

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

Prospect Hill

347-394-6

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) (Historic)
William B. Greeley Memorial Laboratory --

2. TOWN CITY VILLAGE COUNTY
New Haven **New Haven**

3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or location)
370 Prospect Street (at Hillside Place)

4. OWNER(S)
Yale University Public Private

5. USE (Present) (Historic)
Laboratories & classrooms --

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD Yes No INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE Yes No IF YES, EXPLAIN
Building hours

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING DATE OF CONSTRUCTION
Modern **1959**

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 curtain wall
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concrete Type: Precast panels & columns	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cut stone Type: White quartz aggregate -- facing of exterior panels	

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM

<input type="checkbox"/> Wood frame	<input type="checkbox"/> Post and beam	<input type="checkbox"/> balloon
<input 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) Marble chips	

11. NUMBER OF STORIES APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS
1 + B

12. CONDITION (Structural) (Exterior)

<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
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13. INTEGRITY (Location) WHEN? (Alterations) IF YES, EXPLAIN

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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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) Greenhouse, chain link fences; asphalt driveway from #360 and parking area; concrete walkway
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scattered buildings visible from site
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Indus-trial	<input type="checkbox"/> Rural	<input type="checkbox"/> High building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS
Built into the west slope of Prospect Hill, the basement level is exposed on the west side of the building. Occupying part of the rear grounds of the original Marsh estate (see 360 Prospect Street), in the interface between the Prospect Hill and Newhallville neighborhoods, overgrowth of trees and (OVER) shrubs on the grounds screen the building from view in summer.

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

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

A low, rectangular building comprised of a precast concrete podium supporting a ground floor with Y-shaped reinforced concrete columns (4 rows: 2 interior, 2 exterior) supporting an overhanging flat roof. Interior prefabricated wood partition walls stop short of the ceiling allowing natural light to enter inner rooms. The central corridor and entrance lobby are additionally lit by skylights. A screen suspended from the west end roof provides afternoon sun screen and a west facade for the building. Main entrance in middle of north side has plain, modern glass doors, building name in gilt letters above the lintel.

18. ARCHITECT

Paul Rudolph

BUILDER

Gen. contractor: Dwight Building Co.;
Structural Engineer: Henry A. DiStefano

19. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

Background: The building was constructed to enlarge the facilities of the School of Forestry at Yale. It contains classrooms and facilities for research in wood technology, forest genetics, tree physiology, forest pathology.

Architectural: Among the earliest of Yale's modern buildings, Greeley Lab was the 1st Yale work by Paul Rudolph, Dean of the Architecture School (1957-1965), who later was to design numerous important Yale and New Haven buildings (see, for example, A&A Building, 182 York Street; Temple Street Parking Garage; and the development of the Government Center project, Church Street).

As Moholy-Nagy has pointed out, Greeley Lab belongs to the group of early Rudolph buildings whose articulation derives exclusively from the structural elements, here the precast Y-columns. However, there is a figurative association between the branching forms of these columns and trees, the objects of study at the lab.

SOURCES

Yale, 1979, p. 19.
Brown, p. 171.
Metz, pp. 54-55.
"The Concrete Orchard," Architectural Forum, CXI, 4 (October, 1959), 138-141.
Sibyl Moholy-Nagy, The Architecture of Paul Rudolph, New York, Praeger Publishers, Inc., 1970, p. 16.

PHOTO

PHOTOGRAPHER

Alan Rutberg

DATE

8/81

VIEW

South

NEGATIVE ON FILE

GHC;NEPT;Sheet #74

COMPILED BY

NAME

Susan Ryan

DATE

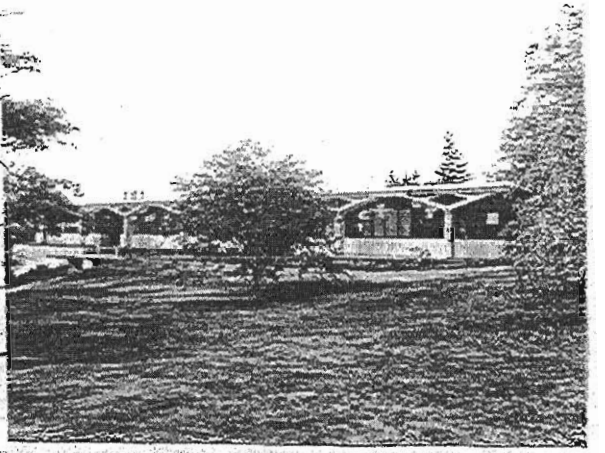
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ORGANIZATION

New Haven Preservation Trust

ADDRESS

P.O. 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 _____