

BALTIMORE CITY--COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

CDBG SURVEY YEAR:
AREA: Middle East

SURVEY NO.: B-4280
MAGI NO.: 0442803611

ADDRESS: 630 North Chester Street
CURRENT NAME:

BLOCK: 1636 LOT: 27 LOT SIZE: 15 ft. x 86.5 ft.
HEIGHT: 2 MATERIALS: Brick, wood, terra cotta
CONDITION: Good OWNER: Mayor and City Council
ADDRESS:
USE: Vacant commercial ACCESSIBLE: Yes, restricted
DESIGNATION: LIBER/FOLIO: SEB 1623-108

HISTORIC NAME: Northeast Italian-American Democratic Club
DATE: Ca. 1885; facade ca. 1920
ARCHITECT/BUILDER:
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE):

DESCRIPTION:

The two story brick rowhouse with a storefront has an early 20th century facade of glazed cream colored brick with blue terra cotta diamond ornamentation above the second floor window. The storefront has a recessed center entry with a polygonal barrel vault soffit. The flanking display windows are boarded. The storefront cornice consists of simple narrow moldings projecting only slightly above the lower facade. The second floor window is a three-part central opening with a large plate glass panel and narrow sidelights. Shallow relief brick pilasters flank the window. The capitals are formed by soldier courses of glazed brick. The main cornice has a dentil molding. The parapet wall above the cornice is crenellated and topped by terra cotta coping.

SIGNIFICANCE:

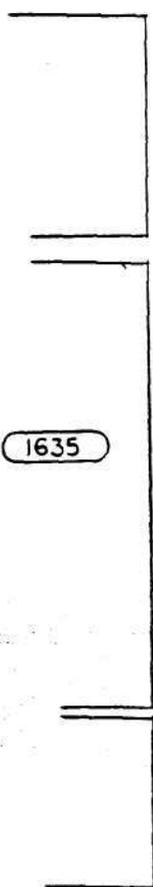
AREA: Architecture LEVEL: Local

The Northeast Italian-American Democratic Club is an excellent example of the late 19th century storefront structure with a later facade. The most elaborate facade in the row of storefronts in the 600 block of North Chester Street, its glazed terra cotta, barrel-vaulted entrance, and crenellated parapet suggest an effort to use the architectural composition as an advertisement, implying elegance, modernity, and confidence. From 1909 to 1916, the building was the dwelling and shoe store of Michael Kalista. In the early 1920's, it was briefly James Cihlar's tailor shop and in the late 1920's it was Miller and Eichorn's furniture store. After other short-term uses as a hardware store and a hat cleaner's shop, in 1940 it became the Northeast Italian-American Democratic Club, which remained the occupant into at least the mid-1960's. The facade appears to date from the early 1920's.

SOURCES: Land records; city directories

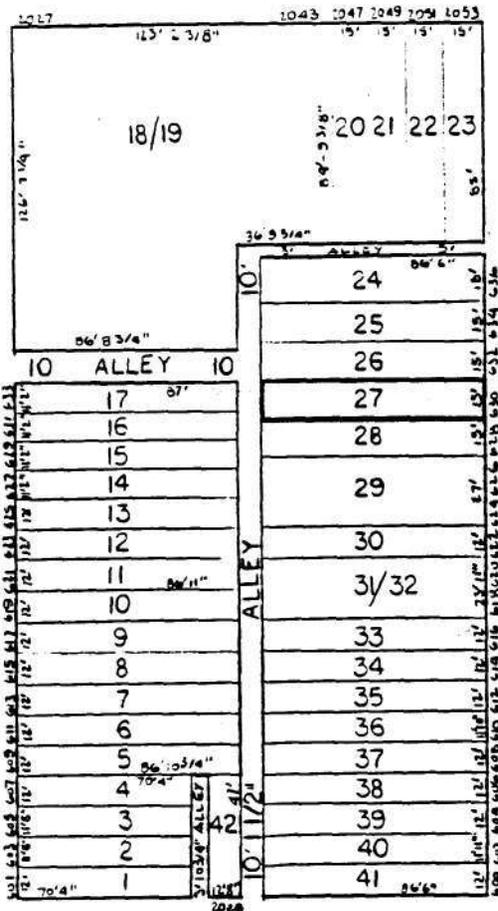
SURVEYOR AND DATE: Janet Davis, CHAP, June 1989

E. MONUMENT



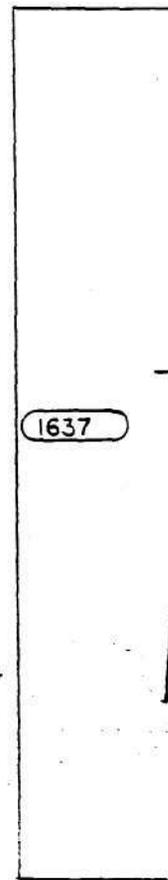
1635

N. CASTLE ST.



N. CASTLE ST.

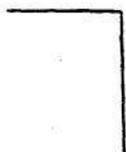
N. CHESTER ST.



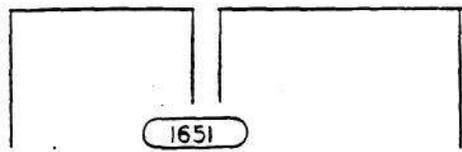
1637

McELDERRY

ST.



1651

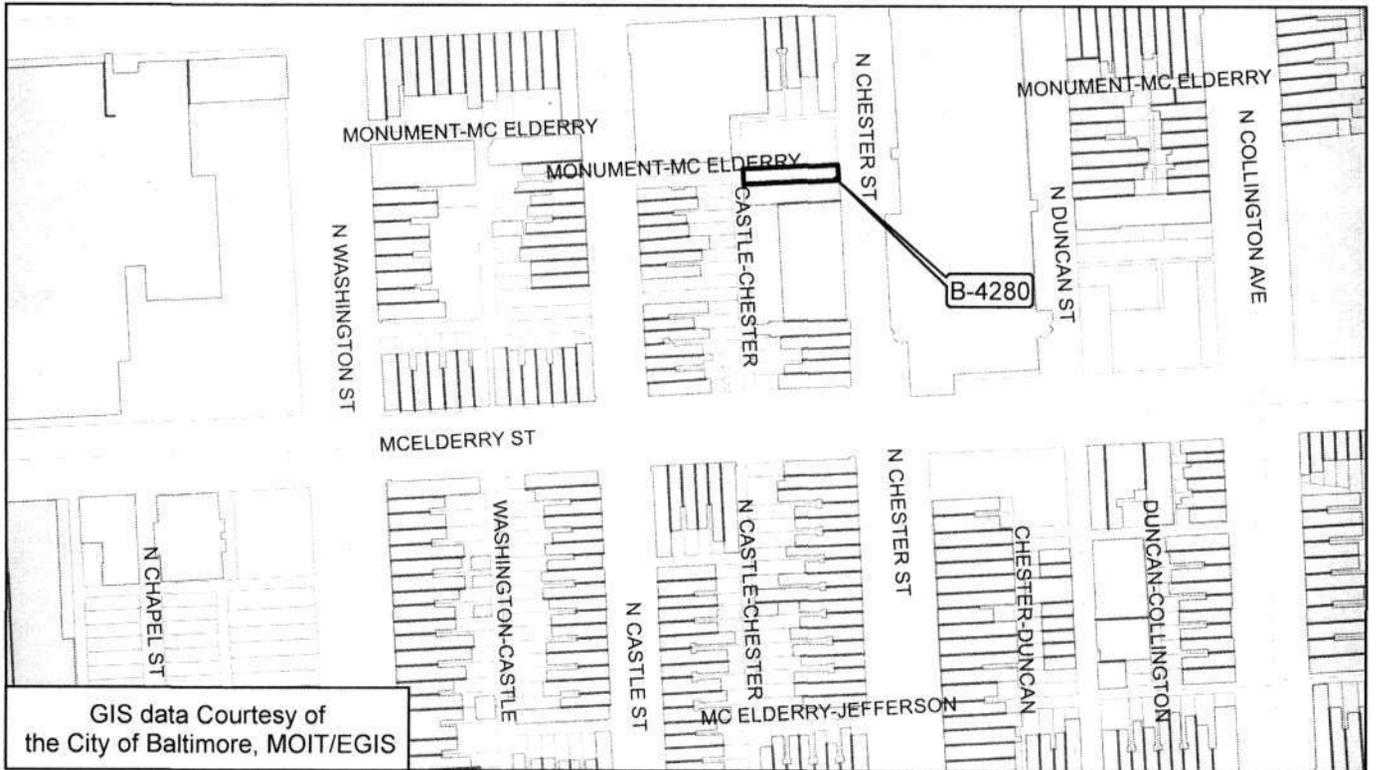


CITY OF BALTIMORE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Ward 7, Section 12
Block 1636
630 N. Chester St.
B-4280

B-4280
630 N. Chester Street
Block 1636, Lot 027
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.

Demolished



630 N. Chester St. →



630 N. Chester St. B-4280

Baltimore, Maryland

Photographer: Janet Davis

August 1988

Neg. loc.: Maryland SHPO

East elevation in streetscape context