Our Fair City:

Past and Present in the Elm City New Faculty Orientation, 2022

You're listening to "Black Coffee," performed by Johnny "Hammond" Smith from his 1962 album of the same name, recorded live at The Monterey Club on Dixwell Avenue in New Haven

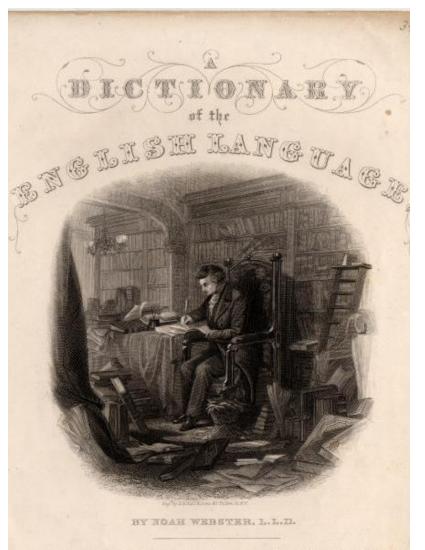
Three historical moments helpful to understand New Haven today:

- Pizza
- Gilbert and Olmstead's City Plan, 1910
- Urban Redevelopment

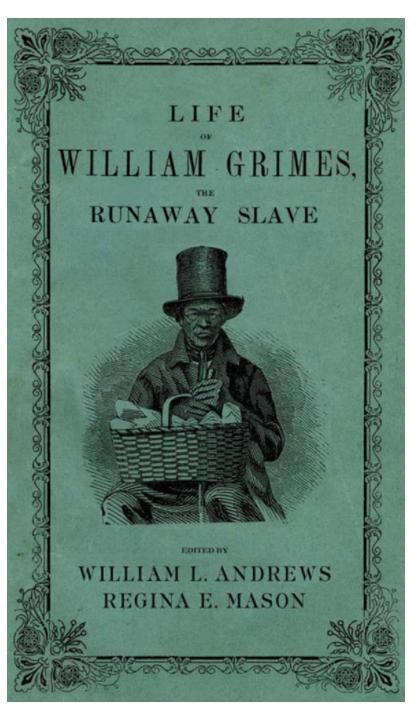
Right: Three images of New Haven from the 1970s, published in *About Town: A New Look at Yale and New Haven* by Tom Hendricks and William Goetzmann (1977)







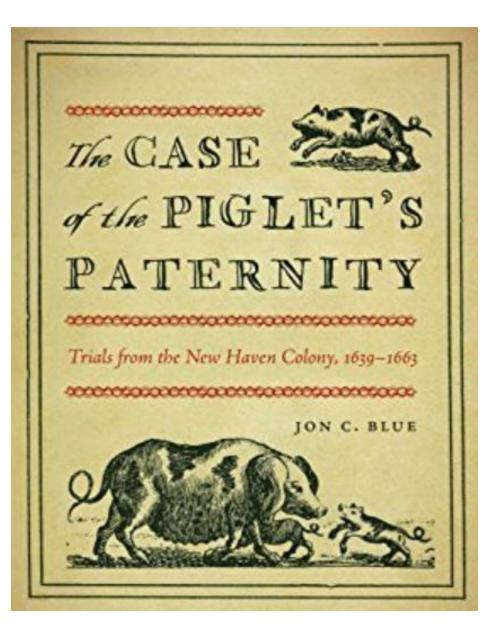
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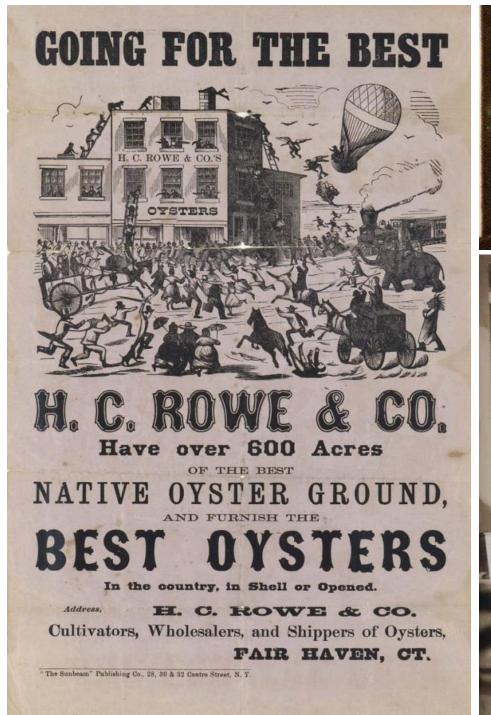


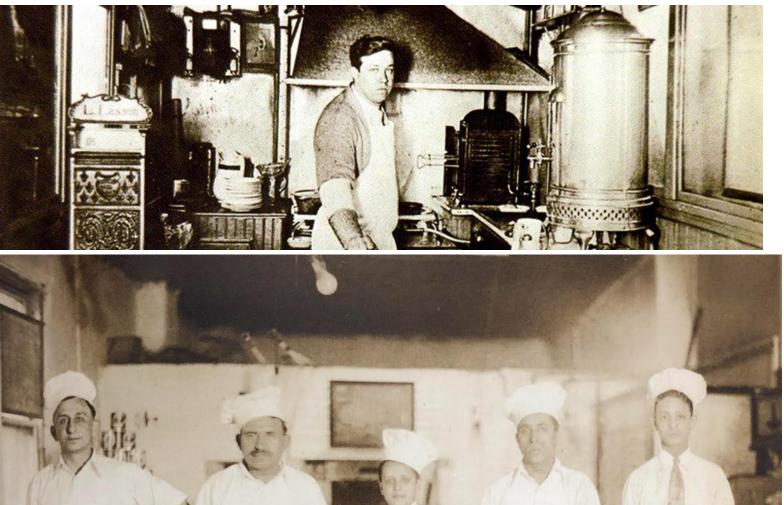








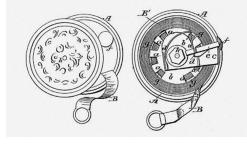


















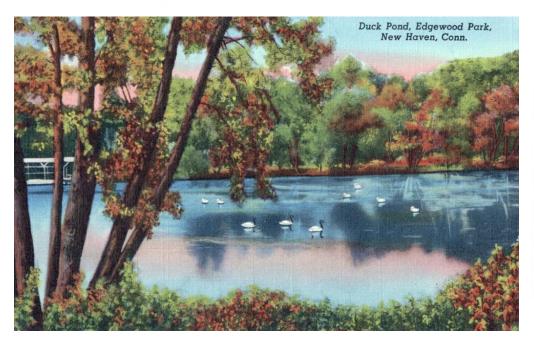
A Slice of History: Apizza's Role in the Creation of New Haven Identity

- By 1910, Italians had surpassed Irish Americans as the largest non-native born group in the city; more Italians in New Haven per capita than any other city in the US
- Pizzerias evidence of Italian Americans' rising economic fortunes
- Apizza's rise by mid-century linked to beer, college students, and the invention of the pizza box
- Pizza as a cultural bridge in a diverse city
- Apizza as a way to taste history
- The "Big Three" all that is left of many traditional New Haven pizzerias that were the victims of postwar urban redevelopment and white flight

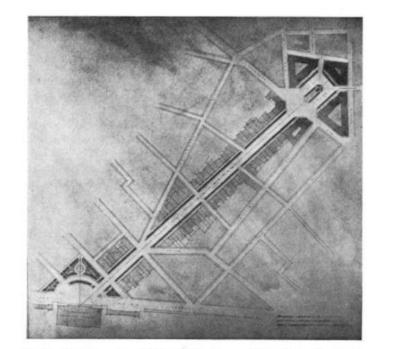
Left: Frank Zampiello of Frank's Apizza, Dixwell Avenue, 1962



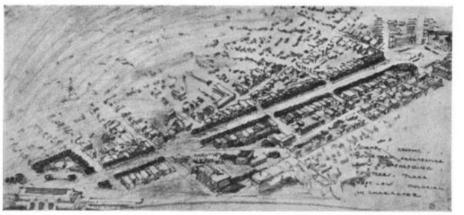
No. 25. Architect's sketch for the Station which as now planned has no proper setting and no adequate line of approach.



THE HEART OF THE CITY.



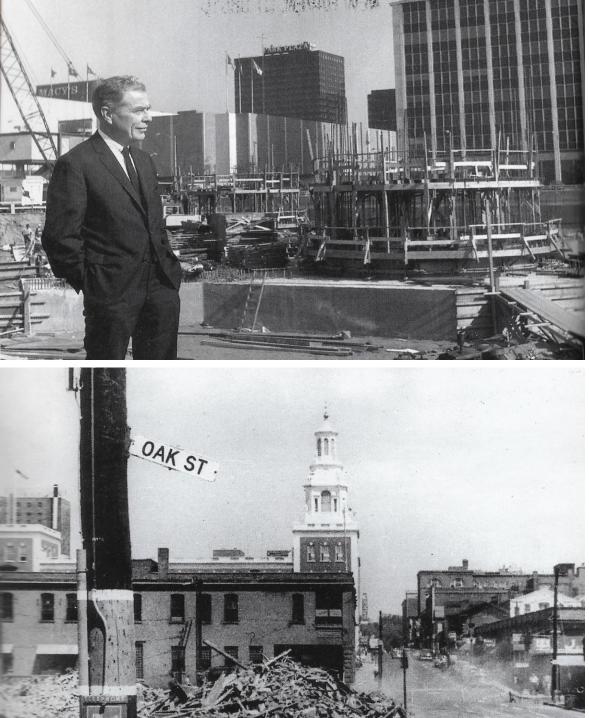
No. 29. Sketch for an Avenue 120 feet wide through a part of Water Street to the proposed Public Square. Again changed somewhat in the plan as finally recommended. See Fig. 31,



No. 30. Sketch view of above plan showing how the Avenue would connect the Station with the City.

- ⁵⁷ City Beautiful: Gilbert and Olmstead's Unrealized City Plan, 1910
 - Re-imagined New Haven's entrance from a new train station to the Green
 - Emphasis on grand boulevards, fountains, libraries, and city parks that ennobled and uplifted a city of immigrants
 - Ultimately too ambitious for the power of municipal government more interested in repairing sidewalks and inspecting milk
 - Greatest legacy is in New Haven's park system, Union Station, and the NHFPL and in laying the groundwork for postwar urban redevelopment

Left: Image's from Gilbert and Olmstead's "Plan for the City of New Haven," and a postcard of Edgewood Park, circa 1920s



Model City Blues: Mayor Lee and Urban Redevelopment, 1954-1970

- New Haven ranked fifth in American cities receiving federal redevelopment money, a total of \$27.4 million, but was by far the largest beneficiary per capita, at \$745.38 per resident
- New Haven was the "model city" for postwar urban redevelopment under the Demonstration Cities Act, its chief architect, Ed Logue went on to remake New York City and Boston
- Wiped out whole city blocks, in some cases most of neighborhoods, eliminated "slums" but also many small businesses, hastened white flight, envisioned a ring road and easier access to Yale University
- Sought to solve the problem of the automobile for postwar cities, creating parking garages, urban malls, and New Haven as the "gateway to New England," at the juncture of two major interstate highways
- To do so, Mayor Lee reimagined municipal government, by-passing the aldermanic board and creating new entities like the Redevelopment Agency and the Community Progress, Inc.
- By 1967, criticism of Lee's redevelopment plans and the need for more grassroots participation incited riots and the violent occupation of The Hill by New Haven police and the CT National Guard using weapons and tactics from Vietnam
- By 1980, New Haven had nearly the highest concentration of public housing per capita in the US

Top: Mayor Richard C. Lee presides over a Church Street redevelopment site Bottom: The beginning of the end for Oak Street, 1957



Owls Ascendant: Southern from New Haven State Normal School to Comprehensive University, 1893-Present

> NEW HAVEN - STATE -TEACHERS (OLLEGE

1893: Arthur Morrill opens NHSNS at the Skinner School by reading the 23rd Psalm; the girls sang "America the Beautiful," accompanied by Clementine Morrill on the piano, and recited the Lord's Prayer; when the Elite Celery Company of Kalamazoo, Michigan sent the school a complimentary crate of cereal, Morrill returned it stating "we are a public institution and can only receive goods ordered."

1919: During the influenza epidemic, second year students substitute for ailing teachers

1928: Lester K. Ade takes over as Normal School principal with a digestive disorder that caused him to burp uncontrollably

1934: Sixty students complete a fourth year of study called "Comparative Studies in Education"

1937: Connecticut General Assembly creates NH State Teachers' College

1938: Blanche Chase, a science professor, finally sent her class home on September 12 when a tree crashed through her classroom window

1944: The college graduated no class

1953: Move to Crescent Street campus on the site of a former pig farm

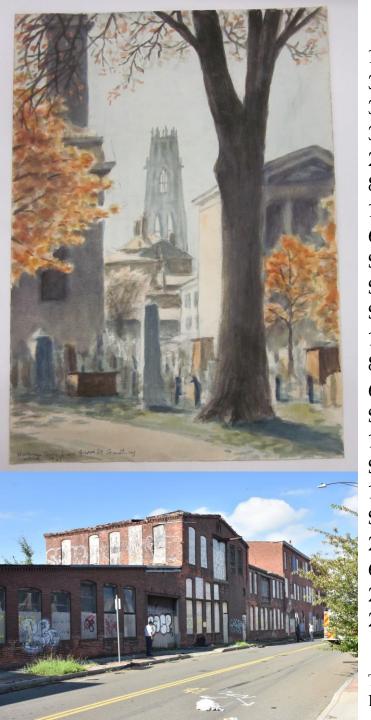
1956: Tuition, which had remained constant for 23 years, increased from \$10 to \$25 a semester

1957: Sputnik spotted for the first time in the US on the roof of Engleman Hall by astronomy professor Robert Brown

1959: New Haven State Teachers' College becomes Southern Connecticut State College

1983: NHSTC becomes Southern Connecticut State University

2022: SCSU welcomes a new cohort of brilliant, dynamic professors Top Left: The library and reading room at the Howe Street campus, 1923 Top Right: The original Howe St. campus, completed in 1896 Bottom: Students examine blueprints for the new Crescent Street campus, 1947



The Elm City: By the Numbers

131,000 residents, 3rd largest city in Connecticut, 213th in the US 30-member Board of Alders 32% Black, Non-Hispanic residents 31% Latinx residents 29% White, Non-Hispanic residents 8% Other Races 19% change in the non-white population from 1990-2017 66% registered Democrats; 29% unaffiliated; 4% Republicans \$70,000 average median income for white men \$56,000 average median income for white women \$36,000 average median income for Hispanic residents 13% decrease in New Haven's share of middle-income households since 1980 85% of residents have a home computer; 77% have an internet connection 60% of city property is tax exempt \$4.9 million Yale paid in taxes in 2018; the city estimates it should have paid \$127.4 million 19% of Greater New Haven residents say they live in areas of low walkability \$189,000 average home value in New Haven in 2017; Woodbridge: \$479K; Orange: \$385K 10 murders; 1080 violent crimes in 2019 \$43 million NHPD budget; 7.6% of overall city budget 21% of police employees lived in New Haven in 2010;79% lived outside New Haven 62.5% of public school students qualify for free or reduced school meals 26% of residents live in poverty 21% of residents are food insecure; 10% housing insecure

Top: "Harkness Tower from Grove Street Cemetery," by the artist Warren H. Smith Bottom: Abandoned factories along River Street