

BALTIMORE CITY - COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

CDBG SURVEY YEAR: 12

SURVEY NO.: B-1288

AREA: Druid Heights

MAGI NO.: 0412888504

ADDRESS: 579-581 Baker Street
CURRENT NAME:



BLOCK: 302

LOT: 23: 581; 24: 579 LOT SIZE: 10 ft. x 60 ft.

HEIGHT: 2

MATERIALS: Brick

CONDITION: Good

OWNER: Baltimore City

USE: Vacant dwellings

ADDRESS:

DESIGNATION:

ACCESSIBLE: Yes, restricted

LIBER/FOLIO:

HISTORIC NAME:

DATE: Ca. 1865

ARCHITECT/BUILDER:

STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE):

DESCRIPTION:

The two brick rowhouses are two stories and two bays each and were erected about 1865 on the southeast side of Baker Street at the present corner of Brunt Street, an alley, between Division Street and Pennsylvania Avenue in northwest central Baltimore, Maryland. In the late 19th century, the houses were in the middle of a complete row of houses because Brunt Street was not cut through to Baker Street. They are distinct from the surrounding houses in the block by their lower scale and flat arches at the window and door openings. The arches are gauged brick and each doorway has a small rectangular transom. The modern doors are unpaneled. The steps in front of each door are concrete. A passage between the two houses has been filled with concrete block. The 1/1 window on the first story of No. 579 has security bars. The first story of No. 581 has a 4/4 window, also with security bars. The upper story windows in both houses are 1/1. The continuous cornice has elongated brackets, perforated carved designs, and fascia panels outlined by molding.

SIGNIFICANCE:

AREA: Architecture

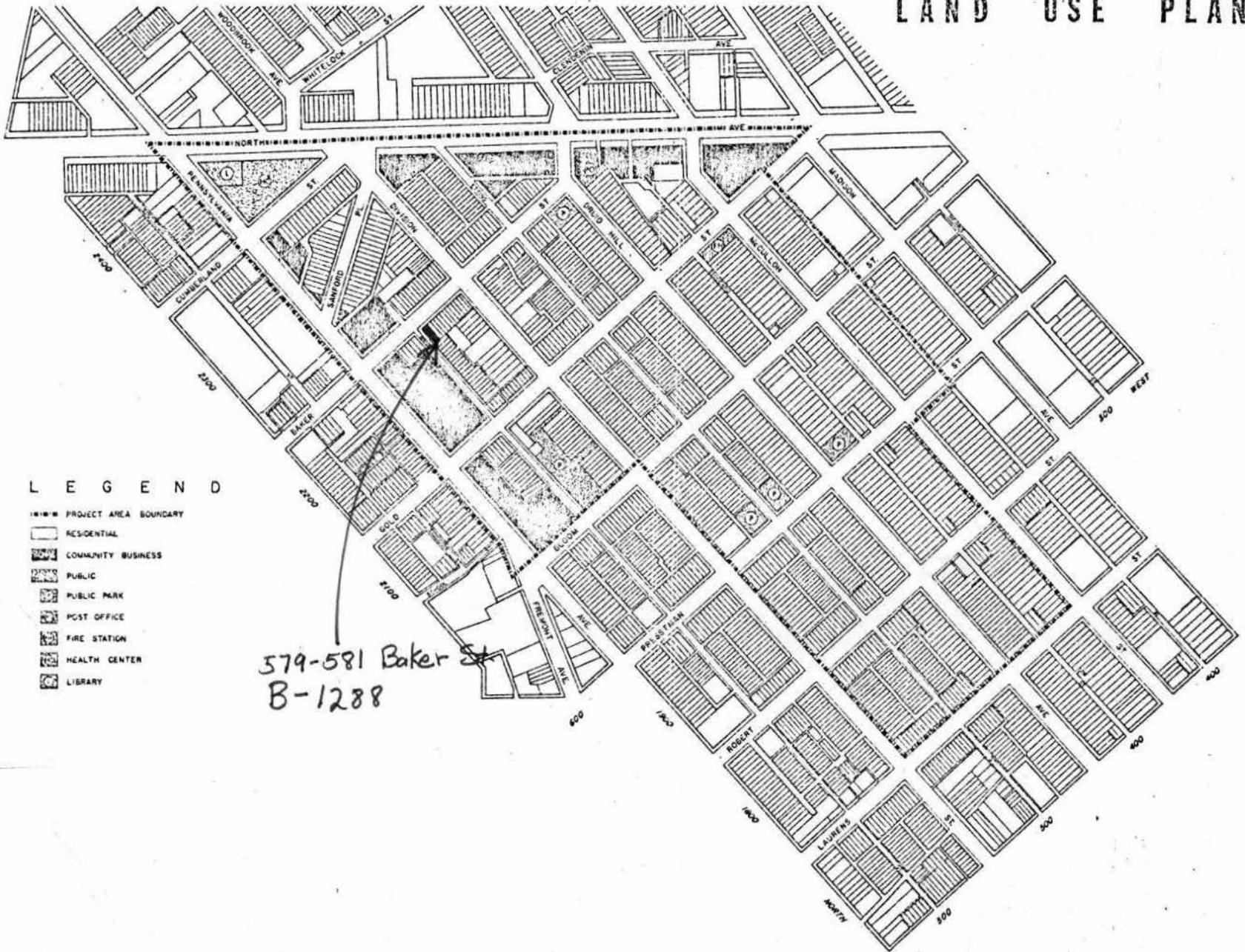
LEVEL: Local

The two rowhouses at 579-581 Baker Street are unique in the 500 block and perhaps in a larger undefined area because the salient architectural features appear to predate those of the surrounding houses. The low scale of the houses, simple flat arches, and evidence of a passage between the units are typical of the early 19th century rowhouse. The 1851 Poppleton map shows this area was not developed by 1850; the Baker Street houses may therefore be the first houses erected on the block. The cornice is certainly of the second half of the 19th century and may be a later addition.

SOURCES: Poppleton Map of Baltimore (1851)

SURVEYOR AND DATE: Janet L. Davis, September 1986

LAND USE PLAN



LEGEND

- PROJECT AREA BOUNDARY
- ▨ RESIDENTIAL
- ▩ COMMUNITY BUSINESS
- ▧ PUBLIC
- ▦ PUBLIC PARK
- POST OFFICE
- ⊠ FIRE STATION
- ⊡ HEALTH CENTER
- ⊢ LIBRARY

579-581 Baker St
B-1288

DRUID HEIGHTS

PLANNING DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

LAND USE PLAN

DATE: 5/17/77
DRAWN BY: H.L.B.
APPROVED:

REVISION:
5/17/77
H.L.B.

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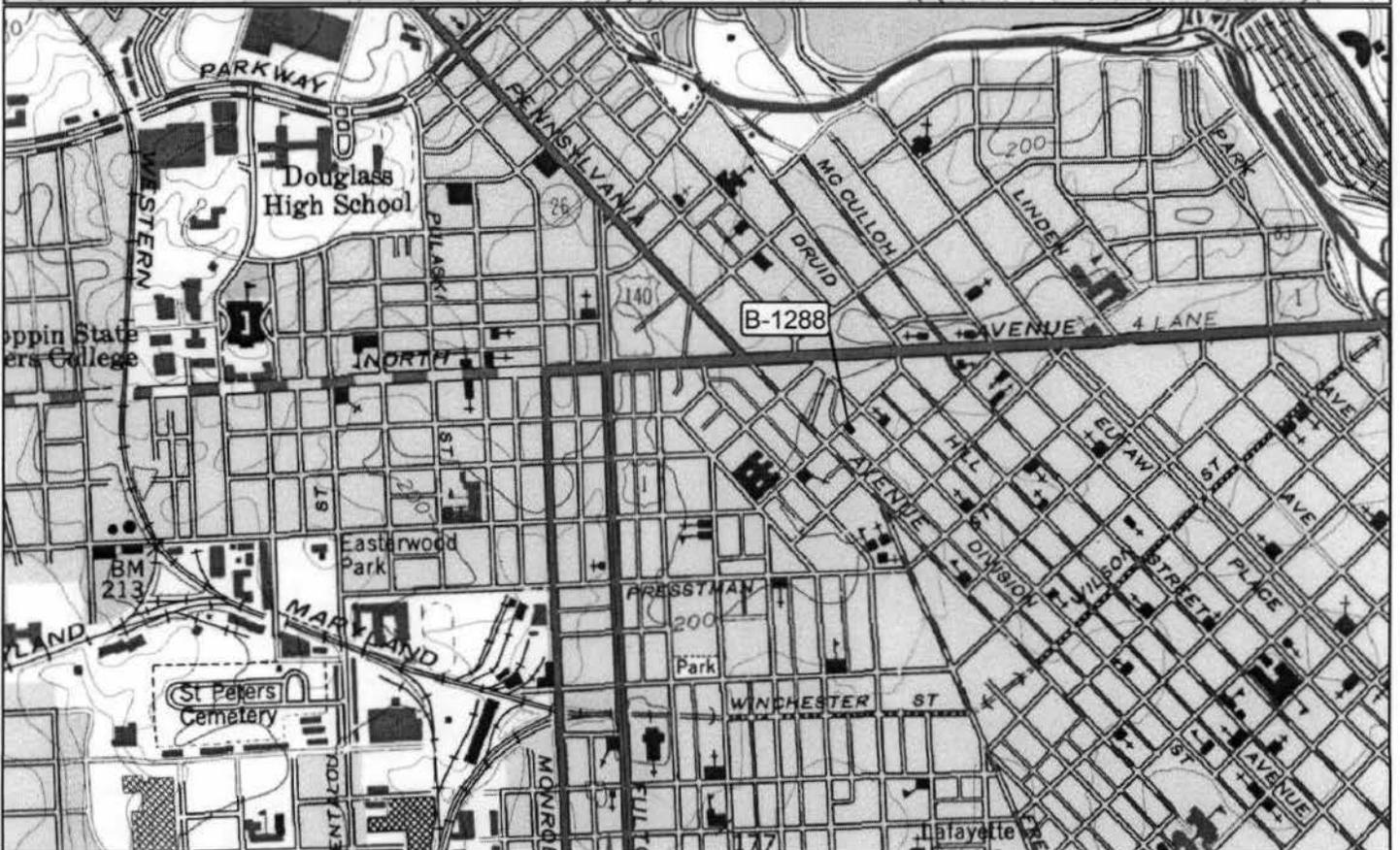
EXHIBIT

Demolished

B-1288
579-581 Baker Street
Block 0302
Baltimore City
Baltimore West Quad.



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





579-581 Baker Street

B-1288

Baltimore, Maryland

Photo: Janet Davis

Date: September 1986

Neg. loc.: Md. Historical Trust

North elevations