

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES
HIST-6 NEW 5 77

140

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

Downtown

240-2351-01

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Town No.: _____ Site No.: _____
UTM: _____
QUAD: _____
DISTRICT: S NR IF NR SPECIFY: Actual Potential

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common) **Connecticut Savings Bank** (Historic) **Same**
2. TOWN/CITY **New Haven** VILLAGE _____ COUNTY **New Haven**
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location) **45 & 55 Church St. (Main Building plus annex)**
4. OWNER(S) **Connecticut Savings Bank** Public Private
5. USE (Present) **Commercial** (Historic) **Same**
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD Yes No INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE Yes No IF YES, EXPLAIN **During Business Hours**

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING **#45: Neo-Classical Rev. #55: Modern** DATE OF CONSTRUCTION **#45: 1906 #55: 1972**
8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate):
 Clapboard Asbestos Siding Brick Other (Specify) **#55: Steel and glass.**
 Wood Shingle Asphalt Siding Fieldstone
 Board & Batten Stucco Cobblestone
 Aluminum Siding Concrete Type: _____ Cut stone #45: **Marble**
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM
 Wood frame Post and beam balloon
 Load bearing masonry **#45** Structural iron or steel **#55**
 Other (Specify) _____
10. ROOF (Type)
 Gable **#45** Flat **#55** Mansard Monitor sawtooth
 Gambrel Shed Hip Round Other (Specify) _____
(Material)
 Wood Shingle Roll Asphalt Tin Slate
 Asphalt shingle Built up Tile Other (Specify) _____
11. NUMBER OF STORIES **2&A&B** APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS **42' X 95'**
12. CONDITION (Structural) (Exterior)
 Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated
13. INTEGRITY (Location) WHEN? (Alterations) IF YES, EXPLAIN
 On original site Moved Yes No **#45: interior has been remodeled several times. Present restoration of the interior c. 1970.**
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES
 Barn Shed Garage Other landscape features _____
 Carriage house Shop Garden **None**
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT
 Open land Wood-land Residential Scattered buildings visible from site
 Commercial Industrial Rural High building density
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS

Situated in the heart of the City's commercial district along Church St. Across the street is the Chapel Square redevelopment (1965 by Lathrop Douglass). South of here is the Southern Conn. Gas Co. tower and First

17 OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (Reference: Use of 03/11/1977)

Building: Monumental bank building, 3 bays wide and 7 bays deep. Building is one tall story in height and has a pitched roof with monitor (runs full length of roof and has a sky-light). The front facade features a giant portico, with fluted Ionic columns supporting a wide entablature and pediment. The crown molding in the pediment has acanthus and palmette enrichments. The front entry has a no. 1 architrave with paterae enrichments. Above the architrave is a cornice head supported on scrolled consoles. On either side of the entry are tall window openings with molded architrave. Above the entry are 3 groups of windows each with 3 narrow window openings. The south side has a giant order in antis. Here 7 Ionic columns support a wide entablature as in the front. Metal medallions line the frieze adding interesting decorative effect. The interior banking room features a coffered ceiling with polychrome paint scheme.

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

18 ARCHITECT

#45: Gordon, Tracy, and Swartwout, New York Architect: #55: Shreve, Lamb, and Harmon Asso., N.Y.

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

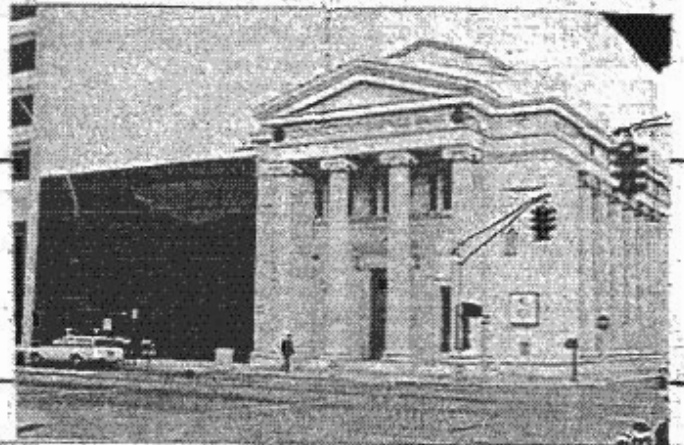
NHPT 1978 List

Architectural: Grand bank building in the Neo-classical style. This is one of the most articulate examples of the style remaining in the City today (compare it with the former Post-Office and former County Court House). Its monumental pretensions were perfectly suited to the banking community at the beginning of the 20th-c. The building was also distinctly different from its Victorian predecessors and intended to give City streets a fresh image. It was singled out in the Gilbert-Olmstead plan of 1910 for its contribution to the streetscape and as an example of what New Haven architecture could be. The interior was tastefully restored in the early 1970s.

SIGNIFICANCE

Dana, Ek. 9, pg. 40
Brown, pg. 111.
City Directories
Maps: 1911, 1923
N.E. Bldg. Dept.

SOURCES



PHOTOGRAPHER

Alan Rothberg

3/1981

VIEW

West (front) South (side)

NEGATIVE ON FILE

NHPT, CHC Sheet# 57

NAME

Freston Maynard

3/1/1981

DATE

ORGANIZATION

New Haven Preservation Trust

Address: 100 State Street, New Haven, Ct. 06502

Box 1671, New Haven, Ct. 06502

20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

21 THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

- None known Highways Vandellism Developers Other
- Renewal Private Deterioration Zoning Eminent Domain

