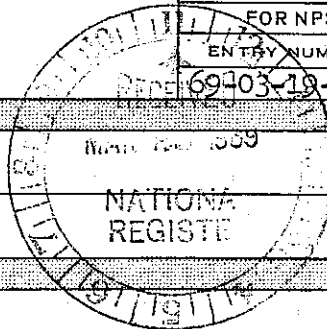


NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

COUNTY: Baltimore City.	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 69-03-19-0001	DATE 3/28/69



1. NAME	
COMMON: Fells Point Historic District	
AND/OR HISTORIC: Fells Point Historic District	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Boundaries as shown on annexed map			
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore City			
STATE Maryland	CODE 19	COUNTY: Baltimore City	CODE 510

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNERS NAME: Multiple public and private			
STREET AND NUMBER: City of Baltimore			
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore City	STATE: Maryland	CODE 19	STATE: Maryland

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Baltimore City Hall			
STREET AND NUMBER: Holliday Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore City	STATE: Maryland	CODE 19	STATE: Maryland
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 75 acres			

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: Maryland Register of historic sites and landmarks			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historical Trust			
STREET AND NUMBER: P. O. Box 1704			
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis	STATE: Maryland	CODE 19	STATE: Maryland

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland	COUNTY: Baltimore City	ENTRY NUMBER 69-03-19-0001	DATE 3/28/69
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FOR NPS USE ONLY

CONDITION	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>			Moved <input type="checkbox"/> Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE						
<p>Fells Point is a harborside residential and light industrial community that encompasses approximately <u>75</u> acres in the eastern section of the city of Baltimore, Maryland.</p> <p>The character of its townscape is set by its groupings of small, two and a half story houses which were the homes of the seamen, ships carpenters, sailmakers and other artisans involved in the port activities of the area. (Examples are the houses at 1631 and 1633 Lancaster Street, photographs of which are included in the attached materials.)</p> <p>These smaller houses are interspersed with occasional larger, more elaborate three and a half story houses which were the homes of the owners of the ship yards for which the area was famous and of prosperous merchants and sea captains. (Examples: Captain Steele House, 931 Fell Street; Captain Forbes House, 1626 Thames Street; Merchant's house at 1732 Thames Street -- photographs and descriptions included in attached material.)</p> <p>A few of the earliest houses in the area are built of wide beaded edge clapboards, as those at 709 - 719 South Ann Street, but the majority are of brick laid in Flemish bond, many with belt courses between the floors and moulded brick water tables at the base.</p> <p>Most of the approximately 475 houses within the boundaries of this historic area were built in the 18th and very early 19th centuries. Approximately 175 of these remain without significant alteration and the remainder have only been altered to the extent of having the roof raised to form a full third story.</p> <p>The area also has some interesting pre-Civil War warehouses like "Brown's Wharf" (See photo) at 1617 Thames Street, and a few good Victorian buildings (as at 817 South Bond Street) which mark the end of the building period in Fells Point.</p> <p>One of the area's most significant features is the still extant, large open market square on the water at the foot of Broadway which dates from the 18th century and still has the stall numbers carved in the curbstones. (Shown on plat in Baltimore City Archives dated 26 November 1773, with same dimensions and boundaries as existing square today. See also Chapter 24, Acts of the Maryland Assembly, Ordinance NO.58, 1781)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">[see Continuation Sheet]</p>						

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

Education

Urban Planning ☐Prehistoric ☐

Engineering

Other (Specify) ☒Historic ☐

Industry

ArchitectureAgriculture ☐

Invention

Shipbuilding

Art

Landscape

Commerce

Architecture ☐Communications ☐

Literature

Conservation ☐

Military

Music

Transportation

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

Fells Point is a unique 18th century residential neighborhood embracing a still active port and having much of its original architecture and its original town plan intact.

William Fell, a Quaker, settled and built his first storehouse on what later became Fells Point some time prior to 1763, when the section was laid out as a town by Edward Fell, his son. By 1770, a bustling harbor settlement had been established which traded Maryland's agricultural products with Europe and the West Indies. Fells Point was incorporated into Baltimore Town in 1773.

As the port of Baltimore grew, the earlier established port of Annapolis began to decline and the shipbuilding industry, concomitant with commerce, moved up the Chesapeake to be reestablished at Fells Point. In 1775 a Fells Point Ship Yard produced the first Frigate of the Continental Navy, the Virginia; in 1797 the Constellation was launched from its docks. Between 1784 and 1821 at least 800 ships were built at Fells Point shipyards, according to a Registry of Baltimore Shipping compiled by Howard I. Chapelle, Senior Historian, Department of Science and Technology, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.

It was the famous "Baltimore Clipper" for which Fells Point is best noted. A light-hulled topsail schooner with tall, raked masts "calculated for extraordinary sailing," the clipper, with its speed and maneuverability, was easily converted to an emergency warship. During the War of 1812, converted clippers sank 1700 British merchant vessels. From Baltimore alone, 126 privateers captured or damaged 556 British vessels. For this reason primarily, the British decided to attack Baltimore in 1814 to "clean out that nest of pirates."

This early maritime community stands almost intact with its strand -- Thames Street, its market place -- Broadway, and its rows of little houses in streets with names which
[see Continuation Sheet]

Scharf, J. T., History of Maryland; Hatboro, Penna.; Tradition Press, 1967. (facsimile reprint of 1879 edition)

Scharf, J. T., Chronicles of Baltimore; Baltimore, Md., Turnbull Bro., 1874.

Chapelle, Howard I., The History of the American Sailing Navy; Bonanza, 1949.

Chapelle, Howard I., The History of American Sailing Ships; Norton, 1935.

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	39 ° 17 ' 00 "	76 ° 35 ' 47 "				
NE	39 ° 17 ' 01 "	76 ° 35 ' 24 "				
SE	39 ° 16 ' 44 "	76 ° 35 ' 23 "				
SW	39 ° 16 ' 41 "	76 ° 35 ' 45 "				

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 Mar. 24, 1969
STREET AND NUMBER: P. O. Box 1704		
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis	STATE Maryland 21404	CODE 19

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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
Orlando Ridout IV

Title State Liaison Officer for Maryland

Date March 24, 1969

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest Allen Connolly
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date MAR 28 1969

ATTEST:

William J. Nuttall
Keeper of The National Register

Date MAR 27 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
69-03-19-0001	3/28/69

(Number all entries)

Fells Point Historic District

- #6. Society for the Preservation of Federal Hill,
Montgomery Street and Fells Point

July to November, 1967

Photographs and architectural description and
evaluation of houses within historic boundaries,

on file at 1815 Thames Street

Baltimore, Maryland 21231

Code: 19

Baltimore Heritage, Inc.

1963

7 volume photographic survey with sketchy archi-
tectural descriptions and dates

Peale Museum

225 N. Holliday Street

Baltimore, Maryland

Code: 19

- #7. Since World War II the area has suffered a decline,
which is accelerating with the current threat of the
proposed expressway, but it is a stable community of
middle class working people. Since 1967 there has been
a widespread revival of interest in the architecture and
history of the area, and restoration of a number of pro-
perties began in 1968.

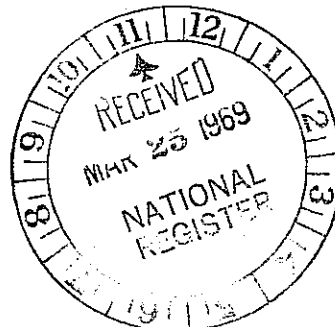
See attached reprint of a description of Fells Point
from: Segment Area Report 4

Urban Design Concept Associates

A Joint Venture -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill;

J. E. Greiner Company; Parsons, Brinckerhoff,

Quade & Douglas; Wilbur Smith & Associates.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Baltimore City	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
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69-03-19-0001	3/28/69

(Number all entries)

Fells Point Historic District

- #8. tell of the origins of its early settlers -- Fleet, Bond, Thames, Lancaster, Shakespeare, Wolfe and Caroline.

See attached: Warner & Hanna Map of Baltimore, 1799
(Fells Point Historic District marked off in red)
with comment on the urban development.

Reproduced from: Segment Area Report 4
Urban Design Concept Associates

A Joint Venture -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; J. E. Greiner Company; Parsons, Brinckerhoff, Quade & Douglas; Wilbur Smith & Associates.

- #9. Howland, Richard H., and Spencer, Eleanor, Architecture of Baltimore; Johns Hopkins University Press, 1953.

J. C. Gleason & R. L. Eney,
Co-Chairmen of the Committee on Architectural History
Society for the Preservation of Federal Hill,
Montgomery Street and Fells Point
Address: 1815 Thames Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21231 Code: 19

