

B-1398

Union Stockyards

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: 02-04-2016

**INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Property/District Name: Union Stockyards Survey Number: B-1398

Project: Mount Clare Maintenance Facility Agency: MTA

Site visit by MHT Staff: x no yes Name Date

Eligibility recommended Eligibility **not** recommended X

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

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

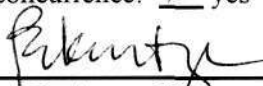
The Union Stockyards are located on the west side of Gwynns Falls south of Wilkens Avenue. Several small stockyards operated in the mid-1880s along Gwynns Falls. Cattle were first driven from outlying areas to the yards, but as the railroad grew farmers turned to sending cattle to town by train. In 1891 the various stockyards consolidated to form "Union" Stockyards and at its height it claimed to be the largest packing, holding and buying complex in Baltimore and rank second to Chicago's stockyards as the largest in the United States. Following World War II the meat packing industry became more localized and the stockyards closed in 1958. The City of Baltimore has since razed all of the old buildings and created the Crossroads Industrial Park which contains junk yards, warehouses and factories. Because the site has lost its integrity through the razing of the stockyard buildings, and the creation of new buildings, as well as through the change in purpose, the Stockyards are not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project Review and Compliance

Prepared by: Parsons, Brinckerhoff Quade & Douglas for MTA

Anne E. Bruder March 21, 1998
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: X yes no not applicable

 3/26/98
Reviewer, NR program Date

gmg

MARYLAND 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 Adaptation

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: Site
 Historic Environment: Urban
 Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Cattle Stockyards
 Known Design Source: _____

Union Stockyards
Baltimore City, Maryland
B-1398
public, 1892

Significance

The Union Stockyards, founded in 1892, were home to a flourishing meat processing industry. Cattle, which had once been driven to butchers through the city streets, were brought to the stockyards on the railroad, and were kept in enormous pens. They were then brought to the city's many meat packing plants, some of which were on the stockyard site. Though nothing but a few old packing houses remain in the area today, the Union Stockyards in Baltimore were once only second to the stockyards in Chicago.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. B-1398

Magi No. 0410993614

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Union Stockyards

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Brunswick and Dukeland Streets ☐ not for publicationcity, town Baltimore ☐ vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
☐ district	☐ public	☒ occupied	☐ agriculture	☐ museum
☐ building(s)	☐ private	☐ unoccupied	☐ commercial	☐ park
☐ structure	☒ both	☐ work in progress	☐ educational	☐ private residence
☒ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	☐ entertainment	☐ religious
☐ object	☐ in process	☒ yes: restricted	☐ government	☐ scientific
	☐ being considered	☐ yes: unrestricted	☒ industrial	☐ transportation
	☒ not applicable	☐ no	☐ military	☐ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mayor and City Council

street & number telephone no.:

city, town Baltimore state and zip code Maryland

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Courthouse liber RHB 3018

street & number Fayette and Calvert Streets folio 399

city, town Baltimore state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title none

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. B-1398

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☐ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Only a number of packing company buildings remain to mark the location of the extensive stockyards which formerly occupied this site. Located next to the B & O Railroad, the Union Stockyards were the largest in the city.

The D.B. Martin Company occupied a complex of three adjacent buildings at Wilmarco Street. A large two story office structure with castellated facade also housed refrigerated storage areas on the first floor. Adjacent to it on the west is a long one story brick structure with a raised clerestory which housed the original processing area. A large brick addition to the north and a corrugated metal building to the south were added later, making this a large modern facility by the 1930's.

East of Martin's was the Greenwald Packing Company. This building is a four story brick structure with a large refrigerated storage vault on the southeast corner. Refrigerated portions of the building can be clearly identified by large wall areas without fenestration.

The largest packing plant at the stockyard was the former P.D. Armour facility on Dukeland Street. Rivalling the Schludenberg-Kurdle plant on the east side of town, Armour was a complete multi-product packer. It survives today as a Hygrade plant, but slaughtering has been discontinued. The majority of the structure is reinforced concrete with brick curtain walls.

The cattle pens occupied the land to the west and south of these packing plants. Today the area has been redeveloped as an industrial and business park. Only the packing plants still remain as reminders of the once huge stockyards.

8. Significance

Survey No. B-1398

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
☐ prehistoric	☐ archeology-prehistoric	☐ community planning	☐ landscape architecture	☐ religion
☐ 1400-1499	☐ archeology-historic	☐ conservation	☐ law	☐ science
☐ 1500-1599	☐ agriculture	☐ economics	☐ literature	☐ sculpture
☐ 1600-1699	☐ architecture	☐ education	☐ military	☐ social/
☐ 1700-1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☒ 1800-1899	☐ commerce	☐ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☐ 1900-	☐ communications	☒ industry	☐ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☐ other (specify)

Specific dates 1892 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Union Stockyards, founded in 1892, were home to a flourishing meat processing industry. Cattle, which had once been driven to slaughterhouses through the city streets, were brought to the stockyards on the railroad, and kept in enormous pens. They were then brought to the city's many meat packing plants, some of which were on the stockyard site. Though nothing but a few old packing houses remain in the area today, the Union Stockyards in Baltimore were once only second in the country to the stockyards in Chicago.

West Baltimore was a traditional meat packing area. Cattle was driven in from farmlands along trails such as Old Zanes Trail (now Old Frederick Road) and the Calverton Turnpike. Small family butchering operations grew along the road, leading to the christening of one West Baltimore neighborhood as "Pigtown".

When the railroads began service to West Baltimore, a series of stockyards developed in the area. In 1892, the Union Stockyards were founded as a consolidation of many smaller yards. West Baltimore's main railway station, Calverton, was built at the stockyards. The yards included several acres of pens, offices of meat dealers, buying stations of local meat packers, and a number of meat packing plants. Of the entire set-up, only a few of the meat packing plants remain, including the Greenwald, D.B. Martin, and P.D. Armour company buildings, built around the turn of the century. In addition, live-stock and commission merchants had offices in the stockyards, as well as the F.D.A. inspection office, and the Eastern Livestock Cooperative Marketing Association. At one time, the Clermont Hotel stood on the eastern border of the yards, providing meals and housing for dealers, buyers and other visitors; it was busiest at auction time.

In its heyday, the Union Stockyards were the second largest in the country (only Chicago's stockyards were larger). One observer noted that the 75-acre tract, less than 2½ miles from downtown, looked like a scene from a Western movie. The yard's acres of buildings, weighing stations and paved pens pro-

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. B- 1398

vertical files, Maryland Room, Enoch Pratt Public Library

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ann Steele, Dennis Zembala

organization Baltimore Museum of Industry date December 1983

street & number 1415 Key Highway telephone 727-4808

city or town Baltimore state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

Union Stockyards
Baltimore City, Maryland
B- 1398

8.1

vided a number of services, including receiving and holding livestock, weighing them for buyers, and delivering them.

The yards started declining after WWII, as the U.S. meat packing industry localized, rendering such massive yards obsolete. The Union Stockyards closed in 1958. The area is now owned by the City of Baltimore, which has razed most of the structures and replaced them with an industrial park.

B-1398

2. INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION	3. PRIORITY	4. DANGER OF DEMOLITION? (SPECIFY THREAT)	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN
	5. DATE 1891	6. GOVT SOURCE OF THREAT	OWNER ADMIN
		7. OWNER/ADMIN Mayor & City Council	

8. NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE Union Stockyards	9. OWNER'S ADDRESS Baltimore
10. STATE COUNTY M D COUNTY NAME CITY/VICINITY CONG. DIST. Baltimore	10. STATE COUNTY M D COUNTY NAME CITY/VICINITY CONG. DIST. Baltimore

11. SITE ADDRESS (STREET & NO) Brunswick & Dukeland Streets	12. EXISTING SURVEYS ☐ NR ☐ NHL ☐ HABS ☐ HAER-I ☐ HAER ☐ NPS ☐ CL6 ☐ CONF ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL ☐ OTHER
	13. SPECIAL FEATURES (DESCRIBE BELOW) ☐ INTERIOR INTACT ☐ EXTERIOR INTACT ☐ ENVIRONS INTACT

14. UTM ZONE EASTING NORTHING SIGN 18 356810 4349550	SCALE 1:24 1:62.5 OTHER	QUAD NAME Balto. West
UTM ZONE EASTING NORTHING SIGN	SCALE 1:24 1:62.5 OTHER	QUAD NAME
15. CONDITION 70 ☐ EXCELLENT 71 ☐ GOOD 72 ☐ FAIR 73 ☐ DETERIORATED 74 ☐ RUINS 75 ☐ UNEXPOSED 76 ☐ ALTERED 82 ☐ DESTROYED 85 ☐ DEMOLISHED		

16. INVENTORIED BY Ann Steele	AFFILIATION Balto. Museum of Industry	DATE 12/83
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17. DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY, INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), HISTORICAL DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, EXTANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

See attached

(CONT OVER)

18. ORIGINAL USE	PRESENT USE	ADAPTIVE USE
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19. REFERENCES—HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER

Vertical files, Maryland Room, Enoch Pratt Public Library

(CONT OVER)

20. URBAN AREA 50,000 POP. OR MORE? ☒ YES ☐ NO	21. NPS REGION	22. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY ☒ YES, LIMITED ☐ YES, UNLIMITED ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN	23. EDITOR INDEXER
24. LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT? ☐ YES ☒ NO	NAME	DISTRICT I.D. NO	

B-1398

Union Stockyards

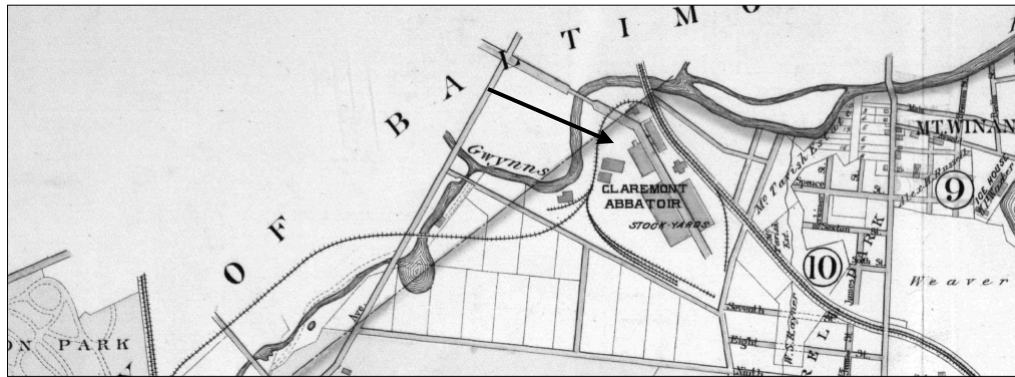
Brunswick & Dukeland Streets

Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. G. W. Bromley and Co., 1898

Plate 4: Part of 1st & 13th Districts

http://mdhistory.net/msaref07/bc_ba_atlases_1876_1915/html/bc_ba_atlases_1876_1915-0275.html

Accessed 9/14/2010



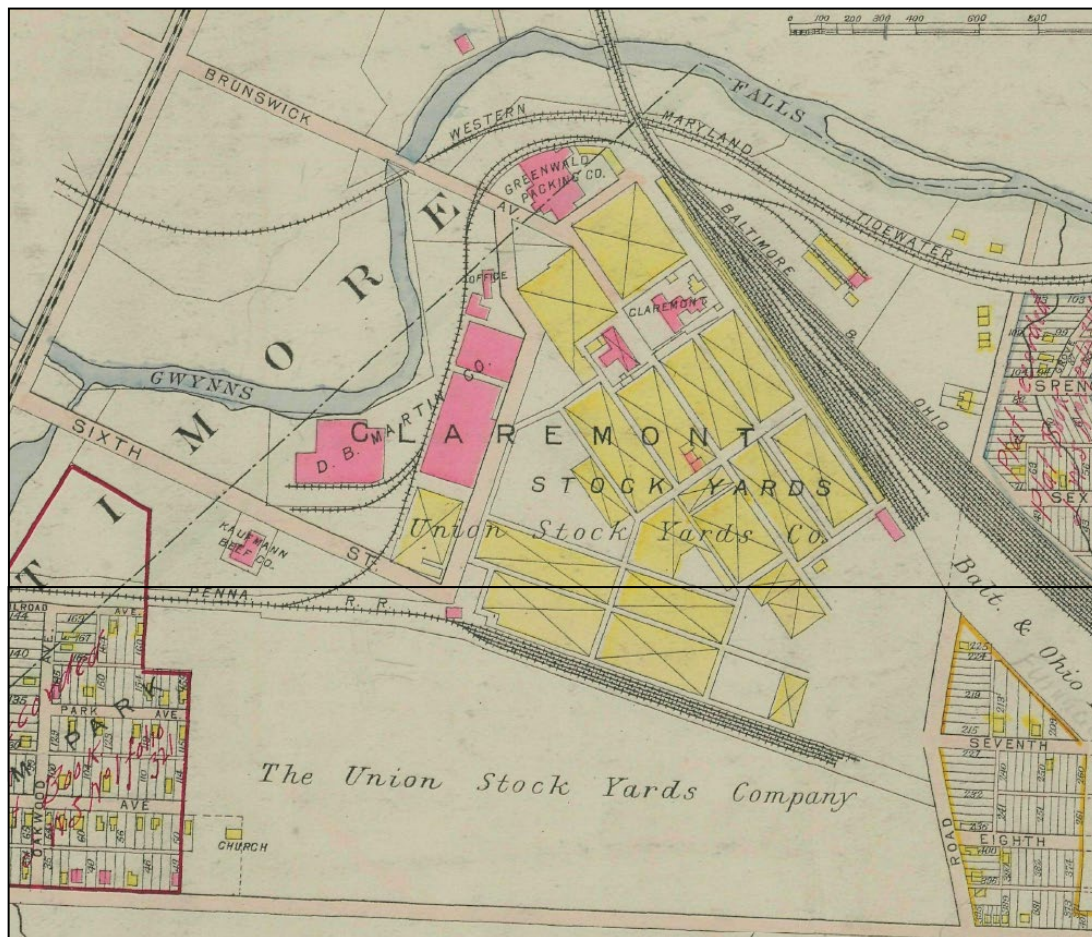
Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. G. W. Bromley and Co., 1915

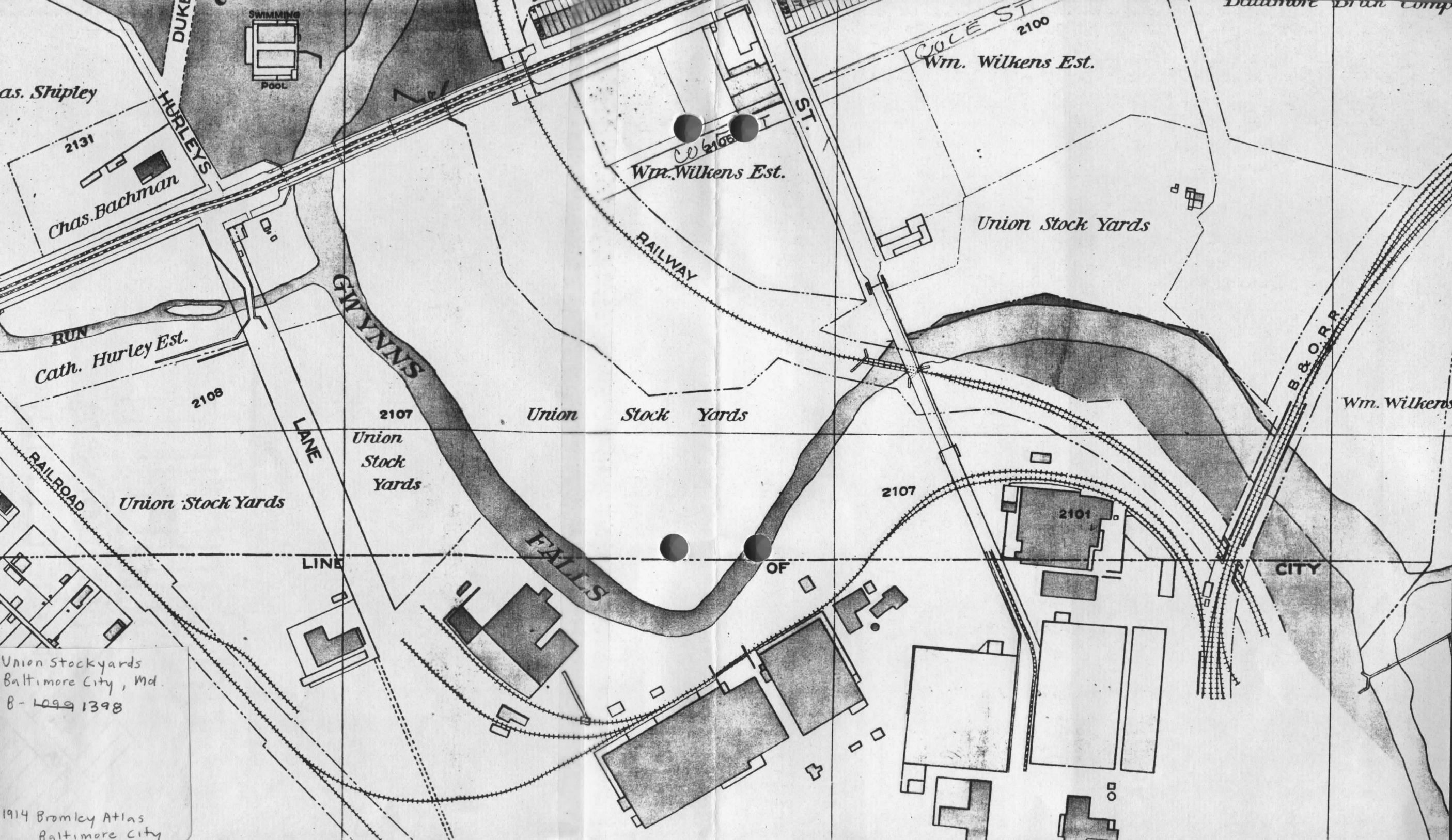
(copy with notes by Isekoff)

Plate 3: Part of 1st & 13th Districts

http://mdhistory.net/msaref07/bc_ba_atlases_1876_1915/html/bc_ba_atlases_1876_1915-0732.html

Accessed 9/14/2010





as. Shipley

DUKE

HURLEY'S

2131

Chas. Bachman

SWIMMING
POOL

COLE ST 2100

Wm. Wilkens Est.

ST.

Wm. Wilkens Est.

Union Stock Yards

RAILWAY

Cath. Hurley Est.

2108

GWYNN'S

2107

Union Stock Yards

LANE

Union Stock Yards

Union Stock Yards

RAILROAD

LINE

FALLS

OF

2107

2101

CITY

B. & O. R.R.

Wm. Wilkens

Union Stockyards
Baltimore City, Md.
8-1099 1398

1914 Bromley Atlas
Baltimore City



Union Stockyards
Baltimore City Md
U.S.G.S. 7.5" Balto. West
18356810 43 49550

B-1398

ansdowne

English
Consul



Union Stockyards
Baltimore City, Md.
Peter Liebhold 10/83

B-1398

looking NE at C.D. Martin East



Union Stockyards
Baltimore City, Md.
Peter Liebhold 10/83
looking NW at Greenwald Packing Co.