

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Savings Bank of Baltimore (preferred)

and/or common Bank of Baltimore

2. Location

street & number 1 East Baltimore Street not for publication

city, town Baltimore vicinity of congressional district 3rd

state Maryland county

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Bank of Baltimore

street & number 1 East Baltimore Street telephone no.:

city, town Baltimore state and zip code Maryland 21202

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Land Records liber SCL 5397

street & number 100 N. Calvert Street, Courthouse West, Rm. 610 folio 433

city, town Baltimore state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. B-4036

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary:

Located at the important intersection of Charles and Baltimore Streets, the Savings Bank of Baltimore was designed to resemble a Greek Temple. The building features authentic Greek detailing including: Ionic columns; egg and dart molding; acoteron; labyrinth fretwork; bronze urns and lions head ornamentation. On the Baltimore Street facade, four large Ionic columns support an immense pediment that projects from the building walls. Patera are located on the frieze and acoteron emphasize the peak and corners of the pediment. The Charles Street facade features a colonnade of six Ionic columns and similar detailing as the Baltimore Street facade. The entire building sits on a pedestal of large marble steps. In the 1950's, the interior of the building was modernized, but a renovation, recently completed, has returned some classical decoration to the former large banking space.

(continue, please)

8. Significance

Survey No. B-4036

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 1905-1907 Builder/Architect Parker & Thomas/John Hiltz & Son

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Summary:

The Savings Bank of Baltimore is one of the most notable buildings constructed after the Baltimore Fire. Based on the Erechtheion, a temple of the Acropolis in Athens, it represents the finest post-Fire building designed as a revival of early architectural styles. It was known as the "Temple of Thrift," and the bank's present logo is based upon the building's Baltimore Street facade. The interior of the building was completely altered in 1954, eliminating a monumental banking space. This space was recently renovated with classical detailing. The Savings Bank of Baltimore is one of the oldest financial institutions in Baltimore, founded in 1818. Many important Baltimoreans were involved in the founding and operation of this bank. They include: Johns Hopkins, Issac McKim, Moses Sheppard and Enoch Pratt. The institution was so important to Baltimore's financial health, that it was housed in the Baltimore City Courthouse after the Baltimore Fire and until the completion of this building on December 6, 1907.

(continue, please)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. B-4036

Baltimore Sun, February 17, 1905 (permit issued)

"Bank Buildings of Baltimore", Architectural Record, July, 1907.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .315

Quadrangle name Baltimore East

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

Verbal boundary description and justification

A lot 96'x143' at the southeast corner of Baltimore and Charles Street known as Block 648, Lot 1.

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

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Fred B. Shoken, Historical Preservation Analyst

organization Comm. for Hist. & Arch. Pres. (CHAP) date July, 1985

street & number Rm. 606, Tower Suites, 118 N. Howard St. telephone (301) 396-4866

city or town Baltimore state Maryland

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

Savings Bank of Baltimore (B-4036)
Baltimore (City), Maryland

Description Continued Page 1
General Description:

The Savings Bank of Baltimore is a marble, Classical Greek structure, located in the Financial District. The two and one half story structure follows the strict Classical order in its pedimented portico, fluted columns, ornate decorations and symmetry. Completed in 1907, the structure has been well maintained and remains consistent with its original design. The only exception is the alteration of the interior which first took place in the 1950s and was remodeled later in 1985.

The exterior of the structure is of white Beaver Dam marble, with exception of the doors and cast iron grillwork over the windows. The building has three visible elevations: the front facade at Baltimore Street, the side Charles Street elevation and the southern rear elevation on Wine Alley. Along the Baltimore Street facade, two large cast iron urns set upon marble pedestals define the entrance portico of the building. Each of the urns have four lions head decorations. The urns are supported by legs that terminate as lion's paws. The supporting pedestals are carved with oak leaf and acorn drapery. Four large columns extend from the base of the building to the architrave of the portico. At the base of each graduated, fluted shaft is a ring of carved guilloche and pellet molding. The columns are capped in the Ionic order.

A central entrance, located above a flight of steps between the second and third columns, features a bronze double door set into a classical Greek surround. The doorway is outlined with detailed bands of egg and dart, guilloche and pellet molding. The classical Ionic doorway is surmounted by a window featuring a geometric grill. Small slit openings flank the entrance and are surmounted by large windows featuring identical grills. Under the windows is a band of labyrinth fretwork. The coffered portico ceiling has been slightly altered with some light fixtures.

The columns support a pedimented portico. Three bands of egg and dart molding are located below the frieze which is adorned with four patera decorations above each column. Acoterialion define the peak and ends of the pediment. A small cornice on either side of the portico features lions head decorations.

The side Charles Street elevation is approximately twice as long as the front facade. This elevation rests on a series of marble steps which rise as the land slopes to the south. The elevation is dominated by a large Ionic colonnade. Two urns identical to those on Baltimore Street define the side entrance at Charles Street. Above a band of Greek fretwork, large windows with grills punctuate the recessed building walls between the six, fluted Ionic columns. The facade ends with a strong cornice decorated with lions heads.

The original interior of this building featured a single large banking space. In 1954, it was modernized and a second floor level was added reducing the size of the main banking space. The large windows on Charles Street which had allowed a great deal of light to flood the main banking space, were covered on the interior. A recent renovation to the interior of the building has increased the height of the main banking space and re-introduced Classical ornamentation to the interior of the building.

Savings Bank of Baltimore (B-4036)
Baltimore (City), Maryland

Significance Continued Page 1
History and Support:

On January 1, 1818, a group of Baltimore's most distinguished citizens met at the Indian Queen Hotel at Baltimore and Hannover Streets, to plan for a new savings bank modeled upon similar banks in other American cities. The bank was established and opened for business on March 16, 1818. The purpose of the bank was to establish a safe depository for small savings of less well to do citizens of Baltimore. Its structure was unique since there were no stockholders to share in profits, the bank was managed by a board of distinguished citizens solely in the interest and for the profit of its depositors.

Many important Baltimoreans were responsible for the founding of the Savings Bank of Baltimore. Among them were: Fielding Lucas, founder of Lucas Brothers; Jesse Hunt and Jacob Small, early Mayors of Baltimore; Mosses Sheppard, founder of Sheppard Pratt Hospital; Alexander Brown, founder of America's oldest investment banking house; and Issac McKim, of Clipper ship fame. Other distinguished citizens were associated with the bank in later years, including: Johns Hopkins, Enoch Pratt and Robert Garrett.

The bank grew slowly in its early years, because it was the policy of the bank to refuse deposits from those it considered not to be in need of its services. Amounts of deposits were limited in order to ensure that the bank was truly serving the "worthy poor." However, by 1867 it had over 23,000 depositors and over \$7,000,000 in deposits. Despite depressions in the nineteenth century and panic during the Civil War, the bank met all depositor demands without borrowing from other institutions.

From 1853 until the Baltimore Fire, the bank was located at the northwest corner of Gay and Water Streets in a brownstone building. The building was destroyed in the Baltimore Fire, but its vault was not damaged protecting approximately \$25,000,000 in cash and securities. After the fire, the bank was housed in the Baltimore City Courthouse for 3 1/2 years, a testament to the importance of this institution to the City. The bank relocated after the fire to the corner of Baltimore and Charles Streets, the center of Baltimore. The firm of Parker and Thomas was commissioned to design a structure worthy of the importance of this financial institution.

Parker and Thomas had designed the Belvedere Hotel and two bank structures, the Alex Brown and Sons Building and the International Trust Company (demolished), that had survived the Baltimore Fire relatively intact. This firm (which later included Arthur W. Rice as a principle) would go on to design many notable Baltimore buildings including: The B & O Building, Gilman Hall of Johns Hopkins University, Hansa Haus and Baltimore Gas and Electric Building.

Their design for the Savings Bank of Baltimore provided Baltimore with a unique structure, a successful reproduction of a Greek Temple. An article from the Architectural Record of August 1907 praised the building stating, "...it's directors naturally desired that its building should express not only security and strength, but institutional dignity; and the design of the architects with its massive marble columns and its huge scale is precisely adapted to inspire the people of Baltimore with awe and respect."

The Savings Bank of Baltimore is a realistic adaptation of the Erechtheion (or Erechtheum), a temple on the Acropolis of Athens and was the most important monument of the Ionic style. Great care was taken in reproducing original Greek

Savings Bank of Baltimore (B-4036)
Baltimore (City), Maryland

Significance Continued Page 2

ornamentation, even to the degree of taking a plaster mold from a lion's head in Greece. Other authentic ornamentation includes: fretwork, egg and dart molding, guilloche, patera and palmettes. It is the most authentic reproduction of Greek architecture ever produced in Baltimore. The building was called the "Temple of Thrift," and a logo based on its design is still used by the bank.

The exterior of this structure has not changed significantly since it was completed in 1907. The most recent change has been new signage after the bank changed its name to the "Bank of Baltimore." The interior was totally modernized in 1954 with the addition of a floor, but a recent renovation has returned some classical detailing to the structure.

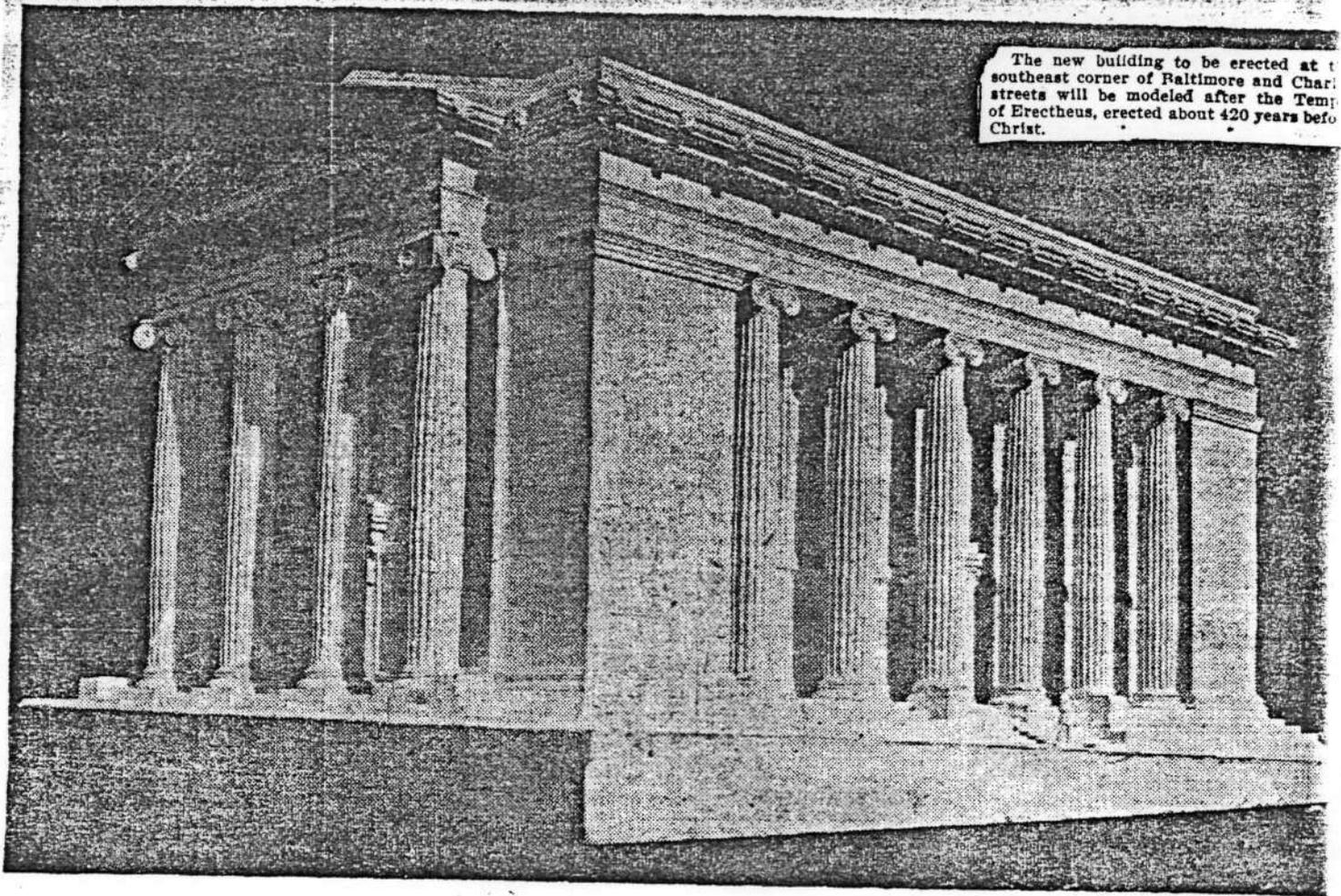
B-4034

BALTIMORE FINANCIAL DISTRICT SURVEY

Address: 1 East Baltimore Street

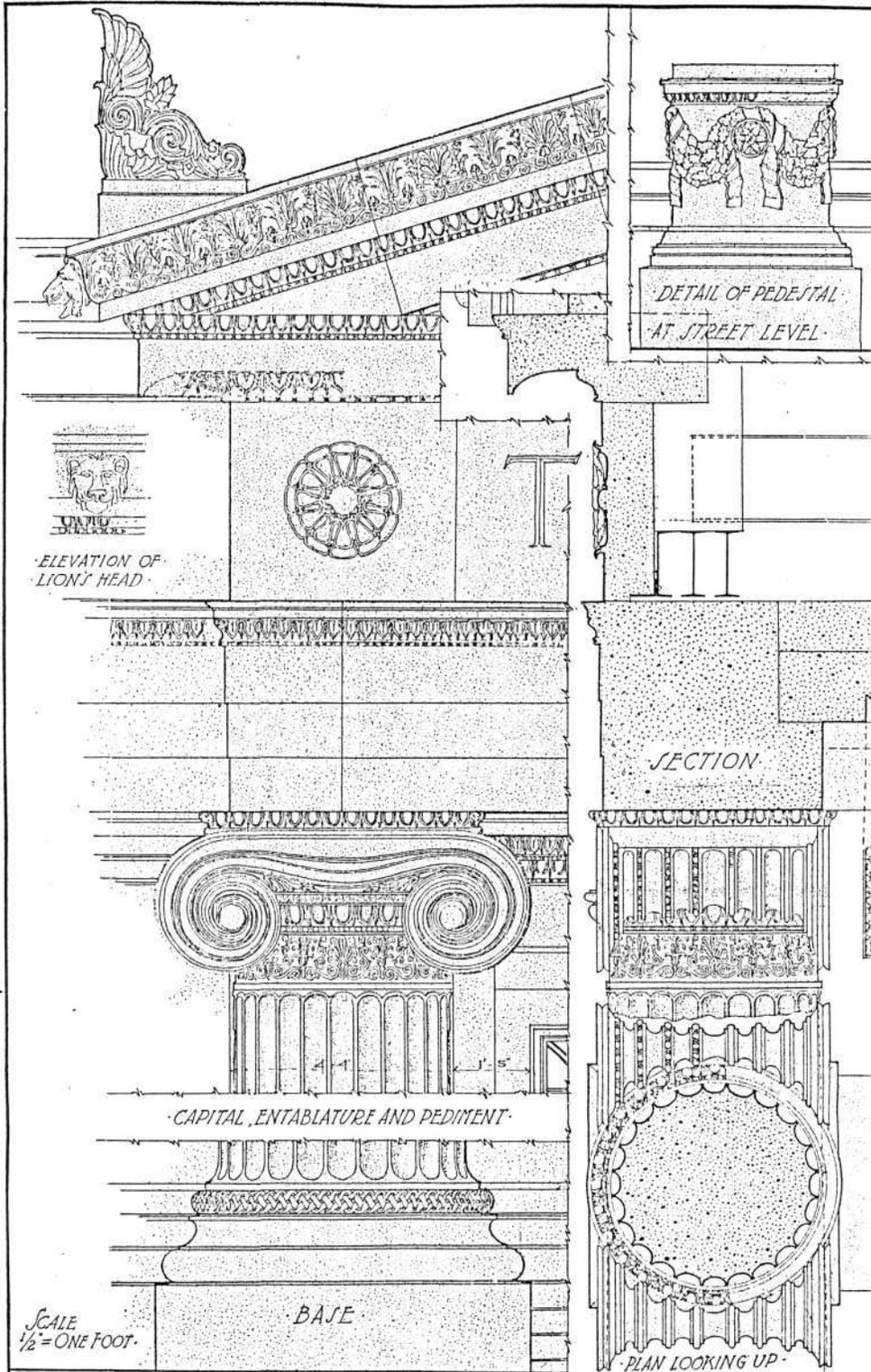
DESIGN OF NEW BUILDING FOR THE SAVINGS BANK OF BALTIMORE.

The new building to be erected at the southeast corner of Baltimore and Charles streets will be modeled after the Temple of Erectheus, erected about 420 years before Christ.



B-4036

Baltimore Financial District Survey
Savings Bank of Baltimore -- 1 East Baltimore Street
From: Architectural Record August 1913



SCALE
1/2" = ONE FOOT.

ARCHITECTURAL RECORD
DETAIL PLATE NO. 11
ISSUE OF AUGUST, 1913.

DETAILS OF THE SAVINGS BANK OF BALTIMORE.

PARKER, THO
AND RICE.

AREA: Financial District

MAGI NO.: 0440365712

Address: 1 East Baltimore Street

Current Name: Bank of Baltimore

Block: 648 Lot: 1

Lot size: 96' x 143'

Height: 2 stories

Materials: Marble

Condition: Good

Owner: Savings Bank of Baltimore

Use: Bank

Accessible: Yes

Designation: None

Liber/Folio: SCL 5397-433



Historic Name: Savings Bank of Baltimore

Date: 1905-1907

Architect/Builder: Parker & Thomas/John Hiltz & Son

Style (if appropriate): Greek Temple

Description:

Located at the important intersection of Charles and Baltimore Streets, the Savings Bank of Baltimore was designed to resemble a Greek Temple. The building features authentic Greek detailing including: Ionic columns; egg and dart molding; acoterial; labyrinth fretwork; bronze urns and lions head ornamentation. On the Baltimore Street facade, four large Ionic columns support an immense pediment that projects from the building walls. Patera are located on the frieze and acoterial emphasize the peak and corners of the pediment. The entrance is located between the central columns above a flight of steps. A classical Ionic doorway is surmounted by a window featuring a geometric grill. Small slit openings flank the entrance and are surmounted by large windows featuring identical grills. Under the windows is a band of labyrinth fretwork. The coffered portico ceiling has been slightly altered with some light fixtures. The Charles Street facade features a colonade of six Ionic columns and similar detailing as the Baltimore Street facade. The entire building sits on a pedestal of large marble steps. In the 1950s, the interior of the building was modernized, but a renovation presently underway is returning some classical decoration to the former large banking space.

Significance:

Area: Architecture

Level:Local

The Savings Bank of Baltimore is one of the most notable buildings constructed after the Baltimore Fire. Based on the Erechtheion, a temple on the Acropolis in Athens, it represents the finest post-Fire building designed as a revival of early architectural styles. It was known as the "Temple of Thrift," and the bank's present logo is based upon the building's Baltimore Street facade. An article from the Architectural Record of August 1907 stated, "...it's directors naturally desired that its bulding should express not only security and strength, but institutional dignity; and the design of the architects with its massive marble columns and its huge scale is precisely adapted to inspire the people of Baltimore with awe and respect." The interior of the building was completely altered in 1953, eliminating a monumental banking space. Today, this space is being renovated with classical detailing. The Savings Bank of Baltimore is one of the oldest financial institutions in Baltimore, founded in 1813. Many important Baltimoreans were involved in the founding and operation of this bank. They include: Johns Hopkins, Issac McKim, Moses Sheppard and Enoch Pratt. The institution was so important to Baltimore's financial health, that it was housed in the Baltimore City Courthouse after the Baltimore Fire and until the completion of this building on December 6, 1907.

Sources: BS 2/17/1905 (permit issued); Maryland Institute Scrapbook; AR 7/1907
Surveyor and Date: Fred B. Shoken, May 1935.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC The Savings Bank of Baltimore
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 1 East Baltimore St.
CITY, TOWN Baltimore VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
STATE Maryland COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME The Savings Bank of Baltimore Telephone #: (301) 244-3360
STREET & NUMBER Baltimore and Charles Sts. MD. 21203
CITY, TOWN Baltimore VICINITY OF STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, LIBER #: SLL 5397
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Land Records, City of Baltimore Folio #: 433
STREET & NUMBER 110 North Calvert, Courthouse West, Room 610
CITY, TOWN Baltimore STATE Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
DATE
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN STATE
_FEDERAL _STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL

B-4036

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED
(just interior)

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

SEE ATTACHMENT- #7 Description

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

B-4036

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 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 1905-1907

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Parker, Thomas, and Rice

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE ATTACHMENT- #8 Significance

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

North sided by Baltimore St, East sided by Savings Bank of Baltimore property. South sided by Wine Ct., between Baltimore and Redwood. West sided by Charles St.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Jane Metzger

ORGANIZATION

Goucher College

DATE

4/28/84

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

337-6000

CITY OR TOWN

Towson

STATE

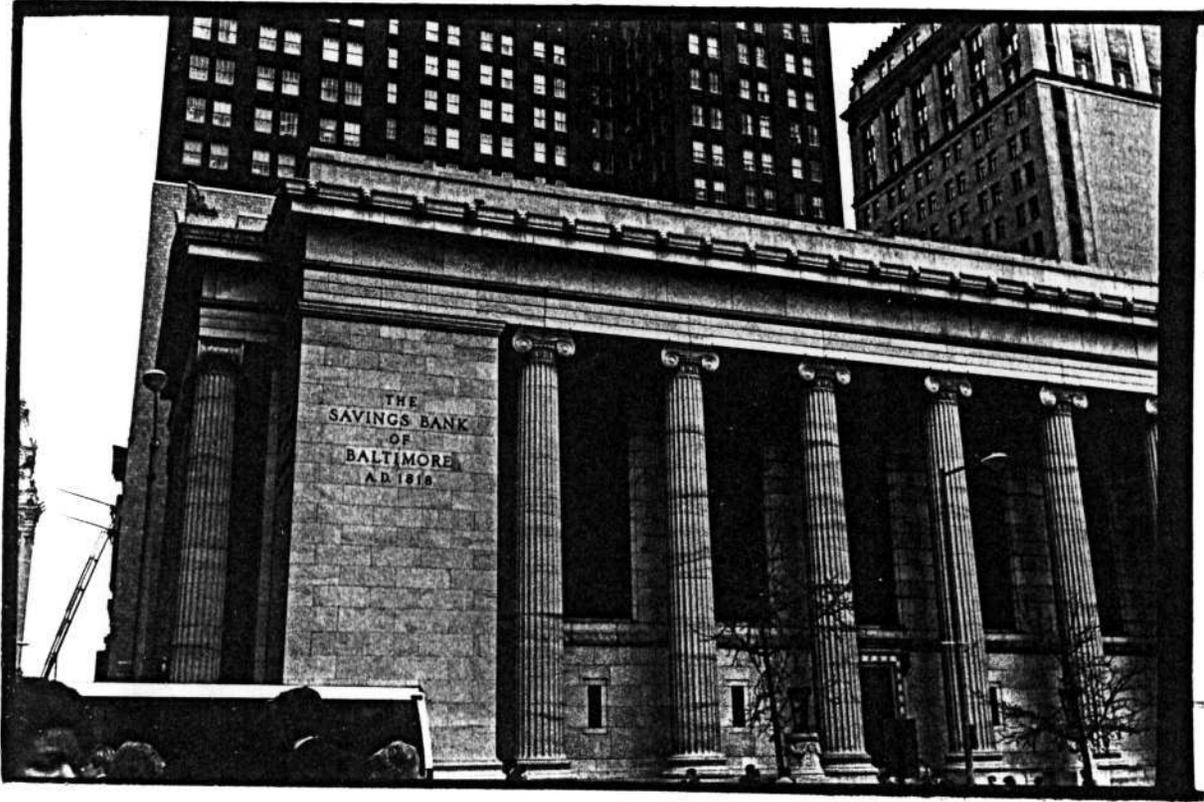
Maryland

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.

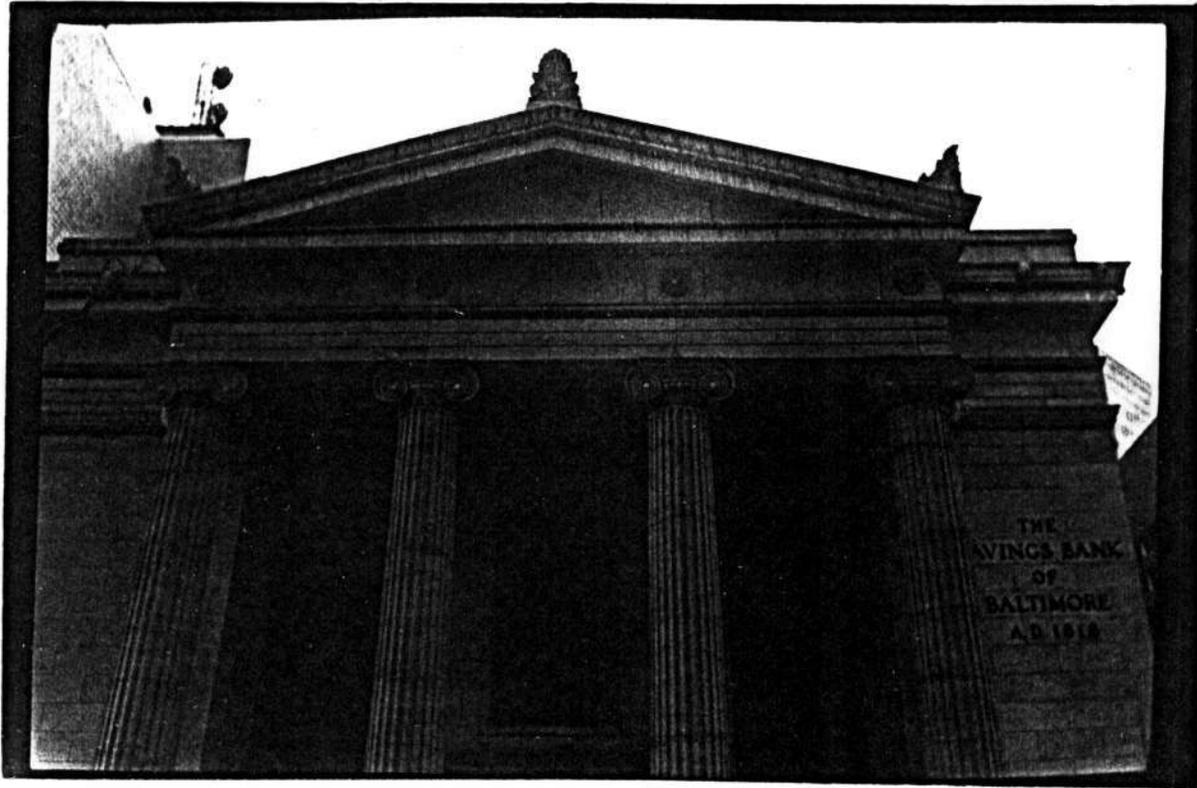
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

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

B-41036



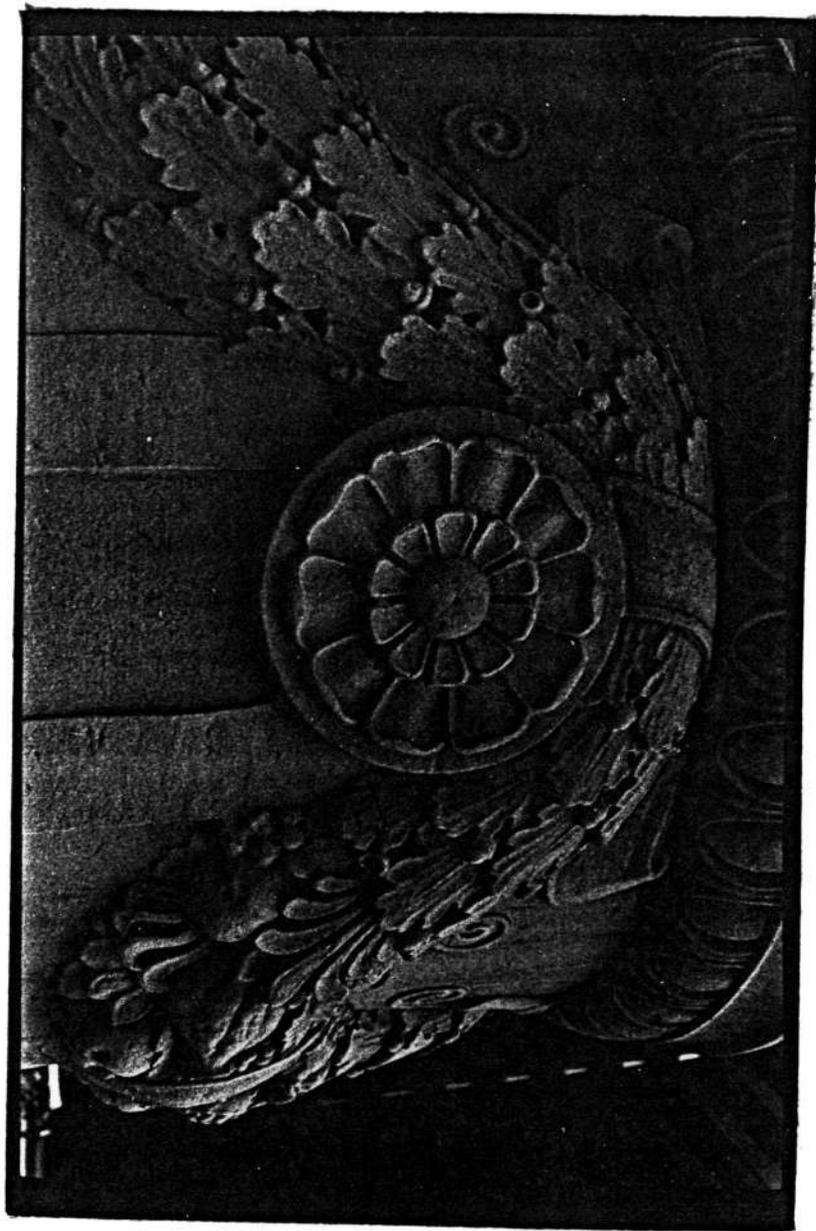
B-4034



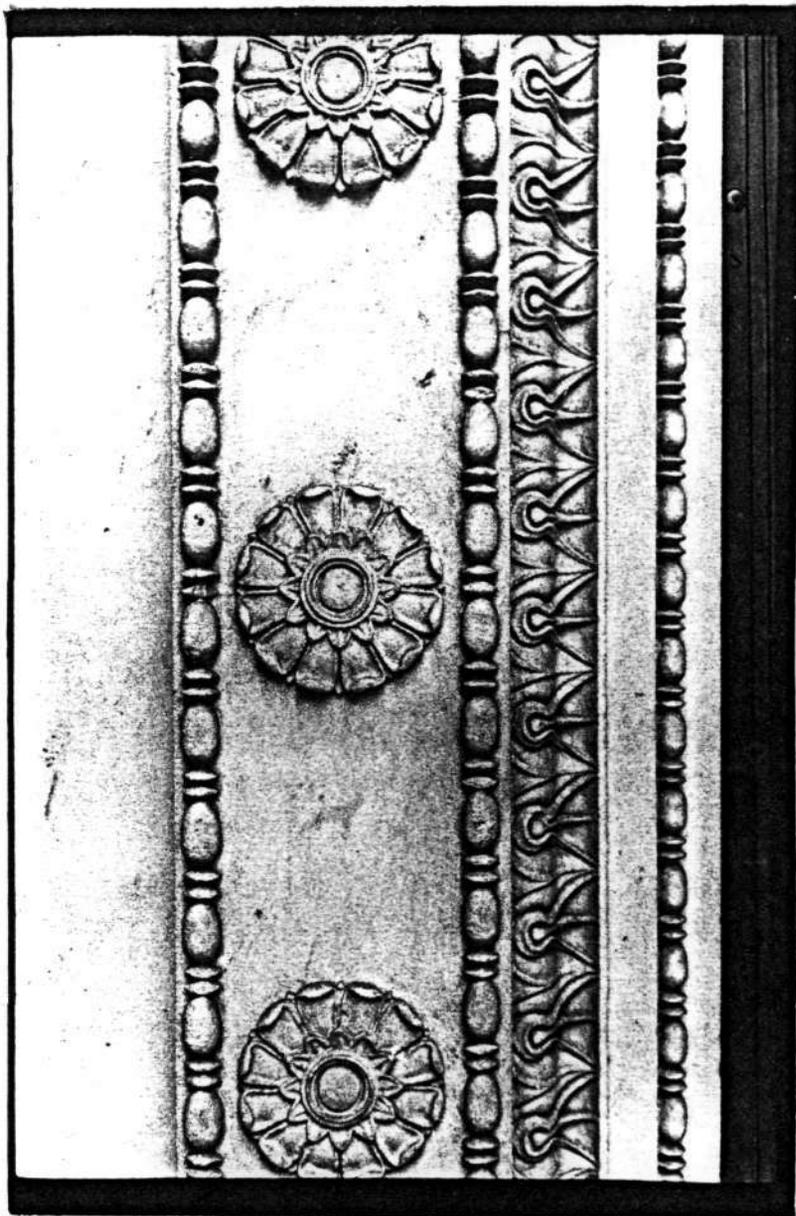
B-4036



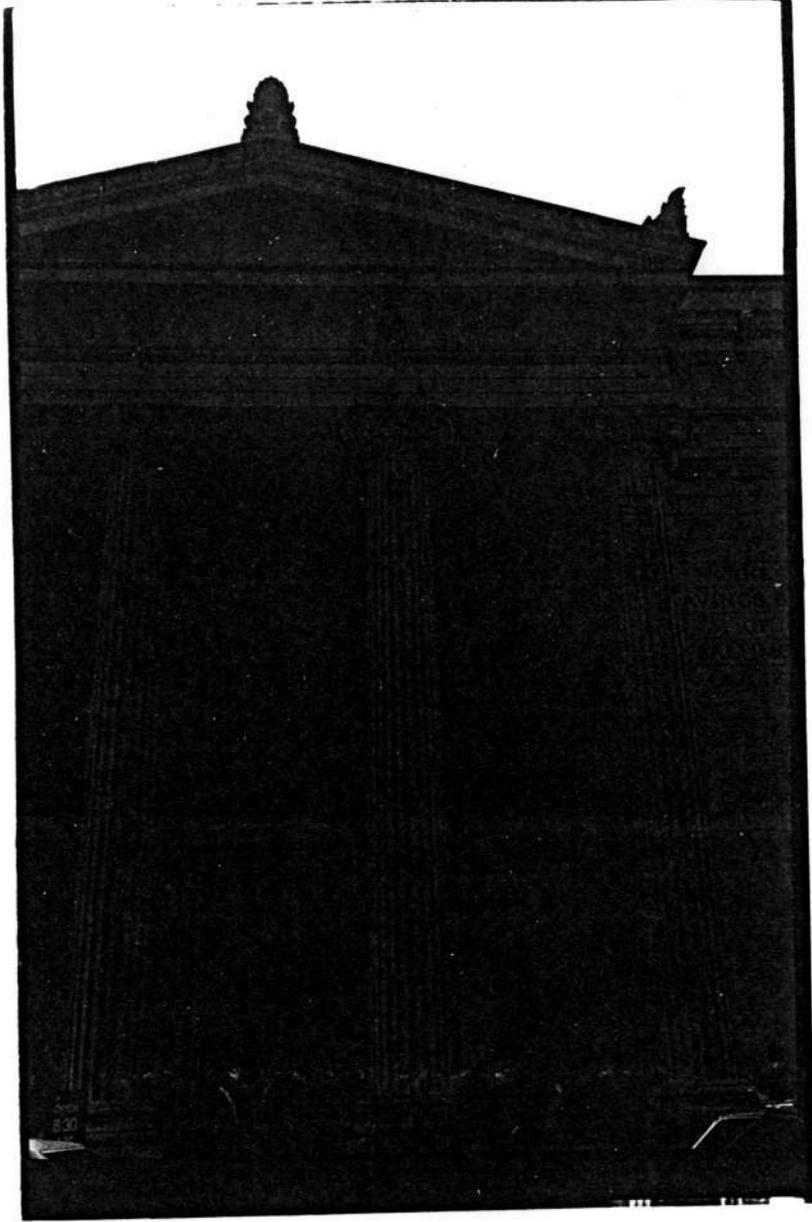
B-4036



B-4036



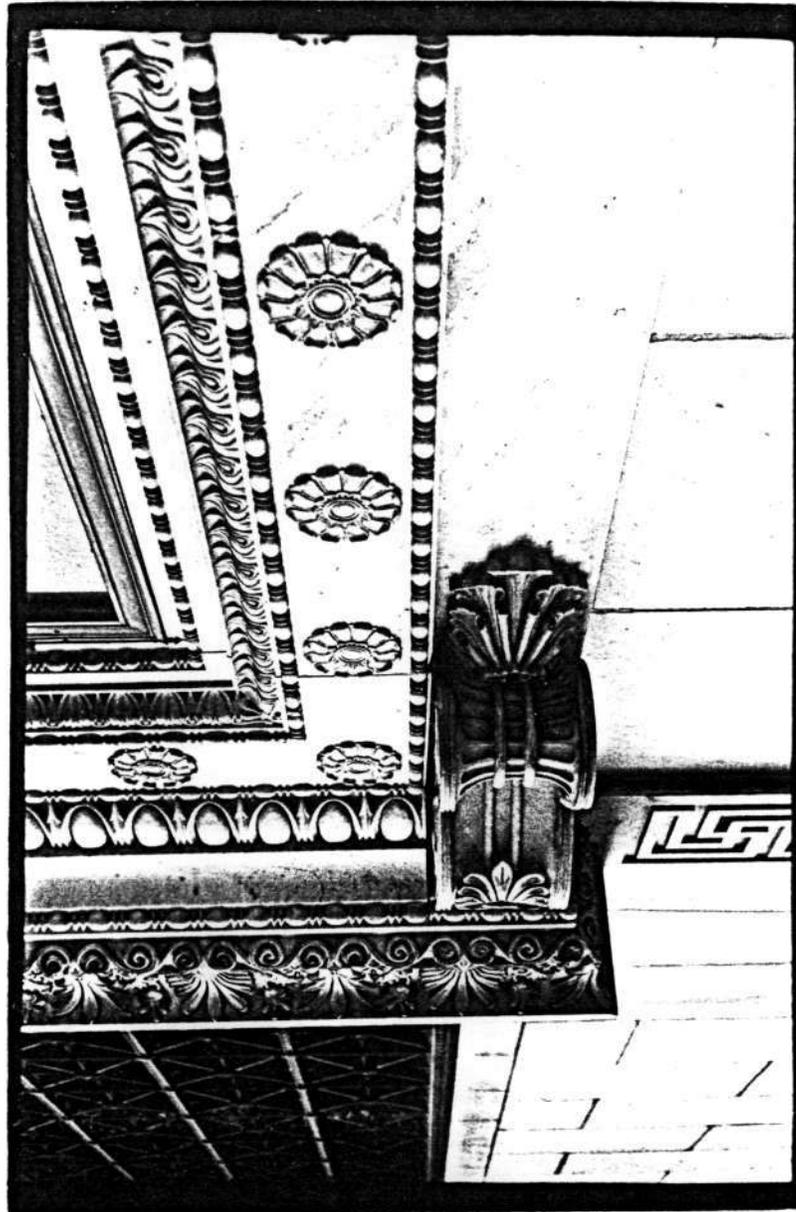
B-4036



B-4036



B-4036



The Savings Bank of Baltimore is a marble, Classical Greek structure, located in the center of the financial district. The two and one half story structure follows the strict Classical order in its pedimented portico, fluted columns, overall symmetry, pedimented doorway and continuity in ornamentation. Completed in 1907, the structure has been well maintained and remains consistent with its original construction. The only exception is the alteration of the interior which took place in the 1950's.

The Bank fronts on the northwest corner of Baltimore Street, sided on the west by Charles Street, and on the south by Wine Court. Its present surroundings have been altered since the Bank's construction in the early Nineteenth century, due to increased pressure for modernization and more efficient land use, making the Savings Bank of Baltimore all the more unique. Despite a change in surroundings, the Bank has maintained the original marble sidewalk that so greatly distinguishes the structure.

The Bank, located in the center of a modernizing financial district, controls its historic presence through maintenance of its original construction. The exterior of the structure is of white Bever Dam marble, with the exception of doors and cast iron grillwork over the windows. Two large cast iron urns set upon marble pedestals are located on the marble sidewalk creating an entranceway to the building. Each of the urns have four

B-4036

lion's heads interspaced with flowers. The urns are supported by legs that terminate as Lion's paws. The supporting pedestals are carved with oak leaf and acorn drapery. Four large columns extend from the sidewalk to the architrave of the portico. At the base of each graduated, fluted shafts is a ring of carved guilloche and pellet molding. The columns are capped in the Ionic order. Located between the second and third columns is the central large doorway topped with a lintel. The doorway is outlined with detailed bands of egg and dart, guilloche and pellet molding. The columns extend to a pedimented portico which extends the length of the facade, and blocks the line of the roof. Three bands of egg and dart molding separate the cornice from the frieze. The frieze is unornamented with the exception of four large flowers evenly spaced, located above the columns below. At the peak of the pediment, extending the width of the structure is a fan and leaf finial. Half-finials, of the same design, are located at each tip of the pediment.

The side facade, facing Charles Street, is approximately twice the length of the front facade. Placed at street level, flanking the fourth and sixth columns, are urns of the above mentioned nature, creating a pathway to the door. The six columns, evenly spaced, rise to the cornice which contains four lion's heads, placed between each column. Below this are three bands of egg and dart molding, continuous with the other

two facades. Greek fret molding extends across the center of the wall, dividing the height into halves. The door and doorway has the same relief flowers and molding as found elsewhere on the building. Large inset windows, extending from below the arch-trave to fret banding, are spaced between the columns. The windows are covered by cast iron grillwork.

The Savings Bank of Baltimore is a unique structure in Baltimore City because of its successful completion of Classical Greek Architecture. This structure, unlike Latrobe's Basillica of the Assumption, which is also of the Greek style, is not an adaptation of the Classical Greek but rather a successful reproduction. The original plan for the building used the Temple of Erectheus for inspiration. The "strong plain corners, decorative columns, and harmony of proportion and purity of line" were maintained in the Baltimore creation.

The Savings Bank of Baltimore incorporates all true elements of the Classical Greek style. The basic shape of building has the essential bilateral symmetry with an portico extending the whole of the front facade. Parker, Thomas and Rice incorporated into the ornamental design repetition of the most important Greek moldings; fret, egg and dart, guilloche, fans (palmats), flowers, and lion's heads. The Architects also took the care of creating a plaster mold from a lion's head in Greece to reproduce essential ornamentation. The Savings Bank of Baltimore is a uniquely fine example of Classical Greek Architecture to Baltimore.

The Executive Committee of The Savings Bank of Baltimore in 1904, commissioned the Architects Parker, Thomas and Rice to create a new "building not only fit for business, but a

worthy example of refined architecture." The Architects, from this description, created a unique and historically correct structure in the City of Baltimore. It is representative of a style that has not been closely reproduced by an architect since then in Baltimore.

The Savings Bank of Baltimore, founded in 1818 is now the third oldest mutual bank in the United States. The Classical Greek architecture is representative of the Bank's stature in the history banking nationally and locally. The present Savings Bank of Baltimore was commissioned to replace the earlier bank structure that was burned during the fire of 1904. Since that time the Bank has become an important visual element in the Baltimore financial district. It is strongly reminiscent of the historical past it conveys. Parker, Thomas and Rice successfully recreated a Classical Greek structure in a way that no other architect has in Baltimore, for an institution of great importance to the city.



RD

ST.

B-4036

REDWOOD

WINE ST

BALTIMORE

FAYETTE

LEXINGTON

DARK

ST.

ST. PAUL

ST

MERCER

TILGHMORE

ST.

CALVER

DAVIS

WATER

ST

ST

WATER

ST.

HOLLIDAY

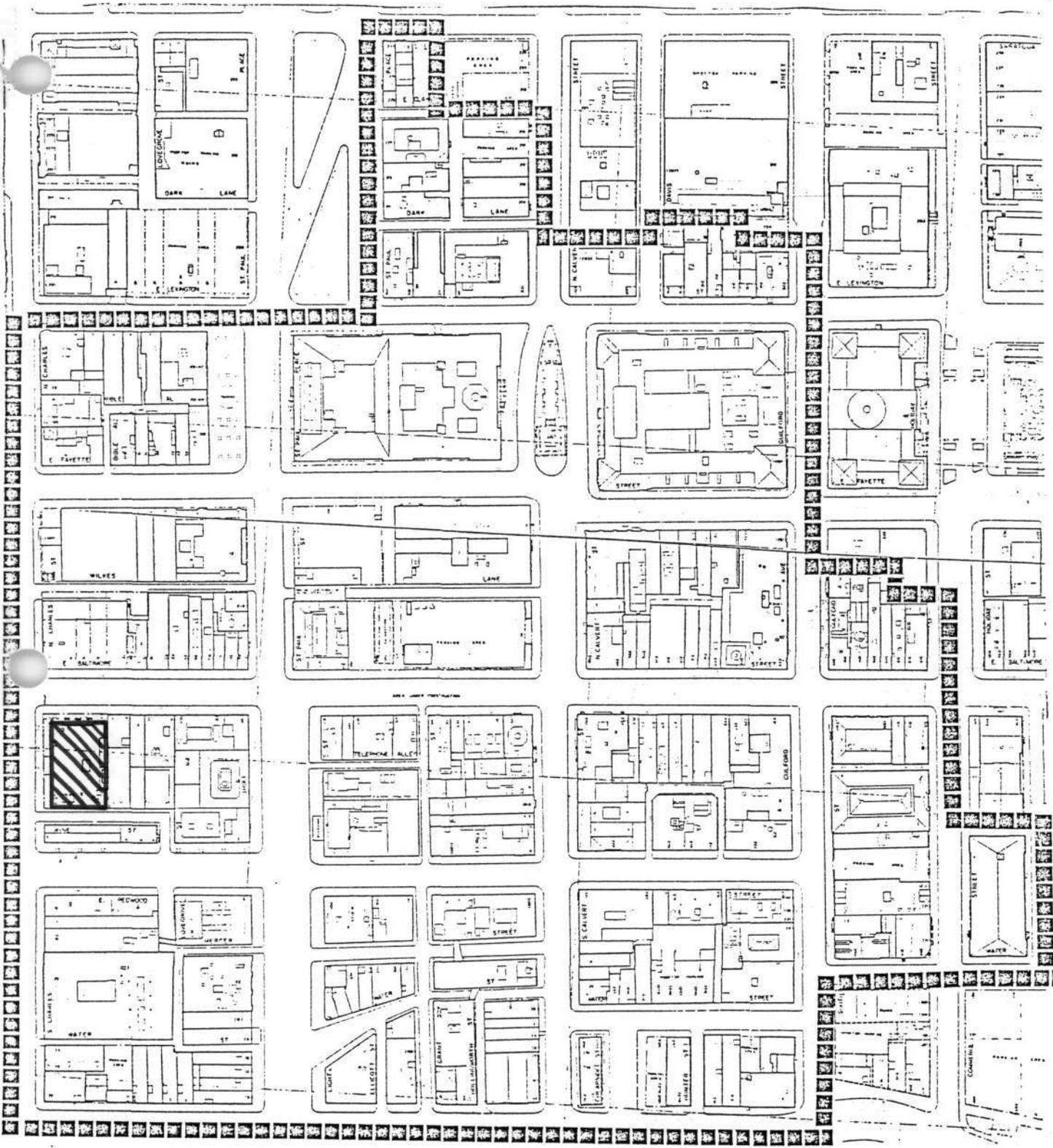
CUSTOM HOUSE

AVE

FREDERIC

ST

S

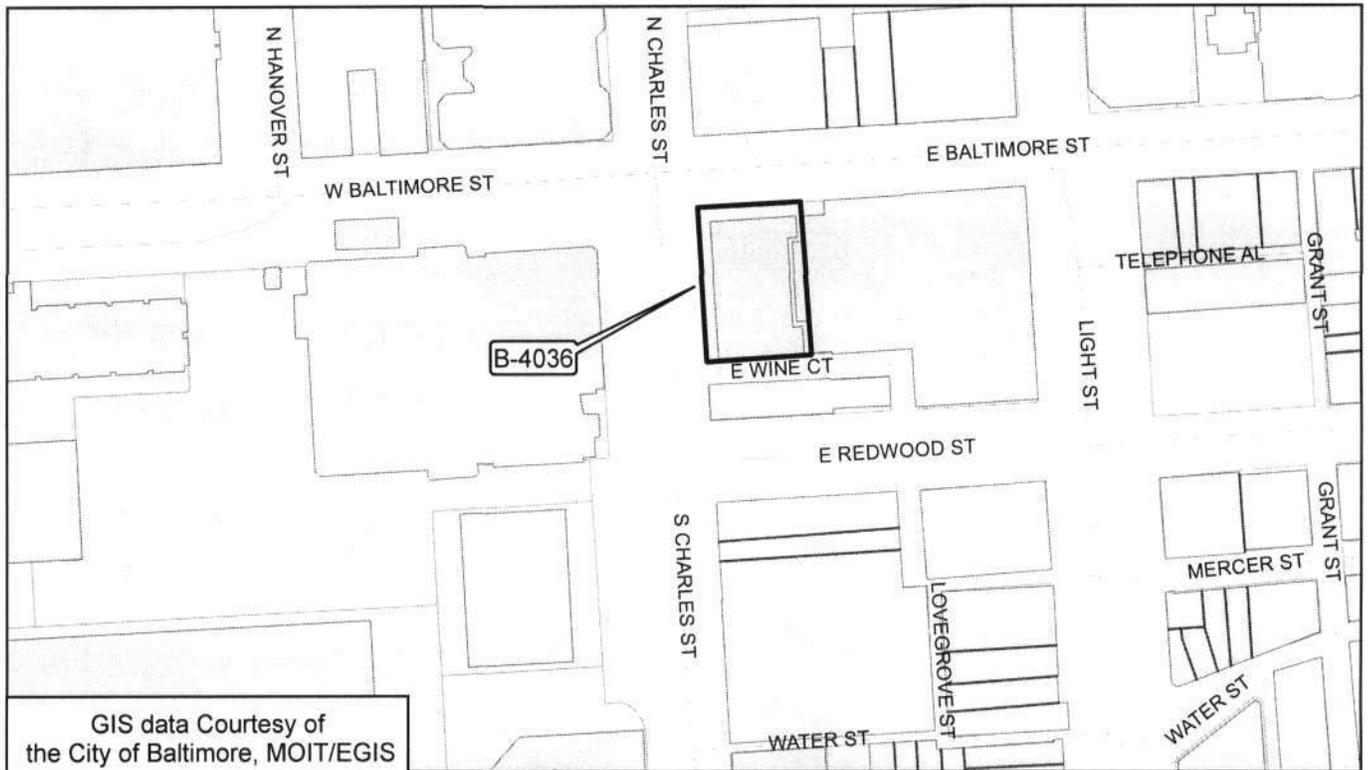


Baltimore Financial District Survey
Baltimore (City), Maryland



B-4036 Savings Bank of Baltimore
1 East Baltimore Street

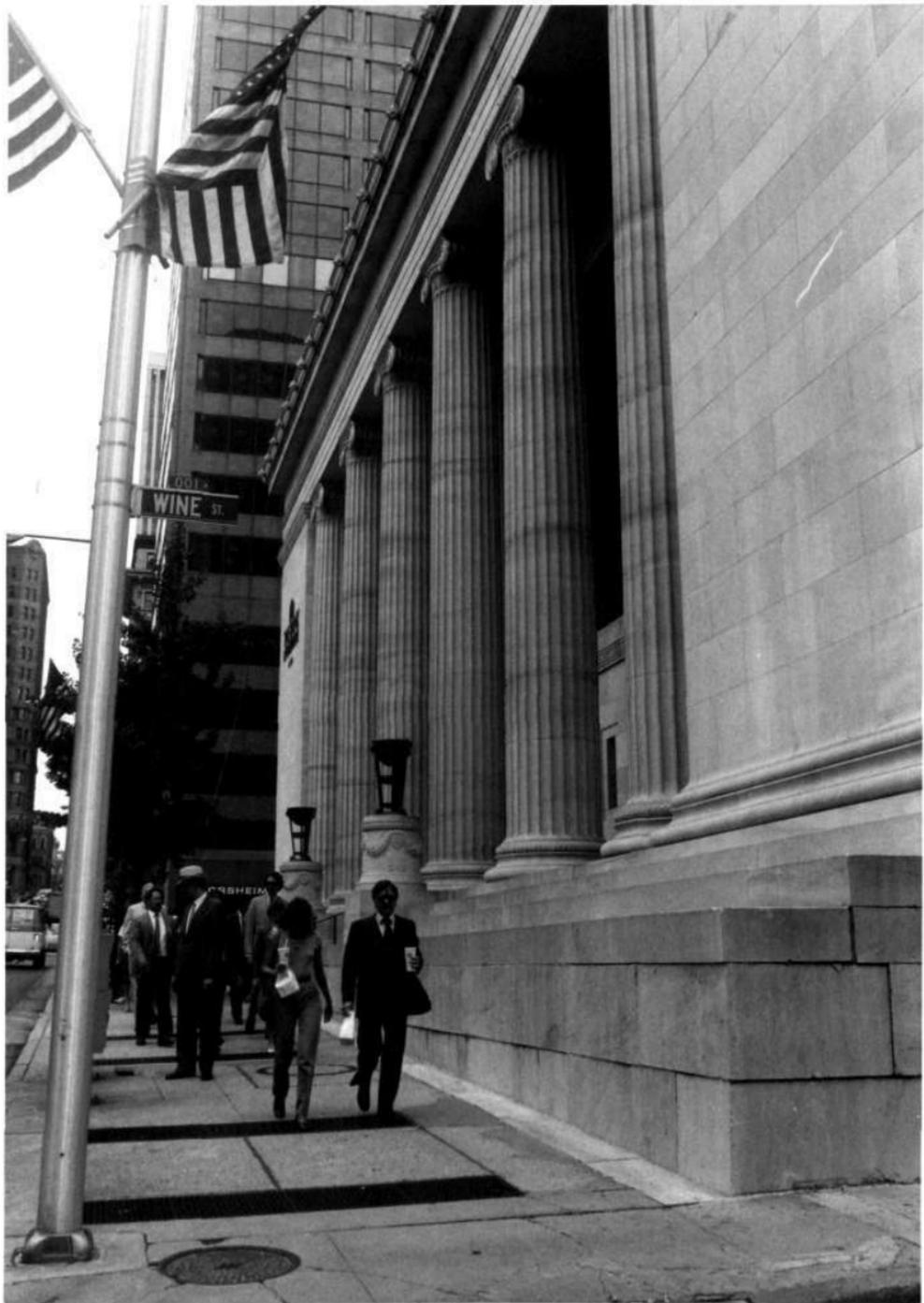
B-4036
1 E. Baltimore Street
Block 0648, Lot 001
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





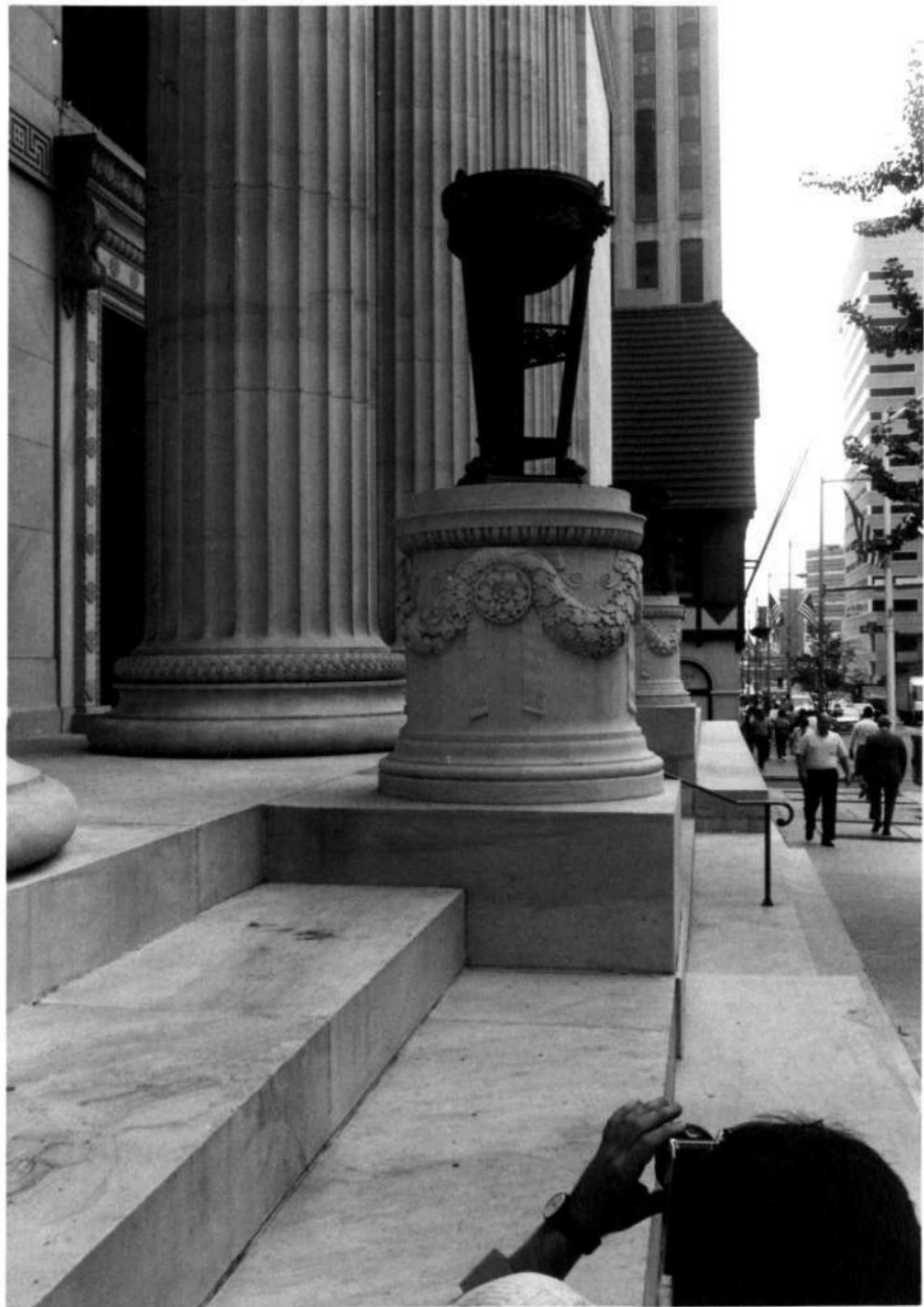
B-4036

Savings Bank of Baltimore
1 East Baltimore Street
Financial District-Metrocenter Survey
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Fred Shoken
Date: June 1985
Neg.loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
Northwest corner view



B-4036

Savings Bank of Baltimore
1 East Baltimore Street
Financial District-Metrocenter Survey
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Caroline Hardy
Date: July 1985
Neg.loc. Maryland Historical Trust
West elevation- detail columns



B-4036

Savings Bank of Baltimore
1 East Baltimore Street
Financial District-Metrocenter Survey
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Caroline Hardy
Date: July 1985
Neg.loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
Detail of urn on west elevation



B-4036

Savings Bank of Baltimore
1 East Baltimore Street
Financial District-Metrocenter Survey
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Caroline Hardy
Date: July 1985
Neg.loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
Detail of west entrance