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

B-2934

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
Leadenhall Street Baptist Church

AND/OR COMMON
Leadenhall Baptist Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
1021-23 Leadenhall Street — NOT FOR PUBLICATION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	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	X RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME The Reverend Eddie R. Wilson, Jr., Mr. Norman R. Brailey
Leadenhall Baptist Church, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER
1021 Leadenhall Street

CITY, TOWN
Baltimore — VICINITY OF — STATE Maryland 21230

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC
Records Office, Room 601

STREET & NUMBER
Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN
Baltimore — STATE Maryland 21202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
City of Baltimore Neighborhood Survey

DATE
1976 — __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
_EXCELLENT	_DETERIORATED	_UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	_RUINS	X ALTERED	_MOVED DATE_____
_FAIR	_UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Leadenhall Baptist Church is a rectangular brick temple with simple Renaissance Revival detail. Its ground floor contains kitchen, lecture and Sunday School rooms, and the upper floor, with galleries, is reserved for church services.

The original exterior wall surfaces have been covered with formstone on the main facade and stucco elsewheres, but the original appearance of the church is recorded in a circa 1885 engraving published in the Maryland Baptist History. The building occupies a lot in the middle of the block; recent demolition of neighboring structures has left a large vacant lot on the church's northern side. (Not included in this nomination, this lot does belong to the church.)

The symmetrical front facade consists of a high projecting base with three, ground level, round arched entrances. The central entrance is the tallest. Each is filled with tinted glass and aluminum doors with semi-circular stained glass transoms. The center transom has the words Leadenhall Baptist Church incorporated in its design.

Above the base, four pairs of pilasters rise to the gable end pediment. A large, round arched window opening in the central bay is filled with a pair of slim stained glass round arched windows with a circular stained glass window set in the spandrel. A round arched stained glass window is set in each side bay, with their lower ends recessed into the base of the facade. These windows illuminate the interior stairways which rise in both corners. A circular stained glass window is set in the center of the pediment. The roof overhangs the gable end with a simple wooden cornice.

Variegated formstone covers all the front facade, except where a concrete colored formstone is used along the lower portion of the base and door surrounds, in the rectangular recessions between the pilasters, and to outline the pediment and circular pediment window. The original rusticated brick base and brick cornelling which runs beneath the cornice are thus concealed. Modern iron gates set in formstone covered brick walls flank the facade, giving access to the narrow, brick-paved alley-ways at either side.

The sides and rear of the structure have been stuccoed. The eight bays of the sides are marked by nine pilasters each. Rectangular stained glass windows set in segmental arched recesses in all of the side bays except for the first illuminate the church hall and galleries.

Two appendages are connected to the rear of the main church. The first contemporary to the church is a two-story stuccoed brick structure which provides vertical circulation behind the stage of the lecture room to the sides of the alter and baptismal pool above. The second is a one-story concrete block addition of recent date, primarily containing classrooms and office space.

There are several notable features of the expansive church interior. Stencilwork in blue, red and gold covers the plastered walls and flat ceiling. A lattice-type pattern, it has detailed borders around the edges and framing all openings. The stenciling was done by Robert J. Welsmann of Baltimore in 1962. The original Renaissance-style aisle doors, organ pipe screen and baptismal pool remain in place. Slim cast-iron columns support the U-shaped gallery which retains the original pews.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1-

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

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(DESCRIPTION CONTINUED)

The long pews of the rear gallery are curved to fit the arc of the gallery steps. The stained glass windows were installed in the church in 1939. They are memorial windows, each one dedicated to one or several members of the early families of this church. The painting over the baptismal pool is a replacement of the original which was of Jesus surrounded by lambs.

The lecture room is a large room under the church, at street level, which has been divided slightly with Sunday School rooms along one side. The room has slim cast-iron columns like those upstairs, and a pressed tin ceiling. Several pieces of original church furniture, including chairs and a lectern, are used here.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

B-2934

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	X RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1873 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Joseph Thomas & Son

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Leadenhall Baptist Church, a proposed City of Baltimore landmark, was built in 1873 for black Baptists of the Sharp-Leadenhall area by the Maryland Baptist Union Association. It is the second oldest church building in Baltimore which has been continuously occupied by the same black congregation.

The neighboring Sharp-Leadenhall and Otterbein areas of South Baltimore are rich in black history. Many of the buildings which housed the people and institutions intimately associated with the advancement of blacks here have been demolished for new uses. Leadenhall Baptist is one of the survivors.

The church was designed, built and furnished by the firm of Joseph Thomas and Son, established 1820, manufacturers of building materials and church, bank and office furniture. By the time of the Civil War, the Thomas firm operated the largest steam turning mill works in the South at Park, Clay and Lexington Streets. The fire of 1873, which destroyed much of what is now the Retail District, began in the Thomas plant.

In 1873, the year in which the church was begun, the plant was relocated to Leadenhall and Montgomery Streets, just two blocks from the church. Among the other commissions which the Thomas family completed at about the same time were the City Council Chambers of the Baltimore City Hall (Georga A. Frederick, 1867-1875), and the interiors of Grace Methodist Episcopal Church (now Metropolitan United Methodist, Frank E. Davis, 1874) and the First English Lutheran Church (now New Shiloh Baptist Church , Frank E. Davis, 1874).

The Leadenhall church is a plain structure with generalized Renaissance detail. It is a highly functional composition which is relieved by round arched windows and graceful interior detail. The 900-member congregation, which is drawn from all parts of metropolitan Baltimore, is very active. Among their current projects is fund-raising for the restoration of the church.

The structure is interesting as an atypically restrained example of mid-Victorian ecclesiastical building. It lies within the boundaries of the proposed Federal Hill-Riverside Park Historic District, determined eligible for nomination to the National Register by the Secretary of the Interior, and the Sharp-Leadenhall Urban Renewal District.

The members of the church are beginning to formulate plans to restore the exterior of the church to its original appearance, for which they have good photographic documentation.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Baltimore City, Commission for Historic and Architectural Preservation. Sharp-Leadenhall Neighborhood Survey. March, 1977.

Howard, George W. The Monumental City. Baltimore, 1873

Leadenhall Baptist Church. The Leadenhall Story. Baltimore, 1977.

Lottier, George V., ed. The Seventy-Eighth Anniversary of Leadenhall Baptist Church. Baltimore, 1951.

Maryland Churches United. Christian Bicentennial Witness. Baltimore, 1976.

National Biographical Publishing Company. Biographical Cyclopedia of Representative Men of Maryland and District of Columbia. Baltimore, 1879.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Baltimore City and County. Philadelphia, 1881.

Weishampel, J.F., Sr. Maryland Baptist History. Baltimore, 1885.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

B-2934

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 67'3" x 155'

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	18	360480	4385700	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

1km

NAME / TITLE
Bill Pencek, Planning Assistant

ORGANIZATION — DATE
Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation — 1976

STREET & NUMBER — TELEPHONE
100 N. Holliday Street — (301) 396-4866

CITY OR TOWN — STATE
Baltimore — Maryland 21202

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL X

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 — 10-30-78

TITLE 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

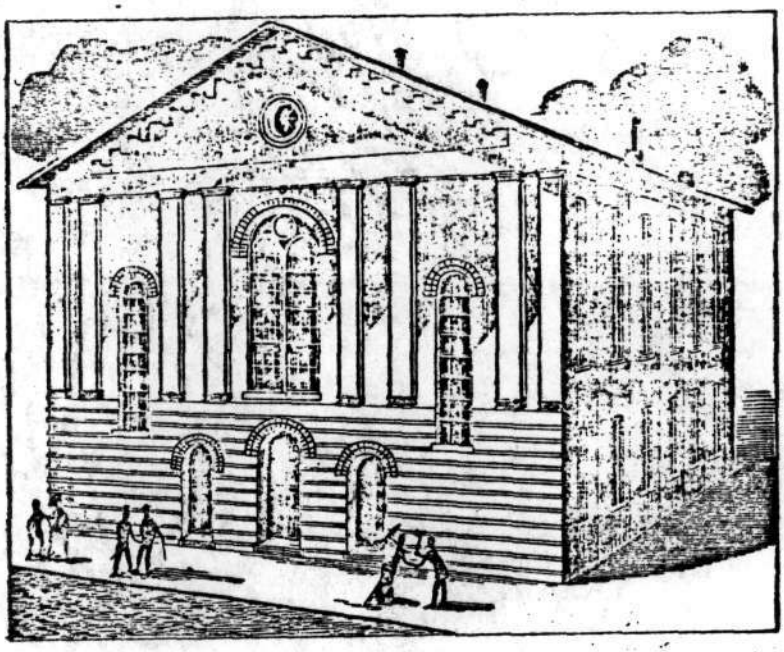
ATTEST: DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

B-2934

BALTIMORE
Robert E. Lee Sch
Henderson Sch
Patrick Henry Sch
St Alphonsus Cemetery
State Penitentiary and City Jail
Library
Tilghman Sch
Johns Hopkins Hospital
Dunbar Jr-Sr High Sch
Reading Clinic and Sch
Para Sch
Mercy Hospital
Municipal Office Bldg
Vocational Sch
John Rodgers Sch
St Elizabeth Sch
Council Home
Hospital
Patterson Park Jr-Sr High Sch
Round House
Shot Tower
U S Customs
U of Md Sch of Medicine
TV Tower (WMAR)
Weglein Sch
PATTERSON PARK
Hampstead Hill Jr High Sch
Holy Rosary Sch
Patterson Sch
Armory
Fell Sch
Basin
Radio Towers
Federal Hill Park
Southern High Sch
Feils Point
LEADENHALL BAPTIST CHURCH
NORTHWEST
Locust Pt
General Hospital
South Baltimore
Johnson Sch
Riverside Park
Riverside Yard
Latrobe Park
Swann Park
WESTERN MARYLAND
Port Covington Yard
Winans Cove
Whetstone Pt
Fort McHenry
HARBOR
MIDDLE BRANCH
HANOVER STREET BRIDGE
Ferry Bar
Maryland Yacht Club
FERRY BAR CHANNEL (WEST SECTION)
FERRY BAR CHANNEL (EAST SECTION)
Broening Park
Woodson Sch
Cherry Hill
17'30"
76°37'30"
910 000 FEET
35'

B-2934

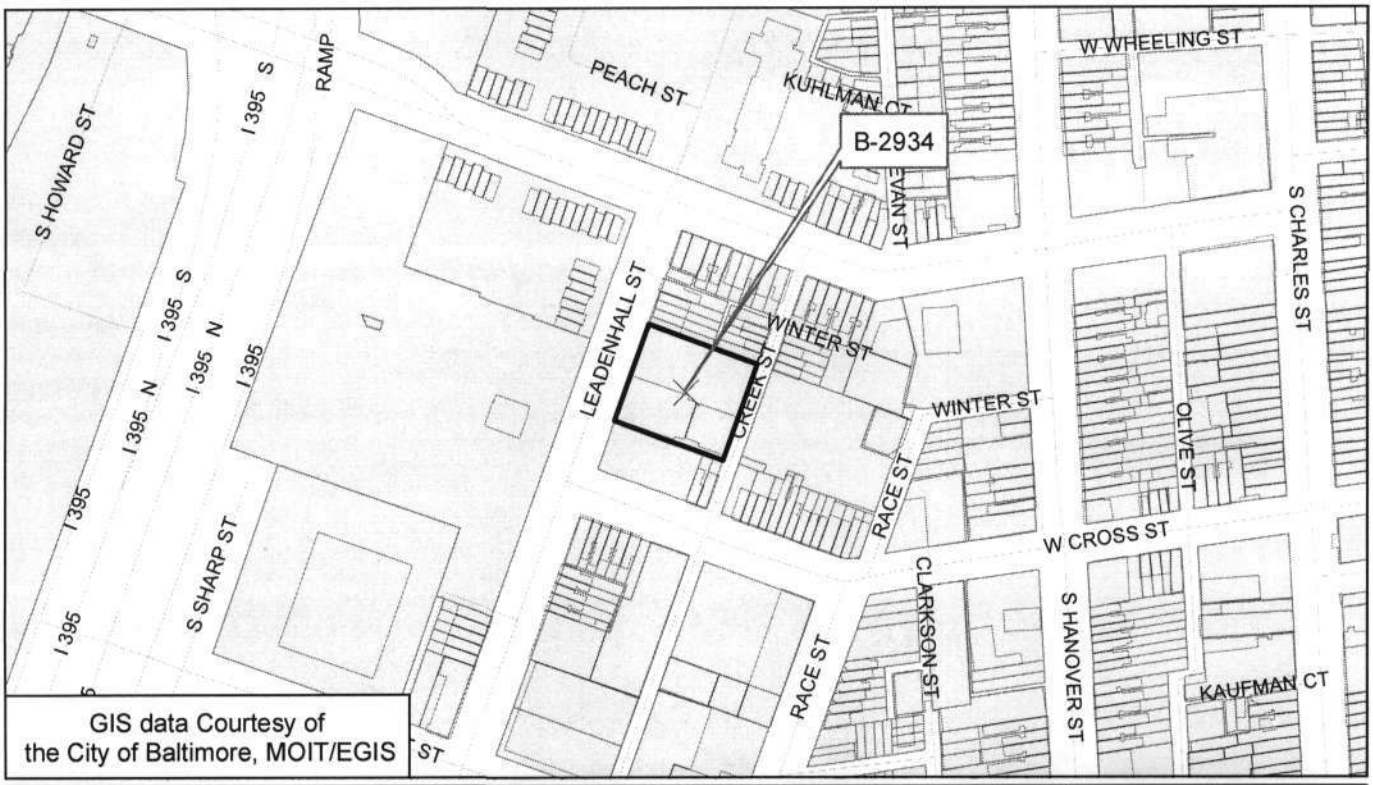


LEADENHALL ST. BAPTIST CHURCH,

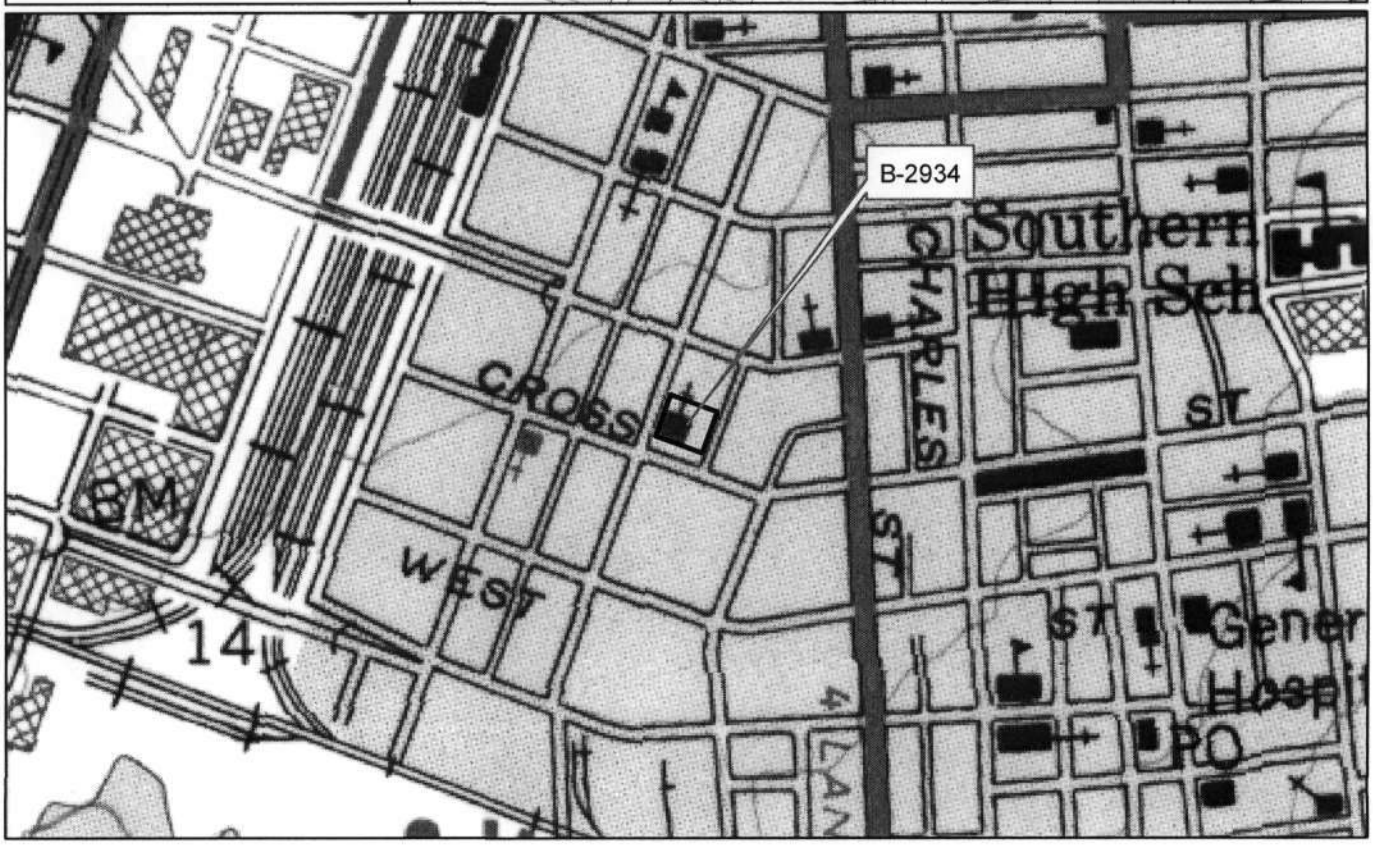
BALTIMORE.

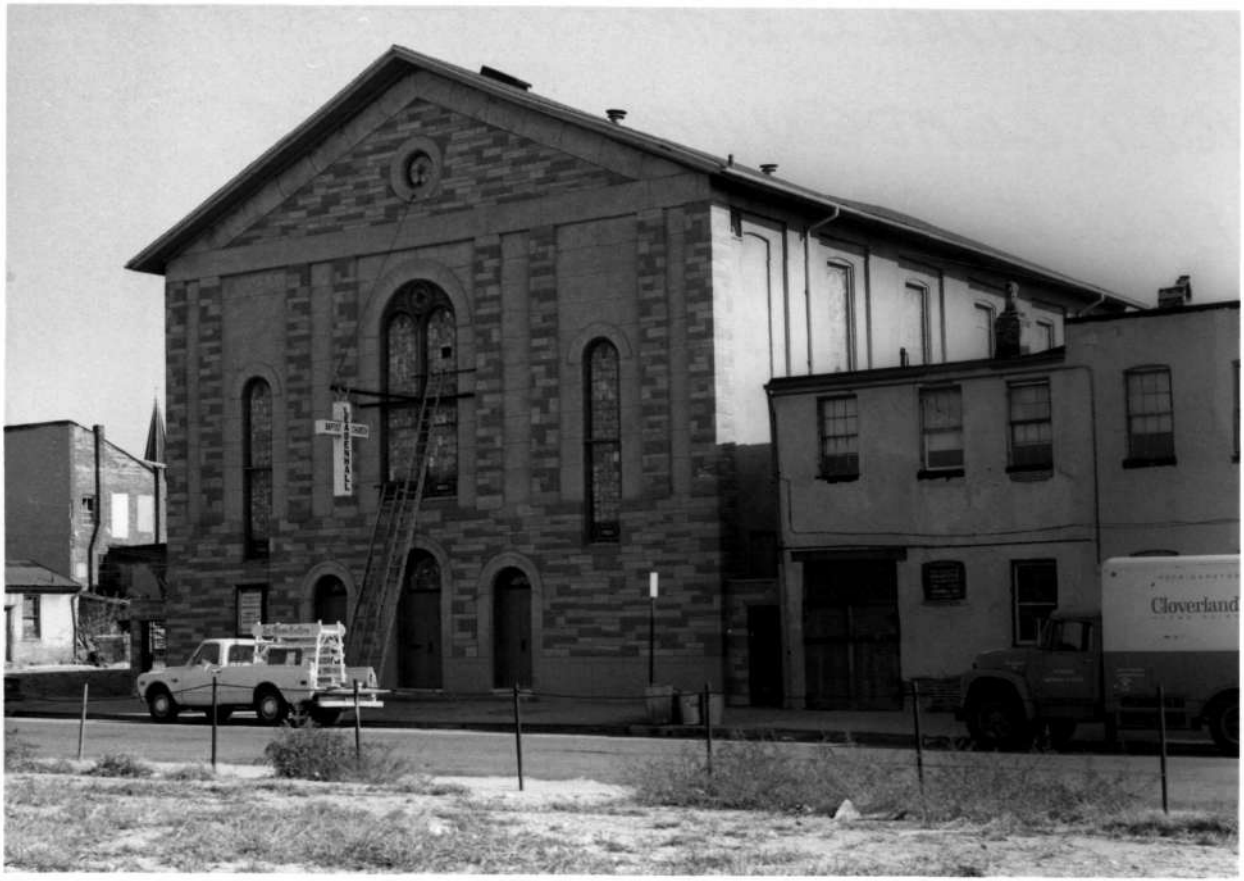
J. F. WEISHAMPEL, MARYLAND BAPTIST HISTORY (BALTIMORE, 1885).

B-2934
Leadenhall Baptist Church (Leadenhall Street Baptist Church)
1021-1023 Leadenhall Street
Block 0932 Lot 052
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.



GIS data Courtesy of
the City of Baltimore, MOIT/EGIS




Cloverland

LEADENHALL BAPTIST CHURCH B-2934

1021 LEADENHALL STREET

BLOCK 932