

59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106  
(203) 566-3005

## For Buildings and Structures

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

TOWN NO.: \_\_\_\_\_ SITE NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

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

QUAD:

DISTRICT:        S        NR:        ACTUAL  
    POTENTIAL

1. BUILDING NAME: Common: Hartford Times Building Historic: \_\_\_\_\_
2. TOWN/CITY: Hartford VILLAGE: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY: Hartford
3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 10 Prospect Street
4. OWNER(S): The Hartford Times, Inc. \_\_\_\_\_ PUBLIC ☒ PRIVATE ☐
5. USE: Present: vacant Historic: Newspaper office and plant
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: ☒ yes ☐ no  
Interior accessible: yes, explain \_\_\_\_\_ ☒ no

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Beaux-Arts: "Eastern Roman Empire" DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1920

8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> clapboard       | <input type="checkbox"/> asbestos siding       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> brick Roman: facade                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> wood shingle    | <input type="checkbox"/> asphalt siding        | <input type="checkbox"/> fieldstone common: sides and back                   |
| <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: <u>polished granite</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____    |  | <u>columns</u>   |

- ☐ wood frame: ☐ post and beam ☐ balloon  
☒ load bearing masonry ☒ structural iron or steel  
 other:

- ☒ gable      ☒ flat      ☐ mansard      ☐ monitor      ☐ sawtooth  
☐ gambrel      ☐ shed      ☐ hip      ☐ round      ☐ other \_\_\_\_\_  
 material:  
☐ wood shingle      ☐ roll asphalt      ☐ tin      ☐ slate  
☐ asphalt shingle      ☒ built up-flat      ☒ tile-gable      ☐ other: \_\_\_\_\_

12. CONDITION: Structural:    excellent   X   good    fair    deteriorated  
Exterior:    excellent    good   X   fair    deteriorated

Alterations: no Xyes, explain: large brick office/plant wing to rear in 1958

- \_\_\_ barn            \_\_\_ shed            \_\_\_ garage            \_\_\_ other landscape features or buildings: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_ carriage house    \_\_\_ shop            \_\_\_ garden

- ☐ open land      ☐ woodland      ☐ residential      ☐ scattered buildings visible from site  
☒ commercial      ☐ industrial      ☐ rural      ☒ high building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: The Htfd. Times Bldg. is set on a high platform facing Burr Mall, a city square between the Wadsworth Athenaeum's Morgan Memorial and the Municipal Bldg. It was designed to be seen from the entrance to Athenaeum Sq. So. (now Burr Mall) flanked by the two civic monuments. This view is now obscured by the mall plantin

\*1920 Section: 4½ stories over 2½ story basement; 1958 section: 3 stories over 3 story basement  
\*\*Garage addition in 1964.

17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior): The focus of the monumental facade is a colossal Ionic portico with six polished, green granite columns salvaged from Stanford White's Madison Square Presbyterian Church. Across the frieze is "The Hartford Times" in bronze Roman lettering on a pink marble panel. Also from the church is the ornate molded semi-glazed terra cotta brick in ivory, cream, green and gold, which faces most of the facade.

The walls of the arcade behind the columns are decorated with six symbolic mural panels in sgraffito by Connecticut artist Ralph Calder, following the program of architect Donn Barber. The Renaissance style panels allegorize Poetry, Prose, Space and Time and illustrate the motto, "News is an immortal bubble (vagrant but outlasting those who make it,)"

#### SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: Donn Barber

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

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: The Hartford Times, one of Connecticut's leading newspapers, published from 1817 to 1976. Started in 1817 as an anti-federalist weekly by Frederick D. Bolles and John M. Niles (later U.S. Senator), it billed itself as the "people's" paper and the champion of reform throughout its 159-year history. An early editor was Gideon Welles, who later became Lincoln's naval secretary during the Civil War. Alfred E. Burr guided the paper from 1839 to 1890, established it as a daily and wielded considerable political power in the state. By 1917 the Times had the largest circulation in Connecticut. The political nature of the newspaper is well illustrated by the five bronze plaques commemorating the five successful presidential candidates who made campaign addresses there.

The collaboration of architect, muralist and craftsman make the Hartford Times building one of the finest expressions of the Beaux-Arts ideal in the state.

The growing newspaper built its present structure in 1920 across from the recently completed civic complex of the Morgan Memorial and City Hall. The Times engaged Donn Barber of New York (1871-1925), a leading Beaux-Arts figure, and architect of Hartford's

Travelers Tower and Supreme Court Building. He designed the Times building in the style

#### PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: \_\_\_\_\_

date: \_\_\_\_\_ view: \_\_\_\_\_

negative on file: \_\_\_\_\_

Place

Photograph

Here

#### COMPILED BY:

name: Merle Kummer date: 10-6-78

organization: Hartford Architecture Conservancy

address: 65 Wethersfield Ave., Htfd., CT 06114

#### 19. SOURCES:

Hartford Times 150th Anniversary Edition, March 4, 1967

Hartford Courant, Oct. 21, 1976 P. 1

"One Hundred Years of The Hartford Times", Hartford Times, Jan. 1, 1917

Roth & Blom, A Monograph of McKim, Mead and White's Works, New York 1973

#### 20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

#### 21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

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

After several years of financial and legal difficulties, The Hartford Times ceased publishing on October 20, 1976. Since then the building has been vacant and up for sale.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM

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POTENTIAL

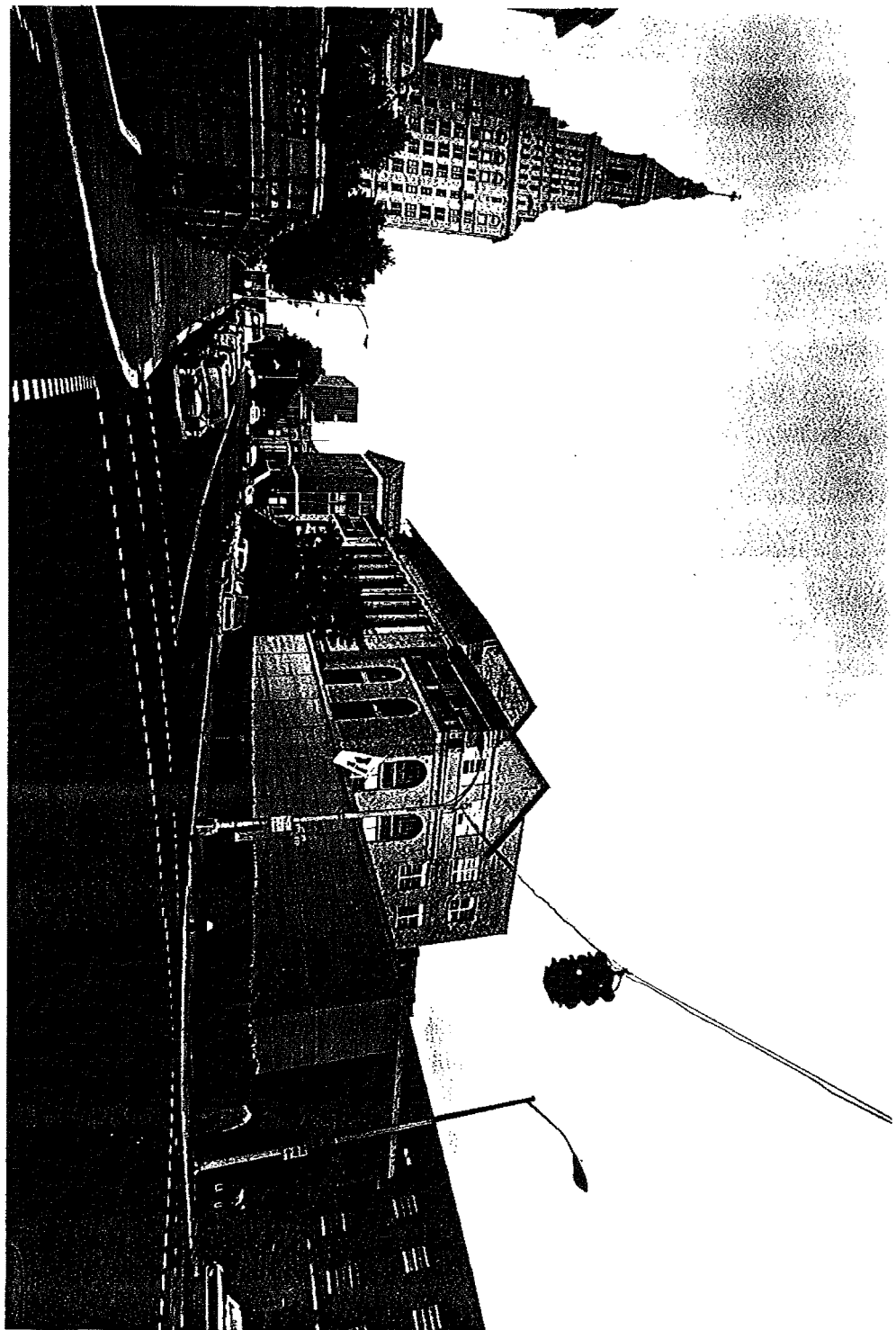
CONTINUATION SHEET

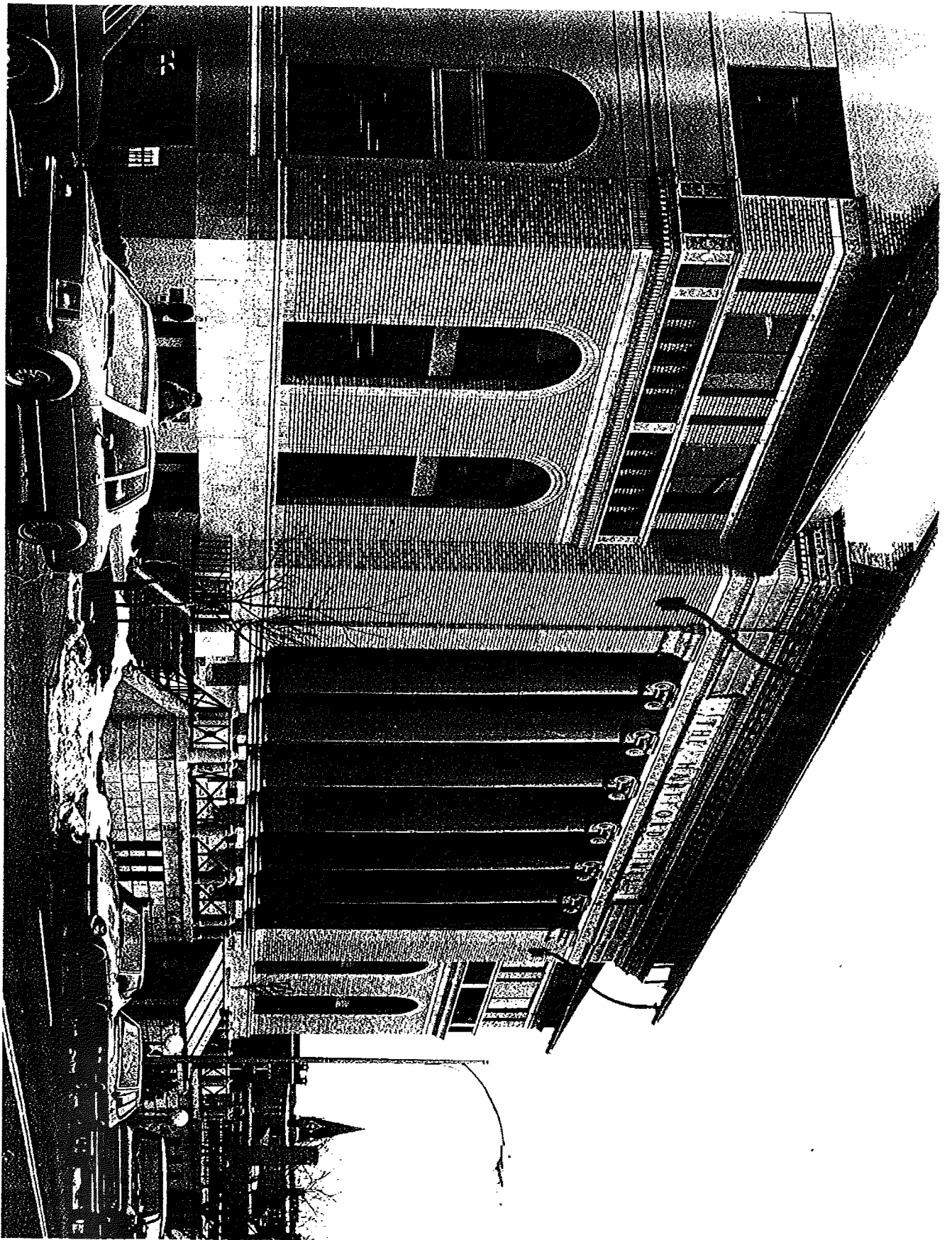
Item number: 17 Date: 10/6/78

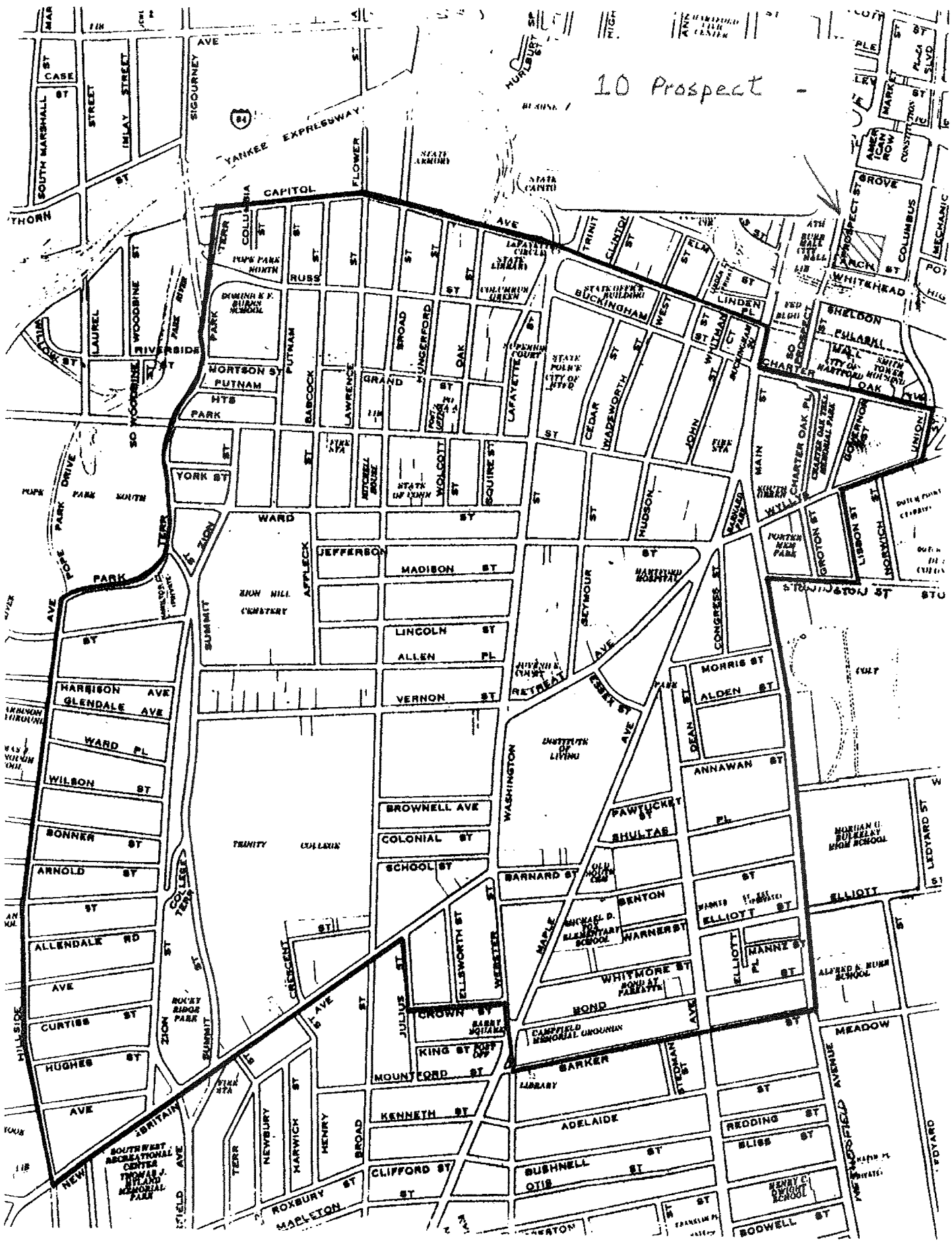
and the press endures within." The coffered portico ceiling is stencilled in similar colors of gray, blue and ivory.

The central portico is flanked by two lower wings with tall arcaded windows. Both the central section and the wings have unusual tiled roofs.

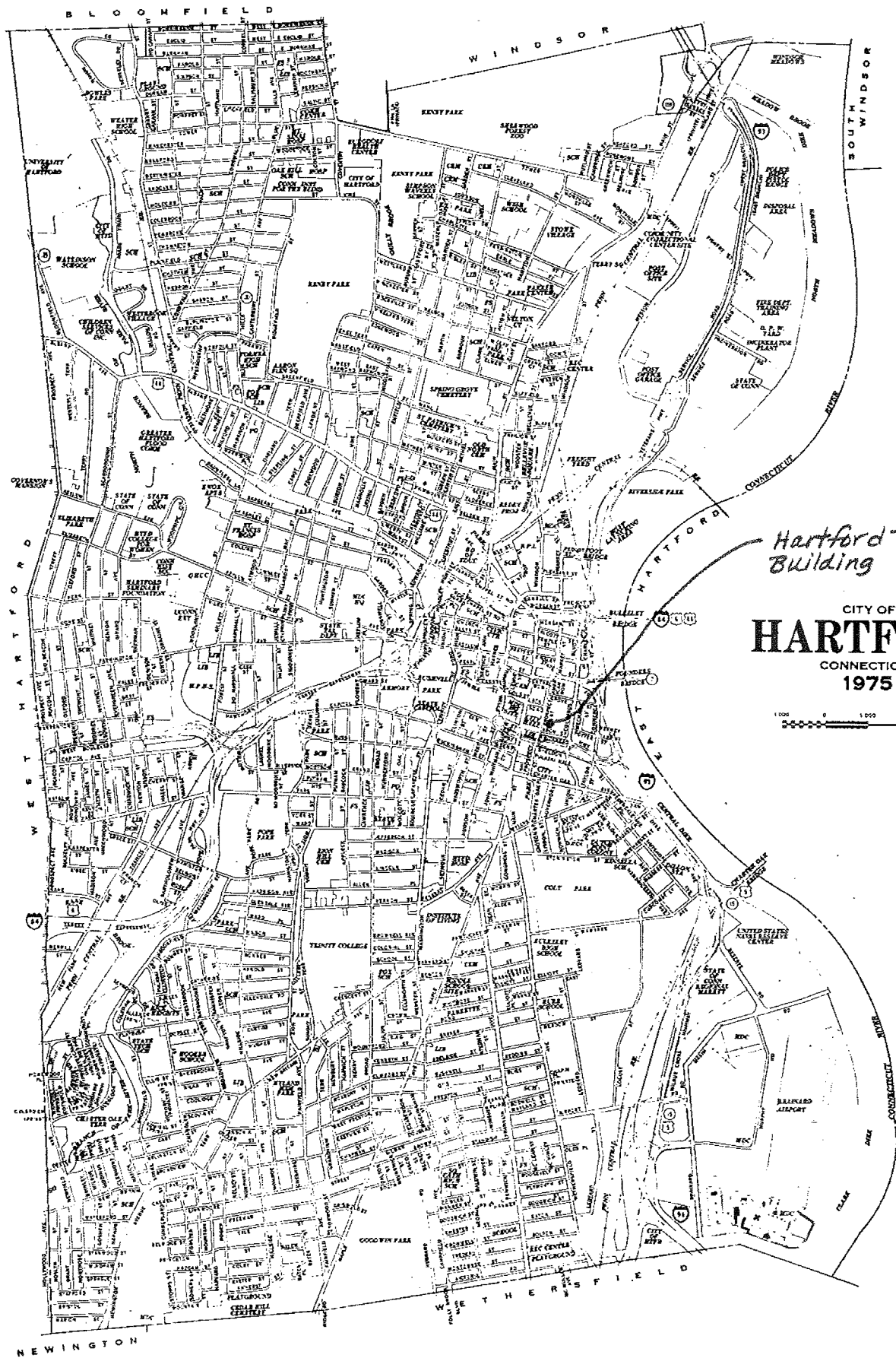
Item #18 - of the eastern Roman Empire after learning in 1919 of the demolition of Stanford White's Madison Square Presbyterian Church, from which he salvaged much decorative material. The 1906 church, a Pantheon-like Byzantine design, had been considered one of White's finest public works.







10 Prospect -



Hartford Times  
Building

CITY OF  
**HARTFORD**  
CONNECTICUT  
1975

1 000 0 1 000 2 000 3 000 FEET

# LOST AMERICA

*From the Atlantic to the Mississippi*

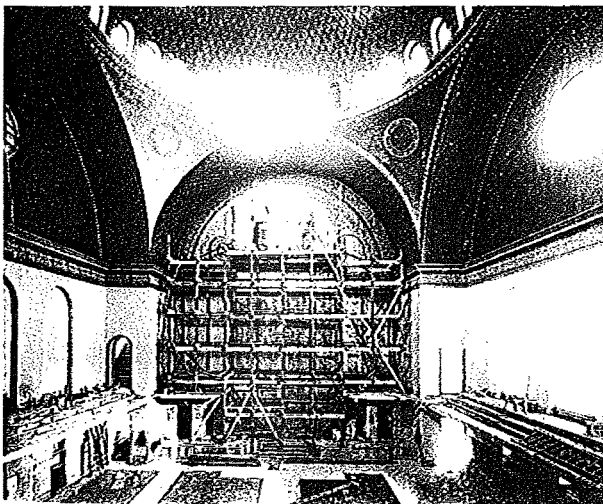
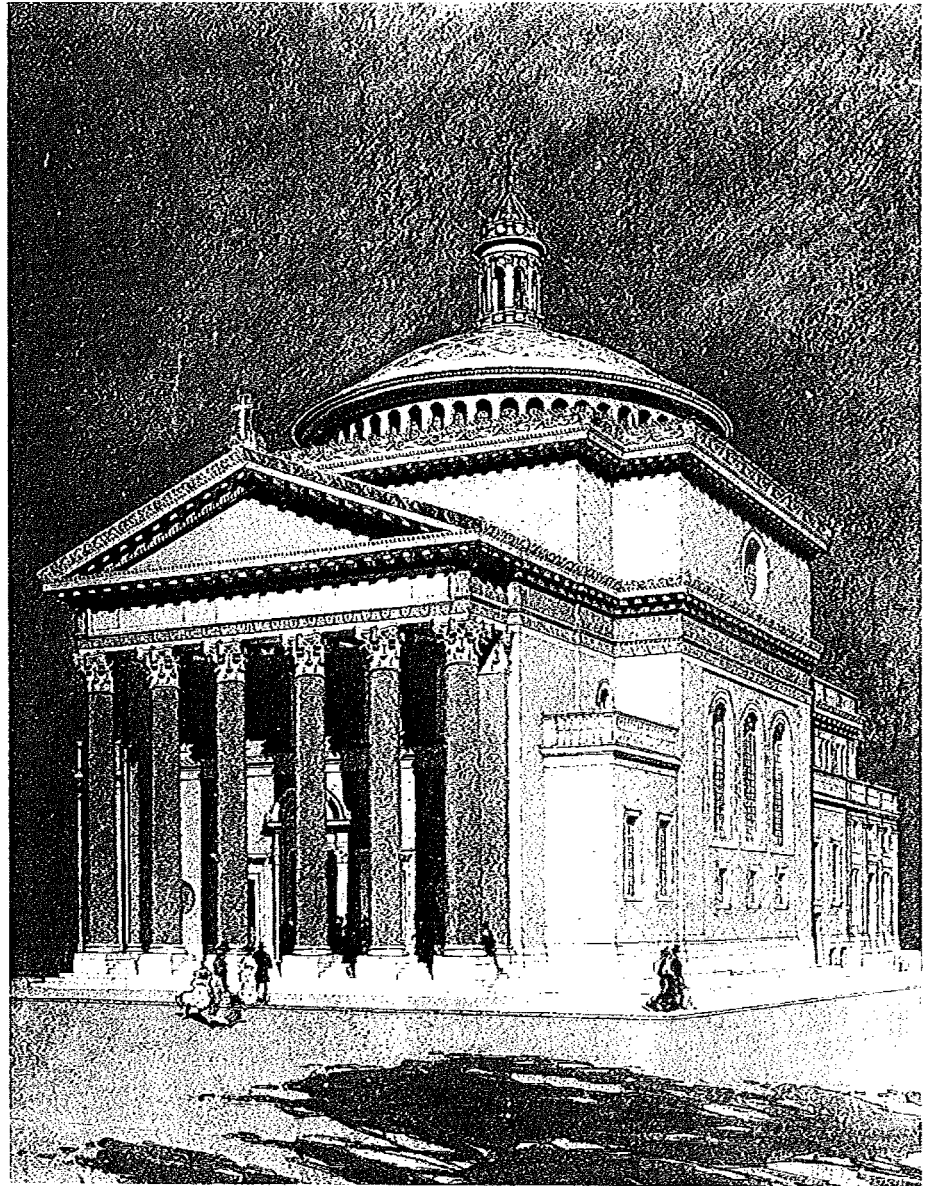
Edited by Constance M. Greiff

with a Foreword by James Biddle

THE PYNE PRESS    Princeton    1971

DETAIL, Pennsylvania Station, New York, New York, 1906/10-1963/6,  
McKim, Mead and White.





48, 49. MADISON SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH New York, N.Y., 1906 – 1920's, McKim, Mead and White. Stanford White was shot to death on the rooftop of Madison Square Garden by a deranged and jealous husband the year this jewel-box of a church was completed. Like the architect, the neighborhood was already doomed. Both commerce and fashion were moving uptown, and within less than a quarter of a century the Garden and the church would both be gone.