

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

B-4292
MHT Inventory No.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

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1. Name of Property

historic name: 813 South Broadway

other name/site number: Port Mission

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2. Location

street & number: 813 South Broadway not for publication: n/a

city/town: Baltimore vicinity: n/a

state: MD county: (independent city) code: 510 zip code: 21231

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3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private

Category of Property: building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: Cast-iron Architecture of Baltimore

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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X See continuation sheet.

B-4-70

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5. National Park Service Certification
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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 Keeper Date of Action

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6. Function or Use
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Historic: COMMERCE/TRADE Sub: warehouse; store
RELIGION religious structure
Current : RELIGION Sub: religious structure

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7. Description
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Architectural Classification:

OTHER:
vernacular

Other Description:

Materials: foundation walls brick cast iron roof other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

X See continuation sheet.

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8. Statement of Significance
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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: locally.

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : n/a

Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE

Period(s) of Significance: ca. 1860-1941

Significant Dates: _____

Significant Person(s): _____

Cultural Affiliation: n/a

Architect/Builder: unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
X See continuation sheet.

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9. Major Bibliographical References
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X 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: _____

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10. Geographical Data
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Acreage of Property: _____
USGS quad: Baltimore East, MD

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A _ _ _ _ _ B _ _ _ _ _
C _ _ _ _ _ D _ _ _ _ _

_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: _ See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification: _ See continuation sheet.

The nominated property comprises the city lot upon which the resource stands.

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11. Form Prepared By
=====

Name/Title: Peter E. Kurtze, Architectural Historian

Organization: for Baltimore Heritage, Inc. Date: May 14, 1990

Street & Number: 109 Brandon Road Telephone: (301) 828-1644

City or Town: Baltimore State: MD ZIP: 21212

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NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Agricultural/Industrial
Transition, 1815-1870;
Industrial/Urban Dominance,
1870-1930;
Modern, 1930-[1941]

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture, Landscape
Architecture and Community
Planning;
Economic (Commercial and
Industrial)

Resource Type: Architecture:
urban vernacular; standing structure
Economic (Commercial and Industrial):
manufacturing/warehouse/store; standing structure

Category: Building

Historic Environment: dense urban development

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): industrial/commercial;
manufacturing,warehouse,
store

Known Design Source: unknown

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7. Description

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Description Summary:

813 South Broadway comprises two ca. 1860 brick row structures, located on the east side of the southernmost block of South Broadway. The northern building (former #813) is three bays wide and four stories high; a two-story, three-bay structure, former #815, adjoins it on the south. Both buildings have Victorian-period cast-iron storefronts at street level. The two buildings were connected in 1895.

General Description:

813 South Broadway comprises two shed-roofed brick buildings, formerly 813-815, located on the east side of the southernmost block of South Broadway. The configuration of the buildings is typical of Italianate-influenced rowhouses of the period: each building is three bays wide, constructed of brick laid in common bond, with splayed brick jack arches over the window openings. The window openings hold 1/1 replacement sash. Each building has a Victorian-period cast-iron storefront at street level. The southern structure (former #815) is two stories high, with a projecting cornice supported on brackets above a row of dentils; large consoles mark the ends of the cornice. The storefront comprises four paneled iron piers resting on plinths, defining three bays. The northern building (former #813) rises four stories, capped by a simple molded cornice. The three bays of the storefront are marked by paneled iron piers; the two inner piers have foliated capitals. The two buildings are united by a continuous storefront cornice, comprising crown molding above a row of dentils and a plain frieze; large consoles mark the corners of the facades.

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

Significance summary:

813 South Broadway is significant for its architecture. It comprises two mid-nineteenth century Italianate row buildings with cast-iron commercial facades, representing a type of architecture which characterized commercial buildings in Baltimore in the period; many such buildings were lost in the fire of 1904. The building derives additional significance from its association with the maritime culture of the Fell's Point neighborhood, having accommodated ship chandleries before its acquisition by The Port Mission, a local religious institution which was established in 1881 to minister to Fells Point's large population of sailors. The mission continues to provide community services at this location; its period of significance is defined as continuing until World War II, in accord with current National Park Service guidelines.

History & Support:

In 1878, the two-story building (formerly #815 South Broadway) housed Costa, Rottanzi & Co., ship chandlers; from 1881 to 1884, the ship's stores of G. Schiaffino & Co. did business here. Giovanni Schiaffino was born at Recco, Italy in 1853, and began trading between Italy and the United States in 1877. He married in 1879 and brought his Italian bride to Baltimore, where he began a ship chandlery in Fells Point which he operated for nine years. In 1910, he succeeded his brother as the Spanish and Italian Consul in Baltimore; during World War I, he also served as the Belgian Consul.

Tax records for 1866 describe the building at 813 South Broadway as a large four-story warehouse; in 1867-68 it was occupied by Strauss & Bro. (H. and L.), wholesale and retail grocers. In 1871, Thomas McCordray, Sr. operated a steam bakery in the building, which use it apparently continued until 1885.

The Port Mission, an interdenominational religious establishment, was founded in 1881 through the preaching of Dwight L. Moody to perform gospel work among the seamen of Fells Point. The organizers were prominent Baltimoreans including Gustavus Ober, J. Levering, L. M. Levering, B. W. Jenkins and W. Dugdale. A related organization, the Anchorage, was established in 1892 by the Port Mission Women's Auxiliary; its stated purpose was to "maintain under Christian influence a boarding house for seamen, a home-away-from-home, a

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8. Statement of Significance

social and recreational center where the seafarer might find safe refuge while in port." The Mission's quarters were moved repeatedly until 1884, when it acquired the two-story building at 815 South Broadway; the adjacent four-story building at 813 South Broadway was added in 1895, and was purchased by the Mission two years later. The Mission originally provided meals and lodging to seamen; its calling has changed with the times, and it also provides services to needy families throughout the city.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Agnus, Felix, ed., Book of Maryland (Baltimore: News-American, 1920]

Rukert, Norman G. The Fells Point Story (Baltimore: Bodine & Associates, 1976), p. 67 ff.

Baltimore City Directories, 1860s-1940s

B-4292
Port Mission
813 S. Broadway
Block 1861 Lot 007
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.

