

B-1239

Keyser Building

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

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Last Updated: 03-10-2011

AREA: Financial District

MAGI NO.: 0412395711

Address: 201-207 East Redwood Street
Current Name: Keyser Building

Block: 662	Lot: 12	Lot size: 100 x 110
Height: 10 stories		Materials: Limestone
Condition: Good		Owner: Calvert & Redwood II Lim. Part.
Use: Offices		Accessible: Yes
Designation: None		Liber/Folio: SEB 214-645

Historic Name: Keyser Building
Date: 1905
Architect/Builder: Wyatt & Nolting/Broderick & Wind
Style (if appropriate):



Description:

Located at the southeastern corner of Calvert and Redwood Streets, the Keyser Building is a ten story high limestone, office building with geometrical detailing and vertical bands of three part windows. It is seven bays wide on the front Redwood Street facade and five bays wide on the Calvert Street elevation. The central entrance is set into an ornamental bracketed surround with decorative geometric, and egg and dart molding. Storefronts flank the entrance to the building on the first floor. The first and second floors are made of rusticated stone with a granite base. The five central bays feature three part segmentally arched windows with narrow Corinthian columns at the windows. The end bays have single one over one aluminum windows. Geometric ornamentation completes the second floor. The building walls of the upper floors are punctuated by three part windows in the center and two grouped one over one windows on the ends. An elaborate iron balcony at the tenth floor level has been removed leaving a narrow cornice. One over one windows grouped in two's are surmounted by geometric molding, brackets and a decorative parapet to complete the building. The Calvert Street facade features similar styling as the Redwood Street front facade.

Significance:

Area: Architecture

Level: Local

The Keyser Building is significant as one of the larger office buildings constructed immediately after the Baltimore Fire. It was also distinctive for some unusual architectural features. The building features a propensity of geometric ornamentation rather than the Classical detailing which was common on post-Fire buildings. It also lacked a formal cornice. Instead, a large, bracketed iron balcony ran along the entire 10th floor level. The removal of this balcony and the upper floor cast iron window mullions have altered the physical appearance of the building considerably. The building, however, retains its fine geometric stone detailing. Directly in front of the building is a cannon ball on a stand from the Battle of Baltimore at Fort McHenry. It was saved by a member of the Keyser family and later placed in front of this building.

Sources: Maryland Institute Scrapbook; BS 3/24/1905 p. 10 c. 6 (permit issued).
Surveyor and Date: Fred B. Shoken, April 1985.

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Keyser Building
201-207 East Redwood Street

Design For Keyser Office Building.



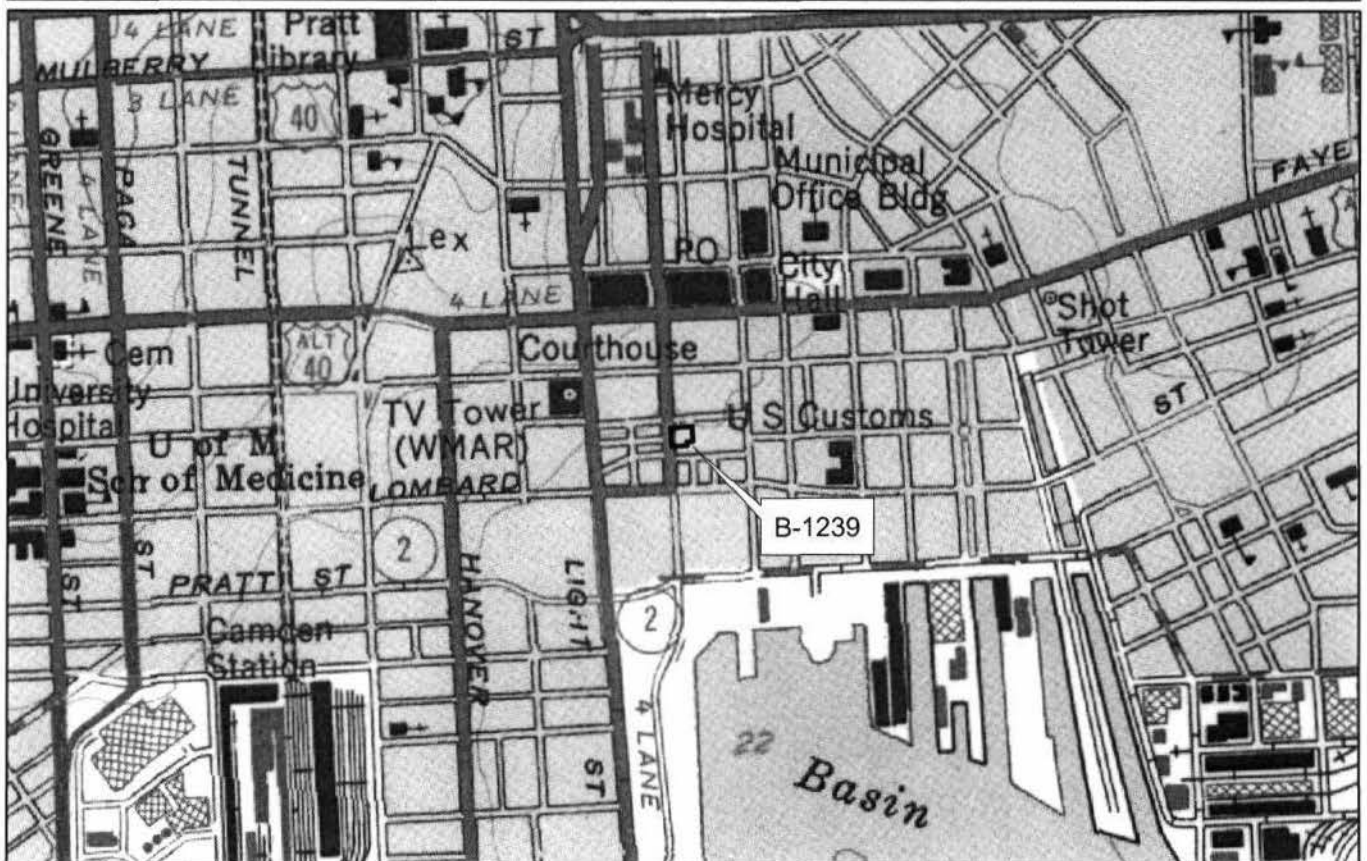
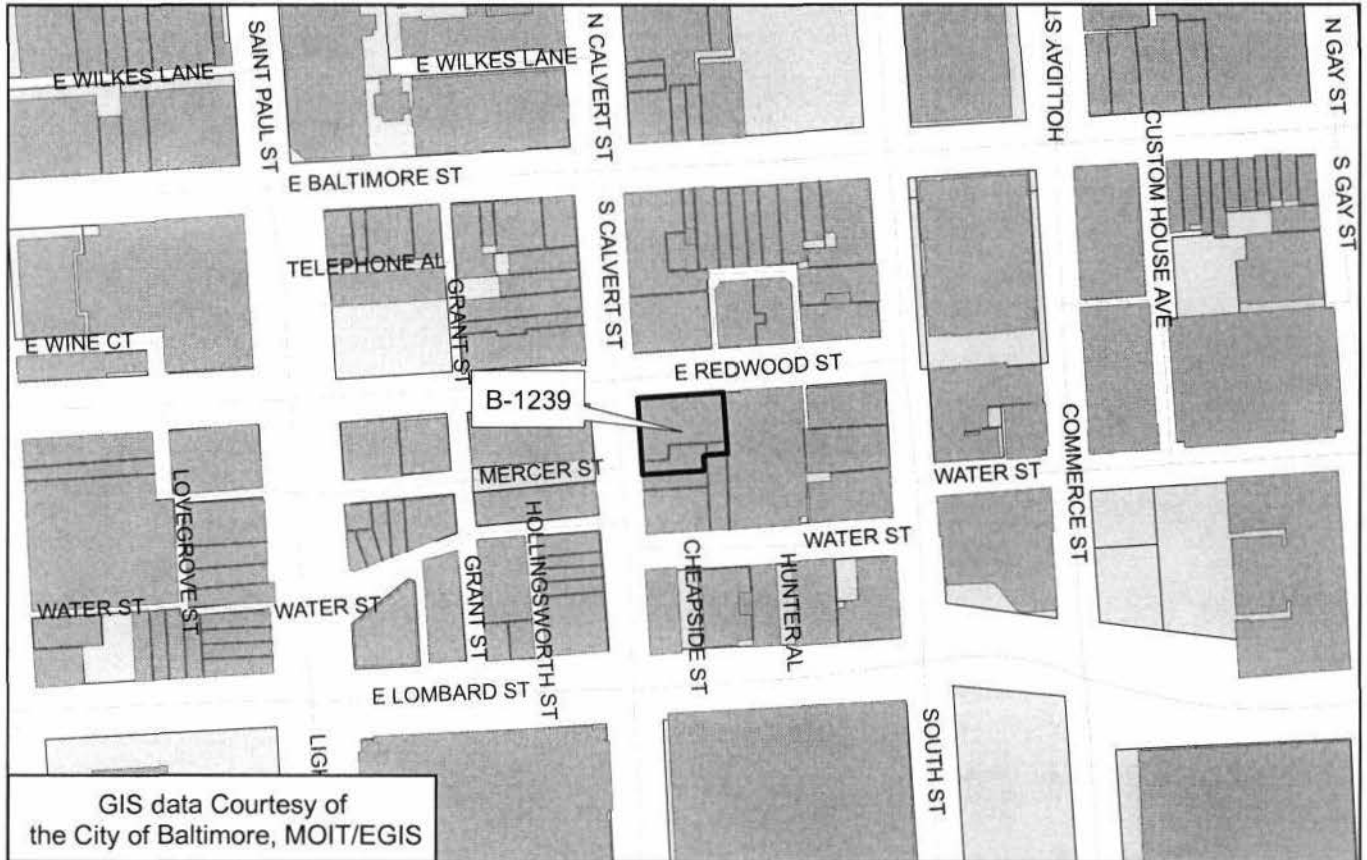
The above structure, which is being erected at the southeast corner of German and Calvert streets, was designed by Architects Wyatt & Nolting for the Keyser Office Building Company. It will be one of the handsomest buildings in Baltimore. The site extends along German street 100 feet and along Calvert street 82 feet. The building will be 10 stories high. The facades will be of Indiana limestone, with cast-iron window mullions and a cast-iron balcony at the top. The building is to be of fireproof construction throughout. There will be three passenger elevators and two freight elevators. The structure will contain 119 offices. The first floor will contain 11 offices, all of which will have direct individual entrances from the street. Each of the nine upper floors will contain 12 offices, so arranged that they can be subdivided if desired. There is no interior court in the building and all of the rooms will have exterior light. Toilets have been arranged on each floor. The main entrance to the structure will be on German street. There will also be an entrance for tenants on Calvert street. The structure is being erected by Contractors Broderick & Wind. For neighbors the Keyser Office Building will have the Mercantile Trust and Deposit Company at the northeast corner of German and Calvert streets; the Maryland Trust Company Building at the northwest corner, and the United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company's building at the southwest corner.



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Keyser Building
201-207 E. Redwood Street
Block 0662 Lot 012
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad





201-207 E. Redwood

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Keyser Building
201-207 E. Redwood Street
Financial District-Metrocenter Survey
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Fred Shoken
Date: October 1983
Neg.loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
Northwest corner view