

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. ^B4695

1. Name

Historic 940-948 North Durham Street
and / common

2. Location

street & number 940-948 North Durham 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<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: <input type="checkbox"/>

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

The row of five two-bay wide, two-story early Italianate-style houses on the upper west side of the 900 block of South Durham Street were built by the McDonough Place Company in 1872, the same year as those on the east side of the block and are identical to those houses as well as those in the 1000 block. Some retain their original painted brick facades, others have been formstoned.

The houses are two stories in height, only 11'6" wide and occupy lots 50' deep. Each house is three small rooms deep and there is no backbuilding. The houses are constructed in running bond and were originally painted. Each house had a single hooded chimney located near the front and rear of the house. The shed roofs are capped by a continuous wooden cornice consisting of a crown molding supported by a row of simple scroll-sawn modillions decorated with grooves as well as three long, scroll-sawn, grooved brackets connected by both an upper and lower molding strip and ending with a trefoil pattern. The cornice design is elaborate for this early date and can be viewed as transitional between the early and late Italianate forms. The tall, narrow window and door openings have segmentally arched brick lintels and wood sills. Several of the original 4/4 sash survive. The doorway transom has a single light and most of the doors are modern replacements. The door at 1008 South Durham Street (built by the same builder at the same time) may be original, with its five equal-sized horizontal panels. The houses sit on low basements, lit by a single-light sash with a flat lintel. Each house is reached by four concrete or brick 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 1873

Builder/Architect The McDonough Place Company

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 the McDonough Place Company, a local group investing in the area, 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 northeast 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. Typically, in this period, main street houses might sell for \$1,200 to \$1,500; small street houses for \$500 to \$600.

The McDonough Place Company developed the entire block, building two story houses on the north side of Chew [Ashland], the east side of Ann, and the south side of Eager.

The houses sold to a mix of owner-occupants and investors interested in their rental income. A few sold to recently arrived Bohemian immigrants who followed the trade of tailor—Frank and Josef Vavra and Andrew Zullinger.

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

street & number 1306 Carrollton Ave.

city, town Baltimore

date June 2000

telephone

state & zip code Maryland 21204

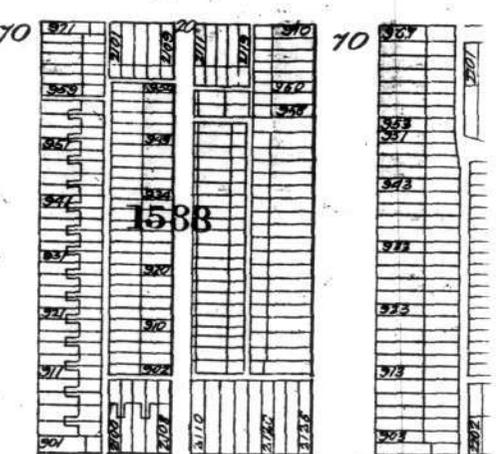
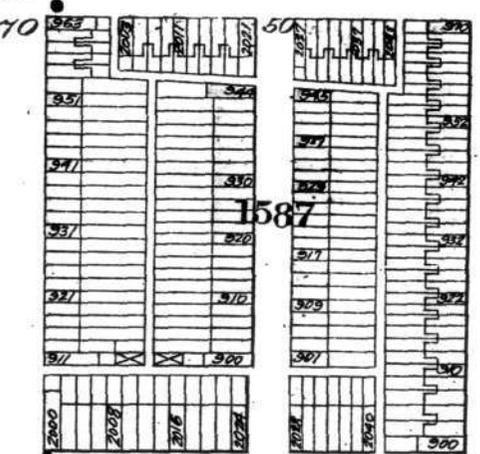
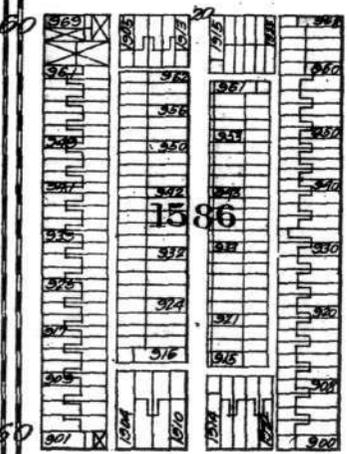
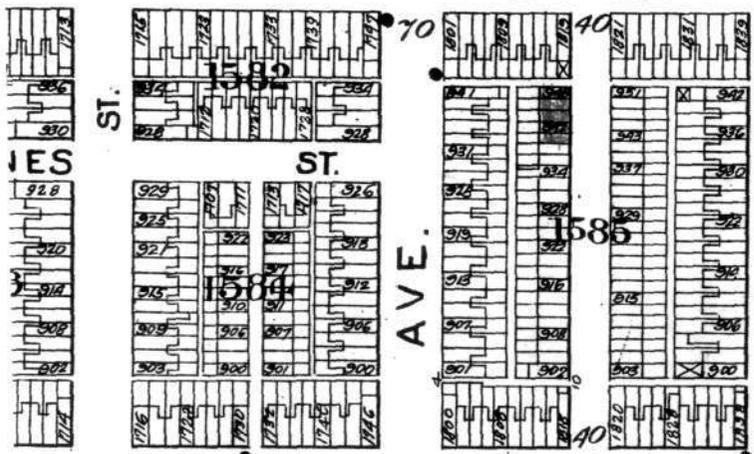
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

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

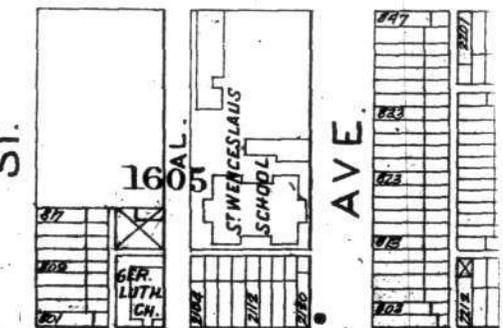
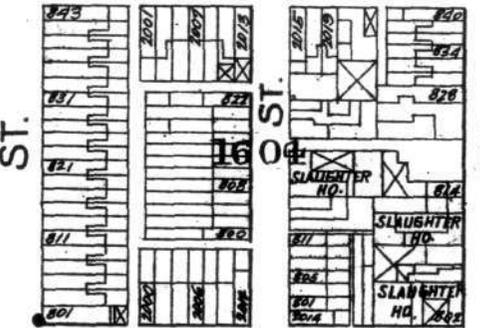
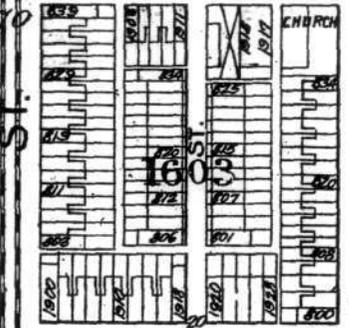
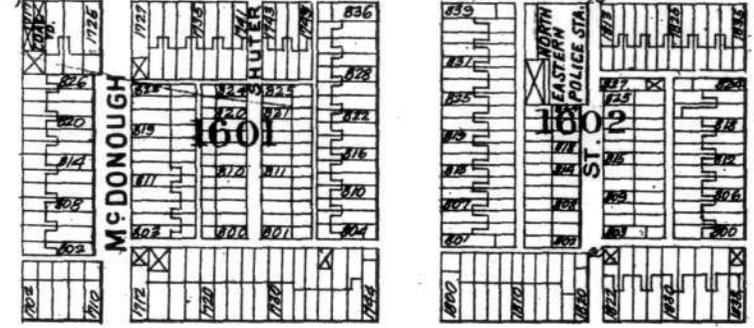
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DHCP/DHCD
Maryland Historical Trust
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032-2023

B-4645 940-948 N. DuPont St.
BALTO. MD

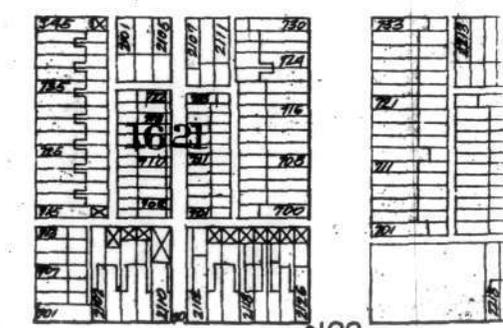
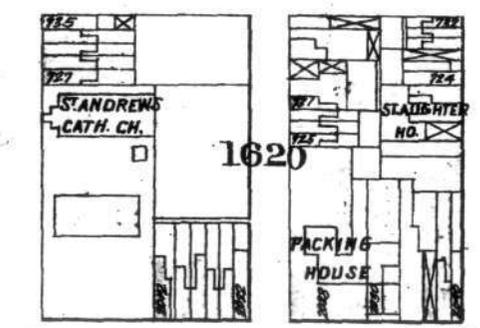
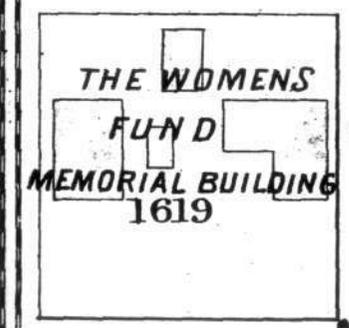
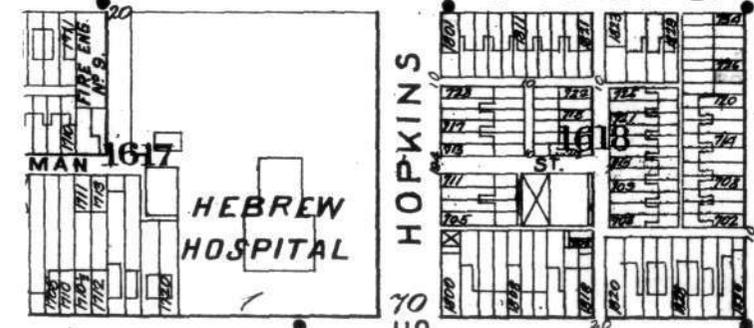
55 L. EAGER



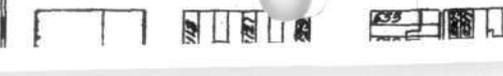
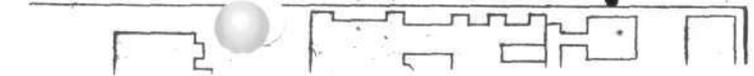
68 ASHLAND



90 E. MADISON



110 E. MONUMENT



B-4695
940-948 N. Durham Street
Block 1585, Lots 103-107
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.

Demolished



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





940-948 Durham

W-12

B-4695

940-948 N. Durham St.

BACTO. 111

W. Nield

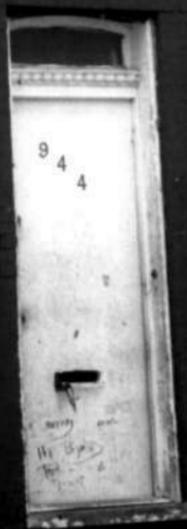
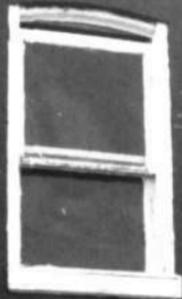
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944 Durham
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944 N. Durham St.
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