

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Earle and Mosena Burkins House #3 (preferred)

and/or common Metzger House

2. Location

street & number 731 Roland Avenue not for publication

city, town Bel Air vicinity of congressional district 1st

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 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 William and Genevieve Metzger

street & number 731 Roland Avenue telephone no.: 301-836-8668

city, town Bel Air state and zip code Maryland 21014

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse liber 1076

street & number Main Street folio 560

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. NA-1763

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

8. Significance

Survey No. NA-1762-

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 Mosen Burkins House
731 Roland Avenue
#

Item 7, Description (continuation sheet)

This 1954 house is the mirror image of 727 Roland Avenue. It is rectangular in plan with a one-story projecting front gable. It is executed in the "minimal traditional" style.¹ 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.

The house at 731 Roland is reached via a paved walkway lined with bushes. The walkway leads from the street to a slightly raised front open porch and the door, located in the rightmost bay of the facade (the southwest elevation). The house is clad in vinyl weatherboarding. It is three bays wide and three bays deep. The side-gable roof is covered in composition roll shingling. An interior, brick chimney pierces the roof on the front slope above the juncture of the front gable and the main side-gable roof.

The front door is wooden with three diamond panes at the top. The door is surrounded by a classical architrave. There is a second entrance on the southeast elevation which is covered by a projecting vinyl-clad hood.

The windows are double-hung and have 6/6 sash. A grouping of three windows is contained in the centermost bay, and a single, double-hung window is featured in the bay. A small louver is above the single window in the gable. The windows are framed in aluminum and are shuttered on the principal elevation.

To the right of the house at the end of the drive is a one-story garage with wood and glass garage door.

¹ Virginia and Lee McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses, New York: Alfred P. Knopf, 1986, p. 479.

Earle and Mosena Burkins House
731 Roland Avenue

Item 8, Significance (continuation sheet)

This "minimal traditional" house was built in 1954 by Earle and Mosena Burkins.¹ This house, although built years later, is the mirror image of 727 Roland Avenue built in 1941. The Burkinse sold the house to Norman and Mary Johnson in 1958 (515/544). In 1978, William and Genevieve Metzger purchased the property (1076/560) and still own it today.

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.

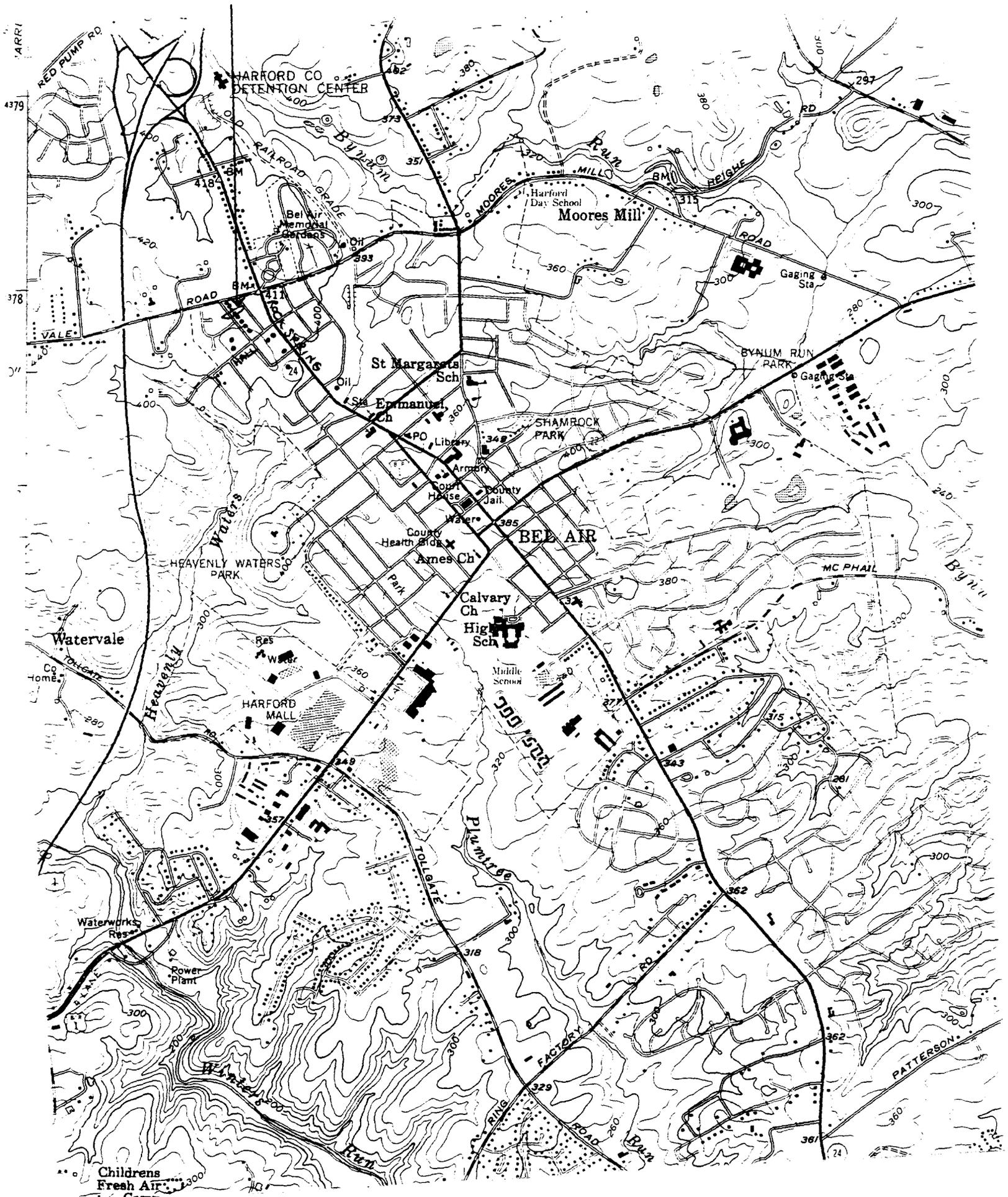
Changes were made to Dallam's Second Addition beginning in the 1930s. The northern segment of Dallam's Second Addition, the area bounded by Hall Street on the south, Vale Road on the north, Roland Street on the west, and Rock Spring Avenue on the east was platted and renamed the "Rock Spring Addition." 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.

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

¹ The date of construction comes from the Harford County Tax Assessors Office. The Burkins bought the land at 723, 727, 731, 739, and 743 Roland Avenue in 1937 (246/214) and presumably built the houses thereon in the years which followed..

HA-1762
Bel Air, MD Quad





Carte and Moseira Burk's House #3

WA 1762

731 Roland Avenue

Julie Mueller

5/1/90

Facing northeast



Earle and Moseira Burkins House # 31

1762

731 Roland Avenue

Quile Mueller

5/1/90

Facing northeast