

B-3471 - B-3475

1953/c.1860-1870's

Cross St. Market/17-47 E. Cross St. (South side)

Baltimore, Md.

Public and private access

The current Cross St. Market building is a one story high, concrete block structure with flat roof that occupies that entire block between the north and south sides of Cross St., and between S. Charles St. on the west and Light St. on the east. The present building replaced the original market sheds and 1870's brick Market Hall which were destroyed by fire in 1951. 17, 43, 45, and 47 E. Cross St. are all three story, two bay wide brick buildings with shed roofs and bracketed cornices which currently serve a combined residential/commercial function. The houses are located along the south side of Cross St., south of the Cross St. Market and are the only surviving nineteenth century buildings in the block, the rows of similar houses that once lined the block having been destroyed in the 1951 Market fire. The buildings that replaced those destroyed in the fire are all one and two story modern commercial structures.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Cross Street Market

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

E. Cross St. between Charles and Light Streets

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mayor and City Council

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore

CITY, TOWN

Maryland

___ 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

B-3471

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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

The Cross St. Market presently occupies a modern concrete block structure that runs continuously from S. Charles St. on the west to Light St. on the east in the center portion of the block between the north and south sides of E. Cross Streets. The structure replaced an earlier frame market building which burned down in 1951, and a three story brick Market Hall which occupied the Charles St. side of the lot, and which was razed after the fire due to structural damage.

The market building is one story in height, about 530' long and 60' wide. It is constructed of concrete blocks with a brick facing on the Charles and Light St. facades. The roof is flat. A simple stone facing marks the cornice line on the Charles and Light St. facades, which also have a projecting semi-circular aluminum sign area which marks the entrance on each facade and provides shelter from the weather.

The Cross St. facades of the building are punctuated by wide windows composed of three sections of two-panel wide sash--the upper and lower panels of which are fixed, but the central four-panel sections of which are hinged so as to open inwards. The same type of windows are used on the Charles and Light St. facades--a central double window flanked by two single windows on each side of the entrances. The entrances have hinged glass and aluminum doors set beneath deep glass transoms. The entrances are reached directly from the sidewalk.

The interior of the market is divided into a central aisle flanked by two side aisles. Each stall owner has his own display cases and equipment, most of which are of a modern nature.

The original market built on this site was a simple affair constructed of wood with a shed roof and wooden posts supporting the roof eaves. The market was not enclosed and only canvas flaps separated the stall owners and customers from the elements.

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 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" 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		

SPECIFIC DATES 1953

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Cross St. Market has always played a crucial role in the Federal Hill/South Baltimore community. The market was founded in 1846 to meet the needs of the rapidly growing area south of the inner harbor and from that time on served as a spur to the commercial development of the area on nearby Charles and Light Streets, in addition to providing an impetus to extend the residential community ever further south of the Cross St. area.

The Market has served as a place of employment for many generations of local families, many newly arrived immigrants who had no other skills but could make a living by operating a market stall. Many of the families who still tend stalls are the descendants of earlier stall owners. The Market also provided an important recreational source for the community, the razed Market Hall containing a sports arena and place for dances and other such activities. The basketball teams which played in the old Market Hall are well-known locally and fondly remembered. Today, the modern market still serves its old function of acting as a community meeting place, where old and new residents of the area can get together and where generations of South Baltimore families shop and catch up on local gossip.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

DATE OF SURVEY

STATE OF MARYLAND

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

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust / Struever Bros. & Eccles

6/79

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1745 Circle Rd.

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Ruxton

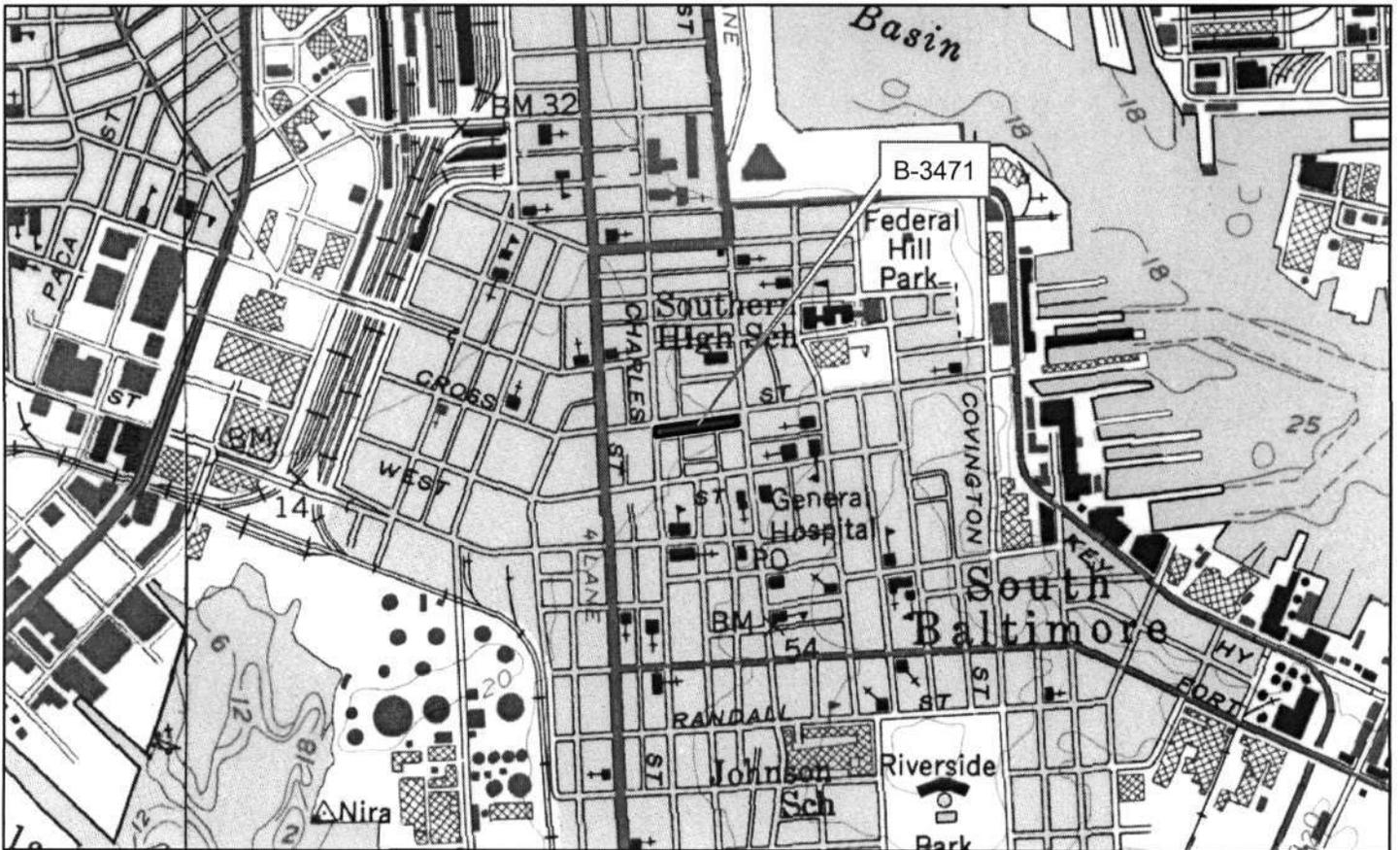
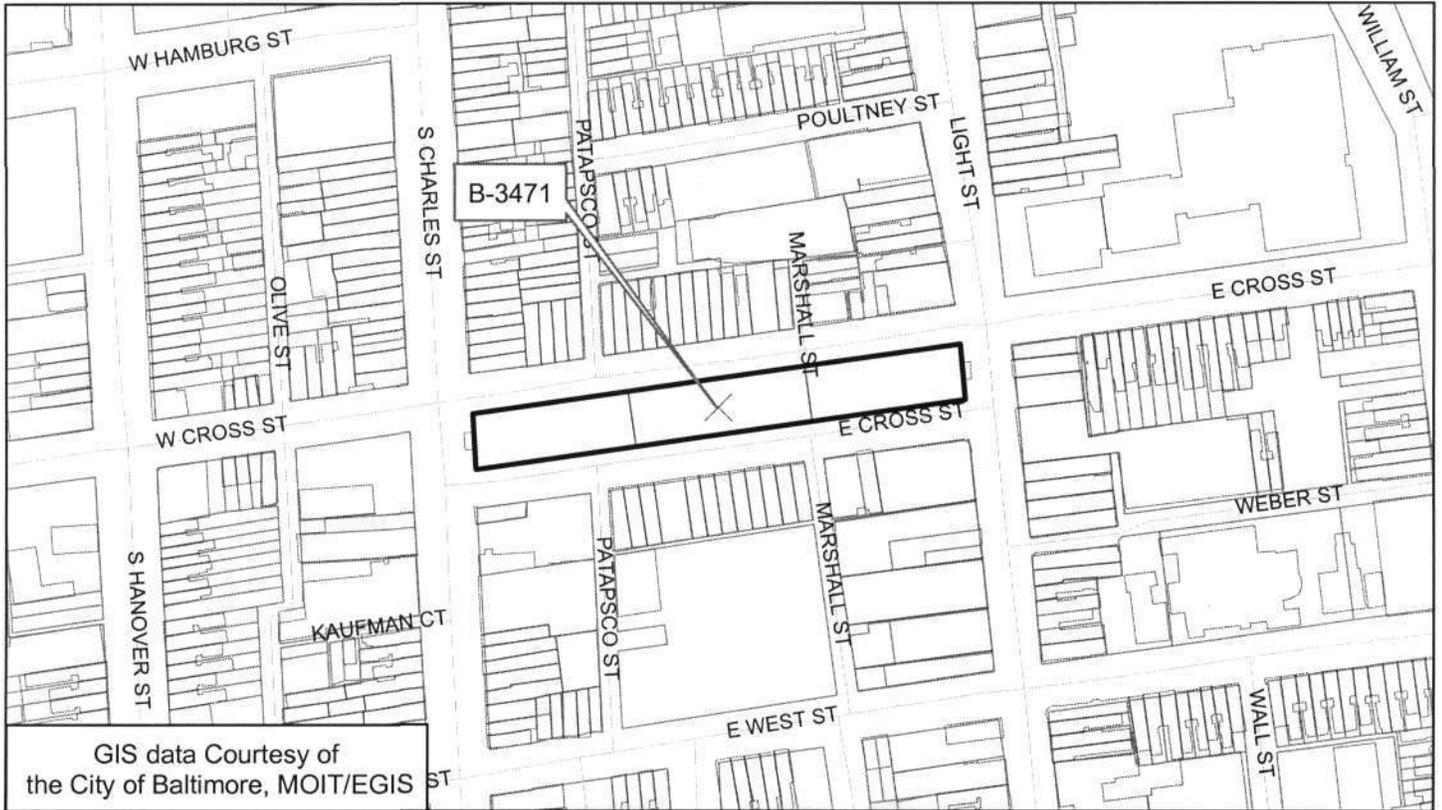
Maryland 21204

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

B-3471
Cross Street Market
1065 S. Charles Street
Block 0950 Lot 096
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





B-3471

Cross St. Market

M.E.H.

6/79

West and south elevations