

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	DATE
	JUN 18 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Engine House #6

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Fire Engine House #6

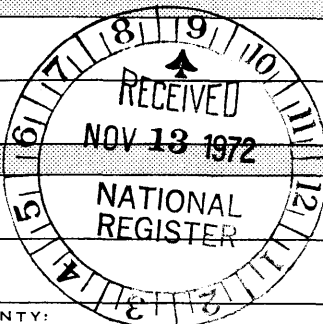
2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
416 North Gay Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Baltimore

STATE: Maryland

CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
24	Baltimore City	510



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	<u>Fire House</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City

STREET AND NUMBER:
City Hall

CITY OR TOWN:
Baltimore

STATE:
Maryland

CODE:
24

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 Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:
Baltimore

STATE:
Maryland

CODE:
24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation

STREET AND NUMBER:
402 City Hall

CITY OR TOWN:
Baltimore

STATE:
Maryland

CODE:
24

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:	Maryland
COUNTY:	Baltimore City
ENTRY NUMBER	18 1973
DATE	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	

(See Continuation Sheet)

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Engine House #6, located at the angle where Gay and Ensor Streets meet, is an architectural landmark in its neighborhood. Its 103-foot brick Italian-Gothic tower is said to be a copy of Giotto's campanile in Florence, Italy. The main door at the base of the tower is within a pointed stone arch and the spandrel contains a quatrefoil with the number six in the center. The first story was altered in 1874 by applying a stone facade. The tower gives a feeling of openness because of the repetition of Gothic arched windows piercing it. Projecting stringcourses separate each of the five stories and effectively break the verticality. At the top, there is a three-face clock and a wooden cornice supporting an elaborately carved balustrade.

The remainder of the building is two stories high with seven bays on each street side and a simple wooden cornice. There is also a projecting stringcourse between the floors, repeating the motif of the tower courses.

The building was painted for a long time, but has recently been cleaned by sandblasting and pointing. It remains a focal point in the city because of its tower and clock which are visible for miles.



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8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1853-54

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Independent Fire Company engine house pre-dates the Baltimore City Fire Department itself. Built in 1853-1854 by the architects Reasin and Wetherald, it was the third building erected by this volunteer fire fighters group to house its equipment. In 1858, when the city established a paid Fire Department, the building was purchased for \$8,000 and is the only engine house remaining from that era, unchanged, and in continuous use as a fire station. Today, the area surrounding Engine House #6 is included in the Oldtown Urban Renewal District, and plans are progressing rapidly for levelling most of the neighborhood. This building should be preserved as a vital link with the past and, to this end, city planners have proposed that it be used as a small museum of the history of fire fighting. In addition, the period of time which it represents was important in the city's history, for it was built in the day when volunteer fire companies reached the peak of their rivalries and gave Baltimore its notorious name, "Mobtown."

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Beirne, Francis F. Baltimore . . . A Picture History, 1858-1968. Baltimore: Bodine & Associates, 1968, page 22.

Howland, Richard Hubbard and Spencer, Eleanor Patterson. The Architecture of Baltimore; A Pictorial History. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1953, page 94.

Scharf, Col. J. Thomas. History of Baltimore City and County. Baltimore: Turnbull Brothers, 1881, page 247.

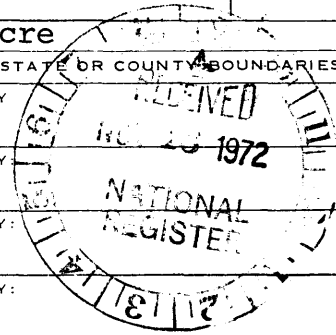
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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 TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		39°	17'	42"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		76°	36'	21"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **One Acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **C. Black and A. McClellan**

ORGANIZATION: **Maryland Historical Trust** DATE: **August 17, 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER: **2525 Riva Road**

CITY OR TOWN: **Annapolis** STATE: **Maryland 21401** CODE: **24**

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 the State of Maryland

Date August 21, 1972

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

Robert M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 6/18/73

ATTEST:
Bradford
Keeper of The National Register

Date June 5, 1973

Form 10-300a
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**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)

#6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS continued

Maryland Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks
State x

Maryland Historical Trust
2525 Riva Road
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Code 24



BALTIMORE EAST QUADRANGLE
USGS 7.5 minute map
scale: 1:24,000
1953 photorevised 1966

ENGINE HOUSE #6

17'30"



N

520 000
FEET

