

SANFORD CARPET COMPANY, BUILDING 48
(Bigelow-Sanford Carpet Company, Building 48)
South side of Prospect Street
West side of Church Street
Amsterdam
Montgomery County
New York

HABS No. NY-6299-D

HABS
NY
29-AMST,
6D-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORICAL AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
Northeast Region
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SANFORD CARPET COMPANY, BUILDING 48
(Bigelow-Sanford Carpet Company, Building 48)

HABS
NY
29-AMST,
6D-

HABS No. NY-6299-D

Location: Prospect Street
Amsterdam, Montgomery County, New York
Quad: Amsterdam, New York, 1:24,000
UTM: 18.566350.4754220

Present Owner: Industries For Amsterdam, Inc.
P.O. Box 823
Amsterdam, Montgomery County, New York 12010

Present Use: Vacant

Significance: The existing building was built as a part of Sanford Carpet Company in 1893 and was used for wool yarn storage. Sanford Carpet Company was one of the largest carpet plants in the United States at one time. This building was sold in 1929 and became part of the Bigelow-Sanford Carpet Company. It was then sold in 1955 to the Grossman Company.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date(s) of erection: 1893
2. Architect: Unknown
3. Original and subsequent owners: Sanford Carpet Company, S. Sanford & Sons; Bigelow-Sanford Carpet Company, Grossman, Industries For Amsterdam.
4. Builder, Contractor, Suppliers: Unknown
5. Original plans and construction: Not available
6. Alterations and additions: None

B. Historical Context:

This one and two story building was used for the storage of wool yarn.

This brick building is 28' x 70' x 26' high and was partly one story and partly two stories high.

Wool yarn stored in this building was used to make carpet that was used world wide to cover floors in private homes, hotels, theaters, trains, airplanes, cruise ships, and many other commercial installations.

This building had the latest equipment needed for wool yarn storage.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural Character: Building #48 is a one and two story factory structure located between Buildings #47 and #50 all being the same style. The facades are Romanesque in character as evidenced by the rounded brick arches over the windows and door openings. Further setting of this style is in the corbeled brick cornice. The stair towers are in the same style. The interior is in the utilitarian style of wood columns, wood beams, and heavy wood plank floors and roof structure. This building shares common walls with Buildings #47 and #50.
2. Condition of Fabric: The overall condition of the brick wall is good, with re-pointing needed in several areas. The interior suffers badly from very heavy water damage from leaky roofs. The facade is plain with little or no embellishment.

B. Description of Exterior

1. Overall dimensions: The entire structure is 26' high x 70' long x 28' wide. Each story is 14' high.
2. Foundations: Foundation walls are rough cut limestone ashlar. Interior basement column foundations are also rough cut limestone ashlar.
3. Walls: The walls are entirely common brick both interior and exterior. The walls are reinforced with brick pilasters. Pilasters project to the exterior and interior with rounded corners. The walls are unadorned.
4. Structural System Framing: The brick walls are load bearing on both interior and exterior, with wooden posts in the interior. The framing is of wood trusses and wood beams.
5. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and Doors:
 1. Existing plain entry doors were created through original window openings in Building #48.

b. Windows:

1. Windows are rounded top, double-hung inset in three brick-high rowlock coursed brick arches on creek side.

6. Roof:

- a. Shape, Covering: The roof is flat with a monitor on top and slopes to the one story portion of Building #47. It is a built up coal tar felt roof covered with a coating of pitch.
- b. Cornice: The cornice is a continuous horizontal brick band made up of four courses of brick set out from the top of the wall.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor Plans:

- a. First Floor: Divided into open bays by wood columns spaced approximately thirty feet apart.
- b. Second Floor: This floor is identical to the first. Floor is divided into open bays by large wood columns.

2. Stairways: None

3. Flooring: Flooring is exposed wooden tongue-in-groove boards on the second floor. Concrete on first floor. Asbestos tile.

4. Wall and Ceiling Finish: The walls are exposed common painted brick surfaces. The wood columns, beams and ceiling boards have a painted finish.

5. Openings:

- a. Doorways and Doors: These openings of double panel type doors have rounded brick corners and arched lintels and lead to the buildings mentioned.

6. Decorative Features and Trim: There are no decorative features of the building except the brick work as described.

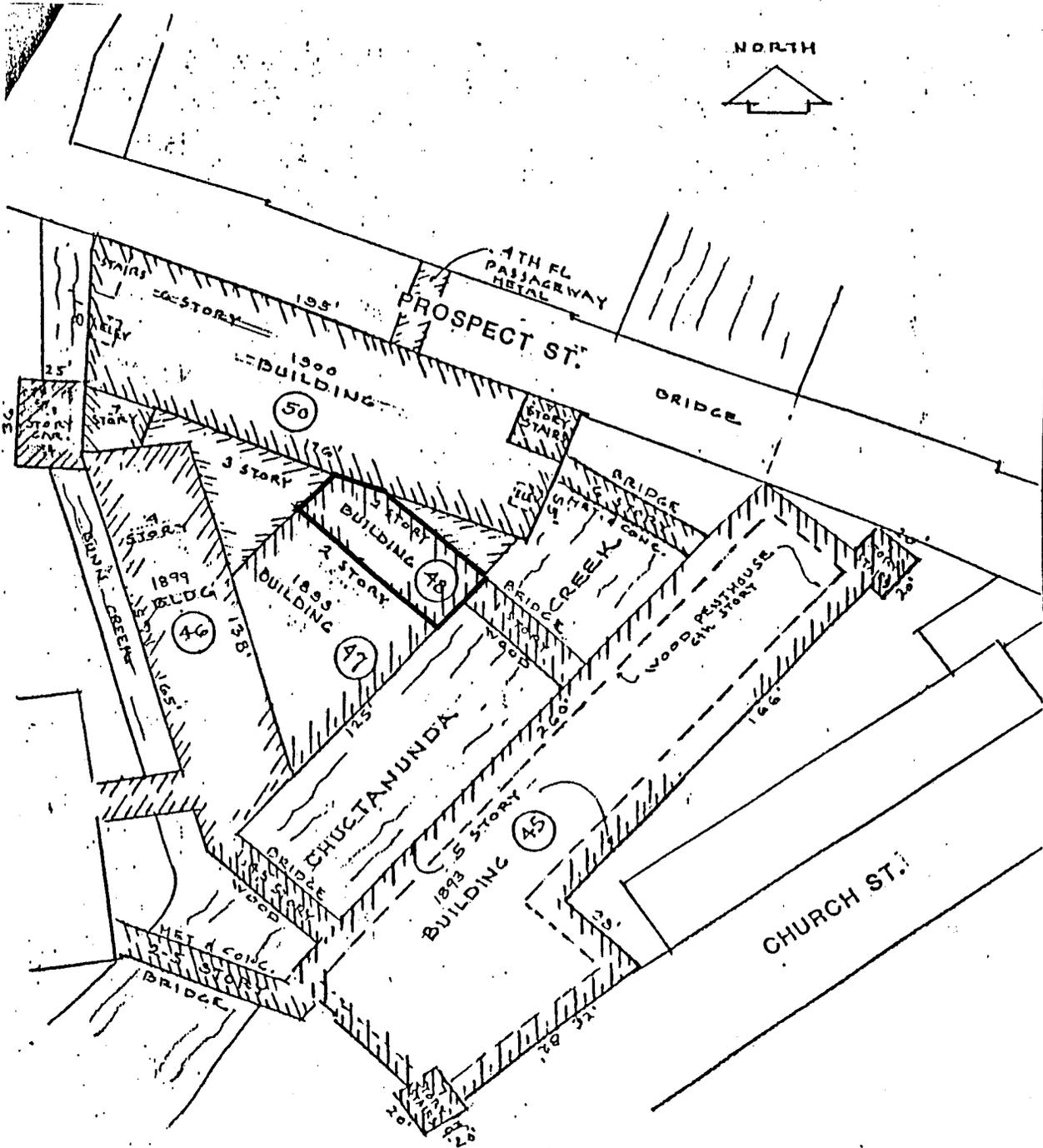
7. Hardware: Little hardware is evident.

8. Mechanical Equipment: Original heating was from parallel steam piping with steam supplied from a central boiler plant. Little of the old radiator piping is in evidence.

Project Information

This documentation was undertaken by the Amsterdam Urban Renewal Agency in accordance with a Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Amsterdam and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and is assisted by Community Development Block Grant funds.

Prepared by: E. Clark Devendorf
Title: Consultant
Affiliation: Amsterdam Urban Renewal Agency
Date: August 22, 1988



SITE PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 50'

"GROSSMAN PORTION"
BROOKSIDE AREA
SMALL CITIES PROJECT
AMSTERDAM URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY
AMSTERDAM, N.Y.