B-4208

MHT EASEMENT WITHIN THE ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH COMPLEX

1. St. Michael's Boys School, 10 South Wolfe Steet, Baltimore City

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

**United States Department of the Interior**
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

## 1. Name of Property

historic name: St. Michael the Archangel Roman Catholic Church
other names/site number: St. Michael's Church Complex (preferred) B-4208

## 2. Location

street & number: 1900-1920 East Lombard Street N/A ☐ not for publication
city, town: Baltimore N/A ☐ vicinity
state: Maryland code: MD county: independent city code: 510 zip code: 21231

## 3. Classification

| Ownership of Property | Category of Property | Number of Resources within Property | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Contributing | Noncontributing |
| ☒ private | ☒ building(s) | 7 | 1 buildings |
| ☐ public-local | ☐ district | 0 | 0 sites |
| ☐ public-State | ☐ site | 0 | 0 structures |
| ☐ public-Federal | ☐ structure | 0 | 0 objects |
| | ☐ object | 7 | 1 Total |

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

## 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official — Date: 3/31/89

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

## 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the National Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.
☐ removed from the National Register.
☐ other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

## 6. Function or Use



Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Religion/religious structure/church
Religion/Church-related residence/rectory
convent; Religion/church school/religious
academy or schools; Recreation and Culture/
hall, auditorium.

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Religion/religious structure/church
Religion/church-related residence/rectory
Vacant/Not in use; Recreation & Culture/
auditorium hall; Other: Religion/church
school/religious, other: offices

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Mid-19th Century (early Romanesque Revival)
Late Victorian (Romanesque-Romanesque
Revival)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick, stone
walls brick, granite
roof asphalt shingles, copper,
other wood, wrought iron, stone

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

St. Michael's Church is a late 19th century Romanesque Revival, rectangular shaped, attached structure surrounded by six related secondary buildings and one small outbuilding with construction dates ranging from 1857-1860, 1870-1874, 1884, 1900 and circa 1896-1914. These buildings make up the community at St. Michael's in the Washington Hill section of East Baltimore. This complex occupies 1.5 acres and is bounded (roughly) by E. Lombard Street to the south, S. Chapel Street on the east, E. Baltimore Street on the north and Durham Street to the west.

Overall, the seven main buildings; the Church, Girl's School, Rectory, Boy's School, Convent, Brother's Residence and the Parish Hall are semidetached, three to four story structures constructed of common bond brick or granite with stone or granite trim, wood doors and windows, pitched asphalt roofs and some Romanesque Revival details; corbelled brick cornices, round arches, central gables and spandrels. The relationship between the buildings creates a community feeling with all the structures located either attached to, beside one another or across from each other within the complex. Four of the central structures; the Girl's School, Church, Rectory, the Parish Hall and an eight foot high brick wall running along S. Chapel Street form a private courtyard and garden for the Fathers. Directly across S. Wolfe Street is the Brother's Residence and the Boy's School and immediately across E. Lombard Street is the Convent and its small outbuilding. Interior connections exist between the Girl's School, Church and Rectory. The interiors of the Boy's School and the Brother's Residence also connect. St. Michael's overall integrity has been remarkably maintained both interior and exterior. As a complex, the community feeling still exists and there have been no intrusions within the immediate area of St. Michael's Church which could damage the relationship of these buildings as a complex.

[X] See continuation sheet for General Description

## 8. Statement of Significance

B-4208

*Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:*

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☒ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☒ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

| Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions) | Period of Significance | Significant Dates |
|---|---|---|
| religion | 1857-1938 | N/A |
| education | | |

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Significant Person: N/A

Architect/Builder: Long, Louis L.; Davis, Frank E.; Goldbach, Otto; Dedio, Peter

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

St. Michael's Church and the religious community formed by its buildings is associated with the significant waves of German Catholic immigrants that settled in East Baltimore during the mid-19th century and the Redemptorists who took charge of these German Catholics as part of their mission here in Baltimore. As a religious missionary order, the Redemptorists made considerable contributions to the education and assimilation of German Catholic immigrants who produced necessary labor for the railroads and assisted in the industrial transition of Baltimore during the second half of the 19th century. The Redemptorists used the School Sisters of Notre Dame as their educators in their parochial schools, which at one time had one of the largest enrollments in Baltimore. Finally, the longevity of St. Michael's Church as a Redemptorist church designates it as the oldest continuously operating Redemptorist Catholic church in Baltimore possessing the largest extant, completely intact Redemptorist complex remaining in the city.

☒ See continuation sheet for HISTORIC CONTEXT and MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN data.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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See Continuation Sheets No. 9.1 and 9.2.

☒ See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☒ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository:

Commission for Historical & Architectural Preservation (CHAP), Baltimore, MD 21201

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 1.5 acres

USGS quad. Baltimore East, MD

UTM References

| | Zone | Easting | Northing |
|---|---|---|---|
| A | 18 | 362780 | 4350100 |
| B | | | |
| C | | | |
| D | | | |

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description The nominated property and its outbuildings occupy portions of Block 1736 on Lot 34A, Block 1746 at Lot 1 and portions of Block 1735 on Lot 36/37 in Baltimore City. The Church, girls' school and parish hall occupy Lot 34A and the lot is roughly 354' x 141' in size. Lot 1 contains the convent which is roughly 85' x 83' and Lot 36/37 contains the boys' school and Brothers' residence and is roughly 90' x 111' in size.

☐ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification The boundary includes the church, rectory, parish hall, girls' and boys' schools, Brothers' residence and the convent which are located on portions of Block 1735 Lot 36/37, Block 1746 Lot 1 and Block 1736 Lot 34A. All of these buildings have historically been part of St. Michael's Church, still maintain historic integrity and contribute to the historical significance of St. Michael's Church.

☐ See continuation sheet

## 11. Form Prepared By


name/title Caroline Hardy Kellam

organization Private Consultant date July 25, 1988

street & number 1727 Linden Avenue telephone 301-396-4866 (daytime)

city or town Baltimore state Maryland zip code 21217

7. DESCRIPTION:
CHURCH: 1900-1920 E. Lombard Street

The original St. Michael's Church was designed in the Romanesque style by Louis L. Long, noted for St. Ignatius Catholic Church, the tower of St. Alphonsus Catholic Church, and the Baltimore Fire Insurance Building at South and Water Streets. The brick church measured approximately 80 feet by 170 feet deep. Originally the front facade was divided into three bays with the central bay projecting five feet from the facade with large circular pilasters decorated with cast iron caps and bases. Flanking the central bay were two entrances with a bold frontis piece. Above the level line of the main cornice was a niche for the statue of St. Michael. On either side of the circular pilasters were high circular headed windows larger than those of the Cathedral. The cornerstone of St. Michael's was laid August 2, 1857, and the church was completed and opened on December 26, 1859.

In the spring of 1861 a 180 foot tower and steeple surmounted by a gilt cross was constructed over the existing sacristy at the rear of the church and a small bell hung in the tower. Yet after a few years the tower began to deteriorate and was in serious danger of falling down. In 1866 it was decided to remove the tower and it was not replaced for 23 years.

On May 25, 1873, the new statue of St. Michael was completed and measured eleven and a half feet tall. The statue was carved of sanded walnut in Pittsburgh after a model in Munich. The artist was Joseph August Sudsbury, son of Col. Sudsbury who carved the doors to Baltimore's City Hall.

Repairs on the side altars and the rebuilding on the High altar began in the summer of 1881. A marble statue of St. Michael took the place of the mural in the High Altar and the altar was rebuilt in marble and white pine (Refer to Photos 4,5,6).

In January of 1889 it was decided that St. Michael's Church and tower should be rebuilt of stone. All the renovations were designed by Baldwin and Pennington, noted local architects. In May of 1889 a contract was signed for the carving of the seven sacraments and twelve apostles in stone above the middle door of the church (Refer to Photo 7). By the fall of 1890 the tower was rebuilt above the southwest corner of the church and the original brick south and west

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elevations were completely encased in granite. A new eight foot high cross, five new bells, and a new clock were installed in the tower later that year.

The interior of the original St. Michael's Church was dedicated in 1859 and essentially the interior still appears the same today even with the renovations that were made in the 1880-90's. The plan includes a central nave flanked by side aisles with twelve columns supporting the roof (Refer to Photo 8). Opposite the columns are pilasters with corresponding corinthian capitals. The ceiling over the nave forms a large barrel vault and the ceiling over the side aisles is made up of a series of cross vaults (Refer to Photos 9,10,11). From the floor to the ceiling measures approximately 53 feet with both side aisles in proportion. The pews are carved of walnut with elaborately detailed fronts. On either side of the sanctuary are two large sacristies with an oratory above each room (Refer to Photo 12). The floors of the sanctuary and aisles are covered by either slate or a blue and white Sienna marble and tile floor.

At the same time the exterior was being rebuilt major improvements were being made to the interior of the church. In 1889-1890 a series of twelve frescoe paintings illustrating the life of Jesus, commencing with the birth and terminating with the ascension, were painted by Emmart & Quartley in ecru and gold and still exist today in the church. The ceiling over the sanctuary representing the "Transfiguration," was painted by a famous ecclesiastical painter named Lamprecht from the Munich School. Other improvements include marbleizing the columns and highlighting their capitals with gold leaf. Twelve additional life size frescoes of the apostles were painted by the famous Italian artist Costagini who painted frescoes in the nations capitol (Refer to Photo 13). The organ gallery was enlarged and new stations of the cross were done in ecru and gold. In 1888 the Rosary Chapel was built and in the late 1890's the chapel was frescoed and regilt.

Future renovations continued throughout the rest of the 19th century. The new stained glass windows with a different design were installed by Ketteler of Munich in 1893 (Refer to Photos 14,15). The vestibule of the church was extended and new inner glass doors were installed dividing the vestibule from the nave of the church. Presently the vestibule still

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appears the way it did when the renovations were made in the 1890's. The ceiling over three sections of the vestibule is arched with stucco on the walls and the lower portion of the walls are covered in marble. The entire floor of the vestibule and church are covered with vitreous tiles and the base of the pillars and side walls are covered with marble (Refer to Photo 16). Marble stairs with hand carved woodwork on the rails and along the walls leads up to the gallery or choir loft (Refer to Photo 17). An electric lighting system of 800 lights was installed in the late 1890's. The renovations which began in 1889 and were completed in 1899, were consecrated by his Eminence Cardinal Gibbons on October 15, 1899.

As St. Michael's Church entered into the 20th century more renovations continued such as, the installation of a copper roof on the tower, the installation of a new marble altar in the Rosary Chapel designed by Drapato Statuary Company of New York, N.Y., and the rebuilding of the organ for the second time.

In the 1940's new lighting fixtures were installed and the walls of the chapel were painted with seven painted medallions of the seven prominent saintly Redemptorists. St. Michael's statue went through some major repair work in the 1950's and the entire roof of the church was replaced with asphalt shingles. Also in 1952, an electric bell ringing system was installed.

The main south front elevation of St. Michael's Church has a granite base and facade divided into three bays; a central bay flanked by side bays (Refer to Photo 18). The central contemporary double doors are set in a compound arch flanked by coupled engaged columns and a central column between the sets of doors (Refer to Photo 19). Flanking the main entrance are similar entrances set in pediments with circular stained glass windows above (Refer to Photo 20). There are blind arcades directly above the main entrance and above the circular windows of each side bay. The square tower intersects the gabled roof which has a corbel table for a cornice line. A spire or bell turret with a small cross caps the clock tower. Square parapets with pyramid roofs flank the tower in the southwest and southeast corners of the front facade (Refer to Photo 21). Each parapet is decorated by blind arcades.

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Bordering on Wolfe Street is the west side elevation of the church which measures seven bays wide with a smooth granite base and upper rusticated granite elevation. Five small square window openings in the base are infilled with wood. Each bay is recessed around the tall arched multipaned stained glass windows. Projecting semidetached corinthian columns flank the windows and small projecting cornices decorated with acanthus leaf highlight the top of each window. Each of the cornices at the windows are dentiled with concave curve details; projecting pilasters divide the bays. A simple belt course runs the length of the elevation above the window cornices. Above this belt course the wall projects slightly further than the main side elevation. A dentiled cornice with semicircular arch molding appears above the belt course (Refer to Photo 22).

The east side elevation faces on a concrete courtyard formed by portions of the ell of the Girl's School Building. This is the only elevation, except for a small exposed portion of the rear elevation of the church, with its original brick elevation from 1857. The elevation measures five bays wide and has the same full length arched stained glass windows as the west side elevation, yet without the details. The windows have painted stone sills and there are several small square openings with black metal doors at grade. There is a corbelled brick cornice with wide brick bands below.

As was previously mentioned, the interior of St. Michael's Church has not changed significantly since its major renovations during the last quarter of the 19th century. The simple plan of the interior has not changed since the church was constructed in 1857, with the exception of the extension of the vestibule at the front of the church. When the vestibule was added, the back of the nave was enlarged because any original vestibule space that existed became part of the nave. When this space was renovated the ceiling vaults and decoration, the columns, pews and tile floor were duplicated to match the rest of the interior.

Areas of the church which were not previously described include the entrance to the two sacristies, the balcony and choir area and the Rosary Chapel.

The entrances to the two sacristies on either side of the High Altar are mirror images of each other. Both are pedimented entrances, flanked by projecting corinthian

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columns and double wood paneled doors with glass above. There are tall arched stained glass windows above the pedimented entrances which are set in recessed areas flanked by smaller projecting corinthian columns.

To the southern end of the nave in the back is the balcony of choir loft which overlooks the nave and is separated by a hand carved wood choir rail. Two fluted, detached corinthian columns support the balcony on either side of the central aisle. The organ is centrally located in an elevated portion of the balcony (Refer to Photo 23). Flanking the organ area are the stepped down, carpeted choir aisles. Hand carved wood confessionals are located on either side of the organ and also in the cross aisle on the first floor in the back of the nave. Two filled in arched window openings which would have been the two additional bays on the east side elevation are visible on the east wall of the balcony. The original connector entrance to the Girl's School is bolted along the east wall of the balcony which has not been used since the early part of the 20th century.

An entrance in the east wall of the vestibule leads to the Rosary Chapel which is a small chapel with one central aisle and contemporary light colored wood pews. The walls are lined by projecting corinthian columns and the ceiling over the central aisle is a series of cross vaults. The archways on the wall are decorated with circular paintings of various saints. The altar is marble with various carved marble sculptures. Stained glass windows appear on the north and south walls of the chapel.

THE GIRL'S SCHOOL: 1900-1920 E. Lombard Street

St. Michael's Girl's School was also constructed in 1857 by Louis L. Long and contains some Romanesque Revival details. It is a semidetached, ell shaped building located on the northwest corner of E. Lombard and South Chapel Streets. Presently, the south front elevation of the Girl's School is a nonsymetrical, common bond brick facade featuring a central pavilion with wings and a partial granite base. This elevation is six bays wide, three stories high and the windows are predominantly 6/6 double hung wood windows. In the southwest corner of the first story and the central bay of the third story the windows are multipaned arched windows. The small arched windows in the southwest corner appear to be alterations where the original openings were partially

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bricked in and non proportional windows were installed. Each window is decorated with flat brick arches above and stone sills. One of the two central entrances has been filled in with a piece of paneled wood. The left entrance has a set of steel double doors with a rectangular light and a fanlight transom above. Both entrances are set between projecting brick pilasters with granite trim and brick keystone arches. Directly above the entrances is a sign engraved in stone which reads, "1857 St. Michael's School 1927". Two brick belt courses divide the first, second and third stories within the central pavilion bay. Two recessed brick panels can be seen above the third story windows on each wing. A brick belt course appears just below the simple stone cornice. A gable with a multipaned arched window exists at the roof (Refer to Photo 24).

Originally the school was a three story high, six bay wide and four bays long common bond brick building. Due to the need for more space, on September 8, 1865, a cornerstone was laid for an addition, measuring 100 feet long and 35 feet wide to the north elevation of the school. The building contained eight larger classrooms with a capacity of one hundred pupils each. In addition, the third floor was used as the parish hall which was considered to be one of largest parish halls in the City of Baltimore. The addition was completed and the school opened for use on January 1, 1866.

The east side elevation faces on South Chapel Street, which is a small residential street. The original portion of the east elevation, dating to 1857, is three stories high and four bays wide with 6/6 double hung wood windows, accented by flat brick arches above and stone sills. Some bricked up basement window openings are visible at grade where the increased elevation of the sidewalk has blocked in the openings.

The 1865 addition to the school is also three stories high with a slightly lower roofline and an addition of ten additional bays to the north. The first floor windows of the addition are shorter in height than the original portion of the school building and the third floor windows are segmentally arched. Brick dentil details run along this elevation below the roofline. Three black star bolts appear along the side elevation. The last two bays near the northeast corner of the east elevation have only three openings, two of which are partially boarded up and the other

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has a 6/6 double hung wood window. There are two door openings with flush metal doors.

Essentially the building forms an ell with a small addition to the rear elevation which forms an additional smaller ell to the north rear elevation. The building as a result has two rear elevations.

The section of the north rear elevation of the 1857 portion of the building is three bays wide, three stories high and can not be seen from the courtyard or any street. Windows are predominantly 6/6 double hung wood with wood sills and flat brick arches above. At the first story there are two semicircular arched stained glass windows which have metal grills over them. These two stained glass windows are the windows on the north wall of the Rosary Chapel. An flush wood entrance with a multipaned transom and a white aluminum door surround appears at this elevation. An asphalt shingled roof shelters the entrance. The same cornice detail appears at the rear as the front and side elevations.

The west side elevation of the Girl's School has thirteen bays exposed and is three stories high with predominantly 6/6 double hung wood windows with flat brick details for lintels and stone sills on the first story and wood lintels on the second and third stories. Three metal star bolts appear between the second and third story and two large metal pipes run from the roof down the center of the side elevation. Two flush wood entrances appear at the first story with multipaned transoms above. Some of the basement windows openings have been filled in and others have decorative metal grates in them. A small shed structure projects about three feet near the northwest corner of the west side elevation.

The additional three bays which are recessed about five feet from the original west side elevation of the school is an addition to the school and has a pitched roof. Most of the windows are the same as the rest of the west side elevation except for two narrower 4/4 double hung wood windows with a brick and a wood sill. Only one bay of the first story of this addition is exposed because of a one story brick storage room connecting the Rectory with the Girl's School. The one exposed bay of the addition to the Girl's School has a semicircular arched entrance with a flush wood door and a multipaned transom above. Neither the wood door nor the transom fit the opening properly and are surrounded by wood

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infill.

The northernmost rear elevation on the later addition to the school building has two partially filled in multipaned wood windows at the northeast corner of a three story addition to the structure. There is a small entrance with a paneled wood door with stain glass above and a green scalloped awning over the entrance. This three story addition has a asphalt shingled pitched roof and 6/6 double hung wood windows with flat brick details above and wood sills.

In August of 1868 the old roof of the original school building became too weak and because of the lower elevation of the old roof, compared to the roof of the new addition, a new roof equal in height was constructed on the old school building. Presently, the roof of the building is pitched and covered with asphalt shingles.

From 1882-1884 improvements were made to St. Michael's Girl's School. The size of the rooms were altered, new interior stairs were constructed, sanitary facilities and a new steam furnace was installed.

Then in 1900 when the new Parish Hall was completed, renovations began in the old parish hall on the third floor of the Girl's School building to convert the space into classrooms.

In 1927, major renovations occurred in the Girl's School to modernize the buildings. These improvements included new flooring, iron and concrete steps, new sanitary facilities and a new entrance. Finally in January of 1930 renovations were made to the school building to assure it met the new city building codes. These renovations involved altering ceilings on the third floor and other improvements.

Presently, the school building is still being used for some educational purposes, although it is no longer functioning as a primary and secondary school. A large portion of the building is being used for recreational and office purposes. At the southwest corner of the west elevation, the Girl's School is attached to the church, yet the only interior connection occurs at the second floor where a passageway leads to the choir loft. The interior has experienced many alterations including divisions of rooms, some drop ceilings and the removal of details such as the

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bookshelves and some molding from the old library. Much of the original pressed tin ceilings, woodwork, light fixtures, doors, and blackboards still exist in the building and overall the architectural integrity of this building is still intact (Refer to Photos 25,26,27).

THE RECTORY: 1900-1920 E. Lombard Street

The Rectory is a semi-attached, ell shaped brick structure with some Romanesque Revival detailing. The building was designed in 1860 and the architect is unconfirmed. It is very likely that the Rectory was designed by Louis L. Long, due to the fact that the Rectory was completed immediately after the church and is constructed in a similar style as the church and the Girl's School buildings.

The west side elevation of the Rectory is eight bays wide and four and a half stories high. At the basement level is an arched entrance with a four paneled solid wood door with metal louvers above. A light well with concrete steps leading down to a wood door is located at the southwest corner of the building. The light well is enclosed by a 4 foot high wrought iron fence.

To the north of the central entrance are two single paned windows at the basement level and two wrought iron coal shute doors. Most of the windows are 1/1 double hung white metal replacement windows with stone sills and flat brick arches above. The two bays at the southwest corner have arched window openings with 1/1 metal windows and metal louvers above. All of these windows are of a smaller proportion than the rest of the windows. The basement level windows are single paned rectangular windows. These two bays also recess approximately two feet. A projecting brick belt course divides each story. A decorative wrought iron fence lines the steps to the pedimented entrance of the Rectory.

In 1884, a new entrance was constructed for the Rectory with new double doors of beautiful ground glass, new marble steps and a colorful tile floor. Those doors have since been removed. Presently there is an outer set of double wood paneled doors, flanked by projecting brick pilasters with a multilight transom above the door and the Redemptorist Coat of Arms in the pediment (Refer to Photo 28). A contemporary inner door appears in the vestibule. The vestibule is decorated with a tile floor and contemporary wood paneling on

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the walls. Corbelled brick serves as cornice detail on the entire building and five small gabled dormers with 1/1 metal windows and asphalt shingle siding dot the pitched asphalt shingled roof.

A small two story addition to the north side elevation of the Rectory extends approximately four feet on the front west elevation facing on South Wolfe Street. This extension has a small six paneled wood door accented by a flat brick arch above. Recessed brick panels and projecting brick pilasters decorate the wall. The wall is interrupted by a contemporary metal lattice gate which serves as the entrance to the parking area and courtyard.

The north side elevation at the southernmost exposed portion of the building is visible predominantly from the courtyard. This portion of the side elevation is four stories high with a gabled roof. The northeast portion of this north side elevation has 1/1 white aluminum replacement windows at the first and the fourth story with semicircular brick arched lintels, white aluminum infilled transoms and stone sills. The first and second stories of this portion of the side elevation has a smooth stone face and the upper portion is common bond brick.

The center portion of the elevation has a projecting concrete block bay supported on white metal columns. This bay has a simple painted wood cornice and a white painted wood cross capping the flat roof.

On either side of the bay there are 1/1 metal arched storm windows with interior stained glass windows highlighted by semicircular flat brick arches above and stone sills. This portion of the building houses the priest's chapel.

The northwest portion of this north side elevation is recessed about two feet from the rest of the north elevation and is also four stories high with a lower roofline and an unadorned cornice. The windows are 1/1 white metal replacement windows with painted stone sills and flat brick arches above. A contemporary solid wood door with lights below and a multipaned glass transom above. To the east of this entrance a small wooden shed projecting from this north side elevation at the first story. Above this four story north side elevation of the Rectory, the only visible portion of the rear elevation of the church can be seen.

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The northernmost north side elevation at the top portion of the ell shape of the Rectory faces on the concrete driveway between the Parish Hall and the Rectory. The original north side elevation was probably three stories high and five bays wide. A one bay deep, four bay wide, and three story high brick addition was added in the early 20th century.

All the windows of the addition are 1/1 white aluminum replacement windows of different proportions with stone lintels and sills. One second story window has been divided into four lights and a third story window is partially bricked in.

Two contemporary first story entrances appear with scalloped metal awnings over the doors. The door at the northeast corner is a solid wood door with louvered lights in the center and a multipaned glass transom above. To the right there is another solid wood door with a diamond window and a door surround infilled with white aluminum siding.

Concrete steps lead to the northeast entrance and wood steps lead to the right hand entrance which has a small wood porch supported on brick piers. A small boarded up basement window opening with a stone lintel and a brick sill appears at the base of the wood steps. The first story of the addition extends one additional bay to the west and has a 1/1 white aluminum replacement window with a black metal grate over it similar to all the windows on the first story. There is a small basement entrance below the wooden porch with concrete steps which lead to a solid wood door. An asphalt sided one story shed stands along the side elevation of the Rectory. The visible portion of the original side elevation has a second and third story 1/1 white aluminum replacement window with a flat brick arched lintel above and a stone sill.

The east rear elevation is three and a half stories with a basement and measures seven bays wide with 1/1 white aluminum replacement windows with painted stone sills and flat brick arches above each window. .The seventh bay at the northwest corner of this elevation is an early 20th century addition to the Rectory. The roofline of this bay is lower than the rest of the building and the windows of this bay are narrower with unpainted stone lintels and sills. Three small gabled dormers, the same as those at the front elevation line the roofline (Refer to Photo 29).

See Continuation Sheet No. 7.12

The southernmost east rear elevation at the bottom of the ell is located at the southeast corner of the Rectory and measures four stories high and two bays wide. The first two stories have a rock faced elevation and the top two stories are common bond brick. The first story has one single paned white aluminum window with a metal grill and a granite lintel and sill. At the second story there are two stained glass windows with granite lintels and stone sills. There are 1/1 white aluminum replacement windows with flat brick details for lintels and stone sills at the third story. And at the fourth story are 1/1 white aluminum replacement windows with transoms filled in with white aluminum siding. Semicircular brick arches and stone sills accent the fourth floor windows.

Improvements were made to the interior of the Rectory in 1898 when the parlors in the Rectory were altered to create a corridor for better access throughout the building including the interior connection to the church. The interior has experienced significant alterations such as wood paneling on the walls, dropped ceilings, carpeting and new contemporary doors. Some of the original tin ceilings and original woodwork can be seen in some of the rooms. Fortunately the integrity of this structure has not been significantly damaged due to the fact that most of the changes are reversible (Refer to Photos 30,31).

THE COURTYARD (The Father's Garden):

Located between the Parish Hall on the south and the Rectory on the north is a roughly square shaped courtyard garden. Concrete paths run along the outer edge and up the center of the garden. Approximately two feet high, green, chainlink fences section off the gardens and a variety of sculptures, stone benches and a fountain decorate the garden. The eastern portion of the courtyard is a paved brick area with picnic tables. An 8 foot high brick wall, which was made from the bricks of the original St. Michael's Church on Pratt and Register Streets in Fell's Point (1852-1859), divides the courtyard from South Chapel Street (Refer to Photo 32).

Historically this courtyard has always existed since the removal of St. Patrick's cemetery prior to the construction of St. Michael's Church in 1857. The size of the courtyard was much larger when it stretched from the rear of the Rectory to East Baltimore Street before the Parish Hall was

See Continuation Sheet No. 7.13

built in 1900.

THE BOY'S SCHOOL: 10-12 S. Wolfe Street

The original portion of this semidetached irregularly shaped structure was built in June of 1870. The east front elevation measures three bays wide and three stories high with 4/4 double hung wood windows. Each window is decorated with flat brick arches and granite sills. At grade there are three square wrought iron coal shute doors with flower details in the center. The cornice has a corbelled brick detail which appears throughout the building (Refer to Photo 33).

Around 1870, a lot was bought on S. Wolfe Street to construct a house for the Brothers of Mary and possibly for temporary use as the Boy's School later. Construction began in June of 1870 and was completed November 13, 1870. The architect is not known, yet it is possible that Frank E. Davis who designed the convent building, also designed this similar styled building with its Romanesque Revival details. In April of 1871, the converted saloon building, which the Boy's School occupied, was sold and the school then moved to either a portion of the Brother's Residence or some other temporary leased space near the church.

When work began on the new residence for the Brother's of Mary in 1884, the old residence was converted into the Boy's School. The rooms were converted to classrooms, one side wall was raised, the roof was replaced and sanitary facilities were installed.

To the north is the later connector portion of the school to the Brother's Residence, which also serves as the main entrance to the school. Up until the early 20th century, the front elevation of the Boy's School faced north which would have been where the primary front entrance was located. The connection between the Boy's School and the Brother's Residence was constructed in the early 20th century. These renovations were probably made in 1928 to meet city fire codes and reorientate the front entrance towards South Wolfe Street.

This one story common bond brick connector has a granite base and is highlighted by granite details. The central arched entryway sits between two projecting brick pilasters with

See Continuation Sheet No. 7.14

granite trim at the top. The entrance has two double wood doors with diamond windows and a multipaned transom above. There are two 1/1 double hung wood windows on either side of the entrance. Flanking the windows are two projecting brick pilasters with granite trim. Each window is detailed by granite sills and lintels. Directly above the entrance, carved in granite, is a sign which reads "St. Michael's Boy School" and centrally located above is a two foot high granite cross (Refer to Photo 34)..

Around 1942, an addition was added to the south elevation of the Boy's School which was blessed on December 17, 1944.

This newer addition can be distinguished by a significantly lighter, red colored, common bond glazed brick. The addition measures two stories high and one bay wide with 9/9 double hung wood windows grouped in threes on the first and second floor. Each window has a stone sill and no lintels. Vertical brick banding appears below the windows and the roofline (Refer to Photo 35).

The north side elevation of the original portion of the Boy's School measures six bays wide and four stories high with 4/4 double hung wood windows accented by granite sills and flat brick arches above. The side elevation is interrupted by the brick connector, making the first and second stories two bays wide with small square windows at the first floor. A salmon colored brick chimney appears at the center of the north elevation roofline.

The addition to the north elevation of the Boy's School is a two story high brick structure with a flat roof and 4/4 double hung wood windows with some boarded up entrances and window openings. Some of the windows have been divided at the top creating multilight windows with transoms above. All the windows have brick sills and flat brick details above. (Refer to Photo 36).

The south side elevation is part of the newest portion of the school building. This side of the building forms a "U" shape with very few windows and a concrete base. The south elevation measures two stories high and has both 6/6 and 9/6 double hung wood windows with brick sills. The roofline is capped by an unadorned metal cornice. Centrally located in the "U" is a flight of steel stairs leading to a metal exit door.

See Continuation Sheet No. 7.15

The west rear elevation of the brick addition that connects the Boy's School with the Brother's Residence is two stories high and three bays wide. Granite steps lead to a semicircular flat brick arch with double solid wood doors and a wrought iron rail along the steps. All of the window openings are boarded up.

At the rear of the main school building the wall measures two bays wide and four and a half stories high. On the first floor one window and an entrance at grade are boarded up. The windows on the upper stories are 4/4 double hung wood windows with granite sills and flat brick arches above. The window in the top half story is boarded up and a few smaller additions have been made to the rear elevation of the main school building.

The rear west elevation of the newer 20th century addition previously described, is two stories high and one bay wide with three 9/9 double hung wood windows in a group with brick sills and metal louvers in one first floor opening.

There is another brick addition at the rear west elevation which measures three stories high with a pitched roof. Most of the windows are 4/4 double hung wood windows with flat brick arches above and granite sills. Only two windows appear at the north side elevation. Double wood paneled doors are boarded up at grade. The rear west elevation of the addition has metal stairs which run parallel to the rear wall and lead to a flush metal door at the first floor.

The concrete playground occupies the remainder of the property lot at the rear. An approximately twelve foot high chainlink fence and a brick wall enclose the playground area. The roof of the Boy's School has a slight pitch and is covered with asphalt shingles.

The Boy's School building was sold in the last decade and is presently being used for offices. Fortunately the overall integrity of the exterior and interior have not been compromised with the building's new use. The rooms were divided up with detached half partitions which do not damage the walls or ceilings and can be easily removed. Like the Girl's School building many of the blackboards, original woodwork and pressed tin ceilings still exist in the building (Refer to Photos 37,38).

See Continuation Sheet No. 7.16

THE CONVENT: 1901-1911 E. Lombard Street

This detached, square shaped, common bond, reddish brown brick building is three and a half stories high with a basement. The Convent was designed by the noted local architect Frank E. Davis in October, 1874, and contains some Romanesque Revival influences. It is located directly across from the church at the northeast corner of East Lombard and South Wolfe Streets. The foundation is made of stones and cement, the base is brick and the pitched roof, which was originally Buckingham slate, is now covered with asphalt shingles.

At the front west elevation there is an approximately eight foot high brick wall which hides the basement level and part of the first story. Two contemporary flush wood doors appear at either end of the wall for access to the Convent building. Behind the brick wall at the basement level of the west elevation, there are centrally located double wood paneled doors with four lights above, multipaned sidelights on either side and wood panels below. Elaborate brackets accented by carved cross details decorate either side of the transoms. Most of the window openings are boarded up or infilled with glass louvers. There are small square window openings at the northwest corner with 2/2 double hung wood windows. At the northwest corner of the building a carved, granite cornerstone reads, October 15 A.D. 1874. Unelaborate metal stairs run parallel to the west elevation and lead up to the main front entrance at the first story.

The front west elevation consists of a central pavilion with wings. The windows are all 4/4 double hung wood windows with granite sills. There are flat brick arches over each pair of windows in the bays. A decorative wood portico with a detailed scalloped cornice and recessed panels covers the entrance and is supported by four pilasters. The portico is surrounded on three sides by a three foot high, simple wrought iron railing. At the entrance there are two double wood paneled doors with sidelights and transoms above each sidelight and door.

The central bay of the front elevation projects approximately a foot from the side bays which remain flush with the west elevation. A projecting brick belt course runs along the front elevation above the second story. Within the central

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pavilion there is a gable at the roofline with corbelled brick along the eave of the gable and an arched window with a semicircular flat brick arch.

Projecting wood brackets decorate the area between the third story windows and the roofline. Two deteriorated gabled dormers flank the central gable. Three large brick chimneys appear along the pitched roof. A simple brick cornice runs around the building.

The brick wall continues around the corner in front of the north side elevation for approximately four feet. The north side elevation is three bays wide with 2/2 double hung wood windows at the basement and 4/4 double hung windows at the upper floors with granite sills and flat brick arches above. A brick belt course continues along the side elevation and the rest of the building between the basement, first, second and third stories. The half story, attic level has a divided arched window with a flat semicircular arch above (Refer to Photo 39).

Both the north and south side elevations are essentially the same with a few exceptions. The basement level windows are 4/4 double hung wood windows and one window at the southwest corner has been infilled with glass louvers (Refer to Photo 40).

Like the north and south elevations, the east and west elevations are very similar with a few differences on the east rear elevation. Most of the basement windows are boarded up, but some have four part, square wood windows. Steps flanked by steel railings lead down to the basement entrance at the east elevation. The entrance has outer wood screen doors and inner wood paneled doors with lights above. In addition, a deteriorated wood porch supported by brick piers and adorned with detailed wrought iron railings, decorates the first floor of the east rear elevation. The porch was added in 1885. A steel fire escape, which was added in 1921, extends from the third floor windows at the north and southwest corners of the east elevation terminating at the roof of the porch.

There is a small detached, two story common bond brick structure located at the southwest corner of the property, which dates to circa 1896-1914. This structure is not mentioned in any contracts or the parish history and its use

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is unknown. The building has a few unproportional window openings without windows, a flush wood door with a small light above and a slightly pitched roof. Overall the structure is in poor condition, vacant and has little integrity (Refer to Photos 41,42).

Presently the condition of the Convent is poor and the building has been vacant for several years. Although the building is structurally sound, the Convent has deteriorated. Some of the interior rooms have been divided up, yet the original floor plan can still be determined. The plan had a centrally located entrance with a inner vestibule area and a front hall which still exists. The central staircase is still intact and originally the building probably had four rooms on each floor and two loft areas in the attic. The laundry in the basement was added in 1885. Both the front and back doors are symmetrical. Some of the original interior details which still exist include the pressed tin ceilings with egg and dart molding, hardwood floors, baseboards and many of the original six paneled solid wood doors. Some of the few contemporary changes include wood paneling on some walls and flush wood doors (Refer to Photos 43,44,45). In 1917, 1921, and 1928 renovations were made to the Convent. Electricity and a new heating system were installed in 1921. In 1928, the chapel was moved from the third floor to the second floor and today it has since been stripped.

The Convent closed around 1972-1973 and in 1974 Xcell bought the Convent for use as a drug rehabilitation program building until a fire broke out in 1980. The building was vacant and suffered neglect until 1987 when a local contractor bought the building with plans to renovate the structure for use as housing. Presently the building is still vacant.

THE BROTHER'S RESIDENCE: 6-8 S. Wolfe Street

Presently the Brother's Residence is a semidetached, common bond brick structure with Romanesque Revival details. Located at the southwest corner of an alley and South Wolfe Street, it stands beside the Boy's School and directly across from the Rectory. The structure is three and a half stories high with a basement, three bays wide and has a pitched roof covered with asphalt shingles. The cornerstone dates to July 20, 1884, and the contract was awarded to Otto Goldbach and

See Continuation Sheet No. 7.19

Peter Dedio, a local contracting firm.

According to a Baltimore American article " The Convent of St. Michael's", of July 21, 1884, a new convent was being built due to the growth of enrollment in the two schools, which was up to 1200 boys and girls. The new convent building would measure 30 x 35 feet and three stories high with a basement. A July 19, 1884, article from the Catholic Mirror mentions that the site selected for the Convent or Brother's Residence was formerly the garden of the original Brother's Residence next door. As a result it was necessary to demolish a grape arbor and several fruit trees to dig the foundation.

The front east elevation is three bays wide with 4/4 double hung wood windows with granite sills and flat brick arches over each window.

Projecting brick pilasters flank the central facade which is recessed from the main wall. Five granite steps lead to the central entrance with two double wood paneled doors set in a brick archway. The transom above is infilled with a wood panel. Dentil details appear above the arched transom. Engraved in stone at the southeast corner of the facade is the cornerstone which reads "July 20, 1884 A.D." Centrally located at the third story is an arched 2/2 wood window with a wood infill panel above and a projecting arched brick lintel. The cornice has corbelled brick which continues around the building.

To the north of the main facade is a one story, brick six foot extension wall with a flush steel door entrance adorned with a granite lintel above. This common bond brick wall is capped with brick and granite and continues along the north elevation, obstructing the view of the first story from the street and alley (Refer to Photo 46).

This north side elevation is four stories high and three bays wide. The first, second and third stories have 4/4 double hung wood windows with granite sills and flat brick arches. The basement level windows are boarded up and wood screens appear on several of the windows (Refer to Photo 47).

The south side elevation is very similar to the north elevation measuring four stories high, two bays wide at the second floor and three bays wide at the third and fourth

See Continuation Sheet No. 7.20

stories. All the windows and the door opening are boarded up.

Facing the old playground is the west rear elevation. It is four and a half stories high, three bays wide with 4/4 double hung wood windows adorned by flat brick arches above and granite sills. The top half story has an arched window with wood louvered shutters below, plywood above and a brick arched lintel. There is no real cornice and there are two brick chimneys on the roof. Below the top window is a star bolt. At the first floor, two windows openings and an entrance are boarded up (Refer to Photo 48).

Much like the interior of the Boy's School building, the Brother's Residence has been partitioned off into offices on the first floor for use as a Immigration Services office. Fortunately the second, third and fourth floors have been left mostly intact and all the rooms are vacant and unused. The original ceilings, woodwork, hardwood floors, solid wood paneled doors and the original wooden staircase are still intact in the building. The historic integrity of this structure seems to have been maintained with only a few alterations. The church no longer owns the building (Refer to 49,50).

THE PARISH HALL: 1900-1920 E. Lombard Street

The cornerstone of the Parish Hall was laid October 6, 1900, and the building was completed by Otto Goldbach in September of 1901. This detached, stretcher bond brick structure has some Romanesque Revival detailing and the building is located at the southeast corner of E. Baltimore and South Wolfe Streets. The Parish Hall is one and a half stories high and three bays wide with a brick base at its east front elevation. Black painted masonry steps with a granite top step lead to the front double entrances of the Parish Hall. A decorative black, pointed steel railing lines the steps. Two sets of double wood paneled doors with screened in glass transoms above serve as the front entrance. The entrance is highlighted by semiprojecting stone pilasters with doric capitals and a heavy projecting stone cornice above. A projecting wood pilaster similar to the stone pilasters divides the two sets of doors. Two semicircular multipaned, colored glass windows appear above the stone cornice set in semicircular brick arches with keystones and wood arched details. The windows on either side of those are 12/12

See Continuation Sheet No. 7.21

double hung wood windows.

The central bay is gabled at the roofline and has an oculus in the center decorated with keystones (Refer to Photo 51). An eight foot high brick wall with projecting brick pilasters lines the west side of South Chapel Street (Refer to Photo 52).

The north side elevation on East Baltimore Street measures two and a half stories high and seven bays wide with a granite base, rusticated first story and brick on the upper floors. At the first story the windows are 8/8 double hung wood with beveled glass panes. All of the first story windows are covered by decorative black steel grates. Two masonry belt courses divide the basement and the first story windows. Another two and a half foot wide granite belt course divides the first and second story windows. Recessed brick panels with geometric designs decorate each bay. Each bay is divided by projecting brick pilasters with stone details and doric capitals with egg and dart molding and carved wreaths. Each second story, 12/12 double hung wood window is set in a semicircular keystone arch. The transom above each window is filled in with wood. The trim is painted a cream color. Above the second story windows are some corbelled brick details and a gabled central bay at the second story. The gable is adorned by a circular window opening detailed with keystones and filled in with wood. A metal cross caps the peak of the gable. A simple wood cornice appears below the roofline. Four gabled wood dormers with asphalt shingled siding and infilled window openings are visible at the roof. A brick chimney appears at the northeast corner of the roof. A decorative black wrought iron fence lines the north elevation of the building (Refer to Photo 53).

The original entrance to the Parish Hall is through a decorative steel gate set between four brick pilasters detailed with stone balls on the top at the northeast corner of the structure.

The south side elevation is similar to the north side elevation with some alterations. Each first story window is accented by stone lintels and sills. A small half brick and asphalt shingled addition with a pitched roof appears near the southwest corner of the south elevation.

See Continuation Sheet No. 7.22

This addition has a small entrance with a flat brick arch above and an elongated, two paned wood window with a wood sill. One window on the first story has been partially covered by the addition and a metal infill panel. The rest of the first story windows are 8/8 double hung wood windows with multicolored beveled glass. A painted red steel fire escape runs parallel to the south elevation from a second story entrance to the ground level. One window opening on the second floor has been filled in with metal louvers and a wood paneled entrance. A double wood paneled entrance with a multipaned window above exists at grade in the southeast corner of the south side elevation. Six dormers appear along the roof. A chainlink fence running parallel to the south side elevation and a brick wall, with an entrance at the southeast corner, divides the courtyard from the entrance to the east front elevation of the Parish Hall.

The west rear elevation is presently used as the primary entrance to the Parish Hall and the first story. This elevation is very similar to the side elevation in its detailing, window proportions and the roofline. The main differences include the width which is three bays wide with two oval shaped multipaned windows flanking the semicircular arched entrance. Flanking the flush double wood doors are coupled projecting stone pilasters. Wood panels and a glass transom appear above the door. The entrance is emphasized by a projecting heavy stone cornice above a keystone arch. The cornerstone appears in the northwest corner of the west elevation.

To the south of the Parish Hall is a flush wood door, with and infilled transom set in a brick, keystone arched entrance of a brick wall. The entrance leads to the courtyard between the Rectory and the Parish Hall (Refer to Photo 54).

The Parish Hall is still owned by the church and is used as a social hall and a theatre for bi-annual performances. The upper floor has a spacious auditorium which seats up to 1,000 people and originally the lower floors were used for meeting rooms and a gymnasium. Originally there was even a bowling alley, located below the Parish Hall and part of the courtyard at the southeast corner of the building.

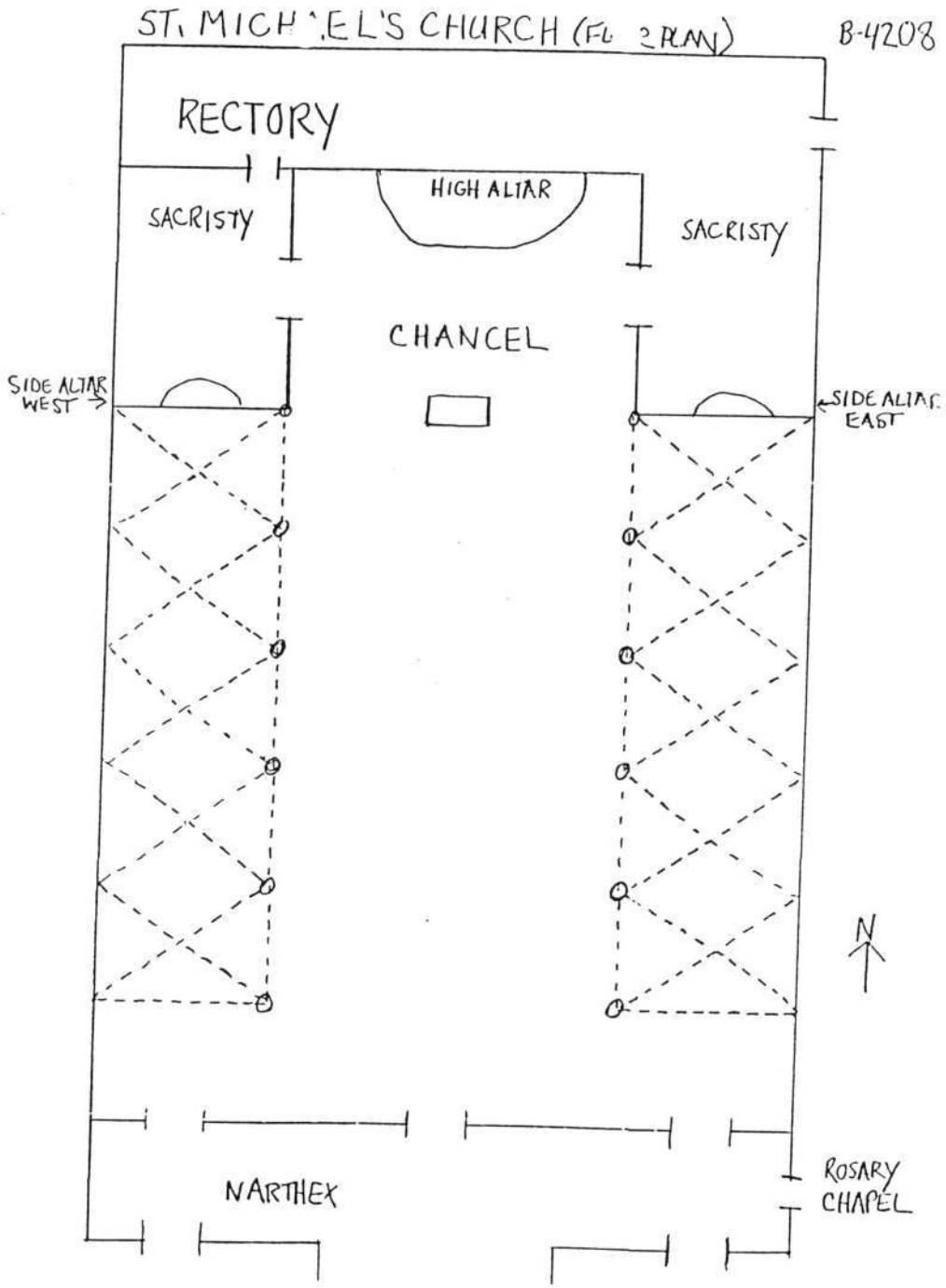
In January and February of 1925, St. Michael's Hall was renovated with the installation of new electrical fixtures, the addition of an orchestra pit, and the remodeling of the

See Continuation Sheet No. 7.23

rooms on the lower floor.

During the 20th century, the Parish Hall has experienced minimal changes and maintains its integrity. Some of the changes include division of rooms, dropped ceilings and contemporary wood paneling. The auditorium has been virtually unchanged with its original stage and coffered ceiling. The first floor still has its hardwood floors from the early 20th century when is was used as a gymnasium.

See Continuation Sheet No. 7.24



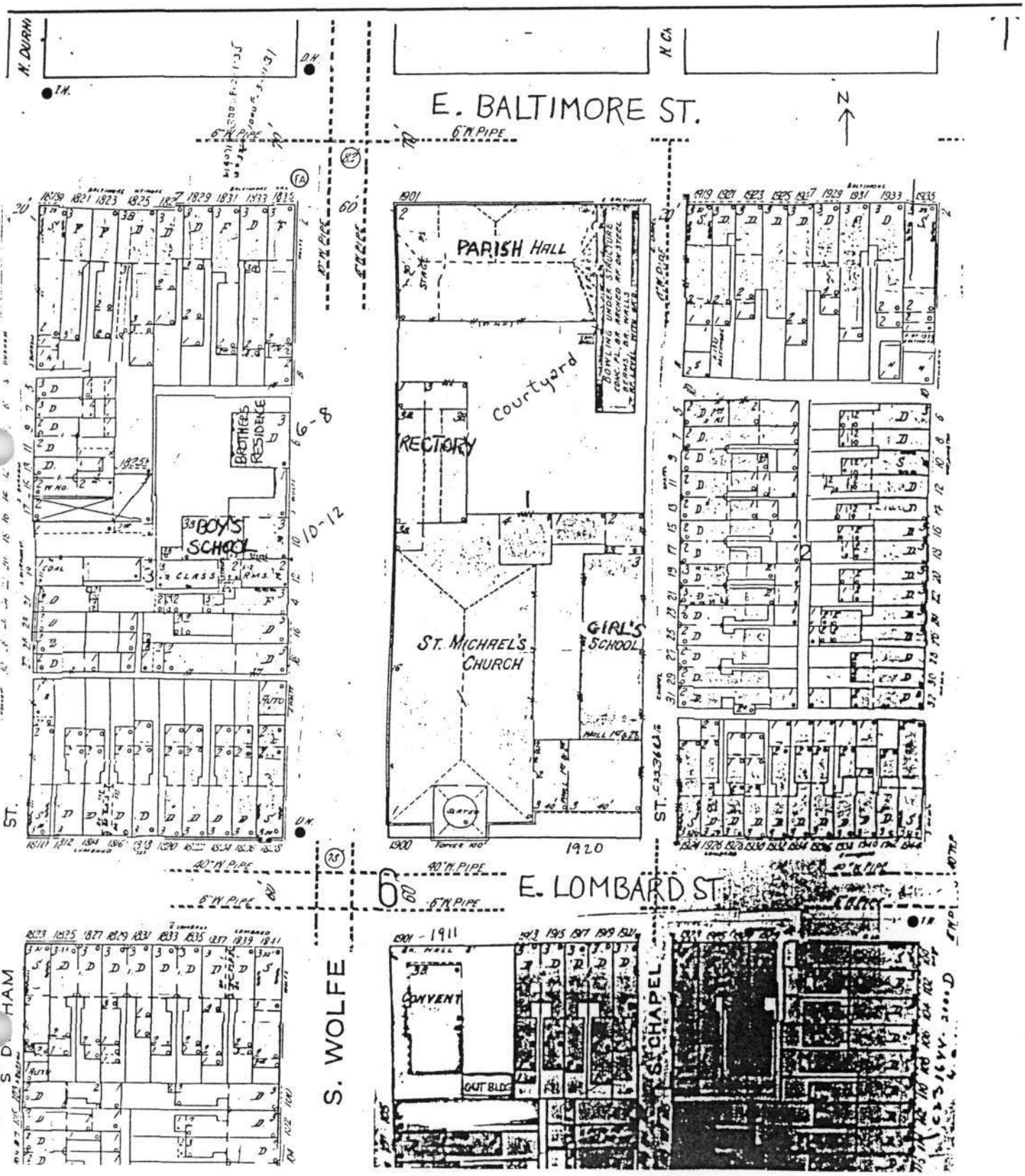

See Continuation Sheet No. 7.25

**United States Department of the Interior**
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore, Maryland

Section number 7 Page 25



HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:
Piedmont

Chronological/Development Period(s):
Agricultural - Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):
Religion

Resource Type:
Category: Buildings

Setting: Urban

Historic Function(s) or Use(s):
Religion/Religious Structure/Church
Religion/Church-Related Residence/Rectory,Covent
Religion/Church School/Religious Academy or Schools
Recreation and Culture/Auditorium/Hall,Auditorium

Known Design Source: Architect/Louis L. Long,
Frank E. Davis

See Continuation Sheet No. 8.2

Historic Setting:

During the period of Agricultural- Industrial transition from 1815-1870, Baltimore had become a major port and cultural center with many job opportunities and the promise of a better life for the waves of immigrants pouring into the City. Furthermore, the industrial and commerce dominance of the last quarter of the 19th century resulted in even greater growth for the City of Baltimore.

With the industrial boom at its peak by the middle of the 19th century in Baltimore, and the continuous agricultural depression in Europe, waves of immigrants from Germany were pouring into Baltimore.[1] These immigrants contributed to Baltimore's success because they produced the necessary labor for the railroads and the city.[2] In 1840 the population in Baltimore was approximately 100,000, in 1850 it was 170,000 and by 1860 the population growth had reached 210,000.[3] According to George H. Callcott, Maryland and America 1940-1980, Baltimore's population was at a climax by the first quarter of the 20th century and it comprised 51% of the state's population. Yet then a gradual decline began and from 1945 to 1980 Baltimore's population dropped from 950,000 to 787,000, down to 19% of the state's total population.

Although Fells Point and the Washington Hill area were annexed to the City of Baltimore in 1773, the area was not fully settled until the late 19th century. In the early 19th century overcrowding in Fells Point, caused expansion to the north, including Washington Hill, which flourished into a growing residential and commercial community.

In 1850 the overall population of the United States figured to approximately 24,000,000 and only 16% of the population were Catholics. In Maryland, during the early 19th century only 5% (approximately 15,000) of the state's population practiced Catholicism.

Of those Catholics in Maryland, a large concentration of them were located in Baltimore and among those, a large portion of them were German. After 1815, there was a new wave of German immigrants coming into Baltimore and as early as 1840 Germans were the most predominant ethnic group in the Washington Hill area. During the 1840's, when the Redemptorists took charge of all German Catholics in Baltimore, the city was considered the American headquarters for the Redemptorists.[4]

See Continuation Sheet No. 8.3

Resource History:

St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church is a Redemptorist Church, meaning it is run by the Redemptorist order. The Redemptorists or "The congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (CSSR) is a community of priests and lay brothers spread throughout the major areas of the world."[5] Catholic Redemptorists are bound by vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. As a missionary society their goal was to establish home missions in the United States.

This missionary order was in charge of the large parochial centers, "Work for the immigrant was instrumental in giving badly needed support to the incoming European, insecure and confused in his new home."[6]

In 1832, the Redemptorists came to America. The Reverend Benedict Bayer was the man in charge of the Baltimore German-Catholic congregation, yet by 1840 the large congregations had grown much to burdensome. In 1840 an agreement was reached between the Archbishop Samuel Eccleston and the Redemptorists, of their own authority, that the Redemptorists would take charge of the German Catholics of Baltimore. At the time there was a real need to employ a sufficient number of German priests who were qualified to be missionaries in Baltimore.[7] There was the fear in the early 1800's that there were not enough German Catholic churches. Because the Protestants had many German speaking churches, and many immigrants did not speak English, the Catholic Churches could potentially loose their congregations to the Protestant churches.

At the same time the Catholics wanted to attract more German immigrants, the Germans wanted to retain their native language. That depended on both the church and the success of Catholic schools, which were generally founded simultaneously with the founding of the congregation.

Until the 20th century, the Catholic Church was considered to be in America on a missionary basis. Yet one of the main reasons for the rapid growth of the Catholic church in 19th century America was the large wave of Catholic immigrants coming from Europe to settle in America.

The first two German Catholic Redemptorist Churches in Baltimore were St. James and St. Alphonsus Churches. By 1850

See Continuation Sheet No. 8.4

there was a need for a third Redemptorist German Catholic Church in the Fells Point area of Baltimore. St. Michael's Church was founded as an outbreak of St. Alphonsus Church in 1852. Prior to 1852, St. James Church was the only church and school for German Catholics living east of the Jones Falls.

Originally St. Michael's Church was located at the corner of Pratt and Register Streets in Fells Point. At that time transportation was either by carriage, omnibus or walking. Therefore, the fathers had a long journey from St. James Church, where they lived, to St. Michael's each day.

By 1857, St. Michael's Church, commonly known as the Point Church, could not accommodate the growing congregation. The difficulty for the fathers traveling each day made the location in Fell's Point difficult. In 1857 a large plot of land bounded on the north by Dulaney (Baltimore Street), on the east by Star Alley (Chapel Street), on the south by Smith (Lombard Street), and on the west by Wolfe Street, was bought by St. Michael's Church from St. Patrick's to construct a new larger St. Michael's Church. The plot was the site of the old St. Patrick's cemetery which was then moved to St. Patrick's cemetery on Philadelphia Road.

When permission was given to build a church, it was also given to establish a new community at St. Michael's, which remains extant today. The community was constructed in stages from 1857-1900 beginning with the Church and Girl's School in the same year of 1857, the Rectory followed in 1860, the Boy's School in 1870, the Convent for the School Sisters in 1874, a residence for the Brother's in 1884 and finally the Parish Hall was constructed in 1900. A small outbuilding on the Convent's lot was constructed circa 1896-1914.

The School Sisters of Notre Dame came to America in 1847 to assist in teaching the influx of German immigrants in the United States and in October of that same year they were invited to Baltimore by Father John Neuman. Initially the Sisters taught at St. James Church and later branched out to St. Alphonsus and St. Michael's Churches.

St. Michael's School was first established as a coed school, segregated by classes. The founder and organizer, Reverend Albert Schaeffer, ran the school until 1857 when the School

See Continuation Sheet No. 8.5

Sisters of Notre Dame took charge.

At first the boys were taught either by layman or the School Sisters until 1870 when the Brothers of Mary took over instruction of the boys. St. Michael's School outgrew its first location in Fells Point with an enrollment of 300 and soon after the new school opened on E. Lombard Street with an increase of enrollment to over 1,000 pupils. Around 1878 St. Michael's School was the largest parochial school in Baltimore, with 1,310 pupils, according to the Catholic Directory.

When a new German Catholic Redemptorist Church called Sacred Heart was blessed in Canton on May 25, 1874, as an outgrowth of St. Michael's Church, St. Michael's began to see a gradual decline in their congregation on into the 20th century. The decrease was also caused by the influx of persons of other creeds into the parish district.

St. Michael's was once the largest German parish conducted by the Redemptorists in the United States, yet in the early part of the 20th century the Church experienced a period of decline. This was partly due to influx of non Catholics in the area, improved transportation systems causing a migration to the suburbs and the competition of other churches. St. Michael's was once one of the largest parishes in Baltimore with 2,200 families, by 1920 it had only 820.[8] The Boy's and Girl's School used to total 1,600 students. By the 1920's they had 600 pupils between them.

Despite the periods of decline, St. Michael's Church has managed to remain a Redemptorist Church, although not exclusively German, and to date has held its Church and community together.

Resource Analysis:

Religion was extremely important to the immigrant arriving in Baltimore. Many of the German Catholics settling in the Washington Hill area of East Baltimore found great comfort in the religious German Catholic communities which were formed to provide a setting where Germans could attend church, school and social functions while living nearby. St. Michael's Church provided the type of community setting which allowed the German Catholic immigrants to gradually assimilate into American society by learning English in their

See Continuation Sheet No. 8.6

schools, but at the same time hold on to their religion, native language, education practices and social culture.

In addition to St. Michael's there were three more Redemptorist German Catholic Churches in Baltimore; St. Alphonsus (1842); St. James (1833-rebuilt 1865) and Holy Cross (1858).

St. Alphonsus, established and constructed in 1842, is a Gothic Revival church located at the northeast corner of Saratoga Street and Park Avenue and was designed by noted architect Robert Cary Long. The religious community at St. Alphonsus consisted of only the church, convent and school. The school was destroyed by the Great Fire of 1873 and was rebuilt in 1874. Therefore, the school post dates both of St. Michael's Schools. The remaining structures have experienced considerable alterations and the church began suffering from decline in its parish by the 1870's. As a result, St. Alphonsus stopped operating as a Redemptorist Church in July of 1917 when the Lithuanians took over.

At the corner of Aisiquith and Eager Streets a second Romanesque Revival Redemptorist Church named St. James, established circa 1843, was being built for the second time in 1865. This church was designed by George Frederick, a noted Baltimore architect. As a complex, St. James Church and community was also much smaller than St. Michael's and has since had its Parish Hall demolished. Those buildings which remain extant include the Church, Boy's School, Institute of Notre Dame and the Rectory. In addition, some of these buildings have had their integrity damaged and the Church is no longer even operating as a church, but is being converted into housing.

The last of the four German Catholic Redemptorist Churches is Holy Cross Church,, established circa 1854 and constructed in 1858 at 106 E. West Street in Federal Hill. Like St. Alphonsus and St. James, the religious community of Holy Cross contained fewer buildings than that of St. Michael's Church.

Only the Church of Holy Cross, its Rectory and the School building remain extant. The old convent and an older school building were demolished. In addition, some of the buildings have had considerable alterations and the church ceased to be run by the Redemptorists as of 1865 when the Archdiocese took

over. Holy Cross Church has not been designated to the National Register of Historic Places, yet it is certainly eligible.

In comparison to the other three German Catholic Redemptorist Churches, St. Michael's Church, which was established in 1852 and its present church, constructed in 1857, is the oldest continuously operating Redemptorist church in Baltimore. In addition, the complex which makes up the community at St. Michael's is the largest extant Catholic Redemptorist religious complex remaining in Baltimore with the integrity of all its buildings intact.

The contributions the Redemptorists made to the history of Baltimore are numerous. One example is the founding of St. Joseph's Hospital, which in the early 19th century was one of the largest and most modern institutions of its kind in the East, noted for its specialty in the children department, which accommodated both pay and charity cases. The Redemptorists also brought the School Sisters of Notre Dame to Baltimore who made great contributions in Parochial education and founded St. Anthony's Orphan Asylum.[9]

Finally the potential for the site where St. Michael's Church, Girl's School, Rectory, Courtyard and Parish Hall now stand to yield important information about archeology is likely, considering a cemetery once was located on the site, and there is no substantial evidence that the cemetery was completely and thoroughly removed to another location.

See Continuation Sheet No. 8.8
for Footnotes

FOOTNOTES:

[1] Olson, Sherry H., Baltimore The Building of an American City, (Baltimore and London, The Johns Hopkins University Press,1980.),p. 102.

[2] Ibid.,p. 103.

[3] Browne, Gary Lawson, Baltimore in the Nation, 1789-1861, (Chapel Hill, North Carolina, The University of North Carolina Press, 1980),p. 124.

[4] Olson, Sherry H., Baltimore The Building of an American City, (Baltimore and London, The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1980),p. 124.

[5] " Redemptorists," New Catholic Encyclopedia (1967 ed.), vol.12, p. 161.

[6] Ibid.,p. 163.

[7] Cunz, Dieter, The Maryland Germans A History, (Port Washington, N.Y./London, Kennikat Press, 1948.), p.221.

[8] The Book of Maryland Men and Institutions, ed. by Felix Agnus (Baltimore, Maryland, Maryland Biographical Assoc., 1920), p. 322.

[9] Ibid.,p. 322.

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Frank E. Davis, Specifications of Convent of the Sisters of Notre Dame, St. Michael's Church Parish Records, August 1874.

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"Local Notes," The Catholic Mirror, Oct. 5, 1901, p. 3.

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"St. Michael's New Church," The Catholic Mirror, Aug. 1, 1857, p.5.

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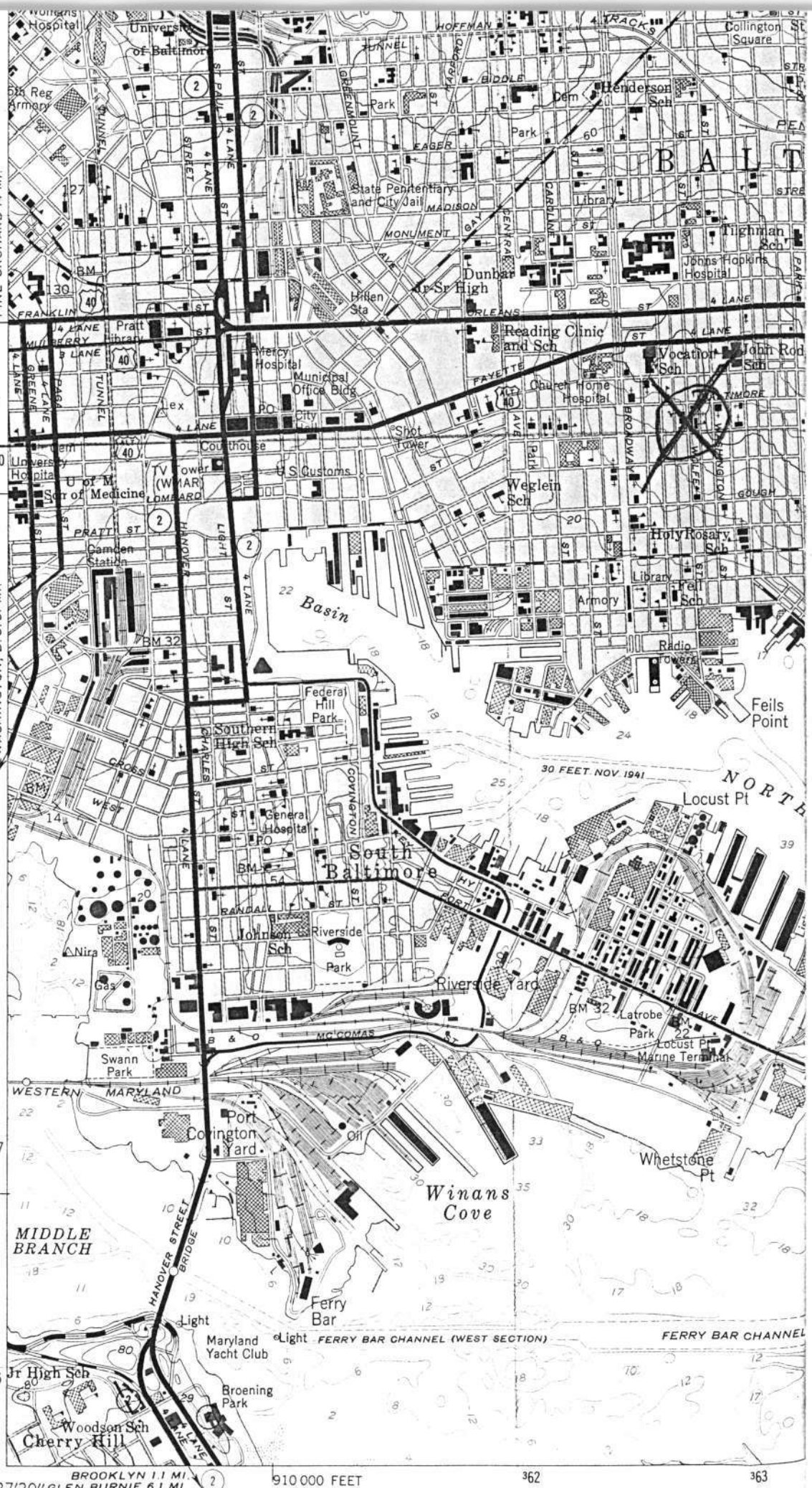
The Book of Maryland Men and Institutions, ed. by Felix Agnus, Baltimore, Maryland., Maryland Biographical Assoc., 1920, p.322-323.

"The Covent of St. Michael's," The Baltimore American, July 21, 1884.




B-4208

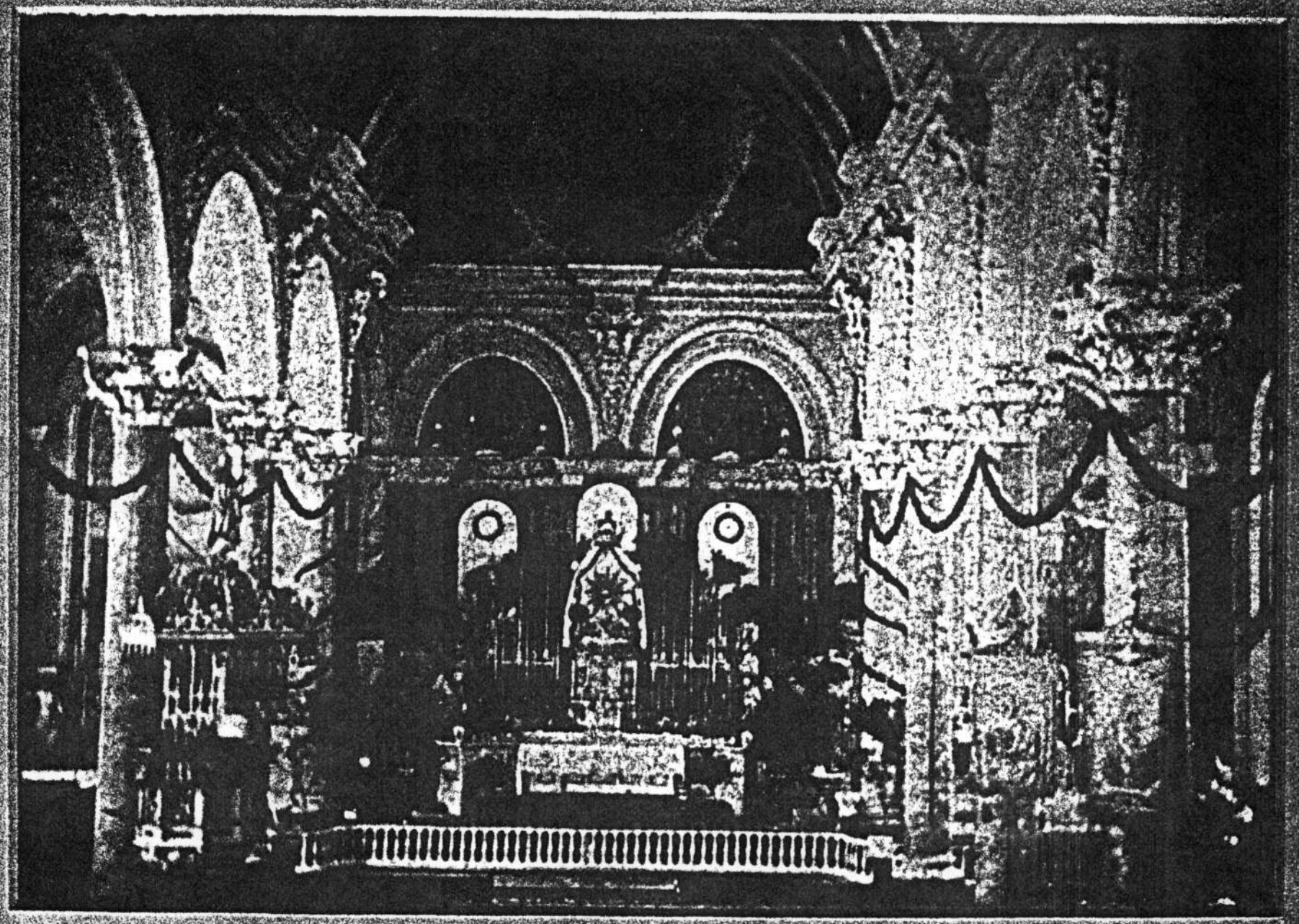
St. Michael's Church
B-4208

Baltimore
Maryland

3/362780/
4350010

Mapped by the Army Map Service

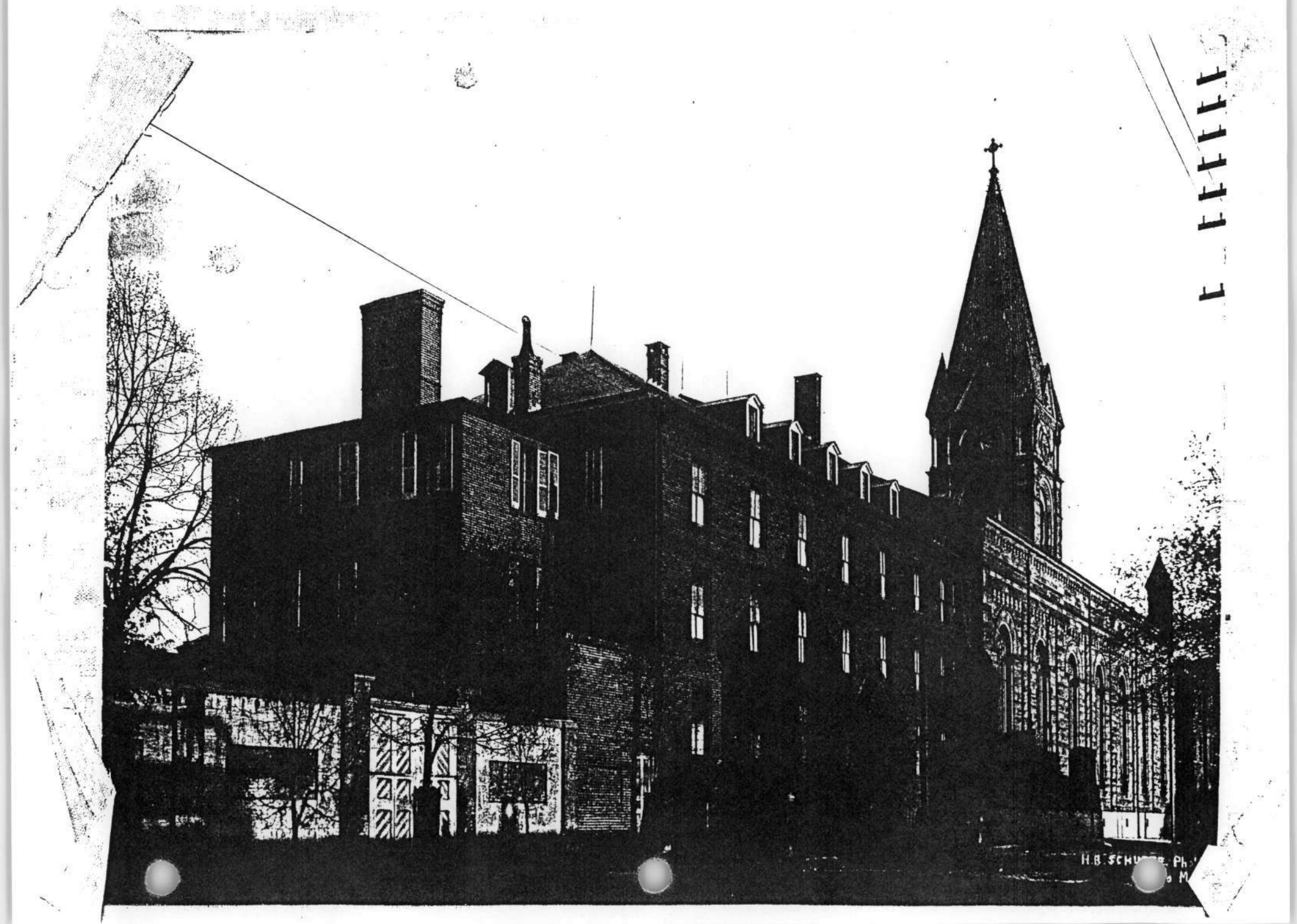
ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH - 1847



EARLIEST PICTURE OF THE INTERIOR OF ST. MICHAEL CHURCH B-4208

The small picture at the top dates from somewhere between 1860-80.
It is the original photograph for the enlargement below it.
Written on the back of the original photo are these words:

Church and Rectory - view SE ca. 1890-1900 St. Michael's Church B-4208

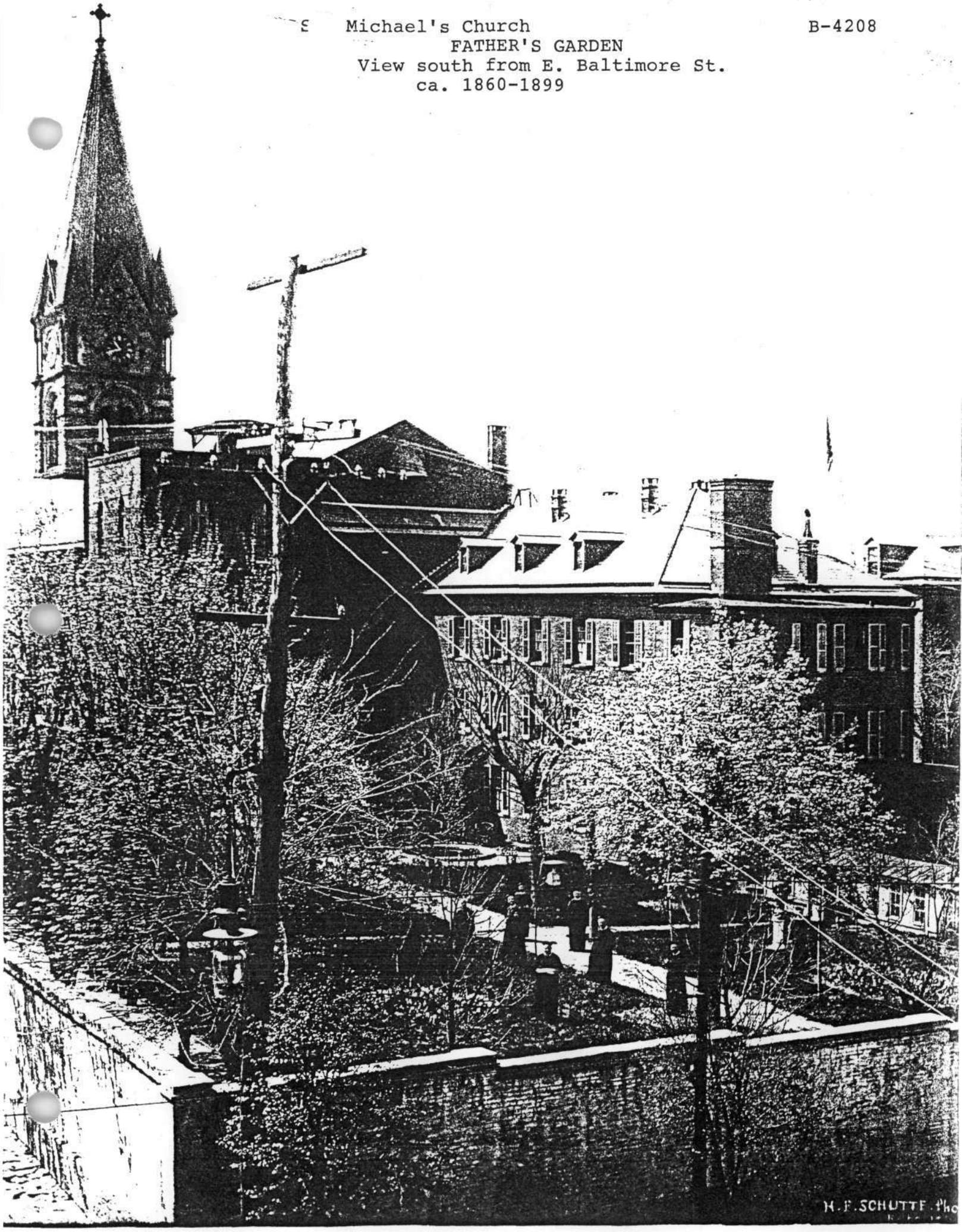


S Michael's Church B-4208

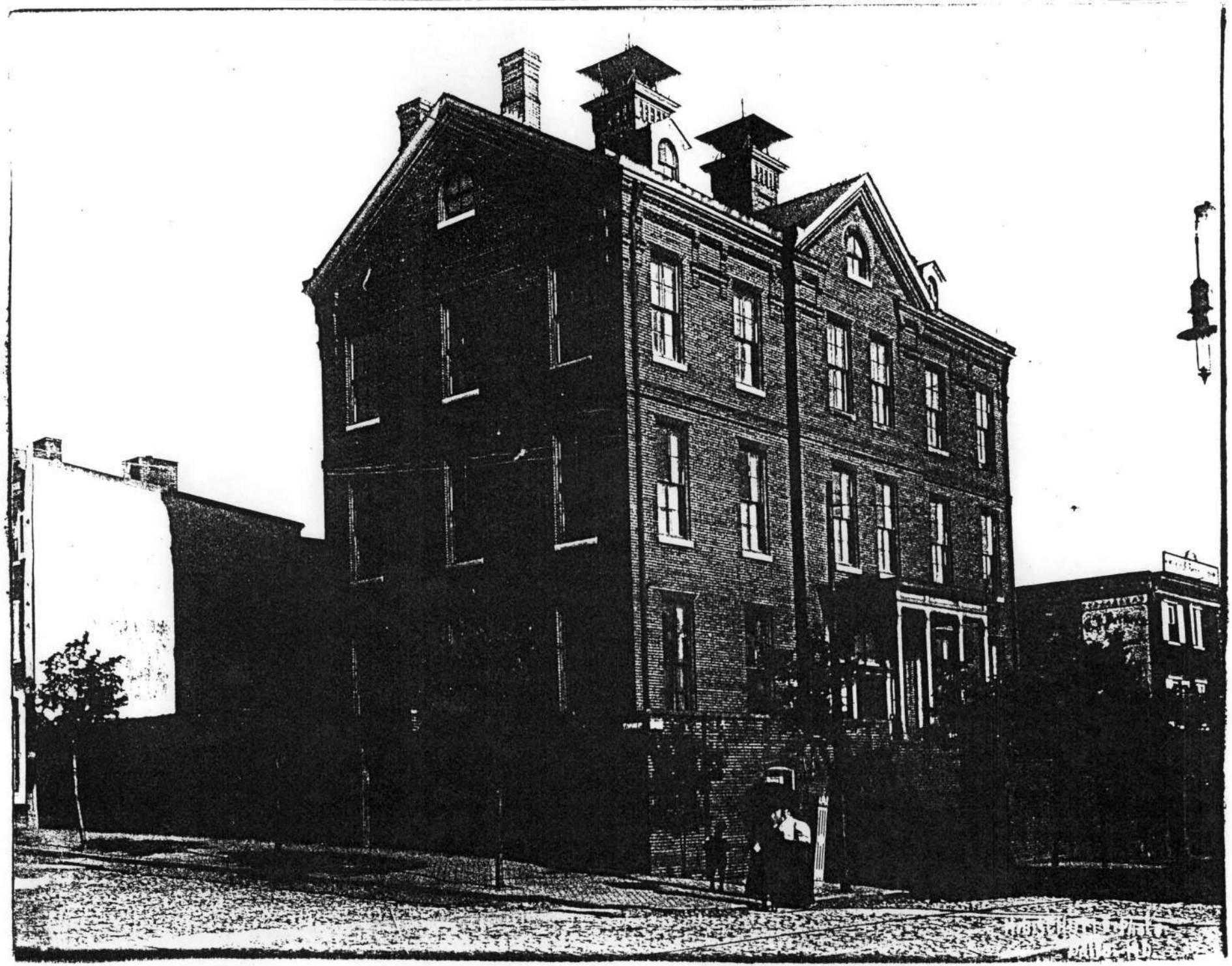
FATHER'S GARDEN

View south from E. Baltimore St.

ca. 1860-1899



Brother's Residence - view west St. Michael's Church B-4208
ca. 1885-1928



·Convent- view SE ca. 1900 B-4208 St. Michael's Church B-4208

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Church, Girl's School, Convent
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
View east - E. Lombard St.
1/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
Unit block S. Chapel St. - looking south
2/57

BINGO
EMERGENCY DIAL 911

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Parish Hall
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Ketlam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
NW elevation
3/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Interior-side altar east
4/57

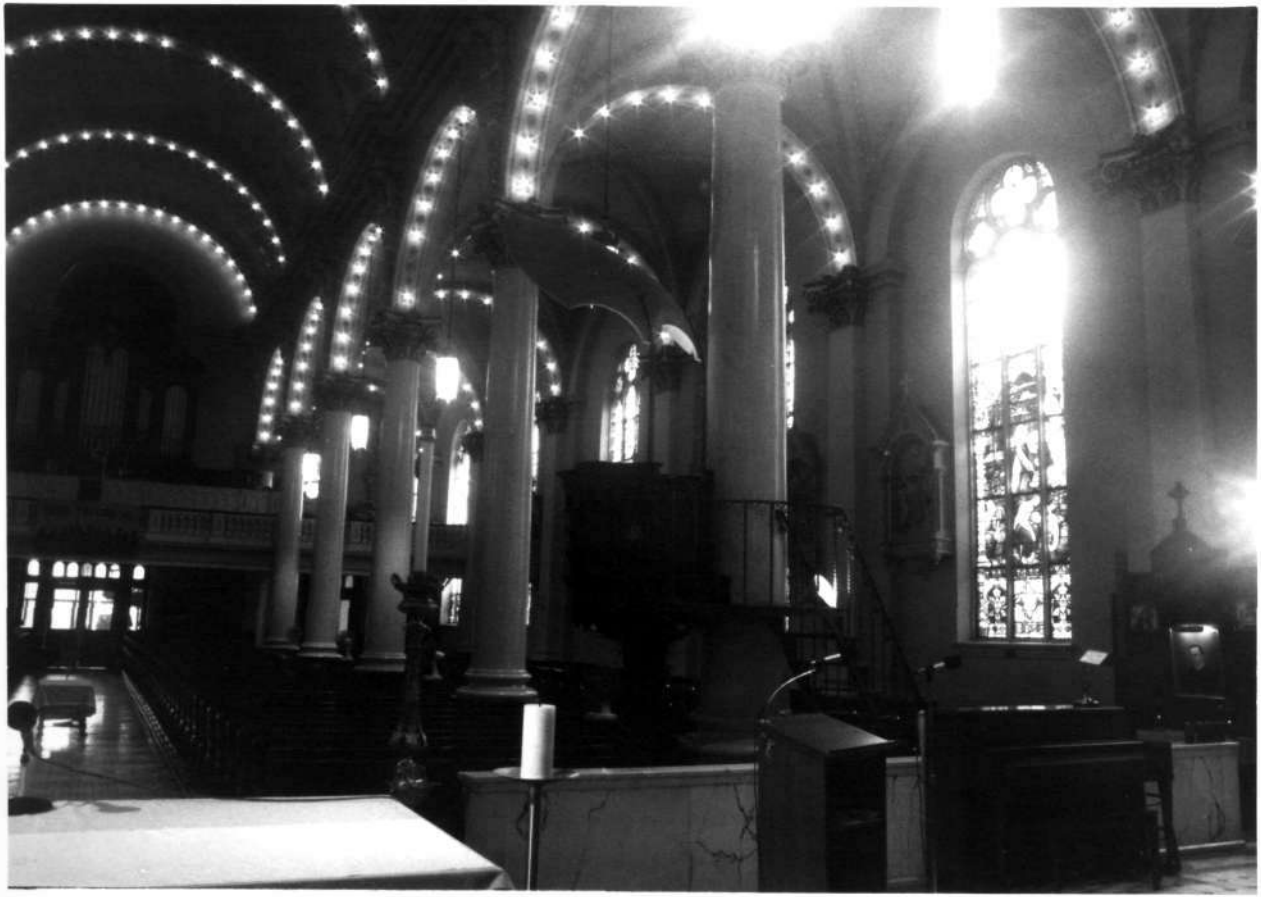
St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Interior - side altar west
5/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Interior - Sanctuary - view north
6/57

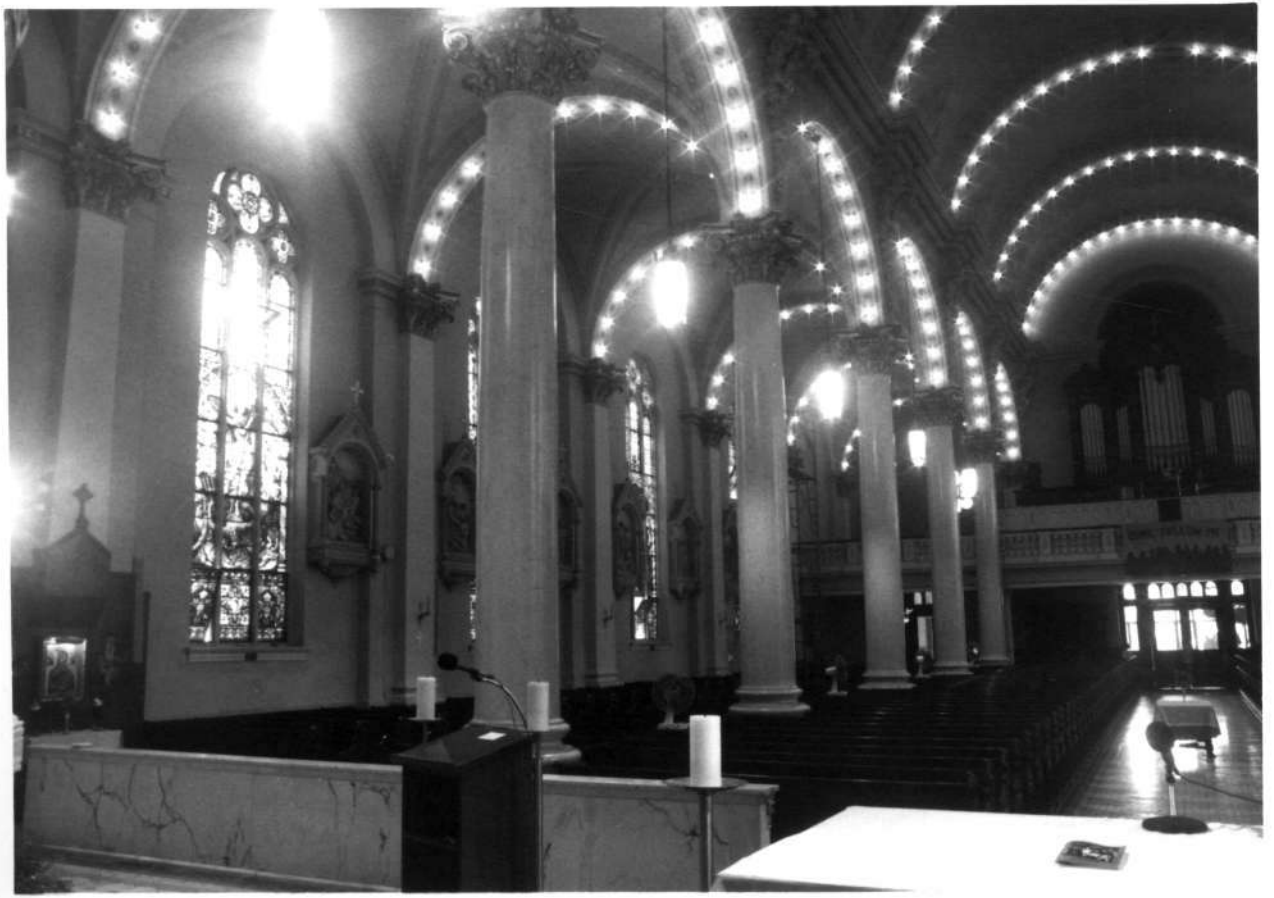
St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
South elevation - central entrance
7/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Interior - Nave looking towards chancel
8/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Interior - nave looking NE
9/57



St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Interior-Nave looking SW
10/57



St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Interior - nave looking SE
11/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Sacristy - view south
12/57

ST THADDEUS

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Interior - Detail ceiling
13/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Interior - Detail stained-glass
14/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Interior - Detail stained-glass
15/57

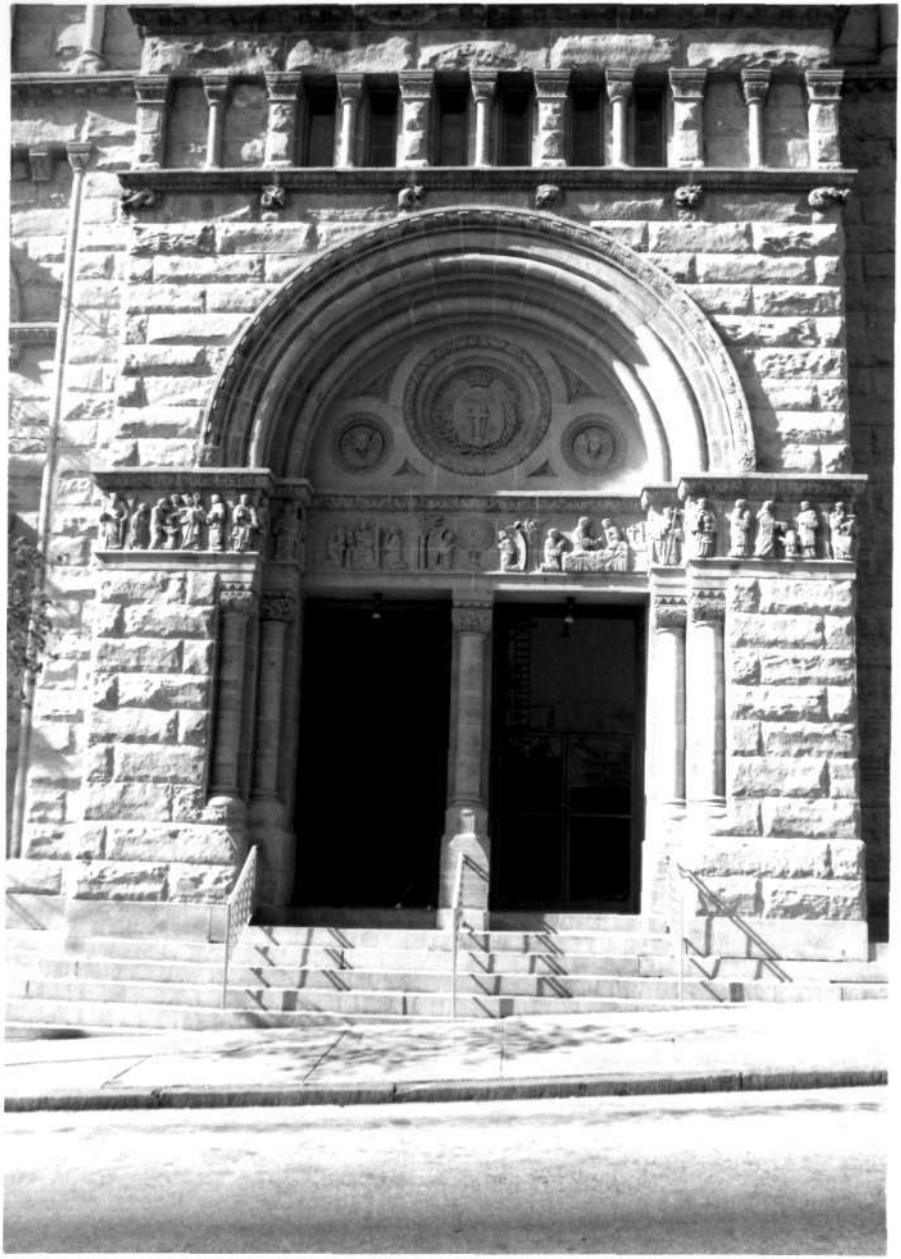
ROSARY
CHAPEL

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Interior - narthex east
16/57

DIRECTORY

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Interior - narthex - view north
17/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
SE elevation
18/57



St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
South elevation - Central entrance
19/57

Church

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
South elevation - front entrance
20/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
SW elevation - looking east
21/57

St. Michael's church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
West elevation
22/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Interior - Nave looking south
23/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Girl's School
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
9/88
Maryland SHPO
SE elevation
24/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Girl's School
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Ketham
6/88
Maryland SHPO
2nd floor, 1857 part of school
typical classroom - view east
25/87

the people...

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Girl's School
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
2nd fl. typical hallway - view North
26/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Girl's School
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kollam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
1857 part of school (originally parish hall)
typical classroom - SE
27/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Rectory
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
West elevation - Detail entrance
28/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Rectory + courtyard
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/98
Maryland SHPO
NE elevation
29/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Rectory + courtyard
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
NE elevation
29/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Rectory
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Typical stairway - view east
30/57

St. Michael's church B-4208
Rectory
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
2nd fl. typical hall-view north
31/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Courtyard
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
View SE
32/57

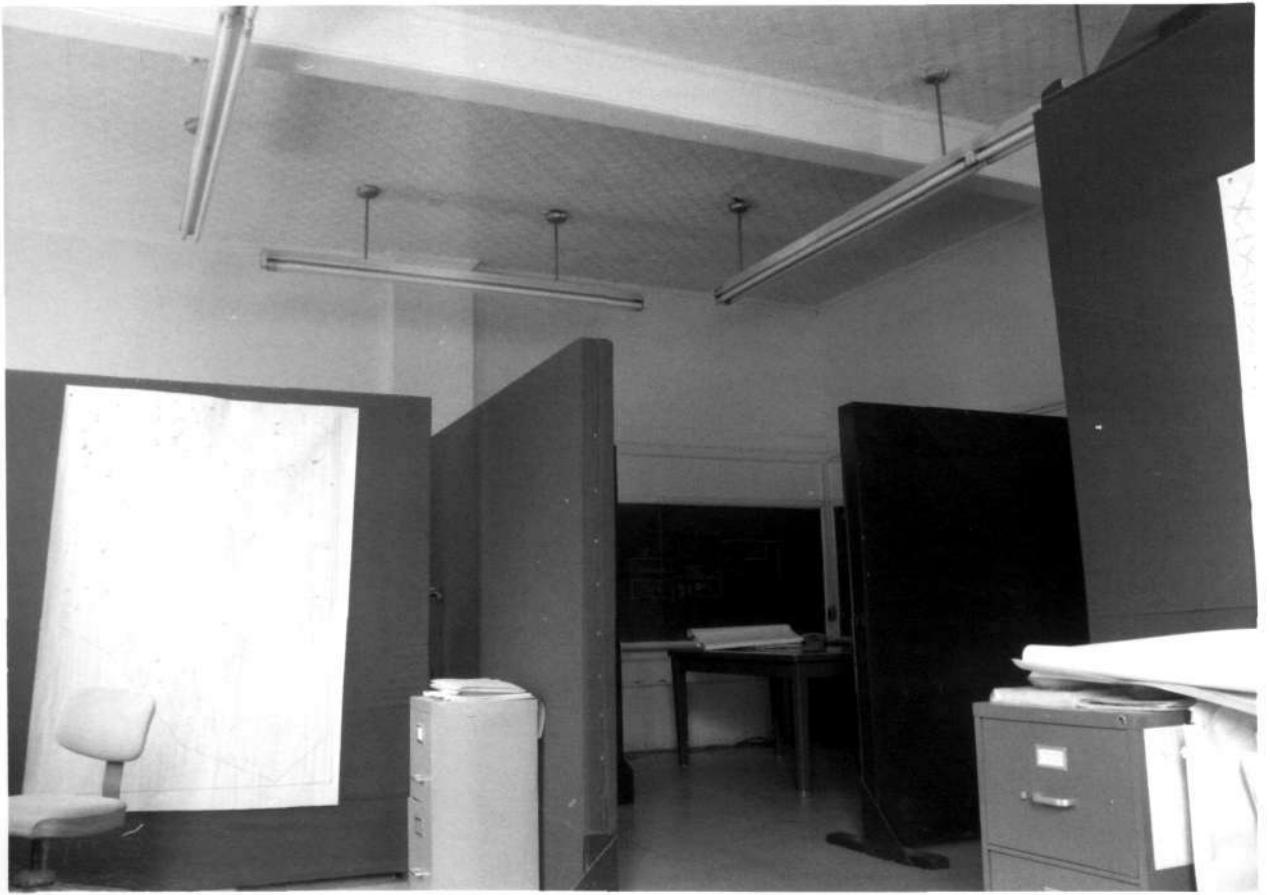
St. Michael's Church B-4208
Boy's School
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kollam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
East elevation
33/57

HAELS BOYS S
APOSTOLADO
HISPANO
CENTER

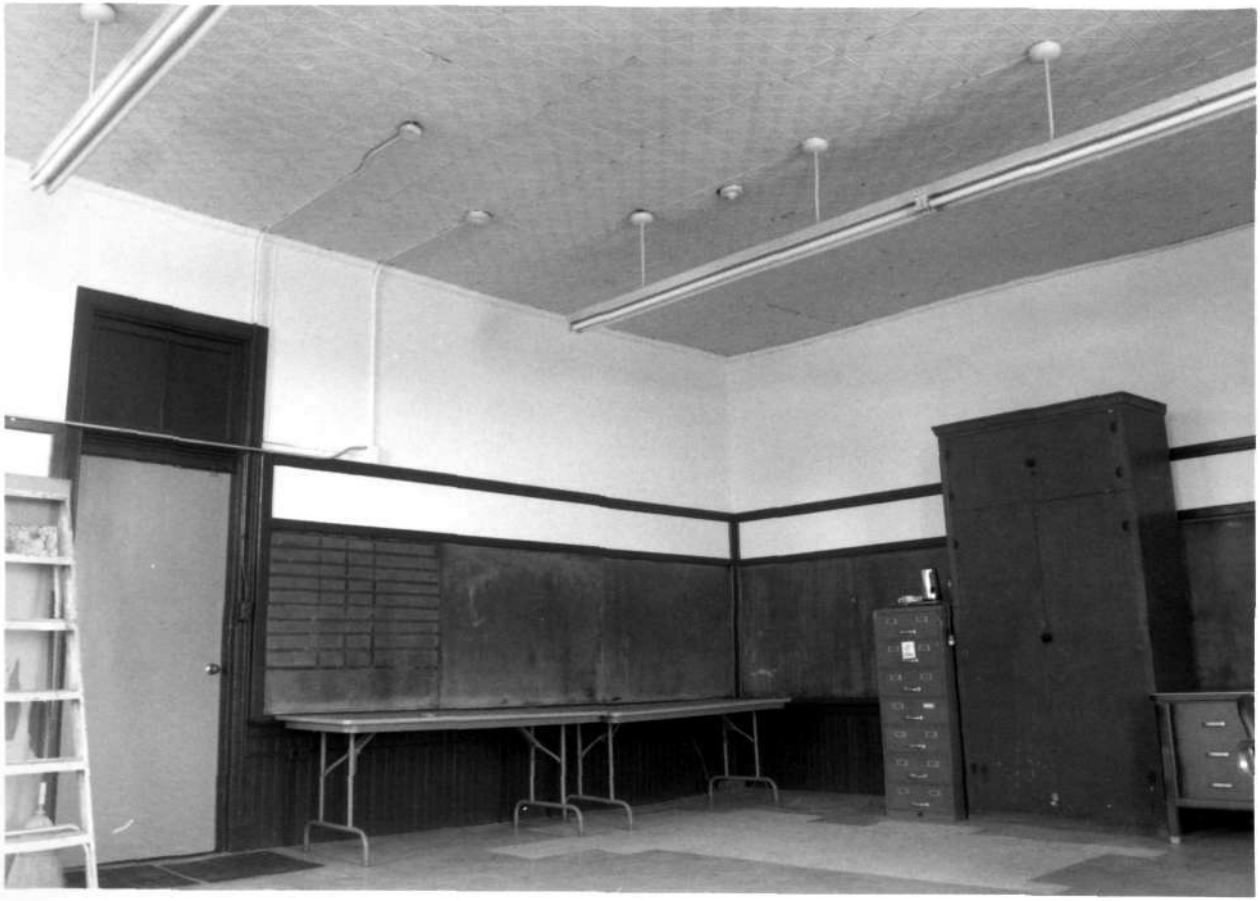
St. Michael's Church B-4208
Boy's School
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
East elevation
34/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Boy's School
Baltimore City, Maryland
Carolina Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
East elevation
35/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Boy's School
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
NW elevation
36/57



St. Michael's Church B-4208
Boy's School
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
2nd fl. typical room - view SW
37/57



St. Michael's Church B-4208
Boy's School
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Third fl.-typical classroom-view SE
38/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Convent
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
NW elevation
39/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
convent
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
NW elevation
89/57

Support Trancare
d Drive
CENTER
GOV. THEODORE MI
TRANS
ONE WAY

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Convent
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
North elevation
40/57

NO
PARKING
ANY
TIME

St. Michael's Church B-4208
convent
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kollam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
NE elevation
41/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Convent
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
NE elevation
42/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Convent
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
Interior - 1st floor main staircase
43/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Convent
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Ketlam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
Second floor landing - NE
44/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Convent
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
Third floor SW
45/57

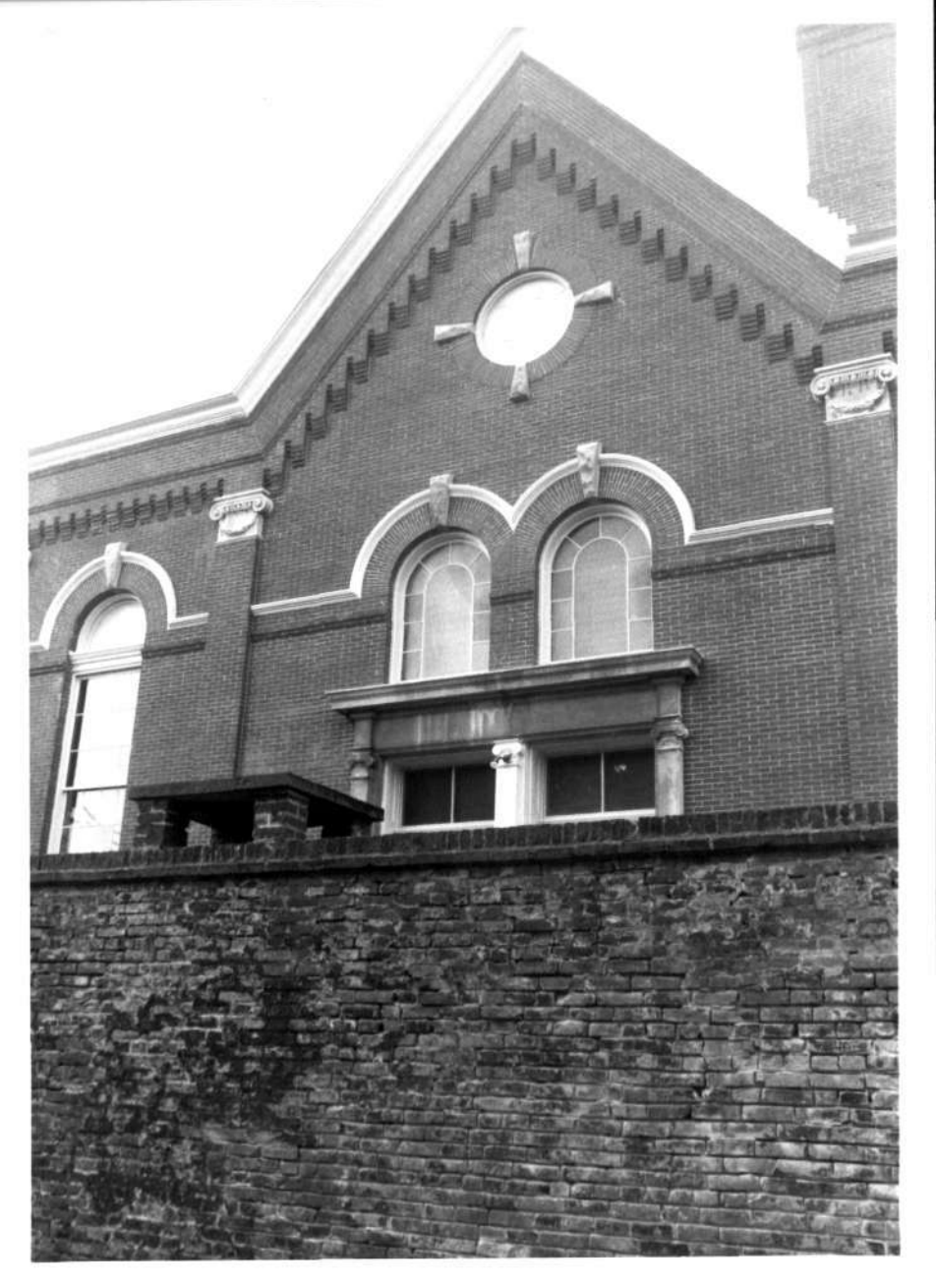
St. Michael's Church B-4208
Brother's Residence
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
east elevation
46/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
Unit block S. Wolfe - looking south
47/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Brother's Residence
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kollam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
SW elevation
48/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Brother's Residence
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Typical Stairway - view north
49/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Brother's Residence
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
2nd floor - typical room NE
50/57



St. Michael's Church B-4208
Parish Hall
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
East elevation - detail
51/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Parish Hall
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
East elevation
52/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Parish Hall
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
NE elevation
53/57

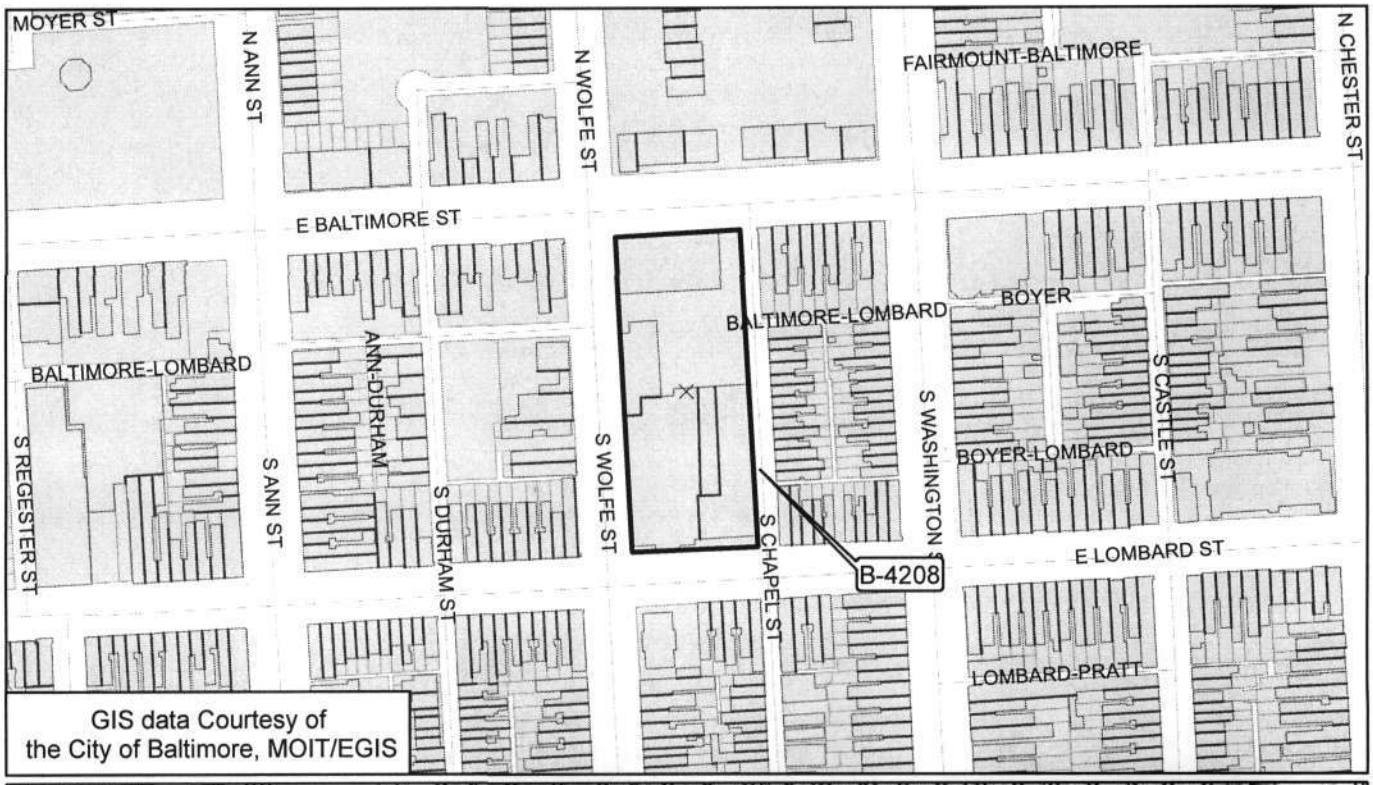
St. Michael's Church B-4208
Parish Hall
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
4/88
Maryland SHPO
West elevation
54/57

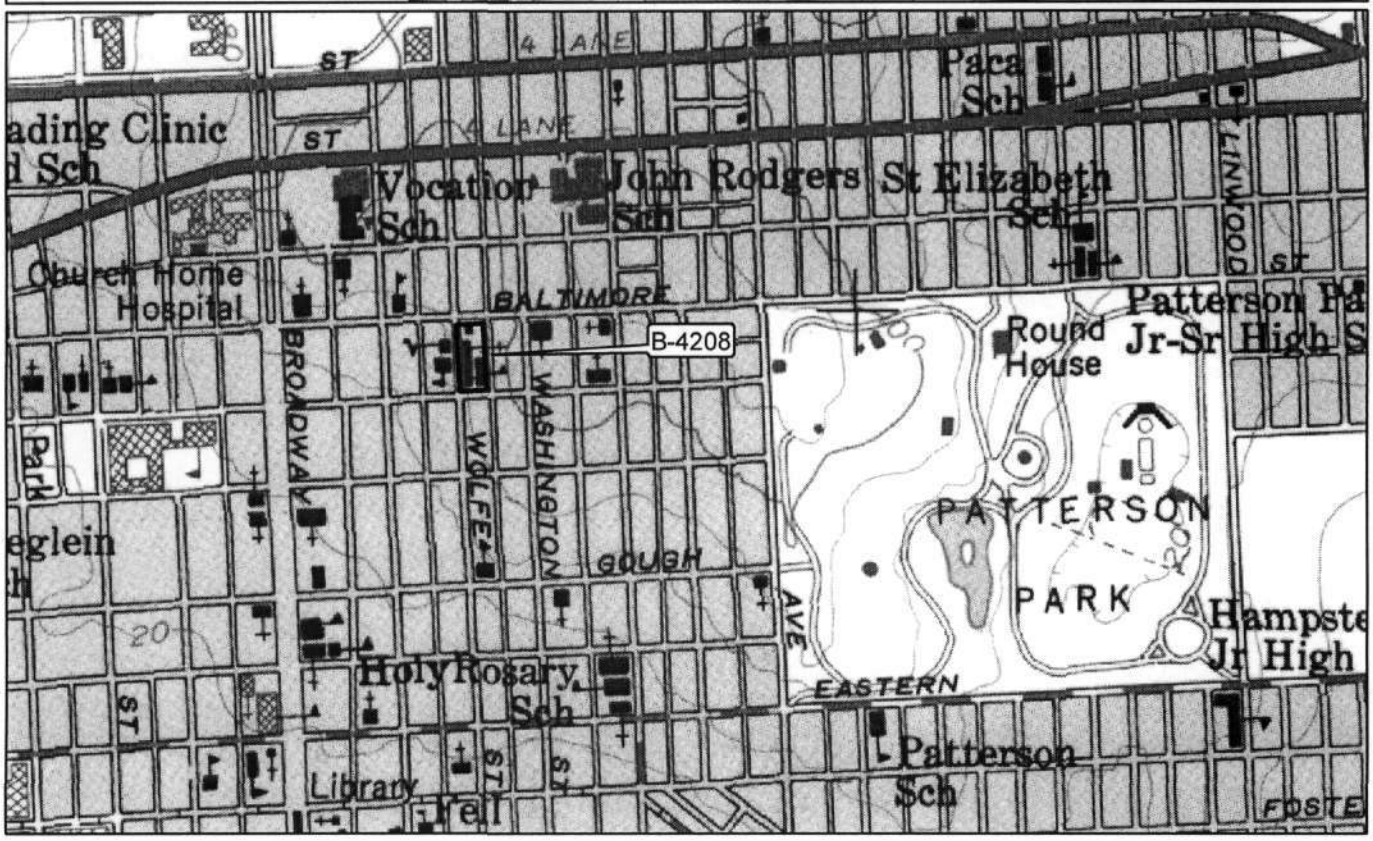
St. Michael's Church B-4208
Parish Hall
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Interior - typical hall room - view NE
55/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Parish Hall
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Interior - theatre 2nd floor - view SW
56/57

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Parish Hall
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
6/88
Maryland SHPO
Interior - theatre - detail ceiling
57/57

B-4208
St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church Complex
(St. Michael's Boys School)
1900-1920 E. Lombard Street
Block 1736, Lot 034A
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.



St. Michael's Church B-4208

Rectory

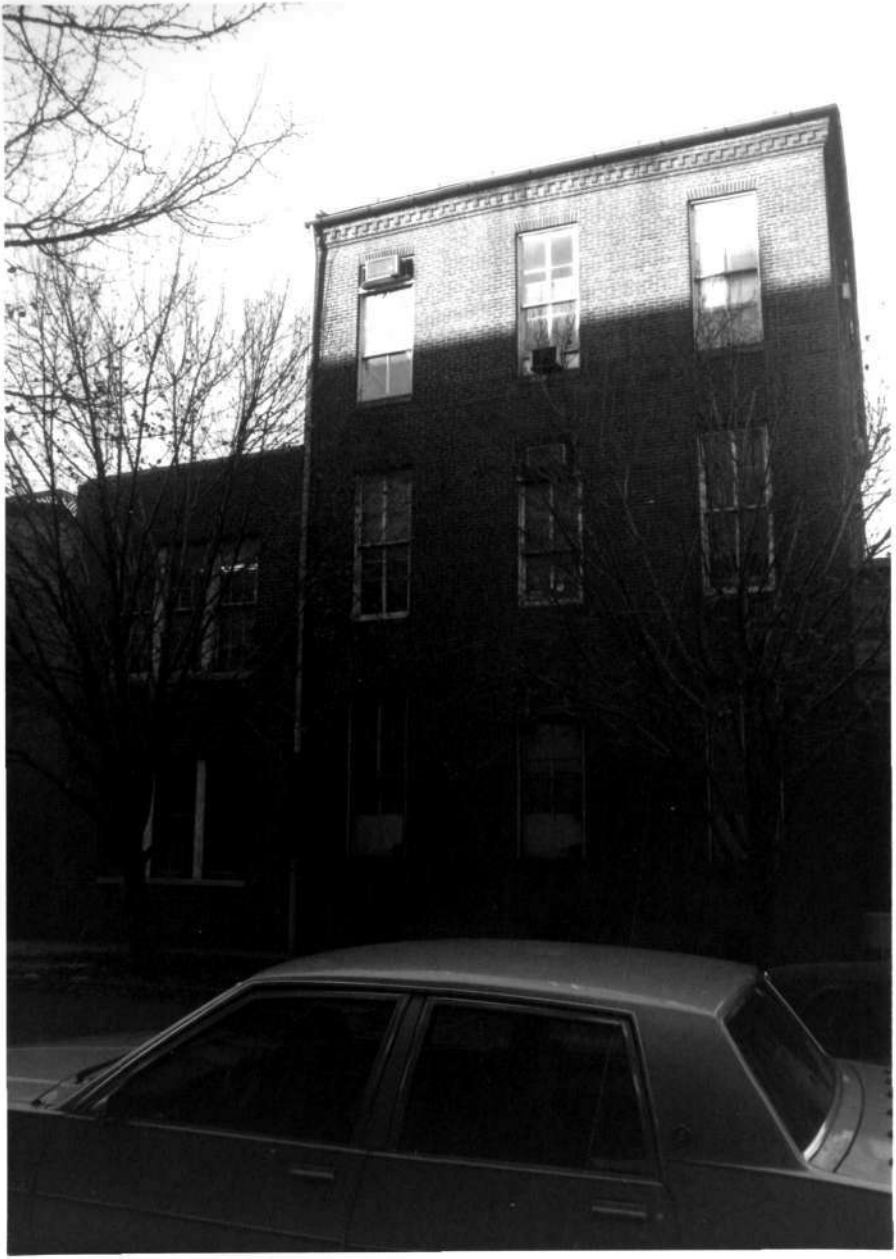
NE elevation

Baltimore City, Maryland 29

Caroline Kellam

November 1988

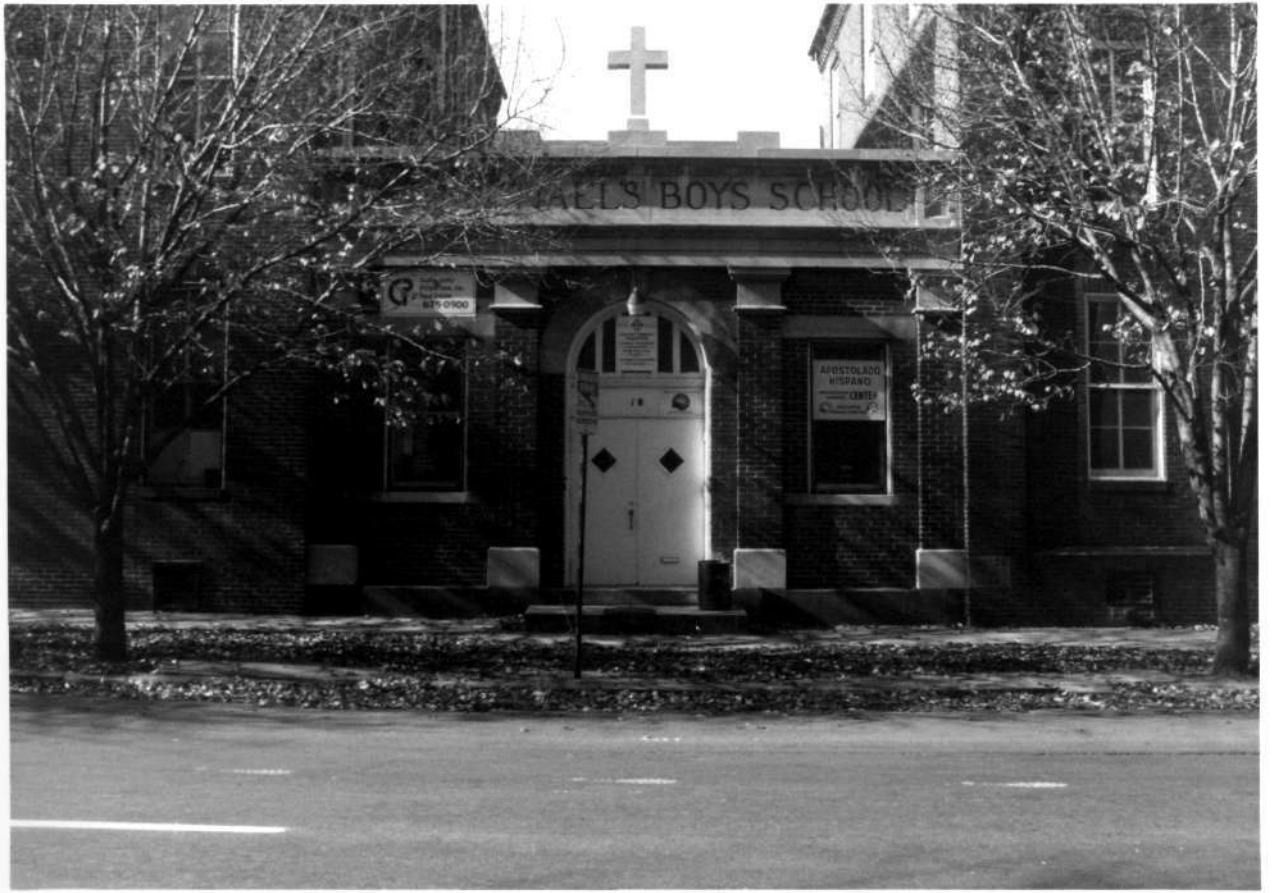
Maryland SHPO



St. Michael's Church B-4208
Boy's School
East elevation
Baltimore City, Maryland 33
Caroline Kellam
November 1988
Maryland SHPO

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Boy's School
East elevation
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
November 1988
Maryland SHPO

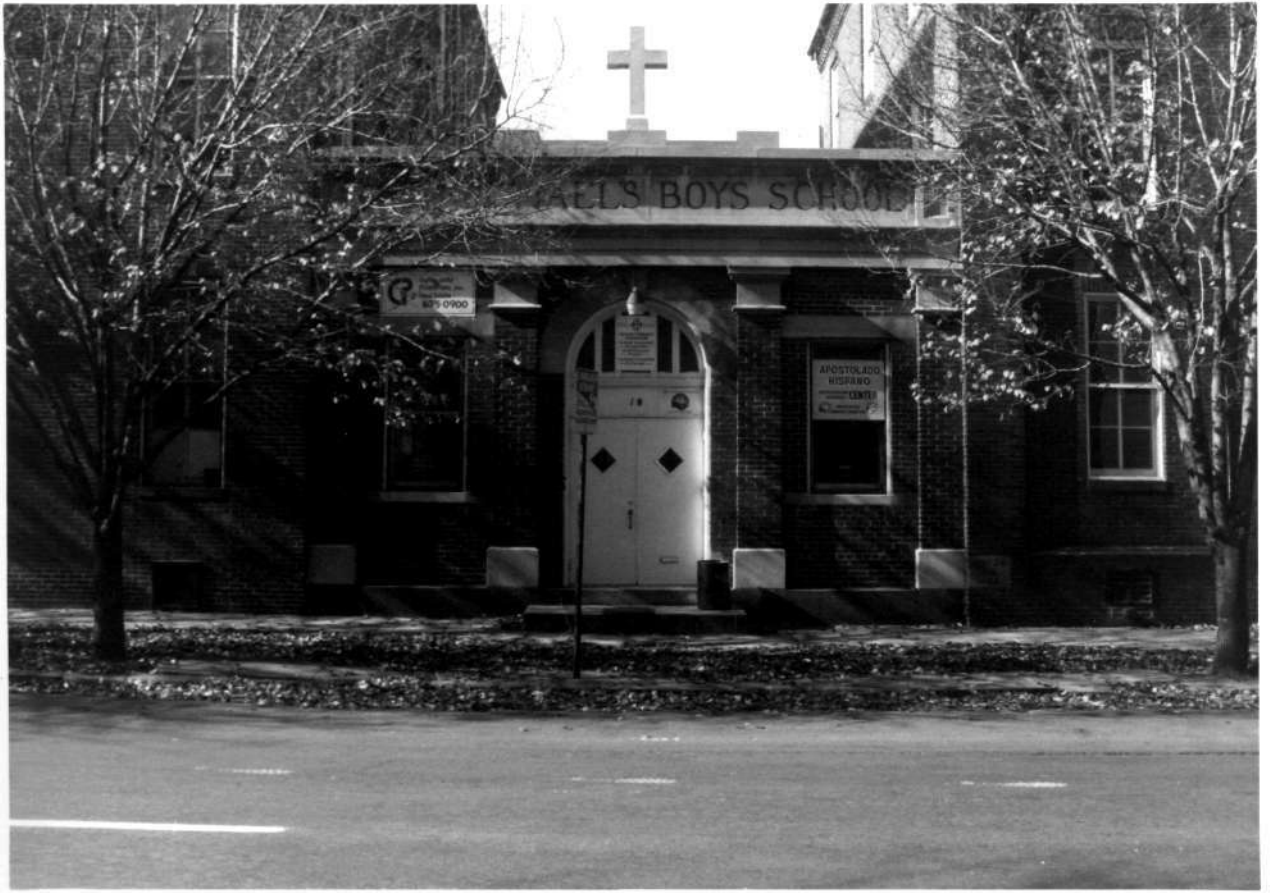
33/57


ALL'S BOYS SCHOOL
APOSTOLADO
HISPANO
CENTER

St. Michael's Church
Boy's School
East elevation
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
November 1986
Maryland SHPO

B-4208

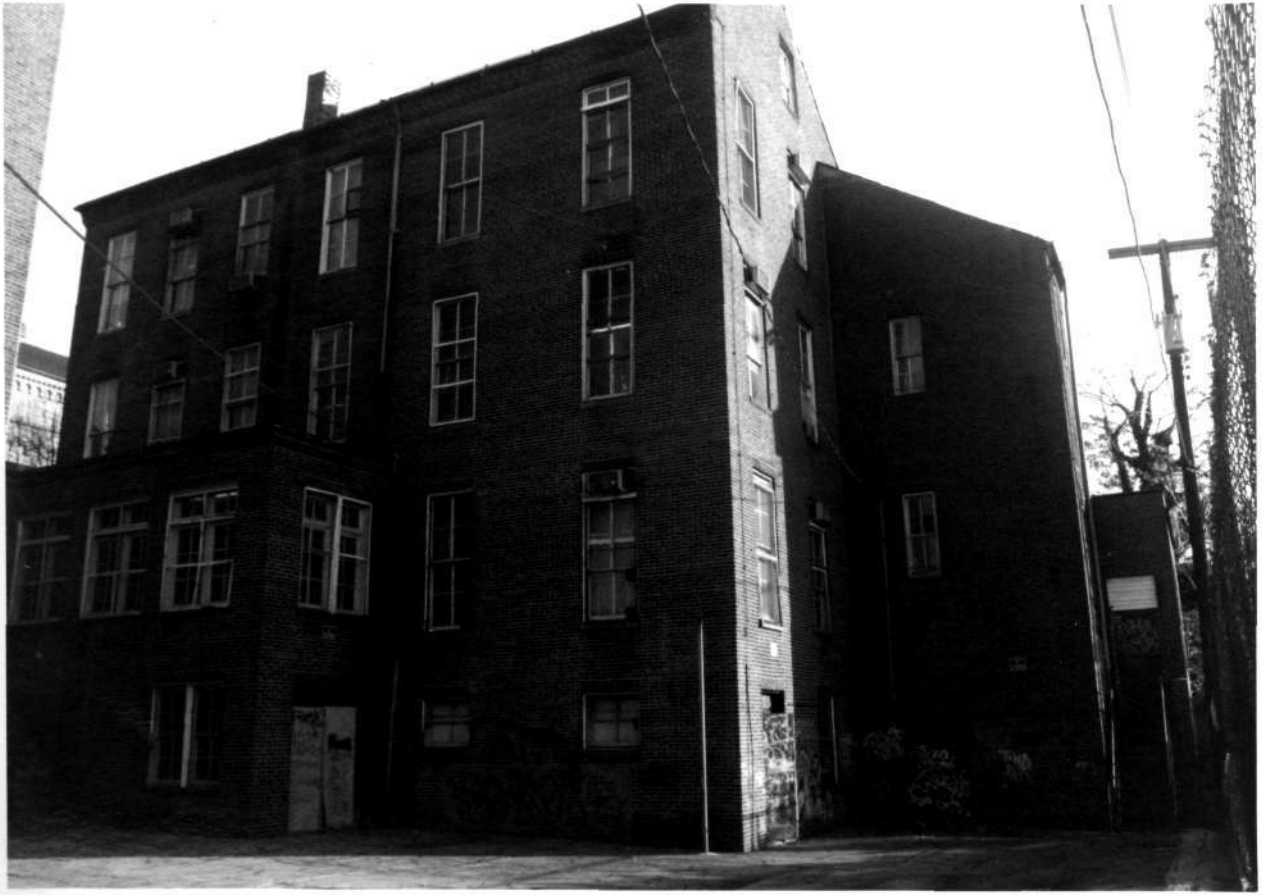
341


ALLS BOYS SCHOOL
APOSTOLADO
HISPANO

St. Michael's Church 3-4208
Boy's School
East elevation
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
November 1988
Maryland SHPO

34

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Boy's School
NW elevation
Baltimore City, Maryland 36
Caroline Kellam
November 1988
Maryland SHPO



St. Michael's Church B-4208
Boy's School
NW elevation
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
November 1988
Maryland SHPO

3/6

Support Transcare Building Fund Drive
TRANCARE

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Convent
NW elevation
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
November 1988
Maryland SHPO

39

Support Trancare's Building Fund Drive
GOV. THEODORE McKELDIN YOUTH CENTER
TRANCARE
222 W Monument St Baltimore Md. 21201
383-1180

B-4208

St. Michael's Church
Convent
North elevation
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
November 1988
Maryland SHPO

40/

Support Trancare's Building Fund Drive
GOV. THEODORE McKELDIN YOUTH CENTER
TRANCARE
363-1180

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Convent
North elevation
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Icellam
November 1988
Maryland SHPO

40

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Convent
NE elevation
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
November 1988
Maryland SHPO

4 1/

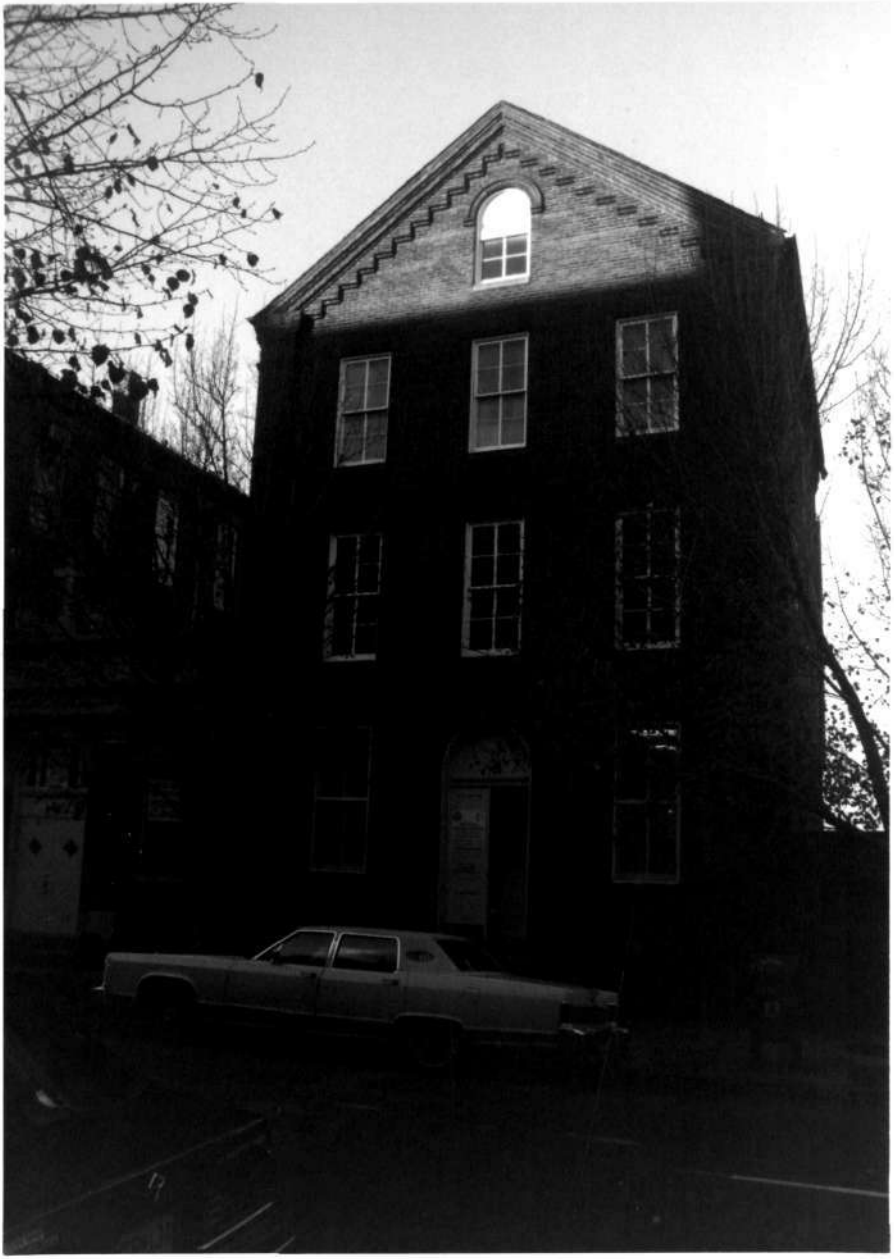
St. Michael's Church B-4208
Convent
NE elevation
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
November 1988
Maryland SHPO

4

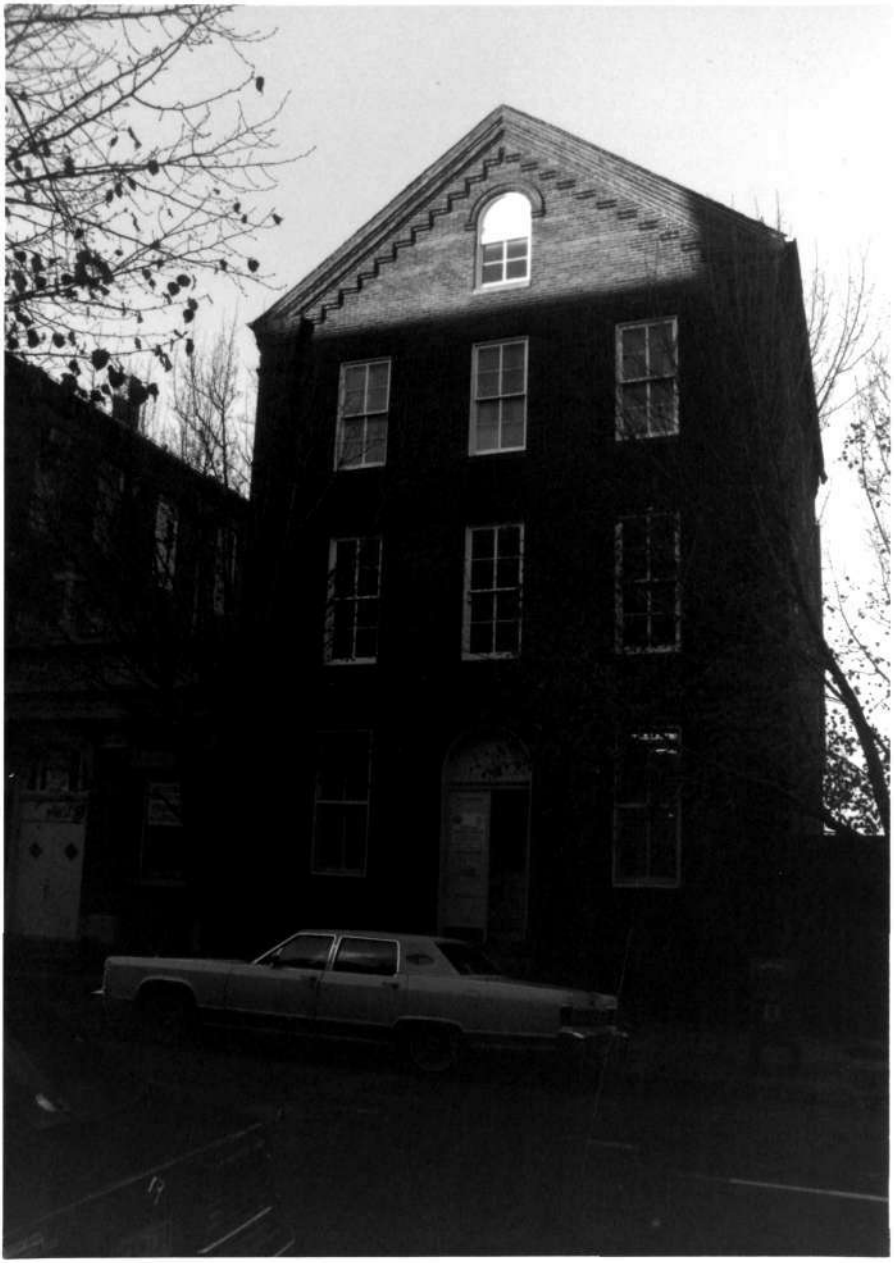
St Michael's Church B-4208
Convent
NE elevation
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
November 1988
Maryland SHPO

42/

St. Michael's Church B-4208
Convent
NE elevation
Baltimore City, Maryland 4 of 4
Caroline Kellam
November 1988
Maryland SHPO



St. Michael's Church B-4208
Brother's Residence
East elevation 46
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
November 1988
Maryland SHPO



St. Michael's Church B-4208

Brother's Residence

East elevation

Baltimore City, Maryland

Caroline Kellam

November 1988

Maryland SHPO

46

St. Michael's Church
Unit blk S. Wolfe St.
East elevations looking south
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
November 1988
Maryland SHPO

B-4208

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St. Michael's Church B-4208
Unit blk S. Wolfe St.
East elevations looking south
Baltimore City, Maryland 417
Caroline Kellam
November 1988
Maryland SHPO

St. Michael's Church
Parish Hall
NE elevation
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
November 1988
Maryland SHPO

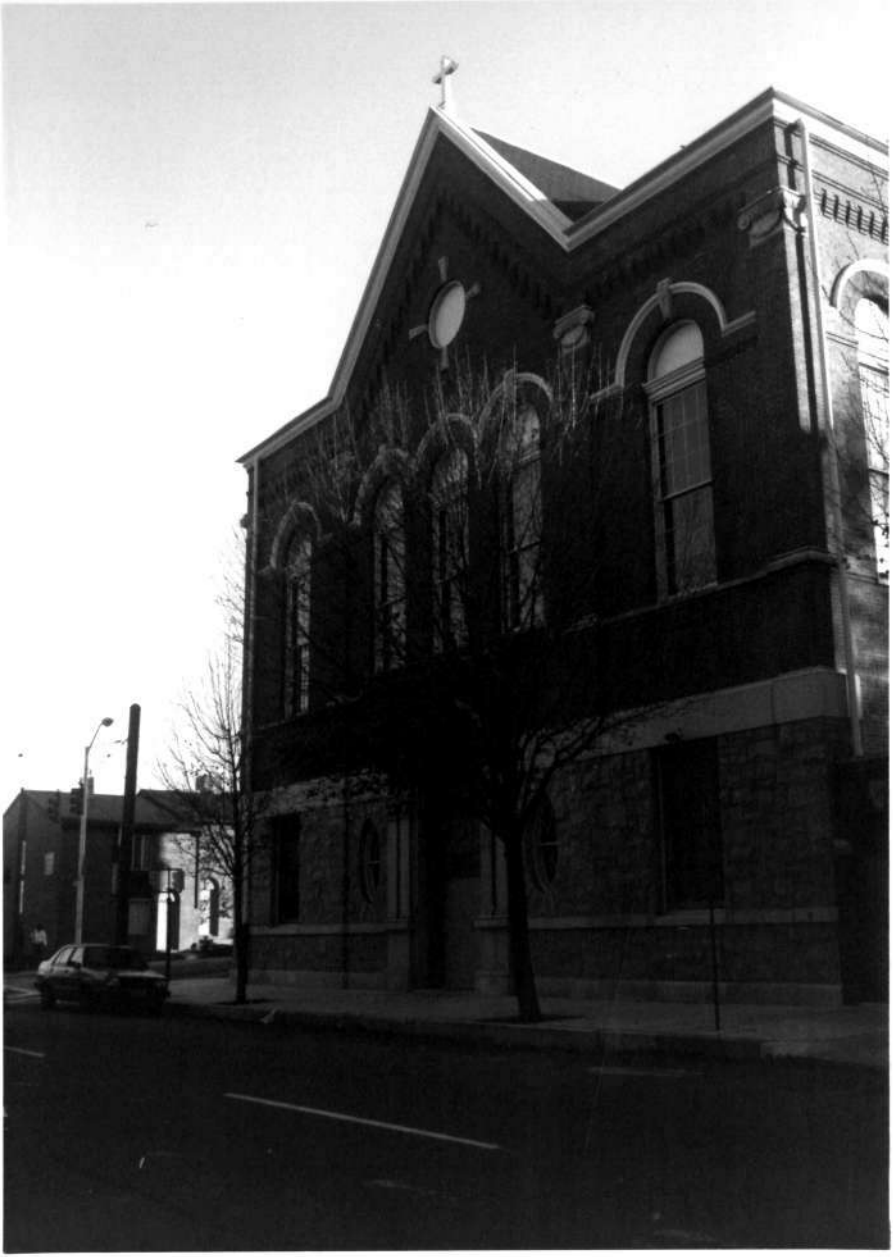
B-4208

53

St. Michael's Church
Parish Hall
NE elevation
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
November 1988
Maryland SHPO

13-4208

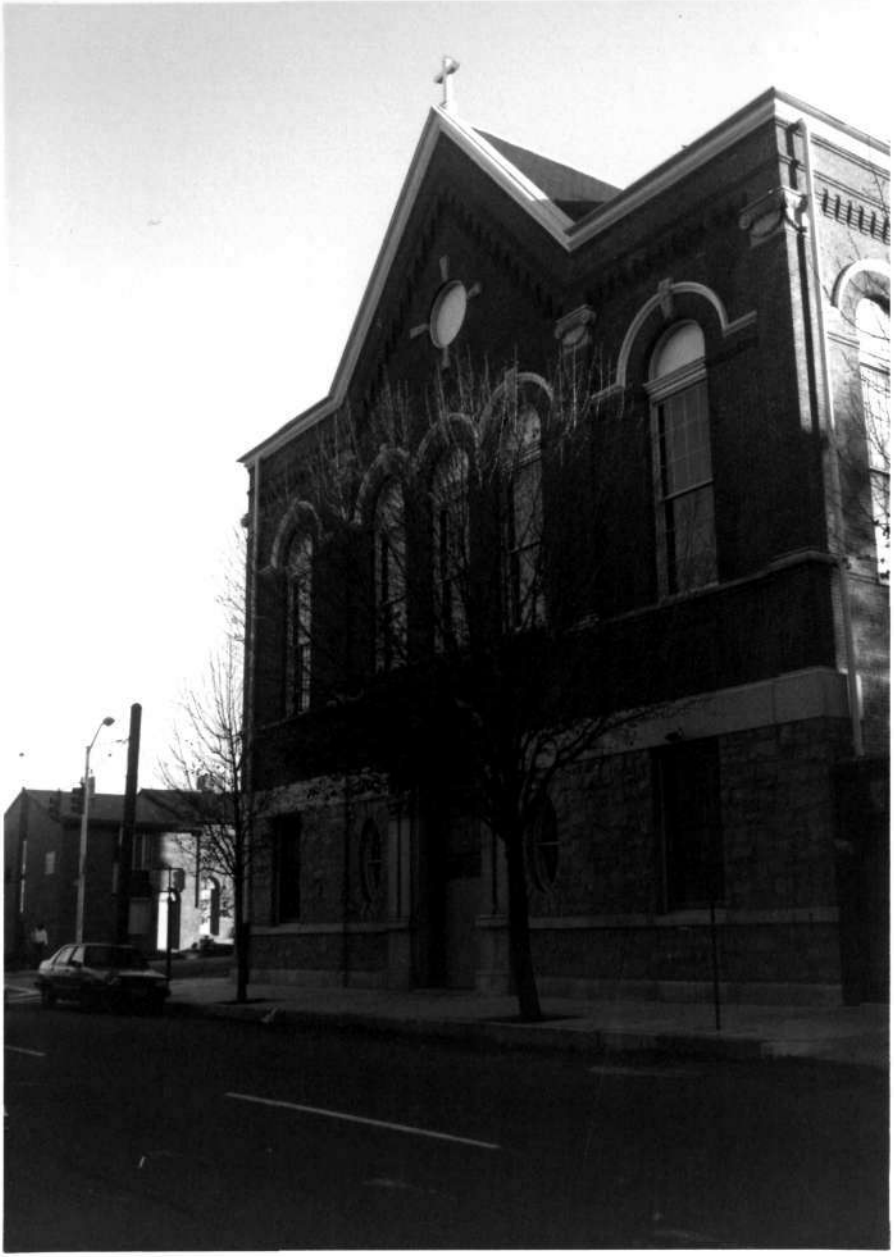
53



St. Michael's Church
Parish Hall
West elevation
Baltimore City, Maryland
Caroline Kellam
November 1988
Maryland SHPO

B 1/2-38

54



St. Michael's Church B-4208
Parish Hall
West elevation
Baltimore City, Maryland 54
Caroline Kellam
November 1988
Maryland SHPO