

HA-1499

1913

O'Neill House
14 Williams
Bel Air
Private

This colonial revival house has the only pre-World War I inglenook in Town. A cosy area around the massive stone fireplace in the living room has wooden cottage benches against the wall. The leaded diamond cottage windows and the knotty-pine wall and ceiling paneling add to the warm and cosy feeling.

The house has been occupied for some years by the Mann House, a half-way house for alcoholics.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
O'Neill House
AND/OR COMMON
Mann House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
14 Williams St. 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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER Halfway House

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
O'Neill Estate c/o James F. O'Neill Telephone #: 838-3300
STREET & NUMBER
26 Office Street
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 #: 142
Folio #: 90
STREET & NUMBER
Main Street
CITY, TOWN
Bel Air STATE
Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

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

NA-1499

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	slightly	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two and a half story clapboard house is at 14 Williams Street in the Town of Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. The house has a hipped slate roof and is four bays wide. Major windows in the main block are 1/1 double-hung sash flanked by wooden louvered shutters. Exceptions are two pairs of cottage casements lighting the entrance hall and the living room, and the three pane windows in the hexagonal bay window that lights the stair landing (north elevation). The windows in the sunporch (south and west elevations), in the south hipped roofed, slate-sided dormer, in the enclosed hipped roof porch on the north elevation, and in the pantry back building are 6/6. Slender windows on the rear (west) elevation are 2/2. These light the dining room on the first story and the whole effect is of a three story rectangular bay window. The dining room portion has a window seat in it. A massive stone outside chimney rises in the south elevation just west of the screened porch. There is a dining room fireplace; the chimney stack serving it does not appear. A metal fire escape, required by fire regulations, is along the rear (west) elevation.

The front porch has a hip roof and is carried on doric columns. The southern half is screened. The main entrance is in the second north bay on the east elevation.

Because of the use of the house, only the first story was available for inspection. The ground floor has four main rooms: entrance hall and living room (east) and kitchen and dining room (west). Sunporch, bathroom, pantry, and back porch cluster around the sides and back of the house. All the rooms except the kitchen have knotty pine walls and ceiling. The open-string, dog-leg staircase in the northwest corner of the hall has its dog-leg downstairs, perpendicular to the north wall; the major portion of the run goes up parallel to the west wall. A hexagonal bay lights the landing. Plain curved brackets decorate the steps; there are square balusters and square, panelled newels.

The living room is notable for a cozy effect caused by the knotty pine, the cottage windows, and the inglenook (south) with its massive granite fireplace. The dining room is a lighter room because of the bay window. This room also has a fireplace but the mantel is wooden, painted white. Round colonettes on blocks end in a square panelled portion which supports the shelf. The frieze is molded.

The kitchen has been remodeled along lines required by the Health Department.

All the woodwork has a simple molding.

The second story has six bedrooms, two baths, and a sunporch. The third story has a sitting room, bedroom, bath and storage room.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

HA-1499

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 1913

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This classically proportioned house on Williams Street has the only inglenook built in Bel Air before World War I. The massive granite fireplace in the south wall of the living room has wooden benches along the sides of the alcove. The house is also notable for the knotty pine walls and ceilings of the downstairs rooms. The warm and cozy effect of the inglenook and paneling is heightened by the cottage windows in the large hall.

The house was built in 1913 on land Howard S. O'Neill bought from J. Alexis Shriver (142/90). Mrs. O'Neill's Estate still owns it. For the last eight years it has been the home of the Mann House, a very successful half-way house for male alcoholics.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property occupies parcel #2033 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

1 December 1979

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Town of Bel Air

838-8700

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

39 Hickory Avenue

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Bel Air

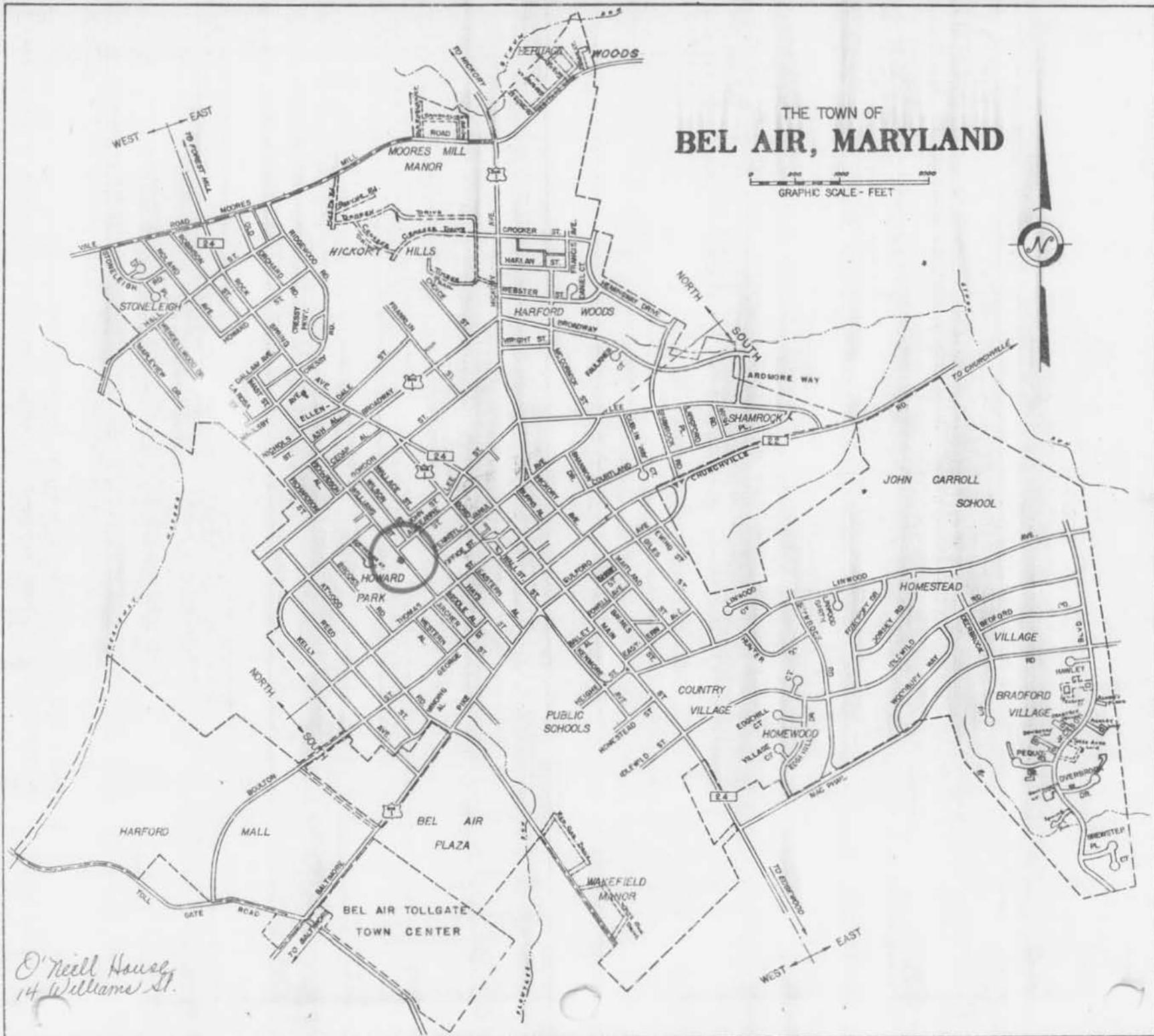
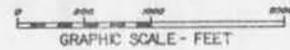
Maryland

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

THE TOWN OF BEL AIR, MARYLAND



HA-1499

O'Neill House
14 Williams St.



HA-1499

O'Neill House, 14 Williams, Bel Air
e elev
M Larew, 1979



HA-1499

O'Neill House, 14 Williams, Bel Air
w+s elev
M. Larew, 1979



HA-1499

O'Neill House, 14 Williams, Bel Air
n elev looking e

M. Laro, 1979