

AREA: Financial District

MAGI NO.: 0412015711

Address: 5 South Street
 Current Name: Hyland Plasma Center

Block: 1348 Lot: 3	Lot size: 74 x 91
Height: 4 stories	Materials: Brick & Terra Cotta
Condition: Good	Owner: Harlan CFR Associates
Use: Office	Accessible: Yes
Designation: None	Liber/Folio: SEB 475-2



Historic Name: Abell Building
 Date: 1904
 Architect/Builder: Delano and Aldrich
 Style (if appropriate):

Description:

The Abell Building is located at the southeastern corner of Baltimore and South Streets, one block south of City Hall. It is four stories high, five bays wide on the Baltimore Street facade and four bays wide on the South Street facade. The pressed brick walls and terra cotta decoration have been painted white. The Baltimore Street facade has storefronts on the first floor. The pedimented entrance to the upper floors is located on the South Street facade. Two story high arched openings with lion head keystones are flanked by three story high pilasters. The brick pilasters are capped with unique capitals of rams heads and festoons emblazoned with the letter "A." A cornice originally surmounted the pilasters. The pairs of windows on the fourth floor are divided by large terra cotta cartouches. A small cornice caps the facade. The interior has been altered to some degree by dropped ceilings; it is not known how much original interior decoration survives.

Significance:

Area: Architecture

Level: Local

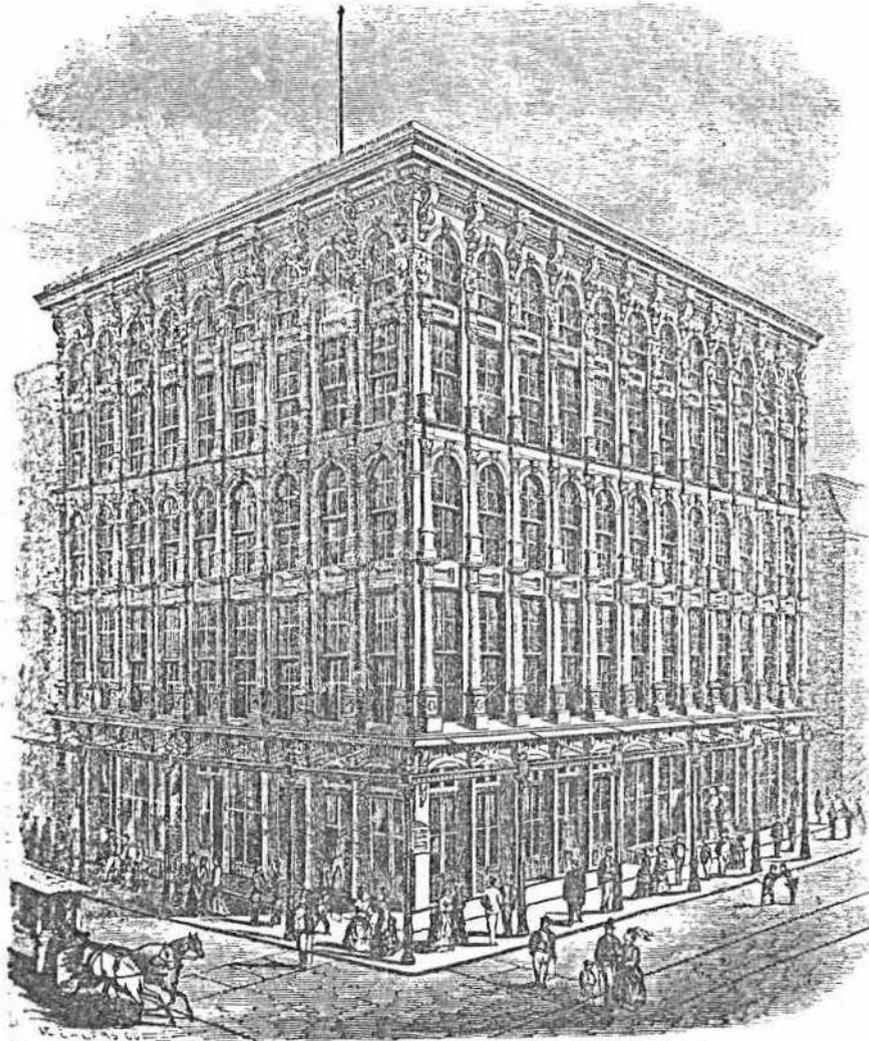
The Abell Building is significant for its highly detailed exterior. Many details such as the pilaster capitals are unique in Baltimore. The building was designed by the same firm responsible for the Walters Art Gallery, Delano and Aldrich. This nationally important architectural firm also designed the Armistead Hotel (destroyed). Delano and Aldrich designed this building to harmonize with the earlier Safe Deposit and Trust Company to the south. This building primarily housed insurance firms, real estate agents and lawyers, however the noteworthy pharmaceutical establishment of Morgan and Millard was located here from 1905 until the 1960s. The building is also associated with the capitalist and art enthusiast, William T. Walters, who maintained an office in this building until his death.

Sources: BS 8/10/1904 p. 7; The Brickbuilder, vol. 15 no. 10.
 Surveyor and Date: Fred B. Shoken, March 1985.

B-1201

Baltimore Financial District Survey
5 South Street

The Sun Iron Building which stood on this site before the Baltimore
Fire from: The Monumental City p. 57.



THE SUN IRON BUILDING,
S. E. Corner of Baltimore and South Streets,
BALTIMORE, MD.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY AND WEEKLY SUN,

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED.

Daily circulation larger than all the other city morning papers combined—consequently unrivalled as an advertising medium.

TERMS—*Daily Sun*, \$6 for 12 months; \$3 for 6 months; \$1.50 for 3 months.
Weekly Sun, \$1.50 for 12 months; \$1 for 6 months—in advance.

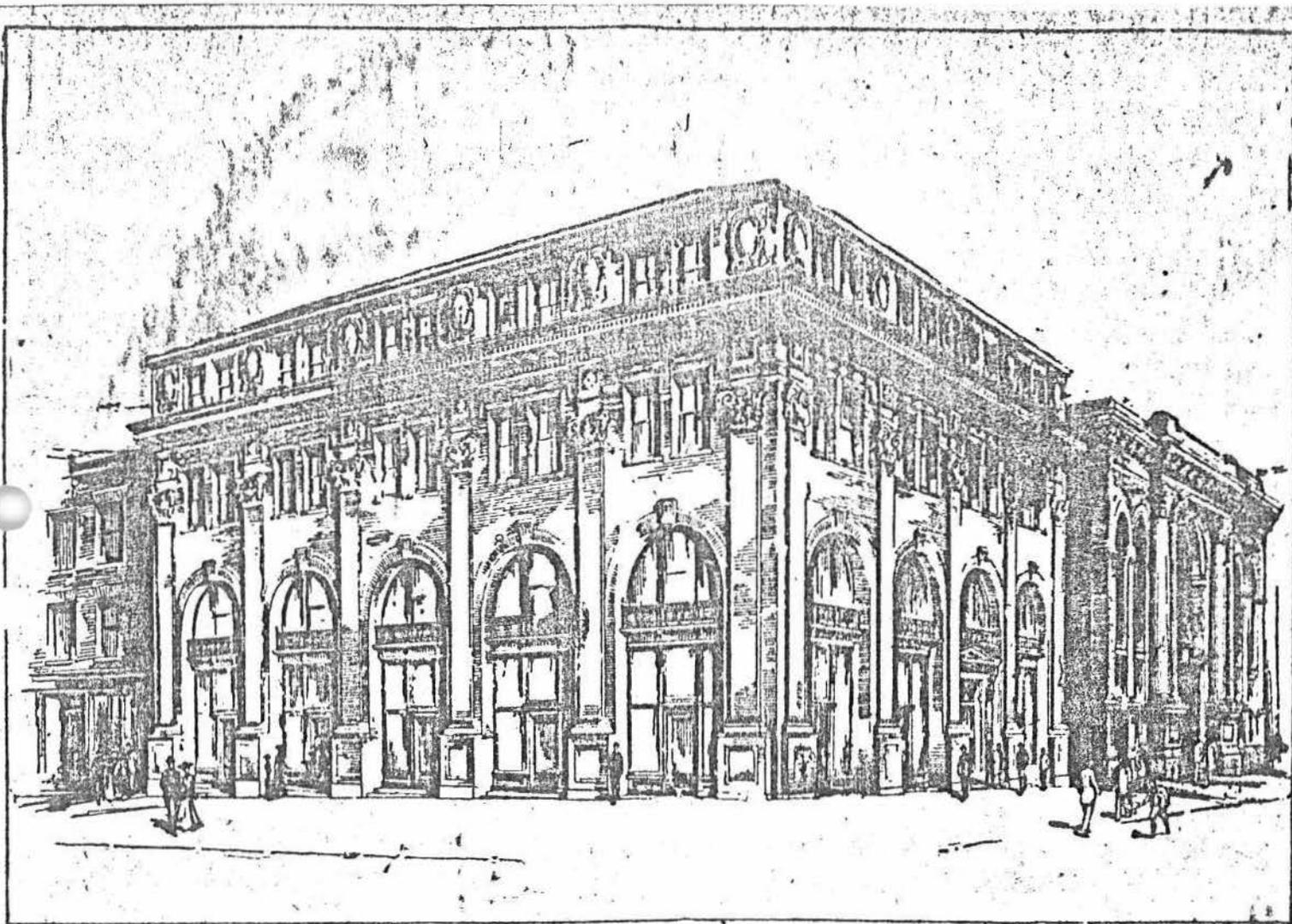
A. S. ABELL & CO., PROPRIETORS.

B-1201

Baltimore Financial District Survey
5 South Street

Abell Building

Baltimore Sun, August 10, 1904, p. 7



STRUCTURE FOR A. S. ABELL ESTATE ON SITE OF SUN IRON BUILDING

The above is an illustration of the four-story office building to be erected on the site of the Sun Iron Building, at the southeast corner of Baltimore and South streets, by the Safe Deposit and Trust Company, as trustee for the A. S. Abell estate. As heretofore announced, the new home of THE SUN will be located at the southwest corner of Baltimore and Charles streets.

The new office building on the old site of THE SUN will have a frontage on Balti-

more street 40 feet greater than that of the SUN Iron Building, as it will take in lot 307 East Baltimore street, and lot 309 East Baltimore street. Lot 309 was owned by Mrs. J. Levy, but it has been exchanged for lot 311 East Baltimore street, the property of the A. S. Abell estate. This gives a combined frontage on Baltimore street of 91 feet.

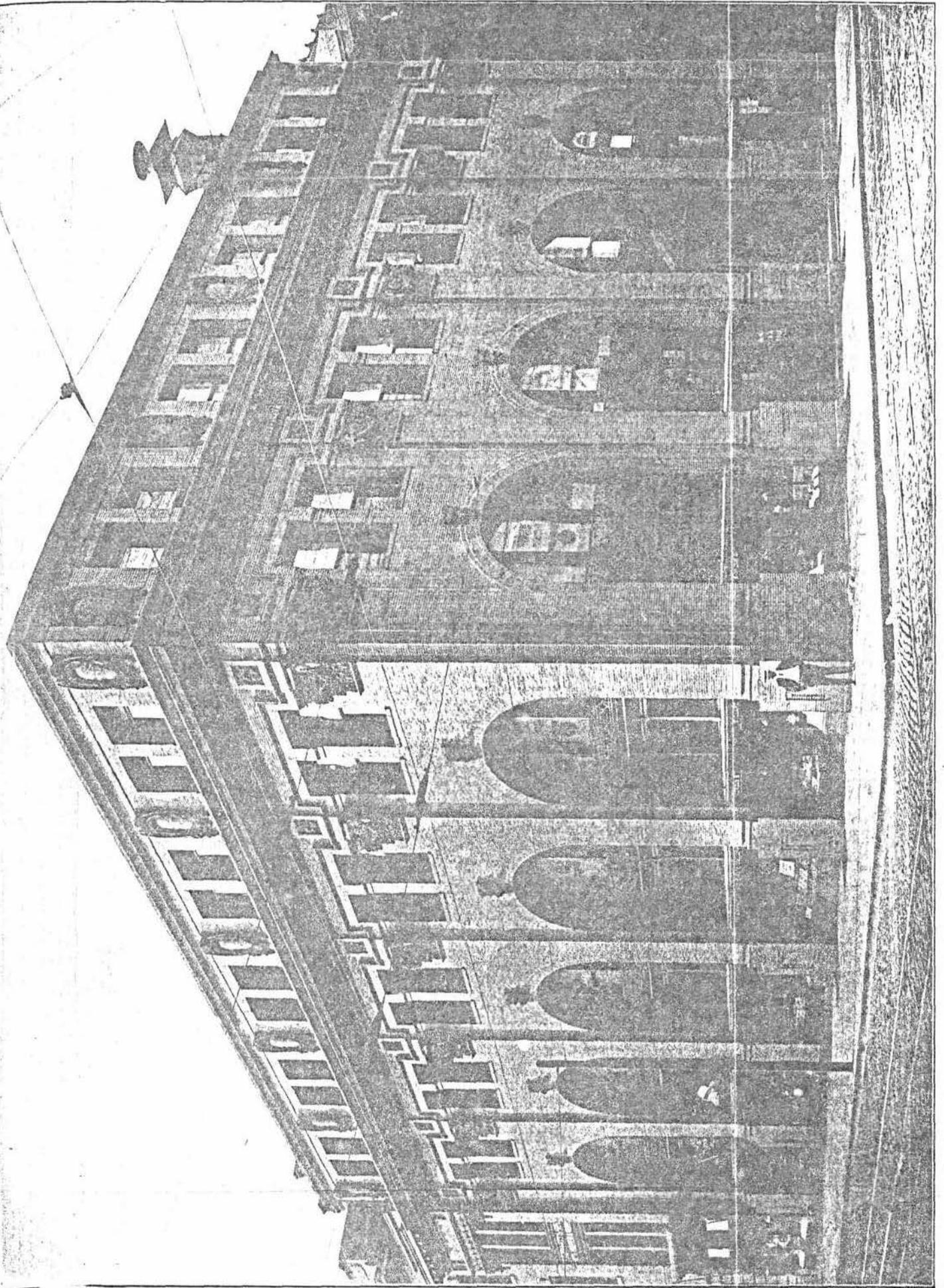
The new building will front on South street 73 feet. In design it will harmonize with the imposing structure of the Safe

Deposit and Trust Company, which adjoins on the south. All who have seen the sketch of the building have pronounced it a most artistic design, and by this treatment the southeast corner of Baltimore and South streets will present one of the most pleasing effects in the whole city. Mrs. Levy, who now owns lot 311 East Baltimore street, has agreed to erect a building of similar height. As a result the south side of Baltimore street between South and Holliday streets will afford a harmonious

effect, as at the southwest corner of Baltimore and Holliday streets the Maryland Savings Bank will erect an ornate, single-story banking house.

The front walls of the new structure of the Abell estate will be faced with red Roman brick, with terra-cotta trimmings of the same shade. The building will contain 38 offices and will be entirely fireproof in construction. The material and workmanship will be of the best. The building will be ready for occupancy by February 1.

Baltimore Financial District Survey
5 South Street
Abell Building

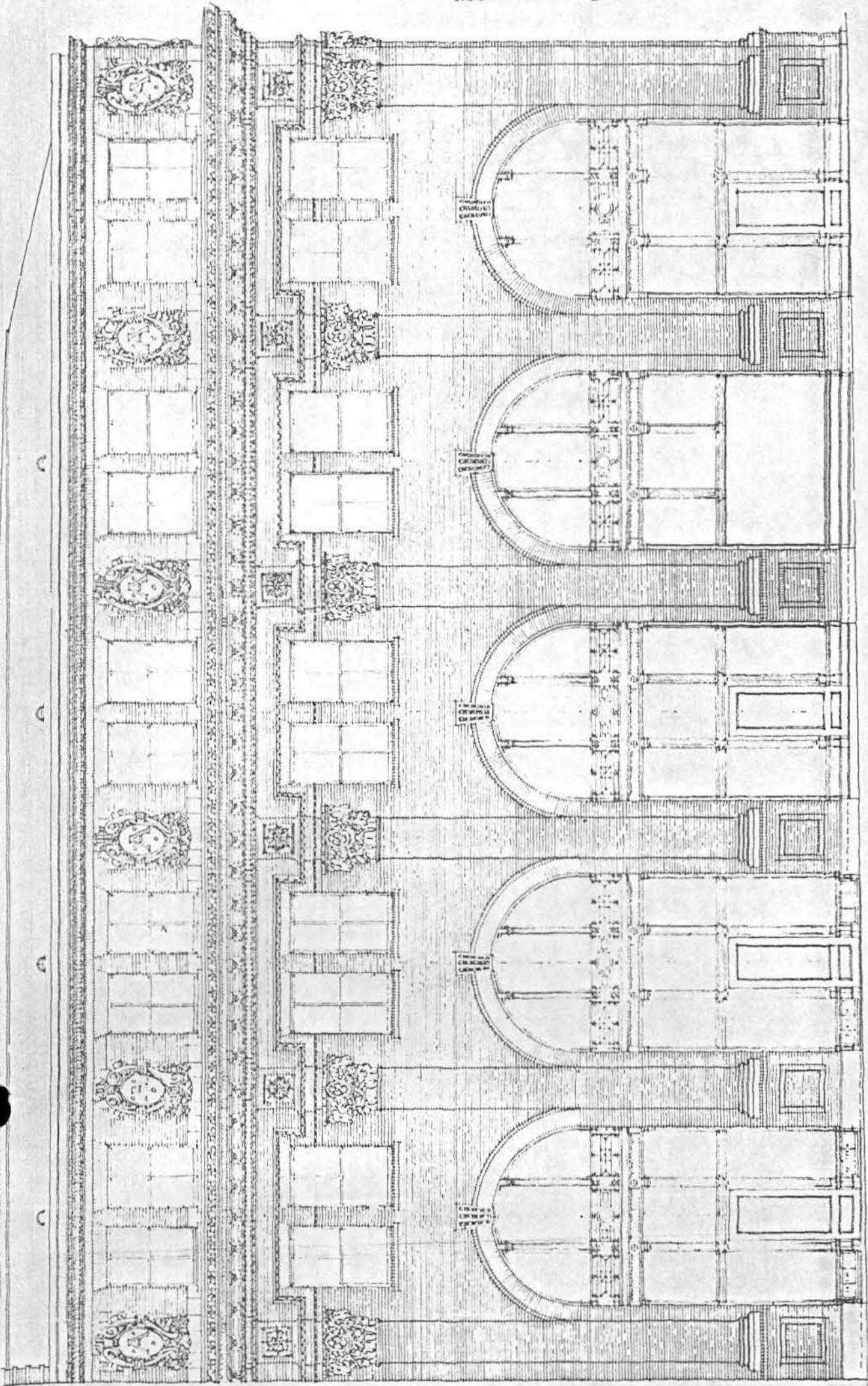


THE ABELL BUILDING, BALTIMORE, MD.

(FOR STORES AND OFFICES.)

DELANO & ALDRICH, ARCHITECTS.

Baltimore Financial District Survey, 5 South Street,
Abell Building



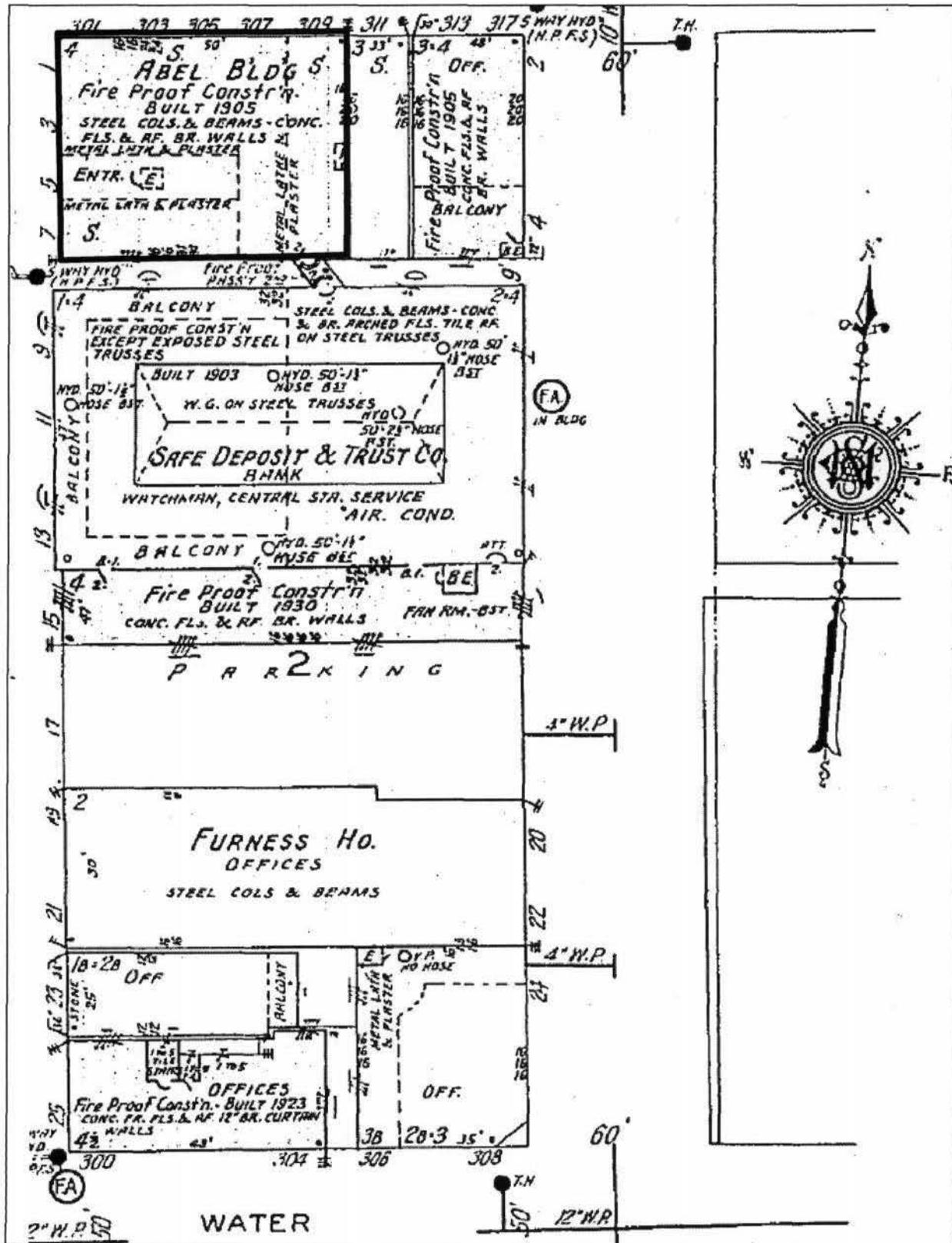
FRONT ELEVATION, ABELL BUILDING, BALTIMORE, MD.
DELANO & ALDRICH, ARCHITECTS.

B-1201

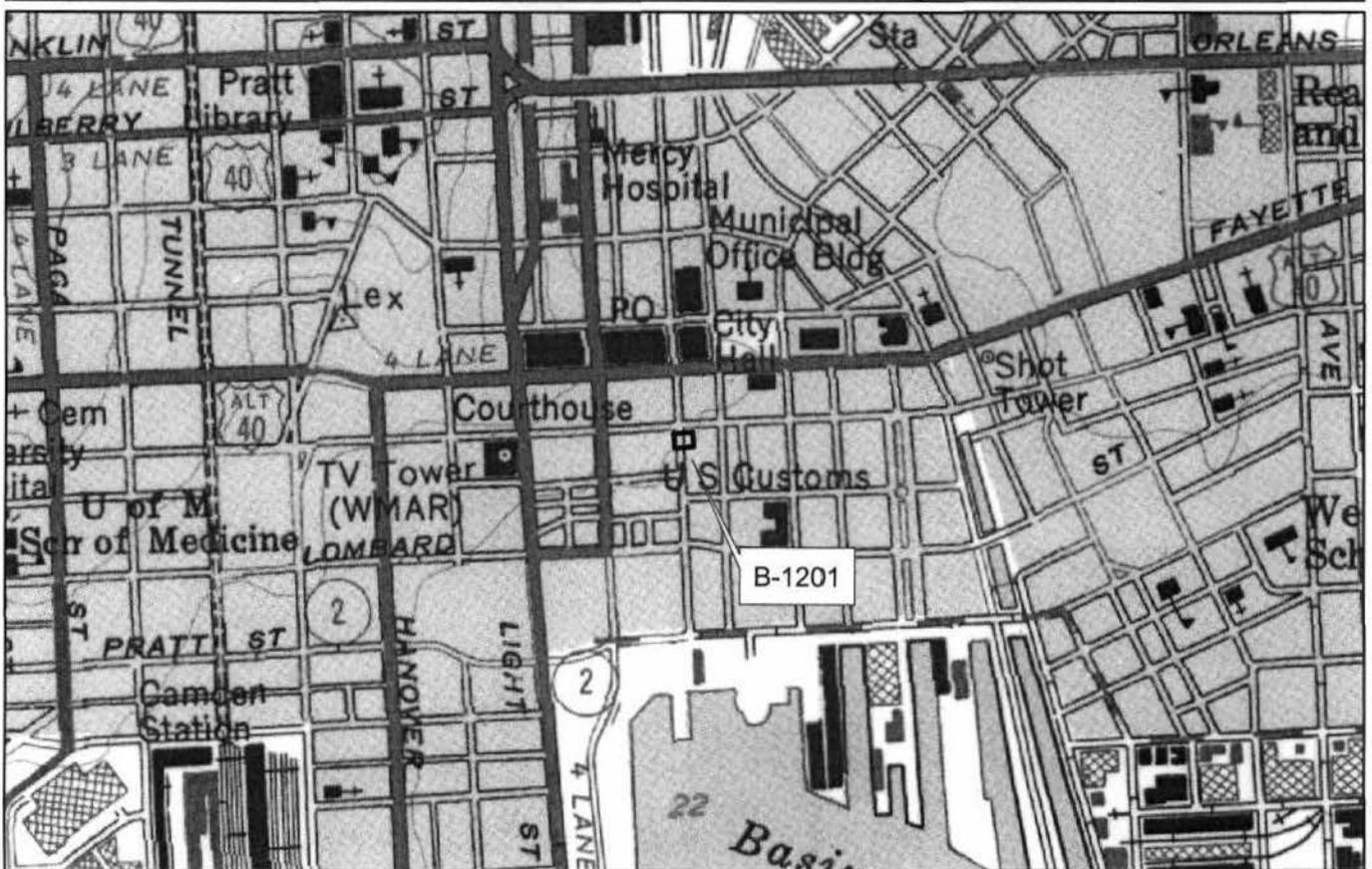
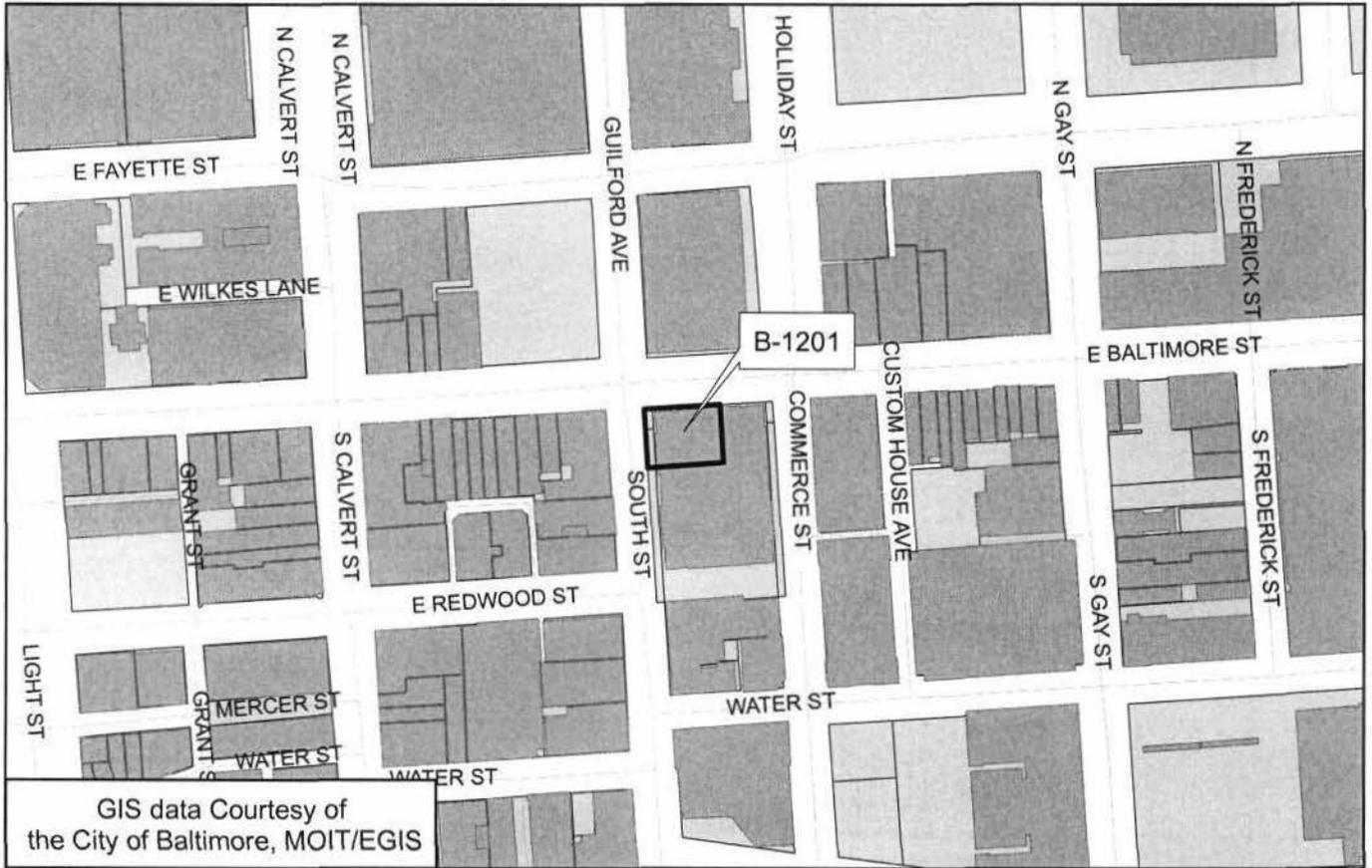
Abell Building (Hyland Plasma Center, site of Sun Iron Building)

5 South Street

Sanborn Map 1952, Volume 1A, Sheet 44A



B-1201
Abell Building (Hyland Plasma Center, site of Sun Iron Building)
5 South Street
Block 1348 Lot 001
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad





B-1202
1201

Abell Building
5 South Street
Financial District-Metrocenter Survey
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Fred Shoken
Date: October 1983
Neg.loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
West elevation