

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

**CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106  
(860) 566-3005

**HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM**

For Buildings and Structures

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

TOWN NO.:

SITE NO.:

UTM: 18/ / / / / / / / / / / / / / / /

QUAD:

DISTRICT: S NR: ACTUAL  
POTENTIAL

**IDENTIFICATION**

1. BUILDING NAME: Common: Elm City Diner Historic: \_\_\_\_\_
2. TOWN/CITY: New Haven VILLAGE: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY: New Haven
3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 1226 Chapel Street
4. OWNER(S): Vasiliki Amorans PUBLIC  PRIVATE
5. USE: Present: Vacant Historic: Diner
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road:  yes  no  
Interior accessible:  yes, explain \_\_\_\_\_  no

**DESCRIPTION**

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Moderne DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: ca. 1955
8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):  
 clapboard  asbestos siding  brick foundation  
 wood shingle  asphalt siding  fieldstone  
 board & batten  stucco  cobblestone  
 aluminum siding polished  concrete: type: \_\_\_\_\_  cut stone: type: \_\_\_\_\_  
 other: \_\_\_\_\_
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:  
 wood frame:  post and beam  balloon  
 load bearing masonry  structural iron or steel  
 other: \_\_\_\_\_
10. 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: \_\_\_\_\_
11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 1 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 15'x15'
12. CONDITION: Structural:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated  
Exterior:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated
13. INTEGRITY: Location:  on original site  moved, when: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alterations:  no  yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:  
 barn  shed  garage  other landscape features or buildings: \_\_\_\_\_  
 carriage house  shop  garden \_\_\_\_\_
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:  
 open land  woodland  residential  scattered buildings visible from site  
 commercial  industrial  rural  high building density
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

On the southwest corner of Howe and Chapel Streets, this diner is dwarfed by the imposing YMCA across the street.

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

This is a classic diner, illustrating all the characteristics which typify the form. The box-car building is sheathed in polished silver and blue metal with rounded corners. The entrance projects from the middle with a vestibule. The rounded edges and use of polished metal reappear. The doors on each side of the vestibule are protected by canopies of 1/4 circle shape.

The interior has remained unaltered over the years. The formica counter is edged with polished aluminum and the splash backs are panels of polished aluminum molded with wave patterns.

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: \_\_\_\_\_

Builder: \_\_\_\_\_

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

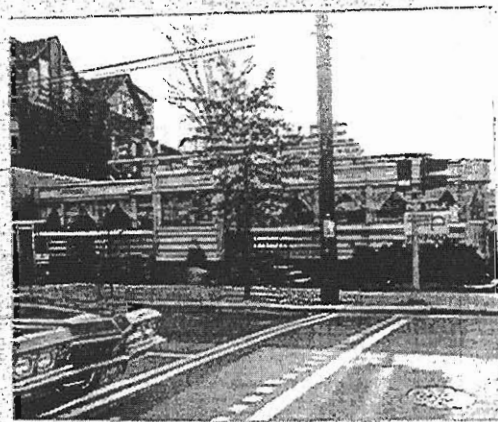
This diner retains its original integrity and character, unlike many others which were modernized over the years. The rounded sleek lines, the movement inherent in the polished aluminum recall the "Moderne" movement. This diner appears to have been built in the mid-1940's although, surprisingly, it first appears as the Duchess Diner in 1955. Nevertheless, it is an excellent example.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Thomas Hahn

date: Fall, 1979 view: North elevation

negative on file: CHC;CTHP



COMPILED BY:

name: Lannie Hoglund date: Fall, 1979

organization: Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation

address: 152 Temple Street, New Haven, Connecticut 06510

19. SOURCES:

Maps and Atlases

New Haven City Directories

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

none known     highways     vandalism     developers     other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 renewal     private     deterioration     zoning     explanation: \_\_\_\_\_