



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) Fair Parking
 Building Name (Historic) Terminal Taxi Company
 Street Address or Location 20 Fair Street
 Town/City New Haven Village Wooster Square County New Haven
 Owner(s) Ahern, Lucy, Jude & Kinny, David C. Public Private

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Present Use: Industrial - Parking lot office
 Historic Use: Industrial - Taxi company service garage and dispatch office
Accessibility to public: Exterior visible from public road? Yes No
 Interior accessible? Yes No If yes, explain _____
 Style of building Modernist Date of Construction 1961

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

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clapboard | <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding | <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concrete (Type <u>Block Masonry</u>) | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut Stone (Type _____) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Curtain Wall</u> | | |

Structural System

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

Roof (Type)

- Gable Flat Mansard Monitor Sawtooth
 Gambrel Shed Hip Round Other Butterfly

(Material)

- Wood Shingle Roll Asphalt Tin Slate Asphalt Shingle
 Built up Tile Other _____

Number of Stories: 1 **Approximate Dimensions** 50' x 92'

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: Exterior paint, window replacement, awning signage.

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: Asphalt paving and chain link fencing

Surrounding Environment:

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

• Interrelationship of building and surroundings: Fair Street formerly connected State and Olive Streets but was truncated and became a cul-de-sac access to this site. The residential Wooster Square neighborhood is to the east and the commercial downtown is to the west. The residential area is a mix of 19th- and mid-20th-century 2- and 3-story buildings while the adjacent commercial buildings are contemporary, built according to the Redevelopment Plan of the 1950s and 60s.

• Other notable features of building or site (*Interior and/or Exterior*) The building is a simple rectangular plan with 2-story office space at the front (north) and garage bays to the south, accessed on the west side by two overhead garage doors off-center toward the right. The walls are concrete block masonry in a stacked bond, alternating with full-height panels of curtain wall infill made up of metal spandrel panels and horizontal metal-framed strip windows. The dominant feature of the building is the butterfly roof, sloping from a high at the north facade gradually down for 75 feet to the low point and then sloping up to the rear south wall. On the west facade band of second floor windows is shaded by a horizontal sun shade canopy hung on tension struts. The north facade is divided into three unequal bays by concrete block fin walls. The outer bays are infill wall while the center is masonry and with projecting entrance canopy. The doors were originally glass storefront but have been replaced with solid material. The east wall has a section of curtain wall at the right (north) and the remainder is masonry with an overhead door below the low point of the roof. The buff masonry has been painted gray with white trim.

Architect Davis Cochran & Miller Builder Joseph N. Rice, Inc.

• Historical or Architectural importance: The immediate area was planned as a model wholesale-service district between rehabilitated residential Wooster Square and the downtown. The philosophy of the Redevelopment Agency and its staff architect was to require a high level of design in their projects, intending to re-make the image of the city as a clean and modern place. Therefore attention was paid to the design of clean abstract forms. Hommann made a point of the importance of design, illustrating this property in "Wooster Square Design" along with a "before" photograph of the prior facility of Terminal Taxi (Hommann, p.139).

Architects: Davis Cochran & Miller (later including Baerman and Noyes) was a local architectural firm first active in the late 1940s and continuing as Noyes Vogt into the 21st century, responsible for both Modernist work and historic preservation projects. Henry Miller's 1949 home in Orange was one of the first Modernist houses in the New Haven area (see National Register nomination).

• Sources: Brown, Elizabeth Mills; *A Guide to Architecture & 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.
 Hommann, Mary; *Wooster Square Design*, The New Haven Redevelopment Authority, 1965, p. 139.
 New Haven Tax Assessor's Record: Map/Block/Parcel: 225/ 532/ 007, Building Department permit files.
 Wigren, Christopher, Henry Miller House, Orange CT National Register Nomination 01000399, National Park Service, 2001.
 Renewal Plan for the Wooster Square Project Area, New Haven Redevelopment Agency, 1954.

Photographer Charlotte Hitchcock Date 11/30/2010

View Multiple Views Negative on File NHPT

Name Charlotte Hitchcock Date 12/15/2009

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 _____



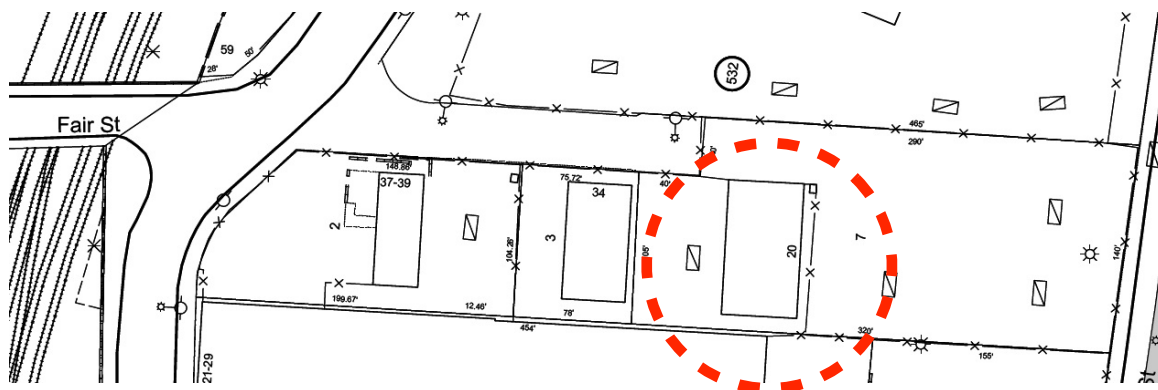
1. East view, camera facing west.



2. North view (front), camera facing southwest.



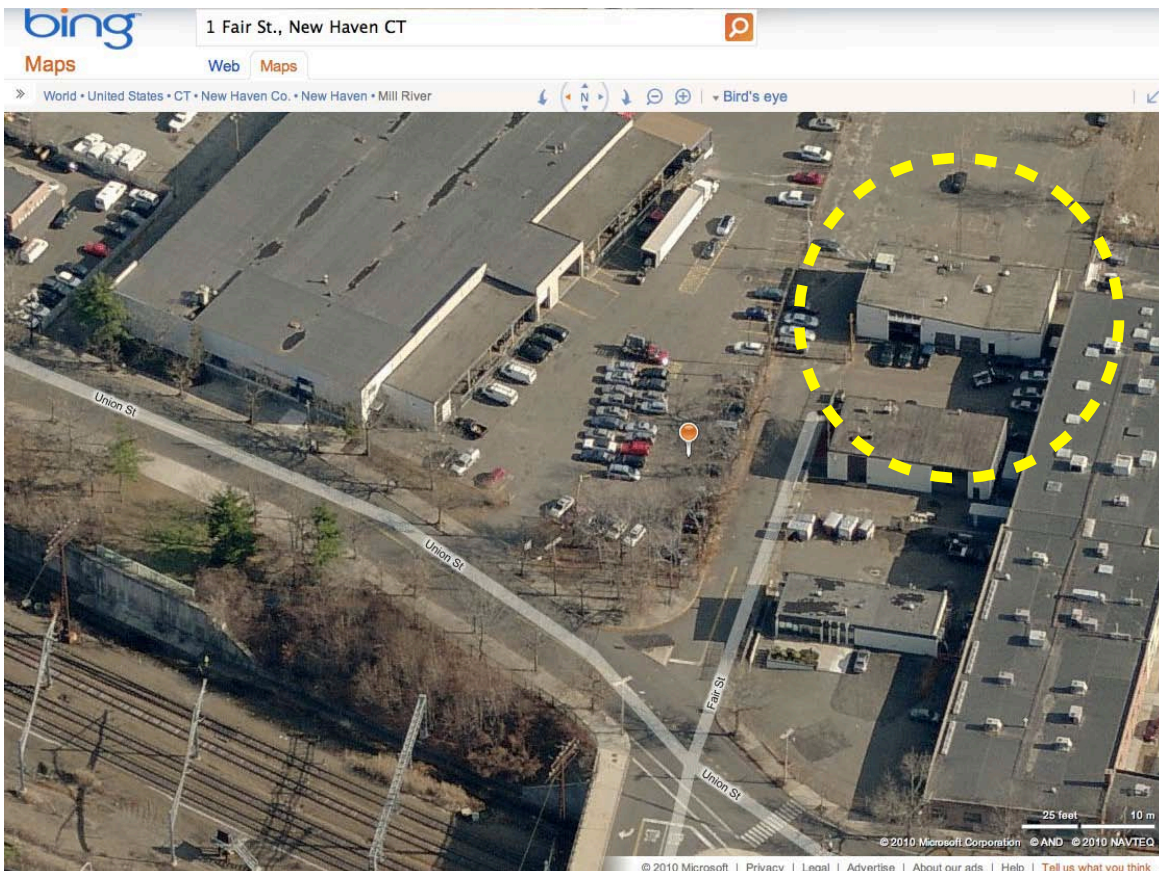
3. West view, camera facing southeast.



4. Site Plan – detail from City of New Haven Tax Map 225/532/007, not to scale, North ↑.



5. Northeast view from Google Street View, <http://maps.google.com/maps> accessed 12/15/2010; showing prior to new paint job and awning.



6. West aerial view from Bing Maps <http://www.bing.com/maps/> accessed 11/30/2010.