

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Baltimore City FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:  
The Johns Hopkins Hospital; Administration, Marburg, Wilmer Buildings  
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
601 North Broadway  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Baltimore  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
Seventh  
STATE  
Maryland  
CODE  
24  
COUNTY:  
Baltimore City  
CODE  
510

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	Medical	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
The Johns Hopkins Hospital  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
601 North Broadway  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Baltimore  
STATE:  
Maryland  
CODE  
24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Land Record Office of the Superior Court of Baltimore City  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
Room 610, Baltimore City Court House  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Baltimore  
STATE:  
Maryland  
CODE  
24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation Survey  
DATE OF SURVEY: 1965  
 Federal  State  County  Local  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
Room 402 City Hall  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Baltimore  
STATE:  
Maryland  
CODE  
24

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Baltimore City
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The three remaining original buildings of the John Hopkins Hospital are the Administration Building, the Marburg Buildings, and the Wilmer Building. Facing on Broadway, these three buildings harmonize with each other, and the major external ornamentation planned by the original designer is concentrated here. The designs were drawn by the firm of Cabot and Chandler of Boston in the Queen Anne style. The buildings were constructed of pressed brick, with ornamentation of dark blue, fine-grained, hard and durable Cheat River sandstone from West Virginia, and with ornamentation of molded terracotta matching the brick.

The Administration Building in the center is the largest building and the most important architecturally. The four-story building is crowned with a large dome with a central spire. The height to the top of the dome is 150 feet; to the top of the spire, 185 feet; and from the main floor to the top of the inner dome, 79 feet 9 inches. The hospital's main entrance is by porch on the west front, through a vestibule, which opens into a central, octagonal-shaped rotunda (34 feet in diameter) extending upward from the ground floor to the glass dome, which has been painted over to comply with World War II blackout regulations. In the center of the rotunda, facing the door, is a 10 1/2 foot marble statue of Christ the Consoler, made in 1896 by Professor Stein of the Danish Royal Academy of Arts, and presented to the hospital by William W. Spence. It is a replica of an 1820 work by the Danish sculptor Bertel Thorvaldsen.

Opposite the front entrance to the Administration Building is a large double staircase leading to the three upper floors and to mahogany-trimmed balconies around the rotunda. The rotunda opens into the main hall, which runs north and south with a vestibule entrance at each end. Great attention was paid to architectural details of the interior, as shown by the marble floors, oad woodwork, heavily ornamented brass candelabra, decorative moldings and plaster work, numerous marble mantels and carved brass hinges. The first floor contains offices, reception rooms, and the original board room. The upper floors, previously used partly as physicians' residences, now contain only offices. Service facilities are located in the concrete and brick basement.

The two pay wards flanking the Administration Building have small domes and similar facades but few original interior furnishings. Each building contains a series of rooms on each side of a central corridor running north and south, with verandas on each end. At the junction of this corridor with an east and west corridor is an octagonal hall. The interiors of the buildings were finished in ash. Today the southern building houses clinics of the Wilmer Ophthalmological Institute. Marburg, on the north, remains in use for private patients.

All the other original buildings have been replaced through massive construction programs, but the three central buildings have remained as a demonstrative part of the hospital's history and a landmark of Baltimore since 1889.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

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COUNTY		Maryland
		Baltimore City
		FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	

(Number all entries)

The Johns Hopkins Hospital

Number 7, Description continued:

The two pay wards flanking the Administration Building are today known as the Wilmer Opthamological Institute, on the south, and the Marburg Building, on the north. They were constructed as a U-shaped unit with the Administration Building and, indeed, were originally entered only through passageways connecting with it. (In 1925, a new facade and doorway were added to the north side of the Wilmer Building.) Both structures are three stories high and have regularly spaced rectangular windows with curved lintels on the first floor. The second and third floor windows are separated by brick pilasters. A central bay projects on the west side of each building, facing Broadway. This is topped by a triangular pediment which is decorated with a terracotta floral design. Immediately below on the third floor level is an ornate arched window.

The Marburg Building is the more nearly original of the two and retains its two-story cast iron porches which project on the north and south facades. The mansard roofs of both structures are slightly pitched and are topped by an octagonal tower which rises to a pointed spire.

Inside, each building contains a series of rooms flanking a central corridor whose axis is north and south. At the junction of this corridor with an east-west corridor, is an octagonal hall. The interiors of the buildings were finished in ash.

## 6. SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian;       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1877 - 1889

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)<br><u>architecture</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Science  | <u>medicine</u>  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   |   |  | _____  |

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Johns Hopkins (1795-1873) was a successful Baltimore merchant and banker who amassed a fortune of approximately seven million dollars. A bachelor, he decided to divide his fortune after his death between a hospital and a university. In 1867, bills were passed in the Maryland General Assembly to form two corporations, "The John Hopkins Hospital" and "The Johns Hopkins University;" their charter provided for a close inter-locking arrangement between the two. The certificate of incorporation of the hospital was signed in August, 1867, and Mr. Hopkins chose 12 men to serve on its Board of Trustees, all prominent in the professional, political, or business life of Baltimore. The first president of the Board was Francis T. King (1819-1891), a leader in the dry goods business. John W. Garrett (1820-1884) was president of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad when chosen trustee.

Mr. Hopkins selected a site for the hospital in southeast Baltimore on Loudenschlager's Hill, which had been occupied by the Maryland Hospital for the Insane since 1797. He bought the land and gave the deed to the Trustees in March, 1873; the streets through the site were permanently closed. At this time he also gave the trustees a letter concerning the hospital and its duties, with detailed instructions about grading and preparing the land, building a hospital of the highest charter, and maintaining a close relationship with the medical school of the university. To complete the hospital's tract of land, Mr. Hopkins agreed to purchase the portion on the western boundary of the lot owned by the Insane Asylum, to provide a frontage on Broadway and form a total lot of 14 1/2 acres; this portion had been occupied by several houses and a small cemetery, and was purchased by the Trustees after Mr. Hopkins' death.

John Hopkins died on December 24, 1873 at the age of 78. Now the income from his estate was available to the Trustees, and they needed to determine the best plan of construction to ensure the success of the hospital. At that time the relation of bacteria to disease was not thoroughly understood; it was widely supposed that hospital air spread disease, so the arrangement and ventilation of the buildings was of utmost importance. The Building Committee of the Board of Trustees studied the problem and inspected hospitals in other cities.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Baltimore City	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Continuation Sheet) #1

(Number all entries)

The John Hopkins Hospital

No. 8. Significance Continued.

In May, 1874 the Committee appointed John R. Niernsee as architect. Born in Vienna, Niernsee studied engineering and architecture at the University of Prague. After coming to the United States he established the firm of Niernsee and Neilson in Baltimore, which designed several houses on Baltimore's Mount Vernon Place. During the Civil War he was a major of engineers in Beauregard's army.

In 1875 the Building Committee decided to obtain technical scientific advice before choosing a construction plan. King wrote to five distinguished physicians who were experts on hospital construction, asking for their suggestions, and for their opinions on the relative merits of the "pavilion" system (detached, permanent units of two or more stories) and the "barrack" system (one-story temporary structures). All five replies contained useful points, but that of Dr. John S. Billings was accepted as the best essay. Billings was born in Indiana in 1838, and graduated from Miami University and the Medical College of Ohio. During the Civil War he served with distinction in the Medical Corps of the United States Army. After the war he was assigned to the Office of the Surgeon General in Washington, where he gained a reputation as an authority on hospital construction and management, as well as hygiene and sanitation. He is best known for his compilation of the Index Catalogue of the Surgeon General's Library. After retiring from the army he became Director of the newly created New York Public Library until his death in 1913.

Billings' essay on the hospital emphasized the connection with the medical school and research facilities, and outlined the details of the important heating and ventilating facilities. On the recommendation of the Building Committee, the Board of Trustees employed Billings as a special advisor and supervisor of hospital construction, starting on July 1, 1876. By that time the Building Committee and the architect Niernsee had planned to have the main building face on Broadway to form the memorial or monument part of the complex; the buildings were to be handsome, but not too elaborately ornamented. Niernsee returned to South Carolina to complete the State Capitol in November, 1877, and was succeeded by the firm of Cabot and Chandler of Boston, who prepared the plans for the Administration Building and the two private ward buildings; these are the only original buildings remaining today.

In the fall of 1876 Billings went to Europe to study hospital construction there; on his return, he advised a plan with a central garden, a series of one-story pavilion wards, and two pay wards flanking the Administration Building. The final complete block plan of the hospital was approved early in 1877. Construction was started in June, 1877, but was not completed for 12 years, and even then the southern row of wards was never built. The estate, and the yearly return was lower than expected. The construction was supervised first by John Marshall, when by William H. Leeks; the grounds were laid out and planted from designs by E. W. Bowditch of Boston.

(see continuation sheet #2)

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet) #2

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Baltimore City	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

The John Hopkins Hospital  
No. 8. Significance Continued.

The Johns Hopkins Hospital was formally opened on May 7, 1889. It gained early recognition through its famous doctors - Welch, Osler, Halsted, and Kelly. The Administration Building is still the focal point of the hospital, its dome often used as a symbol. To the north of the Administration Building is the ward originally used for male paying patients, which now houses all private medical and surgical patients. Named the Marburg Building, it is funded by the family of Charles L. Marburg (1842-1907), the head of a Baltimore tobacco firm. The female pay ward south of the Administration Building is now part of the Wilmer Ophthalmological Institute, founded in 1925 by Dr. William Holland Wilmer (1863-1936), who was also the founder and one of the original trustees of Baltimore's Roman Catholic Cathedral.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Billings, John S. Description of The Johns Hopkins Hospital. Baltimore: Press of Isaac Friedenwald, 1890.

Bruen, Elizabeth. Personal interview at the Johns Hopkins Hospital (Public Relations Department), April 4, 1973.

Chesney, Alan M. The Johns Hopkins Hospital and The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine - A Chronicle. Volume I. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1943.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE			LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	'	"	39	17	50
NE	0	'	"	76	35	38
SE	0	'	"			
SW	0	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Eight acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Joyce Maclay and Catharine Black sdh

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust      DATE: May 9, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:  
2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis      STATE: Maryland      CODE: 24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National     State     Local

Name Orlando Ridout  
Orlando Ridout IV

Title State Historic Preservation Officer for Maryland

Date July 5, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

B-122

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

<b>1. NAME</b>		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
The John Hopkins Hospital, Administration, Marburg, Wilmer Buildings		
<b>2. LOCATION</b>		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Maryland	Baltimore City	Baltimore
STREET AND NUMBER		
601 North Broadway		
<b>3. PHOTO REFERENCE</b>		
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
Gretchen Redden	June, 1973	CHAP Baltimore, Maryland
<b>4. IDENTIFICATION</b>		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

Johns Hopkins Hospital, Administration Building, west facade



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**  
**PROPERTY MAP FORM**  
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

B-122

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
The John Hopkins Hospital Administration, Marburg, Wilmer Buildings		

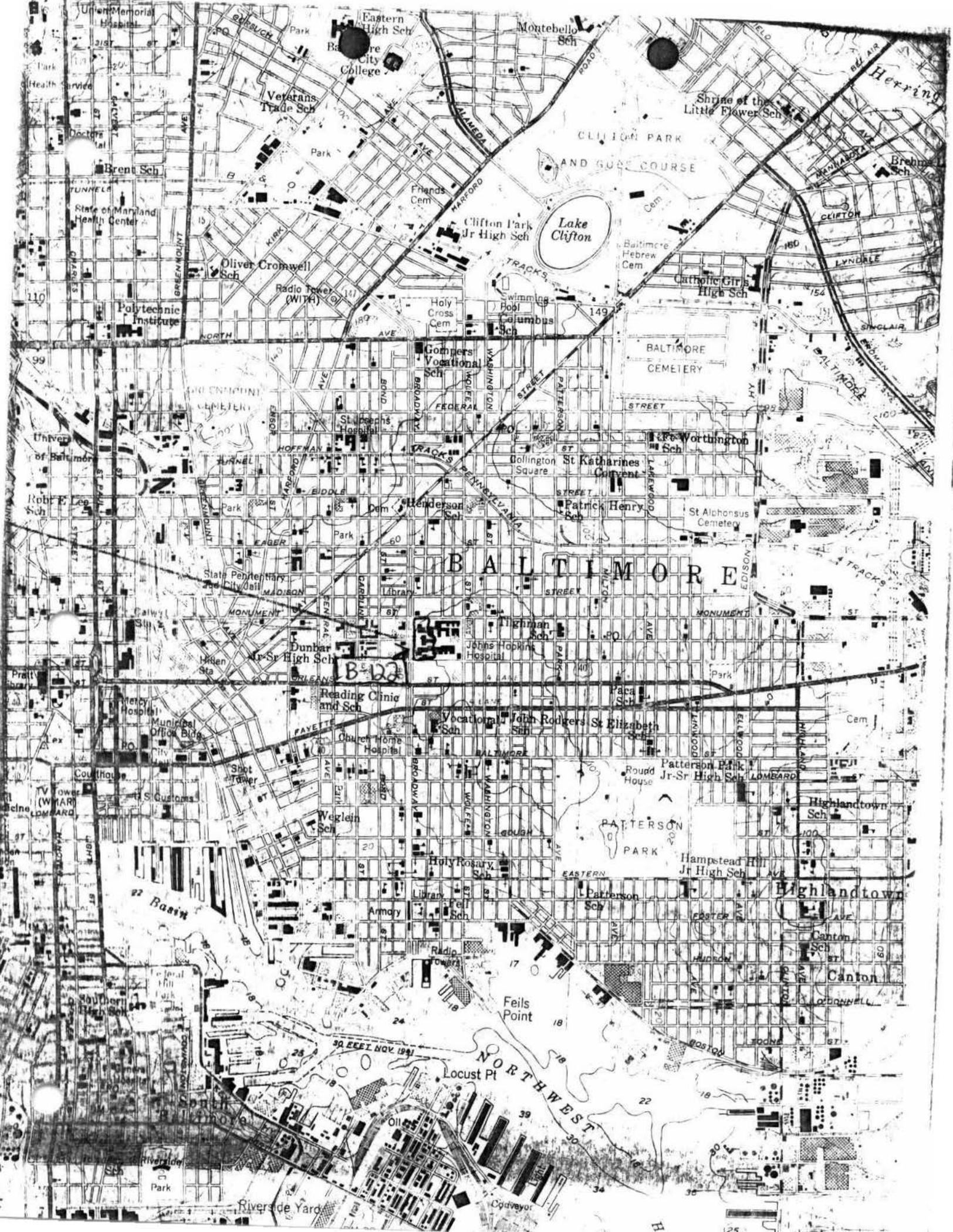
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Maryland	Baltimore City	Baltimore

STREET AND NUMBER

601 North Broadway

3. MAP REFERENCE		
SOURCE	DATE	SCALE
U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute map Baltimore East Quadrangle	1953	1:24000

REQUIREMENTS: PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, WHERE REQUIRED, AND NORTH ARROW.



BALTIMORE

B-102

NOV 1941

NORTHWEST

22 Raese

Locust Pt

Feils Point

Highlandtown

Canton

Canton

Canton

Canton

Southern High Sch

Riverside

Riverside Park

Riverside Yard

Brent Sch

State of Maryland Health Center

Polytechnic Institute

University of Baltimore

Robt E Lee Sch

State Penitentiary and City Jail

Pratt Sch

TV Tower (W. MAR) LOMBARD

Courthouse

Shot Tower

Weglein Sch

Army Sch

Radio Tower

Radio Tower

Radio Tower

Veterans Trade Sch

Oliver Cromwell Sch

Radio Tower (WITH)

Gompers Vocational Sch

Henderson Sch

Dunbar Jr-Sr High Sch

Reading Clinic and Sch

Vocational Sch

Weglein Sch

Holy Rosary Sch

Army Sch

Radio Tower

Radio Tower

Radio Tower

Radio Tower

Radio Tower

Eastern High Sch

Clifton Park Jr High Sch

Holy Cross Cem

St Josephs Hospital

Highman Sch

Johns Hopkins Hospital

Reading Clinic and Sch

Vocational Sch

Holy Rosary Sch

Army Sch

Radio Tower

Radio Tower

Radio Tower

Radio Tower

Radio Tower

Radio Tower

Clifton Park Jr High Sch

Holy Cross Cem

St Josephs Hospital

Highman Sch

Johns Hopkins Hospital

Reading Clinic and Sch

Vocational Sch

Holy Rosary Sch

Army Sch

Radio Tower

Clifton Park Jr High Sch

Holy Cross Cem

St Josephs Hospital

Highman Sch

Johns Hopkins Hospital

Reading Clinic and Sch

Vocational Sch

Holy Rosary Sch

Army Sch

Radio Tower

Clifton Park Jr High Sch

Holy Cross Cem

St Josephs Hospital

Highman Sch

Johns Hopkins Hospital

Reading Clinic and Sch

Vocational Sch

Holy Rosary Sch

Army Sch

Radio Tower

Clifton Park Jr High Sch

Holy Cross Cem

St Josephs Hospital

Highman Sch

Johns Hopkins Hospital

Reading Clinic and Sch

Vocational Sch

Holy Rosary Sch

Army Sch

Radio Tower

Clifton Park Jr High Sch

Holy Cross Cem

St Josephs Hospital

Highman Sch

Johns Hopkins Hospital

Reading Clinic and Sch

Vocational Sch

Holy Rosary Sch

Army Sch

Radio Tower

Clifton Park Jr High Sch

Holy Cross Cem

St Josephs Hospital

Highman Sch

Johns Hopkins Hospital

Reading Clinic and Sch

Vocational Sch

Holy Rosary Sch

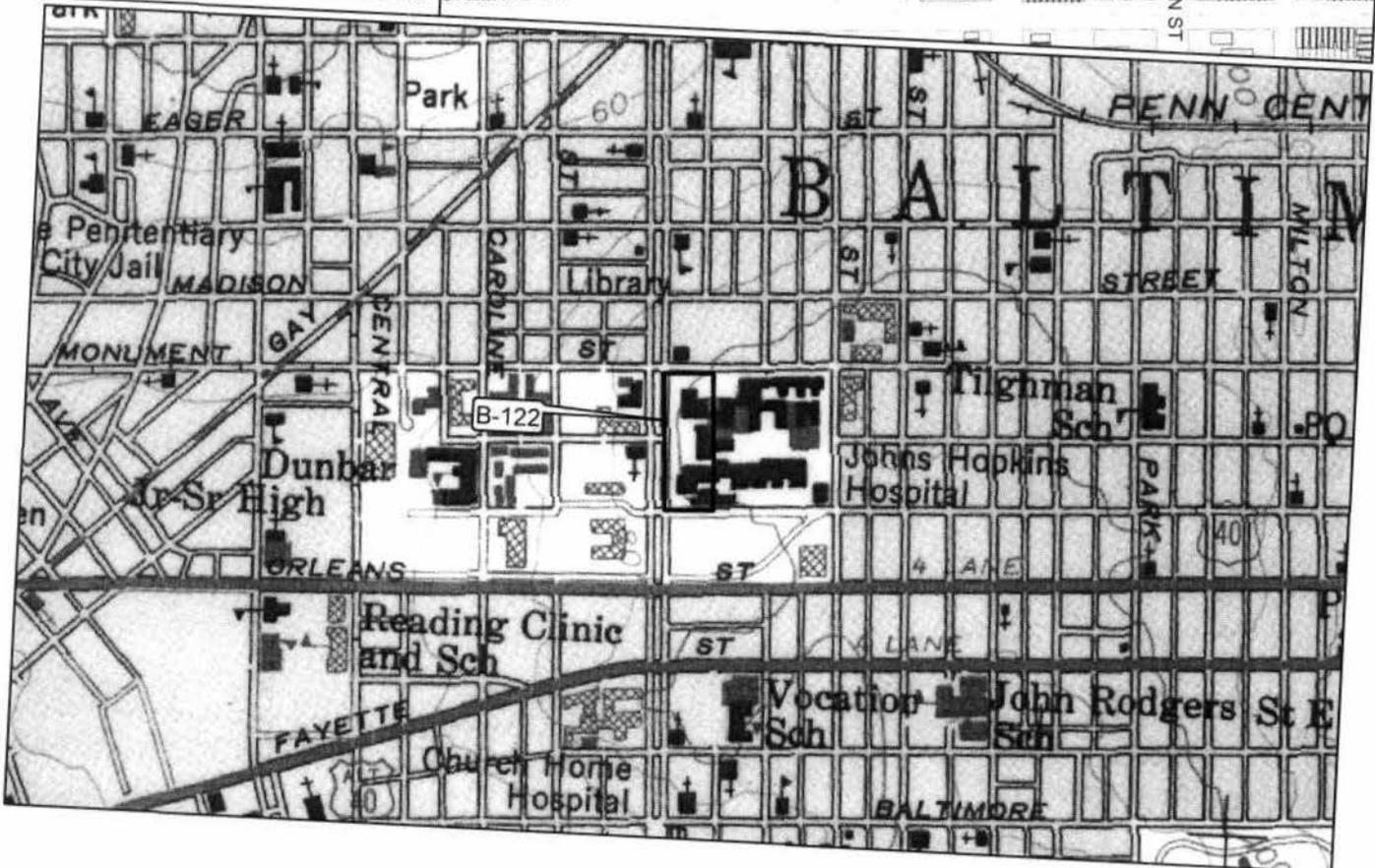
Army Sch

Radio Tower

B-122  
Johns Hopkins Hospital  
601 N. Broadway  
Block 1633, Lot 001  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad.



GIS data Courtesy of  
the City of Baltimore, MOIT/EGIS





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