

HA-1415

Portions Before 1868

Raitt House - St. Margaret's Rectory  
141 Hickory  
Bel Air  
private

This much expanded Victorian house, nevertheless presents a harmonious whole of mysterious projections: porches, bays, dormers. It was originally a three bay L-shaped house. It is now five bays long and more or less rectangular terminating in the two story hexagonal parlor bay window on the south elevation. The gabled entrance porch on Tuscan columns is both elegant and unusual in Bel. The floor plan is also unusual. The rooms, five of them, are laid out one beside the other off a front hall which runs from the entrance to the north end of the house. The south two rooms, added later, have fluted door surrounds with carved corner blocks.

This house was purchased in 1901 by Father J. Alphonse Frederick, a Catholic priest. Using his own funds he built St. Margaret's Chapel next door in 1905.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HA-1415  
1314155504

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Raitt House

AND/OR COMMON

St. Margaret's Rectory

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

141 Hickory

1st

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input checked="" 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

Archdiocese of Baltimore

Telephone #: 547-5437

STREET & NUMBER

320 Cathedral Street

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #: 164

Folio #: 27

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland 21014

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This long two and a half story shiplap sided house is just north of St. Margaret's Chapel on Hickory Avenue in the Town of Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. Painted a gray-green with black trim, it retires into the old trees on the lot, showing mysterious projections - porches, bays, dormers. In the approved Victorian manner, it keeps itself to itself. While the house was originally L-shaped and three bays on the front, today it shows five bays with the original ell as a projecting gable-roofed pavilion. The moderate slope of the slate roof is pierced at the point of juncture of the ell with the original (north) block by a chimney and on the east and west sides of the south (post 1878) addition by two dormers - themselves gable-roofed with pediment-shaped molded trim sheltering 1/1 double-hung sash windows with round-arched tops. To the north of the center pavilion is an enclosed single story hipped roof porch with a pair of double-hung sash windows centered. An 8/8 grid has been applied to them to simulate the old windows. To the south of the central pavilion is a gable-roofed entry porch with a pediment carried on tuscan columns. The sides of the porch has panels down and small paned glass above. The entrance itself is composed of a door with two panels down and two long glass panels with round-arched tops up, framed in three panels of "bottle glass" (plastic).

The windows in the building are varied. In the old block they are 4/4 (north), 1/2 in the new block (south), 1/1 in the two-story bay in the south elevation and the gables. All the windows are framed in louvred shutters.

The rear (east) elevation shows an enclosed porch to the south of the projecting central pavilion, a porch open on the first story and enclosed on the second attached to the central pavilion and a shed porch (enclosed) to the north.

The interior is five rooms long. The south two rooms have fluted door surrounds with carved corner blocks testifying to their later construction. The south room (parlor) has a modern fireplace. The next north room is now a bedroom and may have been a formal dining room. It has sliding doors. The next two rooms to the north have entablatures over the doors. The first has an original Victorian slate mantel now painted blue. It is a TV and sitting room. The next north room is now the dining room. North of that is a modern kitchen. The hall has a chair rail, and the open-string single run staircase rises along the west wall just north of the entrance (in the projecting pavilion). It dates from c.1880.

The interior of the house proclaims the various additions to the structure by the variety of the woodwork and the different fenestration. What is unusual is that the rooms were strung out along the north-south axis in a single block.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**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		

SPECIFIC DATES portions before 1868 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house with its central entrance block, two story bay window on the south end, its classically detailed entrance porch, and its various enclosed porches is a striking example of the post-Civil War house that just grew. Originally L-shaped, its various additions have given it a balanced five-bay facade with the original front gable-roofed ell as a central projecting block with an entrance porch just to the south of the projection.

In 1868 Edwin Webster sold an option on the property to Mrs. Cassandra Raitt for \$1000 (20/342). J. F. Raitt was an attorney with offices on Main Street with Preston Gilbert. In 1878 the map shows the house to be L-shaped. Mrs. Raitt died in 1870, leaving her property to Laura Raitt (will 8/154). In 1881 Webster executed the promised deed to Laura (42/495).

From the bay window and the woodwork inside, the south chamber, now a parlor, was probably added about this time. The entrance porch and dormers may have been added at this time, but their classical pediments suggest a later date, possibly after 1901 when Reverend J. Alphonse Frederick bought the property from Miss Raitt's trustee. It is clear from the various projections that front and rear porches have been enclosed.

Father Frederick bought the property in 1901 (100/465) with his own money and built the chapel to the south in 1905. In 1919 he transferred the three acres to Cardinal Gibbons (164/27). Buildings have been added to the lot over the years: the school in 1947, the convent in 1960, the new church in 1969.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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

Parcel 605 = 3a. ±

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property occupies the north portion of parcel #605 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

M. Larew, Architectural Historian

29 May 1979

ORGANIZATION

Town of Bel Air

DATE

838-8700

STREET &amp; NUMBER

39 Hickory

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-1415

NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:

UTM REFERENCES:  
Zone/Easting/Northing

U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:

PRESENT FORMAL NAME: *St. Margaret's Rectory*  
*1700 Raitt House*

ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME:  
*Raitt House*

PRESENT USE: *Rectory*  
ORIGINAL USE: *private house*  
ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:

BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:

PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:  
Excellent () Good ( )  
Fair ( ) Poor: ( )

THEME: *architecture*  
STYLE: *vernacular*

DATE BUILT:  
*portions before 1868*

COUNTY: *Harford*  
TOWN: *Belan*  
LOCATION: *141 Hickory*  
COMMON NAME:  
*St. Margaret's Rectory*  
FUNCTIONAL TYPE: *private residence*  
OWNER: *Archdiocese of Baltimore*  
ADDRESS: *320 Cathedral St*  
*Baltimore, Md.*  
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:  
Yes ( ) No ( ) Restricted ()  
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:  
Local () State ( ) National ( )

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 ( ) 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 ( ) Sheet Metal ( )  
Built Up ( ) Rolled ( ) Tile ( ) Other:  
6. Engineering Structure:  
7. Other:  
Appendages: Porches () Towers ( ) Cupolas ( ) Dormers () Chimneys () Sheds ( ) Ells ( )  
Wings ( ) Other:  
Roof Style: Gable () Hip ( ) Shed ( ) Flat ( ) Mansard ( ) Gambrel ( ) Jerkinhead ( )  
Saw Tooth ( ) With Monitor ( ) With Bellcast ( ) With Parapet ( ) With False Front ( )  
Other:  
Number of Stories: *2 1/2*  
Number of Bays: *5*  
Approximate Dimensions: *75' x 25'*  
Entrance Location: *Hickory*

THREAT TO STRUCTURE:  
No Threat () Zoning ( ) Roads ( )  
Development ( ) Deterioration ( )  
Alteration ( ) Other:

LOCAL ATTITUDES:  
Positive () Negative ( )  
Mixed ( ) Other:

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Windows s block 1/2, n block 4/4 up, plough 5/8 in enclosed porch  
 entrance porch entry <sup>2</sup> glass 3 sidelights + panel door 2 panel down  
 glass round top glass up, panel (4) down in sides of porch  
 bay (s end) windows 1/1 round topped 1/1 in gables, gable moulded  
 w return on gable + dormer shutters

plan chair rail  
 dr (n end) TV room, br, parlor in bay end open string  
 stair, turned balustrade, entab over 2 n rooms, fluted  
 w corner blocks over 5 two, chair rail around hall, parlor dr  
 middle two = paneled tv room. reg. vitrean slate mantel (painted)  
 mantel in parlor brick new, shelf may

RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

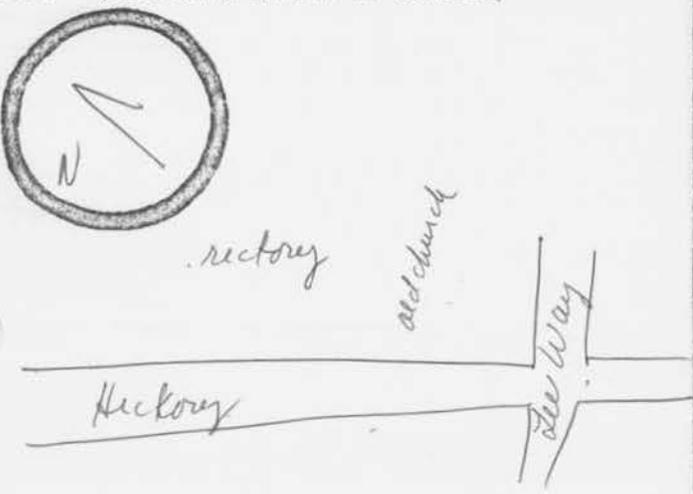
3000 cement block garage he reg

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

~~A large~~ The home of a wealthy family, in its original L shape.  
 Has been the rectory for St. Margaret's since 1905.  
 Still a striking building, particularly the south end with its  
 two story bay window

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:

M. Larew  
 RECORDED BY:  
 Town of Belair  
 ORGANIZATION:  
 29 May 79  
 DATE RECORDED:

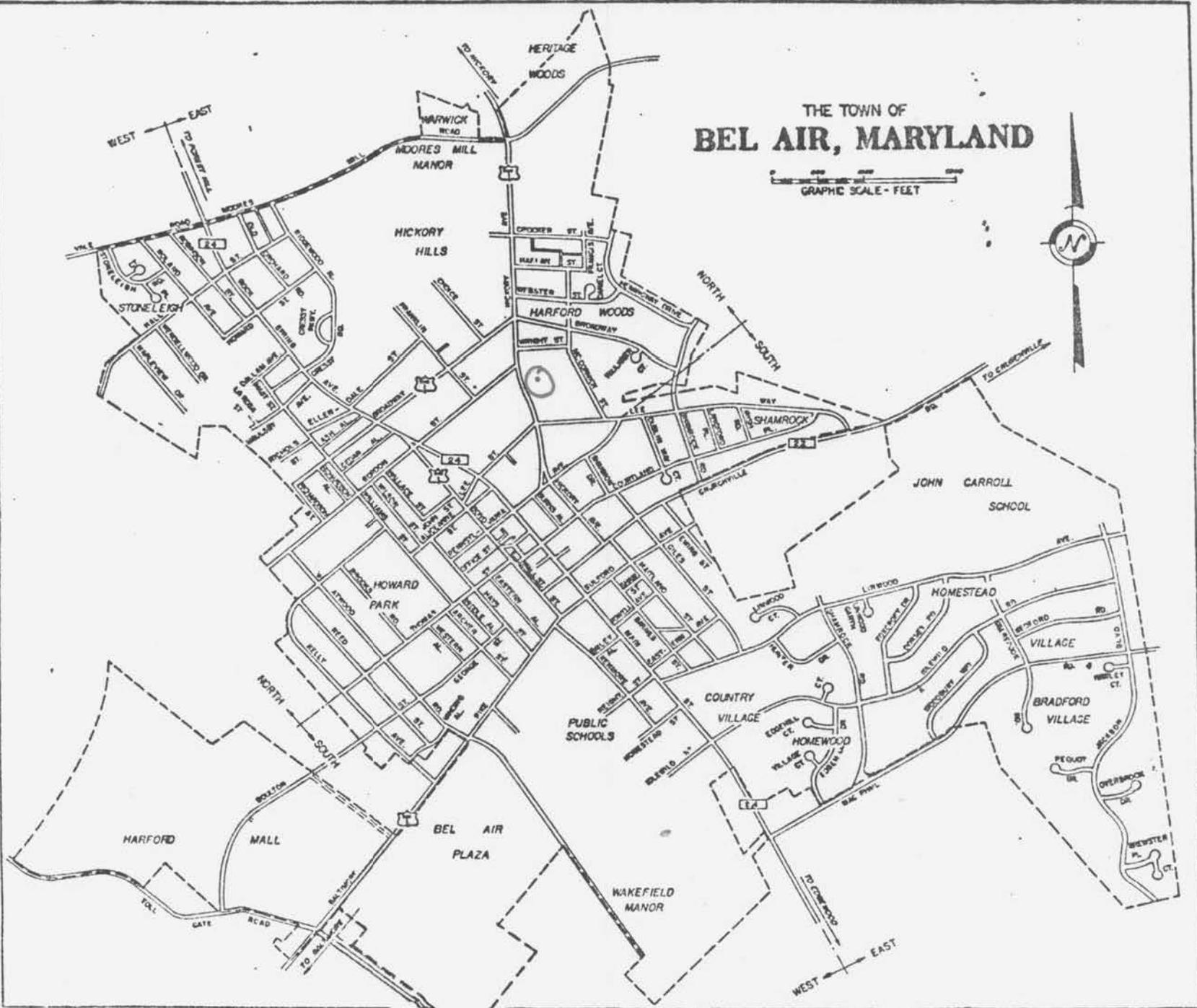
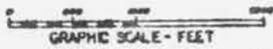
TITLE:  
ST. MARGARET'S CHAPEL AND RECTORY

164/27                    1 May 1919  
J. Alphonse Frederick, Baltimore County  
to  
James Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of  
Baltimore  
3 a.+ the land on which the chapel and  
Pastor's residence stand

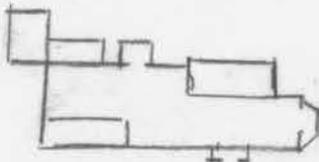
100/465                   7 January 1901  
Thomas Robinson, trustee  
to  
Alphonse Frederick

42/495                    7 April 1881  
Edwin H. Webster  
to  
Laura C. Raitt  
by 20/342 1868 Webster registered a  
deed by which he promised to convey  
the property to Cassandra Raitt (she  
had paid him \$1000) or her heirs. She  
died and left it to Laura Raitt (1870,  
will 8/154). This deed confirms 20/342.

# THE TOWN OF BEL AIR, MARYLAND



HA-1415 St. Margaret's Rectory  
Hickory Ave.  
Bel Air



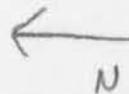
TRACED BY  
M. LAREW

SANBORN MAP 1930

ST. MARGARET'S RECTORY  
NICKORY AVE  
BEL AIR

HA-1415

SCALE 1" = 50'





HA-1915 St. Margaret's Rectory, 141 N. Heckroy, Bellair  
entrance, w. elev  
M. Larew, 1979



N.A. 1415 St. Margaret's Rectory, 141 N. Hickory, Bel Air  
see also  
M. Lareus, 1979



HA-1415 St Margant's Rectory, 141 N. Hickory, Bel Air  
n + w side  
M. Larew, 1979