

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: Mount Vernon Place Historic District
Mt. Vernon Historic and Architectural District

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Mount Vernon Square, Mt. Vernon Place

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Boundaries as shown on annexed map & described in ordinances

CITY OR TOWN:
Baltimore listed in #9

STATE Maryland	CODE 24	COUNTY: Baltimore City	CODE 510
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Club, Engineering Center

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Multiple public and private

STREET AND NUMBER:
City of Baltimore

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore	STATE: Maryland	CODE 24
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Baltimore City Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:
Holliday Street

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore	STATE: Maryland	CODE 24
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
SEE CONTINUATION SHEET
Maryland Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY: 1970
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER:
94 College Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore	STATE: Maryland	CODE 24
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

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 checked="" 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

LOCATION: Please see Ordinances #970 and #1065 (listed under #9).

The Mount Vernon Place Historic District, in its broad range of architectural styles, is a reflection of Baltimore's history and life patterns during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

As Baltimore spread northward in the nineteenth century, this area became the most fashionable residential district in the City, fulfilling a need for large and comfortable homes for the City's affluent. Most of these structures remain, many of them unaltered on the exterior though the interiors have been rearranged for modern use as apartments or offices.

Located on the squares surrounding the Washington Monument, there are not only some of the grand mansions of Baltimore's leading citizens of the period such as the Garrett-Jacobs House, now the Engineering Center, and the Thomas-Jencks-Gladding House by Niernsee and Neilson, 1859, but also the Peabody Institute Concert Hall (E. G. Lind, 1857-1861) and the Mount Vernon Place Methodist Church (Dixon and Carson, 1870-1872). In the area are Belvidere Terrace, a radical change in the concept of rowhouse design, and such architecturally significant buildings as the Maryland Club (Baldwin and Pennington, 1891-1895), the Peabody Dormitory (Edward Durrell Stone and Associates, 1968), the First Presbyterian Church (Starkweather, 1845-1858 and Lind, 1874), the apotheosis of nineteenth-century ecclesiastical style, and the Maryland Historical Society which contains an important collection of artifacts including the original manuscript of the "Star Spangled Banner." On the northwest extremity of the District lies Tyson Street, with its humble homes of early nineteenth-century artisans.

The original concept of a square in the European form still exists on Mount Vernon Place. The squares which flank the Monument are landscaped with shrubs, grass and walks, and are embellished with statues and fountains. There are no setbacks from the building line to destroy nineteenth-century continuity and symmetry.

Surrounding Mount Vernon Place and included in the District are several pleasant groups of row houses which were built in the mid-to-late nineteenth century as well as a number of important public buildings of the same period.

The Washington Monument, built between 1815 and 1829, was the first formal monument built in a city in the United States to George Washington and the funds for its erection

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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(Number all entries)

Mount Vernon Place Historic District

#6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS continued

Landmark List

Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation

1967 Local

Room 402 City Hall
Baltimore, Maryland

Code : 24

#7. DESCRIPTION continued

were raised by public subscription. The contest which was held to select the architect was won by Robert Mills (1781-1855), the first native-born professional architect in the country, who had studied under Hoban and Latrobe and who was later to design the Records Office in Charleston, S. C., and the Post Office and Treasury Buildings in Washington, D. C. The original design was considerably modified and the Monument as it was built is a simple Doric column constructed of Baltimore County marble and surmounted with a statue of General Washington in the act of resigning his commission as Commander-in-Chief of the Revolutionary War armies. An information center and exhibit of the history of the Monument are housed in its base.

The Engineering Center, formerly the Garrett-Jacobs House, occupies three lots on the south side of West Mount Vernon Place. The main body of the house was built after designs by McKim, Mead & White in 1884 for Robert Garrett, then President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The remainder was added in 1905 by John Russell Pope for Mrs. Henry Barton Jacobs, the former Mrs. Garrett. The house provides an interesting contrast to the other dwellings on the square, which are all of Georgian or Italian Renaissance style, with its horizontal rather than vertical lines and its asymmetrical details. The interior, now (1971) in the process of redecoration and adaptation to the building's present use as a private club, is a reflection of late nineteenth-century opulence.

The interior of the Peabody Institute Library, (E. G. Lind, 1875-1878) is a tour de force of ironwork described by the first Provost of the Institute, Nathaniel H. Morison, as a "Cathedral of Books." Four tiers of ornamental cast-iron balconies, which contain the stacks, surround the reading room. The exterior

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(Number all entries)

Mount Vernon Place Historic District

#7. DESCRIPTION continued

of the building matches Lind's earlier Peabody Concert Hall next door. Built in French Academic style, the two structures are constructed of marble and were purposely kept to two stories in height so as not to overshadow the Thomas-Jencks-Gladding House across the square to the west.

Belvidere Terrace, built from 1877 to 1880 and occupying the 1000 block of North Calvert Street, represents a break from the formulated row house of nineteenth-century Baltimore with a continual block of connected houses having individual characteristics; the facades altered by individual fenestration, by decorative details, the panels differing from house to house or from grouping to grouping. They are constructed of brick, the ornamentation varying in its use of terra cotta, iron, and stone trim. The architects who cooperated in this venture were John A. Wilson, William Thomas Wilson, J. B. Noel Wyatt and Joseph E. Sperry.

Tyson Street, or "Pastel Row" as it is locally known from the colors chosen by the homeowners, is a block of small two or three story houses built circa 1820. Tyson Street represents a successful effort at private urban renewal despite threats from the outside. Artists, young married couples and people who prefer to live close to the amenities of the city have rehabilitated what was an almost uninhabitable slum.

The original building of the Maryland Historical Society was built by Enoch Pratt as his home in 1848. It is a three story and attic Italianate style mansion, typical of many in Baltimore of that period. Built of brick with stone decorative trim, it has a handsome porticoed entrance supported by columns. The roof is surrounded by an iron railing and the roof cornice has brackets and dentils. Medallions appear in the cornices over the windows and the entrance.

While much of the City is in the throes of redevelopment, the Mount Vernon Place Historic District remains generally original in appearance and is still largely residential in character. With the return of former suburbanites to this area, there is continued reconstruction of many buildings and awakening interest in the possibilities of further rehabilitation.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Centered around the Washington Monument and its four radiating parks, Mount Vernon Place Historic District is the finest surviving example in Maryland of nineteenth-century urban planning and has served as the focal point of many of Baltimore's most important events in the last one hundred and fifty years.

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

As a concentration of excellence which has survived the vicissitudes of a changing society and which continues to contribute to the fabric of the City with the presence in the area of such institutions as the Walters Art Gallery, the Peabody Institute and the Maryland Historical Society, the Mount Vernon Place Historic District has remained alive and is attracting people back to the City from the suburbs.

John Eager Howard (1752-1827), Revolutionary patriot and statesman, owned the "Belvidere" estate which included most of the present (1972) Historic District. He donated the land on which the Washington Monument stands and his heirs built the first houses on Mount Vernon Place.

Within the District are represented four of Baltimore's great philanthropists. In 1857, George Peabody (1795-1869), an international banker, established the Institute which bears his name and which is one of the leading schools of music in the United States. William T. Walters (1820-1894) and Henry Walters (1848-1931), father and son and both railroad magnates, left to the City their outstanding collections of art which cover all eras from early Egypt to the nineteenth century Impressionists. Enoch Pratt (1808-1896), who made his fortune out of horse and mule shoes, and who gave the Enoch Pratt Free Library to the people of Baltimore, lived in the mansion which now houses the Maryland Historical Society.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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Mount Vernon Place Historic District

#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

Many world notables have been entertained on Mount Vernon Place. In 1850, Louis Kossuth, the great Hungarian patriot, visited the Thomas family at 1 West Mount Vernon Place and King Edward VII of England, when he toured the United States as the English Prince of Wales in 1860, was a guest at the house. Somewhat later, Margaret Sanger, the anthropologist, introduced the concept of birth control to a group of startled Baltimore society matrons in the same house and in 1911, the Women's Civic League of Baltimore was founded there. Until 1871, the annual Flower Mart, sponsored by the League and attended by people from all over the City and surrounding counties, was held in Mount Vernon Place. President Woodrow Wilson was a frequent guest at the home of Theodore Marburg on West Mount Vernon Place. Marshall Joffre of France broke ground for the statue of Lafayette which adorns one of the squares. James Cardinal Gibbons, on his return from Rome after his elevation to Prince of the Church, was a guest of honor at a parade in the square, and doughboys returning from World War I paraded around the Washington Monument when they were welcomed home by the people of Baltimore.

#9. REFERENCES continued

Baltimore City Tax Records

Beirne, Francis F. The Amiable Baltimoreans. E. P. Dutton & Co., Inc. (New York, 1951).Dehler, Katharine B. Our Heritage. (Baltimore, 1964).
Pamphlet published by the Engineering Society of Baltimore.Dehler, Katharine B. The Thomas-Jencks-Gladding House.
Bodine & Associates, Inc. (Baltimore, 1968).Hart, Richard H. Enoch Pratt, The Story of a Plain Man.
Enoch Pratt Free Library. (Baltimore, 1967)._____. History of the Women's Civic League of Baltimore.
King Brothers, Inc. (Baltimore, 1961).

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

Mt. Vernon Pl. H. D.

STATE Maryland B-3722	
COUNTY Baltimore City	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

Mount Vernon Place Historic District

#9. REFERENCES continued

Howland, Richard H. and Eleanor Spencer. The Architecture of Baltimore. Johns Hopkins Press. (Baltimore 1953). pp. 106.

Miller, J. Jefferson. The Washington Monument in Baltimore. The Peale Museum. (1966). Pamphlet.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Baltimore City and County. Louis H. Evarts. (Philadelphia, 1881).

Stanton, Phoebe B. Mount Vernon Square. (March 20, 1965). (Unpublished document, property of the Commission for Historic and Architectural Preservation, Baltimore).

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Recorder: Elizabeth H. Eager (Mrs. John Howard Eager III),
Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation,
402 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland.

Legislative Reference, Baltimore City Hall, Holliday Street,
Baltimore, Maryland. Ordinance #1065, June 26, 1967.
Ordinance #970, signed April 17, 1967. Ordinance #229,
May 21, 1964. Ordinance #939, March 2, 1967. Ordinance
#316, December 16, 1968.

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	39° 18' 05.8"	76° 37' 13.7"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	39° 18' 09.1"	76° 36' 45.9"				
SE	39° 17' 45 "	76° 37' 72.1"				
SW	39° 17' 46 "	76° 36' 45.2"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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:
Mrs. Preston Parish, Keeper of the Maryland Register

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust DATE: Feb. 14, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
94 College Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland 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 Maryland

Date February 16, 1972

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

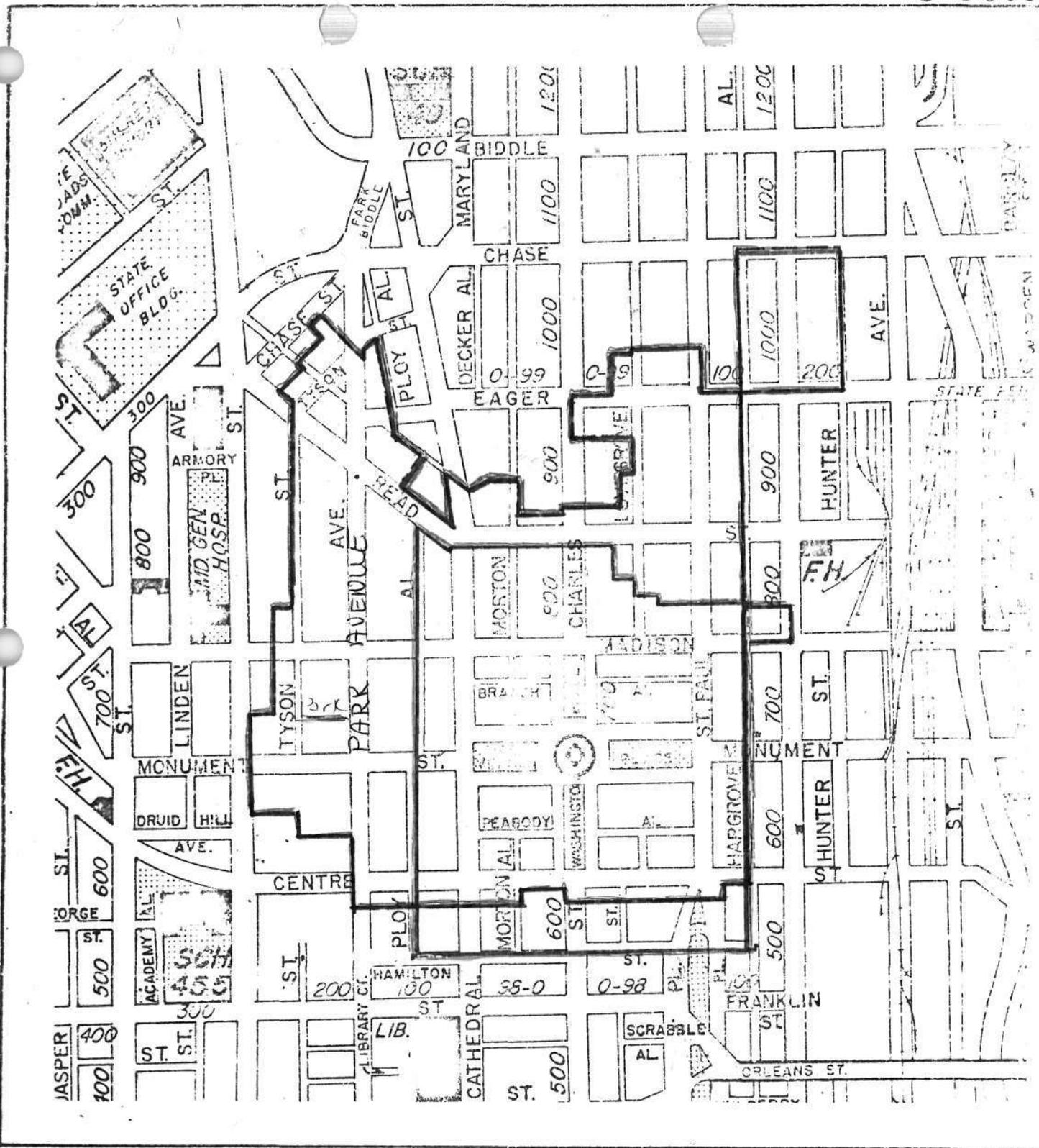
Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SCALE: 1" = 500'



COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

**MT. VERNON
PRESERVATION DISTRICT**

- NHL boundaries
- CHAP boundaries

MAY 21, 1964 - DECEMBER 16, 1968
CITY OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland B-3722	
COUNTY: Baltimore	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Mount Vernon Place Historic District

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Mount Vernon Place Historic District

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Mount Vernon Place and Washington Place

CITY OR TOWN:
Baltimore

STATE: Maryland CODE: COUNTY: Baltimore CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" 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
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 type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" 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)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
City of Baltimore

STREET AND NUMBER:
Baltimore City Hall

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore STATE: Maryland CODE:

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 Court House

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore STATE: Maryland CODE:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1936 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
COUNTY:
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

The dominant feature of the Mount Vernon Place Historic District is the Washington Monument by Robert Mills which was constructed between 1815 and 1829. As built, the monument is much simpler than the prize-winning design. Basically the monument is a monumental Doric column and capital placed on a high square pedestal and topped with a 15-foot high standing statue of George Washington. The monument is constructed of marble quarried in neighboring Baltimore county. The contractors were the firm of Towson and Steuart. The Monument is 165 feet high to the top of the column. The original design called for applied bronze ornament to the column shaft, and "trophy" sculpture for the top of the pedestal. These refinements were never carried out. However, during the decade of the 1830's the handsome Mills circular cast iron fence, with paired gate posts resembling Roman fasces, was completed and the bronze lettering was applied to the four elevations of the pedestal. This lettering forms the following inscription:

To George Washington by the State of Maryland
 Born 22 February 1732
 Died 14 December 1799
 Commander in Chief of the American /
 Army 15 June 1775
 Commissioned Resigned at Annapolis
 23 December 1783
 Trenton, 26 December 1776
 Yorktown, 19 October 1781
 President of the United States
 4 March 1789
 Retired to Mount Vernon
 4 March 1797

The monument has four entrance doors, one on each face. The monument is entered from the south door and there is an open corridor on all four sides surrounding the base of the shaft. From the north corridor a doorway leads to the narrow circular stone stairway that leads to the roof of the pedestal and to the top of the column shaft.

The four rectangular parks that radiate for one city block to the north, south, east, and west of the monument to form open space in the shape of a Greek cross. The east-west axis, Mount Vernon Place, is 200 feet wide and 744 feet long; the north-south axis, Washington Place, is 150 feet wide and 744 feet long. Originally these rectangles were merely open grass. About 1850 they were fenced in and lined with trees, then in 1880's the fences were removed and the parkes were redesigned as sculpture gardens to receive various works of art including five bronzes by Antoine-Louis Baryé. In 1916 they were relandscaped to their present appearance by the firm of Carrère and Hastings.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	losophy	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input checked="" 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 area known commonly as "Mount Vernon Place" in Baltimore, Maryland is composed of four rectangular parks, East and West Mount Vernon Place and North and South Washington Place. These garden-parks, and the houses that line them, form the setting for the Washington Monument designed by Robert Mills and completed in 1829. This 165-foot Doric column, on a rectangular base, is surmounted by a 15-foot high standing statue of George Washington by Enrico Causici. This is the first major monument in the country built to honor the first president, and is one of the finest examples of monumental architecture in the United States. It is based on the precedent of the great triumphal columns of Roman antiquity and also perhaps on the more recent monumnet to the victims of the Great London Fire by Wren or the Napoleon column in the Place Vendome in Paris. Viewed from a distance and in the context of its symbolic function, this vigorous monument is a singularly appropriate memorial to the man who came to be regarded as the father of his country.

Mount Vernon Place is one of the first examples in the United States of deliberate city planning to create a dramatic setting for an existing mounment. The success of the scheme, laid out in 1831, is shown by the exccptionally high quality of the architecture that was erected around the four squares. Most notable buildings are the Thomas-Jencks House built in 1851 in the late Greek Revival style by Niernsee and Nielson; the Jacobs house built in 1884 by Stanford White and enlarged in 1902 by John Russell Pope; the Peabody Institute built from 1859 to 1866 by E.G. Lind in the Italianate style; and the Walters Art Gallery built from 1905 to 1909 in the Italian Renaissance Revival style by Delano and Aldrich. The Washington Monument by Robert Mills is most certainly an example of American architecture of the first importance and it became the focus and the reason for one of the best conceived and executed city planning projects ever carried out in 19th-century America.

History

From the time of the death of George Washington in 1799, there were numerous efforts to honor him all across the growing country. However the first successful proposal to erect a major monument to him did not take form until 1810 when the General Assembly of Maryland authorized a lottery to raise \$100,000 to build a monument to him. A Board of Managers was appointed to oversee the project and a site was chosen on Calvert Street on the site of the old Courthouse. French émigre architect Maximilien Godefroy

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8. Significance

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prepared several proposals for the monument in 1810 but none of them were accepted. The Board published a notice in 1813 of an architectural competition with a prize of \$500 for the winning entry. Entries survive from Godefroy, Joseph-Jaques Remeé, Robert Mills, and an anonymous entry thought to be that of B.H. Latrobe.

The prize was awarded to Robert Mills, then working in Charleston, South Carolina. His winning project called for a 140-foot Doric column rising from a rectangular base with an open vault under it. A sculpture group of Washington being driven in a chariot pulled by four horses was planned for the top of the column.

In competitions of this nature, the prize winning design often turns out to cost too much and so the finished product is somewhat simplified. In the case of the Washington Monument this was true. First of all the site was changed in 1814 from Calvert Street to a new site north of the city on axis with Charles Street extended. This site was donated by Colonel John Eager Howard from a portion of his estate, Belvidere. This marked the beginning of what is now Mount Vernon Place.

The monument was commenced in the spring of 1815 and by 1824 the base, column and capital were completed. By this time the monument had already exceeded the available funding by \$13,000. In 1826 the sculptor Enrico Causici of Verona, Italy, was engaged to make a 15 foot high stone statue of a standing Washington holding a scroll of his military commission. The statue was finished in November 1829 and lifted into place atop the 165 foot shaft. During the next decade the bronze inscriptions on the base were put up, the landscaping and fencing completed. However the proposed "trophy" sculpture groups for the four corners of the base were never realized.

In 1829 Charles Howard completed an imposing Greek revival house at the northeast corner of the monument. In 1831, the Howard family executors were granted permission to create the four, one block long, rectangular parks leading away from the monument. Those east and west along Monument Street were named Mount Vernon Place. Those north and south on the axis of Charles Street were named Washington Place. The resulting cross shaped park with the monument in the center has become known familiarly in its entirety as Mount Vernon Place.

From its inception this place became a fashionable and south after residential district. The Howard executors deliberately created a sensitively scaled setting for the Washington Monument and at the same time created the finest urban development project in the city.

Mount Vernon Place reached the zenith of its development in the last half of the 19th century. Great private houses such as the Thomas-Jencks House by Niernsee and Nielson, the Jacobs House by Stanford White and John

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Mount Vernon Place Historic District

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8. Significance

Continued

page 2

Russell Pope shared the square with the Peabody Institute designed and built by E. G. Lind from 1859 to 1866. In 1905 the great art collector Henry Walters built the Walters Art Gallery, designed by Delano and Aldreich on South Washington Place. Since the first world war Mount Vernon Place has undergone a steady transformation from being a neighborhood of large single family town houses for the wealthy to its present condition where the same buildings for the most part are divided into apartments or serve as clubs or offices.

(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATE

Maryland

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

COUNTY

Baltimore

B-3722

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

Mount Vernon Place Historic District property description:

Property bounded on the south by Hamilton Street; on the west by the alley between Cathedral Street and Park Avenue; in the north by Read Street to the east end of Lot 31, following the eastern edge of Lots 31, 30, 29, 28, and 27 the northern edge of Lots 17, 16, 15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 10, 9, 8 (all Block 517), crossing St. Paul Place to northern edge of Lot 21, Block 518; and on the east by Gore Alley.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

B-3722

Henry Russell Hitchcock, Architecture, 19th and 20th Centuries, (Baltimore 1963), 80; Fiske Kimball, American Architecture, (Indianapolis, 1928), 225; Wayne Andrews, Architecture, Ambition, and Americans, (New York, 1955), 86; Richard H. Howland and Eleanor P. Spencer, The Architecture of Baltimore, (Baltimore, 1953), 51, 52, 75; Wilbur H. Hunter, Jr. and Charles H. Elam, Century of Baltimore Architecture, (Baltimore, 1957), plates 6 through 12; Helen Pierce Gallagher, Robert Mills, (New York, 1935), 104-109.

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	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
W. Brown Morton III

ORGANIZATION: Historic Sites Survey, OAHP, National Park Service. DATE: 7/28/71

STREET AND NUMBER:
801 19th Street, N. W.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE:

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 _____

Title _____

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

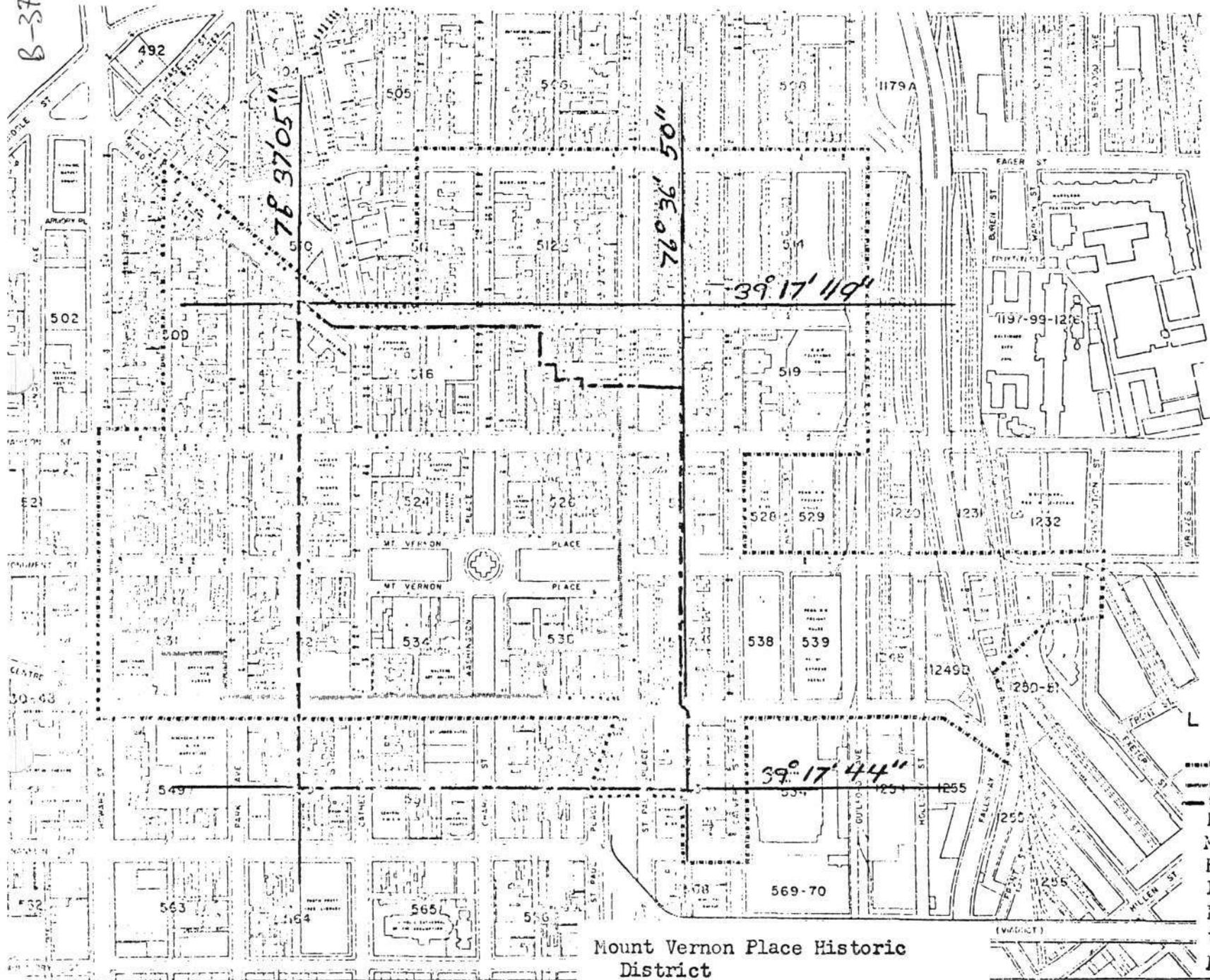
Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

B-3702



These are the correct 1946/1948 boundaries - they conform to the verbal boundary description in the

LEG

--- BOUNDARY OF PROJECT
 --- BOUNDARY OF MT. VERNON PLACE AND ARCHITECTURAL DISTRICT
 --- Boundary of Mt. Vernon Place Historic District for National Historic Landmark purposes.

Mount Vernon Place Historic District
 Baltimore, Maryland
 Project of Mount Vernon Urban Renewal Plan, 1964



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

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

Maryland	
COUNTY	Baltimore B-3722
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Mount Vernon Place Historic District
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Mount Vernon Place

CITY OR TOWN:
Baltimore

STATE: Maryland CODE COUNTY: Baltimore CODE

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:
Project map, Mount Vernon Urban Renewal Plan

SCALE: not marked
DATE: 1964

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- Property boundaries where required.
- North arrow.
- Latitude and longitude reference.

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	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN:
STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

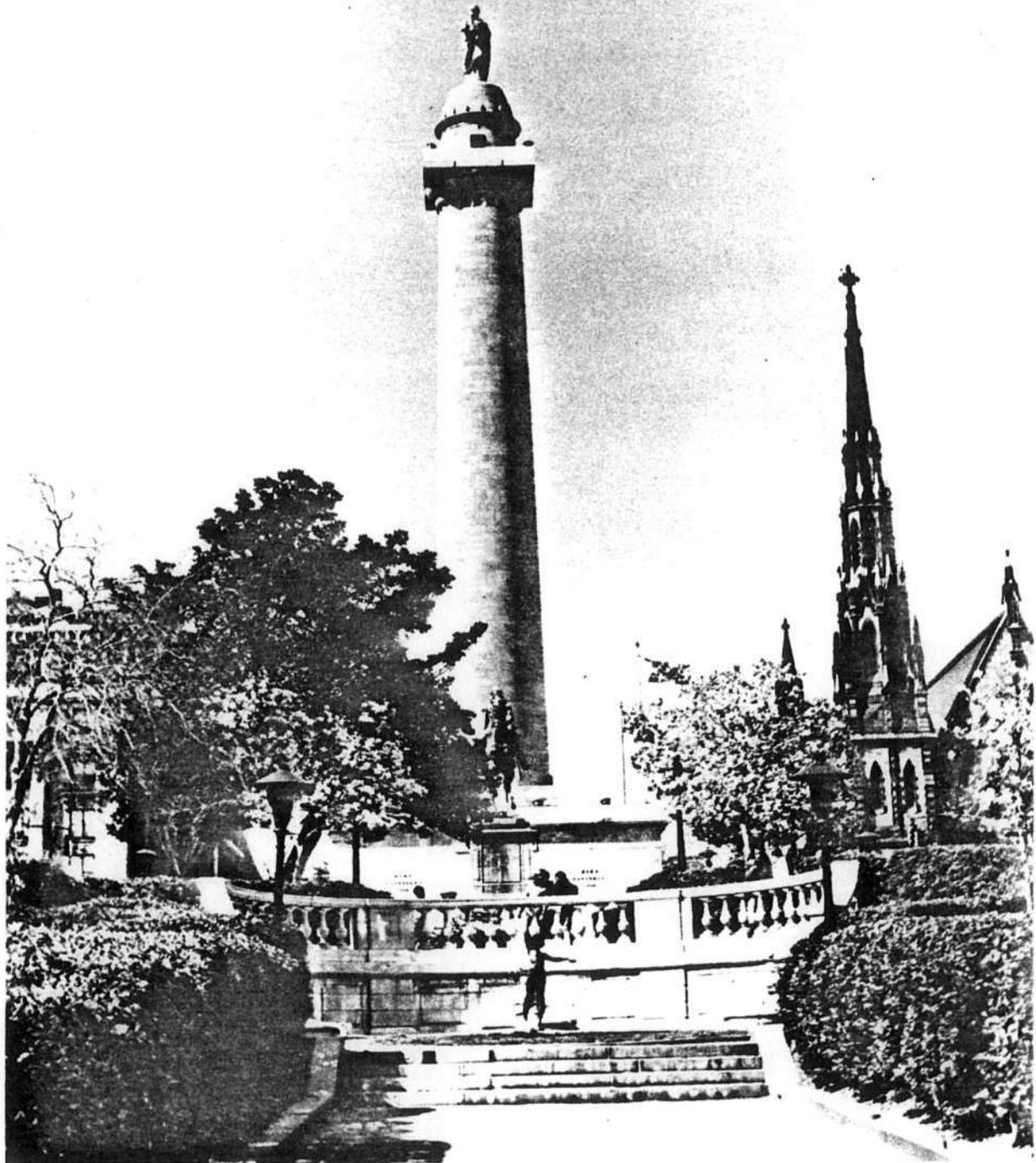
3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT:
DATE OF PHOTO:
NEGATIVE FILED AT:

4. IDENTIFICATION

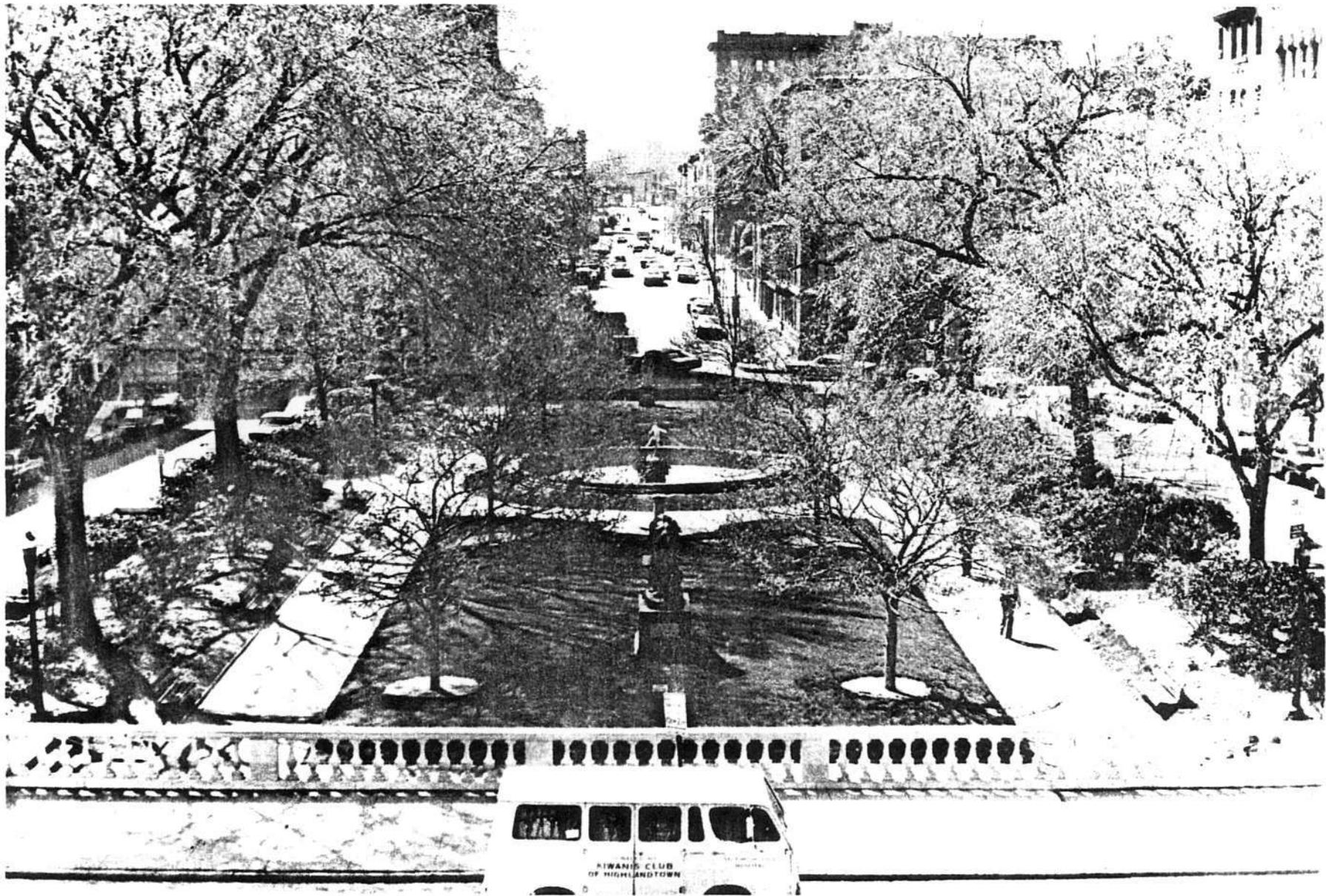
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

B-3722



Washington Monument, Mt. Vernon Place, Baltimore, Maryland

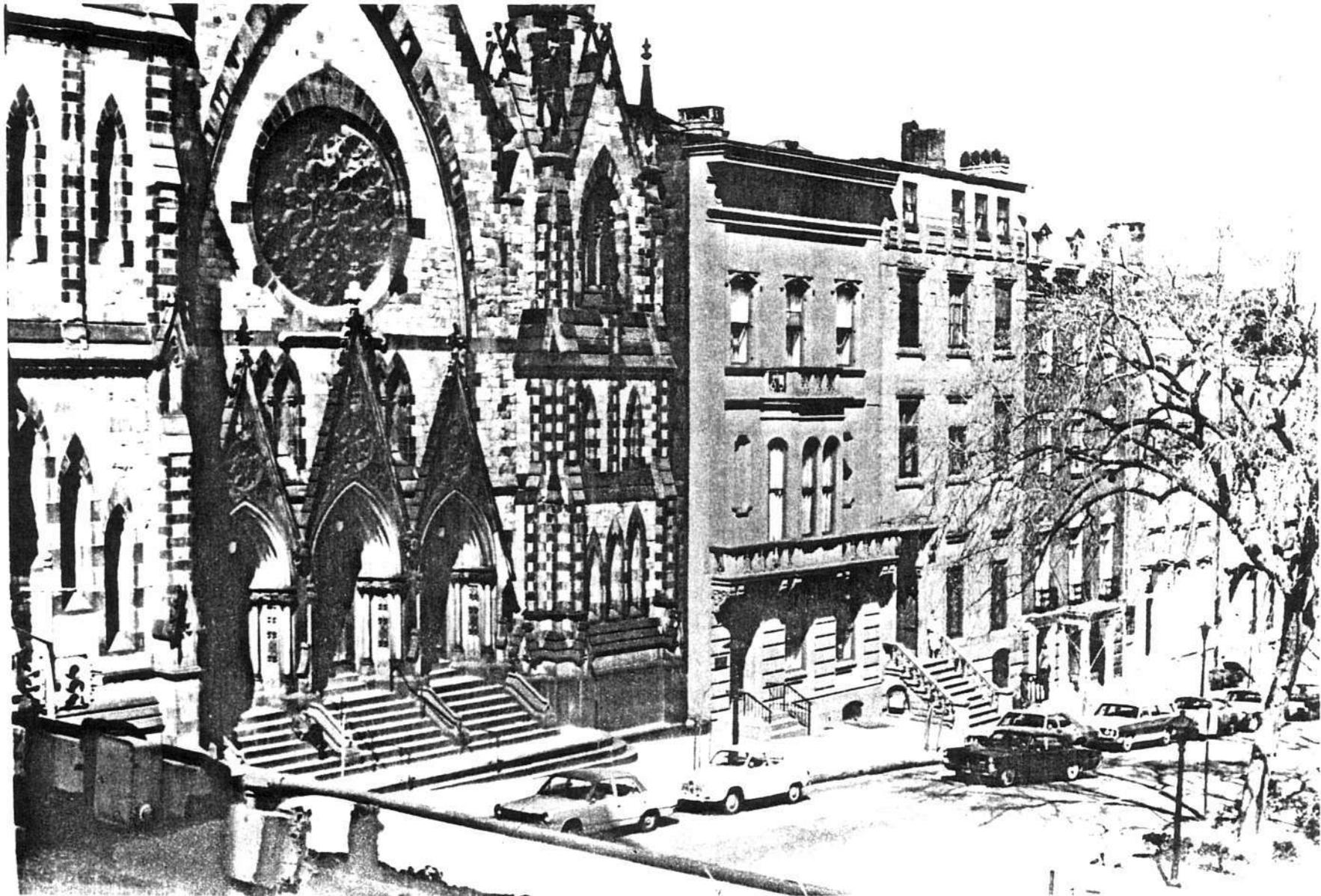
NPS Photo 1971



Mt. Vernon Place, Baltimore, Maryland

NPS Photo 1971

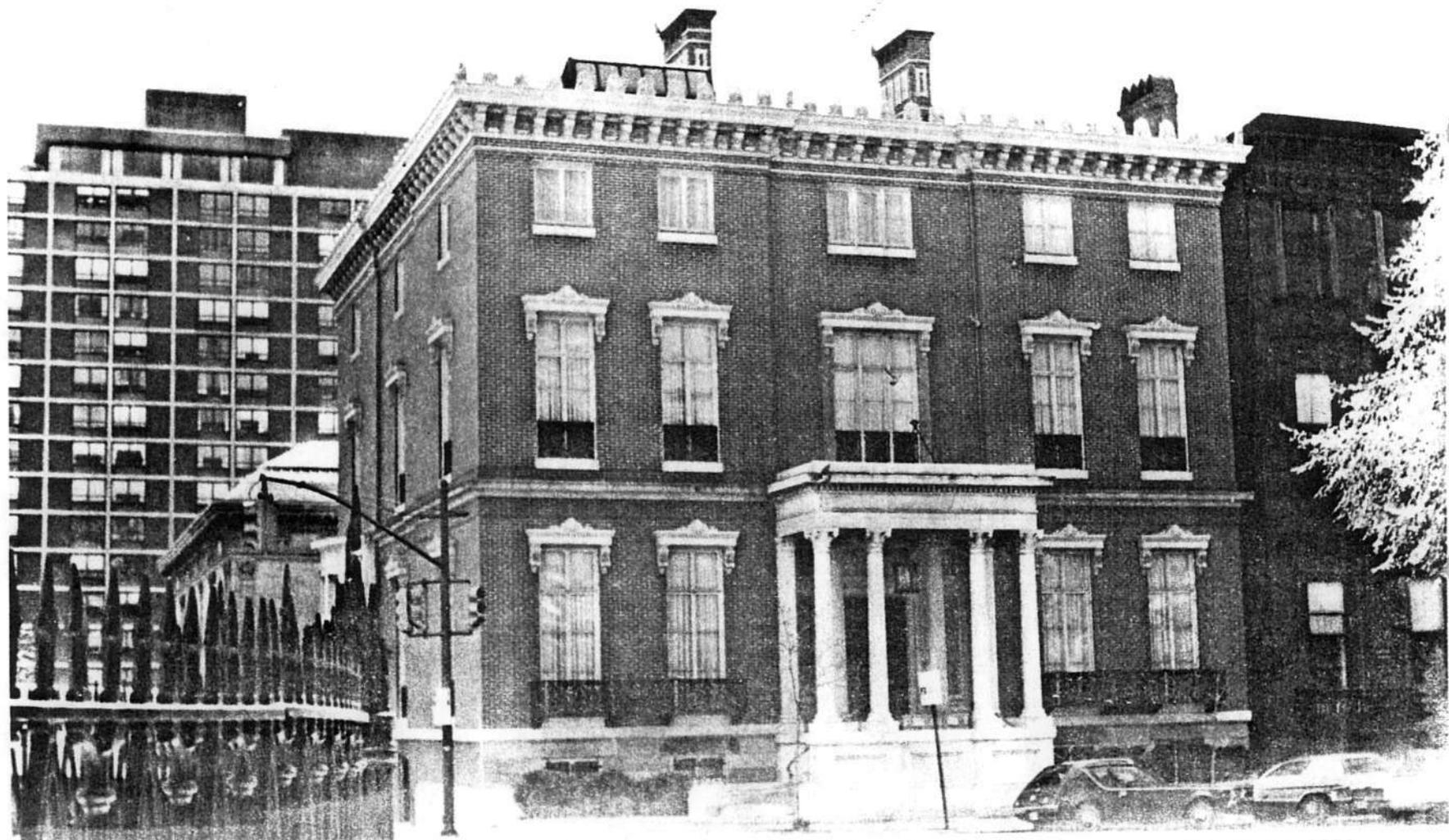
B-37a2



Mt. Vernon Place, Baltimore, Maryland

NPS Photo 1971

B-3722

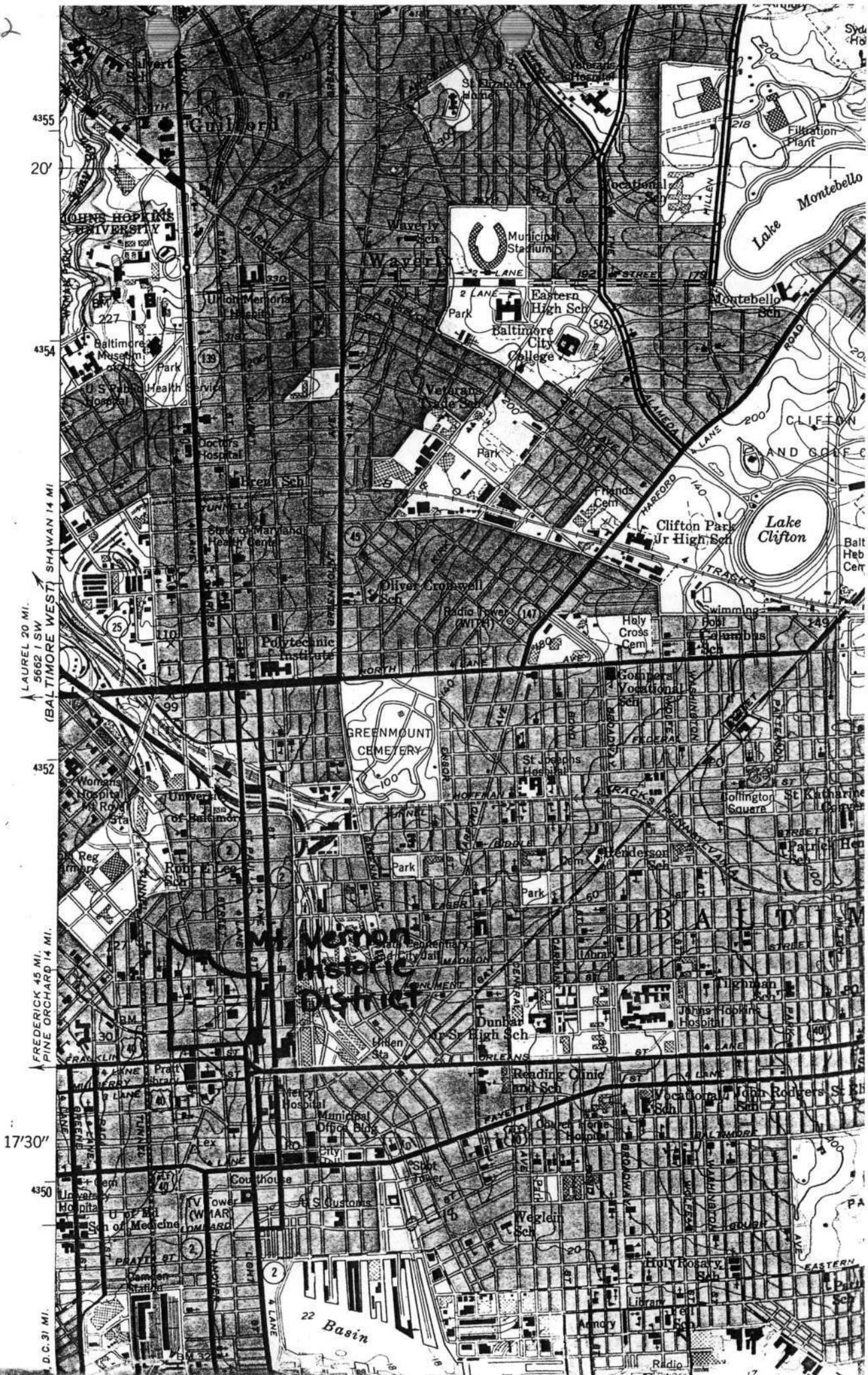


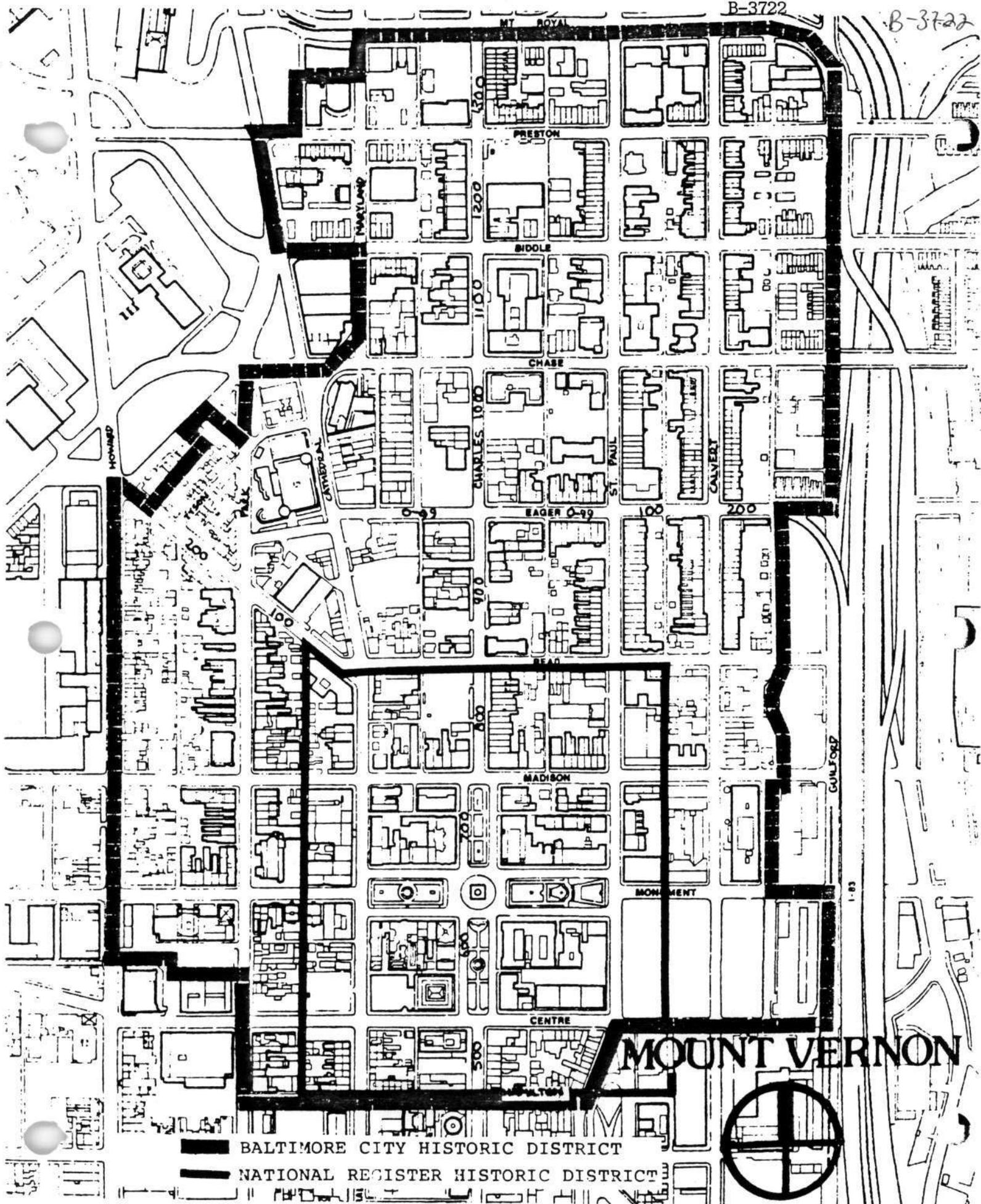
Thomas - Jencks House, Mt. Vernon Place, Baltimore, Maryland

NPS Photo 1971

B-3722

B-3722





BALTIMORE CITY HISTORIC DISTRICT

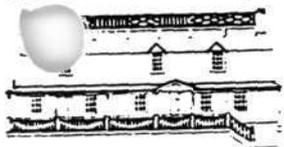
NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

MOUNT VERNON



1-83

MARYLAND
HISTORICAL



TRUST

William Donald Schaefer
Governor

Jacqueline H. Rogers
Secretary, DHCD

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property Name: The Staffed Apartments Survey Number: _____

Property Address: 76 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD

Project: Roof Replacement Agency: HUD

Site visit by MHT Staff: no yes Name _____ Date _____

District Name: Mount Vernon Place Historic District Survey Number: B-3722

Listed Eligible _____ Comment _____

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None

The resource contributes/_____ does not contribute to the historic significance of this historic district in:

Location Design Setting Materials

Workmanship Feeling Association

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

Constructed as a hotel c. 1889, the multi-story, tan brick, Classical Revival building has a prominent position in the Mount Vernon Historic District. The District is centered on the Washington Monument and ~~comprise~~ radiating squares. Mount Vernon Historic District contains numerous grand mansions and public buildings constructed in the mid-nineteenth century through the early 20th century.

Documentation on the ^{District} property is presented in: B-3722, Project Files

Prepared by: _____

Elizabeth Hannoll
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

7/30/91
Date

NR program concurrence: yes no not applicable

R. Anderson
Reviewer, NR program

7/30/91
Date

DT

Survey No. _____

LAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

- Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
- Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
- Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
- Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
- Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
- Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
- Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
- Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
- Middle Woodland 500 B.C.- A.D.900
- Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
- Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
- Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
- Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
- Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
- Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
- Unknown Period (prehistoric historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

- Subsistence
- Settlement
- Political
- Demographic
- Religion
- Technology
- Environmental Adaption

IV. Historic Period Themes:

- Agriculture
- Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
- Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
- Government/Law
- Military
- Religion
- Social/Educational/Cultural
- Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: building

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Hotel

Known Design Source: _____