STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106
(203) 566-3005

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM
For Buildings and Structures

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

DESCRIPTION
7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Beaux-Arts: "Eastern Roman Empire"
   DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1920
8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
   _clapboard _wood shingle _board & batten _aluminum siding
   _asbestos siding _asphalt siding _stucco _concrete: type: 
   _brick Roman: facade _fieldstone _cobbledstone 
   _cut stone: type: polished granite columns
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-flat _tile -gable _other
    _3 plus high basement in front facade __ in rear
   _number of stories: Check from map
   _approximate dimensions: 

11. CONDITION: Structural: _excellent _good _fair _deteriorated
    Exterior: _excellent _good _fair _deteriorated
    Alterations: _no _X on original site moved, when:
                 _yes, explain: large brick office/plant wing to rear in 1958

12. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
    _barn _shed _garage _other landscape features or buildings: 
    _carriage house _shop _garden

13. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:
    _open land _woodland _residential _scattered buildings visible from site
    _X 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 Atheneum's Morgan Memorial
    and the Municipal Bldg. It was designed to be seen from the entrance to Atheneum 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: ________________ view: __________________
date: ________________ negative on file: __________________

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19. SOURCES:
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.
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.
LOST AMERICA

From the Atlantic to the Mississippi

Edited by Constance M. Greiff
with a Foreword by James Biddle

THE PYNE PRESS    Princeton    1971
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.