

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland	
COUNTY: Baltimore City.	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 69-10-19-0011	DATE 10/1/69

1. NAME

COMMON:
Shot Tower

AND/OR HISTORIC: Baltimore Shot Tower
(Phoenix Shot Tower) (Merchants' Shot Tower)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Southeast corner of Fayette and Front Streets

CITY OR TOWN:
Baltimore City

STATE Maryland	CODE 19	COUNTY: Baltimore City	CODE 510
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:
Mayor and City Council of Baltimore

STREET AND NUMBER:
City Hall

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore City	STATE: Maryland	CODE 510
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Land Record Office of the Superior Court of Baltimore City

STREET AND NUMBER:
Room 610, Baltimore City Court House

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore City	STATE: Maryland	CODE 19
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: .03 acre

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Maryland Register of historic sites and landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY: May 1969 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER:
P. O. Box 1704

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis	STATE: Maryland	CODE 21404
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Baltimore City
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Shot Tower stands approximately 14 stories high and was undoubtedly the tallest structure of its kind in the world.^{(1)*} Its height has been stated either as 234 feet, 240 feet, or 246 feet, depending on whether one includes the underground foundation, measuring somewhere between 10 and 17 feet. At its base, the diameter measures 40 feet, and this diminishes to 20 feet at the top. The walls are $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick at the base and only 20 inches thick at the top, which is crowned by a concrete parapet. More than 1,000,000 bricks were used in its construction, and no scaffolding was needed, since all the work was done from the interior.

In 1928[✓] the tower was restored and a device installed which nightly illuminated its top with a reddish glow to represent smoke and fire. This "flame" was recently rekindled following a period of darkness.

* See #9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1828

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal	Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric	Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Phi-		Other (Specify)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Historic	Industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	losophy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Architecture</u>	
Agriculture	Invention	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
Art	Landscape		Sculpture	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
Commerce	Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Human-		_____	
Communications	Literature	<input type="checkbox"/>	itarian	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
Conservation	Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Theater	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
	Music	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Known originally as the Phoenix Shot Tower, then the Merchants' Shot Tower and now the old Baltimore Shot Tower, this building was erected in 1828 and its cornerstone laid by Charles Carroll of Carrollton. It is the last remaining of four such towers in Baltimore and one of a very few still in existence in this country.

It was used for the manufacture of shot by dropping molten lead from a platform at the top through a sieve-like device and into a vat of cold water, which caused it to harden. When dried and polished, the shot was sorted into 25-pound bags. A total of 1,000,000 bags of shot were produced each year and this capacity could be doubled if necessary.

In 1882 the interior of the tower was destroyed by fire, but quickly rebuilt and the manufacture of shot continued until 1892. Then in 1921, the Union Oil Company purchased the building, but decided to abandon it shortly thereafter. This caused a group of citizens to raise \$25,000 by subscription and present it to the City. It was briefly opened to the public, but is now closed. A new Shot Tower Historic Park is being planned for the surrounding area.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Recorders: Romaine S. Somerville, Executive Secretary, and Catharine F. Black, Commission Member; Commission for Historic & Architectural Preservation, 402 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland.

Ballou's Pictorial Drawing Room Companion, March 22, 1856. "Shot Tower at Baltimore", pp. 180-18.

The Federal Architect, January, 1940; pp. 16.

[see continuation sheet]

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
				N39 17 26.2	W76 36 20.8	

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mrs. Preston Parish, Keeper of the Maryland Register

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust DATE: June 18, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER:
P. O. Box 1704

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland 21404 CODE: 19

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Orlando Ridout IV
Orlando Ridout IV

Title: State Liaison Officer for Maryland

Date: June 18, 1969

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Christ Allen Connolly
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: OCT 1 1969 OCT 1 1969

ATTEST:
William J. Mumford
Keeper of The National Register

Date: SEP 20 1969

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Baltimore City	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Shot Tower

#6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

Historic American Building Survey

January 1964

Library of Congress

Washington, D. C.

Code: 08

#9. REFERENCES

¹Harper's Weekly, 1828, "Shot Tower at Baltimore".Illustrated News, April 16, 1853. "The Merchant's Shot Tower", pp. 244-245.Scharf, J. Thomas, History of Baltimore City and County, Maryland (Baltimore: pub. 1881), pp. 420-421.

Land Record Office of the Superior Court of Baltimore City, Maryland; Liber SGL 4336 Folio 34

Form 10-301
(Dec. 1968)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)*

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Baltimore City	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 69-10-19-0011	DATE 10/1/69

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Shot Tower

AND/OR HISTORIC: Baltimore Shot Tower (Phoenix Shot Tower) (Merchants'
Shot Tower)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Southeast corner of Fayette and Front Streets

CITY OR TOWN:

Baltimore City

STATE:

Maryland

CODE

19

COUNTY:

Baltimore City

CODE

510

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

U.S.G.S. 7.5' quadrangle Baltimore East (Maryland)

SCALE:

1:24,000

DATE:

1953

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.

Army Map Service
U.S.G.S. 7.5' quadrangle Baltimore East
1:24,000
1953

Shot Tower MHT B-16
Baltimore, Maryland

SHOT TOWER

LATITUDE 39° 17' 26.2"

LONGITUDE 76° 36' 20.8"



RELAY

Mapped by the Army Map Service
Edited and published by the Geological Survey

39° 15'

76° 37' 30"

910 000 FEET

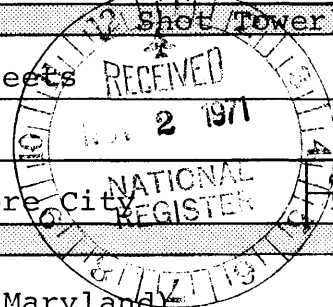
35'

17' 30"

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STREET AND NUMBER: Southeast corner of Fayette and Front Streets			
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore City			
STATE: Maryland	CODE 24	COUNTY: Baltimore City	CODE 510
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 7.5' quadrangle Baltimore East (Maryland)			
SCALE: 1:24,000			
DATE: 1953			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

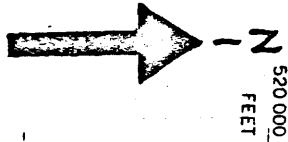


SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Army Map Service
U.S.G.S. 7.5' quadrangle Baltimore East
1:24,000
1953

Shot Tower MHT B-
Baltimore, Maryland

SHOT TOWER
LATITUDE 39° 17' 26.2"
LONGITUDE 76° 36' 20.8"



39°15'
76°37'30"

1730'



RELAY

Mapped by the Army Map Service
Edited and published by the Coast and Geodetic Survey

910 000 FEET

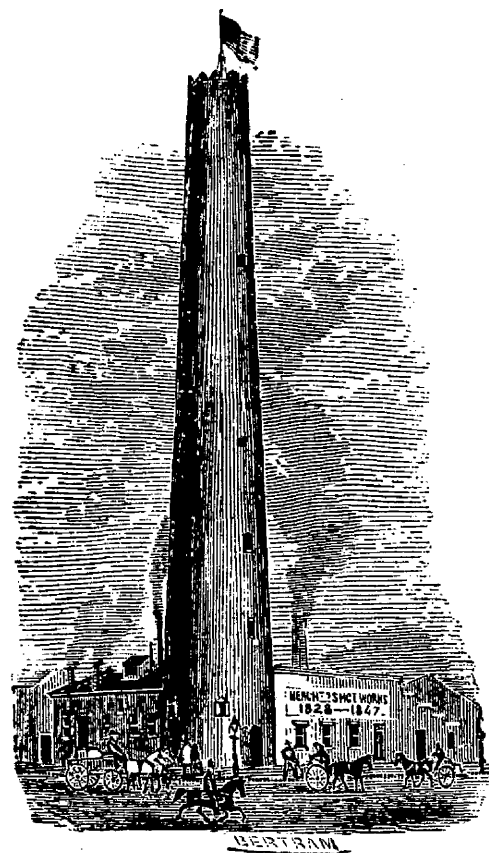
35'

THE MONUMENTAL CITY,

Merchants' Shot Company,

COR. FRONT AND FAYETTE STS.

Baltimore, Md.



Having all new and the most approved machinery for the manufacture of Drop and Mould Shot and Bar Lead, the quality of our manufactured articles in sizes, style and finish is not excelled in the world. The sizes of Shot we manufacture are

MOULD SHOT, - - No.	16	37	55	1C	AP	NP	000	00	0	1	2	3
Number to the Pound.	16	37	55	212	51	85	85	111	144	170	250	340
				Colt's Army. Navy. Pistol.						Buck Shot.		

DROP SHOT.—TTT TT T BBB BB B 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

HENRY D. HARVEY, President.

LUCIEN O'CONNOR, Secretary, *pro tem.*

DIRECTORS.

HENRY D. HARVEY,

JAMES HOOPER, JR., of James Hooper & Sons,
 GEORGE N. EATON, of Eaton Bros. & Co.
 GEORGE WM. BROWN, late Mayor of Baltimore,

FRANCIS A. CROOK, Treas Balto. Equitable Society,
 WILLIAM WILSON, JR., of Wilson, Burns & Co.
 GEORGE W. CORNER, of James Corner & Sons.

Phoenix Street
Baltimore City

Publ. Baltimore 1873

11-11-75

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT