

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

Town No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Site No.: \_\_\_\_\_

UTM: \_\_\_\_\_

QUAD: \_\_\_\_\_

DISTRICT:  S  NR IF NR, SPECIFY  Actual  Potential

Whitney Avenue 222-368-3

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common) Whitney Medical Building (Historic)

2. TOWN/CITY New Haven VILLAGE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY New Haven

3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location) 291 Whitney Avenue (corner of Bishop and Whitney)

4. OWNER(S) James Brownstein, Anthony Parillo, Jr.  Public  Private

5. USE (Present) Office space (Historic) Same

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

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING Modernistic/Colonial Revival DATE OF CONSTRUCTION Ca. 1940

8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)

Clapboard  Asbestos Siding  Brick  Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Wood Shingle  Asphalt Siding  Fieldstone

Board & Batten  Stucco  Cobblestone

Aluminum Siding  Concrete Type: cast stone  Cut stone Type: \_\_\_\_\_

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM

Wood frame  Post and beam  balloon

Load bearing masonry part  Structural iron or steel part

Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

10. ROOF (Type)

Gable  Flat  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 L&B APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS 55' X 65'

12. CONDITION (Structural)  Excellent  Good  Fair  Deteriorated (Exterior)  Excellent  Good  Fair  Deteriorated

13. INTEGRITY (Location)  On original site  Moved WHEN? \_\_\_\_\_ (Alterations)  Yes  No IF YES, EXPLAIN \_\_\_\_\_

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES

Barn  Shed  Garage  Other landscape features or buildings (Specify) Asphalt parking lot in rear. Symmetrical placement of shrubbery and birch trees in front landscaping.

Carriage house  Shop  Garden

15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT

Open land  Wood-land  Residential  Scattered buildings visible from site

Commercial  Indus-trial  Rural  High building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS

Located in a mixed-use area. Is the northern structure in a block of three buildings. To south is a Classical Revival "temple" (285 Whitney) and to the south of that is a Richardsonian Rom./Queen Anne house converted to office space (271 Whitney). Faces Yale science complex. (OVER)

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

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Rectangular building with a symmetrical, 5 bay facade. All sides have slightly projecting central pavilions: those on the facade and north side are of cast stone while those on the rear and south side are of brick. Verticality is stressed in these pavilions, by the rectangular projections on the upper stories and at the roofline.

Front entrance is flanked by a fluting motif and has a panel of flowers and zigzags in low relief above it, all standard ornaments of the Modernistic style. "Whitney Medical Center" is printed in low relief in Art Deco lettering above the entrance. Globe lights on octagonal cast stone columns are on both side of the doorway. An aesculus and the date 1940 are in relief above the fourth floor central window.

Windows are three rectangular panes over three and have cast stone sills.

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

Architectural: One of few Modernistic structures on the avenue, the design of 291 Whitney Avenue attempts to harmonize with more dominant Colonial Revival commercial and professional structures on the street through features such as the general symmetry with pilaster-like elements on the facade, brick and cast stone exterior, and treatment of the top of the building as a schematic entablature.

SOURCES

Whiffen, p.235.  
Sanborn (1923,30,53)maps.

PHOTO

PHOTOGRAPHER  
Roger Baldwin

DATE  
10/80

VIEW  
Front

NEGATIVE ON FILE  
NHPT, CHC, Sheet 30

Place

COMPILED BY

NAME  
Amy L. Rudnall

DATE  
2/11/81

Photograph

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  
 Renewal     Private     Deterioration     Zoning

