

1314-1316 NORTH CALHOUN STREET (Rowhouses)
Baltimore
Baltimore ~~County~~ City
Maryland

HABS No. MD-1005

HABS
MD
4-BALT,
215-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
Northeast Region
Philadelphia Support Office
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

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Location: 1314-1316 North Calhoun Street, Baltimore
(City), Maryland

USGS Baltimore West, Maryland Quadrangle
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:
18.358/520.4351/530

Significance: The residential rowhouses at 1314-1316 North Calhoun Street, with the neighboring pair at 1318-1320 North Calhoun (see HABS No. MD-1006), exemplify an early speculative group in the west Baltimore neighborhood now known as Sandtown-Winchester, in which their 20-foot setbacks creating front yards are uncommon.

Description: The two-story, two-bay brick rowhouses share a party wall and are detached from the surrounding structures. The pair are set back approximately 20 feet from the street and chain link and wire fences enclose small front yards. The facades are oriented toward the east. The window and door openings are boarded in 1314, but 1316 has six-over-six wood sash and wood sills. Small transoms top the unelaborated doorways. No decorative trim is present at the openings. The brick is red painted running bond. The wood cornice is continuous across the two facades and has simple modillions. At 1314, a concrete block wall encloses a concrete-floored porch. The exposed side elevations have boarded openings. The rear elevations have a frame two-story extension with a single entrance door, boarded in 1314. The interiors are greatly altered, but a simple two-room plan is still discernible, in reverse arrangement in each house. Wall surfaces vary including painted plaster, modern paneling, and wall paper. A simple carved wood mantel is located on the south wall of the first floor front room of 1314; a duplicate mantel is in the second floor front room of 1316. Other mantels are missing. The stairway is located in the rear room against the outer wall and has been replaced with a stock wood staircase in 1316. The buildings are in extremely deteriorated condition.

History:

Built about 1870, possibly by Francis Eline, a local builder, the houses at 1314-1416 North Calhoun Street were one of two pair erected as a speculative venture. The second pair is at 1318-1320 North Calhoun. All four houses have the same features and plan. The simple plan and unadorned exteriors are typical of working class houses throughout Baltimore's late 19th century neighborhoods. The setbacks which form the front yards were more common in the early development of the Sandtown-Winchester area. After about 1880, the larger houses with facades at the front lot lines predominated. The setback groups thereafter were only infrequently built to add variety to streetscapes or for specific purposes. Due to demolition, this type is becoming rare in Sandtown-Winchester. The earliest known resident of 1314 was John R. C. Cooley, a clerk, in 1873. No further names of residents or owners are known until the mid- 1920's, when both houses were occupied by janitors. The houses are currently vacant and scheduled for demolition in June 1990 for a housing project.

Sources:

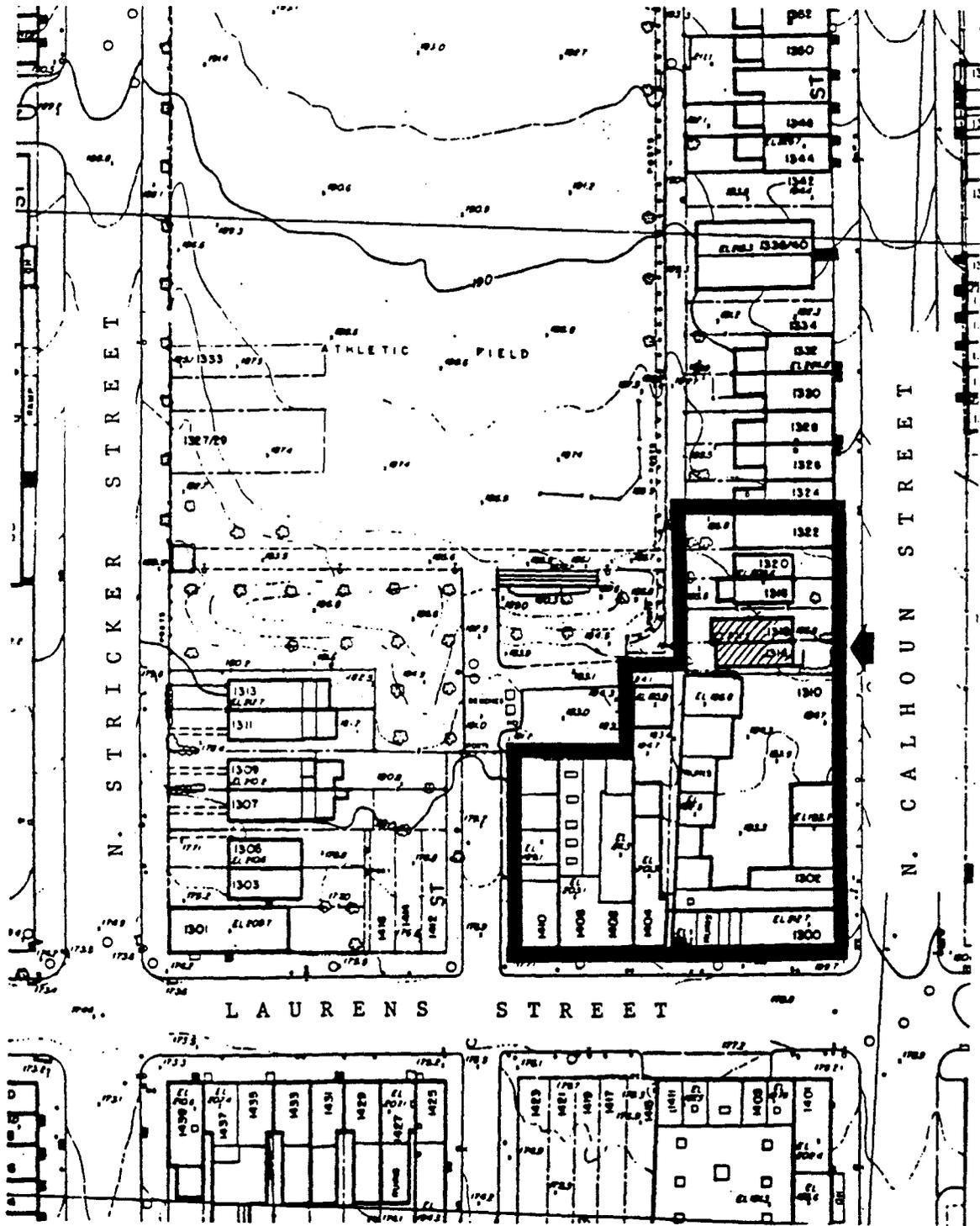
Land Records of Baltimore City
Bromley's Atlas of Baltimore City, 1896
Topographical Survey Commission Map of Baltimore, 1914
Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Baltimore, 1914
City Directories of Baltimore, 1870 - 1964

Historian:

Janet L. Davis
Baltimore City Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation
April 26, 1990

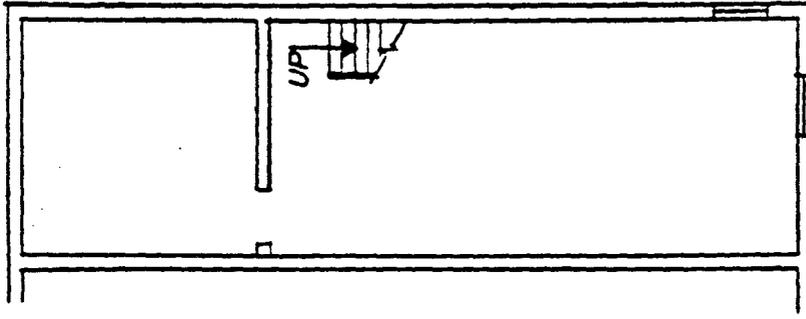
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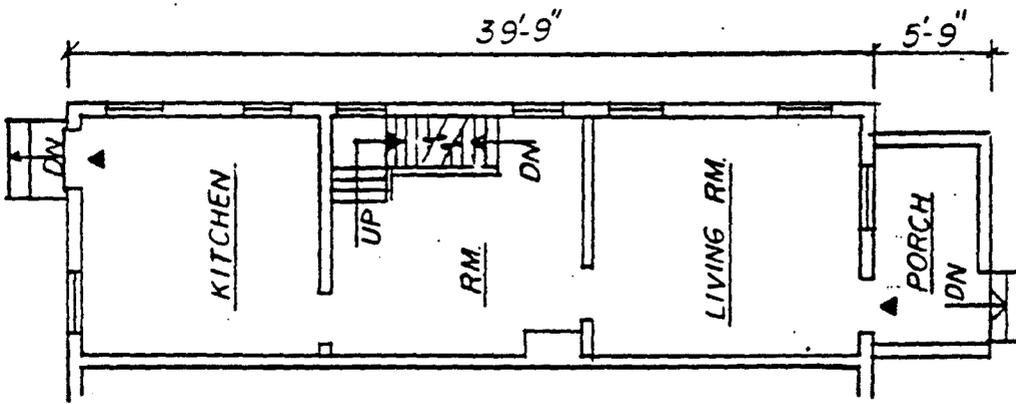


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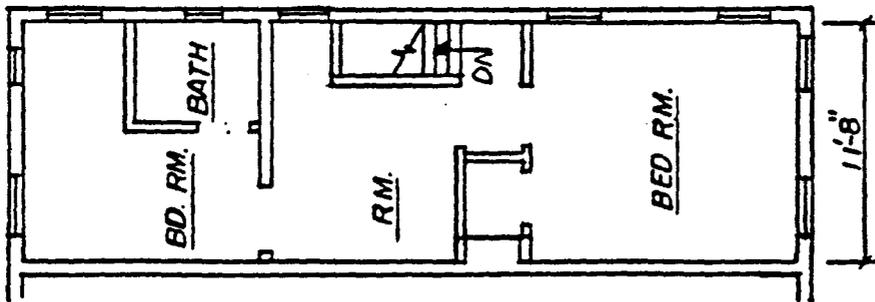
North



BASEMENT



FIRST FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR

1316 N. CALHOUN ST.

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