

LOWELL CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

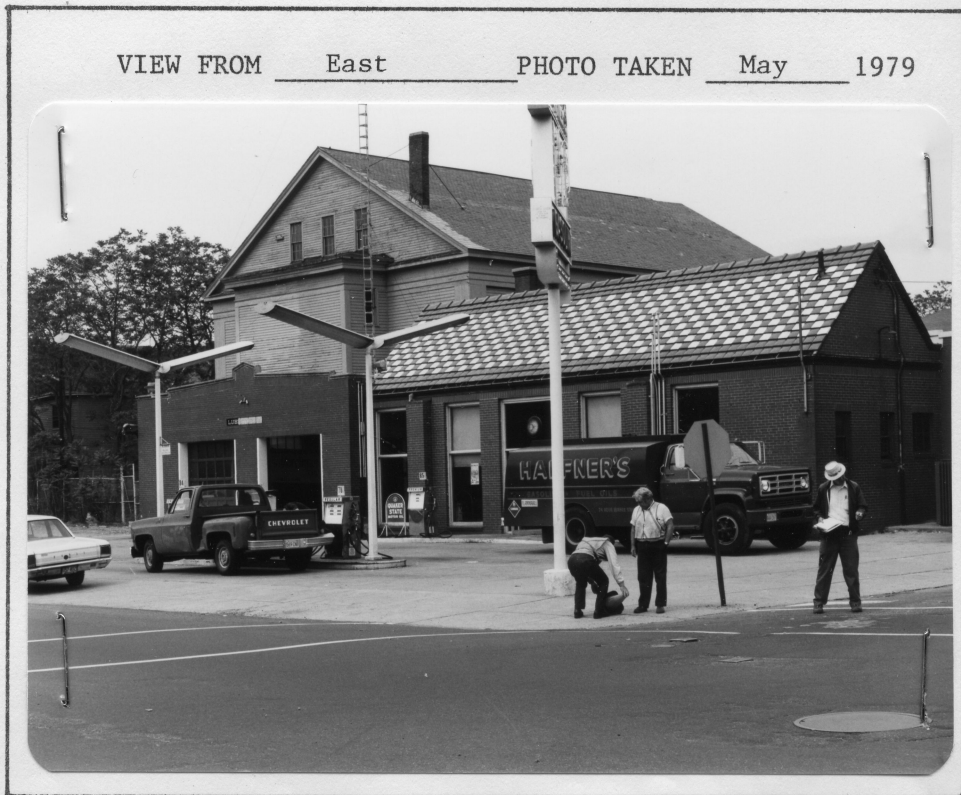
IDENTIFICATION 215 DUTTON STREET MAP SHEET # 7
1) CURRENT OWNER Haffner (Fournier) Realty Trust OWNER OCCUPIED yes
2) HISTORIC NAME Haffner's Service Station
3) CURRENT NAME Haffner's Gasoline and Lubritorium
4) PROPERTY TYPE commercial 5) ZONING CLASSIFICATION B3
6) TAXES: PAYMENTS current STATUS clear
7) WITHIN BOUNDARIES OF City Hall HD, LHDP

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1935
SOURCE document: Buildings Department
2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown
3) HISTORIC OWNER John Haffner
4) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF not applicable
5) PREVIOUS BLDGS ON PROPERTY yes DATE ca. 1830-1930s
SOURCE 1832 map, Lowell Buildings Department

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE 20th C. Modern
2) PRESENT USE:
GF commercial
UF not applicable
3) NO OF STORIES one
4) PROP SQ FT 15,336
5) PLAN L-shaped
6) ROOF flat
7) STRUCTURAL SYSTEM
load-bearing masonry
8) OUTBUILDINGS
none
9) MATERIALS:
FOUNDATION
not visible
FACADE all sides: red brick, front: stretcher bond, sides & rear: common bond
TRIM tile roof
10) NOTABLE SURFACE & LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS none



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VISUAL ASSESSMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC. excellent
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES not applicable
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF intact original fabric
UF intact original fabric
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES ^{canal frontage} commercial, industrial, residential, institutional, railroad
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING detracts from character

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION

See photo.

ADDITIONAL HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A structure of L-shaped configuration appears on this site (corner of Market and Dutton) on the 1832 Lowell map, while in 1841 it is square and in 1850 it has a rectangular plan. John C. Dalton, physician, is listed in the Lowell directories as living on the corner of Dutton and Lowell (later Market) from 1832 to 1858. Keeping the Dalton occupancy in mind it is probably safe to assume that despite the three different plans, it is probably the same early 1830's structure. The 1850 Lowell map also shows a rectangular building on the site of what is now Haffner's Lubritorium.

The 1879 Lowell atlas shows a brick L-shaped structure on the Haffner's gas station site (presumably the same 1830's structure); a small rectangular brick structure has been added within the long and short arms of the "L". On the site of Haffner's Lubritorium appear two small rectangular brick structures with stables to the rear.

By 1896 a small square addition has been joined to the corner building's southern wall. A rectangular brick building is shown on the site of the present lubritorium. These configurations appear in both the 1906 and 1924 Lowell atlases.

On the 1896, 1906 and 1924 Lowell atlases these two buildings are shown to have been owned by Mrs. Francis Plunkett. Francis Plunkett was a physician who had a house and office on Worthen Street (277 and 281 Worthen Street). A Joseph Plunkett, apothecary, is listed at the corner of Dutton and Market Streets in the 1896 business directory.

In 1935, according to records in the Lowell Buildings Department, John Haffner built a gas station on this site. Today Haffner's gas station and Lubritorium still occupy the property.

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Adjoining the Haffner station on the southwest (and under the same ownership as the station) is a vacant lot where several buildings formerly stood, as early as 1841. By 1879, four frame buildings stood along Dutton, with out-buildings behind. The northernly pair of these were replaced by the Northern Temperance Institute before 1896. At that date, two long, narrow buildings occupied the southern remainder of the present vacant lot.

Before 1924, the Lowell Boys Club occupied the Temperance Institute building, a three-story brick structure. The Boys Club stood back-to-back with the Lowell Girls Club's quarters, in the old Worthen Street Methodist Episcopal Church.

Sometime after 1924, the two buildings, south of the Boys Club, were demolished. The Institute-Boys Club building was removed within the last few years.

SOURCES

1832, 1841, 1850 Lowell maps.

1879, 1896, 1906, 1924 Lowell atlases.

Lowell directories.

Lowell Buildings Dept. records.

ARCHEOLOGICAL COMMENT

The open lot beside Haffner's must contain remains of the Northern Temperance Institute and the two other late nineteenth century buildings removed from that site. These buildings probably destroyed any remains of the original structures on the property.



View from: east Photo taken: May 1979



View of Haffner's with original canopy, 1935.
U. of Lowell Library, Special Collections, Locks and Canals photo file.