

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

B-
Survey No. 4711

1. Name

Historic 916-962 North Chapel Street
and / common

2. Location

street & number 916-962 North Chapel 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	X occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
X building(s)	X 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	X 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	X 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	date of move: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	

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

This row of twenty-four two-story, two-bay wide houses early Italianate-style brick houses with shed roofs and wooden bracketed cornices were built in 1885-1887 by William Carbach, a local builder of working class housing in East Baltimore. Some of 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. Others have been covered with formstone.

The houses are two stories in height, only 12' wide and occupy lots 60' 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 an early Italianate-style (despite the 1880s date) simple wooden cornice consisting of a crown molding supported by a row of block modillions, set above a deep frieze area. The wooden frieze consists of two parts—a panel framed by a lower molding strip set above a slightly recessed panel, framed by a similar molding strip.

The tall, narrow window and door openings have flat wood lintels and sills. Several of the original 2/2 sash survive, but most windows have 1/1 replacement sash. A few double-light doorway transoms survive, but many other openings are boarded over and all doors are modern replacements. The houses sit on low basements, lit by a double-light sash. Each house is reached by two, three, or four concrete or 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 1885-1887

Builder/Architect William Carbach

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

These houses in the 900 block of North Chapel Street are particularly significant as being at the center of the Bohemian immigrant community in Baltimore in the 1880s and 1890s.

The houses were built by William Carbach, a local builder, according to a pattern that was quite common to the city's new neighborhoods of the 1870s and 1880s. 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. Typically, in this period, main street houses might sell for \$1,200 - \$1,500; small street houses for \$ 700 - \$900.

In this particular case Carbach sold the houses on Chapel Street to mainly Bohemian owner-occupants who followed trades like tailor (a major form of employment for recent immigrants), shoemaker, and laborer. Buyers received mortgages from the several Bohemian community building and loans—the Bohemian Permanent Building and Savings Association, "Slovanstro"; the St. Wenceslaus Building Association, and the Bohemian Workingman's Building Association. 916 North Chapel, designed as a combination residence/storefront was operated as a local saloon, as was 961 at the opposite corner of the street.

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

B-4711
916-962 N. Chapel Street
Block 1586, Lots 091-114
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.

Demolished



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





916-962 Chapel

W-9

LED

[03]190 0211 4 43 70

2-4711

916-962 N. Chapel St.

BACTO.MD

W. Nield

7/96

MD SHPC

1/3-



958

938 Chapel

W7A

B-4711

938 N. Chapel St.

BACTO. MS

W. Field

7/96

2/2

10/10/96