

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. ^B4677

1. Name

Historic 1701-1719 Crystal Street
and / common

2. Location

street & number 1701-1719 Crystal Street
city, town Baltimore
state & zip code Maryland 21205 county

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name
street & number telephone
city, town state & zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Land Records liber
street & number Clarence Mitchell Courthouse folio
city, town Baltimore State Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title
date federal state county local
depository for survey records
city, town state & zip code

7. Description

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:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move: _____

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

This row of ten two-story, two-bay wide houses late Italianate-style brick houses with shed roofs and wooden scroll-sawn bracketed cornices were built in 1891 by Henry Westphal and August Weber, major builders of working class houses in East Baltimore. The houses retain their original brick facades, which have been painted, and evidence remains that their basements were originally painted white, to imitate the marble used in more expensive houses.

The houses are two stories in height, 12' wide, and occupy lots 61' deep. Each house is three small rooms deep and there is no back building. The houses are constructed in running bond and were originally painted. The basement area was painted white, to imitate marble, as was common in houses of this type. Each house has a single hooded chimney located at the rear corner of the house. The shed roofs are capped by a continuous wooden cornice consisting of a crown molding supported by long scroll-sawn brackets decorated with grooves, connected by a lower molding strip, and ending with a distinct trefoil pattern. The frieze panel, which also serves as ventilation for the attic, is decorated with a row of scallop shapes, created with a jig saw.

The tall, narrow window and door openings have segmentally arched brick lintels and scroll-sawn tympanums. Several of the original 2/2 sash survive. The sills are wood. The single light doorway transom is decorated by a cut-work band of scallops. The houses sit on high basements, lit by a double-light sash, also with a scroll-sawn tympanum. Each house was originally reached by four wooden steps.

8. Significance

Period	Area of significance	check one & justify			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theatre	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other: specify	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention			

Specific dates 1891

Builder/Architect Henry Westphal and August Weber

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

This group of houses is significant in that it represents the level of architectural stylishness achieved by many builders of small street houses in the late nineteenth century. The houses were built by Henry Westphal, a fairly prolific Baltimore builder, according to a pattern that was quite common to the city's working class neighborhoods of the period c. 1880 to 1910. Recognizing that workers held different levels of jobs (and pay), builders created a hierarchy of house sizes (and prices) in the new neighborhoods going up to serve the expanding factory districts ringing the harbor and north-east of the central city. Builders acquired anywhere from an eighth to a half of a city block and built 14' to 15'-wide two-story houses on the main streets, and smaller, 11' to 13'-wide two-story houses on the narrower streets bisecting the blocks. In this particular case Westphal and Weber developed the entire eastern half of the block, building only 12'-wide houses on both the east sides of Regester Street and the west side of Ann Street north of Crystal.

Westphal and Weber sold most of the houses they built on Regester and Crystal Streets to Bohemian-American owner-occupants, who received their mortgages from the Bohemian Permanent Building and Loan Association, among others. Buyers included Henry Roehmer, a cooper; John J. Pfister, a painter; and Anton Tokar, a brassworker. Other houses went to local investors interested in obtaining rental income, but also making available affordable homes—at about \$8 a month rent—to those not yet able to make the substantial down payment necessary for a home purchase.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Mary Ellen Hayward and Charles Belfoure, *The Baltimore Rowhouse*
(New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999)

10. Geographic Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared by

name / title Dr. Mary Ellen Hayward

Organization The Alley House Project

date June 2000

street & number 1306 Carrollton Ave.

telephone _____

city, town Baltimore

state & zip code Maryland 21204

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 property rights.

Return to:
DHCP/DHCD
Maryland Historical Trust
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032-2023

E. LAFAYETTE

N. BROADWAY

6

1701-1719 Crystal St.
BALTO. MD

B-4677

ST.

A

1457

1458

95

BETHANY
M.P.M.

50

ST.

1459

1460

120

66

E. LANVALE

100

1466

LANSEING

1467

AVE

1467

1468

1469

N. CASTLE

1470

1471

E. FEDERAL

66

1477

CRYSTAL - AVE.

1478

1479

N. CHAPEL

BELAIR AVE.

1480

1481

BREWERY OF
G. Bauernschmidt Company

1482

93

66

E. OLIVER

95

1494

HOFFMAN PL.

1495

1496

1497

1498

KEYSER

1499

1500

1501

E. HOFFMAN

BALTIMORE CITY

WATER DEPT.

1906 City Atlas

SASH FACTORY

NAIL & RIVET
FACTORY

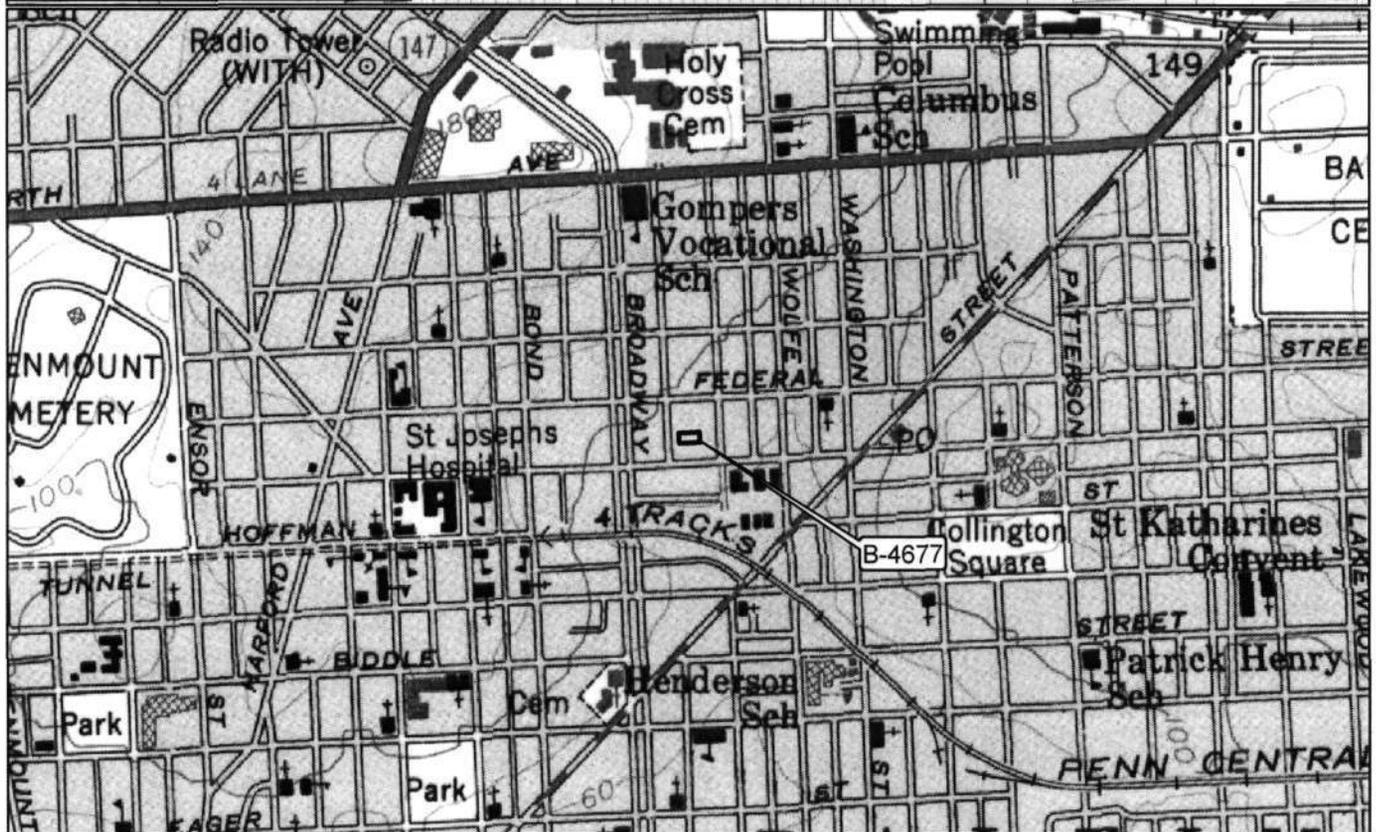
WIZMAN
MISSION

ST. MARYS
WRECHURCH

B-4677
1701-1719 Crystal Avenue
Block 1477, Lots 099-108
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.



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





1700 Crystal St 1701-1719

1700 S

(7.)

B-4677

1701-1719 Crystal St.

BALTO. MD

S. Allan

6/97

MD SHPO

1/2

2025 JUN 11 11 02 AM '00

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17717/733

Crystal

53

B-4677

1717 CRYSTAL ST.

BALTO, MD

S. Allan

6/97

2/2

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1001