Baltimoreans... were complacent beyond the ordinary, and agreed with their visitors that life in their town was swell."

Although the “Sage” was writing about his childhood in the 1880s, we agree with his estimate of Baltimore—and we think that you will, too. To prepare you for the experience during the Fourth ACRL National Conference, April 9-12, 1986, the following books in print have been chosen for you to sample the flavor of “Baltimore...shining on the sea.”

I. Baltimore: A sense of place


The classic history of the social life and customs of Baltimore, first published by Dutton in 1951.


Written originally under the sponsorship of the Maryland Historical Society, with lots of prints and some paintings reproduced for the early years before photography. Jones has revised and continued through “1970–1982: A Rejuvenated City in an Uneasy Decade.”


The cultural center of Baltimore is filled with beautiful mid-19th-century buildings, including the Peabody Library. Dorsey is a native of Baltimore, *Sun* writer, and restaurant columnist.


The guide has three introductory chapters followed by five walking tours and nine driving tours, with an appendix of brief biographies of deceased architects who practiced in Baltimore, a glossary, and several indexes.


Written by an art and architecture critic for the *Sun*, this guide includes details about sights, shops, and places to eat in the Inner Harbor, plus points of interest on the periphery.


This biographical approach to urban history is

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based upon the accomplishments of four remarkable men: Elisha Tyson, a wealthy Quaker merchant-miller; William Watkins, a minister and foe of Colonization; George A. Hackett, lay minister and businessman; and Isaac Myers, a middle-class labor leader, businessman, and politician.


The Harbor is broadly defined to include the whole Patapsco River estuary. The historical, commercial, recreational, and educational aspects of the Harbor are all described in text and in hundreds of photos, with several maps (such as of sites of shipwrecks).


A photo history from 1770 to date with good captions, this is compiled by an editorial writer and columnist for Baltimore's *The News American*.

*Maryland*. Photography by Steve Uzzell; text by Carl Bode. Portland, Ore.: Graphic Arts Center, 1983. $29.50.

Lavishly illustrated in color photographs, this book is divided into the “Eastern Shore,” “Heartland,” and “Foothills and Mountains.” Typical scenes from different perspectives are shown in interesting light. Bode talks about Maryland in transition. “Heartland” includes many shots of Baltimore.


A successful Baltimore commercial photographer presents a survey of present-day Baltimore in color; the emphasis is on people in action. Text is by Dennis N. McClellan.


This anthology of about 75 short articles by Baltimore experts discusses the recent past as a period of vigor and creativity in four categories: “Baltimore Builds,” “Social Perspective,” “The Arts,” and “What Makes Baltimore Baltimore.” Nast is a historian, lecturer, writer, editor, and artist.


An interesting interweaving of economic, geographic, and social patterns of development is a well illustrated book about Baltimore. It portrays the relationships of Blacks and Jews as two important minorities in the growth of Baltimore.


A thorough guide to the city is presented and then on to Annapolis, the Eastern Shore, Baltimore, Carroll and Howard Counties.


Based upon the 1940 WPA guide to Maryland, the staff of the Maryland Hall of Records provide an updated guide, which includes 33 driving tours and then tours of seven cities, including six different tours of Baltimore.


Sportscaster Patterson gives the highlights of Orioles successes from 1954 through 1983, when they again won the World Series. There are several appendices of rosters of players and statistics. The text is liberally sprinkled with action photos.


If Studs Terkel were a photographer, this is the kind of book that he would produce about East Baltimore. These many pages of photos of streets and the people who live on them are an outgrowth of a course in social documentary photography given at the Maryland Institute, College of Art, in Baltimore.


Federal Hill, just South of the Inner Harbor, is a favorite spot from which to introduce tourists to Baltimore, as it changes day by day. Rukert traces its history from farming, to shipbuilding, to food processing, to the glass industry, and to development of a park, now surrounded by restored housing.


This is a lively panoramic history of Fort McHenry, birthplace of “The Star-Spangled Banner.”


From a family that has run waterfront terminals for about 80 years, Rukert writes of the birth of Baltimore as a port in 1750, its adolescence and maturity, during which the City has been intrinsically fused with its port. Many black and white photos illustrate this history. In 1976 Rukert’s 1822 Brown’s Wharf Terminal was opened as a maritime museum.


Launched in Baltimore in 1797 and serving
through both World Wars, the “Constellation’s”
near-demise and her restoration that is continuing
are described. This ship is a centerpiece of Balti­
more’s Inner Harbor.

Warren, Marion E., and Marne Warren. Balti­
more: When She Was What She Used to Be,
versity Press, 1983. $29.95.
This is a collection of 260 pictures winnowed
from thousands by one of the state’s best known
photographers and his daughter, now photo archi­
vist for the Maryland State Archives.

Willis, Gwen. Shifra Stein’s Day Trips from
Greater Baltimore: Getaways Less Than Two
Hours Away. Charlotte, N.C.: The East Woods
Press, 1985. $7.95 paper.
Stein’s trips take one to Pennsylvania, Delaware,
the District of Columbia, Virginia, and West Vir­
ginia.

II. Baltimore: Literature and the arts

& Weed, 1982. $15.00. New York: New Ameri­
can Library, 1983. $6.95 paper.
An endearing recollection of American boyhood
and youth from the 1920s through the Depression
and into the 1940s in Virginia, New Jersey, and
Baltimore, this 1982 Pulitzer Prize autobiography
was written by a columnist for the New York Times.

Barth, John. The End of the Road. New York:
Doubleday, 1967. $4.95. New York: Bantam,
1969. $3.95 paper.
Jacob Horner becomes a teacher of grammar at
Wicomico State Teachers College, on Maryland’s
Eastern Shore. He is befriended by historian Joe
Morgan and his wife Rennie. In this world without
standards, the triangle leads to comedy, satire, and
tragedy. Episodes related to Horner’s therapy take
place in Baltimore in this book, originally pub­
lished by Doubleday in 1958 and revised in 1967
when Barth could overrule his editor.

Barth, John. The Floating Opera. New York: Bant­
am, 1972. $3.95 paper.
The title is that of a showboat plying the waters
of Maryland and staging a play, which is seen by
the audience while seated on the shore. Part of the
performance is, perforce, missed. One’s imagina­
tion must supply action and dialogue. There are
scenes set in Baltimore in the 1920s and 30s when
Todd Andrews was a student. He decides that the
relative values of life are preferable to suicide.
Barth is a professor of English and creative writing
at The Johns Hopkins University. Appleton pub­
lished the book in 1956; a revised edition was pub­
lished by Doubleday in 1967.

Creamer, Robert W. Babe: The Legend Comes to
Library). $6.95 paper.
A senior editor of Sports Illustrated writes the
only truly adult biography of Babe Ruth, originally
published in 1974 by Simon & Schuster. Part One,
1894–1919, covers Ruth’s childhood as a “Bad Kid”
in Baltimore and his early career before reaching
the New York Yankees in 1920.

Durkin, Barbara W. Oh, You Dundalk Girls,
Can’t You Dance the Polka? New York: Mor­
A former local girl who grew up in Dundalk, a
working-class neighborhood just over the county
line, wrote this well-received first novel. It is about
the 1950s and 60s and Bebe Schmidt, a fat little girl
who moved from Wisconsin. The recollection is
funny, bittersweet, and catches the lingo of the
place and the times.

Kravetz, Sallie. Ethel Ennis: The Reluctant Jazz
Star. Baltimore: Gateway Press, 1984. $11.95
paper.
Baltimore's famous jazz singer is profiled. She and her husband, Earl Arnett, recently have opened a nightclub, Ethel's Place, across from the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall.


Eight-year veteran vice-detective turned taxi driver recounts some of the seamier encounters that one could have in Baltimore.


Manchester's first novel, originally published by Ballantine in 1953, portrays racketeering and political corruption in a Northern seaport city, "Chesapeake." The geographic and physical descriptions resemble Baltimore, but the sensationalism and cruelty of the story are exaggerated. Or, as one local critic wrote, "It's Baltimore, all right, but as if viewed murkily from the bottom of the harbor."


Baltimore's most famous literary figure wrote a delightful and provocative autobiography.


This exhibition catalog has 98 color plates and lots of text that describe Peale as an artist, soldier in the Revolution, inventor, watchmaker, farmer, and founder of the first popular museum of natural science—now known as the Peale Museum and mostly devoted to local history of Baltimore.


Drew Wakeman's family are street musicians who perform the Inner Harbor and live in Fells Point. While the group is performing "Greensleeves" one day, Drew escapes in time to 16th-century England, where he is befriended by Symon Ives, a "wait," a young musician paid by London.

Skutches, Peter. *Diner.* Based on the movie written and directed by Barry Levinson. New York: Dell, 1982. $2.75 paper.

*Diner* is about five youths nearing manhood in 1959, who meet at the Diner to swap stories, joke, talk of sex, and dream of love. For the story, the Diner was in East Baltimore; recently it has been moved near the City Hall to serve as a site for culinary trade courses and inexpensive meals.


This widely reviewed biography by a respected writer of mystery fiction offers a brisk synopsis of extant biographical knowledge, leavened by the author's insights. Symons is very successful in placing Poe's life against the backdrop of 19th-century America.


Macon Leary, author of travel books, after his divorce seeks the quiet of life with his two brothers and a sister in Baltimore. But Muriel Pritchett, who lives a less tidy existence, intrudes upon that domesticity.


Jeremy, a 38-year-old reclusive Baltimore artistic bachelor who runs a boarding house, becomes even more cushioned from the world after he marries Mary Tell, a new boarder, and then sires five children. Creating Jeremy was a way of Tyler's investigating her own "tendency to turn more and more inward" in this novel originally published by Knopf in 1974.


Tyler's ninth novel explores the inner life of the Tuls, an unhappy working-class Baltimore family, through 35 troubled years. Pearl—the matriarch—is 85, blind, and dying and heaps abuse upon her children, because of the bitterness engendered by the desertion of her husband years before. Ezra, the youngest, runs the inner-city restaurant of the title. This is a stunning psychological portrait of a family estranged from itself.


The Pecks of Baltimore are a wealthy and self-absorbed family with streaks of rebellion. Sixty years after brother Caleb's departure from the embrace of the family, patriarch Daniel, aided by grandson Duncan and Duncan's cousin/wife Justin, seeks the rebel. Originally published by Knopf in 1975.


Ward has written the story of a Baltimore steelworker's precipitous downward spiral following his permanent layoff from the mill. All kinds of bad things happen to Red and his co-workers in the months following the layoff. The Patterson Park/Highlandtown section of the city is described in flashbacks to his teens in the late 50s and early 60s. The story shows tension between Baltimore's new Harborplace and the working people of East Baltimore.—Bill Wilson.
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