

Statement of Significance

Since the 18th century, sawmills, woodworking plants, lumberyards and shipyards were common in Baltimore city--particularly along the waterfront east of the Back Basin.

The Horstmeier Company and one of its components, the Henry James Company, were among the oldest and largest wood products establishments in the United States during the late 1800's. Horstmeier was instrumental in introducing southern pine to the nationwide market. This soft, cheap, durable wood revolutionized the domestic housing industry and made Baltimore a center of the American lumber trade.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

The E. W. Horstmeier & Sons Lumber Company

AND/OR COMMON

The Horstmeier Lumber Company

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

301 East Falls Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland 21202

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 type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" 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

Horstmeier Lumber Company

Telephone #:(301) 752-0532

STREET & NUMBER

(Same as above)

CITY, TOWN

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore City Courthouse

Liber #: R02349

Folio #: 494

STREET & NUMBER

200 block of St. Paul Street

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

B-1005

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> XALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE '80

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Horstmeier Lumber Company has two locations in south-east Baltimore. The original location, dates from the late nineteenth century, and occupies a site in the 300 block of East Falls Avenue. The second location, the former Henry James Lumber Company, occupies the 900 block of Aliceanna Street. Both sites are on the waterfront and are served by the railroad as well. These factors were important elements in the development of the lumber industry in Baltimore.

The company's original buildings are the two adjacent structures which occupy the southernmost part of the complex. The one which fronts on President Street is probably the older of the two. It is a high one-story warehouse type of building extending about one third of a block west. Its President Street facade is wood covered by corrugated metal and has two garage doors for loading. This building is now used for storage of lumber, probably its original function. Its interior is a large high space, open to the slightly arched roof which is supported at each bay by heavy timber, trestle-like framing.

Adjacent to this building on the west is the other of the two original buildings. It is of similar vintage although the facade facing East Falls Avenue has been rebuilt in brick, probably in the last twenty-five years. It is also a one-story structure whose roof is slightly lower than the east building. This area is occupied by the company's planing and molding mill and still has its original line shafting and pulleys. Its simple post and beam construction provides ample floor space between the two rows of heavy timber posts. The timber beams (appx. 10 x 12) also serve as supports for the line shaft hangers (no longer used). The northwest corner of this building is divided into two floors by a frame partition wall, the lower one containing the original steam engine and its flywheel/bandwheel. The flywheel is appx. 10 feet in diameter and is accommodated in a wheelpit. The engine was built around 1900 by the Frick Manufacturing Company and is a Corliss rotary valve type, single eccentric, horizontal type with an 18 inch bore and 38 inch stroke. Just east of the engine is a single Babcock and Wilcox horizontal return tube boiler which provided it with steam.

North of the original buildings are two attached structures which formerly housed a cotton waste reprocessing factory. The easternmost building--a one-story warehouse with a timber trussed roof--now houses the offices of Horstmeier, as well as lumber storage space. The truss is a clear span and provides unimpeded

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview with Mr. J. Wilkens, Bowie Smith Lumber Co. (276-1000)
Vertical and query files, Enoch Pratt Free Library

Scharf, History of Baltimore City&County (Phil.,1881), p.462

Baltimore American, History of City of Baltimore (1902), p.426.

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

David O'Connor

ORGANIZATION

Baltimore Industrial Museum

DATE

July, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

217 North Charles St.

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

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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 _____ BUILDER/ARCHITECT _____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Since the 18th century, sawmills, woodworking plants, lumberyards and shipyards were common in Baltimore city--particularly along the waterfront east of the Back Basin.

The Horstmeier Company and one of its components, the Henry James Company, were among the oldest and largest wood products establishments in the United States during the late 1800's. Horstmeier was instrumental in introducing southern pine to the nationwide market. This soft, cheap, durable wood revolutionized the domestic housing industry and made Baltimore a center of the American lumber trade.

Historical Significance

The Horstmeier Lumber Company, still operating on East Falls Avenue and President Street in Fells Point, represents only one of the numerous lumber firms which operated in Baltimore. Sawmills, woodworking plants, lumberyards and shipyards were common in the city, particularly along the waterfront east of the Back Basin, throughout the 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries. The Horstmeier Company, and one of its components, the Henry James Company, were among the largest wood products establishments in the United States during the late 1800's. Firms like Horstmeier and James introduced southern pine to a nationwide market. This soft, cheap, durable wood revolutionized the domestic housing industry and made Baltimore a center of the American lumber trade.

In 1875, E. W. Horstmeier started a small business along the fallsway in Fells Point. Although little is known about the com-

Cont'd--

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

floor space, formerly for cotton waste. The attached structure, fronting on East Falls Avenue and Stiles Street, is an early twentieth century brick building which formerly housed the offices and receiving area for cotton waste. The building contains a central two story space open to the timber trussed roof, with enclosed offices against the south wall. The building is now used only as storage.

pany's beginnings, by 1896 E. W. Horstmeier operated a lumberyard and steam-powered planing mill on the site. This property, still operated as a woodworking plant, retains its original steam engine and planing machinery.

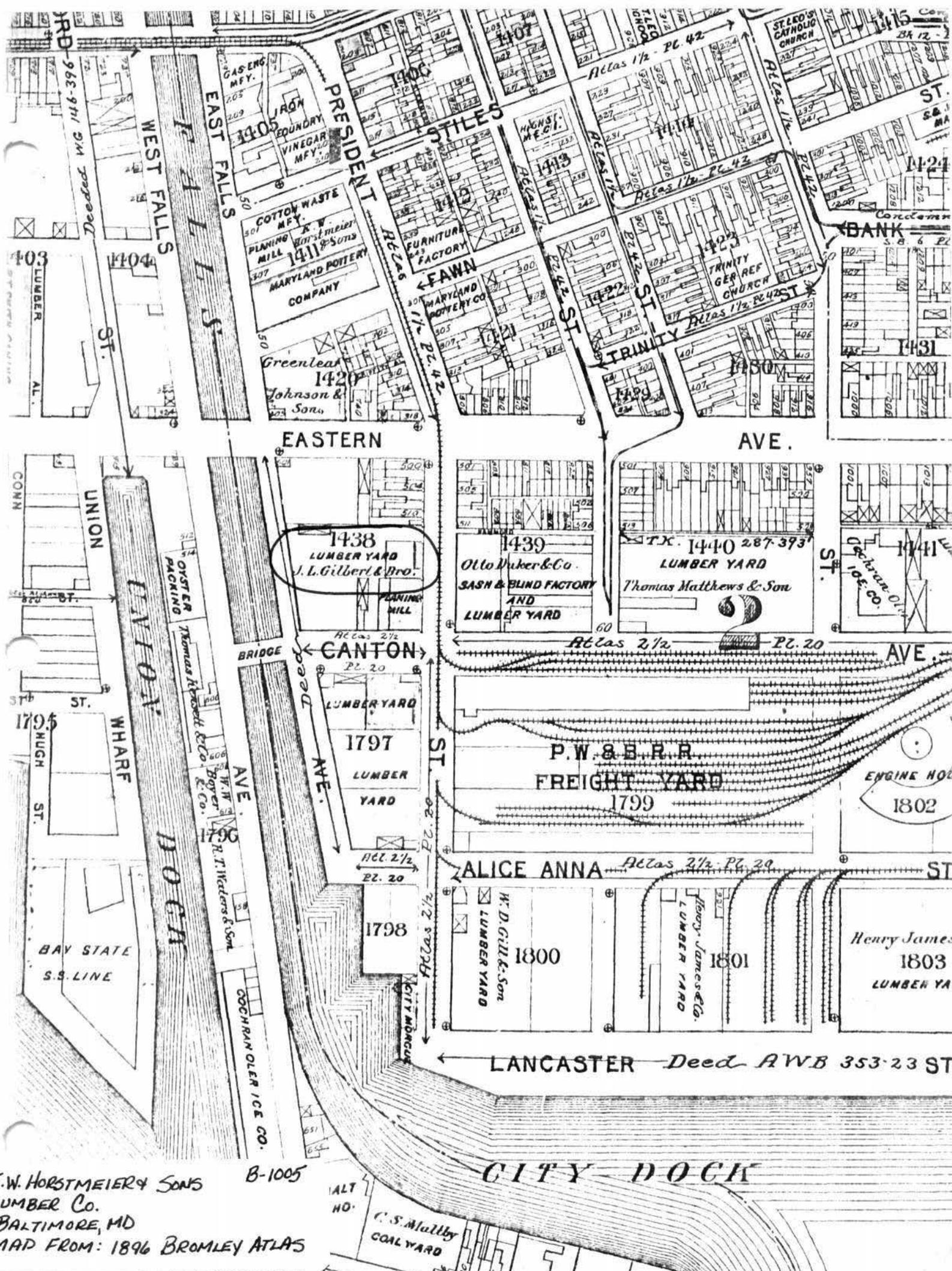
Throughout the late 19th and early 20th centuries Horstmeier, like other Baltimore lumber companies, prospered as wartime demands and increasing urbanization insured a steady market for lumber. The Horstmeier Company was incorporated in 1902 under John Galvin whose descendants still work for the firm. In addition to its mill on East Falls Avenue Horstmeier also began renting storage properties during the 1950's and 1960's. Presently, it is one of the largest wholesale lumber and millworking firms in the city.

Continuity is the most significant aspect of the Horstmeier site and company history. Since at least 1843, and probably well before that, a wood products firm has continually operated at the waterfront location. In addition, the Horstmeier firm was a father-son operation and is still controlled by family members of the company's first employees. Finally, many of the present employees at Horstmeier are descendants of former Horstmeier employees.

NAER INVENTORY

U.S. Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

1. SITE I.D. NO B 1 0 0 5		3. PRIORITY		4. DANGER OF DEMOLITION? (SPECIFY THREAT) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN	
2. INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION Manufacturing		5. DATE		6. GOVT SOURCE OF THREAT OWNER: City of Balto. Highway project. ADMIN: [shaded]	
8. NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE The E. W. Horstmeier & Sons Lumber Company		9. OWNER'S ADDRESS The Horstmeier Lumber Company 301 East Falls Avenue			
10. STATE COUNTY: M D COUNTY NAME: CITY/VICINITY: Baltimore CONG. DIST.: 3		10. STATE COUNTY: M D COUNTY NAME: CITY/VICINITY: Baltimore CONG. DIST.: 3			
11. SITE ADDRESS (STREET & NO) 301 East Falls Avenue		12. EXISTING SURVEYS: <input type="checkbox"/> NR <input type="checkbox"/> NHL <input type="checkbox"/> HABS <input type="checkbox"/> HAER-I <input type="checkbox"/> HAER <input type="checkbox"/> NPS <input type="checkbox"/> CL6 <input type="checkbox"/> CONF <input type="checkbox"/> STATE <input type="checkbox"/> COUNTY <input type="checkbox"/> LOCAL <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER			
14. UTM ZONE EASTING NORTHING SIGN		13. SPECIAL FEATURES (DESCRIBE BELOW) <input type="checkbox"/> INTERIOR INTACT <input type="checkbox"/> EXTERIOR INTACT <input type="checkbox"/> ENVIRONS INTACT			
14. UTM ZONE EASTING NORTHING SIGN		SCALE: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1:24 <input type="checkbox"/> 1:62.5 <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER QUAD NAME: Baltimore East			
15. CONDITION: 70 <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED 77 <input type="checkbox"/> DESTROYED 85 <input type="checkbox"/> DEMOLISHED		16. INVENTORIED BY: David O'Connor AFFILIATION: Baltimore Industrial Museum DATE: July, 1980			
17. DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY, INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), HISTORICAL DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, EXTANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ENGINEERS, ETC. Since the 18th century, sawmills, woodworking plants, lumberyards, and shipyards were common in Baltimore city - particularly along the waterfront east of the Back Basin. The Horstmeier Company and one of its components, the Henry James Company, were among the oldest and largest wood products establishments in the United States during the late 1800's. Horstmeier was instrumental in introducing southern pine to the nationwide market. This soft, cheap, durable wood revolutionized the domestic housing industry and made Baltimore a center of the American lumber trade.					
(CONT OVER)					
18. ORIGINAL USE: Manufacturing (Lumber Mill)		PRESENT USE: Manufacturing (Lumber Mill)		ADAPTIVE USE:	
19. REFERENCES—HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER Mr. J. Wilkens, Bowie Smith Lumber Co. (301-276-1000) Vertical & query files, Enoch Pratt Central Library Baltimore American, History of Baltimore (1902), p. 426					
(CONT OVER)					
20. URBAN AREA 50,000 POP. OR MORE? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		21. [shaded]		22. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES, LIMITED <input type="checkbox"/> YES, UNLIMITED <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN	
23. EDITOR INDEXER		24. LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO NAME: DISTRICT I.D. NO: [shaded]			



E.W. HORSTMEIER & SONS B-1005
 LUMBER CO.
 BALTIMORE, MD
 MAP FROM: 1896 BROMLEY ATLAS

ALT NO.
 C.S. Malby
 COAL YARD

CITY DOCK

LANCASTER Deed A.W.B 353-23 ST

ALICE ANNA Atlas 2 1/2 Pl. 20

Atlas 2 1/2 Pl. 20

1439 Otto Huber & Co. SASH & BLIND FACTORY AND LUMBER YARD
 TX. 1440 287-393
 Thomas Matthews & Son

1438 LUMBER YARD J. L. Gilbert & Bro.

1440 LUMBER YARD Thomas Matthews & Son

1422 TRINITY GER. CHURCH
 1420 TRINITY GER. CHURCH
 1419 FURNITURE FACTORY
 1418 MARYLAND POTTERY CO.
 1417 MARYLAND POTTERY COMPANY
 1416 COTTON WASTE MFG. CO.
 1415 IRON EDUNDARY VINEGAR MFG.
 1414 GAS ENG. MFG.

1415 ST. LEO'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
 1414 BANK
 1413
 1412
 1411
 1410
 1409
 1408
 1407
 1406
 1405
 1404
 1403
 1402
 1401
 1400
 1399
 1398
 1397
 1396
 1395
 1394
 1393
 1392
 1391
 1390
 1389
 1388
 1387
 1386
 1385
 1384
 1383
 1382
 1381
 1380
 1379
 1378
 1377
 1376
 1375
 1374
 1373
 1372
 1371
 1370
 1369
 1368
 1367
 1366
 1365
 1364
 1363
 1362
 1361
 1360
 1359
 1358
 1357
 1356
 1355
 1354
 1353
 1352
 1351
 1350
 1349
 1348
 1347
 1346
 1345
 1344
 1343
 1342
 1341
 1340
 1339
 1338
 1337
 1336
 1335
 1334
 1333
 1332
 1331
 1330
 1329
 1328
 1327
 1326
 1325
 1324
 1323
 1322
 1321
 1320
 1319
 1318
 1317
 1316
 1315
 1314
 1313
 1312
 1311
 1310
 1309
 1308
 1307
 1306
 1305
 1304
 1303
 1302
 1301
 1300
 1299
 1298
 1297
 1296
 1295
 1294
 1293
 1292
 1291
 1290
 1289
 1288
 1287
 1286
 1285
 1284
 1283
 1282
 1281
 1280
 1279
 1278
 1277
 1276
 1275
 1274
 1273
 1272
 1271
 1270
 1269
 1268
 1267
 1266
 1265
 1264
 1263
 1262
 1261
 1260
 1259
 1258
 1257
 1256
 1255
 1254
 1253
 1252
 1251
 1250
 1249
 1248
 1247
 1246
 1245
 1244
 1243
 1242
 1241
 1240
 1239
 1238
 1237
 1236
 1235
 1234
 1233
 1232
 1231
 1230
 1229
 1228
 1227
 1226
 1225
 1224
 1223
 1222
 1221
 1220
 1219
 1218
 1217
 1216
 1215
 1214
 1213
 1212
 1211
 1210
 1209
 1208
 1207
 1206
 1205
 1204
 1203
 1202
 1201
 1200
 1199
 1198
 1197
 1196
 1195
 1194
 1193
 1192
 1191
 1190
 1189
 1188
 1187
 1186
 1185
 1184
 1183
 1182
 1181
 1180
 1179
 1178
 1177
 1176
 1175
 1174
 1173
 1172
 1171
 1170
 1169
 1168
 1167
 1166
 1165
 1164
 1163
 1162
 1161
 1160
 1159
 1158
 1157
 1156
 1155
 1154
 1153
 1152
 1151
 1150
 1149
 1148
 1147
 1146
 1145
 1144
 1143
 1142
 1141
 1140
 1139
 1138
 1137
 1136
 1135
 1134
 1133
 1132
 1131
 1130
 1129
 1128
 1127
 1126
 1125
 1124
 1123
 1122
 1121
 1120
 1119
 1118
 1117
 1116
 1115
 1114
 1113
 1112
 1111
 1110
 1109
 1108
 1107
 1106
 1105
 1104
 1103
 1102
 1101
 1100
 1099
 1098
 1097
 1096
 1095
 1094
 1093
 1092
 1091
 1090
 1089
 1088
 1087
 1086
 1085
 1084
 1083
 1082
 1081
 1080
 1079
 1078
 1077
 1076
 1075
 1074
 1073
 1072
 1071
 1070
 1069
 1068
 1067
 1066
 1065
 1064
 1063
 1062
 1061
 1060
 1059
 1058
 1057
 1056
 1055
 1054
 1053
 1052
 1051
 1050
 1049
 1048
 1047
 1046
 1045
 1044
 1043
 1042
 1041
 1040
 1039
 1038
 1037
 1036
 1035
 1034
 1033
 1032
 1031
 1030
 1029
 1028
 1027
 1026
 1025
 1024
 1023
 1022
 1021
 1020
 1019
 1018
 1017
 1016
 1015
 1014
 1013
 1012
 1011
 1010
 1009
 1008
 1007
 1006
 1005
 1004
 1003
 1002
 1001
 1000



The E. W. HORSTMEIER & SONS
LUMBER CO.

18361650 4349535

B-1005

E. W. Horstmeier & Sons Co.
U.S.G.S. 7.5# Baltimore E. Quad
18361650 4349535

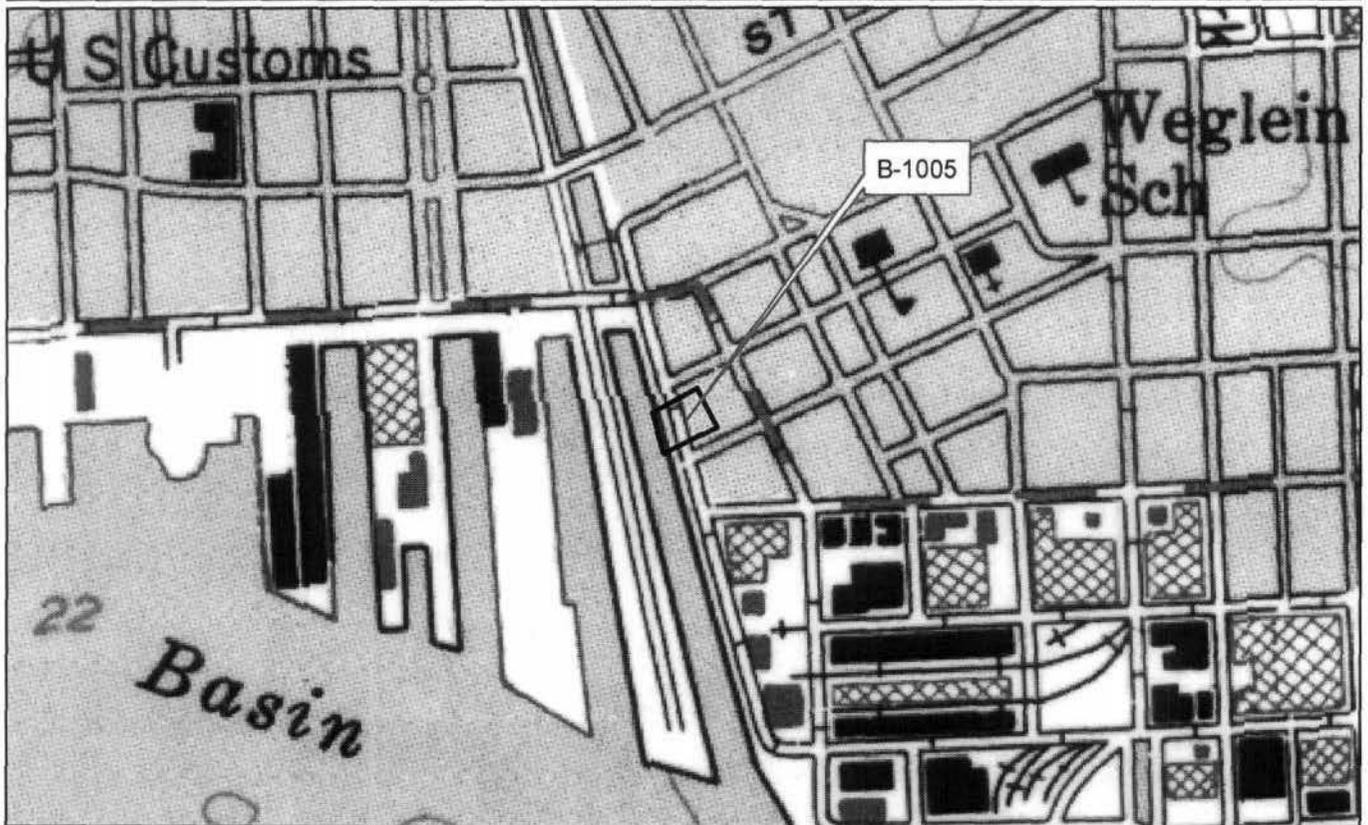
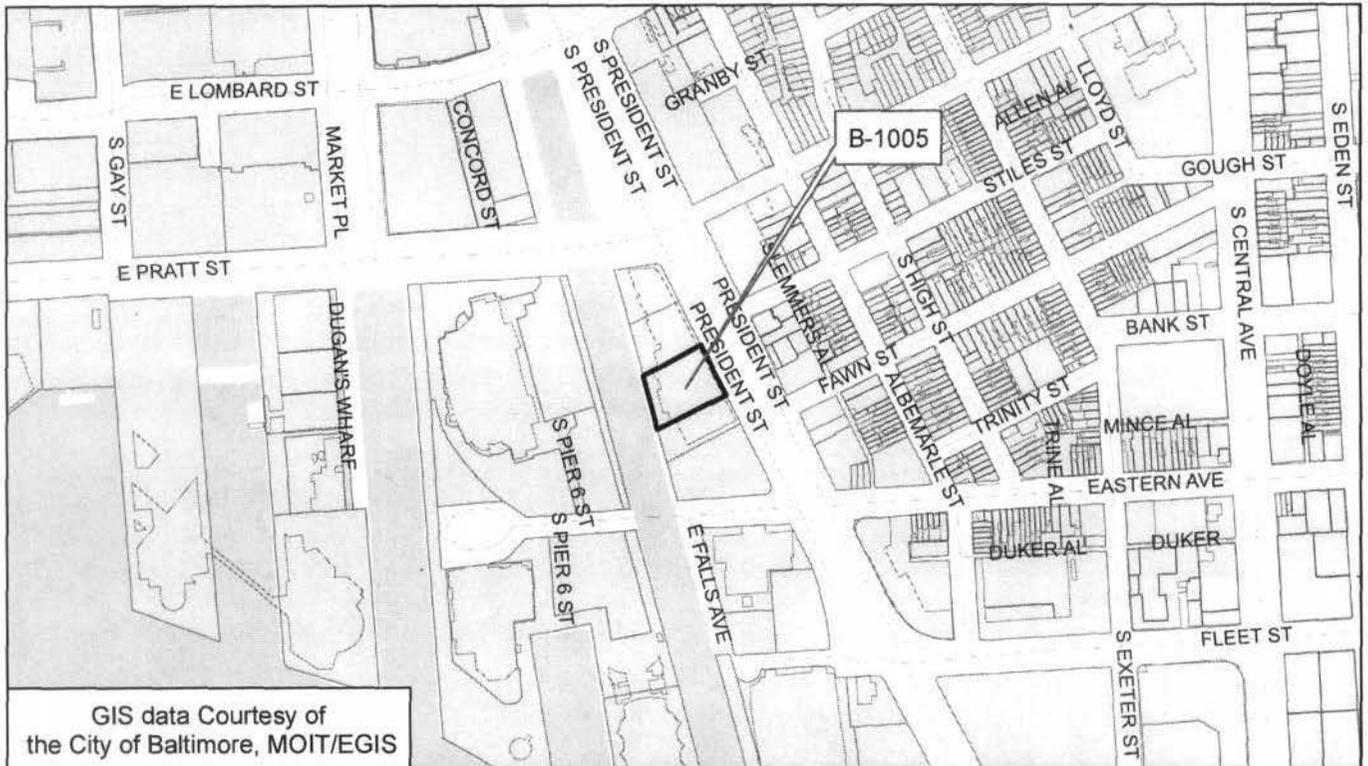
Demolished

B-1005
The E.W. Horstmeier & Sons Lumber Company (The Horstmeier Lumber Company)
301 East Falls Avenue
Baltimore City
Sanborn Map
Baltimore 1914-1915 vol. 4, 1914, Sheet 333



Demolished

B-1005
The Horstmeier Lumber Company (The E.W. Horstmeier & Sons Lumber Company)
301 East Falls Avenue
Block 0890 Lot 011
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





DETOUR
AHEAD

James
H. [illegible]
[illegible]

B-1005

E. W. HORSTMEIER & SONS Co.

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

PHOTO: ANN STEELE

NEG. LOC: MD HISTORIC TRUST

OCT. 1980 | Looking south/west



B-1005

E. W. HORSTMEYER & SONS Co.

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

PHOTO: ANN STEELE

NEG. LOC: MD HISTORIC TRUST

OCT. 1980 North facade, looking S/W
(Stiles Street)



E. W. Horstmeier & Sons. Co. B-1005

Baltimore City, MD.

Photo: Ann Steele

Neg. Loc.: MD. Historic Trust

Oct. 1980

West (Falls Rd.) facade, looking N/E *



E.W. HORSTMEIER & SONS Co. B-1005

BALTIMORE City, MD

PHOTO: ANN Steele

NEG. LOC: MD HISTORIC TRUST

OCT. 1980

South + east facades / looking N/W