

1503 LAURENS STREET (Commercial Building)  
Baltimore  
Baltimore ~~County~~ City  
Maryland

HABS No. MD-1011

HABS  
MD  
4-BALT,  
201-

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

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
1503 LAURENS STREET (COMMERCIAL BUILDING)

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Location: 1503 Laurens Street, Baltimore (City), Maryland

USGS Baltimore West, Maryland Quadrangle  
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:  
18.358/440.4351/500

Significance: 1503 Laurens Street is a fair example of a small storefront commercial building in a late 19th century working class neighborhood in Baltimore, although it has been altered by the application of an artificial stone veneer and the removal of the storefront.

Description: The building is a three-story, two-bay brick rowhouse located on the northern half of a lot with dimensions 10 feet, 10 inches by 92 feet, 6 inches. It has a rear two-story brick addition. The main elevation faces north and a 10-foot wide alley borders the east elevation. The running bond facade is painted and stucco covers the first story, where the outline of the storefront cornice is still discernible. The side entry is recessed with a molded transom bar and single pane transom. The door is a solid core modern replacement. The windows are one-over-one on the first and second stories and six-over-one on the third. The wood bracketed cornice with aprons fronts the sloping flat roof. The interior was inaccessible for this survey.

History: Built about 1875, the commercial history of 1503 Laurens Street is obscure because the owners of record seldom occupied the property. Clarence A. Pindell, a carpenter, was a resident in 1882-1883. In 1930, the store was a fish market and in 1936 a grocery. In 1940, a second hand clothing shop was in operation. With intermittent periods of standing vacant, it was primarily residential after 1950. A church currently occupies the former storefront.

Sources: Land Records of Baltimore City

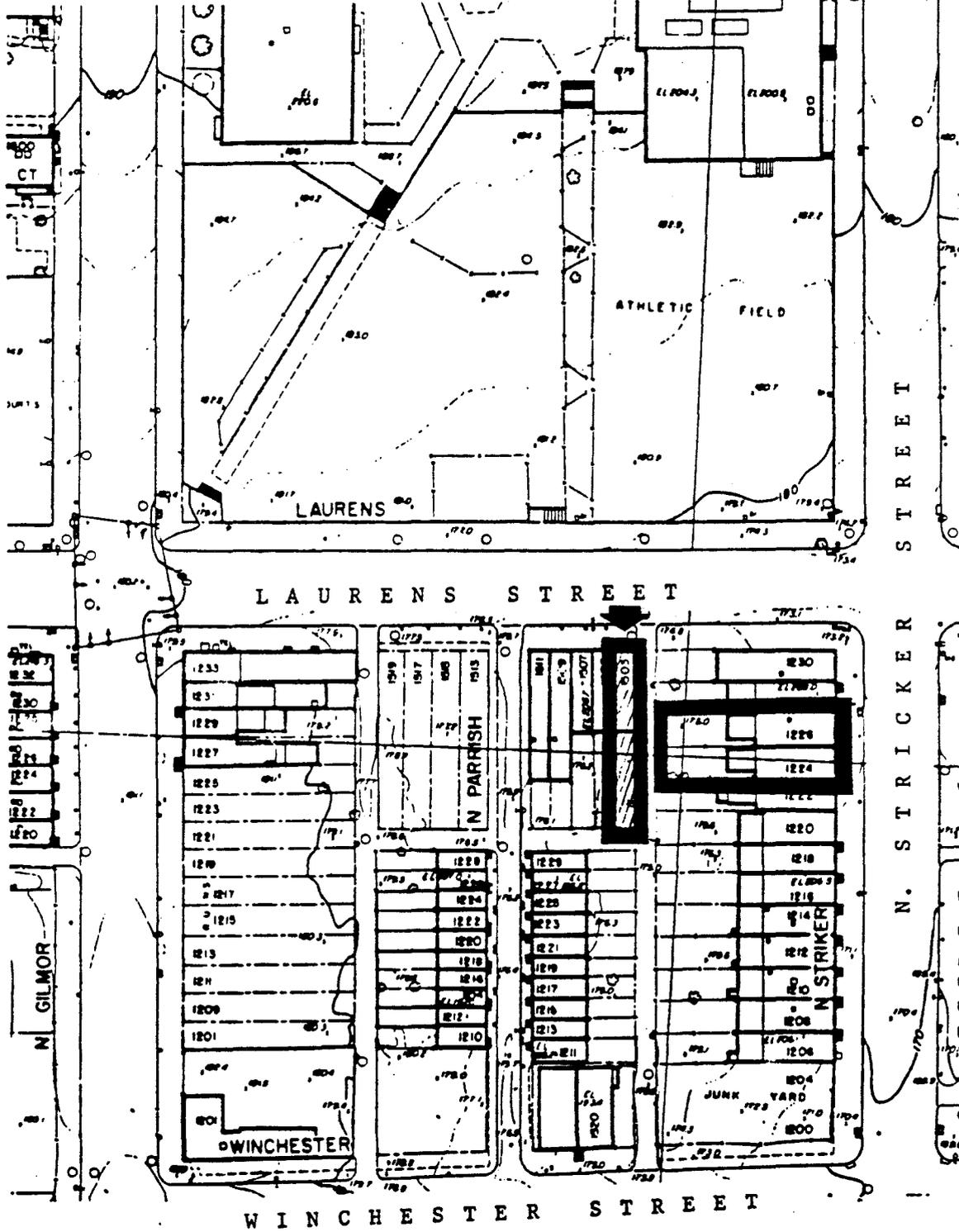
1503 Laurens Street  
(Commercial Building)  
HABS No. MD-1011 (Page 2)

Bromley's Atlas of Baltimore City, 1885 and 1896  
Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Baltimore, 1890  
City Directories of Baltimore, 1882 - 1964.

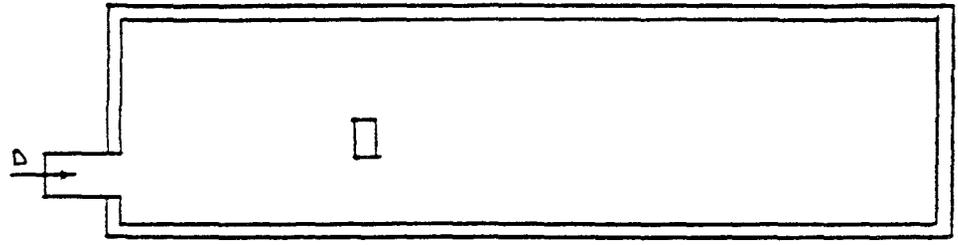
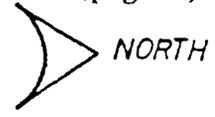
Historian:

Janet L. Davis  
Baltimore City Commission for Historical and  
Architectural Preservation  
April 9, 1990

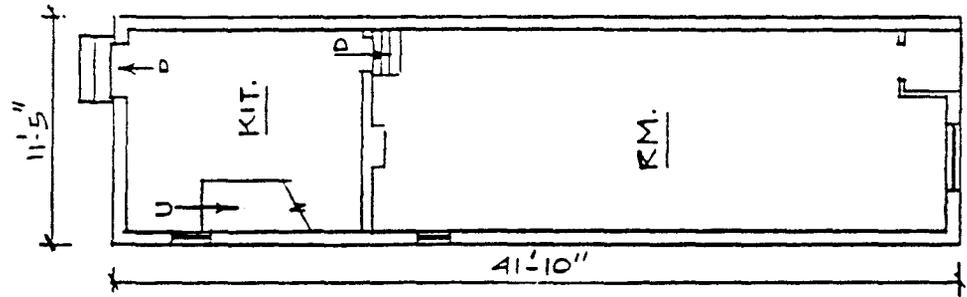
1503 Laurens Street  
(Commercial Building)  
HABS No. MD-1011 (page 3)



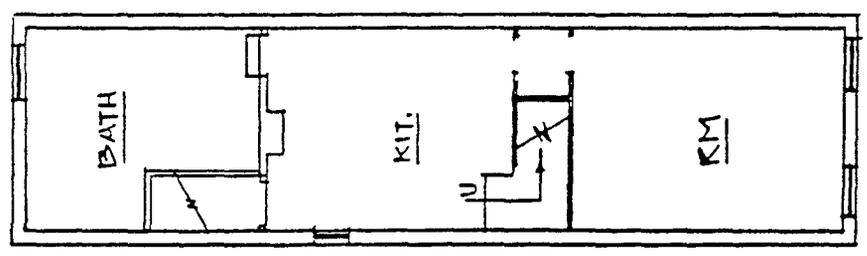
1503 Laurens Street  
(Commercial Building)  
HABS No. MD-1011 (page 4)



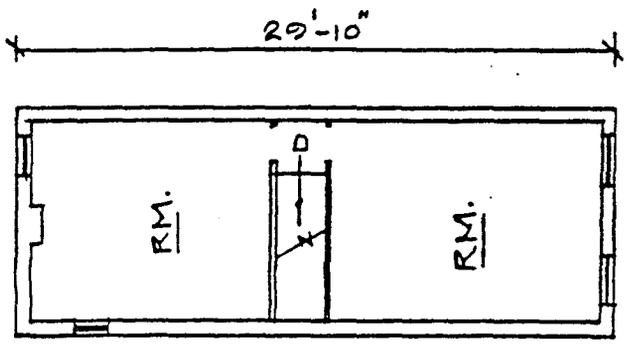
BASEMENT.



FIRST FL.



SECOND FL.



THIRD FL.

1503 LAURENS ST