

AREA: Financial District

MAGI NO.: 0411655711

Address: 13-15 Guilford Avenue

Current Name: Law Building

Block: 1330 Lot: 11

Lot size: 34' x 35'

Height: 4 stories

Materials: Brick &amp; terra cotta

Condition: Good

Owner: 13-15 Guilford Partnership

Use: Law offices

Accessible: Yes

Designation: None

Liber/Folio: RHB 3078-455



Historic Name: Richardson Building

Date: 1904

Architect/Builder: J. Appleton Wilson/Morrow Bros.

Style (if appropriate):

## Description:

This four story high, four bay wide brick and terra cotta building features an entrance at the southern bay of the first floor and a regular arrangement of windows. The aluminum framed glass door entrance is located above a flight of stairs protected by an iron banister. The entrance is set into a surround featuring console end brackets supporting a plain entablature. A metal plaque displays, "LAW BUILDING 15 GUILFORD." Another stair at the northern end of the building leads to a basement level with door and window openings. An iron rail protects the lightwell for the basement. The first floor windows have been modernized with single aluminum frame lights. A simple cornice with dentils caps the terra cotta first floor level. The second and third floors feature tan colored Roman brick walls which are punctuated by one over one windows with stone sills, splayed stone lintels and emphasized keystones. A simple band course defines the fourth floor level which features two part, one over one windows between recessed panels. A wide cornice with dentils and scrolled brackets completes the facade.

## Significance:

Area: Architecture

Level: Local

This small, well-maintained office building has a fairly simple, traditional design. Like the traditional Baltimore rowhouse, it has a relatively flat facade with ornamentation primarily to highlight the door, window and roof line. It is not as flamboyant as other offices in the area, and the off-center entrance breaks the mold of symmetry for most post-Fire buildings. The projecting steps into the sidewalk is also unusual. Most post-Fire buildings do not have exterior stairs, and when they do exist they are recessed within the building walls. Infact, the owner for this building had to enjoin the Building Inspector to allow the steps to remain after a permit for the building had been inadvertently issued.

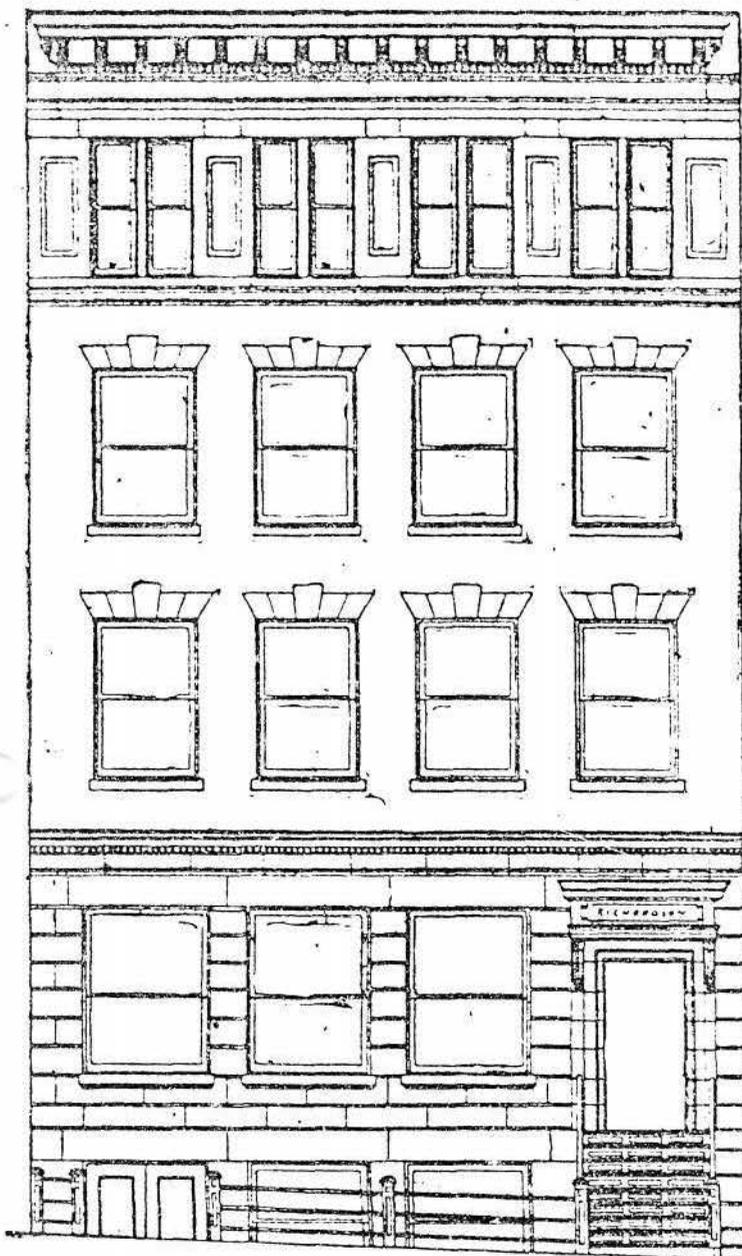
Sources: BA 4/7/1904 p. 13 (illustration); BS 6/5/1904 p. 8 c. 5 (article on steps)

Surveyor and Date: Fred B. Shoken, May 1985.

## BALTIMORE FINANCIAL DISTRICT SURVEY

Address: 13-15 Guilford Street

## NEW BUILDING FOR BURNED DISTRICT



Handsome structure to be erected on east side of North street, near Fayette street, for E. J. Richardson & Sons, general insurance underwriters. The plans were prepared by Architect J. Appleton Wilson. Morrow Bros. are the builders, and it is expected to have the building completed by July 1.

### A FINE BUILDING FOR E. J. RICHARDSON & SONS

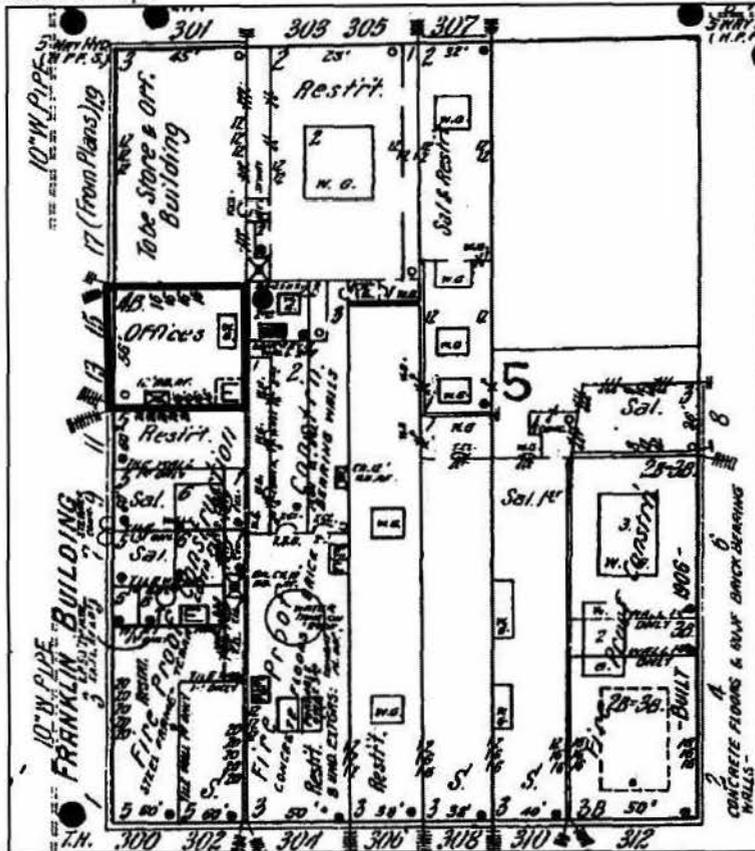
Structure to Be Erected on North Street Site Occupied for 55 Years by the Firm.

Morrow Bros. have begun work on the new office building to be erected on the east side of North street, between Baltimore and Fayette streets, for E. J. Richardson & Sons. The building will be a four-story-and-basement structure and will be quite an ornament to that section of the city. The front will be of ornamental brick and terra-cotta and will be constructed in a pleasing style of architecture. The entire building will occupy a lot 25 feet front by 38 feet 6 inches deep. The building will be equipped with elevators, steam heat and electric lights, and on each floor will be built fire-proof vaults.

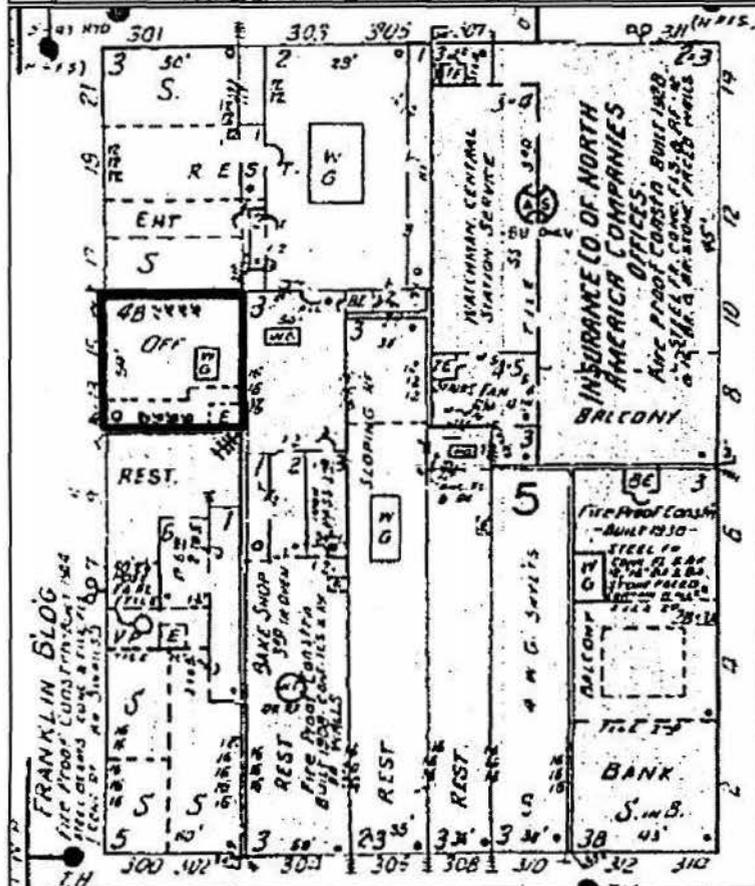
The site on which the building will be erected has been occupied by the Richardsons for 55 years. The firm is composed of Messrs. Edward A., James A. and Clinton O. Richardson. Mr. James A. Richardson is president of the Fire Salvage Corps and Mr. Clinton O. Richardson is president of the Dime Savings Bank. Messrs. Richardson will occupy the first and the top floors of the building and the balance will be for rent. The structure will cost about \$15,000.



B-1165  
 Law Building (Richardson Building)  
 13-15 Guilford Avenue  
 Sanborn Maps



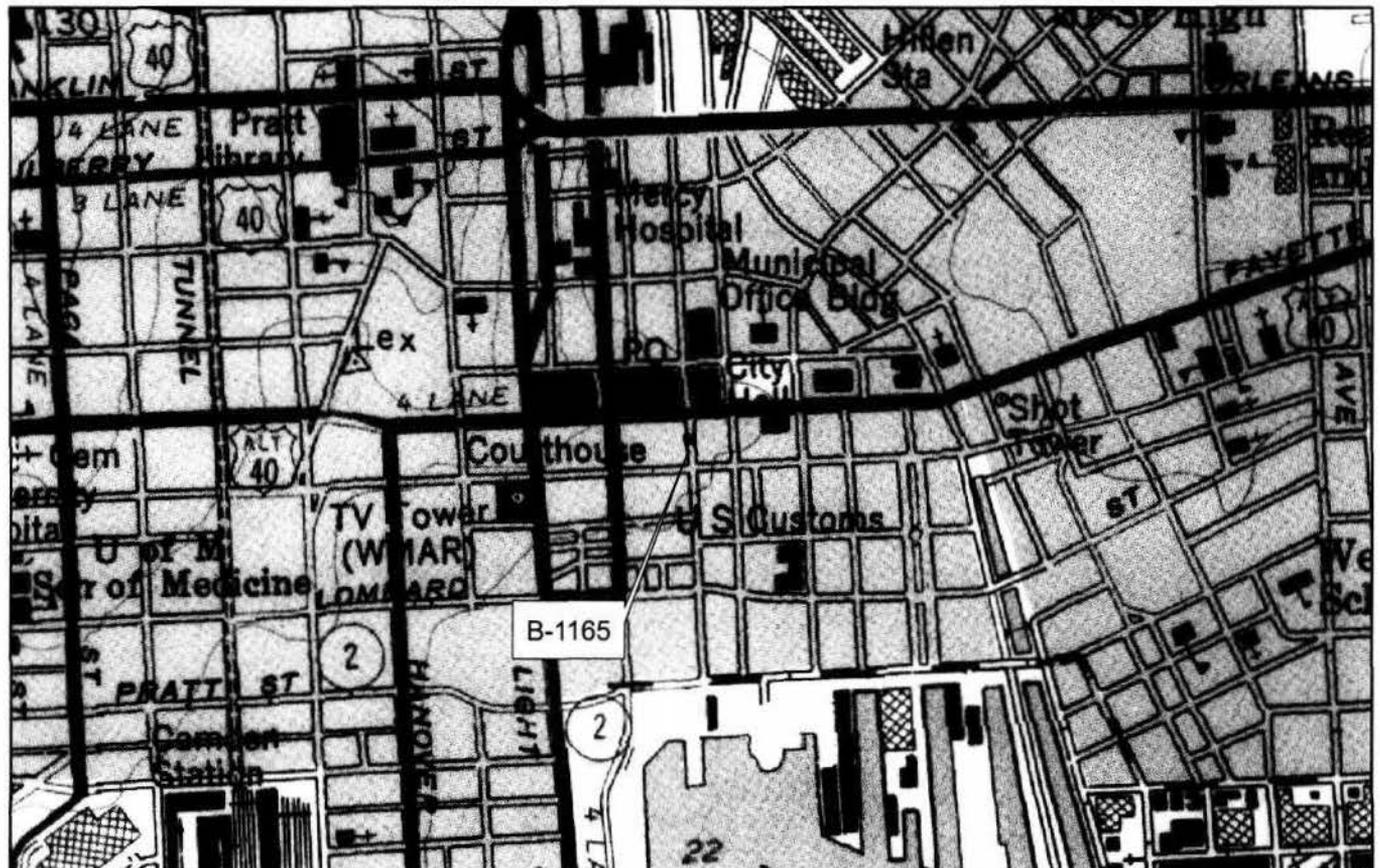
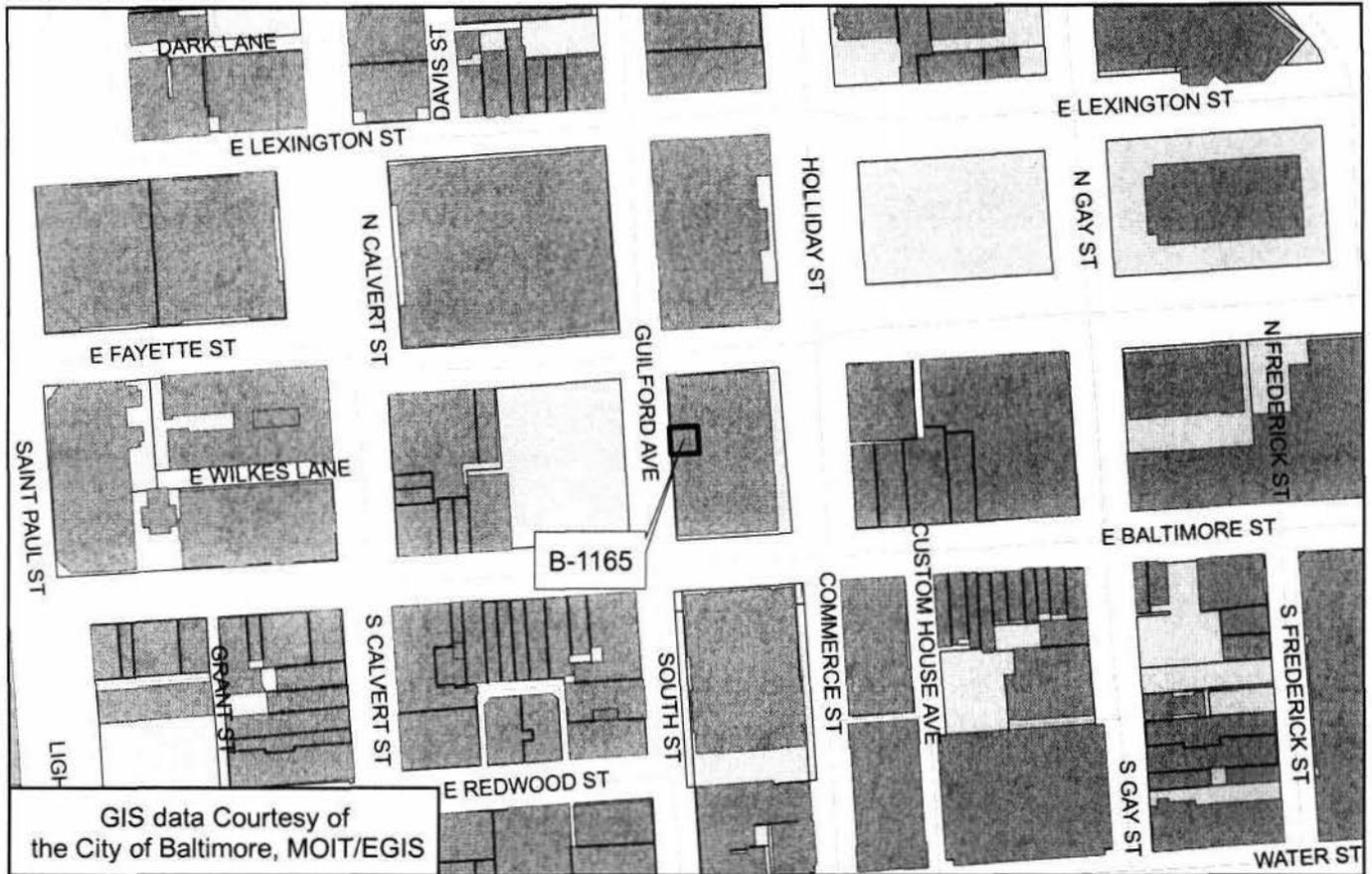
1914, Volume 3, Sheet 222



1952, Volume 1A, Sheet 34A

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Law Building (Richardson Building)  
13-15 Guilford Avenue  
Block 1330 Lot 001  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad

**Demolished**





13-15 Guilford Street

B-1165

Richardson Building  
13-15 Guilford Avenue  
Financial District-Metrocenter Survey  
Baltimore (City), Maryland  
Photo: Fred Shoken  
Date: October 1983  
Neg.loc.: Maryland Historical Trust  
West elevation