

B-1063

Levenson & Zenitz

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The large brick industrial structure which housed the operations of Levenson & Zenitz furniture manufacturers is a **significant** late 19th century woodworking plant. Originally the site of Wilfson and Son's Eagle Furniture Manufactory, and later that of the Lee Furniture Company, the building was one of the last of the furniture factories which were once common in south Baltimore.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Levenson & Zenitz

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 1221 S. Howard Street (at Ostend)

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

21230

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Herbert E. Marder

Telephone #: 764-0405

STREET & NUMBER

6414 Park Heights Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

— VICINITY OF

Maryland

STATE, zip code

21230

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore City Courthouse

Liber #: RHB 2630
Folio #: 397

STREET & NUMBER

Calvert & Fayette Streets

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE
Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

B-1063

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

The structure is of brick, ten bays wide and five stories tall with every eighth row header bond. It has 9/9 sash windows with arched header lintels and wood sills. There is a loading door at bays five and six and brick pilasters between bays three and four and seven and eight.

The first story interior has a concrete floor, brick walls, and 12" brick partitions. The W section (see floor plans) has round cast iron columns with flared capitals. The N section has wood columns approximately six inches square, wood beams 6" X 8" and a sloping ceiling. The NE section has 8" X 8" columns, 8" X 10" beams, and a sloping ceiling. The SE section has fluted cast iron columns with flared decorative capitals and diagonal bracing. A freight elevator is located midway along the S wall of the SE section and serves all stories.

The second story has wood flooring and brick walls. The NW section has 6" X 6" wood columns and beams. The SW section and SE section have 8" X 12" wood columns with diagonal bracing and 4" X 12" wood beams.

The third story has wood flooring and wood tongue-in-groove walls painted green. The W section has 12" X 12" wood columns with diagonal bracing and 12" X 12" wood beams. The SE section has 8" X 8" wood columns and 8" X 8" wood beams.

The fourth story has wood flooring and brick walls. The W section has 8" X 8" wood columns with diagonal bracing and 8" X 12" wood beams. A drying oven 6' X 4' X 4' is located in this section. The SE section has 6" X 8" wood columns and beams and a sloping ceiling.

The fifth story has wood flooring and brick walls. The single section has 6" X 6" wood columns with diagonal bracing and 6" X 8" wood beams. It has a sloping ceiling.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 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

Levenson & Zenitz is significant as a late nineteenth century woodworking plant. It is one of the last of the furniture factories which were once common in South Baltimore.

The building was constructed between 1876 and 1896 on the site of a lumber yard. In 1896 it housed D. Wilfson and Son's Eagle Furniture Manufactory, which made parlor, chamber, dining room and office furniture. In 1882 Wilfson maintained showrooms at 3 S. Calvert Street and 461 W. Baltimore Street. In 1911 Wilfson still occupied the building. From the 1920's to the 1940's Levenson & Zenitz owned and occupied the building. There they manufactured leather couches, davenports, and other parlor, library, church, lodge and club furniture for sale at their downtown showrooms, and in other states. The firm also occupied 1217-19 S. Howard during this period. Levenson and Zenitz was founded by Getzel Levenson in 1884 at 607 E. Fayette Street and by 1901 relocated its factory to 4-8 and 11-13 N. Frederick Street and its showroom to 3 N. Gay Street. From c. 1950 to c. 1965, 1221 S. Howard was occupied by D. S. Joffe, wholesale grocers, which also occupied 1201-19. In the mid 1950's it was occupied by the present tenant, Lee Furniture Company, which maintains warehouse space there. Herbert Marder purchased the building from Mr. Zenitz of Levenson and Zenitz c. 1972 after renting it c. 1968-72.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Personal recollections of Herbert Marder
The Jesus of Baltimore, 1910 (Pratt Library)
Industries of Maryland, 1882 (Pratt Library)

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

Roger White, Director

ORGANIZATION

The Baltimore Industrial Museum

DATE

12/80

STREET & NUMBER

217 North Charles Street

TELEPHONE

301-393-1931, 1936

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

1. SITE I.D. NO

B 1 0 6 3

NAER INVENTORY

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

2. INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION

Manufacturing

3. PRIORITY

4. DANGER OF DEMOLITION?
(SPECIFY THREAT) YES NO UNKNOWN

5. DATE

6. GOVT SOURCE OF THREAT

OWNER

ADMIN

7. OWNER/ADMIN

Herbert E. Marder

8. NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE

LEVENSON & ZENITZ

9. OWNER'S ADDRESS

6414 Park Heights Avenue

10. STATE
COUNTY

M D

COUNTY NAME

CITY/VICINITY

Baltimore

CONG.
DIST.

0 3

STATE
COUNTY

M D

COUNTY NAME

N/A

CITY/VICINITY

Baltimore

CONG.
DIST.

11. SITE ADDRESS (STREET & NO.)

1221 S. Howard Street (at Ostend)

12. EXISTING
SURVEYS NR NHL HABS HAER-I HAER NPS CL6
 CONF STATE COUNTY LOCAL OTHER

13. SPECIAL FEATURES (DESCRIBE BELOW)

 INTERIOR INTACT EXTERIOR INTACT ENVIRONS INTACT

14. UTM ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	SIGN
1 8	3 6 0 1 3 0	4 3 4 8 4 3 0	
UTM ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	SIGN

SCALE 1:24 1:62.5 OTHER

QUAD

NAME Baltimore East

SCALE 1:24 1:62.5 OTHER

QUAD

NAME

15. CONDITION 70 EXCELLENT 71 GOOD 72 FAIR 73 DETERIORATED 74 RUINS 75 UNEXPOSED 76 ALTERED 77 DESTROYED 85 DEMOLISHED

16. INVENTORIED BY

Roger White

AFFILIATION

The Baltimore Industrial Museum

DATE

December, 1980

17. DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY, INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), HISTORICAL DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, EXTANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

Levenson and Zenitz is significant as a late nineteenth century woodworking plant. It is one of the last of the furniture factories which were once common in South Baltimore.

The building was constructed between 1876 and 1896 on the site of a lumber yard. In 1896 it housed D. Wilfson and Son's Eagle Furniture Manufactory, which made parlor, chamber, dining room and office furniture. In 1882 Wilfson maintained showrooms at 3 S. Calvert Street and 461 W. Baltimore Street. In 1911, Wilfson still occupied the building. From the 1920's to the 1940's, Levenson and Zenitz owned and occupied the building. There they manufactured leather couches, davenports, and other parlor, library, lodge and club furniture for sale at their downtown showrooms and in other states. The firm also occupied 1217-19 S. Howard Street during this period. Levenson and Zenitz was founded by Getzel Levenson in 1884 at the corner of E. Fayette Street (CONT OVER)

18. ORIGINAL USE

Furniture factory

PRESENT USE

ADAPTIVE USE

19. REFERENCES—HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER

The Jesus of Baltimore, 1910 (Pratt Library)Industries of Maryland, 1882 (Pratt Library)

Personal recollections of Herbert Marder

(CONT OVER)

20. URBAN AREA 50,000
POP OR MORE? YES NO

21.

22. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY

 YES, LIMITED YES, UNLIMITED NO UNKNOWN

23. EDITOR

INDEXER

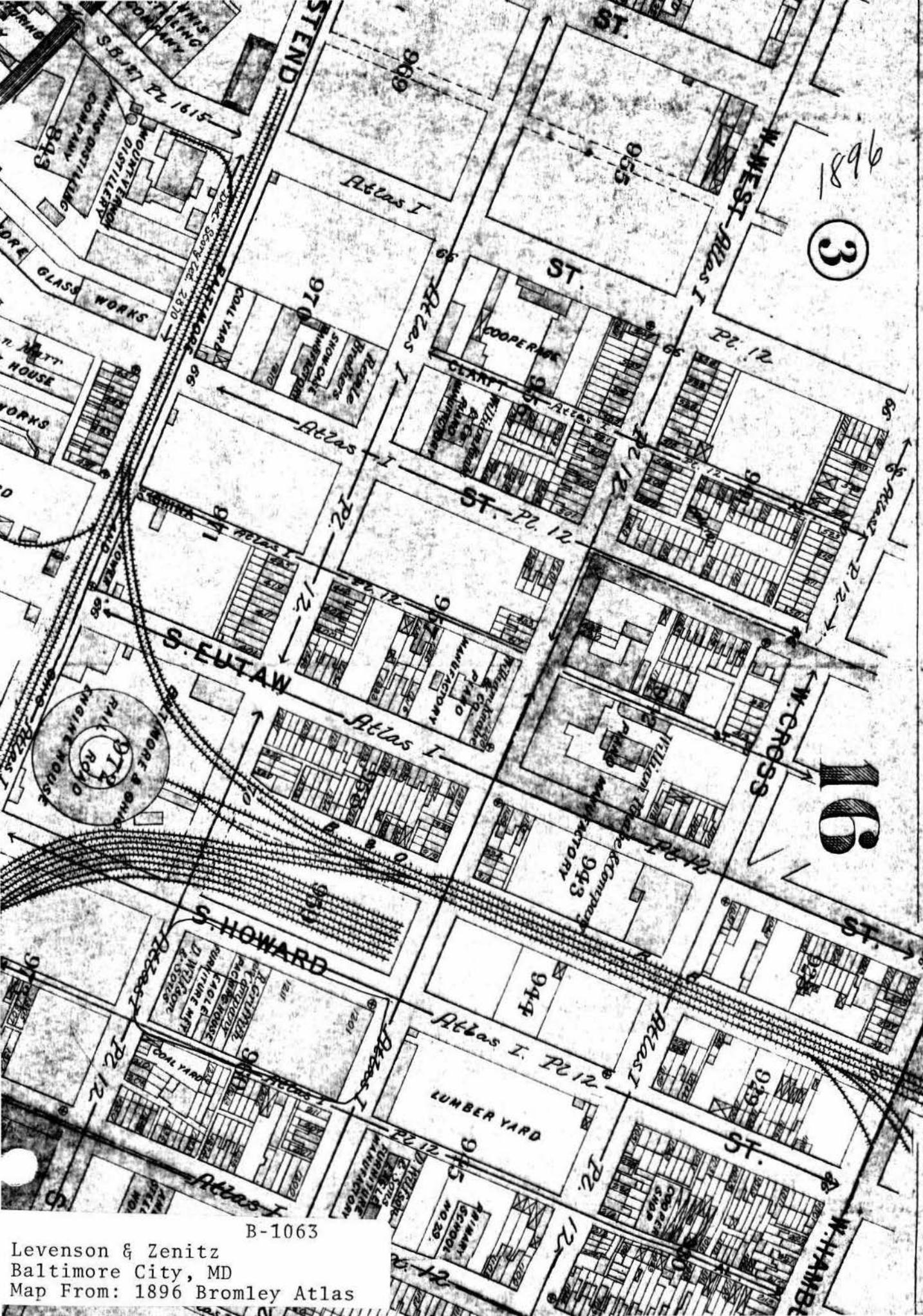
24. LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT?

 YES NO

NAME

DISTRICT I.D. NO

PART OF WARDS 15, 16, 17 & 18



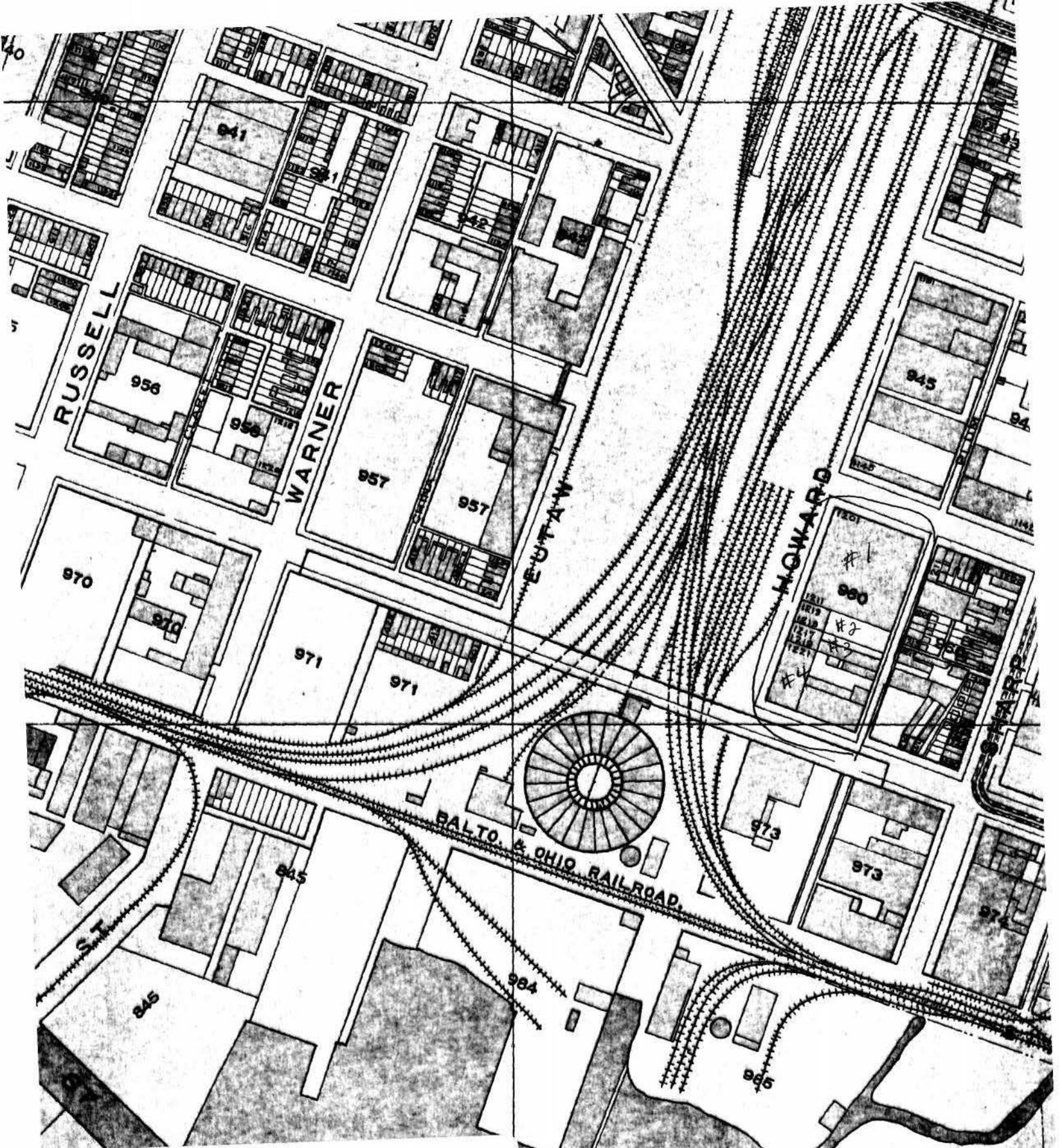
3

16

1896

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Levenson & Zenitz
Baltimore City, MD
Map From: 1896 Bromley Atlas



B-1063

Levenson & Zenitz
Baltimore City, MD
Map From: Baltimore Topographical
Survey Commission 1914

1914



EYENSON & ZENITZ
 BALTIMORE MD
 S.G.S. 75# BALTIMORE EAST
 QUAD

B-1069

FERRY BAR CHANNEL (EA)

FERRY BAR CHANNEL (WEST SECTION)



LEVENSON & ZENITZ

B-1063

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

PHOTO: ROGER WHITE

NEG. LOC: MD HISTORIC TRUST

NOV. 1980

LOOKING S.E. (Howard St. facade)

LOOKING SE

ROGER WHITE

NOV 1980



LEVENSON & ZENITZ
BALTIMORE CITY, MD

B-1063

PHOTO: ROGER WHITE

NEB. LOC. MD HISTORIC TRUST
NOV. 1980

LOOKING NE (Ostend St. facade)

LEVENSON & ZENITZ

LOOKING SE

ROGER WHITE



LEVENSON & ZENITZ

B-1063

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

PHOTO: ROGER WHITE

NEG. LOC: MD HISTORIC TRUST

NOV. 1980

LOOKING S.E. (S. Howard facade)

ROGER WHITE