

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Registration FormRECEIVED
6 1994
INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name BUILDING AT 235 NORTH GAY STREET (preferred)
other names/site number Spartana Electronics

2. Location

street & number 235 North Gay Street N/A ☐ not for publication
city, town Baltimore N/A ☐ vicinity
state Maryland code MD county Independent City code 510 zip code 21202

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Cast Iron Architecture of Baltimore,
Maryland 1850-1904

Number of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this
☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the
National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

Date 8/31/94

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the National
Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other, (explain):

Edson H. Beall
Entered in the
National Register

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action 10-7-94

6. Function or Use

B-4293

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/
manufacturing facility

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE/business**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

ITALIANATE

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brickwalls IronBrickroof Asphaltother Wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

The building at 235 North Gay Street is located on the southwest corner of North Gay and Front Streets. Built around 1875, the building is a tall three-story iron front structure.

8. Statement of Significance

B-4293

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locallyApplicable National Register Criteria ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ DCriteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

c.1875

Significant Dates

c.1875

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

THEME:

Cast Iron Architecture in Baltimore, Maryland, 1850-1904

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The building at 235 North Gay Street is significant as representing a Full Cast Iron Front and Major Exterior Cast Iron Detailing type building.

☒ See continuation sheet no. 4 for
Historic Context & Maryland
Comprehensive Historic Preservation
Plan data

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

☒ See continuation sheet no. 5

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than 1 acreUSGS Quad: Baltimore East, Maryland

UTM References

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4	3	5	0	4	1	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

D

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☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Boundaries are defined as a single city lot, specifically identified as Block 1306C, Lot 20, recorded among the Land Records of Baltimore City, Maryland.

☐ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property comprises the city lot upon which the resource stands.

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Peter E. Kurtze, Architectural Historian

organization for Baltimore Heritage, Inc. date May 14, 1990

street & number 109 Brandon Road telephone (410) 296-7538

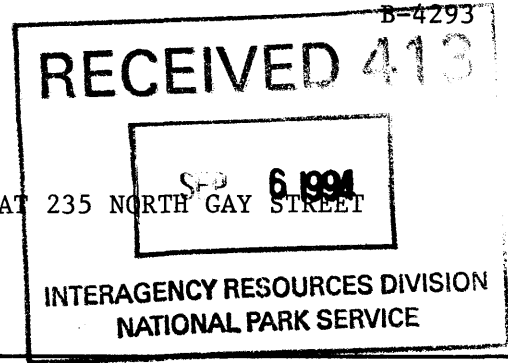
city or town Baltimore state MD zip code 21212

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

BUILDING AT 235 NORTH GAY STREET
Baltimore
Maryland

Section number 7 Page 1



GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The principal facade of 235 North Gay Street was altered at street level by the construction of a modern facade of Carrara glass, metallic panels, and display windows, uniting this building with the adjacent structure. Some of the original cast iron framing elements may remain in place behind this modern screen. The upper stories of the building remain essentially unaltered, displaying a three-bay cast-iron facade which wraps around the north corner of the building (Front Street elevation) a distance of one bay. Large window openings are flanked by Corinthian columns and headed by segmental arches. The windows are set deeply within the openings; the edge of the spandrels between the arches is decorated with a continuous molded band. Solid panels have been installed over the double-hung sash. Between the second and third floor levels, an intermediary cornice comprising crown molding above a dentil course runs between consoles decorated with heraldic shields. Piers at the corners of the facade are decorated with recessed panels. The building cornice has a deep overhang, supported on large curvilinear brackets with stylized modillions; the cornice returns at the north corner, and continues completely across the Front Street elevation. The Front Street facade is six bays wide, constructed of brick laid in common bond. The northern half of the street level has been altered, with infill and small glass-block windows. A secondary entrance remains in the south bay, and a small window is located in the second bay from the south on the street level; these openings are topped with brick segmental arches. On the second and third stories, the cast-iron structure and detailing is repeated in the westernmost bay; the remaining bays are defined by tall 2/2 sash windows with segmental-arched heads, decorated with heavy molded hoods of cast iron. The rear elevation is two bays wide, with infilled openings at each level, and a corbeled brick cornice. The interior is now connected with the neighboring building at 233 North Gay Street.

The decorative detailing of the iron front at 235 North Gay Street is similar to that of 121 North Howard Street, and to that of the Fava Fruit Company Building, which stood in the 200 block of South Charles Street until it was dismantled in 1976. Similar elements include the building cornice, Corinthian columns, side piers, and heraldic shield motif. It is likely that these

See Continuation Sheet No. 2

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structures were the products of the same local works, although it is impossible at this time to determine which of the seven Baltimore foundries which manufactured building facades during the period may have been responsible.

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BUILDING AT 235 NORTH GAY STREET
Baltimore
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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture/Landscape Architecture/Community Planning
Economic (Commercial and Industrial)

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/manufacturing facility

Known Design Source: None

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BUILDING AT 235 NORTH GAY STREET
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HISTORY & SUPPORT:

The extensive alteration of the street pattern and numbering system occasioned by the construction of the Fallsway in 1912, and the more recent development of the Jones Falls Expressway, complicates historical research in this area of Baltimore. 235 North Gay Street achieved its present configuration about 1875. The 1880 Sanborn map shows an iron front store, 3 stories, 50' high, at this location. In 1896, Emanuel Schloss was assessed for a 3 story iron front building; M. Rosenblatt, clothier, was listed as tenant.

In 1974, the property was purchased by Anthony R. Spartana (RHB 3180/321); Spartana had founded an electronic supplies business in 1925.

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Continuation Sheet**

BUILDING AT 235 NORTH GAY STREET
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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES:

Baltimore City Directories, 1870s-1940s

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, Baltimore City, Maryland
Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland.

Sun, June 16, 1988 (Obituary, Anthony R. Spartana).

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY Building at 239 North Gay Street
NAME:

MULTIPLE Cast Iron Architecture of Baltimore MPS
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MARYLAND, Baltimore

DATE RECEIVED: 8/01/01 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/16/01
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 94001202

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ACCEPT ___RETURN ___REJECT 9/16/01 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Accepted

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



**Maryland
Department of
Housing and
Community
Development**

*Division of Historical and
Cultural Programs*

100 Community Place
Crownsville, Maryland 21032

410-514-7600

1-800-756-0119

Fax: 410-987-4071

Maryland Relay for the Deaf:
1-800-735-2258

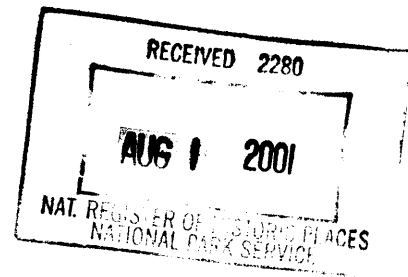
<http://www.dhcd.state.md.us>

Parris N. Glendening
Governor

Raymond A. Skinner
Secretary

Marge Wolf
Deputy Secretary

AD



July 12, 2001

Ms. Carol Shull
Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
P. O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127

Re: "Building at 235 North Gay Street"
Baltimore city, Maryland

Dear Carol:

94001202

It has recently been brought to my attention that the property which was listed in the National Register on October 7, 1994 under the name "Building at 235 North Gay Street" is in fact located at 239 North Gay Street, Baltimore, Maryland. I regret this error, and will appreciate your help in amending your records accordingly.

Please contact Peter Kurtze of my staff at (410) 514-7649 if you have any questions, or if further documentation is required in order to effect this correction. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

J. Rodney Little
State Historic Preservation Officer
Director, Division of Historical and Cultural Programs