



## HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY - BUILDING AND STRUCTURES

Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism, One Constitution Plaza, 2nd Floor, Hartford, CT 06103

\* **Note:** Please attach any additional or expanded information on a separate sheet.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Building Name (Common) East Battalion Headquarters, New Haven Fire Department  
 Building Name (Historic) East Battalion Headquarters, New Haven Fire Department  
 Street Address or Location 412-16 Lombard Street, New Haven CT  
 Town/City New Haven Village Fair Haven County New Haven  
 Owner(s) City of New Haven Fire Department  Public  Private

### PROPERTY INFORMATION

Present Use: Fire Station  
 Historic Use: Fire Station  
 Accessibility to public: Exterior visible from public road?  Yes  No  
 Interior accessible?  Yes  No If yes, explain Some areas during limited hours  
 Style of building Modernist - Bauhaus Date of Construction 1957

Material(s) (Indicate use or location when appropriate):

- |  |   |   |                                       |  |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clapboard             | <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brick | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle | <input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone            | <input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten         | <input type="checkbox"/> Stucco           | <input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone  | <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete (Type _____) | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut Stone (Type _____) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____      |                                       |  |

### Structural System

- Wood Frame  Post & Beam  Balloon  Load bearing masonry  Structural iron or steel  
 Other Reinforced concrete

### Roof (Type)

- Gable  Flat  Mansard  Monitor  Sawtooth  
 Gambrel  Shed  Hip  Round  Other \_\_\_\_\_

(Material)

- Wood Shingle  Roll Asphalt  Tin  Slate  Asphalt Shingle  
 Built up  Tile  Other Rubber membrane

Number of Stories: 2 Approximate Dimensions 70' x 94'

Structural Condition:  Excellent  Good  Fair  Deteriorated

Exterior Condition:  Excellent  Good  Fair  Deteriorated

Location Integrity:  On original site  Moved When? \_\_\_\_\_

Alterations?  Yes  No If yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR OFFICE USE:** Town # \_\_\_\_\_ Site # \_\_\_\_\_ UTM \_\_\_\_\_

District:  S  NR If NR, Specify:  Actual  Potential

PROPERTY INFORMATION (CONT'D)

Related outbuildings or landscape features:

- Barn
- Shed
- Garage
- Carriage House
- Shop
- Garden
- Other landscape features or buildings: Paved apron and parking

Surrounding Environment:

- Open land
- Woodland
- Residential
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Rural
- High building density
- Scattered buildings visible from site

• Interrelationship of building and surroundings:

This fire station is located at the corner of Lombard and Poplar Streets in the densely built-up residential neighborhood of Fair Haven. Buildings in the surrounding blocks are 2- and 3-story 19th-century multi-family homes and neighborhood commercial structures, with a few 20th-century infill buildings.

• Other notable features of building or site (Interior and/or Exterior)

This building is a severely simple 2-story brick flat-roofed structure 4 bays wide, with overhead garage doors in the ground floor bays of the north facade. The doors are glazed with slender metal mullions and 24 lights each. The second floor has large window openings corresponding to the garage bays, glazed with metal-framed sash, each opening having three panels of fixed over awning sash. The uppermost light has been replaced with an opaque panel. Metal upper-case block lettering applied to the brick facade above the door openings spells out the equipment unit names. The side facades are two stories high at the north portion of the building and step down to 1-story height at the rear (south). There are five single window openings on each side at both floor levels, with metal-framed fixed sash over awnings. The central opening on the west facade has a door and fire escape. A brick chimney is located at the south facade. The roof line is devoid of ornament, terminating in a clay tile cap.

Architect Charles H. Abramowitz Builder \_\_\_\_\_

• Historical or Architectural importance:

This fire station building replaced three earlier stations - one at the same location, one on East Pearl Street, and another on Water Street which was demolished for construction of the Connecticut Turnpike (I-95). This stripped-down industrial-styled building matched the style of several other public safety structures of the time, such as the service buildings at the City Landfill on Middletown Avenue. The severity and avoidance of ornament here contrasted with an earlier generation of firehouses designed in Victorian styles with arched windows and turrets. Shortly after the construction of the Lombard Street station, during the Redevelopment period of the 1960s, the City would build a collection of a half-dozen new stations combining functionalism with attention to the symbolism of the firehouse as an exemplar of public safety in the neighborhood context (see Inventory forms for 952 Grand Avenue and 125 Goffe Street).

Architect: Charles H. Abramowitz designed buildings including the WNHC Building (see Inventory form for 135 College Street) as well as several in the East Street-Hamilton Street area (see 105 Hamilton Street, 87 Union Street, and 424 Chapel Street).

• Sources: Brown, Elizabeth Mills; *New Haven: A Guide to Architecture and Urban Design*, Yale U.Press, New Haven, 1976. Carley, Rachel D., *Tomorrow is Here: New Haven and the Modern Movement* (Privately printed by the New Haven Preservation Trust, New Haven CT) June, 2008.

New Haven Journal Courier, September, 1971, "Inside Your Fire Stations," #2 of a series.

New Haven Assessor's Record: Map/Block/Parcel 168/ 0781/ 00400, <http://cityofnewhaven.com/Fire/Stations.asp> Box 22 Associates, *Images of America: New Haven Firefighters*, Arcadia Publishing, San Francisco, 2005.

Photographer Charlotte Hitchcock Date 11/18/2009

View North facing Lombard Street Negative on File NHPT

Name Charlotte Hitchcock Date 7/22/2010

Organization The New Haven Preservation Trust

Address 934 State Street, P.O. Box 1671, New Haven, CT 06507

• Subsequent field evaluations:

Threats to the building or site:

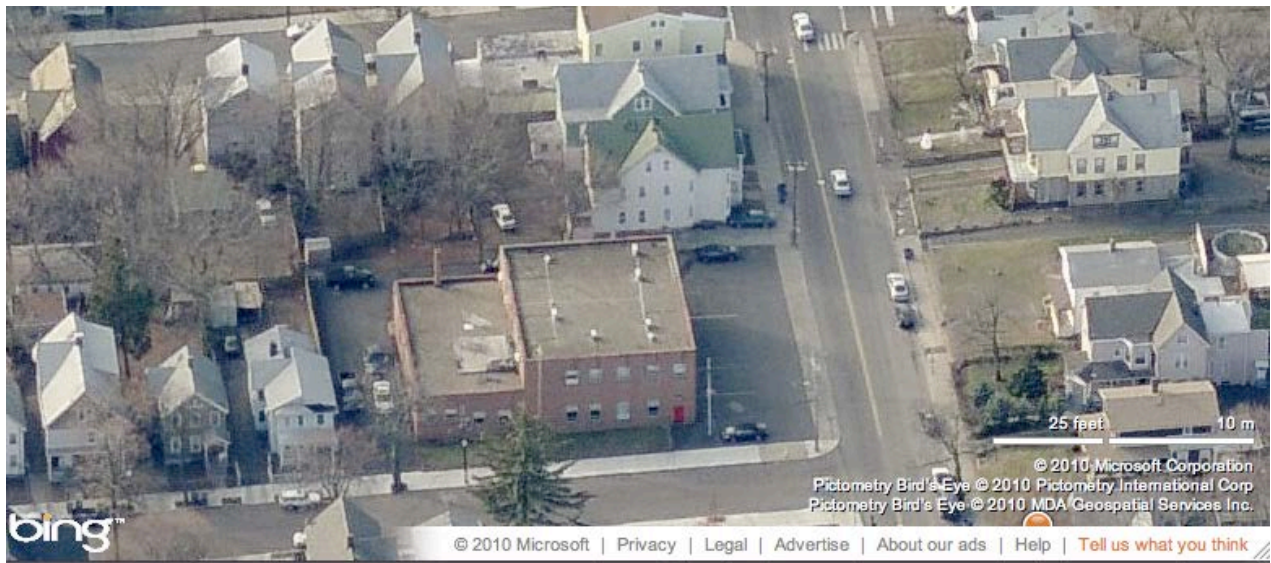
- None known
- Highways
- Vandalism
- Developers
- Renewal
- Private
- Deterioration
- Zoning
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Explanation \_\_\_\_\_



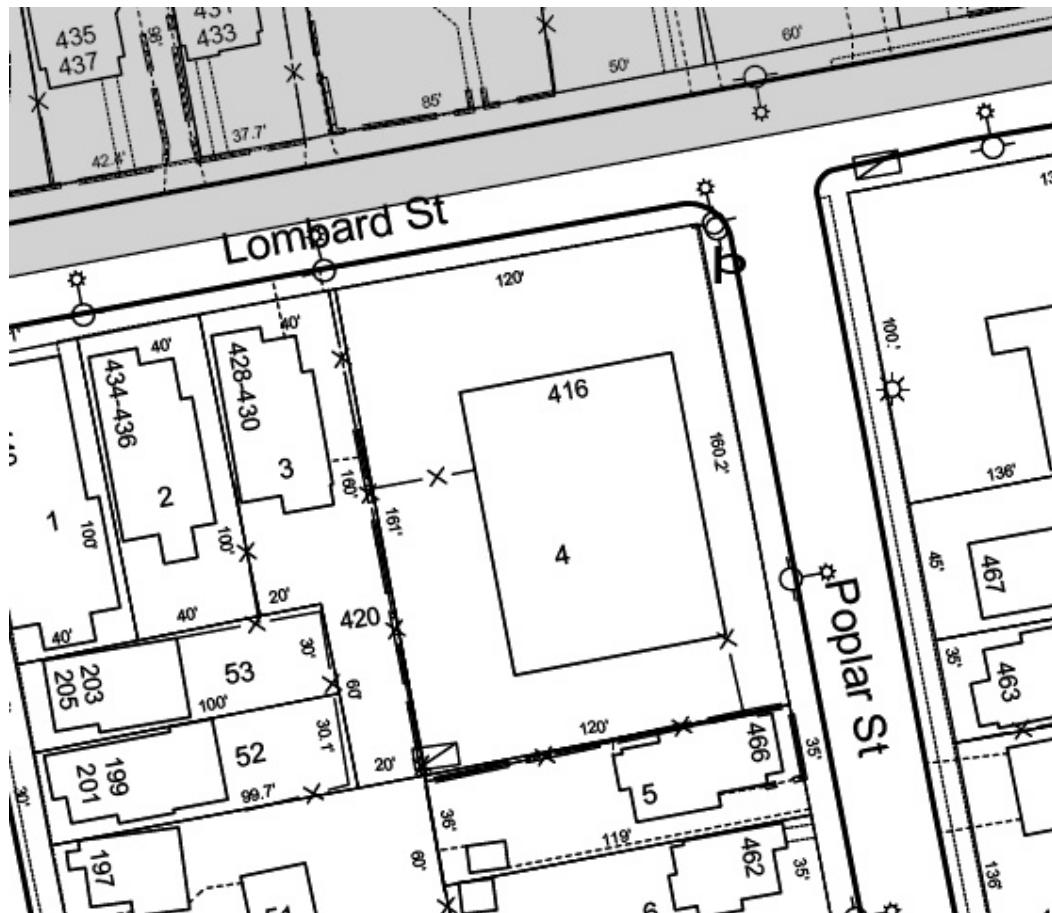
1. North view from Lombard Street, camera facing south.



2. Northwest view from Lombard Street, camera facing southeast.



3. East aerial view, camera facing west, with neighborhood context, from Bing Maps <http://www.bing.com/maps/> accessed 7/22/2010.



4. Site Plan – detail from City of New Haven Tax Map 168/ 0781/ 004, not to scale, North ↑.