B-2185

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Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Woman's Industrial Exchange

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
333 North Charles Street — NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Baltimore — VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Third

STATE
Maryland

CODE
24

COUNTY
Baltimore City

CODE
510

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Woman's Industrial Exchange
c/o Mrs. William Whitescarver, President, Board of Managers

STREET & NUMBER
333 North Charles Street

CITY, TOWN
Baltimore — VICINITY OF

STATE
Maryland 21201

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Records Office, Room 601, Baltimore City Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
St. Paul and Fayette Streets

CITY, TOWN
Baltimore

STATE
Maryland 21201

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
City of Baltimore Neighborhood Survey

DATE
November 1975 — __FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY X LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Commission for Historic and Architectural Preservation

CITY, TOWN
Baltimore

STATE
Maryland 21202

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
X EXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
GOOD	RUINS	X ALTERED	MOVED DATE
FAIR	UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Woman's Industrial Exchange is housed in a modified early nineteenth century townhouse. A large, five-story structure of later date is appended to the rear. The buildings occupy a rear-sloping corner site, with the southern side exposed.

The townhouse is a three and a half story, three bay, gable-roofed structure. Both the front facade and the exposed southern side wall are built of brick laid in Flemish bond.

The Charles Street front has a low base of granite ashlar. Two marble steps lead to the round-arched entranceway on the left. The doorway is framed with simple limestone pilasters with square caps, which support a limestone frame running along the intrados of the gauged brick arch. Double doors of wood and glass fill the entranceway and are surmounted by a semi-circular, wood-framed transom of plain glass.

To the right of the entrance, a large rectangular plate glass window framed in wood fills the two right bays. Its bottom edge is set within the granite base on a granite sill. It is surmounted by a wood framed, tripartite, three center arched transom. Voussoirs of the brick arch above are alternately composed of a header over a stretcher, and a stretcher over a header.

The second floor windows are taller than, but similarly detailed to the third floor windows. All windows are double-hung with 6/6 lights, and protected by aluminum and glass storm windows. Each has a flat, splayed brick lintel and marble sill.

A plain wooden cornice runs at the roofline, with a fascia which terminates about 8 inches from either side wall. The roof supports a single wooden dormer with gable roof set above the central bay. The rectangular opening is filled with a double-hung window with 6/6 lights. A rectangular brick chimney rises from between the first and second bays from the left. The details of the back half of the roof are not visible from the street.

The Pleasant Street side of the house has a sunken basement entrance to a shop partially below ground level, positioned to the right of a modern shop window. Two columns of windows, each running from the first floor through the gable end, are arranged symmetrically to either side of the roof peak. A third column of windows runs from the first through third floors at the right edge of the side wall. The shop window and entrance, and two additional windows at the ground floor level are set beneath a recently applied wooden molding. All original windows are detailed like those on the front.

An unusual feature is a wide semi-circle of slate which frames a depression set in the sidewalk directly beneath the rear ground floor window.

The five-story, eight-bay adjoining structure is built of a darker brick laid in running bond. It is as wide as the house, and has a shed roof sloping down to Pleasant Street from the party wall. It is regularly fenestrated with windows grouped in a 1-4-3 pattern. Because of the sloping situation, the second floor of this structure corresponds with the first floor of the townhouse.

An entrance to the second floor is positioned at the western end of the structure. A pair of double wooden doors is reached from a brick stoop. The stoop is sheathed with a marble landing, risers and runners. An ornamented wrought iron hand rail with brass ball finials runs around the landing and down the stairs to form a volute at the bottom step, which is longer than the others. The design of the stoop appears to predate the construction of the adjoining structure, and is probably contemporary with the townhouse. The door surround at this flat-arched entrance has been removed.

A second entrance, to the first floor level, is positioned at the fourth bay in from the west. The rectangular wooden door is surrounded by top and side lights.

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 1)

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Woman's Industrial Exchange
333 North Charles Street - Baltimore City

#7 - DESCRIPTION (continued):

Three slate steps lead to the entrance. A marble and wrought iron foot scraper is set in the sidewalk to the left of the steps. A rectangular cellar entrance to the left of this in the sidewalk is framed with brownstone blocks, and covered with a plate of metal.

All windows are detailed similarly to those of the townhouse except that they have brownstone sills. Three basement windows are at the eastern end of the structure. A simple brick cornice runs at the roofline.

A modern, one-story brick addition is attached to the first floor at the rear of the structure, supported on tall, square, brick columns.

The original house accommodates a jeweler's shop in the basement, the salesroom of the Woman's Industrial Exchange on the first floor, and apartments at the second, third and attic floors. The Exchange salesroom is reached through the vestibule of the Charles Street entrance, which has a white marble tiled floor and wooden wainscoting. Inside, the hall and center walls have been removed, and beams and cast-iron columns with Tuscan capitals have been inserted to carry the walls on the above floors. The beams and ceiling are sheathed with pressed tin. Victorian versions of Greek Revival moldings which frame the large, three-center-arched shop window, and the wood and glass showcases and cashier's cage, are among the other salesroom features which date from 1900.

The basement of the later structure is used for storage. The first floor accommodates storage rooms, a kitchen and a lunch counter (at one time reserved for male customers). The second floor has the main dining room and a small kitchen. On the third floor is storage space, waitress dressing rooms, and apartments. The two top floors are all apartments.

The dining room is the most interesting area of the addition accessible to the public. Slim, fluted, cast-iron columns with lotus capitals support the floor above. Three marble mantels remain in place, but all interior walls but the chimney walls have been stripped away. All mantels are set perpendicularly to the Pleasant Street facade, and are now free standing in a row.

The mantel and hearth standing in the area which would have been the front room are of white marble. The mantel has a round-arched fire opening, simple, curving, carved ornament, and a mantel shelf with three swells.

The two mantels to the rear are identical to each other, and both have been covered with black paint. Each has a pair of slim colonnettes with Ionic capitals which support a plain entablature and shelf. Tin firebacks are set in each, one with a heraldic crest, the other with a wreath stamped in relief.

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8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	X SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
X 1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES circa 1815
circa 1861

BUILDER/ARCHITECT George Peters, 1815 portion

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The home of the Woman's Industrial Exchange at 333 North Charles Street has changed little since it was taken over by this more than 100 year old organization. The Exchange traces its origins to the days following the Civil War in Baltimore. Beginning in the parlor of Mrs. H. Harmon Brown, Maryland families impoverished by the War could sell heirlooms and handicrafts to acquaintances in a dignified atmosphere.

By 1880 the volume of transactions necessitated the utilization of a shop on Saratoga near Holliday Street. In 1882, by which time the Exchange had moved to the southeast corner of Charles and Pleasant Streets, it had incorporated with a board of twelve philanthropic women: Mary N. Perry, Mary Stow, Isabelle Tyson, Mary T. King, Anne T. Kirk, Helen Coale, Sophia G. Orem, Mary Leiper Thomas, Elizabeth R. Hopkins, Jane E. White, Annie S. Thompkins, and Leonice Josephine Stewart. In 1899 they bought the structure at 333 North Charles on the northeast corner of Charles and Pleasant Streets.

The townhouse portion of the structure was probably constructed circa 1815 on land which at the turn of the nineteenth century belonged to Charles Sterrett Ridgely. In 1803 a large parcel of Ridgely's land, including the Exchange lot, was leased to George Peters, a bricklayer. In 1815 Peters sub-leased the individual Exchange lot to Kennedy Owen, who subsequently bought the lot. There is evidence to suggest that Owen, a merchant, occupied the site as early as 1816, but he died soon afterward. The site is shown as built upon on Thomas Poppleton's 1822 plan of Baltimore.

Between 1835 and 1848 the dwelling was occupied by Henry Didier, also a merchant. Little is known of Didier other than that he was of French extraction, was a friend of Robert Gilmor, and that he had previously owned and occupied a dwelling on Monument Square designed, at least in part, by Maximilian Godefroy. Didier's country house stood near at present intersection of Edmondson and Arlington Avenues in Baltimore.

The house was rented out by its owners between the time of Didier's occupancy and the purchase by the Exchange. By 1858 the structure was the home and office of Dr. Philip C. Williams. Between 1864 and 1877 it served as a boarding house run by Mrs. Mary E. Bordley. The five-story addition was presumably constructed circa 1861, about the time the building was first used as a boarding house. The additions shows clearly on the 1869 Sachse Bird's Eye View of Baltimore.

Through 1896 the building continued as a boarding house under various managers, including Emma Harrison (1882-84), Mrs. Samuel T. Adams (1885), and Rebecca Dukehart (1886-96). In 1897 it became "The Rudolph," a residential hotel.

The townhouse portion of the Exchange is a typical Baltimore upper class urban dwelling of the period 1800-1840. Charles Street, between Saratoga and Centre Streets, was originally lined with such structures, but now perhaps a half dozen survive in recognizable form. The Exchange is important as the least altered of these, retaining the original base and entrance. The c. 1900 shop window is far more compatible with the early structure than are the storefronts on the nearby, comparable buildings. The

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 2)

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#8 - SIGNIFICANCE (continued):

fine Flemish bonded brickwork at front and side, the marble and wrought iron stoop, and the chimneys which rise from the hall wall are notable features, characteristic of this type of structure.

The shop and restaurant of the Exchange have been among the institutions most resistant to the change which has swept Charles Street in this century. The restaurant continues as a popular lunchtime meeting place for a wide range of people. The shop currently sells, on a consignment basis, the handicrafts and baked goods of over 200 men and women.

Land Records of Baltimore City

Thomas Poppleton's Plan of Baltimore, 1822

Sachse Bird's Eye View of Baltimore, 1869

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10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 25'2" x 137'

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	18	360710	4350350	B			
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Bill Pencek, Planning Assistant

ORGANIZATION: Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation

DATE: May 1975

STREET & NUMBER: 100 North Holliday Street

TELEPHONE: (301) 396-4866

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore

STATE: Maryland 21202

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE X LOCAL ___

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Nancy Miller 9/14/78

TITLE ACTING STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

B-285

Woman's Industrial Exchange

Baltimore East Quad

R.BERG & CO.
Nelson Coleman

Women's Industrial Exchange B-2185
333 N Charles
West Elevation

nam 6/77

Woman's Industrial Exchange B-2185
333 North Ch[illegible]les
Westlawatsm
Nam 6/71

WOMAN'S
POLITICAL
EXCHANGE

B-2185

Woman's Industrial Exchange
Exterior

R 00 058 NNNN 4 5

EYES

B-2185

Woman's Industrial Exchange
Consignment Shop

B-2185

Woman's Industrial Exchange
Restaurant

B-2185

Woman's Industrial Exchange
Future Apartment Renovation