

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ___
no

Property Name: McCommas Bros. Lumber Inventory Number: HA-1444
 Address: 421 North Main Street City: Bel Air Zip Code: 21014
 County: Harford USGS Topographic Map: Bel Air
 Owner: Getz, Alan et al Is the property being evaluated a district? ___ yes
 Tax Parcel Number: 271 Tax Map Number: 301 Tax Account ID Number: 009505
 Project: MD-924 Bel Air Streetscape Project Agency: SHA
 Site visit by MHT staff: no ___ yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Is the property is 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)*
 Built in 1907, the two story building at 421 North Main Street is situated near the corner of North Main Street and Ellendale Road, facing southwest. Resting on a stone foundation, the exterior of the three-bay building is clad in aluminum at the façade, and in asbestos siding on the remaining three elevations. The building has a gable roof covered in corrugated metal that is hidden by a parapet, a feature characteristic of wood-frame commercial buildings built during the last third of the nineteenth century and early twentieth century. Centrally located at the façade is a recessed single-leaf panel and glass door that serves as the main entrance to the building. To either side of the doors are multi-paned fixed openings, resting on brick knee walls. A narrow ogee-molded cornice separates the first and second stories at the façade. Three diamond-shaped windows decorate the façade above the store windows and the recessed doorway. Another entrance to the building is located at the south elevation. This secondary entry holds double-leaf metal doors with a concrete stoop. The fenestration of the building is asymmetrical. Some original openings still exist, including paired 6/6 sash and multi-paned casement windows, and louvered openings. Many of the openings retain their original wood sills and surrounds. Windows at the rear elevation have been boarded. At the rear of the building is a two-story addition. A small, one-story addition is located at the north elevation near the façade and serves as a vestibule for the current business.

Platted in 1780, the town of Bel Air originally consisted of forty-two lots, laid out on either side of Main Street. Despite its

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

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 building at 421 North Main Street is located in between Ellendale Road and where the Bel Air railroad station used to be located. Originally a part of the McComas Brothers Lumber and Building Supplies Company, the building is now occupied by Pioneer Cleaners.

This property has no known association with the events and trends that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history, thus disqualifying it for eligibility under Criterion A. The property is not associated with any persons or group of person or group of persons of outstanding importance to the community, state, or nation. Therefore, the building at 421 North Main Street is not eligible under Criterion B. This property neither embodies distinctive characteristics of the early-twentieth century nor does it represent the work of a master or possess high artistic value. Additionally, many of the original materials have been lost to modern alterations and rear additions. It is thus disqualified for eligibility under Criterion C. The building at 421 North Main Street was not evaluated under Criterion D. Therefore, it has been determined that the commercial building at 421 North Main Street is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, B, or C.

Prepared by: EHT Tracerics, Inc.Date Prepared: 3/15/2005

RESOURCE SKETCH MAP

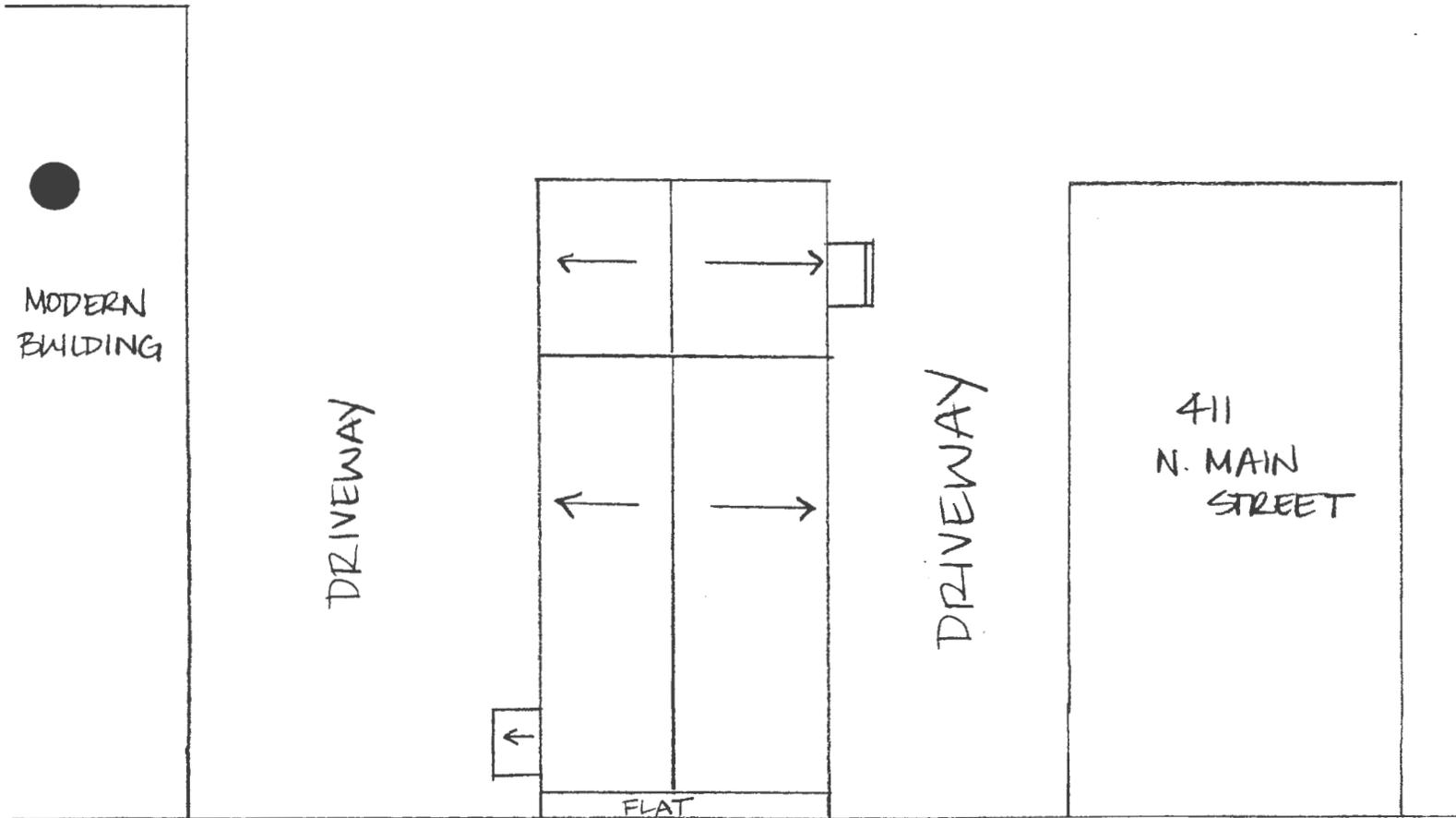
HA-1444

McCOMAS BROS LUMBER

BEL AIR

HARFORD COUNTY

PARKING LOT



MODERN BUILDING

DRIVEWAY

DRIVEWAY

411
N. MAIN
STREET

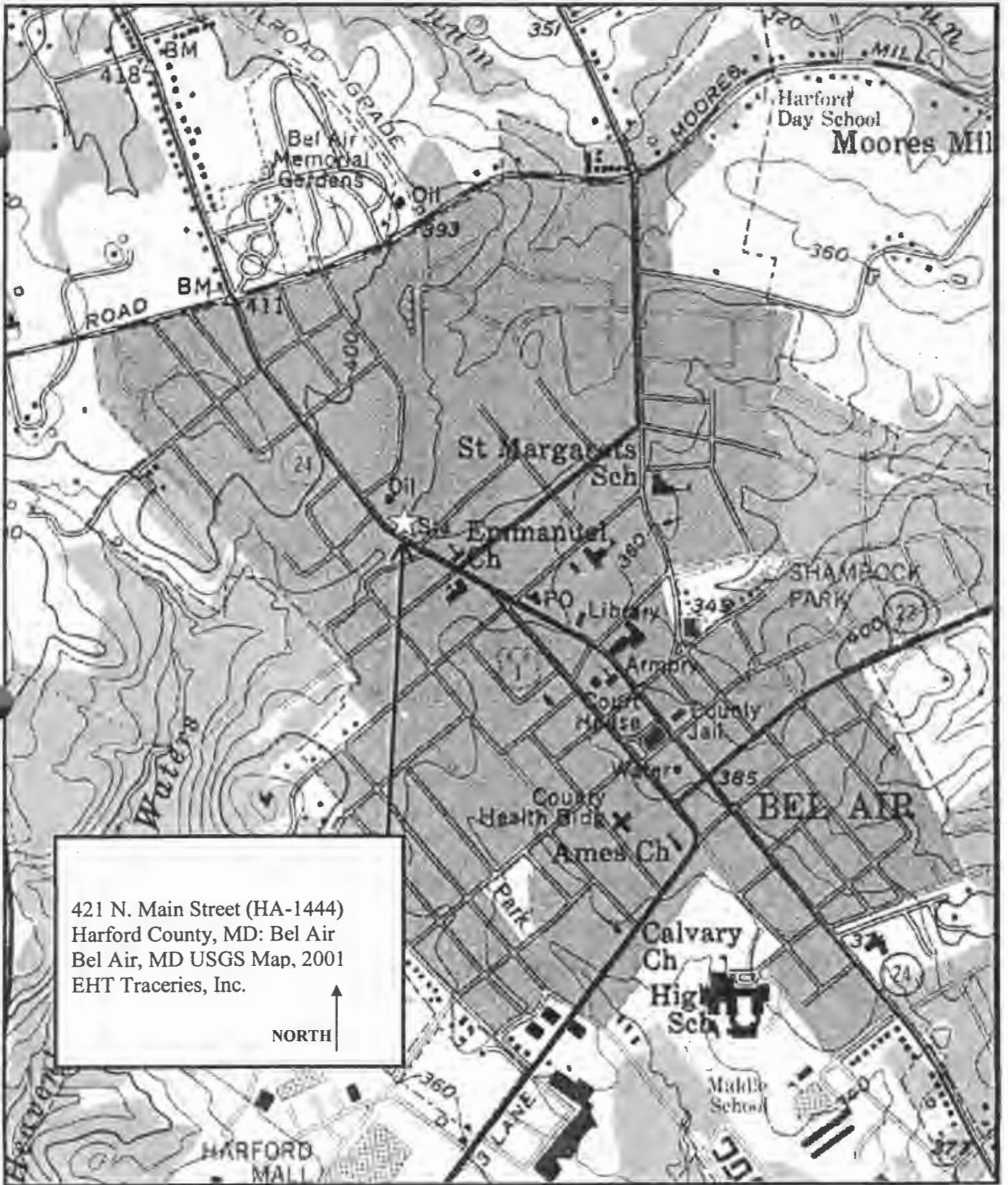
FLAT

SIDEWALK

N. MAIN STREET



NOT TO SCALE



421 N. Main Street (HA-1444)
Harford County, MD: Bel Air
Bel Air, MD USGS Map, 2001
EHT Tracerics, Inc.





HA-1444
McComas Bros. Lumber
421 North Main Street
Harford County, MD
EHT Traceries, Inc.
31205
MD STPS
Northwest corner
Photo 1 of 4



HA-1444

McComas Bros. Lumber

421 North Main Street

Harford County, MD

EHT Traveries, Inc.

3/20/5

MD SHPO

Northeast corner

Photo 2 of 4



HA-1444

McComas Bros. Lumber

421 North Main Street

Harford County, MD

EHT Traceries, Inc

3/2005

MD SHPO

Detail of northeast corner

Photo 3 of 4



HA-1444

McComas Bros. Lumber

421 North Main Street

Harford County, MD

EHT Traceries, Inc

3/20/85

MD ATP 3

Southeast corner

Photo 4 of 4

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HA-1443 (#411)
1314434711
HA-1444 (#414)
1314443711

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
McComas Bros. Lumber & Building Supplies
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
411-414 N. Main Street 1st
CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Bel Air
STATE VICINITY OF COUNTY
Maryland 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 | 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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER |

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mrs. William McComas Telephone #: 838-4072
STREET & NUMBER
538 Rock Spring
CITY, TOWN STATE, zip code
Bel Air VICINITY OF Maryland 21014

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Harford County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
Main Street
CITY, TOWN STATE
Bel Air Maryland

Liber #: 365
Folio #: 571

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

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

NA-1172
F.R. 1/4/64

7 DESCRIPTION

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
| <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 | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Bel Air Auto Parts. This two story building with four octagonal portholes in the second story of its facade is at 411 N. Main Street in the Town of Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. The three bay by four bay building has aluminum siding simulating board and batten on the front and shiplap on the other three sides. Its broad gable roof is masked in front by a false front topped by a broad classical molded cornice. Another cornice strip is below that. The portholes have been added since 1965, as has the small shingle pent roof over the two shop windows and the double glass and aluminum doors. Other windows are 6/6. An outside stove chimney rises in the middle of the rear (east) elevation.

Pioneer Cleaners. This building is just north of the one described above. It is also 2 storied with a steeper sloped gable roof with a stepped false front sided in aluminum. Three diamond-shaped windows decorate the facade above the 12 pane show windows and the recessed doorway. The rear bay of this building is slightly taller than the rest of the building.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

HR-1443
HR-1444

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1904, 1930 Sanborn Map
The Aegis, February 25, 1965

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property occupies parcel #271 in the Town of Bel Air, 300' on Ellendale.

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

3 December 1979

ORGANIZATION

Town of Bel Air

DATE

838-8700

STREET & NUMBER

39 Hickory Avenue

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

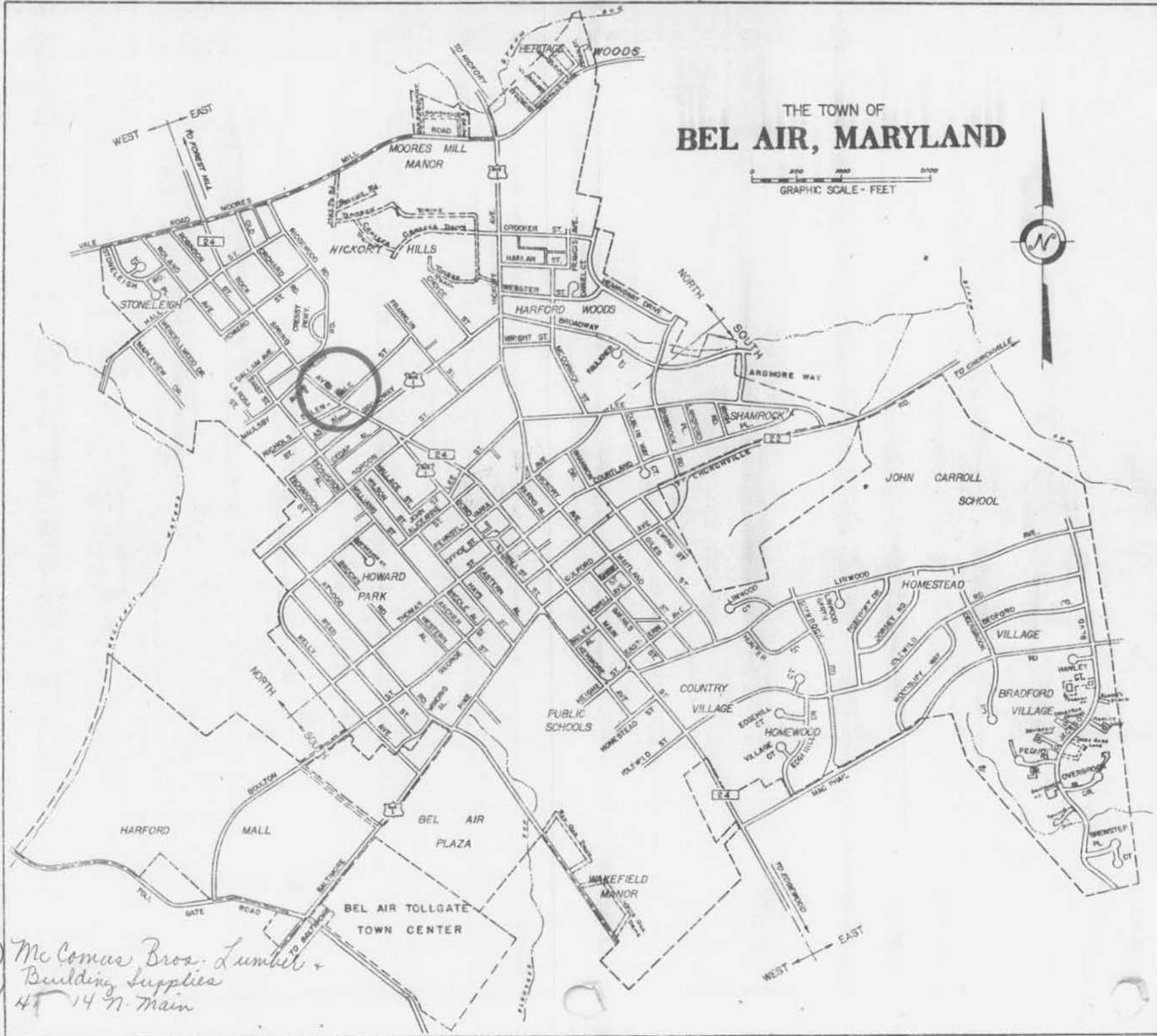
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

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

THE TOWN OF BEL AIR, MARYLAND

0 500 1000 2000
GRAPHIC SCALE - FEET



HA-1443(411) Mc Comas Bros. Lumber &
HA-1444(244) Building Supplies
41 14 N. Main



14 A-1443 Mc Comac Bros Lumber #1, 411 N. Main Bel Air
n.w. elev
M. Larew, 1979



HA-1444

The Comas Tree Lumber #2, 414 N. Main Bel Air
NW W. C.

M. Larew, 1979



HA-1443

The Comae Bus Lumber, 411 N. Main, Belton
S + e elev

M. Larew, 1979