

AREA: Financial District

MAGI NO.: 0411985711

Address: 9-10 South Street
 Current Name: Maryland Life Building

Block: 650	Lot: 14	Lot size: 48' x 100'
Height: 6 stories		Materials: Marble & Limestone
Condition: Good		Owner: 10 South street Ass.
Use: Offices		Accessible: Yes
Designation: None		Liber/Folio: SEB 131-165



Historic Name: Maryland Life Building
 Date: 1905
 Architect/Builder: Parker & Thomas/George A. Fuller Co.
 Style (if appropriate):

Description:

This six story high, three bay wide limestone faced building with a marble base features three part windows with cast iron column mullions set into long segmentally arched recessed bays. The recessed entrance to the building comprising of modern doors and side windows is located at the northernmost bay of the first floor. Two, three part windows with covered transoms featuring an incised segmental arch design with keystones are located above a granite water table. All of the first floor openings are surrounded by a narrow band of foliated molding. A carved sign displaying, "1865 MARYLAND LIFE BUILDING 1905," and a dentilled cornice caps the marble first floor walls. The upper floor windows are three part, one over one windows with fluted column mullions. An iron railing and flag poles are located at the second floor windows. Decorative molding is located at the floor levels between the other windows. The vertical bands of windows are capped by a segmental arch with emphasized keystones. A projecting band course with ornamental brackets completes the fifth floor level. Above the sixth floor windows with plain surrounds, is a heavy cornice with dentils, modillion blocks, scroll brackets and foliated designs. The building was recently renovated.

Significance:

Area: Architecture

Level: Local

The Maryland Life Building is typical of medium size office buildings constructed after the Baltimore Fire for insurance companies and other financial institutions. Like the Sun Life Building and the USF&G Building it has a symmetrical facade with classical detailing and a heavy cornice. Hemmed in by adjoining buildings, the architects Parker and Thomas designed a front with large windows to maximize natural light for the interior of the building. The recent renovation of this building opened the first floor windows which had been partially obscured by decorative concrete block. The transom design above the windows is not original but reflects the segmental arch and keystone featured on the upper levels of the building. The new entrance area and door are not as sympathetic to the historic character of the building.

Sources: BA 11/12/1904 and BS 11/11/1904 p. 7 c. 4-5 (illustration); BS 2/21/1905 p. 11 c. 1 (permit issued).

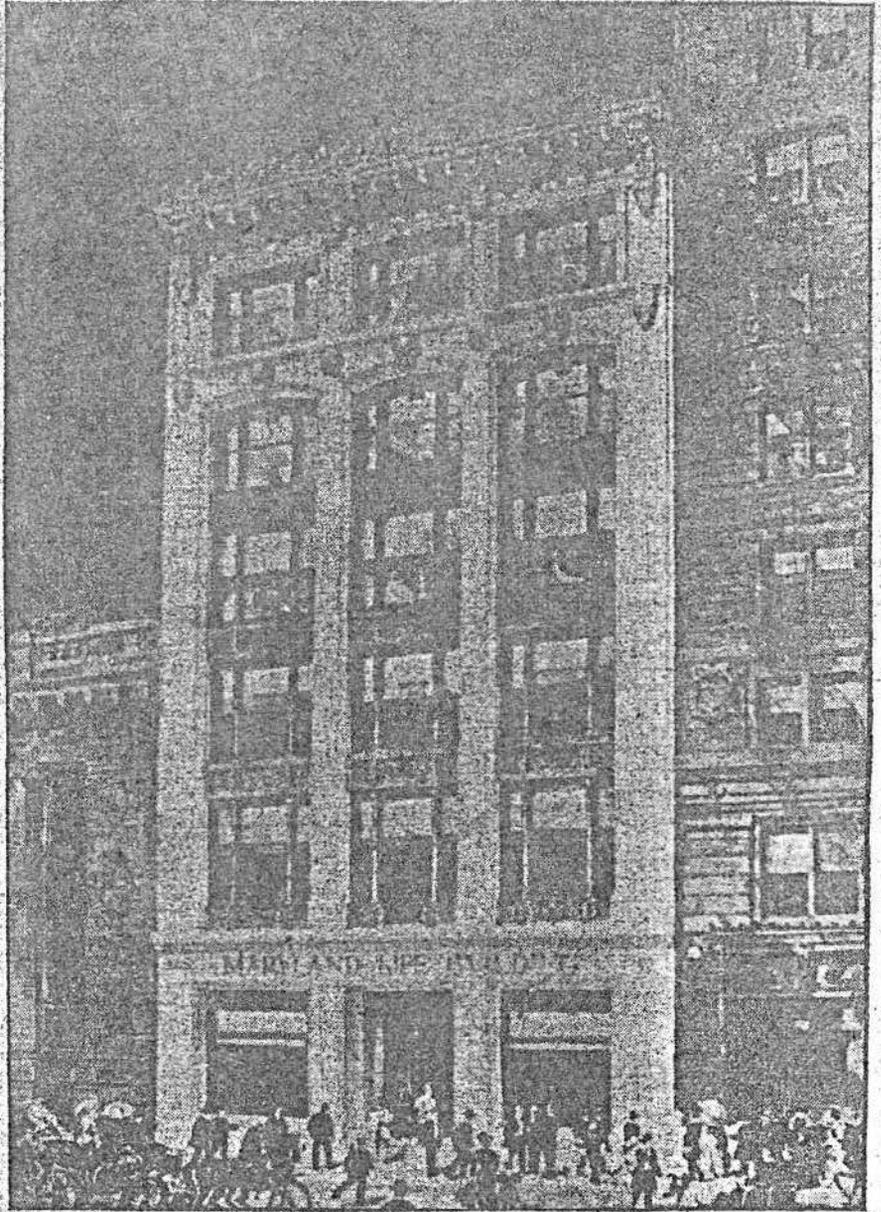
Surveyor and Date: Fred B. Shoken, May 1985.

B-1198

BALTIMORE FINANCIAL DISTRICT SURVEY

Address: 10 South Street

Design For Building For Maryland Life Insurance Company

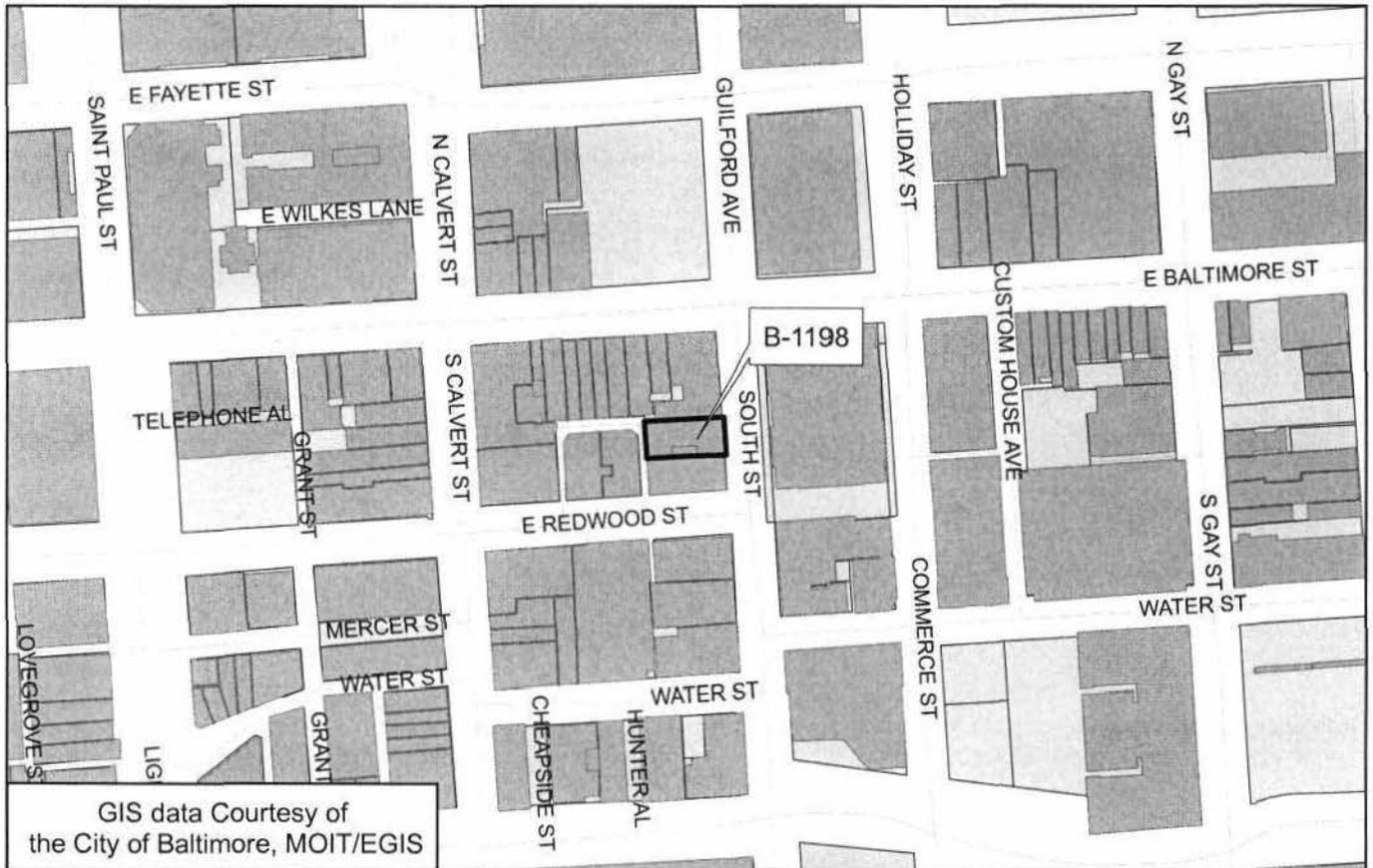


The above cut shows the new home of the Maryland Life Insurance Company, which will be erected on the site of the old building, 8 and 10 South street. The building will be 48 feet in width and 85 feet in height, and has been designed by Parker & Thomas. The plans have been drawn for six stories, but have been so prepared that another story can be added, with a front of marble or limestone. The main entrance leads to a central hallway, which runs clear through to the Stock Exchange alley. This hall will afford a convenient means of access from South street to the Stock Exchange, and making the building convenient for bankers and brokers. There will be two passenger elevators, and arrangements for heating and lighting will be up-to-date in every particular. Special

ceilings, and special arrangements for obtaining ample natural light and ventilation have been made a feature. The architects, Messrs. Parker & Thomas, were instructed to give particular attention to the construction of fireproof vaults on the plan of the vaults in the Company's old building, the contents of which were found to be absolutely unharmed when the vaults were opened after the fire. Four stacks of vaults, resting on substantial foundations in the cellar, constructed independently of the building and built from the ground up to the roof, will give complete vault accommodations to every one of the 50 offices in the building. The Company expects to begin rebuilding promptly, and will endeavor to push the work to completion at the earliest possible date. The Maryland Insurance Company will celebrate its birth anniversary in the

its new building. It was organized in 1885, and has since been conducting the business of granting annuities and insuring lives on a most conservative basis, confining its operations to two or three States. Until recently it has only been granting \$10,000 on a single life. Its assets are \$2,350,000 and surplus \$315,000. It has paid over \$4,000,000 to policyholders, and has never had occasion to contest a single loss. The officers of the Company are: William H. Blackford, president; John W. Hanson, secretary; Douglas H. Rose, actuary; George R. Keld, auditor; William S. Blackford, manager of agencies, and Andrew H. Whitridge, M. D., medical director. The directors are Douglas H. Thomas, John G. B. William H. Blackford, James Potter of Philadelphia, George C. Jenkins, John A. Whitridge, Eugene Levering, William Cabell Bruce and Blanchard Randall.

B-1198
Maryland Life Building
8-10 South Street
Block 0650 Lot 014
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad





B-1198

Maryland Life Building
8-10 South Street
Financial District-Metrocenter Survey
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Fred Shoken
Date: October 1983
Neg.loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
East elevation