

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. B-4997

1. Name

Historic 29 - 35 South Carlton Street
and / common

2. Location

street & number 29 - 35 South Carlton 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 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.

The row of four brick houses on the east side of the unit block of S. Carlton St. illustrate the range of rowhouse styles built in the 1850s in Baltimore. The pair in the middle of the group are two-bay-wide, two-story houses with the low-pitched gable roof so characteristic of small street houses at this time. 29 S. Carlton St. is a three-story, gable-roofed house with a later, Italianate-style cornice added, and 35 S. Carlton St. is a two-bay-wide, two-story-and-attic house, typical of a popular type of Baltimore rowhouse built in the late 1840s and 1850s to serve the city's growing working class population. The lower-pitched gable roof allowed for a more spacious upper story, which now could be lit by small rectangular windows at both the front and rear of the house, instead of the earlier dormer windows. Despite its practical nature, this new feature had its roots in a stylistic change in Baltimore's fashionable housing, the small "attic" windows being an important part of the façade design of much larger town mansions being built in the new Greek Revival style. From the overall composition of the group, it appears that both 29 and 35 S. Carlton St. were two-story-and-attic houses framing the two-story, gable-roofed houses in the middle.

The houses are 13' wide, and occupy lots 73', 57', and 46' deep, respectively. They are built in common bond and would always have been painted. Each house has a one-story brick rear kitchen addition somewhat narrower than the house. The low-pitched gable roof has a simple corbelled brick cornice. The roofs are covered with modern asphalt shingles overtop the original cedar shakes. There is a common chimney stack located along the partition wall at both the front and rear of the houses. Each house also has a chimney at the rear of the kitchen addition.

All door and window openings have flat wood lintels and wood sills. The window openings are filled with replacement 6/6 or 1/1 sash, dating to the houses' restoration in recent years, as do the replacement, "colonial-style" doors. Doorways originally may have had single-light transoms, but one of the restored home has a four-light transom and the others have been covered over. The two end houses probably have shallow basements (35 S. Carlton St.'s is lit by a single-light sash), but the two center houses sit on high basements—one lit by a double-hung sash, the other with an entrance from the street). The two end houses have only a single concrete step; the two in the center are reached by five brick or wooden steps.

The houses are 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. There are two bedrooms on the second floor of the main part of the house, each with a 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 c. 1850 - 1860

Builder/Architect

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

This group of houses is significant as representing a very plain type of small street house that was constructed to provide inexpensive housing for the working class residents of the area, most of whom were German or Irish at the time of construction. The houses were built according to a pattern that was quite common to the city's working class neighborhoods of the middle and late nineteenth century. 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 and southwest 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 \$1,000 - \$1,500; small street houses for \$600 - \$800.

Builders usually sold their small street houses to Irish or 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 of their proximity to the Baltimore & Ohio railroad yards, the nation's first railroad. Housing of this type was built for the first group of B&O workers to settle in southwest Baltimore, many of whom were recent Irish immigrants who attended St. Peter's Roman Catholic church nearby.

9. Major Bibliographic References

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

10. Geographic Data

Acreeage 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 Annotate 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 rights.

Return to:

DHCP/DHCD

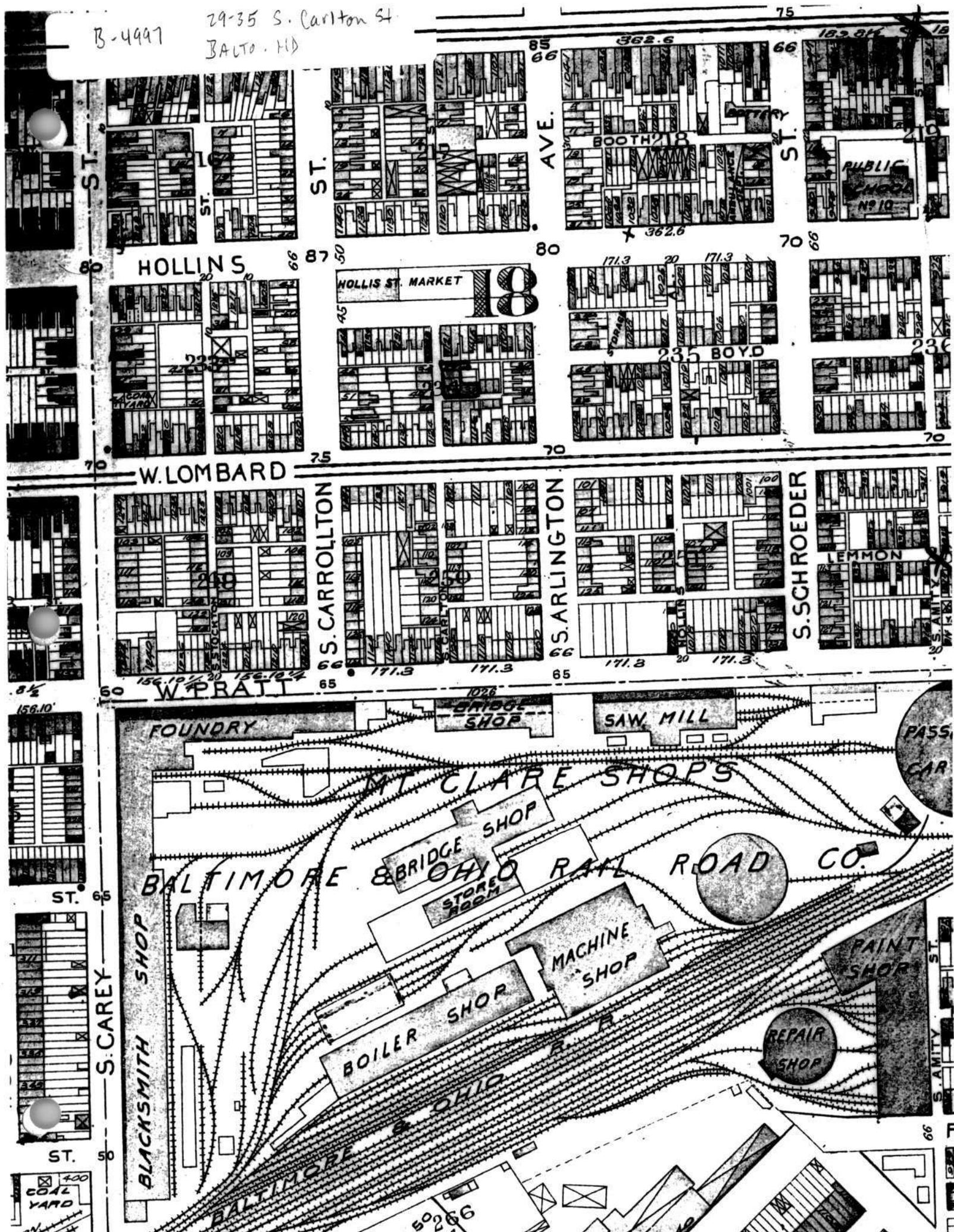
Maryland Historical Trust

100 Community Place

Crownsville MD 21032-2023

B-4997

29-35 S. Carlton St.
BALTO. MD



HOLLIS ST

W. LOMBARD

W. PRATT

S. CAREY

S. CARROLLTON

S. ARLINGTON

S. SCHROEDER

S. AMITY

FOUNDRY

BRIDGE SHOP

SAW MILL

BALTIMORE & OHIO RAILROAD CO.

BLACKSMITH SHOP

BOILER SHOP

MACHINE SHOP

REPAIR SHOP

PAINT SHOP

COAL YARD

PUBLIC

HOLLIS ST MARKET

BOOTH #18

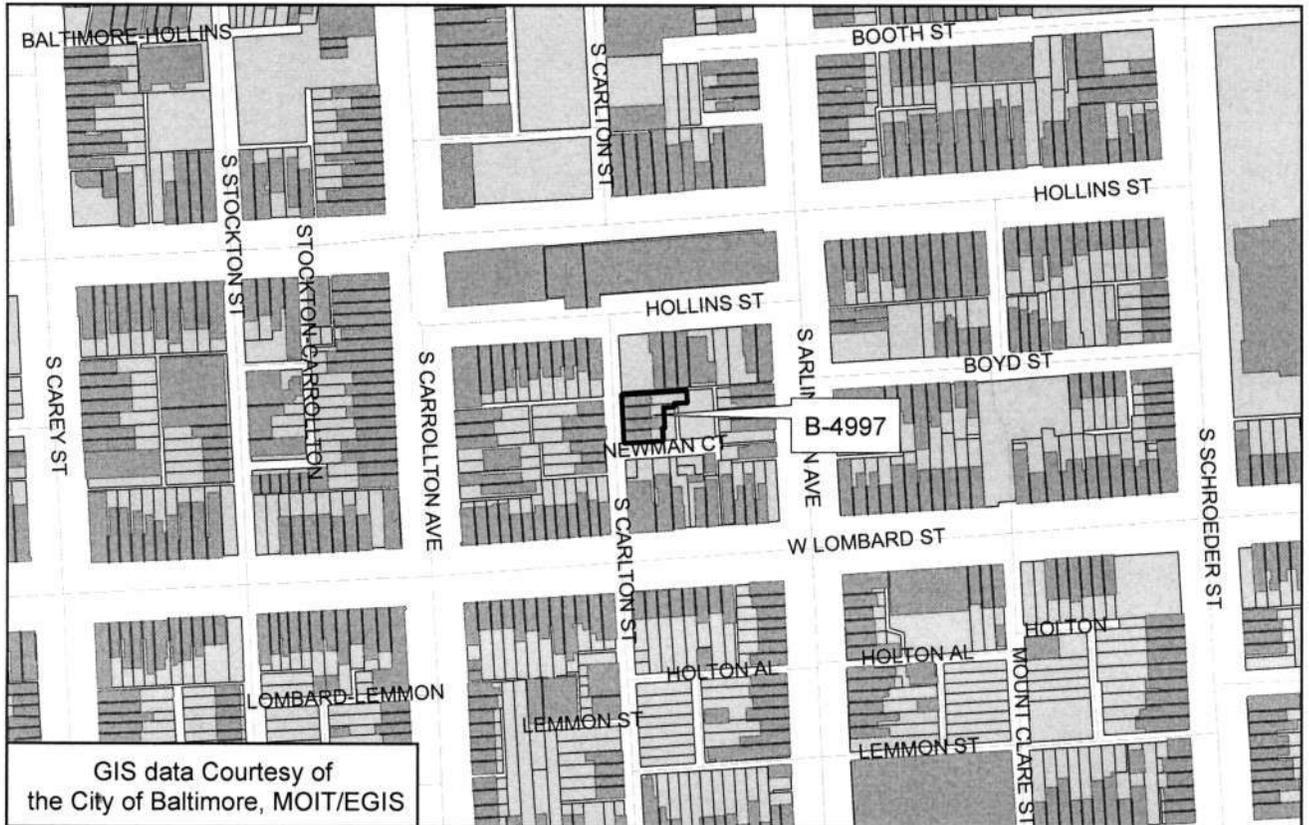
235 BOYD

LEMMON

50266

540

B-4997
29-35 South Carlton Street
Block 0234 Lots 067-070
Baltimore City
Baltimore West Quad





29 S. Carlton

JWB-4

B-4997

74-35 S. 3rd St. 4.

BALTO, MD

C. B. ...

3/98

MSHPO

1/2

ED

10/10



31-33 S. Carlton

SWB-4

B-4997

29-35 S. Carlton St.

2-170-110

Belfonte

3/98

2/2

10126-01