

34-36 Spring Street (Commercial Building)
Waterbury
New Haven County
Connecticut

HABS No. CT-425

HABS
CONN,
5-WATB,
14-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Mid-Atlantic Region, National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

34-36 SPRING STREET (Commercial Building)

HABS No. CT-425

Location: 34-36 Spring Street
Waterbury
New Haven County
Connecticut

Significance: Near the Downtown Waterbury Historic District, 34-36 Spring Street is significant as part of an intact streetscape of old buildings. These buildings reflect the historical growth of Waterbury, illustrating the commercial, industrial, and social history of the city.

Description: 34-36 Spring Street is a five-story grey brick Renaissance Revival-style building with commercial space on the first floor. Two apartments occupy each of the upper floors. In the facade, double doors are flanked by broad pilasters that support a projecting cornice (CT-425-3). From the second to fourth floors paired windows are placed in recessed arched panels under a string course. The roof line is corbeled.

The one-bay projection to the right of the rear porches was intended for pantry storage (CT-425-2). A similar projection east of the porches on the north side elevation is for pantries for the north side apartments (see ground plan on Index to Photographs, page 2).

The foyer is all original, including glazed and paneled doors under small-pane transoms, tesserae floor, beaded-board wainscotting and pressed metal ceiling. Entrances from the foyer to first floor spaces suggest that apartments may have occupied the first floor originally (CT-425-4). Apartments on the fourth floor have pocket doors.

The stairway has an airwell in front of it and another behind it. There are windows between the stairway and both airshafts. The surround of one can be seen in the upper right hand corner of photo CT-425-12. In addition, the space over the foyer, which is part of the north unit, also has windows to the front airshafts. The scheme is perhaps one of the more extreme examples of turn-of-the-century interest in fresh air.

34-36 SPRING STREET (Commercial Building)
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History: Constructed in 1905 (Assessor). Architect unknown.

Sources: National Register of Historic Preservation
Inventory-Nomination Form
Downtown Waterbury Historic District, New Haven County, CT.

Historian: David F. Ransom
Architectural Historian
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