

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

2100 WEST LANVALE STREET (INDUSTRIAL BUILDING)
(The Living Word Church of Deliverance)
(Midtown Edmondson Historic District)

HABS No. MD-1433

Location: 2100 West Lanvale Street, Baltimore, Maryland.

2100 West Lanvale Street is located at latitude: 39.297658, longitude: -76.650748. The coordinates represent the approximate center of the building and were obtained on 18 April 2022, using Google Earth (WGS84). There is no restriction on their release to the public.

Significance: 2100 West Lanvale Street was constructed between 1901 and 1914 as part of the Henry G. Von Heine, Inc. coal yard located along the Baltimore & Potomac (Pennsylvania) rail line. The building continued to serve as part of a coal yard until approximately 1950, when it was used by the Tasty Lunchbox Service. Between 1958 and 2002, the building was used by the Chase Waterproofing Company and the E.B. Justice Company, both waterproofing businesses. After being briefly occupied by Ronnies Chair Clinic, the building was purchased by The Old Time Way Church of Deliverance in 2002 and converted to a religious building. The church changed its name to The Living Word Church of Deliverance in 2014 and continued to use the building until 2022. As a former industrial building associated with the rail line, 2100 West Lanvale Street contributes to the significance of the National Register-eligible Midtown Edmondson Historic District.

Description: The building at 2100 West Lanvale Street is a single-story, flat-roof masonry structure that is approximately 25' x 75'. The south façade wall facing West Lanvale Street is parged with smooth, gray-painted concrete. The symmetrical façade has a single center doorway accessed by two concrete steps and a landing. The residential-style white paneled door with a lunette window is protected by a decorative black metal and glass storm door. Identical single one-over-one windows flank the doorway. Each window has a painted brick sill and is protected by a black metal mesh security screen. There is a wood coping with overlapping roll-roofing material that has been painted gray to match the parged wall below. There are two vertical painted wood 2" x 4"s attached to the wall surface between the doorway and each flanking window. The 2" x 4" on the east side has black metal numerals attached that read "2100." Above the west side of the doorway is a surface-mounted vertical electrical conduit with a twin-head spotlight. A second surface-mounted vertical electrical conduit that leads to a junction box is located above the west side of the doorway. Two horizontal surface-mounted conduits extend eastward and westward, terminating in industrial-style security lights that extend out from the wall

surface on metal brackets.

The east elevation wall facing North Pulaski Street is mostly parged with smooth gray painted concrete, with the exception of two sections. There is painted concrete block flanking the grade-level main entrance located near the center of the masonry wall, and also a small painted wood addition near the north end of the elevation. The east elevation masonry wall height varies and is divided into four sections. The southernmost section matches the height of the south façade wall. The next section to the north rises approximately 8" to form a parapet under which is located the main entrance door and a vinyl canopy. The next section of wall to the north drops down approximately 8" (matching the southernmost section). The northernmost section drops down another approximately 8". The wood addition is located near the center of this northernmost section. All four sections of the masonry wall appear to have a ceramic coping, but it is difficult to confirm due to the wall's deteriorated state.

The east elevation masonry wall has a main entrance door located near the center of the wall. The door is painted white and has six square picture-frame appliques arrayed in a cruciform configuration with a glass pane set within the square located at the intersection of the cross. Above this door is a blue vinyl canopy that is approximately 12'-0" wide by 3'-0" high. There are no windows on the east elevation, but it is penetrated by three projecting air conditioners. One air conditioner is on the southern end of the wall and the two others are located on the northern side between the main doorway and the wooden shed addition. The air conditioners are located at the top of three "ghost" outlines visible beneath the parging that indicate the presence of infilled former openings.

Additional items surface-mounted to the east elevation wall include an approximately 2'-0" wide x 1'-6" high metal sign panel for the church located near the south end of the wall, an electrical meter and vertical wooden conduit post located just north of the entry door, a drain leader south of the addition, and six twin-head spotlights mounted equally spaced and connected by conduit near the top of the wall. There is what appears to be a PVC drainpipe exiting the top of the masonry wall running vertically into the ground north of the addition.

The wood addition at the north end of the east elevation has an asphalt tiled shed roof sloping downward from west to east. Its three walls are wood-framed with inset panels of T1-11 plywood. The single-leaf doorway on the east elevation of the wood addition is protected by a black steel mesh security door.

Only a 4' portion of the north elevation wall is visible at the east corner. The remainder of the wall is obscured by thick vegetation and was inaccessible

behind chain-link fencing at the time of the survey. The visible portion of the wall is exposed concrete block construction. The west elevation was completely obscured by vegetation and rendered inaccessible by a chain-link security fence at the time of the survey.

2100 West Lanvale Street was occupied by The Living Word Church of Deliverance at the time of the survey. The interior is partitioned into one large room used for religious services and meetings and several smaller rooms including a commercial kitchen, a utility room with a furnace, men's and women's single toilet restrooms, and a storage room.

History: Constructed between 1901 and 1914, 2100 West Lanvale Street is located within the Midtown Edmondson Historic District, an area that is described in the final draft National Register of Historic Places nomination as “associated with the development of Baltimore during a period of rapid industrial expansion and population growth during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.”¹ The 1914 Sanborn map shows this building within the Henry G. Von Heine Coal Company Yard. Also in the yard was a smaller detached office building and scales located to the west of the main building and three coal trestles situated on rail sidings.² The 1940 map of railroad sidings in the City of Baltimore shows the siding at this location leading to the “Lawrence, A. F. Coal Co.; Von Heine, Henry G., Inc.”³

According to Baltimore business and telephone directories, in 1946 the building and site were shared by the Von Heine, Lawrence, Wilcox, and Winter coal companies. On the 1950 Sanborn map, the yard is labeled “Von Heine – Chesapeake Company Coal Yard” and a small addition that houses scales is shown on the west side of the main building, connecting it to the small building and scale building shown on the 1914 map. Although the site is still marked as a coal yard, the main building is labeled as a “kitchen,” which is consistent with the 1950 city telephone directory that indicates the building was being used by the Tasty Lunchbox Service.⁴

¹ Eli Pousson, “Midtown Edmondson Historic District,” National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form (draft), Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2015.

² Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Baltimore, Independent Cities, Maryland, Vol. 2, 1914, Image 59, Map 158, https://www.loc.gov/resource/g3844bm.g3844bm_g03573191402/?sp=59&st=image&r=-0.078,-0.029,1.535,0.715,0, accessed 20 April 2024.

³ Industrial Bureau, Baltimore Association of Commerce, *Location Map (and Key) of Railroad Sidings and Industrial Tracks in Baltimore*, 1940 (on file at the Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Maryland).

⁴ Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Baltimore, Independent Cities, Maryland, Vol. 2, 1914 (updated 1950), Image 59, Map 158, https://www.loc.gov/resource/g3844bm.g3844bm_g03573195002/?sp=59&st=image&r=-0.311,-0.049,1.318,0.832,0, accessed 20 April 2024; The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Baltimore City's annual telephone directories, 1946, 1950.

On the 1971, 1974, and 1982 Sanborn maps, the site is no longer labeled a coal yard, but instead the main building is labeled “coating and insulation, staging plaster walls.” This is consistent with the information in the telephone directories that indicate that by 1958 the Chase Waterproofing Company was using the building. Between 1958 and 2002, the building was shared by the Chase Waterproofing Company and the E.B. Justice Company, which were both waterproofing businesses.⁵

The 2002 Stewart Directory lists the Ronnies Chair Clinic as the occupant; however, in March 2002, The Old Time Way Church of Deliverance, Inc. purchased the property.⁶ In 2004, following a series of violence in the city involving youth, the church hosted a gathering of approximately thirty-five members of the community “for a spiritual gathering dedicated to ending the violence.”⁷ The church changed its name to The Living Word Church of Deliverance, Inc. in 2014 and it continued to use the building until 2022.⁸

Sources: The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Baltimore City, annual telephone directories, 1946-2002 (on file at the Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Maryland).

Environmental Data Resources, Inc. *The EDR-City Directory Abstract, 2100 West Lanvale Street, Baltimore, MD 21217*, 20 May 2019.

Fidelity National Title Insurance Company of New York. *60 Year Title Search*, 16 February 2021.

Industrial Bureau, Baltimore Association of Commerce. *Location Map (and Key) of Railroad Sidings and Industrial Tracks in Baltimore*, 1940 (on file at the Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Maryland).

“Man, 19, Charged in Shooting of Four After High School Football Game,” *The Sun* [Baltimore], 31 October 2004, B1. <https://www.newspapers.com/>, accessed 11 January 2024.

Pousson, Eli. “Midtown Edmondson Historic District.” National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form (draft). Washington, DC: U.S.

⁵ Sanborn Map Company, Baltimore, Maryland, 1971, 1974, and 1982, “Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps,” Collection of Environmental Data Resources; Environmental Data Resources, Inc., *The EDR-City Directory Abstract*; The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Baltimore City’s annual telephone directories, 1958-2002.

⁶ Environmental Data Resources, Inc. *The EDR-City Directory Abstract*; Fidelity National Title Insurance Company of New York, *60 Year Title Search*, 16 February 2021, 11.

⁷ “Man, 19, Charged in Shooting of Four After High School Football Game,” *The Sun* [Baltimore], 31 October 2004, B1, <https://www.newspapers.com/>, accessed 11 January 2024.

⁸ Fidelity National Title Insurance Company of New York, *60 Year Title Search*, 16 February 2021, 10.

Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2015.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Baltimore, Independent Cities, Maryland.

____. Sanborn Map Company, Vol. 2, 1914, Image 59, Map 158.

https://www.loc.gov/resource/g3844bm.g3844bm_g03573191402/?sp=59&st=image&r=-0.566,0.03,2.132,0.993,0, accessed 20 April 2024.

____. Sanborn Map Company, Vol. 2, 1914 (updated 1950), Image 59, Map 158.

https://www.loc.gov/resource/g3844bm.g3844bm_g03573195002/?sp=59&st=image&r=0.66,0.769,0.381,0.241,0, accessed 20 April 2024.

Sanborn Map Company. Baltimore, Maryland, 1971, 1974, 1984.

“Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps.” Collection of Environmental Data Resources, Inc.

Historians: Nancy L. Zerbe; Steven Patrick, ARCH², Inc., 2021-2024

Project

Information: Documentation of 2100 West Lanvale Street was undertaken in 2021-2024 as mitigation in accordance with the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement for the Frederick Douglass Tunnel Program, formerly the Baltimore & Potomac (B&P) Tunnel Replacement Program. 2100 West Lanvale Street will be demolished to make way for realignment of the Northeast Corridor associated with a new 1.9-mile-long tunnel north of the existing tunnel alignment. The documentation project was sponsored by the United States Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak), in coordination with the Maryland Historical Trust. It was prepared by Nancy L. Zerbe, Principal Investigator, and Steven Patrick, Historian, of ARCH², Inc. Renee Bieretz prepared the large-format photography. Christopher H. Marston, HAER Architect, advised the project.