

7. Description

Survey No. B-4426

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

Resource Count: 1

This early-nineteenth-century building has been substantially altered. Presently an enframed window wall design of a circa 1900 remodelling, the scale and massing of the building suggests a much earlier construction date of a two-story, two-bay house. The 19th-century gable roof of standing seam tin is visible behind the 20th-century parapet wall. The building faces west on North Eutaw Street and abuts a partywall neighbor to the north and a recently-demolished partywall neighbor to the south. The street frontage is 15'6" and the depth is 61'8". The building is in deteriorated condition, but is scheduled for renovation.

The first story consists of a recessed entrance in the second (south) bay and a boarded up display window in the first bay. The door had a transom. A cornice stretches across the first story facade. Its profile consists of a fillet, ogee, bead, and back band, with an egg and dart molding. This cornice surmounts a simple, flat entablature. The brick is a yellowish-orange Roman brick.

The second story more clearly reveals the enframed window wall design. A tripartite window is centered on the brick wall. The window units consists of a wide 1/1 sash window flanked by narrower 1/1 sash windows. Pilasters divide the windows. The second story is topped by a cornice with a profile of fillet, ogee, bead, back band, a modillion course, and row of egg and dart molding and a row of raised trim.

The parapet wall rises above the second story cornice. This wall is topped with a lesser cornice of fillet, ogee, fillet and egg and dart molding.

The south wall is blank. The north wall is obscured by the larger partywall neighbor.

A 19th-century back building extends from the rear (east) wall of the house. The back building is two stories high and one bay long. A second addition runs from the back of the back building. This addition is also two stories high and one bay deep. The first story is heavily deteriorated. There is one window in the second story of the gable end wall.

8. Significance

Survey No.

B-4426

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____ unknown _____

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

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

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

This building, though severely altered, is an example of an early nineteenth-century house. In this case, the only exterior clues to the date of the building are its overall diminutive size and the gable roof. The size and massing of this small house may be illustrative of early nineteenth-century real estate speculation. The construction of two-bay houses was a common way of limiting the amount of financial risk to the speculative builder, since the amount of money invested was minimized by the relative smallness of the project. The narrow width of the house is also indicative of the status of the laboring class whose means, however modest, permitted them to purchase or rent single family homes.

The presence of a dwelling, or possibly combination shop-houses, in this block indicates the residential character of the neighborhood in the early nineteenth century. It is possible this building was originally a shop-house type. The first story would have been used for commercial purposes and the upper stories would have been used as dwelling quarters. Architectural historian Richard Longstreth writes that "the rapid growth of commerce and manufacturing after independence led to a proliferation of the shop-house form in both new buildings and existing ones altered so that their commercial purpose was clearly indicated on the exterior. Shop-houses prevailed in emerging commercial centers of cities and towns alike through the early decades of the 19th century. Examples can still be seen in areas that have not experienced radical change, even though the shopfronts themselves have almost always been altered. . . the upper section retaining a domestic character."¹

The alteration of the building into a commercial enterprise indicates the changing focus of Eutaw Street from residential to commercial around the turn of the century. Longstreth continues,

¹ Longstreth, Buildings of Main Street, p. 24.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. B-4426

Richard Longstreth, The Buildings of Main Street (Washington: Preservation Press, 1987).

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Baltimore East Quad

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

Zone	Easting			Northing					

B

Zone	Easting			Northing					

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Diane Shaw, Architectural Historian

organization CHAP, Room 1037

date December 22, 1991

street & number 417 E. Fayette Street

telephone 301-396-4866

city or town Baltimore

state MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

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

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
301-514-7600

B-4426
423 North Eutaw Street
Baltimore, MD
Section 8 Significance
8.1

"the gradual abandonment of the shop-house as the dominant form of commercial architecture was due to the ever-increasing demands for trade and professional services along with a corresponding increase in land values, all of which fostered the design of buildings used entirely for commercial purposes."² Rather than tearing down this building as commercial usage took precedent, the owner updated the facade and altered the second story to emphasize its commercial nature. The tripartite window directly invoked the commercial shopfront. These second-story commercial fronts could be used as display windows for the second-story merchant's wares.

The architectural remodelling of this building into a two-story, one-bay, commercial building is an example of a circa 1900 enframed window wall design. Architectural historian Richard Longstreth writes that the enframed window wall design was "most commonly used for retail stores" and that the design "reflects an effort to give greater order to the facade composition of small and moderate-sized commercial buildings."³ The tripartite window in the second story indicates the commercial usage of the upper floors, as well as the first story. The single entrance indicates that the building was intended for one tenant, although it is possible that the interior stairhall made provisions for controlling access to the upper floor. The yellow brick and colonial revival cornices add a touch of period style to this commercial building.

² Longstreth, The Buildings of Main Street, pp. 24, 29.

³ Longstreth, The Buildings of Main Street, pp. 69, 68.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization:
Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period:

Agricultural-Industrial Transition, 1815-1870
Urban/Industrial Dominance, 1870-1930

Historic Period Themes:
Architecture
Economics

Resource Type:
Building

Historic Environment:
Urban

Historic Function and Use:
residential

Known Design Source:
None

REVISIONS

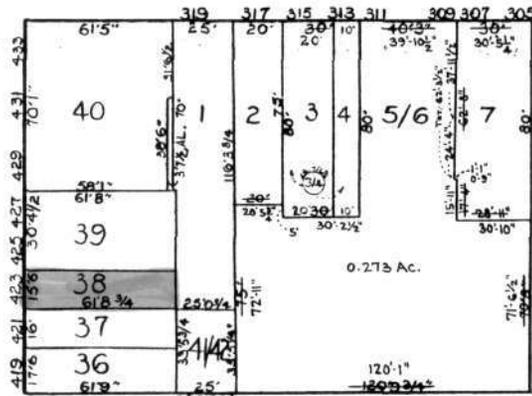
LOT 3/4 DIV. PER DEED C.S.H. 9236
LOT 21/35 PER O.O., C.S.H. 77-044
LOTS 5/6 & 7 COR. PER DEEDS, C.S.H. 81-254.



W. FRANKLIN

ST.

ST.

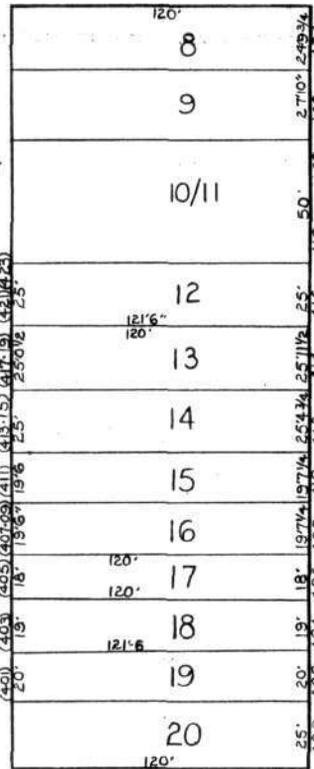


ST.

15'

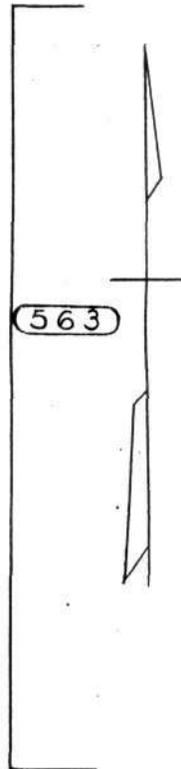
STATE

STATE



ST.

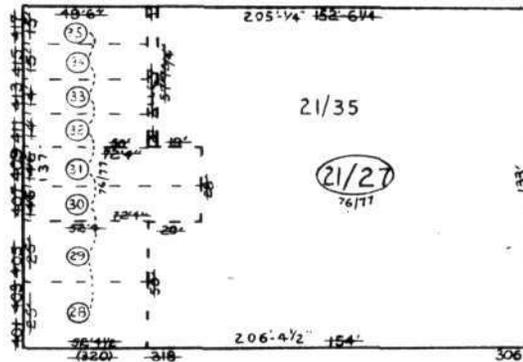
N. HOWARD



N. EUTAW

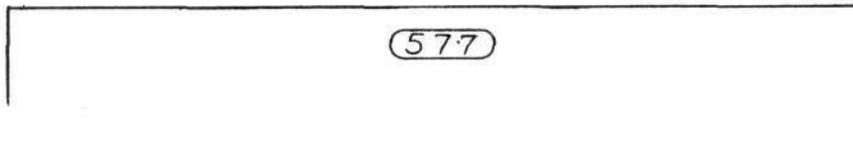
PIERCE

ST.



W. MULBERRY

ST.

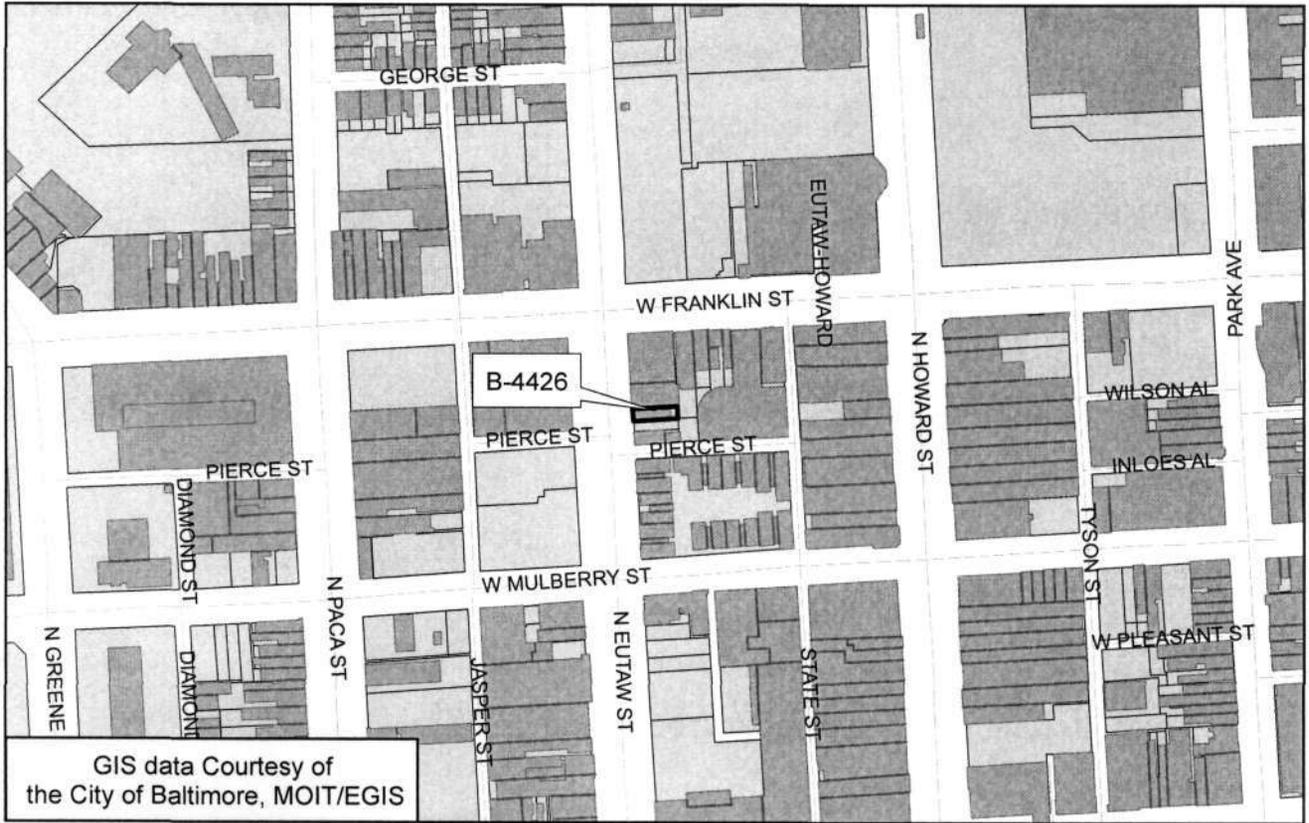


PREPARED BY P.W.
CHECKED BY P.W.

NOTICE
THIS IS A REAL PROPERTY PLAT AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER ARTICLE 76(d) OF THE CITY CHARTER IT IS COMPILED FROM TITLE AND OTHER SOURCES AND IS NOT AN AUTHENTIC SURVEY.

CITY OF BALTIMORE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
PROPERTY LOCATION DIVISION
WARD 4 SECTION 2
BLOCK 562
SCALE 1"=50' DATE NOV. 1966

B-4426
423 N. Eutaw Street
Block 0562 Lot 038
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad





B-4426

423 N. Eutaw St.

Baltimore MD

Diane Shaw

8/91

Maryland SHPO

Facade, west elevation

1/1