

HA-1360

1895

Gover House  
38 E. Broadway  
Bel Air  
Private

The Gover House looks a bit nonplussed at its recent Tudor disguise. It was a fairly typical Victorian house with a front gable, distinguished from its fellows only by the leaded glass in its east bay window.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC  
Gover House  
AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
38 E. Broadway 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	<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 Telephone #:  
Donald Blake  
STREET & NUMBER  
38 E. Broadway  
CITY, TOWN STATE, zip code  
Bel Air VICINITY OF Maryland 21014

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, LIBER #: 1077  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Folio #: 93  
STREET & NUMBER Harford County Courthouse  
Main Street  
CITY, TOWN STATE  
Bel Air Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

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

**7 DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED    DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED	1979	

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

This long and narrow two and a half story Victorian house with a fake Tudor facade is at 38 E. Broadway in the Town of Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. Until 1979 it looked like the houses at the east end of Broadway - front gable and front porch. The owner, in renovating it to offices, unwisely chose to make its facade unique with a false timbered second story, a shed roof and a brick first story with a picture window flanked with (false) leaded casements. The rest of the building is aluminum sided. The entrance in the west bay of the facade is a new glass and aluminum one with a single long side light to the west and a single glass paned door to the east. The windows (except for the picture window and the many paned window in the west elevation rear sun porch) are 2/2 double hung sash. The building is conventionally T-shaped, the gable roofed rear building perpendicular to the gable roofed front block. The front gable is now blind. The side (east and west) gables have narrow 1/1 windows. The east elevation is broken by a rectangular bay window in the south bay. It lights what was the parlor and has narrow windows with a lead glass upper pane and a larger single pane below. The west elevation of the back building is more irregular, with a single story shed roofed enclosed porch with an entrance in the second bay from the north end. A shed roofed two story addition is on the north elevation of the back building. It was probably originally a two story porch, as the remaining stock turned post and pilaster with carved brackets (star motive) show. The north elevation is now enclosed except for the small west section and blind in the north elevation. A multi-paned window lights the second story in the west elevation. The back door has been sided over.

The interior of this side-hall plan house shows an open string dog-leg staircase rising against the west wall in the hall. It has carved brackets, slender turned balusters and a fat turned Victorian newel. The parlor door is gone but the original woodwork remains: plain surround with corner blocks with a circle carved out. The parlor is a 20th century brick replacement. The parlor is the only room in the main block. The hall continues into the back building in the enclosed (west) side porch. The room arrangement is new; offices with new and plain woodwork open off the hall.

The offices are currently vacant.

# 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		

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SPECIFIC DATES      date: 1895                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT    W. E. Lingan

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house, inappropriately false timbered in 1979, was built for May and Bessie Gover in 1895 on land they bought from the heirs of Dr. Munnikhuysen for \$300 (83/73). In 1914 the ladies mortgaged the property (146/160) and soon defaulted. The property was sold at auction to Bettie W. Maxwell for \$3,225 in 1916 (153/300). Mrs. Maxwell sold it the next year to Robert Holland for \$5,000 (155/482). The Holland family held it until 1942 when Robert's widow Fannie (remarried to Harry Keen), and the other heirs sold it to Glenn and Gertrude Little (275/130). In 1963 the Littles agreed to sell it to James Robert Hooper (634/49), but they both died before the payments were complete. In the meantime the lien passed to Dorothy Martin, and the Hoopers sold their interest to Ronnie Cecil Hooper. In 1972 the estate, Martin, and Hooper conveyed to Ronnie Cecil Hooper and his wife (910/215). In 1974 Ronnie Cecil Hooper became the sole owner (968/945). He sold it to Donald Blake in 1978 (1077/93).

In 1979 the porch was taken off, the front false timbered, and the interior remodeled into offices. They stand vacant at this time.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property occupies parcel #295 in the Town of Bel Air, 50' x 200'

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	11 September 1979
ORGANIZATION	DATE
Town of Bel Air	838-8700
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
39 Hickory Avenue	
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Bel Air	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-1360
	NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:
	UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Easting/Northing
	U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:
	PRESENT FORMAL NAME: House
COUNTY: Harford	ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME: Gover House
TOWN: Bel Air	
LOCATION: 38 Broadway Bel Air, Maryland	PRESENT USE: Offices (Vacant)
	ORIGINAL USE: Private Residence
COMMON NAME: House	ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:
FUNCTIONAL TYPE: Private Residence	BUILDER/CONTRACTOR: W. E. Lingan
OWNER: Donald Blake	PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:
ADDRESS: 38 E. Broadway Bel Air, Md. 21014	Excellent( ) Good(X) Fair( ) Poor( )
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Yes( ) No( ) Restricted(X)	THEME: Architecture
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local(X) State( ) National( )	STYLE: Vernacular
DATE BUILT: 1895	
GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Structural System 1. Foundation: Stone( ) 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(X) 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: Plain Appendages: Porches(X) Towers( ) Cupolas( ) Dormers( ) Chimneys(X) 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>2½</u> Number of Bays: <u>3</u> Entrance Location: <u>E. Broadway</u> Approximate Dimensions: <u>25' x 50'</u>	
THREAT TO STRUCTURE: No Threat( ) Zoning( ) Roads( ) Development( ) Deterioration( ) Alteration(X) Other:	LOCAL ATTITUDES: Positive( ) Negative( ) Mixed( ) Other:

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Brick 1st story/false timbering, 2nd facade windows (up) 2/2 - down picture w false leaded casements entry w bay long window light/glass & alum. door blind front gable E elev., S bay rectangular bay w leaded glass top, single pane below windows 2/2 ex enc. sun porch on back, many pane pix window enclosed W side porch 8/8 replacement windows 1st story NW corner porch w stock turned posts & carved brackets

RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

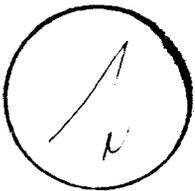
1/1 in gables at side staircase open string w/carved brackets, slender turned balusters, fat victorian newel, dog leg 20th century brick fireplace E. R. (bay lights E. R.)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

corner blocks carved in (E.R.) ww - no fluting

REFERENCES:

MAP: (Indicate North in Circle)



Handwritten notes: Church rectory - 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: 7 September 1979 DATE RECORDED:

TITLE: 38 BROADWAY

1077/93            1978  
New owner: Donald Blake

968/945           29 November 1974  
Ronnie Cecil Hooper & Shirley Mae  
to  
Ronnie Cecil Hooper  
He assumes Mortgage

910/215           25 October 1972  
Doris L. Carpenter, executrix of Glenn A. Little,  
Dorothy L. Martin of Baltimore City, and  
James Robert Hooper & Shirley M.  
to  
Ronnie Cecil Hooper & Shirley Mae  
1. Glenn Little and Gertrude Little are dead.  
2. They agreed (1963 634/49) to sell to James  
Robert Hooper.  
3. Dorothy Martin was assigned Little's claim.  
4. James Robert Hooper assigned his interest to  
Ronnie Cecil Hooper.

275/130           1 October 1942  
Fannie W. Keen & Harry, Eugene W. Holland, and  
May (Leary) Holland, widow, of Baltimore City  
to  
Glenn A. Little and Gertrude  
Fannie W. Holland, widow, married Harry C. Keen

253/392           25 November 1938  
Fannie W. Holland, widow  
to  
Eugene W. Holland & May  
Robert Holland is dead

208/272           6 June 1928  
Title Guarantee & Trust Co.  
to  
Robert W. Holland & Fannie

208/271           6 June 1928  
The Hollands  
to  
Title Guarantee & Trust Co.

155/482           24 August 1917  
Bettie W. Maxwell, widow  
to  
Robert W. Holland  
\$5,000

153/300

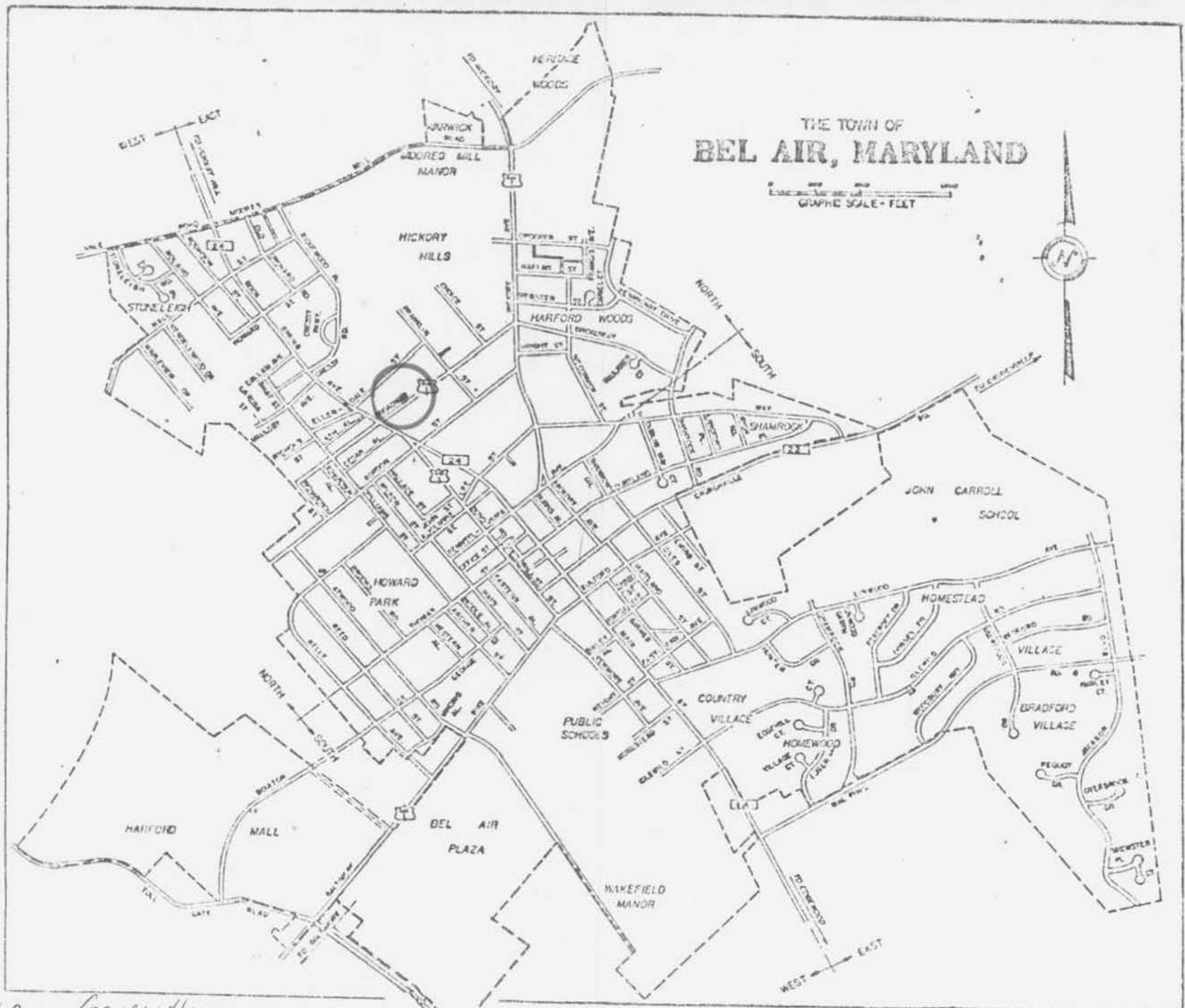
11 September 1916  
Noble L. Mitchell, Attorney, & Elizabeth Lochary  
to  
Bettie W. Maxwell  
Bessie Gover & May Gover mortgaged the property  
(1914, 146/160) to Thomas Lochary. He died  
28 February 1916 and left the mortgage to Elizabeth  
Lochary. The Govers defaulted on the mortgage & the  
property was sold at auction for \$3,225.

83/73

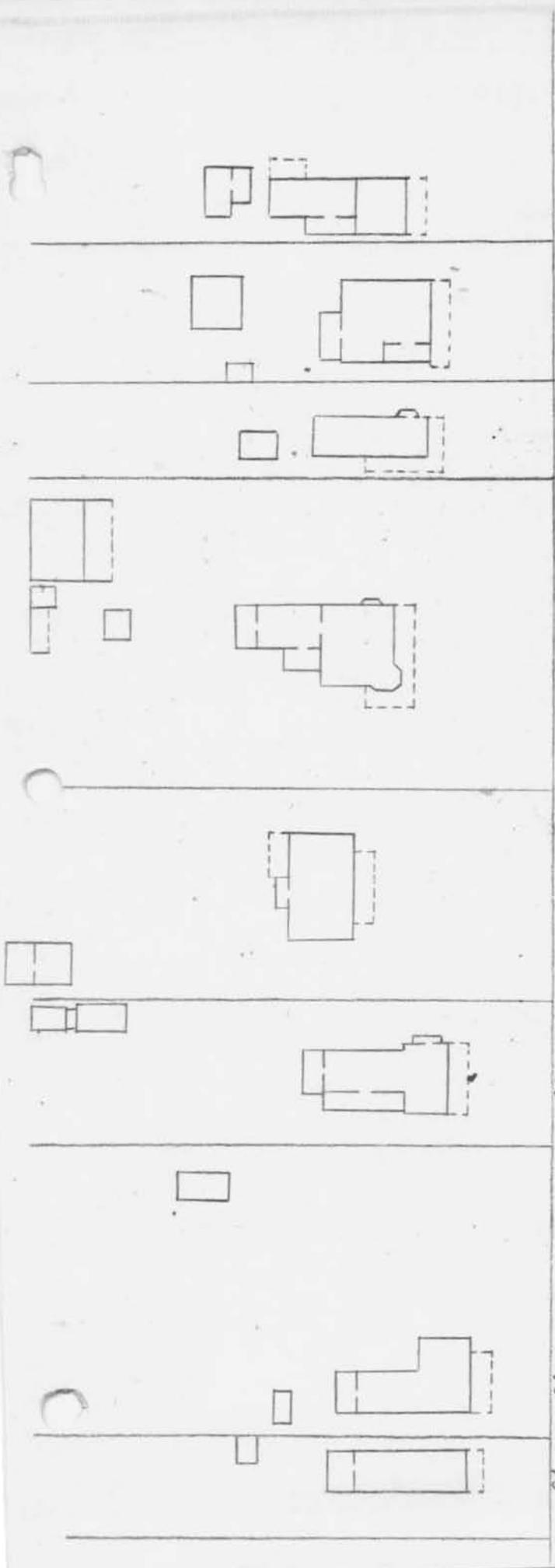
14 January 1895  
Howard Munnikhuysen et al  
to  
May & Bessie Gover  
\$200

# THE TOWN OF BEL AIR, MARYLAND

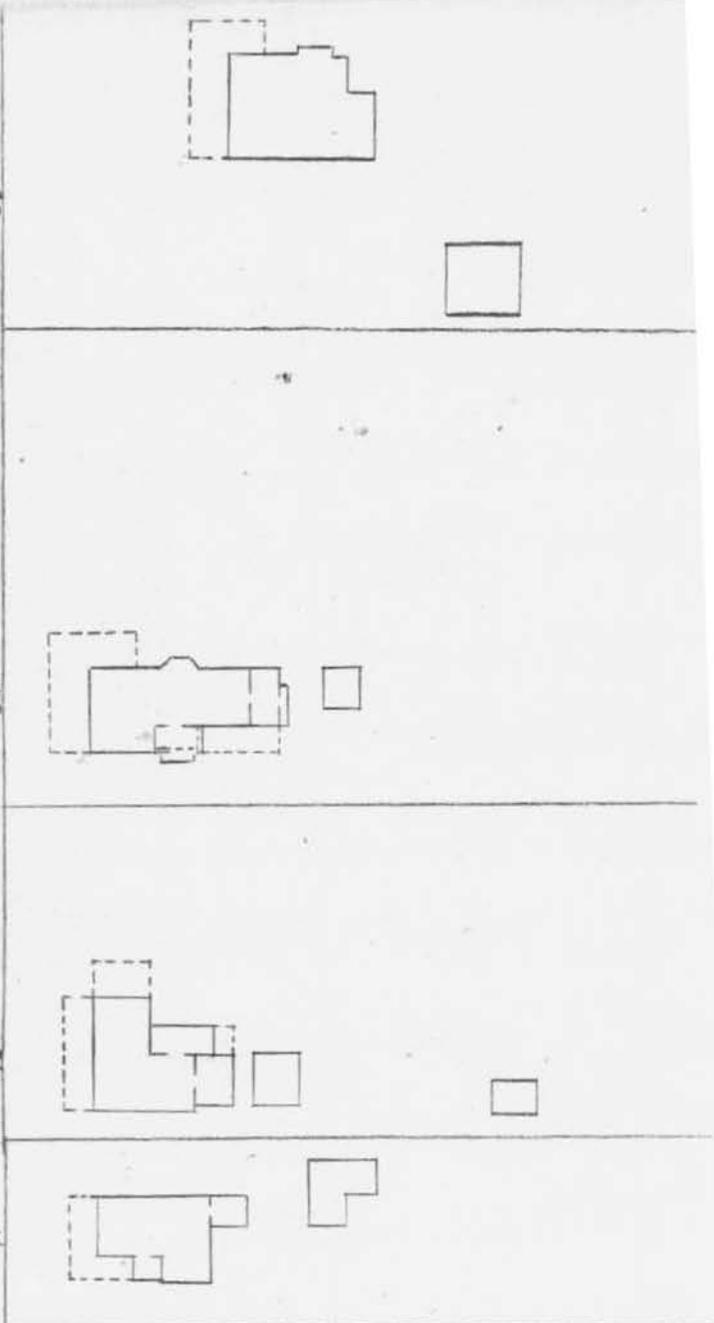
GRAPHIC SCALE - FEET



HA-1360  
Cover House  
38 E. Broadway



24 30 38 44 52 58 62 64



41 45 53 69



Howl House  
 38 E. Broadway  
 Bel Air  
 HA-1360  
 1930 Sanborn Map



HA- 1360

Hoover House, 38 E. Broadway, Bel Air  
s + e elev

M. Larcus, 1979



HA - 1360

Howe House, 38 E. Broadway, Salem  
w + s elev  
M. Leno, 1979



HA-1360

Gover House, 38 E. Broadway, Bel Air  
N. + W elev  
M. Larue, 1979



OFFICES  
FOR  
LEASE  
call 838-4244

HA - 1360



HA-1360



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