

BALTIMORE CITY--COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

CDBG SURVEY YEAR:
AREA: Middle East

SURVEY NO.: B-4274
MAGI NO.: 0442745611

ADDRESS: 608 North Charles Street
CURRENT NAME: Chester Hardware

BLOCK: 1636 LOT: 37
HEIGHT: 3
CONDITION: Good
USE: Commercial
DESIGNATION:

LOT SIZE: 12 ft. x 86.5 ft.
MATERIALS: Brick, stone
OWNER: Norma & David Sneider
ADDRESS:
ACCESSIBLE: Yes, restricted
LIBER/FOLIO: WA 3705-605

HISTORIC NAME: Vaclav Janata, Tailor
DATE: Ca. 1885
ARCHITECT/BUILDER:
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE):

DESCRIPTION:

The two-bay rowhouse is one of the two three-story buildings in the 600 block of North Chester Street. Its storefront has a side entrance flanking a large display window and a cornice concealed behind a signboard. Both the window and the entrance are covered with mesh security screens. The upper facade windows are blocked out, but the openings have stone sills and lintels. The main cornice is bracketed and has an open frieze formed by moldings. The flat roof slopes toward the rear of the building.

SIGNIFICANCE:

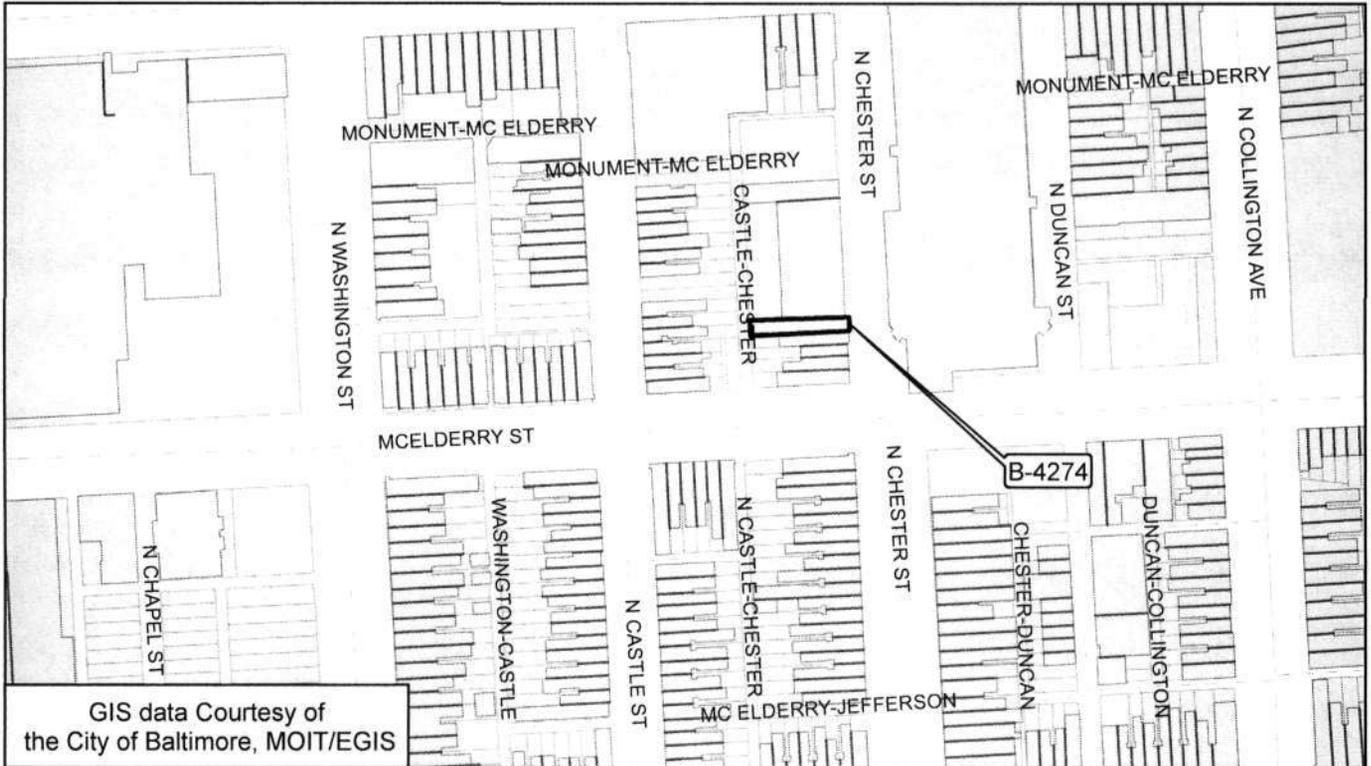
AREA: Architecture LEVEL: Local

The three-story rowhouse form is common in Baltimore, but 608 North Chester is somewhat unusual in the context of the Northeast Market vicinity because most of the existing rowhouses are two stories. Its stone sills and lintels are also an architectural detail not found in the rest of the houses in the block. From 1916 to the early 1930's, Vaclav Janata ran a tailor shop in the building. During the Depression, he switched to hardware. Under various owners, it has remained a hardware store to the present time.

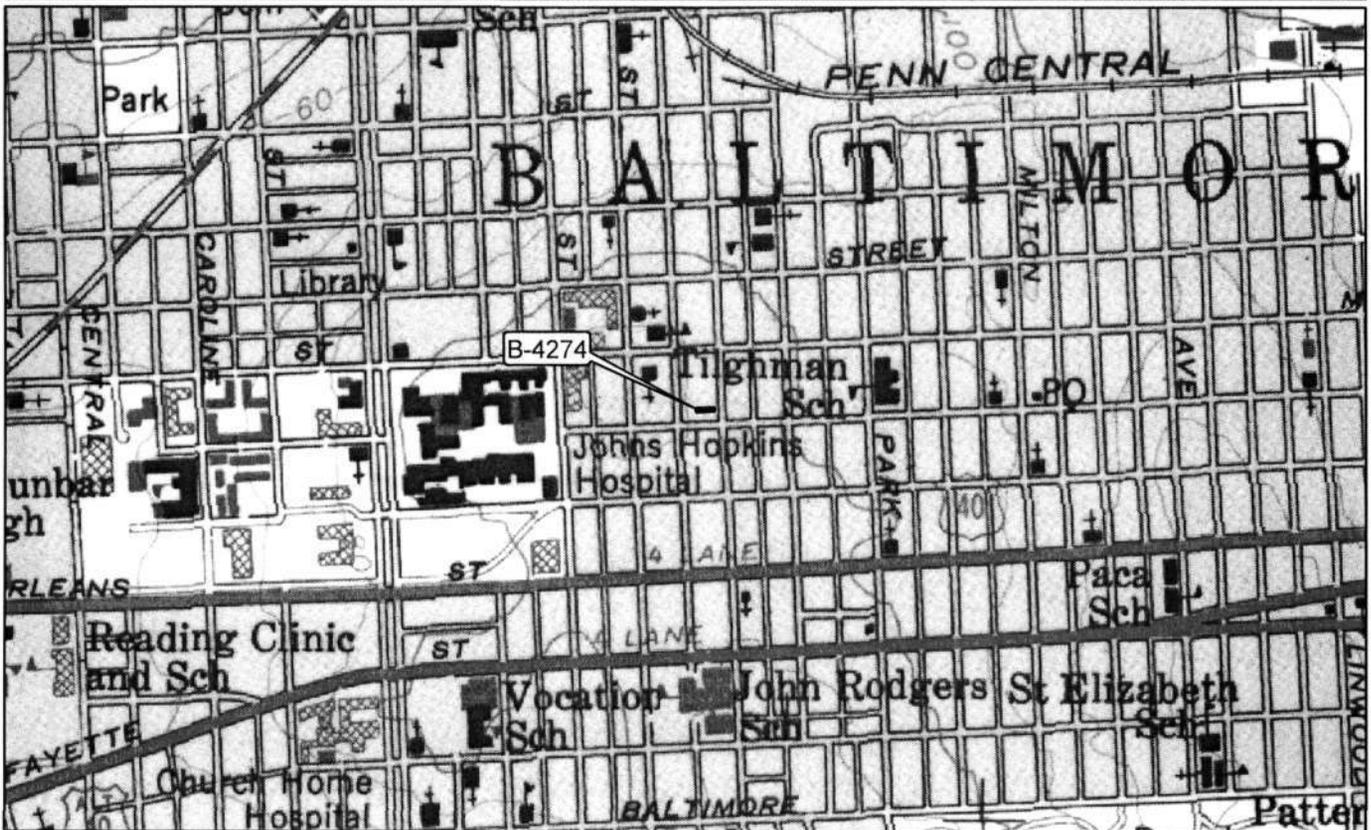
SOURCES: Land records, City directories

SURVEYOR AND DATE: Janet L. Davis, CHAP, May 1989

B-4274
608 N. Chester Street
Block 1636, Lot 037
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.



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



608 N. Chester St.



608 N. Chester St. B-4274

Baltimore, Maryland

Photographer: Janet Davis

August 1988

Neg. loc.: Maryland SHPO

East elevation in streetscape context