

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. B-4837

1. Name

Historic 505 - 519 South Madeira Street
and / common _____

2. Location

street & number 505 - 519 South Madeira Street
city, town Baltimore
state & zip code Maryland 21231 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved:
<input 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 eight two-bay-wide, two-story brick houses with low-pitched gable roofs are typical of the small alley houses built in Baltimore in the 1850s, often along especially narrow secondary alley streets running perpendicularly off the main "alley" street. Often alley houses such as these are still occupied by working class families and many are still covered with the formstone put on in the 1950s or 1960s.

505-509 S. Madeira St. are 13'4" wide and occupy lots 65' deep; 511-519 are 14' wide and occupy lots 70' deep. Each house is two rooms deep with a one-story rear kitchen addition. The pitch of the gable roof is especially low, a characteristic of this particular type of two-story, gable-roofed alley house. The houses are constructed in common bond, and were always painted, but most of the facades are now covered with formstone.. Originally each house had a simple brick corbelled cornice, but these are now obscured by the formstone. Chimneys are located at the rear end of the house.

Door and window openings on the first floor have segmentally arched brick lintels and brick sills; window openings on the second floor have flat wood lintels and brick sills. All of the windows are filled with 1/1 replacement sash. No original doors survive and the row shows a mix of replacement door styles, all surmounted by a single light transom. The houses sit on low basements, the entrances being reached by two or three brick or concrete steps. A flat-linteled passageway runs back between every pair of houses to allow service access to the rear yards, since the house lots runs back-to-back with those of the west side of Patterson Park Ave. and Holtzman's Ct..

The houses are basically two rooms deep, with the front room being entered directly from the front door. The front and back rooms of the first floor are separated by a wide opening, with the tightly winding, narrow stairs set in the rear room, in the space between the partition wall and the fireplace. The one-story rear addition served as the kitchen, with its own cooking fireplace.

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 1870

Builder/Architect George Kopp and Frederick Achsinger

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

These houses are significant as being representative of a surviving group of extremely modest two-story, gable-roofed houses built in Fells Point in the 1850s – 1860s, to serve as inexpensive housing for the influx of newly arrived immigrant families seeking work in harbor-related activities or in the first small factories being built at this time. This particular group of houses was built at the very end of the period when this style is seen, in 1870, when John Winterling sub-leased lots he had acquired from the Patterson family to George Kopp (505 – 509) and Frederick Achsinger (511 – 519), local builders.

Both men sold most of these houses to German-American semi-skilled workers or laborers employed in nearby early factories, who obtained mortgages from the wide variety of local German-American building and loan associations. In terms of design, the houses are basically the descendants of earlier Federal-style working class housing built in the early decades of the century, but without the usual dormer story of such houses. Because there is no dormer story the roof slope is much less steep in these later versions of the style. The houses are two rooms deep, with a centrally located, tightly winding, narrow staircase. The kitchen is located in the one-story rear addition.

The houses are especially significant since they today serve as housing for local working class families, just as they did when built one hundred and fifty years ago.

The land on which the house are built originally belonged to the Patterson family as part of their 18th century estate, which also included the land given by the family to the city for Patterson Park. In the 1860s the Patterson heirs began developing this block by leasing parcels to various builders, who built 14' and 15'-wide two-and three-story houses on the main streets and much smaller, more old-fashioned houses on the interior courts, which they named after themselves.

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

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 proper

Return to:

DHCP/DHCD

Maryland Historical Trust

100 Community Place

Crownsville MD 21032-2023

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B-4837

505-519 S. Madara St
BALTO, MD

TON

E. PRATT

105 S. PATTERSON PARK 65

95

65

GOUGH

BANK

40

EASTERN

AVE.

AVE.

CANTON

45 MILTON

MONTFORD

CASINO

DRIVE

P
A
R
K

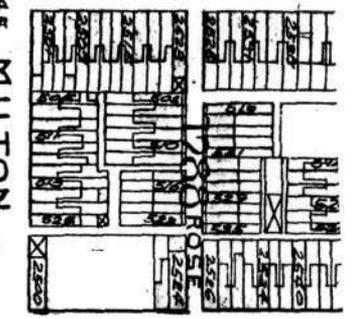
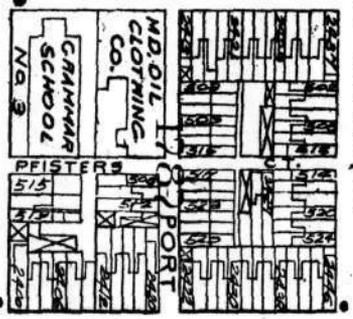
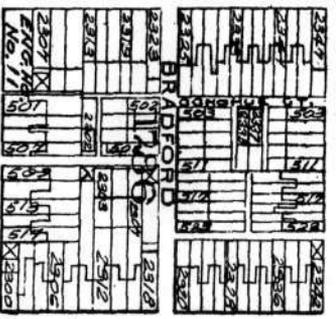
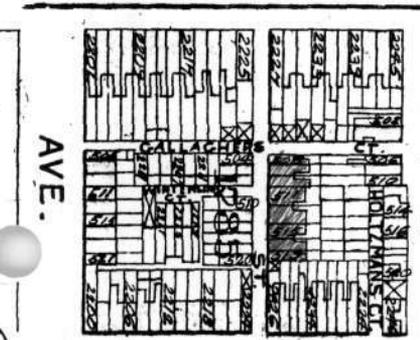
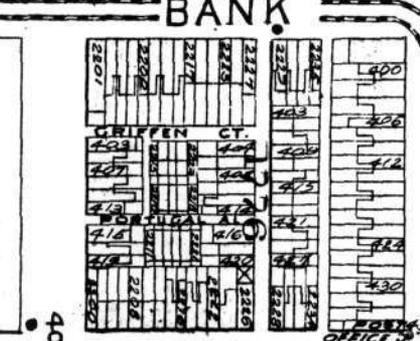
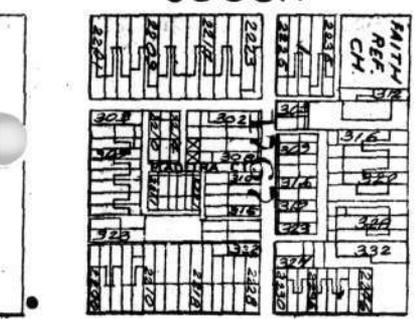
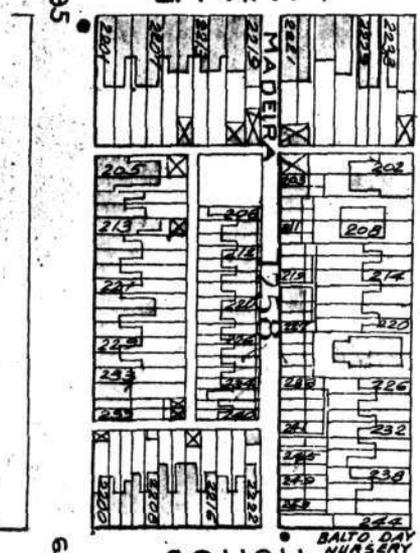
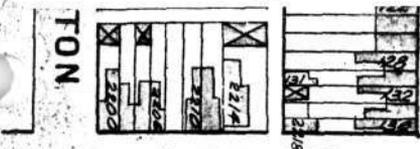
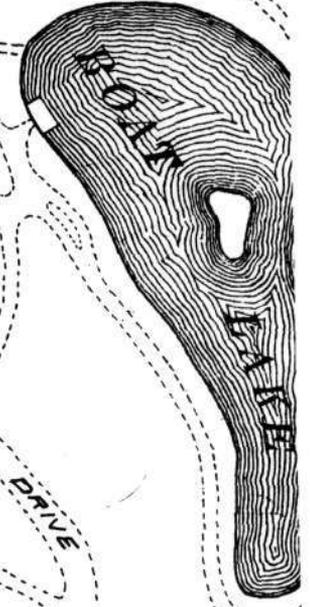
TOWER
FORT

TAURUS
FOUNTAIN

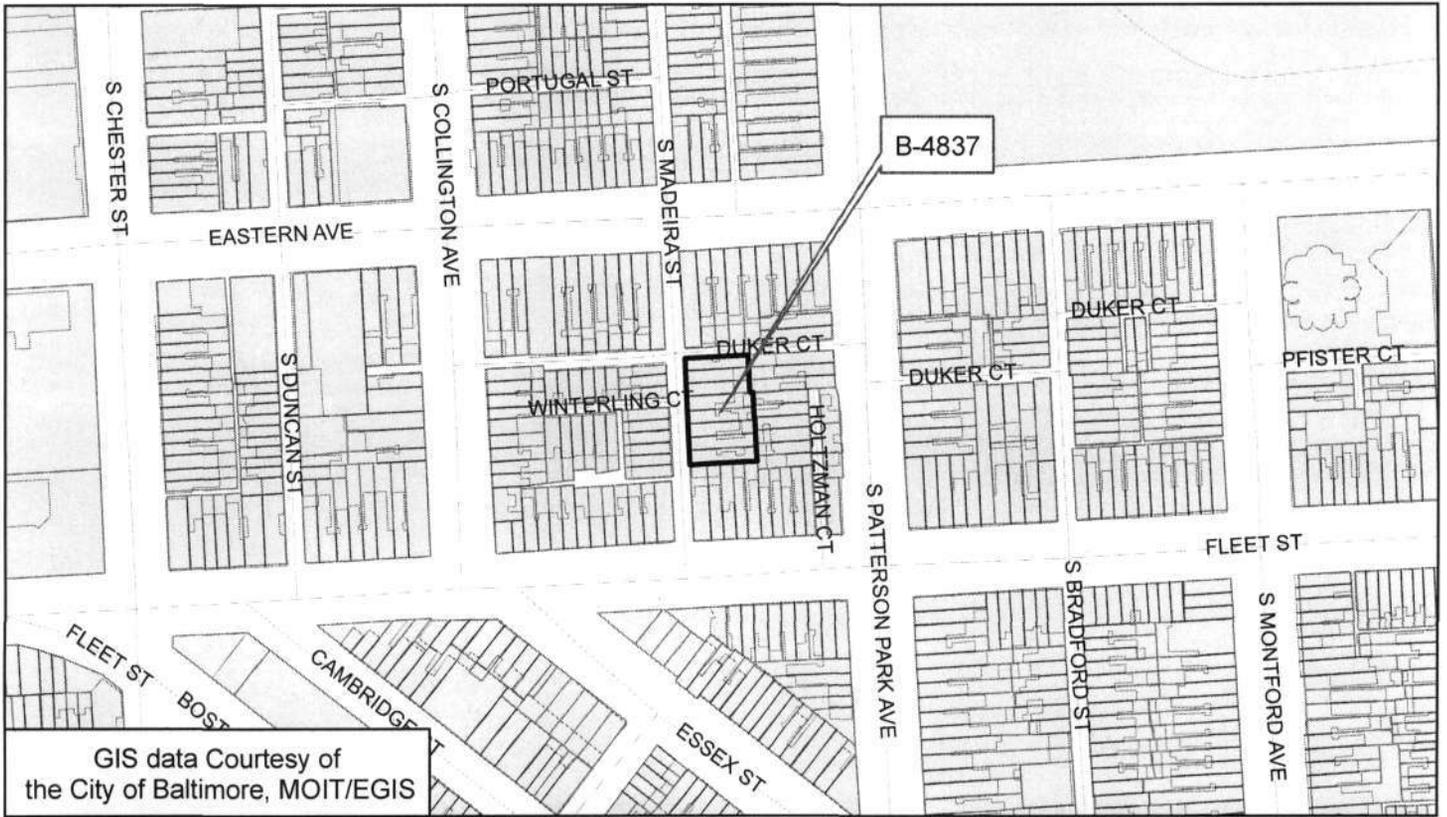
MALL

CONSE QUATRY

DRIVE



B-4837
505-519 S. Madeira Street
Block 1785 Lots 065-072
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





510871

507 S Madeira
FD 12

B-4637
507 S. Madeira St.
BALTO, MD
C. Belgrave
12/97
2/2



505-519 S Madeira

FP12

.00

0265

B-4137

505-519 S. Madeira St.

BALTO, MD

C. Belgrave

12/97

1/2