

NATIONAL 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:
The Battle Monument

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Center of Calvert Street (between Fayette & Lexington Sts.)

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"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<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 type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
The Mayor and City Council of Baltimore

STREET AND NUMBER:
City Hall - 100 North Holliday Street

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Department of Legislative Reference, City Hall - Document #494

STREET AND NUMBER:
100 North Holliday Street

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: [see continuation sheet]
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: November 1959 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: Dist. of Columbia CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Balt. City
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ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

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

The Battle Monument, constructed partly of white Italian marble and partly of a lower grade local marble, consists of the following parts: platform and base, podium, column, and sculpture group.

At the bottom is the platform of granite curbs, rounded at the corners, with a concrete pavement surface. An iron anchor chain of reinforced links is stretched between 12 marble posts; the four corner posts once held gas lamps. The square base, about 30 inches above the pavement, is faced and topped with marble slabs. The sides have three panels, and the lower edge of the top slab has a simple molding. At the solid blocks of each corner on low plinths are bronze facsimile cannon pointing upwards. The muzzle of each cannon is closed with a hemisphere to appear as if a ball were issuing from it. Between the cannon is an iron fence composed of palings of darts, each with a bronze or brass point, capped with a rounded terminal at the bottom. Two intermediate posts on each side are made of bundles of the same darts bound with iron strip fillets like a fasces. Near the top and bottom of the palings is an iron stretcher, and at several points the fence rests on iron balls. On the south side of the base is a bronze plaque, placed there in 1915, and inscribed with a history of the monument.

On each side of the rusticated marble podium is a false door like that of the Temple of Vesta at Tivoli, closed by a black slab. The podium rests on a low platform with three steps cut into it at each doorway in allusion to the three days of the Battle of Baltimore. The carved moldings around the doors are classical, but the podium is essentially Egyptian in style. Carved in the cavetto cornice are winged solar disk emblems over each door and stylized lotus designs; at each corner is a kind of anthemion device. Above the cornice are two stages of slabs. At each corner of the upper stage is a white marble griffin, the symbol of immortality, with a head in the form of an eagle to represent the emblem of the United States. Above this are three more stages of slabs of equal size; on the south side are bronze letters commemorating the Battles of North Point and Fort McHenry and the 39 years of American independence.

The white marble column rests on a very low molded foot of the darker marble. It appears to be made in five or six horizontal sections; three joints are clearly visible. The shaft is sculptured to resemble a fasces, with a broad band at the top and the bottom, three narrow decorative bands, and two fillets laced about the central section. On the north and south sides of the lower band are bas reliefs depicting the two battles; above that is a band of 15 stars. The upper two bands have

[see continuation sheet]

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

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) 1815

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 type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | osophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Battle Monument is the first significant war memorial built in the United States, and contributes to Baltimore's fame as "The Monumental City." It commemorates those Americans who died in the Battle of Baltimore, during which our national anthem was written.

The Battle of Baltimore took place from September 12th to 14th, 1814. The city was successfully defended against British attack both from land, at the Battle of North Point, and from the sea, during the bombardment of Fort McHenry. Francis Scott Key wrote "The Star-Spangled Banner" on the morning of September 14th after observing this attack on Fort McHenry by the British fleet. The repulse of the British forces at Baltimore was an important factor in determining the outcome of the War of 1812. Construction of the monument was begun on the first anniversary of the battle.

The Battle Monument was designed by the French architect Maximilian Godefroy, who had helped to plan the fortifications of the city during the British attack. Godefroy was the first professional teacher of architecture in the city. His unusual "Fascial" design for the monument combined Classical elements, based on the fasces, a bundle of rods bound about an ax with projecting blade and used as the ancient Roman symbol of authority; and Egyptian elements, reflecting French interest following Napoleon's conquest of Egypt in 1798. The sculptured figure on the top of the monument, the griffins, and the two sculptured reliefs on the shaft were made by the Spanish sculptor Antonio Capellano, and are among the oldest existing monumental sculptures in the country.

The monument is the official emblem of the City of Baltimore, having been adopted for the City Seal in 1827; as such it appears on Baltimore's City Flag.

The location of the Battle Monument is also of historic interest since it was once the site of the first Baltimore Courthouse, where the Declaration of Independence was publicly read on July 29th, 1776. Now known as Battle Monument Plaza,

[see continuation sheet]

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Arnett, Earl. "Battle Monument Memorial To Defense Of City." The Sun, Baltimore: September 12, 1969.

Hunter, Wilbur Harvey, Jr. Historic American Buildings Survey - The Battle Monument. HABS No. MD-185. Baltimore: November, 1959.

[see continuation sheet]

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	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	39	17	26.0	76	36	45.5
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"						
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"						
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **one acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Joyce Maclay and Catharine Black

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

Sept. 20, 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
Orlando Ridout IV

Title State Liaison Officer
for Maryland

Date Sept. 27, 1972

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

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)

The Battle Monument

#6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS continued

Maryland Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

1970 State

Maryland Historical Trust

2525 River Road

Annapolis, Maryland 21401 Code: 24

#7. DESCRIPTION continued

classical motifs. The names of the three American officers and 36 enlisted men who died in the battles are written in bronze letters on the fillets and on the upper broad band.

On top of the column is a statue of a female classical figure of Victory, facing south, representing the city of Baltimore paying homage to her defenders. On her left side is a cannon ball and an antique rudder, a symbol of navigation and stability; in her right hand is a bronze laurel wreath, a symbol of glory. Beside the figure is an eagle, representing the United States.

Today the monument is dwarfed by tall buildings on all sides, but is somewhat protected from traffic by a small park built to enclose it in 1964. In 1972 a statue of a Black Soldier was placed at the northern end of the park in memory of black involvement in all major wars of the United States.

#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

the surrounding area was called Monument Square in the mid-nineteenth century and was frequently the scene of public assemblies.

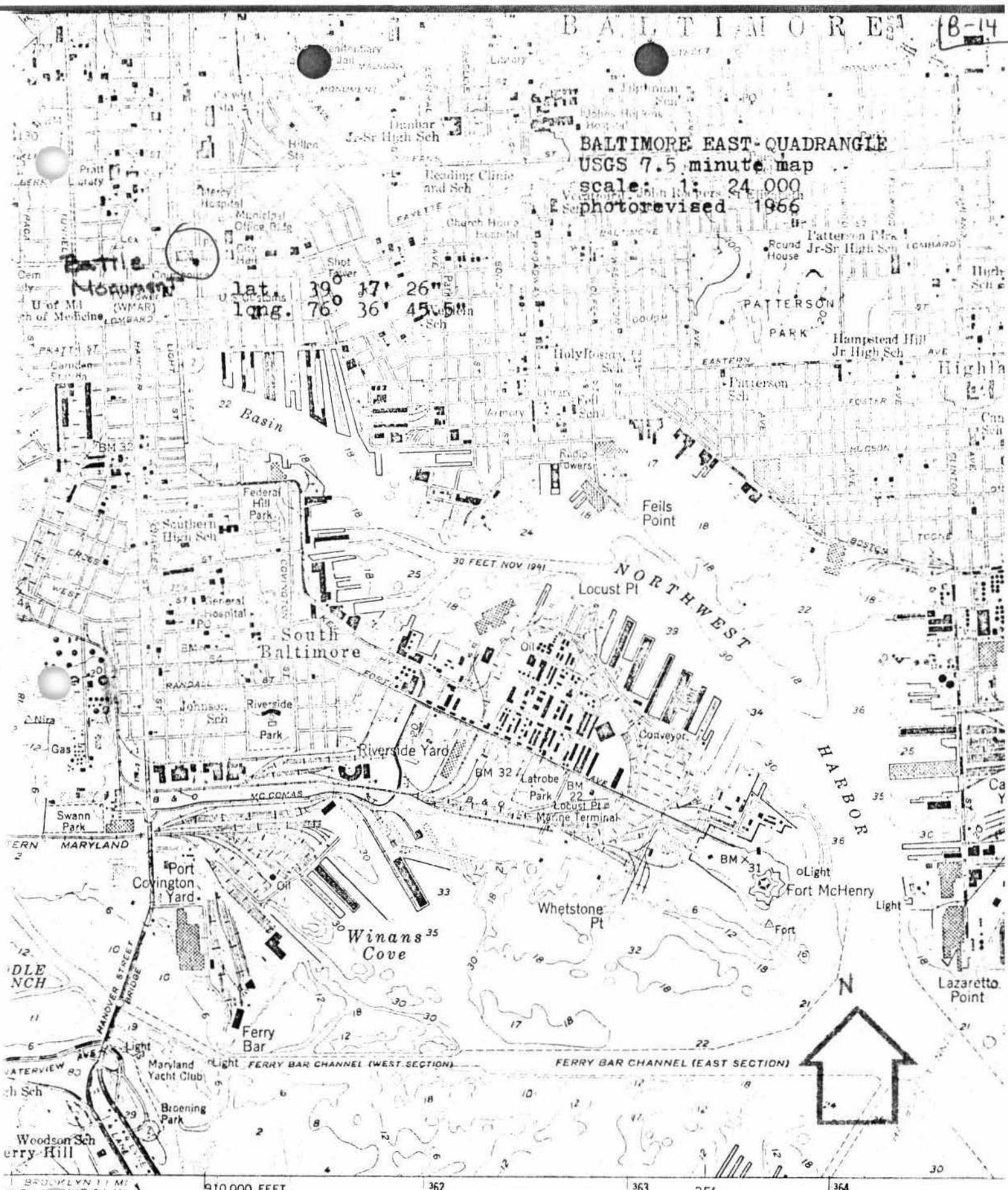
#9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES continued

Howland, Richard Hubbard and Spencer, Eleanor Patterson. The Architecture of Baltimore - A Pictorial History. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1953. Pp. 39-43.

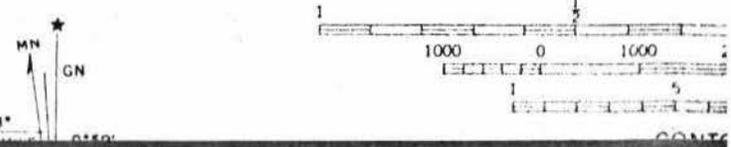
BALTIMORE EAST-QUADRANGLE
USGS 7.5 minute map
scale: 1: 24 000
photorevised 1966

lat. 39° 17' 26"
long. 76° 36' 45.5" W

Battle Monument



Produced by the Army Map Service
and published by the Geological Survey
of the USGS, USC&GS, USCE, and City of Baltimore
Photography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric
methods. Aerial photographs taken 1943. Field checked 1944



Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL 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: The Battle Monument		AND/OR HISTORIC:	
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Center of Calvert Street (between Fayette and Lexington Sts.)			
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 Baltimore East Quadrangle (Maryland)			
SCALE: 1: 24,000			
DATE: 1953 Photorevised 1966			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Property boundaries where required. 2. North arrow. 3. Latitude and longitude reference. 			