

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Proctor House
other names/site number Gilbert, Cassandra, House HA-258

2. Location

street & number 54 East Gordon Street not for publication
city, town Bel Air vicinity
state Maryland code 024 county Harford code 025 zip code 21014

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

name of related multiple property listing: N/A Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

[Signature] STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER 2/1/90
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

HA-258

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/government office

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Gothic Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

walls WOOD

roof ASPHALT

other CONCRETE

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

Proctor House is a two-story detached Gothic Revival cottage with board and batten siding. The house is basically L-shaped and is set on a rectangular lot with the principal entrance in the south elevation along Gordon Street. The house was constructed between 1860 and 1873 and enlarged about 1884. The initial dwelling being the center and west wing, with the east wing, porch rear ell, and possibly the entire second story, being added circa 1884. The house is structured as a central gabled section with a two-story bay window. This section projects forward (south) between a two bay west wing and a three bay east wing. A north wing extends behind the west wing. All gables are decorated with bold jig-sawn vergeboards and jig-sawn pinnacle. Two chimneys with broad bases and corbeled caps rise through the ridge line of the roof. Rafter ends are exposed under the roof sheathing and have scrolled decorative ends. Small brackets decorate and support the roofs of the two-story bay window, and recessed and molded panels decorate the space beneath the windows. The rear porch roof is supported off the wall by chamfered diagonal braces. On the interior, each section contains essentially a single space in each story. Modern partitions subdivide the two rooms in the gabled section. The east wing also contains an entrance and stair hall. Of particular note on the interior are an arched slate mantel painted to resemble several colors of inlaid marble and the stair's turned walnut newel post.

See continuation sheet for
General Description

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetProctor House
Harford County
Maryland

HA-258

Section number 7 Page 1GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Proctor House is a two-story, board and batten Gothic Revival cottage located at 54 East Gordon Street in Bel Air, Maryland. The house was originally constructed between 1860 and 1873. The present appearance in style and form dates from a circa 1884 renovation. The line of the gable roof suggests that the projecting center wing and the west wing are the original portion. At that time, when viewed from the front, the house was L-shaped with the crossbar facing Gordon Street. The east wing, porch and possibly the second floor and two-story bay were added circa 1884. The rear ell may have been added at the same time or subsequently.

The facade is divided into three distinct sections: a two bay west wing, three bay east wing and projecting center section with a two story bay window. There is a strong overhang of the eaves showing the rafter ends and the gable ends on the front (south) and side (east and west) elevations. They are decorated with bold jig-sawn vergeboards and a strong wooden crocket at the gable peak, all of which mark the building as influenced by the work of A.J. Downing. Matching chimneys with broad bases and corbeled caps rise through the ridge line of the roof, not quite evenly spaced one on each side of the projecting central wing.

The fenestration has 2/2 long Victorian double hung sash windows set in plain surrounds. Exceptions are the two floor to ceiling windows in the parlor in the east wing and the two story bay window which has small brackets decorating and supporting the roofs of the bay. Recessed and molded panels decorate the space under the windows in the first story and the second story bay is stepped back slightly. All the exterior shutters have been removed except at the two attic windows. Strong decorative brackets appear on the porch columns. The entranceway has a rectangular transom and thin sidelights paneled halfway down.

The original front porch railings have been replaced, as have the front steps which were originally wooden and are now brick.

The rear (north) elevation is irregular and plainer than the front. Several exterior modifications have been made to the ell, probably resulting from the conversion of the house from residential to office use, after being purchased by the Harford County Board of Education in 1965. An original open porch is now enclosed with a door flanked by casement windows. A wooden ramp provides access to the rear of the building.

The interior of the house is simple. In the east wing a hall contains an open-string staircase with two turned balusters per step and a polygonal walnut newel. To the east of the hall is the parlor with two floor to ceiling windows for passage onto the porch and a painted slate mantel with a round-arched opening, plain colonettes, paneled spandrels and a cartouche in the center.

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Harford County
MarylandSection number 7 Page 2

To the west of the hall are four rooms and an enclosed side entry. The room closest to the hall has been divided in recent years by a partition to make the front third of the room with the bay into a separate office. A new-classical mantel with recent brickwork is the only significant feature of the room. The next west room has a built in cupboard north of the chimney breast. In this same room, a fireplace may have been eliminated completely. One does not exist now, although, support for a hearth can be viewed from the basement. A twisting enclosed stairway connects with the rear room in the west and extends to the unfinished attic. The cellar steps are under this staircase.

The rear ell has two doorways in the west wall. In the space beyond the southerly door a porch opens to the west. It has been enclosed and subdivided (c.1965) for entry, closet and bathroom.

The cellar extends beneath the rear ell, west bay and northern section of central gable. Walls are constructed of rubblestone except at the foot of the stairs where the wall is brick. Beneath the west bay, lath and plaster was installed to the underside of the flooring between the jousts.

The exterior entrance stairs to the cellar are slate treads on brick risers.

There are three small chambers upstairs. The area in the center wing has sloping ceilings and has been divided into two rooms, the larger having the bay window. The northerly one serves as a passage between the main stair hall and west and north wings. The door and window surrounds in the rooms to the right and left of the hall have simple architrave trim. All other woodwork is plain.

The Proctor House property is an L-shaped lot situated at the corner of Franklin and Gordon Streets. These two streets form the east and south boundaries. Behind the house is a small asphalt parking lot. Historic landscaping features are not known. Several large trees are located on the property, but there is no ornamental shrubbery.

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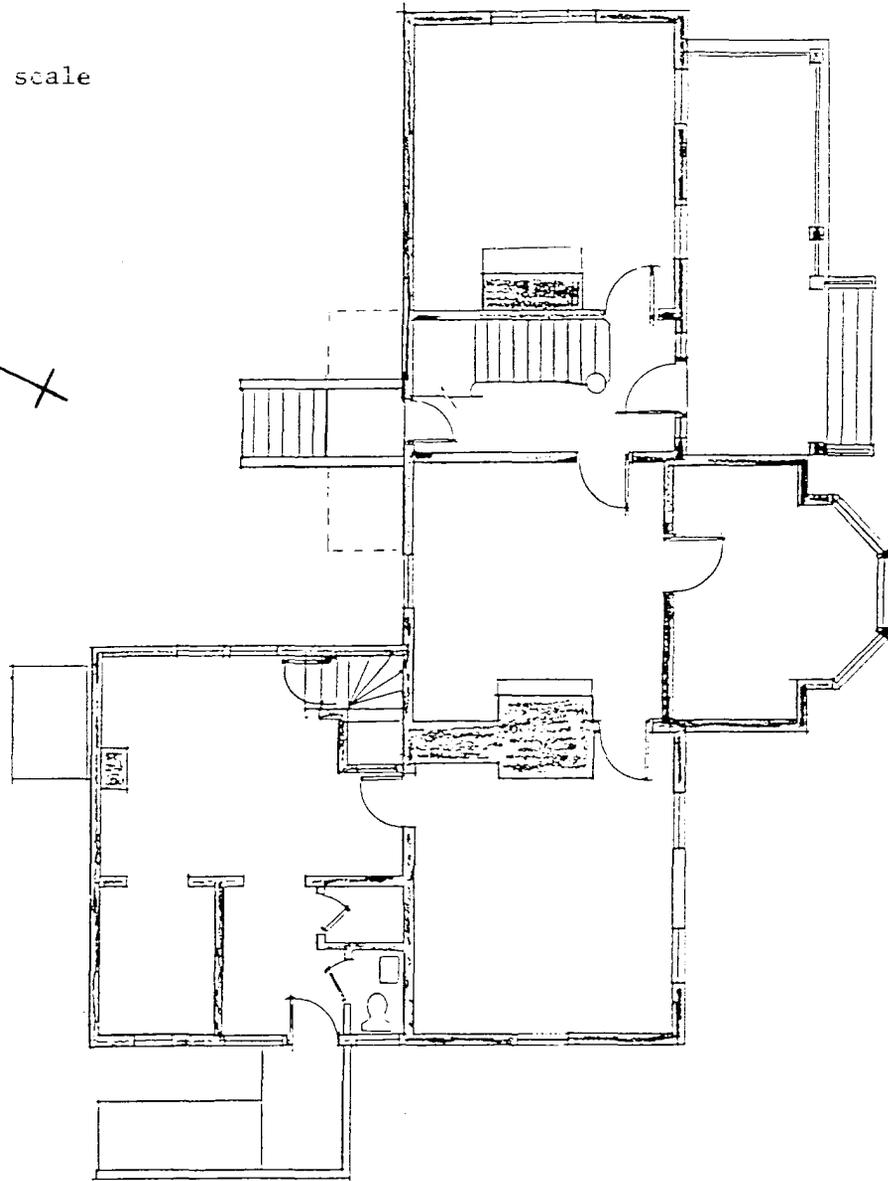
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Proctor House
Harford County
Maryland

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first floor plan
1989
not to scale



8. Statement of Significance

HA-258

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

c.1884

Significant Dates

c.1884

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The significance of Proctor House is derived from its architectural merit. This two story house is the only non-religious building of the Gothic Revival style in the town of Bel Air, the seat of Harford County. It was constructed between 1860 and 1873 with the present appearance the result of circa 1884 renovations. The vertical board and batten siding, steep pitched gable roof, jig-sawn vergeboards and crocket finials mark it as having been influenced by the architectural philosophy of Andrew Jackson Downing. Downing popularized the Gothic Revival designs of architect A.J. Davis for cottages and "villas" through a trio of books he published on landscape design and architecture. Picturesque country cottages were extremely popular nationally in the 1840's and 1850's. The style continued to influence the domestic architecture of the more rural areas well after the Civil War. In Bel Air, Proctor House is an architectural link between the numerous frame and brick classical and vernacular buildings and the surge of later Victorian residential buildings that developed in the town around the coming of the railroad in 1883.

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Proctor House
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Maryland

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
Industrial-Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1920

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture/Landscape Architecture/Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category:

Building

Historic Environment:

Urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Known Design Source:

Unknown

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Section number 8 Page 2HISTORY AND SUPPORT:

Proctor House was probably built for Cassandra Gilbert between 1860 and 1873 in the village of Bel Air in Harford County. As a county seat with no industry, Bel Air developed slowly until the mid-nineteenth century. Two events brought prosperity to the area. Harford County began to can vegetables in 1867 and the railroad arrived in 1883. Bel Air was tied to Harford County's prosperity. Harford's prime location on the Chesapeake Bay between growing metropolitan areas of Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore and Washington, combined with its fertile soil, made it a prime candidate for truck farming and commercial canning. Business growth meant population growth. In 1874 Bel Air incorporated and the town expanded eastward on two new streets, one being Gordon where Proctor House stands.

This small-town Gothic cottage is the only building of its kind in Bel Air. Harford County has a good example of a Gothic Revival house in brick with leaded casements in the 1847 Tudor Hall, the home of the famous Booth family (Edwin Thomas, and John Wilkes). This picturesque style did not become popular within the town, and Proctor House remained unique. Its vertical board and batten siding, steep pitched gable roof, ornamented vergeboards and crocket finial all mark it as having been influenced by the architectural philosophy of Andrew Jackson Downing (1815-1852), landscape gardener and architectural critic of Newburgh, New York. Downing was annoyed at the architectural trends of his time. What we today regard as exuberance in decoration, he saw as vulgar pretension and bad taste and he set out to do something about it. In a trio of very popular books, A Treatise on the Theory and Practice of Landscape Gardening, Adapted to North America (1841), Cottage Residences (first edition 1842), and The Architecture of Country Houses (first edition 1850), Downing set out to explain the proper definitions of the Useful, the Beautiful, and the True in architecture. He was not himself trained as an architect; he publicized the designs of men such as A.J. Davis, Richard Upjohn, and Gervase Wheeler. With these designs he showed Americans "The Real Meaning of Architecture" - how symmetry, variety, harmony, and most important, Truth, should come together to form a building that was Beautiful. His work probably had more to do with forming the architectural taste of mid 19th century Americans than that of any other person (Larew, p. 50).

As detailed in the books, each batten, or strip covering the crack between the wider boards of Proctor House, is chamfered or beveled. Rafter ends are exposed under the roof sheathing, again as detailed so many times, and have scrolled decorative ends. A bold jig-sawn decoration ornaments all gables, terminating in a jig-sawn pinnacle at the peak and is believed to be unique in Harford County. The two chimneys rise through the roof with broad bases or podia, have their shafts slightly recessed, and terminate in a decorative corbeled cap.

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Small brackets decorate and support the roofs of the two story bay window in the front gable, and recessed and molded panels decorate the space beneath the windows. The parlor windows extend to the floor, allowing a reasonable passage through them to the front porch or piazza as it was called in the early publications. The porch columns and decorative brackets are good examples of the early woodworkers' art. The back porch roof is supported off the wall by chamfered diagonal braces. Also surviving is a rare horizontally-operating latch on the east window.

Proctor House has two examples of interesting uses of native and once abundant materials. The front porch piers are single pieces of slate and a carved granite splash pan remains under one of the downspouts.

In Bel Air, the Proctor House may be seen as the link between the many frame and brick classical and vernacular buildings, many of them now demolished, and the burst of Victorian domestic building that hit the Town for a few years around the coming of the railroad, the dividing line, between the domesticated classical styles that reflected Americans' fascination with English, Roman, and Greek styles and the development of a mature native style for our rapidly expanding, young country (Larew, p. 50).

This particular house was probably built in two sections, the center and west wings first, between 1860 and 1873 and the east wing in 1884. Though, according to James Wollen, local architectural historian, it is possible that the original house was a simple one-story dwelling, and that the entire second floor and two-story gable were post Civil War additions. This suggestion is based on two factors: (1) the cellar is only beneath the north and west wings and the northerly part of the central section and (2) construction of the attic appears contemporaneous (Larew, p. 113 and Wollen).

Cassandra Gilbert had the house built after 1860, when she acquired 1-1/2 acres from Charles Lee and his wife for \$245. The property changed hands in 1879 when it was purchased from her estate by Charles W. Proctor for \$1,500. A note in the Harford Democrat for April 25, 1873, notes the sale of Mrs. Gilbert's house and lot on Gordon Street to C.W. Proctor. It took six years for the Orphan's Court to approve the sale.

The alterations to the house were made for Mr. Proctor shortly after his purchase of the property was completed. According to the April 25, 1884 issue of the Harford Democrat, C.W. Proctor was adding to his house on Gordon Street that spring. This may have been the east wing, or as noted before, the entire second floor and front projecting gable.

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C.W. Proctor died in 1904, but his widow, Sophia, resided in the house, raising twelve children, until her own death in 1949. The property then passed jointly to Elizabeth Proctor Simon and her brother, J. Armfield Proctor and eventually to Elizabeth Simon and her husband, George. The Simons occupied the house until 1965 when it was purchased by the Harford County Board of Education for its present use as administrative offices.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet 9/1

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Bel Air Historic
District Commission

10. Geographical Data

acreage of property .474 acre, less than 1 acre
USGS Quad: Bel Air, Maryland

UTM References

A

1	8
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3	8	3	8	4	0
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4	3	7	7	3	6	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

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B

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Zone Easting Northing

D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet 10/1

Boundary Justification

This property consists only of the urban lot on which the resource stands.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth M. Carven
organization Town of Bel Air; Department of Planning date _____
street & number 39 Hickory Avenue telephone (301)879-9500
city or town Bel Air state Maryland zip code 21014

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Continuation Sheet**

Proctor House
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Maryland

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Downing, Andrew Jackson. The Architecture of Country Houses. 1850. Reprint. New York: Dover, 1969.

Land Records of Harford County, Courthouse, Bel Air, Maryland.

Larew, Marilyn. Bel Air: The Town Through Its Buildings. Edgewood, Maryland: The Town of Bel Air and the Maryland Historical Trust, 1980.

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties: Harford County. Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Maryland.

Wollen, James, Thomas, Jr., "Preliminary Historic Structure Report, The Proctor House." Prepared for Michael S. Proctor, M.D. and Sallie Van Rensselaer, Advisor to the Board of Education for the Preservation of Proctor House. March, 1989.

Wright, C. Milton. Our Harford Heritage. Bel Air, Maryland: privately printed, 1967.

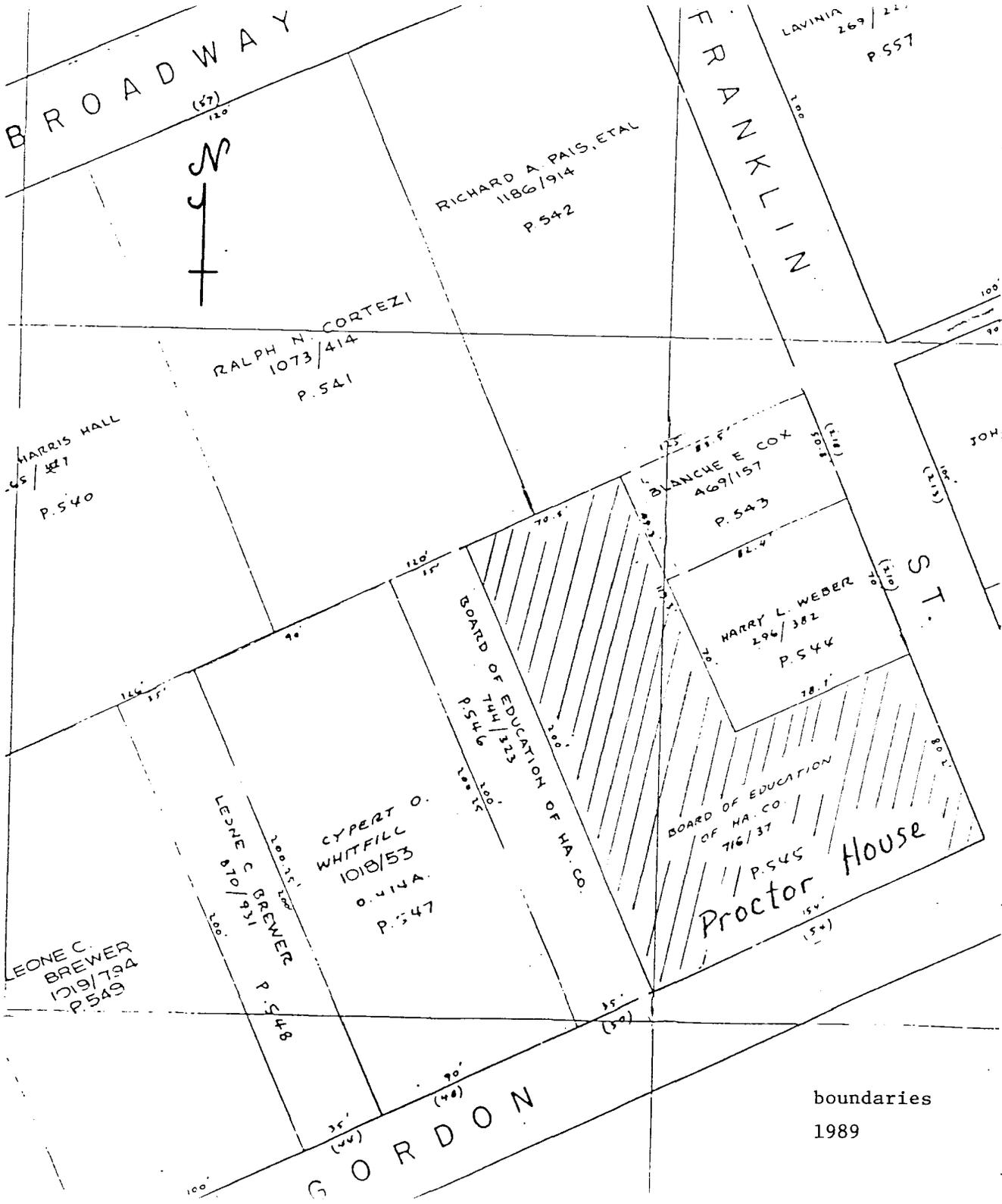
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Proctor House
Harford County
Maryland

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Section number 10 Page 1



boundaries
1989

HA-258

Between 1860 & 1873

Proctor House
54 E. Gordon Street
Bel Air
Public

This Gothic Revival cottage is unique in Bel Air for its board and batten construction and for its carved barge boards and finials as well as for the wide overhang of the eaves. No 19th century house in Town was so chic when it was built, and yet Bel Air's preferences influenced the house. It appears that the west portion of the house was original and that the east leg of the T was added in 1884, somewhat diluting the style. Nevertheless, this house seems to form the link between the older vaguely Federal houses of the pre-Civil War period and the definitely, if unadorned, Victorian houses built in Town after 1875 when gables were all the rage.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Proctor House

AND/OR COMMON

Board of Education Office

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

54 East Gordon Street

1st

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Bel Air

— VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

Maryland

Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input 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 checked="" 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 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"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

Administration

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Harford County School Board

Telephone #: 838-7300

STREET & NUMBER

45 E. Gordon Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

Bel Air

— VICINITY OF

Maryland 21014

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #: 716

Folio #: 37

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Bel Air

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

HA-858

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	1884 & c. 1965	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two story board and batten Gothic cottage is at 54 West Gordon Street, Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. As it stands today the building has been enlarged at least once. The line of the gable roof suggests that the projecting center wing and the west wing were original. At that time, when viewed from the front the house was L-shaped with the crossbar facing Gordon Street. The entrance was probably in the Gordon Street (east) elevation since that ground floor room has a formal mantel. (See photo.) The east wing and porch were added c. 1884. The rear ell may have been added at the same time or subsequently. All that the intersection of the gables tells us is that the ell was not original.

The verticality of the board and batten style is somewhat defeated by the length of the eastern addition. The facade shows three clear divisions: the two bay west wing, the three bay west wing, and the projecting center bay with its two story bay window. There is a strong overhang of the eaves showing the rafter ends, and the gable ends on the front (south) and side (east and west) elevations are decorated with bold jig-sawn vergeboards and a strong wooden crocket at the gable peak, all of which mark the building as influenced by the work of A. J. Downing. (See #8) Matching chimneys with broad bases and corbeled caps rise through the ridge line of the roof, not quite evenly spaced one on each side of the projecting central wing.

The fenestration shows 2/2 long Victorian double hung sash windows set in plain surrounds. Exceptions are the two floor to ceiling windows in the parlor in the east wing and the two story bay window which has small brackets decorating and supporting the roofs of the bay. Recessed and moulded panels decorate the space under the windows in the first story and the second story bay is stepped back slightly. All the louvered shutters with their original hardware have been removed and are stored in the basement. Strong decorative brackets appear on the porch columns. The entry is typically Victorian with a rectangular transom and thin sidelights paneled halfway down.

The rear (north) elevation is more irregular and plainer than the front one. An ell which looks as if it has been modified projects along the west side. A side porch may have been enclosed to account for the irregular roof line.

The interior of the house is quite simple. In the east wing a hall contains a dog-leg staircase, open-string with two turned balusters per step and a fat faceted Gothic newel, remarkably like #575 in the 1879 building materials catalog of George O. Stevens, 49 Light Street, Baltimore. To the east of the hall is the parlor with two floor to ceiling windows for passage onto the porch and a fine painted slate mantel with a round-arched opening, plain colonettes, paneled spandrels and a cartouche in the center.

To the west of the hall are four rooms and an enclosed side entry. The room closest to the hall was probably originally the parlor and subsequently probably the dining room. It has been divided by a

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 checked="" 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 Between 1860 & 1873 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Cassandra Gilbert (?)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This rural Gothic cottage is the only building of its kind in Bel Air. Its vertical board and batten siding, steep pitched gable roof, delicately ornamented vergeboards and crocket finial all mark it as having been influenced by the architectural philosophy of Andrew Jackson Downing (1815-1852), landscape gardner and architectural critic of Newburgh, New York. Downing was annoyed at the architectural trends of his time; He found the use of the Greek temple form for domestic architecture ridiculous, particularly when the building was rendered in wood and the portico took up a third of the space in the building. He also deplored much of the carpenter Gothic construction he saw around him. What we today regard as exuberance in decoration, he saw as vulgar pretension and bad taste and he set out to do something about it. In a trio of very popular books, A Treatise on the Theory and Practice of Landscape Gardening, Adapted to North America (1841), Cottage Residences (first edition 1842), and The Architecture of Country Houses (first edition 1850), Downing set out to explain to his compatriots the proper definitions of the Useful, the Beautiful, and the True in architecture. He was not himself trained as an architect; he publicized the designs of men such as A. J. Davis, Richard Upjohn, and Gervase Wheeler. With these designs he showed Americans "The Real Meaning of Architecture" - how symmetry, variety, harmony, and most important, Truth, should come together to form a building that was Beautiful. His work probably had more to do with forming the architectural taste of mid-century Americans than that of any other person.

Downing formed a lasting working relationship and friendship with architect, A. J. Davis. The fruit of this friendship, according to historian William H. Pierson, Jr., was the theoretical and practical formulation of the cottage and the villa, two types that "would free American architecture from its time-worn classical tradition and open the way for wholly new relationships between the house and the environment."

In Bel Air the Proctor House may be seen as the link between the many frame and brick classical and vernacular buildings, many of them now demolished, and the fantastic burst of Victorian domestic building that hit the Town for a few years around the coming of the railroad, the dividing line, between the domesticated classical styles that reflected Americans' fascination with English, Roman, and Greek styles and the development of a mature native style for our rapidly expanding, brash young country.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Calder Loth and Julius Trousdale Sadler, Jr., The Only Proper Style: Gothic Architecture in America, Boston, 1975.

A. J. Downing, The Architecture of County Houses, 1850.

William H. Pierson, Jr., American Buildings and Their Architects: Technology and the Picturesque, The Corporate and the Early Gothic

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property occupies parcel 545 in the Town of Bel Air. 154' x 80.2'.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

M. Larew, Architectural Historian

7 February 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

partition to make the front third of the room with the bay into a separate office. A neo-classical mantel with suspiciously recent looking brick work is the only feature of the room. The next west room has a built in cupboard north of the chimney breast. A twisting enclosed stairway communicates with the rear room in the west. The cellar steps are under this staircase.

The cellar shows a foundation of part brick and part stone rubble. The undersides of the floors are plastered for insulation.

There are three small chambers upstairs.

The door and window surrounds in the rooms to the right and left of the hall have architrave trim. All other woodwork is plain.

This particular house was probably built in two sections, the center and west wings first, probably between 1860 and 1873 and the east wing in 1884. The title suggests Cassandra Gilbert had the house built after 1860, when she acquired 1½ acres from Charles Lee and his wife for \$245 (12/130). The property changed hands in 1879 (39/187) when Stevenson Archer, the executor of Cassandra Gilbert's will, sold it to Charles W. Proctor for \$1500. A note in the Harford Democrat for April 25, 1873, notes the sale of Mrs. Gilbert's house and lot on Gordon Street to C. W. Proctor. It took six years for the Orphan's Court to approve the sale. The 1878 Map of Bel Air shows this house as belonging to G. W. Proctor (sic).

According to the same newspaper (April 25, 1884, C. W. Proctor was adding to his house on Gordon Street that spring. This is probably the east wing. Care was taken to have the vergeboards and the roof slope match, but the scale of the east wing is subtly off. One less bay would have given the house better proportions.

The house remained in Proctor hands until 1965 when the School Board bought it, although in the last generation (Elizabeth Proctor Simon) it was in the female line.

This charming house is in remarkably good shape inside. The woodwork, floors and staircase have not been damaged by its conversion to offices. It could be returned to its original domestic use with the removal of one partition in the dining room (probably originally the living room) - the room with the bay.

Styles. New York, 1978.

Harford Democrat.

James T. Wollon, Jr., "The Proctor House, Bel Air", Harford
Historical Bulletin, Winter, 1974, p. 23.

School Board Office
54 East Gordon Street
 (Proctor House)

716/37 21 November 1965
 George A. Simon & Elizabeth Proctor Simon, wife
 to
 Harford County Board of Education
 .474 acre

493/459
 493/457 15 November 1957
 Elizabeth Simon and George, husband
 to
 Zero, Inc.
 and back again
 Elizabeth held the property with J. Armfield
 Proctor, probably her brother. Proctor was
 dead, which prompted this sale so his heirs
 could get their money.

251/214 25 April 1938
 Sophia E. Proctor, widow
 to
 Elizabeth P. Simon and J. Armfield Proctor

42/361 2 January 1881
 Augustus E. Proctor and Josephine, wife, of
 Philadelphia
 to
 Sophia E. Proctor
 \$1600

39/251 26 May 1879
 Charles W. Proctor
 to
 Augustus E. Proctor of Philadelphia
 \$500 and a mortgage of \$950

39/187 26 May 1879
 Stevenson Archer, executor of Cassandra Gilbert
 to
 Charles W. Proctor
 \$1500

12/130

30 October 1860
Charles W. Lee and Elizabeth, wife
to
Cassandra Gilbert
\$245 1½ acre

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
 21 STATE CIRCLE
 SHAW HOUSE
 ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FIELD SHEET
 Individual Structure Survey Form

SURVEY NUMBER:	HA-258
NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:	
UTM REFERENCES:	Zone/Easting/Northing
U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:	
PRESENT FORMAL NAME:	Proctor House
ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME:	Cassandra Gilbert's House
PRESENT USE:	Offices
ORIGINAL USE:	Private Residence
ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:	
BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:	
PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:	Excellent () Good () Fair (x) Poor: ()
THEME:	Architecture
STYLE:	Gothic Revival
DATE BUILT:	Between 1860 and 1873

COUNTY:	Harford
TOWN:	Bel Air
LOCATION:	54 East Gordon Street
COMMON NAME:	Proctor House
FUNCTIONAL TYPE:	Private Residence
OWNER:	Harford County School Board
ADDRESS:	45 E. Gordon St. Bel Air, Md. 21014
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:	Yes () No () Restricted (x)
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:	Local () State () National ()

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Structural System

- Foundation: Stone(x) Brick(x) Concrete () Concrete Block ()
- Wall Structure
 - Wood Frame: Post and Beam () Balloon ()
 - Wood Bearing Masonry: Brick () Stone () Concrete () Concrete Block ()
 - Iron () D. Steel () E. Other:
- Wall Covering: Clapboard () Board and Batten (x) Wood Shingle () Shiplap () Novelty () Stucco () Sheet Metal () Aluminum () Asphalt Shingle ()
Brick Veneer () Stone Veneer ()
Bonding Pattern: Other:
- Roof Structure
 - Truss: Wood () Iron () Steel () Concrete ()
 - Other:
- Roof Covering: Slate () Wood Shingle () Asphalt Shingle (x) Sheet Metal ()
Built Up () Rolled () Tile () Other:
- Engineering Structure:
- Other:

Appendages: Porches(x) Towers () Cupolas () Dormers () Chimneys () Sheds () Ells (x)
Wings () Other: verge board & crochet; 2 story bay

Roof Style: Gable () Hip () Shed () Flat () Mansard () Gambrel () Jerkinhead ()
Saw Tooth () With Monitor () With Bellcast () With Parapet () With False Front ()
Other:

Number of Stories: 2
 Number of Bays: 6 Entrance Location: Gordon Street
 Approximate Dimensions: 34' x 17'

THREAT TO STRUCTURE:	No Threat (x) Zoning () Roads () Development () Deterioration () Alteration () Other:
----------------------	--

LOCAL ATTITUDES:	Positive () Negative () Mixed () Other:
------------------	---

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Parlor painted slate Victorian fireplace 4 panel doors - floor to ceiling windows upstairs woodwork entirely plain

back staircase

cellar - shows stone foundation

westroom 1st floor cupboard behind chimney

room to r & l of staircase no architrave (?) w/w - all others plain

dogleg open string stair 2 turned balusters per step Victorian

fat faceted newel

RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

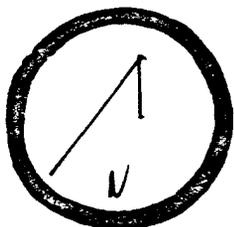
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The only remaining Victorian cottage in Bel Air. Despite the conversion to offices, the interior is in good shape. The painted slate mantel in the former living room is noteworthy.

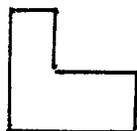
Jim Wollen, preservation architect of Havre de Grace, regards the crockets at the gable peaks as unique in Harford County.

REFERENCES:

MAP: (Indicate North In Circle)



Proctor House



Franklin St.

Gordon St.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

Open Lane()Woodland()Scattered Buildings()
Moderately Built Up()Densely Built Up()
Residential()Commercial()
Agricultural()Industrial()
Roadside Strip Development()
Other: Mixed residential & residential converted to offices

M. Larew

RECORDED BY:

Town of Bel Air

ORGANIZATION:

5 February 1979

DATE RECORDED:

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

MD. HISTORICAL TRUST
BOX 1704
ANNAPOLIS, MD. 21404

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: *School Board office building*

AND/OR HISTORIC: *Proctor House*

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: *Northwest corner, Franklin & Gordon Street*

CITY OR TOWN: *Bel Air*

STATE: *Maryland* CODE: COUNTY: *Harford* CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Acquisition:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
Object <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> No:

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Offices - school board</i>	
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME: *Harford County Board of Education*

STREET AND NUMBER: *Gordon Street*

CITY OR TOWN: *Bel Air* STATE: *Maryland* CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT**

STREET AND NUMBER: **HARFORD COUNTY COUR. HOUSE 40 S. MAIN ST.**

CITY OR TOWN: **BEL AIR** STATE: **MARYLAND** CODE:

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This board and batten house has
Victorian cut-wood decoration under the
wide eaves and around the porch.

It faces south, six bays by one,
with a bay window beside the long
porch. Asymmetrical in design, it is
roughly the shape of a cross.
Windows are two over two.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian <input type="checkbox"/>	16th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	18th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	20th Century <input type="checkbox"/>
15th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	17th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>19th Century <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></u>	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input type="checkbox"/>	Political <input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Architecture</u>
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Art <input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>		_____
	Music <input type="checkbox"/>		_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

This pleasant old Victorian house makes an unusual office for the School Board, but office space is at a premium, the house is opposite other school grounds, and it is nice to have this charming building preserved ~~there~~ externally, at least.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(This section is currently blank, containing only a faint horizontal line.)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **JEAN S. EWING**

ORGANIZATION: **MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST** DATE: _____

STREET AND NUMBER: **50 STATE CIRCLE**

CITY OR TOWN: **ANNAPOLIS** STATE: **MARYLAND** CODE: _____

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Title _____</p> <p>Date _____</p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p>_____ <i>Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</i></p> <p>Date _____</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p>_____ <i>Keeper of The National Register</i></p> <p>Date _____</p>
--	---

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



The Proctor House, Bel Air

At 54 East Gordon Street in Bel Air stands a house built in the "rural Gothic" cottage style advocated and published by Andrew Jackson Downing (1815-1852) and other architects. Chief among its characteristics deliberately contrived to be picturesque are the steep roofs and gables, the jig-sawn verge boards, and the vertical board and batten wood siding.

In his book, *THE ARCHITECTURE OF COUNTRY HOUSES*, (1850), Downing considered vertical board and batten siding more appropriate than horizontal weather-boarding

"not only because it is more durable, but because it has an expression of strength and truthfulness which the other has not. The main timbers which enter into the frame of a wooden house and support the structure, are vertical, and hence the vertical boarding properly signifies to the eye a wooden house; in the same manner, the main weight of a stone or brick house is supported by walls laid in courses, and hence the truthfulness of showing horizontal courses in brick or stone buildings. It is as incorrect, so far as regards truthfulness of construction, to show horizontal lines on the weatherboarding of a wooden house, as it would be to mark vertical lines on the outside of a brick or stuccoed wall.

Besides this, there is not only greater economy in vertical boarding, but, being a bolder mode of construction, it better expresses the picturesque—a kind of beauty essentially belonging to wooden houses."

In his short lifetime, Downing published several books on architecture and horticulture. In the 19th century, the quest for the picturesque in architecture was of the utmost importance. Inspiration was found in the architecture of the medieval or Gothic period, and that style was adapted by Downing and by many others for buildings of every description. Their publications abound with cottages and villas, mostly in the rural Gothic style, such as the subject house, but also in styles adapted from the Swiss chalet and Italian villa. Construction details are illustrated and described, including such practical items as boarding and framing, and fireplaces which would not smoke, and decorative items such as the jig-sawn verge boards, pinnacles, porch and roof brackets, and staircases.

It is interesting to note that Downing advocated the infilling of frame walls with cheap brick and mortar for insulation and fire retarding, a common practice from earlier generations. He

also suggested applying plaster to the backside of the exterior siding. We do not know if the walls of our subject house are filled with brick, or if an inner layer of plaster exists in them; we do know that the undersides of the floorboards, visible in the cellar, are plastered. Benjamin Franklin and others in the eighteenth century advocated this as a means of stopping drafts and controlling fires.

The house at 54 East Gordon Street, formerly known as the Proctor House, is now owned by the Board of Education, and is used for offices. It was standing when the Martinet Map was published in 1878, and was noted as owned by G.W. Proctor. Gordon Street apparently did not exist when the Herrick Map was published in 1858. We do not know exactly when it was built, but it was hardly earlier than the 1850's, and was most likely built in the late 1860's, or just about 1870. It may have been built in at least two stages fairly close in time, one consisting of the center and west wing, the east wing being the other.

As detailed in the books, each batten, or strip covering the crack between the wider boards, is chamfered or beveled. Rafter ends are exposed under the roof sheathing, again as detailed so many times, and have scrolled decorative ends. A bold jig-sawn decoration ornaments all gables, terminating in a jig-sawn pinnacle at the peak which we think is unique in Harford County. The two chimneys rise through the roof with broad bases or podia, have their shafts slightly recessed, and terminate in a decorative corbeled cap.

Small brackets decorate and support the roofs of the two storey bay window in the front gable, and recessed and moulded panels decorate the space beneath the windows. The parlor windows extend to the floor, allowing a reasonable passage through them to the front porch or piazza as it was called in the early publications. The porch columns and decorative brackets are good examples of the early woodworkers' art. The back porch roof is supported off the wall by nicely chamfered diagonal braces, and it has lost its original wood floor or deck. The shutters or blinds retain much of their original hardware, including a rare horizontally-operating latch on the east window.

The porch foundation piers are single pieces of slate, an interesting use of that once abundant native material. A carved granite splash pan remains under one of the downspouts, another interesting remnant of native material.

*see downing p 300 ? 1
see detail of verge board & finial p 296
get Proctor family connections*

★ Proctor House

Inside, the house is so simple that one concludes that much early work has been removed or simplified. Two mantels remain; the one in the parlor is of slate, painted to imitate several colors of marble, with incised decorative lines outlining the different colors. Once a common technique, particularly in mantels, this example is in unusually good condition. Its arched shape indicates that it once surrounded a Latrobe stove, now missing.

The early stair remains just inside the front door, with its walnut railing, turned balusters, and turned walnut newel post. A decorative blue glass or onyx sphere ornaments the top of the newel.

While the interior of this house is less interesting today than the exterior, it is still worthy of our attention, and of preservation. It appears to be in good structural condition, and because of the condition of the interior, and the distinction of the exterior, the adaptation of its interior to any contemporary use, compatible with the structure and with its neighborhood is, completely justified.

Old Courthouse Records Inventoried

A number of persons representing the Historical Society, the Bel Air History Club, and the County Bicentennial Commission have undertaken preliminary steps toward the proper preservation of the official records of the Circuit Court for Harford County which had been stored in the musty courthouse basement.

With the approval of the Court and Clerk Chilcoat, and with assistance from the Sheriff's Department, the records, some dating from the 1770's, have been moved to another location where they are being cleaned, inventoried, and reorganized so that they will be conveniently available for researchers when the new courthouse is constructed.

★ Mill Seats

(Continued from Page 21)

REUBEN PERKINS, writ. No definite date. Herring Run. The writ and the mill at Lapidum are cited in a deed from Thomas White to Perkins on 24 July 1760.

ISAAC WOOD, writ 28 Apr. 1761. Swan Creek, part of "Chestnut Ridge". It is believed this was later the F. Mortimer Brown Mill.

ISAAC BULL, writ 3 July 1761. Winter's Run, parts of "Cissel's Adventure", "Our Reserve". This may be the site of Rockdale Mill. There is evidence of earlier condemnation for "old" Jacob Bull.

ZACHARIAH STRAUBLE, writ 18 Oct. 1763. Little Gunpowder, land contiguous to lot number 62 of "My Lady's Manor". More recently the mills were called Hutchins Mill and Atlanta Mills.

THOMAS SAUNDERS, writ 13 Apr. 1764. Winter's Run, parts of "Expectation" and St. John's glebe. Ruins of this, the McHenry, later McComas, Mill, are still visible.

THOMAS SMITH, writ. No definite date. The writ and mill are cited in a deed of 4 May 1779 when Thomas' widow sold the land to John Hawkins. The mill was above the present Noble's Mill, but on the same land tract, "Henley's Enlargement".

ISAAC WEBSTER, writ. No definite date. Winter's Run, parts of "Strawberry Hill", "Nova Scotia". Writ and mill cited in later deeds. This seat became known as Harford Furnace.

In a deed from EDWARD HALL to Josias Hall, dated 16 Sept. 1780, reference is made to the writ and to Hall's (Cranberry Mill) created from parts of "Cranberry Hall" and "Hall's Chance."

Harford Historical Bulletin

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HARFORD COUNTY, INC.

Post Office Box 391

Bel Air, Maryland 21014

NON-PROFIT ORG.

PAID

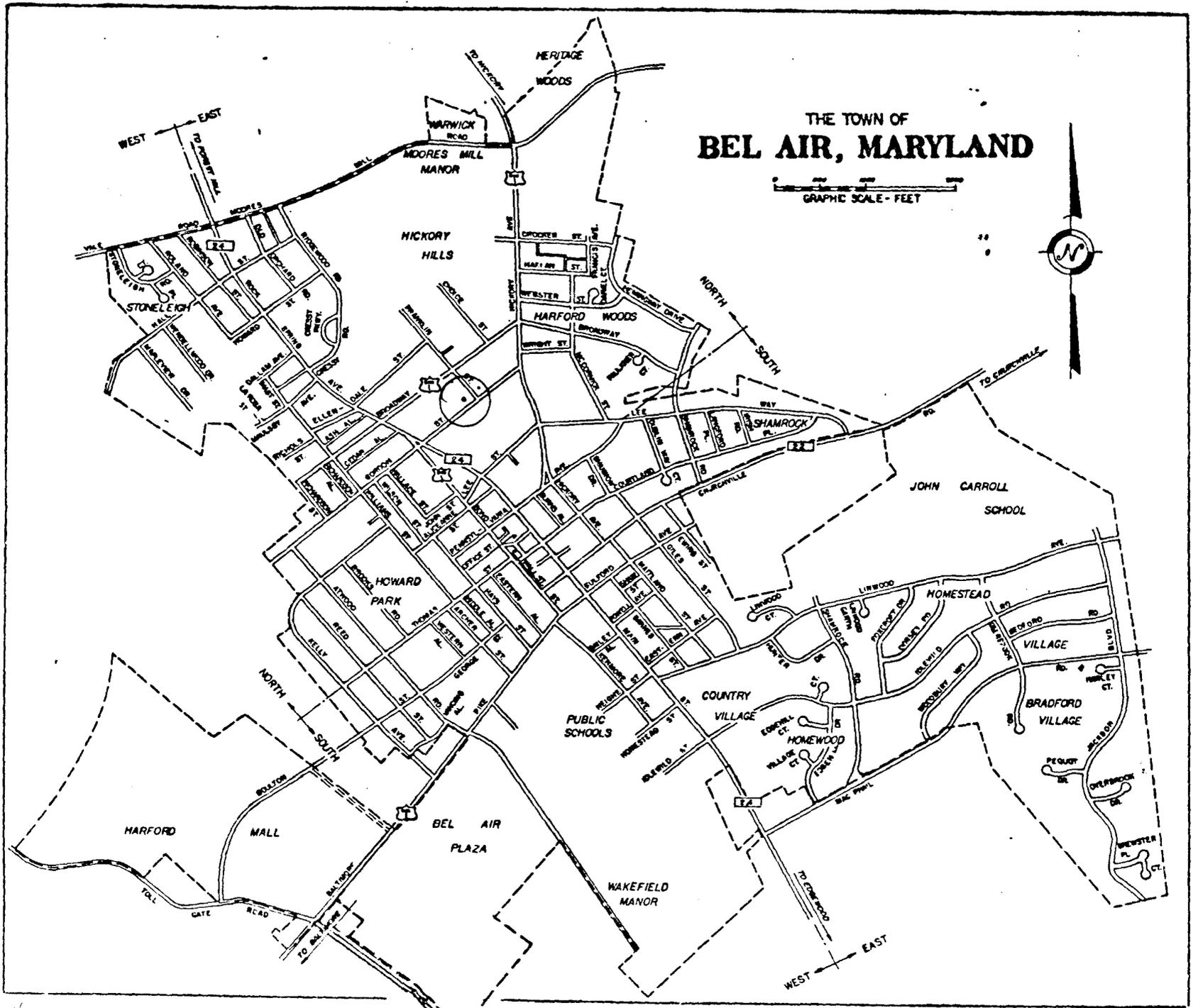
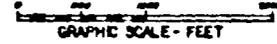
PERMIT NO. 40

BEL AIR

MD 21014

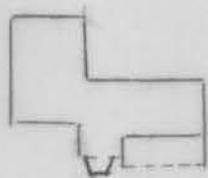
Miss Roenna Fahrney
400 Singer Road
ABINGDON MD 21009

THE TOWN OF BEL AIR, MARYLAND



HA-258

*Charles Harris
Gardner + Franklin
Bel Air*



Traced by
M. L. AREW
SANBORN MAP

PROCTOR HOUSE
50 E. GORDON
BEL AIR
HA-258

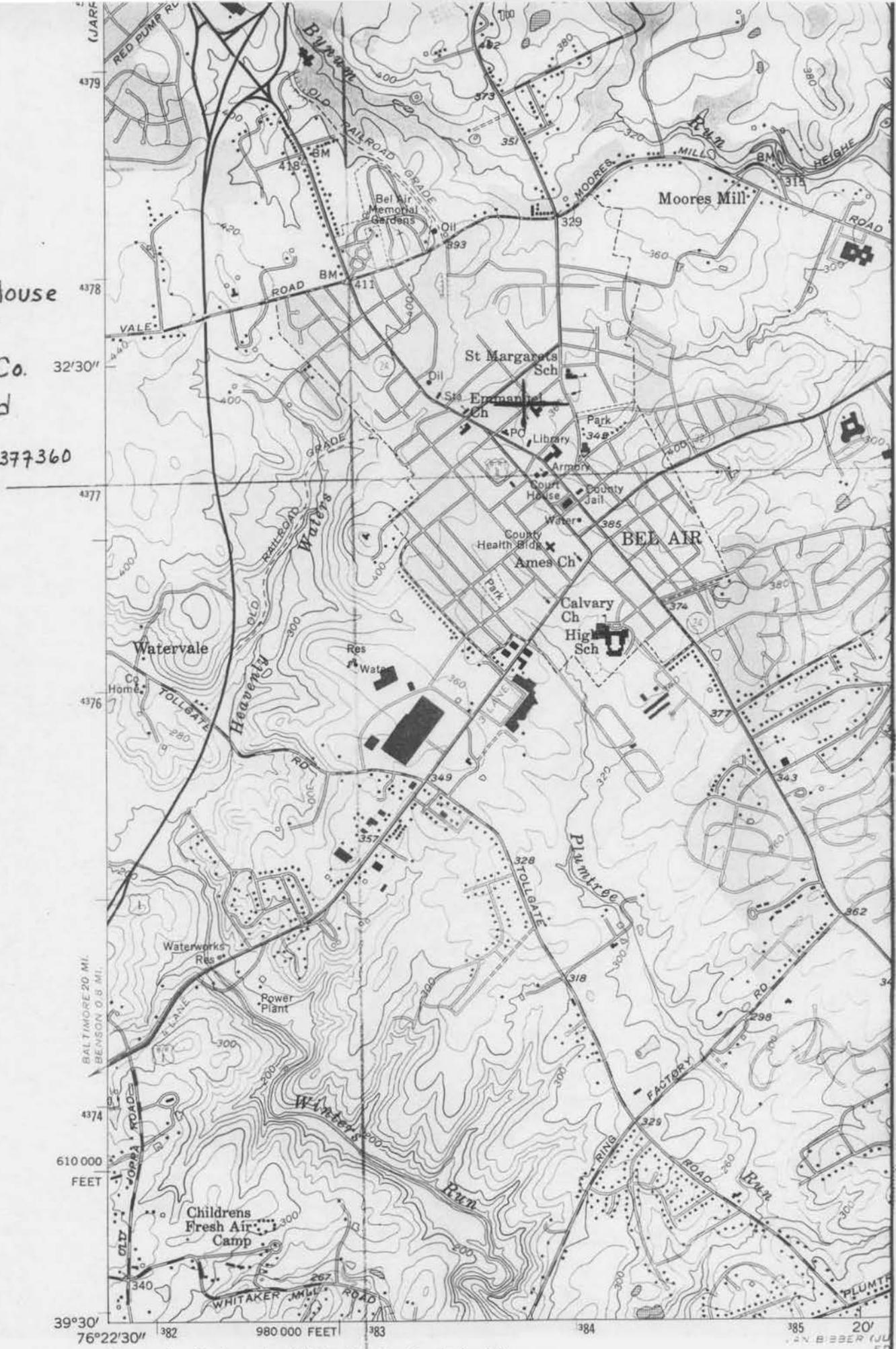
SCALE 1"=50'



Proctor House
HA-258

Harford Co. 32'30"
Maryland

18/383840/4377360



Mappd, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

1941

ED



PROCTOR HOUSE HA-258

HARFORD COUNTY, MD

Photographer: JAY VAN KENSSALHER

MARCH, 1989

Neg. Loc.: MRS. LEE VAN KENSSALHER
813 MARCIE CT.
BEL AIR, MD 21014

SOUTH ELEVATION

119



PROCTOR HOUSE HA-258

HARFORD COUNTY, MD

PHOTOGRAPHER: JAY VAN KENSLAER

MARCH, 1989

Neg. loc.: MRS. LEE VAN KENSLAER
813 MARCIE CT.
BEL AIR, MD 21014

WEST ELEVATION

2/9



PROCTOR HOUSE HA-258

HARTFORD COUNTY, MD

PHOTOGRAPHER: JAY VAN KENSSALAER

MARCH, 1989

NEG. LOC.: MRS. LEE VAN KENSSALAER

813 MARCIE CT.

BEL AIR, MD 21014

EAST ELEVATION

319



PROCTOR HOUSE HA-258

HARFORD COUNTY, MD

PHOTOGRAPHER: JAY VAN RENSSALAER

MARCH, 1989

Neg. loc.: MRS. LEE VAN RENSSALAER

813 MARCIE CT.

BEL AIR, MD 21014

NORTH ELEVATION

419



PROCTOR HOUSE HA-258

HARFORD COUNTY, MD

Photographer: JAY VAN RENSSALAER

MARCH, 1989

Neg. Loc.: MRS. LEE VAN RENSSALAER
813 MARCIE CT.
BEL AIR, MD 21014

CUPBOARD IN ROOM IN WEST WING, FIRST FLOOR

5/9



PROCTOR HOUSE HA-258

HARFORD COUNTY, MD

PHOTOGRAPHER: JAY VAN RENSSALAER

MARCH, 1989

NEG. LOC.: MRS. LEE VAN RENSSALAER
813 MARCIE CT.
BEL AIR, MD 21014

PAINTED SLATE MANTEL, EAST WING, FIRST FLOOR

619



PROCTOR HOUSE HA-258

HARFORD COUNTY, MD

PHOTOGRAPHER: JAY VAN RENSSALAER

MARCH, 1989

NEG. LOC.: MRS. LEE VAN RENSSALAER
813 MARCIE CT.
BEL AIR, MD 21014

BOTTOM NEWEL POST OF MAIN STAIR

7/9



PROCTOR HOUSE HA-258

HARFORD COUNTY, MD

Photographer: JAY VAN RENSSALAER

MARCH, 1989

Neg. Loc.: MRS. LEE VAN RENSSALAER
813 MARCIE CT.
BEL AIR, MD 21014

FIREPLACE IN MIDDLE ROOM, FIRST FLOOR

8/9



PROCTOR HOUSE HA-258

HARFORD COUNTY, MD

Photographer: JAY VAN RENSSALAER

MARCH, 1989

Neg. Loc.: MRS. LEE VAN RENSSALAER
213 MARCIE CT.
BEL AIR, MD

WINDOW OF PARLOR CHAMBER

9/9



PROCTOR HOUSE - GORDON + FRANKLIN STS., BEL AIR

S + E ELEVATIONS

M. LARREW, 1979

HA-258



PROCTOR HOUSE - GORDON & FRANKLIN SWS., BEL AIR
N+W ELEVATIONS
M. LAREW, 1979

HA-258



PROCTOR HOUSE - GORDON & FRANKLIN STS.
BEL AIR

PORTIONS OF N + E ELEVATIONS

M. LARREW, 1979

HA-258



HA-258

PROCTOR HOUSE, GORDON + FRANKLIN ST.
BEL AIR

PARLOR FIREPLACE, LOOKING WEST

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