

Timeline¹ of Peale Building

- 1813:** Peale Museum is commissioned by Rembrandt Peale
- 1813-1814:** Building is constructed by Robert Cary Long
- 1814-1829:** Building operates as Peale's Museum and Gallery of the Fine Arts
- 1829:** Peale museum is forced to vacate
- 1830:** Significant alterations are made by architect William F. Small
- 1830-1874:** Baltimore's City Hall
- 1831:** Sewer Established that runs from the front of building to Jones Falls River
- 1846:** City orders all rubbish and iron to be removed from building, sold or disposed of.
- 1862:** American flag installed on top of "Old City Hall"
- 1875:** New City Hall building is dedicated at Fayette and Holliday
- 1889-1916:** Operates as the City of Baltimore, Bureau of Water Supply²
- 1916-1928:** City of Baltimore, rental property used as organ factory; sign-painting shop; machine shop; bedspring factory
- 1928:** City of Baltimore deems building unsafe for occupancy and issues certificate of condemnation; proposes sale on condition of demolition³
- 1929-1931:** Building is reconstructed by architect John H. Scarff
- 1931-1996:** The municipal museum is later renamed the Peale Museum
- 1996-present:** City of Baltimore closes Peale Museum and transfers collections to Maryland Historical Society. The building is renamed "The Kurt L. Schmoke Conference Center at The Peale Museum" and remains vacant due to noncompliance with ADA regulations

Timeline of City Hall History

- 1835: Bank Riot
- 1851: Baltimore County becomes separate from Baltimore City
- 1856-1858: The No-Nothing Party (basically the Tea Party) wins mayoral elections through violence, voter intimidation, fraud.

¹ *Historic American Buildings Survey: Addendum to Rembrandt Peale Museum* (md0143data.pdf)

² "Old City Hall on Holliday Street, Which Has Been Condemned and Will be Tom Down," Baltimore Sunday Herald, 24 June 1900.

³ Most news articles at the time of the 1930 restoration and subsequent histories relay some version of this information. In particular, see Joseph S. Strohmeyer (former city water engineer), "I Remember When the Peale was a Water Works," Baltimore Sunday Sun (23 March 1952) for a "first person" account of this era.

Timeline of School/Education History

January 3, 1865: The first Maryland colored school opens in the African Baptist Church on Calvert and Saratoga Streets⁴

1865: The Baltimore Association for the Moral and Social Improvement of the Colored People is formed. The group secures some funding from the city and builds early schools for black students

1867: The Baltimore City Council opens 13 Colored Primary Schools (but no grammar or high schools yet)

1869: The City Council opens publically funded Colored Grammar Schools - one is begun at the Peale building, Colored Grammar School No. 1

1872: Confirmation from Annual Report that the Male and Female Primary Schools No. 1 are located at 5 Lexington St (1871/72 Annual Report)

1873: No address included for Colored School No. 1 - located within Peale? Or not quite yet?

1874: Confirmation that Colored Grammar School No. 1 is housed within Peale building (1874 Annual Report)

1878: By a resolution of the City Council, the Inspector of Buildings is directed to alter and repair the old City Hall Building on Holliday Street. The Peale building becomes Male and Female Colored School No. 1, "replacing an earlier colored school."⁵

187?-1889: Baltimore's Colored Schools No. 1

1882: Colored High School No. 1 (a two year program) is added to the Colored Grammar School in the Peale building

1883-1885: Reports of the school illustrate it as extremely unsuitable for learning

1885: Baltimore Sun article describes the conditions of Colored High and Grammar School No. 1 as completely atrocious. It is noted that there are 524 students enrolled in the grammar and high school and 150 students enrolled in the primary school

1888: Colored High School 1 (once located within the Peale) moves to Saratoga Street

1889: Female Colored School No. 1 leaves; Male Colored School No. 1 leaves to accommodate the Water Board

⁴ Baltimore Normal School Account Book, 1870-1908, MS 94. MdHS

⁵ Email correspondence with Jean Baker, February 12, 2013

