

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 FAUST BROTHERS BUILDING  
other names/site number Trading Post

### 2. Location

street & number 307-309 West Baltimore Street N/A  not for publication  
city, town Baltimore N/A  vicinity  
state Maryland code MD county independant city code 510 zip code 21201

### 3. Classification

#### Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

#### Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

#### Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
	_____ sites
	_____ structures
	_____ objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:  
East Iron Architecture of Baltimore, MD 1850-1904

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

### 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 of certifying official STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER Date 10/24/94

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**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE/warehouse

COMMERCE/TRADE/business

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/manufacturing  
facility**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

(enter categories from instructions)

Italianate

foundation brick

walls iron

brick

roof asphalt

other wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

**DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:**

The Faust Brothers Building is a five-story brick commercial building with a cast-iron facade above an altered storefront, erected about 1875. It is located on the south side of West Baltimore Street, about 100' west of North Howard Street in central Baltimore city, Maryland. The upper facade remains virtually intact, with four bays of arched window openings framed by Corinthian columns. The side piers are articulated by alternating rusticated and paneled quoin forms.

**8. Statement of Significance**

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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.1875  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

c.1875  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Bennett, Benjamin F., builder  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

**THEME:**

Cast Iron Architecture in Baltimore, Maryland, 1850-1904.

**SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:**

The Faust Brothers Building is significant as representing a Full Cast Iron Front type building. It is also noteworthy for the two story cast iron front on the south side along Redwood Street. The building is the only known example of cast-iron fronts on the front and back elevations.

See continuation sheet no. 3  
for Historic Context and  
Maryland Comprehensive Historic  
Preservation Plan data

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 no. 6

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Geographical Data

Acres of property less than one acre  
 USGS quad Baltimore East, MD

UTM References

A 

1	8	3	6	0	2	8	0	4	3	4	9	9	1	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

C 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

B 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Boundaries are defined as a single city lot, specifically identified as Block 643, Lot 9, recorded among the Land Records of Baltimore City, Maryland.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property comprises the city lot upon which the resource stands.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Peter E. Kurtze, Architectural Historian	date	14 May 1990
organization	Baltimore Heritage, Inc.	telephone	(410) 296-7538
street & number	109 Brandon Road	state	MD
city or town	Baltimore	zip code	21212

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United States Department of the Interior  
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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

FAUST BROTHERS BUILDING  
Baltimore  
Maryland

Section number 7 Page 1

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### GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The Faust Brothers Building is a flat-roofed brick commercial building erected about 1875 for a wholesaler of boots and shoes. The building is five stories high, and features a cast-iron facade above an altered storefront. The upper facade is four bays wide, defined by Corinthian columns framing segmental-arched window openings. The top-story openings hold 2/4 sash; the second, third and fourth floors are lighted by large 4/4 windows. The windows are set deeply within the openings, which have paneled soffits; the spandrels between the arches are decorated with molded panels. The floor levels are marked by intermediary cornices with modillions. The building cornice has a deep overhang, supported on paired foliated consoles above a row of dentils and a paneled frieze. The corners of the facade are defined by alternating rusticated and paneled iron blocks, imitating stone quoins.

The facade was altered at street level about 1940 by the addition of horizontal panels of black Carrara glass above the existing storefront. Later additions resulted in the present storefront, which has display windows flanking a recessed plate glass window and entrance. At the front building line, a single supporting pier remains, sheathed in fluted stainless steel; the same material covers the area below the sills of the display windows. The windows are surmounted by horizontal metal molding setting off panels of black Carrara glass; standing lighted letters from a sign reading "Trading Post". The original storefront is documented in nineteenth-century illustrations, and comprised four open bays defined by flat arches with rounded corners framed by fluted piers with Corinthian capitals. The two inner bays had double-leaf doors, and the outer bays held display windows. Early illustrations also show a paneled parapet with scrolled decoration at the roofline; this feature was removed before 1910.

The building adjoins a nineteenth century brick commercial building on the west; a four-story structure formerly abutted the building on the east, but this has been demolished and the exposed party wall treated with stucco.

The rear elevation, fronting on Redwood Street, is six stories

See Continuation Sheet No. 2

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

FAUST BROTHERS BUILDING  
Baltimore  
Maryland

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high, with a loading dock at the street level. The two lower stories are cast iron, with four segmental-arched openings flanked by paneled pilasters with Corinthian capitals. Each arch opening has a foliated keystone decoration; the spandrels are enriched with small cartouches. The intermediary cornices have modillions and dentils. The upper four stories are brick. The third, fourth, and fifth floors have four tall 4/4 windows in round-headed openings below projecting arches of molded brick. The corners of the facade have brick quoins, interrupted at each floor level by a projecting brick cornice. A patterned brick cornice separates the fifth floor from the sixth; the top floor has six round-arched 4/4 windows. This elevation is surmounted by a simple molded cornice.

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National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

FAUST BROTHERS BUILDING  
Baltimore  
Maryland

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## HISTORIC CONTEXT:

### MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930  
Modern, 1930-1941

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture/Landscape Architecture/Community Planning  
Economic (Commercial and Industrial)

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

COMMERCE/TRADE/warehouse  
INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/manufacturing  
facility

Known Design Source: None

See Continuation Sheet No. 4

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United States Department of the Interior  
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Continuation SheetFAUST BROTHERS BUILDING  
Baltimore  
MarylandSection number 8 Page 4**HISTORY & SUPPORT:**

The Faust Brother Building achieved its present configuration about 1875. Tax records for 1866 indicate a three-story brick dwelling on this site, owned by George J. Appold and occupied by Joshua Robinson, a tinware manufacturer (1st floor) and George Winder, photographer (second floor). About 1875, this structure was replaced or extensively altered in the campaign which resulted in the present five-story, iron front loft building. The building was constructed for John and H. Faust of Harford County, who operated a wholesale boot and shoe company under the name Faust Brothers. The builder was Benjamin F. Bennett, a prominent nineteenth-century contractor whose office was located at 123 (old #44) South Howard Street. He was active beginning about 1851; by about 1886, he was credited with building the Academy of Music, Broadway Market, First M.E. Church, Mt. Vernon M.E. Church, Guilford Avenue Church Bennett Memorial M.E. Church, Strawbridge M.E. Church, Woman's College, Home for the Aged, "and numerous private residences of more or less pretension to beauty and ornamentation". (Half Century's Progress of the City of Baltimore, p. 121). His advertisement in Howard's Monumental City (c.1876) illustrates 307-309 West Baltimore Street as an example of his work (p. 452). In 1876, John & H. Faust of Harford County (Faust Bros.) were taxed for a five-story iron warehouse. The Faust Brothers apparently used the upper three floors of the building for their operations, and leased the remaining space; the tenant in 1876 was Hull, Lanier & Company; this firm was succeeded the following year by Lucius L. Lanier & Company, (Lucius L. Lanier, E.C. Sylvester), wholesale dry goods and clothing. by 1887, Faust Brothers had been reorganized as J. Faust & Son (John H. Faust, Charles H. Faust, Herman Schocke), boot and shoe manufacturers. The building was purchased in 1895 by William Keyser (1835-1904), a prominent Baltimore entrepreneur, who began his career operating an iron importing business with his brother Irvine. The two started working for their father in 1852, and took over the business five years later. William Keyser also became President of the Baltimore Copper Smelting & Rolling company, a copper wire manufacturing enterprise, and Vice President of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. Following the Baltimore fire of 1904, Mayor Robert McLane appointed him to head the Burnt District Commission, formed to plan for the

See Continuation Sheet No. 5

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Continuation SheetFAUST BROTHERS BUILDING  
Baltimore  
MarylandSection number 8 Page 5

reconstruction of the city's mercantile center (Greene, p. 124). Keyser married Mary Brent in 1858, and the couple had two sons, Robert Brent and William, and one daughter, Mathilde Lawrence. At about the time of Keyser's purchase, an illustration of the building appeared in Baltimore: the Book of its Board of Trade (p. 105). In 1889, Pearre Brothers & Co., wholesale dry goods and notions, moved into the building. The firm was established in 1866 as Boyd, Pearre & Co., and changed to Pearre Bros. in 1870. Aubrey Pearre, a principal in this firm, was originally from Frederick; his forebears took part in the Revolution. Pearre joined the Confederate Army in 1858, and had a distinguished career as an artillery officer. Coming to Baltimore in 1866, he started a wholesale dry goods business with his brother, O.H. Pearre. Pearre Bros. handled both domestic and imported goods, and specialized in woolens for men's clothing. They established a market in the Mid-Atlantic and South, employing 27 salesmen (Kahn, P. 48). From about 1910 to 1912, the building was occupied by Lavenstein & Lubin, wholesale boots and shoes (see Jews of Baltimore, p. 372). Israel Lavenstein was born in Russia in 1860, went to Sweden at age 15 as a peddler, and emigrated from there to Baltimore. In 1908, he and Joseph Lubin founded the firm of Lavenstein & Lubin, trading as the Baltimore Shoe House; the company served markets in the Mid-Atlantic and the South, and as far west as Texas and Oklahoma (Kahn, p. 111-12). From about 1915 to 1922, the boot and shoe wholesale firm of Frank & Adler was located at this address. Founded in 1873 by Solomon Frank, Simon C. Frank, and Charles Adler, this firm became one of the leading shoe wholesalers in Baltimore, and one of the organizers in 1880 of the Baltimore Shoe and Leather Board of Trade (Kahn, p. 111). For most of the 1920s and 30s, the building housed a series of men's furnishings enterprises owned by Harry M. Blum. Around 1940, the estate of R. Brent Keyser sold the property to Irvin and Sadie Okum and George and Josephine Epstein, who operated a retail men's clothing store, "The Trading Post," in the building.

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**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

FAUST BROTHERS BUILDING  
Baltimore  
Maryland

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**MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:**

Baltimore City Directories, 1870s-1940s

Blum, Isidor The Jews of Baltimore (Baltimore: Historical Review Publishing Co., 1910).

Engelhardt, George W. Baltimore: the Book of its Board of Trade. (Baltimore: by the Board of Trade, 1895), p. 105.

Half Century's Progress of the City of Baltimore (New York: International Publishing Co., n.d. [c.1886]), p. 121.

Howard, Monumental City (Baltimore: n.p., n.d. [c.1876]).

Kahn, Philip, Jr. A Stitch in Time: The Four Seasons of Baltimore's Needle Trades (Baltimore: The Maryland Historical Society, 1989).

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland

Foust Brothers Bldg  
B-1081  
Baltimore  
Maryland

18/360280/4349910

Balt E

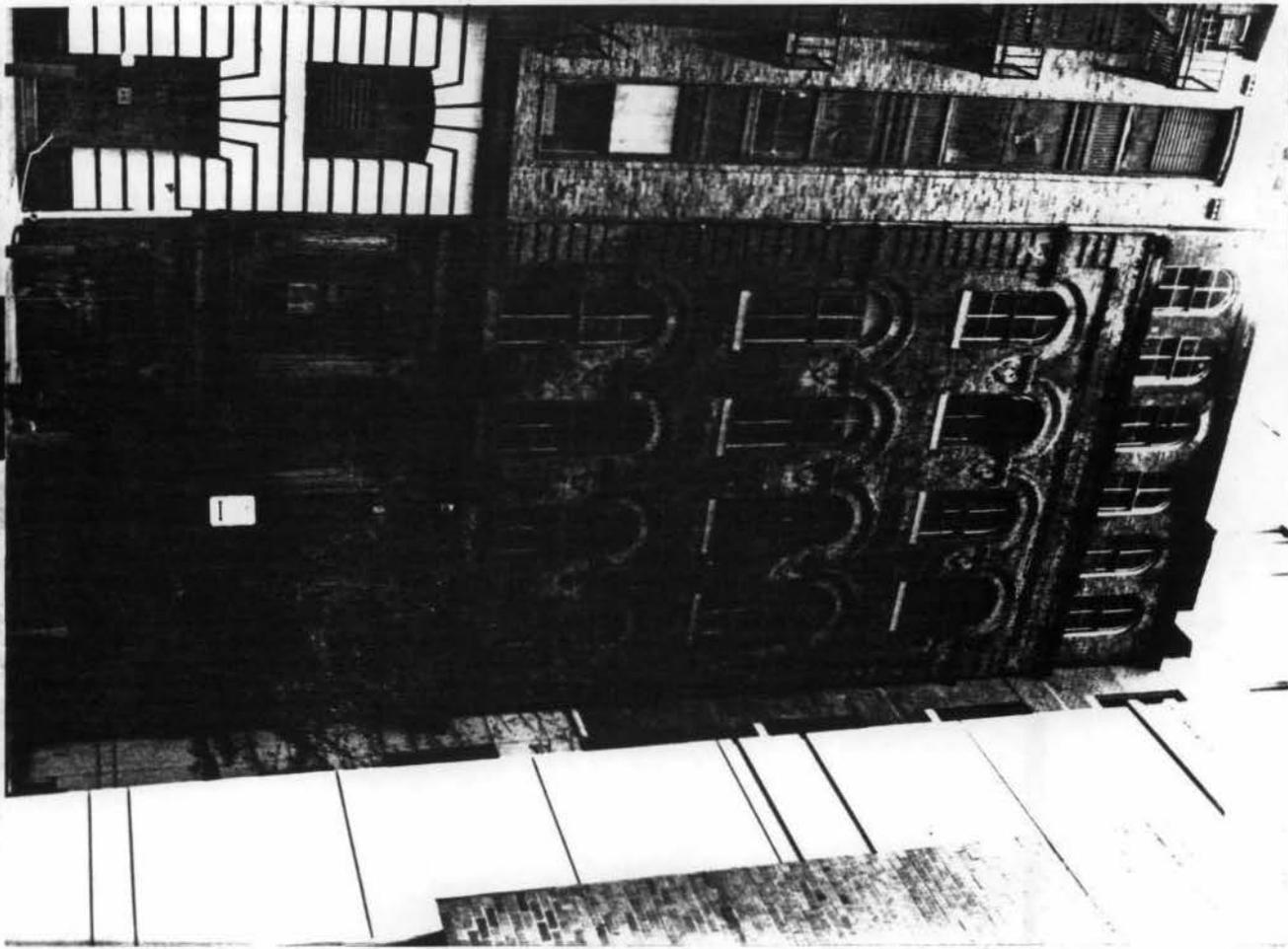


(RELAY)  
5662 11 NW

Mapped by the Army Map Service  
Edited and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, USCE, and City of Baltimore  
Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric



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Faust Brothers Building

307-309 West Baltimore St

Baltimore, Maryland

7 August 1994

photo: R. Andrews

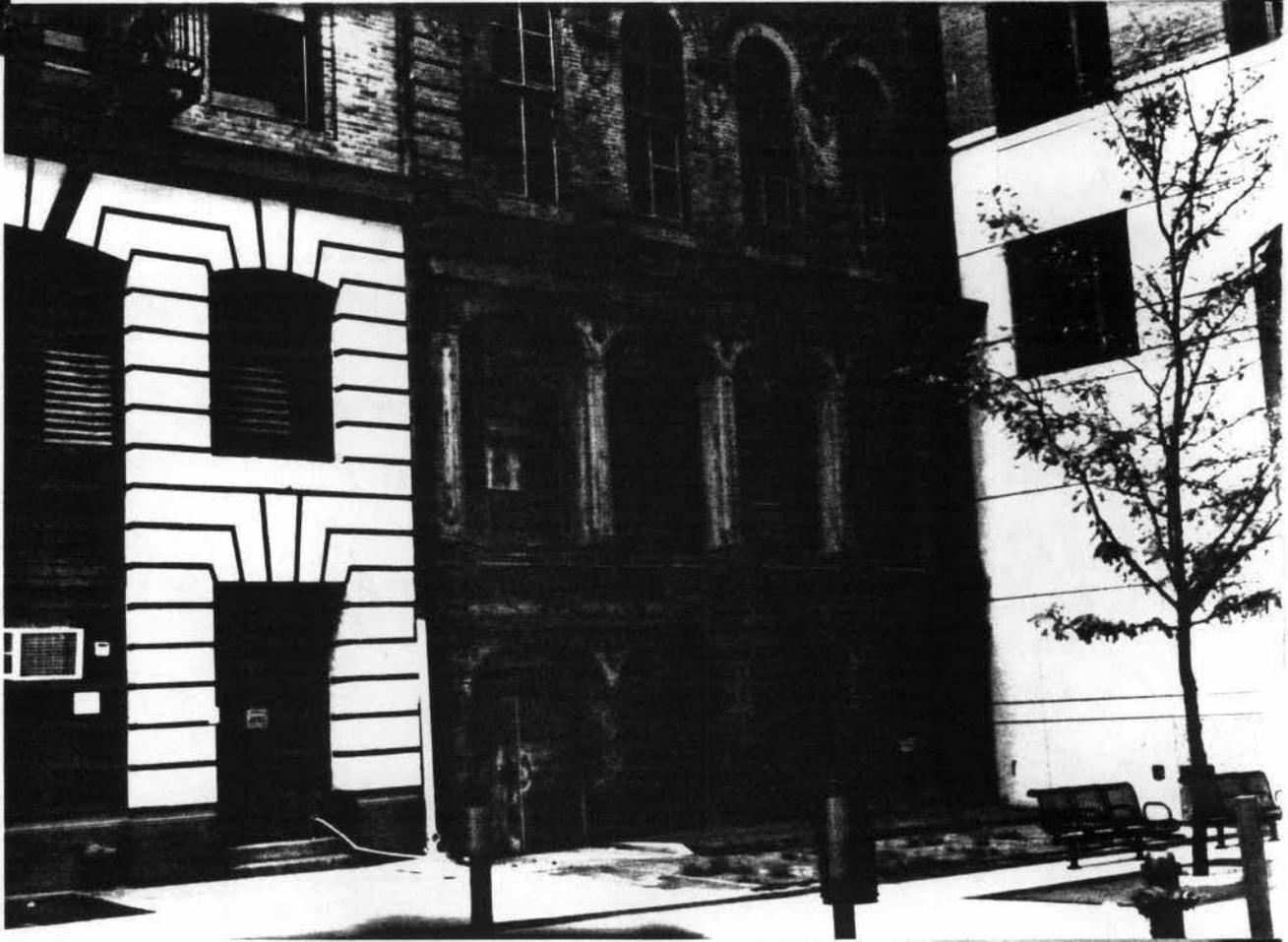
neg: MD SHPO

Redwood<sup>St</sup> elevation

2/3

Faust Brothers Building  
307-309 West Baltimore St  
Baltimore, Maryland  
7 August 1994  
photo: R. Andrews  
neg: MD SHPO  
2/3

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Faust Brothers Building  
307-309 West Baltimore St.  
Baltimore, Maryland

7 August 1994

photo: R. Andrews

neg: M.D. SHPO

detail Redwood/<sup>St</sup>S elevation

3/3



3 307-309 W Baltimore (Trading Post)  
(Left)

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FAUST BROS. BLDG

307-309 W. BALTIMORE ST.

BALTIMORE CITY MD

AARON M. LEVIN 1989

NEG AT 3000 CHESTNUT AVE #102  
BALTO MD 21211

NORTH FACADE

(307-309 AT LEFT IN PHOTO)

# 1 OF 2

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7-309 W. Baltimore (Trading Post)  
(~~Left~~ Right)

B-1081

FAUST BROS BLDG  
307-309 W. BALTIMORE ST  
BALTIMORE CITY MD

AARON M. LEVIN 1989

NEG AT 3000 CHESTNUT AVE #102  
BALTO MD 2124  
SOUTH (REAR) ELEVATION

#307-309 AT RIGHT IN PHOTO

# 2 OF 2

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

B-1081  
MHT Inventory No.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

(see also B-2362)

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name: Faust Brothers Building

other name/site number: The Trading Post

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number: 307-309 West Baltimore Street not for publication: n/a

city/town: Baltimore vicinity: n/a

state: MD county: (independent city) code: 510 zip code: 21201

=====

3. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property: private

Category of Property: building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>  1  </u>	<u>      </u>	buildings
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	sites
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	structures
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	objects
<u>  1  </u>	<u>  0  </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:   0  

Name of related multiple property listing: Cast-iron Architecture of Baltimore

=====

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

=====

  X   See continuation sheet.

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 Keeper      Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic:	<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	Sub:	<u>warehouse</u>
	<u>INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXT.</u>		<u>manufacturing facility</u>
Current :	<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	Sub:	<u>business</u>
	<u>VACANT</u>		<u>partially vacant</u>

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_  
vernacular  
commercial

Other Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Materials: foundation \_\_\_\_\_ roof \_\_\_\_\_  
                  walls            \_\_\_\_\_ other        \_\_\_\_\_

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

X See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : n/a

Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE  
COMMERCE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period(s) of Significance: ca. 1875-1941

Significant Dates: ca. 1875

Significant Person(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation: n/a

Architect/Builder: Benjamin F. Bennett, builder

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria  
considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.  
X See continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References

=====  
X See continuation sheet.

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other state agency     Federal agency     Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: \_\_\_\_\_

=====  
10. Geographical Data  
=====

Acreage of Property: \_\_\_\_\_  
USGS quad: Baltimore East, MD

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing    Zone Easting Northing

A    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_    B    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_  
C    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_    D    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_

    \_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description:    \_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification:    \_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

The nominated property comprises the city lot upon which the resource stands.

=====  
11. Form Prepared By  
=====

Name/Title: Peter E. Kurtze, Architectural Historian

Organization: for Baltimore Heritage, Inc.    Date: May 14, 1990

Street & Number: 109 Brandon Road    Telephone: (301) 828-1644

City or Town: Baltimore    State: MD    ZIP: 21212

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number n/a Page # 1  
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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance,  
1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture, Landscape  
Architecture and Community  
Planning;

Economic (Commercial and  
Industrial)

Resource Type: Architecture:  
urban vernacular; standing structure

Economic (Commercial and Industrial):  
warehouse/store; standing structure

Category: Building

Historic Environment: dense urban development

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): industrial/commercial;  
warehouse, store

Known Design Source: unknown

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number   4   Page #   1  

=====  
4. State/Federal Agency Certification  
=====

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 of certifying official

\_\_\_\_\_  
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

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

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7. Description

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Description Summary:

307-09 West Baltimore Street, known as the Faust Brothers Building, is a five-story brick commercial building with a cast-iron facade above an altered storefront, erected about 1875. It is located on the south side of West Baltimore Street, about 100' west of North Howard Street in central Baltimore city, Maryland. The upper facade remains virtually intact, with four bays of arched window openings framed by Corinthian columns. The side piers are articulated by alternating rusticated and paneled quoin forms.

General Description:

The Faust Brothers Building is a flat-roofed brick commercial building erected about 1875 for a wholesaler of boots and shoes. The building is five stories high, and features a cast-iron facade above an altered storefront. The upper facade is four bays wide, defined by Corinthian columns framing segmental-arched window openings. The top-story openings hold 2/4 sash; the second, third and fourth floors are lighted by large 4/4 windows. The windows are set deeply within the openings, which have paneled soffits; the spandrels between the arches are decorated with molded panels. The floor levels are marked by intermediary cornices with modillions. The building cornice has a deep overhang, supported on paired foliated consoles above a row of dentils and a paneled frieze. The corners of the facade are defined by alternating rusticated and paneled iron blocks, imitating stone quoins.

The facade was altered at street level about 1940 by the addition of horizontal panels of black Carrara glass above the existing storefront. Later additions resulted in the present storefront, which has display windows flanking a recessed plate glass window and entrance. At the front building line, a single supporting pier remains, sheathed in fluted stainless steel; the same material covers the area below the sills of the display windows. The windows are surmounted by horizontal metal molding setting off panels of black Carrara glass; standing lighted letters form a sign reading "Trading Post." The original storefront is documented in nineteenth-century illustrations, and comprised four open bays defined by flat arches with rounded corners framed by fluted piers with Corinthian capitals. The two inner bays had double-leaf doors, and the outer bays held display windows. Early illustrations also show a paneled parapet with scrolled decoration at

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National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

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=====  
7. Description  
=====

the roofline; this feature was removed before 1910.

The building adjoins a nineteenth century brick commercial building on the west; a four-story structure formerly abutted the building on the east, but this has been demolished and the exposed party wall treated with stucco.

The rear elevation is six stories high, with a loading dock at the street level. The two lower stories are cast iron, with four segmental-arched openings flanked by paneled pilasters with Corinthian capitals. Each arch has a foliated keystone decoration; the spandrels are enriched with small cartouches. The intermediary cornices have modillions and dentils. The upper four stories are brick. The third, fourth, and fifth floors have four tall 4/4 windows in round-headed openings below projecting arches of molded brick. The corners of the facade have brick quoins, interrupted at each floor level by a projecting brick cornice. A patterned brick cornice separates the fifth floor from the sixth; the top floor has six round-arched 4/4 windows. This elevation is surmounted by a simple molded cornice.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page # 1

8. Statement of Significance

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

Significance summary:

307-309 West Baltimore Street is significant for its architecture. The building was constructed about 1875 by prominent Baltimore contractor Benjamin F. Bennett for the Faust Brothers, boot and shoe wholesalers. Its cast iron facade, most likely produced in a local foundry, represents a type of architecture which characterized loft buildings in Baltimore in the latter half of the nineteenth century; many such buildings were lost in the fire of 1904. The building derives additional significance from its association with the important garment manufacturing and sales industries which flourished in this area of Baltimore in the third quarter of the nineteenth century and first quarter of the twentieth. It housed a series of shoe and clothing firms; the iron front building type suited these industries well, as it offered ample lighting and open interior plan. The building retains its association with the garment industry into the present; its period of significance is defined as continuing until World War II, in accord with current National Park Service guidelines.

History & Support:

307-309 West Baltimore Street achieved its present configuration about 1875. Tax records for 1866 indicate a 3-story brick dwelling on this site, owned by George J. Appold and occupied by Joshua Robinson, a tinware manufacturer (1st floor) and George Wunder, photographer (second floor). About 1875, this structure was replaced or extensively altered in the campaign which resulted in the present five-story, iron front loft building. The building was constructed for John and H. Faust of Harford County, who operated a wholesale boot and shoe company under the name Faust Brothers. The builder was Benjamin F. Bennett, a prominent nineteenth-century contractor whose office was located at 123 [old #44] South Howard Street. He was active beginning about 1851; by about 1886, he was credited with building the Academy of Music, Broadway Market, First M. E. Church, Mt. Vernon M. E. Church, Guilford Avenue Church, Bennett Memorial M. E. Church, Strawbridge M. E. Church, Woman's College, Home for the Aged, "and numerous private residences of more or less pretension to beauty and ornamentation." (Half Century's Progress of the City of Baltimore, p. 121). His advertisement in Howard's Monumental City (ca. 1876) illustrates 307-309 West Baltimore Street as an example

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page # 2

8. Statement of Significance

of his work (p. 452). In 1876, John & H. Faust of Harford County (Faust Bros.) were taxed for a 5 story iron warehouse. The Faust Brothers apparently used the upper three floors of the building for their operations, and leased the remaining space; the tenant in 1876 was Hull, Lanier & Company; this firm was succeeded the following year by Lucius L. Lanier & Company, (Lucius L. Lanier, E. C. Sylvester), wholesale dry goods and clothing. By 1887, Faust Brothers had been reorganized as J. Faust & Son (John H. Faust, Charles H. Faust, Herman Schocke), boot and shoe manufacturers. The building was purchased in 1895 by William Keyser (1835-1904), a prominent Baltimore entrepreneur, who began his career operating an iron importing business with his brother Irvine. The two started working for their father in 1852, and took over the business five years later. William Keyser also became President of the Baltimore Copper Smelting & Rolling Company, a copper wire manufacturing enterprise, and Vice President of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. Following the Baltimore Fire of 1904, Mayor Robert McLane appointed him to head the Burnt District Commission, formed to plan for the reconstruction of the city's mercantile center (Greene, p. 124). Keyser married Mary Brent in 1858, and the couple had two sons, Robert Brent and William, and one daughter, Mathilde Lawrence. At about the time of Keyser's purchase, an illustration of the building appeared in Baltimore: the Book of its Board of Trade (p. 105). In 1889, Pearre Brothers & Co., wholesale dry goods & notions, moved into the building. The firm was established in 1866 as Boyd, Pearre & Co., and changed to Pearre Bros. in 1870. Aubrey Pearre, a principal in this firm, was originally from Frederick; his forebears took part in the Revolution. Pearre joined the Confederate Army in 1858, and had a distinguished career as an artillery officer. Coming to Baltimore in 1866, he started a wholesale dry goods business with his brother, O. H. Pearre. Pearre Bros. handled both domestic and imported goods, and specialized in woollens for men's clothing. They established a market in the Mid-Atlantic and South, employing 27 salesmen (Kahn, p. 48). From about 1910 to 1912, the building was occupied by Lavenstein & Lubin, wholesale boots & shoes (see Jews of Baltimore, p. 372). Israel Lavenstein was born in Russia in 1860, went to Sweden at age 15 as a peddler, and emigrated from there to Baltimore. In 1908, he and Joseph Lubin founded the firm of Lavenstein & Lubin, trading as the Baltimore Shoe House; the company served markets in the Mid-Atlantic and the South, and as far west as Texas and Oklahoma (Kahn, p. 111-12). From about 1915 to 1922, the boot and shoe wholesale firm of Frank & Adler was located at this address. Founded in 1873 by Solomon Frank, Simon C. Frank, and Charles Adler, this firm became one of the leading shoe wholesalers in Baltimore, and one of the organizers in 1880 of the Baltimore Shoe and Leather Board of

B-1081

NPS Form 10-900-a  
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number   8   Page #   3  

=====  
8. Statement of Significance  
=====

Trade (Kahn, p. 111). For most of the 1920s and 30s, the building housed a series of men's furnishings enterprised owned by Harry M. Blum. Around 1940, the estate of R. Brent Keyser sold the property to Irvin and Sadie Okum and George and Josephine Epstein, who operated a retail men's clothing store, "The Trading Post," in the building.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number   9   Page #   1  

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9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

Engelhardt, George W. Baltimore: the Book of its Board of Trade.  
(Baltimore: by the Board of Trade, 1895), p. 105.

Blum, Isidor The Jews of Baltimore

Greene, Suzanne Ellery Baltimore

Half Century's Progress of the City of Baltimore (New York: International  
Publishing Co., n. d. [ca. 1886]), p. 121.

Howard, Monumental City (Baltimore: n. p., n. d. [ca. 1876]).

Kahn, Philip, Jr. A Stitch in Time: The Four Seasons of Baltimore's Needle  
Trades (Baltimore: The Maryland Historical Society, 1989).

Baltimore City Directories, 1870s-1940s

B-1081

Pearre Brothers Building  
307-309 West Baltimore Street  
Private

ca. 1865

The Pearre Brothers Building is one of about a dozen full or partial cast iron facades remaining in Baltimore, which was one of the centers of production of architectural ironwork in the mid to late 19th century. This facade is typical of the cast iron type, with large window openings and arched bays flanked by columns imitating stonework. The facade may have been erected as early as 1857, but was most likely erected in the mid-1860's. The Pearre Brothers was a wholesale dry goods firm which occupied the building from 1889 to 1900.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Pearre Brothers Building (preferred)

and/or common Trading Post

## 2. Location

street & number 307-309 West Baltimore Street  not for publication

city, town Baltimore vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district 3rd

state Maryland county \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Classification

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

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

name Seymour Z. Farbman

street & number 2221 Shefflin Court telephone no.: (301) 484-8185

city, town Baltimore state and zip code MD 21209

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Courthouse liber CWM 4223

street & number Fayette and Calvert Streets folio 525

city, town Baltimore state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

name Baltimore Retail District Survey

date 1980  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation

city, town Baltimore state MD

# 7. Description

Survey No. B-1031

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<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 of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

## SUMMARY:

The Pearre Brothers Building is a five-story brick commercial building with a cast iron facade erected about 1865 and located on the south side of West Baltimore Street about 100 feet west of North Howard Street in central Baltimore, Maryland. The four-bay facade was altered on the street level storefront in the early to mid 20th century with the addition of black Carrara glass horizontal panels above the existing storefront. Later alterations produced the present storefront which has a recessed plate glass window and doorway flanked by other display windows. The upper facade is almost entirely intact with four bays of arched window openings flanked by Corinthian columns. The side piers are articulated by alternating rusticated and paneled blocks. The facade is in generally good condition. The building is unoccupied and for lease.

## General Description:

The Pearre Brothers Building is a five-story brick commercial building with a cast iron facade built about 1865. The principal elevation faces north and has a storefront which has been considerably altered. The entrance is deeply recessed and off-center between plate glass display windows. At the front building line, a single supporting pier was left in antis. The pier and the bases of the windows are covered with fluted stainless steel. Above the windows is a frieze of horizontal metal molding setting off horizontal panels of black Carrara glass. A sign of standing lighted letters reading "Trading Post" is located above the glass.

The upper four stories of the facade are virtually unchanged since construction, although in need of cleaning. The four cast iron bays are arched and each window is flanked by Corinthian columns. Each floor level is defined by a subordinate cornice with modillions. The framing piers are articulated by alternating rusticated and paneled blocks in imitation of stone. At each cornice, the piers project slightly, forming a console topped by double globes. The windows are 2/2 industrial sash and are deeply set within the paneled soffits of the openings. Some sections on the third and fourth stories have been replaced by ventilation louvres or air conditioning units surrounded by plywood infill. The fifth story windows have two-part transoms divided by vertical muntins. The main cornice overhangs a paneled frieze with paired foliated consoles. Between the consoles is a dentil molding. The cornice soffit has floral rosettes.

(see continuation sheet)

# 8. Significance

Survey No. B-1081

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 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** ca. 1865      **Builder/Architect**

---

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or  
Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

**SUMMARY:**

The Pearre Brothers Building is one of about a dozen full or partial cast iron facades remaining in Baltimore, which was one of the centers of production of architectural ironwork in the mid to late 19th century. This facade is typical of the cast iron type, with large window openings and arched bays flanked by columns imitating stonework. The facade may have been erected as early as 1857, but was most likely erected in the mid-1860's. The Pearre Brothers was a wholesale dry goods firm which occupied the building from 1889 to 1900.

**History and Support:**

In the late 1850's, Moses Gutman and Company clothiers occupied a warehouse at 331 West Baltimore Street, which later became 307 West Baltimore in the 1887 re-numbering. Gutman and Company remained in this location until 1864. Although cast iron fronts were being erected in the late 1850's in Baltimore, it is probable that the present building and cast iron facade were built after the old single numbered buildings were vacated.

In 1889, Pearre Brothers and Company moved into 307-309 West Baltimore. They were a wholesale dry goods and notions house established in 1866 as Boyd, Pearre and Company. In 1870, the name was changed to Pearre Brothers. The firm imported goods and also handled domestic goods, making a specialty of woollens for men's clothing. The company's salesmen traveled throughout the mid-Atlantic and upper South. Later tenants of 307-309 West Baltimore after the Pearre Brothers moved out in 1900 were Levenstein and Lubin, proprietors of the Baltimore Shoe House, a wholesale boot and shoe house. Their business expanded quickly and the Shoe House went to larger quarters in 1912, after only three years at the 307-309 address. In the decade between 1928 and 1938, Harry Blum men's furnishings occupied the building and from 1940 until the 1970's, the men's store was called the Trading Post.



## Pearre Brothers Building

## Section 7: Description

The original storefront of the building was defined by four fluted piers with Corinthian capitals. Flat arches with rounded corners spanned the characteristic open bays of the cast iron storefront. The inner two bays had double doors and the outer bays had display windows. The roofline had a paneled parapet with scroll decorations, but this had been removed by 1910.

The building adjoins a 19th century brick commercial building on the west and a parking lot on the east. The east elevation is stuccoed. The rear of the building adjoins a five-story brick building which has a two-story cast iron facade. This building was an annex to the Pearre Brothers Building during that firm's occupancy and served as the loading dock area. The Pearre Brothers Building is unoccupied and for lease.

ORDERERS AND JOB-  
BONS, at 33 and 35  
the firm of Johnson,  
business since 1865.  
leaders in this line

ware to the Gulf of  
states that lie east of  
out eighty hands find  
business, thirty-five of

Commercial & Farmers' Bank. The other members of the firm were all connected with the house before they acquired an interest in the business.

PEARRE BROS. & COMPANY, 307 AND 309 WEST BALTIMORE STREET, is one of the oldest and largest WHOLESALE DRY GOODS AND NOTIONS HOUSES of the country. It is represented on the road by seventeen salesmen; its trade lies chiefly in Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama, with some, also, in other States. It is a direct importer of fine goods from Europe, handles domestics extensively, and makes a specialty of woolen goods for men's wear. It occupies an iron front six-story warehouse extending through the entire block from Baltimore to German Street.

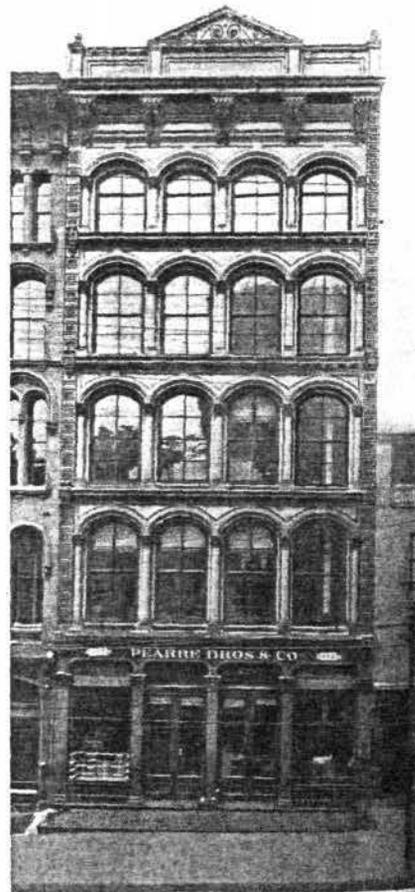
This house was established in 1866 as Boyd, Pearre & Company. In 1870 it changed to Pearre Bros. & Company, the members being Aubrey Pearre, O. H. Pearre, and James Pearre. The two last named retired in a few years, and were succeeded by Edward V. Shorb, James M. Fisher, Wm. H. Miller, and H. C. Davis. MR. AUBREY PEARRE, as senior partner, gives the business general supervision, with special charge of the finances and credits, in which department he is assisted by MR. MILLER. He is a director of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, the Maryland Savings Bank, and several other large corporations. The other members of the firm act as buyers and as heads of departments.— Mr. Fisher of the dress goods, flannel, and domestics department; Mr. Shorb of the woolens for men's wear department, and Mr. Davis of the notions department.

MAAS & KEMPER, IMPORTERS OF LACES, RIBBONS, AND EMBROIDERIES, are a well-known house everywhere in the trade territory of the city, more especially in the South Atlantic States, from Maryland south, and in Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio. Up to January 1, last, it occupied 115 West Baltimore Street, but is now established in the modern six-story building at No. 109 of the same thoroughfare.

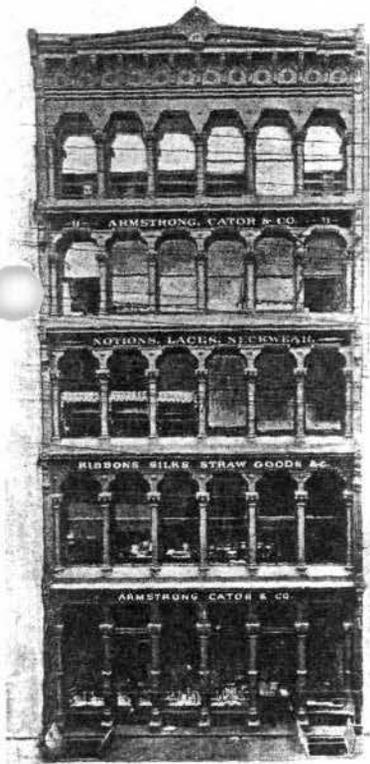
STRAUSS BROS., jobbers of DRY GOODS, corner of HOPKINS PLACE AND LOMBARD STREET, have been in business here since 1855, and by their methods and magnitude take rank among the leading dry goods houses of the city. Their trade extends from Pennsylvania to the Gulf of Mexico, and as far west as Tennessee, Arkansas, and Texas. Between thirty and forty people are employed by them, ten of whom constitute their force of traveling salesmen. They occupy a five-story building sixty-five



AUBREY PEARRE, of Pearre Brothers & Company, Wholesale Dry Goods and Notions.



Pearre Brothers & Company, Wholesale Dry Goods and Notions, West Baltimore Street.



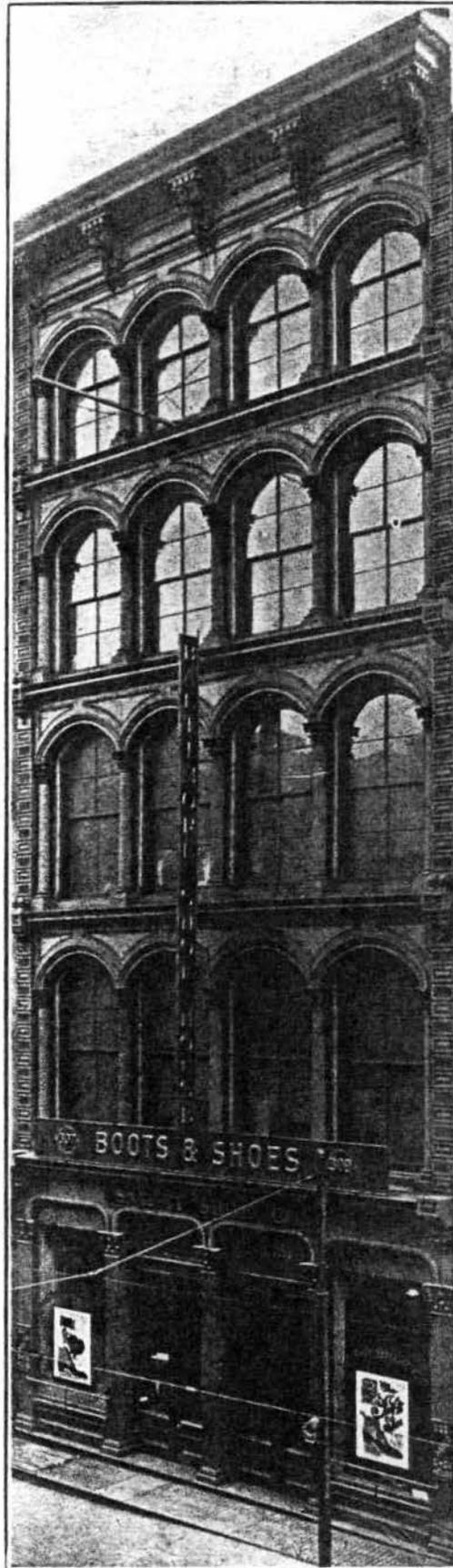
Armstrong, Cator & Company, Wholesale Notions, Millinery, etc., West Baltimore Street.

LEVENSTEIN & LUBIN  
Proprietors

# THE BALTIMORE SHOE HOUSE

Boots  
and Shoes

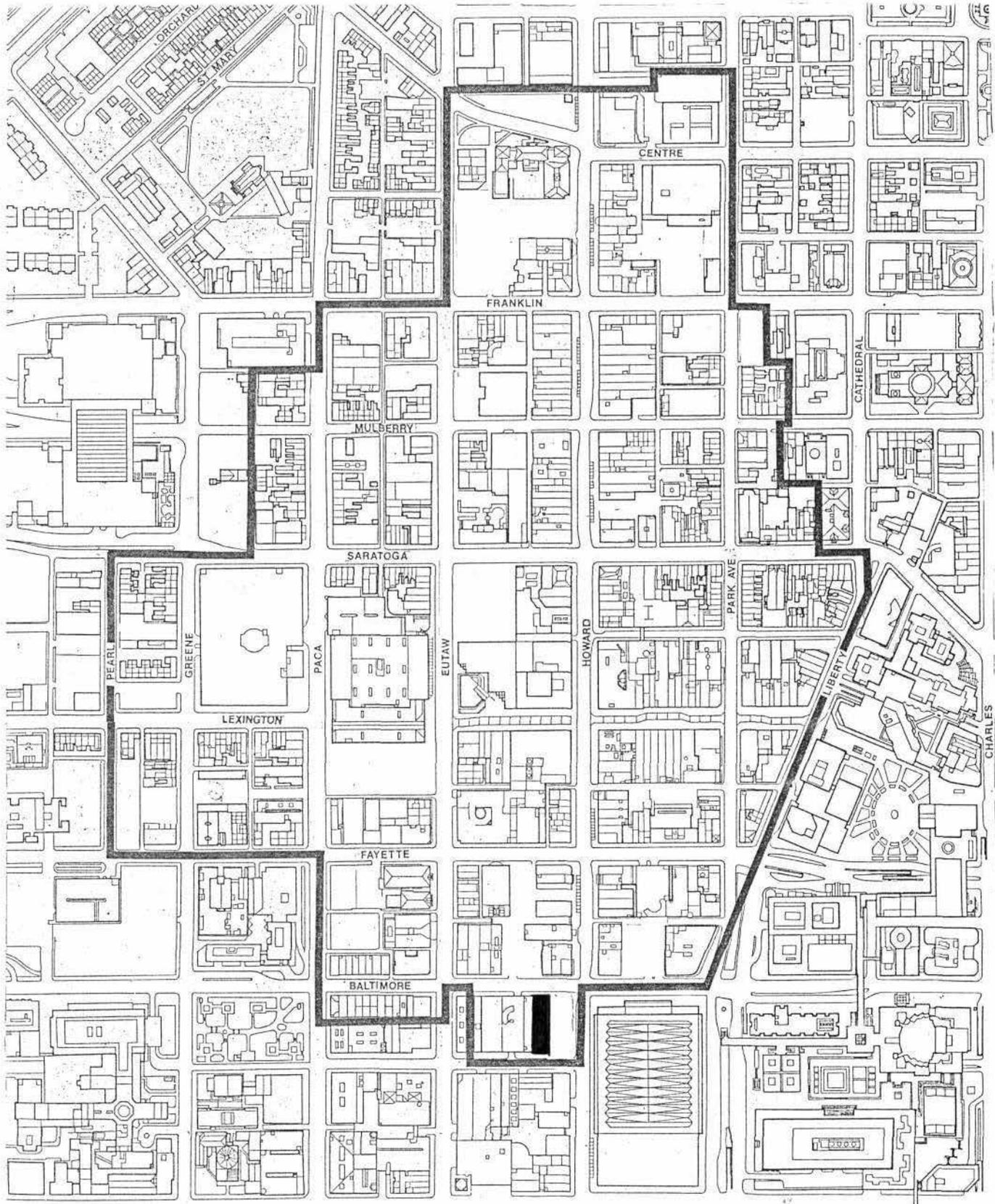
307-309 W. BALTIMORE (ST.  
BALTIMORE, MD.



Baltimore is a great boot and shoe manufacturing and distributing point, and foremost among the big houses in this line stands the Baltimore Shoe House, which was established in May, 1895, by Israel Levenstein.

The business started at 2 North Liberty Street, but for want of room was forced to seek larger quarters at 215 West Baltimore Street and later at 323 West Baltimore Street.

In May, 1908, Mr. Joseph Lubin was admitted as a partner, and the firm of Levenstein & Lubin succeeded Israel Levenstein, since which time the business has steadily grown in volume until the Baltimore Shoe House is now one of the leading shoe concerns in the United States, and is located at 307 and 309 West Baltimore Street, which is one of the best stocked and equipped establishments in the East. The trade of the Baltimore Shoe House extends through Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Kentucky, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas. The success of the Baltimore Shoe House is founded on the rock of square dealing, which principle prevails in every department of its gigantic establishment as with its corps of travelers, so that it is everywhere known as the "Fair and Square House."



Baltimore Metrocenter Survey  
Market Center  
Pearre Brothers Building  
307-309 West Baltimore Street  
B-1081



MEN'S  
SPORTWEAR  
SLACKS SUITS  
SHIRT COATS  
HATS JACKET COATS

UNIFORMS  
AND ACCESSORIES  
SINGLE PIECE MONOCHE  
INDIAN WARE MOUNT  
POWER SOUVENIR  
WOLF CLUB CHARITIES

OUTERWEAR  
SPORTSMEN & WORKMEN  
HEAVY INDUSTRIAL CLOTHING  
SAFETY SHOES & BOOTS  
WINTER FOOTWEAR  
WOLF CLUB CHARITIES

LATEST STYLES  
JEANS & DENIMS  
JACKETS & PANTS  
LEE-LEWIS WRANGLER  
Dixie Store Cape Fear

TRADING POST

LEASE  
\$500

Ho

Pearre Brothers Building      B-1081  
307-309 West Baltimore Street  
Market Center - Metrocenter Survey  
Baltimore (City), Maryland  
Photo: Janet Davis  
March 1986  
Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust  
North elevation

Statement of Significance

The five-story cast iron building at 307-309 West Baltimore Street is one of several by Benjamin F. Bennett, Baltimore's foremost contractor of the late 19th century. Over the years it has been the home of boot and shoe wholesalers and retailers, as well as a major importer and distributor of dry goods. It is one of several cast iron front buildings on Baltimore Street in the Loft District.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

The Trading Post

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

307-309 West Baltimore Street

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<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 A. J. Okum and wife

Telephone #: 486-8524

STREET & NUMBER

2309 Farrington Road

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

VICINITY OF Maryland

STATE, zip code 21209

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore City Courthouse

Liber #: WA 377 4-F57

Folio #:

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**

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

This cast-iron, five story commercial building functions as a corner building since the demolition of its two eastern neighbors a few years ago. Four bays wide, the building typically boasts Corinthian columns between which are placed symmetrical round-headed windows with round cast-iron caps. Decorative dentils surround the large carved brackets above each column.

Between each floor, projecting belt courses with egg and dart detailing below modillions divert the vertical lines of the facade. The courses are supported by brackets with ball detailing.

The first floor has been altered to accommodate an enameled metal storefront. The display windows circularly recede into the interior.

A detailed cornice crowns the facade. It is supported by brackets interspersed by frieze panels underlined by a band of egg and dart molding; the fascia boasts decorative cartouche form; the cyma recta is also underlined by egg and dart molding.

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input 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 1875

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Benjamin Bennett

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The five-story cast iron building at 307-309 W. Baltimore Street is one of several by Benjamin F. Bennett, Baltimore's foremost contractor of the late 19th century. Over the years it has been the home of boot and shoe wholesalers and retailers as well as a major importer and distributor of dry goods. It is one of several cast iron front buildings on Baltimore Street in the Loft District.

Historical Significance:

Benjamin F. Bennett was responsible for the construction of a number of Baltimore's landmark buildings, including the Mount Vernon M. E. Church, 1st M. E. Church, the Academy of Music, called one of the finest theaters in America, and dormitories for Goucher College when it was located around 23rd and Charles Streets. He was the most successful and respected contractor in the City in the late 19th century. He also built homes for wealthy City and County residents.

In addition to his business, he served the City as Trustee of Morgan College, Trustee and Treasurer of Women's College, President of the Home for the Aged and as a member of the Board of Trade.

Bennett built the building at 307-309 W. Baltimore in 1875 for Faust Brother & Company who were wholesalers in boots and shoes. Nothing is known of their company today. By 1890, however, Pearce Bros. & Co., founded in 1866, was using the building as a warehouse for the distribution of domestic and imported drygoods and notions. Having 17 travelling salesmen, it supplied woollens for men's clothing, as well as flannels and notions to manufacturers in Baltimore and the Mid-Atlantic and Southern states.

In 1908 or 1909 the building was once again returned to the shoe industry as the home of the Baltimore Shoe House, run by

Cont'd.--

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Vertical Files, Baltimore Industrial Museum

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

Robert Weis, Philip Kahn

ORGANIZATION

Baltimore Industrial Museum

DATE

November, 1980

STREET &amp; NUMBER

217 N. Charles Street

TELEPHONE

301-396-1931

CITY OR TOWN

Baltimore, Maryland 21201

STATE

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.

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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

Israel Levinstern and Joseph Lubin. Levinstern had started manufacturing and distributing shoes in 1895 at 2 N. Liberty. As the business expanded, he moved several times; and in 1908 Lubin became a partner. The volume was such that they moved to the large five-story building on West Baltimore at about the same time. It was one of the best stocked and equipped shoe establishments in the area. The Baltimore Shoe House's Trade included Maryland and the surrounding states, as well as Southern and Mid-Western States as far as Texas and Indiana.

Most recently the building has been used for a retail men's clothing store.

1. SITE I.D. NO

B 1 0 8 1

## NAER INVENTORY

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

2. INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION

3. PRIORITY

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

5. DATE

6. GOVT SOURCE OF THREAT

OWNER

ADMIN

7. OWNER/ADMIN

A. J. Okum and Wife

8. NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE

9. OWNER'S ADDRESS

2309 Farrington Road

The Trading Post

10. STATE  
COUNTY

COUNTY NAME

CITY/VICINITY

CONG.  
DIST.

Baltimore

STATE  
COUNTY

COUNTY NAME

CITY/VICINITY

CONG.  
DIST.

Baltimore

11. SITE ADDRESS (STREET &amp; NO)

307-309 West Baltimore Street

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

13. SPECIAL FEATURES (DESCRIBE BELOW)

 INTERIOR INTACT EXTERIOR INTACT ENVIRONS INTACT

14. UTM ZONE

EASTING

NORTHING

SIGN

SCALE

 1:24 1:62.5 OTHERQUAD  
NAME

Baltimore

UTM ZONE

EASTING

NORTHING

SIGN

SCALE

 1:24 1:62.5 OTHERQUAD  
NAME

15. CONDITION

70  EXCELLENT71  GOOD72  FAIR73  DETERIORATED74  RUINS75  UNEXPOSED76  ALTEREDL.  DESTROYED85  DEMOLISHED

16. INVENTORIED BY

Robert Weis, Philip Kahn

AFFILIATION

Baltimore Industrial Museum

DATE

November 1980

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

The five-story cast iron building at 307-309 West Baltimore Street is one of several by Benjamin F. Bennett, Baltimore's foremost contractor of the late 19th century. Over the years it has been the home of boot and shoe wholesalers and retailers, as well as a major importer and distributor of dry goods. It is one of several cast iron front buildings on Baltimore Street in the Loft District.

(CONT OVER)

18. ORIGINAL USE

shoe company

PRESENT USE

Retail Clothing Store

ADAPTIVE USE

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

Vertical Files, Baltimore Industrial Museum

(CONT OVER)

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

21.

22. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY

 YES, LIMITED YES, UNLIMITED NO UNKNOWN23. EDITOR  
INDEXER

24. LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT?

 YES NO

NAME

DISTRICT I.D. NO



THE TRADING POST

THE TRADING POST  
BALTIMORE, MD  
MAP FROM: BALTIMORE 1914  
TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY COMMISSION

B-1081



B-1081

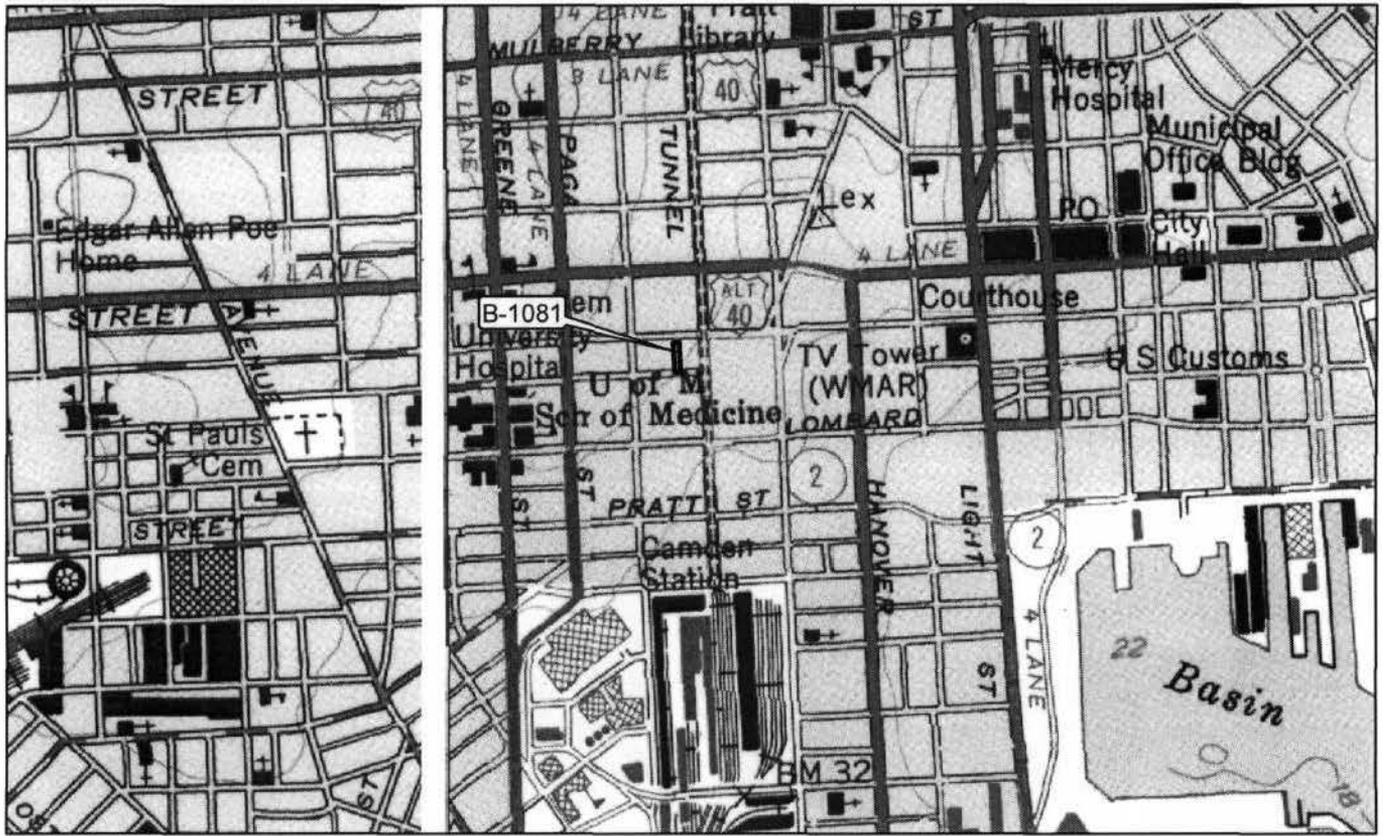
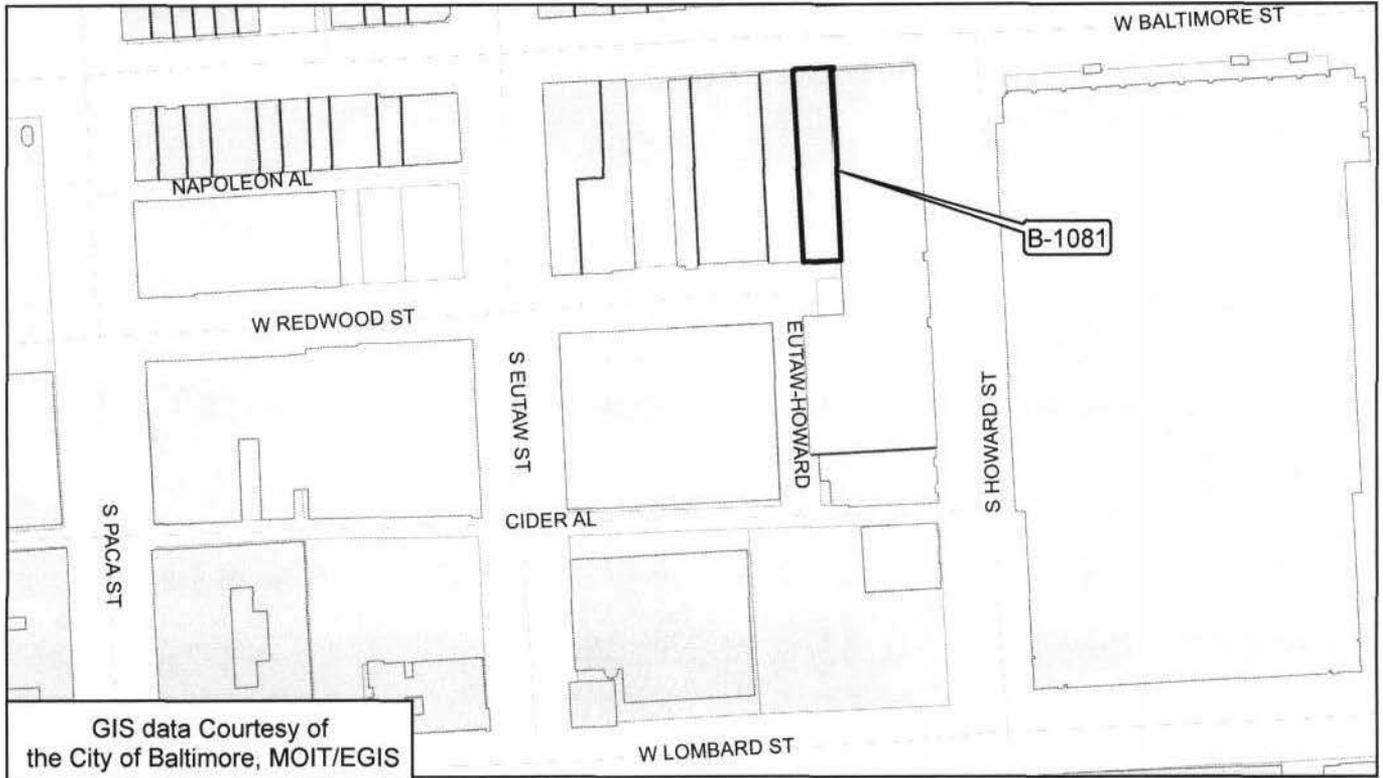
THE TRADING  
POST 17'30"

18<sup>3</sup>60500 4349920

B-1081

The Trading Post  
Baltimore, MD  
U.S.G.S. 7.5# Baltimore  
West Quad  
18<sup>3</sup>605004349920

B-1081  
Faust Brothers Building (Pearre Brothers Building; The Trading Post)  
307-309 W. Baltimore Street  
Block 0643, Lot 009  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad.



SPORTSWEAR  
SLACKS SUITS  
SAFETY SHIRT  
MOUNTAIN GEAR  
CAMPING EQUIPMENT

UNIFORMS  
AND ACCESSORIES  
MENS BOYS SCHOOL  
MILITARY NAUTICAL  
FURNISHING  
MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT

OUTERWEAR  
MOUNTAIN & WILDERNESS  
RAIN-PROOFING  
SAFETY GEAR & BOOTS  
HUNTING FOOTWEAR  
CAMPING EQUIPMENT

LATEST STYLES  
JEANS & DENIMS  
JACKETS & PRINTS  
LEWIS-WRANGLER  
Dennis, Shaver, Cooper, Gans

# TRADING POST

SALE

SALE

*Hall*

THE TRADING POST

B-1081

BALTIMORE, MD Faust Bldg.

PHOTO: ANN STEELE 12/80

NEG. LOC: MD HISTORIC TRUST

Baltimore St. facade - looking S/E



WEAVERS  
**SPORTSWEAR**  
SLACKS - SUITS  
SHORTS - COATS

**UNIFORMS**  
AND ACCESSORIES  
WITH PAIRS NATIONAL  
UNIFORM WORKS - NEW YORK

**OUTERWEAR**  
WATERPROOF & WARMING  
SOFT SHEETING COATS  
SHORTS - SUITS - LINENS

MADE IN U.S.A.  
**SHIRTS - DENIMS**  
JACKETS & TRUNKS  
BY CARL WINKLER

B-1081

THE TRADING POST

BALTIMORE, MD

PHOTO: ANN STEELE 12/80

NEG. LOC: MD HISTORIC TRUST

Baltimore St. facade - looking South

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

The Trading Post

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

307-309 West Baltimore Street

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Records Office, Room 601

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

Liber #:

Folio #:

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

City of Baltimore Neighborhood Survey

DATE

1976

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
 SURVEY RECORDS

COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL &  
 ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

CITY, TOWN

Room 900

STATE

26 South Calvert St.  
 Baltimore, Md. 21202

~~B-2762~~  
B-1081

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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

This cast-iron, five story commercial building functions as a corner building since the demolition of its two eastern neighbors a few years ago. Four bays wide, the building typically boasts Corinthian columns between which are placed symmetrical round-headed windows with round cast-iron caps. Decorative dentils surround the large carved brackets above each column.

Between each floor, projecting belt courses with egg and dart detailing below modillions divert the vertical lines of the facade. The courses are supported by brackets with ball detailing.

The first floor has been altered to accommodate an enameled metal storefront. The display windows circularly recede into the interior.

A detailed cornice crowns the facade. It is supported by brackets interspersed by frieze panels underlined by a band of egg and dart molding, the fascia boasts decorative cartouche form, the cyma recta is also underlined by egg and dart molding.

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 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      c. 1865                                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT

---

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

An early and elaborate cast-iron design with a Redwood Street rear facade that is interesting. A typical example of the genre, all too infrequent in extant buildings; only that across the street at 322 West Baltimore Street is more noteworthy.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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

Planning Assistants

ORGANIZATION

COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL &  
ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

DATE

1976

STREET & NUMBER

Room 900

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

26 South Calvert St.  
Baltimore, Md. 21202

STATE

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B-1081  
~~6-2362~~

ST.

632

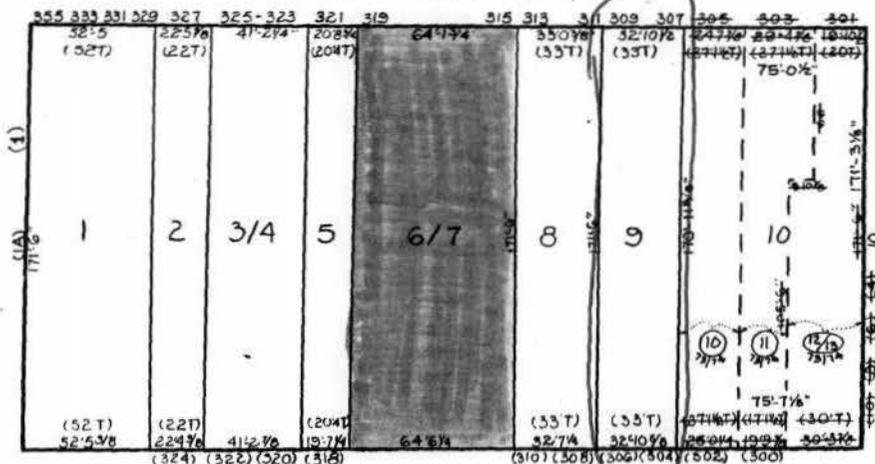
ST.

W. BALTIMORE

ST.

42

S. EUTAW



S. HOWARD

644

W. REDWOOD

ST.

655

DESIGNED BY P. WAINWRIGHT

REVIEWED BY P.W.

CHECKED BY

**NOTICE**

THIS IS A REAL PROPERTY PLAT AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER ARTICLE 76(d) OF THE CITY CHARTER IT IS COMPILED FROM TITLE AND OTHER SOURCES AND IS NOT AN AUTHENTIC SURVEY.

CITY OF BALTIMORE  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

PROPERTY LOCATION DIVISION

WARD 4 SECTION 10

BLOCK 643

SCALE 1"=50'-0"

DATE DEC. 1966



307-09

w. Baltimore

~~B-2362~~  
B-1081

Neg #

2/76

B. Pencak

Block

643