

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION

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 TURNER-WHITE CASKET CO. BUILDING

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 509-511 West Lombard Street N/A ☐ not for publication
city, town Baltimore N/A ☐ vicinity
state Maryland code MD county Independent City code 510 zip code 21201

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Cast Iron Architecture of Baltimore, MD, 1850-1940

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 12/5/94

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:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE/warehouseINDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/manufacturing
facility

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/university**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

ROMANESQUE

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brickwalls IronBrickroof Asphaltother Wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

The Turner-White Casket Co. Building at 509-511 West Lombard Street is a six-story loft building constructed in 1893, located on the south side of West Lombard Street between Paca and Greene Streets in downtown Baltimore City, Maryland. The building reflects the influence of the Romanesque style in its facade organization and detailing, incorporating brick, stone, and cast iron elements. The first floor facade features cast iron columns in the Composite order. The building has recently been rehabilitated, and retains a high degree of architectural integrity; the storefront retains its important cast-iron elements, and the upper floors are essentially changed.

8. Statement of Significance

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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

1893

Significant Dates

1893

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 Turner-White Casket Co. Building is significant as representing a Cast Iron Storefront on a Multistory Loft Building.

☒ See continuation sheet no. 4
for Historic Context and 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. 6

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 one acreUSGS quad: Baltimore East, MD

UTM References

A

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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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D

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☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Boundaries are defined as a single city lot, specifically identified as Block 630, Lot 8, 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 Catherine F. Black

organization Baltimore Heritage, Inc. date December 1984

street & number 1114 Bellemore Road telephone (410) 323-3798

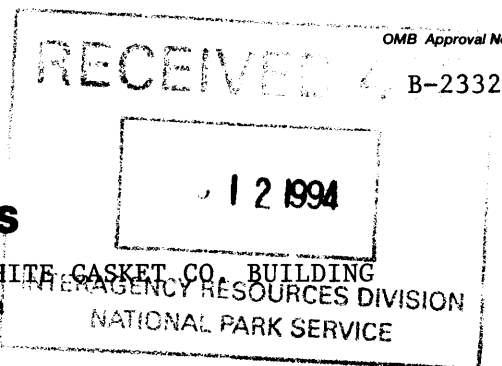
city or town Baltimore state MD zip code 21210

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

TURNER-WHITE CASKET CO. BUILDING
Baltimore
Maryland
INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The Turner White Casket Co. Building at 509-511 W. Lombard Street is located on the south side of West Lombard Street between Paca and Greene Streets. Originally constructed as a factory with street level display rooms, the structure stands on the front property line and extends in a rectangle to an alley in the rear. It is two bays wide and six stories high with a full basement. The construction materials are brick, laid in common bond, with cast iron and stone decorative details. The roof is of the shed type.

Both the front and rear facades of this building are reminiscent of the Romanesque style. Five stories are organized in two arches which serve to diminish the height. The variety of window treatments and the arrangement of the sixth floor fenestration break up the plan.

Major cast iron elements appear on the first floor facade. Each of the bays is divided into three recesses by projecting piers decorated with engaged columns of the Composite order. These columns are repeated on the floors above. The recesses are filled with sheet glass windows and there is a door in one section of each bay. Over this area is a stone entablature topped by dentil molding. Stone lions' heads are located at either end, slightly above the entablature. From this point rise the two flat brick arches which extend up through the fifth floor level.

Between the second and third floors, which have sectional bay windows, is a row of swag ornaments and the brick entablature above the third floor is decorated with a rope design. The stone course immediately over this supports a row of Composite style cast iron colonettes flanking the three double-hung windows of the fourth floor. The fifth floor windows are similar to these but set within the founded arches. There are floral rosettes on the spandrels of the arches.

The sixth floor fenestration differs from the stories below. Here there are four windows in each bay divided by stone pilasters and set between two stone courses which act as sills and lintels. Above these windows are eight oculus windows with four stone

See Continuation Sheet No. 2

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TURNER-WHITE CASKET CO. BUILDING
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voussoirs apiece. A molded, braced cornice with dentils appears beneath the parapet which tops the structure.

The rear facade has been altered from the original in part as the result of a 1969 fire. There is a fire escape covering much of the eastern bay. However, the two flat round-arched recesses delineated in the brickwork may still be seen on extending from first through fifth floors. Most of the windows have been replaced in the upper stories although the first floor windows are original, with their original glazing and cast iron shutters.

The interior has been altered several times as a result of the fire and to accommodate new uses. The basement contains its original wooden beams with cast iron supporting columns. These are eight feet high, undecorated except for a simple ringed capital, and with no base. Each is embossed with the letters "E.G.S. Sons 306T". In the front of the basement there are brick piers supporting the structure's facade. An exterior loading dock is reached by stairs in the rear where there is also an elevator.

The first floor contains an entrance to the elevator and the upstairs offices through a narrow hallway in the east bay. The remainder of this floor is entered through the western bay and contains mostly empty space as befits a display area. In the rear quarter is a mezzanine reached by a stairway at the side. All walls are covered with modern paneling as are the columns. Portions of the tongue-and-groove paneled ceiling may be seen through missing acoustical tiling.

The second and third floors contain offices. partitioned by modern wall board. However, cast iron columns are exposed and painted. They are marked "E.G.S. Sons 51T". The capitals are covered by ceiling tiles.

The fourth story is also office space similar to the second and third but with exposed wooden floors and brick walls. Corinthian capitals are exposed on columns.

The fifth and sixth floors are storage areas. Columns on the fifth floor are identical to those on lower floors but with exposed

See Continuation Sheet No. 3

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capitals which are simply flared to support thick wooden beams. On the sixth floor there is evidence of rebuilding after the fire. There is a wooden balcony extending across the front quarter of the space. When the roof was replaced, it was lowered, making access to this area extremely difficult. The stairs leading to the balcony appear to have been repositioned. All supports on this floor are wooden with diagonal bracing. The flooring is original as are the brick exterior walls.

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TURNER-WHITE CASKET CO. BUILDING
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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

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture/Landscape Architecture/Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

COMMERCE/TRADE/warehouse
INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/manufacturing
facility

Known Design Source: None

See Continuation Sheet No. 5

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TURNER-WHITE CASKET CO. BUILDING
Baltimore
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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

The Turner-White Casket Co. Building at 509-511 W. Lombard Street was built in 1893 by Elias Rosenbaum as a speculative venture. The first tenants were Burrough Brothers Manufacturing Co., makers of "medicinal extracts"¹ who occupied this building from 1896 until 1915. They purchased the structure from Rosenbaum in 1898. At that time, the improvements consisted of a "6 story warehouse and 1 story boiler house used in manufacturing".²

In 1915, Burrough Brothers left the location and in 1917, August Maag, "manufacturers of bakers', confectioners' and ice cream makers' tools and utensils"³ moved there.⁴ They remained as tenants until 1930. The following year, the Turner-White Casket Company purchased the property and continued to occupy it until 1965. In 1968, it was sold to the University of Maryland, present owners.

At first, the University used the structure for storage but later decided to place the bookstore there. It was during renovations in July, 1969 that a four-alarm fire destroyed parts of the fourth, fifth and sixth floors. As a result, a new elevator and air-conditioning system were installed. All the metal window frames were cleaned and retained and the original interior spaces were replaced by offices on the second, third and fourth floor. The student bookstore was installed on the first floor. Currently, the offices are occupied by the University's public relations and development departments.

¹ Baltimore City Directory, 1896.

² Tax assessment, 1898.

³ Baltimore City Directory, 1917.

⁴ A sign advertising this business may still be seen painted on the west side of the building.

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TURNER-WHITE CASKET CO. BUILDING
Baltimore
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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Baltimore City Directories, 1896-1966

Land Records of Baltimore City

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, Maryland Historical
Trust, Crownsville, MD.

Tax Records of Baltimore City: 1896, 1898, 1915-1966.