

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH 0668290  
FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED MAY 5 1978  
DATE ENTERED 10 1978  
DATA SHEET

**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 Stackpole, Moore and Tryon Building

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER 105-115 Asylum Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN Hartford VICINITY OF First - William R. Cotter

STATE Hartford CODE COUNTY CODE

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Clarence W. Seymour

STREET & NUMBER 25 Sycamore Road

CITY, TOWN West Hartford VICINITY OF STATE CT 06117

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Hartford Land Records, Municipal Building

STREET & NUMBER 550 Main Street

CITY, TOWN Hartford STATE CT 06103

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE Hartford Architecture Conservancy Survey of Hartford

DATE 1976-1978  
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Stowe-Day Memorial Library

CITY, TOWN Hartford STATE CT 06105

# 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 type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Stackpole, Moore and Tryon's clothing store occupies a four-story building at the southeast corner of Asylum and Trumbull Streets in downtown Hartford. The building extends twelve bays (90 feet) along Asylum Street and seven bays plus elevator shaft (60 feet) on Trumbull Street.

The building is of typical mid-nineteenth century timber and brick construction; the bricks are laid up in common bond with every tenth row consisting of headers. The windows are rectangular with one-over-one sash and with brownstone sills and lintels. The tops of the lintels once had moldings extending two or three inches out from the building but most of these have spalled off. At the roof line is a machicolated brick cornice.

A distinctive feature of the building is its rounded corner at the street intersection. At the third and fourth floor levels the windows in the corner have rounded brownstone sills and lintels to conform to the curve in which the bricks are laid. Each of these windows is divided by heavy wood mullions into two-over-two flat sash set at a 45 degree angle to the front and side walls.

In 1896 the store was modernized by adding a partial cast-iron front to the first two floors. A chief value of the cast-iron construction to the merchant was to provide broad display window area and to permit sunlight to flood into the store. The span of glass extends across almost the entire front of the two lower floors. Individual plate glass windows are 13 feet wide and 10 feet high.

The cast-iron front consists of five broad bays, three along Asylum Street and one on Trumbull Street (each bay replacing two of the former windows) and one bay turning the corner. At first floor level the bays are divided by engaged columns with cabled fluting rising one story to Ionic capitals which have volutes on either side of an urn. The center bay on Asylum Street gives way to a recessed entrance to the store.

The first and second floor levels are divided by an egg and dart molding and at the top of the second floor level is a cove cornice.

The bays at second floor level are separated by simple panelled pilasters, and each bay itself is divided into three sections under a broad arch which has an acanthus keystone. Immediately under each arch and across the width of the bay is leaded glass in an elegant heraldic motif. In the spandrels the iron is given an imitation pecked stone finish. Over the pilasters are roundels, each with a different bas-relief motif such as wheat sheaf, eagle, and cross.

At the corner of the building the cast iron at the second floor level is shaped to follow the curve of the masonry and has a rounded window supported by a gadrooned bracket. At the first floor level the corner is truncated by a flat window.

The central bay which serves as a recessed entrance way has a ceiling with molded panels surrounding a central rosette from which hangs a lighting fixture. The entrance way leads to the interior of the store which is finished in stained oak and has a ceiling of embossed metal in square sections of vine and leaf pattern. A spacious stairway with carved newel posts leads up from the back of the store.

The level of maintenance both inside and out is excellent. On the exterior the brick is painted yellow and the cast iron and brownstone dark brown.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input 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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1896 alterations

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Isaac A. Allen, Jr.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Stackpole, Moore and Tryon is a mid-nineteenth-century commercial building modernized in the late nineteenth century by the addition of a cast-iron front. The design of the cast iron is unusually light and airy with Beaux-Arts classical detail of great refinement. Since the exterior remodelling in 1896 and the interior remodelling in 1909 nothing has been changed; the turn-of-the-century quality and integrity of the structure are outstanding.

The architect, if any, for the original mid-nineteenth century brick building is not known, but the architect for the 1896 cast-iron front was Hartford's Isaac A. Allen, Jr. (1859-1953). His design for the remodelling was set down in a watercolor rendering by delineator Carl J. Detrich, which is still in possession of the store. It shows the building very much as it appears today, even to the colors of the yellow and brown paints. Allen conducted an extensive practice and did other work for retail merchants in the classic revival style, including Sage, Allen & Co. in Hartford and Howland, Hughes Co. in Waterbury.

At the base of the engaged column east of the store entrance is the plate of "Lincoln & Co.", the foundry which manufactured the cast-iron front. This was George S. Lincoln & Co., the Phoenix Iron Works, of 54-70 Arch Street, Hartford. The firm started in business in 1834, and continues today as Taylor & Fenn Company of Windsor. Among a variety of other products, it cast lintels and sills for the State Capitol, windows for Trinity College, and the Haynes Street store fronts for the Goodwin Building.

When the cast-iron front went up in 1896 the store was known as Willis and Wilson. The name was changed in 1909 when the business was bought out by J.S. Stackpole, T. Seymour Tryon, and H.B. Moore. The store is now managed by the grandson of one of the trio, A. Lane Tryon, Jr.

When the new owners took over in 1909 they had the interior remodelled in stained oak. This work was done by L.F. Dettenborn Woodworking Co. of 233 Front Street, Hartford, and is thought to be the firm's first interior commission. The store holds the cancelled check issued in payment for the job.

Stability of ownership of the store is exceeded only by the stability of ownership of the building. The last sale of the premises recorded in the Hartford Land Records (83/254) occurred on 26 October 1852 when Mary G. Arnold, apparently in settlement of an estate, sold the property to Timothy M. Allyn for \$4,000. The deed makes no mention of buildings on the land but the price suggests, nevertheless, that some structure was standing. The city atlas of 1869 shows the present building in place, and perhaps the store was constructed after 1852. Timothy M. Allyn was active in a number of local enterprises, notably as proprietor of the Allyn House, diagonally across the corner from the store, which for several generations was Hartford's finest hotel. He died 25 August 1882 leaving an estate inventoried at \$1,762,964. Since his death the property has descended from generation to generation within the family.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Margot Gayle and Edmund V. Gillon, Jr., Cast-Iron Architecture in New York, New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1974.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than One  
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1 8	6 9 3 1 9 0	4 6 2 6 2 7 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This is city lot number 2005 fronting north on Asylum Street 94 feet, east on property of J.J. Corning estate 63 feet, south on property of J.J. Corning estate 81 feet, and west on Trumbull Street 64 feet.

### LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE David F. Ransom, Secretary	DATE 2 August 1977
ORGANIZATION Hartford Architecture Conservancy	DATE
STREET & NUMBER 65 Wethersfield Avenue	TELEPHONE 203 525-0297
CITY OR TOWN Hartford	STATE CT 06114

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ LOCAL X

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE *[Signature]*  
 TITLE DIRECTOR, CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION DATE 5/1/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
<i>[Signature]</i>	DATE <u>10/19/78</u>
ATTEST: <i>[Signature]</i>	KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE <u>10/10/78</u>

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STACKPOLE, MOORE AND TRYON - SIGNIFICANCE

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

Cast-iron architecture in the United States was a development of the second half of the nineteenth century, beginning with the work of James Bogardus in New York City in the late 1840's. The principal application was for building facades. Initially, these were simple post and lintel designs but cast-iron facades soon reflected the currently fashionable Italianate style. Toward the end of the century, as cast-iron approached the end of its popularity, a new restraint was evident. It is in this final phase that the Stackpole, Moore and Tryon building belongs. Architect Allen used fluted columns, Ionic volutes, and classic roundels in a delicate and attenuated design consistent with the Beaux-Arts influences which enjoyed growing popularity after the Chicago Columbian Exposition of 1893.

Cast-iron fronts usually were installed at the time buildings were constructed. The use of cast-iron to modernize an existing building occurred relatively infrequently, according to Gayle and Gillon in Cast-Iron Architecture in New York.

The Stackpole, Moore and Tryon building provides a handsome and well documented instance of the use of cast-iron to up-date and older structure. According to Gayle and Gillon, Tiffany's former store at 550 Broadway, New York, modernized in 1901, was "undoubtedly the swan song of this type of use". Stackpole, Moore and Tryon's modernization in 1896 came only five years before this final date.