

**INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Property/District Name: Union Stockyards Survey Number: B-1398

Project: Mount Clare Maintenance Facility Agency: MTA

Site visit by MHT Staff:  no  yes Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility recommended  Eligibility **not** recommended

Criteria:  A  B  C  D Considerations:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  
 None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

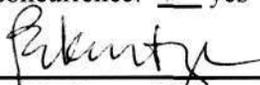
The Union Stockyards are located on the west side of Gwynns Falls south of Wilkens Avenue. Several small stockyards operated in the mid-1880s along Gwynns Falls. Cattle were first driven from outlying areas to the yards, but as the railroad grew farmers turned to sending cattle to town by train. In 1891 the various stockyards consolidated to form "Union" Stockyards and at its height it claimed to be the largest packing, holding and buying complex in Baltimore and rank second to Chicago's stockyards as the largest in the United States. Following World War II the meat packing industry became more localized and the stockyards closed in 1958. The City of Baltimore has since razed all of the old buildings and created the Crossroads Industrial Park which contains junk yards, warehouses and factories. Because the site has lost its integrity through the razing of the stockyard buildings, and the creation of new buildings, as well as through the change in purpose, the Stockyards are not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project Review and Compliance

Prepared by: Parsons, Brinckerhoff Quade & Douglas for MTA

Anne E. Bruder March 21, 1998  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence:  yes  no  not applicable

 3/26/98  
Reviewer, NR program Date

*gmg*

**MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT**

**I. Geographic Region:**

- Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
- Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
- Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
- Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

**II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:**

- Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
- Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
- Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
- Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
- Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
- Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
- Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
- Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
- Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
- Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
- Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
- Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
- Unknown Period (  prehistoric  historic)

**III. Prehistoric Period Themes:**

- Subsistence
- Settlement
- Political
- Demographic
- Religion
- Technology
- Environmental Adaptation

**IV. Historic Period Themes:**

- Agriculture
- Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
- Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
- Government/Law
- Military
- Religion
- Social/Educational/Cultural
- Transportation

**V. Resource Type:**

Category: Site  
Historic Environment: Urban  
Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Cattle Stockyards  
Known Design Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Union Stockyards  
Baltimore City, Maryland  
B- 1398  
public, 1892

Significance

The Union Stockyards, founded in 1892, were home to a flourishing meat processing industry. Cattle, which had once been driven to butchers through the city streets, were brought to the stockyards on the railroad, and were kept in enormous pens. They were then brought to the city's many meat packing plants, some of which were on the stockyard site. Though nothing but a few old packing houses remain in the area today, the Union Stockyards in Baltimore were once only second to the stockyards in Chicago.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Union Stockyards

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number Brunswick and Dukeland Streets \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Baltimore \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mayor and City Council

street & number telephone no.:

city, town Baltimore state and zip code Maryland

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Courthouse liber RHB 3018

street & number Fayette and Calvert Streets folio 399

city, town Baltimore state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title none

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. B-1398

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Only a number of packing company buildings remain to mark the location of the extensive stockyards which formerly occupied this site. Located next to the B & O Railroad, the Union Stockyards were the largest in the city.

The D.B. Martin Company occupied a complex of three adjacent buildings at Wilmarco Street. A large two story office structure with castellated facade also housed refrigerated storage areas on the first floor. Adjacent to it on the west is a long one story brick structure with a raised clerestory which housed the original processing area. A large brick addition to the north and a corrugated metal building to the south were added later, making this a large modern facility by the 1930's.

East of Martin's was the Greenwald Packing Company. This building is a four story brick structure with a large refrigerated storage vault on the southeast corner. Refrigerated portions of the building can be clearly identified by large wall areas without fenestration.

The largest packing plant at the stockyard was the former P.D. Armour facility on Dukeland Street. Rivalling the Schludenberg-Kurdle plant on the east side of town, Armour was a complete multi-product packer. It survives today as a Hygrade plant, but slaughtering has been discontinued. The majority of the structure is reinforced concrete with brick curtain walls.

The cattle pens occupied the land to the west and south of these packing plants. Today the area has been redeveloped as an industrial and business park. Only the packing plants still remain as reminders of the once huge stockyards.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. B-1398

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1892 **Builder/Architect**

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check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or

Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Union Stockyards, founded in 1892, were home to a flourishing meat processing industry. Cattle, which had once been driven to slaughterhouses through the city streets, were brought to the stockyards on the railroad, and kept in enormous pens. They were then brought to the city's many meat packing plants, some of which were on the stockyard site. Though nothing but a few old packing houses remain in the area today, the Union Stockyards in Baltimore were once only second in the country to the stockyards in Chicago.

West Baltimore was a traditional meat packing area. Cattle was driven in from farmlands along trails such as Old Zanes Trail (now Old Frederick Road) and the Calverton Turnpike. Small family butchering operations grew along the road, leading to the christening of one West Baltimore neighborhood as "Pigtown".

When the railroads began service to West Baltimore, a series of stockyards developed in the area. In 1892, the Union Stockyards were founded as a consolidation of many smaller yards. West Baltimore's main railway station, Calverton, was built at the stockyards. The yards included several acres of pens, offices of meat dealers, buying stations of local meat packers, and a number of meat packing plants. Of the entire set-up, only a few of the meat packing plants remain, including the Greenwald, D.B. Martin, and P.D. Armour company buildings, built around the turn of the century. In addition, live-stock and commission merchants had offices in the stockyards, as well as the F.D.A. inspection office, and the Eastern Livestock Cooperative Marketing Association. At one time, the Clermont Hotel stood on the eastern border of the yards, providing meals and housing for dealers, buyers and other visitors; it was busiest at auction time.

In its heyday, the Union Stockyards were the second largest in the country (only Chicago's stockyards were larger). One observer noted that the 75-acre tract, less than 2½ miles from downtown, looked like a scene from a Western movie. The yard's acres of buildings, weighing stations and paved pens pro-



Union Stockyards  
Baltimore City, Maryland  
B- 1398

8.1

vided a number of services, including receiving and holding livestock, weighing them for buyers, and delivering them.

The yards started declining after WWII, as the U.S. meat packing industry localized, rendering such massive yards obsolete. The Union Stockyards closed in 1958. The area is now owned by the City of Baltimore, which has razed most of the structures and replaced them with an industrial park.

B-1398

2. INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION

3. PRIORITY

4. DANGER OF DEMOLITION? (SPECIFY THREAT)  YES  NO  UNKNOWN

5. DATE 1891

6. GOVT SOURCE OF THREAT OWNER ADMIN

7. OWNER/ADMIN Mayor & City Council

8. NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE Union Stockyards

9. OWNER'S ADDRESS Baltimore

10. STATE COUNTY M D COUNTY NAME CITY/VICINITY CONG. DIST. STATE COUNTY M D COUNTY NAME CITY/VICINITY CONG. DIST.

11. SITE ADDRESS (STREET & NO) Brunswick & Dukeland Streets

12. EXISTING SURVEYS  NR  NHL  HABS  HAER-I  HAER  NPS  CL6  CONF  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL  OTHER

13. SPECIAL FEATURES (DESCRIBE BELOW)  INTERIOR INTACT  EXTERIOR INTACT  ENVIRONS INTACT

14. UTM ZONE EASTING NORTHING SIGN SCALE  1:24  1:62.5 QUAD NAME Balto. West

UTM ZONE EASTING NORTHING SIGN SCALE  1:24  1:62.5 QUAD NAME

15. CONDITION 70  EXCELLENT 71  GOOD 72  FAIR 73  DETERIORATED 74  RUINS 75  UNEXPOSED 76  ALTERED 82  DESTROYED 85  DEMOLISHED

16. INVENTORIED BY Ann Steele AFFILIATION Balto. Museum of Industry DATE 12/83

17. DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY, INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), HISTORICAL DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, EXTANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

See attached

(CONT OVER)

18. ORIGINAL USE PRESENT USE ADAPTIVE USE

19. REFERENCES—HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER

Vertical files, Maryland Room, Enoch Pratt Public Library

(CONT OVER)

20. URBAN AREA 50,000 POP. OR MORE?  YES  NO

21. NPS REGION

22. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY  YES, LIMITED  YES, UNLIMITED  NO  UNKNOWN

23. EDITOR INDEXER

24. LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT?  YES  NO NAME DISTRICT I.D. NO

B-1398

Union Stockyards

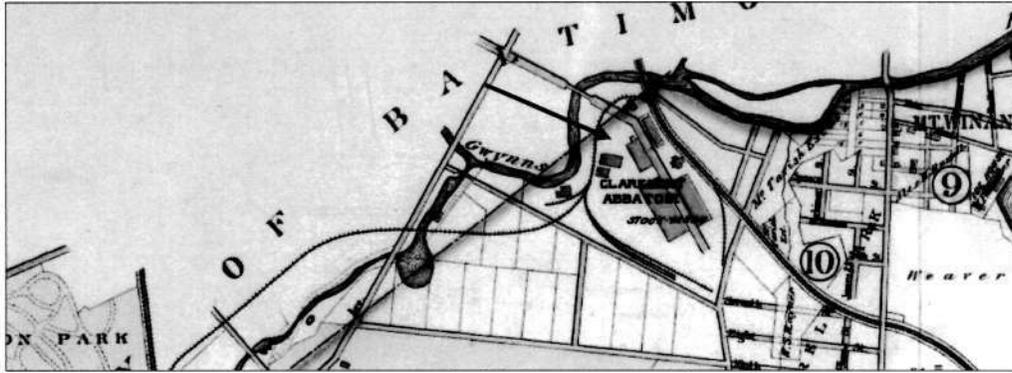
Brunswick & Dukeland Streets

Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. G. W. Bromley and Co., 1898

Plate 4: Part of 1<sup>st</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> Districts

[http://mdhistory.net/msaref07/bc\\_ba\\_atlases\\_1876\\_1915/html/bc\\_ba\\_atlases\\_1876\\_1915-0275.html](http://mdhistory.net/msaref07/bc_ba_atlases_1876_1915/html/bc_ba_atlases_1876_1915-0275.html)

Accessed 9/14/2010



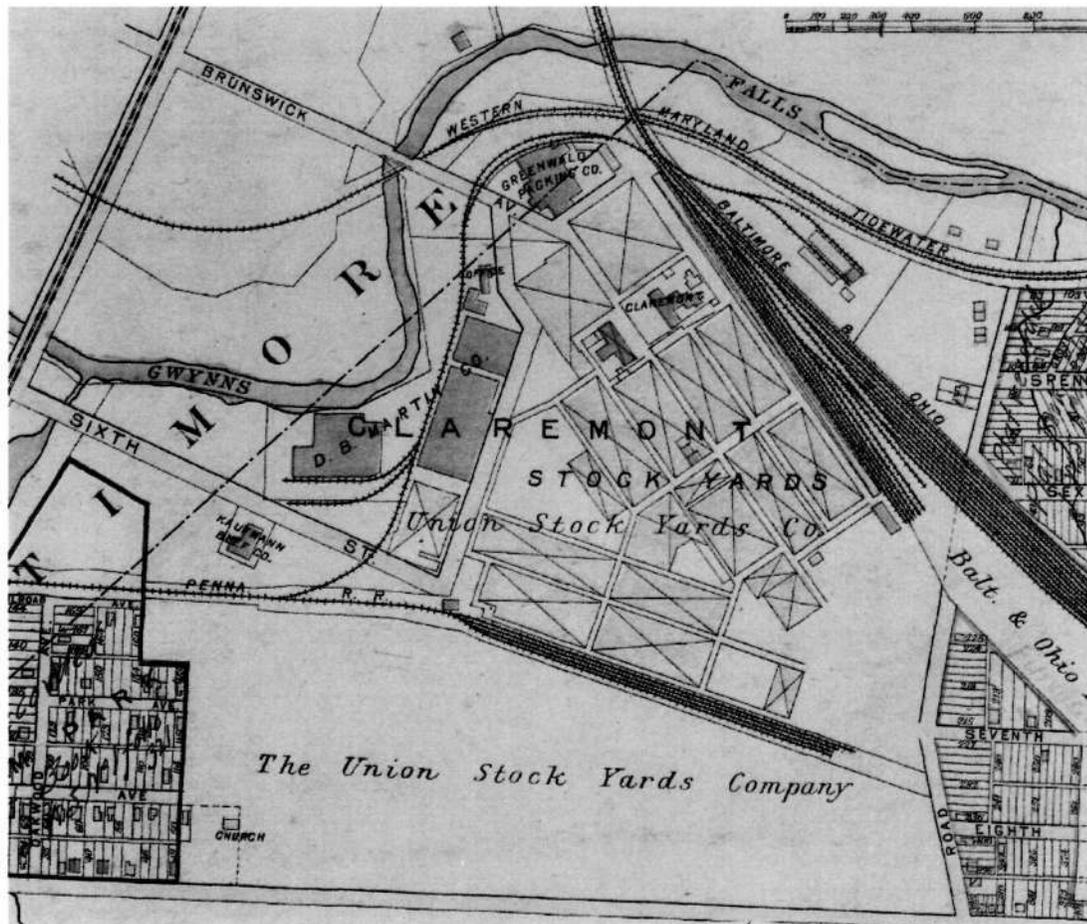
Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. G. W. Bromley and Co., 1915

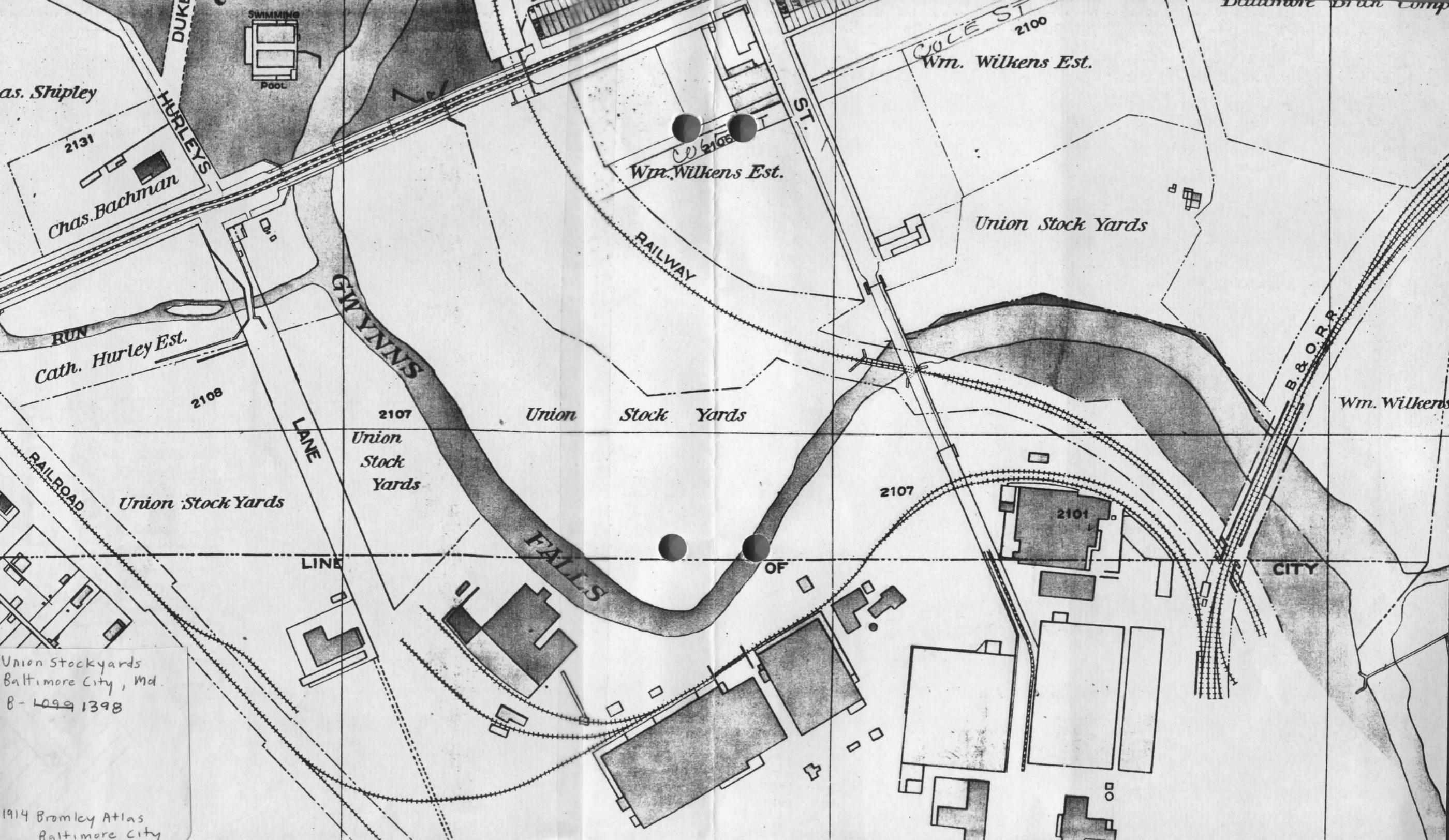
(copy with notes by Isekoff)

Plate 3: Part of 1<sup>st</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> Districts

[http://mdhistory.net/msaref07/bc\\_ba\\_atlases\\_1876\\_1915/html/bc\\_ba\\_atlases\\_1876\\_1915-0732.html](http://mdhistory.net/msaref07/bc_ba_atlases_1876_1915/html/bc_ba_atlases_1876_1915-0732.html)

Accessed 9/14/2010





Union Stockyards  
Baltimore City, Md.  
8-1099 1398

1914 Bromley Atlas  
Baltimore City





Union Stockyards  
Baltimore City, Md.  
Peter Liebhold 10/53

B-1398

looking NE at C.D. Martin East



Union Stockyards  
Baltimore City, Md.  
Peter Liebhold 10/83  
looking NW at Greenwald Packing Co.