

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106
(203) 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: Salvation Army Hall Historic: Middlesex Banking Co.
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: _____ COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 179 Court Street
- 4. OWNER(S): The Salvation Army PUBLIC PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Headquarters of The Salvation Army Historic: Bank
- 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: yes no
Interior accessible: yes, explain with permission no

DESCRIPTION

- 7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Romanesque Revival DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1884
- 8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
 clapboard asbestos siding brick
 wood shingle asphalt siding fieldstone
 board & batten stucco cobblestone
 aluminum siding concrete: type: _____ cut stone: type: brownstone
 other: _____ (coursed ashlar)

- 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 1/2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 40'x46' (addition 23'x32')

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

- 13. INTEGRITY: Location: on original site off-site Possibly early southeast wing added; chimney on
 Alterations: no yes, explain: northwest side removed; small arched window on facade removed

- 14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
 barn shed garage other landscape features or buildings: Original
 carriage house shop garden iron fence at northwest corner

- 15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:
 open land woodland residential scattered buildings visible from site
 commercial industrial rural high building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This building is located a short distance from Main Street in an area consisting principally of commercial buildings from various periods. It is the smallest in a row of three closely sited late 19th century buildings on the south side of Court Street; stylistically related, but of varying height.

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

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: _____ Builder: _____

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This Romanesque Revival building, built in 1884, originally housed the Middlesex Banking Company. This company was one of the oldest land mortgage concerns in the United States. The bank used the building for its office until 1915, remodelling the interior during that time. The Salvation Army obtained the building in 1924 and is the present owner.

This small, low building with its roughly textured surfaces reflects the influence of H.F. Richardson. Smooth and rock faced ashlar contrast with brick arches, quoins and corbelled parapet. This textural treatment is further emphasized by grouped courses of terra cotta tile and smooth, narrow brownstone sills. The main feature of the facade is a broad arched window with stained glass in its uppermost lights. This illuminates the building's largest room, originally used as the bank's lobby. This room retains much interior wood finish: deeply recessed ceiling panelled wainscoting; and dentillated moldings.

This building is one of the few Romanesque Revival structures in Middletown. It derives additional significance from its placement in a row of three buildings built between 1884 and 1888. As a group, these buildings illustrate the expanding urban development of the streets adjoining Main Street during the late nineteenth century.

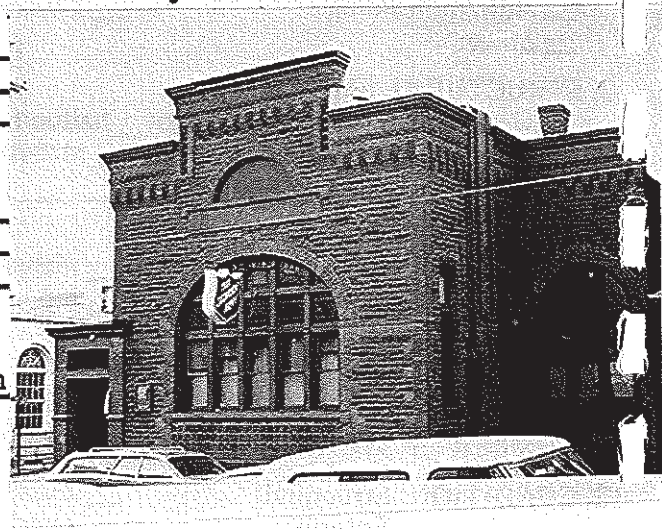
PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Elizabeth Loomis
date: 12/78 view: north
negative on file: ROLL 56, #34A-35

COMPILED BY:

name: Robert Svec date: 4/78
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
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19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown City Directories; The Middletown Tribune: Souvenir Edition (E.F. Bigelow, 1896)



20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

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