

Ellicott Machine Corporation

#B-1000

Statement of Significance

The Ellicott Machine Corporation, located at 1611 Bush Street in South Baltimore is the world's largest manufacturer of dredges. Founded in 1885 as a small repair shop, the company now owns two subsidiaries and produces a wide variety of industrial machinery including rail car couplings and nuclear plant control panels-- in addition to holding a superior international reputation for dredge manufacturing and technological innovations. Among the company's better known projects is the manufacture of dredges used in constructing both the Panama Canal and St. Lawrence Seaway. The firm also developed and patented the world's first small portable "Dragon" dredge.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Ellicott Machine Corporation

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
1611 Bush Street

CITY, TOWN Baltimore VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE Maryland 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 type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Ellicott Machine Corporation Telephone #: 301-837-7900

STREET & NUMBER
1611 Bush Street

CITY, TOWN Baltimore VICINITY OF STATE, zip code
Maryland 21238

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Baltimore City Courthouse

Liber #: SCL-5782
Folio #: 543

STREET & NUMBER
Fayette and Calvert Streets

CITY, TOWN Baltimore, Maryland 21202 STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
None

DATE
_FEDERAL _STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

B-1000

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		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Ellicott Machine Corporation's factory dates from 1900 and reveals the peculiar requirements of a company that is half machine shop and half shipyard. Much of the fabrication of dredges, Ellicott's specialty, takes place in the machine shops but erection is done outdoors, often at the customer's site.

The old machine shop, the oldest structure in the complex with the exception of the brick smoke stack, is a one-story structure with a monitor running the length of the ridgepole to remove smoke. A timber and iron truss supports the roof and is itself supported on beams. A timber knee joins each post to the truss for additional bracing. A concrete block facade has recently been added which makes the structure appear more modern than it is.

A later addition to the machine shop more than doubled its length. This structure is a higher one-story building with two stories of windows. A metal riveted truss provided a clear working area here as well. Adjacent to this structure is a modern building which serves as a hull and superstructure sub-assembly shop. It was here that boiler work and riveting was formerly performed and now plate work is laid out and welded together. Most of the final assembly of dredges is in the open-air yard adjoining these buildings. Also in the yard is a unique structure used to train customers' personnel in the operation of dredges. This consists of a wheelhouse and part of the deckhouse of a stationary dredge, all of welded metal construction.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

B-1000

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1885, 1900

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Ellicott Machine Corporation, located at 1611 Bush Street in South Baltimore is the world's largest manufacturer of dredges. Founded in 1885 as a small repair shop, the company now owns two subsidiaries and produces a wide variety of industrial machinery including rail car couplings and nuclear plant control panels-- in addition to holding a superior international reputation for dredge manufacturing and technological innovations. Among the company's better known projects is the manufacture of dredges used in constructing both the Panama Canal and St. Lawrence Seaway. The firm also developed and patented the world's first small portable "Dragon" dredge.

Historical Significance

In 1885, Charles E. Ellicott, a recent graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, began a small general engineering and machinery business at the foot of Gay Street on Smith's Wharf (now the site of the World Trade Center). After successfully building a pump and gears for a dredge operating on the Potomac River, Ellicott began to specialize in dredge manufacturing. His family, known for its important role in Maryland history, also played an instrumental role in the development of the dredge. Over a century earlier, Ellicott's ancestors dredged a part of Baltimore's inner harbor using a crude system of horsedrawn iron scoops to facilitate the transport of flour, ground at their mills near Ellicott City. Their "mud machine" was one of the first dredges used in Baltimore.

Ellicott's dredge business expanded slowly throughout the late 1800's; but it was not until the turn of the century that dredging machinery became widely used. In 1895 the company moved to Clinton Street to accommodate its growing business. Following a fire in 1900, the company again moved to its present location on Bush Street. Several additions have been made to the original building and in 1963 a new office building was erected.

One of the company's first jobs was a contract with the United States Army Corp of Engineers to deepen the harbor in San Pedro,

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Vertical & Query Files at Enoch Pratt Central Library,
Baltimore, MD.

Looking Back Eighty Years, by C. Ellis Ellicott, Jr. (private co.
Greene, Suzanne: Baltimore--An Illustrated History history)
(Baltimore, Windsor Books) 1980

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Linda Daur

ORGANIZATION

Baltimore Industrial Museum

DATE

September 1980

STREET & NUMBER

217 North Charles Street

TELEPHONE

301-396-1931

CITY OR TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21201

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

California. Although the work lasted over six months, the dredges they built operated for 50 years. Following this success, Ellicott was commissioned to design and build the dredges used to construct the St. Lawrence Seaway and Panama Canal.

Throughout the 20th century, the company diversified its operation to include naval steam engines and small portable "Dragon" dredges--internationally used by industrial plants, real estate developers and gravel companies. In 1957 the Ellicott Machine Corporation bought McConway and Torley Corporation, a Pittsburgh company which is a major supplier of steel railroad couplings. In 1960, the company bought the Kutztown Corporation, a subsidiary of McConway/Torley Corporation which also manufactures railroad equipment. Although the Ellicott Corporation has owned several subsidiaries throughout its history, it presently controls only these two Pennsylvania firms.

In 1922 Ellicott began exporting dredges for use overseas. By 1950, international sales comprised over 50% of Ellicott's production and in 1979 over 80% of the company's dredges were shipped abroad. Ellicott's dredges are now located in over 60 foreign countries including Indonesia, China, Japan, Egypt, Brazil and Mexico.

The Ellicott Machine Corporation presently employs approximately 200 people at its Bush Street location and grosses a combined sales--with its two subsidiaries--of over \$45 million annually.

Tyson, Martha: A Brief Account of the Settlement
of Ellicott Mills, 1871

1 SITE ID NO # B1 000

HAER INVENTORY

Historic American Engineering Record
Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240

2 INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION Manufacturing	3 PRIORITY	4 DANGER OF DEMOLITION: (SPECIFY THREAT) <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN
5 DATE	6 GOVT SOURCE OF THREAT	OWNER ADMIN
		ELLICOTT MACHINE CORPORATION

8 STATE COUNTY	7 COUNTY NAME	8 CITY VICINITY	9 STATE COUNTY	9 CITY VICINITY	9 CONG. DIST
	BALTIMORE	BALTIMORE	BALTIMORE	BALTIMORE	

11 SITE ADDRESS (STREET & NO.) 1611 BUSH STREET	12 EXISTING SURVEYS	13 SPECIAL FEATURES (SEE SHIRTS BELOW)
	<input type="checkbox"/> NPS <input type="checkbox"/> HAER-1 <input type="checkbox"/> HAER <input type="checkbox"/> NPS <input type="checkbox"/> CL6 <input type="checkbox"/> STATE <input type="checkbox"/> COUNTY <input type="checkbox"/> LOCAL <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	<input type="checkbox"/> INTERIOR INTACT <input type="checkbox"/> EXTERIOR INTACT <input type="checkbox"/> ENVIRONS INTACT

14 UTM ZONE EASTING NORTHING	14 UTM ZONE EASTING NORTHING	SCALE	QUAD NAME
18 3587754348660	18 3587754348660	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1:24 <input type="checkbox"/> 1:62.5 <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	BALTIMORE WEST

15 CONDITION	70 <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	71 <input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	72 <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	73 <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	74 <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	75 <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED	76 <input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	82 <input type="checkbox"/> DESTROYED	85 <input type="checkbox"/> DEMOLISHED
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16 INVENTORIED BY LINDA DAUR	AFFILIATION BALTIMORE INDUSTRIAL MUSEUM	DATE OCT. 1980
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17 DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY, INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), HISTORICAL DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, EXANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

The Ellicott Machine Corporation, located at 1611 Bush Street in South Baltimore is the ~~world~~ world's largest manufacture of dredges. Founded in 1885 as a small repair shop, the company now owns two subsidiaries and produces a wide variety of industrial machinery including ~~railcar~~ rail car couplings and nuclear plant control panels -- in addition to holding a superior international reputation for dredge manufacturing and technological

(CONT OVER)

18 ORIGINAL USE	PRESENT USE	ADAPTIVE USE
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19 REFERENCES - HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER

GREEN, SUZANNE: BALTIMORE -- AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY (BALTIMORE, WINDSOR BOOKS) 1980
TYSON, MARTHA: A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE SETTLEMENT OF ELLICOTT MILLS, 1871

(CONT OVER)

20 URBAN AREA 50,000 POP. OR MORE? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	21 NPS REGION	22 PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY	23 EDITOR INDEXER
		<input type="checkbox"/> YES, LIMITED <input type="checkbox"/> YES, UNLIMITED <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN	

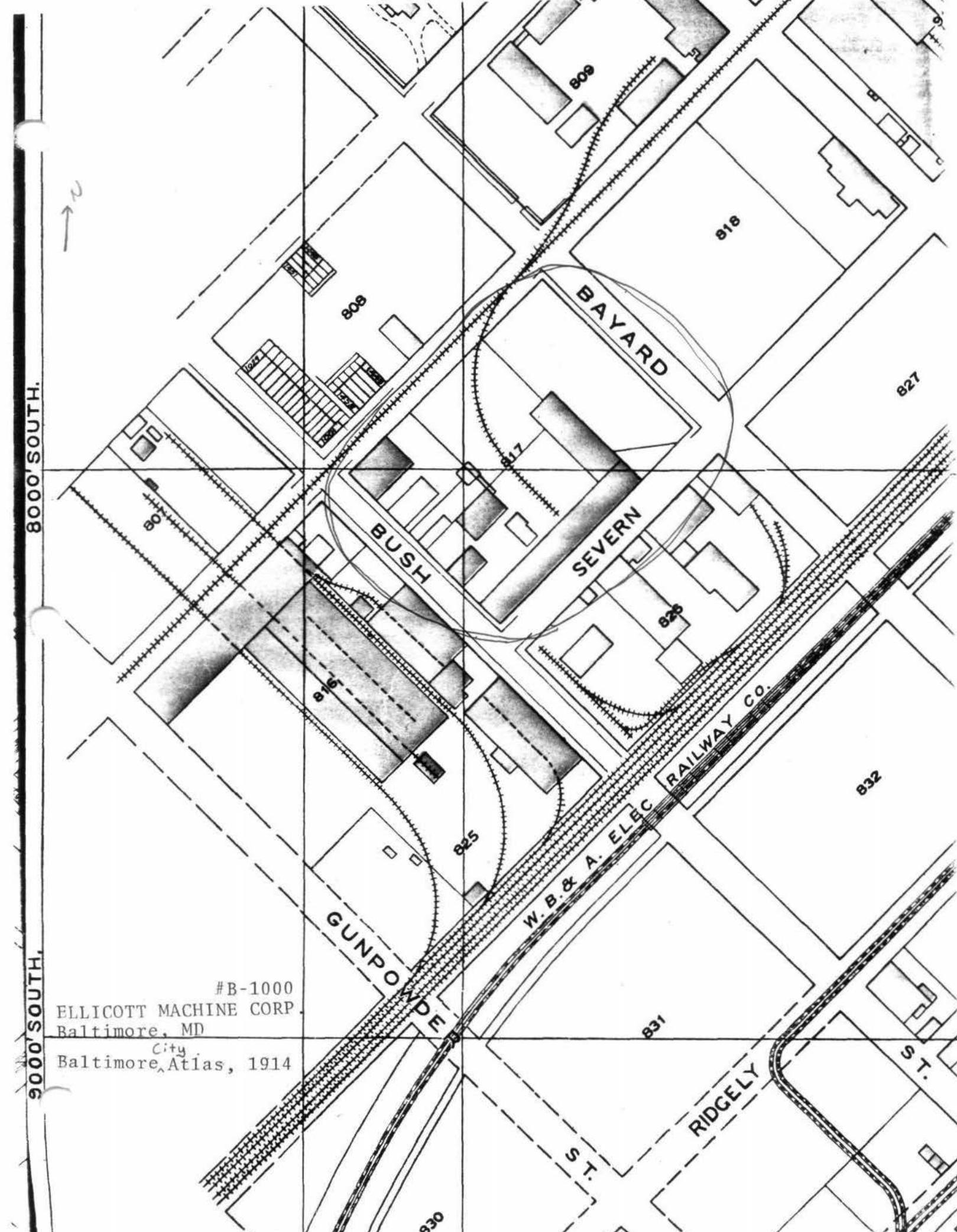
24 LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
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8000' SOUTH.

9000' SOUTH.



#B-1000
ELLICOTT MACHINE CORP.
Baltimore, MD
City
Baltimore, Atlas, 1914



Southern Galvanizing



ELLICOTT MACHINE CORP.
Baltimore City, MD #B-1000
U.S.G.S. 7.5 Balto. West Quad
18³ 58775 43 48660



Ellicott Machine Corp.

B-1000

Baltimore, MD

Photo: P. Liebhold

Neg. Location: MD Historical Trust

Dec. 1982

Looking Southeast



Ellicott Machine Corp. B-1000
Baltimore City
Neg. Loc.: MHS Historical Trust
Training lab (stationary dredge)
Peter Liebhold 12/82

To St. at

training lab
(st. dredges) + old smoke

NE from Bush



Ellicott Machine Corp. B-1000
Baltimore, MD
Photo: P. Liebhold
Neg. Location: MD Historical Trust
Dec. 1982
Looking Northwest



Ellicott Machine Corp. B-1000
Baltimore, MD
Photo: P. Lipshold
Neg. Location: MD Historical Trust
Dec. 1982
East Facade

3/6 Severn & Bayview



Ellicott Machine B-1000

Baltimore, City, MD

Neg. Loc.: MD Hist. Trust

Looking N/E from Severn + Bayard
(old section of machine shop)

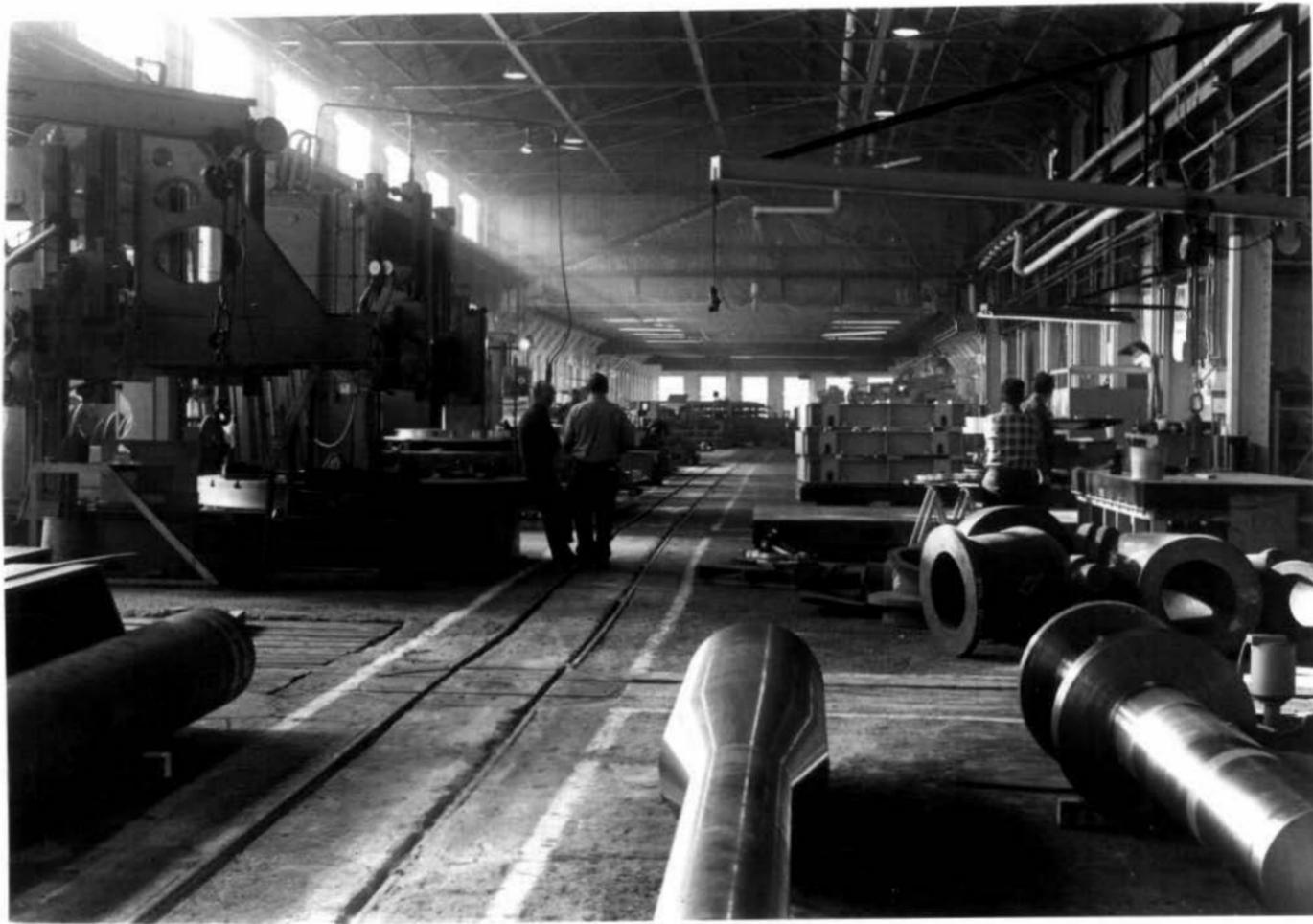
Peter Liebhold 12182

N/E
Severn + Bayard

old section of machine shop



Ellicott Machine Corporation B-1000
Baltimore, MD
Photo: P. Liebhold
Neg. Location: MD Historical Trust
Dec. 1982
Old Machine Shop/Looking Southw.



B-1000
Ellicott Machine Corporation
Baltimore, MD
Photo: P. Liebhold
Neg. location: MD Hist. Trust
Dec. 1982 Int. Machine Shop

S/W

old section
machine shop.