HA-1404 c. 1877

S. A. Williams Tenant House #1
24 E. Gordon Street
Bel Air
private

This plain little tenant house was built around 1877 by Stevenson A. Williams. It appears on the 1878 Map. It is virtually unchanged over the years and is more reminiscent of the country than the village.

HA-1405 c. 1880

S. A. Williams Tenant House #2
26 E. Gordon Street
Bel Air
private

This cottage was probably originally like its neighbor on the rear of the lot, although evidence in the second story suggests that it may have been one and a half stories tall. It has received more attention over the years - a bay window on the west side and a dining room addition on the rear - so that it now wears a middle class aspect.

HA-1404 (#24)
1314045504
HA-1405 (#26)
1314055604

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
S. A. Williams Tenant Houses

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
24, 26 E. Gordon

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
Miss Mary Hall

Telephone #: 838-4867

STREET & NUMBER
53 E. Broadway

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 #: 265
Folio #: 327

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

NA-1404
NA-1405

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
_EXCELLENT	_DETERIORATED	_UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE (both)
X GOOD #26	_RUINS	X ALTERED (both)	_MOVED DATE_____
X FAIR #24	_UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

24 E. Gordon:

This two story, two bay tenant house is at the north end of the lot at 24 E. Gordon in the Town of Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. It is shiplap-sided and has a rolled tin gable roof with a plain capped center chimney. It has 6/6 windows, a one story shed-roofed board and batten kitchen addition on the east elevation and a shed-roofed front porch on plain posts. Two doors are in the first story front (south) elevation. This is basic tenant housing, little changed.

26 E. Gordon:

This two story, two bay clapboard house is on the south portion of the same lot, facing Gordon Street. With the same basic ingredients as #24, it is a charming little cottage. Its gable roof is of slate. It has a hexagonal single story bay window on the west elevation and a shed roofed kitchen and diningroom addition to the rear (north). Another room (furnace room) is behind that, to the west. The first story windows are 6/6. The second story rear windows are 6/3 and those in front are pairs of 2 pane casements. That and the slope of the roof inside the two upstairs rooms suggests a 1½ story house inadequately raised to 2 stories.

The entrance is in the middle of the front (south) elevation. It is shaded by a one bay, shed-roofed porch carried on stock turned posts and having a balustrade of plain square balusters. Access is from the west side up three steps.

The house is two rooms wide. The east chamber is the parlor and the west chamber is the master bedroom. North of the bedroom is a cramped dog-leg enclosed staircase and a bathroom. A small hall leads to the kitchen (on the north) and the dining room, behind the parlor. The walls and ceiling of the dining room are of tongue and groove.

Upstairs are two minute bedrooms with steeply sloping walls. The east chamber has built-in cupboards and a window seat of tongue and groove.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

NA-1404
NA-1405

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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 before 1878; c. 1880's BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

There are two small houses on this lot; #26 (nearest the street) is the later and more elegant of the two. Taking its style and its similarity to #30 next door, it was probably built in the 1880's. It was there in 1904; it is on the Sanborn Map of that year. #24 (on the north end of the lot) is the older. It is on the 1878 Map. It belonged to Stevenson A. Williams. Williams acquired the lease after a lawsuit, Phoenix Building Association vs. William B. Jarrett and Joseph E. Bateman, in 1876. #24 may have been built by Bateman between 1868 when he leased the lot and 1876. If not, Williams built both. #26 was probably built shortly after 1878.

The 1920 Tax Assessment shows the houses were owned by Williams and Stevenson Archer of John, a seeming impossibility unless they were held by Williams in trust since Stevenson Archer of John died in 1848 (Williams himself was not born until 1851). Williams' mother was Harriet Hays Archer Williams, the daughter of Stevenson Archer of John.

Carl F. Ayres acquired the lease from Williams' executor in 1938 (253/335) and the fee from Charles & Emily Galloway in 1939 (255/63). Miss Mary Hall is the present owner.

#24 has changed very little over time. Houses like it can be found in all the woodland states, more often in rural areas. #26 has acquired a pretty little bay window and a rear shed addition, the last in place by 1930. These additions made it middle class housing.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

HA-1404
HA-1405

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1878 Map
1904, 1930 Sanborn Maps
Bel Air Tax Assessment, 1920
Portraits in the Courthouse

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property occupies parcel #521 in the Town of Bel Air-

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

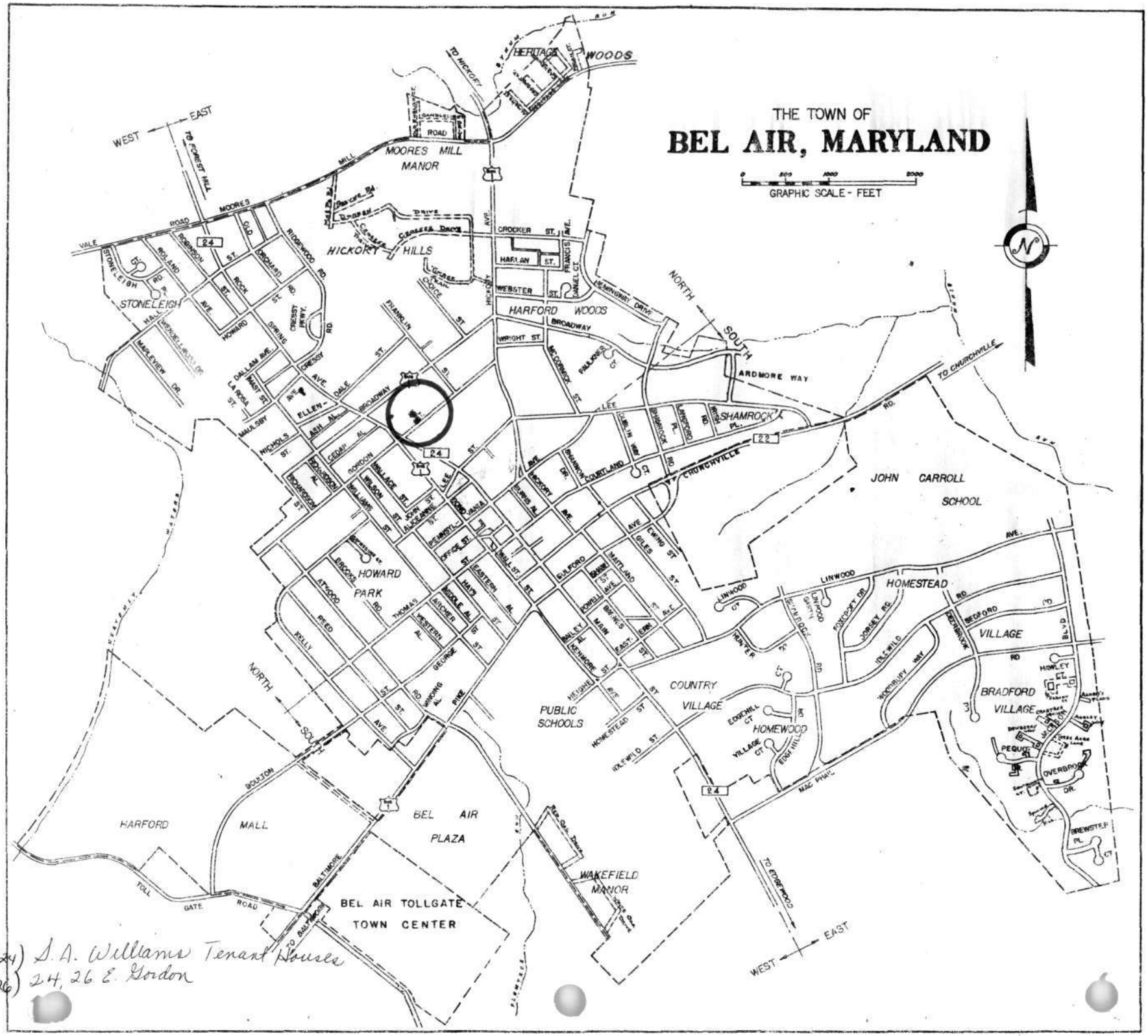
11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Marilynn Larew, Architectural Historian — 28 November 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.

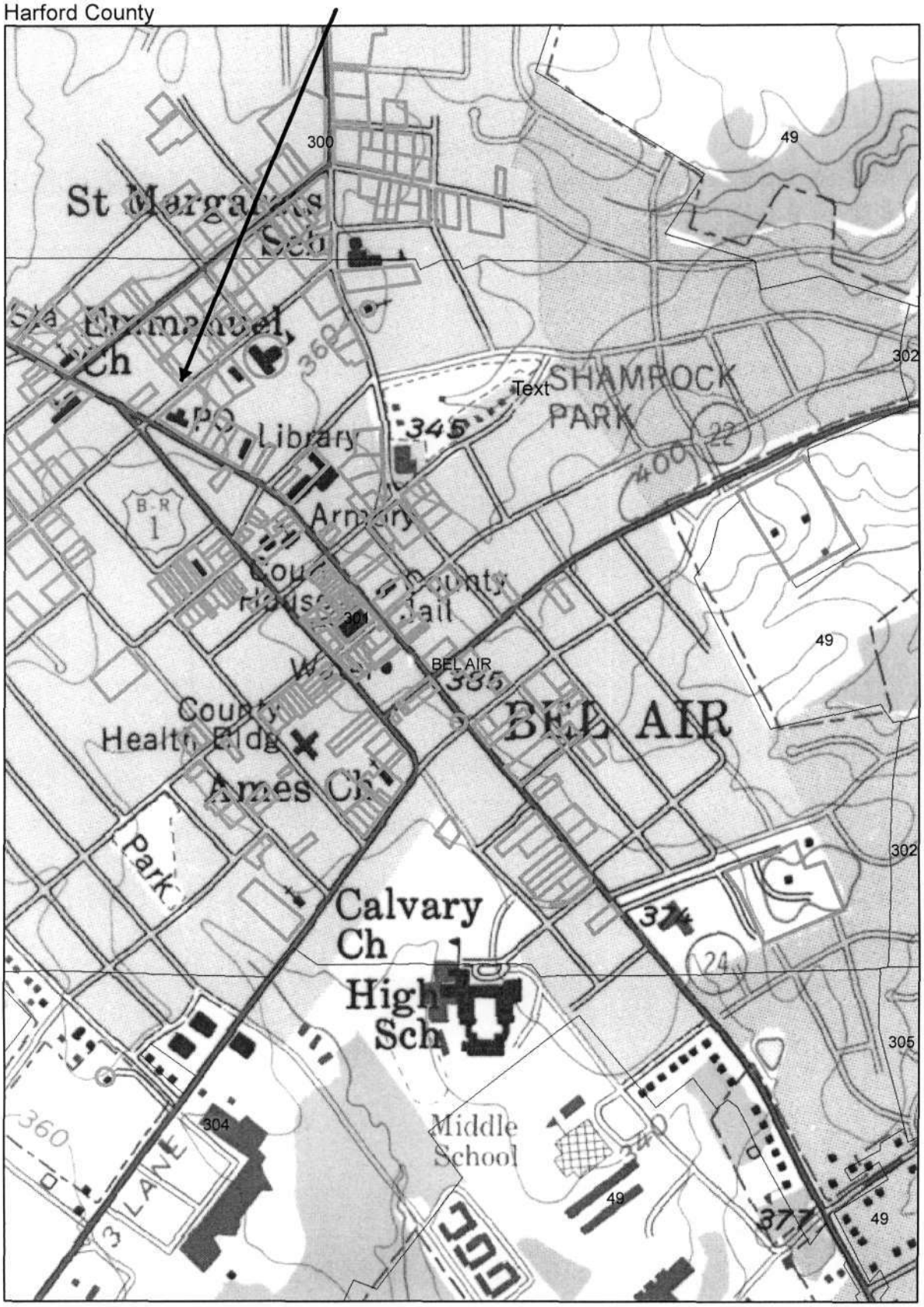
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

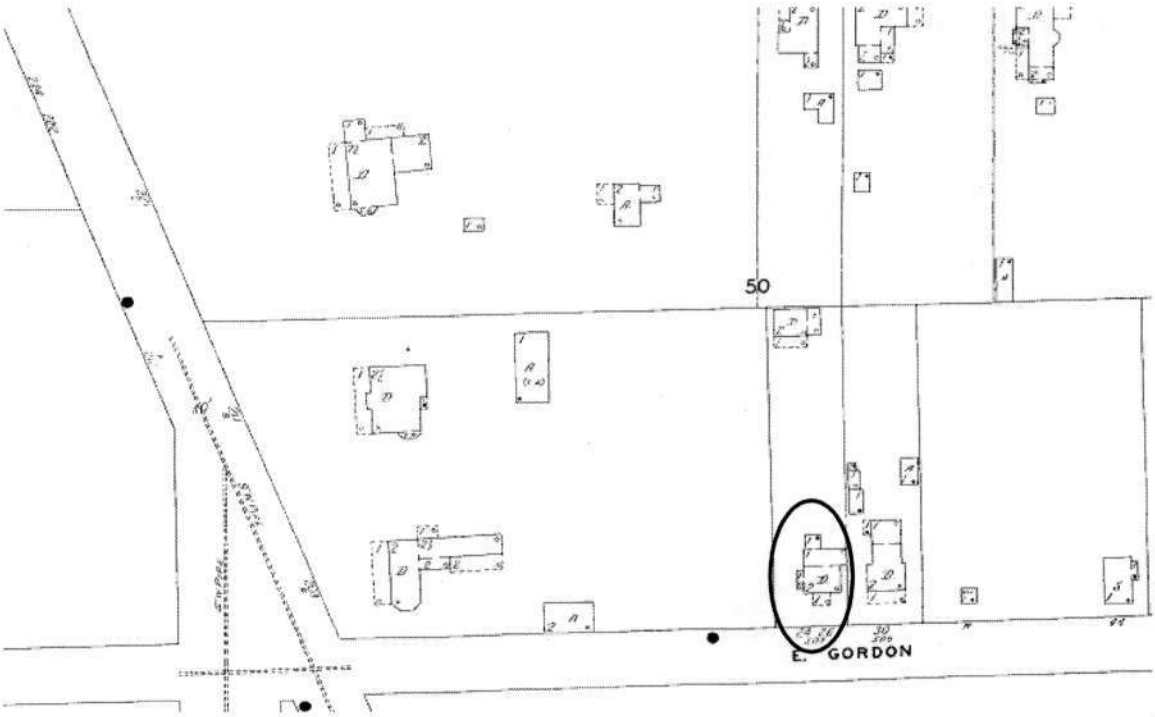


HA - 1404 (#24) S. A. Williams Tenant Houses
HA - 1405 (#26) 24, 26 E. Gordon

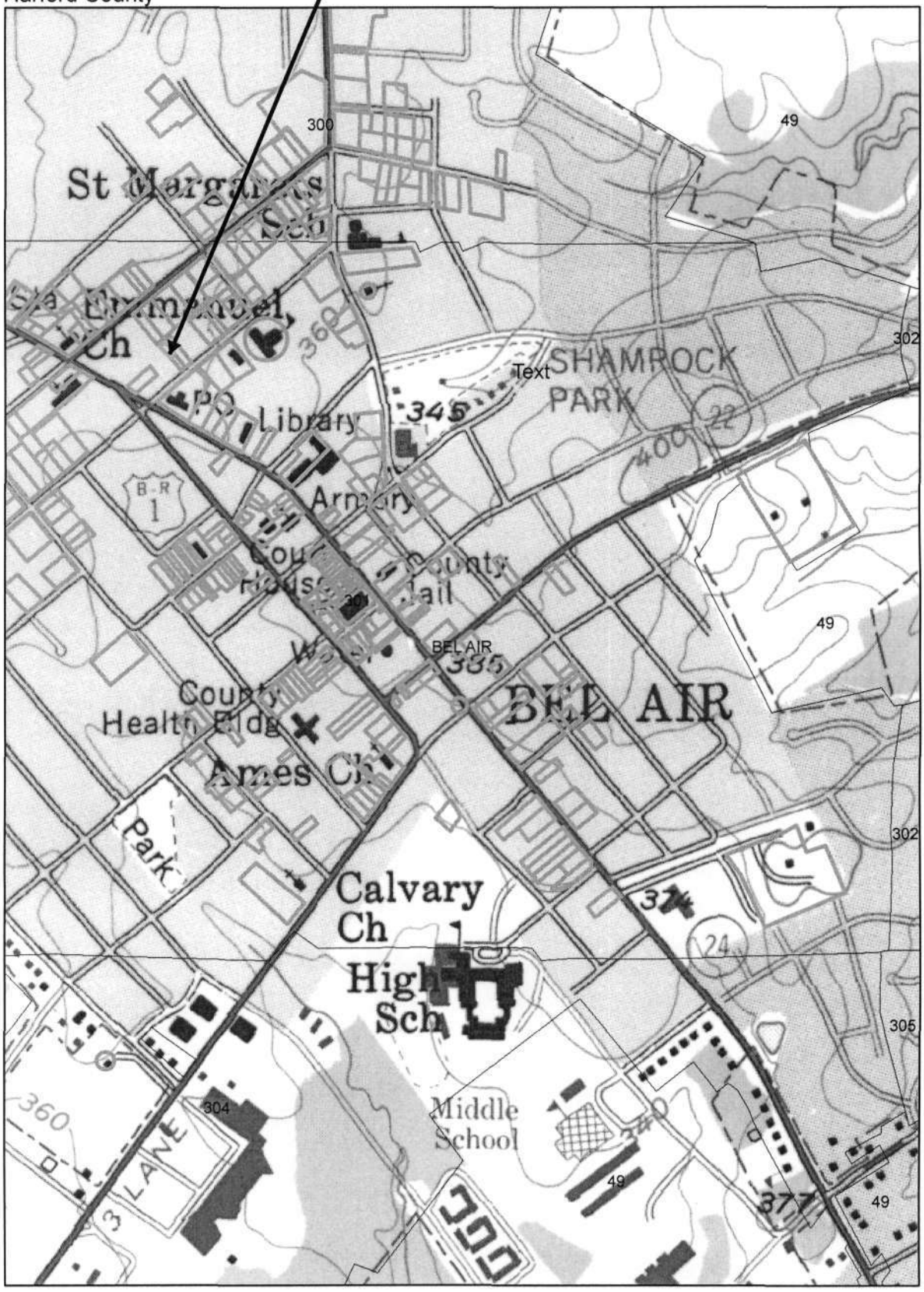
HA-1404
S.A. Williams Tenant House #1
E. Gordon Street
Bel Air
Bel Air Quad
Harford County



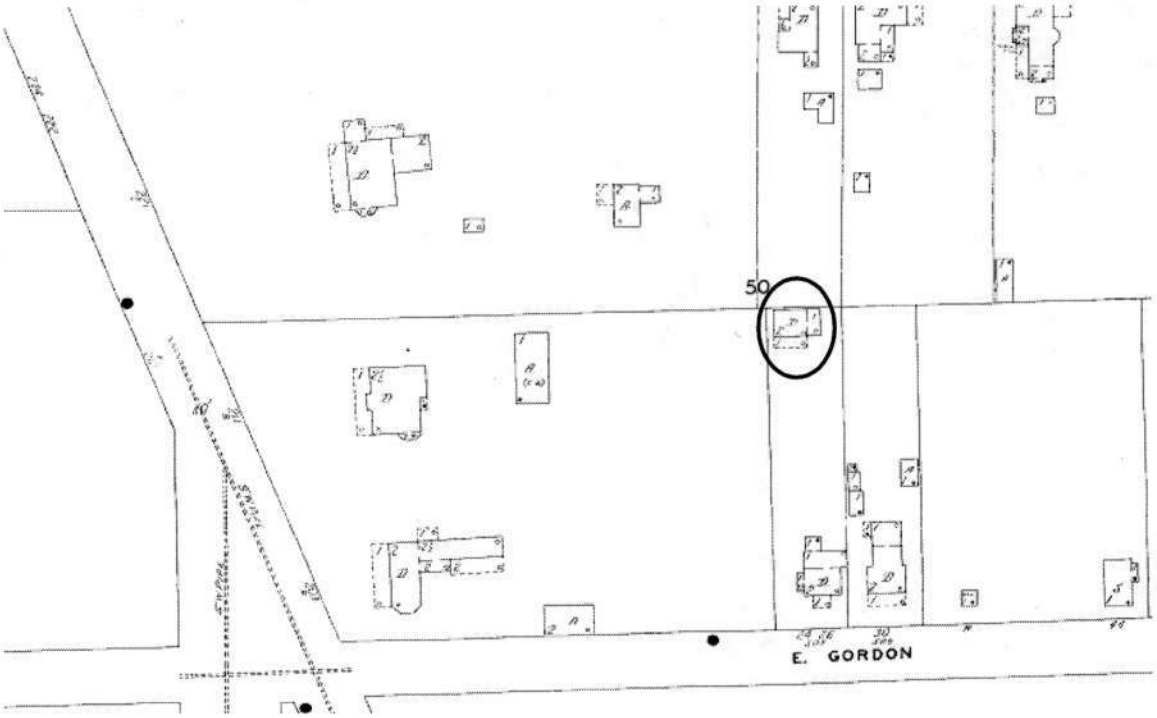
HA-1404
S. A. Williams Tenant House #1
24 E. Gordon St.
Bel Air
Sanborn Bel Air Aug. 1930
Harford County

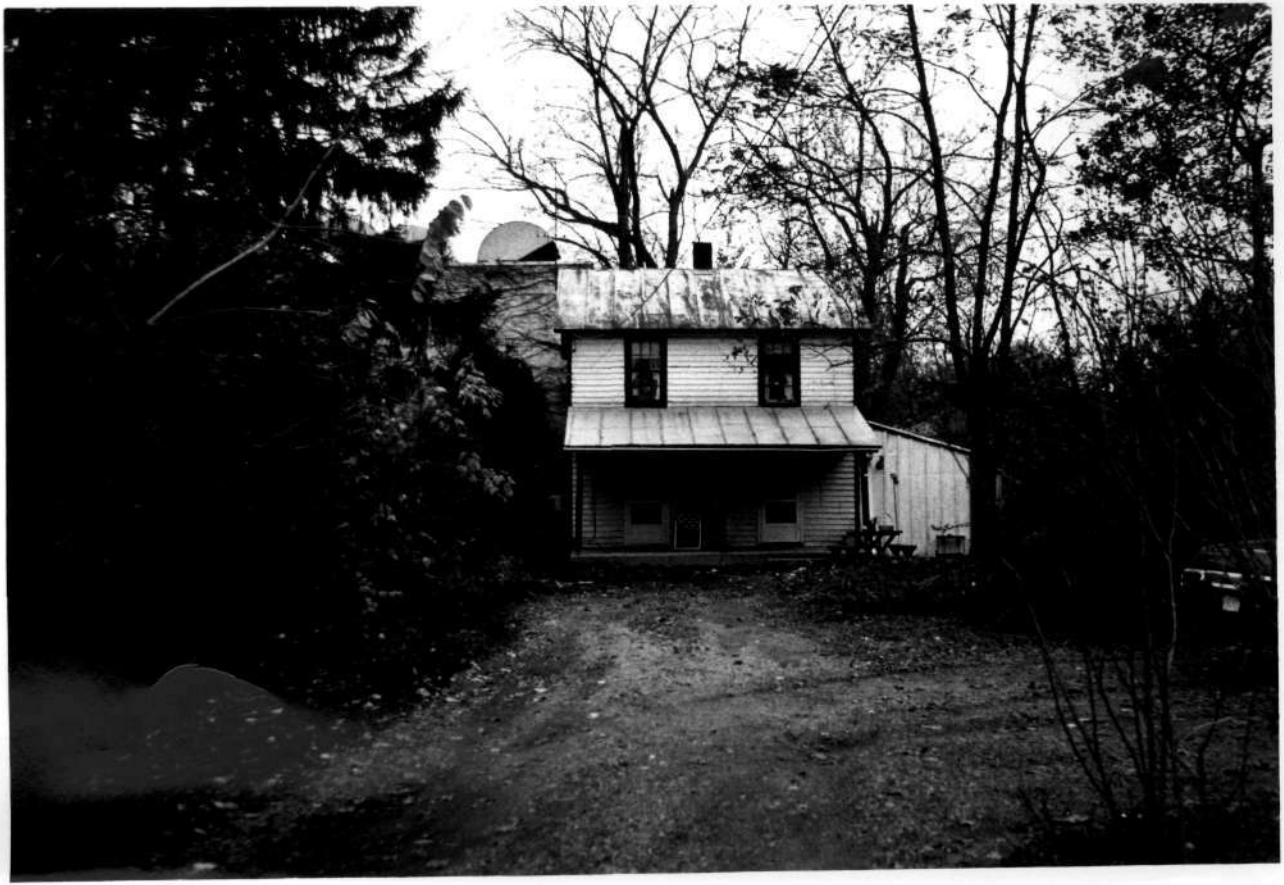


HA-1405
S.A. Williams Tenant House #2
E. Gordon Street
Bel Air
Bel Air Quad
Harford County



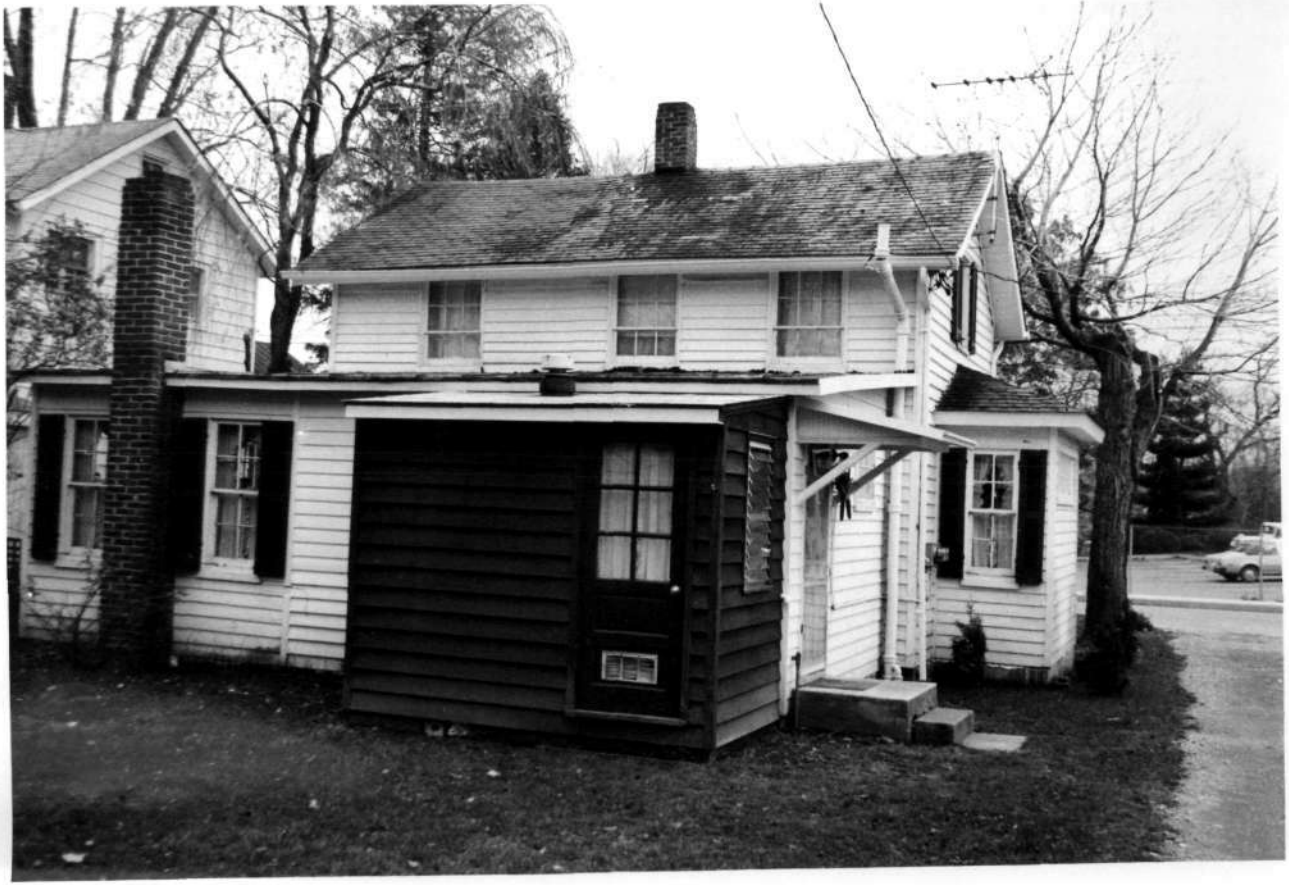
HA-1405
S. A. Williams Tenant House #2
26 E. Gordon St.
Bel Air
Sanborn Bel Air Aug. 1930
Harford County





HA-1404 S A Williams Tenant House #1, 24 E. Gordon St,
Bel Air
s elev
M. Larew, 1979

HA-1405 S. A. Williams Tenant House #2, 26 E. Gordon, Bel Air
n+w elev
M. Larew, 1979



4A-1405 S.A. Williams Tenant House #2, 26 E. Gordon, Belair

N & W elev

M. Larew, 1979