

B-3594
FREMONT BUILDING
Baltimore
no access/public (U. Md.)

c 1905

The Fremont Building is a substantial, six-story brick warehouse constructed during the first decade of the twentieth century. The tripartite Fremont Street facade is articulated by a fenestrated basement; three segmentally-arched, recessed two-bay wide panels containing three floors lit by segmentally-arched windows; and an attic story crowned by a boxed cornice with plain fascia board executed in tin. Projecting brick beltcourses which form the boundaries for these divisions in addition to the arched panels and decorative terra cotta applied to the Lombard Street facade distinguishes this commercial structure from its neighboring lofts and warehouses of the same period.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes no

Property Name: Fremont Building Inventory Number: B-3594
 Address: 737 W. Lombard Street Historic district: yes no
 City: Baltimore Zip Code: 21201 County: Baltimore City
 USGS Quadrangle(s): Baltimore East
 Property Owner: State of Maryland Tax Account ID Number: 04090663001
 Tax Map Parcel Number(s): _____ Tax Map Number: 4
 Project: Red Line Corridor Transit Study Agency: Mass Transit Administration
 Agency Prepared By: John Milner Associates, Inc.
 Preparer's Name: Katherine Larson Farnham Date Prepared: 4/27/2011

Documentation is presented in MHT State Historic Sites Inventory Form (1979), NR Nomination for Gandy Belting Co. (B-4092), 1984; Maryland Real Property Tax database

Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended
 Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G

Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property

Name of the District/Property: _____
 Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: yes no Listed: yes no
 Site visit by MHT Staff yes no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

The Fremont Building is a large six-story brick commercial loft building. The building is faced with both pressed and common brick and has a shed roof. All of its windows have segmental arches and have been replaced with compatible dark green modern double-hung four-over-four thermal sashes. Its primary façade, facing north across Fremont Street, is five stories tall and has a symmetrical tripartite division, each of which contains three bays of windows. There are three segmental-arched storefront openings on the first floor, each containing tripartite fixed modern windows with transoms. The center opening has a modern door and all three openings have a stone keystone detail. Floors 2-4 are identical, with nine total bays of four-over-four windows, set in tripartite three-story recesses with segmental arches and keystone detail at the top. The top floor is marked by a series of projecting brick belt courses and features nine windows in three groups aligned with windows on the lower floors, and interspersed with terra cotta ornamental panels. The cornice is a tin-faced projecting boxed cornice with scalloped detail along the top ledge. The secondary façade on Fremont Street is in two sections, the larger of which is six stories fronting directly on Fremont Street, including a basement level, and the smaller of which has five stories and is recessed from the corner. The larger façade section is 11 bays long and the smaller is 4 bays long. The larger side has some ornamentation in the form of three 3-story segmental arched recesses on floors 2-4, each containing two bays of windows, plus projecting belt courses above and

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended
 Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G

MHT Comments:

Jim Zaluska
 Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

6/19/12
 Date

[Signature]
 Reviewer, National Register Program

6/19/12
 Date

below these recesses. There is a loading dock occupying the basement and first floor levels at the north end of this section. The east side of the building is unadorned and is divided into seven vertical sections of two bays each by full-height vertical buttress-like brick projections.

The Fremont Building was erected in 1906 to serve as the new factory and headquarters for the Carriage and Toy Company, a Baltimore-based manufacturer of dolls and baby carriages. The company moved from its previous location on the northeast corner of Calvert and Saratoga Streets. The Fremont building was designed by J. E. Laferty and constructed by Henry S. Ripple at a cost of \$40,000. J. E. Laferty was a local architect with a diverse portfolio. In addition to other warehouse buildings in the city, Laferty designed churches on North Avenue, row houses on Eutaw Place, and a cottage in Mont Alto.

By 1922, the Carriage and Toy Company had grown to become the third largest toy manufacturer in the United States, capable of producing 1,000 pieces per day. At that time, the company was operating three plants in the Baltimore area, and planned to open a fourth within the year. The Carriage and Toy Company was one of several Baltimore toy manufacturers that distributed products across the country. Other toy companies in Baltimore included the Statler Manufacturing Company, William Fuld & Sons, Maryland Toy Manufacturing Company, Atlas Doll and Toy Company, Chessler Company, Baumgarten & Company, and Rich Bros., Inc. The companies were dispersed across the city, from Madison Park to Canton, and products ranged from watercolor sets and pasteboard toys to kitchen cabinets and pool tables.

Despite its success, the Carriage and Toy Company gradually succumbed to mounting debt, and the Fremont Building was sold at public auction in 1927. In 1937, the building was being used as a warehouse for the Charles E. Bowers Co., and by 1939, the building had been purchased by Hecht's for use as a furniture warehouse. The 1951 Sanborn map shows the warehouse in use by the May Co. department store. The University of Maryland acquired the building in 1975, and it continues to function as part of the university today. The University has since adapted the building to meet its current needs. It has lost considerable integrity due to replacement of all of its original doors and fenestration with new materials, and warehouses originally located on Lombard Street east of the Fremont Building have been demolished.

The Fremont Building was evaluated under the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria A, B, and C using the guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation.

The Fremont Building is one of numerous loft-style brick warehouses constructed in this area of Baltimore during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It does not have any direct relationship with the Gandy Belting Company (B-4092) located immediately to the south across Lemmon St., which has been listed on the NRHP. The property's primary association is with the Carriage and Toy Company and the early 20th century manufacturing industry in Baltimore. Although its products were widely distributed, the company has not been shown to have made a significant contribution to important local, regional, or national historical events, technologies, or patterns. Although other toy manufacturers were present in Baltimore, the area around the Fremont Building was home to a range of business types, and the warehouses associated with these businesses are no longer extant. Additionally, the company is not associated with any ongoing tradition of toy making or similar industry in Baltimore City. Therefore the Fremont Building is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

Research has not shown the Fremont Building to be associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past, and it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B. Although attractive and well maintained, the Fremont Building is an average and non-distinct example of its type. In addition, it has undergone extensive renovations and lacks the architectural distinction and integrity necessary for listing on the NRHP. Therefore, the property is not eligible under Criterion C. The Fremont Building

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility not recommended _____
 Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments:

 Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

 Date

 Reviewer, National Register Program

 Date

was not evaluated under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Based on the evaluated Criteria, the Fremont Building is not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Works Consulted:

The Baltimore Sun. "Active at Owings' Mills." November 3, 1910: 4.

The Baltimore Sun. "Carriage and Toy Company in Hands of Receivers." July 13, 1934: 5.

The Baltimore Sun. "City Taking Prominent Place in the Manufacture of Toys." November 24, 1922: 15.

The Baltimore Sun. "Classified Ad 2." March 27, 1939: 16.

The Baltimore Sun. "Classified Ad 10." August 3, 1937: 19.

The Baltimore Sun. "Factories to be Built." January 25, 1906: 9.

The Baltimore Sun. "Plans for Moose Home." June 10, 1913: 15.

The Baltimore Sun. "Property Boom Spreads." August 6, 1905: 9.

The Baltimore Sun. "Real Estate Deals and Building News." June 10, 1927: 22.

The Baltimore Sun. "Slow in Fighting Fire." June 28, 1906: 12.

The Baltimore Sun. "To Cost Quarter Million." April 5, 1903: 6.

Freudenheim, Leslie M. "Appearances: Brass polish, fresh paint signal Eutaw renaissance." The Baltimore Sun, February 21, 1978: B1.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps: 1951.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

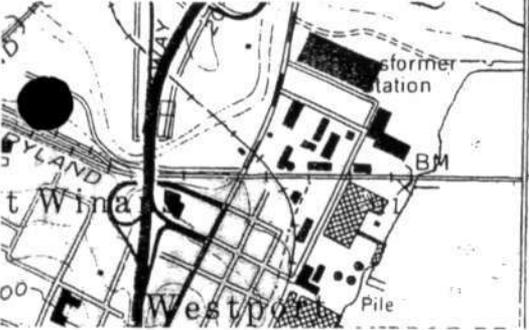


Fremont Building
737 W. Lombard St.
MIHP# B-3594

Baltimore West

Baltimore East

Baltimore East





UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
AT BALTIMORE

B-3594

Fremont Bldg.

Baltimore City, MD

Sarah Traub

12/14/2005

MD SHPO

Main facade, view to SE

1 of 3



B-3594

Front Building
Baltimore City, MD

Lynn Jones

12/29/2005

MD SLIP

Front Ave facade, to SE

2 of 3



B-3594

Fremont Building
Baltimore City, MD

Lynn Jones, JMA

12/27/2005

MD SHPO

East facade, to SW

3 of 3

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Fremont Building

AND/OR COMMON

Fremont Building, 737-741 West Lombard Street

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

737-741 West Lombard Street

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore City

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER not in use

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

State of Maryland/University of Maryland

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Office of University Planning, University of Maryland

CITY, TOWN

College Park

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland 20742

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Baltimore City Courthouse

Liber #: RHB 3205

Folio #: 647

STREET & NUMBER

Calvert & Fayette Streets

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

B-35941

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 Fremont Building, located at the corner of Fremont and Lombard Streets, is a substantial, six-story brick warehouse constructed during the first decade of the twentieth century.

The Fremont Building features two principal facades, facing Lombard Street and facing Fremont Street, which are nearly identical in formal configuration and decorative treatment. Along Fremont Street, the building is ten bays wide and five stories high atop a basement level. The building is divided horizontally into three sections: the basement level and first story are separated from the middle three stories by a brick beltcourse running continuously around the Fremont and Lombard facades; similarly the top story is separated from the middle three stories by a brick beltcourse of the same dimensions.

The facade is further broken up into zones by the vertical division of the middle three stories by means of two bay-wide recessed panels for the central six bays. These three recessed brick areas are characterized at the top by segmental arches, two courses deep (consisting of all headers) acting as larger lintels for each 2 window-bay composition. These segmental arches echo the smaller version of segmental arches which compose the lintels of each window on this and the rear facades. The fenestration on the Fremont Street facade consists of 6/6, double hung sash with slightly projecting stone sills.

At the basement story level on the Fremont Street facade the northwest corner is occupied by a freight entrance and a blocked up doorway, both of which extend from basement level halfway up through first story level. The remainder of the basement level contains, proceeding south from the above northwest corner, four equal-sized, smaller windows with the same segmental arched lintels and slightly projecting stone sills, another freight entrance doorway flanked by another regular door and at the southwest corner, another small window. The first story level contains eight windows as described above, with its northernmost two bays occupied by the aforementioned two doors.

The other stories above the first floor on the Fremont facade contain ten windows each. At third and fifth story levels the beltcourses provide a continuous sill for the windows above them. A boxed cornice with plain fascia board, executed in tin, crowns the composition and runs continuously around the Lombard Street facade as does the parapet wall.

The south facade of the structure faces another brick warehouse of similar vintage employing a similar motif of arcuated, recessed panels. This facade is plainer than the Fremont Street facade; basement windows are squater in proportion, and the windows of the top five stories are 4/4 double hung sash with the same segmental arched lintels and slightly projecting stone sills. NO beltcourses, cornice or recessed panels elaborate this facade.

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 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 c. 1905 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Fremont Building is located in an area of Baltimore, known as the "Loft District Urban Renewal area" which is located adjacent to and south/southwest of Davidge Hall. According to a report on the district compiled by the Commission on Historical and Architectural Preservation, "The Loft District Urban Renewal Area" contains the greatest concentration of warehouses, lofts and vertical manufactories, of the period 1850-1910, in the entire state." These buildings (see attached copy of the report) "outline the stylistic history of commercial building in Baltimore and trace the origins of modern architecture in capsule form".

This fine example of an early twentieth century warehouse, employes innovative design motifs such as decorative beltcourses and arcuated, recessed panels, to enliven its utilitarian appearance.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Report on "The Loft District Urban Renewal Area" by Commission on Historical and Architectural Preservation, City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland.

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

Ellen K. Coxe, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

12/79

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

(301)269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

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

CHAIN OF TITLE

Fremont Building
737 - 741 West Lombard Street

RHB 3205/647 2/10/75 Deed	From Helen M. Gordon to the State of Maryland, The University of Maryland.
RHB 3176/190 10/18/74 Deed	From United Estates, Inc. to Helen M. Gordon.
MLP 9885/143 8/23/55 Deed	From Charles E. Bowers to the United Estates, inc.
4773/159 7/18/27 Deed	From Mercantile Trust and Deposit of Baltimore and Mathilda Kohn, Trustees to Charles E. Bowers.
RO 2154/371 6/21/05 Deed	From Safe Depoist and Trust Company of Baltimore, Trustee, to Martin J. Kohn.
RO 2160/20 7/12/05 Deed	From Frank F. Darnell to Martin J. Kohn

Contained in a description of the lot on which the present Fremont Building stands is the following passage defining the boundaries:

"Being the premises known as Nos. 737, 739 and 741 West Lombard being and comprising the two lots of ground which by deed dated 21 June 1905 and 12 July 1905 and recorded respectively among Land Records of Baltimore in Liber RO No. 2154/371 and RO No. 2160/20 were granted and -onveyed respectively by the Safe Deposit and Trust Company of Baltimore, Trustee, and Frank F. Darnall to the said Martin J. Kohn and hereinafter described in one perimeter."

MEDICAL SCHOOL
TEACHING FACILITY

839

638

HOWARD HALL

826

8033

NORTH

ARCH

W. REDWOOD STREET

W. REDWOOD ST.

8032

828

REDWOOD
HALL

UNIVERSITY
PARKING
GARAGE NO. 1

827

ST. PAUL CEMETERY

INSTITUTE OF
PSYCHIATRY AND
HUMAN BEHAVIOR

819

652

CIDER ALLEY

651

STORAGE FACILITY

PENN ST. PARKIN

824

820

809

821

KELLY
MEMORIAL

8016

SCHOOL
OF
PHARMACY
DUNNING HALL

WHITE-
HURST
HALL

PARSONS HALL

FREMONT BLDG.

B-3594

831

8006

PENN STREET

W. LOMBARD

815

HUTZLER BROS.
WAREHOUSE

WEST
LOMBARD ST
PARKING

823

SCHOOL
OF
NURSING

833

SOUTH RECREATION
AREA

816

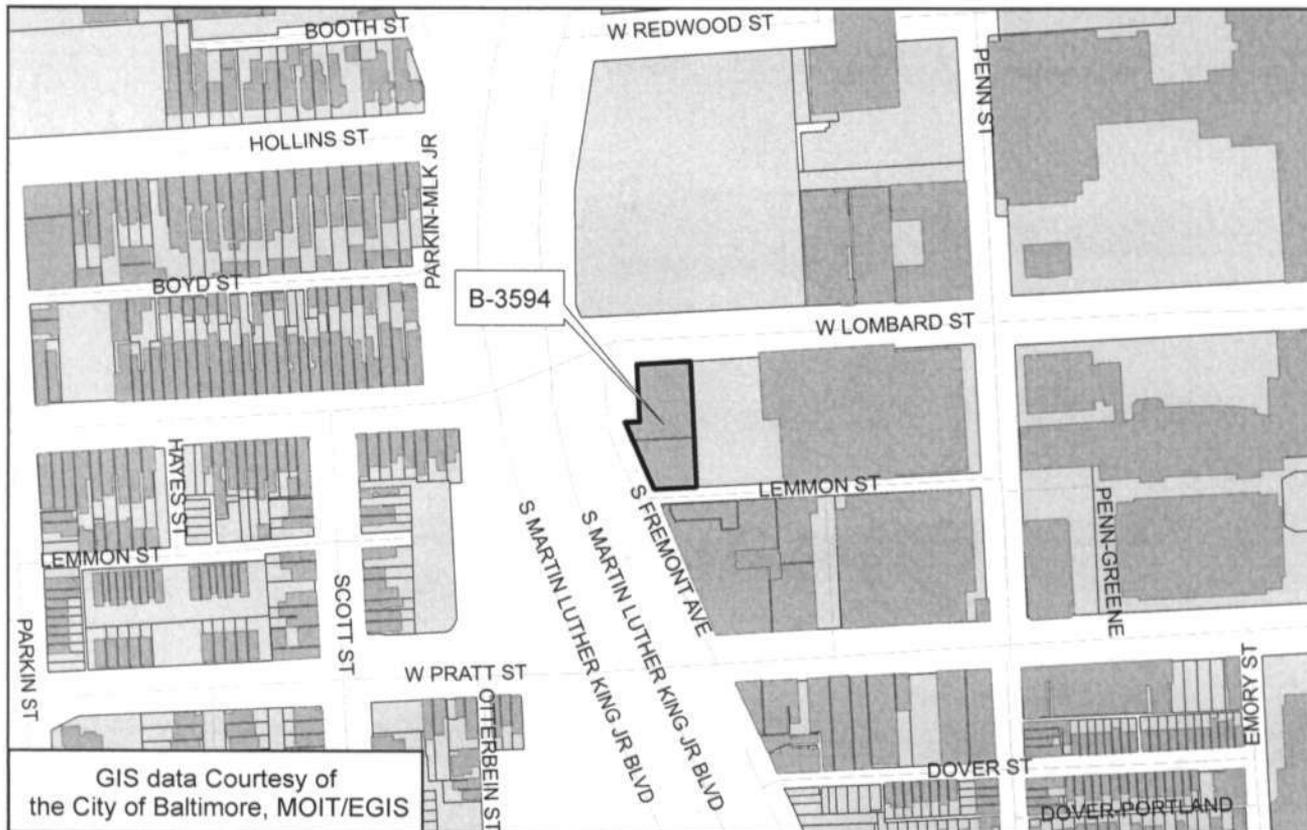
LEMMON ST.
PARKING

836

664

LEMMON STREET

B-3594
University of Maryland-Fremont Building
737-741 W. Lombard Street
Block 0663 Lot 001
Baltimore City
Baltimore West Quad





B-3594

Fremont Building
corner Fremont & W. Lombard Sts.,
Baltimore, MD
c. 1905
Southwest elevation.
12/79 E. Coxe