

HA-1800  
1936  
Bel Air  
Private

The Herman Pyle House, 108 W. Broadway, faces south in a block of working-man's houses of the 1920s and 1930s. Built in Richardson's Addition in 1936-1937, it is a small 1 story, 3 bay, clapboard, front-gable cottage. The house is better preserved and a trifle more elegant than the rest and has apparently changed little, at least on the exterior, since it was built.

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 small working-man's cottage was built by baker Herman Pyle, in 1936 or 1937, when he gave up his bakery on North Main Street. It is an example of the move away from the 2 story front gable house toward single level working-man's houses in Bel Air.

HA-1800  
Herman Pyle House  
Bel Air, Harford Co.

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

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. HR-1000

Magi No.

DOE   yes   no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic    Herman Pyle House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 108 W. Broadway n/a not for publication

city, town Bel Air    vicinity of    congressional district 3rd

state MD county Harford

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture <u>  </u> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial <u>  </u> park
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment <u>  </u> religious
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>  </u> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government <u>  </u> scientific
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial <u>  </u> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<u>  </u> military <u>  </u> other:

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

name James V. Farrell

street & number 108 W. Broadway telephone no.: 836-8481

city, town Bel Air state and zip code MD 21014

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse liber 1436

street & number    folio 207

city, town Bel Air state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title   

date    federal    state    county    local   

repository for survey records   

city, town    state

## 7. Description

Survey No. AA-1800

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input 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	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		

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 Herman Pyle House, 108 W. Broadway, faces south in a block of working-man's houses of the 1920s and 1930s. Built in 1936-1937, it is a small 1 story, 3 bay, clapboard, front-gable cottage. The house is better preserved and a trifle more elegant than the rest and has apparently changed little, at least on the exterior, since it was built.

The house is a simple gable-roofed rectangle with a shed-roofed front porch carried on 4 plain square posts, an entry in the middle bay, a small, square bay in the middle of the east elevation which carries 2 windows, and a single bay shed-roofed back (north) porch carried on 2 plain square posts. The blue siding is set off by white trim in the gable ends and around all openings. The interior was not accessible. According to neighbors it has 5 rooms.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. HA-1800

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** c. 1936 **Builder/Architect** unknown

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.

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 small working-man's cottage was built by baker Herman Pyle, in 1936 or 1937, when he gave up his bakery on North Main Street. It stands in a row of similar cottages, perhaps the least altered and best preserved, an example of the move away from the 2 story front gable house toward single level working-man's houses in Bel Air.

Pyle's daughter, Evelyn Finney (Mrs. William O.), who lived around the corner at 310 Williams St. [HA-1786], inherited the house and the smaller cottage next door at 106 [HA-1799] on the death of her mother, Bertha Pyle, and it stayed in the Finney family until 1987. William O. Finney occupied it (and, earlier or later, the cottage at 106 -- neighbors' memories are not clear) on the death of his wife, when he sold the home place to his son Donald.



HA-1799  
House  
106 W. Broadway

HA-1800  
Herman Pyle House  
Bel Air, MD 21014

owner: James V. Farrell owns both on one title

1436/207            3 Sept 1987  
Donald R. Lam  
to  
James V. Farrell  
\$85,000  
lots 4, 5, 6 in block D of Richardson's Addition

1380/776            26 Feb 1987  
Donald C. Finney and William H. Finney  
to  
Donald Lam  
\$68,680

927/872            1 June 1973  
William O. Finney, widower  
to  
Donald C. Finney and William H. Finney

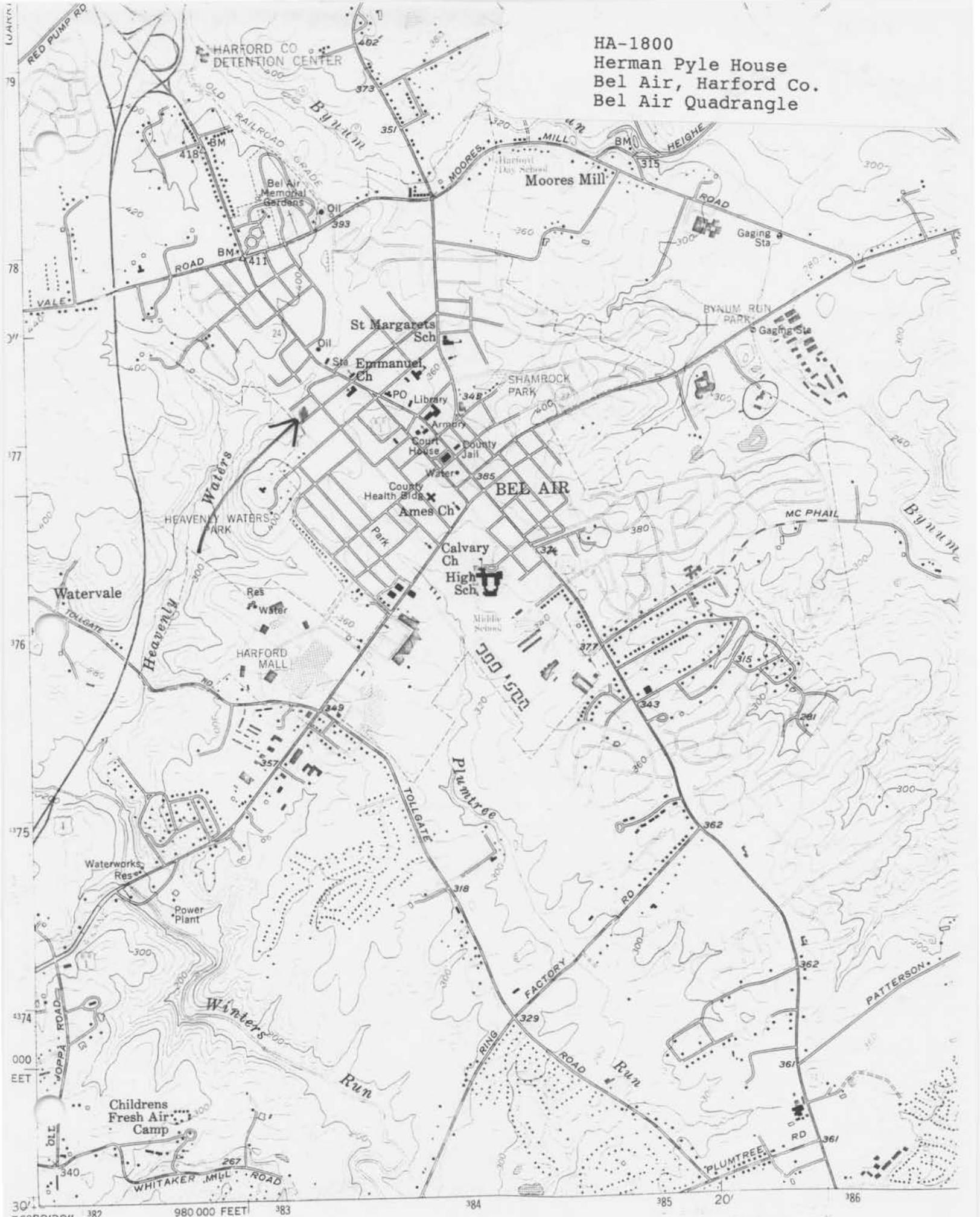
620/67            6 June 1963  
Zero, Inc.  
to  
William O. Finney and Evelyn Pyle Finney

620/65            6 June 1963  
Evelyn P. Finney  
to  
Zero, Inc.  
Evelyn inherited it from her mother, Bertha C. Pyle.  
Herman, her father, had died. These deeds are to put  
William on.

242/14            20 July 1936  
W. Wylie Hopkins, Trustee  
to  
Herman B. Pyle and Bertha C.  
Hopkins was trustee to sell real estate as the result  
of a suit (#10002, Equity Docket 2/19) between W. Wylie  
Hopkins, Administrator, et al, and Dean & Foster (N.  
Howard Dean and Joseph T. Foster). He sold it  
privately to the Pyles.

- 223/417            19 July 1932  
Howard S. O'Neill and M. Madeline and  
Farmers & Merchants National Bank of Bel Air  
to  
James O'Mara
- 213/253            15 Aug 1929  
John L. G. Lee, assignee in mortgage of Jacob Doxen and  
Elizabeth  
to  
Howard S. O'Neill  
\$50
- 174/236            the mortgage  
5 May 1921  
Jacob A. Doxen and Elizabeth  
owe  
Charles L. Vail and Cornelia H.  
\$3200
- 173/177, 178      5 May 1921  
Doxen and wife to and from V. Page Evans  
possibly to get Elizabeth on
- 153/488            6 Dec 1916  
J. Grover Davis and M. Agnes  
to  
Jacob Doxen  
assumes 3 mortgages on 3 parcels  
parcel 2 is 4, 5, 6, the mortgage is \$180 (149/459),  
29 May 1915
- 150/152            29 May 1915  
Henrietta Rouse, et al  
to  
J. Grover Davis  
Rouse et al own Richardson's Addition

HA-1800  
Herman Pyle House  
Bel Air, Harford Co.  
Bel Air Quadrangle





LA 100  
2000  
MAY 1968  
RIP 1000

500  
JULY  
S+E 7 1/2  
101

108 W. BROADWAY  
BEL AIR