

CDBG SURVEY YEAR: 12

SURVEY NO.: B-3940

AREA: Oldtown

MAGI NO.: 0439405404

ADDRESS: 428-430-432-434 Colvin Street  
CURRENT NAME:



BLOCK:	LOT:	LOT SIZE:
HEIGHT: 2		MATERIALS: Brick & formstone
CONDITION: Fair		OWNER:
		ADDRESS:
USE: Vacant dwellings		ACCESSIBLE: Yes, restricted
DESIGNATION:		LIBER/FOLIO:

HISTORIC NAME:  
DATE: Ca. 1835  
ARCHITECT/BUILDER:  
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE):

**DESCRIPTION:**

The four adjoining two-story brick rowhouses were built about 1835 on the southwest side of Colvin Street between Ensor and Hillen Streets in Oldtown, east Baltimore, Maryland. The principal elevations face northeast. All four buildings have two bays, gable roofs, and single gabled dormers in the front slope of the roofs. Each first story opening has segmental arched door and window openings. Between Nos. 428 and 430 is a passage opening with a round arch. This is now partially filled with concrete block. The second story window openings have flat arches. Roofs are covered with composition sheets. The second story window frames on No. 428 have bull's eye corner blocks just below the corbelled brick cornice. No. 430 has a formstone facade and boarded openings. The doorway has a broken-pedimented Colonial Revival surround. No. 432 is the only building in the group without steps to the entrance. All its openings are completely boarded. Small cornice hoods are located above the second story windows just below the corbelled cornice. No. 434 is virtually identical to 432.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

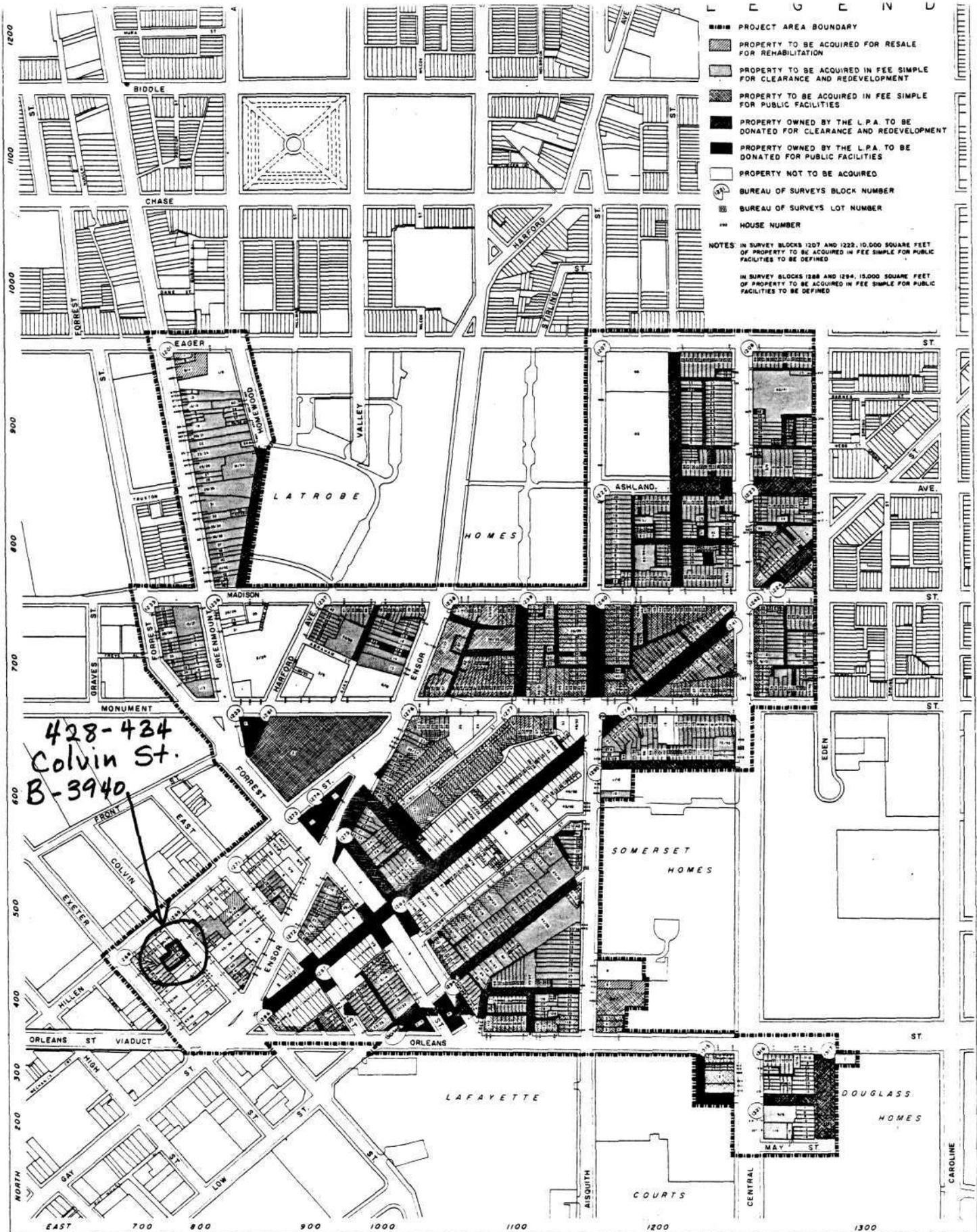
AREA: Architecture                      LEVEL: Local

The group of four rowhouses on Colvin Street is a remnant of the early development of Jonestown, which, with Fells Point, was one of the two initial settlements preceding the establishment of Baltimore. These houses date from about 1835, but Colvin Street, originally Union Street, was shown as fully developed on late 18th century maps. The street name changed several times, appearing in early 19th century maps as Potter and on the 1851 Poppleton updated map as Chesnut Street. By 1896, the street had been renamed Colvin. The street plan in Jonestown, now called Oldtown, reflects the original orientation to the Jones Falls rather than the strict grid plan of Baltimore as laid out by Poppleton in 1822. Somewhat higher in elevation than Fells Point and astride the turnpike routes to Philadelphia, Jonestown was, until the rapid development of Baltimore in the early 19th century, the preferred dwelling place of the merchant class and the center of urban activity. Although the Colvin Street group appears to date long after the rise of Baltimore as the urban center of the area, this type of substantial rowhouse continued to be built in Jonestown well into the mid-19th century.

SOURCES: Baltimore, S. Olson; Poppleton maps (1822; 1851); Bromley Atlas (1896) Sanborn  
SURVEYOR AND DATE: Janet L. Davis, CHAP, December 1986

L E G E N D

- PROJECT AREA BOUNDARY
  - PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED FOR RESALE FOR REHABILITATION
  - PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED IN FEE SIMPLE FOR CLEARANCE AND REDEVELOPMENT
  - PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED IN FEE SIMPLE FOR PUBLIC FACILITIES
  - PROPERTY OWNED BY THE L.P.A. TO BE DONATED FOR CLEARANCE AND REDEVELOPMENT
  - PROPERTY OWNED BY THE L.P.A. TO BE DONATED FOR PUBLIC FACILITIES
  - PROPERTY NOT TO BE ACQUIRED
  - BUREAU OF SURVEYS BLOCK NUMBER
  - BUREAU OF SURVEYS LOT NUMBER
  - HOUSE NUMBER
- NOTES  
 IN SURVEY BLOCKS 1207 AND 1228, 10,000 SQUARE FEET OF PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED IN FEE SIMPLE FOR PUBLIC FACILITIES TO BE DEFINED  
 IN SURVEY BLOCKS 1288 AND 1294, 15,000 SQUARE FEET OF PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED IN FEE SIMPLE FOR PUBLIC FACILITIES TO BE DEFINED



428-424  
 Colvin St.  
 B-3940

# OLDTOWN

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

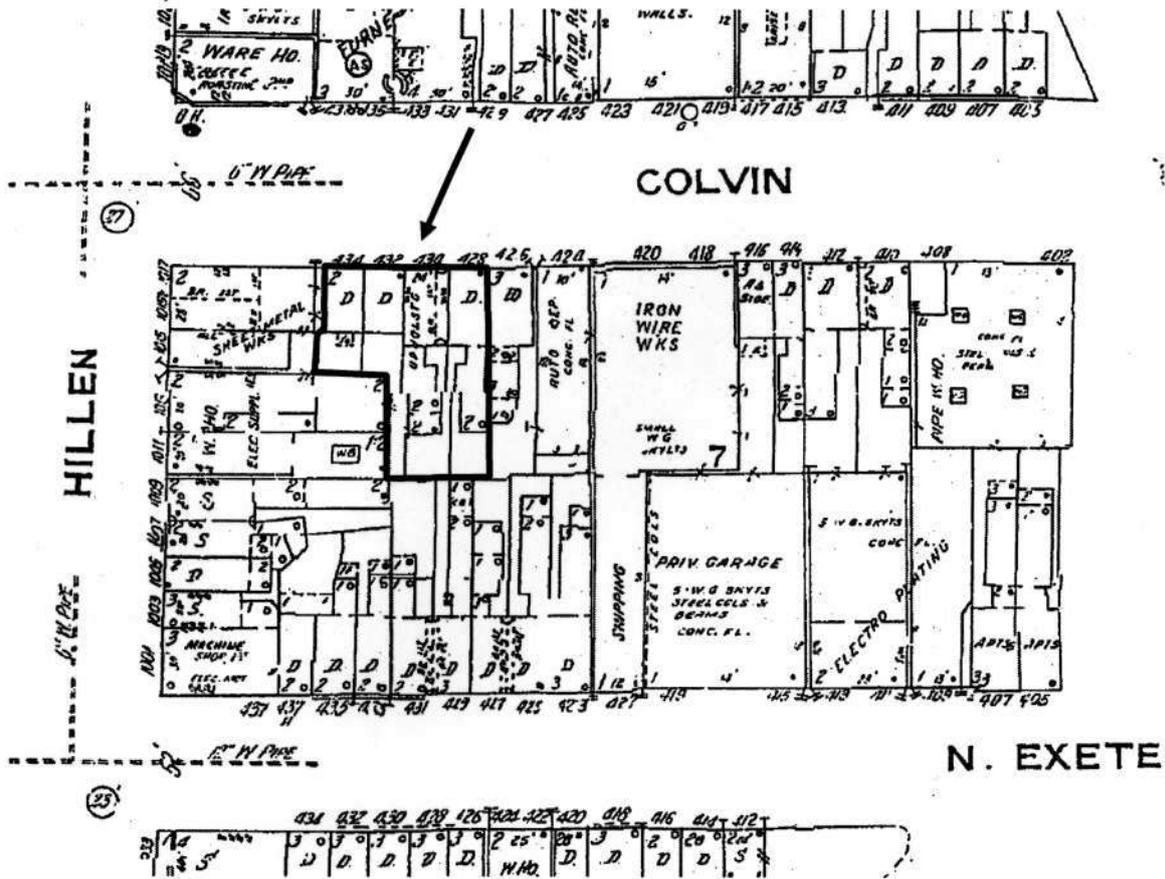


### PROPERTY ACQUISITION

DATE: 11/1/79	REVISION:	MO R - 51
DRAWN BY: SBC NTH	6/15/79	<b>3</b> EXHIBIT
APPROVED BY:	5/1/79	

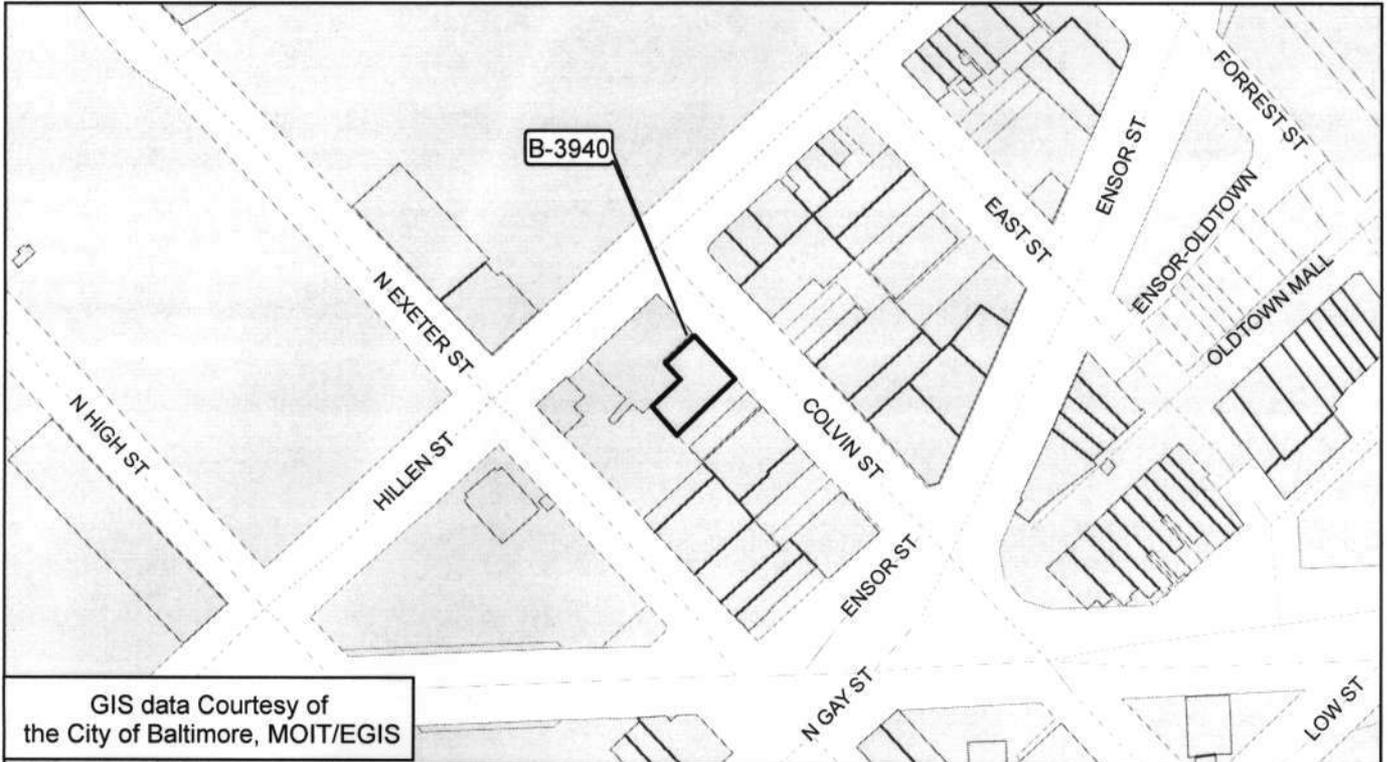
B-3940  
 428-434 Colvin Street, site  
 Sanborn Map 1914, reprinted 1953  
 Volume 1A, Sheet 13A

demolished

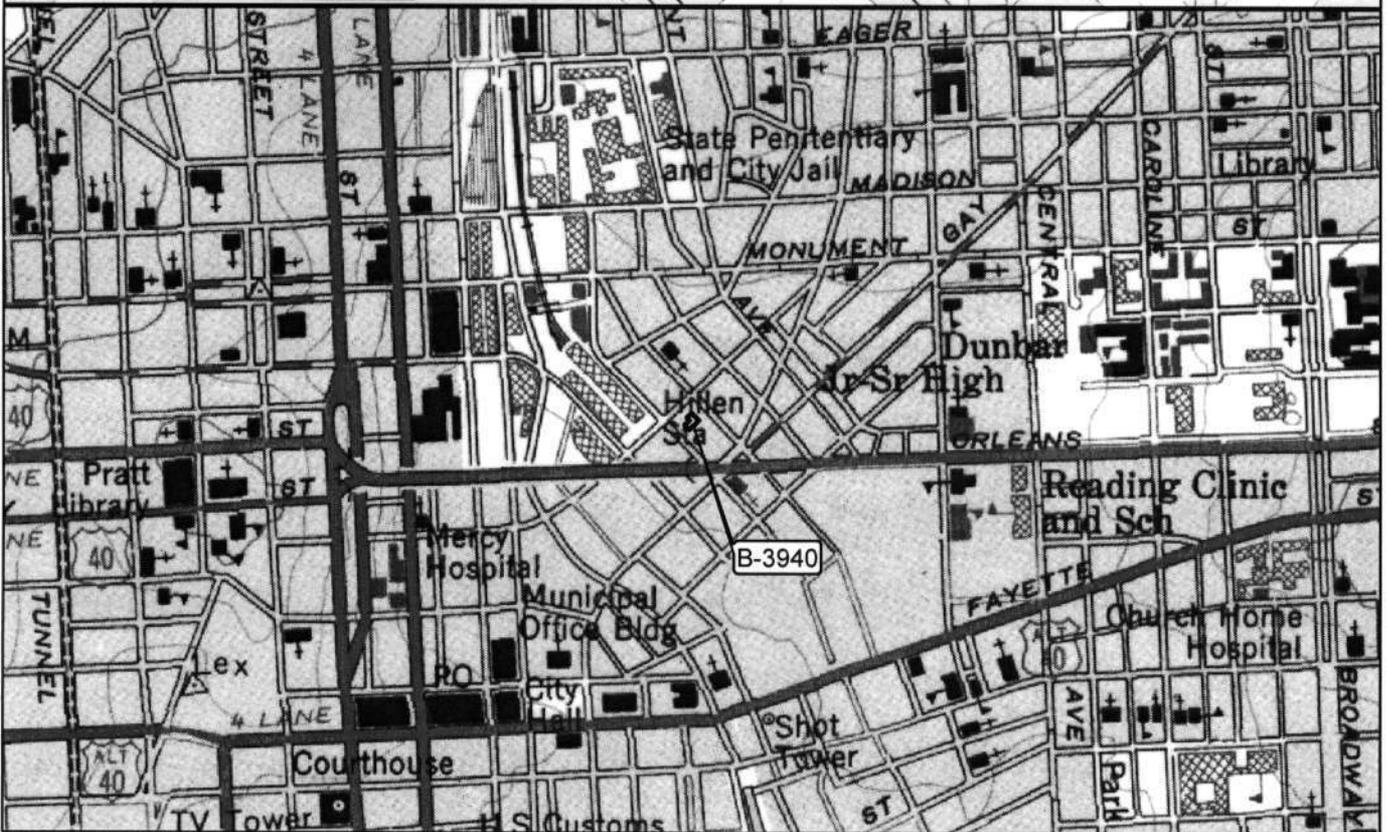


B-3940  
428-434 Colvin Street  
Block 1268, Lots 020-023  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad.

**Demolished**



GIS data Courtesy of  
the City of Baltimore, MOIT/EGIS





428-434 Colvin Street      B-3940  
Baltimore, Maryland  
Photo: Janet Davis  
Date: December 1986  
Neg. loc.: Maryland Hist. Trust  
Northeast elevations