

B-27

|                            |      |
|----------------------------|------|
| STATE:<br>Maryland         |      |
| COUNTY:<br>Baltimore City. |      |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY           |      |
| ENTRY NUMBER               | DATE |
|                            |      |

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Federal Hill Historic District

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Federal Hill Historic District

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
See attached (location map with boundaries)

CITY OR TOWN:  
Baltimore City

STATE: Maryland      CODE: 19      COUNTY: Baltimore City      CODE: 510

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

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

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNERS NAME:  
Multiple public and private, City of Baltimore

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore City      STATE: Maryland      CODE: 19

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Baltimore City Court House - 6th Floor

STREET AND NUMBER:  
West block of Calvert St., Between Fayette & Lexington Sts.

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore City      STATE: Maryland      CODE: 19

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 50

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Maryland Register of historic sites and landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY: 1969      Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER:  
P. O. Box 1704

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis      STATE: Maryland      CODE: 19

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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Federal Hill Historic District

#6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

Information for 36 East Montgomery Street, Federal Hill,  
Baltimore, Maryland, Code: 19/510 [36 Montgomery Street]  
will be found in the following survey:

Historic American Building Survey

1964

Library of Congress

Washington, D. C. Code: 08

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7. DESCRIPTION

|           |                                    |  |                               |                                       |                                 |                                    |
|-----------|------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One)                        |  |                               |                                       |                                 |                                    |
|           | Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> | Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Fair <input type="checkbox"/> | Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> | Ruined <input type="checkbox"/> | Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/> |

|           |   |                                    |                                |   |
|-----------|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| INTEGRITY | (Check One)                                 |                                    | (Check One)                    |   |
|           | Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> | Moved <input type="checkbox"/> | Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

An original 1752 wash drawing by John Moale at the Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Maryland, is the first known recorded view, from Federal Hill, of "Baltimore Town." Other views show cattle grazing on raw, steep, eroded, open land sloping to the water.

The property was first developed on the harbor at the end of the eighteenth century primarily as a commercial and industrial enterprise relating to the seafaring trades. On the Hill,

...on May 9, 1797, David Porter notified the commercial port of Baltimore that his observatory rooms were then ready...at an elevation of one hundred and fifty feet above the tide...the signals that notify of approaching craft identifying the thousands of vessels that make up the commerce of this city.

In the early 1880's the Signal Observatory was replaced with an ornate mid-nineteenth-century tower and pavilion. The signal service was discontinued when the observatory tower was felled in 1902 by high winds. The pavilion existed until the 1950's when it was razed for the construction of the present bandshell.

Beneath Federal Hill, from Hughes Street to Cross Street, from the harbor on the east, to Camden Station on the west, is a large complex of tunnels, caves, and storage rooms. Some are brick-vaulted and others are earthen. Most were formed from the excavation for clay and white sand which began on Henry Street in 1799. During the Civil War the Union Army rebuilt some of these tunnels for escape routes and for storage. They were rendered useless with explosive mines until the end of the nineteenth century. After the mines were removed the tunnels were used by breweries for beer storage and in the early twentieth century were abandoned commercially. The city backfilled certain dangerous tunnel entrances due to cave-ins.

Federal Hill Park, an almost perfect square, is an elevated plateau, 82 feet above its base, 150 feet above tidewater, bounded by Hughes, Warren, Covington and Johnson Streets. The base covers 8½ acres and the plateau surface measures 4¼ acres. The existing six-foot high stone walls were constructed in 1881 on Hughes, Warren and Johnson Streets. In 1881, the historian, J. Thomas Scharf, described the slope angle as one and one half to one foot and "On the north side, Hughes Street...two slopes with a terrace between before the upper terrace is reached, which is four hundred feet long and twenty feet wide...the other

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Federal Hill Historic District

#7. DESCRIPTION (continued) (page 2)

sides will be similarly arranged..." The plateau today is divided into walk-ways landscaped with shrubs and flowers and has many specimens of large trees. The stone walls also remain.

Baltimore City surrounds the Hill. Immediately north and to the east of the Hill is the harbor of Baltimore City which is deep enough to serve large cargo vessels. The Baltimore Drydock Yards of the Bethlehem Steel Company occupy the length of the waterfront to the east of the Federal Hill area. Several hundred early dwelling houses remain from the eighteenth century and mid-nineteenth century. These were originally, and are still, occupied by merchants and seamen associated with waterfront industries. Some examples of these are:

14 West Montgomery Street (c. late 18th century) An excellent example of a small townhouse. The architecturally important front door frame has been removed to the Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, Maryland, for exhibit. A carved wood cornice remains with other woodwork and trim. It has a brick belt course and water table of early design.

118 East Montgomery Street (c. 1780) is considered the earliest brick house in the area, structurally sound but in need of renovation.

110 Montgomery Street (c. 1845) is a brick house laid in Flemish bond; has interior woodwork of the period.

105 East Montgomery Street (c. 1830) is a transition townhouse, small in size with a Federal style, characterized by the use of some Greek Revival motifs. Greek Revival style medallions are used at frequent intervals as ornaments on the window lintels. The dormer details are noteworthy.

An increasing number of these houses are being restored. Examples are 413 Hamburg Street, 125 East Montgomery Street and 104 East Montgomery Street.

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Federal Hill Historic District

#7. DESCRIPTION

At the present time the historic district of Federal Hill consists of Federal Hill Park and the houses on the streets facing and sloping away from the park to the west and south. The hill is bounded on the north and east by the waterfront. That part of Federal Hill which is now a park of about eight acres is the focal point of the historic district. It is planted with large trees and grass and contains a curving drive, walks, a pavilion, and many benches facing west, north, and east. From the hill, about eighty feet above the water, there are panoramic views of the city and harbor.

The majority of houses date from the mid to late nineteenth century with a scattering of earlier structures. All are of brick construction with extensive use of white marble trim. The majority are attached rowhouses of two or three stories, approximately fifteen feet in width. Dormer windows are common on the older houses and provide considerable variation in roofline within a block. With the exception of those facing the park, these are modest houses with little exterior ornamentation.

As evidence that the Federal Hill Historic District is a viable and actively developing area, we cite that:

1. Within the last ten years there have been approximately twenty houses restored or renovated in keeping with the architecture of the building. This includes nine houses on Warren Avenue, two houses on East Hamburg Street, and nine houses on East Montgomery Street. This does not include those which have been well maintained in approximately their original condition over the years or those which have been "improved and modernized" in a manner not in keeping with the period of the house. There are houses immaculately maintained by their owners and representing a continuing investment in the area. There are other houses which have been appropriately restored during the last thirty years.

2. Local realtors confirm the rise in property values (i.e. purchase prices) over the last decade in the area immediately around Federal Hill Park. Prices in the 400 block of Warren Avenue facing the park have more than doubled during this period. The nearer the houses to the park, the greater has been its increase in value.

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Federal Hill Historic District

#7. DESCRIPTION (continued)

3. The Federal Hill Celebration, commemorating the 181st anniversary of the naming of the hill, held on May 11, 1969, was an outstanding success. Three aspects of the Federal Hill area were emphasized by the Celebration: its importance as a nautical and commercial center, its historical prominence, and an acknowledgment to those people in the community and city whose efforts preserved Federal Hill from destruction by the East-West expressway. This event was planned entirely by neighborhood residents, but attracted visitors from all over Baltimore. The historical marker recently erected by the Maryland Historical Society was dedicated at this time. There were booths representing a variety of community organizations, a major exhibit of old prints and maps of the area sponsored by the Peale Museum, an art exhibit, children's events, etc. Five hundred tickets were sold for a tour of seven restored houses. The Celebration is planned as an annual event.

4. The extensive Inner Harbor Redevelopment project plans of 1969 immediately to the north of Federal Hill eventually will include new office buildings, a hotel with marina, headquarters of the Maryland Academy of Sciences, restaurants, parks and promenades, and housing. The "U.S.F. Constellation," a major tourist attraction, is permanently located in this area at Pier 1, Pratt and Light Streets. Federal Hill is one of the prominent features seen from its deck.

The hill itself is to be enhanced in a later stage of the project, since warehouses and industrial buildings at the foot of the north slope are slated for clearance, to be replaced by open space and playing fields for Southern High School.

5. The South Baltimore Community Council was organized in 1968 as a non-profit association to promote through research, education, public discussion, corporate action and other appropriate means, the rehabilitation, renewal and improvement of South Baltimore. The Council formally opposed the plans for the interstate expressway which would have destroyed much of Montgomery Street and Federal Hill Park. It has actively encouraged development in the Federal Hill area and has helped through its sponsorship of the Federal Hill Celebration

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Federal Hill Historic District

#7. DESCRIPTION (continued)

and other projects to generate local and city-wide appreciation for the area.

6. The Society for the Preservation of Federal Hill, Montgomery Street and Fells Point is a city-wide group pledged to take every possible and necessary action to save and restore the heritage of Baltimore's early waterfront communities of Federal Hill and Fells Point. Since its organization in 1967, representatives of the Society have met with federal, state, and city officials to enlist their support in saving these areas. Popular events, such as the annual Fells Point Fun Festival, the Federal Hill Celebration, and park band concerts sponsored by the Society have attracted widespread favorable notice and support.

7. Southern High School which faces Federal Hill Park is one of ten Community Schools in Baltimore. It is open to all adults and children in South Baltimore for educational and recreational services. The school has been made available year-round for use by the community at no charge. This school on Federal Hill continues the long tradition of the Hill as a center for community activities.

8. Federal Hill is an attraction for tourists, especially during the summer. It is included in bus tours of the city, is seen and described on tours of Baltimore Harbor, and is featured in guidebooks of the city. The Hill has long been a favorite spot for school children, photographers, and artists.

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

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SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) Residence & some business predominately

19th century

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

The Maryland Historical Society marker to be dedicated in May, 1969, will read:

FEDERAL HILL

SINCE THE FOUNDING OF BALTIMORE, 1729, THIS HILL HAS BEEN A POPULAR POINT FOR VIEWING THE CITY'S GROWTH. HERE 4000 PEOPLE FEASTED, 1788, TO CELEBRATE THE RADIFICATION BY MARYLAND OF THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION AND IN HONOR OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT GAVE THE PLACE ITS NAME. AN OBSERVATORY, BUILT HERE, 1795, SIGNALLED CITY MERCHANTS OF THE APPROACH OF THEIR VESSELS, A SERVICE WHICH LASTED A CENTURY. SHIPYARDS HAVE LONG BEEN LOCATED NEAR THE HILL, AND IT HAS BEEN MINED FOR CLAY AND SAND. DURING THE CIVIL WAR UNION TROOPS FORTIFIED THE SITE, AND IT WAS MADE A PUBLIC PARK, 1880.

In May 1788, to celebrate Maryland's ratification of the Constitution, 4000 marchers accompanied Commodore Joshua Barney, Revolutionary hero, and his "Federalist," a fifteen-foot model of a full-rigged ship, in a triumphant parade up this hill from Fells Point where the model was built.

The ship, followed by all the captains, mates, and seamen in the port of Baltimore at the time was

"...finally anchored on the lofty bank southwest of the basin, from which that occurance received, and has ever since borne, the name of "Federal Hill."

On the Hill the event was celebrated by a banquet for the 4000 accompanied by bonfires and fireworks. After the pageant, the "Federalist" was navigated, by Commodore Barney personally, to Mount Vernon and presented as a gift to General George Washington. The original bill listing the banquet fare is in existence. Thanks to William Goddard, then editor of the "Maryland Journal and Baltimore Advertiser" and financier of the affair, untold gallons of grog and toddy were consumed as well as

[see Continuation Sheet]

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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Federal Hill Historic District

#8. SIGNIFICANCE (continued) (page 2)

tons of beef, ham and cheeses.

The Duke de la Rochefoucauld-Liancourt visited Baltimore in 1796. He was particularly impressed with the Signal Observatory, founded 1795, atop the Hill by Captain David Porter, father of Commodore David Porter, War of 1812, in cooperation with the Maritime Exchange. The Exchange was located adjacent to the Observatory in a broad-porched frame house in which resided Captain David Porter. His house may be seen in many of the 1861-64 prints of the Hill.

A constant watch over the lower Patapsco River was kept from the Hill. A flag was hoisted on the Observatory Tower to give advance notice of an incoming vessel approach-  
int the merchants and owners in the Exchange downtown.  
"...this little establishment is not only grateful to the merchants..." but was also "already encouraged with many subscriptions..."

In 1799, the city's first glass manufactory made the first recorded excavations in and about Henry Street.

Other prominent industries that owed their existence to the Hill were brick-making and pottery. There is little doubt that the tunnels that criss-cross one another under the Hill, tunnels that periodically mystify the town when they cause cave-ins, or turn up during excavations, were dug by the clay quarriers. For about 50 years the area was extensively mined for its excellent red clay and fine white sand. In the 1850's, Rittenhouse's was the big pottery in the neighborhood, and may have been responsible for, at least, some of the tunnels.

During the War of 1812 intensive digging was begun for a tunnel leading from "Barney's Warf" into the northern side of Federal Hill. It was here that Commodore Joshua Barney ran privateers, a prototype of the renowned, swift Baltimore clipper-ships, out of Baltimore Town to attack British ships; and in the same tunnel he stored munitions.

There were guns on the Hill in 1819 which fired a welcome salute to General Andrew Jackson. Five years later, in 1824, the guns were fired again to welcome the Marquis de Lafayette.

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Federal Hill Historic District

#8. SIGNIFICANCE (continued) (page 3)

Frances Trollope visited Baltimore in 1830. She and a companion strolled along "a fine terrace of beautiful verdure (Federal Hill) which commands a magnificent view of the city, with its columns, towers, domes, and shipping; and also of the Patapsco River, which is here so wide as to present almost a seaview. This terrace is ornamented with abundance of evergreens, and wild roses innumerable..."

By the early 1840's the base of Federal Hill was jammed with a hodgepodge of oyster-boat docks and shipyards. Ruark's, Bixler's, Booze's, Waite's, Beecham's, Skinner's and Woodall's were the famous yards in the latter part of the nineteenth century. Such vessels as the barkentines "Good News" and "White Wings" and such steamers as the "Tred Avon", "Emma Giles", "Mason L. Weems" and "Cambridge" were built in its shadow. Large ships from all over the world, having always drydocked for repairs in the shipyards at the foot of the Hill, continue an activity prominent for over a century and a half.

Sir Arthur Cunynghame, a colonel in the British Army visited Baltimore in 1850 and published an account of his travels. "During my walk to Federal Hill, which commands a good view of the city and harbor, the noise produced by the constant hammering at shipbuilding, and steamboilers, etc. etc. was quite deafening. I observed many pretty clippers in the harbor, for which class of schooner this town is celebrated."

In 1851 a mob of several hundreds, angered at the execution of 50 Americans in a Cuban revolution, marched to Federal Hill to burn in effigy the remiss American consul at Havana.

During the Civil War, Union forces built and maintained fortifications on the Hill.

Some of the tunnels under Federal Hill were discovered by the Army at the time of General Butler's occupation of the Hill; and were believed to have been constructed by Southern supporters to blow up the fortification. This was disproven as further investigation revealed abandoned miners' tools. The tunnels were enlarged to form a route from Fort Federal to the Camden Railroad Station and also an escape route to an awaiting boat in

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Federal Hill Historic District

#8. SIGNIFICANCE (continued) (page 4)

the nearby harbor.

When South Carolina seceded from the Union in 1861, an ecstatic mob of Southern supporters raised an unidentified flag on Federal Hill and proceeded to fire salutes from a cannon which they brought; Union supporters battled them, burned their flag, and ran up the American flag, threatening to kill anyone who attempted to bring it down.

A month later, on the night of May 13, 1861, General Benjamin F. Butler led the 6th Massachusetts Regiment and elements of Cook's Light Artillery into Baltimore to occupy Federal Hill. The 6th Regiment was replaced three months later by "Duryea's Zouaves" who built the earthworks on Federal Hill. In the meantime, the signal service continued uninterrupted throughout the Civil War.

...the post of Federal Hill was amply garrisoned, and strong fortifications, mounting upwards of fifty heavy guns, and commanding the greater portion of Baltimore and Fort McHenry, were thrown up by the Fifth New York Zouave Regiment...This fort inclosed the entire crown of the hill. The angles of the bastions were so arranged that the guns mounted on them could rake by an entire flanking fire all the streets by which the hill could be approached. When completed the work was a very strong one, its huge cannon in close proximity to South Baltimore...and the basin...below.

After the war, Fort Federal, as it was known, was purchased by the city for use as a park. Its present shape is in part the result of the 1861 fort known as Fort Federal.

In 1882 the Armistead Monument was erected on the Hill to honor Colonel George Armistead, commander of Fort McHenry when the British attacked in the Battle of Baltimore on September 13, 1814.

Since its origin, Federal Hill Park has always been "crowded with the pleasure-seekers of South Baltimore." It has long been a favorite rendezvous for sweethearts, a playground for children who slide down its slopes on large pieces of flattened cardboard (a South Baltimore tradition), and a leisurely promenade for strollers and tourists.

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#8. SIGNIFICANCE (continued) (page 5)

The "Inner Harbor" is no longer seething with sailing ships and steamboats. Large modern cargo vessels - freighters, barges, and tankers, armed naval ships, numerous tug boats, and assorted pleasure craft - now support the trade and provide the romance for which the area is famous.

Federal Hill has always afforded the best panoramic view of Baltimore City and harbor. Visitors and residents still are drawn to the park on the Hill to observe the everchanging downtown skyline and waterfront activities.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Scharf, J. Thomas, History of Baltimore City & County, 1881.  
 Owens, Hamilton, Baltimore on the Chesapeake, 1941.  
 Semmes, Baltimore as Seen by Visitors, 1953.  
 The Baltimore Sunday Sun "Metrogravure" Magazine, Feb. 3, 1957.  
Maryland - A Guide to the Old Line State, American Guide Series  
 (WPA) Oxford Press, 1940, pp. 252.  
 Hunter, Wilbur, Baltimore During the Civil War, The Peale  
 Museum, 1961. [see Continuation Sheet]

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY |                         |                         | O<br>R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY<br>OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE |                         |  |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|--|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER   | LATITUDE                | LONGITUDE               |        | LATITUDE   | LONGITUDE               |  |
|  | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds |        | Degrees Minutes Seconds  | Degrees Minutes Seconds |  |
| NW   | 39 ° 16' 49"            | 76 ° 36' 59"            |        | ° ' "  | ° ' "                   |  |
| NE   | 39 ° 16' 50"            | 76 ° 36' 20"            |        | ° ' "  | ° ' "                   |  |
| SE   | 39 ° 16' 39"            | 76 ° 36' 12"            |        | ° ' "  | ° ' "                   |  |
| SW   | 39 ° 16' 35"            | 76 ° 36' 49"            |        | ° ' "  | ° ' "                   |  |

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:  
 Mrs. Preston Parish, Keeper of the Maryland Register

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust      DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 P. O. Box 1704

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis      STATE: Maryland      CODE: 19

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 IV  
 Orlando Ridout IV  
 Title State Liaison Officer for Maryland  
 Date April 16, 1969

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

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

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

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

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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| ENTRY NUMBER             | DATE |
|                          |      |

(Number all entries)

Federal Hill Historic District

#9. REFERENCES

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Wilbur Hunter, Jr., Director; Holliday Street,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

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Mrs. William C. Riedel, Jr., The Society for the Preservation  
of Federal Hill, Montgomery Street & Fells Point,  
Box 6069, Baltimore, Maryland, Feb. 1969.

Scharf, J. Thomas, History of Maryland, Vol.III, pp. 400,  
422.

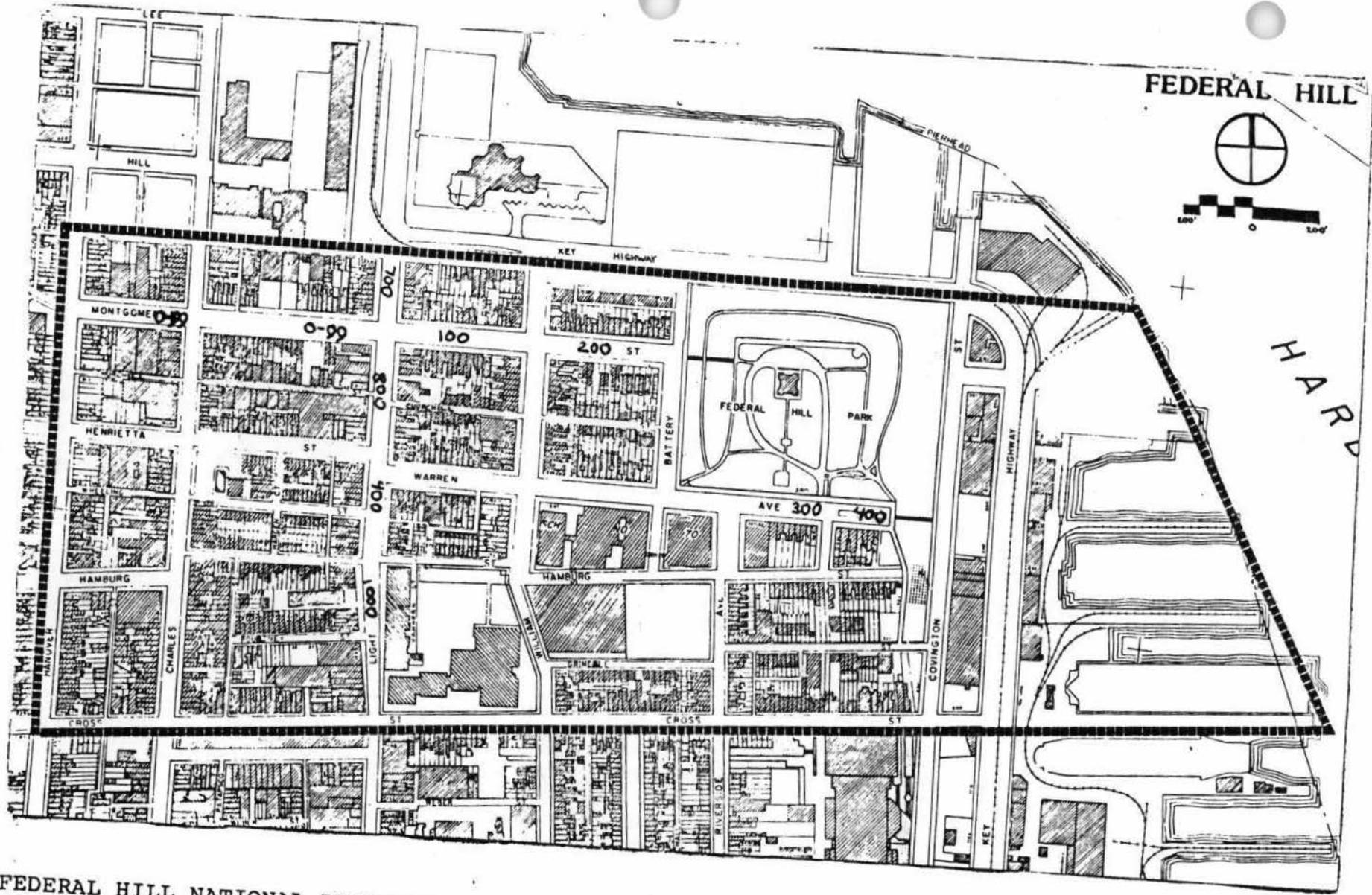
Two Hundred Years of the Maryland Gazette, 1727-1927.

G. M. Hopkins 1876 map of Baltimore, Vol.I, plate I; Vol.I,  
plate K; Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

Maryland Historical Society, 201 West Monument Street,  
Baltimore, Maryland:

(1) John Moale views of Baltimore City.

(2) Maryland Historical Magazine, Vol.44 #3, June 1949,  
pp. 101.

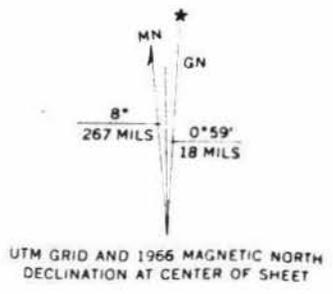


FEDERAL HILL NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT 4/17/70



(RELAY)  
5662 II NW

Mapped by the Army Map Service  
 Edited and published by the Geological Survey  
 Control by USGS, USC&GS, USCE, and City of Baltimore  
 Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods. Aerial photographs taken 1943. Field checked 1944  
 Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1953  
 Hydrography compiled from USC&GS Chart 545 (1951)  
 Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
 10,000-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system  
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18, shown in blue  
 Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown  
 Revisions shown in purple compiled by Geological Survey from aerial photographs taken 1966. This information not field checked  
 Purple tint indicates existence of urban areas



B-27

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Continuation Sheet)

|                          |      |      |
|--------------------------|------|------|
| STATE<br>Maryland        |      | B-27 |
| COUNTY<br>Baltimore City |      |      |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY         |      |      |
| ENTRY NUMBER             | DATE |      |
|                          |      |      |

(Number all entries)

(pg. 4)

Federal Hill Historic District

## #9. REFERENCES

Recorder: Mr. Robert L. Baker  
407 Warren Avenue  
Federal Hill  
Baltimore, Maryland

## #12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

Orlando Ridout IV

Orlando Ridout IV  
State Liaison Officer for Maryland  
National Historic Preservation Act, 1966

January 8, 1970

|                          |      |
|--------------------------|------|
| STATE<br>Maryland B-27   |      |
| COUNTY<br>Baltimore City |      |
| * FOR NPS USE ONLY       |      |
| ENTRY NUMBER             | DATE |
|                          |      |

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

|  |            |                           |             |
|--|------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| <b>1. NAME</b>   |            |                           |             |
| COMMON: Federal Hill Historic District                               |            |                           |             |
| AND/OR HISTORIC: Federal Hill Historic District                      |            |                           |             |
| <b>2. LOCATION</b>   |            |                           |             |
| STREET AND NUMBER:<br>See attached (location map with boundaries)    |            |                           |             |
| CITY OR TOWN:<br>Baltimore City                                      |            |                           |             |
| STATE:<br>Maryland   | CODE<br>19 | COUNTY:<br>Baltimore City | CODE<br>510 |
| <b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>  |            |                           |             |
| SOURCE:<br>Baltimore City Bureau of Surveys, Calvert Bldg., Room 208 |            |                           |             |
| SCALE: 1" = 200'   |            |                           |             |
| DATE: Revised January 1964   |            |                           |             |
| <b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>   |            |                           |             |
| TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS   |            |                           |             |
| 1. Property boundaries where required.                               |            |                           |             |
| 2. North arrow.  |            |                           |             |
| 3. Latitude and longitude reference.                                 |            |                           |             |

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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

|                               |      |
|-------------------------------|------|
| STATE<br>Maryland <b>B-27</b> |      |
| COUNTY<br>Baltimore City      |      |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY              |      |
| ENTRY NUMBER                  | DATE |
|                               |      |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

|  |            |                           |             |
|--|------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| <b>1. NAME</b>   |            |                           |             |
| COMMON: Federal Hill Historic District   |            |                           |             |
| AND/OR HISTORIC: Federal Hill Historic District  |            |                           |             |
| <b>2. LOCATION</b>   |            |                           |             |
| STREET AND NUMBER:<br>See attached (location map with boundaries)  |            |                           |             |
| CITY OR TOWN:<br>Baltimore City  |            |                           |             |
| STATE:<br>Maryland   | CODE<br>19 | COUNTY:<br>Baltimore City | CODE<br>510 |
| <b>3. PHOTO REFERENCE</b>  |            |                           |             |
| PHOTO CREDIT: Maps Inc. - Photogrammetric Engineers  |            |                           |             |
| DATE OF PHOTO: January 1967  |            |                           |             |
| NEGATIVE FILED AT:<br>Maps Inc., Dundalk Marine Terminal, Baltimore, Maryland 21222  |            |                           |             |
| <b>4. IDENTIFICATION</b>   |            |                           |             |
| DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.<br><br>Aerial photo of Federal Hill area, keyed to location map with boundaries (see attached map). |            |                           |             |

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

COUNTY  
Baltimore City

FOR NPS USE ONLY

| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
|--------------|------|
|              |      |

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

|   |            |                           |             |
|---|------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| <b>1. NAME</b>  |            |                           |             |
| COMMON: 118 East Montgomery Street  |            |                           |             |
| AND/OR HISTORIC: 118 East Montgomery Street                                     |            |                           |             |
| <b>2. LOCATION</b>  |            |                           |             |
| STREET AND NUMBER:<br>Federal Hill  |            |                           |             |
| CITY OR TOWN:<br>Baltimore City   |            |                           |             |
| STATE:<br>Maryland  | CODE<br>19 | COUNTY:<br>Baltimore City | CODE<br>510 |
| <b>3. PHOTO REFERENCE</b>   |            |                           |             |
| PHOTO CREDIT: Mr. William C. Riedel, Jr.  |            |                           |             |
| DATE OF PHOTO: January 1969   |            |                           |             |
| NEGATIVE FILED AT:<br>224 E. Montgomery St., Federal Hill, Baltimore, Md. 21230 |            |                           |             |
| <b>4. IDENTIFICATION</b>  |            |                           |             |
| DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.<br><br>South Elevation                           |            |                           |             |

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

|                  |      |
|------------------|------|
| STATE            |      |
| Maryland B-27    |      |
| COUNTY           |      |
| Baltimore City   |      |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |      |
| ENTRY NUMBER     | DATE |
|                  |      |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

|   |      |                |      |
|---|------|----------------|------|
| 1. NAME   |      |                |      |
| COMMON: 14 West Montgomery Street                         |      |                |      |
| AND/OR HISTORIC: 14 West Montgomery Street                |      |                |      |
| 2. LOCATION   |      |                |      |
| STREET AND NUMBER:  |      |                |      |
| Federal Hill  |      |                |      |
| CITY OR TOWN:   |      |                |      |
| Baltimore City  |      |                |      |
| STATE:  | CODE | COUNTY:        | CODE |
| Maryland  | 19   | Baltimore City | 510  |
| 3. PHOTO REFERENCE  |      |                |      |
| PHOTO CREDIT: Mr. William C. Riedel, Jr.                  |      |                |      |
| DATE OF PHOTO: January 1969                               |      |                |      |
| NEGATIVE FILED AT:  |      |                |      |
| 224 E. Montgomery St., Federal Hill, Baltimore, Md. 21230 |      |                |      |
| 4. IDENTIFICATION   |      |                |      |
| DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.                            |      |                |      |
| North Elevation   |      |                |      |

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

Maryland B-27

COUNTY  
Baltimore City

FOR NPS USE ONLY

|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
|              |      |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

|   |            |                           |             |
|---|------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| <b>1. NAME</b>  |            |                           |             |
| COMMON: 105 East Montgomery Street  |            |                           |             |
| AND/OR HISTORIC: 105 East Montgomery Street                                     |            |                           |             |
| <b>2. LOCATION</b>  |            |                           |             |
| STREET AND NUMBER:<br>Federal Hill  |            |                           |             |
| CITY OR TOWN:<br>Baltimore City   |            |                           |             |
| STATE:<br>Maryland  | CODE<br>19 | COUNTY:<br>Baltimore City | CODE<br>510 |
| <b>3. PHOTO REFERENCE</b>   |            |                           |             |
| PHOTO CREDIT: Mr. William C. Riedel, Jr.  |            |                           |             |
| DATE OF PHOTO: January 1969   |            |                           |             |
| NEGATIVE FILED AT:<br>224 E. Montgomery St., Federal Hill, Baltimore, Md. 21230 |            |                           |             |
| <b>4. IDENTIFICATION</b>  |            |                           |             |
| DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.<br><br>North Elevation                           |            |                           |             |

|                  |      |
|------------------|------|
| STATE            |      |
| Maryland B-27    |      |
| COUNTY           |      |
| Baltimore City   |      |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |      |
| ENTRY NUMBER     | DATE |
|                  |      |

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

|   |      |                |      |
|---|------|----------------|------|
| 1. NAME   |      |                |      |
| COMMON: 224 East Montgomery Street                        |      |                |      |
| AND/OR HISTORIC: 224 East Montgomery Street               |      |                |      |
| 2. LOCATION   |      |                |      |
| STREET AND NUMBER:  |      |                |      |
| Federal Hill  |      |                |      |
| CITY OR TOWN:   |      |                |      |
| Baltimore City  |      |                |      |
| STATE:  | CODE | COUNTY:        | CODE |
| Maryland  | 19   | Baltimore City | 510  |
| 3. PHOTO REFERENCE  |      |                |      |
| PHOTO CREDIT: Mr. William C. Riedel, Jr.                  |      |                |      |
| DATE OF PHOTO: January 1969                               |      |                |      |
| NEGATIVE FILED AT:  |      |                |      |
| 224 E. Montgomery St., Federal Hill, Baltimore, Md. 21230 |      |                |      |
| 4. IDENTIFICATION   |      |                |      |
| DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.                            |      |                |      |
| South Elevation   |      |                |      |

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

|                          |      |
|--------------------------|------|
| STATE<br>Maryland B-27   |      |
| COUNTY<br>Baltimore City |      |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY         |      |
| ENTRY NUMBER             | DATE |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

|   |            |                           |             |
|---|------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| 1. NAME   |            |                           |             |
| COMMON: 337 East Hamburg Street   |            |                           |             |
| AND/OR HISTORIC: 337 East Hamburg Street  |            |                           |             |
| 2. LOCATION   |            |                           |             |
| STREET AND NUMBER:<br>Federal Hill  |            |                           |             |
| CITY OR TOWN:<br>Baltimore City   |            |                           |             |
| STATE:<br>Maryland  | CODE<br>19 | COUNTY:<br>Baltimore City | CODE<br>510 |
| 3. PHOTO REFERENCE  |            |                           |             |
| PHOTO CREDIT: Mr. William C. Riedel, Jr.  |            |                           |             |
| DATE OF PHOTO: January 1969   |            |                           |             |
| NEGATIVE FILED AT:<br>224 E. Montgomery St., Federal Hill, Baltimore, Md. 21230 |            |                           |             |
| 4. IDENTIFICATION   |            |                           |             |
| DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.<br><br>Northwest Elevation                       |            |                           |             |



19-510

B-27

PHOTOGRAPH BY  
**MAPS, INCORPORATED**  
PHOTOGRAMMETRIC ENGINEERS  
DUNBALK MARINE TERMINAL BALTIMORE, MD. 21222

FEDERAL HILL, Baltimore City

FROM #1165-6-14

5 FEB, 1968

OUTLINE OF DIST. PREPARED BY GENEVIEVE H. RIEDEL

*Genevieve H. Riedel*, Member, Board of Directors  
Soc for

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

MAGI#04002719 01128

13-27

 NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
 INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DATE ENTERED

 SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
 TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS
**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Federal Hill-Riverside Park Historic District (Survey District)

AND/OR COMMON

Federal Hill Historic District

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

See attached boundary map

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Third

STATE

Maryland

CODE

COUNTY

Baltimore City

CODE

510

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

| CATEGORY                                     | OWNERSHIP                                   | STATUS  | PRESENT USE   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH    | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE                | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION | <input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE                   | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES, UNRESTRICTED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION     |
|  |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO                | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER                                      |

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

The City of Baltimore and various Private Owners

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore City Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Calvert and Fayette Streets

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Maryland Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

DATE

1969

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historic Trust

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

# DESCRIPTION

B-27

| CONDITION                                     |  | CHECK ONE                                     | CHECK ONE   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD      | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED   | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR      | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED               |   |   |

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

In relation to the dramatic slopes of Federal Hill and Riverside Parks, the topography of the district appears to be level but is in fact composed of low ridges and shallow valleys which are integral elements of the landscape. The rise of Federal Hill, which descends abruptly on the south to Cross Street, is matched by that of Riverside Park, whose highpoint, marked by a Victorian gazebo, is approximately ten feet above its more elaborate counterpart. Running between the two hills is a ridge which falls off abruptly to the east and west. It is the vestige of a bluff which once formed the west bank of the Patapsco, and was graded to facilitate residential development. On the east of the ridge is the waterfront and its attendant industries and port facilities; to the west is the interior plain of the South Baltimore Peninsula, and the northeastern shore of the Middle Branch of the Patapsco. The principle effect of the ridge is that of closing eastern vistas along the east-west streets, and of providing dramatic views of harbor activity from its crest.

The closing of vistas is the principle visual asset of the district, providing several intimate and small-scale residential spaces. The arterial street, Light Street, which is intensively commercial in the vicinity of the Cross Street market, is kept from opening into interminable views to the south by small jogs.

Charles and Hanover Streets conform more strictly to the grid and function as traffic corridors along the district's western edge. Generally, streets either do not conform strictly to the grid and are terminated at angling intersections, or follow the grid, but terminate at "T" intersections. Several one-block streets are visually closed at both ends (1400 block of Belt Street) providing intimate, quiet spaces. The avenues to the east are terminated by the two parks, but the high ground at either end provides impressive views of downtown development across the inner harbor. The two most important landmarks of the district, the spires of Holy Cross and St. Mary's churches, are visible from many vantages, but not along the axis of any street, always rising out of the low-scale residential development.

The block bounded by Fort/Webster /Harvey/and Boyle Streets is bisected from north to south by the 70' elevation line, the land falling away rapidly to the east. This provides an interior block of dramatic topography. Portions of the ridge are held by stone retaining walls, most significantly that on the south end of the central alley (Hyson Street).

The mass of structures in the district is residential, and is unified to the extent that it may be classified by type as follows: gable,

See continuation sheet #1

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Federal Hill-Riverside Park Historic District  
Baltimore City,  
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 1

DESCRIPTION (continued)

of 2, 2½ or 3 stories, with or without dormers; and flat roofed houses of the same number of stories, which may be further divided into "Italianate" or "Beaux Arts" stylistic categories. These latter categories are adopted solely for the purposes of this description and should not be construed as genuine styles.

The gable-roof houses are generally similar to that category of Baltimore rowhouses which has been called "Late Federal." Late Federal pertains more to the houses of the Otterbein and Montgomery Street areas than to those in the rest of the district which are too far removed from the Federal period to warrant any association with it. The axiom that Baltimore builders were reluctant to relinquish a style which had long been in practice accounts for this atavistic use of gable roofs. In the gable house ridges are parallel to the street with the exception of a few houses with perpendicular ridges on the 1300 block of Battery Street. Dormers are infrequently used, although an entire row of dormered houses appears at 107-139 Gittings. Facades are two bays, with entrance off-axis. Fenestration is of tall proportions, 2/2 double hung sash being the norm. Houses with and without basements are equally common; numerous basements are nearly tall enough to serve as a ground story, especially in houses built along sharp grades (100 block of East Gittings Street).

An extremely unusual variation on the predominant Late Federal style is the pair of houses at 1124 and 1126 Riverside Avenue. The street facades of these houses are one story, two-bay with entrance at grade. The pitch of the roofs is very steep, and each house has a central gabled dormer. Original fenestration appears to have been 4/4.

The "Italianate" houses comprise the bulk of residential construction. These are flat-roofed structures of two or three stories and two or three bays in a wide range of stylistic pretention, from genuine Italianate houses with elaborate wooden cornices and entrances to simple flat-roofed houses. Fenestration is 1/1 or 2/3. The larger houses, usually those with a stronger decorative commitment, are found on the wider avenues and principal thoroughfares, while the smaller, more modest versions are found on side streets and alleys. The larger, more heavily decorated houses tend to be the oldest, built during the period when the Italianate was a current style, the 1870's and

See continuation sheet #2

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Federal Hill-Riverside Park Historic District  
Baltimore City,  
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 2

DESCRIPTION (continued)

1880's. These often appear in small terraces (3-5 units). Smaller houses are retarditaire versions of their larger predecessors. In general, small rows and isolated houses of this type, especially those which appear on irregular streets or in areas where development is known to have appeared early, are as old as their larger counterparts. Those in block long rows are part of the speculative development of the large unbuilt areas on the south just before the turn of the century, and represent a "modern" survival of the Italianate into the early 20th century. Decorative details in these houses, aside from cornices, include courses of terracotta sill, molded brick voussoirs in the entrances, jig-saw cutouts along the window frames and simulated wood-grain paint on exposed wood.

A significant aspect of the Italianate houses is the treatment of corner buildings. Often the sites for store fronts, these are normally wider than the rest of the row, whether or not they were intended as a compositional part of the row. They are, furthermore, much deeper, at least double the depth of the normal row building, foresaking the amenity of a backyard or drying yard in order to take advantage of additional frontage. The exposure of this elevation made possible an entire wall of windows, eliminating the lighting factor which sharply circumscribed the allowable depth of the normal row building. The corner houses may or may not be an extra story in height.

Italianate rows gave added visual interest to streetscapes when built on a slope, which created a stepped line of cornices in sharp contrast to the rigid horizontal lines of cornices along the avenues.

The successor to this style is the "Beaux Arts" category. These houses rarely occur larger than two bays and two stories and are almost universally found in long rows of terraces. The title "Beaux Arts" is especially appropriate in the numerous instances where the ends of the terraces are marked by three-quarter round turrets often capped by tall conical roofs with a wide flare at their bases. These rows are unified by a common pressed-metal swag cornice. Occasionally an amalgam of a metal cornice and a simple brick cornice occurs. Most "Beaux Arts" rows were built during the first decade of the 20th century. With the arrival of the style came a penchant for protruding bays,

See continuation sheet #3

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Federal Hill-Riverside Park Historic District  
Baltimore City,  
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 3

DESCRIPTION (continued)

either curved or flat with rounded corners. These are the full height of the house, and differ from Italianate bays in being integral to the facade, rather than applied. The curved examples continue smooth transitions to the facade, making an undulating rhythm of vertical units along the street. In these cases ends are marked by a change in the style of the terminating bays rather than with turrets (i. e. a row with curved bays will terminate with flat ones). This sometimes necessitates a mid-point change in the placement of entrances, to provide symmetry for the rows. Occasionally the unitary nature of these rows is underscored by the placement of a cornerstone at one end, with street names and date (e.g., 30-38 E. Ostend, 1897, the 1500 block of Patapsco, 1906).

In the more substantial versions, stone basements are common, end-pieces sometimes having stone first stories.

Considering the pains taken to achieve a kind of modest monumentality, unusual especially for the class of residents which occupied them, it is not inappropriate to use the term "Beaux Arts", in recalling the "City Beautiful" ideas of Daniel Burnham which were ascendant at that time, and had been since the Columbian Exposition (Chicago 1892).

The district contains numerous buildings of monumental character, all of which are service-oriented and focused upon the local community with the exception of the former street railway carbarns (circa 1890) which now serve the city at large as a school bus garage, churches, schools, library, police station, firehouses and the Cross Street Market. Not all of the monumental class of structures are architecturally distinguished, but they deserve mention as a group for the contrast they provide to the residential city-scape, or for the role they play in the community.

In the latter sense the Cross Street Market is pre-eminent. The present structure is a modern one, the latest version of a local institution founded in 1845. In contrast to the uninteresting block-long one-story structure is the intense and colorful activity on the interior. The market is the hub and catalyst of the South Charles shopping district which contributes greatly to the self-contained character of South Baltimore.

See continuation sheet #4

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Federal Hill-Riverside Park Historic District  
Baltimore City,  
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 4

DESCRIPTION (continued)

Corner stores and firehouses belong in the former category. Truck Company #6 (1227 S. Hanover Street, first occupied 6 April 1888) is of particular interest for its sculpted fireman keystone. The towers of the firehouses function as modest landmarks. Corner stores are scattered throughout the district. The vast majority of these still possess original plate glass with cornice shop fronts of the kind in use between 1880 and 1910.

Among the monumental buildings, churches are by far the most numerous and visible high-style structures. The majority are in one or another of the Gothic Revival styles popular in the latter half of the 19th century. Three of these are notable for their tall landmark spires: St. Steven and St. James, at the corner of Hanover and Hamburg Streets (1884), Holy Cross on West Street between Light and William (1861) and St. Mary Star of the Sea, at the corner of Riverside and Gittings (1868). All three are brick versions of High Victorian Gothic, with fine details and stained glass windows.

The remaining churches are smaller in scale and are either brick Gothic Revival (Church of the Advent, at Birckhead and Williams, the old portion of the building dated 1890), or stone Romanesque (Olive Branch, Fort Avenue and S. Charles Street), 1879; Grace United Church of Christ, South Charles St. south of Clement, 1921); or of a vague Renaissance Revival (Riverside Baptist Church, Fort Avenue and Johnson, 1890, formstoned). The Church of the Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith, at the corner of Sharp and Hughes, is a restrained Baroque Revival with very fine stained glass windows (there has been a church on the site since 1842, but the current structure is either a replacement or renovation of 1881).

In addition to the churches, there are a large number of structures of a miscellaneous nature with great visual character. The former Pabst Building, at 1834 S. Charles (now Maryland Mirror and Glass Co.) is a tiny Gothic castle, with crenellations, a tower and a pair of carved stone heads as entrance corbels. The former Baltimore Electric Street Railway car barn was, before its alteration, an elegant and sophisticated building of restrained detail, including a very fine terracotta cartouche containing the company's monogram. Denhard's Drugstore, a business owned by the same family for several generations,

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DESCRIPTION (continued)

is an example of the best corner row-buildings, and a well preserved relic of the appearance of small scale commercial buildings in the late 19th century. Its tall, narrow prism shaped display windows are unusual details. The old Pratt Branch Library (1884) and Public School 33, both in the 1400 block (east side) of Light Street, are high style buildings in light-colored brick of a Richardsonian character. The Pratt, especially (now a Boy's Club) has many fine details: the terracotta panels in its chimney, entrance details, and eyebrow ventilation in the slate roof. It is very similar to and probably contemporary with a number of other Pratt branches around the city. The architect for the library was Charles Carson. The police station at 28 Ostend (1896) is a larger stone and brick Richardsonian Romanesque structure, roughly cubic, with wall dormers flanked by torch-like tourelles of sandstone. To the west of this, on Ostend Street, is school #92, a large and simple Renaissance Revival building with round and segmental arched windows and giant-order pilasters. The former school building of Holy Cross Church (1899) is a more elaborate version of a Renaissance palazzo, and has a ground story of finely rusticated granite with a classic entrance aedicule.

Of the dozens of lesser structures of note which lie within the district, the vast majority fall into the stylistic categories of those described above. This is demonstrative of the constricted period of time during which the major structures, those which establish a neighborhood's character, were built. In this sense the Beaux Arts houses are infill, late to arrive on the scene, having no counterparts in the monumental category of structures.

The period character of the district is easily discernible despite both the occasional intrusion of a 20th century light-industrial building, and the prevalence of formstone. Intrusions are limited to block interior (most notably that of the West/William/Ostend/Light block) and in the vicinity of the Cross Street market, where many early 19th century buildings have acquired modern shop-fronts. The formstone is much more common and widespread, but does not obscure the general configuration of the houses; styles and types remain obvious. Often one element of a row will remain in its original condition, enabling inferences to be made on the rest of the row. The area is in fact unusual in having numerous survivals of late 19th century types which have not been in fashion in recent restoration

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DESCRIPTION (continued)

history. Simulated wood-grain window, window frames and doors are found throughout the district as well as the painted-and-ruled brick facades, authentic Baltimore Victorian facade treatment which has begun to lose out to cleaning and sandblasting.

Preservation activity in the district is relatively intense, and may be expected to enhance this period character. The true Late Federal areas of Montgomery Street, the Otterbein Homesteading district, and Federal Hill proper, have become the choice locations for such activity, but later and less dramatic houses have not been ignored. There is no part of the district in which preservation activity cannot be found.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

| 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION               | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                     | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING             | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER                        |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE                | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT  | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION                 |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-     | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS          | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY                | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)                |  |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION               |   |   |  |

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|----------------|-------------------|
| SPECIFIC DATES | BUILDER/ARCHITECT |
|----------------|-------------------|

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Federal Hill-Riverside Park Historic District is the product of the southward thrust of expansion from Baltimore's core, experienced during the city's evolution from a shipping and harbor trade town to an industrial city. While conforming to the architectural and development trends of Baltimore the Federal Hill-Riverside Park area is further distinguished as the only remaining coherent neighborhood which presents a complete unaltered picture of working class residential development throughout the 19th century.

The diverse array of rowhousing ranges from the substantial Late Federal rowhouses of the Otterbein Homesteading District, to the long terraces of "Beaux Arts" houses which arose suddenly at the turn of the century along Riverside Park. Set into this landscape is a fine collection of monumental buildings, erected to serve the religious, social and cultural needs of the community.

Neighborhoods within the district were peopled primarily by immigrant populations which settled the area in response to the gradual development of the waterfront industries which bind the district on its flanks. Unlike populations which established other Baltimore "fringe" neighborhoods, many of these people have remained in Federal Hill-Riverside areas. Often the same family has occupied a particular property for five generations.

Through the 18th and much of the 19th centuries, when foreign and domestic trade formed the basis of Baltimore's economy, the city's physical and commercial growth was directly related to development of the waterfront. The construction of quays and shipping facilities on the harbor basin at the turn of the 18th century marked the first stage of southward expansion from Old Town which reached no farther than Pratt Street. Shortly after the creation of the commercial strand on the north and west banks of the basin came the establishment of the first residential neighborhood in South Baltimore, centered on the Otterbein Church (1785) at Conway and Sharp Street. This community extended from Pratt Street to Lee Street and was bounded roughly by Howard and Hanover Streets.

The area just south of the Otterbein neighborhood was intermittently

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settled in the late 18th century with residences and commercial buildings. On the northeastern corner of the peninsula was Federal Hill, a steep eminence, on which the observatory and residence of Captain David Porter was built in 1795. The observatory was used to signal the docks upon the sighting of ships coming up the Patapsco River. At the foot of Federal Hill on the south bank of the basin was the Amelung Glass Works, founded in 1800. The hill itself was mined, by tunneling for sand for the glassworks and clay for local potteries. The 1801 Warner and Hanna map of Baltimore indicates that the rest of the South Baltimore peninsula, below Warner and Montgomery Streets was countryside, occupied by small farms, and on Whistone Point, Fort McHenry, built in 1794. By 1816, when the city annexed the entire South Baltimore peninsula, the settlement below Otterbein and just west of Federal Hill had grown considerably and was beginning to merge with the Otterbein neighborhood, which had also expanded, down to Hill Street. Both the Federal Hill and Otterbein neighborhoods were served by the Hanover Market at Hanover and Camden Streets. Poppleton's 1823 map shows that the south bank of the basin had been developed into quays, and quay construction was beginning to spread along the southern shore of the Northwest Branch. Light Street, which ran southward to the ferry crossing the Middle Branch, had intermittent development along it. A major feature on Light Street was a pair of ropewalks located below West Street at the present Ropewalk Lane. The major thoroughfares in the Federal Hill neighborhood were Hughes, Montgomery and Henrietta between William and Hanover Streets.

The early neighborhoods of South Baltimore were typical of contemporary urban Baltimore. They contained a diversity of economic groups, ranging from prosperous citizens who occupied the houses fronting on the main streets, to artisans, laborers and free blacks who lived in more modest houses on the alleys and block interiors. The Otterbein area especially contained a high percentage of black residents. This black settlement pattern spread southward into the Sharp-Leadenhall area during the mid-19th century, where it has persisted up to the present. The Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal Church, 20 West Montgomery Street, is the oldest black congregation in Baltimore and has been a bulwark of the community for over one hundred years. The existing edifice was erected in 1865 but the founding of the congregation has been dated at 1816.

Over the next two decades, the Federal Hill and Otterbein neighborhoods

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gradually solidified and expanded. Federal Hill settlement extended southward, while development went westward from Otterbein toward Ridgely's Delight and Poppleton.

The construction of Cross Street market at Cross and Light Streets in 1845, marked the maturation of a South Baltimore residential neighborhood. Traditionally, city markets were constructed in neighborhoods which had expanded beyond the range of the existing market and were expected to continue growing. When the market was erected, Cross Street represented the southern limit of Federal Hill; little or no concentrated development existed below Cross Street, except for a few blocks on Light Street. In the same year, another major development occurred, which presaged the influx of industry into South Baltimore. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad constructed a line across South Baltimore, from its trunk line in West Baltimore to Locust Point, on the Peninsula extending east from South Baltimore. The track, which ran along Ostend, Race and Wells Streets, sparked the development of the Locust Point marine terminal. The terminal rapidly became a major depot for shipment of coal, grain and other commodities, and remains such today. Locust Point also served as a major port of immigration. The rising industrialism and the large scale immigration of Irish and then Germans combined to create an industrial complex on Locust Point, manned by the inexpensive immigrant labor. This process, which continued throughout the 19th century, stimulated large scale settlement by the Irish and German immigrants first in Locust Point and then in the area south of Federal Hill. Shortly after the B & O line was constructed, Western Maryland Railroad established a similar line down to Port Covington, at the foot of Covington Street. The Port Covington terminal remains an active element in Baltimore harbor. The growth of the railroad affected the developed as well as the undeveloped territories in South Baltimore. In 1850-52, the Camden Station and yards of the B & O were constructed on Howard and Camden Streets, thus eradicating the western edge of Otterbein and severing the neighborhood from western extension into Ridgely's Delight.

In 1856, the Spring Garden gasworks were established on the western shore of the South Baltimore peninsula. The gasworks, which are

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bounded by Race Street on the east, created a western boundary for residential development in South Baltimore although this did not occur until thirty years later. By 1860, residential development in the Federal Hill area was beginning to spread below Cross Street, particularly along Light, William, Battery and Johnson (Riverside) Streets.

Although building styles had changed, the previous pattern of development persisted. The larger, more ornate and substantial houses were located on major avenues; the smaller more modest houses were relegated to the minor streets and alleys. This mid-century period was the last time that the upper middle class was represented in housing types of South Baltimore.

The beginning of the Civil War caused a general disruption of trade and stagnation of growth in Baltimore. Federal Hill was occupied by the U.S. Army and converted into Fort Federal Hill, enclosed by earthworks. The work of the military engineers is partially responsible for the Hill's present shape. By the close of the war, Baltimore's industry had revived, largely due to increased federal spending. Following the Civil War, Maryland's economy underwent a major change. The state's position as an agricultural provider was drastically undercut by the western states. Trade and industry became of paramount importance and Baltimore was the state's leader in both activities. As a result, a large-scale migration occurred from the country to the city accounting for 48% of Baltimore's population increase between 1870 and 1890.<sup>2</sup> South Baltimore, with its extensive undeveloped land and waterfront became a logical location for industry and the attendant residential growth.

An excellent picture of South Baltimore's development up to 1869 is given in Sachse's Bird's Eye View of Baltimore. This lithograph shows virtually complete development south to West Street. Below West Street, several rows of houses are built on Johnson, Battery, William and Light Streets. To the East of Johnson, the ground falls away sharply in a series of bluffs. Below the bluffs, along the southern shore of the Northwest Branch, wharves and docks proliferate, from Federal Hill to Locust Point. The City Wharves are located near the present junction of Clement Street and Key Highway. South of the

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B & O Line on Wells Avenue there appear a large number of brick yards. At Winan's Cove, Winan's shipyard and depot is located, and just north of it is the Port Covington marine terminal. Except for these industrial sites and a handful of houses, the land is open.

One significant new structure in Federal Hill in 1869 was the St. Mary Star of the Sea Roman Catholic Church at Clement and Johnson (Riverside) Streets. This handsome church was erected to serve the predominantly Irish congregation which had spread from Locust Point into South Baltimore.

At Light and Heat Streets, the stables for the city passenger railway appear in the 1869 view. This location was used continuously by the city transit system into the 20th century and is presently occupied by an old car barn. Although in 1869 large scale industrialization had not yet made its full impact on South Baltimore, the pattern of the future development had crystallized. The railroad across Wells Avenue was becoming a divider between heavy industry on the south and residential neighborhoods on the north. This division was accomplished as a gradual transition.

By 1876, residential settlement had advanced south to Randall Street. At the foot of Riverside Street, below Randall, the city established Riverside Park. The 17-acre park included the site of the Circular Battery, an earthworks erected during the War of 1812, and known as Battery Square until 1873. The new residences were generally two-story rowhouses built for mechanics and laborers who worked in the area. Blue collar housing continued to be the outstanding type of building erected for the rest of the century. The southern shore of the North-west Branch had become a major location for packing and canning factories, as Baltimore was a leading producer of canned goods, primarily oysters and fruit. Other new industries included the B & O Riverside shops near Riverside Park, a coal tar works, and a chemical works, both on Race Street below the gasworks. By this time, Locust Point had developed into a self-contained community, centered on the marine terminal.

Development continued so that by 1896, rowhouses covered the undeveloped land between Race Street and Riverside Park, south of West

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Street. Within 15 years the open land east of Riverside Park and west of Boyle Street had been graded and developed. In both areas, the houses were modest but substantial two-story structures, generally owned by their inhabitants.<sup>3</sup>

With the completion of this speculative building, circa 1910, the development of South Baltimore north of Wells Street was virtually completed. The new blocks represented more modern and sanitary housing than existed in much of South Baltimore. The Otterbein, upper Federal Hill and Sharp-Leadenhall neighborhoods had undergone a gradual decline in prosperity and condition. It has only been within the past two decades that restoration and rehabilitation have begun. Certain areas, particularly along lower Light Street and Hanover Street are in need of improvement.

The richness of South Baltimore's socio-cultural make-up is still apparent, although migration to the suburbs by upwardly mobile residents has weakened the ethnic communities. An example of South Baltimore's ethnic variety is the longstanding division of the Roman Catholic congregations. Holy Cross Church has been traditionally German, St. Mary Star of the Sea, Irish and Our Lady of Good Counsel in Locust Point, now Polish, having been Irish and German in the past.

The most recent immigration into South Baltimore was by Appalachian people circa World War II.

South Baltimore's industry has remained relatively unchanged, except on the harbor basin. The gasworks on the west, the Bethlehem Steel shipyard on the east, the B & O shops and Port Covington to the south have all evolved into modern facilities. With the exception of McCormick's plant on Light Street (which incorporates a circa 1880 tobacco warehouse) the harbor basin has been cleared of industry in favor of urban highrise development.

<sup>1</sup>Leona Truelove, "Sharp-Leadenhall. Old Place - New Name." (Neighborhood Design Center, Baltimore, 1975) pp. 2-13.

<sup>2</sup>Richard Walsh and William Fox, eds. Maryland: A History, 1632-1974 (Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, 1974) p. 436.

<sup>3</sup>Dr. John Billings. Vital Statistics for the District of Columbia and Baltimore. (U.S. Census, Washington, D.C. 1890) p. 48.