

HA-1420

c. 1903

Lee House  
9 S. Hickory  
Bel Air  
private

This is one of the latest houses built in the Victorian manner with a front gable. It is an excellent example of the style except for the fact that the entrance is in the middle bay rather than to one side as was more common. This does not mean a center hall plan. The door opens straight into the parlor. The house was beautifully enlarged in the late 1960's with the addition of a two bay, one and a half story brick wing to the north and a three story two bay brick section to the back of the ell.

The law firm of Connor and Carr has its offices on the first floor, and there is an apartment on the second floor.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Lee House

AND/OR COMMON

Connor & Carr Offices

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

9 S. Hickory

1st

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

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 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

Mrs. William Connor c/o Connor & Carr

Telephone #: 838-5210

STREET & NUMBER

9 S. Hickory Avenue

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 #: 956

Folio #: 930

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

**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 three bay, two and a half story shiplap house with brick additions is at 9 S. Hickory in the Town of Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. It is an excellent example of how a beloved (or useful) style lingers in the country districts. With its steep pitched slate roof, its front gable with round-headed 2/2 window, its hipped roof porch on stock turned posts, its 2/2 windows except for the long 2/4 in front in the first story, and its wooden louvered shutters, it is exactly like houses built on Broadway in the late 1870's, but this particular house was built after 1902.

Two common bond brick portions, a two bay single story wing to the south and a 3 story, 2 bay ell in back (east) were added by Mr. Sparr after he bought the property in 1969. The wing has a steeply pitched gable roof with a set-back in the north ends to allow light into second story windows in the main block. Windows in the wing are 6/6 and there is an entrance in the north bay of the front (west) elevation. The ell in back is more elaborate. Because of the slope of the lot, this section rises three stories and has a terrace level office. Major windows are 6/6, but there are a pair of french windows on the south elevation in the first story as well as a pair of blind archs, one on the first and one on the second story in the east bay of the south elevation. The one in the first floor accommodates an air conditioner.

Besides the door in the south wing, there are three entrances. One is in the north bay of the terrace office. The major entrance is in the center bay of the first floor front (west) elevation. It has the common 2 pane transom over a single pane over three panel door. The entrance to the second story apartment is in the west bay of the back building. A wooden staircase rises parallel to the wall plane to a stoop. The door is four panes over panel. This entrance was added after 1969 because what had been the parlor was used by Mr. Sparr as an office. This door became the entrance to the residential portion of the building. A door to the east of the staircase gave on to the back part of the house. This door is no longer used.

The interior of the main block has reeded door and window surrounds with carved corner blocks in a 'door-bell' design.

The west chamber on the first floor, once the parlor, is now the reception room for the law firm of Connor and Carr. To the east is a hall opening into the brick wing on the south, a small office on the north, and the bathroom on the east. The small north office opens into another office which was once the hall leading to the staircase. The basement stairs (under the main staircase) are in the west end of this room. A door to the east leads to Commissioner Carr's office in the brick ell.

The staircase to the second story is now enclosed. It has the slender balusters and slender turned newel of the Colonial Revival. They date to the post-1969 renovations.

The second story apartment has three rooms, a bath, and a storage room in the main block, and a bedroom and bath in the brick ell.

One large finished room occupies the attic level.

**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 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      prob. 1903  
                           Between 1902 & 1906                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT

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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

This house is an attractive example both of modern additions to an older house, and of adaptive re-use. The brick wings were added by builder Leroy Sparr when he remodeled the house to be his residence c. 1969. Today the ground floor is the office of the law firm of Connor & Carr. Partner William Carr is a Bel Air Town Commissioner and chairman of the Harford County Committee of the Maryland Historical Trust. Mr. Connor died in 1979.

The house was probably built around 1903 by Charles Robie Grafton. He bought a 130' x 168' lot from Charles L. Dallam in 1902 for \$400 (104/20). He sold 80' x 165' to Joseph Deckman in 1903 (109/275) suggesting he was raising money to build the house. He was single at the time. When he sold this lot to Laura V. Hollis in 1906, he was married. She paid \$1650 for it (117/246). Did he build this small house and live in it until he married? Or did he build it for his bride? At any rate the house was there when he sold the lot to Hollis. She sold the property to Charles O. Lee in 1914 for \$2600 (145/227). She was living in Baltimore City at the time.

Charles and Rosa Lee spent the rest of their lives in the house. Mr. Lee died in 1958, and Mrs. Lee died in 1969. Her executor, Bertram B. Coale, sold it to Leroy Sparr in 1969 for \$17,000 (825/136). Sparr sold it to William K. Connor and his wife Nancy in 1974 (956/930), and it became the offices of Connor and Carr. It has an apartment upstairs and a "terrace level" office in the rear is rented to an insurance agent.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

This property occupies parcel #912 in the Town of Bel Air, 80' x 165'

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

26 September 1979

ORGANIZATION

Town of Bel Air

DATE

838-8700

STREET &amp; 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-1420
	NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:
	UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Easting/Northing
	U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:
	PRESENT FORMAL NAME: Connor & Carr Law Offices
COUNTY: Harford	ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME: Lee House
TOWN: Bel Air	
LOCATION: 9 S. Hickory	PRESENT USE: offices, apt. ORIGINAL USE: private residence
COMMON NAME: Connor & Carr Office	ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:
FUNCTIONAL TYPE:	BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:
OWNER: Mrs. William Connor c/o Connor & Carr ADDRESS: 9 S. Hickory Bel Air	PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE: Excellent( ) Good(X) Fair( ) Poor( )
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Yes( ) No( ) Restricted(X)	THEME: Architecture STYLE: Vernacular
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local(X) State( ) National( )	DATE BUILT: Between 1902 & 1906 prob. 1903
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: front 3. Wall Covering: Clapboard( ) Board and Batten( ) Wood Shingle( ) Shiplap(X) Novelty( ) Stucco( ) Sheet Metal( ) Aluminum( ) Asphalt Shingle( ) Brick Veneer(X) Stone Veneer( ) Bonding Pattern: additions common bond 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(X) Towers( ) Cupolas( ) Dormers( ) Chimneys( ) Sheds( ) Ells(X) Wings(X) 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 plus 2</u> Entrance Location: <u>S. Hickory</u> Approximate Dimensions: <u>40' x 50'</u>	
THREAT TO STRUCTURE: No Threat(X) Zoning( ) Roads( ) Development( ) Deterioration( ) Alteration( ) Other:	LOCAL ATTITUDES: Positive( ) Negative( ) Mixed( ) Other:

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

front gable: round headed 2/2; front 2/2 ex 2/4 in 1st  
 rest of main block 2/2  
 N side entrance 1st bay (w) of back bldg  
 hip roof porch on stock turned posts  
 shuttered (entrance 2 pane transom over 1 pane over 3 pane  
 door)  
 interior woodwork doorbell corner blocks, over reeded surround  
 in front room/ room behind plain  
 "terrace level" room in basement  
 orig 3 rooms & bath upstairs plus cubby hole one more  
 over brick sect & bath

RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Sparr added the brick additions  
 Did Robie Grafton build it?  
 Late for this style

REFERENCES:

MAP: (Indicate North in Circle)



W. Penna  
 S. Hickory

✓ X  
 S. Hickory

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

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

Marilynn Larew

RECORDED BY:  
 Town of Bel Air

ORGANIZATION:  
 26 September 1979

DATE RECORDED:

TITLE: 9 S. Hickory

956/930                    19 August 1974  
H. Leroy Sparr & Mary Helen  
                              to  
William K. Connor & Nancy  
79.73' x 164.81'

825/136                    27 August 1969  
Bertram B. Coale, executor of Rosa  
Coale Lee  
                              to  
H. Leroy Sparr & Mary Helen  
\$17,000  
Rosa Coale Lee died 14 January 1969  
Charles O. Lee died 11 September 1958

255/317                    8 April 1939  
Hazel C. Esley  
                              to  
Charles O. Lee & Rosa

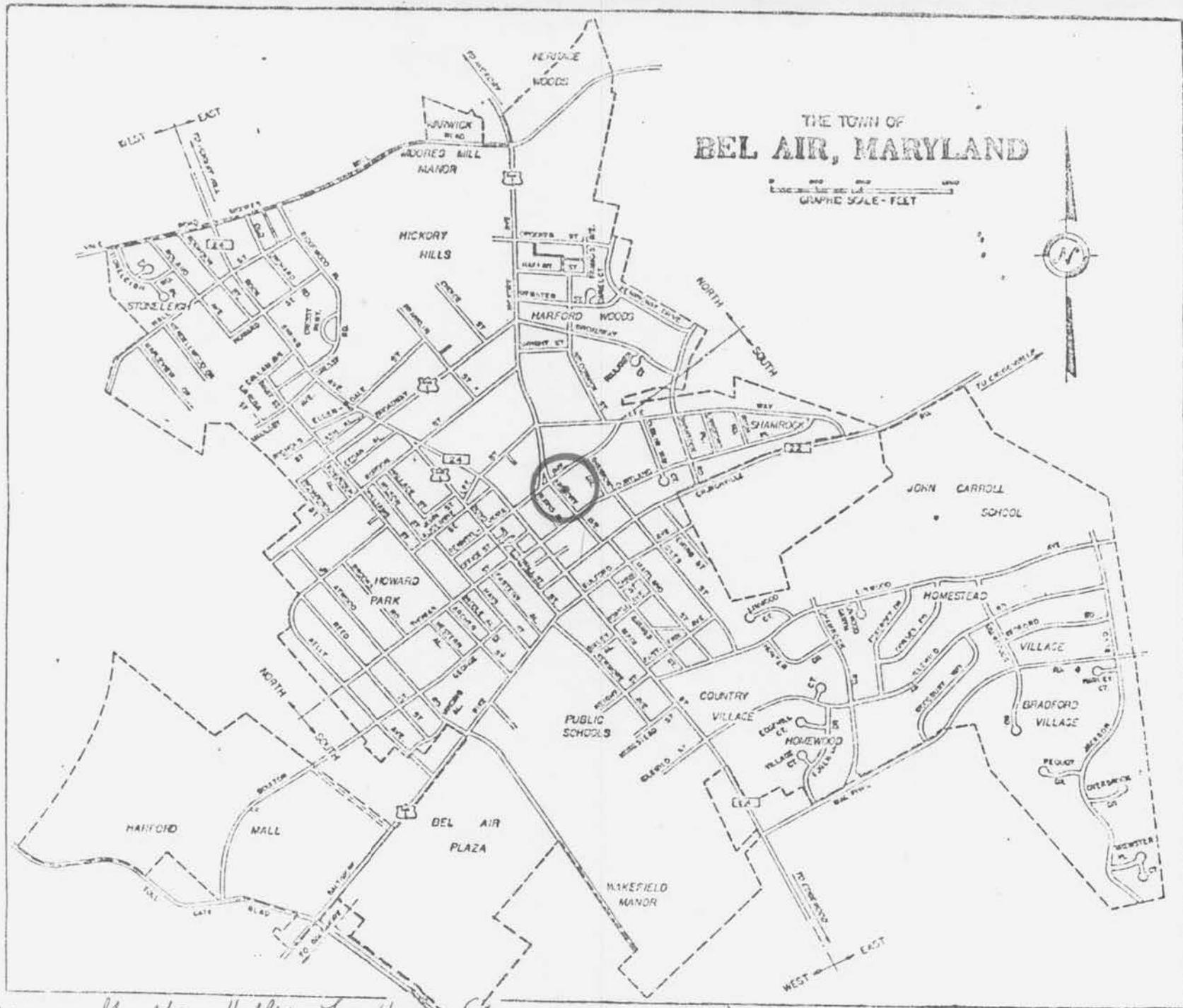
255/316                    8 April 1939  
Charles O. Lee & Rosa  
                              to  
Hazel C. Esley

145/227                    18 June 1914  
Laura V. Hollis & James of Baltimore City  
                              to  
Charles O. Lee  
\$2600  
50' x 165'

117/246                    1 March 1906  
Charles Robie Grafton & Anna Mary  
                              to  
Laura V. Hollis  
\$1650  
50' x 165'

104/20

14 January 1902  
Charles L. Dallam & Isabel  
to  
Charles Robie Grafton  
\$400  
168' x 130' (Dallam Pl.)



HA-1420

Grafton-Halls-Lee House (Connor & Carr office)

9 S. Hickory



HA-1420

Lee Hauer (Connors & Cairns Officer)

7.5 Lukong, Belau

n. + w. elev

M. Lauer, 1979



HA-1420

Lee House (Cannon & Carrs Office)

J. L. Hecking

looking over

M. Larew, 1979



H A - 1420

Lee House (Congr. & Carr Office)

9 S. Hickory, Belair

e. brick addition, see also

M. Lauer, 1979