

170

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
 TOWN NO.: _____ SITE NO.: _____
 UTM: 18 / - / - / - / - / - / -
 QUAD: _____
 DISTRICT: S NR: ACTUAL POTENTIAL

CONNECTICUT
 HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106
 -3 05
 RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM
 Buildings and Structures

IDENTIFICATION
 BUILDING NAME: Common: Woolworth's Historic: same
 TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: _____ COUNTY: Middlesex
 STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 428 Main Street
 OWNER(S): James Young and Ethel Young Harris PUBLIC PRIVATE
 Currently Present: Variety Store Historic: same
 ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: yes no
 Interior accessible: yes, explain store no

DESCRIPTION
 STYLE OF BUILDING: Commercial Art Deco DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1939
 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: poured cut stone: type: _____
 other: marble & glass storefront; thin glazed terra cotta panels, facade foundation _____
 STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
 wood frame: post and beam balloon structural iron or steel interior framing
 load bearing masonry other: _____

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: _____
 NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 41'x132'
 CONDITION: Structural: excellent good fair deteriorated
 Exterior: excellent good fair deteriorated

INTEGRITY: Location: on original site moved, when:
 Alterations: no yes, explain: Storefront altered; new sign

RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
 barn shed garage other landscape features or buildings: _____
 carriage house shop garden

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

INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This two story commercial structure is situated on the east side of Main Street in Middletown's central business district. It contrasts between earlier three story commercial buildings. Its two story height, light colored glazed facade, and modernistic details contrast with its immediate neighbors.

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

Street level black marble panels with decorative "W" steel grills

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: _____ Builder: _____

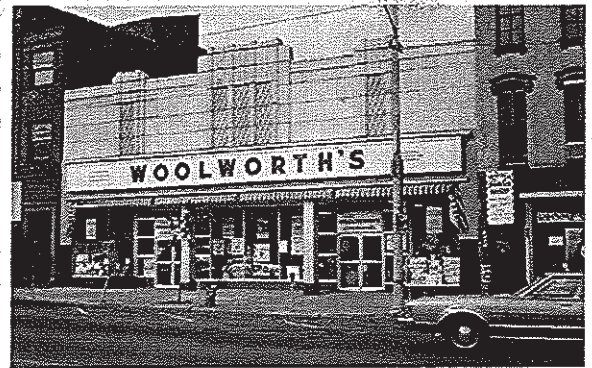
18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: In 1939, as Middletown was emerging from the depression, F.W. Woolworth's "5 & 10 cent Store" moved from lower Main Street to a new building designed in the exuberant modern commercial style. The business is still conducted by the same chain store firm.

The large plate glass display windows sit on low black marble panels and are joined together by thick metal strips. The upper portion of the facade is decorated with vertical designs in low relief and heart shaped cut outs. The roof line features a stepped parapet with rounded corners. A long plastic sign board with "WOOLWORTH'S" in bright red letters separates the first and second stories.

This building adds a decorative note to Main Street and is one of Middletown's few Art Deco structures.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Elizabeth Loomis
date: 6/78 view: west
negative on file: Roll 26, #16A



COMPILED BY:

name: Elizabeth Loomis date: 6/78
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown City Directories; Marino Postal Card Collection, Greater Middletown Preservation Trust

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

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

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59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106
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CONTINUATION SHEET

Item number: _____ Date: 1/90

Woolworth's
428-432 Main Street (formerly #428)
Middletown, CT 06457

