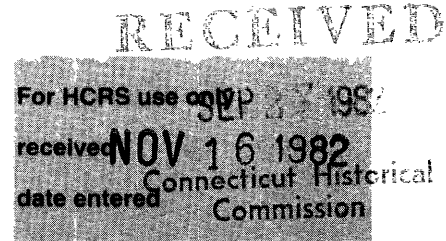


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Barnum/Palliser Development

and/or common Barnum/Palliser Historic District

2. Location

Roughly bounded by Myrtle and Park Ave., Atlantic and Austin sts. Both sides.

street & number see attached Continuation Sheet NA not for publication

city, town Bridgeport NA vicinity of _____ congressional district Fourth

state Connecticut code 09 county Fairfield code 001

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>NA</u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>NA</u> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple--see attached list

street & number "

city, town " NA vicinity of _____ state "

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Bridgeport Town Clerk

street & number 45 Lyon Terrace

city, town Bridgeport state Connecticut

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title State Register of Historic Places has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1982 federal state county local

depository for survey records Connecticut Historical Commission

city, town Hartford state CT

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date 1878 (349-51 Myrtle Avenue)

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Barnum-Palliser Development Historic District is a collection of 33 frame residential structures and a brick schoolhouse that comprise a working-class Victorian community in the South End of Bridgeport. The District is situated approximately one-quarter mile southwest of the city's downtown area, one-and-one half blocks south of the Connecticut Turnpike and three blocks north of Seaside at its closest point.

The majority of structures in the District (22) are of the double-house type, and of these all but one (the Keating House at 349-51 Gregory Street) were constructed as a planned development by the architectural firm of Palliser, Palliser & Company in the period 1882-1885. There is also a 4-unit block of row houses (374-84 Atlantic Street) and two single-family houses (276 Gregory Street and 341 Myrtle Avenue) that are also attributable to the firm.

Three of the Palliser buildings--266-8 and 257-9 Gregory Street and 341 Myrtle Avenue--are built in the Italianate style with flat roofs, heavy mouldings, and other characteristics of this type (Photos 6, 7 and 9). The remainder are in a style perhaps best termed "Eastlake", a Victorian Gothic style mingled with early Queen Anne, which employed Queen Anne massing, geometric detail, a linear arrangement of structural members, and decorative panels as highlights with incised sunflower, fan or sunburst motif. The Palliser buildings are all characterized by uniform setbacks, complimentary cornice heights, and overall massing, fenestration, porch design etc. that relates noticeably from house to house (e.g. the alternation of wide, massive houses with smaller, more vertical ones on the north side of Gregory Street--see Photo 7--or the heights of English basements and front gables on the south side of Gregory Street, which increase while ascending a small hill, giving the illusion of it being steeper than it actually is--Photo 6).

The other 9 residential buildings are spread throughout the District are included for purposes of continuity. They are of either Italianate style (all constructed or remodeled in the decade of the 1870s) or Queen Anne (dating from the later 1880s and 1890s). Without exception they enhance the development houses by contributing to the enclosure of the blockfronts, and are compatible in terms of scale, architectural design, and degree of preservation of original fabric.

The streetscapes are fairly uniform in overall feeling but varied in individual architectural treatment. Perhaps the most homogenous portion of the District are six structures (95-7 Austin Street, 246-8 Gregory Street, and 373-7, 381-3, 389-93 and 399-401 Myrtle Avenue) which were built as rental property and owned outright by the Palliser Brothers (see Photos 10 and 7). Also, three identical houses stand on the south side of Austin Street (photos 2 and 4), but, as with the Myrtle Avenue houses, the repetition of the design is relieved by the punctuation of the contrasting designs which adjoin.

Overall, the District has been spared the worst jarring inroads of the present century. The front of the Myrtle Avenue School (see Item 7 page 8) was extended in 1916 in a design which respects the scale of the surrounding neighborhood (Photo 8). Small storefronts were constructed in houses at 373-7, 380-6 and 389-93 Myrtle Avenue (Photos 10 and 13), and the majority of district buildings have been covered over by various types of artificial siding. However, the recent exterior restoration of 381-3 and 389-93 Myrtle Avenue and 254-60 Gregory Street demonstrates the reversability of the application of this siding. The only major visual incursion to the integrity of the District is a one-story non-contributory warehouse of concrete block construction at 104 Austin Street (partly visible in background, Photos 5 and 12).

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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374-84, 392-8, 404, 412, 418-20 Atlantic Street
95-7, 105-7, 113, 116, 119, 125-7, 126, 135-7, 136-40, 145, 146-50 Austin Street
239-41, 246-8, 247-55, 254-60, 257-9, 269-71, 264-8, 276, 277-81, 286-8 Gregory Street
325, 341, 349-51, 373-7, 380-6, 381, 383, 389-93, 399-401, 419-23 Myrtle Avenue
408 Park Avenue

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PAGE 1

PROPERTY OWNERSHIP INFORMATION:

Address

374-84 Atlantic Street

392-8 Atlantic Street

404 Atlantic Street

412 Atlantic Street

418-20 Atlantic Street

95-7 Austin Street

105-7 Austin Street

113 Austin Street

116 Austin Street

119 Austin Street

125-7 Austin Street

126 Austin Street

135-7 Austin Street

136-40 Austin Street

145 Austin Street

146-50 Austin Street

239-41 Gregory Street

246-8 Gregory Street

247-55 Gregory Street

254-60 Gregory Street

257-9 Gregory Street

Owner:

MSB Real Estate Corp.

855 Main Street Bpt. 06604

MSB Real Estate Corp.

855 Main Street Bpt. 06604

Joseph Szecsas est.

404 Atlantic Street Bpt. 06604

William & Carrie Boehm

550 Greenfield Avenue Stratford 06497

Joseph E. Curley III

418 Atlantic Street Bpt. 06604

Felipe & Juanita DeLarosa

95 Austin Street Bpt. 06604

Concepcion Adorno

28 Stillman Street Bpt. 06608

Thomas & Doris Gibson

113 Austin Street Bpt. 06604

Angel Llanos

116 Austin Street Bpt. 06604

Henry & Catherine Arzyla

119 Austin Street Bpt. 06604

John & Emorphia Markos

128 Austin Street Bpt. 06604

Joseph F. Miciukiewicz

78 Shawnee Road Trumbull 06611

George & Edna Mitas

135 Austin Street Bpt. 06604

Joseph F. Miciukiewicz

78 Shawnee Road Trumbull 06611

Daisy Clocchiatti

90 Laurel Avenue Bpt. 06605

John & Sandra Dorland

354 Old Mill Road Fairfield 06432

Terry L. McKnight

241 Gregory St. Bpt. 06604

Rafael & Eva Rodriguez

345 Pearl Harbor Street Bpt 06610

Marion Gyorke

255 Gregory Street Bpt. 06604

Debbie A. Spivak

511 Clinton Ave. Bpt. 06605

John H. Norlooe

257 Gregory St. Bpt. 06604

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269-71 Gregory Street	Joseph W. Raines 686 Platt Street Bpt. 06606
264-8 Gregory Street	Andres & Diana Gonzalez 266 Gregory Street Bpt. 06604
276 Gregory Street	Walter Zisman 319 Park Avenue Bpt. 06604
277-81 Gregory Street	Charles V. Framularo 637 Reservoir Avenue Bpt. 06606
286-8 Gregory Street	Richard & Joan Speer 288 Gregory Street Bpt. 06604
325 Myrtle Avenue	MSB Realty Corp. 855 Main Street Bpt. 06604
341 Myrtle Avenue	MSB Realty Corp. 855 Main Street Bpt. 06604
349-51 Myrtle Avenue	Terry L. McKnight 241 Gregory St. Bpt. 06604
373-7 Myrtle Avenue	Marion A. Frankel 529 Davis Road Fairfield 06432
380-6 Myrtle Avenue	Jeroslaw Horiatshun 390 Myrtle Avenue Bpt. 06604
381 Myrtle Avenue	Diane Birtwell 381 Myrtle Avenue, Bpt. 06604
383 Myrtle Avenue	Fred Lapidis 383 Myrtle Avenue Bpt. 06604
389-93 Myrtle Avenue	Skirmantas & Eileen Rastas 389 Myrtle Avenue Bpt. 06604
399-401 Myrtle Avenue	South Park Realty Co. Inc. 211 State Street Bpt. 06604
419-23 Myrtle Avenue	South Park Realty Co. Inc. 211 State Street Bpt. 06604
408 Park Avenue	Daisy Clocciatti 90 Laurel Avenue Bpt. 06605

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Following is an inventory of the District's component structures:

CHARLES H. RUSSELL BLOCK, 374-84 Atlantic Street (1882)--4-unit frame row house, 2½ stories, mansard roof; individual units 3 bays wide with side entrance (entries paired and situated under small double portico); first story contains 3-light projecting square bay windows, surmounted on second floor by 2-light bay of slightly lesser projection; mansard gables on front and sides; windows (with exception of bay windows) have pointed lintels; trimwork displays typical chamfering and cut work; presently covered with asphalt siding, original decorative treatment of siding unknown (PHOTO 1).

CHARLES H. RUSSELL TENEMENT, 392-8 Atlantic Street (1882)--4-unit dwelling in the form of an enlarged double house, 2½ stories over high brick basement; side gable roof with steeply-pitched projecting front gables; paired 2-story octagonal bays to either side of double center entrance. Presently sided with asbestos; original decorative treatment of siding unknown (PHOTO 1).

ELISHA PARISH/JAMES H. JONES HOUSE, 404-12 Atlantic Street (1882)--double house, 2 stories plus attic, front & side gable roof of cruciform plan; double octagonal 2-story bay windows on facade; 2-story verandas fill recesses flanking front pavilion (east side veranda octagonal in form with turned posts and decorative spindlework; west side rebuilt and enclosed c. mid-20th century); exterior presently covered with asphalt siding (PHOTO 1).

J.A. NASH HOUSE, 418-20 Atlantic Street (1882)--double house, 2 stories plus attic, hip roof with double front and side gables and centered dormers in front and rear slopes; paired octagonal front bays to either side of double center entrance; exterior detail presently covered by asbestos siding. Original veranda replaced in early 20th century by 2-story double galleries which extend across front (this particular design, similar to Plate 27 in Palliser's American Architecture, was executed in 4 other instances within the boundaries of the District--see also 105-7, 125-7, 135-7 Austin Street and 286-8 Gregory Street)(PHOTO 1).

JOHN CHANTRELL/GEORGE A. HARRIS HOUSE, 95-7 Austin Street (1883)--double house, 2 stories plus attic, hip roof with large projecting central front dormer flanked by octagonal turrets which are surmounted by small dormers which enclose multipane colored glass sash; paired octagonal bays to either side of double center entrance; notable original portico with heavy turned posts and corbeled termination; original paneled front doors in place, originally flanked by art glass windows (removed and replaced by clear glass; retaining bars remain). Much exterior detail presently covered by aluminum siding.(PHOTOS 2,4

ROBERT DeFOREST/THOMAS A. YOUNG HOUSE, 105-7 Austin Street (1884)--double house, 2 stories plus attic, hip roof with double front and side gables and centered dormers in front and rear slopes; paired octagonal front bays to either side of double center entrance; retains slate roof covering and exterior siding detail in Eastlake/Tudor motif which is presently obscured on many District buildings by artificial siding (PHOTOS 2 and 4).

ABRAHAM DOWNS HOUSE, 113-19 Austin Street (1882)--double house, 2 stories plus attic, front and side gable roof of cruciform plan, flank entries, paired front 1-story octagonal

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bay windows, small entry porticos and 1-story vestibules fill recesses flanking front pavilion; exterior presently covered by asphalt shingle siding. Identical to design 30 in Palliser's American Architecture with the exception of its slightly more elaborate vergeboard and gable crosspiece (PHOTO 3; see also PHOTOS 2 and 4).

JAMES VanSTONE HOUSE, 116 Austin Street (1887)--two-family flat-style house, 2 stories plus attic, front and side gable roof, two-story octagonal front bay window to west of double side entry, 2-story veranda replaced original 1-story portico circa early 20th century (still extant on identical house next door at 126 Austin street--see below). Presently covered with asbestos siding (PHOTO 5).

JAMES COONEY HOUSE, 125-7 Austin Street (1885)--double house, 2 stories plus attic, hip roof with double front and side gables and centered dormers on front and rear slopes; paired octagonal front bays to either side of double center entrance; 1-story portico with bracketed incised and chamfered posts. Exterior covered by asphalt siding (PHOTOS 4 and 2).

JAMES S. VanSTONE HOUSE, 126 Austin Street (1887)--two-family flat-style house, 2 stories plus attic, front and side gable roof, two-story octagonal front bay window to west of double side entry, Elizabethan portico with incised vergeboard and turned posts. Presently covered by asphalt siding (PHOTO 5).

ALVIN D. MOULTON HOUSE, 135-7 Austin Street (1882)--double house, 2 stories plus attic, hip roof with double front and side gables and centered dormers on front and rear slopes; paired octagonal front bay windows to either side of double center entrance; 1-story portico with bracketed chamfered and incised posts. Exterior covered with asphalt siding (PHOTO 2).

ARTHUR C. CABLE/WILLIAM C. RUSSELL BLOCK, 136-40 Austin Street (1888)--3-unit frame row house, 2 stories, flat roof; individual units 2 bays wide with side entry; projecting 2-story square bay windows with gabled peaks; entries recessed beneath pedimented hoods supported by brackets which terminate in globular drops and decorative spindlework; bracketed cornice extends across front and contains ornamental turnings. Presently covered with asphalt siding (PHOTO 5).

WILLIAM STANDER HOUSE, 145 Austin Street (1887)--single-family house, 2 stories plus attic, T-form roof with gables on front, rear and west side; 1-story octagonal front bay window with half-timber ornamented panels beneath windows to east of porticoed entry; decorative panel with raised sunburst motif connects second-story fenestration over bay window; half-timber motif also used in triangular panel situated over attic gable window. Exterior covered with original clapboard siding; area between front and west side projecting pavilions filled with 2-story flat roof addition circa early 20th century (PHOTO 2).

JOHN BEE TENEMENT, 146-50 Austin Street (1892)--six-unit flat-type dwelling, 3 stories, flat roof; paired 3-story octagonal front bays to either side of double center entrance; small peaked gable centered over entry set with fanlight; front portico has turned posts which support scallop-shingled pediment; original clapboard siding contains half-timber highlights (PHOTO 5).

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PATRICK KEATING HOUSE, 239-41 Gregory Street (1894)--two-family flat-style house, two stories plus attic, front and side gable roof, two-story recessed octagonal bay window to west of double side entry, 2-story front veranda with turned posts and decorative spindlework; original novelty siding intact which includes clapboarding with wide half-timber highlights, scallop-shingled attic gables (double attic fenestration in each gable connected by decorative panels in herringbone motif) and a band of hexagonal shingles across the front between first and second story fenestration (NOT ILLUSTRATED).

JAMES CARSON/GEORGE A. HILTZ/WILLIAM H. WORSAM HOUSE, 246-8 Gregory Street (1883)--double house, 2 stories plus attic, hip roof with large projecting central front dormer flanked by octagonal turrets which are surmounted by small dormers which enclose multipane colored glass sash; paired octagonal bays to either side of double center entrance; original portico replaced in early 20th century by 2-story double galleries which extend across front (a somewhat common remodeling occurrence in the District also to be seen at 418-20 Atlantic Street and 381-3 Myrtle Avenue). Originally identical to the Chantrell-Harris House at 95-7 Austin Street (PHOTO 7).

JOHN COLLINS HOUSE, 247-55 Gregory Street (1882)--double house, 2 stories plus attic, front and side gable roof of cruciform plan, flank entries; paired 2-story octagonal bay windows, small entry porticos and 1-story vestibules fill recesses flanking front pavilion; exterior presently covered by asbestos siding. Essentially this house is a duplicate of the Downs House at 113-19 Austin Street with a slightly-lowered roof pitch, 2-story bay windows and an arcuated pediment over the gable windows (NOT ILLUSTRATED).

JOHN KIRBY HOUSE, 254-60 Gregory Street (1882)--double house, 1½ stories, front and side gable roof of cruciform plan, flank entries, paired 1-story octagonal bay windows, small entry porticos and 1-story vestibules fill recesses flanking front pavilion; exterior asphalt siding recently removed; corbeled overhang over second-story fenestration with board-and batten decorative treatment. This house is a double version of a popular Palliser worker's cottage which comprised whole developments in Bridgeport at Bassickville on Bassick Avenue and the William D. Bishop Development along Broad and Main Streets between Whiting Street and University Avenue (both areas are currently under study for listing in the National Register of Historic Places) (PHOTE 7).

JOSEPH J. SKELLY HOUSE, 257-9 Gregory Street (1882)--double house, 2½ stories over high brick basement, flat roof, double center entries, regular fenestration with paired windows above entry (second story pair surmounted by triangular pediment; third story by rounded pediment); second story windows in front have heavy drip caps; retains original clapboard siding. Original veranda which apparently extended across front replace by smaller porch circa mid-20th century (PHOTO 6).

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THOMAS McKEON HOUSE, 269-71 Gregory Street (1882)--double house, 2 stories plus attic over high brick basement, double front gable roof, paired center entries: ornamented veranda extends across front with chamfered and incised posts, sawn brackets and original turned balusters. Presently covered by asphalt siding (PHOTO 6).

JERIMIAH REILLY HOUSE, 264-8 Gregory Street (1882)--double house, 2 stories plus attic, flat roof, double center entries, regular fenestration with heavy dripcaps over second-story windows, triangular pediment in roofline centered over entries; original clapboard siding; veranda extends across front with chamfered and incised posts with unusual stylized sawn brackets (PHOTO 7).

FREDERICK H. SEWARD HOUSE, 276 Gregory Street (1882)--single family house, 2 stories flat roof (original hip roof with projecting front gable burned early 1970s and replaced by present structure), center entry set in subsidiary 3-bay wing across which extends the veranda; projecting pavilion contains one-story octagonal bay window with bracketed cornice with paired sash above; veranda supported by turned posts in groups of three with sawn brackets, pedimented hood over entry which encloses stylized sunburst; original clapboard siding with half-timber highlights (PHOTO 7).

WILLIAM SEERY/HENRY COWD HOUSE, 277-81 Gregory Street (1882)--double house, 2 stores plus attic over high brick basement, side gable roof, center entries located in slightly-projecting front pavilion which terminates in front acctic gable, regular fenestration; incised vergeboard decorated in sunflower motif; veranda extends across most of facade similarly ornamented with incised stylized sunflowers; exterior presently covered with asphalt siding (PHOTO 6).

EDWARD J. LEE HOUSE, 286-8 Gregory Street (1882)--double house, 2 stories plus attic, hip roof with double front and side gables and centered dormers in front and rear slopes; paired octagonal front bays to either side of double center entrance; attic gable windows set in flush-boarded panels of half-timer motif; original turned porch posts replaced circa mid-20th century by unornamented square posts; retains original clapboard siding (NOT ILLUSTRATED).

MYRTLE AVENUE SCHOOL/JEFFERSON SCHOOL, 325 Myrtle Avenue (1884 and 1916)--two story brick elementary school building of two distinct parts--a mansard-roofed Victorian school-house standing relatively intact (minus the Myrtle Avenue facade, which was presumably removed) behind an imposing Beaux-Arts front wing which was constructed in what had been the front grounds of the older structure--both components 2 stories; rear portion contains oramental brick corbeling which supports cornice and overhanging dormer windows (for illustration of earlier appearance, see original architect's rendering, Bridgeport Standard, October 1, 1884, p. 3); front portion symmetrically arranged with recessed central entrance; decorative brickwork employed throughout with recessed panels and limestone highlights; flat roof surmounted by classical parapet (PHOTO 8). Warren R. Briggs, architect of both portions.

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JAMES H. JONES HOUSE, 341 Myrtle Avenue (1878)--single family house, 2 stories plus attic over high brick basement, front gable roof with projecting side gable facing south; wide overhanging eaves with returns at base of front gable; rounded double gable fenestration with plastic enframements; side entry without side or top lights, retains original door with heavy Italianate-style relief; veranda across front with heavy, square posts having typical decoration; exterior presently covered with asbestos siding (PHOTO 9). Similar to Design 23 in Palliser's Model Homes for the People.

BROOKS-KNAPP/KEATING HOUSE, 349-51 Myrtle Avenue (circa 1830)--double house, 2 stories plus attic over high brick basement, double center entries, side gable roof, regular fenestration, clapboarded; Italianate-style veranda extends across front. Formerly located at the south east corner of Park Avenue and Atlantic Street, it was originally a simple Greek Revival farmhouse, and probably always a double house. The construction is post and beam, with all timbers sawn. Moved to this site in 1878, it was remodeled to correspond with the Jones House next door (see above) (PHOTO 9).

GEORGE and CHARLES PALLISER/ELIZABETH A. CORBUSIER HOUSE, 373-7 Myrtle Avenue (1883)--double house, 2 stories plus attic, hip roof with large projecting central front dormer flanked on the north side by an octagonal turret surmounted by a small dormer which encloses a multipane colored-glass sash, and on the south side by a diagonal projecting wing with its own gable roof; center entrance; first floor brick storefront installed across facade circa early 20th century; glass-enclosed second-story porch over it probably contemporary. Presently covered by asphalt siding. Originally this structure was identical to the Egge/Nettleton House at 399-401 Myrtle Avenue; the design is essentially the same as the Chantrell/Harris House at 95-7 Austin Street and the Carson/Hiltz/Worsam House at 246-8 Gregory Street with the exception of the diagonal corner wing (PHOTOS 9 and 10).

JOHN CUMMINGS HOUSE, 380-6 Myrtle Avenue (1885)--double house, 2 stories plus attic, front and side gable roof of cruciform plan, flank entries, paired front 1-story octagonal bay windows, small entry porticos and 1-story vestibules fill recesses flanking front pavilion; exterior presently covered by asphalt shingle siding. Identical to design 30 in Palliser's American Architecture. Basement storefront added 1910 (PHOTO 13).

HOBART W. WATSON/WILLIAM W. STARR HOUSE, 381-3 Myrtle Avenue (1883)--double house, 2 stories plus attic, hip roof with front and side gables and a centered dormer in the front with a larger rear gable; paired recessed octagonal bays to either side of double center entries; front doors have incised foliar relief and are flanked by art glass windows of Eastlake inspiration, beneath which are small wood panels with incised sunbursts; broken-scroll pediments over center bay windows on first floor with cutwork in frieze also in sunburst motif; front gables and center dormer flushboard-sided with half-timber highlights, remainder of structure sided with narrow beaded clapboard with a band of hexagonal shingle between first and second story fenestration; original 1-story portico replaced with 2-story double gallery across front circa early 20th century, hexagonal shingle course carefully matched. Originally identical to the Griffith/White House next

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door at 389-93 Myrtle Avenue; both the interior and exterior of this house have recently been authentically restored (PHOTOS 10 and 11).

JOHN S. GRIFFITH/ANN B. WHITE HOUSE, 389-93 Myrtle Avenue (1883)--double house, 2 stories plus attic, hip roof with front and side gable and a centered dormer in the front with a larger rear gable; paired recessed octagonal bays to either side of double center entries; front doors have incised foliar relief and were formerly flanked by art glass windows (replaced by clear glass; retaining bars remain), beneath which are small wood panels with incised sunbursts; broken-scroll pediment over center first-floor bay window on north side with cutwork in frieze also in sunburst motif; front gables and center dormer flush-board with half-timer highlights, remainder of structure sided with narrow beaded clapboard with a bank of hexagonal shingle between first and second story fenestration; upper portion of original one-story entry portico remains; posts, desk etc. replaced circa mid-20th century. Small storefront inserted in south side unit circa early 20th century. Exterior of structure presently undergoing restoration: asphalt and asbestos siding and storefront recently removed (PHOTO 10).

FREDERICK EGGE/WILLIAM A. NETTLETON HOUSE, 399-401 Myrtle Avenue (1883)--double house, 2 stories plus attic, hip roof with large projecting central front dormer flanked on the south side by an octagonal turret surmounted by a small dormer which encloses a multipane colored glass sash, and on the north side by a diagonal projecting wing with its own gable roof; octagonal bay to south side of double center entrance; notable original portico with turned posts and carved brackets; original paneled front doors in place, originally flanked by art glass windows (removed and replaced with clear glass). Much exterior detail presently obscured by covering of asphalt shingles (PHOTO 10).

DAVID CAREY TENEMENT/JAMES J. LINEHAN GROCERY, 419-23 Myrtle Avenue (1885)--commercial building with apartments above, 2 stories plus attic, flat roof, wide overhanging eaves with small gable centered over double front entry, regular symmetrical fenestration with eyebrow garret windows, Victorian storefronts with transomed plate glass windows largely intact beneath later additions. Asbestos siding recently removed; exterior undergoing restoration.

WILLIAM W. STANNARD HOUSE, 408 Park Avenue (1872)--single-family dwelling, 2 stories plus attic, flat roof, side entry, wide overhanging eaves with low-pitched gable centered in the facade ornamented with sawn fretwork; regular fenestration, second story windows have projecting dripcaps, eyebrow garret windows set in wide flushboarded frieze; retains original clapboard siding; veranda across front supported by early-20th-century vintage square posts; Victorian screens with ornamental cutwork remain beneath (extreme background, PHOTO 2).

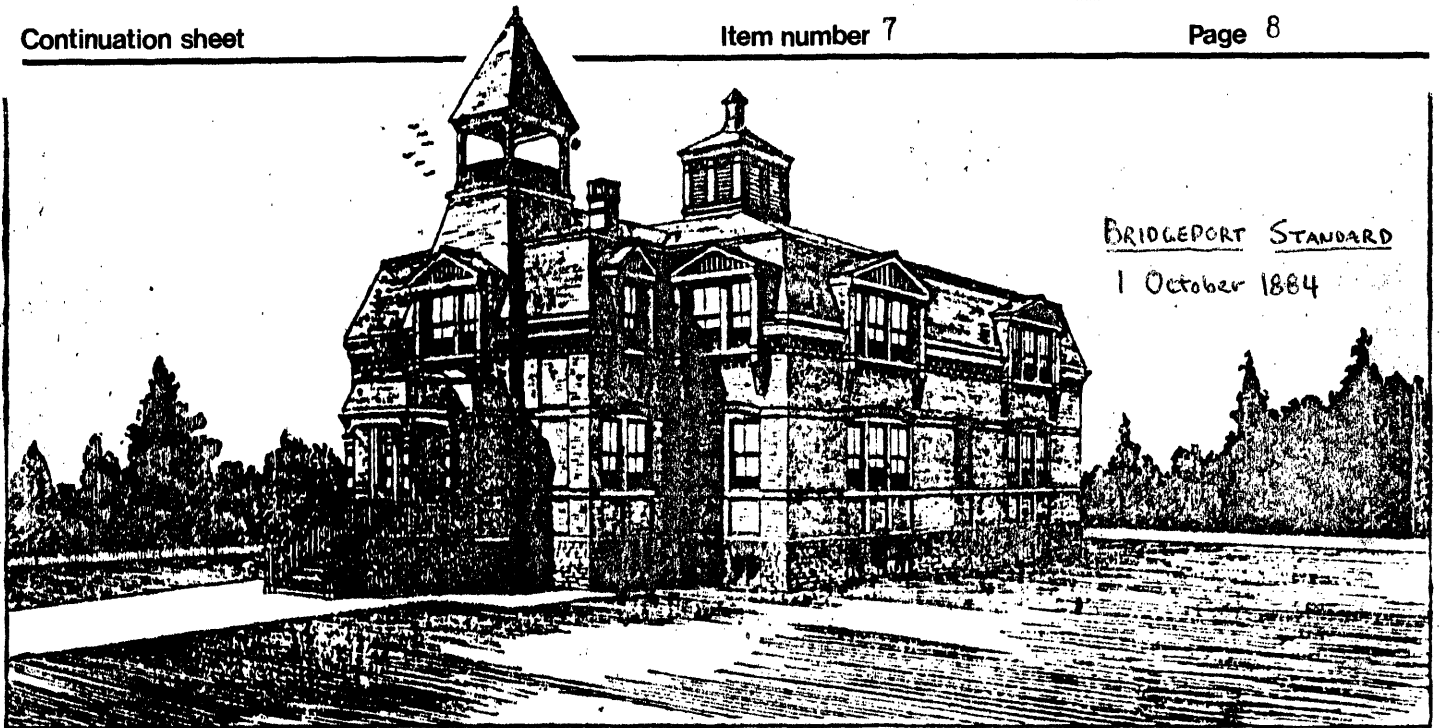
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THE NEW SCHOOL BUILDING.

Five rooms in the new school building on Myrtle avenue were opened this morning, and at nine o'clock nearly every seat was occupied. Through the courtesy of President Hanover of the Board of Education a STANDARD writer was allowed to inspect the several apartments in the new building. The structure is of brick and in design ornamental, as may be seen by reference to the fine illustration which is printed above. The main hallways as one enters the building are found to be spacious and well lighted. On either side are arranged the school rooms, four on the first floor and the same number above. These rooms are 24x34 feet floor surface, 12 feet in height on the first story. Those above are 13 feet, 4 inches in height. The rooms are handsomely furnished with the most approved style of desks made by the Buffalo Furniture Company. Teachers' easy chairs are from Lieberum Brothers, while clocks that will be watched with interest by pupils bear the stamp of Warner & Parker. Spacious blackboards are provided on which problems, difficult to comprehend will be demonstrated by the teachers. The desks are so arranged, or rather the windows are so located, that all light shall fall on the pupils' books from the back or the left side. The windows are all four feet from sill to floor, and extend to within one foot of the ceiling, thus allowing the light to enter in as nearly a vertical position as possible. The glass surface, cubic contents of rooms and floor space, per pupil are of the same proportions as in the High School building and endorsed as correct by leading experts. The heating arrangements are of the most approved plan. Two large furnaces are located in the base-

ment from which the hot air pipes run through immense shafts to the rooms above. Perfect ventilation of the class and other rooms is obtained by registers which open into these shafts and a constant draft upward will secure the object sought. The architect has considered with much fullness the method of distributing the air in the several rooms, with the desired uniformity of temperature, and in full quantities without the establishment of objectionable currents. When the furnaces are started, the hot air will enter the room about eight feet from the floor and before leaving by way of the outgoing register which is located near the floor, it will be made to circulate throughout the apartment. The arrangement seems to be perfect so far as economy of heat and ventilation are concerned, and that the designs of the architect have been carried out to the letter, the services of Alfred Hopkins will testify.

An excellent system of plumbing has been carried out by L. H. Mills, whose place of business is located on Middle street, in the STANDARD building. The several closets are furnished with most approved fixtures, while the toilet rooms for teacher's use, and the pupils' wash bowls adjoining the main halls, are convenient, and supplied with marble fittings. The teachers are provided with ample cloak rooms and hat and cloak rooms for the pupils are spacious. The latter are arranged on either side of the hallways, which are fifteen feet in width. The stair cases are five feet in width, and of easy ascent. On the lower floor, a large play room, may be made available in stormy weather, and one large apartment is set apart for the use of Jacob Eberhard, the janitor. The mason work of

the new building has been done by H. M. Purdy, the carpenter work by I. W. Day and the painting by Charles Ide. The whole has been under direction of W. E. Briggs, the architect, whose reputation for designing school buildings has extended throughout the country. The State Normal school at New Britain, designed by Mr. Briggs, is one of the handsomest and most complete in all respects of any in the state.

Superintendent Harrington was on hand this morning and shortly after nine o'clock five rooms were occupied and the studies going on as though nothing unusual had occurred. In Room 1, fifty-six children of the First grade assembled, and in a few moments under supervision of Miss Lela Wurm, they were attending to lessons. Miss Belle Clarke has been assigned to Room 2, and seventy pupils of the First and Second grades were numbered this morning. Seventy-eight Third grade children more than filled the seats in Room 3 to-day. Miss M. Agnes Mollan has charge of this room. Room 4, Miss Cornelia Slason teacher, contained to-day 52 pupils of the Third and Fourth grades. Miss Sarah Matthews has the room temporarily in charge. Miss Mary L. Waterbury teacher in charge of the Myrtle avenue school, occupies Room 5 with fifty pupils of the Fourth and Fifth grades. As soon as the remaining rooms can be occupied the rooms mentioned will be relieved of their excess of pupils, and, this is a necessity that must be immediately attended to.

The school building on North avenue is a duplicate of the Myrtle avenue structure and will, it is believed, be ready for use about the first of January. The total cost of these school houses is \$16,000 each.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Criteria A, B, and C

Specific dates c. 1830--1916

Builder/Architect Palliser, Palliser & Co. and others

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Barnum/Palliser Development is an urban-scaled neighborhood of innovatively-designed working-class housing. It is associated with the real estate development aspect of the life of the important 19th-century showman P.T. Barnum (Criterion B); is reflective of his relationship with and philanthropic attitude toward those of a less favored social class, an important late-19th-century trend (Criterion A), and is primarily the work of the nationally-known architectural firm of Palliser, Palliser & Company (Criterion C). Of the four moderate-income housing developments this Bridgeport-based firm is known to have been responsible for in that city¹, this represents the only instance where the principals were actually owners of some of the properties, as well as the only such development which consists mostly of double houses. The work of another major architect, Warren R. Briggs, is also represented in the District in both earlier and later portions of the Myrtle Avenue School (Criterion C).

The land occupied by the District was purchased by Barnum in 1876 from the estate of Ezra Wheeler². Development commenced at once in 1882 (the Bridgeport Standard reported "Very few people have a correct idea of the rapid improvement in the southern part of the city and of the numerous buildings now in progress below the railroad between Broad Street and Park Avenue, there being over fifty houses by actual count now in process of construction in that portion, all of which are of a good class, well built and designed....³"). Although the attribution of the majority of the District's buildings (all but the ones they themselves owned) to the Palliser firm remains circumstantial due to a lack of concrete evidence, the hand of a single master planner is at once apparent in the interrelationship of the buildings on these blocks. Barnum had employed the Pallisers extensively on his development of Cottage Street in the years between 1875 and 1882⁴, and his endorsement of their work appeared in at least one Palliser publication⁵. Perhaps the final word on the attribution is spoken eloquently by the designs published in Palliser's American Architecture (1878), to which the structures in the District have an unmistakable similarity (see Item 8 pp. 4-5).

According to City of Bridgeport Land Records, P.T. Barnum was the holder of mortgages on at least some of the properties. It is also possible that he may have subsidized the construction of the Palliser-owned buildings by giving the Palliser Brothers free land to spur other construction, a practice he is known to have employed in his development of East Bridgeport⁶. A South End resident himself, Barnum was an eager advocate of any project which would help effect the evolution of the integrated worker/industrialist community he envisioned⁷.

In styling, the double houses of the District were less bound to the dictums of a restricted budget than smaller single houses would have been. Their detailing could almost be considered opulent (the newspaper noted "These houses are odd in design and are very elaborate, both internally and externally. . .each house is painted in very striking colors entirely different from its neighbor"⁸), and these structures were sincere reflections of the aspirations of the Arts and Crafts Movement espoused by Charles Eastlake, William Morris

9. Major Bibliographical References

News Clipping file, Historical Collections, Bridgeport Public Library
City of Bridgeport Land Records, Vol. 62 pp. 261, 301, 382, 383, 713; Vol. 63 pp. 151, 240
Bridgeport City Directories, 1866--1900.
Palliser, George & Charles: Model Homes and Model Homes for the People. Watkins Glen, N.Y.: American Life Study Foundation (reprinter), 1978.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 5.9

Quadrangle name Bridgeport

Quadrangle scale 7.5 minute

UMT References See Continuation Sheet

A

Zone	Easting			Northing					

B

Zone	Easting			Northing					

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

See attached Continuation Sheets 1 and 2

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state NA code N/A county N/A code N/A

state NA code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Charles W. Brilvitch, Consultant, edited by John Herzan, National Register Coordinator

organization Bridgeport Architecture Conservancy date May 1981

street & number 220 Harriet Street telephone 203/336-5737

city or town Bridgeport state Connecticut

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Director, Connecticut Historical Commission date November 8, 1982

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
National Register date 12/16/82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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and Oscar Wilde. Michael Tomlan, in his introduction to a compendium of the Pallisers' works ⁹, wrote "They were among the foremost disseminators of architectural designs of their time. Perhaps even more important (was) their desire to raise the level of popular taste and practical understanding of design". George and Charles Palliser's position at the forefront of late-19th century design practices is underscored by the sophisticated layout and decoration of these working-class houses ¹⁰. They eloquently demonstrate Barnum's committment to elevating the quality of the housing stock of his adopted city.

The publications of the Palliser firm as well as their position as the originators of the practice of "mail-order architecture" in America are perhaps too well known to necessitate an explanation in this text ¹¹. The District takes on added significance, however, when it is noted that both George and Charles Palliser lived in one of the development houses for several years before their removal to New York City (373-7 Myrtle Avenue) and that at least one of their understudies lived in an adjoining house ¹². The Pallisers, who ran widely-circulated advertisements which stated that they were "prepared to received a limited number of suitable young men as students in practical architecture" ¹³, had in their employ at one time or another such later-reknown architects as Warren R. Briggs ¹⁴ and Walter F. Stickles ¹⁵. Also, several of the development houses were first occupied by masons, plasterers and other tradesmen and contractors who may well have found employment on Palliser projects ¹⁶.

The Barnum-Palliser Development is an example of an "artistic" architectural mode applied to a class of housing which most other architects ignored. It is an important chapter in the history of American architecture and its concern with the problem of housing workers in the growing 19th-century industrial cities.

NOTES

1. The other three areas are the William D. Bishop Development and Bassickville, both of which have been accepted for study for inclusion in the National Register, and Cottage Street, which is located in the Division Street National Register District.
2. See Bridgeport Standard 29 April 1876, p. 3.
3. Bridgeport Standard 15 January and 23 June 1883.
4. Part of the Division Street National Register Historic District.
5. Barnum wrote "Mr. Palliser has done considerable work for (me) of late, and (I) can with confidence recommend him as one who thoroughly understands the designing and construction of buildings" (Model Homes for the People, 1876).
6. This area is now part of the East Bridgeport National Register Historic District.

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7. As early as 1865 Barnum wrote in defense of Seaside Park, "We have heard some talk among mechanics and others about this being an aristocratic arrangement intended or suitable only for those who have establishments to drive. This is a great mistake. The Horse Railroad is to be extended to a convenient distance and all for a mere trifle can avail themselves of the privilege of the Park. The intention is to make it especially the resort of this class of citizens. Land being cheaper in this part of town, houses of cheaper rent will be put up, and those of moderate circumstances will be better provided for than they have even been before" (Bridgeport Standard 7 October 1865).
8. Ibid. 23 June 1883.
9. Palliser's Late Victorian Architecture. Reprinted 1978 by American Life Study Foundation, Watkins Glen, N.Y.
10. The innovation of George Palliser is suggested by a Standard article (11 Sept. 1882) describing another Palliser building outside the boundaries of this District stated "In the frieze and ceiling of this room can be found the lily and sunflower conventionalized and very artistically utilized in its decoration, which by the way was done long before the advent of that modern apostle who has done so much talking about these two particular flowers in the last year or so"--this is an apparent reference to English designer and Arts and Crafts advocate William Morris.
11. See the Tomlan introduction to Late Victorian Architecture for in-depth explanation.
12. William H. Worsam is listed in City Directories of the 1880s as a resident of 95-7 Austin Street--he later became the architect of the Consolidated Railroad and was the designer of the passenger stations along the New Haven Line that were erected in the mid-'80s.
13. Advertisement from the rear pages of Palliser's New Cottage Homes and Details (1887).
14. See Bridgeport Standard, local news page, 16 December 1876 and 3 January and 29 January 1877 for references to Briggs and his association with the Pallisers.
15. See Bridgeport Standard 17 February 1886 for reference to Stickles.
16. These included Frederick Egge of the firm of Smith & Egge, manufacturers of brass sash chain which was universally employed in all the District houses which were examined; Thomas A. Young, mason and builder, and George W. Goudy and George A. Harris, painters.

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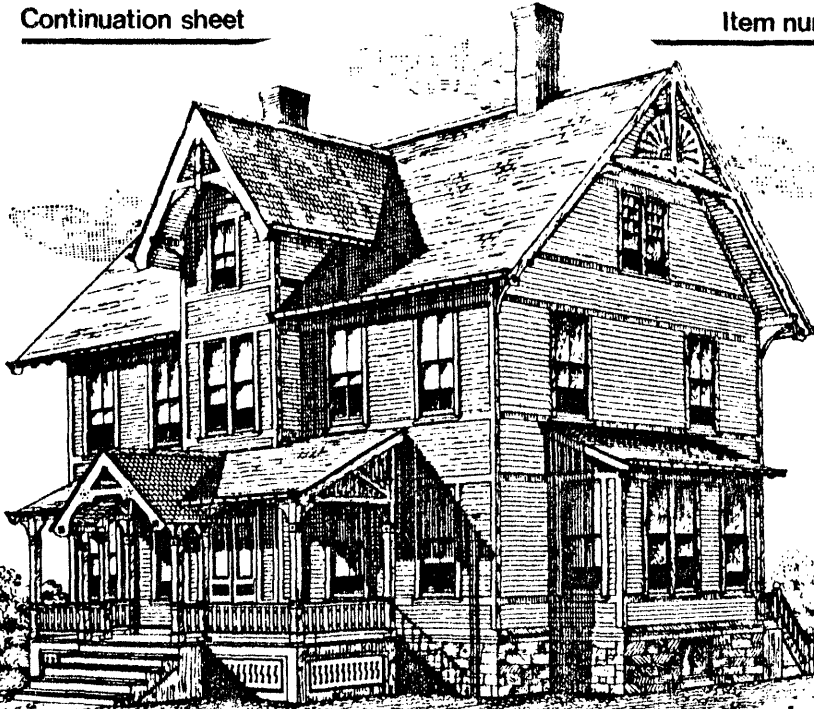
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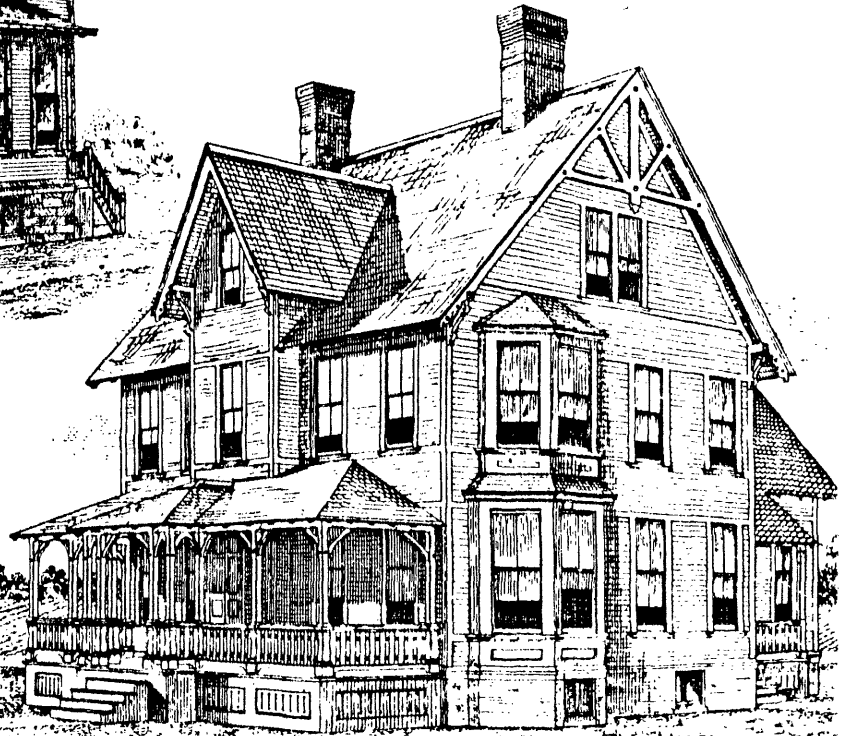
Continuation sheet

Item number 8

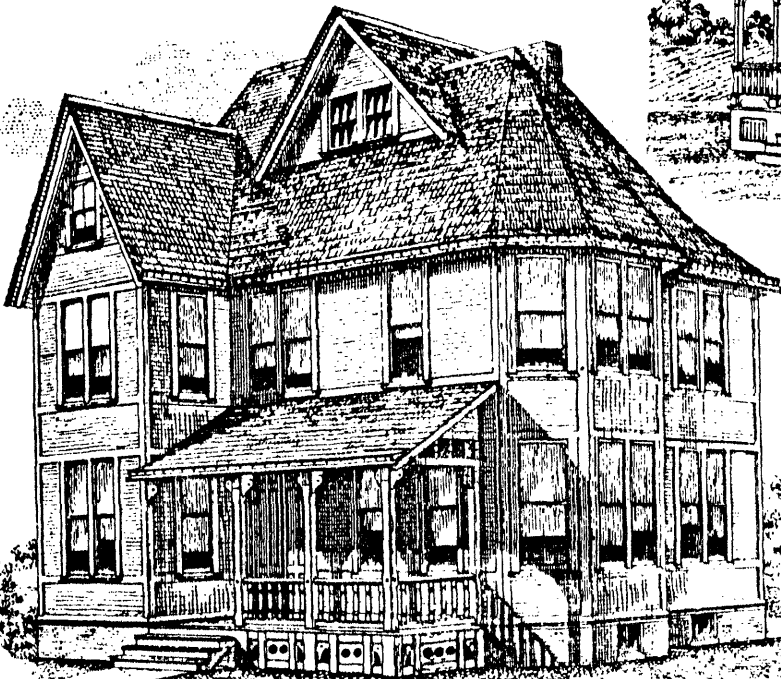
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(left) Plate 19--277-81 Gregory Street appears to be a modification of this design adapted for use by two families (PHOTO 6)



(right) Plate 21--Another design similar to 277-81 Gregory Street (PHOTO 6)



(left) Plate 25--Similar to 276 Gregory Street (background, PHOTO 7)

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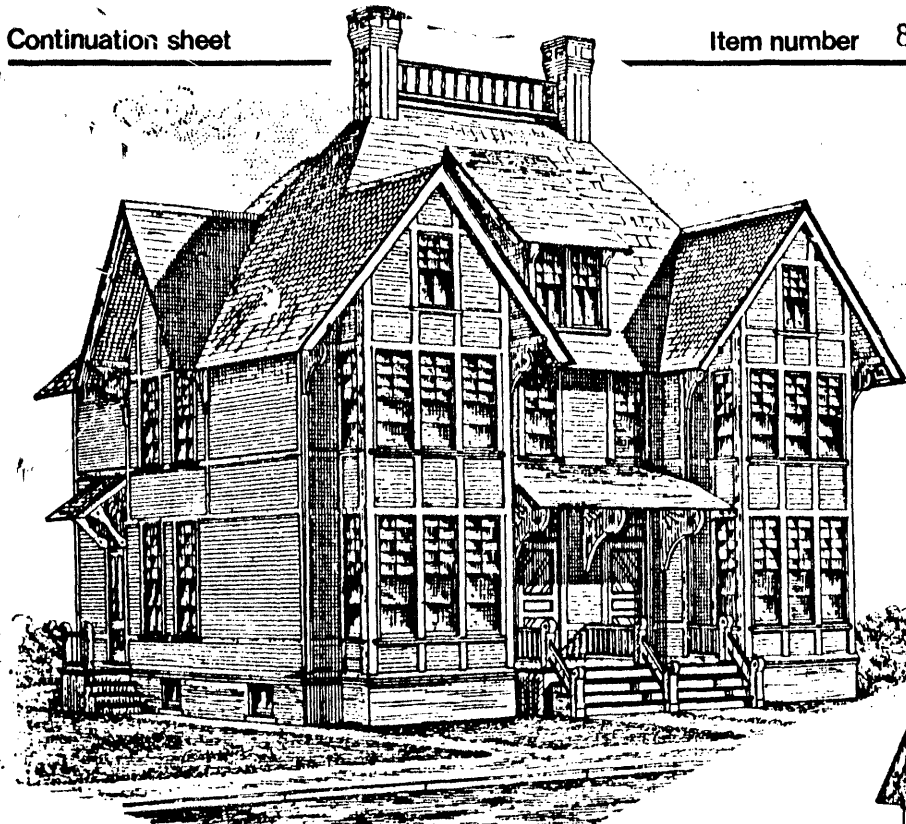
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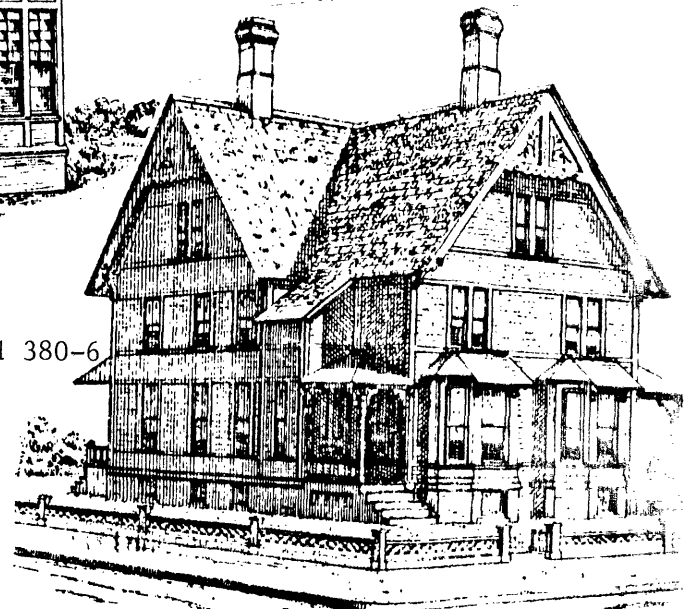
Continuation sheet

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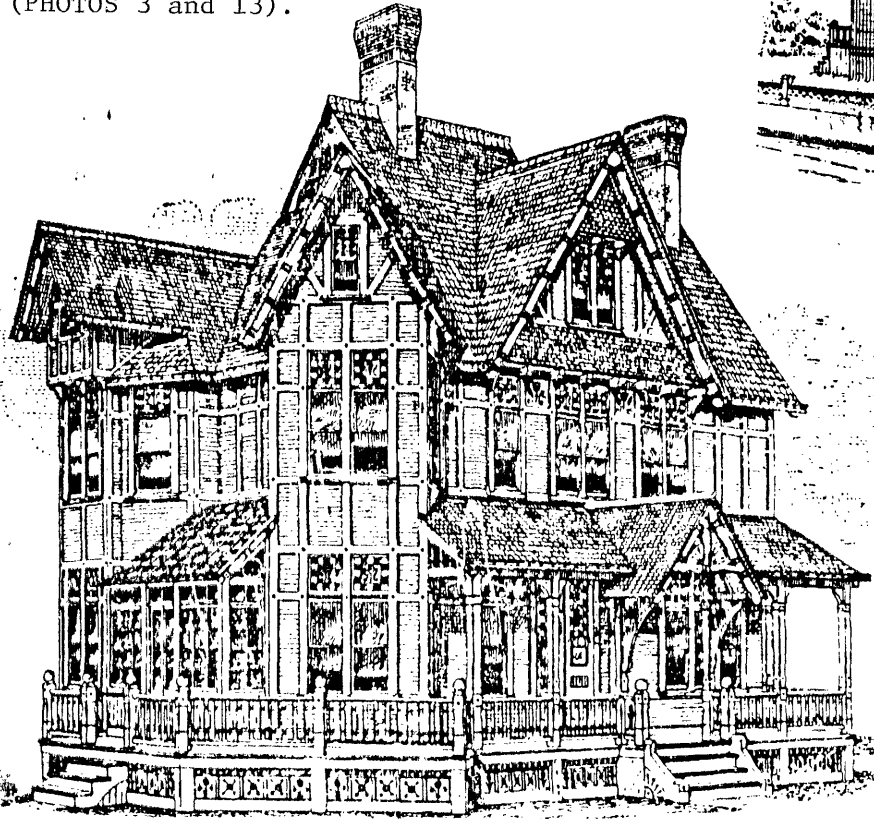


(left) Plate 27--This design was modified in the Barnum/Palliser Development by the substitution of octagonal bay windows for the square ones shown and by the addition of a more substantial veranda--ex. 418-20 Atlantic Street; 105-7, 125-7, 137-7 Austin Street (PHOTOS 2 and 4); 286-8 Gregory Street; 381-3 and 389-93 Myrtle Avenue (PHOTOS 10 and 11)



(right) Design 30--113-19 Austin Street and 380-6 Myrtle Avenue are so similar as to be almost identical (PHOTOS 3 and 13).

(left) Plate 31--373-7 and 399- Myrtle Avenue appear to be highly developed variations of this design (PHOTOS 9 and 10)



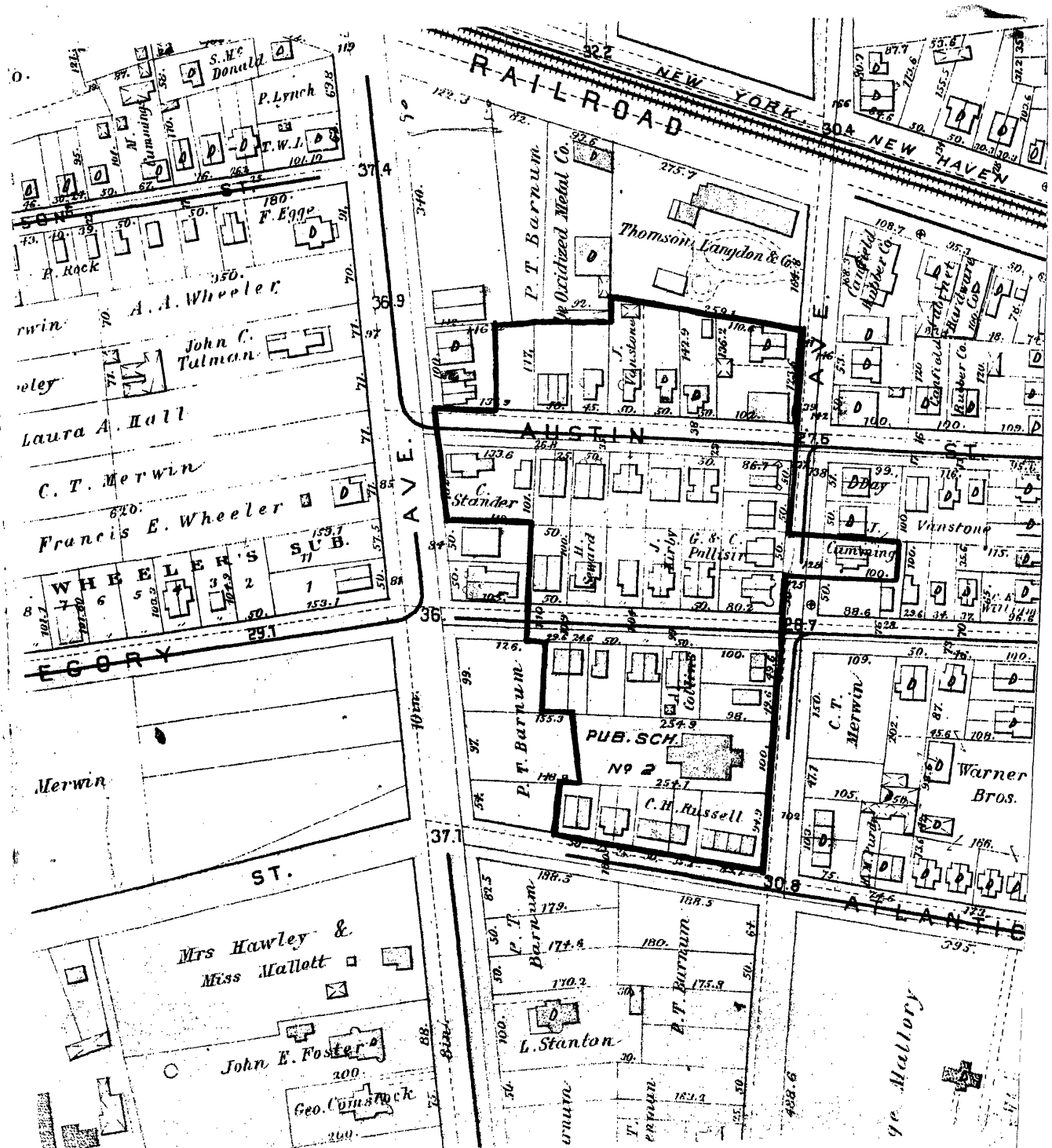
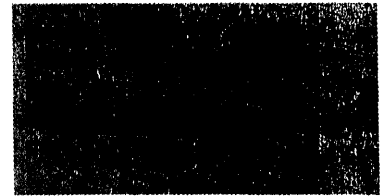
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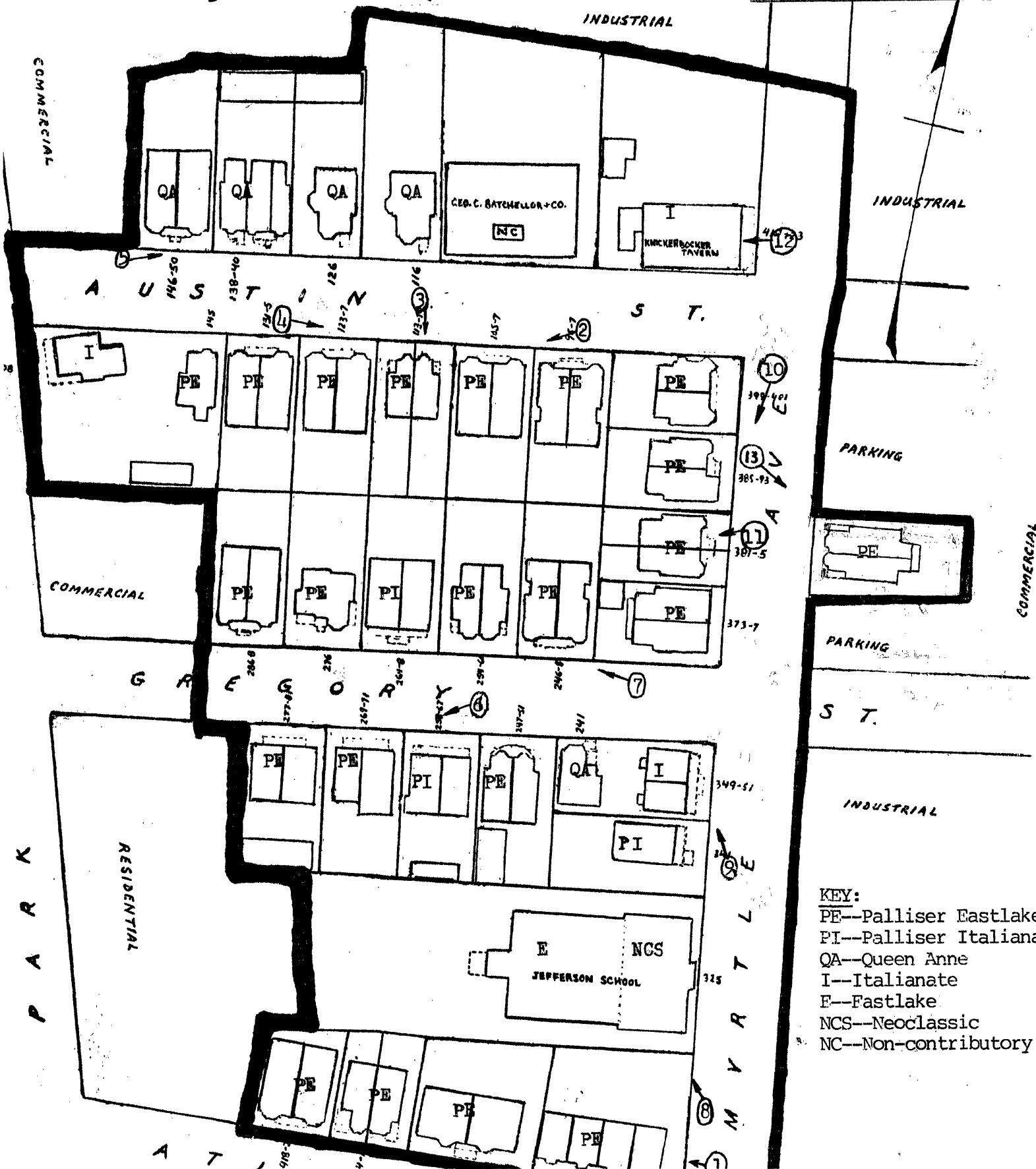
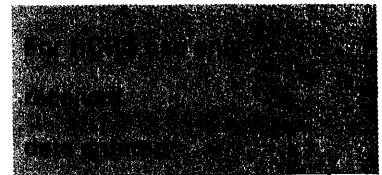
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The District as it appeared in 1888 (from G.M. Hopkins' Atlas of the City of Bridgeport)
Structures subsequently demolished marked D

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- KEY:**
 PE--Palliser Eastlake
 PI--Palliser Italianat
 QA--Queen Anne
 I--Italianate
 E--Fastlake
 NCS--Neoclassic
 NC--Non-contributory

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The Barnum-Palliser Development contains the area in the City of Bridgeport, Connecticut bounded as follows:

Beginning at a point of intersection of the East street line of Park Avenue and the North street line of Austin Street;

Thence Easterly for a distance of 91.30 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the West property line of land now or formerly of Mildred Brown;

Thence Northerly for a distance of 111 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the South property line of land now or formerly of Olive DelPino;

Thence Easterly for a distance of 15.9 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the East property line of land now or formerly of Olive DelPino;

Thence Northerly for a distance of 3.35 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the North property line of land now or formerly of Mildred Brown;

Thence Easterly for a distance of 129.44, more or less, to a point of intersection with the West property line of land now or formerly of Earl & Pauline Boileau;

Thence Northerly for a distance of 33.75 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the South property line of land now or formerly of George C. Batchellor & Co., Inc.;

Thence Easterly for a distance of 257 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the West street line of Myrtle Avenue;

Thence southerly for a distance of 272.76 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the north property line of land now or formerly of Frederick R. Lapides;

Thence easterly for a distance of 149.85 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the e. Jaroslawa Horiatshun.

Thence S. 50.65 ± s. Jaroslawa Horiatshun

Thence w. 150.01 ± n. Marion Frankel

Thence s. 393.64 ± n. Atlantic Street

Thence Westerly for a distance of 278.65 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the East property line of land now or formerly of Alice M. Doyle;

Thence Northerly for a distance of 66.22 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the South property line of land now or formerly of the University of Bridgeport;

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Thence Easterly for a distance of 25.43 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the East property line of land now or formerly of the University of Bridgeport;

Thence Northerly for a distance of 100 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the South property line of land now or formerly of Charles V. Framularo;

Thence Westerly for a distance of 41.75 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the West property line of land now or formerly of Charles V. Framularo;

Thence Northerly for a distance of 143.45 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the North street line of Gregory Street;

Thence Westerly for a distance of 22.31 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the West property line of land now or formerly of Frances M. Heller;

Thence Northerly for a distance of 99.37 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the South property line of land now or formerly of Daisy Clocchiatti;

Thence Westerly for a distance of 118.80 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the East street line of Park Avenue;

Thence Northerly for a distance of 151.43 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the North street line of Austin Street.

JUSTIFICATION:

The District boundaries are clearly defined. The North boundary of the District is formed by the rear property lines of the dwellings that face Austin Street. Beyond these is an unrelated industrial district facing the main trackline of the New Haven division of Conrail along Railroad Avenue, which consists mainly of 3- and 4-story brick structures dating from the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The East boundary is formed by Myrtle Avenue. The opposite side of this street is occupied above Austin Street, by a 5-story poured concrete industrial building of World War I vintage. The block between Austin and Gregory Streets is occupied alternately, heading southward, by a vacant lot; a solitary Palliser-designed double house (which is included within the District boundaries) and a paved parking lot. Below Gregory Street the east side of Myrtle Avenue contains a 4-story brick factory that dates to 1912 and its one-story subsidiary wing.

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

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West of the District is Park Avenue. Aside from the Stannard House, which is included as it relates to the theme of this Nomination, the boundary exempts the buildings along this street as they are mainly flat-style 2-family dwellings or commercial establishments that date from the present century and form a developmental entity of their own.

The same criterion was used to determine the south boundary at Atlantic Street, across which are flat-type two and three family structures that differ markedly in style and appearance from the Palliser-designed houses opposite.

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UTM REFERENCES

	<u>EASTING</u>	<u>NORTHING</u>
A	¹⁸ Zone 652480	4558790
B	¹⁸ Zone 652440	4558810
C	¹⁸ Zone 652460	4558830
D	¹⁸ Zone 652430	4558840
E	¹⁸ Zone 652440	4558870
F	¹⁸ Zone 652350	4558900
G	¹⁸ Zone 652320	4558830
H	¹⁸ Zone 652290	4558840
I	¹⁸ Zone 652280	4558820
J	¹⁸ Zone 652300	4558800
K	¹⁸ Zone 652250	4558680
L	¹⁸ Zone 652350	4558650
M	¹⁸ Zone 652370	4558680
N	¹⁸ Zone 652360	4558700
O	¹⁸ Zone 652370	4558720
P	¹⁸ Zone 652380	4558710
Q	¹⁸ Zone 652390	4558740
R	¹⁸ Zone 652410	4558730
S	¹⁸ Zone 652420	4558760
T	¹⁸ Zone 652450	4558750



PHOTO 12
Eaton/Palliser Development
Bridgeport CT
CAREY-LINEMAN BLDG.--419-23 MYRTLE AVE
C. Brillvitch photo
August 1980
Negative on file Conn. Historical Commission

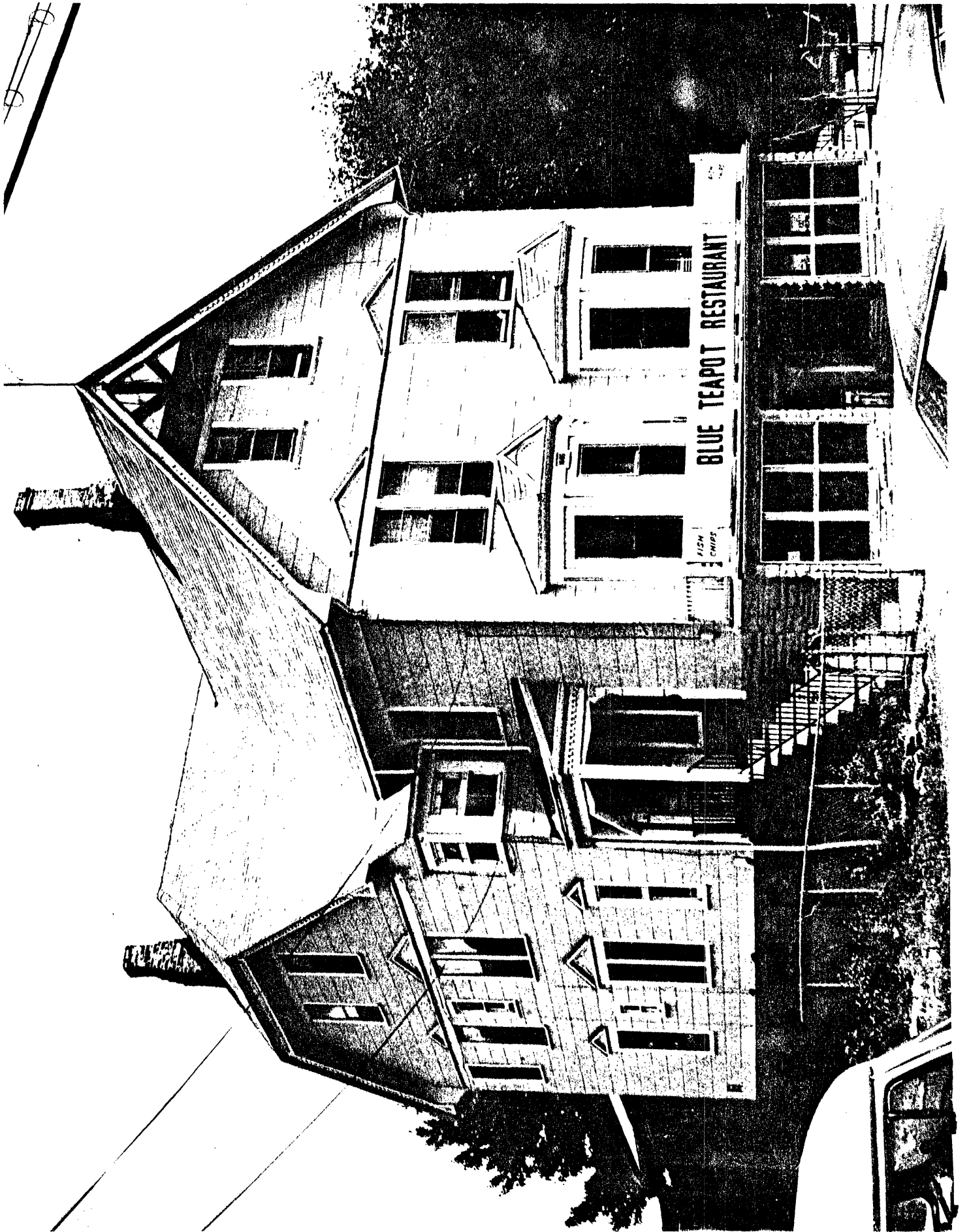


PHOTO 13

Barnum/Palliser Development
National Reaister District
Bridgeport, Connecticut
JOHN CUMMINGS HOUSE
380-6 Myrtle Avenue
C. Brilvitch photo
June 1982
Negative on file Conn. Historical Comm.