

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES
 HIST-6 NEWS 77

138

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
 CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
 (203) 566-3005

Downtown

240-223-01

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

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common) First Bank		(Historic) First New Haven National Bank	
2. TOWN/CITY New Haven		VILLAGE	COUNTY New Haven
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location) 1 Church Street			
4. OWNER(S) First Bank <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private			
5. USE (Present) Commercial		(Historic) Same	
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 During business hours	

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING Modern		DATE OF CONSTRUCTION 1961 (datestone)	
8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Clapboard	<input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding	<input type="checkbox"/> Brick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Glass and steel
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cut stone Type: Marble	
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM			
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood frame	<input type="checkbox"/> Post and beam	<input type="checkbox"/> balloon	
<input checked="" 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) _____
11. NUMBER OF STORIES 8&B		APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS 90'X165'	
12. CONDITION (Structural)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
(Exterior)		<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" 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) Parking area in rear.
<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 type="checkbox"/> Scattered buildings visible from site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Rural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS
 Situated at the top of Church Street, in the heart of the City's commercial district. To the immediate south is the Knights of Columbus Tower (1967 by Dinkeloo and Roche) and park, across Church St. is the Edward (VER)

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

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Building: 8-story commercial building; features main block with attached elevator and stair tower (about 12 stories). The building has a flat roof and slightly projecting roofline. The main building is a steel frame structure with an aluminum and glass panell curtain wall. On the east and west sides this curtain wall lies uninterrupted, forming a delicate grid pattern. On the south side the grid is divided vertically by exterior supports which run the full length of the building. This glass and steel box rests on a first floor base which is taller than the upper stories and sheathed in stone. (Stony Creek Granite). From the north side rises the service tower. It is a tall rectilinear form with no window openings. It is also sheathed in Stony Creek granite.

18 ARCHITECT

Office of Douglas Orr

BUILDER

Fusco-Amatruda Co.

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

Architectural: This building was constructed at the beginning of the City's major renewal efforts. Church St. had become by the 1950s a dilapidated commercial area. Large scale clearance projects removed blighted buildings and the Chapel Square Mall (across the Street) and this building rose in their place. This building is a bland example of the modern style but was probably well-suited to the conservative tastes of its occupants. Douglas Orr was a Director at the bank and originally proposed 2 towers, connected around an open plaza. Compare this building with the Knights of Columbus Tower next door.

SOURCES

New Haven Bldg. Dept. Records
 Maps: 1888, 1911, 1923
 Brown, pg. 110
 City Directories

PHOTO

PHOTOGRAPHER

Alan Rutberg

DATE

3/1/1981

VIEW

West (front)

NEGATIVE ON FILE

NEPT, CEC Sheet # 57

COMPILED BY

NAME

Preston Maynard

DATE

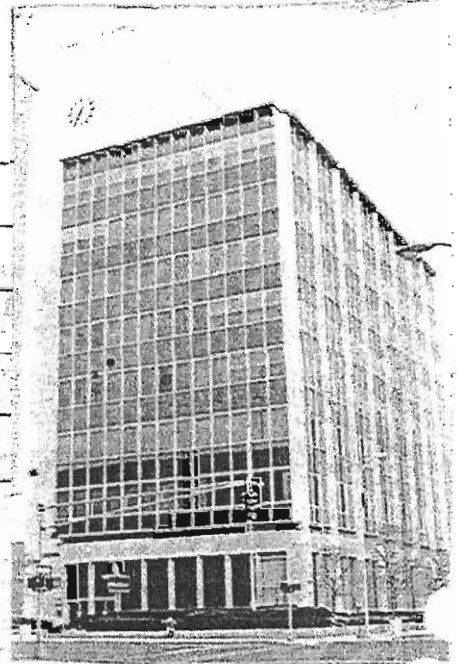
2/15/1981

ORGANIZATION

New Haven Preservation Trust

ADDRESS

Box 1671, New Haven, Ct. 06507



20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

21 THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

None known Highways Vandalism Developers Other

Renewal Private Deterioration Zoning Expropriation