



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) Firehouse 19
 Building Name (Historic) New Haven Fire Department - Engine Company No. 8
 Street Address or Location 15 -19 Edwards Street
 Town/City New Haven Village Upper State Street County New Haven
 Owner(s) Firehouse 19 LLC Public Private

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Present Use: Offices
 Historic Use: Fire Department

Accessibility to public: Exterior visible from public road? Yes No
 Interior accessible? Yes No If yes, explain some areas during business hours
 Style of building Italianate - re-used: Modernist Date of Construction 1873, 1974

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 _____

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 _____

Number of Stories: 2 **Approximate Dimensions** 50' x 75'

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: Adaptive re-use of former fire station

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: landscaped raised planters and sculpture at front yard, rear parking

Surrounding Environment:

Open land Woodland Residential Commercial Industrial Rural

High building density Scattered buildings visible from site

• Interrelationship of building and surroundings:

The building is located at Edwards and Nash Streets, near State Street - a commercial area of 19th-century buildings - in a residential neighborhood of 19th and early 20-century single and multi-family homes. Many nearby buildings that are contributing resources in the State St. Historic District have been adaptively reused, like this one.

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

See continuation sheet.

Architect John A. Matthews, Gilbert Switzer & Associates Builder Charles Degarmo

• Historical or Architectural importance:

See continuation sheet.

• Sources:

Brown, Elizabeth Mills; *New Haven: A Guide to Architecture and Urban Design*, Yale University Press, New Haven, 1976, p. 31 D2.
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 Tax Assessor's Record: Map/Block/Parcel: 198/0402/001.
See continuation sheet.

Photographer Charlotte Hitchcock Date 4/05/2010

View Multiple Views Negative on File NHPT

Name Charlotte Hitchcock Date 5/26/2010

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 _____

• Other notable features of building or site (*Interior and exterior*):

The building is a 2-story rectangular brick masonry structure with a flat roof. The facade faces southwest toward Edwards Street; it has three large openings, previously for fire vehicles, and a fourth narrower doorway at the right of the left-most opening. The central opening has been filled by three glazed entry doors, the narrow opening by a single glazed door, and the flanking wide openings have been filled by storefront windows with large panes of glass at eye level and transom lights above. The 2nd floor has segmental arched openings, two paired windows alternating with single windows, which have been glazed with awning sash at the bottom and large single panes above. Original masonry ornament includes belt courses of stone alternating with diagonal soldier courses below the second floor sills, in the cornice, which also includes corbeled brickwork, and at the spring line of arched openings at the ground and second floors. A modern projecting canopy has been added over the entry doors. The Nash Street northwest side elevation consists of a series of randomly-arranged historic window openings, re-glazed similar to the front facade.

• Historical or Architectural importance:

This building is located in the Upper State Street National Register Historic District and is a contributing resource as a 19th-century firehouse. It served as the home of Engine Company No. 8 from 1874 to 1963, when a new firehouse (see 352 Whitney Avenue) replaced it. An earlier remodeling in 1918 had replaced the original arched openings in the ground level facade with steel lintels.

Along with several other decommissioned fire stations citywide, the historic building was sold for private re-use. Architects Switzer and Matthews located their professional offices in the second floor and remodeled the ground floor for commercial use as a restaurant, a form of adaptive re-use that was then becoming popular. The preservation movement was gaining recognition; however it was common at that time to install modern window configurations and interiors rather than to restore the exterior to its original appearance. This building exemplifies that mid-century approach to re-use of a historic resource.

• Sources (*continuation*):

Box 22 Associates, *New Haven Firefighters*, Images of America, Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, 2005, pp. 20, 94.

New Haven Historic Resources Inventory, Item 2169, New Haven Preservation Trust, 1982.

Hitchcock, Charlotte, personal recollection (employed by Matthews 1982-3).



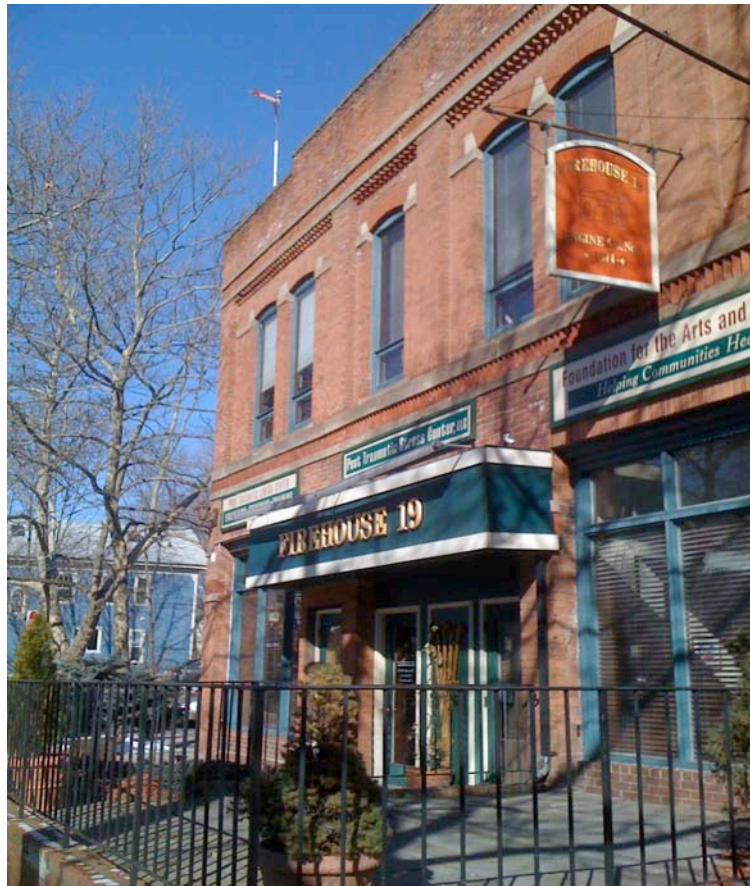
1. West view from the corner of Nash and Edwards Streets, camera facing east.



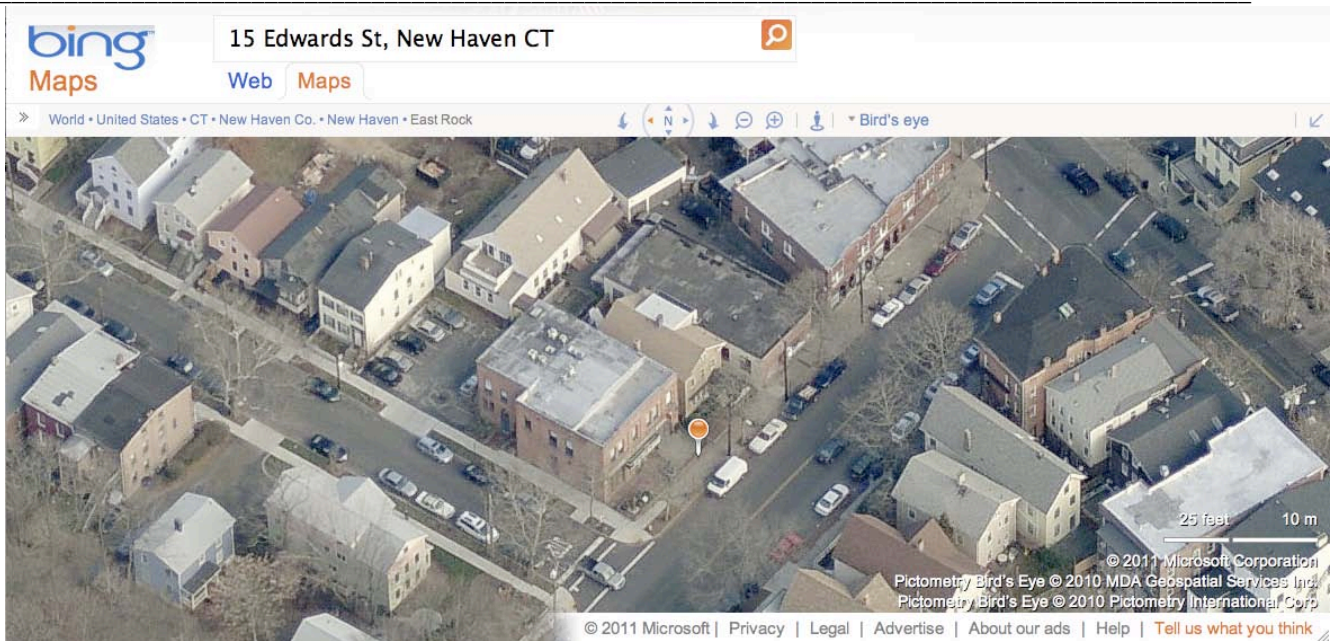
2. Detail view of southwest (front) facade.



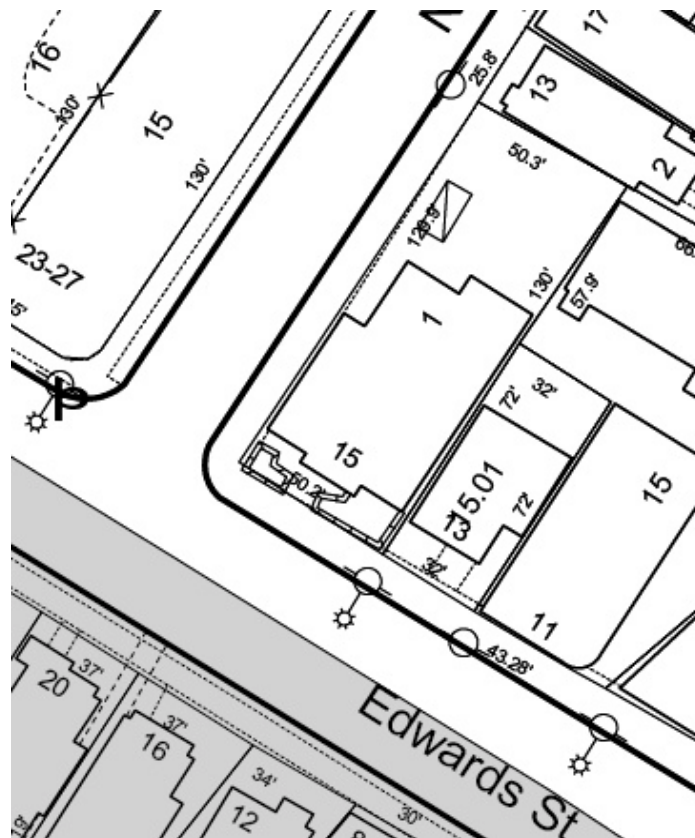
3. Detail view of southwest (front) facade.



4. Southwest (front) facade; camera facing west.



5. Aerial view from Bing Maps, <http://www.bing.com/maps> accessed 6/01/2011.



6. Site Plan – from City of New Haven Tax Map 198/0402/001, not to scale, North ↑