

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. B-4998

1. Name

Historic 34 - 44 South Carlton Street
and / common

2. Location

street & number 34 - 44 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	<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 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: _____

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

The group of six brick houses on the west side of the unit block of S. Carlton St. is composed of a pair of two-story, two-bay wide houses with low-pitched gable roofs; a single two-bay-wide, two-and-a-half story house, with a dormer window, built in the 1830s; next to three two-bay-wide, two-story houses with the low-pitched gable roof so characteristic of small street houses of the early 1850s and 1860s. All of the houses are either covered with formstone or stucco, so all original details are obscured.

They were probably built in running bond and would always have been painted. The two-and-a-half story house has a one-story brick rear kitchen addition somewhat narrower than the house; the two-story, gable-roofed houses have smaller, one-story rear additions. All of the gable roofs have simple corbelled brick cornices, but most have been covered with formstone. Each house has a chimney stack located near the front and rear of the houses. Each house also has a chimney at the rear of the kitchen addition.

All of the original door and window openings have been obscured by the formstone covering but they probably had flat wood lintels and sills. The window openings are filled with replacement 6/6 or 1/1 sash. Doorways originally may have had single-light transoms, but all have been covered over. 34-38 S. Carlton St. sit on high basements lit by a single-light sash and 36-38 have basement entrances directly from the street. The entrances are reached by five, six, and eight wooden or concrete steps, respectively, set parallel to the street. 40-44 S. Carlton St. sit on low basements lit by a narrow sash. The entrances are reached by two concrete 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theatre
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other: specify

Specific dates c. 1835; 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 for containing a Federal-style two-and-a-half story house, probably built in the 1830s when this part of Baltimore was beginning to be built up around the new Baltimore & Ohio railroad yards. The other houses are 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

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 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:

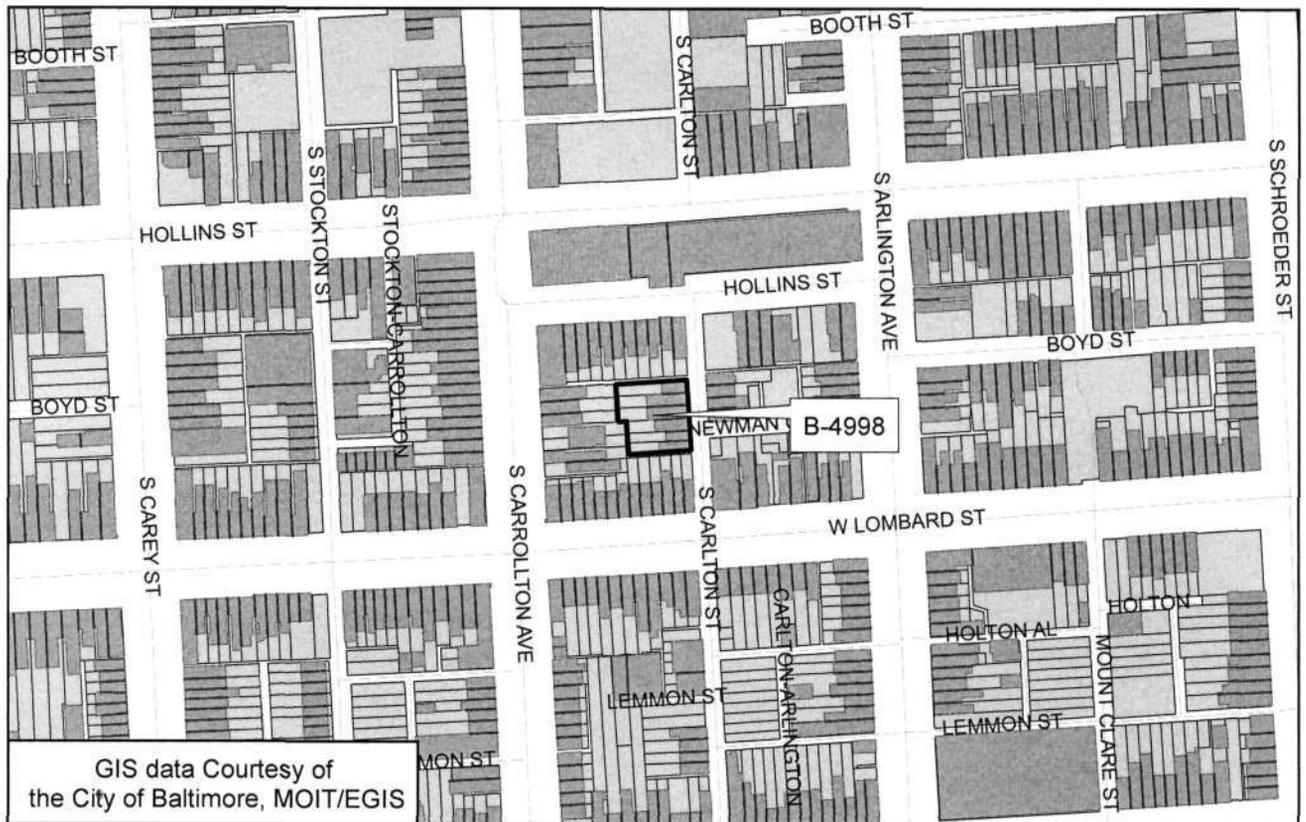
DHCP/DHCD

Maryland Historical Trust

100 Community Place

Crownsville MD 21032-2023

B-4998
34-44 South Carlton Street
Block 0234 Lots 071-076
Baltimore City
Baltimore West Quad





34-36 S. Carlton

Feb 15 '34

B-4998

34-44 S Carlton St.

BACR MID

B. B. H. H. H.

3/48

MID SAPE

43

103

103



38 S. Carlton

SW-4

B-4998

34-44 S. Carlton St.

EA 1010

P. Bechtel

3/98

2/3

80

1041241



62-44 S. Carlson
JWS - U

.ED

EGG 18-1

B-4908

34-44 S. Carlson St.

BACTO. 10

C. Belfrage

3/98

3/3

POPPLETON HISTORIC STUDY

B-4998
~~B-2675~~
MAGI# 0426755404

<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Address</u>
234	71-76	34-44 S. Carlton Street

Approximate age

<u>1800-1845</u>	<u>1845-1860</u>	<u>1865-1880</u>	<u>1880-1896</u>	<u>1896-on</u>
	34-44			

<u>Rating</u>	<u>Architectural</u>	<u>Condition</u>			
A	Significant-save	good	fair	poor	bad
B	Quality-Indiv./groups-save	good	fair	poor	bad
(C)	Important to street/groups	good	(fair)	poor	bad
D	Insignificant/detrimental	good	fair	poor	bad

Notable features:

These are early houses as on the west side; the tall house with steeper gable roof and dormer could be older than the others. Together they constitute a small area of modest dwellings. Were Hollins Street and Arlington Avenue fronts improved, this could stay.

The many small alleys on the block need constant attention. The parking lot is a necessity given the metered parking on adjacent streets and "no parking" in Carlton Street.

Environmental context:

(See comments on sheet for 29-37 S. Carlton Street.)

