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The Hartford Municipal Building was designed by the architectural firm of Davis & Brooks to be architecturally compatible with the Old State House and neighboring Morgan Memorial.



The building's grand four-story atrium increases in width as it rises, so the top floor cannot be seen from below.

Hartford's City Hall To Celebrate 90 Years

When it opened in 1915, the Hartford Municipal Building (city hall) replaced the Old State House as the seat of city government. Although the Old State House from 1796 is greatly revered, the Municipal Building also has come into its own. In 1981 it was officially accepted on the National Register of Historic Places. Later this year the stately whitegranite structure, a Hartford Steam Co. customer, will mark another historic milestone: the 90th anniversary of its dedication and grand opening on Nov. 4, 1915, at 4 p.m. Nine decades later to the day – and hour – the City will celebrate the event (see below).

According to Dan Carey, Hartford's Town and City Clerk and celebration head, Hartford's city hall will be ready: "Prior to the 80th anniversary, there was significant work done on the building. Now the building is in good condition and serves as a tourist attraction; large numbers of people come to admire its architecture."

The building is home to nearly 70 percent of city government offices. It was constructed in the Beaux-Arts style – a mix of historical and classical elements popular in the early 20th century. Since there was not enough funding to build the new city hall all at once, it was constructed in two phases. In 1910, the City allotted \$300,000 for a small home for government offices; this money was used to build the Main Street 'pavilion' west of the atrium in 1912. That same year, another \$1.1 million was appropriated to complete construction of the building as we know it today.

Built of brick and faced in granite, the Municipal Building contains very little wood. The Court of Common Council had decreed in 1910 that the new structure be as "fireproof as possible." As a result, no wood was used in the structural materials of the walls or floors but can be found in doorframes, doors and wainscoting. The roof is made of copper and tile. All entrances are bronze.

One of the building's most striking elements is its four-story atrium with a 5,400-sq-ft domed cast-iron and glass skylight. The atrium floor is made of marble but contains glass blocks in the center to allow light to penetrate to the ground floor. *(continued)*

90th Year Celebration of the Hartford Municipal Building

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Hartford Municipal Building (city hall) 550 Main St., Hartford Friday, November 4, 2005, 4-6 p.m.

The public is invited to the festivities honoring Hartford's city hall and its nine decades of service to the community. The event includes a program with speakers, food and beverages, and displays of historic building photographs and artifacts.



Above the building's Main Street entrance the words "Municipal Building" were installed in 1952 in gold-colored steel letters – after it was noticed that there was no name on the exterior. The two lions flanking the building's Arch Street entrance originally stood guard at the Phoenix Bank Building in Hartford until 1912, when it was determined they interfered with pedestrian traffic and they were removed and stored. Years later, the bank loaned them for use at the Municipal Building with the provision that they be returned to the bank should the City "neglect to accord the lions the respect they deserved."

Today the lions are still rightfully revered, and Hartford's city hall is a landmark bustling with activity and steeped in tradition. Hartford Steam is proud to serve this venerable building and congratulates it on its 90th anniversary!

Timely Tips for the Heating Season

Given we're still experiencing a sweltering summer, it may be a little hard to start thinking about the upcoming heating season. But in just a few short months, chilly low temps will be upon us. So it's none too soon to start planning for winter. Here are some helpful reminders to guide you in the process:

- Request that your district heating and cooling system representative turn on the steam meter and open the steam-stop building valve.
- Winterize appropriate chilled-water coils and prevent potential freeze conditions.
- Ask your district heating and cooling system representative to shut the chilled-water valves and turn off the chilledwater meter, if appropriate.
- 4. Check and repair any leaks in your steam traps to ensure they are working correctly inside your building. (Research has shown that 15 percent to 30 percent of a facility's steam traps are not working at any given time, which results in significant steam loss. To prevent this in your building, conduct an annual trap survey and maintenance and repair program. We strongly recommend it!)

Each year, Hartford Steam Co. inspects and repairs our own valves and steam traps just inside each customer's building. When we call on your building, don't hesitate to ask us any questions. To make service requests, please call Diane Wojcik at (860) 548-7357 or email her at dianewojcik@ hartfordsteam.com. Please feel free to contact us any time for any additional information you need to make the switch from the cooling season to the upcoming heating season.

Extra, Extra, Read All About It!

Hartford Steam hasn't quite hired a town crier, but we definitely have been making strides at getting the word out about our district heating and cooling systems. We now have a Web site, marquee advertisement on the new Hartford Civic Center, and a brand-new brochure.

You'll find our Web site at www.hartfordsteam.com.

It features information about district energy's benefits, current weather information, the history of the Hartford Steam Co., maps of our systems, and more. We'll be updating the site regularly, so we encourage you to bookmark the home page and check in periodically to see what's new.



Find out more about us at www.hartfordsteam.com.

Perhaps you've already seen our marquee ad on Trumbull Street outside the new Hartford Civic Center. It reads, "We don't sell insurance. Or beer. Or boilers. But we do sell comfort you can rely on. We're the Hartford Steam Company. Providing heating and cooling to downtown Hartford since 1962." Check it out!

And last, but not least, we have developed a new brochure about the Hartford Steam Co., the benefits of district energy, and some representative customers using the service. Feel free to call 860-548-7348 to request a copy. We'll get one in the mail to you right away!

Check out

"What Does Your Liver Have in Common With Your Air-Handling Unit?" at www.hartfordsteam.com/resources.htm.
We have a link to great information on maintaining air-handling units.

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