FHR-8-300 (11-78)

B-3995

**United States Department of the Interior**
**Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only
received
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

## 1. Name

historic: Rieman Block

and/or common: Rieman Block

## 2. Location

street & number: 617-631 West Lexington Street — n/a not for publication

city, town: Baltimore — n/a vicinity of — congressional district: Seventh

state: Maryland — code: 24 — county: independent city — code: 510

## 3. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ___ district | ___ public | X occupied | ___ agriculture | ___ museum |
| X building(s) | X private | ___ unoccupied | X commercial | ___ park |
| ___ structure | ___ both | ___ work in progress | ___ educational | X private residence |
| ___ site | **Public Acquisition** | **Accessible** | ___ entertainment | ___ religious |
| ___ object | ___ in process | X yes: restricted | ___ government | ___ scientific |
| | ___ being considered | ___ yes: unrestricted | ___ industrial | ___ transportation |
| | X not applicable | ___ no | ___ military | ___ other: |

## 4. Owner of Property

name: see Continuation Sheet No. 1

street & number:

city, town: ___ vicinity of — state:

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: Baltimore City Courthouse

street & number: North Holliday Street

city, town: Baltimore — state: Maryland 21202

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title: Maryland Historical Trust Historic Sites Inventory — has this property been determined elegible? ___ yes X no

date: 1984 — ___ federal X state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records: Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town: Annapolis — state: Maryland 21401

OWNER OF PROPERTY

Current Owners: Messrs. Harry Merowitz, Morton L. Silberman and Philip Needle
505 Alex Brown Building
102 West Pennsylvania Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21204

Contract Buyers: Mr. and Mrs. Paul F. McKean (Margaret F.)
2919 Caves Road
Owings Mills, Maryland 21117

# 7. Description

| Condition | | Check one | Check one |
|---|---|---|---|
| ___ excellent | ___ deteriorated | ___ unaltered | X original site |
| X good | ___ ruins | X altered | ___ moved date n/a |
| ___ fair | ___ unexposed | | |

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

| Number of Resources Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|---|---|---|
| 8 | 0 | buildings |
| 0 | 0 | sites |
| 0 | 0 | structures |
| 0 | 0 | objects |
| 8 | 0 | Total |

Number of previously listed National Register properties included in this nomination: 0

Original and historic functions and uses: commercial, residential

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

Located on West Lexington Street at Pearl Street, southwest corner, the Rieman Block is a nineteenth century terraced brick commercial and residential block of three stories plus a mansard roof in height. The principal elevation (north), divided into four sections of two units each, has shop fronts on the first floor. The present appearance with Queen Anne influenced decorative detailing is the result of an 1880 building project that included construction of the two eastern sections and renovation of the western sections, which probably date from mid-century. The mansard roof, covered with slate shingles, is pierced by brick-faced-gable-roofed dormers and supported by a modillioned cornice above brick corbeling. The principal facades of the 1880 sections are three bays wide per unit with stone lintels and sills. The elevations of the older Lexington Street facades are two bays wide per unit with wooden sills and brick flat arches. The shop fronts date from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The interior space of each unit is arranged generally with a large and small room on the first floor, three rooms each on the second and third floors, and two under the roof. Access to the upper levels is gained through the interiors of the shops. The interior decorative detailing is generally simple with flat beaded boards with corner blocks as surrounds in the 1880 sections and architrave in the other parts. Slate mantels adorn the 1880 units and wood Greek Revival influenced ones in the earlier sections.

For General Description, see Continuation Sheet No. 2

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Rieman Block stands on the south side of West Lexington Street between Pearl Street on the east and Arch Street on the west in the Lexington Market area. The campus of the University of Maryland, mostly mid and late twentieth century buildings, stretches to the south and west and the Retail District to the east and north. The building consists of four terraced sections with two units each. The present Queen Anne influenced appearance is the result of an 1880 building program that included construction of the eastern sections, 617-619-621-623 West Lexington Street, and renovation of the western sections, 625-627-629-631 West Lexington Street, which appear to date from the mid-nineteenth century. The block is tied visually into one unit by a dormered mansard roof with a modillioned cornice above brick corbelling and late nineteenth to early twentieth century shop fronts along Lexington Street.

The upper levels of the Lexington Street facades of the eastern two sections, built in 1880, have three rectangular windows (all sashes appear to be missing) per floor with stone lintels and sills, stone belt sourses defining the window space, and brick corbeling above and below the third floor windows. A rectangular tower rises out of the corner of the third floor of the end unit, number 617, at Lexington and Pearl. Old photographs indicate the windows had two-over-two sashes.

Along Pearl Street (east elevation) the upper levels have fine rectangular windows (all sashes appear to be missing) with brick flat arches and brick belt courses. The first floor has a shop front that continues around from Lexington Street, a double-doored entrance with a rectangular transom below a decorative brick panelled segmental arch. A rectangular window with panelled shutters is located to the south of the entrance. The bricks are laid in stretcher bond. The name "Rieman Block" is inscribed on a stone in the beltcourse above the third story windows.

The upper facades of the western sections are two bays wide per unit. The windows, originally with four-over-four sashes, have brick flat arches and wood sills. The west end unit has a low tower in the roof. A stone inscribed "1880/Rieman Block" is located at the northwest corner between the second and third floors.

The west end of the block along Arch Street, which is essentially an alley, is devoid of decoration except for the remains of a painted advertisement for a druggist. The bricks are laid in common bond.

See Continuation Sheet No. 3

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The south or back elevation is a full four stories with two and three story els for the units except the easternmost unit which has the mansard roof effect and decoration that denote the street elevations. This elevation has a fairly regular placement of windows and doors. The openings in the 1880 sections have segmental arches. The window and door openings in the earlier sections are varied. On the first and second floors, the openings have segmental arches. The top two floors have rectangular openings with brick lintels on the third and wood lintels on the fourth. The fenestration arrangement of the fourth floor has one window per unit and the third floor has two windows per unit. A seam in the brick work separates 625-627 from 629-631 but only on the first, second and third stories.

The mansard roof which ties the units into one block is covered with slate shingles with decorative bands of decorative shingles.

The first floor shop interiors are an open plan from front to rear, all have stairways to the living units above with the exception of #627 and the east corner shop, #617. Each shop also has its own basement with stairway; again, with the exception of the previously mentioned corner shop has access to the basement from the outside on Pearl Street side of the block, or east side.

The interiors of the living areas on the second, third and fourth floors in both the 3 bay units (617-623) and 2 bay units (625-631) are of the classic row house plan; first floor of living unit has a living room extended across the entire front of the building with the dining room in the center and the kitchen in the rear. Stairways to floors above and from shop below are placed in the center of the plan between rooms depending on the style of the plan.

The third floor sleeping rooms have the same configuration as the floor below.

The fourth floor layout steps in from the rear to the rear wall of the center room of the floor below, thus giving the top floor 2 sleeping rooms per unit, with the exception of the most eastern unit, #617, which follows the configuration of the floor below with a full three room configuration.

The interior architectural details on the second, third and fourth floors of the Rieman Block are modest in character but are all fairly intact and appear to be remarkably unaltered over the years. The first floor area, however, of all the units, 617-631 have been substantially altered as their particular commercial uses have changed. With the exception of the storefronts, little of the original fabric remains on the first floor. The following is a listing of the significant interior features as they now exist.

See Continuation Sheet No. 4

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

1) The storefronts: In the northeast corner of 617, the outline still remains of the original corner entrance. Most of the entrance vestibule tile is still evident. In units 619-623, the original storefronts are clearly visible from the interiors. In each case, the raised platform portions of the store window is still present. In unit 623, the original interior glass doors from the store window into the shop behind are still in working condition. The storefronts in the smaller 2-bay buildings, 625-631 have undergone more adjustments over the years. The storefront to 627 is, in fact, all but gone. The supporting column for it and the adjacent structure, 629, have been removed and replaced with a different structural system.

2) Fireplaces: On the upper floors of the buildings there are several existing fireplaces. In the larger units, 617-623, the fireplaces in the main front room (or living room) on the second floor all have existing stone hearths. Although several of the mantels and surrounds are missing, those that remain are typical of the period, i.e., black slate mantel with marbelized slate surround. The slate surround forms an arch over the fireplace masonry opening. On the third and fourth floor of the building there are no full fireplaces, evidence exists of openings into the flue where wood or coal stoves were probably connected. There are several existing fireplaces in buildings 625-631 on the second and third floors. In these buildings, however, the fireplaces are less ornate as they have a single brick hearth (in running bond) and plain wood surround and mantel.

3) Wall Finish: All the interior walls and ceilings in the Rieman Block are plaster on wood lath. In most cases, when the plaster is on an interior wall it is in fair condition. There is cracking evident and some deterioration, however most of the plaster is still firmly held to the supporting wall. Exterior wall conditions, however, are less stable and there is much greater evidence of the plaster cracking and coming loose from the wall. Almost all of the ceiling plaster has extensive cracks or noticeable damage. As the existing roof is in poor condition, much of the ceiling plaster on the upper floors and on the ceilings of the second and third story rear portions show some rear damage. In some cases, entire ceilings have fallen.

4) Skylights: There are three existing light monitors or skylights, one each above the main stair in 619, 623 and 625 respectively. They appear to be in good condition, fully glazed and watertight. The skylights are approximately 3' square and have two sloping sides of glass. The inside face of the light-well directly below each skylight is finished in a beaded board, set vertically.

See Continuation Sheet No. 5

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

5) Floors: All the floors in all the buildings appear to be identical. All are a fairly soft wood, probably pine, tongue and grooved, set in a north-south pattern directly over the supporting joists. The floor in general appears to have been left unfinished or possibly stained. Several floors have been painted. Most of the wood floors are in fairly good though weathered condition. There are several isolated areas where there is severe deterioration from water infiltration, vandalism or fire in particular. The floors on the 2nd and 4th floors rear of building 617, third floor rear of units 619-623, and 2nd and 3rd floor rear of 625-627 are in poor condition.

6) Stairways: The existing stairways in the 4 larger units, 617-623 are in excellent condition. The stairs are solid with only minimal wear evident. The first to second floor stair is missing in building 617, however, in 619-623 this stair is present and extends from directly behind the storefront, along the east wall, through a section of three winder treads, to the second floor. From this point on up to the fourth floor, the stair changes directions to a 'switch-back' stair with landing. The stair rail is unpainted mahogany, with turned-spindle pickets and decorative round newell. In general, all stair elements are in good condition and all intact in units 619-623. The stairways in building 625-631 are less grand, and certainly less prominent than those in the 4 larger buildings. In buildings 625-631, all stairs from the first to the second floor are in the rear section of the building. The stairs to the upper levels become more narrow as they continue to the top floor. These upper level stairs are quite steep, with narrow wooden tread.

7) Moldings: None of the buildings in the Rieman Block group have elaborate molding or trim. As with other architectural features, buildings 617-623 are somewhat more ornate but what there is, is limited to door and window casing and baseboard. There is no wainscot, crown molding or chair rail. The window trim in buildings 671-623 is a 5" wood molding with an 'o-gee' profile at the center and square ends. Window trim in the smaller building, 625-631, is a simple 4" wood molding with an inside beaded edge. This 4" molding with beaded edge is typical for all interior doors throughout the eight buildings.

# 8. Significance

B-3995

| Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ___ prehistoric | ___ archeology-prehistoric | ___ community planning | ___ landscape architecture | ___ religion |
| ___ 1400–1499 | ___ archeology-historic | ___ conservation | ___ law | ___ science |
| ___ 1500–1599 | ___ agriculture | ___ economics | ___ literature | ___ sculpture |
| ___ 1600–1699 | X architecture | ___ education | ___ military | ___ social/ humanitarian |
| ___ 1700–1799 | ___ art | ___ engineering | ___ music | |
| X 1800–1899 | X commerce | ___ exploration/settlement | ___ philosophy | ___ theater |
| X 1900– | ___ communications | ___ industry | ___ politics/government | ___ transportation |
| | | ___ invention | | ___ other (specify) |

**Specific dates** 1880 **Builder/Architect** unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Applicable Criteria: A, B, and C
Applicable Exceptions: none
Level of Significance for Evaluation: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The Rieman Block is significant architecturally as an example of a type of nineteenth urban structure that is unusual for the Lexington Market area in Baltimore. In the years following the Civil War, this section of the city which was once primarily residential rapidly developed into a commercial center focused on the market. Row houses were converted for commercial use on the first floor and residential above. New buildings were generally simple. The Rieman Block, although it appears to incorporate older buildings, stands out because it is elaborate compared to the others. The structure also achieves significance from association with Joseph Rieman (1822-1898) for whom the block was developed. Rieman was a real estate developer and member of the boards of several corporations.

For History and Supporting Documentation, see Continuation Sheet No. 6

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Joseph A. Rieman, the son of Henry Rieman, was born in 1822. At a young age he took charge of his father's packing and provision interest at their western branch in Cincinnati. Joseph Rieman was a grandson of Daniel Rieman, a Hessian soldier who came to America to fight for the British during the Revolution. He stayed after the war and, with Basil Warfield, established the first sugar refinery in Baltimore. Joseph's father first gained his wealth in that refinery and later, when Joseph took charge of his father Henry's enterprises, he also became a wealthy and influential citizen. Among other things he is remembered as: sending the first telegram from Cincinnati to Baltimore, about 1845; a president of the Baltimore Passenger Railway Company, Savings Bank of Baltimore, and Commercial and Farmer's National Bank; a director of the B&O and Northern Central Railroads; and a member of the Committee of Five, which encouraged industrial development in Baltimore in the latter half of the nineteenth century. After he retired from the packing and provision business in 1870, known as Henry Rieman & Sons, he devoted some of his time to real estate, including the construction of the Rieman Block.

In April of 1880, Joseph Rieman began accumulating land at the southwestern edge of Lexington Market for a block long commercial/residential development. By September, he succeeded in obtaining a building permit for the construction of Rieman Block. The property was an extremely valuable piece of real estate since it was located diagonally from one of the Lexington Market sheds. Lexington Market is the City's oldest and most famous public market, established in 1782. Many stores and hotels had sprung up around the market in the early nineteenth century, but Rieman Block is the most elaborate rowhouse group to be developed in conjunction with the Lexington market place. It continued to be owned by Rieman heirs until 1952.

In 1887, Henry Rieman and Sons moved into the field of investments, calling themselves capitalists in directories and remained active in the firm until 1898 on death of Joseph, then Joseph's son, Charles E. took over. It became a real estate firm in the 20th century.

Rieman Block is architecturally significant as one of the few large rowhouse groupings in this portion of downtown Baltimore and for its elaborate styling. Mansard roofs and terra cotta decoration are unusual for this area which is generally comprised of small row groupings and buildings with little ornamentation. According to Dr. Martha Vill, of the Geography Department of the University of District of Columbia, to build a row grouping with a row of shops on the first floors and residential units above is very rare. The more common plan at this time was to build a row house grouping and one shop on the first floor of one corner of the row. The units closer

See Continuation Sheet No. 7

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

to the market are larger and more decorative than the units which step down toward West Baltimore. It was surely built to attract high quality businesses to the important Lexington Market retail area, which was experiencing a post-civil-war boom, as well as better than average housing units on the upper levels. Early tenants, about 1886, of the first floor shops were milliners, stationers, and costumers. According to the City Directory, these carriage trade retailers lived above the shops. Later, the early 1900's, came retail tradsmen in tea and coffee, shoes, wallhangings and provisions.

In the middle of the 20th century, Baltimore's retail district declined and buildings, such as Rieman's Block, had deteriorated. However, plans exist today to revitalize the area and to rehabilitate Rieman Block will once again play an important role in this area, one hundred years after it was first constructed. Its significance to this revitalization is further enhanced because according to Barry Dressel, Assistant Director of the Peale Museum, Fred Shoken, Research Analyst at the Commission for Historic and Architectural Preservation, the Rieman Block is the only one of its kind extant in Baltimore; a terraced rowhouse grouping built as first floor shops with living units above.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Maryland Historical Society - Wood's City Directory 1882, p. 734
published by John H. Woods, 12 South Street, Baltimore.

- Polk's City Directory 1885, p. 1084
published by Patriot Publishing Co., Printer, Harrisburg, Pa.

- Who's Who in Maryland, Vol. 1, 1939, p. 736
Compiled and Edited Under the Direction of Albert Nelson Marquis, pub. The A. N. Marquis Co. Chicago, Ill., 1939.

Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation, Baltimore, City Hall

- American Architecture Magazine, Vol. 8
July-Dec. 1880, p. 23 & p. 131.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

B-3995

See Continuation Sheet No. 7

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .175 acre

Quadrangle name Baltimore, West, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

| | Zone | Easting | Northing |
|---|---|---|---|
| A | 18 | 359840 | 435014 0 |
| B | | | |
| C | | | |
| D | | | |
| E | | | |
| F | | | |
| G | | | |
| H | | | |

**Verbal boundary description and justification** The property consists of the city lots on which the resource stands and is bounded on the north by Lexington Street, the east by Pearl Street, the south by an alley, and the west by Arch Street.

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

| state | code | county | code |
|---|---|---|---|
| n/a | | | |
| | | | |

## 11. Form Prepared By

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| name/title | Jean T. Crolius | | |
| organization | Jean T. Crolius Associates | date | January 1984 |
| street & number | 218 West Lanvale Street | telephone | (301) 462-2971 |
| city or town | Baltimore | state | Maryland 21217 |

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state X local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature [signature] 5-3-84

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

**For HCRS use only**

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

date

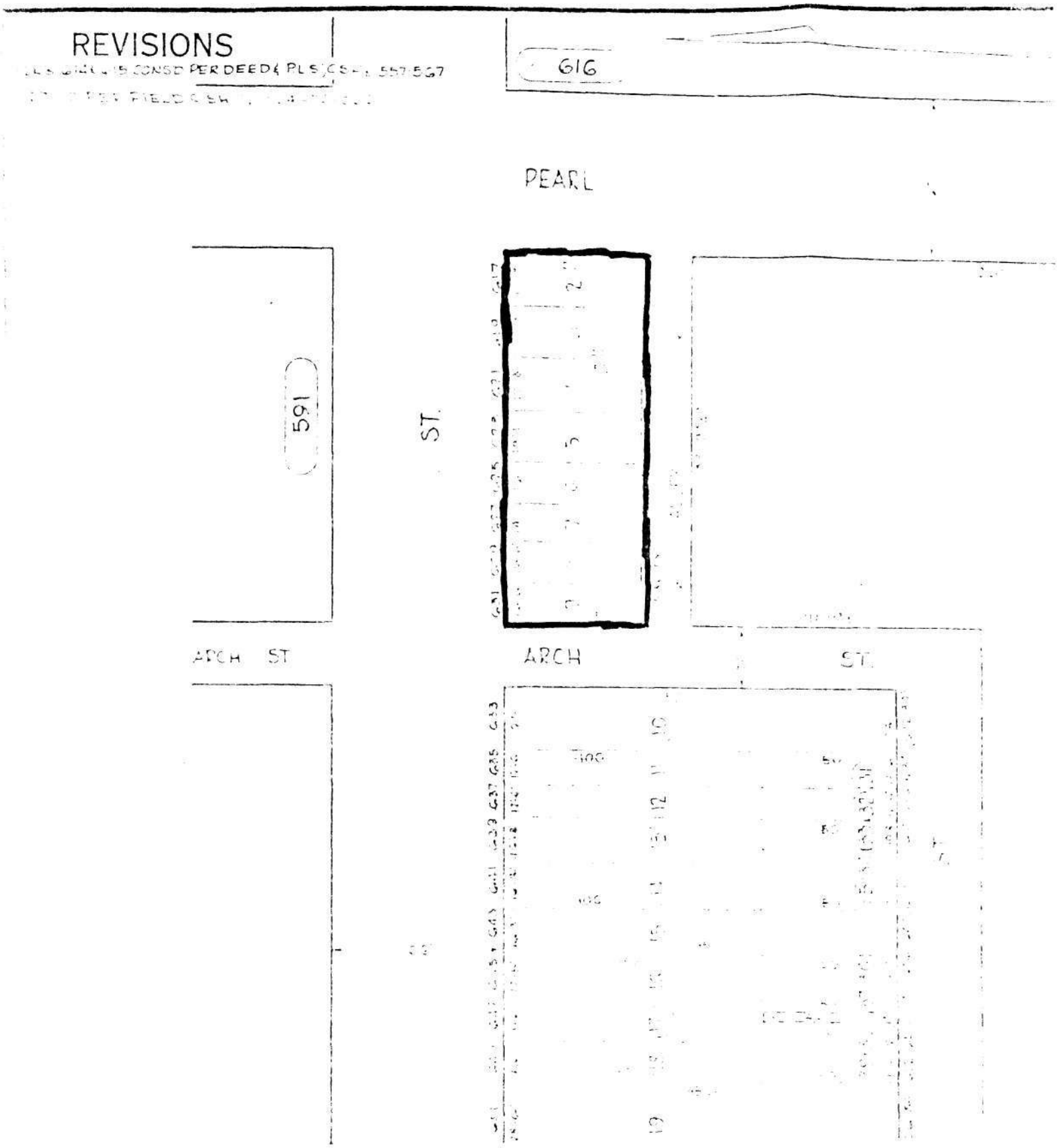
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

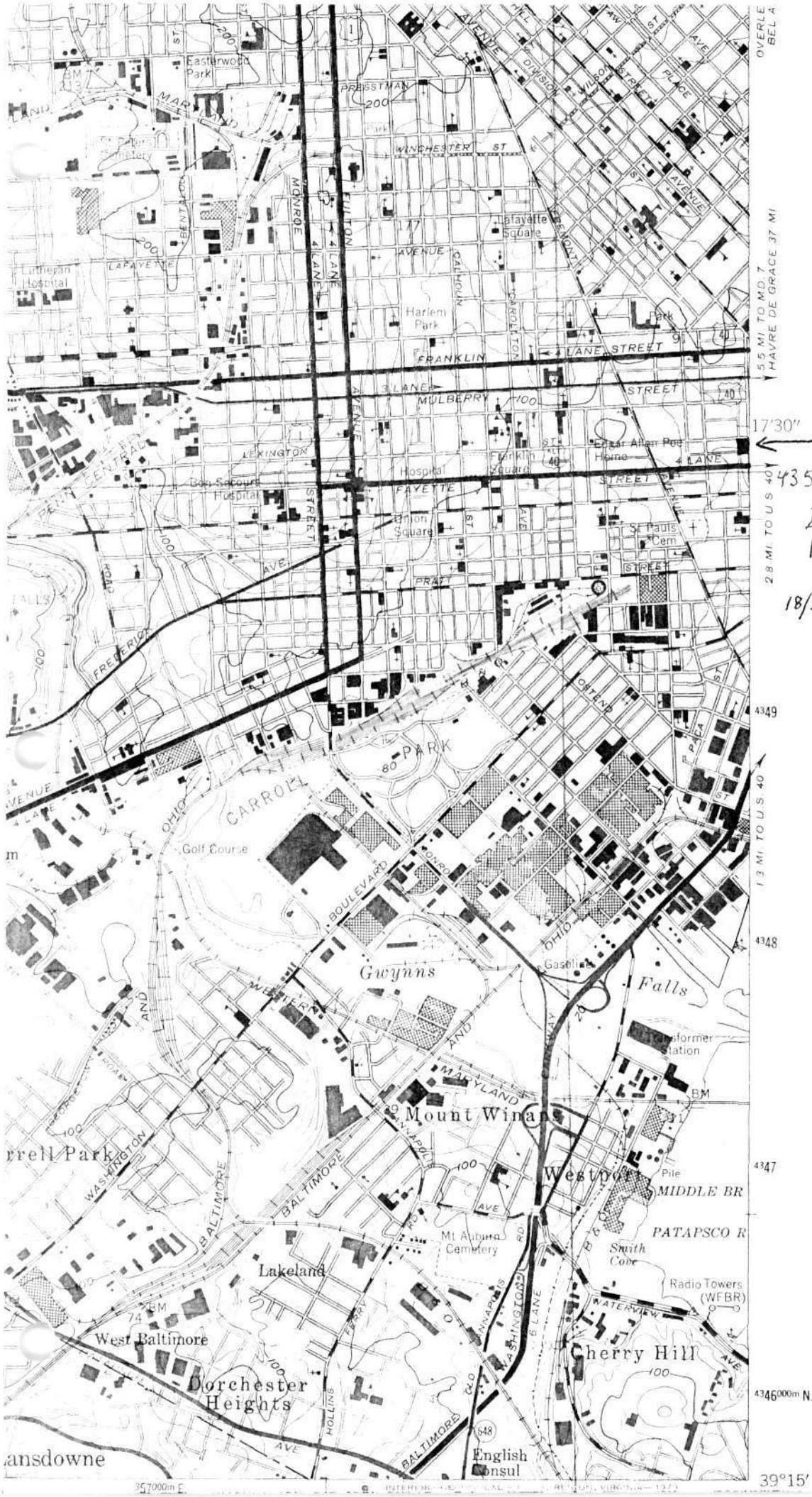
Chief of Registration

Rieman Block
Baltimore city
Maryland

property boundaries, 1984



B-3995




RIEMAN BLOCK

Baltimore
Maryland

18/359840/4350140

016558. LEXINGTON MARKET, BALT
COPYRIGHT 1903 BY DE
TEA & COFFEES

B-3995
1 RIEMAN BLOCK
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Unknown
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 1903
6 West view over demolished sheds of
Lexington Market from Green Street
7 Old Photo #1 of 68

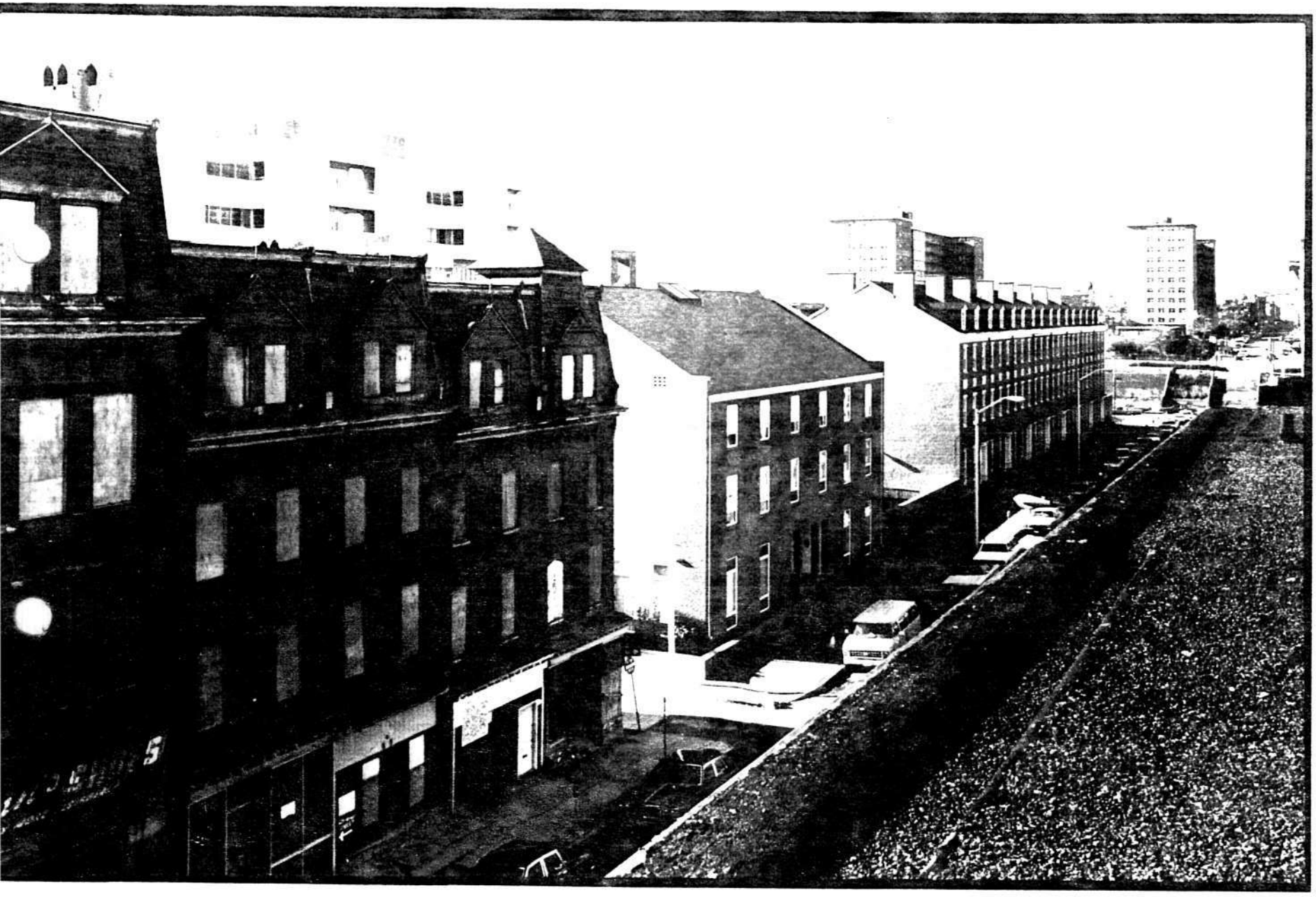
WHOLESALE & RETAIL
ECONOMY FOOD PRODUCTS
PHILLIPS BROS
GINGER ALE
NOVELTIES
Dunn's SHOES
BAKERY

B-3995

1 RIEMAN BLOCK
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Unknown
4 Negative held by Paul McKean
5 Approximately 1950
6 View looking Southwest
7 Old Photo #2 of 68

FOR
RENT
Phone
LE 9-2284

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Unknown
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 1960 ±
6 Bobo's Fish Market - #627
7 Old Photo #3 of 68

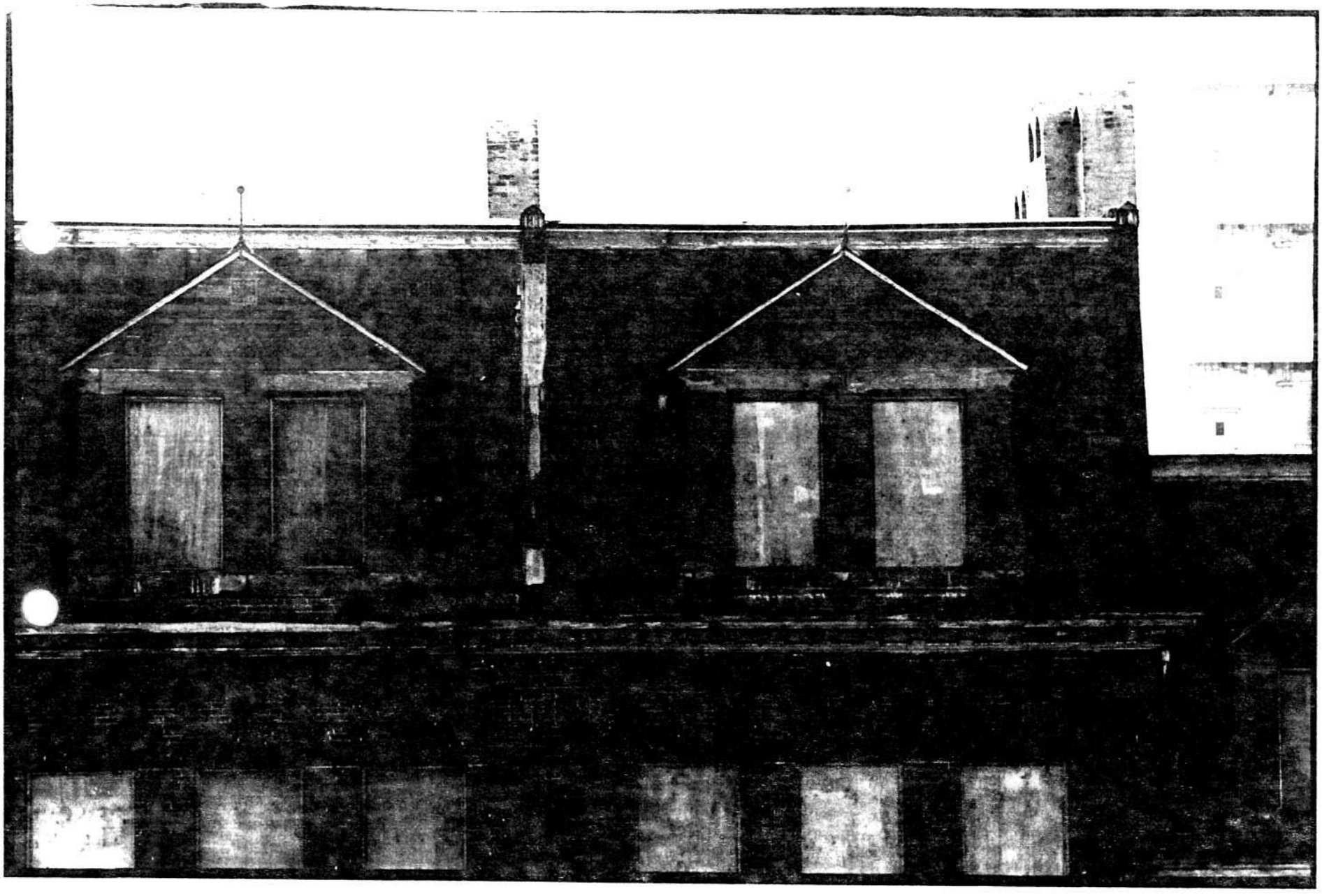


1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 December 14, 1983
5 Negatives held by Paul McKean
6 View looking West along Lexington Street
(includes Ronald McDonald House & Pascault Row)
7 Roll 1 #4

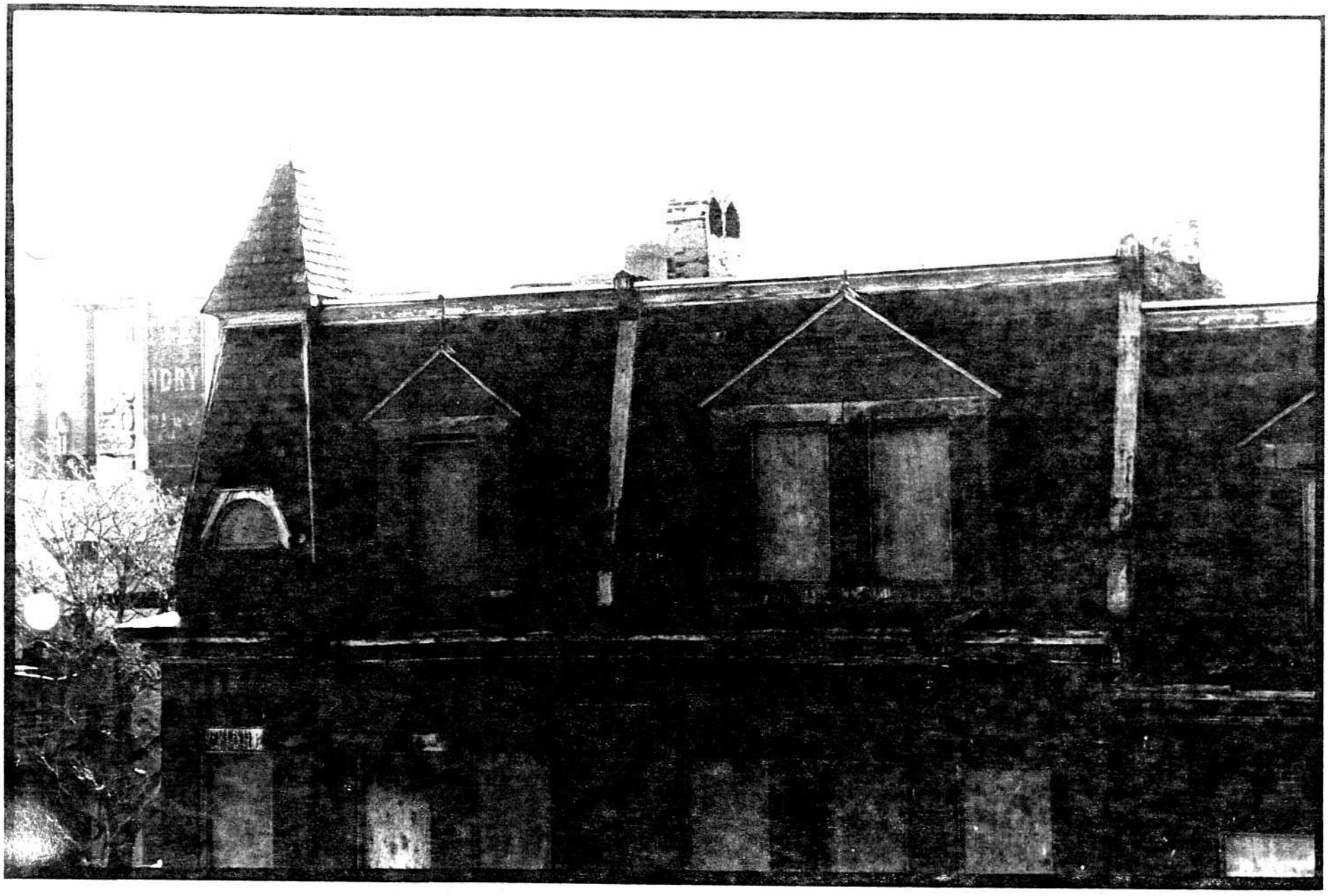
Something Good

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 December 14, 1983
5 Negatives held by Paul McKean
6 View looking East along Lexington Street
toward Lexington Market
7 Roll 1 #7

5 of 68



1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 December 14, 1983
5 Negatives held by Paul McKean
6 North elevation of Dormers at #621 & #623
7 Roll 1 #10


DRY

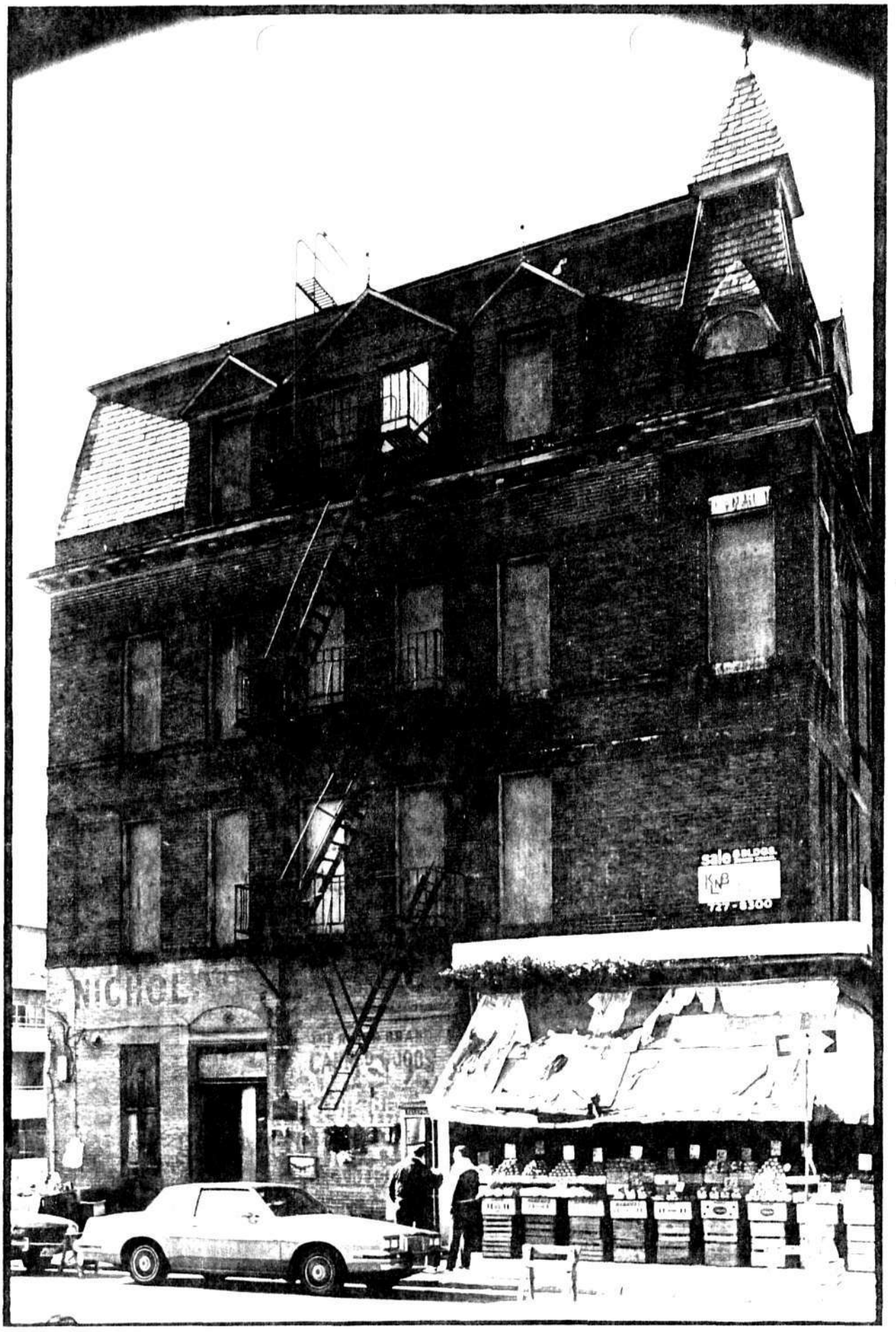
1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 December 14, 1983
5 Negatives held by Paul McKean
6 North elevation of Dormers at #617 & #619
7 Roll 1 #11

NICHOLA
J+L Boot
Frostie

B-3995

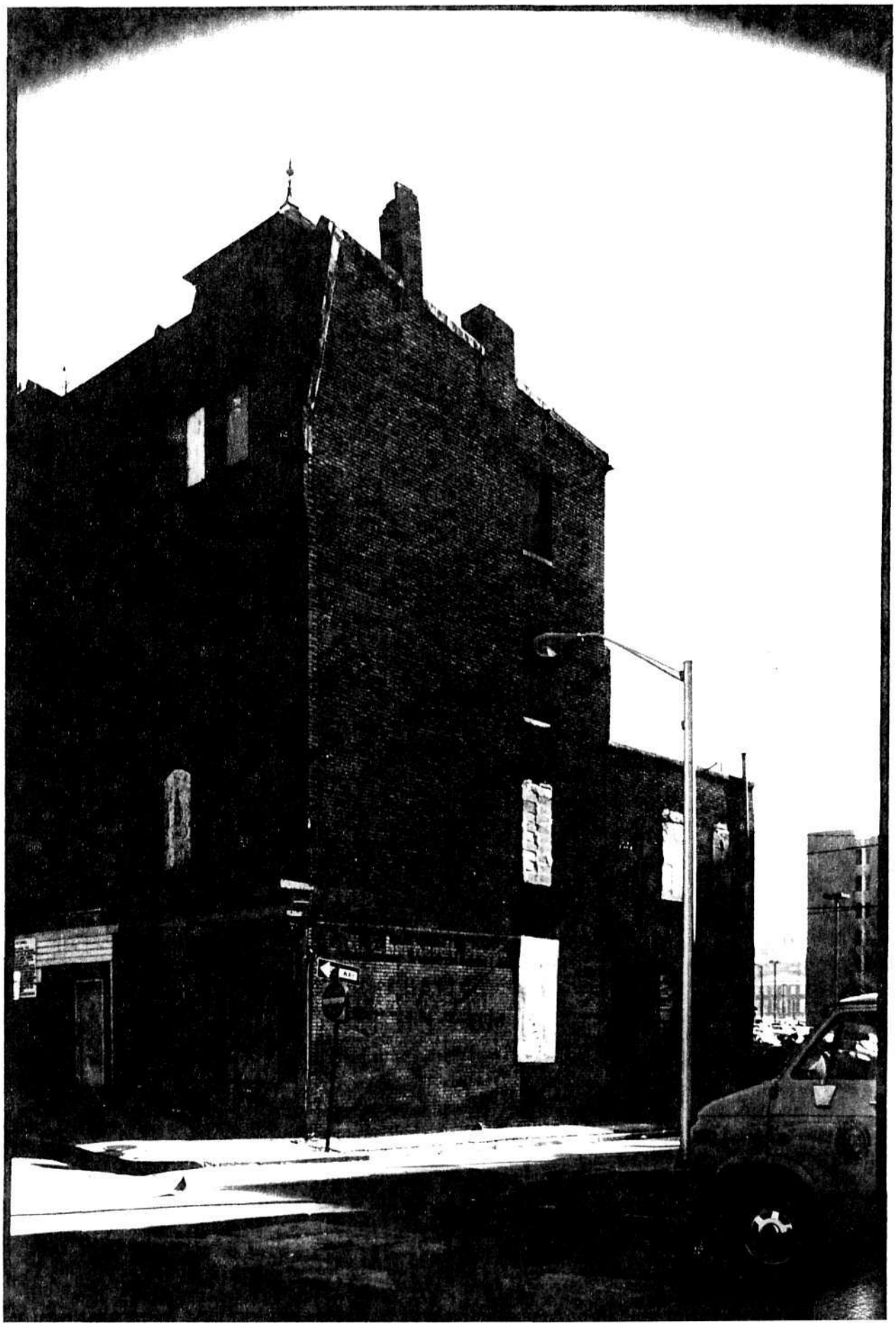
1 RIEMAN BLOCK
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 December 14, 1983
5 Negatives held by Paul McKean
6 Northeast corner of Rieman Block
7 Roll 1 #13

8 of 68


sale
727-8300

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 December 14, 1983
5 Negatives held by Paul McKean
6 East Elevation of #617
7 Roll 1 #16

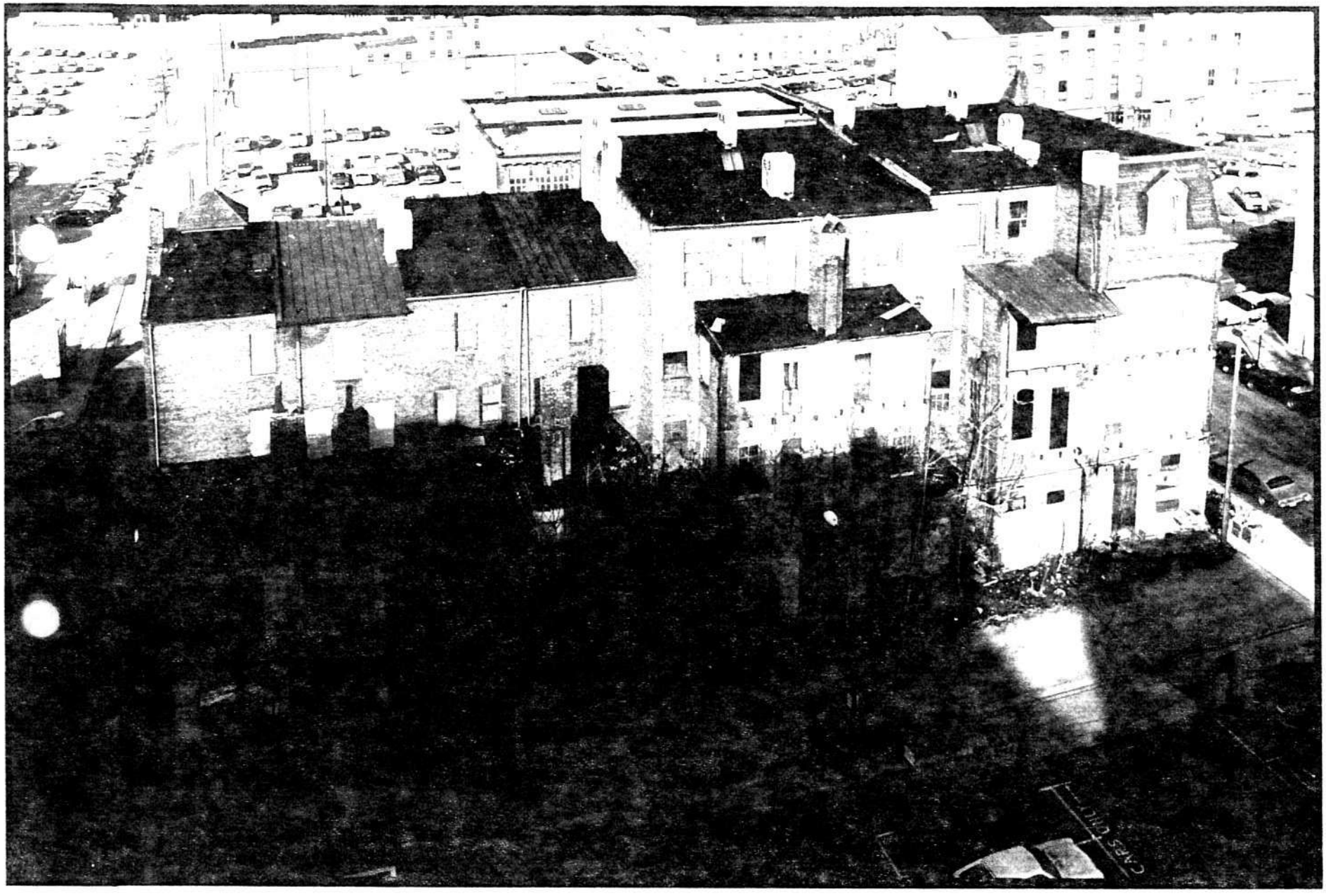
1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 December 14, 1983
5 Negatives held by Paul McKean
6 South elevation
7 Roll 1 #20



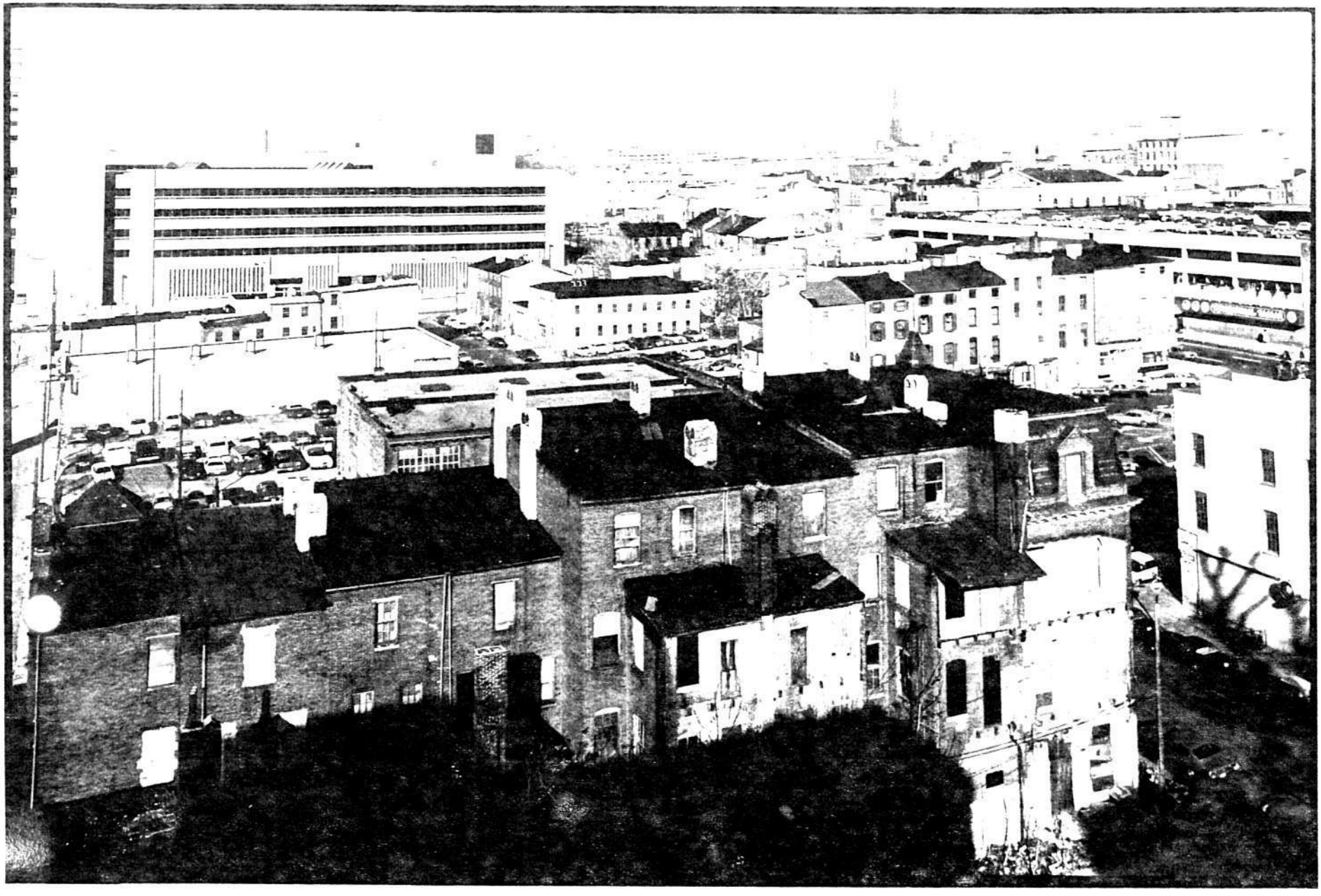
1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 December 14, 1983
5 Negatives held by Paul McKean
6 West elevation of #631
7 Roll 1 #29

JERRYS TOO
HGA 442
HAXE

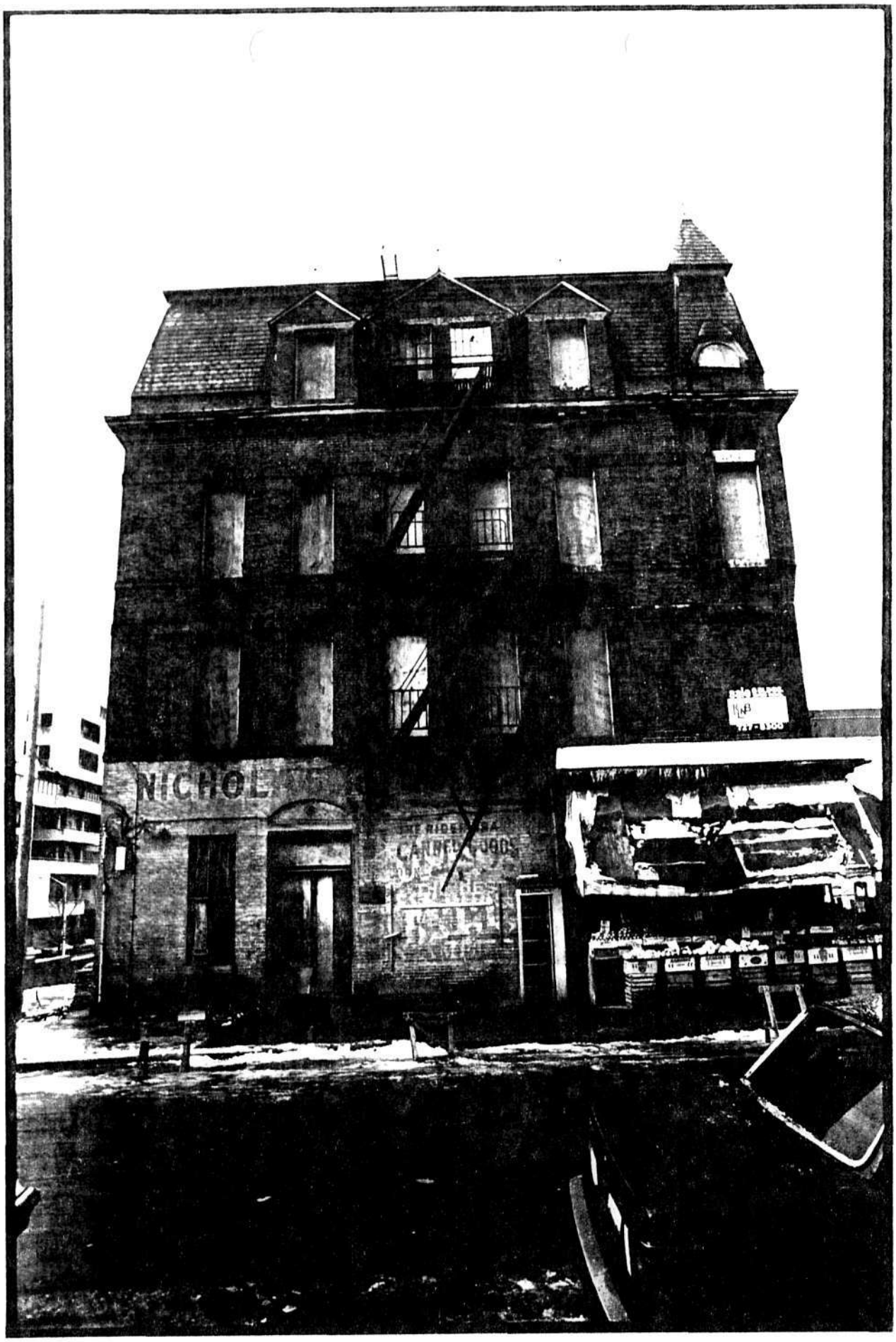
1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 December 14, 1983
5 Negatives held by Paul McKean
6 View looking West from Lexington Market
toward Rieman Block
7 Roll 1 #32


CARS CULV

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 December 14, 1983
5 Negatives held by Paul McKean
6 South elevation
7 Roll 1 #33



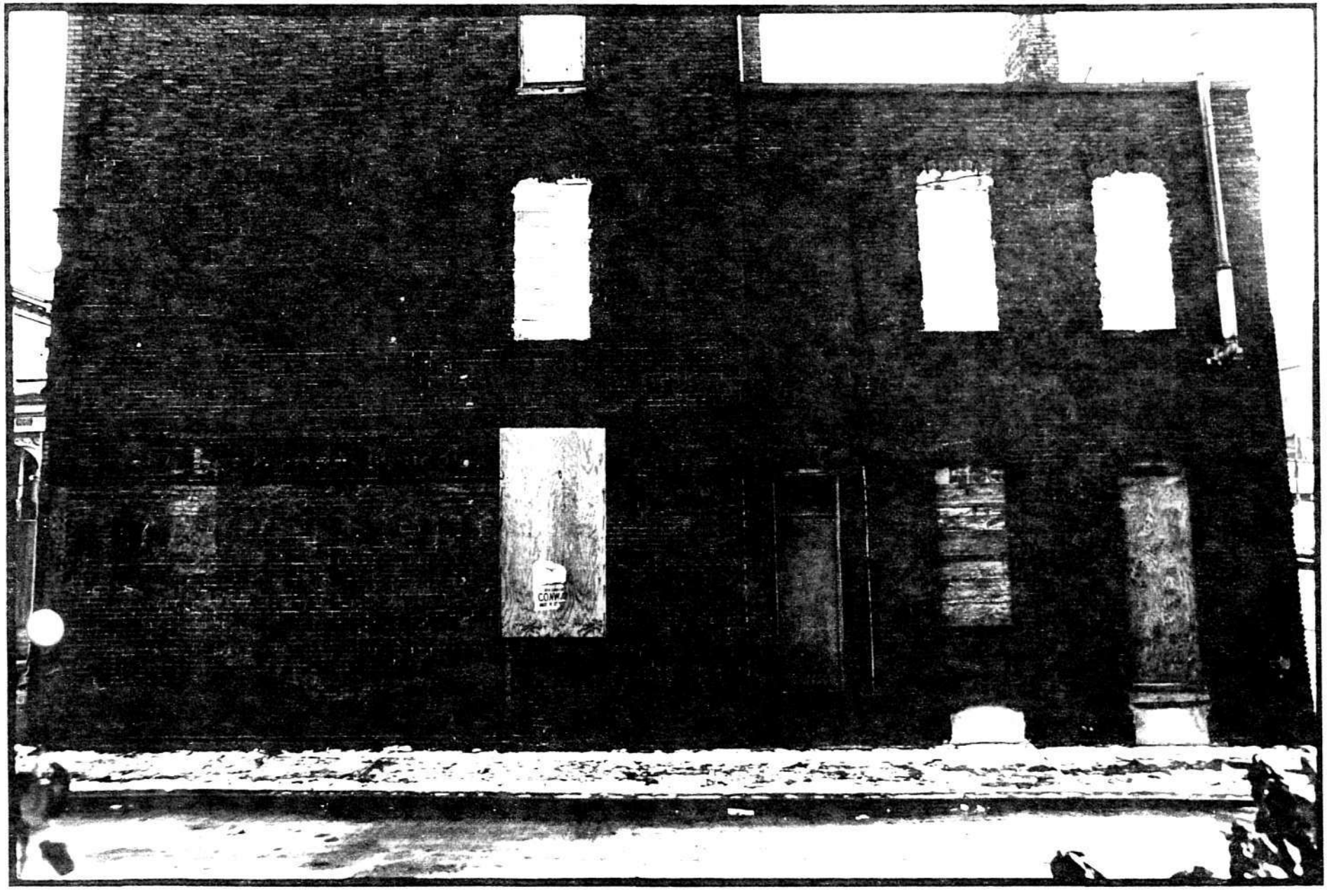
1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 December 14, 1983
5 Negatives held by Paul McKean
6 View of the roofs from the South
7 Roll 2 #5


NICHOL

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 January 14, 1984
6 East elevation of #617
7 Roll 6 #2

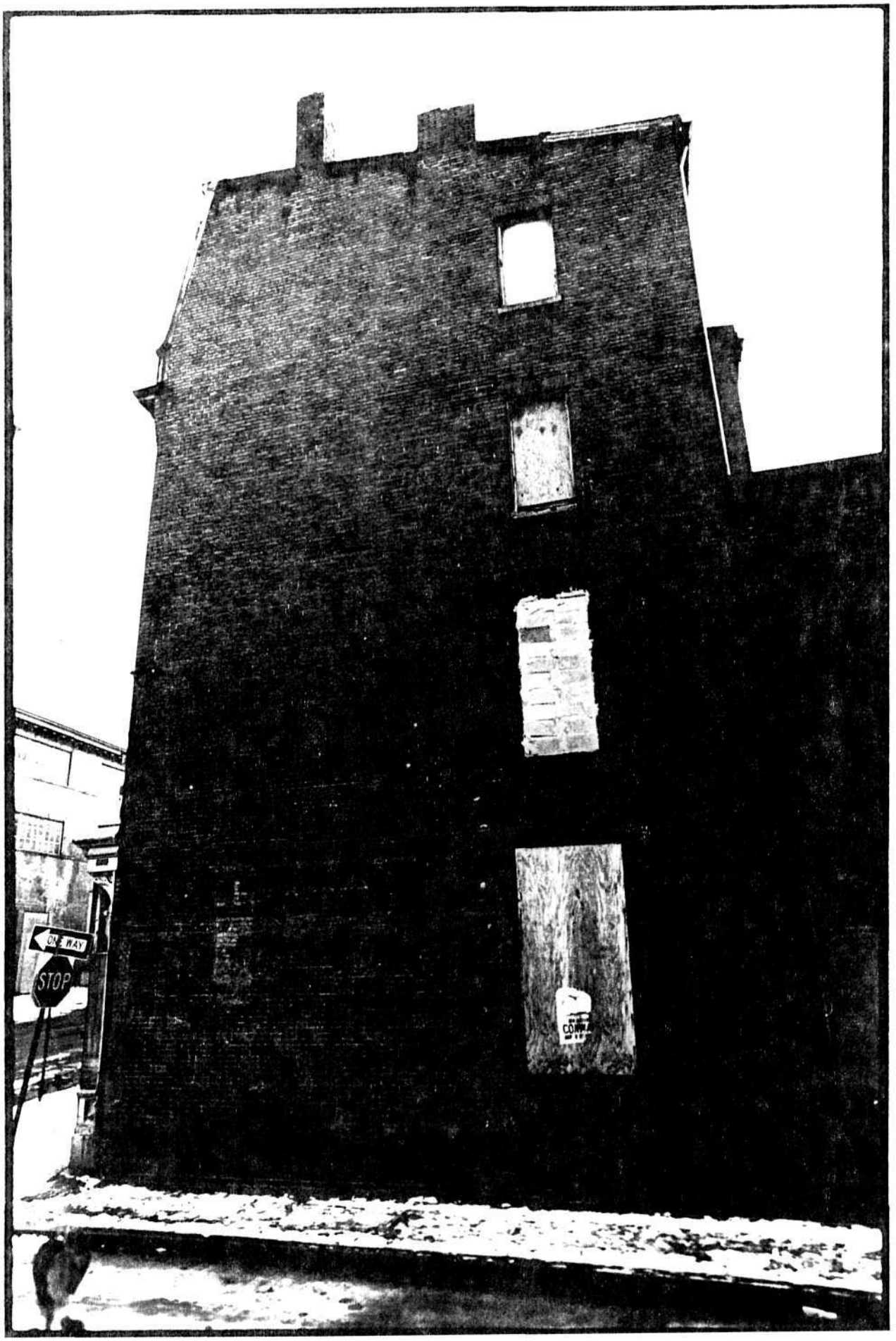
KOESTE

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 January 14, 1984
6 South elevation
7 Roll 6 #4

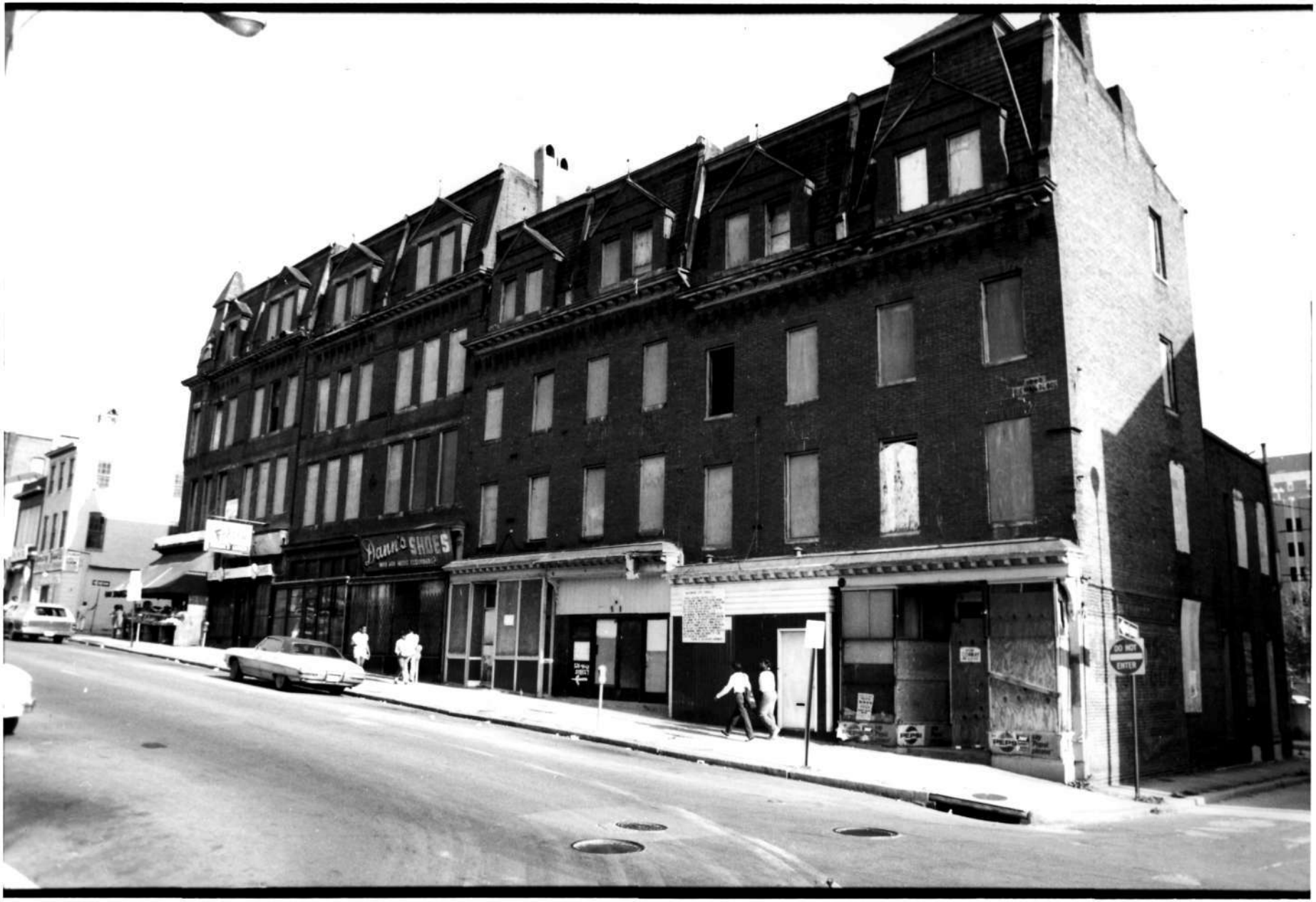

CONW

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 January 14, 1984
6 West elevation of first two floors #631
7 Roll 6 #5

17 of 68


ONE WAY
STOP

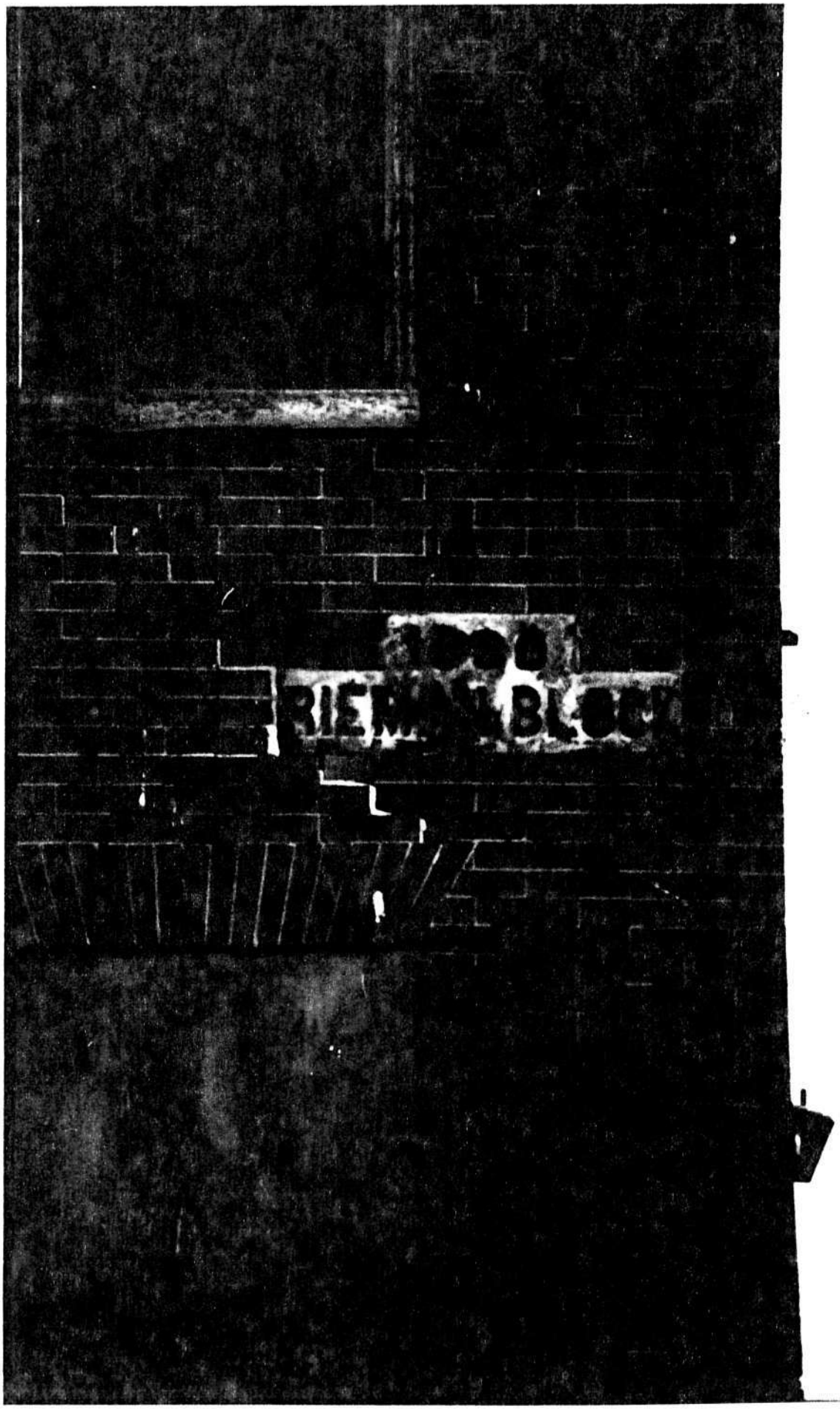
1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 January 14, 1984
6 West elevation of #631
7 Roll 6 #6


Hann's SHOES
DO NOT
ENTER

B-3995

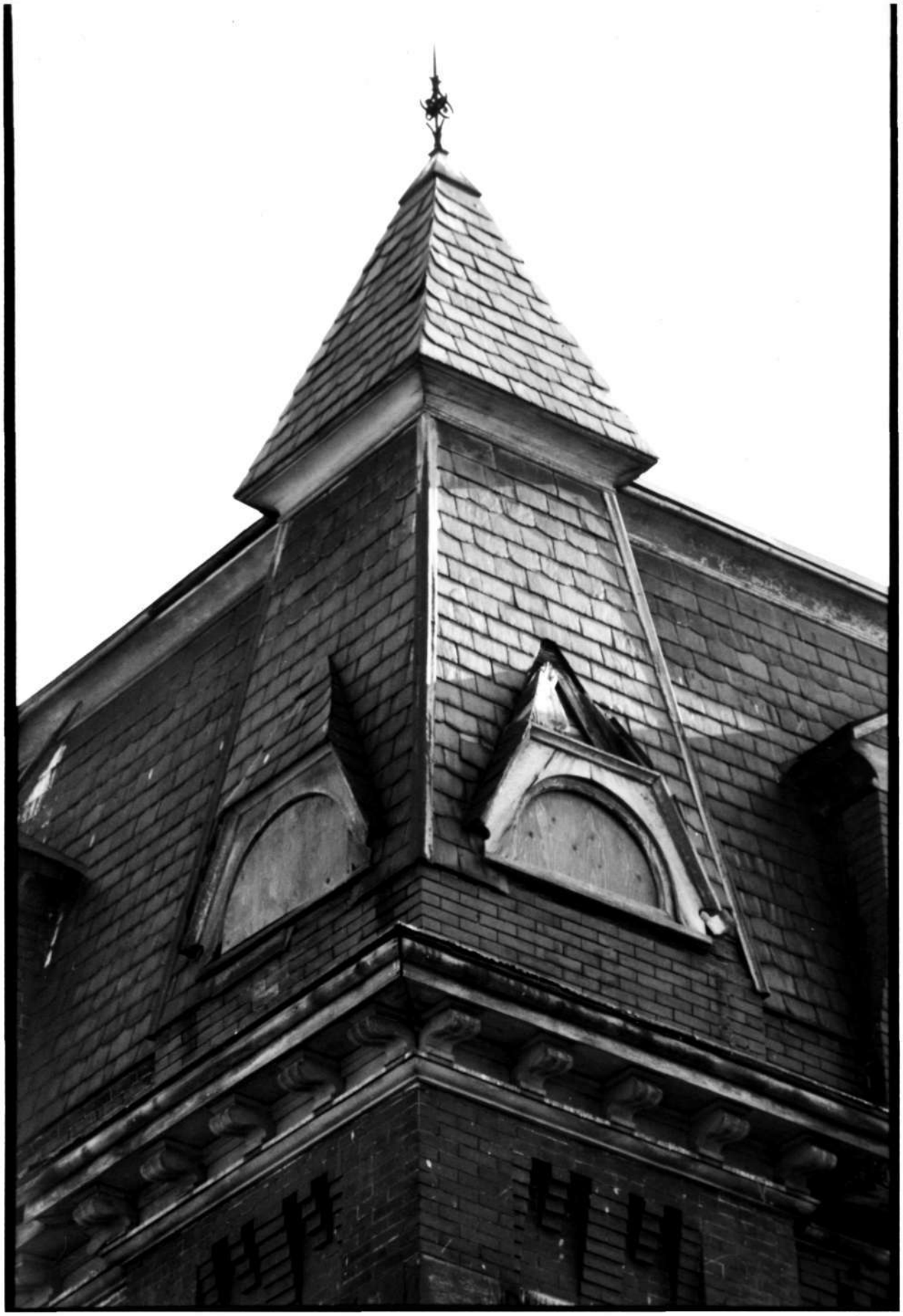
1 RIEMAN BLOCK
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Paul McKean
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 May, 1981
6 North elevation of the Block
7 Roll 7 #3

19 of 68



1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Paul McKean
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 May, 1981
6 Cornerstone at Northwest corner of #631
7 Roll 7 #32

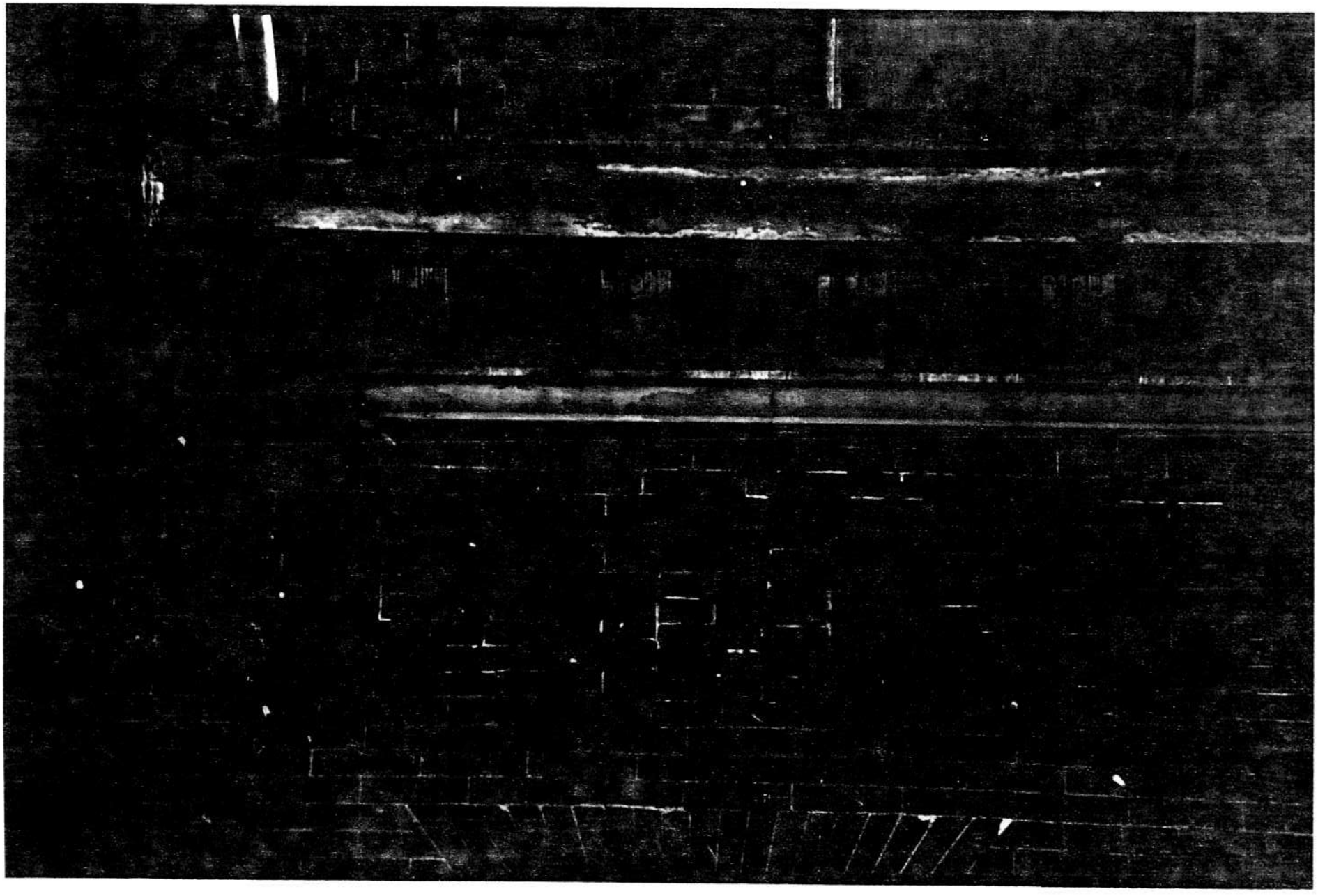
20 of 68



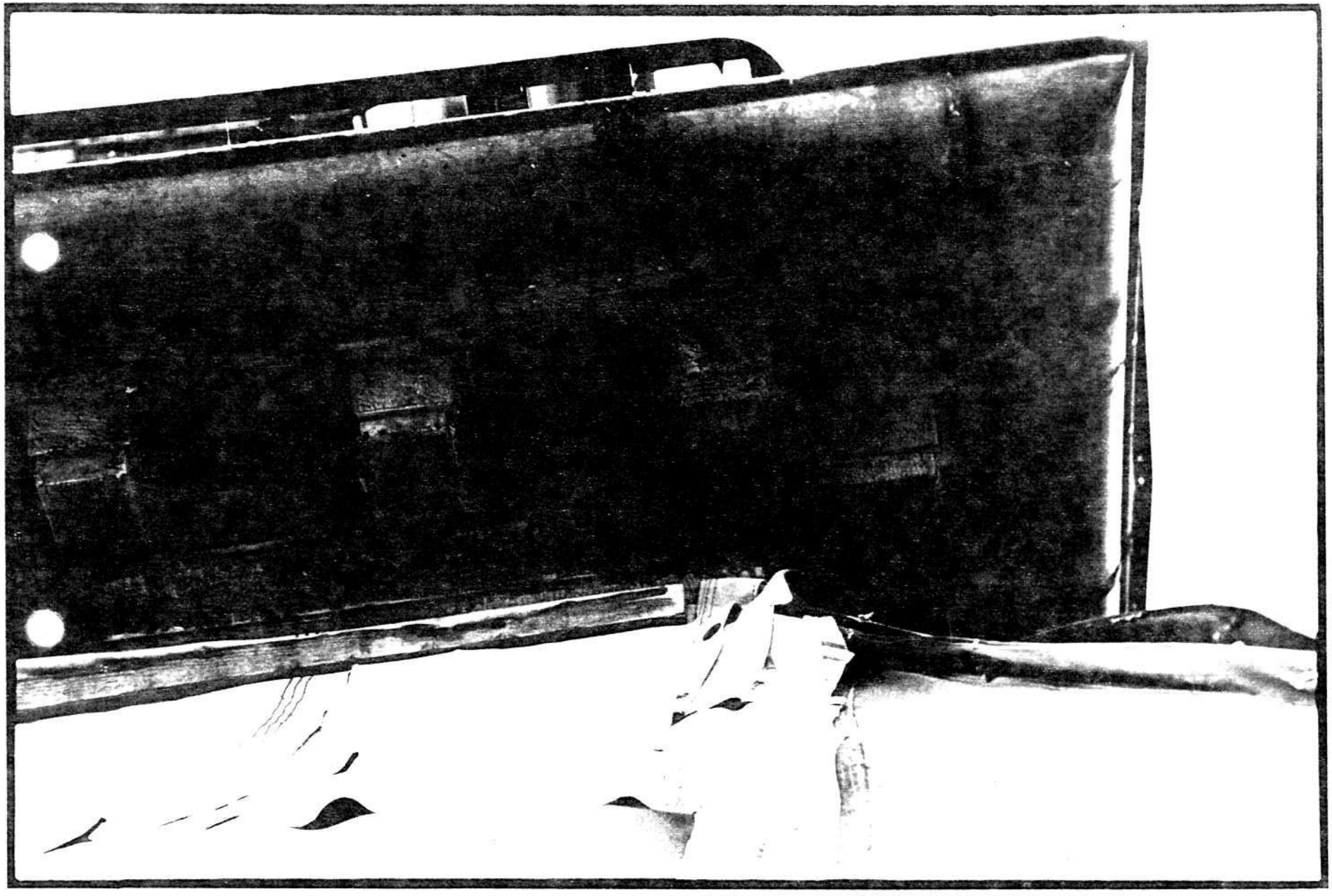
B-3995

1 RIEMAN BLOCK
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Paul McKean
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 May, 1981
6 Northeast elevation of Turret at #617
7 Roll 7 #33

21 of 68



1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Paul McKean
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 May, 1981
6 Trim between 3rd & 4th flat at #629
7 Roll 7 #35

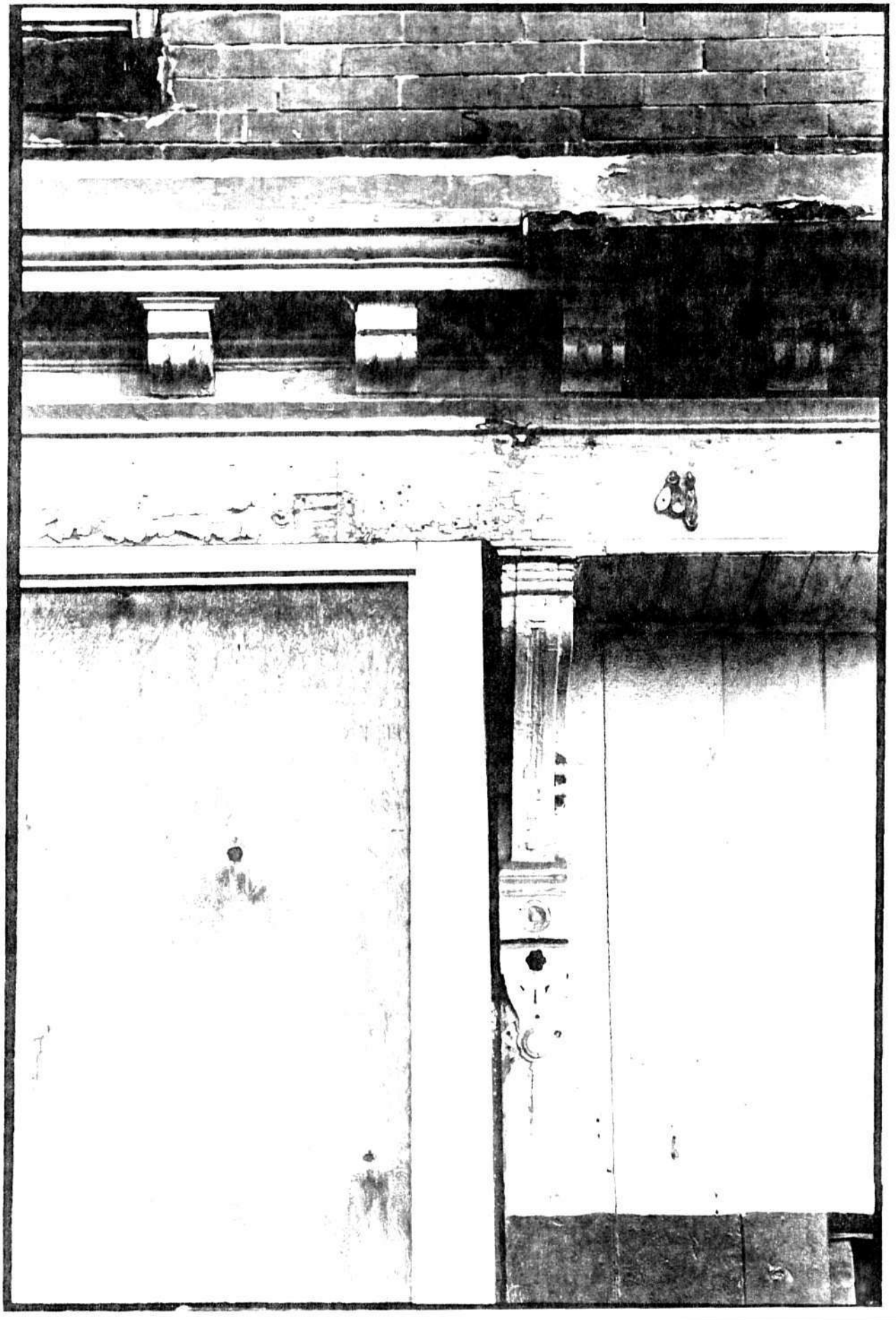


1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 January 14, 1984
6 View of trim over fruit stand - #617
7 Roll 6 #19

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Storefront trim details, #619/621
7 Roll 3 #12 of 68

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Trim details, over storefronts #621/623
7 Roll 3 #14 of 68

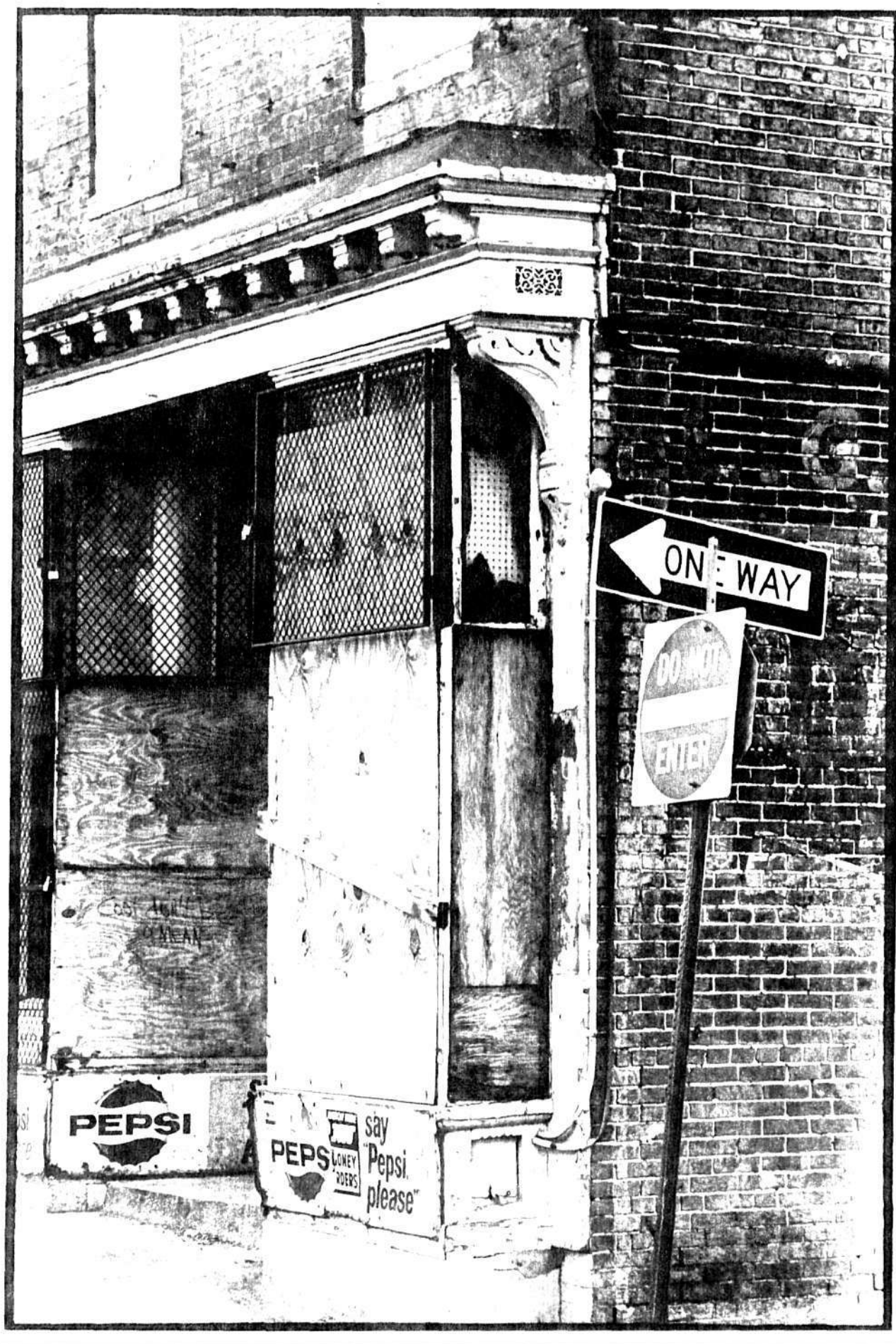
25



1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Storefront trim details # 625/627
7 Roll 3 #17 of 68

26

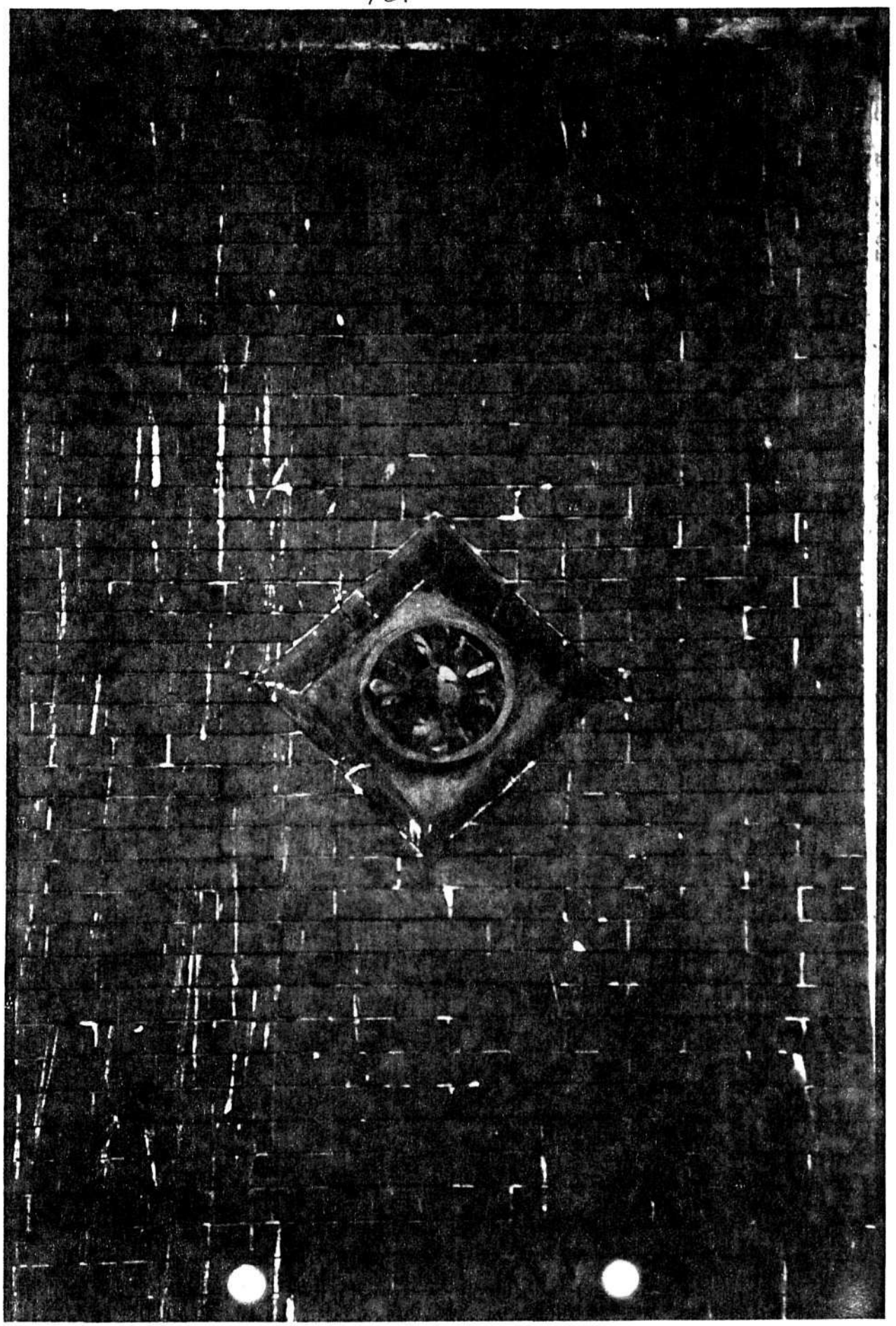
1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Storefront trim details, #629/631
7 Roll 3 #18 of 68


ONE WAY
DO NOT
ENTER
PEPSI
PEPS
say
"Pepsi
please"

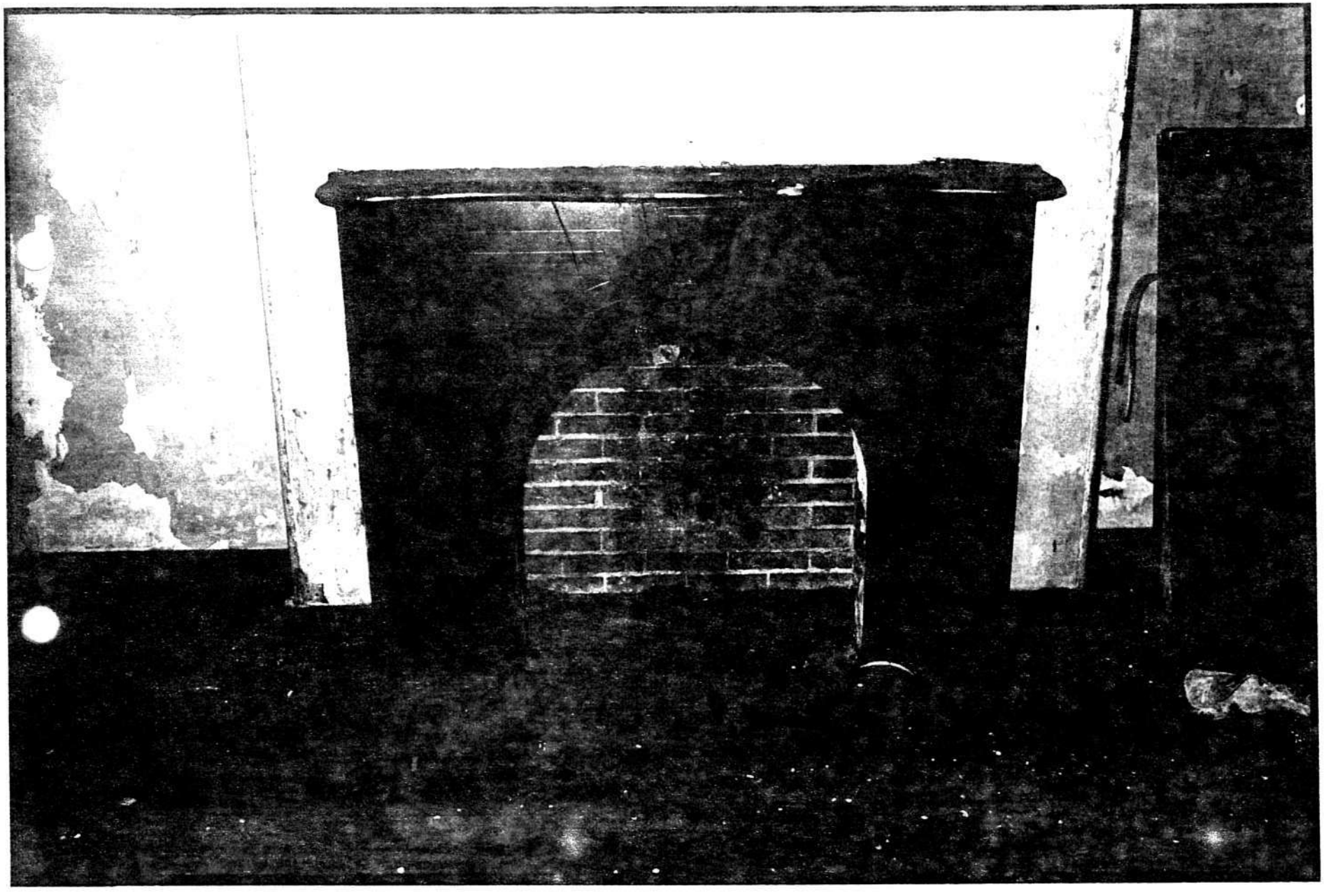
1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Storefront of #631 (Northwest corner)
7 Roll 3 #19 of 68

28

TOP

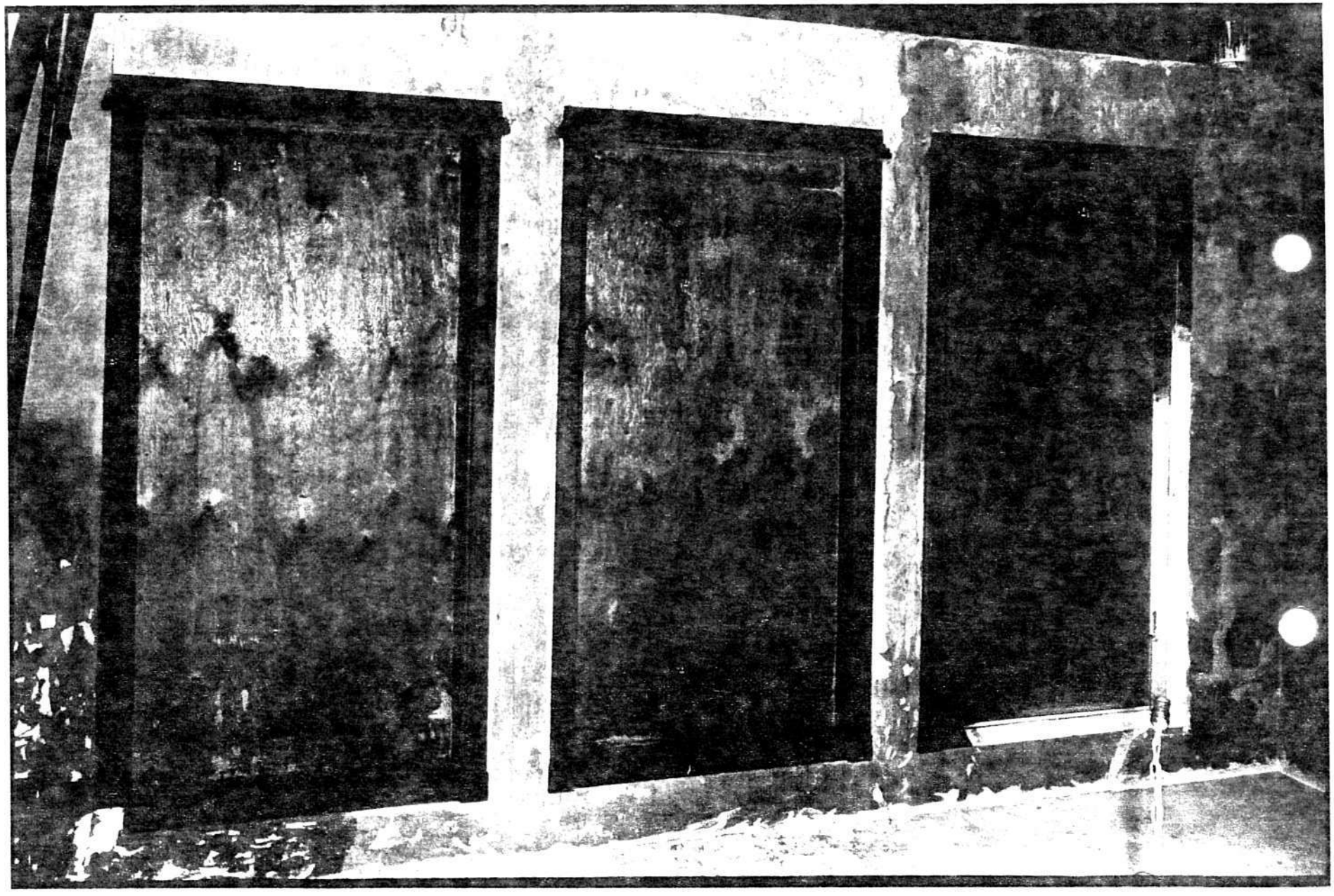


1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Paul McKean
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 May, 1981
6 Medallion on North facade of #623
7 Roll 7 #36 of 68



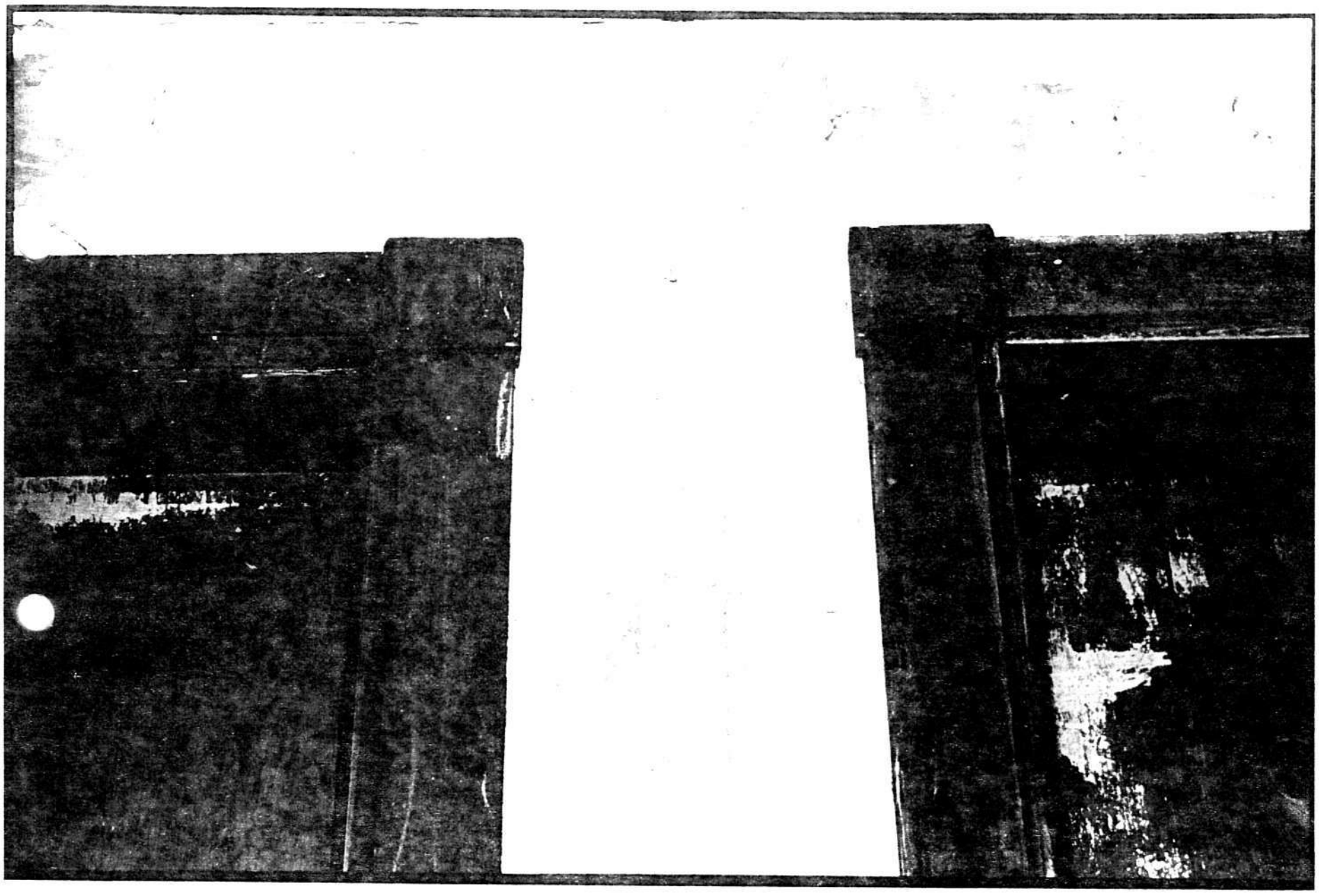
1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 14, 1983
6 Fireplace, Second floor front #617
7 Roll 2 #21 of 68

30



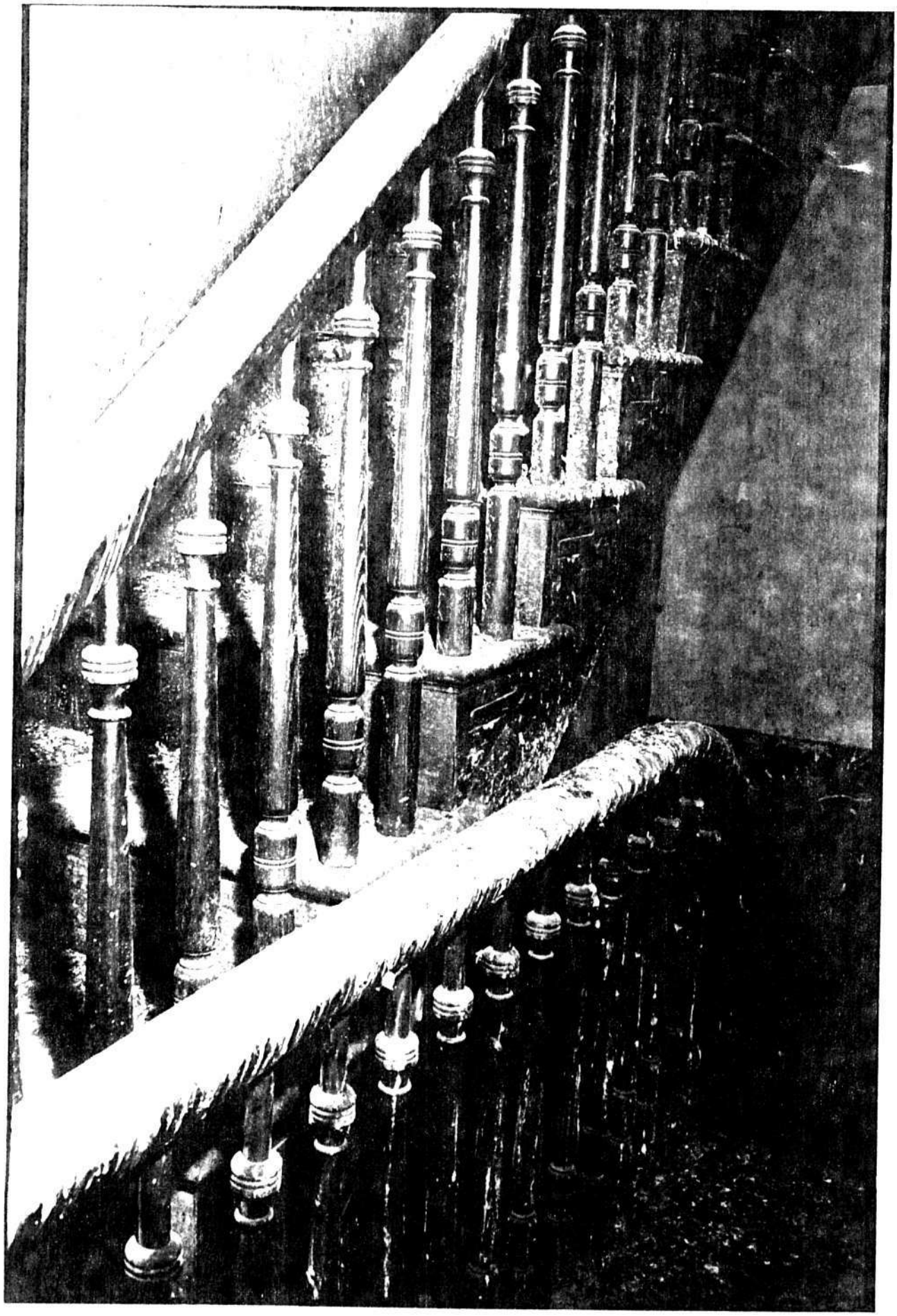
1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 14, 1983
6 North view of 3 windows, Second floor
front #617
7 Roll 2 #22 of 68

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 14, 1983
6 Close-up of window trim at bottom, North wall
Second floor front #617 (typical)
7 Roll 2 #23 of 68

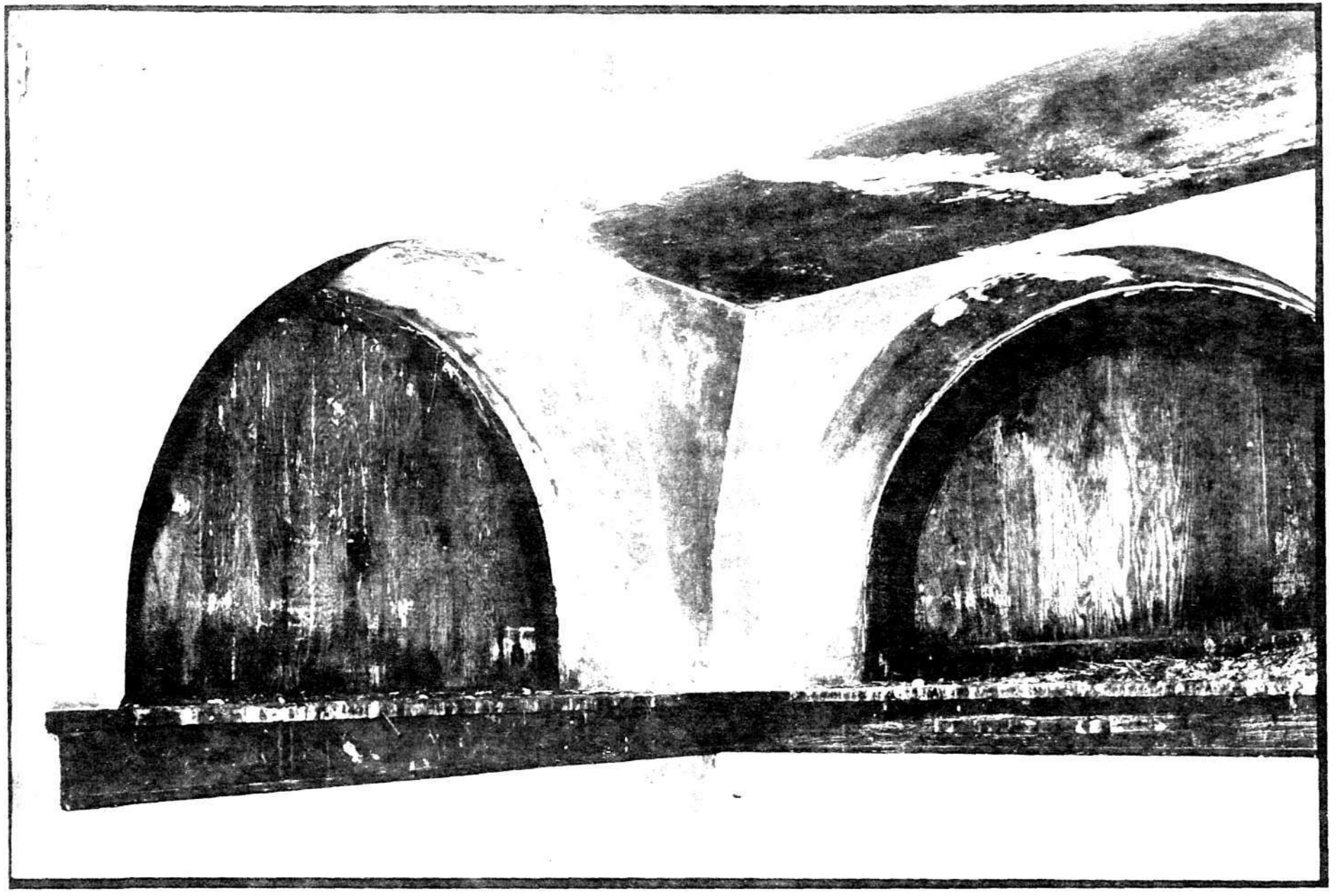


1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 14, 1983
6 Close-up of window trim at top, North wall
Second floor front #617 (typical)
7 Roll 2 #24 of 68

33

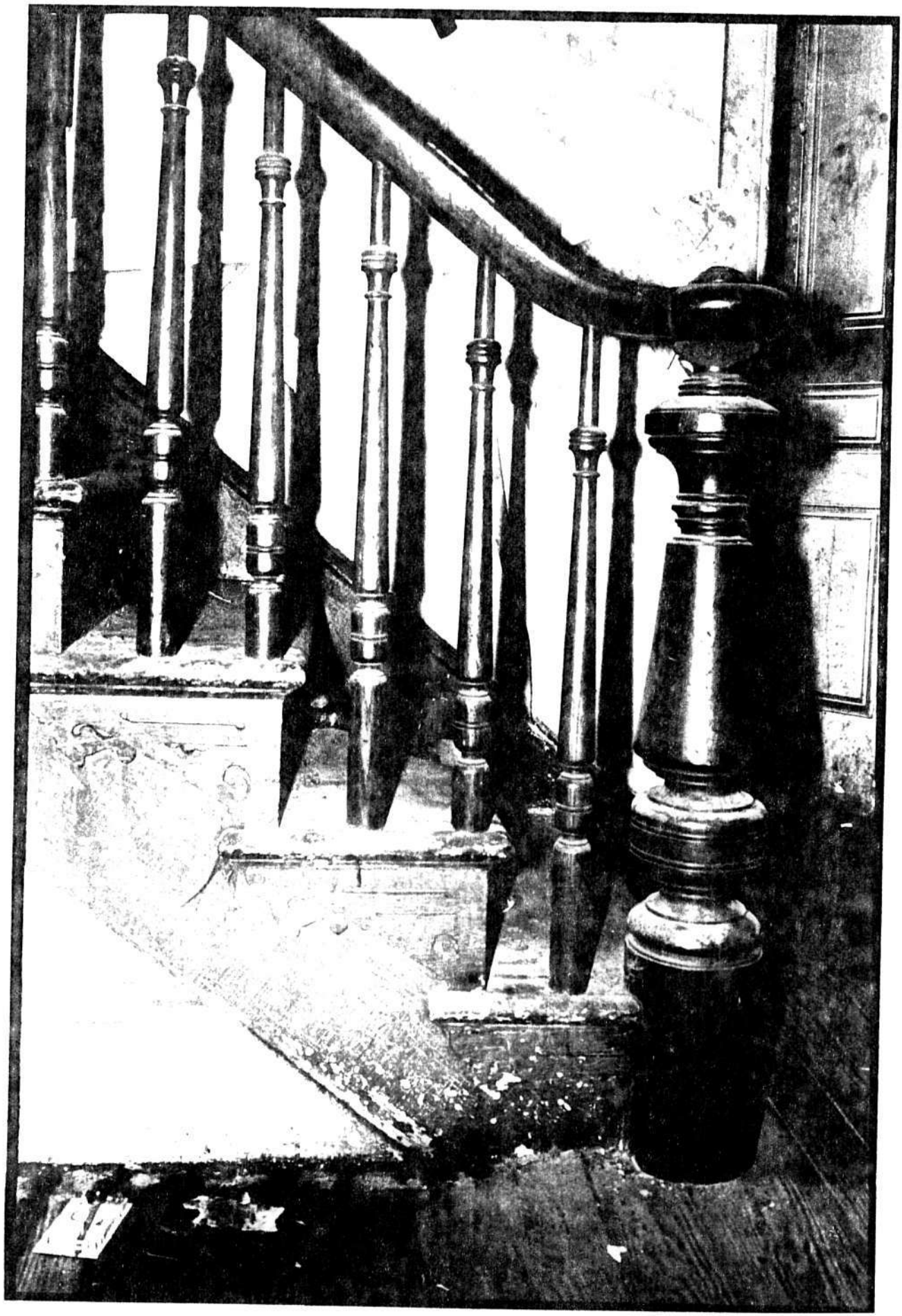


1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 14, 1983
6 Detail of Center Stair, Third floor #617
7 Roll 2 #26 of 68

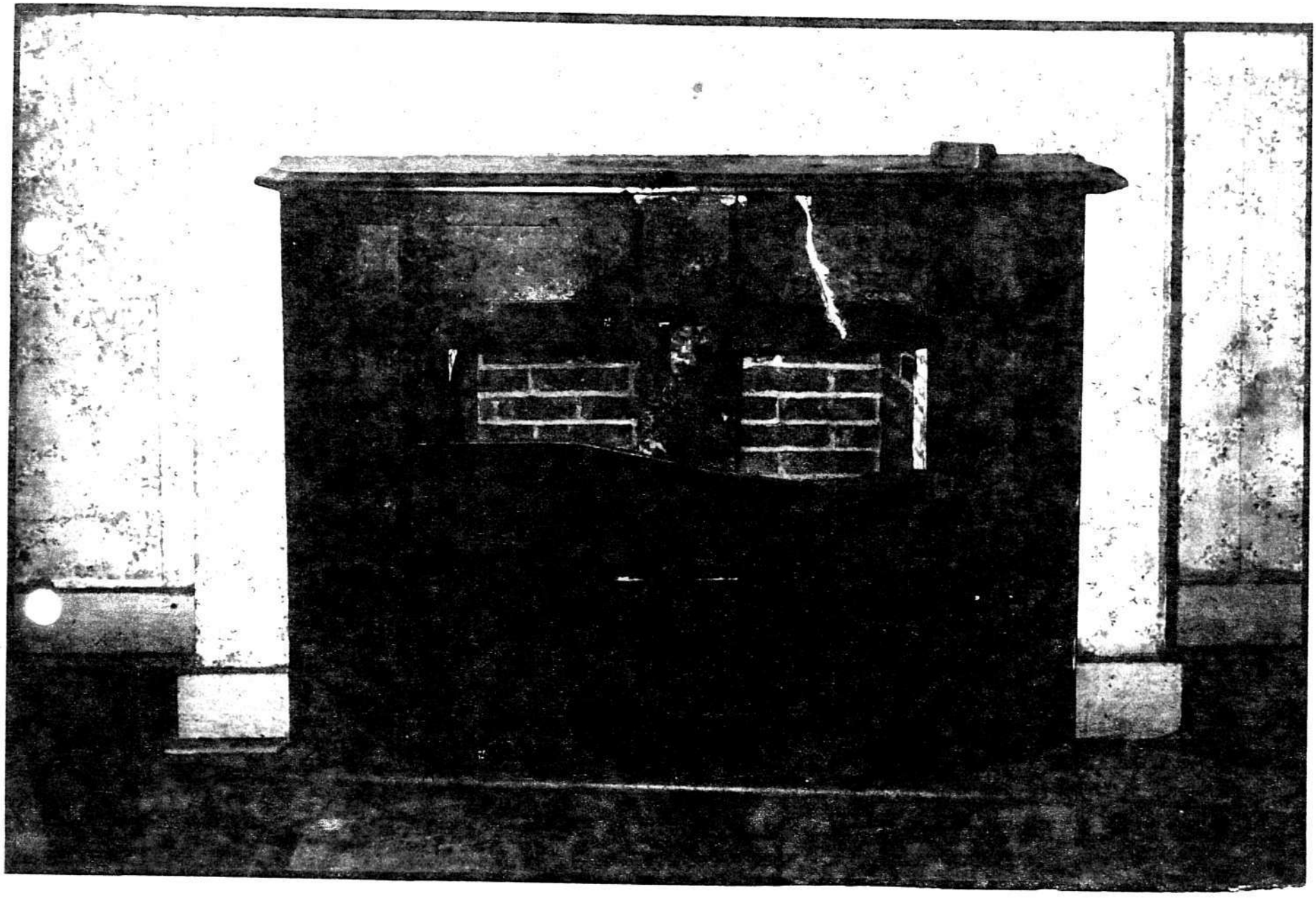


1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 14, 1983
6 Arched windows, Northeast corner,
Third floor #617
7 Roll 2 #29 of 68

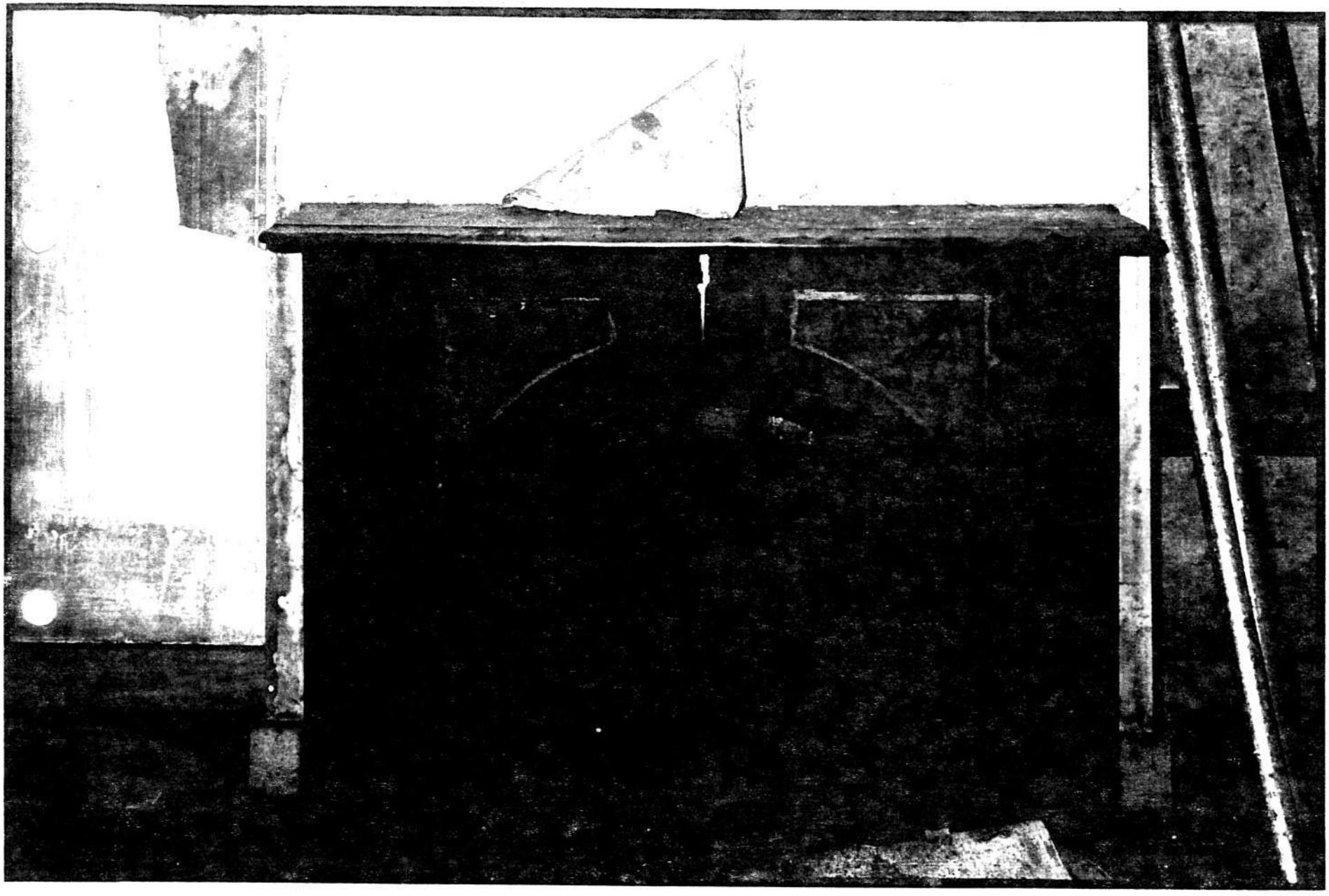
35



1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 14, 1983
6 Stair detail, Second floor #619
7 Roll 2, #32 of 68

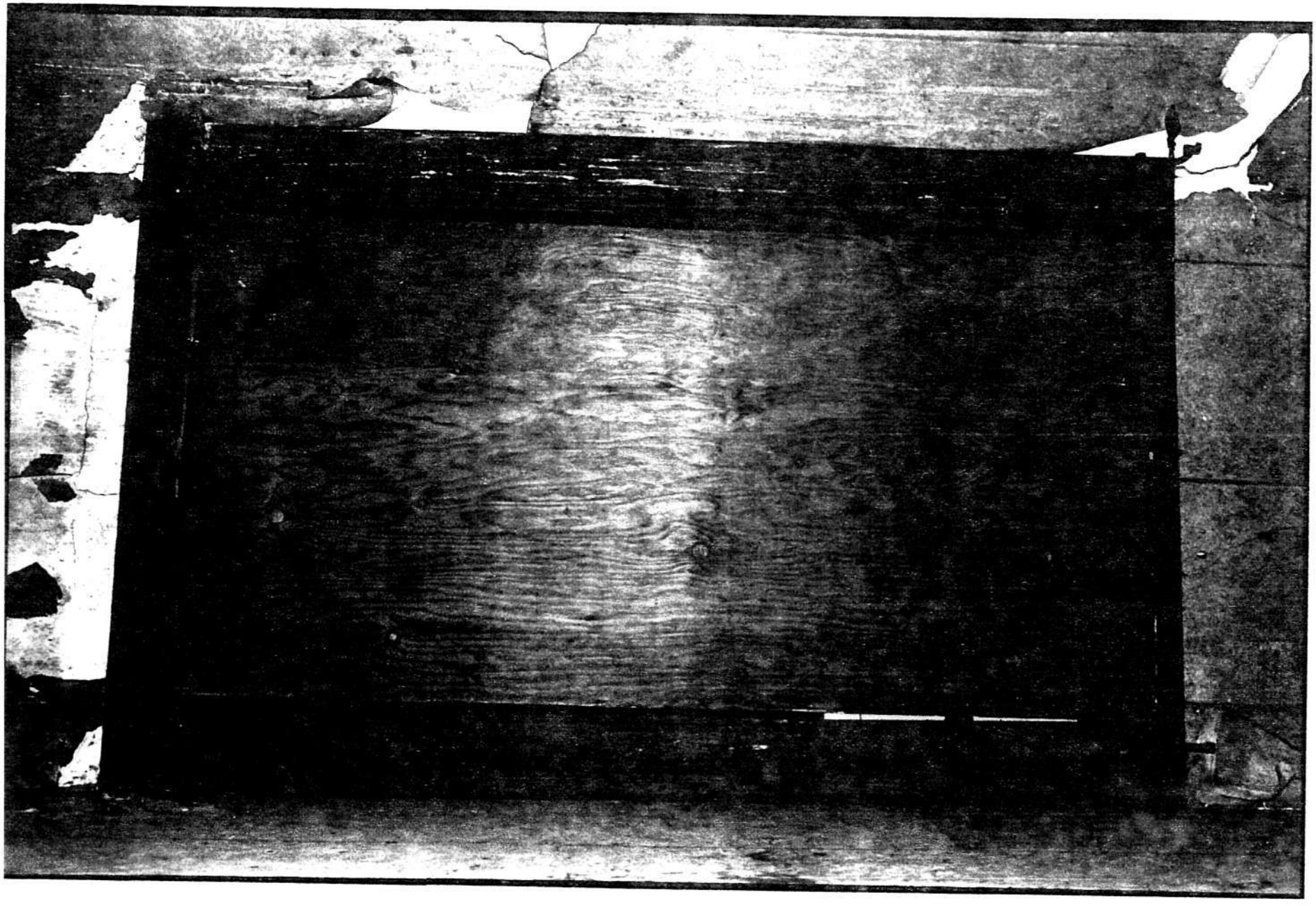


1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 14, 1983
6 Fireplace, Front room, Second floor #619
7 Roll 2 #34 of 68



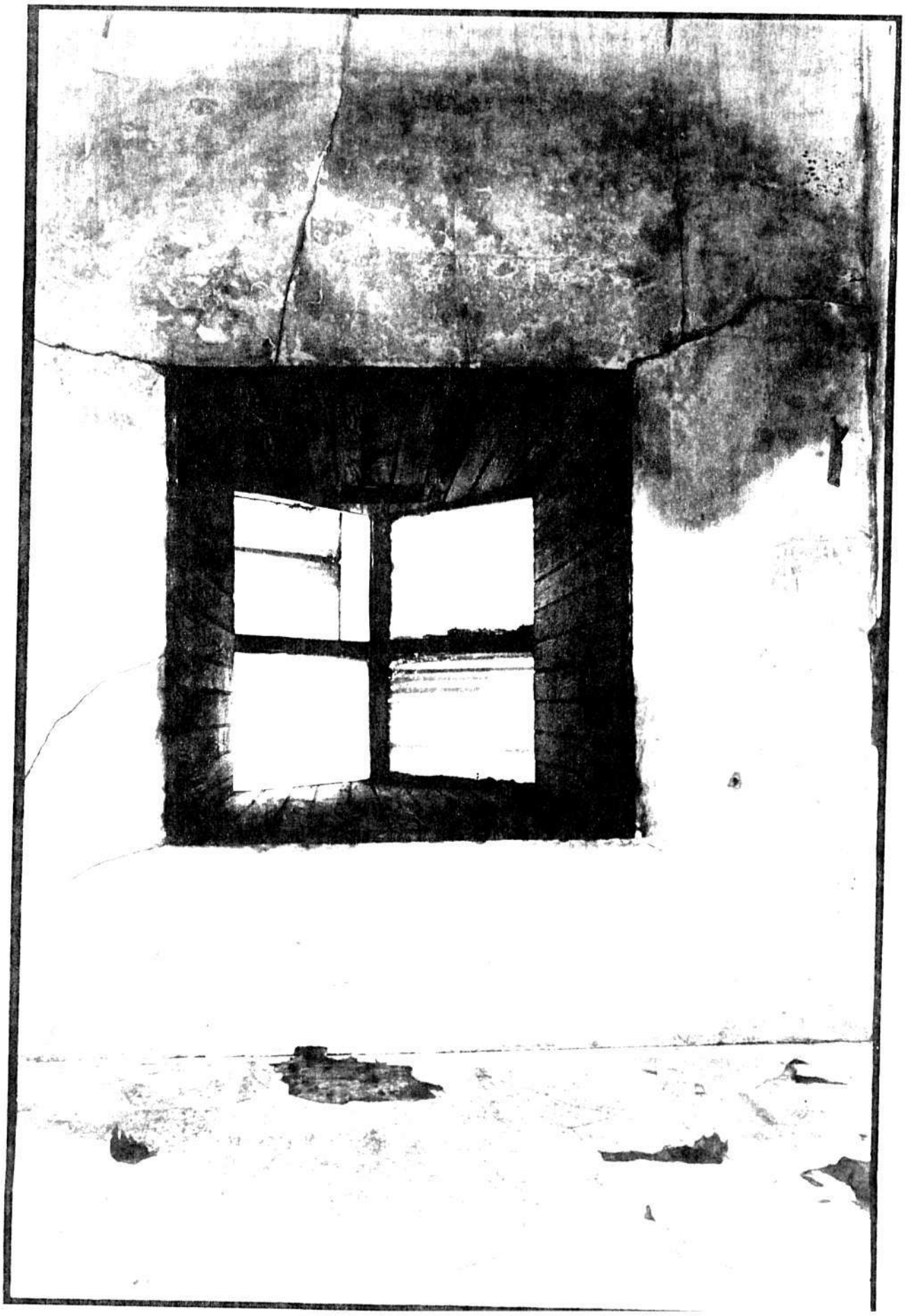
1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 14, 1983
6 Fireplace, Middle room, Second floor #619
7 Roll 2 #35 of 68

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean,
5 December 14, 1983
6 Window trim detail, Rear room Second floor #619
7 Roll 2 #36 of 68



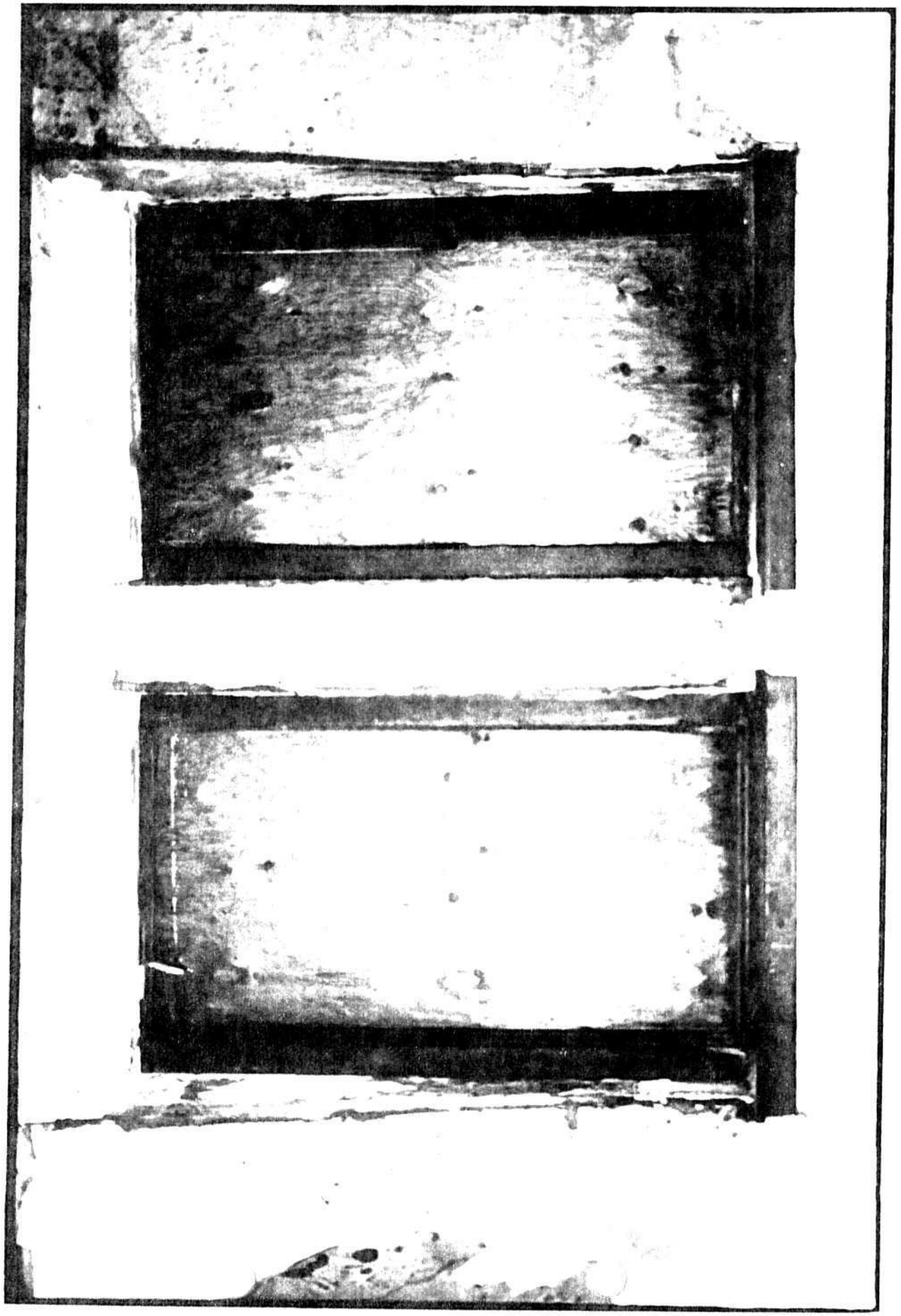
1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Window trim, Third floor Middle room, #619
7 Roll 3 #4 of 68

40



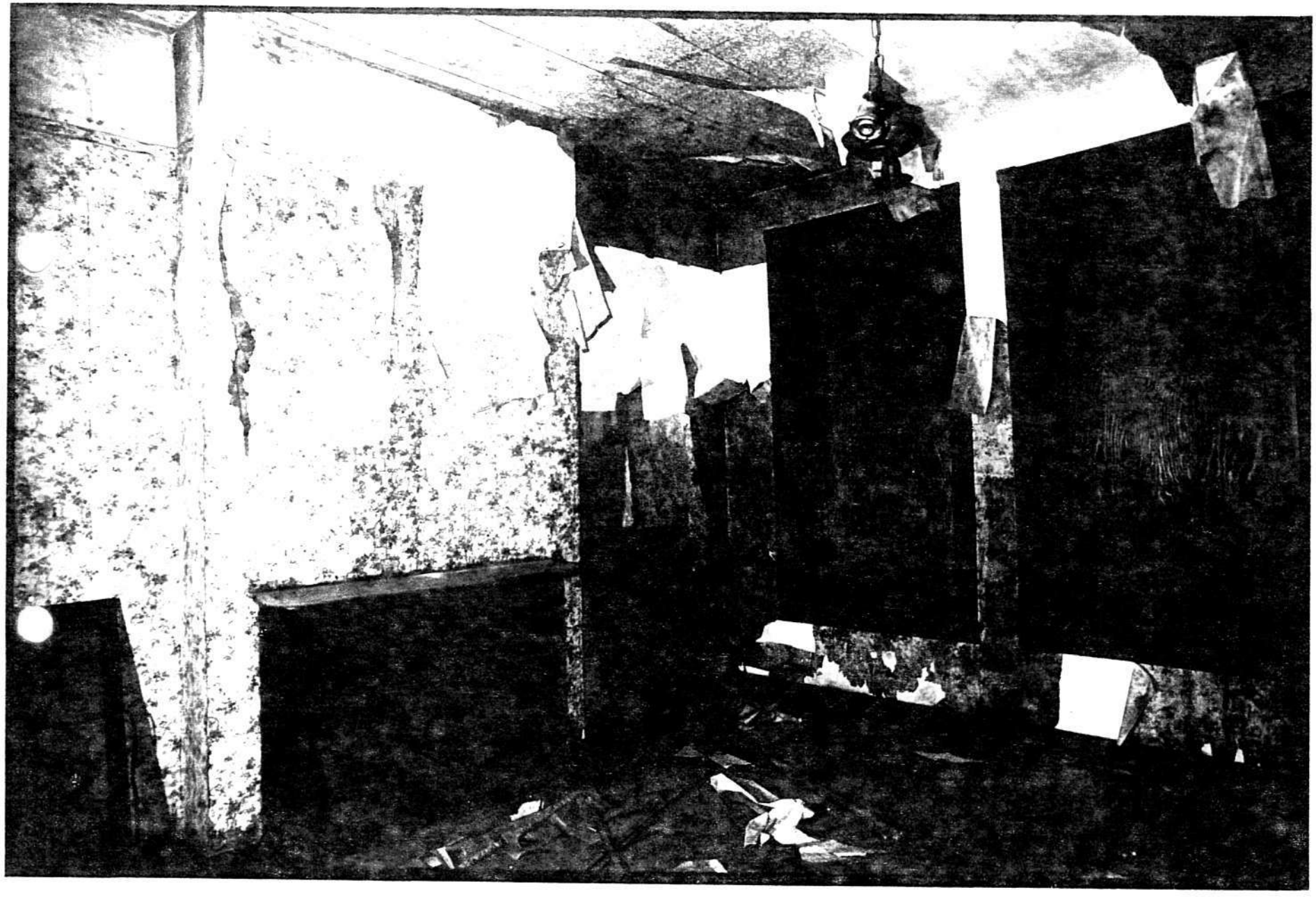
1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Stair skylight, Fourth floor, #619
7 Roll 3 #7 of 68

41



1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 North dormer windows, Fourth floor, #619
7 Roll 3 #8 of 68

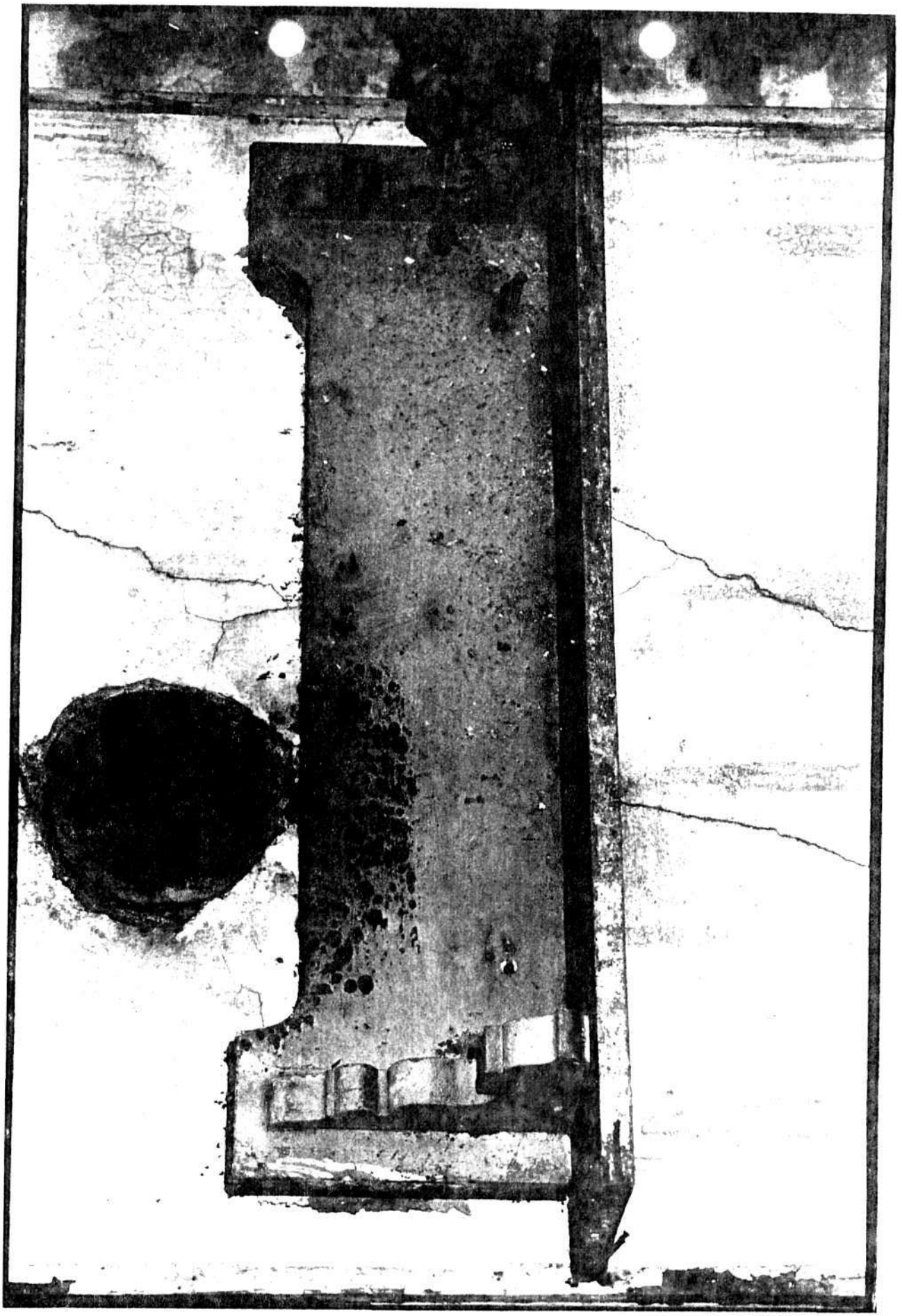
42



1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 January 14, 1984
6 Northwest view of Second floor front
room #621
7 Roll 6 #18

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 January 14, 1984
6 General view looking East - Second
floor rear #621
7 Roll 6 #10

44



1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Chimney shelf (typical), Fourth floor
rear, #621
7 Roll 3 #32 of 68

45

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Stair rail, Second floor, #625
7 Roll 4 #7 of 68

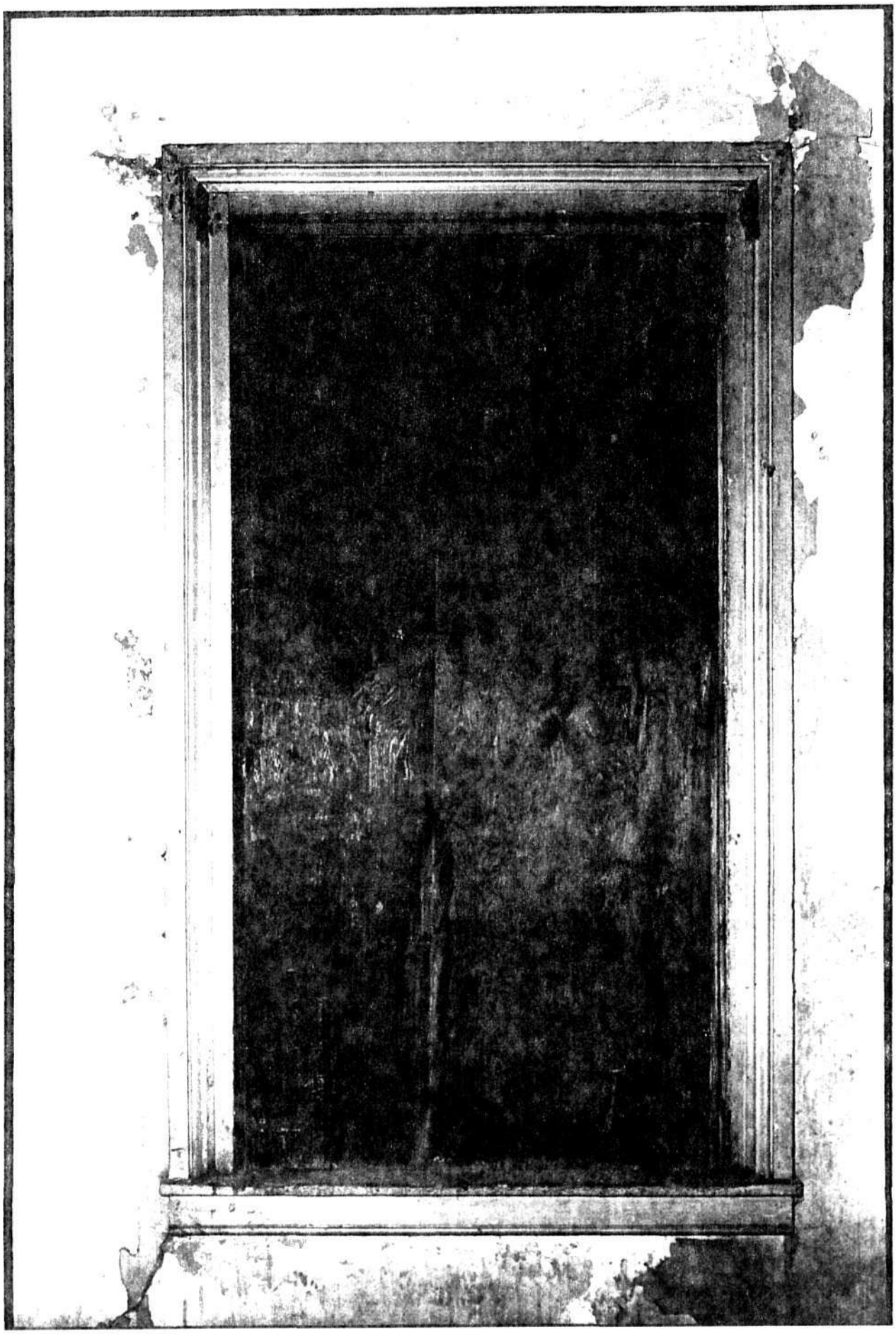
46

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 January 14, 1984
6 Arch between middle & front rooms of
#625 looking North
7 Roll 6 #27

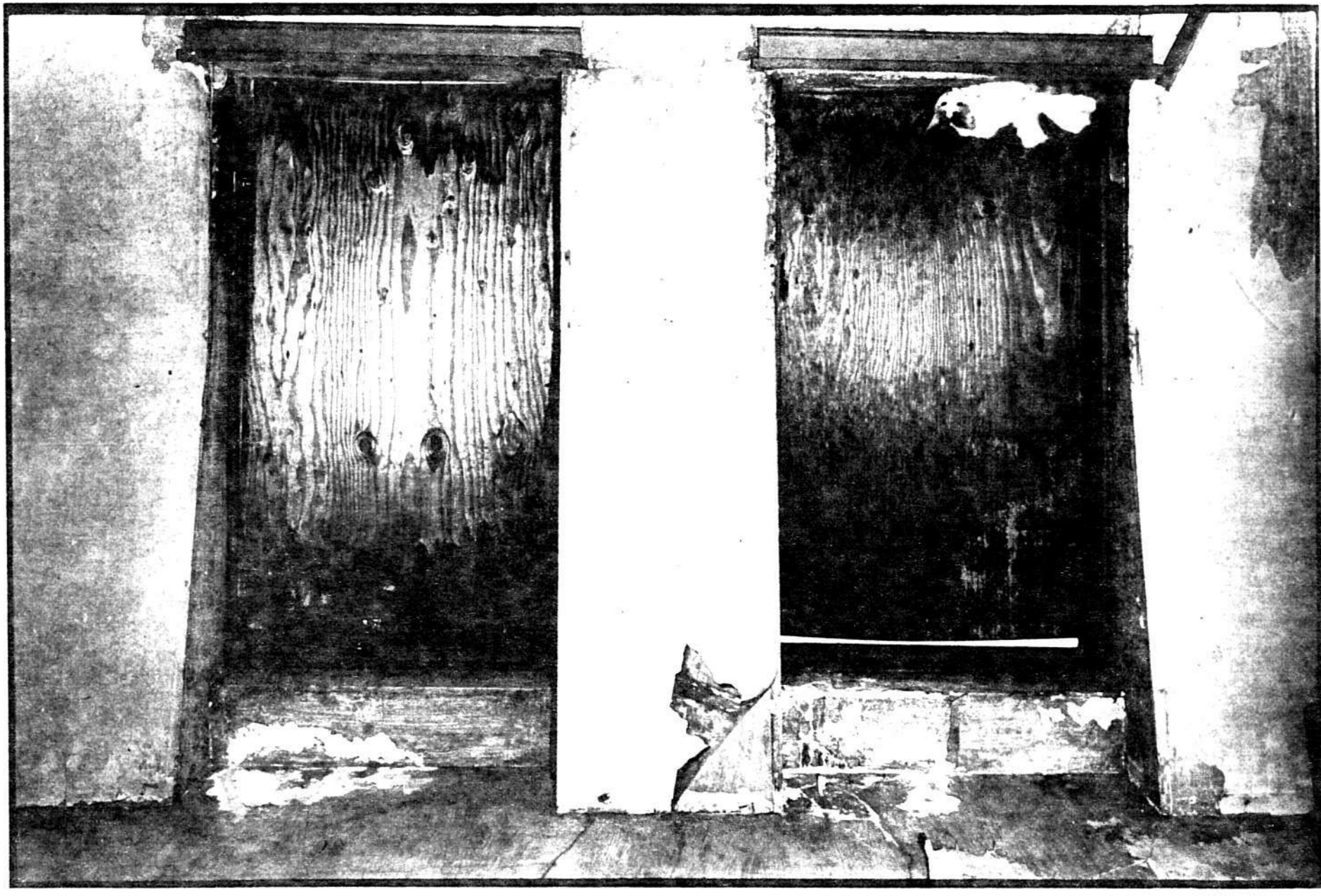
47

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Representative interior doors,
Second Floor, #625
7 Roll 4 #11 of 68

48

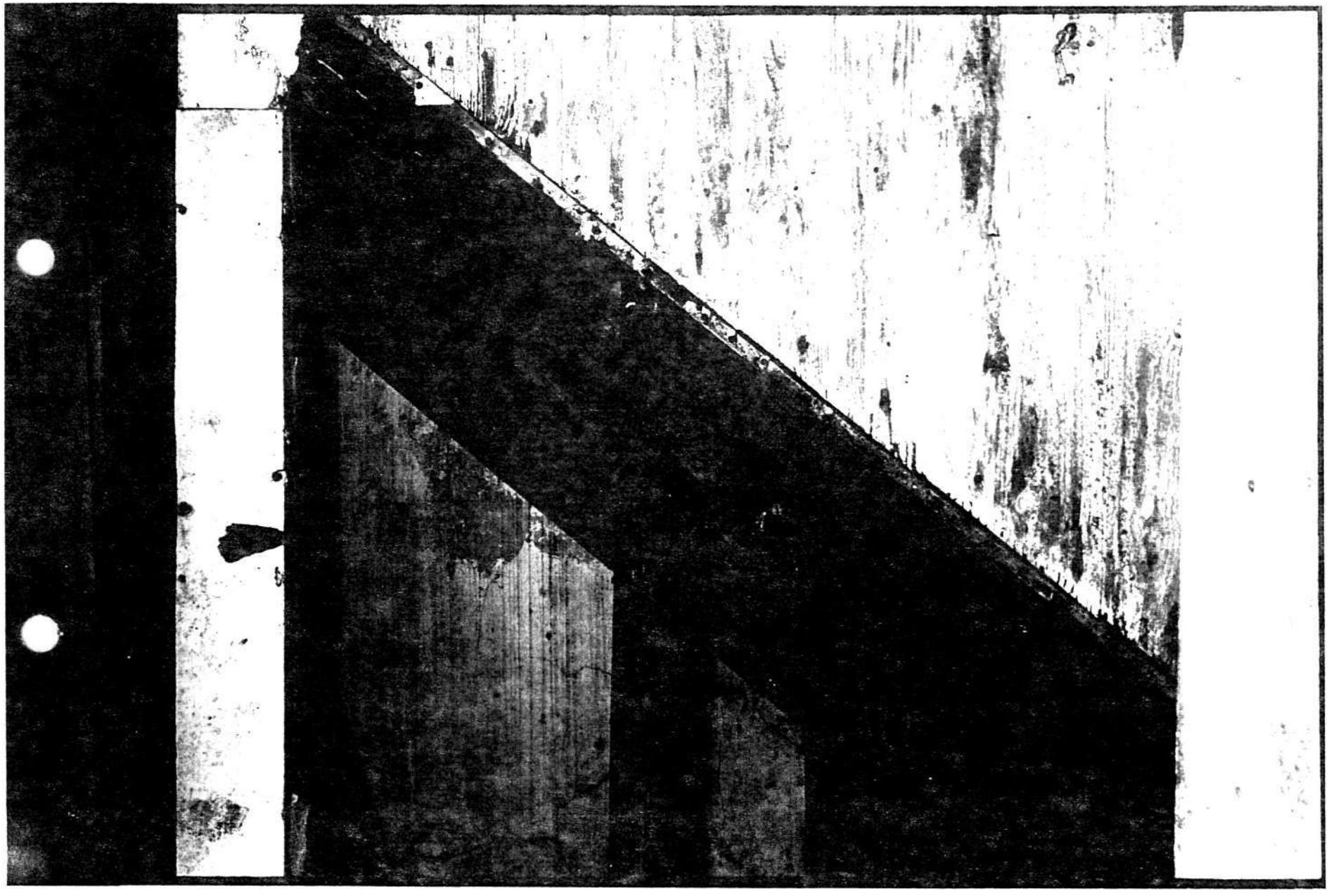


1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Window trim, Third floor front, #625
7 Roll 4 #12 of 68



1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Window trim, Fourth floor front, #625
7 Roll 4 #13 of 68

50




Bottom

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Rotted stair carriage, First floor, #627
7 Roll 4 #17 of 68

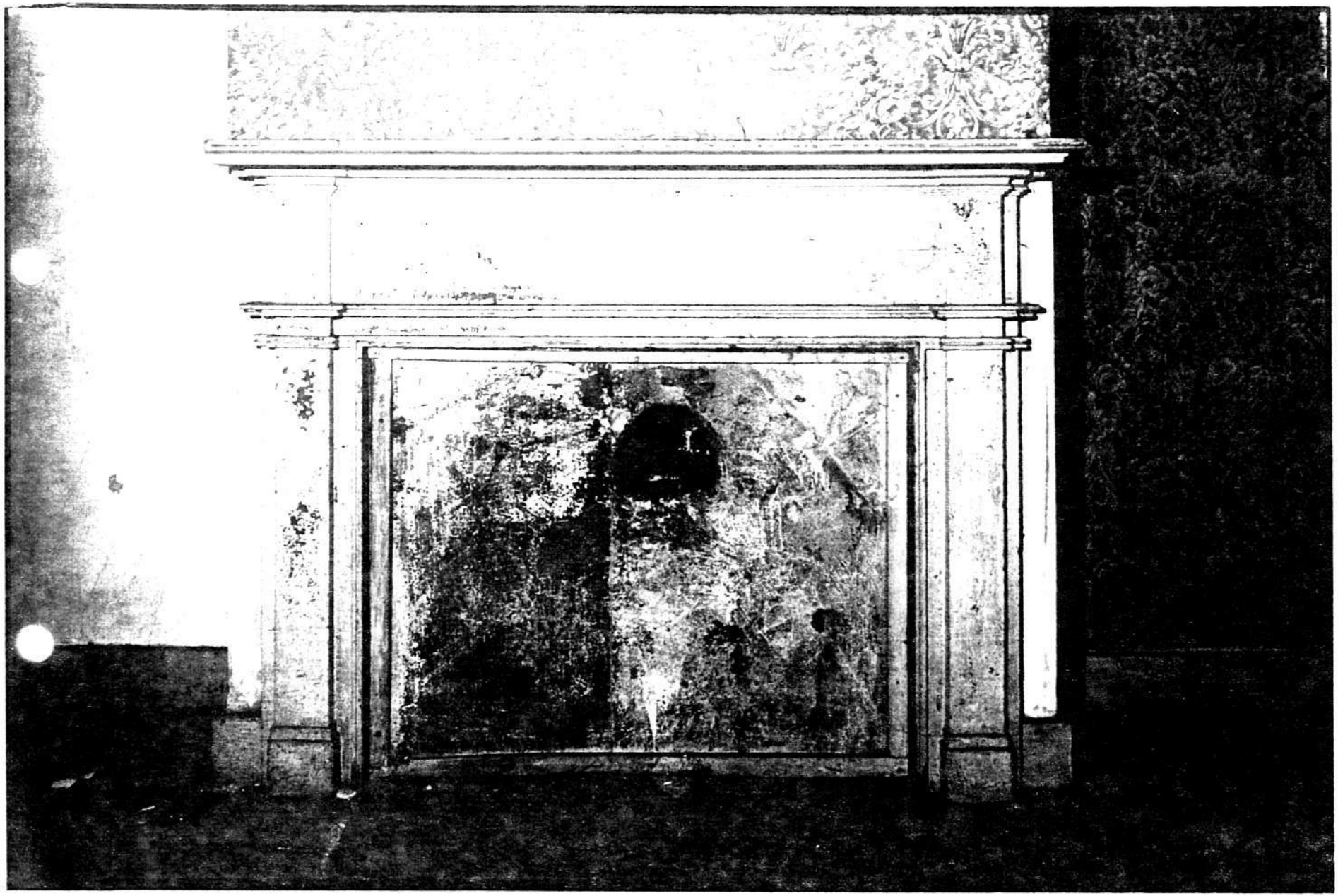
51

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Rotted stair, First floor, #627
7 Roll 4 #18 of 68

52

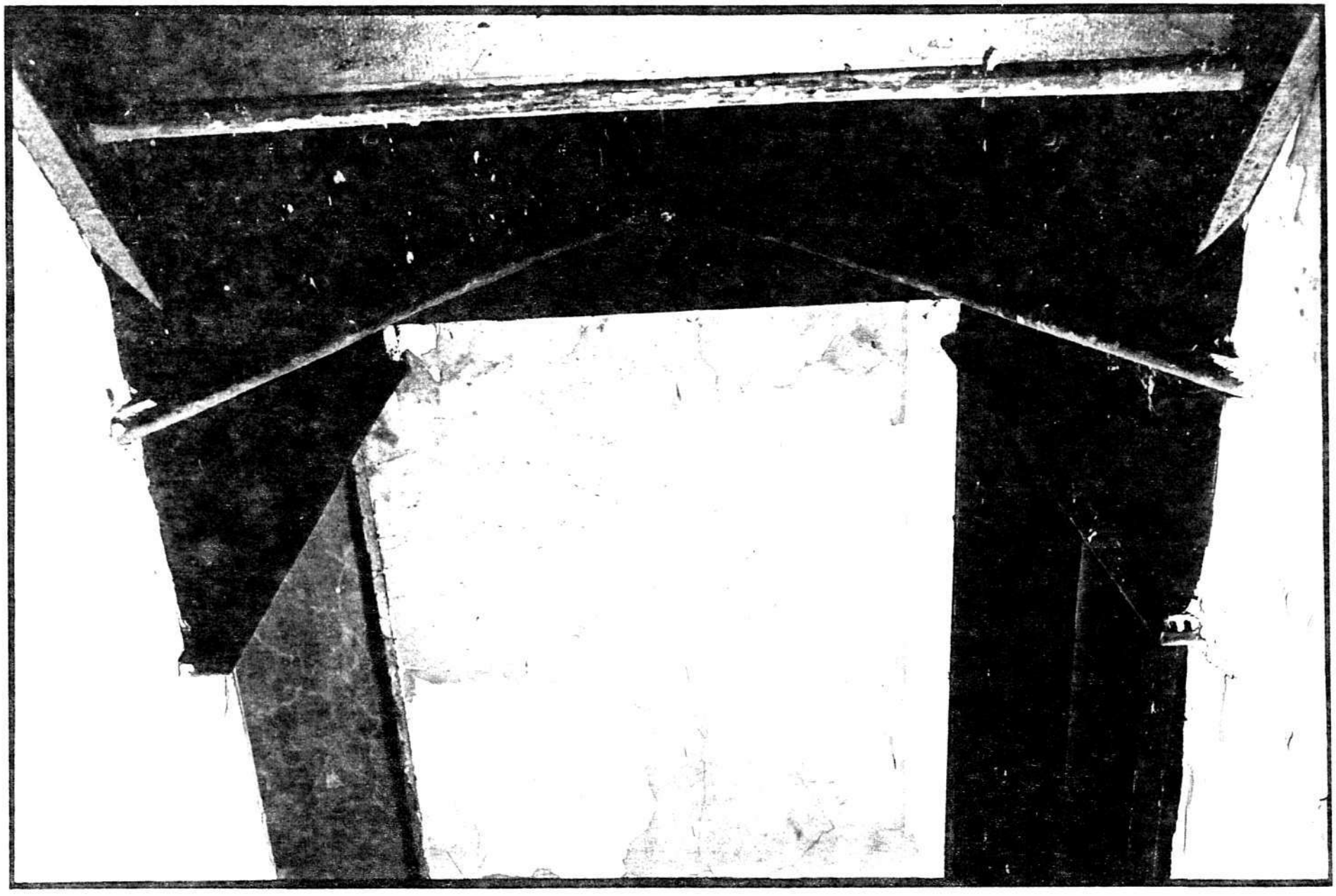
1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Severe water damage - Middle & Rear
Second floor, #627
7 Roll 4 #19 of 68

53

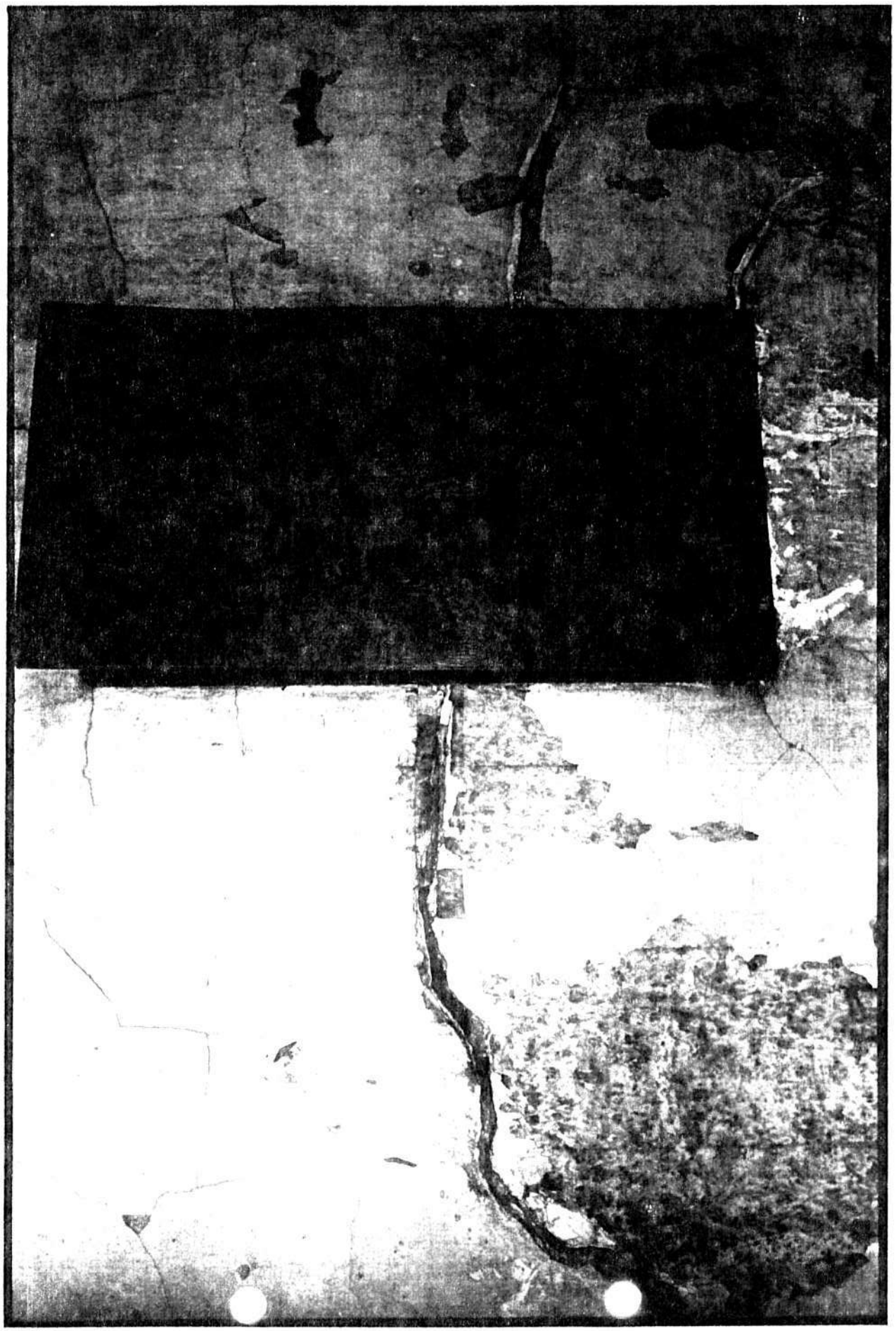


1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Fireplace, Second floor front room, #627
7 Roll 4 #20 of 68

54



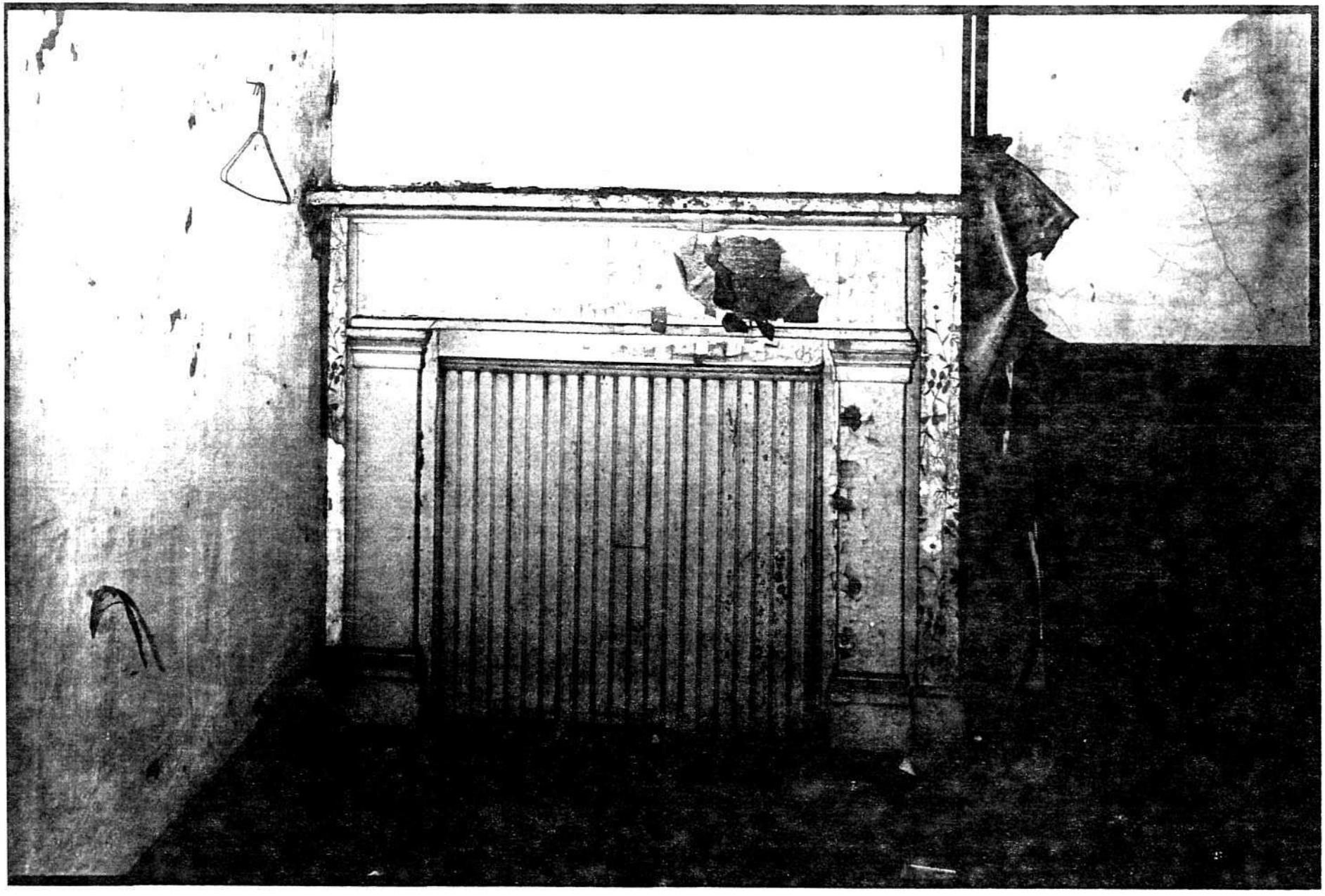
1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Stair, serves two doors, Third floor #627
7 Roll 4 #22 of 68



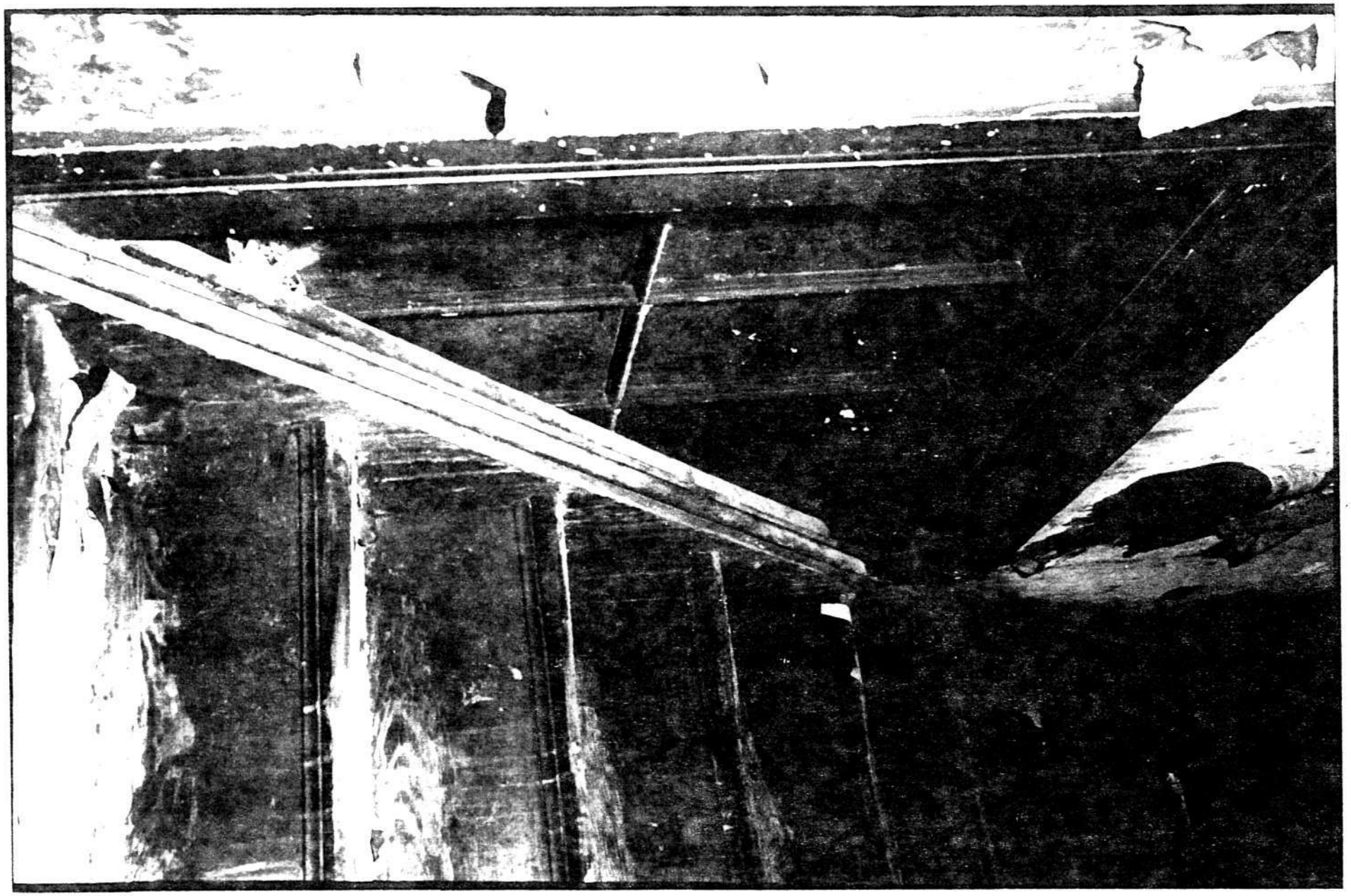
1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Structural crack, rear wall, Fourth floor #627
7 Roll 4 #23 of 68

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Stair detail, First to Second floor #629
7 Roll 4 #29 of 68

57 of 68

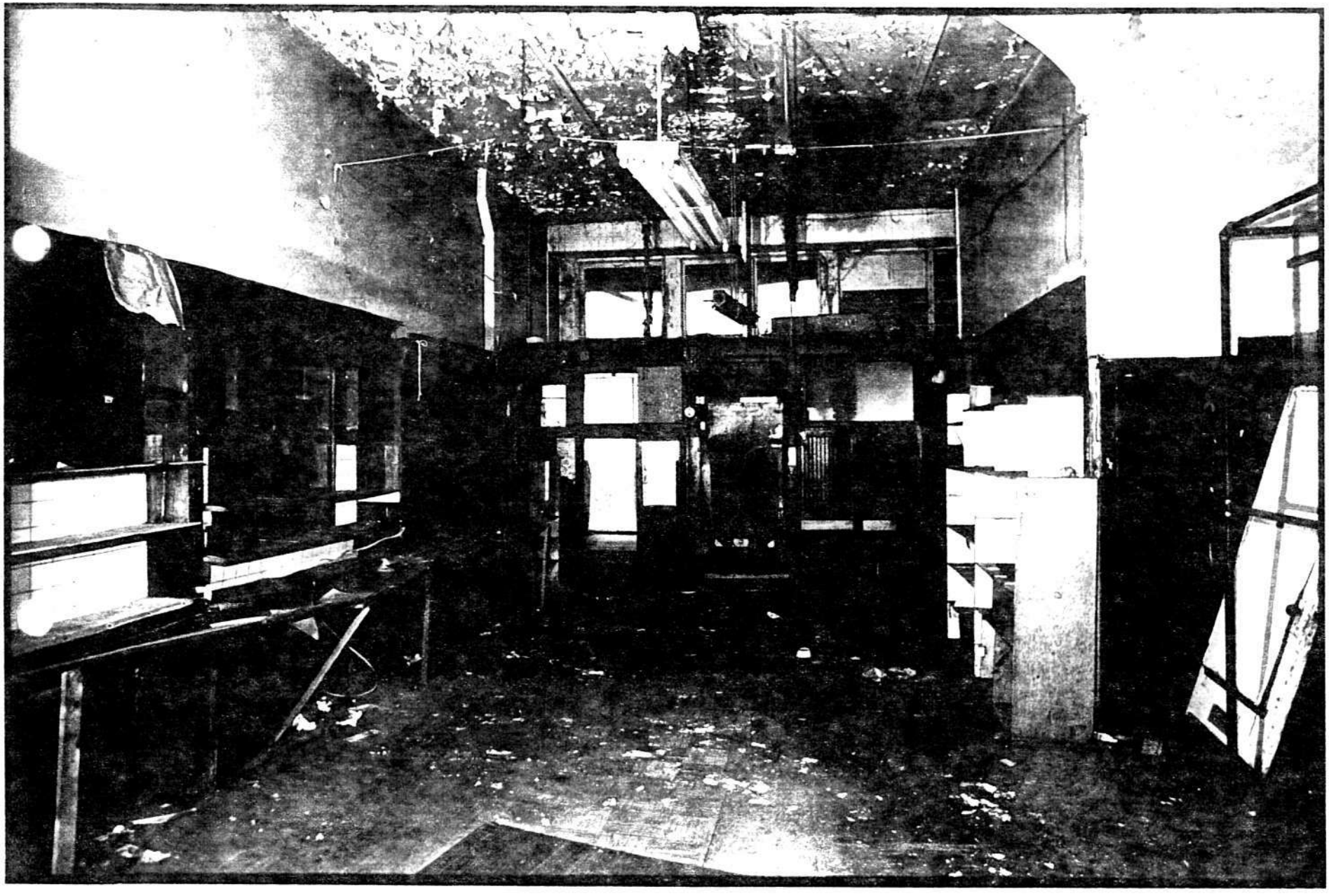


1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Fireplace, Second floor Middle room #629
7 Roll 4 #31 of 68

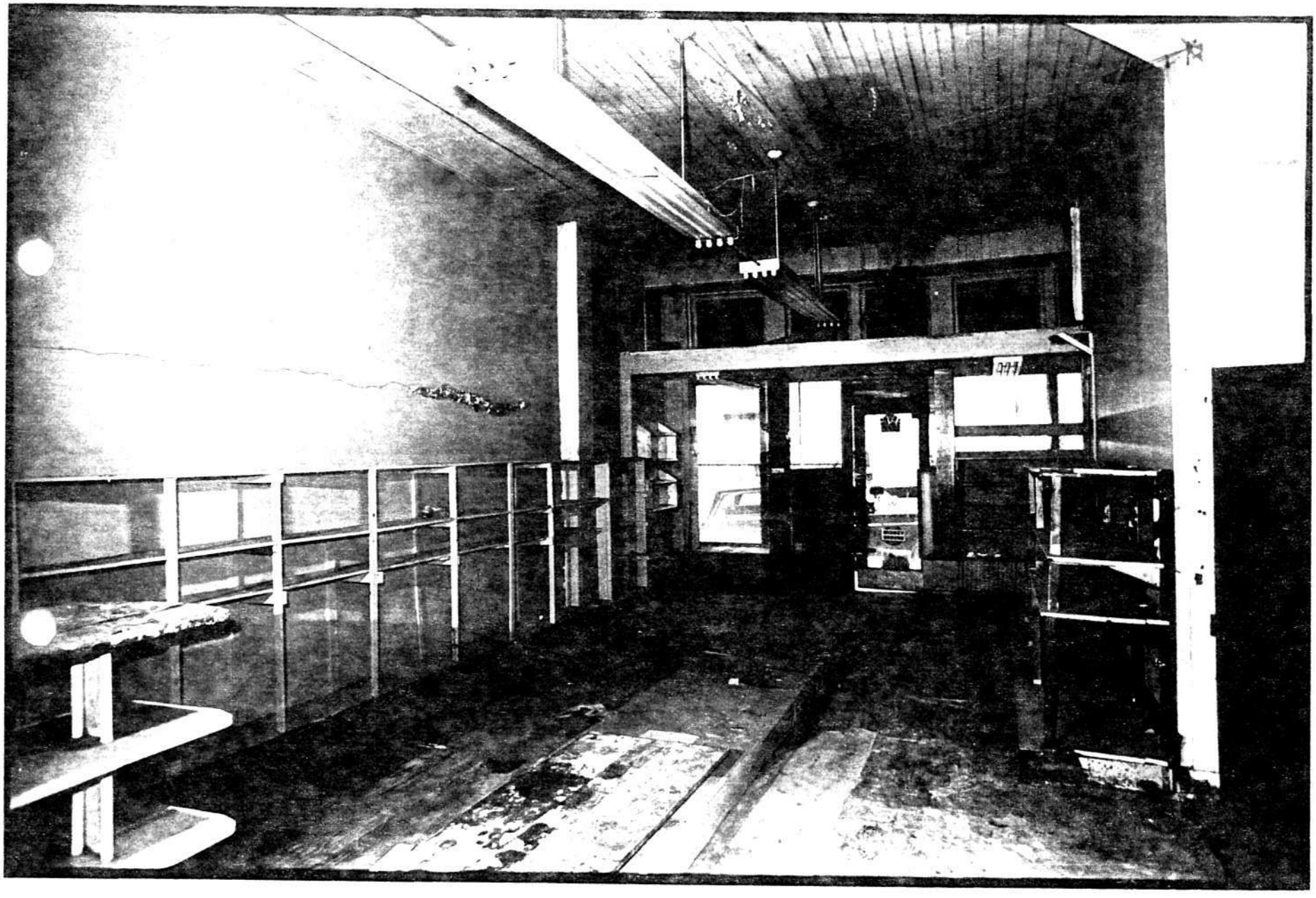


1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 Stair covers window, First floor West wall #631
7 Roll 4 #35 of 68

59

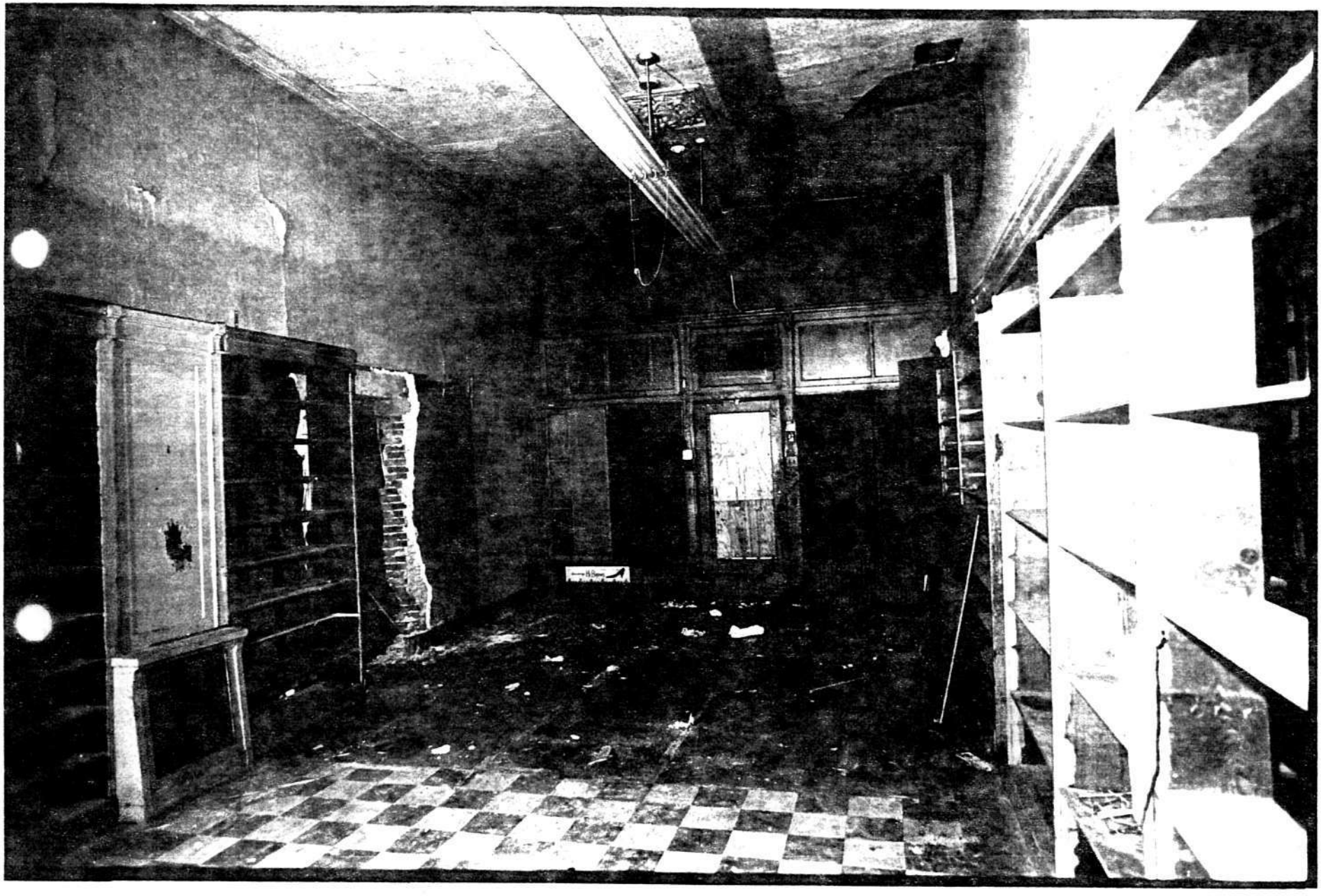


1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 January 14, 1984
6 General view looking North - First
floor of #619
7 Roll 6 #9



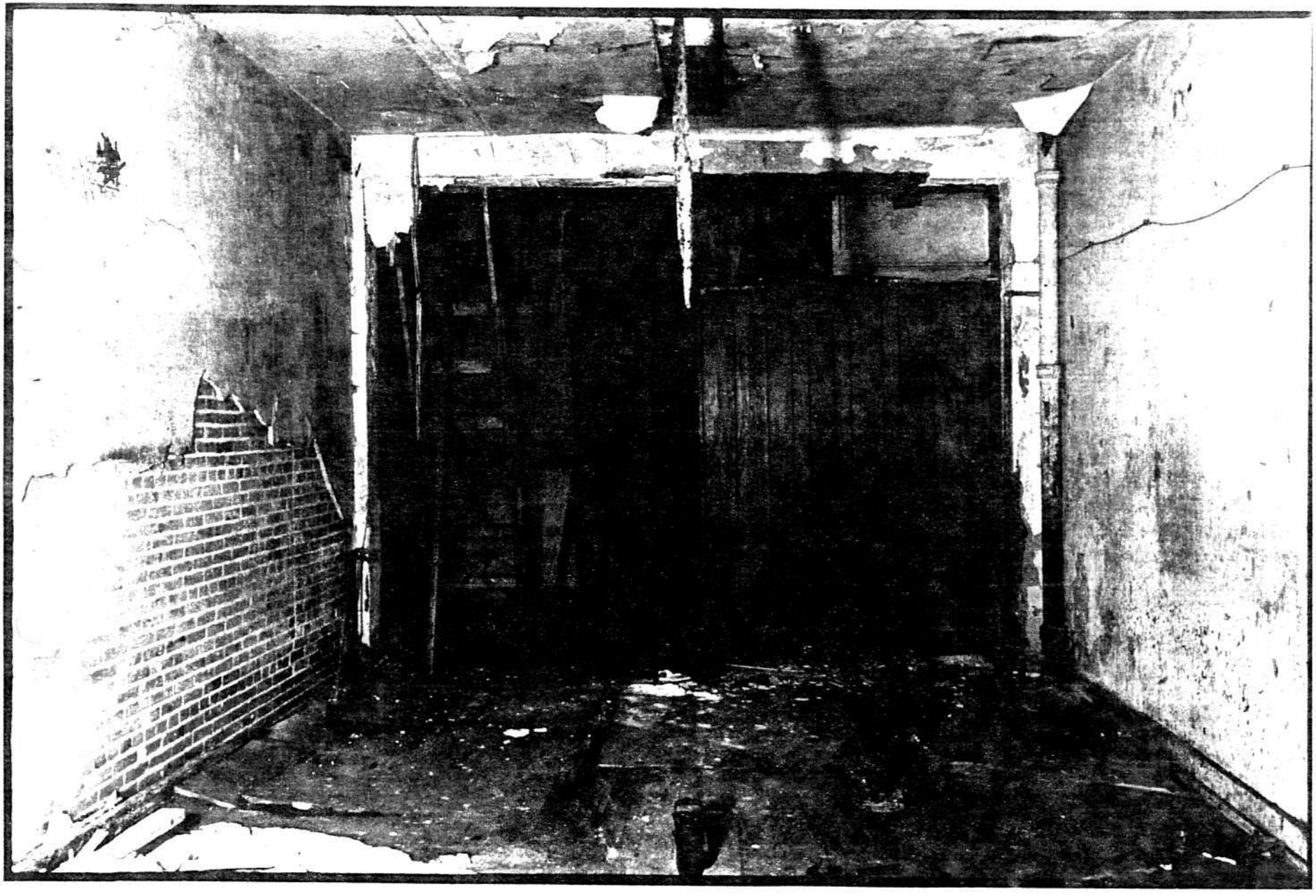
1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul F. McKean
5 January 14, 1984
6 North view of first floor of #621
7 Roll 6 #16

61 of 68



1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 January 14, 1984
6 General view looking North - First
floor #623
7 Roll 6 #23

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 January 14, 1984
6 General view looking North - First
floor #625
7 Roll 6 #21

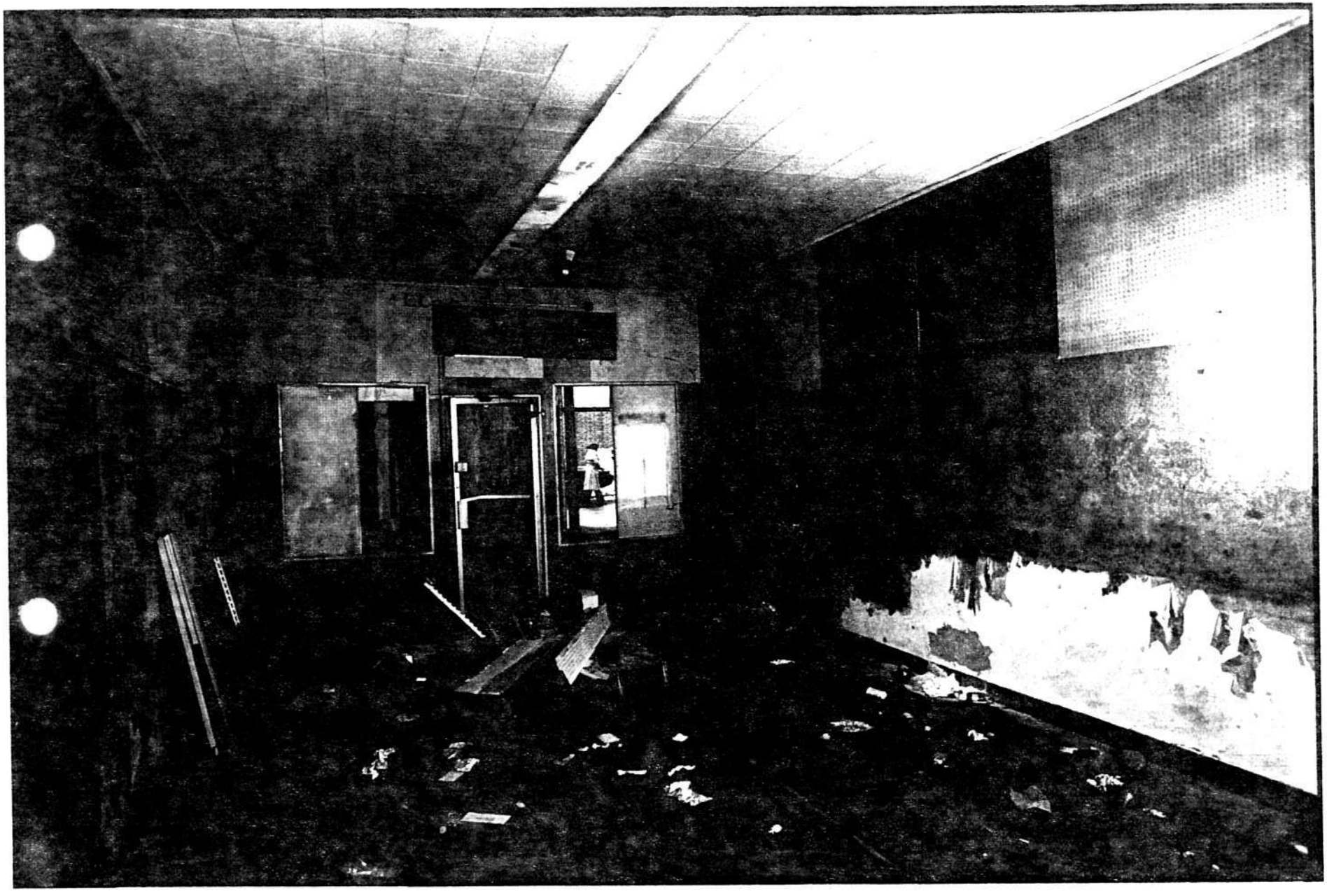


1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 North view, First floor, #627
7 Roll 4 #15 of 68

64 of 68

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 January 14, 1984
6 North view of first floor of #629
7 Roll 6 #29

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul F. McKean
5 January 14, 1984
6 North view of first floor of # 631
7 Roll 6 #31



1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 January 14, 1984
6 North view of first floor of #631
7 Roll 6 #33

1 RIEMAN BLOCK B-3995
2 617-631 West Lexington Street
Baltimore, Maryland
3 Photographer - Tom Miller
4 Negatives held by Paul McKean
5 December 16, 1983
6 View of top of storefront column #631
7 Roll 5 #9 of 68

68 of 68

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Form Approved
OMB No. 42-R1765

B-3995

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Washington D.C. 20240

# HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION APPLICATION—PART 1

*Instructions: Applicant should read the instructions carefully before completing application. No certification may be made unless a completed application form has been received. Use typewriter or print clearly in dark ink to complete the application form. If additional space is needed to complete Part 1, use the reverse side or a separate plain sheet of paper clearly indicating the owner's name and mailing address. Part 1 of this application may be completed and sent to the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer at anytime during the year.*

## PART 1 EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

1. Name of property: Rieman Block

Address of property: 617-631 West Lexington St.

City Baltinore County _____ State Md Zip Code 21201

Name of historic district in which property is located:

Check here if request is for: National Register nomination pending
☐ certification (structure contributes to significance of the district)
☐ decertification (structure does not contribute to significance of the district)
☐ easement qualification (for donation of easement on structure or land for conservation purposes).

2. **Description of Physical Appearance:**
*(see instructions for map and photograph requirements-use reverse side if necessary)*

Please see attached National Register Application description.

3. **Statement of Significance:**
*(use reverse side if necessary)*

Please see attached National Register Application statement of significance.

Date of construction (if known): 1880 ☒ Original site _____ ☐ Moved ☐ Date of alterations (if known): _____

4. **Name and Mailing Address of Owner:**

Name Paul F. McKean and Margaret F. McKean

Street 2919 Caves Road

City Owings Mills, State Md. Zip Code 21117

Telephone number (during day) Area Code (301) 363-0720

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is to the best of my knowledge, correct, and that I am owner of the property described above.

Signature [signature] Date 30 Jan 84

Social Security Number or Taxpayer Identification Number [redacted]

For office use only

The structure described above is included within the boundaries of a Registered Historic District and ☐ contributes ☐ does not contribute to the character of the district.

The structure ☑ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) and ☑ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with the Department of the Interior procedures (36 CRF 60)

The structure is located in a district which ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) and ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60). and ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to contribute to the character of said district or ☐ will likely ☐ will not be recommended for certification as substantially meeting National Register criteria.

Signature [signature] Date 4-6-84
State Historic Preservation Officer

B-3995

# Continuation Sheet Historic Preservation Certification Application - Part 1

TO BE COMPLETED BY SHPO OFFICE.
If request is for CERTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANCE or DE-CERTIFICATION, complete 1, 3 and 4.
If request is for PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION, complete 2, 3 and 4.

☐ DETAILED HCRS REVIEW REQUESTED

☐ PRECEDENT SETTING DECISION FOR SHPO

Name of Property: Riemon Block Street Address: 617-631 West Lexington Street
City Baltimore County N/A State Maryland
Name of Historic District: N/A
☐ National Register
☐ Certified State/Local
☒ Not yet listed/certified

_____ date completed information received by SHPO _____ date of this transmittal to HCRS

**1** TO BE COMPLETED FOR STRUCTURES LOCATED WITHIN REGISTERED HISTORIC DISTRICTS

Please check one of (a), (b), or (c) according to which of the Secretary's "Standards for Evaluating Structures within Registered Historic Districts" applies.

(a) ____ The structure contributes to the historic significance of this district in the following categories checked:

____ location ____ design ____ setting
____ materials ____ workmanship ____ feeling & association

The district is characterized as follows: (1 or 2 sentences)

Explain briefly the application of Standard (a) in terms of the particular characteristics of this structure which are relevant to the qualities of this district: (1 or 2 sentences)

(b) ____ The structure does not contribute to the historic significance of this district because ____ it detracts from the sense of time & place & historic development and/or
____ the integrity of original design or individual architectural features or spaces have been lost and/or
____ it cannot reasonably be returned to a state of utility through rehabilitation.

The district is characterized as follows: (1 or 2 sentences)

Explain briefly the application of Standard (b). Optional: Attach structural report to support recommendation of de-certification.

(c) ____ The structure, being less than 50 years old, is evaluated by Standard (c).
____ A strong justification for certification is given, or the historic attributes of the district are less than 50 years old, or
____ the structure should not be certified.

According to Standard (c), briefly explain why the structure should or should not be considered eligible for certification in terms of the particular characteristics of this structure which are relevant to the qualities of this district. Include a brief characterization of the district.



(continued on reverse side)

B-3995

2 TO BE COMPLETED FOR PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION THAT STRUCTURE IS A POTENTIAL CERTIFIED HISTORIC STRUCTURE.

Nomination status of property (Please check one)

___ Nomination has already been submitted to State review board and, if passed by them, property will be nominated within next six months.

X Nomination is expected to be submitted to State review board within the next year. on 17 April 1984

___ Nomination process is expected to be completed within thirty months.

___ Property is located in a local historic district for which adequate documentation for certification purposes has been received.

Evaluation of property (Please complete either A or B )

A Complete this section if property is a structure which is individually eligible.

1. This property meets the following National Register Criteria for Evaluation:

X A X B X C ___ D; Exceptions ___

2. Statement of the significance of the structure:

see attached

B Complete this section if property is located within a district which is a potential Registered Historic District.

1. This district meets the following National Register Criteria for Evaluation:

___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D; Exceptions ___

2. Brief description and statement of the significance of the district:

3. This structure appears to contribute to the significance of said district for the following reasons:

3 The following information is enclosed:

✓ photos of facades and streetscape

✓ photos of interiors if significant

___ signed, completed application form

X map locating structure within historic district boundaries

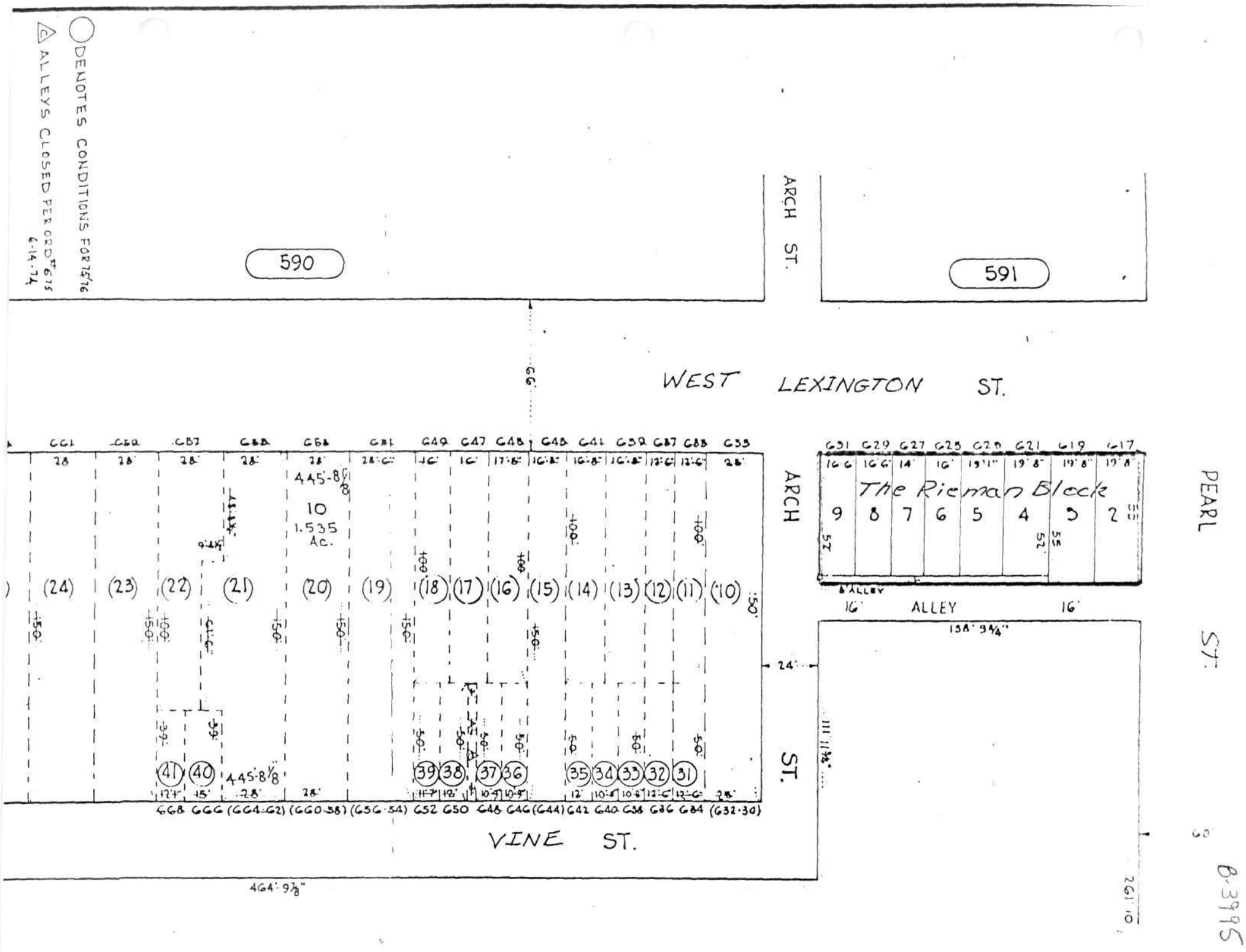
___ additional SHPO comments on attached sheet

4 This application has been reviewed by a professionally qualified architectural historian, historian or architect on the State staff.

R. Lindsley 16 March 1984

Signature of Reviewer Date

GPO 878 887



DENOTES CONDITIONS FOR 75/76
ALLEYS CLOSED PER ORD # 675
6-14-74
590
591
ARCH ST.
WEST LEXINGTON ST.
PEARL ST.
The Rieman Block
ALLEY
VINE ST.
ARCH ST.
445-8 1/8
10
1.535 Ac.
464' 9 7/8"
261' 10


B-3995

B-3995

RIEMAN BLOCK
M.L. KING JR BLVD.
ARCH ST.
PEARL ST.
GREENE ST
PRATT ST
LOMBARD ST
BALTIMORE AVE
FAYETTE ST
LEXINGTON ST
SARATOGA ST
PARK AVE
CHARLES ST
LIGHT ST