

B-37

Engine Company No. 6 Fire Station, (City Fire Museum)

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

Last Updated: 03-10-2011

Form 10-300
(July 1959)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| STATE: Maryland | |
| COUNTY: Baltimore City | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |

| | |
|--|--|
| 1. NAME | |
| COMMON: Engine House #6 | |
| AND OR HISTORIC: Fire Engine House #6 | |

| | | | |
|--|------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| 2. LOCATION | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: 416 North Gay Street | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore | | | |
| STATE Maryland | CODE 24 | COUNTY: Baltimore City | CODE 510 |

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| 3. CLASSIFICATION | | | |
| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress | Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Fire House</u> |

| | | | |
|---|--------------------|------------|--|
| 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY | | | |
| OWNER'S NAME: Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: City Hall | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore | STATE: Maryland | CODE 24 | |

| | | | |
|---|--------------------|------------|--|
| 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION | | | |
| COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Land Record Office of the Superior Court of Baltimore City | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: Room 610, Baltimore City Courthouse | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore | STATE: Maryland | CODE 24 | |

| | | | |
|---|--------------------|------------|--|
| 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS | | | |
| TITLE OF SURVEY: Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation | | | |
| DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local | | | |
| DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: 402 City Hall | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore | STATE: Maryland | CODE 24 | |

(See Continuation Sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

| | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------|------|
| STATE: Maryland | Baltimore City | ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
| | | | |

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
| | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Altered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Engine House #6, located at the angle where Gay and Ensor Streets meet, is an architectural landmark in its neighborhood. Its 103-foot brick Italian-Gothic tower is said to be a copy of Giotto's campanile in Florence, Italy. The main door at the base of the tower is within a pointed stone arch and the spandrel contains a quatrefoil with the number six in the center. The first story was altered in 1874 by applying a stone facade. The tower gives a feeling of openness because of the repetition of Gothic arched windows piercing it. Projecting stringcourses separate each of the five stories and effectively break the verticality. At the top, there is a three-face clock and a wooden cornice supporting an elaborately carved balustrade.

The remainder of the building is two stories high with seven bays on each street side and a simple wooden cornice. There is also a projecting stringcourse between the floors, repeating the motif of the tower courses.

The building was painted for a long time, but has recently been cleaned by sandblasting and pointing. It remains a focal point in the city because of its tower and clock which are visible for miles.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

B-37

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | <u>Fire Fighting</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Independent Fire Company engine house pre-dates the Baltimore City Fire Department itself. Built in 1853-1854 by the architects Reason and Wetherald, it was the third building erected by this volunteer fire fighters group to house its equipment. In 1858, when the city established a paid Fire Department, the building was purchased for \$8,000 and is the only engine house remaining from that era, unchanged, and in continuous use as a fire station. Today, the area surrounding Engine House #6 is included in the Oldtown Urban Renewal District, and plans are progressing rapidly for levelling most of the neighborhood. This building should be preserved as a vital link with the past and, to this end, city planners have proposed that it be used as a small museum of the history of fire fighting. In addition, the period of time which it represents was important in the city's history, for it was built in the day when volunteer fire companies reached the peak of their rivalries and gave Baltimore its notorious name, "Mobtown."

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Beirne, Francis F. Baltimore . . . A Picture History, 1858-1968. Baltimore: Bodine & Associates, 1968, page 22.

Howland, Richard Hubbard and Spencer, Eleanor Patterson. The Architecture of Baltimore; A Pictorial History. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1953, page 94.

Scharf, Col. J. Thomas. History of Baltimore City and County. Baltimore: Turnbull Brothers, 1881, page 247.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | | O R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES | | | | |
|--|----------|---------|-----------|---------|---|---------|-----------|---------|---------|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | | LONGITUDE | | LATITUDE | | LONGITUDE | | |
| | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds |
| NW | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " | 39° | 17' | 42" |
| NE | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " | 76° | 36' | 21" |
| SE | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " | | | |
| SW | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " | | | |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: One Acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|--------|------|---------|------|
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

C. Black and A. McClellan

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

August 17, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:

2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN:

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

CODE

24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name

Orlando Ridout IV

Title State Liaison Officer for the State of Maryland

Date

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Form 10-300a
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| STATE Maryland | |
| COUNTY Baltimore City | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |

(Number all entries)

#6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS continued

Maryland Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks
State x

Maryland Historical Trust

2525 Riva Road

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Code 24

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE
Maryland

COUNTY
Baltimore City

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Engine House #6

AND/OR HISTORIC: Fire Engine House #6

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

416 North Gay Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Baltimore

STATE:

Maryland

CODE

24

COUNTY:

Baltimore City

CODE

510

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: G.S. Redden

DATE OF PHOTO: February 1971

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Commission for Historical and Architectural
Preservation, 402 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Engine House #6 from the Southwest



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

| | | |
|--------------------------|------|------|
| STATE Maryland | | B-37 |
| COUNTY Baltimore City | | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE | |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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| 1. NAME | | | |
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| AND/OR HISTORIC: Fire Engine House #6 | | | |
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| CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore | | | |
| STATE: Maryland | CODE 24 | COUNTY: Baltimore City | CODE 510 |
| 3. PHOTO REFERENCE | | | |
| PHOTO CREDIT: G.S. Redden | | | |
| DATE OF PHOTO: February 1971 | | | |
| NEGATIVE FILED AT: Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation, 402 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland | | | |
| 4. IDENTIFICATION | | | |
| DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. Engine House #6 from the Southwest | | | |



Form 10-301
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| STATE Maryland | |
| COUNTY Baltimore City | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
| | |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

| | | | |
|---|------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| 1. NAME | | | |
| COMMON: Engine House #6 | | | |
| AND/OR HISTORIC: Fire Engine House #6 | | | |
| 2. LOCATION | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: 416 North Gay Street | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore | | | |
| STATE: Maryland | CODE 24 | COUNTY: Baltimore City | CODE 510 |
| 3. MAP REFERENCE | | | |
| SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute Map, Quadrangle Baltimore East | | | |
| SCALE: 1:24,000 | | | |
| DATE: 1953 photorevised 1966 | | | |
| 4. REQUIREMENTS | | | |
| TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS | | | |
| 1. Property boundaries where required. | | | |
| 2. North arrow. | | | |
| 3. Latitude and longitude reference. | | | |

BALTIMORE EAST QUADRANGLE
USGS 7.5 minute map
scale: 1: 24,000
1953 photo revised 1966

B-37
ENGINE HOUSE #6

17°30'



520 000
FEET

MIDDLE
BRANCH



B-37
Engine Company No. 6 Fire Station (City Fire Museum)
416 Oldtown Mall (formerly 416 N. Gay Street)
Block 1286, Lot 018
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





ENGINE HOUSE #6

B-37

RECEIVED
FBI
JUN 10 21202