

B-4481

STABLES/FISH HOUSE

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

This is a currently vacant stables of quite elegant character. It is likely one of the earliest extant stables in Sandtown, built prior to 1876. It became a fish house in 1914. It is red brick with narrow, arched openings and a staggered cornice line. It is currently vacant and sealed.

AD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES FORM
DANDTOWN-WINCHESTER SURVEY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Stable (pre-1876); Fish House (c.1914)

other names/site number Vacant/ B-4481

2. Location

street & number 1525 Presstman

not for publication

city or town Baltimore

vicinity N/A

state Maryland

code MD

county Baltimore City

code 510

zip code 21217

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

N/A

National Park Service Certification

N/A

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
 public-local
 public-State
 public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
 district
 site
 structure
 object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

Noncontributing

1

_____ buildings

_____ sites

_____ structures

_____ objects

_____ Total

1

SDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form
(Stable & Fish House)
(Baltimore City, MD)

(Page 2)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE Sub: animal facility
COMMERCE/TRADE restaurant

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: VACANT/NOT IN USE Sub: _____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Italianate

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK
roof _____
walls BRICK
other WOOD, STONE ?

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance See continuation sheet.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Transportation
Commerce
Ethnic Heritage

SDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form
(Stable & Fish House)
(Baltimore City, MD)

Period of Significance pre-1876 to 1940

Significant Dates pre-1876

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) See continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Maps

Bromley, G.W. and Co. Atlas of the City of Baltimore, Vol. 1. Philadelphia: 1885, 1896.

Hopkins, G.M. Map of the City of Baltimore, Maryland. 1876, 1877.

Sanborn Map Company. Insurance Maps, Baltimore, Maryland, Vols. 2,3, and 7. New York: 1890, 1901, 1914, 1928.

Simmons, Isaac. 1852 Revision of the Thomas H. Poppleton Map. Baltimore: 1852.

Freeman, Roland L. The Arabbers of Baltimore. Centreville, Maryland: Tidewater Publishers, 1989.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Lot = 39' x 49'

β-4481

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

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 5 & 6 Page 1

Stable & Fish House Undertakers
name of property
Baltimore City, Maryland
county and State

HISTORIC CONTEXT

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Agricultural-Industrial
Transition; Industrial/Urban Dominance

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

Resource Type:

Category: building(s)

Historic Environment: urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): agriculture/subsistence;
commerce

Known Design Source: none

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

Stable & Fish House
name of property
Baltimore City, Maryland
county and StateDESCRIPTION

This two-bay, two-story brick building, constructed before 1876, served as the original stables for 1385 North Gilmore, one of the earliest and most elegant townhouses in the survey area. (It was constructed in isolation, as a townhouse.)⁹ This stables is one of the few, extant stables in the Sandtown neighborhood.

The building's design is not clearly that of a stables; the stepped parapet of the facade rises in three levels from left to right, prefiguring the townhouse cornices which would quickly appear along the streetscape. The parapet has a molded brick modillioned cornice.

A brick beltcourse runs above the first story of Presstman Street. The windows on this elevation are arched, with molded brick arches and marble (?) sills. The alley-side windows have segmental heads and stone sills. Brick piers and pilasters mark the corners and bay divisions. The windows are boarded up, with only sills and some frames still visible. The entrance, also boarded, shows evidence of being altered at some point in its history to contain a narrow door flanked by windows. The entrance is surmounted by a wide lintel.

Behind the stable is a tall, fieldstone wall that may have marked the property's original boundaries. It is the same fieldstone that can be seen in the foundations of several buildings in the survey area.

⁹ What few remain are also being targeted by the city for demolition.

B-4481

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 1

Stable & Fish House
name of property
Baltimore City, Maryland
county and State

SIGNIFICANCE

This stables is a significant early outbuilding affiliated with one of Sandtown's earliest and finest rowhouses, 1385 N. Gilmor. It may be one of the earliest stables left standing in the neighborhood, as many have been demolished. The original owner of the house and stables is not known, but the quality of the buildings suggests a well-to-do owner and the desire to dress up a stable to resemble some aspects of a rowhouse.

Between 1901 and 1914, the building was converted to a fish house. It is possible that a fish house at this location served the active arabber market in Sandtown, a profession long held by African Americans in the community.¹

On successful arabber, Handy Janey and his wife Elnora Janey, ran a large concern from their house and stables just down the street to the east of the stables/fish house, at 1403 Presstman Street. Between 1925 and 1940, thirty-five arabbers worked under the Janey's supervision out of 1403 Presstman Street. Fish was a common arabber ware. One stable boss named Doc was known for his fish trade, selling uncleaned fish by the bunch at the corner of Whatcoat and Laurens Street to the restaurants on Laurens.

¹ A call was placed to Roland Freeman to investigate this possible connection. Mr. Freeman did not know anything about the history of the stable/fish house building.

SANDTOWN-WINCHESTER/PENN-NORTH
RECONNAISSANCE-LEVEL SURVEY FORM

Survey No. B-4481

Neg. No. 5/12

Historic Name Stable (pre-1876; Fish House (c. 1914))

Current Name/Use vacant

Address(es) 1525 Presstman

Resource/Property Type

- Rowhouses
 Commercial Structure
 Public/Institutional Building
 Public Housing
 Site
 Other

Attached
 Freestanding

Note: stables

Stories 2

Primary Material brick Secondary Material _____

Roof Form flat

No. of Bays in Unit/Facade 2 If Rowhouse: Flat Front Swell Front Porch

Window Type: Double-Hung
 1/1 Sash
 2/2 Sash
 2/1 Sash
 ? Other Sash
 Transom

Door Type: Single-Leaf
 Double-Leaf
 Number of panels (if visible)
 Transom

Architectural Style Italianate Date c. pre-1876

Noteworthy Features: Stables for 1385 N. Gilmor. Interesting rowhouse-simulated stepped cornice with parapet, modillions. Brick beltcourse. Arched and segmental window heads, brick arches over front windows. Brick piers and pilasters mark corners, bay divisions. Most windows removed.

Alterations: Formstone Stucco
 Vinyl/Aluminum Window/Door Changes
 Awnings Missing Cornice Elements
 First-Floor Use Change Other: _____

Status: Occupied Vacant Mixed

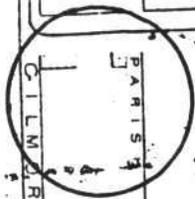
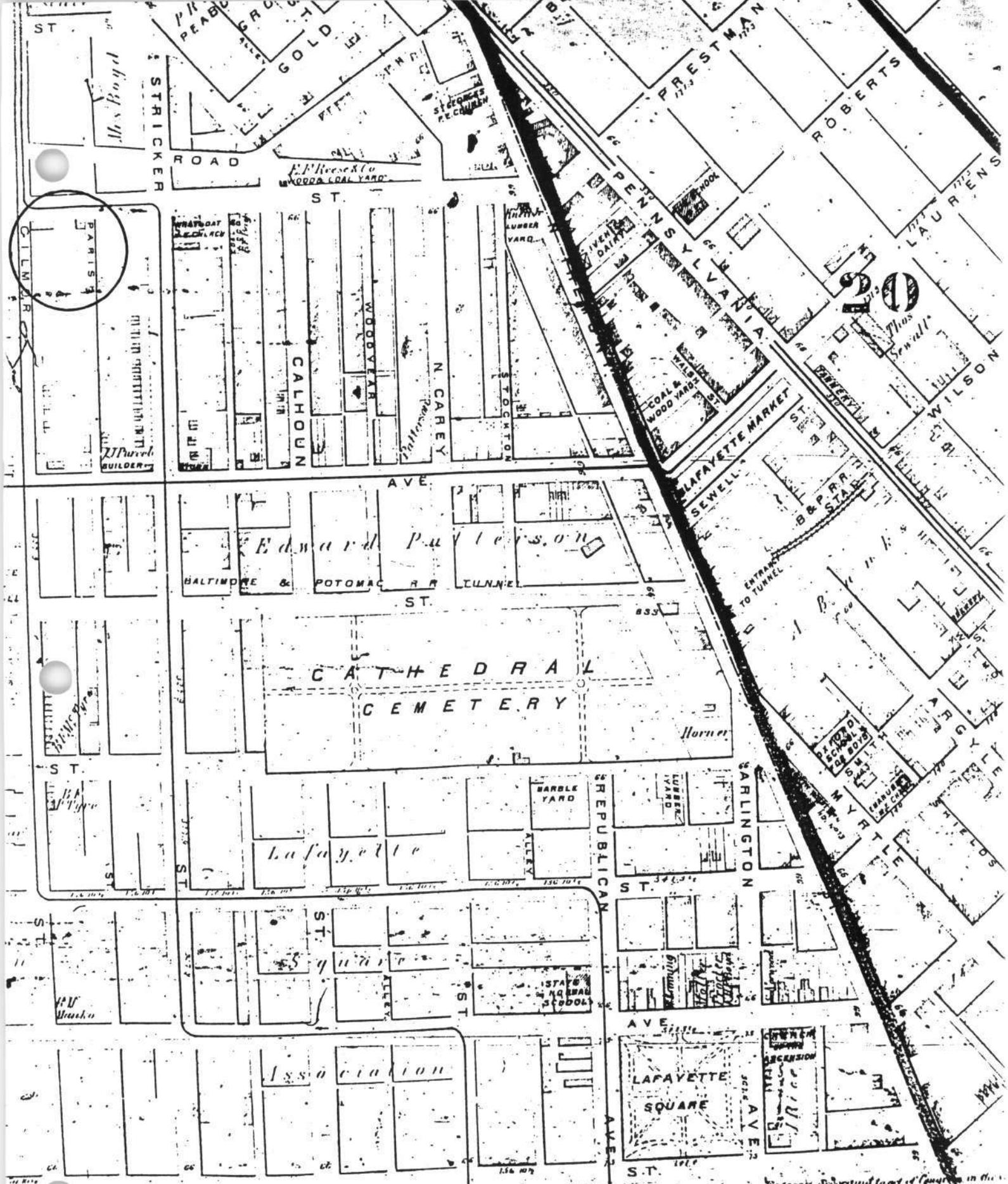
NR Evaluation: Contributing Non-Contributing

Recommended for Intensive Level: Yes No

Surveyor: Joey Lampl

Affiliation: Robinson & Associates

Date: February-April 1992



B-4481
Stable (pre-1876) ; Fish House (c.1914)
Baltimore, MD
Hopkins Map, 1876

Waterlot situated east of Calhoun in the



PRESSTMAN ST

1525
PRESSTMAN
ST

Sandtown - Winchester / Penn - North

B-4481

Baltimore, MD

Leonard Jackson

July 1992

City of Baltimore, Commission for Historical and Architectural
Preservation

Historic: stable (pre-1876) Fish House (c. 1914)

Current: vacant

1525 Presstman

NORTH ELEVATION

1 of 2.

Roll 10/neg 1



SANDTOWN-WINCHESTER / PENN-NORTH

#B-4481

BALTIMORE, MD

ELIZABETH GO LAMPL

MARCH 1992

COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION (CITY OF BALTIMORE)

STABLES

CORNER, PRESSTMAN AND N. PARRISH ALLEY (1525 presstman)

VIEW FACING SOUTHWEST

ROLL 5/NEG 12

2 of 2