


MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable President and Members of the City Council
Attention: Karen Randle, Executive Secretary

FROM: M. J. Brodie, President 

DATE: June 30, 2008

SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 08-0137
Baltimore City Landmark List – Raffel Building

City Council Bill No. 08-0137 has been referred to the Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) for comment. This Bill would designate the Raffel Building, 107 West Heath Street, as an historical landmark.

The Raffel Building represents the early history and national importance of inventive industrial development in Baltimore. The emergence of the corrugated box as a new and vastly improved packaging technique revolutionized packaging and transportation industries. The establishment of the Raffel family business in the corrugated box and paper machinery manufacturing industries added to the rapid rise of Baltimore's national status as a mercantile center.

The Raffel Building, home of the founding J.M. Raffel Co., and eventually, the competing Hinde and Dauch Co., also represent the socio-economic heritage of the era through development of new industrial technology, entrepreneurial activity, competition and business practices in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Thus, it serves as a symbol of the economic development and culture of Baltimore.

Therefore, the BDC supports Bill No. 08-0137, and recommends your favorable consideration of same.

cc: Andrew Frank
Angela Gibson

sandra.gladden/ccbill06/08-0137

