

## BALTIMORE METROCENTER SURVEY

SURVEY NO. : B-2083

AREA: Cathedral Hill

MAGI NO. : 0420835711

Address: 9 East Franklin Street

Current Name: The Bible House

Block: 566      Lot: 14      Lot size: 27 ft. x 140 ft.  
 Height: 3      Materials: Stone  
 Condition: Good      Owner: Md. Bible Society  
 Use: Institutional      Accessible: Yes, restricted  
 Designation:      Liber/Folio: SCL 3884/479



Historic Name: The Bible House

Date: ca. 1922

Architect/Builder:

Style (if appropriate): Gothic Revival

**Description:** The free-standing building is brick with a limestone facade. The first floor has three arched bays, the center one larger and containing a plate glass display window below a multi-light tympanum/transom. The two flanking bays hold entrances to the first floor store, and the upper offices. An iron sign projects from the stone exterior and the name "The Bible House" is carved above the central arch. A molding frame separates the first and second stories. The upper stories have two bays with painted windows in each bay. Those on the second floor have stone mullions and multiple leaded lights. Relief heraldic type shields are located in the spandrels between floors. The third floor windows are arched with floral carving above contained by hood moldings. The roofline is pedimented with a carved medallion in the center and crenellations flanking the pediment. The stone facing and embellishment extends around the corners of the building to include one bay on each side elevation.

**Significance:**

Area: architecture

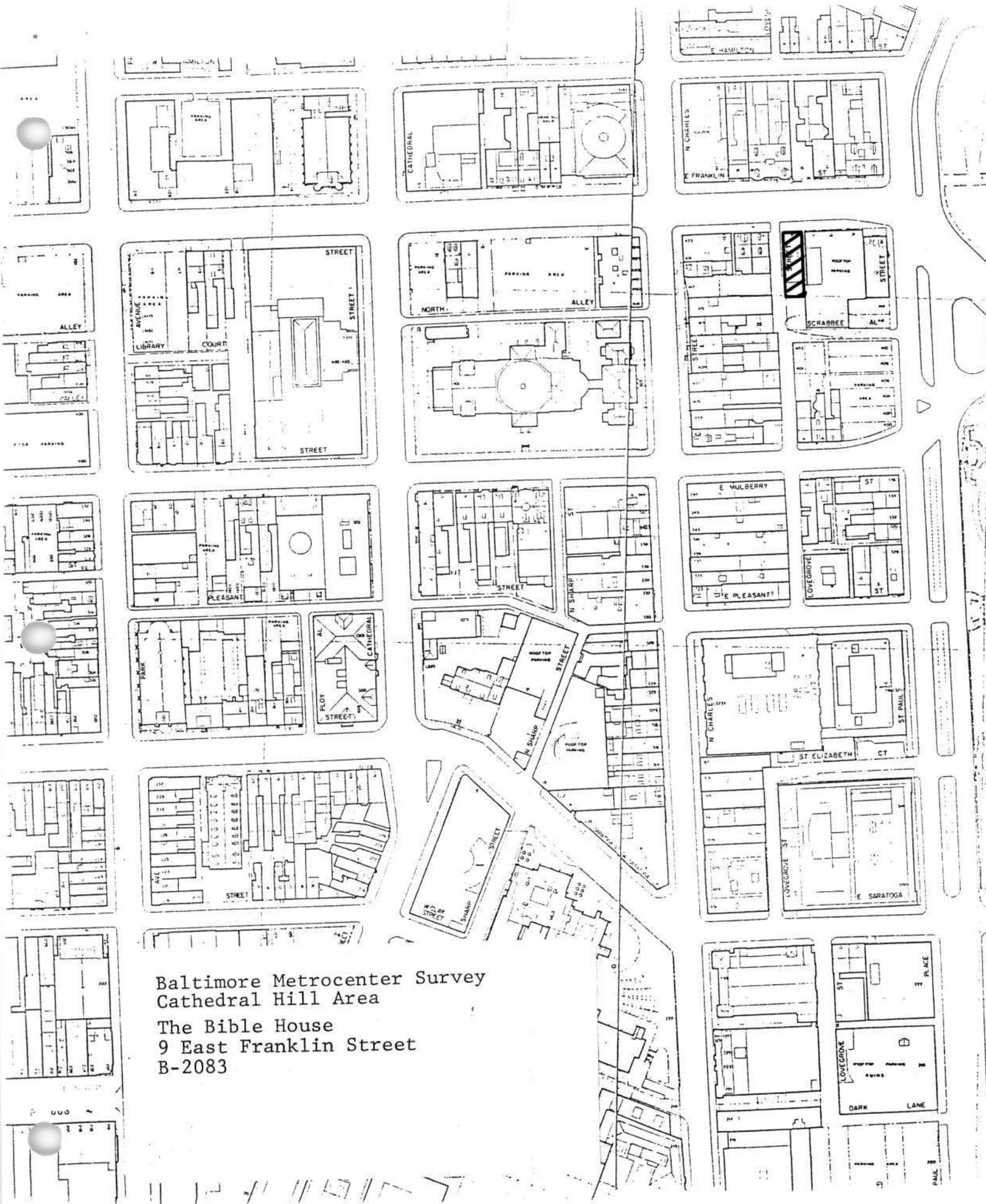
Level: local

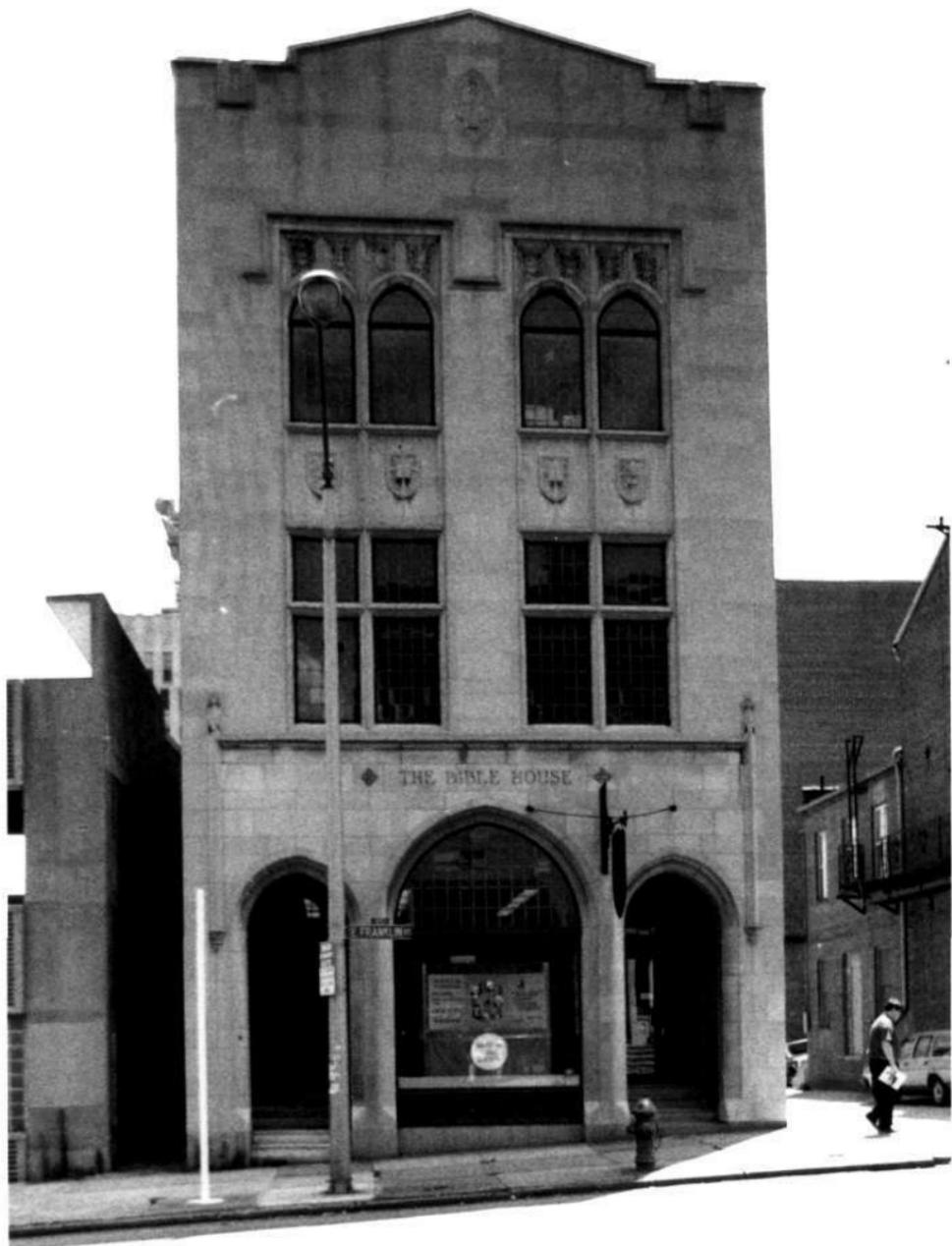
The Bible House has a unique design in the Cathedral Hill area. The Gothic Revival style in the 1920's was almost exclusively a connotation of religious or educational purpose buildings. This building combines both uses and the style is streamlined for a narrow facade. It retains the major elements of the style, however, which convey a Gothic feeling without the elaborate tracery and surface depth of the true Gothic style. Prior to the application of the facade, the building was used as the armory of the 5th Maryland Regiment Veteran Corps from 1894 to 1907. From 1907 to 1922, it was the office of the Eureka Life Insurance Company.

Sources: Land records; DR 8-3-07

Surveyor and Date: Janet Davis, May 1985

Baltimore Metrocenter Survey  
Cathedral Hill Area  
The Bible House  
9 East Franklin Street  
B-2083







MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON:				
The Bible House				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
9 East Franklin Street				
CITY OR TOWN:				
Baltimore				
STATE:			COUNTY:	
Maryland				
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
CATEGORY <i>(Check One)</i>	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <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 type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE <i>(Check One or More as Appropriate)</i>				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other <i>(Specify)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME:				
Maryland Bible Society, Inc.				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
9 East Franklin Street				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	
Baltimore			Maryland	
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:				
Records Office, Room 601, Baltimore City Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
Calvert and Fayette Streets				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	
Baltimore			Maryland	
21202				
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): SCL 3884-479				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
City of Baltimore Neighborhood Survey				
DATE OF SURVEY:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
Commission for Hist. and Arch. Pres.				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
26 S. Calvert Street				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	
Baltimore			Maryland	
21202				

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>This is an ashlar building which is three stories high and three bays wide on the first floor and two bays wide thereafter.</p> <p>The first story's center bay contains a plate glass bay window with a grille beneath. This, along with the transom containing about fifty-four rectangular lights, is recessed within a large, moulded, pointed arch. This arch is flanked on either side by a smaller pointed arch, each of which serve as a doorway.</p> <p>Directly beneath the second story windows is a thin, cornice-like moulding which is terminated at either end by elongated, crocketed corbels, one being on each side.</p> <p>The bays of the upper two stories all contain paired, single hung windows with thirty lights. Two large, vertical recesses contain the right and left bay windows of both stories. Second story windows have sills and flat-arched lintels of beveled stone with fifteen light transoms above each window. Window groups and their transoms share mullions. Between the second and third story windows are four escutcheon mouldings, two in each bay.</p> <p>Third story windows are set in pairs of moulded, pointed arch recesses. Transoms with nine lights occupy the crowns of the arches. Quadripartite spandrels with escutcheon mouldings fill the space between the crowns and the flat-arched tops of the large recesses. Cornice-like moulding appears above these recesses, joined between the two bays of windows by a U-shaped drop in this motif. The moulding drops in a similar manner on the outer edges, and ends in its abbreviated perpendicular extension.</p> <p>The facade ends in a crenelated rampart which is pitched at the center. Beneath the crown of the pitched part of the rampart is a mandorla moulding. The fenestration scheme is carried around to the first bays of the sides of the building.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**B. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1920s

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	losophy	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	itarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Refer to 421 North Charles

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

**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	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

27x140'

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Joseph Potts, Planning Assistant

ORGANIZATION: Commission for Hist. and Arch. Pres.      DATE: 11/26/75

STREET AND NUMBER:  
26 S. Calvert Street

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore      STATE: Maryland      ZIP: 21202

**12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)**

Significance of this property is:  
 National     State     Local

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

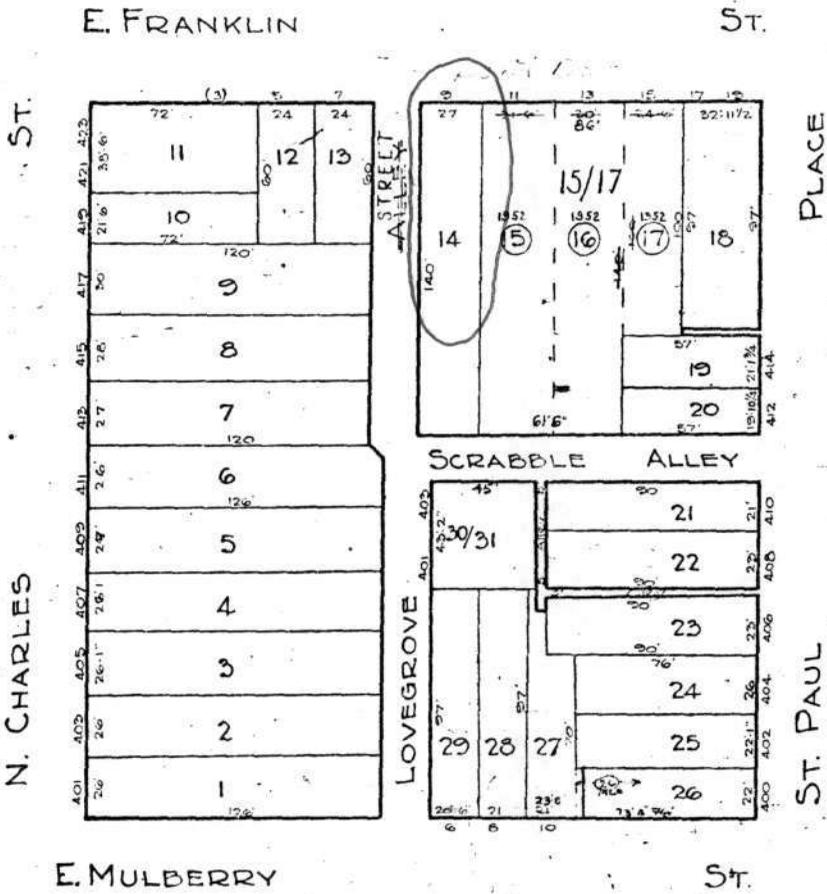
REVISIONS

Lots 15, 16, & 17 Cons'd Per App 0836 C Sh 3437

Lot 16 Deleted Per City Sur. Act., C Sh 4129

Lot 30 1/2 STREET NAME CORR PER L.L.R. 285118

B-2083

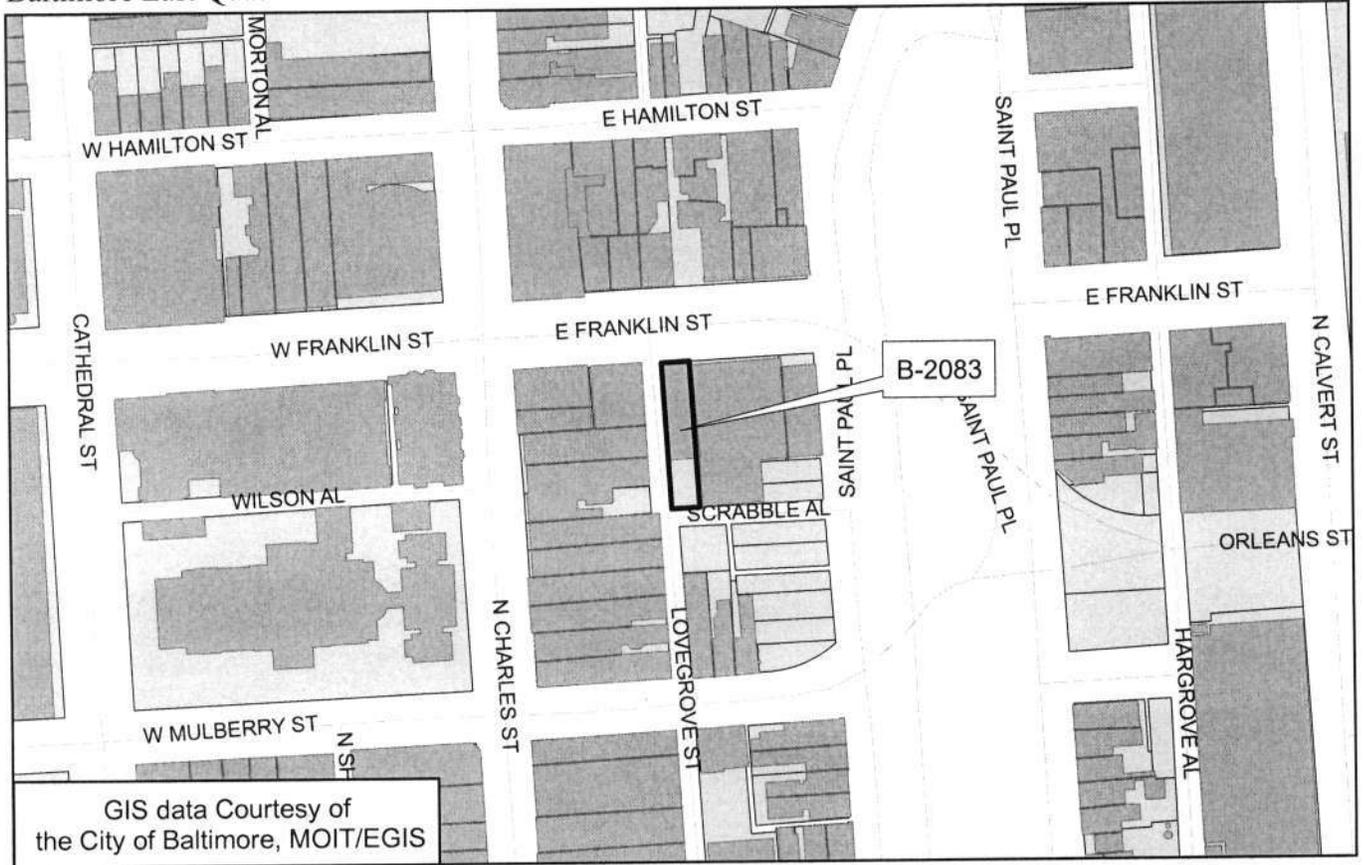


TRACED BY MOORHEAD  
 LETTERED BY W.M.L.C.  
 CHECKED BY W.M.L.C.  
 11/17/20 1/14

THIS IS A PUBLIC RECORD  
 ANY REVISIONS TO THIS RECORD  
 MUST BE MADE BY THE  
 CITY ENGINEER

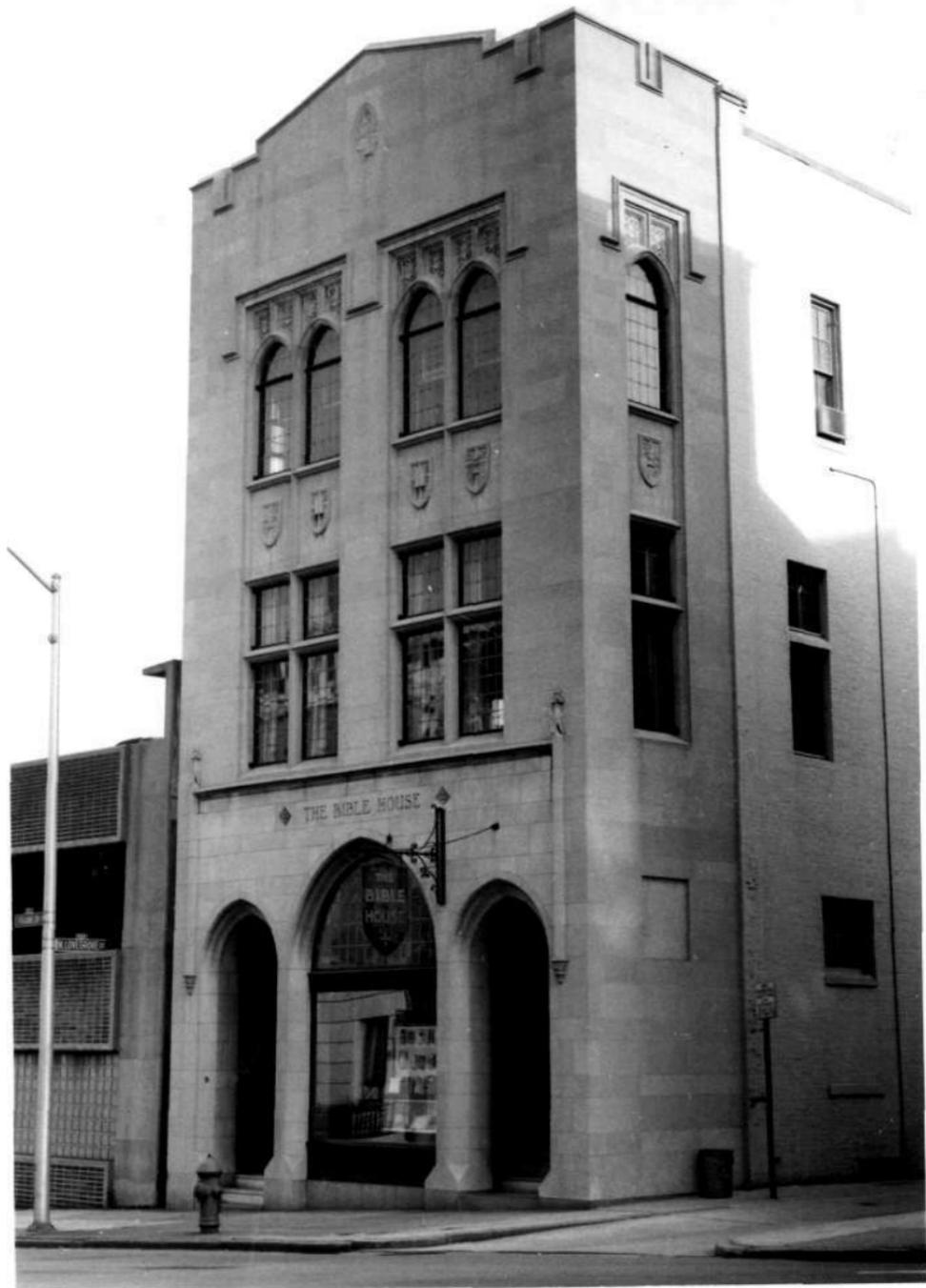
CITY OF BALTIMORE  
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
 BUREAU OF PLANS & SURVEYS  
 PROPERTY LOCATION DIVISION  
 WARD 4 SECTION 1  
 BLOCK 500  
 SQUARE 17 5000 DAY MAR 11 20

B-2083  
The Bible House  
9 East Franklin Street  
Block 0566 Lot 014  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad



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





9 E. FRANKLIN ST.

B-2083

Block 566

NOV. 1, 1975

NEC. 35

M. L. LEFAURE