

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Town No.:	Site No.:
UTM:	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> NR	IF NR, SPECIFY <input type="checkbox"/> Actual <input type="checkbox"/> Potential

Long Wharf 228-1304-

IDENTIFICATION	1. BUILDING NAME (Common) <b>Armstrong Rubber Co.</b> (Historic) <b>Same</b>	
	2. TOWN/CITY <b>New Haven</b>	COUNTY <b>New Haven</b>
	3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or location) <b>500 Sargent Drive</b>	
	4. OWNER(S) <b>Armstrong Rubber Co.</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	
	5. USE (Present) <b>Offices/research facilities</b> (Historic) <b>Same</b>	
DESCRIPTION	6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No IF YES, EXPLAIN <b>Business hours</b>	
	7. STYLE OF BUILDING <b>Modern</b> DATE OF CONSTRUCTION <b>1968-</b>	
	8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Clapboard <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding <input type="checkbox"/> Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	
	<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: <b>precast panels</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Cut stone Type: _____	
	9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Wood frame <input type="checkbox"/> Post and beam <input type="checkbox"/> balloon <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structural iron or steel	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Load bearing masonry <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structural iron or steel	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____		
10. ROOF (Type)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Gable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flat <input type="checkbox"/> Mansard <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor <input type="checkbox"/> sawtooth		
<input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input type="checkbox"/> Hip <input type="checkbox"/> Round <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____		
(Material)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle <input type="checkbox"/> Roll Asphalt <input type="checkbox"/> Tin <input type="checkbox"/> Slate		
<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt shingle <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Built up <input type="checkbox"/> Tile <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <b>Concrete "T" beams, tar &amp; gravel</b>		
11. NUMBER OF STORIES <b>9</b> APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS <b>186 x 391'</b>		
12. CONDITION (Structural) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated (Exterior) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated		
13. INTEGRITY (Location) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site <input type="checkbox"/> Moved WHEN? _____ (Alterations) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No IF YES, EXPLAIN		
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES		
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input type="checkbox"/> Garage <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify) <b>Large asphalt parking area, front and south side; large cast concrete sign designed to coordinate with the building; landscaping</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Carriage house <input type="checkbox"/> Shop <input type="checkbox"/> Garden		
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT		
<input type="checkbox"/> Open land <input type="checkbox"/> Wood-land <input type="checkbox"/> Residential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scattered buildings visible from site		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Rural <input type="checkbox"/> High building density		

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS  
Located on infill land at the extreme north end of the Long Wharf industrial park. Lot is bordered on north and east by Sargent Drive; the building looks out on the elevated Connecticut Turnpike and New Haven Harbor beyond.

17 OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior)

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

The building is organized in 2 sections: a 2-story research and warehouse section at the bottom, stretching back behind the structure; and an office block elevated above the research section, supported at the sides of the structure by massive end piers in which most of the utility and service systems of the building, as well as the elevators, are gathered. The fenestration is plain, rectangular glass fitted into the gridlike wall pattern dictated by the structure and the pre cast concrete panels. The windowless area around the top of the office section, and along the sides of the service strips, contain more stylized designs of repeating diagonals in relief. The upper floors of the office section are suspended on steel cables; the diagonal motif of the shell is intended as a stylized representation of the structural phenomenon.

18 ARCHITECT

Marcel Breuer and Robert F. Gatje

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

Architectural: The Armstrong building is one of two major New Haven buildings designed by Marcel Breuer (b. 1902, Hungary). Breuer was both at student and teacher at the Weimar Bauhaus (1920-28). Concentrating on furniture design, Breuer was a pioneer in the design of tubular steel and aluminum and molded plywood furniture. After a brief period of practicing architecture alone in Berlin, then in London, Breuer joined Walter Gropius at Harvard in 1937 and entered into partnership with him until 1941; from 1946 he maintained a practice in New York City.

The Armstrong building illustrates the principal characteristics of Breuer's style: clear separation of functionally different elements; and a clear, sometimes poetic, articulation of each functionally different element (carried over from his experiences with furniture design). See Becton Center, Yale University, 1970, 15 Prospect Street.

The Armstrong building has a strong visual relationship to the nearby Howard Johnson's Motel at 400 Sargent Drive of 1971 (Slingerland, Booss &

SOURCES

Brown, p. 24.

Miscellaneous drawings, New Haven City Plan Department.

Fakas, architects).

PHOTO

PHOTOGRAPHER

Rober Baldwin

DATE

5/1/80

VIEW

Northeast

NEGATIVE ON FILE

NHPT, CHC, Sheet no. 1

NAME

Susan Ryan

DATE

7/29/80

ORGANIZATION

New Haven Preservation Trust

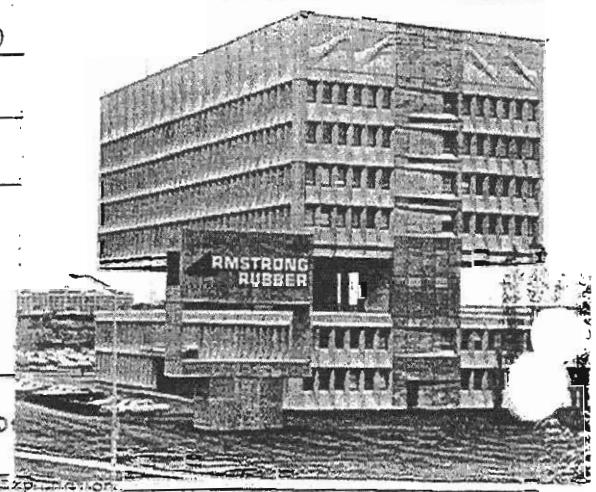
ADDRESS

P.O. Box 1671, New Haven, CT 06507

20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

21 THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

- None known     Highways     Vandalism     Developers     D  
 Renewal     Private     Deterioration     Zoning     Exploitation



Warehouse wing demolished early 2000s.