

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name L. FRANK & SON BUILDING
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 407 West Baltimore Street N/A not for publication
city, town Baltimore N/A vicinity
state Maryland code MD county Independent City code 510 zip code 21201

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Iron Architecture of Baltimore, MD 1850-1904
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

[Signature] STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER Date 12/2/98
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

B-2360

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE TRADE/warehouse

COMMERCE/TRADE/business

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/manufacturing
facility**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

(enter categories from instructions)

ITALIANATE

foundation Brick

walls Iron

Brick

roof Asphalt

other Wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

Erected about 1875, the L. Frank & Sons Building is a four-story brick commercial building with a cast-iron facade. It is located on the south side of West Baltimore Street about 160' west of North Eutaw Street in central Baltimore. The principal elevation faces north. The first floor storefront is obscured by a plain brick wall with a plate glass window flanking the off-center entrance. The upper window openings on the facade are filled in and covered with stucco. The cast iron arches have rounded corners and flat tops. The bracketed cornice is matched by brackets at the intermediary cornices at each floor level.

8. Statement of Significance

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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

c. 1875

Significant Dates

c. 1875

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

THEME:

Cast Iron Architecture in Baltimore, Maryland, 1850-1904.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The L. Frank and Sons Building is significant as representing a Full Cast Iron Front type building.

See continuation sheet no. 2 for Historic Context and Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan data.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Baltimore City Directories, 1870s-1940s.

Kahn, Philip, Jr. A Stitch in Time: The Four Seasons of Baltimore's Needle Trades (Baltimore: The Maryland Historical Society, 1989).

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland.

 See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical DataAcreage of property Less than one acre.S quad: Baltimore East, MD

UTM References

A 18 360140 4349900
Zone Easting NorthingB
Zone Easting NorthingC D See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Boundaries are defined as a single city lot, specifically identified as Block 642, Lot 17, recorded among the Land Records of Baltimore City, Maryland.

 See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property comprises the city lot upon which the resource stands.

 See continuation sheet**11. Form Prepared By**

Name/title Peter E. Kurtze, Architectural Historian

Organization Baltimore Heritage, Inc. date May 14, 1990

street & number 109 Brandon Road telephone 410-296-7538

city or town Baltimore state MD zip code 21212

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United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation Sheet

L. FRANK & SONS BUILDING
Baltimore
Maryland

Section number 7 Page 1

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The L. Frank & Sons Building has a flat sloping roof and a partially exposed east elevation which adjoins a covered drive-through bank. At street level, the brick wall is pierced by a plate glass window; a canvas awning is located above the window and off-center door. The storefront cornice is enclosed in a box. Above this level, the three-bay cast-iron facade survives, defined by window openings topped with flat arches with rounded corners and framed by chamfered piers with floral capitals. Intermediary cornices at each floor level are terminated by scrolled brackets. The main cornice has a paneled frieze and scrolled consoles. The cast-iron facade is painted in shades of cream and brown.

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L. FRANK & SONS BUILDING
Baltimore
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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Modern A.D. 1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture/Landscape Architecture/Community Planning

Economic (Commercial and Industrial)

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

COMMERCE/TRADE/warehouse

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/manufacturing
facility

Known Design Source: None

See Continuation Sheet No. 3

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

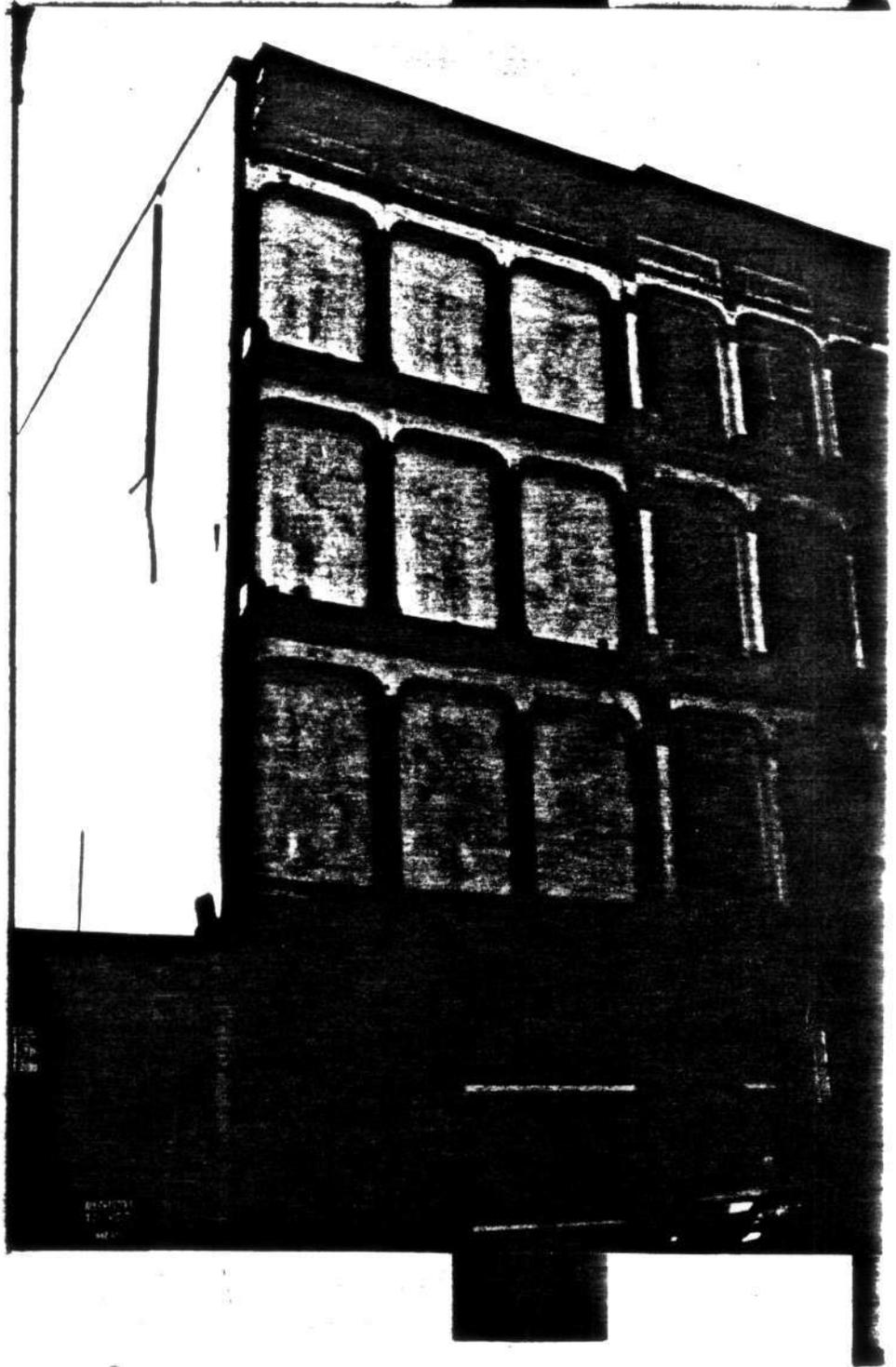
L. FRANK & SONS BUILDING
Baltimore
Maryland

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT:

Documentary and architectural evidence suggest that the four-story iron front building at 407 West Baltimore Street was constructed at the same time as the adjacent #409, about 1875. The 1866 tax records show the site occupied by William E. Wood, Baltimore's earliest manufacturer of heating apparatus; the description of improvements on the property, however, does not conform to the present structure. About 1875, the present building was constructed for Samuel Stein & Bros., who had started in business as clothing manufacturers in 1852 but switched to banking in the 1870s [Kahn p. 30, 30n]. Presumably the building was a speculative venture for the firm. The tenant at this time was Charles Weatherby, a dealer in iron ranges and furnaces, who remained at this address until 1877. The shoe manufacturing concern of L. Frank and Sons moved into the building in 1878 and remained there until 1886. By 1890, the building accommodated the Dannenberg Manufacturing Co., manufacturers of infants' wear; their fifty operatives occupied three floors. In 1898, ownership of the property passed to A.J. Strauss & Co., pants manufacturers. In the early twentieth century, the ground floor became a restaurant called the New York Fancy Cake Bakery, operated by Osias Schonfeld, who purchased the building in 1919. The restaurant was succeeded by the Traffic Cafeteria. The upper floors continued to be leased to tailors and other garment-related industries throughout the historic period.

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L. Frank and Sons Building
407 West Baltimore Street
Private

ca. 1875

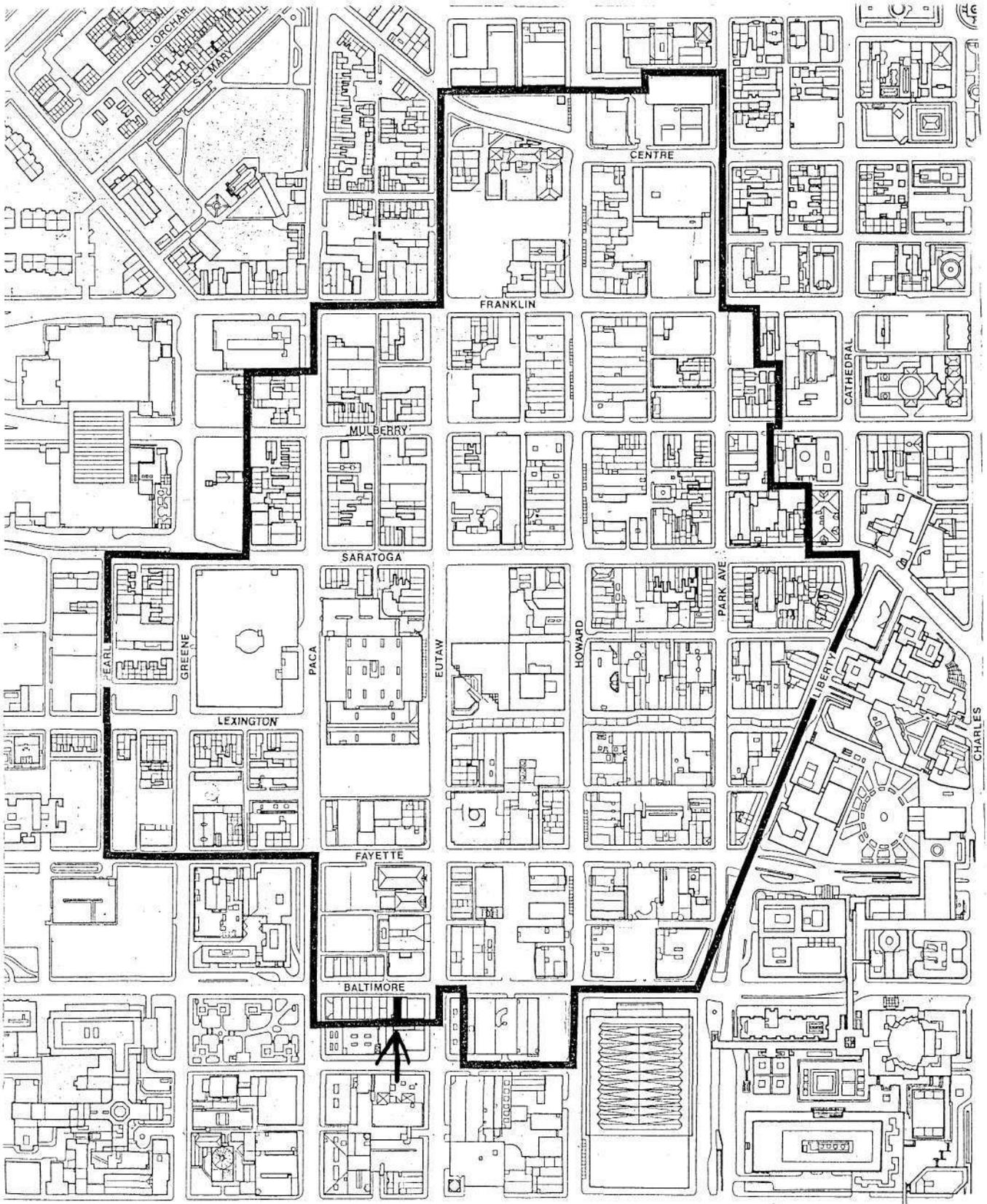
The L. Frank and Sons Building is one of about a dozen full or partial cast iron facades remaining in Baltimore, a center of manufacture of architectural ironwork in the mid to late 19th century. The Frank Building is typical of the cast iron building erected for small industries in its large window openings to admit light to the upper stories. These window openings are filled in, but the iron materials and minimal decoration remain virtually intact except in the altered storefront. L. Frank and Sons was a boot and shoe manufacturer which occupied the building from 1878 to 1886.



L. Frank & Sons Building B-2360
407 West Baltimore Street
Market Center - Metrocenter Survey
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Janet Davis
March 1986
Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
North elevation
1/2



L. Frank & Sons Building B-2360
407 West Baltimore Street
Market Center - Metrocenter Survey
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Janet Davis
March 1986
Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
View of 407-409 West Baltimore St.
2/2



Baltimore Metrocenter Survey
Market Center
L. Frank and Sons Building
407 West Baltimore Street
B-2360

