NPS Form 10-900
(Expires 5/31/2012)

OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Hebrew Orphan Asylum

other names: B-5180; West Baltimore General Hospital, Lutheran Hospital of Maryland, Tuerk House

2. Location

street & number: 2700 Rayner Avenue / 730 North Ashburton ☐ not for publication

city or town: Baltimore ☐ vicinity

state: Maryland code: MD county: Baltimore City code: 510 zip code: 21204

3. 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Elizabeth Hughes /DSHPO — 9.9.10
Signature of certifying official/Title — Date

Maryland Historical Trust
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. 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

Edson H. Beall — 10.28.10

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2		Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/institutional housing
EDUCATION/schools
HEALTH CARE/hospital

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE
HEALTH CARE/clinic

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN/Romanesque
LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/ Late Colonial Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE
walls BRICK
roof ASPHALT
other

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Area of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

ETHNIC HERITAGE
HEALTH/MEDICINE

Period of Significance

1876-1944

Significant Dates

1876
1944

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Lupus & Roby (architect) / Brady, Edward (builder)
Hopkins, Henry Powell (architect) / John K. Ruff Company (builder)

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

Previous documentation on files (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 #_____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☒ Other

Name of repository:
Jewish Museum of Maryland

Hebrew Orphan Asylum (B-5180)
Name of Property

Baltimore, MD
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.884 acres

Baltimore West, MD quad

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	18	356630	4350807
2			
3			
4			

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Eli Pousson, Field Officer

Organization Baltimore Heritage, Inc. date March 2010

street & number 11 ½ West Chase Street telephone 410-332-9992

city or town Baltimore state MD zip code 21201

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name Coppin State College / Tuerk House Properties, Inc.

street & number 2500 W North Avenue, Unit 2 / 6200 N Charles St, Unit 1 telephone 410-951-3000 / 410-233-0684

city or town Baltimore state MD zip code 21216 / 21212

Paperwork Reduction Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et. seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

Description Summary:

The Hebrew Orphan Asylum (HOA) is an 1875 four-story brick Romanesque structure located at southwest corner of the block defined by West Lanvale Street on the north, Ashburton Street on the east, Rayner Avenue on the south, and North Dukeland Street on the west, with the primary facade on Rayner Street. The HOA is substantially attached by a four-story brick hyphen to the 1944 three-story Colonial Revival building known as the Tuerk House located at the southeast corner of the block facing Ashburton Street. The area to the north of these structures within the boundaries of the block and the large block immediately to the west of these buildings was formerly the site of several additional structures associated with the Hebrew Orphan Asylum, the West Baltimore General Hospital, and the Lutheran Hospital of Maryland. These associated structures were demolished in early 2009 and these spaces currently remain vacant green space.

General Description:

Built in 1875, the Hebrew Orphan Asylum is a Romanesque building composed of a four-story central block flanked on the east and west by two three-story wings all built from red brick with stone trim. The corners of the wings and the corners of the central block feature octagonal turrets extending above the roof line. The primary south facade is symmetrical in composition and characterized by a large central porch that provides access to the first floor of the building. Both the wings and central block are sheltered by a flat asphalt clad roof and the central block features a parapet roof projecting up around the front and both sides. The brick is laid in a running bond pattern.

The east and west wings are slab on grade and the ground floor of the center core is framed over a crawl space below. Both wings are four bays wide on the front, four bays deep, and five bays wide at the rear. The central block, including the octagonal turrets located at the southeast and southwest corners, is five bays wide and six bays deep. The following detailed description begins with the primary south facade and continues to the west facade and the rear north facade, before describing the relationship of the HOA to the attached Tuerk House on the east façade and the interior.

The south facade is symmetrical, with no windows remaining extant throughout the structure. The central block is characterized by a large central porch, sheltered by a projecting roof and served by a set of stone steps that rise from the ground level to meet a landing at the porch on the first level. Across the wings, the central block, and the central turrets, the base projects slightly out from the facade bringing these windows slightly forward from the plane defined by the upper stories.

At the ground floor is a row of short window openings composed of segmental arches and unornamented stone sills aligned with a row of taller windows on the first floor. The four ground floor openings on the west wing are all filled in with concrete block. The remaining ground floor windows are secured with a combination of metal grates and plywood. Both turrets feature one of these ground floor windows on the front of the base and a second narrower window opening of similar design facing away from the central porch. The projecting brick base of the porch includes two similar ground floor windows on the west and east sides. This row of ground floor windows is separated from the first floor by a decorative string course of molded brick that wraps continuously around the west, south, and east sides of the building, only breaking at the central porch.

The first floor is defined by a row of tall windows composed of round arches and plain stone sills. The arches terminate in plain stone blocks adjoining the window openings on the wings and towers and decoratively detailed stone blocks adjoining the window openings on the central block. Each wing includes four window openings spaced evenly across the facade. On the central block two paired window openings flank the central porch and each of the central turrets includes similar windows on both the front and that face away from the porch. The porch is a two-story brick projection with a flat roof and large brick columns at the southern most corners. The porch is open on both sides with round arch openings above a low wall on both sides of the porch. The porch is accessed by a short flight of stone steps and further embellished by two smooth stone Corinthian columns recessed into the corner of both brick columns. The decorative details from the capital of each stone column wrap around the top of the brick columns to form a larger decorative element. Above the roof line of the porch is a low stone parapet wrapping around the porch roof and detailed with inset panels and other decorative elements. The primary entrance is an opening with a round arch and set of double wooden doors. The door has multiple lights but is only partially visible under plywood panels that secure the building. The first floor and the second floor are separated by a string course aligned with the sill for all windows on the second floor. On the central block and turrets the course is stone with a decorative profile. Below this course, the turrets change from a rectangular to octagonal profile and reduce their projection. The bases of the turrets are capped with modest stone details that transition into the stone belt course. On the wings the course is brick, except where it intersects with the sills of the window openings which are composed of stone. The course continues across these transitions, wraps the turrets at the corners and continues on to the east face and west face of the building.

The second floor features identical rows of windows with four windows on each wing, similar to the windows immediately below but slightly shorter. As on the first floor the arch windows terminate in plain stone blocks on the wings and decorative stone details on the central block. Immediately above the central porch is a single arch window below a stone panel, equal in width

to the porch with the incised all capitals text, "Hebrew Orphan Asylum." To each side of this window is a pair of two arch windows, similar to those on the central block at the first floor. The central turrets feature four windows each, similar in appearance to the windows at the wings but substantially narrower, with one window on each of the four projecting faces of the octagonal profile turret. Above this row of windows is a stone course that wraps each turret to meet the bottom edge of the galvanized iron turret on each wing. Both wings terminate at the second floor with a galvanized iron cornice. This projecting cornice has very modest details and features a repeating pattern that takes on the appearance of regularly spaced brackets that flow into the cornice line. The turrets at the west and east corners of the wings are discussed further in the descriptions of the west and east face of the structure. The second and third floors are separated by a stone course that defines the top edge of the incised stone panel and the sills for all windows on the third floor of the central block, and wraps around both central columns to meet the wings near the top edge of the cornice.

The third floor of the central block departs from the design on the first and second floors. The single center window on the second floor is replaced by a pair of windows with a single decorative stone column at the center. This window pair is flanked on both sides by groupings of three windows. These pairs are detailed with a more modest design than the window pairs on the first and second floors, each window is slightly shorter and narrower, but they retain the molded brick arched opening. The arched openings of the central pair flow into a molded brick course that wraps around the central projection to meet the stone detail at the interior edge of both adjoining window pairs. Above these windows is a brick course that wraps around the front of the central block and both turrets, and continues around the east and west face of the central block above the wings to end at the rear. Above this brick course is the galvanized iron cornice that wraps around the projecting central bay and terminates at the edge of the turrets on both sides of the central block. The full entablature resembles a Lombard band with repetitive arches below a modest Doric cornice. In line with the cornice line on the central block, turrets have blind openings matching the pattern of window openings on the lower floors. Above these openings are the caps of the turrets wrapped with an identical cornice to that on the central block and the wings. The cornice continues from the turret on to the interior edge of a parapet wall that projects above the roof of the central block. While the cornice terminates after a short distance, the parapet roof continues until it meet the rear wall of the central block. The roof of the central block is flat with the exception of a large octagonal opening in the center of the roof, formerly serving as a domed skylight.

The west face of the building is four bays wide with windows similar to those on the south face of the east and west wings. The ground floor window openings have segmental arch tops and stone sills. On the ground floor the second bay south from the northwest corner has been

enlarged to reach the ground level. All four ground floor windows have been filled with concrete block. The shallow projection of the base of the structure and the base of the turrets at the steps in to match the profile of the south face. The windows on the second and third floors have arched openings identical to those on the south face without the stone block detailing. The turrets attached to the wings are more narrow than those flanking the central block and thus do not accommodate window openings. Instead a narrow inset slot extending to the same height as the windows on the wings is located at the center of each of the five exposed faces of the octagonal turret. On both turrets between the second and third floor is a stone course that wraps all faces of the turret. Above this is a second stone course in line with the brick course that wraps around both wings and the center of the structure. The windows on the west face follow a similar pattern as those on the south face as the stone sills appear in line with the molded brick course. Above the windows is the cornice identical in design to the cornice on the south face of the building. On the turrets, above this stone course is a repetition of the slots on the first floor, following by a detailed brick course in line with the bottom edge of the cornice on both the wings and the central block. Immediately above this course are slots, shorter than but otherwise identical to those below. The turrets then terminate in a cornice identical in design to that on the wings and central block.

The north rear face of the building is largely unornamented and divided between the central block that projects out into the rear area beyond the end of the wings. A three-story scaffold is currently attached to the left side of the central block to provide maintenance access to the roof. A black painted steel stair provides access to a metal door at the first floor of the central block. A rectangular area of brick surrounding the door is lighter in color, a ghost of the kitchen that was attached to the rear of the central block from its construction in 1875 through the 1970s. Below the door is an opening at the ground level with a large door and a plywood panel. It is unclear if this is a historic opening or an opening created by the recent stabilization of the structure.
The east face is largely obscured by its attachment to the Tuerk House by a four-story brick hyphen. However, the turrets and window openings are largely identical to the turrets and window openings found on the west face of the building. The hyphen is three bays wide and four-stories tall, beginning at a lower grade than the HOA at the base of the Tuerk House and ending at the bottom edge of the cornice of the east face of the building. The hyphen is equal in depth to the east face of the HOA, beginning at the edge of the southeast corner turret and continuing in depth to the edge of the northeast corner turret. The structure is composed of a dark brown brick laid in Flemish bond. The windows are all modern double-hung sash windows either 6/6 or 6/1, although the lower sash in several windows is obscured by window unit air conditioners or plywood boards. Each floor has three windows with the openings on each floor aligned above the floor below. The exception is the ground floor where the right side of the south face is covered by the ground and a metal door is located at the far right bay.

The 1944 Tuerk House is a four-story Colonial Revival structure composed of a medium brown brick laid in Flemish bond. The L-shaped building is seven bays deep on the south face by fifteen bays wide on the east face. The north-south leg of the leg is 3 bays wide on the north face and the east-west leg of the hyphen is four bays deep. The building is set on a lower grade than the Hebrew Orphan Asylum. The windows are identical to those in the attached hyphen being double-hung sash 6/6 windows. Below each window is a metal vent painted white, with a few exceptions where a vent opening has been visibly filled in with brick. The corners of the structure echo the turrets of the attached Hebrew Orphan Asylum with shallow projections running the full height of the building at the corner and between the first and second bay, as well as the second to last and last bay on each face of the structure, including the north and west faces away from the street. This same detail is used in the stone cladding that defines the three bays around the primary entrance with a shallow projection between each bay. In addition to the door located within the hyphen the building is served by three entrances on the east face and an additional entrance on the north face of the building. The first entrance is a white metal door at the ground level in the second bay north from the southeast corner located in line with the above windows. Over the door is a 2 over 3 light transom. The second entrance is the primary entrance centered on the east face of the structure in the eighth bay north from the southeast corner. The entrance is set of wide glass double-doors with a glass transom above. The door is surrounded by a three-bay wide wooden surround that rises to meet the sill of the windows on the second floor. The top edge of the surround is detailed with a modest cornice with exaggerated dentils. The cornice is interrupted with the later installation of a vent in the center of the cornice. The door is flanked on both sides with electric lamps. Immediately to the right of the primary entrance is a secondary glass door with a multiple light glass transom. This door is a later addition, is slightly elevated above ground level, and is served by a concrete ramp. The door appears to have been installed to provide wheelchair access to the structure. The final entrance is in the central bay on the north face of the structure. This entrance appears to have been sealed, although the transom remains visible above the board securing the door. The windows to both sides of this entrance have been filled with concrete block.

The interior of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum is organized around a central hall within the central core space. Several bearing walls align north and south, perpendicular to the length of the building. Intermediate bearing walls are approximate third points across the width of the core, with steel beams, lintels, and columns supporting the joist bearing where solid walls are not present. The timber joists in this area primarily run east and west. In the east and west wings, the timber joists are aligned north and south, with a longitudinal corridor wall apparently providing a bearing wall along the center of the structure. The timber joists span between this corridor wall and the front and rear exterior walls. The exception to this orientation in the wings occurs at two

rooms on the north side of the wings, adjacent to the center core in both the east and west wings. At each of these locations, two bearing walls extend from the north wall to the center corridor, and the floor joists are oriented parallel to the long dimension of the building. The original construction appears to have been timber floor joists with lath and plaster walls and ceilings. Some areas were replaced with drywall; but for the most part, the original construction remains throughout. The interior of the Tuerk House is based around a small central lobby and communal spaces with individual rooms for patients accessible from central halls. There are multiple openings connecting the Tuerk House with the attached hyphen. Within these spaces original window openings and later door openings between the Hebrew Orphan Asylum and the Tuerk House are visible although filled with concrete block and painted over.

Integrity

The Hebrew Orphan Asylum building has experienced an extended period of vacancy that resulted in the complete loss of windows throughout the structure. The roof is in disrepair allowing water entry into the structure through roofing defects as well as through a large collapsed area in the center of the core. The window openings are currently secured with plywood boards. The interior of the building has been substantially stabilized with the installation of scaffolding to support floors and ceilings throughout the structure.

Summary Statement of Significance:

The history of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum site spans nearly 200 years of development from its beginning in 1815 as "Calverton," the country home of Baltimore banker Dennis Smith. The Calverton mansion served as the Baltimore City and County Almshouse from 1820 through 1866 and became the Hebrew Orphan Asylum in 1872. An 1874 fire destroyed the Calverton mansion, and led to the construction of the present building, which was specifically designed as an orphanage and was dedicated in 1876. The building transitioned to serve as the West Baltimore General Hospital from 1923 through 1945 and finally as the Lutheran Hospital of Maryland from 1945 to 1989. Together, the original Hebrew Orphan Asylum building and the attached Tuerk House, constructed in 1944 for the West Baltimore General Hospital, qualify for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and Criterion C. The Hebrew Orphan asylum qualifies under Criterion A for the institution's association with the Jewish history of Baltimore and Criterion C for the building's significance as a rare example of a 19th century purpose-built orphanage and as the work of the little known master architects Edward Lupus and Henry A. Roby in their partnership Lupus & Roby. The attached Tuerk House further qualifies under Criterion A for its close association with the broader growth of the West Baltimore area in the early 20th century and Criterion C as a representative example of the institutional medical architecture of notable Maryland architect Henry Powell Hopkins.

The period of significance begins in 1876 with the dedication of the present Hebrew Orphan Asylum. The period of significance ends in 1944 with the expansion of the West Baltimore General Hospital and the date by which the resource had substantially achieved its current form and appearance.

Resource History and Historic Context:

The justification for designation of the building under Criterion A and its association with Jewish history is clearly evident from the close relationships between the institution and the German Jewish leadership which established and led the orphanage, the diverse community of Jewish Baltimoreans who supported the Hebrew Orphan Asylum with donations of all sorts, and the Jewish children and families who depended on the services the Hebrew Orphan Asylum for their own welfare and survival. The HOA did not have an endowment so the operation of the orphanage depended on donations from people within the Baltimore Jewish community, including wealthy German Jews, alumni of the institutions, and less affluent Jews, who contributed in a range of ways. In addition, the history of the institution follows the history of the Jewish community in Baltimore, as the population of the HOA grew rapidly along with the increased Jewish immigration from Europe during the late 19th and early 20th-centuries. When

the institution transitioned from an orphanage to use as the West Baltimore General Hospital, the building took on a new association with the broader growth and development of West Baltimore. As streetcar suburbs developed along Edmondson Avenue and North Avenue, doctors, nurses, and staff at the West Baltimore General Hospital provided medical services, including emergency care, surgery, and maternity care, to thousands, if not tens of thousands, of West Baltimore residents.

The justification for Criterion C is based on the Hebrew Orphan Asylum's significance as a rare surviving 19th century orphanage and possibly the oldest purpose-built Jewish orphanage in the United States. Many historic orphanages closed from the 1920s through the 1940s as the standard of care for dependent children progressed from large institutional homes or congregational settings towards foster care or smaller group homes. The subsequent disuse or neglect of many orphanages has resulted in the loss of many examples of this building type. Among Jewish orphanages, only a few remain extant and serve as important examples of how dependent children were housed in the late 1800s. In addition to its significance as a type, the Hebrew Orphan Asylum is the product of the partnership of German architect and craftsman Edward Lupus and Baltimore-born architect Henry A. Roby. While little scholarship on their partnership exists, the building is a clear testament to their skill as designers working in a Victorian Romanesque style and few other examples of their work remain extant. In addition, the Tuerk House, designed by notable Maryland architect Henry Powell Hopkins, reflects the adaptation of the historic building into the modern West Baltimore General Hospital. While the stark contrast between the 1944 building and 1870s neighbor is surprising, the design fits within the broader institutional Colonial Revival style common in the state of Maryland during the 1930s and 1940s.

Baltimore Almshouse and Calverton Heights

In late 1815 or early 1816, Baltimore banker Dennis A. Smith (1765-1853) commissioned French architect Joseph Ramée (1764-1842) to design "Calverton," a country home on the western bank of Gwynn Run Falls Valley nearly two miles beyond the edge of the city. This early Greek Revival building featured, "a raised basement and a two-story portico with an arched ceiling, a peaked roof and a second-story platform for ornamental statuary... a hipped roof and a tall cupola." The exterior of the building was described as, "'rough cast of a straw color, the window sills and facings of marble and free stone.'"[1]

Born in Ardennes, France in 1764, Joseph Ramée trained in Paris as a military builder and arrived in the United States with his family in 1812 with the patronage of businessman David

[1] Hayward and Shivers, *The Architecture of Baltimore*, 46.

Parish. Soon after his arrival, Ramée designed the campus of Union College in Schenectady, New York, in the first realized campus plan in the United States. Ramée competed for the design of the Baltimore Exchange in 1815 and then placed second behind Robert Mills in the competition for the design of the Washington Monument in Baltimore.[2] Finding little work in the United States, Ramée left for Belgium in 1816, eventually publishing drawings of Calverton in 1823. In September 1816, Benjamin Henry Latrobe took a personal interest in Calverton and recommended that Dennis Smith hire architect Hugh Bridport for the decoration of the house.[3]

Dennis Smith went into bankruptcy in 1819 or 1820 and Baltimore City and County jointly purchased the property from the Mechanics' Bank of Baltimore for $44,000. Scharf describes the property in *The Chronicles of Baltimore* writing,

> "'Calverton,' formerly the country seat of Dennis A. Smith, with its splendid mansion, to which the trustees added two wings 130 by 40 feet each, and other necessary out-buildings, and thereby formed the large and elegant alms-house, which in point of extent, convenience, and beauty of location, was not surpassed in its day by any similar establishment in the United States... It contained 306 acres, and was situated about two and a half miles from the court-house in a northwestern direction, on the Franklin road."[4]

The Baltimore Almshouse sold portions of the property to finance the additions, as illustrated by the advertisement in the *National Intelligencer* on Friday, January 12, 1821,

> "For sale-Calverton, late the prop of Dennis A. Smith, adjs the western limits of Balt City; about 102 acs with new Mansion Hse; & farm hse. –Saml Young, agent of the Trustees of the Balt Alms-Hse; ofc in North Chas, nr Conewago st, Balt, Md."[5]

Scharf continued to note, "No part of the debt incurred in the purchase was paid until the year 1828, between which period and 1836 the whole debt was cancelled. The purchase-money was paid out of the proceeds of the old alms-house property, and from the same source also a very large proportion of the improvements, including additional wings. &c. The entire cost of land and improvements was about $94,000."[6] In 1827, Baltimore demolished the building that had been previously used as an almshouse between Eutaw Street and Howard Street.

The Calverton Almshouse remained in operation through 1866, when Baltimore opened Bay View Asylum, "a new institution for the paupers of the city," on a 46-acre property purchased

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[2] The most significant scholarly work on Joseph Ramée and his work is Turner, *Joseph Ramée*.
[3] Latrobe et al., *The Correspondence and Miscellaneous Papers of Benjamin Henry Latrobe*, 3:837.
[4] Scharf, *The Chronicles of Baltimore*, 74-75.
[5] Dixon, *National Intelligencer Newspaper Abstracts*, 6.
[6] Scharf, *The Chronicles of Baltimore*, 75.

from the Canton Company. Designed by John W. Hogg, Esq., the sprawling brick building also housed an "insane asylum." The sale of the vacated Calverton mansion occurred on April 18, 1866 and the associated property was divided into three large lots, with the second lot divided into three smaller portions and including the buildings. After brisk bidding, William S. Rayner and James Brommell purchased the reduced 36.5-acre property with the buildings for $2,600 per acre or $94,250 total for the lot.[7]

Born September 23, 1822 in Bavaria, William Solomon Rayner (1822-1899) became an orphan at an early age and emigrated to the United States in 1840. Rayner settled in Baltimore where he married and became a successful merchant, eventually serving as a director of the West National Bank, the Baltimore Equitable Society, and the Western Maryland Railway. In 1856, Rayner became a founding member and the first president of the Hebrew Benevolent Society, a charitable organization started by a group of 16 German-speaking Jews to provide financial assistance to the Jewish community. In *Monumental City,* George Washington Howard notes Rayner's significant leadership in developing the organization, writing, "It was formerly an association for mutual benefit, but at the suggestion and under the management of its then president, William S. Rayner, it was in 1856 transposed and enlarged into its present character and efficiency, as by its constitution, recorded November 19th, 1856, will more fully appear."[8] William Rayner died on March 1, 1899.

Establishing the Hebrew Orphan Asylum

On February 1872, the Hebrew Benevolent Society of Baltimore organized a meeting with a "large number of prominent citizens" at Raine's Hall to establish an orphanage for the Jewish community. Those in attendance offered their strong support for the initiative and created a temporary organization that worked to draft a constitution for the permanent organization. On May 26, 1872, this organization elected officers, including President Alfred J. Ulman, Vice-President Joel Hutman, and formally incorporated as the "Hebrew Orphan Asylum of Baltimore City" on June 11, 1872. Within a few short weeks the group had raised $18,000 and on November 1, Mr. and Mrs. William S. Rayner presented the institution with a "handsome and capacious building" at Calverton Heights, that had been formerly used as the Baltimore County almshouse. Over the next several months, the organization undertook a series of improvements to the building and collected a large quantity of donated furniture to make the building suitable for use as an orphanage.

[7] Ibid., 75-76.
[8] Howard, *The Monumental City*, 620.

The building was dedicated on May 18, 1873 at 2:00 PM, with speeches a "hymn sung by the united choirs of all the synagogues of the city," a prayer led by Rev. Dr. Szold from the Hanover Street Synagogue, and an address by William Rayner and Alfred J. Ulman. Ulman served as the President of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum and funder of the renovation of the former Almshouse. The Hebrew Orphan Asylum opened with eight boys and five girls supervised by Reverend A. Hoffman, most recently "a pastor of the Lloyd street synagogue." The building, composed of 17 rooms and a finished basement, stood "in the midst of green fields, with woods at a little distance on several sides" located "about three-quarters of a mile from the western terminus of the red line of cars."[9]

The establishment of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum by the Hebrew Benevolent Association fit into a broader pattern of Jewish social service and philanthropy in Baltimore, including the establishment of the Hebrew Education Society (1852), the Hebrew Hospital and Asylum (1866) on East Monument Street and Ann Street, the Hebrew Free Burial Society (1867), Daughters in Israel (1890), the Hebrew Friendly Inn and Aged Home (1890), the Milk and Ice Fund (1869), and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (1903).[10] Such efforts required broad and diverse engagement from members of the Jewish community. The HOA did not have an endowment so its operation depended on donations, including volunteered time, opportunities to attend religious services, legacies, and cash donation, from many people within the Baltimore Jewish community. The intersection of faith and social solidarity that contributed to this process is clear from Zmora's paraphrase of William Rayner's remarks at the dedication of the HOA in 1876, writing, "the Jewish community should regard donations as an investment that would bear fruit; some of the children in the future would contribute to the welfare of the community, and the rest would serve as the contributor's advocates in heaven."[11]

The opening of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum followed a trend toward the growth of institutional care for dependent children during the 19th century. The population of children in orphanages in the United States increased from only about 200 in 1790 to about 123,000 in 1910.[12] From 1778 to 1856, twelve orphanages were founded in Baltimore, seven Protestant and six Catholic. Almost twice as many institutions were established between 1860 and 1910 and by 1910 Baltimore had a total of 28 orphanages.[13] This rapid growth also fit within a child welfare movement that took shape in the late 19th and early 20th century, exemplified by the institution of a compulsory education law (1901), new child labor laws that raised the age of eligibility for

[9] Ibid.
[10] Sandler, *Jewish Baltimore*, 5.
[11] Zmora, *Orphanages Reconsidered: Child Care Institutions in Progressive Era Baltimore*, 22.
[12] Downs and Sherraden, "The Orphan Asylum in the Nineteenth Century," 273.
[13] Zmora, *Orphanages Reconsidered: Child Care Institutions in Progressive Era Baltimore*, 19.

employment to fourteen (1902), a juvenile court system (1902), and a playground movement (1898).

Examples of Jewish orphanages established during the second half of the 19th century include the Jewish Foster Home and Orphan Asylum of Philadelphia (1855); the Hebrew Orphan Asylum (1860) in Manhattan; the Jewish Orphan Asylum (1868) in Cleveland, Ohio; the Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum (1878) in New York; the Hebrew Orphan Asylum (1887) in Newark, New Jersey; the Jewish Orphans Asylum of Western New York (1882) in Rochester; and the J. M. Gusky Hebrew Orphanage and Home of Western Pennsylvania (1891) in Pittsburgh.[14] Like the Hebrew Orphan Asylum in Baltimore, many of these organizations began as service organizations alone, later re-using existing structures to house children, before starting to build dedicated orphanages as they grew into the late 19th century.

Regrettably few of these purpose-built Jewish orphanage buildings have survived. The Jewish Orphan Asylum in Cleveland was demolished in 1889 after the institution expanded into a new building on the same site. The Hebrew Orphan Asylum in New York (1822) and the Hebrew Orphan Asylum of Boston (1822) were both demolished in 1955. The Jewish Foster Home and Orphan Asylum of Philadelphia was demolished in 2007 following significant fire damage. All known Jewish orphanages built as such prior to 1875 appear to have been lost, making the Hebrew Orphan Asylum the oldest purpose-built Jewish orphanage in the nation.[15]

Design and Construction of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum Building

Unlike some of its contemporary institutions, the Hebrew Orphan Asylum was not forced to build a new structure because of limited facilities, but rather due to a fire that completely destroyed the former Calverton mansion. The fire broke out at 9:00 AM on November 12, 1874 originating with a pile of kindling stored in the kitchen.[16] The directors of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum held a meeting that same evening and passed a resolution to rebuild the asylum, receive proposals for the new project, and rent a temporary space to house the students in the interim. For the first few nights, the directors housed the children in their own homes, but the organization soon leased an apartment at 77 East Baltimore Street. After a series of meetings, the committee decided to rebuild on the site rather than at another location. Among their various fundraising efforts, the members of the group organized a ten-day street fair at the Concordia Opera House located at Eutaw and Redwood streets to raise funds for the new building.

[14] Hebrew National Orphan Home Alumni, "Jewish Orphanages in the United States."

[15] While the 1790 building occupied by the Hebrew Benevolent Society of Charleston, South Carolina, predates the Baltimore Hebrew Orphan Asylum and remains extant, it was originally constructed for use as the Charleston Branch of the first Bank of the United States and remained in that use through 1818.

[16] "Front Page 1 -- No Title."

The Hebrew Orphan Asylum was designed by Lupus & Roby, the partnership of Edward Lupus (1834-1877) and Henry Albert Roby (1844-1905), and constructed by Edward Brady (1830-1900).[17] Born in 1834 in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, Edward Lupus arrived in Baltimore at age 19 on November 8, 1853 from Bremen. At the time of his immigration to the United States, he reported his profession as a joiner.[18] By 1860, Edward Lupus had married and lived at 16 West Baltimore Street with his wife, Sophia Lupus,[19] their children, Rudolph and Charles, as well as another Rudolph Lupus, a watchmaker and likely relative of Edward, and Rudolph's wife, Louisa Lupus.[20] Rudolph and Edward also shared an office at 297 West Pratt Street where Edward worked as a carver and Rudolph worked as a watchmaker. The two continued to share both residences and offices throughout the 1860s. Edward Lupus appears in the 1864 city directory as a "photographist," working at the southwest corner of the Centre Market building and residing at 61 Conway Street where he remained in 1865 when he was again identified as a "wood carver." 1870 is the first year Lupus is identified as an architect, both in the city directory and census, and is the same year that Edward and Louisa shared their household with Christopher Stick, a gardener, and his wife, likely household employees.[21]

Born in Massachusetts in March 1844, H.A. Roby joined the 1st Maryland Regiment of the Confederate Army at age 18, fighting in the Battle of Gettysburg and serving through the end of the Civil War.[22] When Roby was imprisoned following the war, his mother, Mrs. Mary C. Roby, petitioned Ulysses S. Grant for his release, on May 8, 1865 writing, "I appeal to you to allow my son Harry Roby to return to his home in Baltimore."[23] Roby began work as a draftsman in 1868 at 891 Park Avenue, his mother's home since at least 1865. By 1870, Roby is identified in directories as an architect with an office at 155 Park Avenue and in 1871 Lupus and Roby began a partnership that would continue for six years, up until Lupus' death in 1877. Roby continued to work as an architect in Baltimore through at least 1880, moving his office from 49 Lexington Street to 49 St. Paul Street in 1879 while residing at 197 Park Avenue.[24] During the 1890s, Roby resided in Lebanon, Pennsylvania where he had a second short-lived partnership, Roby &

[17] Lupus & Roby is also found written as Lupus & Robie. Henry Albert Roby is also identified as Harry A. Roby and his name is frequently shortened to H.A. Roby.
[18] "Eduard Lupus - Baltimore Passenger and Immigration Lists, 1820-1872."
[19] "Edward Lupus - Maryland Census, 1772-1890."
[20] "1860 United States Federal Census - Edward Lupus."
[21] "1870 United States Federal Census - Edward Lupus."
[22] Confederated Southern Memorial Association (U.S.) et al., *Confederate veteran*, 136.
[23] Grant and Simon, *The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant*, 461-462.
[24] Roby's membership in the American Institute of Architects lapsed in October 1878, perhaps reflecting the challenges of continuing his practice following Lupus' death, based on American Institute of Architects, *Proceedings of the Twentieth Annual Convention of the American Institute of Architects*.

Richter, with Abner A. Richter of Reading, Pennsylvania.[25] A rare example of Roby's later work is the 1896 St. Katharine's Church at East Lancaster Avenue & North Aberdeen Avenue in Wayne, Pennsylvania. By 1900, Roby had returned to Baltimore where he lived at 891 Park Avenue, with his mother, Mary C. Roby, wife, Lucia M., their daughter, and a servant, Hanna Gibson.[26] Near the end of his career, Roby remained active in the Baltimore Catholic community, Confederate veteran organizations, and composed several patriotic poems before his death in June 3, 1905 at his residence on Park Avenue.[27]

Lupus & Roby began their partnership in 1871. One of their earliest projects was a shooting range and bowling alley for the Schuetzen Park on Belair Road near the then Baltimore City limits, following work Lupus had done at the park in 1866. The Schuetzen Association included 800 members from first- and second-generation German families. The pair continued to work primarily within the German community, designing the Baltimore General German Orphan Asylum at Orleans and Aisquith streets in 1873 and the Hebrew Orphan Asylum in 1874. Unfortunately their partnership was cut short by Edward Lupus' death at his home in Sextonville, Baltimore County on February 13, 1877 at the age of 43 following a three month illness. The projects identified in his obituary included the Germania Clubhouse (1874) on West Fayette Street near North Eutaw Street, St. Matthews' German Lutheran Church (1873) on Fayette Street between Central and Eden streets, the House of the Good Shepherd, the "villa of Gen Meem, Va.," and the Virginia House at the Orkney Spring Hotel (1873) on Route 263 in Orkney Springs, Virginia.[28]

The Hebrew Orphan Asylum building was constructed by Edward Brady based on the Lupus & Roby design. Born in 1830 on his grandfather's farm in Baltimore, Brady's father and uncle worked as some of the earliest contractors in the construction of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal and the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. Brady followed in the family trade, building St. Martin's Catholic Church at Fayette and Fulton (1866), St. Leo's Catholic Church (1884), St. Mary's Industrial School, many of the buildings of Catholic University in Washington, DC and the Corpus Christi Church. Brady died at his residence at 116 West Lanvale Street on April 23, 1900.[29] The Builder's Exchange issued an official resolution following Brady's death, expressing regret over the loss of one of Baltimore's "most energetic and prominent builders, whose life has been spent in building and beautifying this and adjacent cities," further describing his buildings

[25] Tatman, "Roby & Ritcher (fl. 1890-1900) -- Philadelphia Architects and Buildings."
[26] "1900 United States Federal Census - Henry A Roby."
[27] "Other 23 -- No Title."
[28] "Foiling a Sharper--How a Shrewd Jeweler Protected Himself from Loss."
[29] "OBITUARY."

as "monuments to his skill and marked ability in his profession."[30] Edward Brady & Sons, the firm established by Brady, remained active through at least the 1910s.

The new Hebrew Orphan Asylum building was dedicated on October 22, 1876. William Rayner again spoke, noting that the children served by the new building could have been sheltered at the German Asylum but, "children of our faith we intend to raise in our own way to become good American citizens as well as true Israelites." Rayner continued,

> "I think you all will agree with me that it ought to be our joyful duty and sacred pride not only to maintain the same, but to make it one of the model institutions of this country. I hope the day is not far distant when the endowments and donations will be ample to make it also a first-class institution of learning where the intelligent youth can not only be instructed in the rudiments but also in those higher branches of education necessary for professional life, and when it will be considered an honor and a high testimonial to have been a graduate of the school of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum of Baltimore."[31]

The Lupus & Roby design for the Hebrew Orphan Asylum incorporated the contemporary progressive ideals for the design of child care institutions. For example, the numerous window openings responded to the belief that a well-ventilated building was healthier than a building with a warm or humid climate. Good ventilation was further encouraged by a central octagonal tower over the main staircase. The building is neatly captured in an 1881 description from Thomas Scharf who wrote,

> "It is designed in the Romanesque style of architecture, and consists of a main building one hundred and fifty-six feet in length and sixty-nine feet in width, and a detached kitchen building forty feet square, connected with the main structure by a corridor thirty feet long. The central portion of the building is three stories in height, and the wings two stories. The centre is ornamented with two octagon towers, while the wings are adorned with four turrets. The front and sides are built of pressed brick, with Ohio sandstone trimmings. The entrance is protected by a handsome portico, with richly carved columns and massive granite steps. The cornices throughout are of galvanized iron, painted to correspond with the stone-work. The main building is surmounted by an octagonal tower, situated over and lighting the principal staircase, and also assisting in the ventilation of the building."[32]

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[30] "Other 2 -- No Title."
[31] Zmora, *Orphanages Reconsidered: Child Care Institutions in Progressive Era Baltimore*, 21.
[32] Scharf, *History of Baltimore City and County, from the earliest period to the present day*, 841.

Built to accommodate up to 150 children, the building opened with a small group of 30 children in 1876. The population of the institution grew rapidly in the 1890s, peaking in the early 1900s with 120 children in residence after 1910.[33] The basement of the building housed playrooms for boys and girls and, after 1907, classrooms for the William Rayner Manual Training School. The first floor included offices, the superintendent's apartment, the dining room, and two wings attached to the north face serving as a kitchen and a laundry room. The second floor provided space for classrooms and a chapel with sleeping rooms and bathrooms on the third floor. The youngest children slept in gender segregated dormitories, with boys in the west wing and girls in the east, while older children shared bedrooms designed for eight boys or girls each.

In 1904, the HOA expanded with the construction of the Hannah U. Cahn Memorial Hall, dedicated by Bernard Cahn in recognition of his wife's work on behalf of the Jewish community. Built as a gymnasium, the building also included ground floor classroom space and a bridge connecting the addition with the main building. The gymnasium was later used as a general auditorium. At the dedication of the Hall, Bernard V. Cahn announced,

> "Few events in my life... have afforded me greater pleasure than the completion of this memorial building, erected to my wife's memory. I trust it will be an everlasting monument to one whose aim in life was to help and give pleasure to others. It is my sincere hope and expectation that the children of the asylum will be greatly benefited by the physical culture which they will receive and as it is said, 'a sound mind dwells in a sound body,' it is to be hoped they will be improved mentally and morally as well as physically."[34]

The gymnasium was described as a "bright and airy room fitted up in a manner calculated to develop the bodies of the children of the institution." Development of the facilities continued in 1907, when Bertha Rayner Frank, daughter of William Rayner, donated $10,000 in memory of her husband to establish a Manual Training School in classrooms located in the basement of the main building. By 1914, the HOA was served by both gas and electric lights and steam and hot air heat. The building included a night watchman on hourly rounds and a Newman Clock at nine stations. In addition to the building itself, the children made thorough use of the grounds. There were forty-eight gardens each 2.5 by 10 feet for the larger children and 30 gardens, each 3.5 by 5 feet for the smaller children. In the gardens, children planted lettuce, beets, beans, turnips, carrots, peas, corn, radishes and even a few flowers including portulaca, poppies, sweet alyssum, and marigolds.[35]

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[33] Zmora, *Orphanages Reconsidered: Child Care Institutions in Progressive Era Baltimore*, 73.
[34] "CAHN HALL DEDICATED."
[35] Zmora, *Orphanages Reconsidered: Child Care Institutions in Progressive Era Baltimore*, 73.

Orphanages and the Baltimore Jewish Community

By 1876, the Jewish community in Baltimore had grown to 2,000 families with over 10,000 individuals observing in ten synagogues. A significant number of these individuals donated to the Hebrew Benevolent Association that maintained a "benevolent fund" valued at $10,000 a year. In the late 19th century Baltimore as a whole was served by three large non-denominational orphanages, with 112 to 150 children each, five orphan asylums "under Roman Catholic management," three Protestant orphanages for African-Americans, eight denominational or religious orphanages, and five local orphanages throughout the state.[36] By the early 20th century the Hebrew Orphan Asylum was joined by the Hebrew Children Sheltering and Protective Association, also known as the Betsy Levy Memorial Home (1900-1921), and the Daughters of Hanna (1913).

Among this large group of diverse institutions, however, the Hebrew Orphan Asylum remained an exceptional in its engagement of the broader Jewish community and the opportunities the home afforded resident children. In 1893, a guide prepared by the Board of World's Fair Managers, Maryland described the unique character of the institution, writing,

> "One of the largest and best conducted of the homes for children is the *Hebrew Orphan Asylum*, on Calverton Heights. The large building imposing from the outside, is scrupulously clean within, and order is everywhere apparent. A kindergarten is provided for the little children. The older ones attend the public school, where they are said to stand at the head of their classes. On returning from the public schools an hour is given to the study of Hebrew and German. An Orphans' Aid Society, composed of several hundred Hebrew women, supplies clothing for the children, and finds employment for them on leaving the orphanage. By the help of this society a 'grand bazaar' was held in March of 1892, which yielded over twenty-three thousand dollars for the benefit of the orphan asylum and other hebrew charities."[37]

A similar description that emphasized the notable generosity of the Jewish community in funding the institution is found in *Message of Frank Brown, Governor of Maryland, to the General Assembly at its Regular Session, January, 1894,*

> "This institution is situated on North Calhoun street, Baltimore. It was organized in 1872, and was established by private contributions from prominent Hebrews in the city of

[36] Maryland. Board of World's Fair Managers, *Maryland, its resources, industries and institutions*, 453-455.
[37] Ibid., 457.

> Baltimore. In 1874 it was destroyed by fire, and was rebuilt at a cost of $50,000. It has a capacity of 150 inmates. Since its existence there have been three hundred orphans sheltered from time to time within its walls. The expenses for maintaining the institution are $15,000 annually; the State appropriating the sum of $(?),000 [*sic*], and the remainder being made up by private contributions. The Hebrew Ladies' Aid Society has rendered valuable help to the institution, and it is largely assisted by contributions from the Hebrews of Baltimore, many of whom are much interested in the good work of this institution, and are active in their efforts in its behalf."[38]

The HOA was not a "kosher" Jewish institution for Orthodox Russian Jews as it provided a reform education and was operated by German Jews.[39] Children were divided into age groups, with special status assigned to the oldest students. The institution fostered a spirit of competition and placed special emphasis on excellence. Each gender group had a separate playroom, although they did have opportunities to socialize on the playground, doing chores, in the dining room, in the public school, in the Hebrew school, and in the library.[40] Many children had siblings at the institution and family groups often maintained close relationships. During the late 19th and early 20th century, many parents and relatives voluntarily committed their children to orphanages, either to a justice of the peace located at every police station or to the religious and ethnic organizations that maintained institutions. In a few cases, children came to an orphanage without parental consent following a court order. HOA records listed such children as "abandoned" or "neglected." When parents became able to provide fully for a child, the HOA confirmed the change in status and returned children to their custody.[41]

In the early 20th century, reformers began to recommend housing dependent children according to the "cottage system" rather than larger congregation-type facilities. Physically detached cottages were thought to encourage individualism, intimacy, and close relations between resident adults and children. The system was also more expensive, however, as it required more space for buildings and more staff. Reflecting this emerging idea, a 1915 donation for the construction of new buildings at the Hebrew Orphan Asylum required that the administrators of the HOA adopt the cottage system. However, nearly nine years passed before the HOA acquired sufficient funds for such a radical change.[42]

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[38] *Message of Frank Brown, Governor of Maryland, to the General Assembly at its Regular Session, January, 1894*, 82.
[39] Zmora, *Orphanages Reconsidered: Child Care Institutions in Progressive Era Baltimore*, 154.
[40] Ibid., 132.
[41] Ibid., 48.
[42] Ibid., 74.

In 1913, Louis H. Levin established the Jewish Children's Bureau to encourage close cooperation between Jewish social service agencies and the multiple independent Jewish orphanages. This organization soon began hosting weekly meetings between the institutions, introducing a "family case-work" model of care. During the 1918 flu epidemic, the Bureau began caring for children in private foster homes while the institutions were quarantined against infection but continued the program following the positive response of dependent children. In 1921, the Jewish Children's Bureau arranged to merge with the Hebrew Orphan Asylum and the Betsy Levy Memorial Home to form the Jewish Children's Society, a founding member of the new Associated Jewish Charities.[43] In 1923, the institution moved to Levindale, a new combined institution located near Mt. Washington. By this time, however, ideas around caring for dependent children had changed again and institutional care was considered inappropriate. Levindale closed within a few years and the Jewish community turned to foster care to support dependent children.

Opening the West Baltimore General Hospital

While the rapid development of the broader area of West Baltimore contributed to the Hebrew Orphan Asylum's decision to move, the growing population also provided the basis for the establishment of the new West Baltimore General Hospital in 1923. In the 1890s, the area of Calverton Heights and the broader Edmondson Avenue corridor was served by an electric streetcar line that turned north from Edmondson Avenue up Poplar Grove and passed within a block of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum. Rapid residential development in the early 1900s and 1910s across the Edmondson and North Avenue corridors led to the development of Walbrook, Edmondson Terraces, and neighborhoods throughout the area. In June 1923, the West Baltimore Medical Association announced plans to raise $300,000 for the development of a hospital with 150 beds serving a broader area of West Baltimore including over 50,000 people. The ambitious initiative garnered support from Walbrook Improvement Association, West End Improvement Association, West Baltimore Republican Club, Edmondson Avenue Improvement Association, and the Baltimore Lodge of Elks.[44] An editorial published in September 1923 noted, "It will draw its patients from a territory as large and as thickly settled as many a community which calls itself a city and it will relieve in some measure the congestion that the big hospitals in the city are now facing."[45] The city demonstrated their support by funding the paving of the streets immediately surrounding the hospital with sheet asphalt.[46] Curiously, among the civic leaders who helped organize the hospital was Moses Moses, a member of the Har Sinai Synagogue and an insurance and real estate businessman who became the first president of the hospital board.[47] Dr. Arthur G.

[43] The Jewish Museum of Maryland, "Jewish Family and Children's Services Records, n.d., 1869-1973 (MS 138)."
[44] "PLANS COMPLETED TO EQUIP HOSPITAL."
[45] "Article 2 -- No Title."
[46] "TO LAY PAVEMENTS WITH FUNDS SAVED."
[47] "Bernard Moses."

Barrett headed the original staff that helped to personally finance the project, "to provide care for the man of moderate means." A former employee later observed, "The aim was not to build a research hospital. The neighborhood needed a general hospital, one that would serve the needs of the 100,000 persons who lived in the then rapidly expanding western suburbs."[48]

In addition to its central location, the decision by the Baltimore Medical Association to purchase the former Hebrew Orphan Asylum was also influenced by the cost savings as they noted that the, "outlay of funds was only 20 per cent of what it would have been had the medical association undertaken to purchase property and put up new buildings." In converting the building from an orphanage into a hospital, changes included "large dormitories... divided into smaller rooms," and the addition of "spacious sun porches at each end where patients may 'loaf and invite their souls' and bodies."[49] When the hospital first opened on June 12, 1924, it was organized into "two wards, each with 13 beds, and subdivided by sex and color." The hospital charged $2.50 per day and one of the few non-medical employees received $12.50 for a six-day week and a 12-hour day.[50]

To support their operation and growth, the hospital employed a number of creative fundraising strategies. In 1923, eight movie houses opened on a Sunday night to help raise funds for the hospital, generating about $2,500 in a single evening.[51] In 1924, the hospital announced the opening of the Cahn Memorial Clinic, a "recently completed addition" located within the former Cahn Memorial Hall.[52] The first new building at the new hospital was the construction of a detached Nurses' Home, designed by John Freund Jr. and built for $50,000.[53] This three-story and basement brick and stone structure accommodated 50 resident nurses, as well as a classroom, reception rooms, and a laboratory. Educated at Columbia University, John Freund worked in the New York area from 1897 through the early 1900s before beginning work in Baltimore. From 1907 through the 1920s, his work in Baltimore included movie theaters, apartment houses in Reservoir Hill, such as the Riviera Apartments (1915), and numerous churches throughout the city. The Nurses' Home allowed the hospital to begin training nurses, a project it would continue throughout its history, graduating the first class of six nurses in June 1928.[54] Sometime after 1928, the hospital constructed a power plant at the northeast corner of the site that also served as a laundry room. [The Nurses' Home and power plant have since been demolished.]

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[48] Kelly, "53 Years Later, Still At Job."
[49] "Hospital Care To Meet The Average Purse."
[50] Kelly, "53 Years Later, Still At Job."
[51] Headley, *Motion picture exhibition in Baltimore*, 83.
[52] "MEMORIAL CLINIC IS OPENED."
[53] "Real Estate Transaction 1 -- No Title."
[54] "West Baltimore Hospital Graduates Six Nurses."

Expansion of the West Baltimore General Hospital

Even with this limited expansion, the original Hebrew Orphan Asylum building could not alone provide sufficient capacity for the broad area the hospital served. By the early 1940s, West Baltimore could offer only 1 hospital bed per 890 people in comparison to 4.2 hospital beds per 1,000 people in the Baltimore region.[55] The rapid growth of Baltimore during WWII and substantial increases in defense workers made the expansion of hospital facilities a high priority for the local and federal government.

In 1942, Senator Tydings, Senator Radcliffe, and Representative Meyer announced Presidential approval of a plan to allocate $500,000 for the construction of a three-story addition to West Baltimore General Hospital that would add 125 more beds.[56] Funded by the Federal Works Administration and approved by the War Production Board, Mayor Howard W. Jackson broke ground on the new building at 11:00 AM on October 5, 1942. After a few years of construction, the new building opened on January 10, 1944. The first and second floor housed "new medical and surgical units" and the third floor included "a thirty-five bed obstetrical unit, with facilities for the hospitalization of 1,200 maternity cases annually."[57] The building [now known as the Tuerk House] was designed by Henry Powell Hopkins (1891-1984) and built by John K. Ruff Company.

Born on February 12, 1891 in Annapolis, Maryland, Henry Powell Hopkins attended Cornell University from 1909 to 1910. He continued to study at Columbia University until 1914, when he received a bachelor's degree in architecture. After a few years of working in Kansas City, Missouri, teaching at Texas A&M College, and receiving an honorary MA from St. John's College, Annapolis, Hopkins began work as an architectural designer in the offices of Albro and Lindeberg in New York in 1919. He opened his own architectural practice in Baltimore the same year with offices at 10 East Mulberry Street later moving to 347 North Charles Street. Hopkins joined the American Institute of Architects in 1921, then served as vice-president of the Baltimore Chapter from 1946 to 1948, and held the presidency from 1948 to 1950.[58]

Examples of Hopkins' work are both numerous and diverse, including dwellings, educational facilities, medical facilities, government buildings, and commercial projects. Much of this work is in a Colonial Revival influenced style, found particularly in his work for the University of Maryland at College Park. Hopkins was also the supervising architect responsible for the

[55] "$500,000 FUND FOR HOSPITAL IS APPROVED."
[56] The funds for the addition came from the 1942 Federal Lanham Act - Public Law 76-849 which provided federal funding for states to pay for child care services for working mothers during World War II.
[57] "Hospital Opens Large New Wing."
[58] Special Collections, University of Maryland Libraries, "Papers of Henry Powell Hopkins."

remodeling of the State Office Building in Annapolis (1939) and the restoration of the Old Treasury Building (1950). Examples of his medical buildings include the Home for the Aged in Salisbury, MD; the medical facilities at the Springfield State Hospital in Sykesville, MD (1926-1950); the Psychopathic Hospital for Criminals in Spring Grove, MD; and the Active Treatment Building at Spring Grove State Hospital (1961).

The John K. Ruff Company began in 1910 with the partnership of John Klohr Ruff and his father, a prominent local stone mason, as Seymour Ruff and Sons, Inc., Masonry Contractors in Randallstown, Maryland. Beginning in Randallstown with the construction of custom-built stone houses, the firm continued to expand to become a major general contractor by the 1940s and remained active through the 1970s, later known as John K. Ruff Inc.[59]

Hopkins' design for the building now used as the Tuerk House is a late example of the Colonial Revival influenced, "institutional neocolonialism" common throughout Baltimore and Maryland from the 1930s through the 1950s. The dominance of this style in civic and institutional architecture was promoted by the official adoption of the neocolonial style as the preferred style for all state buildings during the 1934 Maryland tercentenary celebration.[60] In 1948, the addition was joined by a near identical structure with a mirrored plan on the opposite side of Ashburton Street.

Lutheran Hospital of Maryland, 1949-1989

In October 1949, the Lutheran Home and Hospital Association met at the Third English Lutheran Church at Hillen Road and 30th Street and began a five-year process to take over the West Baltimore General Hospital. The Association, which was organized in 1947, committed to pay an initial $100,000 towards a $350,000 trust fund for the new Lutheran Hospital of Maryland. At the time of the sale West Baltimore General Hospital employed over 360 physicians and offered dental, orthopedic, well-baby, obstetrical and gynecological, dermatological, and eye clinics.[61]

The growth of the Lutheran Hospital continued with the 1963 addition of a large surgical and diagnostic building with capacity for 76 surgical patients, in the area bounded by West Lafayette Street, Rayner Avenue, Braddish Avenue, and Ashburton Street. Designed as a Contemporary concrete structure, the building consisted of a large central block flanked by a pair of low-profile wings. A pedestrian bridge crossing over Ashburton Street connected the new facility with the

[59] Carr-Spiccioli and Bryan, "Preserving The Randallstown Community Building: 9000 Liberty Road, Randallstown, Maryland."
[60] Hayward and Shivers, *The Architecture of Baltimore*, 256.
[61] "LUTHERANS GET HOSPITAL."

hospital buildings on the west side of the street. Portions of West Lanvale Street and Jordan Street were demapped to allow for construction of the new building.

The expansion of the Lutheran Hospital, as well as the expansion of nearby Bon Secours Hospital, forced the Franklin Square Hospital to leave the eponymous neighborhood in the late 1960s and move to Rosedale in Eastern Baltimore County.

In 1974, further renovations to the building included the removal of the morgue in the basement of the HOA building and the removal of the attached porches. The morgue had previously been located in the historic Hebrew Orphan Asylum building and, following the new additions to the site, the Lutheran Hospital largely vacated the structure. The building was then renovated by the city and occupied by a community service organization. These renovations included the removal of the side porch previously installed during the 1920s. In 1977, the hospital added the Rosemont Primary Care Center on the eastern side of the hospital property along Braddish Avenue. In the late 1970s, the Lutheran Hospital vacated the original Hebrew Orphan Asylum building which underwent renovations to remove the two-story porch on the west face. Following these renovations, the building housed city social service agencies and a neighborhood multipurpose center. A final expansion of the hospital in 1981 at a cost of $1.6 million added a third level to the patient facilities portion of the hospital and consolidated medical and surgical services in one area of the facility.

Even during the course of this expansion, however, the hospital began experiencing financial troubles that continued through its close in 1989. Lutheran Hospital's Nursing School closed in 1969 and in the mid 1970s the hospital experienced several consecutive years of nearly $500,000 dollar deficits. After applying to raise rates in 1981, Lutheran still faced significant challenges from the state regulatory board, which was encouraging mergers for small hospitals to cut costs. Lutheran eventually merged with Provident Hospital to establish the new "Liberty Medical Center."[62] The resulting Liberty management did not have sufficient resources for both their facilities and decided to close Lutheran Hospital in 1989.

Period of Vacancy, 1989-2009

The Tuerk House opened in West Baltimore in 1970 as a treatment facility for alcoholics and drug addicts. The institution is named in honor of Isadore Tuerk, a Maryland State Health Commissioner and advocate for those in need of treatment for substance abuse. In 1996, the facility moved to their current location from a temporary location at the Westgate Motel on US 40 to one of the former Lutheran Hospital buildings and expanded their program from 43 to 63

[62] "Lutheran Hospital - Vintage Buildings and Structures of the Monumental City - Baltimore Ghosts."

beds. It remains the city's largest facility, with 75 beds and a 28-day residential treatment program for individuals without health insurance.

In November 2003, Coppin State University purchased the historic Hebrew Orphan Asylum as well as the other buildings associated with the Lutheran Hospital of Maryland. In early 2009, Coppin State University demolished six structures, including the 1977 Rosemont Primary Care Center, the 1963 Lutheran Hospital main building and the attached bridge, the 1948 Nurses' Residence on the east side of Ashburton, the post 1928 power plant, the 1927 Nurses' Home, and the 1904 Cahn Memorial Hall. The original kitchen and the linkage between the Hall and the main building were both lost after 1971 but prior to the 2009 demolition.

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Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundaries of this nomination include the entire block circumscribed by West Lanvale Street on the north, Ashburton Street on the east, Rayner Avenue on the south, and North Dukeland Street on the west. This block includes two properties identified by Block/lot number 2381 002 at 2700 Rayner Avenue and Block/lot number 2381 001 at 730 Ashburton Street.

Boundary Justification:

These boundaries include the full area historically associated with the Hebrew Orphan Asylum, as well as the full area associated with the West Baltimore General Hospital through 1944. The area of construction east of Ashburton Street has been excluded because the historic properties associated with the West Baltimore General Hospital formerly located in that area are no longer extant.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

B-5180
Hebrew Orphan Asylum
Name of Property

Baltimore, MD
County and State

Section Supplementary data Page 1

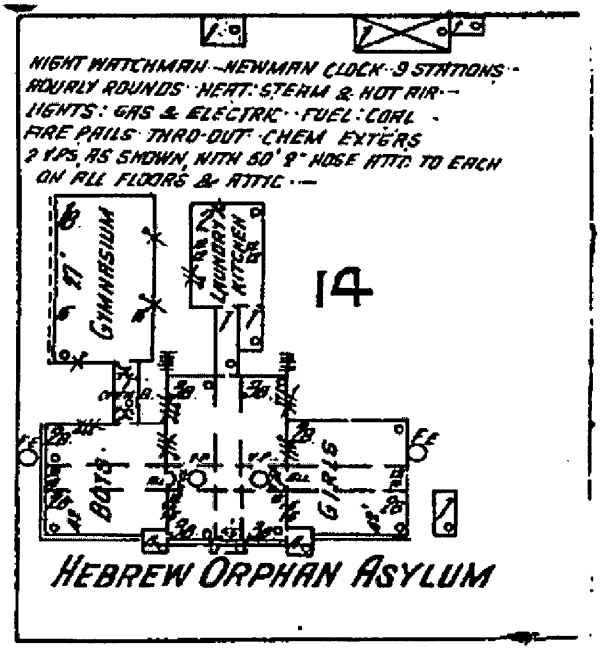

Figure 1 Hebrew Orphan Asylum, 1914 Sanborn Map

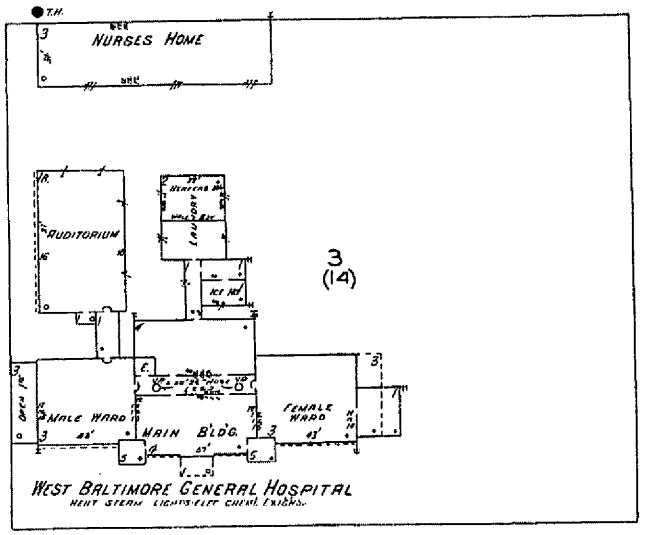

Figure 2 West Baltimore General Hospital, 1928 Sanborn Map

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

B-5180
Hebrew Orphan Asylum
Name of Property

Baltimore, MD
County and State

Section Supplementary data Page 2

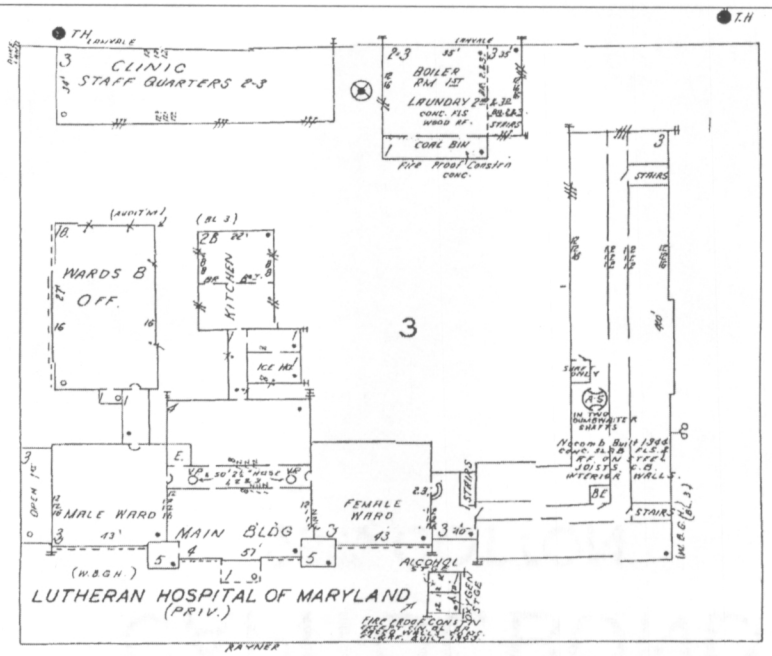

Figure 3 Lutheran Hospital of Maryland, 1951 Sanborn Map

HEBREW ORPHAN ASYLUM, BALTIMORE.

Figure 4 Hebrew Orphan Asylum, 1894

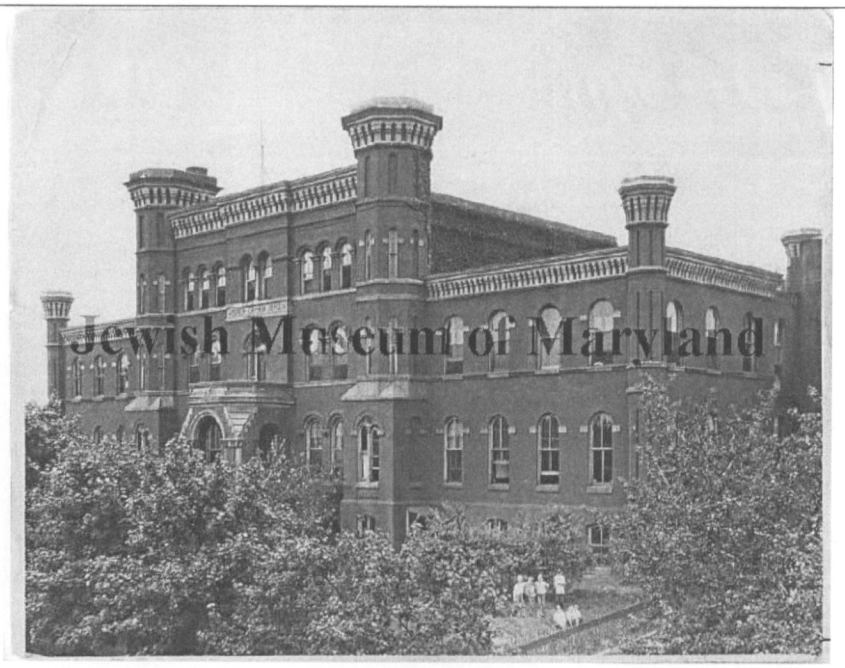

Figure 5 Hebrew Orphan Asylum, 1923

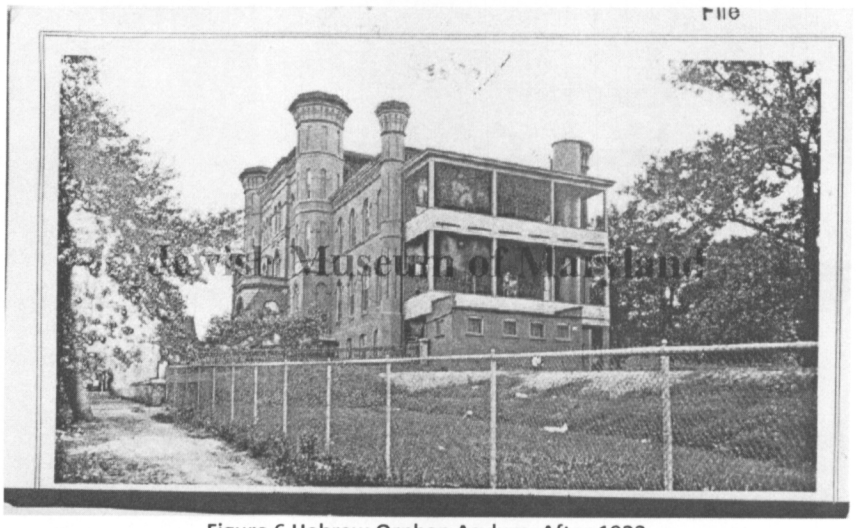

Figure 6 Hebrew Orphan Asylum, After 1923

B-5180

Baltimore Hebrew Orphan Asylum

Baltimore City, Maryland

Photo Description

The photos have been printed with HP 100 gray photo cartridge ink on HP Premium Plus photo paper. The photos were taken on October 30, 2009 and November 17, 2009.

File name	Description
MD_BaltimoreCity_BaltimoreHebrewOrphanAsylum_0001	View of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum and the south face of the Tuerk House facing northeast.
MD_BaltimoreCity_BaltimoreHebrewOrphanAsylum_0002	View of the central block of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum facing north.
MD_BaltimoreCity_BaltimoreHebrewOrphanAsylum_0003	Detail view of the porch on the central block of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum facing north.
MD_BaltimoreCity_BaltimoreHebrewOrphanAsylum_0004	Rear view of the north face of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum facing south.
MD_BaltimoreCity_BaltimoreHebrewOrphanAsylum_0005	View of the west wing of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum facing southeast.
MD_BaltimoreCity_BaltimoreHebrewOrphanAsylum_0006	View of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum and its attachment to the Tuerk House facing northwest.
MD_BaltimoreCity_BaltimoreHebrewOrphanAsylum_0007	Detail view of the stone post and iron fence on the south edge of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum site facing northwest.
MD_BaltimoreCity_BaltimoreHebrewOrphanAsylum_0008	View of the Tuerk House facing northwest.
MD_BaltimoreCity_BaltimoreHebrewOrphanAsylum_0009	Detail view of the entrance to the Tuerk House facing west.
MD_BaltimoreCity_BaltimoreHebrewOrphanAsylum_0010	View of the Tuerk House facing southwest.
MD_BaltimoreCity_BaltimoreHebrewOrphanAsylum_0011	Interior view of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum on the ground floor in the east wing facing south.
MD_BaltimoreCity_BaltimoreHebrewOrphanAsylum_0012	Interior view of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum on the ground floor in the west wing facing west.
MD_BaltimoreCity_BaltimoreHebrewOrphanAsylum_0013	Interior view of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum entrance on the first floor in the central block facing south.
MD_BaltimoreCity_BaltimoreHebrewOrphanAsylum_0014	Interior view of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum on the first floor in the east wing facing southeast.
MD_BaltimoreCity_BaltimoreHebrewOrphanAsylum_0015	Interior view of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum on the first floor in the central block facing north.
MD_BaltimoreCity_BaltimoreHebrewOrphanAsylum_0016	Interior view of the stabilized stairs of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum on the ground floor in the central block.

HEBREW ORPHAN ASYLUM

HEBREW ORPHAN ASYLUM

HEBREW ORPHAN ASYLUM
STATE PROPERTY
NO TRESPASSING
NO DUMPING
PRIVATE
PROPERTY
NO LOITERING
NO TRESPASSING

Jeep
Cherokee

ASHBURTON ST.

TUERK HOUSE
730 ASHBURTON STREET

PLEASE
KEEP OFF
GRASS