

Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No.

B- 3742

Magi No.

0437424611

yes \_\_\_ no

RECEIVED

OCT 4 1983

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name) MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

historic West Arlington Engine House #46

and/or common Stevenson Enterprises, Inc., T/A Design Construction Group

**2. Location**

street & number 5116 Reisterstown Road \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Baltimore \_\_\_ vicinity of 3rd congressional district

state Maryland county

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mayor and City Council

street & number 200 Holliday Street telephone no.: 396-3631

city, town Baltimore state and zip code Maryland 21202

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Board of County Commissioners  
Towson Courthouse liber JWS

street & number 401 Bosley Avenue folio 188-202

city, town Towson state Maryland 21204

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title N/A

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. B-3742

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved      date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	First expansion (1888); second expansion (1918).	

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The property is located on the southwest side of Reisterstown Road in the middle of the block, having a front along Reisterstown Road of approximately 48 feet by an even distance perpendicular to Reisterstown Road of 100 feet comprising a total area of approximately 4800 square feet. The existing two story brick structure has been added to several times over the years. They consist of the engine house, a two-story brick addition; an extension of the engine house including two, one-story wood frame additions which have a half basement. The windows are double hung, primarily one over one. The fire-bay doors are four panel one light doors, approximately five feet by ten feet with three rod iron strapped hinges at the upper, lower and middle points of doors. On the front of the building is a flag pole and decorative cornice. A hose tower is located at the rear of the firehouse, and also houses the chimney for the building and towers approximately forty-five to fifty feet above the ground.

### Summary Description:

The two-story brick structure is to be preserved in its present state maintaining its architectural charm. The building will be used as professional office space and headquarters for Stevenson Enterprises, Inc., T/A Design Construction Group. The windows and exterior doors of the front facade are to maintain existing character of the original design. The interior will be modernized and refurbished in accordance with the plans. The old engine room, which houses the hose tower, shall be preserved. The one-story brick addition is to be preserved in its present state maintaining its architectural charm; however, the one-story wood fill storage addition will be demolished because the area is an unheated space and will no longer be needed for storage.

# 8. Significance

Survey No.

B-3742

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1891 Builder/Architect Joseph J. Willis

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D and/or

Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The West Arlington Fire House Station dates back historically to the late 1800's.<sup>1</sup> Because of this one factor alone, we feel that the firehouse has great historic significance and should be nominated as a property deserving to be included in the National Register. The architectural charm of the firehouse, which includes the hose tower, engine house, firebay doors, flag pole, decorative cornice and the red brick color will greatly enhance the appearance of the district, especially since the building is located in the Park Heights Urban Renewal Area. If the property is included in the National Register in this area, it will definitely extend the focal attention to much needed areas of improvement while, at the same time, upgrading the Northwest Business District. It will be an historical asset, indeed, for the resident and business concerns to view the present Fire Station #46 located at Reisters-town and Rogers Avenue, and at the same time see the reserved structure of the building, historically, as it stands today.

<sup>1</sup> Maryland Journal, Volume Eight, Page 387.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. B-3742

The Unheralded Heroes  
By: William A. Murray  
Page 76 (See Attached Article) - EXHIBIT I

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .1101 acres

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting NorthingB 

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Zone Easting NorthingC 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

See Attached Plot Plan - Exhibit II

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cassandra Y. Vick, Office Managerorganization Stevenson Enterprises, Inc., T/A Design Construction Group date September 28, 1983street & number 5118 Reisterstown Road telephone (301)466-6769city or town Baltimore state Maryland 21215

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

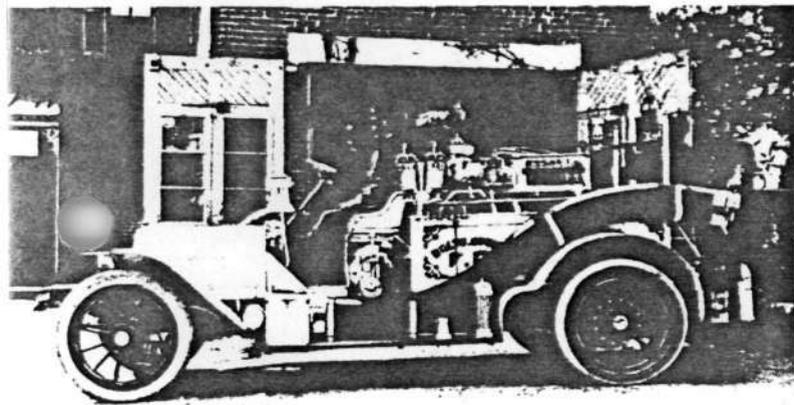
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

Needless to say, the runabout was demolished. Chief Branon was in his 40th year in the service, 21 as District Engineer No. 3, and was 73 years old. Ladderman Perry recovered and returned to duty six months later. He was 51 years old, and was appointed to the Department two months before the accident.

### 1919

The year 1919 was to be the greatest in the history of the Department. Baltimore City annexed almost 60 square miles, extending north, east and west into Baltimore County for about four miles in each direction. From Anne Arundel County, a strip of land up to two miles deep along the Patapsco River as far as Hawkins Point, seven miles away in a southeasterly direction became part of the city, now comprising almost 92 square miles, embracing 9 miles East to West and 12 North to South.



American LaFrance Triple-Combination Engine  
Received in 1919 from Baltimore County

Without interruption, seven paid Baltimore County Companies were placed in active city service on January 1, as follows:

- No. 41 Pumper No. 8, Highlandtown,  
Capt. John W. Hickel, ALF-type 12\*
- No. 42 Pumper No. 9 Gardenville,  
Lt. Fred P. Klaburner, ALF-type 12\*
- No. 43 Pumper No. 10, Govanstown,  
Lt. Wilbert W. Sindall, ALF-type 75\*
- No. 44 Pumper No. 11, Roland Park,  
Lt. John D. Meakin, Webb-Thomas\*
- No. 45 Pumper No. 2, Mt. Washington,  
Lt. John E. Scarff, ALF-type 12

\*The Webb Thomas firm was located in St. Louis, Mo. No. 43 had the first American LaFrance type 75, a 750 GPM piston engine in the city. The type 12 was a 1,000 GPM rotary engine.

### No. 46 Pumper No. 3, Arlington

Lt. Johnathan Tracy, ALF-type 12

### No. 47 Pumper No. 6, Mt. Winans,

Lt. Philip Grace, ALF-type 12

Pumper No. 14 in Highlandtown and Ladder No. 12 in Roland Park were disbanded. Captain Hickel was Chief of the County's Eastern Division. The Lieutenants were formerly County Captains.



A central fire alarm office in the Govanstown firehouse was kept in operation until September 16, 1921, the alarms being known as annex boxes and transmitted only to the above companies.

The grade of Pipeman and Ladderman were grouped together and henceforth known as Fireman.

A substantial increase in annual salary was granted. The Chief Engineer now received \$3,700; Deputy Chief Engineer \$2,900; District Engineer \$2,150; Captain \$1,800; Lieutenant \$1,675; Engineman \$1,750; Assistant Engineman \$1,600, and Fireman \$1,500. The Department Physician and Surgeon \$2,400, (part-time).

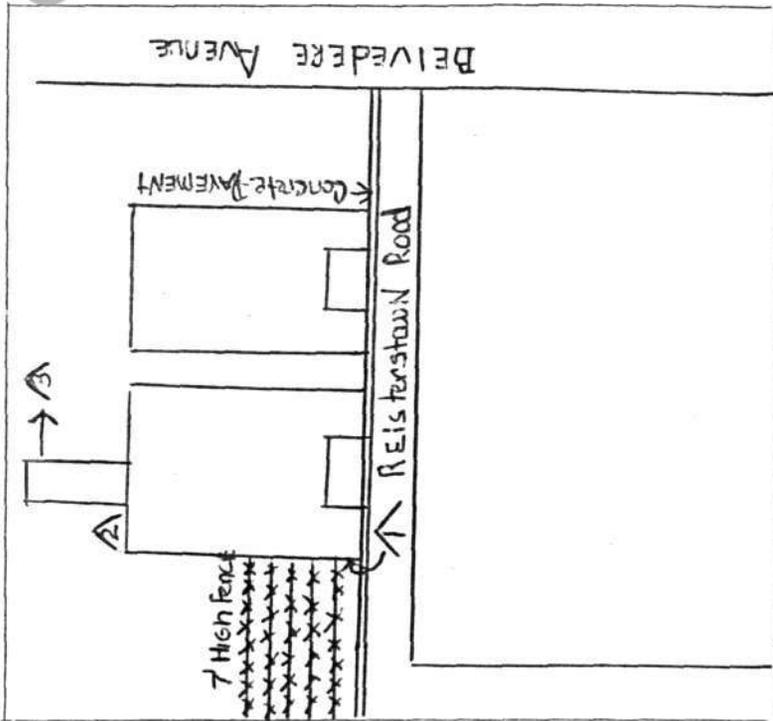


On January 8, 1919, while refueling Engine No. 43 in its firehouse, gasoline being poured into the tank became ignited by fumes from the lighted lantern on the rig. Flames set the ceiling afire, and spread upward into the Fire Alarm Annex Office. The fire on the rig burned the seat and a section of hose. Meanwhile, upstairs, Fire Alarm Operator John L. Farley displayed heroic efforts by using a portable extinguisher, containing the fire, thereby saving the building. Afterwards, he was highly commended by the Board.

Just before the fire, District Engineer No. 8, J. Walter Bradley, on his weekly inspection ordered that the lanterns be lighted at sunset and placed on the rig.

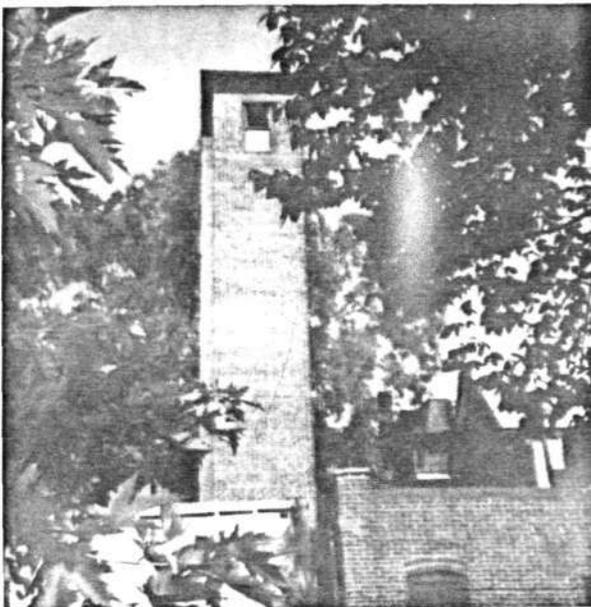
On January 9, 1919, Box No. 349 was sounded at 6:05 a.m. The Seventh Baptist Church, northwest corner of St. Paul St. and North Ave. was afire. The third alarm was sounded at 6:16, and a second alarm, sounded by Chief Engineer Emrich, from Box No. 345 at 6:47. The flames blackened the grey stone walls and the imposing bell tower while completely gutting the interior of the handsome edifice, only the stone walls and imposing tower remained still standing.

WEST ARLINGTON FIRE STATION  
5116 Reisterstown Road  
Baltimore, Maryland 21215



SKETCH MAP SHOWING PHOTO LOCATION

1-FRONT OF BUILDING  
Southwest Position, Northwest  
View



3-HOSE TOWER - REAR OF BUILDING  
West Position

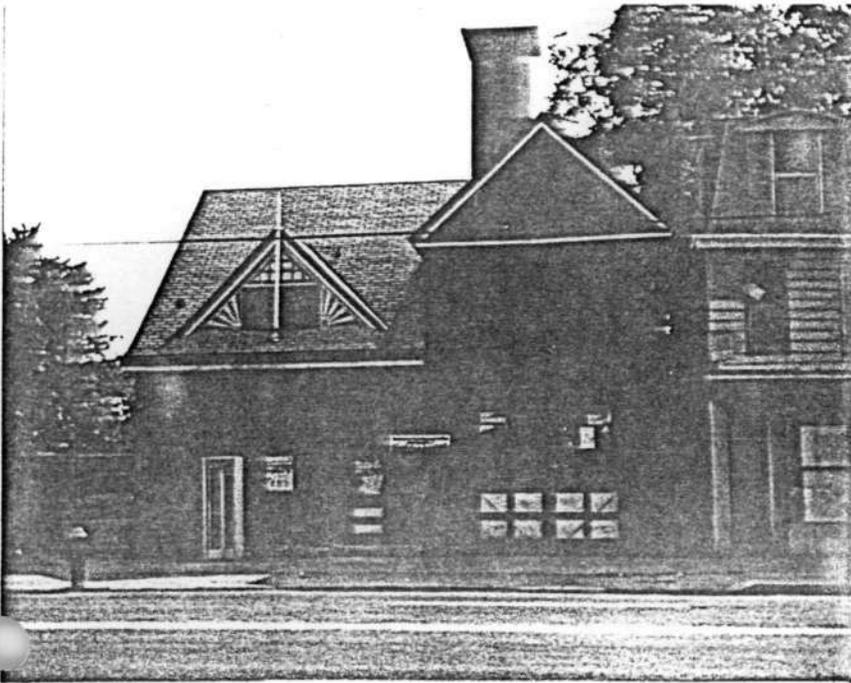


2-REAR OF BUILDING-South Elevation  
North Position

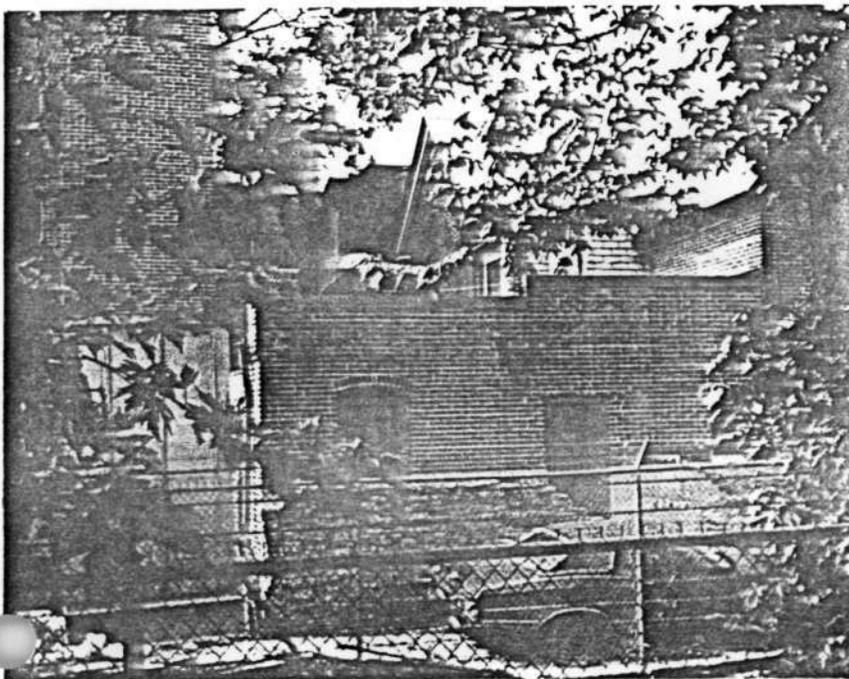
WEST ARLINGTON FIRE-  
HOUSE #46

5116 Reisterstown Road

(Before Mode)



Subject Property, Frontage/  
To the Southwest



Rear and South side of Property/  
To the Northwest

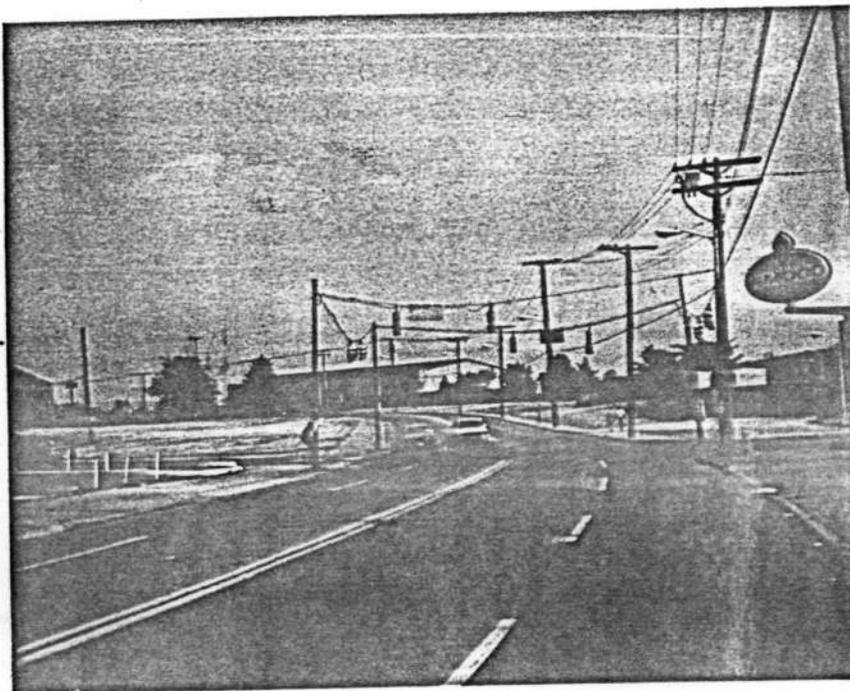
WEST ARLINGTON FIRE-  
HOUSE #46

5116 Reisterstown Road

(Before Mode)

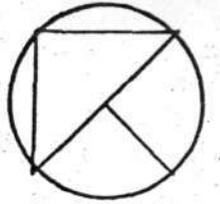


Street scene of Reisterstown  
Road, at the point of the  
Subject/To the Northwest.



View of Reisterstown Road,  
rapid rail system depot in  
background/To the Southeast  
(at the point of the Subject)

REISTERSTOWN ROAD  
(PAVED 40.2' ASPHALT)



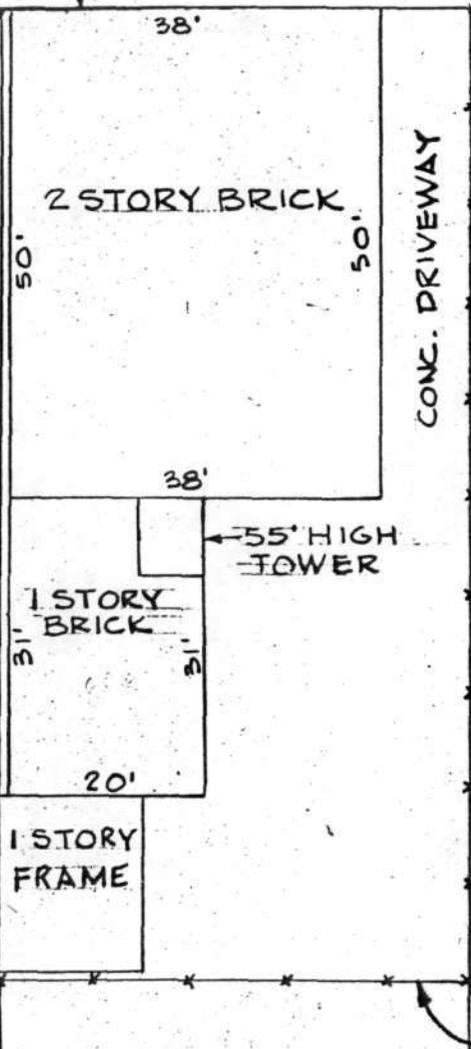
CONC. CURB

18.9' CW

SOUTHEASTERLY 48'  
18.9' CW

177' TO BELVEDERE AVE.

NORTHEASTERLY 100'



SOUTHWESTERLY 100' 3/4"

NORTH WESTERLY 48'

NOTE:  
ASSESSED AS LOT 3,  
WARD 28, SECTION 1,  
BLOCK 4570.

**PLOT PLAN**

5116 REISTERSTOWN ROAD  
BALTIMORE CITY, MD.

B-3742

100'

FENCE

DRIVEWAY

OFFICE

OFFICE

STORAGE

EMPLOYEE  
PARKING

FENCE

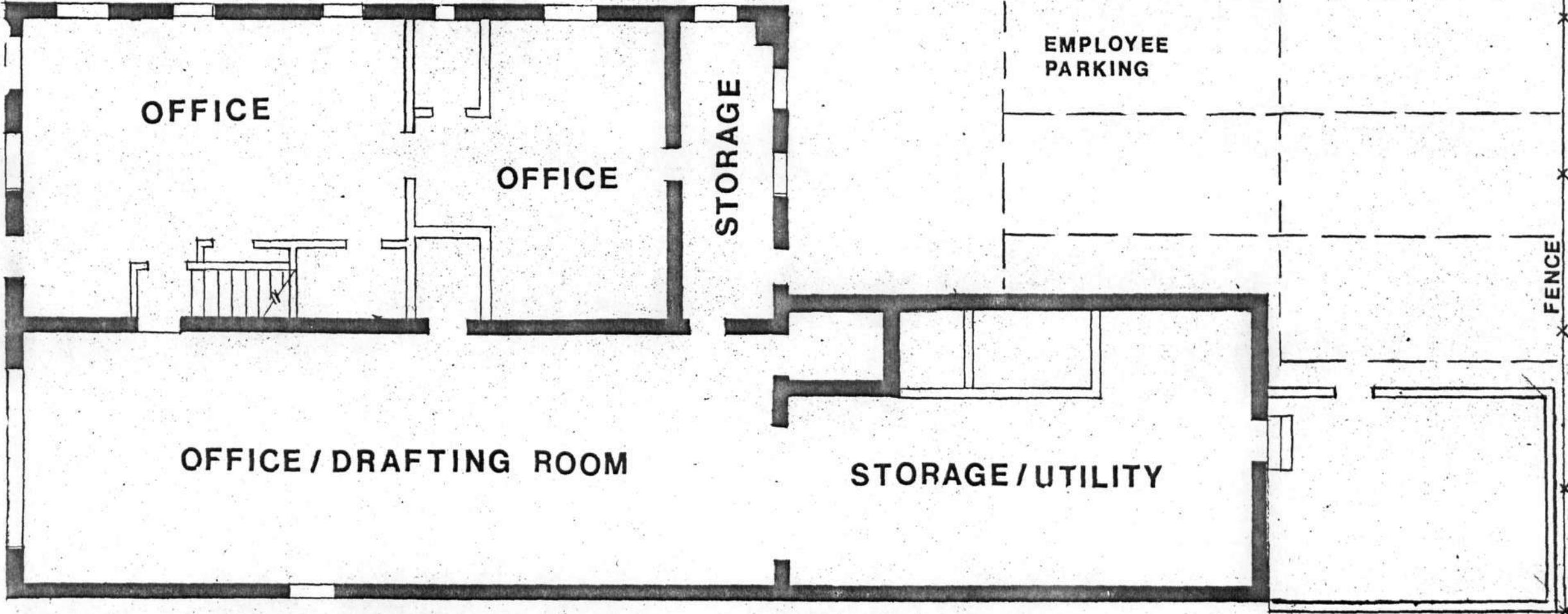
48'

OFFICE / DRAFTING ROOM

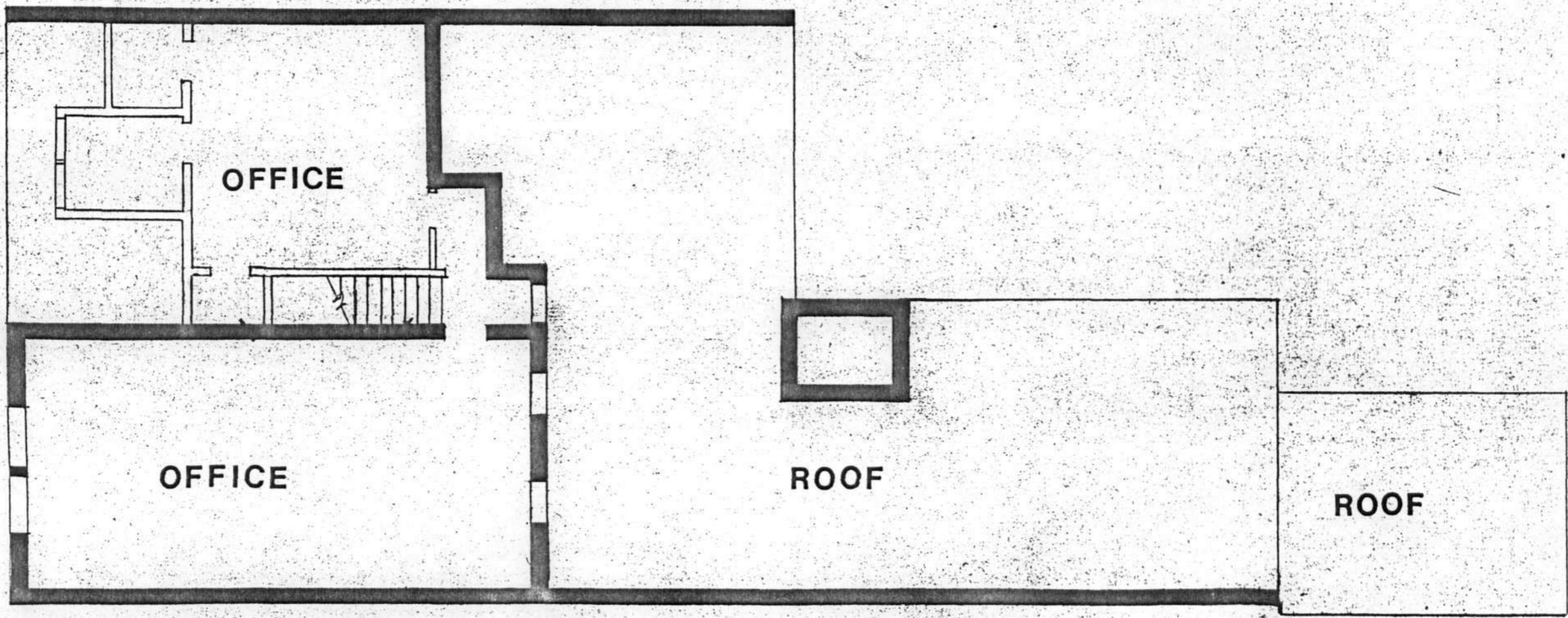
STORAGE / UTILITY

# FIRST FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



B-374a



**SECOND FLOOR PLAN** SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



B-3742  
West Arlington Engine House #46  
5116 Reisterstown Road  
Block 4570 Lot 003  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore West Quad

