

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** $Building\ Name\ (Common)\ \underline{\ \ Morningstar\ \ UFWB\ Church}$ Building Name (Historic) B & L Plaza Street Address or Location 119-139 Dixwell Avenue _____ County New Haven Town/City New Haven ____ Village Dixwell Owner(s) Morningstar UFWB Church O Public Private PROPERTY INFORMATION Present Use: Religious - church Historic Use: Commercial - retail stores **Accessibility to public**: Exterior visible from public road? • Yes O No Interior accessible? • Yes O No If yes, explain Limited hours when open for congregation _____ Date of Construction 1974 Style of building Modernist - Brutalist **Material(s)** (*Indicate use or location when appropriate*): Clapboard Asbestos Siding Brick ☐ Wood Shingle Asphalt Siding Fieldstone Board & Batten Stucco Cobblestone Aluminum Siding Cut Stone (Type _____ Concrete (Type Block Masonry) Structural System Load bearing masonry Structural iron or steel Wood Frame Post & Beam Balloon Other Roof (Type) Gable **✓** Flat Mansard Monitor Sawtooth Other _____ Gambrel ☐ Shed | Hip Round (Material) Slate Wood Shingle Roll Asphalt Tin Asphalt Shingle Tile **✓** Built up Other Number of Stories: 1 Approximate Dimensions 142' x 47' Structural Condition: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Exterior Condition: Excellent V Good Fair Deteriorated **Location Integrity:** • On original site • Moved When? _____ Alterations? O Yes O No If yes, explain: _

District: S NR If NR, Specify: Actual Potential

UTM

Site #

FOR OFFICE USE: Town #

PROPERTY INFORMATION (CONT'D)	
Related outbuildings or landscape features:	
☐ Barn ☐ Shed ☐ Garage ☐ Carriage House ☐ Shop ☐ Garden	
Other landscape features or buildings: Parking lots on south and east sides of building.	
Surrounding Environment:	
☐ Open land ☐ Woodland ☑ Residential ☑ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Rural	
High building density Scattered buildings visible from site	
• Interrelationship of building and surroundings: Located on Dixwell Avenue, the building stands at the southeast corner of Dixwell Avenue and Webster Street. The build one of several religious institutions located on Dixwell Avenue, all of which are 20th-century construction. Adjacent to the originally was a public housing development of the early 1940s; this has been demolished and replaced with new rental houself Avenue is a main through route from New Haven to Hamden, as well as a neighborhood commercial street.	north
• Other notable features of building or site (Interior and/or Exterior) The building at 119 Dixwell Avenue is rectangular in plan and has 1-story ribbed concrete block masonry walls, and a flat Projecting fins break up the wall surface at roughly twenty-foot increments, framing 7 14-foot wide bays alternating betwee window openings and solid masonry walls. The fins are battered, resulting in a buttress-like appearance. The original window openings and solid masonry walls. In the upper portion of the bays similar sheet metal panels canted to follow the butter fins, form hoods above the openings. The entry, in the 3rd bay from the south, utilizes similar elements; entry is throut pair of glass storefront-type doors. These are flanked by 27-light, glass-block sidelights. Parking at the south and east of building is accessed by 2 curb cuts on Dixwell and Webster Streets. The building is set close to the sidewalk, with a narroughlanting strip along the west and north walls.	een ndows patter of gh a the
Architect Edward Cherry and Associates Builder	
• Historical or Architectural importance: Formerly known as the B & L Plaza, this building was constructed in 1974, some 10 years after urban renewal efforts form began in the Dixwell neighborhood. Opened by "three minority businessmen," the B & L Plaza housed, B & L Records an Shop, Dozier's La Boutique, and Adele's Bakery. The building was owned by the respective owners of the businesses, Historian Green Jr., Edward Dozier, and Robert Jenkins. Construction was funded by a number of local small business investment and banks. The building's single-story design is Modernist in its use of scored or ribbed concrete block, a popular way of a Brutalist surface at lower cost than cast-in-place concrete. The treatment of window openings as abstract voids in the sinfilled by a curtain wall of metal and glass, is also characteristically Modernist. Architect: Edward E. Cherry (1926-), a native of North Carolina, studied at Howard University following service in the Arr during World War II, and opened his office in Hamden CT in 1963. He designed residential and commercial work (see Interest forms for 254 Goffe Street, 100, 110 Dixwell Avenue) and associated with others on several projects (see 197 Dixwell). • Sources: Brown, Elizabeth Mills; New Haven: 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 Preserva Trust, New Haven CT) June, 2008. New Haven Assessor's Record: Map/Block/Parcel 281/0349/02600.	d Gift ank groups attaining tructure, my ventory
"New Haven Redevelopment Agency Annual Report; 1975," New Haven Register, October, 1975.	
Photographer Lucas Karmazinas Date 11/12/2009	
View Multiple Views Negative on File NHPT	
Name Lucas Karmazinas Date 6/03/2010	
Organization The New Haven Preservation Trust	
Address 934 Street 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	

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM - BUILDING AND STRUCTURES continuation sheet

119-139 Dixwell Avenue, New Haven, CT

3



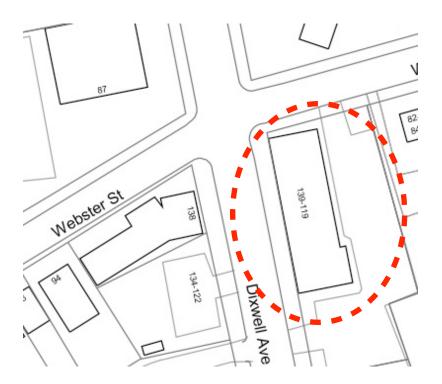
1. West (front) and north (side) elevations from Dixwell Avenue, camera facing southeast.



2. West (front) elevation from Dixwell Avenue, camera facing southeast.



3. Aerial view from Google Maps http://maps.google.com/ accessed 6/03/2010 .



4. Site plan detail – from City of New Haven tax map, Map/Block/Parcel 281/0349/02600 not to scale, North 1.