

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. B-4899

1. Name

Historic _____ 2103 – 2125 North Etting Street
and / common _____

2. Location

street & number _____ 2103 – 2125 North Etting 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

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check One

unaltered
 altered

Check One

original site
 moved:
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-story, two-bay wide Italianate-style brick houses with shed roofs and wooden scroll-sawn bracketed cornices were built c. 1880. Only a few of the houses retain their original brick facades, which were always painted; the rest have been covered with formstone.

The houses are two stories in height, 12' wide and occupy lots 71' deep. Each house is two rooms deep with a one-story kitchen addition. The houses are constructed in running bond and were originally painted. Each house has a single hooded chimney located near the front and rear of the house. The shed roofs are capped by a wooden cornice consisting of a crown molding supported by two long scroll-sawn brackets decorated with grooves, that connect to a lower molding strip, and end with a distinct trefoil pattern. The crown molding is also supported by a row of scroll-sawn modillions, set against a plain frieze panel.

The tall, narrow window and door openings have segmentally arched brick lintels, with plain tympanums, and wood sills. The window openings are filled with 1/1 replacement sash or have been boarded over. One original doorway treatment remains, at 2117—the entire doorway area is framed with an arched casing to give an added touch of stylishness to the houses. Doorways have single-light transoms, but no doors remain, the openings having been boarded over. The houses sit on medium-height basements, lit by a single-light sash. Each house is reached by three concrete steps.

3. 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 c. 1880

Builder/Architect

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 years after the Civil War when these same builders were erecting large, fashionable houses on the main streets, often facing parks or squares. While building three-story houses on the main streets that might sell for \$2,500 - \$3,500, they were also providing decent, inexpensive housing for the local working classes that might sell for \$700 - \$900. The houses were built according to a pattern that was quite common to all of the city's neighborhoods of the period c. 1870 to 1910. Recognizing that people held different levels of jobs (and pay), builders created a hierarchy of house sizes (and prices) in the new middle-class neighborhoods going up in west and east Baltimore. Builders acquired anywhere from an eighth to a half of a city block and built 15' to 18'-wide three-story houses on the main streets (priced at different levels according to the importance of the street and the house width), and smaller, 11' to 13'-wide two-story houses on the narrower streets bisecting the blocks.

Builders usually sold their small street houses in this neighborhood to German-American semi-skilled workers and laborers who received mortgages from the wide variety of community and ethnically-sponsored building and loan associations. Occasionally, the builder retained ownership of his small street houses to provide income for himself as rental properties or sold them to other investors. In this way people of varying means could afford to live in the same block. If they couldn't afford the approximately \$750 purchase price of the small street houses, then they *could* afford the \$8 or so a month it would cost to rent one, while they saved to be able to buy their own home later.

The houses are especially significant because they belong to a small group of surviving small street houses in northwest Baltimore, the vast majority having been cleared during the various urban renewal projects over the last several decades. They are also important because of their proximity to the various railroad and streetcar-building shops located in this portion of the city, as well as the slaughterhouses and their related industries. Housing of this type was built to provide reasonable-priced housing for the many mainly German immigrants who came to northwest Baltimore to work in these industries in the decades after the Civil War.

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

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

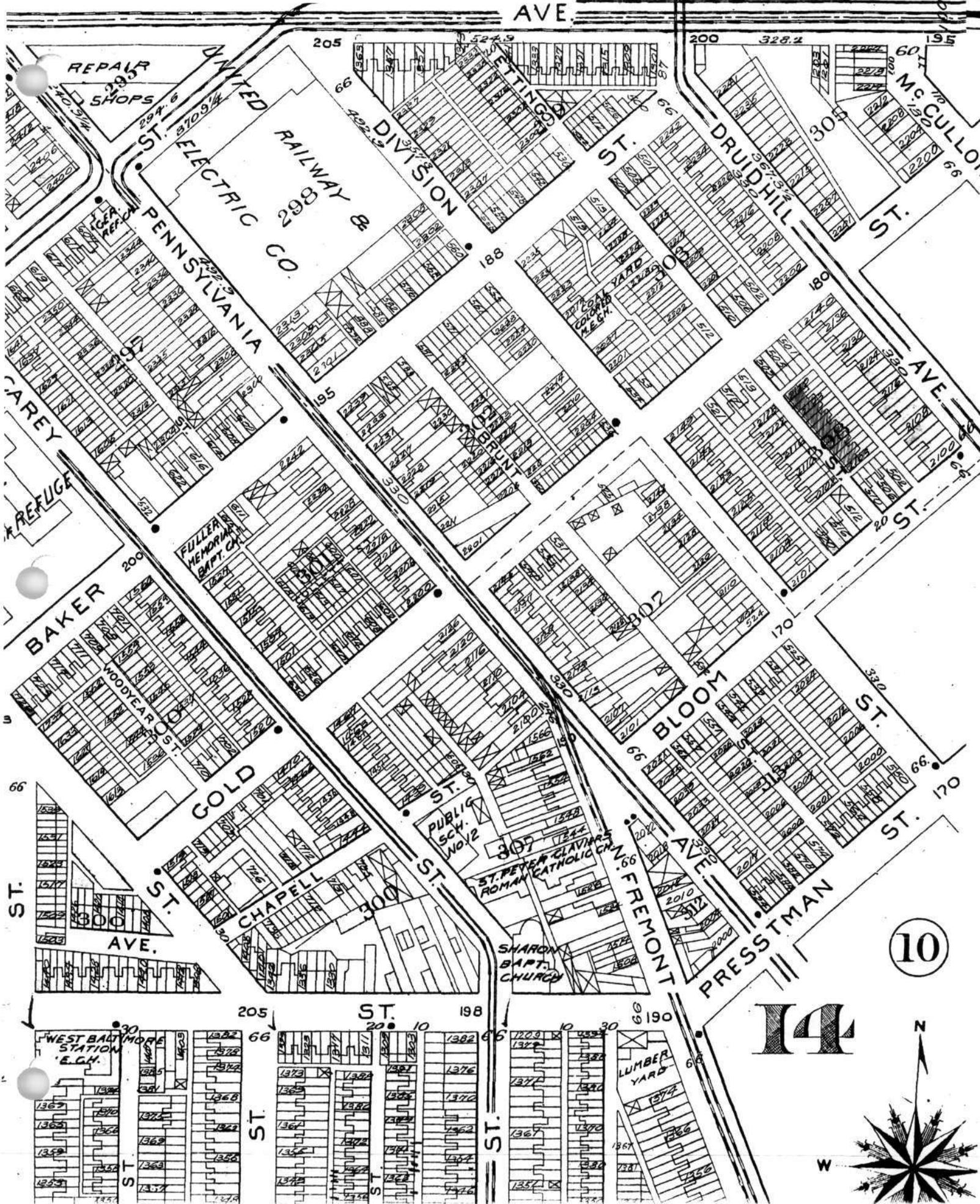
Maryland Historical Trust

100 Community Place

Crownsville MD 21032-2023

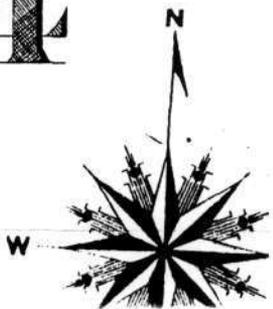
B-4899 2103-2127 4Hing St.
BALTO. MD

PLATE

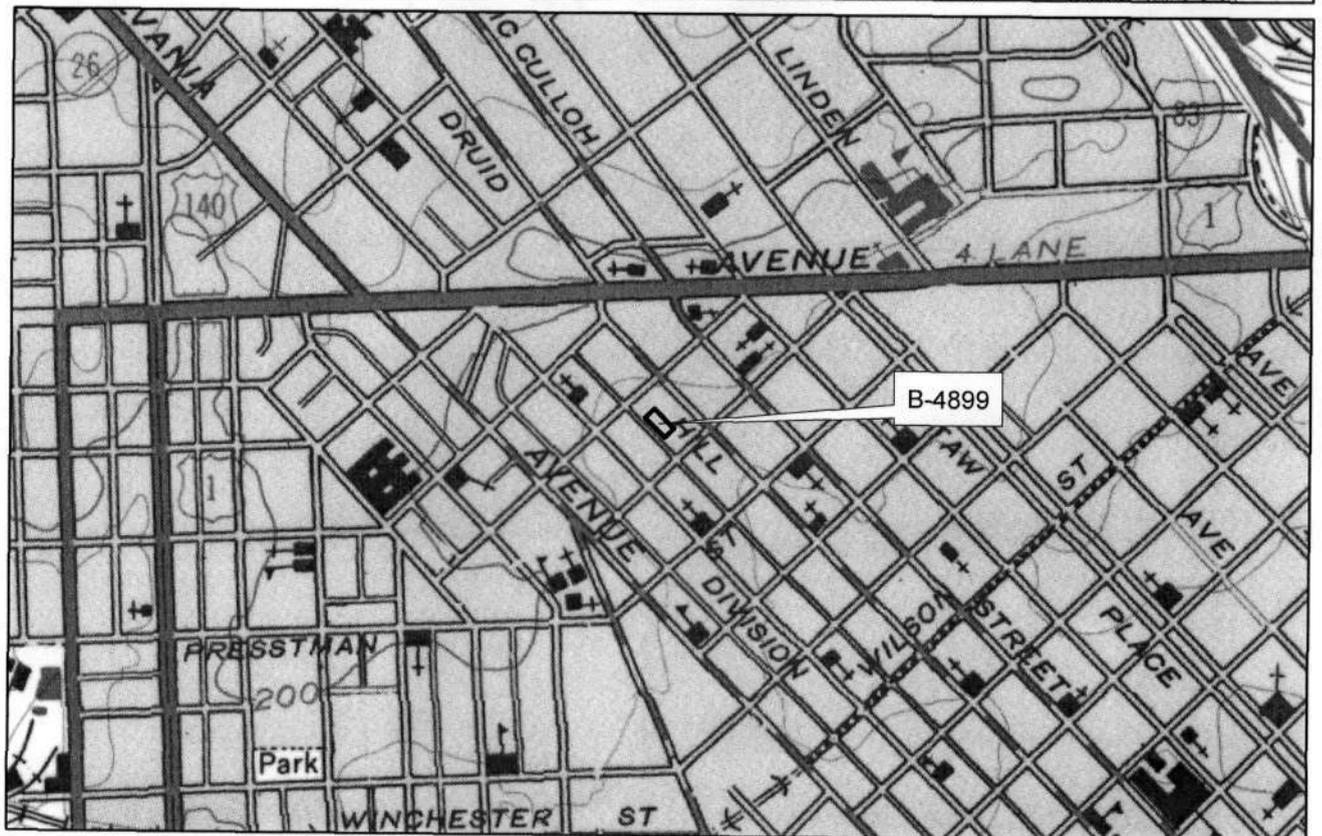
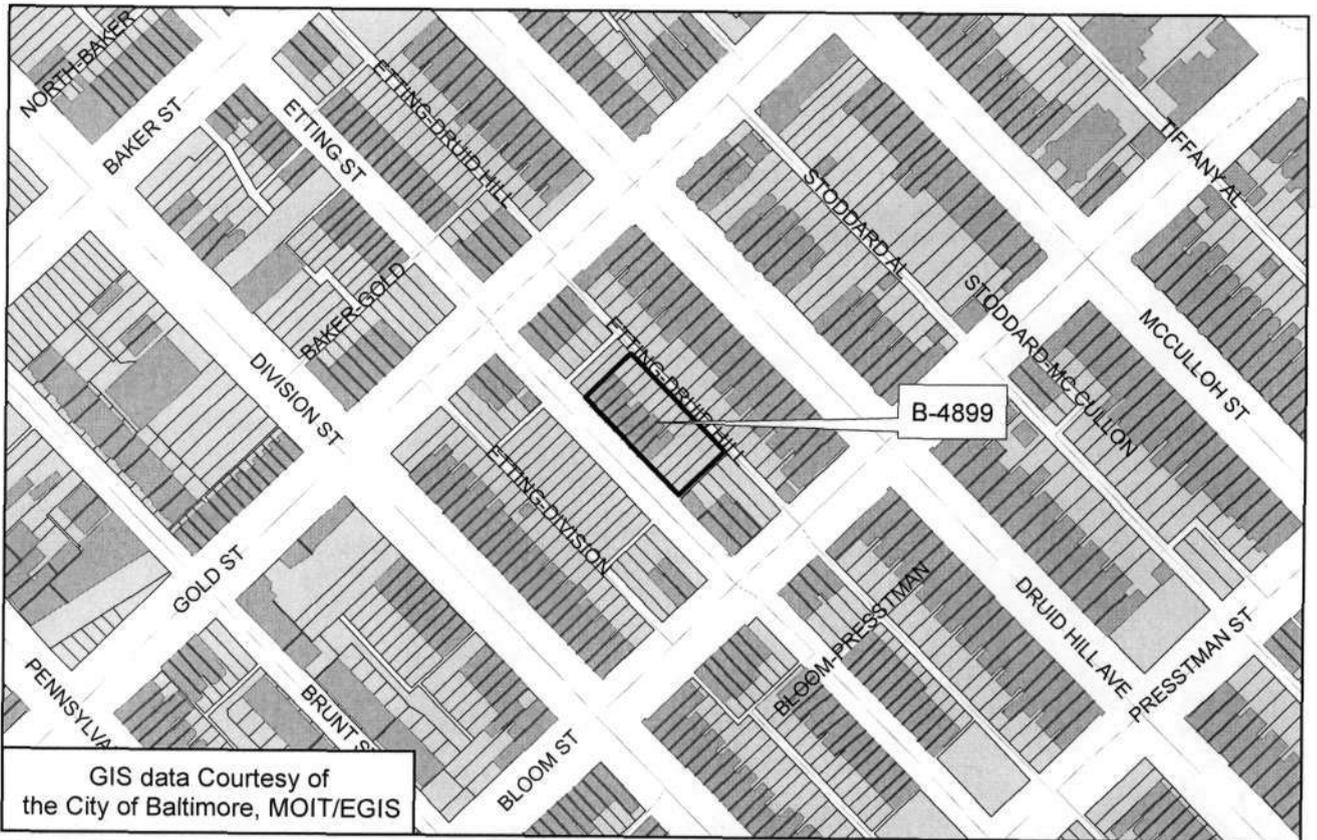


10

14



B-4899
2103-2125 Etting Street
Baltimore City
Baltimore West Quad





B-4899

2111-2125 N.
9th St

BALTO. MD

W. Nield

6/00

MD SHPO 1/2

Kodak PROFESSIONAL
FILM • PAPER • PAPER



B-4899
2115 N. Gitting
BAWD. MD
W. Nield
6/00
MD SHPO
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