

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Earle and Mosena Burkins House #2 (preferred)

and/or common Schaller House

2. Location

street & number 727 Roland Avenue not for publication

city, town Bel Air vicinity of congressional district 1st

state county

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	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"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Thomas P. and Mary Lisa Schaller

street & number 727 Roland Avenue telephone no.: 301-836-8668

city, town Bel Air state and zip code Maryland

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse liber 1522

street & number Main Street folio 680

city, town Bel Air state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. HA-1761

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

8. Significance

Survey No. HA-1761

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 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

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or
Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G
Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Earle and Mosena Burkins House
727 Roland Avenue
#

Item 7, Description (continuation sheet)

This 1 1/2-story vinyl-clad, 1941 house is rectangular in plan with a projecting one-story front gable in the rightmost bay. It is the mirror image of its neighbor, 731 Roland Avenue and is executed in the "minimal traditional"¹ style. Minimal traditional houses were built between 1935 and 1950 and can be seen in great number in the large tract-housing developments of the period. These predominantly one-story houses characteristically feature low roof pitches with close roof eaves and rake, front-facing gables, and a large chimney.

727 Roland Avenue is approached via a straight concrete walkway leading from the street to the door, located in the leftmost bay of the facade (the southwest elevation). A brick wall of approximately four feet in height encloses a small porch area in front of the facade of the house.

The house is three bays wide, and three bays deep and is horizontal in character. It features a side-gable roof covered in composition roll. A brick chimney pierces the ridge on the front slope above the juncture of the projecting gable and the main side-gable roof.

The wooden door features oval, raised panels and is probably not original to the house. The door is surrounded by a classical architrave which does appear original. There is a second entrance on the northwest elevation which is covered by a projecting vinyl-clad hood.

The windows have 6/6 sash. There is a grouping of three windows immediately to the right of the entrance, and a single window in the gable. A small louver is above the single window in the gable. The windows are framed in aluminum.

Behind the house at the end of the driveway is a one-story, vinyl-clad garage.

¹ Virginia and Lee McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses, New York: Alfred P. Knopf, 1986, p. 478.

Earle and Mosenia Burkins House
727 Roland Avenue
#

Item 8, Significance (continuation sheet)

This "minimal traditional" dwelling was built in 1941 by Earle and Mosenia Burkins,¹ who obtained title to the land in two stages--in 1937 (246/214) and in 1941 (269/121). In 1944, the Burkins sold the property to John and Aileen Clark (282/134). The Clarks sold the house to Myrtle Livesay in 1945 (291/224). Five years later in 1950, the Coopers, Edith and Edward, purchased the property (1381/807). The property remained in the Cooper family until it was sold to Thomas P. and Mary Lisa Schaller in 1988 (1522/680).

This house was built in a section of town subdivided in 1885 as "Dallam's Second Addition." Dallam's Second Addition included the two square blocks north of Mary Dallam's home, Tulip Hill (located at the corner of Rock Spring Road and Howard Street). The new subdivision was bounded by Vale Road on the north and Howard Street on the south. Several Late Victorian homes were built in this area between 1885 and 1912.

Little to no building activity occurred in this subdivision during the third and fourth decades of the 20th century. In 1930, the town of Bel Air incorporated the addition into its limits.

Changes were made to Dallam's Second Addition beginning in the 1930s. The northern segment of Dallam's Second Addition, the area bounded by Hall Street on the south, Vale Road on the north, Roland Street on the west, and Rock Spring Avenue on the east was platted and renamed the "Rock Spring Addition." The 1931 plat for this addition shows only two houses standing in the area, a large house at the northeast corner of Roland and Hall (703 Roland Avenue) and its barn (no longer extant), located behind the house on Robinson Street. The alley between Rock Spring and Roland Avenues in the southern segment of Dallam's Second Addition corresponds to Robinson Street in the Rock Spring Addition. Lots in the renamed Rock Spring Addition were 25 feet across. The intent of the subdivider in creating such narrow lots is unclear.

In September 1940, the plat of one-half of the Rock Spring Addition, the block between Hall Street, Vale Road, Roland Avenue and Robinson Street, was further revised. The 1940 plat for this area reveals larger lots and a new lot numbering system, perhaps indicating that the 25-foot lots did not sell well. The basic 1940 configuration still exists today: the average lots on the northeast side of Roland Avenue are 60 feet across, while those on Robinson Street are 55.63 feet across. Lots 15 and 16 of Roland Avenue are 92.86 feet across. Robinson Street, like Roland Avenue, contains houses built in the 1940s and 1950s, with additional homes constructed as recently as the 1980s.

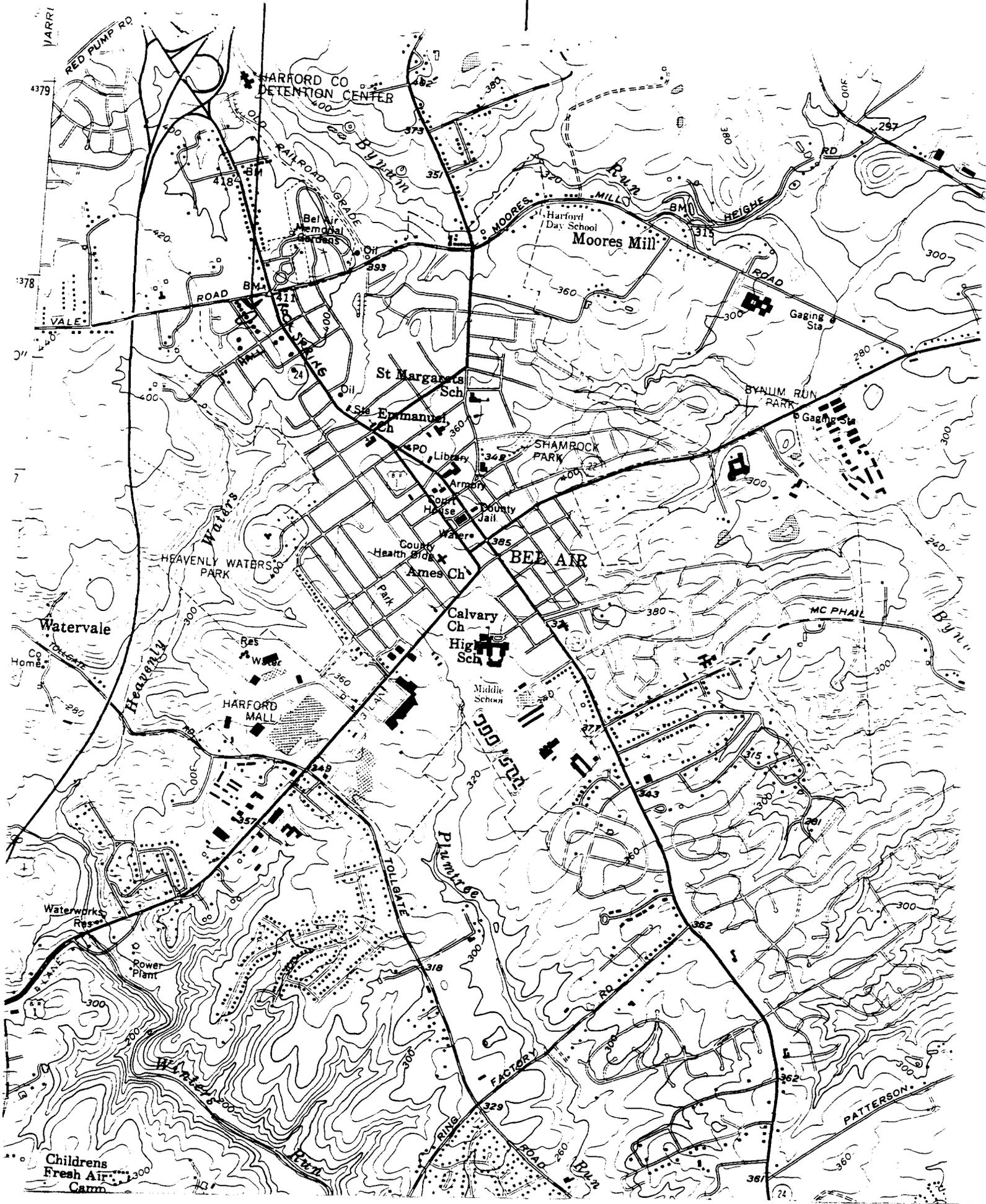
¹ The date of construction comes from the Harford County Tax Assessors Office. The Burkins purchased the land at 723, 727, and 731 Roland Avenue in June 1937 (246/214) and presumably built the houses thereon in the years which followed.

Earle and Mosenia Burkins House
727 Roland Avenue
#

Item 8, Significance (continuation sheet 2)

The majority of houses are in the "minimal traditional," and Cape Cod styles. At this time, these houses have no apparent architectural significance.

HA-1761
Bel Air, MD Quad





Earle and Mosera Burkins #2

HA-1761

727 Roland Avenue

Julie Mueller

5/1/90

Facing northeast



Earle and Moseira Burkins House #121

LP-1731

727 Roland Avenue

Quie Mueller

5/1/90

Facing east