NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

B-2371

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name ROMBRO BUILDING

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number 22-24 South Howard Street N/A ☐ not for publication

city, town Baltimore N/A ☐ vicinity

state Maryland code MD county Independent City code 510 zip code 21201

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property		
		Contributing	Noncontributing	
[X] private	[X] building(s)	1	0	buildings
☐ public-local	☐ district			sites
☐ public-State	☐ site			structures
☐ public-Federal	☐ structure			objects
	☐ object			
		1	0	Total

ame of related multiple property listing:
Cast Iron Architecture of Baltimore, Maryland, 1850-1904

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☐ nomination [X] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property [X] meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER Date 8/25/94

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the National Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

B-2371

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
COMMERCE/TRADE/warehouse	VACANT/work in progress
INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/manufacturing facility	

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)
QUEEN ANNE	foundation BRICK
	walls IRON
	BRICK
	roof ASPHALT
	other WOOD

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

The Rombro Building is a six-story loft building constructed in 1881, located at the northwest corner of South Howard Street and Cider Alley in downtown Baltimore, Maryland. The building reflects the influence of the Queen Anne style in its facade organization and detailing; it incorporates brick, stone, terra cotta, and cast iron elements. The first floor facade features cast iron columns. The building retains good architectural integrity; the storefront retains most of its important cast-iron elements, and the upper floors are essentially unchanged.

[X] See continuation sheet No. 1
For GENERAL DESCRIPTION

8. Statement of Significance

B-2371

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally

pplicable National Register Criteria ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
ARCHITECTURE	1881	1881

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Gott, Jackson C., Architect

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

THEME:

Cast Iron Architecture in Baltimore, Maryland, 1850-1904

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The Rombro Building is significant as representing a Cast Iron Storefront: Multistory Loft type building.

☒ See continuation sheet No. 4

For HISTORIC CONTEXT and MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN data.

9. Major Bibliographical References

B-2371

[X] See continuation sheet No. 10

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- [ ] preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- [ ] previously listed in the National Register
- [ ] previously determined eligible by the National Register
- [ ] designated a National Historic Landmark
- [ ] recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- [ ] recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- [ ] State historic preservation office
- [ ] Other State agency
- [ ] Federal agency
- [ ] Local government
- [ ] University
- [ ] Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

creage of property Less than one acre

USGS Quad: Baltimore East, MD

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	18	360290	4349820
B			
C			
D			

[ ] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Boundaries are defined as a single city lot, specifically identified as Block 655, Lot 14, recorded among the Land Records of Baltimore City, Maryland.

[ ] See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property comprises the city lot upon which the resource stands.

[ ] See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title James D. Dilts

organization for Baltimore Heritage, Inc. date September 1987

street & number 4611 Keswick Road telephone (410) 235-9733

city or town Baltimore state Maryland zip code 21218

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The Rombro Building is located on the northwest corner of South Howard Street and Cider Alley, facing east. It is six stories high, with a basement and shed roof, and measures 51'2" x 106'. The detached structure was designed as a double warehouse. However, there are no walls dividing the upper floors, merely a row of columns running lengthwise down the center of the open loft space. Until fairly recently, the building was occupied by only one major tenant at a time. Two stone plaques near the top of the facade identify it as the Rombro Building, and small stone panels between the fifth and sixth stories carry numerals designating the date of construction: 1881.

The Rombro Building is eight bays wide. The facade is divided in half by a central brick pier and pilaster running the full height of the structure that matches the two at the corners. It is further subdivided by four rows of columns, so that the window pattern across the entire face of the building (on floors two through five), reads 1:2:1--1:2:1. The deeply-modelled facade has traces of the Queen Anne style in the heavy, projecting dormer-like sixth floor, and in the treatment of the windows. The materials are brick, stone, terra cotta, and cast iron for the framing of the first floor storefronts.

Only one of the eight iron columns is fully visible, at the far right corner, where it abuts the brick pier. The column itself is relatively short and plain with a heavy, petal-like capital; it is enclosed in a high base, and continues within an unadorned rectangular section above the capital. The bases of the other columns can be seen projecting from the sheathing that covers the ground floor exterior. One of these is broken, exposing the round structural column underneath; the cast iron casing is here a quarter-inch thick. Another bears a casting mark: "Variety Iron Works, No. 4 Light St[reet], Baltimore, Md."

The undecorated iron beams these columns support are also 24" deep. Their full depth is revealed only in the small portion visible over the entrance at the north corner of the building. However, the beams' dentilled cornices can be seen extending beyond the false front.

See Continuation Sheet No. 2

The structure is similar to that of the Johnston Building on the south side of Cider Alley; that is, each of the columns is attached to a three-sided metal casing, open in the rear, forming a unit that is 15" wide, and essentially 24" deep, although it widens out to 32" at the base. The overhead beam, assuming it is similar in structure to the one in the Johnston Building, consists of a structural I-beam within an exterior casing. The voids surrounding the I-beam, as well as the hollow portion at the rear of the column units, are presumably filled with brick, and the iron and masonry combination holds up the rest of the front of the building. Behind the cosmetic material, the iron is probably intact and in reasonably good shape.

The columns on the upper floors are of stone, with heavy bases and capitals. They rest on short brick piers and are topped by squat brick columns. The windows, which are deeply set behind the facade, have lintels that appear to be cast iron. The windows themselves vary from floor to floor. They are basically double-hung, one over one, but the upper sashes are designed in a variety of configurations, with circle and diamond-centered panes, and small, rectangular pieces of glass arranged around the main lights. The spandrel beams are inset with terra cotta panels, and topped with a stone coping. The three major piers are likewise enlivened with small decorative panels, narrow bands of stone, and slots let into the brick.

At the top are four large metal consoles flanking two sets of triple windows. The consoles project from the facade; the windows are recessed to the same plane as the others. They are surmounted by two massive stone lintels and two brick pediments, giving the entire sixth floor the appearance of a pair of brooding, stylized gables. The whole ensemble, in terms of color, material, and treatment, presents a dramatic study in contrasts. The masonry is in good condition, and the windows are intact.

The building's south side, adjacent to the alley, has three rectangular windows on the first floor and two rectangular and two square windows on floors two through six. There is a metal fire escape towards the back of the building. There are no windows on the north side. At the rear, two large arches rise through all the floors to the fifth; the left one is filled with four windows per

See Continuation Sheet No. 3

floor; the right one, three. They are double-hung nine-over-nine for the most part, and on the fifth floor, the top sashes are curved to fit under the arches. Above these, at the sixth-floor level, are two horizontal, rectangular openings filled with multi-paned windows.

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture/Landscape Architecture/Community Planning
Economic (Commercial and Industrial)

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

COMMERCE/TRADE/warehouse
INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/manufacturing facility

Known Design Source: Gott, Jackson C., Architect

See Continuation Sheet No. 5

HISTORY & SUPPORT:

The Rombro Building, and its fraternal twin to the south, the Johnston Building, are among the few double warehouses remaining in Baltimore. Their colorful and elaborate Victorian facades distinguish them among the city's 19th-century commercial structures. They represent an architectural use of cast iron--as storefront framing--of which relatively few examples remain. The Johnston and Rombro buildings appeared within a year of one another in 1880-1881, built by the same developer, the Johnston Brothers; designed by the same architect, Jackson C. Gott; and with their cast iron elements fabricated by the same foundry, the Variety Iron Works. Over the years, they have housed wholesale companies dealing in tobacco, hats, shoes, clothing, and home and office furnishings. Some early occupants, such as Samuel Hecht, Jr., & Sons, later became significant retailers in Baltimore. Both structures have survived for more than a century with no irreversible alterations. The developers, architect, and foundry were all closely identified with Baltimore. Harriet Lane, the wife of one of the Johnston Brothers, was an important local philanthropist; these buildings were part of her legacy.

"The locality now preferred by the wholesale business men lies south of Baltimore St[reet], and between Charles St[reet] on the east and Eutaw St[reet] on the west," announced the Baltimore correspondent of one of the nation's leading architectural magazines in January, 1881. "In this district a large number of splendid warehouses have been erected within the past two years, and as an inducement to merchants and others, property-holders in this vicinity offer to erect such buildings as may be desired if the tenants will agree to rent for a short term of years."[1]

The Johnston brothers, local bankers, were such property owners. In the late 1870s, they assembled roughly half a dozen lots on either side of Cider Alley and in early 1880, they were ready to build. Their first structure was the Johnston Building, completed that year. In early 1881, they decided to put up another. "Messrs. Johnston Bros. & Co. are about to build two

[1]American Architect and Building News, January 29, 1881, p. 59.

See Continuation Sheet No. 6

warehouses on Howard St[reet], between German and Lombard, each 26' x 110', five-st'y, and basement, the fronts to be of iron and brick with North River stone, terra cotta and moulded brick finish, to cost about $50,000. Mr. Jackson C. Gott is the architect," noted the same professional publication.[2]

Baltimore one hundred years ago was the clothing center for the entire South, and the heart of the garment trade was in the city's wholesale district. Many of the companies were housed in buildings such as this, where the goods could be displayed and sales transacted in the ground floor business area while the production took place in the lofts overhead.

The major tenant of the building--and virtually the only one until Morris Rombro bought it in 1919--was Carroll, Adams & Co., wholesalers and manufacturers of boots and shoes. They had good connections with major producers and kept a dozen travelling salesmen on the road in the Midwest and the South. "The premises occupied comprise a superior six-story building with basement 50 x 100 feet in dimensions, admirably equipped with every appliance and convenience for the accommodation and display of the extensive and well-selected stock of boots, and shoes, which are unrivalled for quality, elegance, reliability, durability, and excellence," said one of the contemporary businessmen's books.[3] Clark, Perry and Company, boot and shoe wholesalers, also occupied the building early on.

Cast iron columns were often employed to frame the first floors of otherwise masonry commercial buildings, because their compressive strength permitted them to be made more slender than brick or stone piers. With the enlarged openings filled with plate glass, they allowed plenty of light into the interior, along with a clear view of the merchandise on display. They were also decorative and could be quickly erected.

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[2]American Architect and Building News, March 5, 1881, p. 119.

[3]Half Century's Progress of the City of Baltimore, 1886, New York, p. 148.

See Continuation Sheet No. 7

The iron framing for the Rombro Building storefronts was provided by the Variety Iron Works, York, Pennsylvania. The firm had an office in Baltimore, which accounted for a fourth of its sales, and did a substantial business in New York supplying one of the large dealers in architectural ironwork. The Variety Iron Works obtained most of its raw materials from the Ashland Iron Furnace, north of Cockeysville. The company specialized in architectural and ornamental items, such as columns and beams, stairways and shutters, and also turned out machinery, millwork, and entire iron buildings.[4]

The architect, Jackson C. Gott, was well-equipped to deal with these materials. He had apprenticed himself to a carpenter as a young man, and then studied architecture and building construction in the offices of several local architects before becoming one himself at age 25; Gott was often called in during his later career as a consultant on questions of structure.

Gott was born in Baltimore County on a farm on the site of what is now Ruxton. His parents died when he was young; Gott received an elementary education before becoming an apprentice carpenter. As an architect, he designed several houses, commercial office buildings, and industrial plants in Baltimore, as well as the Maryland Penitentiary. His office also produced plans for the Western Maryland Railroad stations at Glyndon and Union Bridge, college buildings in Westminster, and Masonic temples in Belair, Salisbury, and Richmond (Gott was a prominent Mason). He was an active Democrat as well, which may have accounted for his numerous commissions for government buildings. His final design was for the Gaither Building on Baltimore Street, which has since disappeared. Gott retired following the 1904 fire, and died five years later, at age 80. A bachelor, he lived in downtown hotels almost all his life and "was a well known figure about town," said the Baltimore Sun.[5]

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[4]The Monumental City, Its Past History and Present Resources, George Howard, 1878, Baltimore, p. 743.

[5]Baltimore Sun, July 9, 1909, p. 14.

See Continuation Sheet No. 8

The Johnston brothers, bankers and developers, were equally well-known among Baltimore's businessmen. Henry Elliott Johnston, and Josiah Lee Johnston, his younger brother, had inherited their father's investment banking business, and changed the name to Johnston Brothers and Company; their offices were on Baltimore Street. The two brothers, and Henry's wife, Harriet Lane, were equal partners in the properties near Cider Alley.

Harriet Lane was the niece of James Buchanan. She was an orphan, he was a bachelor. Buchanan raised and educated her, and when he became President in 1857, brought her into the White House where she served as official hostess. During the previous four years, he had been Minister to England, and for some of that period Harriet Lane, who was pretty and vivacious, was the Hostess of the London embassy, where she became a favorite of Queen Victoria. She remained with Buchanan at his home near Lancaster, Pennsylvania, after he left the White House in 1861, until 1866, when she married Henry Elliott Johnston.

The Johnstons lived on Park Avenue in Baltimore and had two sons, both of whom died when they were 13 and 14 of rheumatic fever. In 1883, a year after their second son died, the bereaved parents established the Harriet Lane Home. By this time, both the Rombro Building and the companion warehouse on the other side of Cider Alley had been completed. Henry Elliott Johnston died in 1884, Harriet Lane in 1903, and the surviving brother, Josiah Lee Johnston, in 1904. Because of complications in the three wills, the Board of Managers of the Harriet Lane Home did not immediately establish the institution, but with the death of Josiah Lee Johnston, they could proceed, and they decided to affiliate with the Johns Hopkins Hospital.

When the Harriet Lane Home finally opened in 1912, said a historian of the Hopkins hospital and medical school, it constituted "an important step in the development of pediatrics in America."[6] Up to that time, there had not been a satisfactory arrangement between a medical school and a children's hospital.

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[6]The Johns Hopkins Hospital and The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Alan M. Chesney, Vol. 3, p. 222.

See Continuation Sheet No. 9

John Howland, the first director, and Edward A. Park, his successor, set the high standards for the Harriet Lane Home--which in the 1930s became the Pediatrics Department of the Johns Hopkins Hospital--and Helen B. Taussig, head of the Harriet Lane cardiac clinic, continued them in more recent times.[7]

The lack of a sufficient endowment had been a problem from the beginning. The bulk of the Johnston brothers' estate, including the two warehouses, had been left to the Harriet Lane Home, to be administered by trustees.[8] In 1919, the Harriet Lane Home probably received in excess of $125,000 when D.K. Este Fisher, trustee, sold the Rombro Building and the other warehouse structure (the Johnston Building), to separate buyers.[9]

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[7]Heritage of Excellence, The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, Thomas B. Turner, pp. 122-125; 330-331; 468.

[8]Last Will and testament of Josiah L. Johnston, November 16, 1900, SRM 94-334.

[9]Baltimore City Land Records, Liber 3455, Folio 72; Liber 3456, Folio 215; Liber 3492, Folio 33.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Baltimore City Directories, 1878-1984

Tax Records of Baltimore City: 1896, 1924-28, 1938-42, 1953-57, 1962-66

Land Records of Baltimore City

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, Baltimore City, Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland.

Rombro Bldg. 17'30"
B-2371

Baltimore
Maryland
18/360290/4349820

Baltimore East

CLUB
PLAY GIRLS

Rombro Building B-9371
Baltimore
7 August 1994
RLA/MHT
E facade, upper detailing

CLUB
PLAY GIRLS

Romboro Building

Baltimore

7 August 1994

RLA/MHT

SE

B-2371

CLUB
PLAY GIRLS
RESTAURANT/
RETAIL
KLNB
321-0100

Rombro Building D-2371
Baltimore
7 August 1994
ELA / MHT
Storefront

RESTAURANT/
RETAIL
3500 S.F. For Lease
KLNB
INC.
Commercial Real Estate Services
321-0100

Rombro Building B-2371
Baltimore
7 August 1994
RLA / MHT
storefront detail

AVAILABLE
OFFICE, RETAIL
244-7100
CLUB PLAY GIRLS

B-2371
B-2372

Rombro Bldg, 22-24 S. Howard St.
Johnston Bldg, 26-30 S. Howard St
Baltimore City MD
Aaron M Levin 1989
Neg at 3000 Chestnut Ave #102
Balto MD 21211

View from SE
#26-30 at left
#22-24 at right

#1 of 2

© Aaron M Levin 1989 89-250-2

EARLY TIMES
125 Years of Holiday Cheers
Marlboro Lights
CLUB PLAY GIRLS
CLUB PLAY GIRLS

S. Howard

Rombro Bldg
22-24 S. Howard St

B-2371
B-2372
Rombro Bldg, 22-24 S. Howard St,
Johnston Bldg, 26-30 S. Howard St,
Baltimore City MD
Aaron M. Levin 1989
View from NE
22-24 at right
26-30 at left
2 of 2

neg at 3000 Chestnut Ave #102
Balto MD 21211

© Aaron M Levin 1989 88-250-4

We interrupt this billboard for some serious news...
FM3
SKI SHOW
SKI SALE
Club PLAY Girls
Show Bar
CLUB PLAY GIRLS

Rombro Building B-2371
22-24 South Howard Street
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Mary K. Mannix
Date: Janaury 1987
Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
Northeast elevation
2/4

Club PLAY Girls
Show Bar

Rombro Building B-2371
22-24 South Howard Street
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Mary K. Mannix
Date: January 1987
Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
East elevation, detail upper stories
3/4

B-2371

58

655

MA61#0423715611

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON: The Rombro Building

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: 22-24 S. Howard Street

CITY, TOWN: Baltimore — VICINITY OF — CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE: Maryland — COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	__OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
✓BUILDING(S)	✓PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	✓COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME — Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN — VICINITY OF — STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Records Office Room 601 — Liber #: Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER: Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN: Baltimore — STATE: Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE: City of Baltimore Neighborhood Survey

DATE: 1976 — __FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY X LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL & ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

CITY, TOWN: Room 900, 26 South Calvert St., Baltimore, Md. 21202 — STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

B-2371

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
✓ EXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	UNALTERED	✓ ORIGINAL SITE
GOOD	RUINS	✓ ALTERED	MOVED DATE_____
FAIR	UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This common bond brick "double" commerical building in the unit block of South Howard Street stands, six stories high. It is divided into 2 distinct, identical facades, each 4 bays wide, by a common masonry wall.

Symmetrical fenestration, proportionally scaled, punctuates the facade. The double hung rectangular windows boast geometrically detailed uppers lights with single pane lower lights. The 1st and 3rd, and the 2nd and 4th stories are treated in the same manner.

Terra cotta panels and band courses and grace to the buildings, which are further enhanced by series of foliated, and white stone courses.

The first floor storefronts have been radically altered. Their facades have been fronted by pebbled masonary, on the right of each storefront are aluminum and glass double doors mounted by transoms. A rectangular sign unites the two fronts.

The flanking building walls boasts brick string course and white stone band moldings as well as terra-cotta and foliated panels. Each of the storefronts are crowned by a cornice with modillions.

The 2nd and 4th stories are quite similar, differing only in their proportions. The two central windows, divided by a wooden muntin have 2 centered rectangular glass panels with rectangular, contiguous lights of varying sizes. They are separated from the single flanking windows by corinthian colonnettes defined by terra cotta and white stone band courses. These windows carry a small circular pane with four outer rectangular lights. Each window grouping is surmounted by a band of acanthus leagues interspersed with rosettes. Above this band are linear terra cotta.

The 3rd and 5th floors are similar to the 2nd floor. Here, however, the flanking single windows boasts diamond rather than circular central panes. They are surmounted by individualized foliated terra-cotta panels.

The 6th floor visually functions as a grand, projecting cornice. Three exaggerated brackets with fasces detailing divide the two buildings. Each 6th story carries a narrow tripartite central window grouping with lights identical to those below on the fifth floor. The wood "Rombro" is etched on a white stone panel above the southern building, and the word "Building" appears above the northern central rectangular grouping. A brick pediment rises above each of these windows. On either side are round-headed, tripartite windows, surmounted by pent roof, with rounded central lights.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

B-2371

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	/ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
x__1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1881 — BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

An excellent example of late Victorian commercial design, replete with variegations in color, texture and material. Clearly of its era, it is one of the few remaining "double" warehouses.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

B-2371

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Planning Assistants

ORGANIZATION COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL & ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION DATE 1976

STREET & NUMBER [illegible] Calvert St. TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN [illegible] Md. 21202 STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

CITY OF BALTIMORE

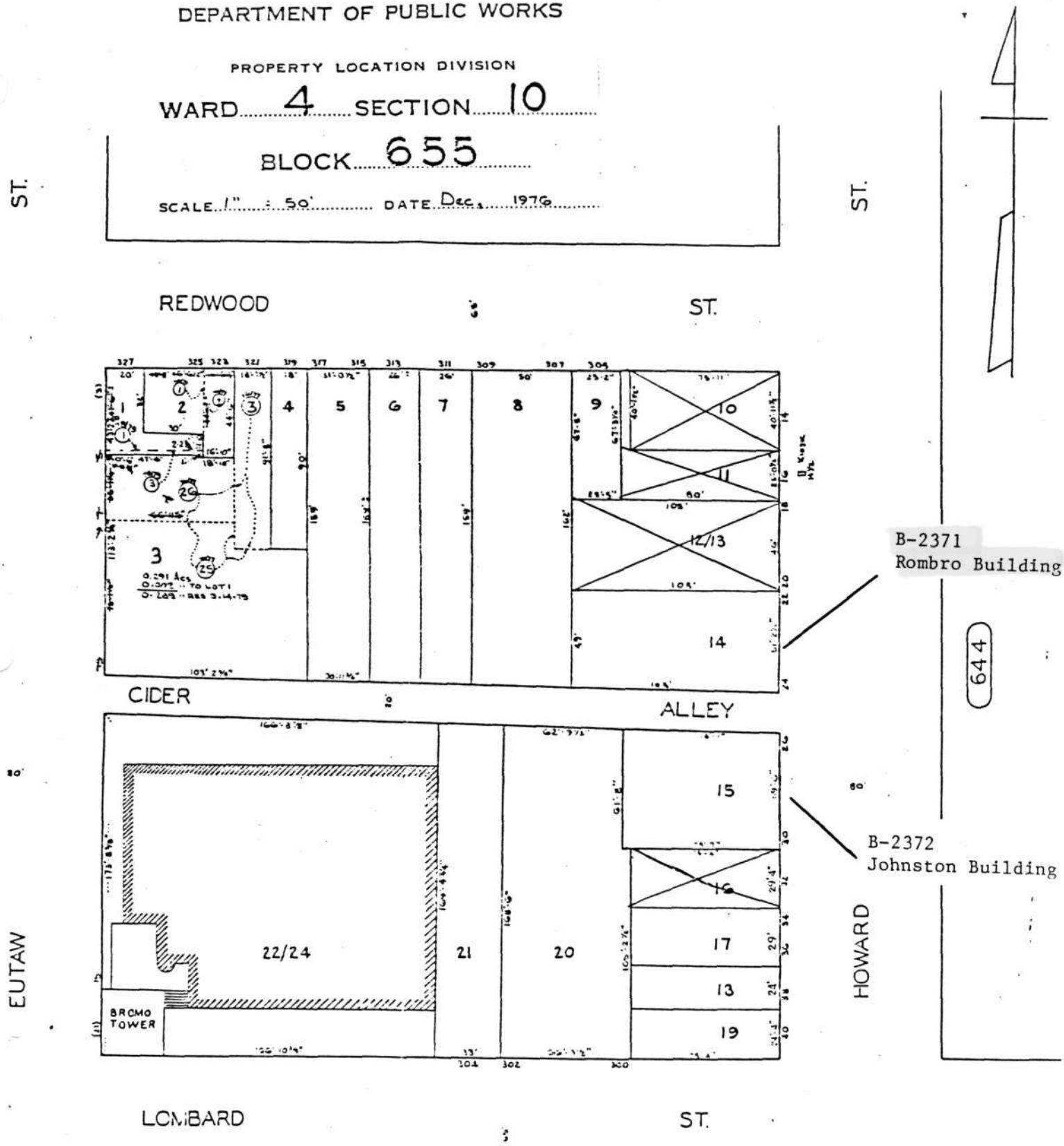
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

PROPERTY LOCATION DIVISION

WARD 4 SECTION 10

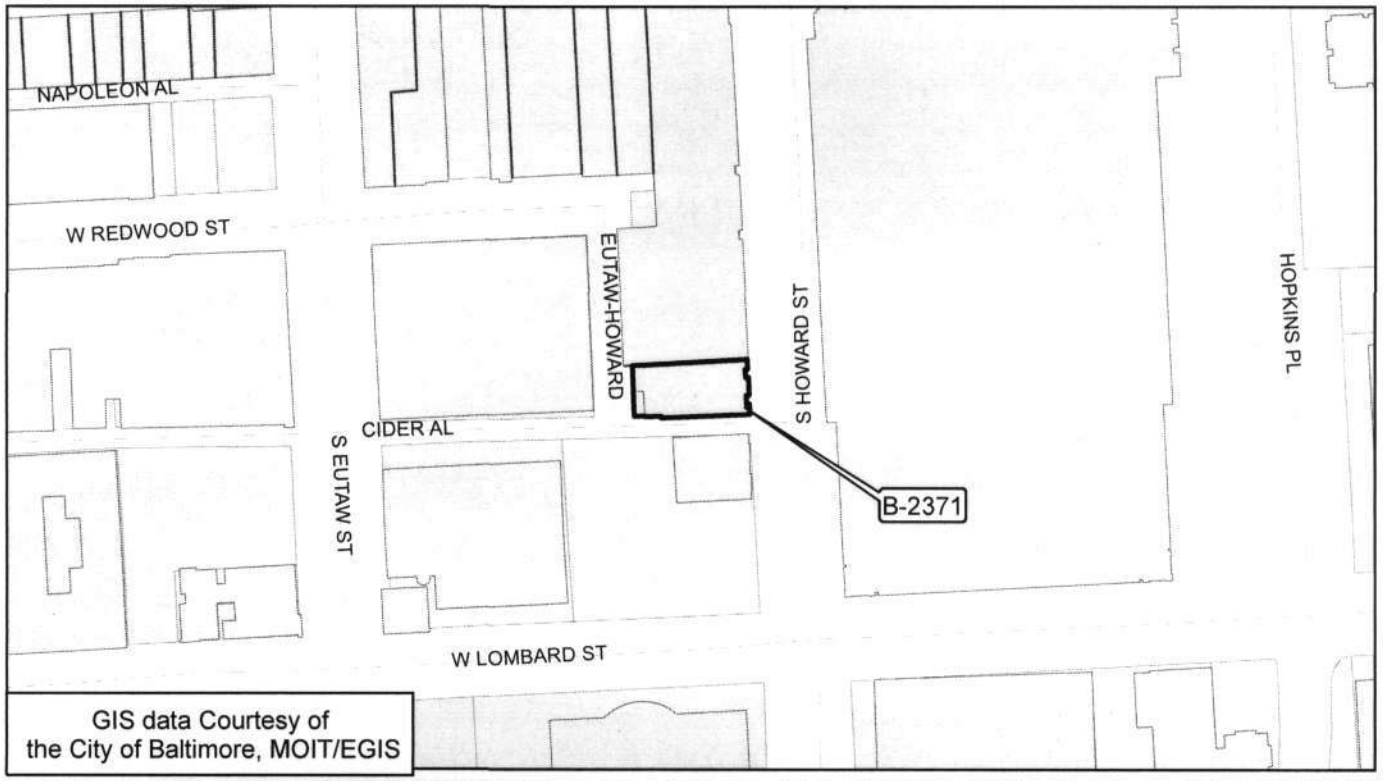
BLOCK 655

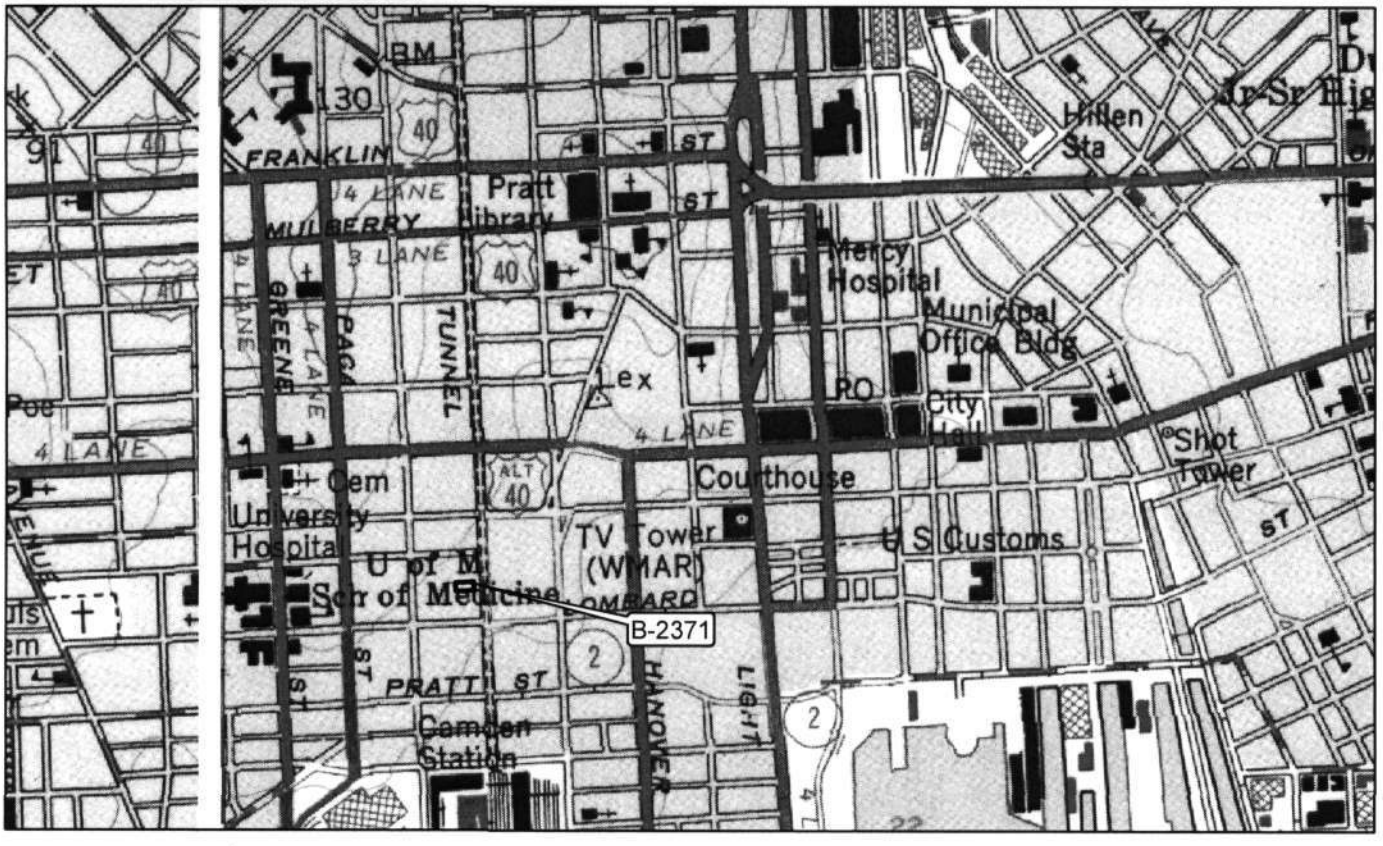
SCALE 1" = 50' DATE Dec. 1976



14, 16, 18-20, 32 S. Howard Street

B-2371
Rombro Building (Carroll Adams & Co.)
22-24 S. Howard Street
Block 0655, Lot CO0655
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





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