

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes
no

Property Name: First Presbyterian Manse Inventory Number: HA-1438
 Address: North Main Street and Broadway City: Bel Air Zip Code: 21014
 County: Harford USGS Topographic Map: Bel Air
 Owner: First Presbyterian Church of Bel Air Is the property being evaluated a district? yes
 Tax Parcel Number: 479 Tax Map Number: 301 Tax Account ID Number: 008592
 Project: MD-924 Bel Air Streetscape Project Agency: SHA
 Site visit by MHT staff: no yes Name: _____ Date: _____
 Is the property located within a historic district? yes no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: _____
 NR-listed district yes Eligible district yes Name of District: _____
 Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource yes no Non-contributing but eligible in another context yes

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district) Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible yes no

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:
 MIHP Form

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*
 The single-dwelling located on the corner of Main Street and Broadway in the town of Bel Air is the manse for the Bel Air Presbyterian Church (HA-1437). The house sits on a level grassy lot and is set back from Main Street on the edge of the commercial district. It is surrounded by mature trees and the house is fronted by foundation plantings. The church is located to the north of the manse. The two-and-a-half-story house, as originally constructed, was an excellent illustration of the Shingle style with a rough hewn stone first story and a wood-frame second story clad in staggered square-butt wood shingles. Subsequent alterations have resulted in the cladding of the second story in vinyl siding, thus compromising the building's pure representation of the Shingle style. The slate-clad hipped is pierced by hipped dormers on each elevation and two interior chimneys – one located on the rear (west) elevation and one on the north elevation. The front dormer is the most prominent with triple 1/1 windows and a wide modillion cornice. The north elevation has two dormers separated by the chimney and the dormer on the rear elevation is pushed slightly off center by the other chimney. Fenestration on the front elevation consists of three 1/1 windows with stone lintels and paired 1/1 windows. The windows on the second story of the house have square-edged wooden surrounds capped with a thin ogee-molded lintel caps. The north elevation has a second-story rectangular oriel window with a hipped roof and a wide ogee cornice. It contains paired 1/1 widows and is visually supported by wooden brackets. Typical of the Shingle style, a wide ogee-molded wood cornice with a thin frieze encircles the house.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility not recommended <input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
MHT Comments	
<u>Jim J. [Signature]</u> Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>3/2/2005</u> Date
<u>[Signature]</u> Reviewer, NR Program	<u>8/2/05</u> Date

The recessed main entrance, located on the north bay of the front elevation, is marked by a one-story porch with a flat roof. The recessed entry is defined by Romanesque stone arches (wide semi-circular arches) on the north and east elevations. The classically-styled porch has slender Tuscan columns and turned balusters. A one-story enclosed porch is located on the rear elevation. Originally only partially enclosed, the rear porch contains a molded ogee cornice. In 1979, the enclosed portion of the portion was topped by a roof balustrade with square balusters.

Platted in 1780, the town of Bel Air originally consisted of forty-two lots, laid out on either side of Main Street. Despite its inland location, Bel Air was selected as the county seat in 1882. The Bel Air Courthouse, constructed in 1888, became the anchor of South Main Street, spurring development along the thoroughfare. Gradually, Main Street became concentrated with commercial buildings and served as the center of commerce for the area. Although cross street names along Main Street have changed over time, the original alignment of Main Street and its intersections remain identical to the late-eighteenth- and early-nineteenth-century town plans. Main Street continues to function as the commercial district of Bel Air.

The single-family house was built as the manse for the Bel Air Presbyterian Church between 1902 and 1903. As originally designed, the manse was typical of Shingle-style architecture with its eclectic mix of Classical Revival, Queen Anne, and Richardson Romanesque elements. While its free form and original shingle cladding borrow from the Queen Anne style and its stone first story and semi-circular-arched entry is a derivative of the Richardson Romanesque style, the hipped roof and classical-inspired porch are elements of the Classical Revival. The form, reminiscent of the American Foursquare, is vernacular.

When the Presbyterian congregation was established in 1852, the first manse was the Van Bibber House at 303 South Main Street (HA-224). At the turn of the twentieth century, the church decided to build a new parsonage adjacent to the church. Although the design of the house may suggest the use of an architect, church records or local newspapers do not list the name of an architect or the name of the builder. Because of its typical architectural details, the house was probably from a pattern book or mail order catalogue, a popular source for residential architecture during the time. Records do show the cost of the house at \$7,226. Together the 1881 Presbyterian church and the manse stand as the oldest, extant religious complex in the town of Bel Air. The manse is still owned by the church.

The manse and the church create a religious context and represent the religious development of the town of Bel Air. The Presbyterian manse does not individually represent this specific religious context and is not eligible under Criterion A. The property is not associated with any person or group of persons of outstanding importance to the community, state, or nation. Therefore, the Presbyterian Manse is not eligible under Criterion B. The Presbyterian Manse in Bel Air does embody distinctive characteristics of the late nineteenth century or of Shingle style single dwellings in Harford County. However, because the integrity of design, materials, and workmanship have been compromised by the removal of the staggered square-butt wood shingles on the second story and the application of vinyl siding, the building is individually disqualified for eligibility under Criterion C. The Presbyterian Manse was not evaluated under Criterion D. Therefore, it has been determined that the Presbyterian Manse at North Main Street and Broadway is not individually eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, B, or C. However, the Bel Air Presbyterian church and manse are recommended eligible as a property containing two contributing resources under Criterion A.

Prepared by: EHT Traceries

Date Prepared: 3/15/2005

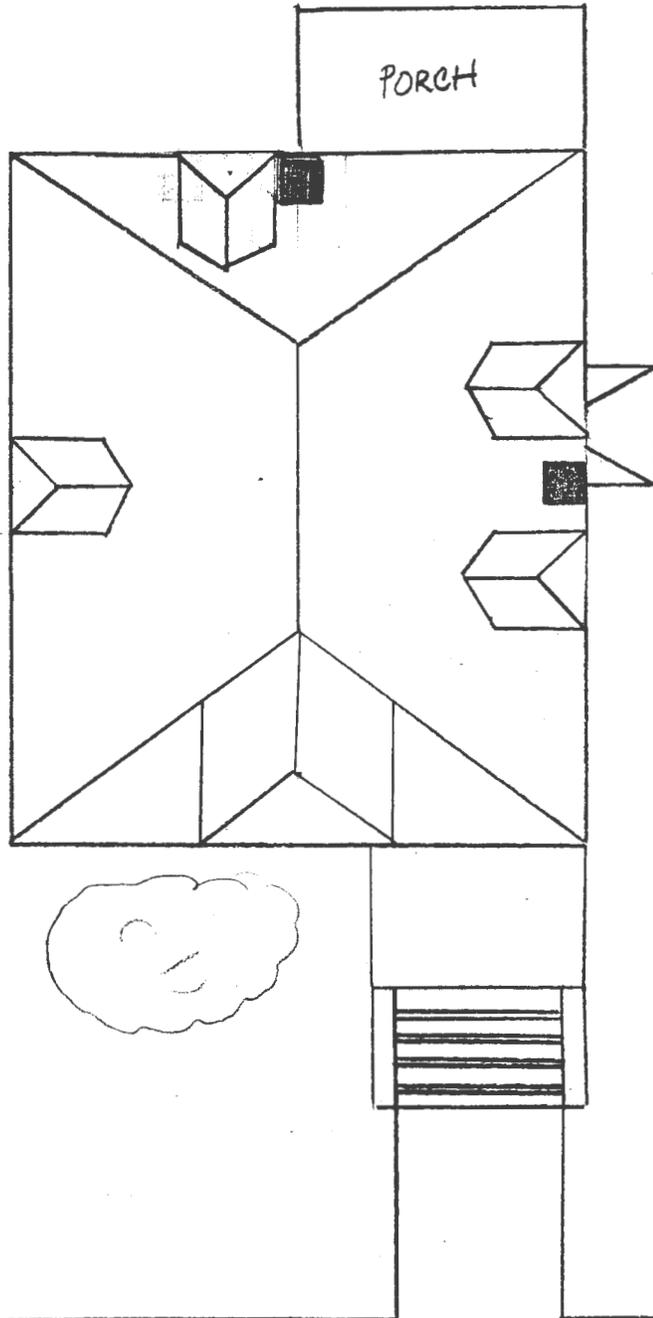
RESOURCE SKETCH MAP

HA-1438

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN MANSE

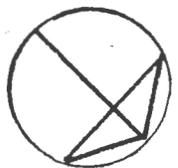
BEL AIR

HARFORD COUNTY

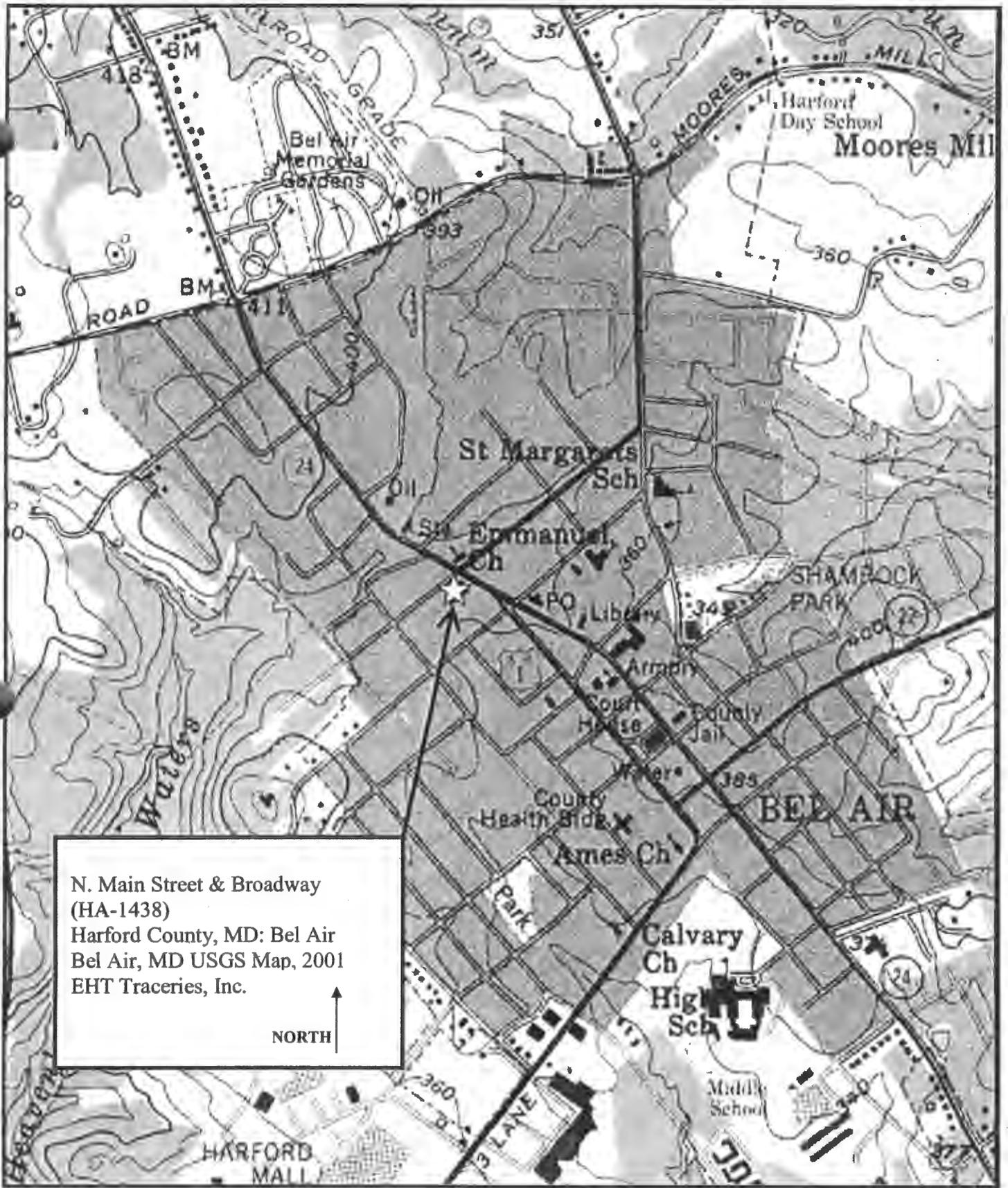


BROADWAY

N. MAIN ST



NOT DRAWN TO SCALE





HA-1438

First Presbyterian Manse

North Main Street and Broadway

Harford County, MD

EHT Traceries, Inc

3/2005

MD SHPO

Facade, looking southwest

Photo 1 of 4



HA-1438

First Presbyterian Manse

North Main Street and Broadway

Harford County, MD

EHT Traverries, Inc.

3/20/5

MD SHPS

Southeast corner

Photo 2 of 4



HA-1438

First Presbyterian Manse

North Main Street and Broadway

Harford County, MD

EHT traceries, Inc

3/2005

MD SHPD

East and north elevations

Photo 3 of 4



HA-1438

First Presbyterian Manse

North Main Street and Broadway

Harford County, MD

EHT Traceries, Inc

3/20/95

MD SHPO

Facade and north elevation

Photos 4 of 4

HA-1438

1902-1903

First Presbyterian Manse
Main & Broadway
Bel Air
private

The Presbyterian Manse is Bel Air's only pre-World War I example of the shingle style and it remains the best. The house is firmly shaped with a good stone first story. The arches at the northeast corner are obscured by the post-1904 porch and shrubbery. They originally gave a firm and stylish entry to the recessed porch which leads to the front door. The rippled shingles of the second story provide a sharp textural contrast to the stone work below and serve to emphasize the squareness of the building and offer a horizontal movement to a facade that might otherwise be too rigidly vertical. The hip-roofed central dormer offers a very definite stop to the upward movement of the facade. On the north elevation a rectangular bay window floats between the first and second stories. It lights the stair landing.

This is the second manse to house Bel Air's Presbyterian ministers; the first was the Van Bibber House, 303 S. Main Street.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

First Presbyterian Manse

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

N. Main & 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER Manse

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Trustees of the First Presbyterian Church Telephone #: 838-5778

STREET & NUMBER

N. Main & E. Broadway

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

Bel Air

___ VICINITY OF

Maryland 21014

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #: 42

Folio #: 59

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Bel Air

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

AA-1432

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<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	porch	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This elegant shingle and stone two and a half story house is at the southwest corner of North Main and East Broadway in the Town of Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. An intriguing vernacular combination of Shingle Style and Classical Revival, the house has a first story of coursed stone and a second story of rippled wood shingle. Much of the detailing and the shape of the structure are tightly Classical rather than rambling in the Shingle Style. The hipped roof is broken by a hipped roof dormer on each face, the one in the rear (west) pushed slightly off center by the tall slender chimney stack. The front (east) dormer is a major decorative feature with a modillioned cornice and triple l/l double hung sash windows. The other dormers have single l/l windows. A narrow molded cornice with a shallow frieze below ties the house tightly together. A wooden water table separates first and second stories. The windows are all l/l, paired in the second story front (east), in flat wooden surrounds with a thin molding on top. The first story windows are shuttered, with flat stone arches, three of them occupying the south bay in front. The south elevation also shows a group of three. In the center of the north elevation between the first and second stories is a rectangular hipped roof shingle bay window with cornice and molded strip along the bottom. It has a pair of windows in wide surround and is supported by solid curved wooden brackets.

A hipped roof porch occupies the north bay of the front (east) elevation. A cornice like the one under the roof line tops slender doric columns, and a balustrade of slender vase-shaped turned balusters runs back to the stone work on the north and south sides. The porch had a semi-circular portion on the north side in 1904. Behind this porch is another porch recessed and leading to the entrance. A pair of stone arches define this porch on the east and north sides. The entrance has a single pane narrow transom and narrow molded wood strips surrounding a door with three round headed glass panes over two panels and a large X panel.

The rear of the house (west) shows a single story porch (south) and enclosed portion (north) with a deck railing of square posts with round flat finials and plain balusters. The back door is in the middle.

The interior of the Manse was unavailable.

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		

SPECIFIC DATES 1902-03 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This elegant house is unique in Bel Air. Built in 1902-03 to be the Manse of the First Presbyterian Church, it has the skin of a Shingle Style house with a coursed stone first story and a rippled wood shingle second story. The arched openings behind the front porch leading to the deeply recessed front door also speak of Shingle Style, but the shape of the house, its hipped roof and dormers are elements of the Vernacular Classical Revival houses building or to be built in Town after World War I.

When the Presbyterian congregation was formed in 1852, the first Manse was the Van Bibber House (HA-224). Like many other Protestant congregations, the Bel Air Presbyterians decided to sell their Manse and give their Minister a housing allowance. Accordingly, in 1883 the trustees of the Church sold the Manse to their Minister, Ebenezer D. Finney, and gave him instead an allowance of \$100 a year in its place. Reverend Finney was Pastor of the church for a quarter of a century. At the turn of the century, the Rev. S. S. Greenwell was pastor, and the church trustees decided to build a Manse next to the church. While the house is complex enough to suggest the design of an architect, the church records do not supply even the name of the contractor. Neither do the newspapers of the day, usually a fertile source of building information. The cost is recorded, however: \$7,226.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Centennial Book of the First Presbyterian Church
Bel Air Centennial Book
1904, 1930 Sanborn Maps

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property occupies the north part of parcel #478 in the Town of Bel Air, 220' on Main Street

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

30 October 1979

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Town of Bel Air

838-8700

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

39 Hickory Avenue

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Bel Air, Maryland 21014

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-1438
	NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:
	UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Easting/Northing
	U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:
	PRESENT FORMAL NAME: Presbyterian Manse
COUNTY: Harford	ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME: Same
TOWN: Bel Air	
LOCATION: N. Main & E. Broadway Bel Air, Maryland 21014	PRESENT USE: Manse
	ORIGINAL USE: Same
	ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:
COMMON NAME: Presbyterian Manse	BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:
FUNCTIONAL TYPE: Private Residence	PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:
OWNER: Trustees of the First ADDRESS: Presbyterian Ch. N. Main & E. Broadway	Excellent(X) Good() Fair() Poor()
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Yes() No() Restricted(X)	THEME: Architecture
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local(X) State() National()	STYLE: Vernacular
GENERAL DESCRIPTION:	DATE BUILT: 1902-03
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(X)Concrete()Concrete Block() C. Iron() D. Steel() E. Other: 1st 2nd 3. Wall Covering: Clapboard()Board and Batten()Wood Shingle(X)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(X)Chimneys(X)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: 2½ Number of Bays: 2 Entrance Location: N. Main Approximate Dimensions: 27' x 45'	
THREAT TO STRUCTURE: No Threat(X)Zoning()Roads() Development()Deterioration() Alteration()Other:	LOCAL ATTITUDES: Positive()Negative() Mixed() Other:

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Front hipped dormer with modallioned cornice, 3 1/1 windows
 N. side corbell-capped chimney flanked by hipped dormers
 w single 1/1 window
 windows 1/1, paired in front/front stone arches
 front porch N. bay E. elev. carved on doric posts w
 vase turned balusters
 N elev-bay window w hip roof, 2 1/1 windows on
 brackets 2nd story

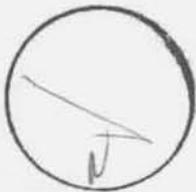
RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Presbyterian Manse #2
 #1 = Van Bibber House

REFERENCES:

MAP: (Indicate North in Circle)



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:
 22 October 1979
 DATE RECORDED:



Traced from
1930 Sanborn Map

First Presbyterian Manse
N. Main + E. Broadway
Bil. Co., Md.

HA-1438

Scale = 1" = 50'





HA- 1438

Presbyterian Manse, Main + Broadway, Bel Air
detail of e. elev.

M. Larew, 1979



HA-1438

Presbyterian Manse, N. Main + E. Broadway
Belair

w + s elev

M. Larew, 1979



H.A. 1438

Presbyterian Manse, Main & Broadway, Del. Ave
w. elev.

Dr. Larew, 1979



HA-1438

Presbyterian Manse, Main & Broadway, Bel Air
n. elev.

M. Larew, 1979



WA-1438 Presbyterian Manse, Main & Broadway, Bel Air
N. Md
M. Larew, 1979



UA-1438

Presbyterian Manse, W. Main + E. 2nd Sts.,

Bel Air

s + e elev

M. Larew, 1979