Timeline 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 Supply
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 demolition
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.

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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 Streets.

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.”

1877-1889: 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.

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4 Baltimore Normal School Account Book, 1870-1908, MS 94. MdHS
5 Email correspondence with Jean Baker, February 12, 2013