

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	LOW.98
Historic Name:	Page, D. L. Company Building
Common Name:	
Address:	16-18 Merrimack St
City/Town:	Lowell
Village/Neighborhood:	Downtown;
Local No:	191;
Year Constructed:	C 1913
Architectural Style(s):	Classical Revival;
Architect(s):	Derby, Robinson and Shepard;
Use(s):	Abandoned or Vacant; Bakery; Commercial Block; Food Processing and Packaging; Restaurant;
Significance:	Archaeology, Historic; Architecture; Commerce; Industry;
Area(s):	LOW.B, LOW.BC, LOW.BE
Designation(s):	Nat'l Register District (06/05/1978); Nat'l Register District (01/16/1979); Local Historic District (12/13/1983);
Building Materials:	Wall: Brick; Cast Iron; Marble; Metal, Undetermined;
Demolished	No



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

This file was accessed on: Sunday, September 10, 2023 at 11:13 AM

LOWELL CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 16, 18 MERRIMACK STREET MAP SHEET # 8
 1) CURRENT OWNER Malak Nachev OWNER OCCUPIED no
 2) HISTORIC NAME D. L. Page Company
 3) CURRENT NAME Brigham's/ Instant Print
 4) PROPERTY TYPE commercial 5) ZONING CLASSIFICATION B3
 6) TAXES: PAYMENTS current STATUS clear
 7) WITHIN BOUNDARIES OF LHPD - Merrimack-Middle Streets HD

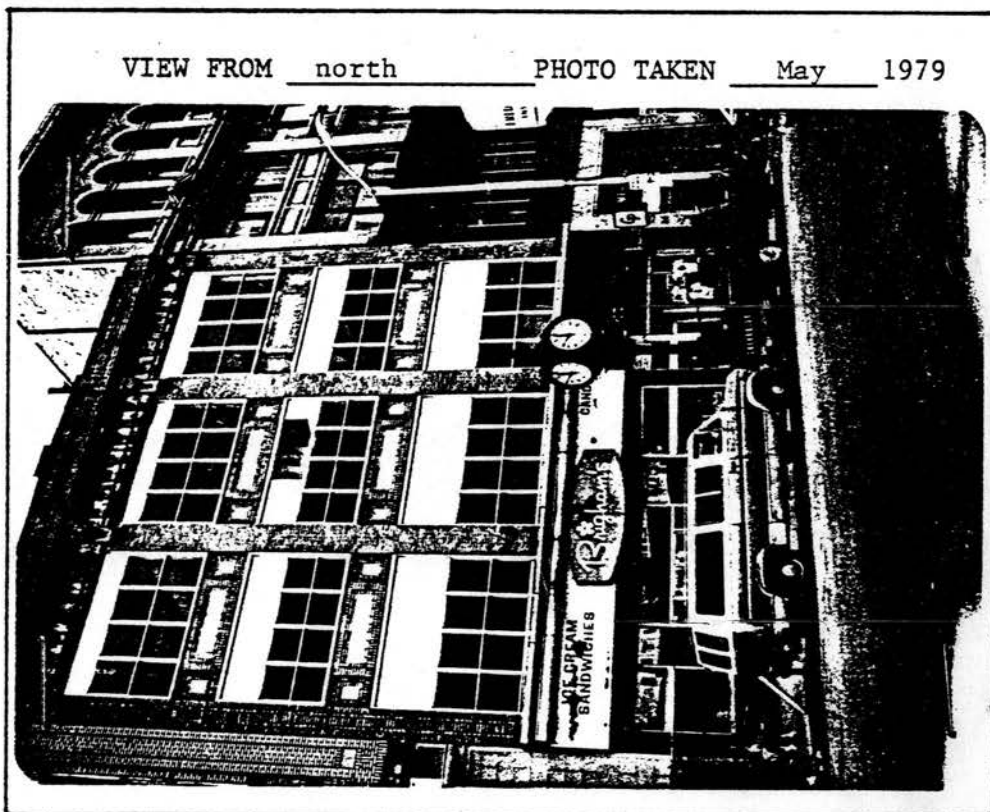
HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE ca. 1913
 SOURCE circumstantial: city atlases and directories.
 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown *Daly, Robinson & Shepard*
 3) HISTORIC OWNER John Chalifoux and Family
 4) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF light industrial
 5) PREVIOUS BLDGS ON PROPERTY yes DATE ca. 1841-50 and ca. 1879-96.
 SOURCE circumstantial: city maps and atlases.

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE early 20th C. loft building
 2) PRESENT USE:
 GF commercial
 UF vacant
 3) NO OF STORIES 4
 4) PROP SQ FT 4,279
 5) PLAN rectangular
 6) ROOF flat
 7) STRUCTURAL SYSTEM
metal frame
 8) OUTBUILDINGS
none
 9) MATERIALS:
 FOUNDATION
not visible

VIEW FROM north PHOTO TAKEN May 1979



FACADE all sides: yellow brick in stretcher bond.

TRIM metal storefronts / cornice; marble stone- inset, sq. & rect. panels.

10) NOTABLE SURFACE / LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS outdoor iron clock.

VISUAL ASSESSMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC. good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES n/a
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF major & irreversible changes
UF major but reversible changes
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, industrial
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING intact with minor intrusions &/or losses.
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING compatible with character.

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION

This is an early twentieth century loft/warehouse type building, designed for commercial and light industrial use. The facade articulates the structural elements of floors and columns and is otherwise largely given over to glazing. The street-level storefronts are cast iron, now mostly obscured and replaced with modern plate glass and metal. The frame is steel, with a yellow brick facade. Decoration includes marble insets and a metal cornice and classical frieze. There is a symmetrical stepped brick parapet.

ADDITIONAL HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A wood building and stable were constructed on this site between 1841 and 1850 and belonged to a "Coburn," according to the 1850 map. City atlases seem to indicate that two other structures replaced these between 1879 and 1896, the front one wood, the rear one brick. These belonged to W. H. Anderson in 1896 and J. L. Chalifoux in 1906.

Chalifoux apparently built the present structure. (See 24 Merrimack/28 Central for information on the Chalifoux family.) It was probably constructed ca. 1913 when the directory shows that the D. L. Page Co., bakers, moved here (from 94 Merrimack Street). By 1940, D. L. Page was listed at this address as confectionery manufacturers and restaurant. This company had left by 1949 and was replaced by Brigham, Inc. confectionery and Dorothy Muriel's bakery in 1950, according to directories. The upper stories are now vacant, the ground floor has stores. The building needs some exterior maintenance, but the structure appears to be in sound condition. The second story windows have been replaced with aluminum sash and shortened with opaque glass or plastic panels, some broken.

This building is shorter and smaller than its prominent neighbors at each corner, the old Sun Building and the Chalifoux building (now called "The Merrimack"). However, its design exhibits a commendable urban tradition which has since disappeared, that of creating a unified or at least compatible streetscape. This building is in yellow brick, like its

ADDRESS 16-18 MERRIMACK STREET

companions, and its classical cornice responds to them. It forms a bridge across the middle of the block, and visually links the two more dominant corner buildings (see illustration).

ARCHEOLOGICAL COMMENT

This building covers its site. Due to size and construction, it is doubtful that there are any in situ subsurface remains from previous buildings.

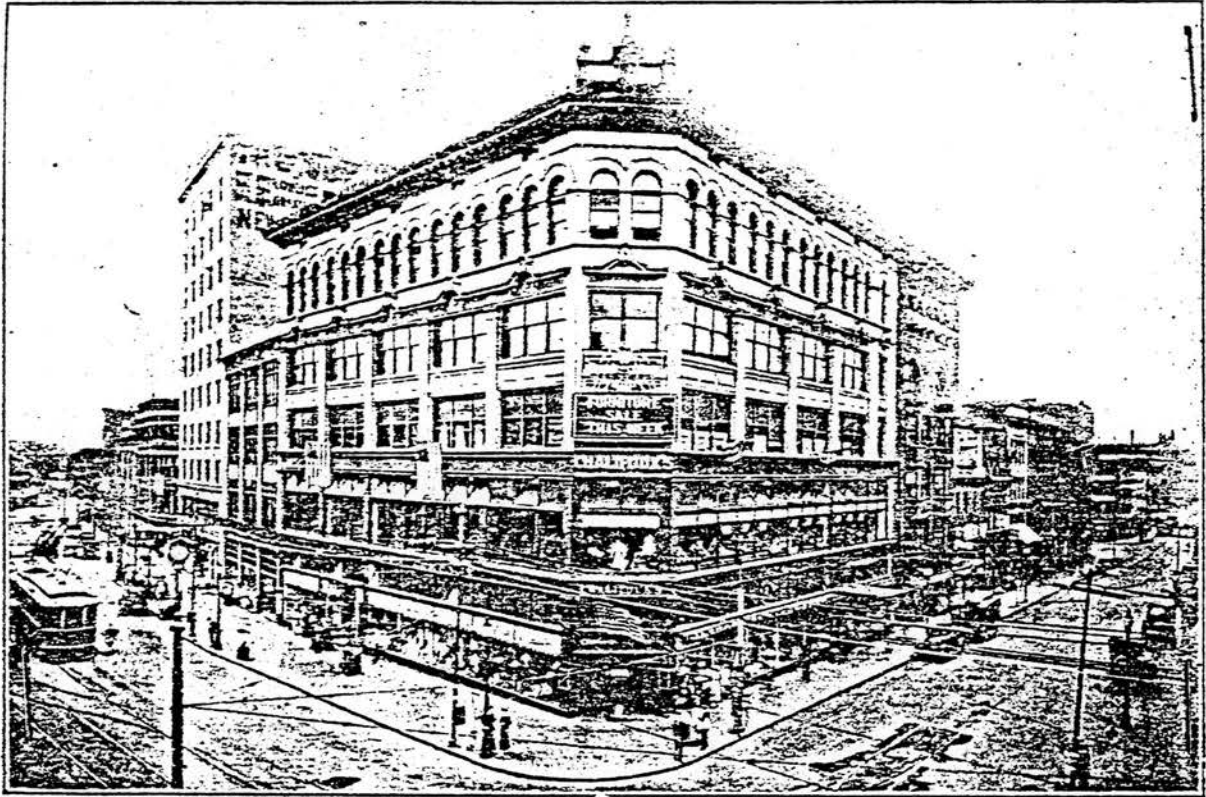
SOURCES

Lowell city maps and atlases.

Lowell city directories, 1910-1950.

Coburn, Frederick W., History of Lowell, v. III, 1920.

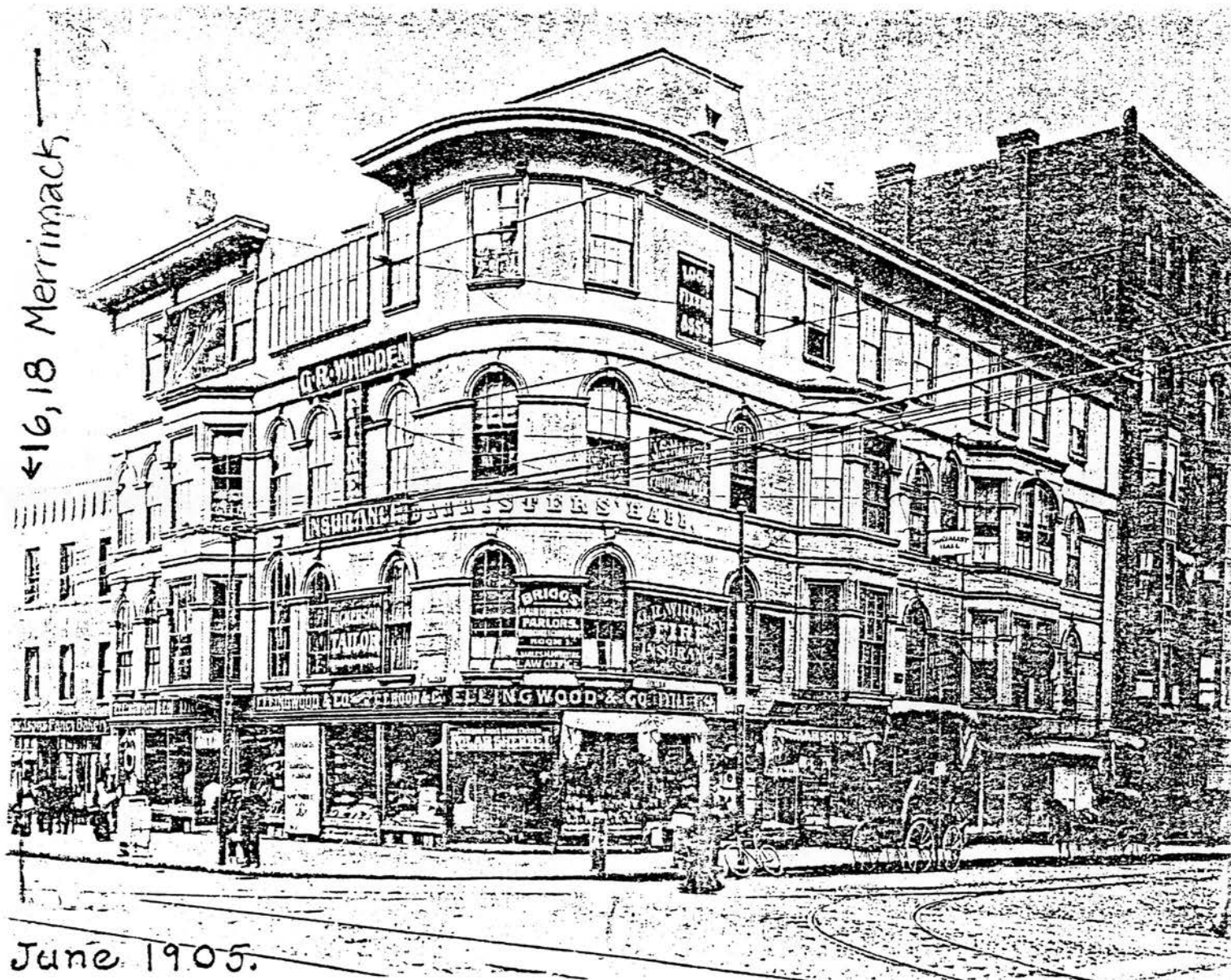




CHALIFOUX'S CORNER, MERRIMACK SQUARE.
Site Formerly Occupied by Barristers' Hall.

Figure 1

History of Lowell and Its People, Frederick W. Coburn, v. III, 1920.



Lowell U. photo file, Special Collections.

Northeast corner of Merrimack and Central Streets. Site of present 24 Merrimack Street.

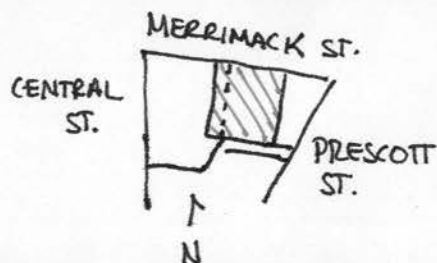
NR 116-79

LOW 98

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no. <u>B</u>	Form no. <u>19198</u>
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1. Town Lowell (Merrimack Street District)
Address 12 Merrimack Street
Name _____
Present use Brighams on ground floor
offices above
Present owner Malak Nacheff
3. Description: 4 story brick Commercial Bldg.
3 bays wide
Date 1916-1920
Source v/a
Style Early 20th century commercial
Architect _____
Exterior wall fabric tan brick
Outbuildings (describe) none
Other features metal cornice below brick
parapet, brick forms shallow pilaster-like
verticals w/spandrel panels and windows between
Altered ground floor Date _____
Moved no Date _____
5. Lot size:
One acre or less x Over one acre _____
Approximate frontage c.60 x 70
Approximate distance of building from street
at sidewalk
6. Recorded by EFR
Organization _____
Date 2/13/78

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) _____

Original use commercial and office

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	<u>x</u>	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	<u>✓</u>	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	_____				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

This is one of The group of early 20th century commercial buildings that enrich the character of the district rather than invade it. This one is interesting for the thin curtain-like character of its facade. It is articulated into three glass-filled bays by very shallow pilasters treated only as vertical strips. Spandrel panels beneath each bank of windows add texture to the thin screen of the facade. The windows themselves have been clumsily altered, as has the ground floor, but the original character of the building's design is easily visualized.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.) Tax assessor's records, buildings department, records, Sanborn Atlas 1916.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town

Property Address

LOW 98

Lowell 167A Merrimack St

Area(s)

Form No.

LOW 178

BUILDING INSPECTION DEPARTMENT—DISTRICT POLICE
 PLAN RECORD

CASE B RACK 2 APART 37 NO 6857

BUILDING Page Building STORIES 4B

CITY OR TOWN Lowell STREET Merrimack Sq.

TO BE USED FOR Stores-part industrial CLASS Part

OWNER J. L. Chalefoux Estate Indus

ARCHITECT Derby Robinson & Shepard Brick

CERTIFICATE APPROVAL—SPECIFICATION REQUIREMENTS—REFERRED

DATE Aug 25, 1912

INSPECTOR Ball

FORM 41, 10,000, 2-2-18.