

B-3002 - B-3006
32-4 W. Montgomery St. (North side)
Baltimore, Md.
Private and public access

1840-1850/1870's

This side of W. Montgomery St. includes the Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal Church, the first black church congregation to be established in the Federal Hill area. The Romanesque Revival style church was built in 1848 but the current appearance is the result of remodelings in the late 1860's and 1890's. The facade is now covered with formstone. To the east of the church, at 18 W. Montgomery St. there is a three story high, two bay wide Italianate-style parish house, also now covered with formstone, and to the west of the church, at 32 W. Montgomery St. there is a three story, three bay wide brick Italianate-style combination commercial/residential structure built contemporaneously with the corner building at 735-737 S. Hanover St. At the eastern end of the block there are two pairs of early brick houses dating from the 1840's, which are the only survivors of a group of similar houses that originally lined this side of the street. 8-10 W. Montgomery St. are three story, gable-roofed houses, two bays wide; 6 W. Montgomery St. is a typical two story plus attic, two bay wide brick house, with a two story high, one room deep side addition at 4 W. Montgomery St.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

4-6 W. Montgomery St.

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: restoration contemplated

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 21202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This pair of brick houses was built simultaneously with 4 W. Montgomery St. serving apparently as a shop and/or shed for the main structure at 6 W. Montgomery. 6 W. Montgomery St. is a two story with attic structure, two rooms deep. 4 W. Montgomery is two stories tall and only one room deep. The structures connect through an interior door at the second floor level.

The two story with attic structure at 6 W. Montgomery is 12 1/2' wide and runs back on its lot about 25'. 4 W. Montgomery is only 8' wide and runs back to a depth of about 16'. Both houses are constructed in running bond. 6 W. Montgomery has a low-pitched gable roof and a simple, two tiered brick cornice. A double rectangular chimney is located on the west end wall. 4 W. Montgomery has a shed roof and no cornice. Both roofs seem to be covered in tarpaper.

The openings on the first and second floors of each structure have segmentally arched brick lintels composed of a double row of headers. The sills are wood. The attic floor windows of 6 W. Montgomery have flat wood lintels and sills. No sash remains and the openings are boarded. 6 W. Montgomery sits on a high basement, but no steps remain by which to reach the entrance. A tall rectangular coal opening with segmentally arched brick lintel is to the left of the now vanished steps. 4 W. Montgomery sits on a low basement, the entrance being reached by two stone steps. Both houses have wood paneled doors surmounted by three-light transoms.

6 W. Montgomery is a simply planned structure with a front and back room on each floor. The front rooms all measure about 11' x 11'. The back room of the first floor measures the same, but the back rooms of the second and third floors are only 8' and 9' deep respectively. Each of the rooms of the first and second floors has a fireplace. As in most houses of this type, the sharply winding stairs are located just north of the partition wall between the front and back rooms--between that wall and the fireplace of the back room. The ceilings of the first floor are 8' in height; those of the second floor are 7 1/2' in height. The attic story has a ceiling height of 7' at its center, sloping down to 4' over the front and back windows. There are no fireplaces on this floor, as is the rule in houses of this type.

4 W. Montgomery consists only of two rooms, one on each floor, measuring about 8' x 12' each. A straight flight of stairs leads from the rear of the first floor room to the second floor, which connects by way of a door and several additional steps to 6 W. Montgomery.

6 W. Montgomery still retains its original painted wood mantelpieces in the first floor rear and both second floor rooms. These are finely proportioned and delicately detailed--with plain freizes supported by Doric pilasters and simply molded mantel shelves. They are Greek Revival in character but without the heavy-handedness often associated with late mass-productions in that style. The wide, reeded panels enframing the front door and window, with their plain corner blocks decorated with round medallions, further attest to the Greek Revival influence on the interior detailing. As is often seen in houses of this type, the fireplace in the first floor back room is flanked by built in shelves, indicating this room use as a dining room or kitchen. Similar built-in shelves flank the fireplace in the second floor back room--another feature commonly seen in houses of this type. The mantelpiece of the first floor front room has been replaced by a Victorian-era Franklin stove.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input 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 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		

SPECIFIC DATES 1840's

BUILDER/ARCHITECT John Doberer

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

6 W. Montgomery St. is representative of a large group of such houses in the Federal Hill area built in the 1840's and 1850's to accommodate the growing labor force centered around the Baltimore waterfront. Although showing a slight stylistic influence from Greek Revival style buildings constructed in Baltimore in the 1820's and 1830's, the outstanding feature of these houses is their extreme simplicity of design and detailing. The floor plan follows the pattern of earlier 2 1/2 story houses designed for a working class market, with two small front and back rooms on each floor and narrow, tightly winding stairs set between the two rooms. The increase in the height of the third story (from a dormer story to an attic story) allowed the third story to be divided into two separate rooms also, in place of the one open room usual with dormer-storied houses, thus providing welcome additional, private living space.

The houses seem to have replaced an earlier frame structure built between 1800 and 1815. The builder, John Doberer, operated a grocery on this site in the 1840's.¹ In 1847 he sold the houses to Malachi Gibson, a free man of color.²

¹Baltimore City Directory, 1840

²Baltimore City Land Records, Liber AWB 385, Folio 429

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

M.E. Hayward / Historic Sites Surveyor

2/79

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Struever Bros. & Eccles

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

1745 Circle Rd.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Ruxton

STATE

Maryland 21204

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.

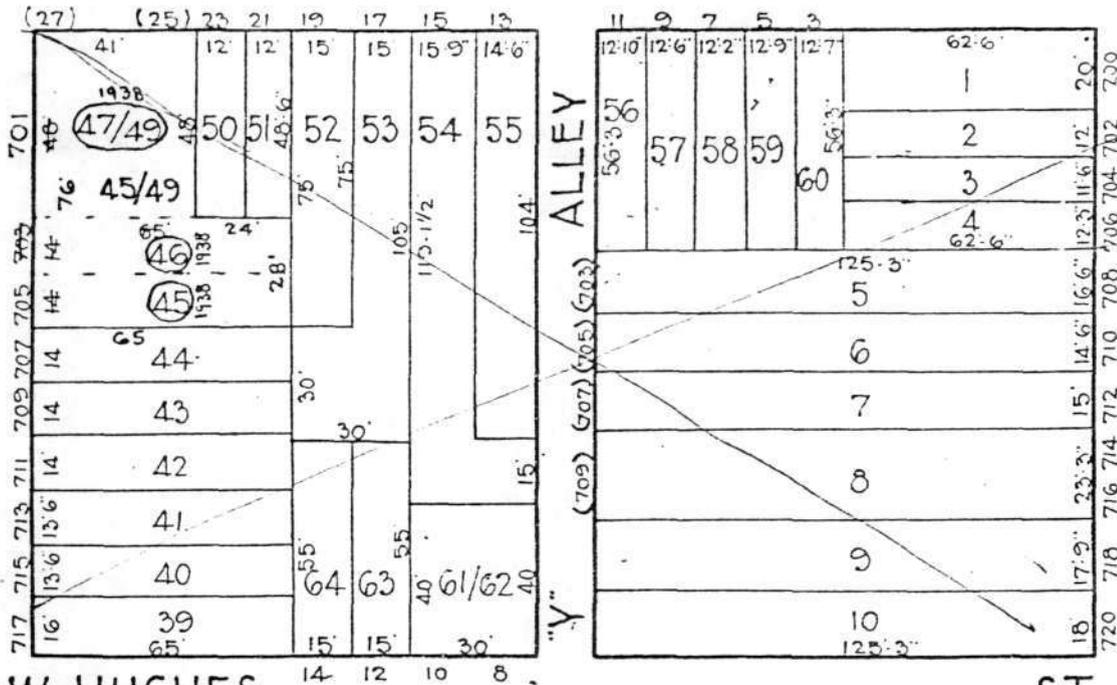
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

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

ST.

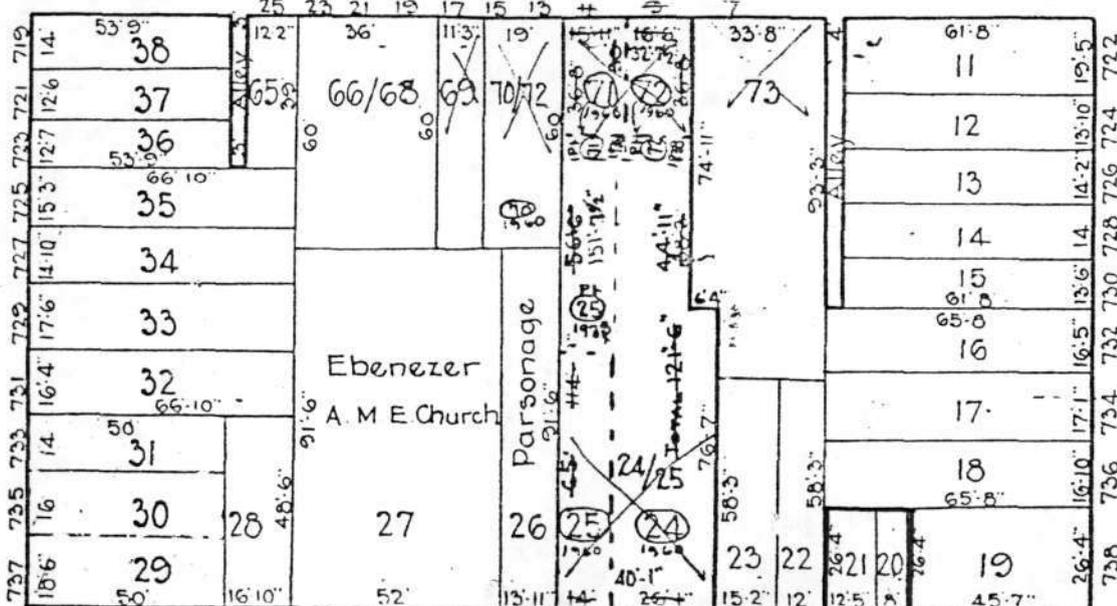
W. HILL

ST.



W. HUGHES

ST.



S. HANOVER

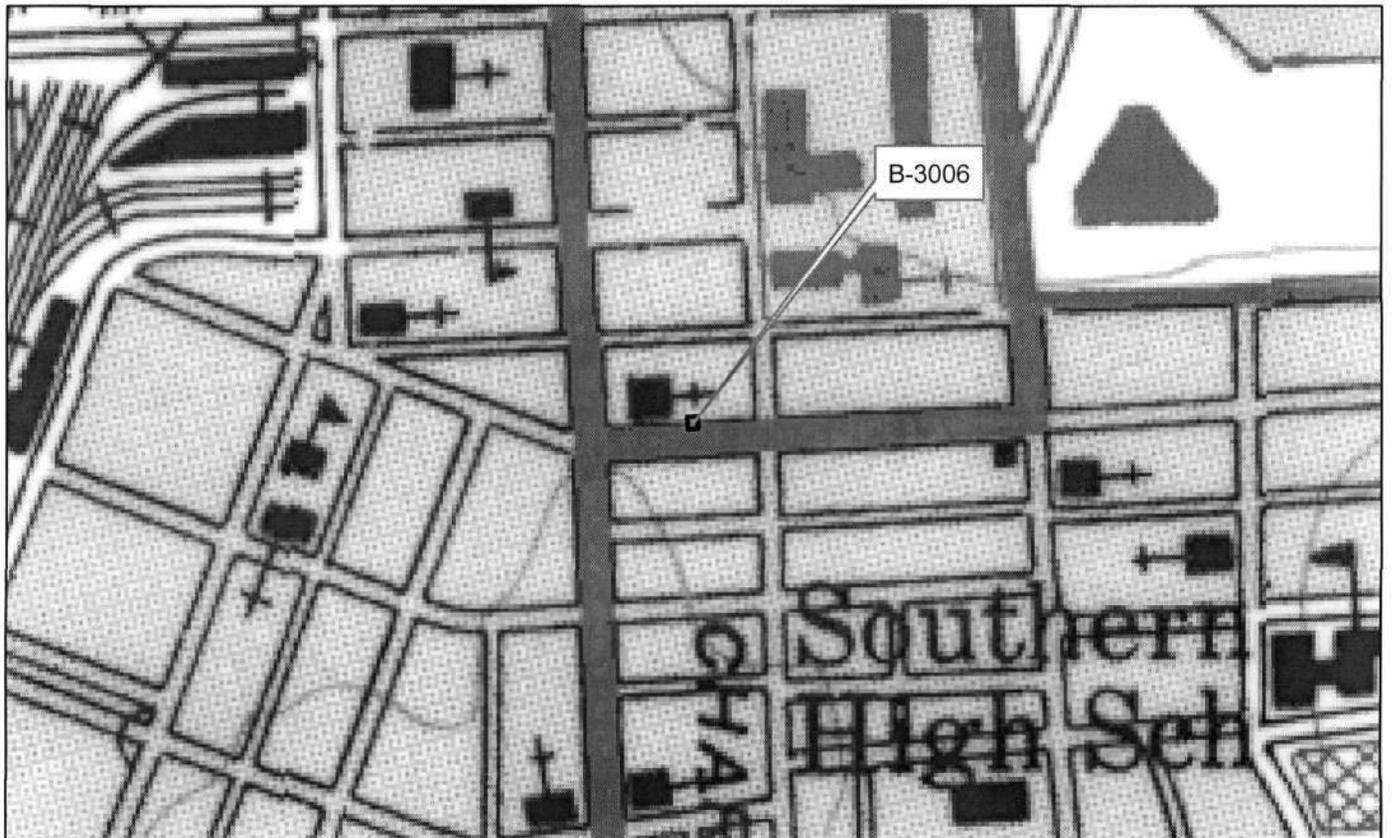
S. CHARLES

W. MONTGOMERY

ST.

B-3006

B-3006
4-6 W. Montgomery Street
Block 0895 Lots 020
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





B-3006

4-6 W. Montgomery St.

M.E.H.

4/79

South elevation