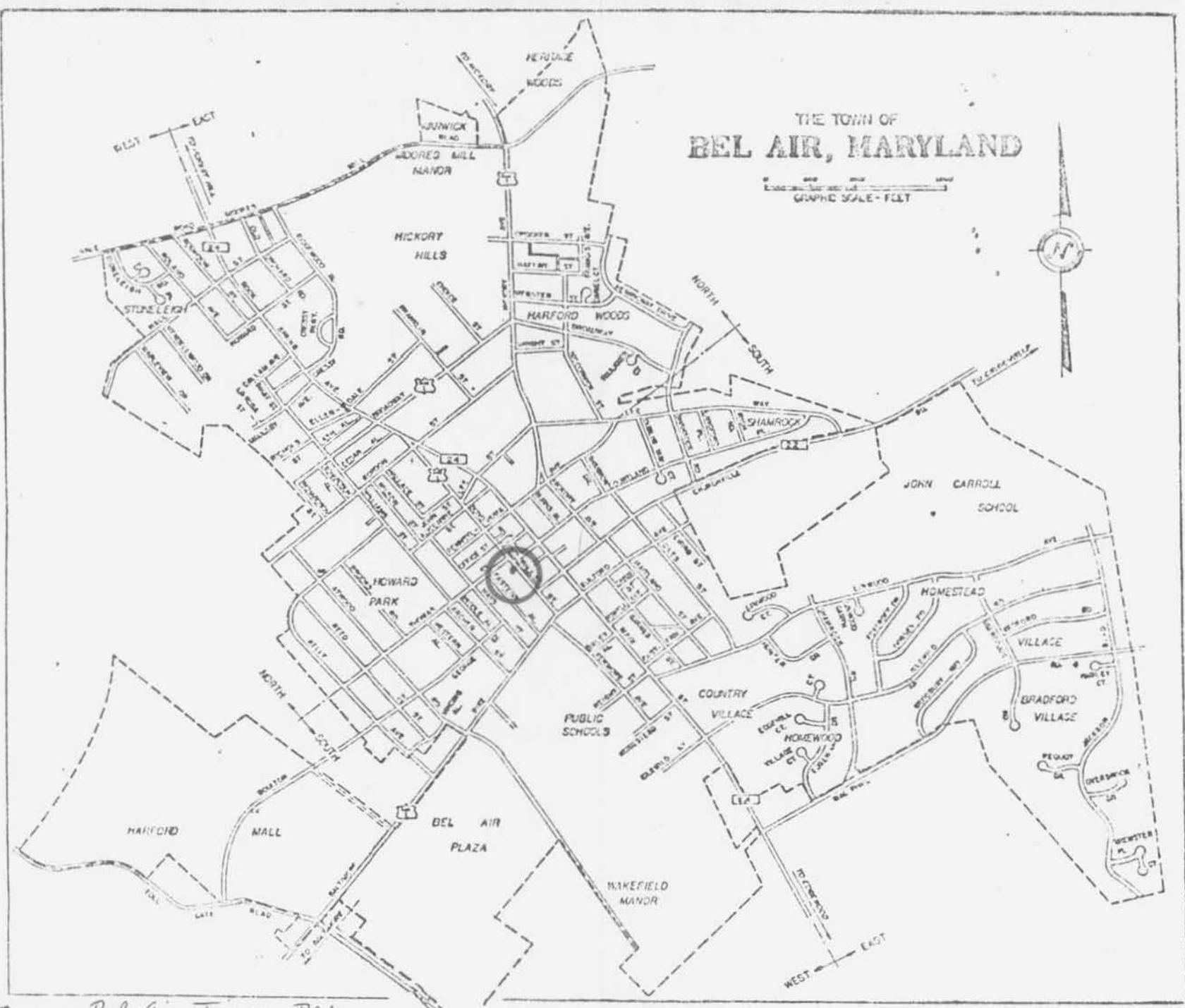
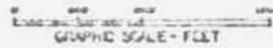
Marilynn M. Larew

RECORDED BY:
 Town of Bel Air

ORGANIZATION:
 13 September 1979

DATE RECORDED:

THE TOWN OF BEL AIR, MARYLAND



WA-1350

Bel Air Times Bldg.
39 S. Bond St.



HA-1350 Bel Air Times Bldg., 38 S. Bond, Bel Air
S + e elev
M. Larew, 1979



LA-1350. Bel Air Times Bldg, 38 S. Bond St, Bel Air
N. elev
M. Lorenz, 1979



LA 1350

Bellair Times Bldg, 38 S. Bond, Bellair

w + 2 elev

M. Larew, 1979



DA- 1350

Bellini Tower Bldg, 37 A. Bond St. Bell Ave
c. 2/10/79
M. Sauer, 1979