AREA DESCRIPTION - SECURITY MAP OF HARTFORD, CONN.

1. AREA CHARACTERISTICS:
   a. Description of Terrain. In the west, ridgeland sloping to the east and west. In the east, land rises from the lowland adjacent to the river.
   b. Favorable Influences. An attractive location with outlook over park.
   c. Detrimental Influences. Slightly inconvenient to business section and not too good transportation facilities.

2. INHABITANTS:
   a. Occupation. Shop keepers; b. Estimated annual family income $1,800 & up.
   c. Foreign-born families; italians predominating; d. Negro; 0%.
   e. Infiltration of Italians; f. Relief families; None.
   g. Population is increasing slowly.

3. BUILDINGS:
   a. Type. 2 family; b. Construction. Frame, few brick.
   c. Average Age. 15 years; d. Repair. Good.
   e. Occupancy. 98%; e. Home ownership. 85%.
   g. Constructed past yr. 6.

4. AVAILABILITY OF MORTGAGE FUNDS:

5. CLARIFYING REMARKS:
   A somewhat newer section which extends into the Town of Bloomfield. It is largely given over to the Hebrew race although the better class Italians are now also moving there. Architecture is not overly pleasing and lacks variety. Plots are small giving the appearance of some congestion. Though some dwellings are more desirable than the average and show pride of ownership, the area as a whole rates a low "Blue."

6. NAME AND LOCATION. HARTFORD, CONN. SECURITY GRADE SECOND AREA NO. B-5.
Home Owners Loan Corporation (HOLC)
Residential Security “Redlining” Map
and Area Descriptions
Hartford, Connecticut
(including the towns of East Hartford and West Hartford)
1937

Submitted By: Submitted to MAGIC by Professor Jack Dougherty (Trinity College, Hartford CT), as part of the "On The Line" research project.


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Abstract:
Beginning in 1935, the federal Home Owners' Loan Corporation worked with local mortgage lenders to evaluate the "trend of desirability" in residential areas in Hartford and over 200 other cities. The HOLC portrayed its appraisal report in a color-coded map with the highest grade (A) in green and the lowest grade (D) in red. This government agency considered not only housing conditions, but also the "social status of the population," and downgraded neighborhoods with non-white, immigrant, and poor residents. In later decades, these actions became associated with the discriminatory practice of "redlining."

As 2010, as part of the "On the Line" project, MAGIC and Professor Dougherty collaborated to digitize these historical resources and transform them into an interactive map. The appraisal report (on legal size paper) and two large folded maps (Hartford-West Hartford, and East Hartford) were scanned at the National Archives and then pieced together. Textual and numerical report data were entered into a spreadsheet, and the map was geo-referenced and digitized to create a GIS shapefile. The website featuring the interactive map and links to all of the source materials is located at:
http://magic.lib.uconn.edu/otl/holc_mashup.html

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Additional Information: For additional Metadata, refer to the GIS shapefile and "How to Cite" information at the website listed above.