HA-1786
1925
Bel Air Private

The Finney House, 310 Williams St., faces east on a large tree-shaded lot in Richardson's Addition. Built in 1925, it is a 2 story, 3 bay vernacular house with a slate roof and front dormer.

Building began west of Main St. in Richardson's Addition in the 1880s; it and the Hayes Addition begun at the same time are the oldest extensions of the town. It is a mix of styles from Victorian to brick rancher, and a mix of classes as well, with working-man's housing along the north and south edges and middle class homes through the center. This house, in the vernacular style so popular in Bel Air before and after the First World War, was built for William O. Finney, work beginning the week of 24 April 1925. It is similar to the German House down the street at 151 Williams St. [HA-1785] which was built in either 1926 or 1927, and the original Foster House around the corner at 48 W. Gordon [HA-1789], built in 1931, as well as several others in Ingleside and Kenmore, all built about the same time.
FRAMEWORK FOR IDENTIFYING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

3. Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period:

11. Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930

12. Modern Period 1930 - present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme:

2. Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category: Architecture

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function and Use: Private Residence

Known Design Source: unknown
1. Name  (indicate preferred name)

historic  Finney House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number  310 Williams St.  n/a  not for publication

city, town  Bel Air  vicinity of  congressional district  3rd

state  MD  county  Harford

3. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Present Use</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>district</td>
<td>public</td>
<td>occupied</td>
<td>agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>building(s)</td>
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<td>unoccupied</td>
<td>commercial</td>
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<tr>
<td>structure</td>
<td>both</td>
<td>work in progress</td>
<td>educational</td>
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<td>site</td>
<td>Public Acquisition</td>
<td>accessible</td>
<td>entertainment</td>
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<tr>
<td>object</td>
<td>in process</td>
<td>yes: restricted</td>
<td>government</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>being considered</td>
<td>yes: unrestricted</td>
<td>industrial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>not applicable</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>military</td>
</tr>
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</table>

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

name  Mr. and Mrs. Donald C. Finney

street & number  310 Williams St.  telephone no.: 838-4583

city, town  Bel Air  state and zip code  MD 21014

5. Location of Legal Description

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.</th>
<th>Harford County Courthouse</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>liber</td>
<td>folio</td>
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<tr>
<td>926</td>
<td>1052</td>
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6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

<table>
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<tr>
<th>federal</th>
<th>state</th>
<th>county</th>
<th>local</th>
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</thead>
</table>

repository for survey records

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

Contributing resource count: one

The Finney House, 310 Williams St., faces east on a large tree-shaded lot in Richardson's Addition. Built in 1925, it is a 2 story, 3 bay house in the vernacular style popular in the neighborhood and the town both before and after World War I.

The house's gable slate roof is broken in front by 2 hipped dormers which each have a pair of 9 pane casement windows. Its 1/1 double-hung sash windows, paired in the middle bay of the second story front and first story rear (west) are flanked by black plastic shutters, as is the door in the north bay of the facade. The hip-roofed front porch is carried on 4 simple round posts linked by a square post balustrade.

An enclosed shed porch ia across 2 bays in the north part of the west elevation and a side entrance in the north elevation has a shed stoop. A center chimney with a black cap in the ridge of the roof completes the exterior of this simple but elegant house.

The interior was not accessible.
### 8. Significance

#### Survey No. HA-1786

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Areas of Significance</th>
<th>Check and justify below</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>prehistoric</td>
<td>archeology-prehistoric</td>
<td>community planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>1400-1499</td>
<td>archeology-historic</td>
<td>conservation</td>
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<tr>
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<td>transportation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Specific dates | 1925 | Builder/Architect | unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ___A___B___C___D

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.

Building began west of Main St. in Richardson's Addition in the 1880s; it and the Hayes Addition, begun at the same time, are the oldest extensions of the town. It is a mix of styles from Victorian to brick rancher, and a mix of classes as well, with working-man's housing along the north and south edges and middle class homes through the center. This house, in the vernacular style so popular in Bel Air before and after the First World War, was built for William O. Finney, work beginning the week of 24 April 1925. It is similar to the German House down the street at 151 Williams St. [HA-1785] which was built in either 1926 or 1927, and the original Foster House around the corner at 48 W. Gordon [HA-1789], built in 1931, as well as several others in Ingleside and Kemore, all built about the same time.

In 1973, Mr. Finney sold the property to his son Donald after the death of his wife Evelyn Pyle Finney. He moved around the corner to West Broadway, where he lived in 106 and then 108 [HA-1799, HA-1800], houses his wife had inherited from her parents, Herman and Bertha Pyle. The house is still occupied by Donald Finney.
9. Major Bibliographical References

Harford County Land Records.
The Aegis, 24 April 1925.
Site visit, June 1993.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name Bel Air Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

Verbal boundary description and justification

Parcel 454 in the Town of Bel Air, 22,500 sq. ft.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code
state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dr. Marilynn M. Larew
organization date 6-21-93
street & number RD 1 Box 219 New Park Rd. telephone 717-993-3557
city or town New Park state PA 17352

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438
926/1052  18 May 1973  
William O. Finney, widower  
to  
Donald C. Finney & Dora C., wife  
Lots 32-37, block E, Richardson's Addition  
Title splits  
Title to Lots 32-35  

181/300 straw deeds to put Evelyn on, suggesting marriage and  
house built subsequently  

181/299  15 March 1923  
to and from Bessie L. Renwick  
Lots 32-35  

178/47  13 April 1922  
Joanna L. Sherman and George T., husband  
to  
William Finney  
$365 for lots 34 and 35  

164/169  9 June 1919  
Joanna L. Sherman and George T., husband  
to  
William C. Finney  
$400 for lots 32 and 33  

147/373  24 May 1915  
Henrietta Rouse et al  
to  
George T. Sherman and Joanna L., wife  
$640 for lots 32-35 in block E, Richardson's Addition  

Title to lots 36 and 37:  

343/245  7 June 1950  
Herman B. Pyle and Bertha C., wife  
to  
William O. Finney and Evelyn Pyle Finney, wife to  
William and daughter to Herman and Bertha  
Lots 36 and 37 in block E of Richardson's Addition
198/185 21 April 1926
David J. Wilson
to
Herman B. Pyle and Bertha
$400 for lots 36 and 37

147/362 24 May 1915
Henrietta G. Rouse, et al
to
David J. Wilson
lots 36 and 37
the subdivision date: 15 May 1915
The Rouses and Mary Richardson sub-divided Richardson's Addition.
HA-1786
Finney House
Bel Air, Harford Co.
Bel Air Quadrangle
310 WILLIAMS ST.
BEL AIR
310 WILLIAMS ST.
BEL AIR