

CT Trust Resource ID: 2368

HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY – BUILDING AND STRUCTURES

State Historic Preservation Office, DECD, One Constitution Plaza, 2nd Floor, Hartford, CT 06103

*Note: Please attach any additional or expanded information on a separate sheet.

Inventory form modified for the Creative Places - Arts & Letters Project

GENERAL INFORMATION

Building Name (Common): Josef and Anni Albers FoundationOther Name(s) (Historic): Josef and Anni Albers FoundationStreet Address or Location: 88 Beacon Road, BethanyTown/City: Bethany

Village:

County: New Haven

Designation(s):

Owner(s): The Albers FoundationPublic/Private: PrivateLatitude: 41.4543 Longitude: -72.9962

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Present Use: Exhibit space/archivesHistoric Use: Exhibit space/archivesAccessibility to public: No Exterior visible from public road? NoInterior accessible? If yes, explain: The foundation is open by appointmentStyle of building: vernacular Date of Construction: 2003

Material(s) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)

Structural Systems(s): Wood FrameRoof(Type): Gable (Material): Asphalt ShingleNumber of Stories: 2 Approximate Dimensions: 50' x 30', 45' x 30', 65' x 30'Structural Condition GoodExterior Condition: GoodLocational Integrity: On original site Moved, When: NAAlterations?: No If yes, explain: NARelated outbuildings or landscape features: ShedSurrounding Environment: Woodland

Interrelationship of building and surroundings: This property consists of 60.27 acres of land on the north side of Beacon Road. A long driveway extends to the north, curves to the west, and leads past the building. A parking area is just to the northwest of the building, across the driveway. A large pond is to the south of the building. The property is situated in a wooded area with a few residential dwellings visible from the site. To the southwest of the property is the intersection of Beacon Road and Horseshoe Hill Road.

Other notable features of building or site: This building is comprised of three individual buildings attached together to form a 'V' shape. The middle building faces north and appears to be a gable-roofed structure. Attached on the west is a red, gable-roof barn with horizontal board siding, and on the east is a long gable-roof structure. The entry appears to be in the north facing, middle building. The western building measures approximately 51' x 27', the middle building measures approximately 42' x 44', and the eastern building measures approximately 65' x 31'. Each of the buildings have metal roofs. Fenestration on the red, barn building includes four-pane windows.

Architect: Tim Prentice and Lo-Yi Chan Builder/Maker: Unknown

Historical or Architectural importance:

Josef Albers was born in 1888 in Bottrop, Germany. In 1902 he attended a preparatory teacher's training school and after, attended a teachers' college in Buren. He began teaching at public schools in 1908. From 1913-1915, he studied at the Royal Art School in Berlin, but in 1920, Albers enrolled at the Bauhaus in Weimar. He taught a course in 1923 and by 1925 he was made "Bauhaus Master." Josef Albers met Annelise (Anni) Fleischmann when she enrolled in the Bauhaus in 1922. They were married in 1925. Albers was made assistant director of the Bauhaus in 1930, but by 1933, after the Bauhaus closed, the Albers moved to North Carolina to teach at the Black Mountain College. In 1949, Albers resigned from Black Mountain College and in 1950 he was named Chair of the Department of Design at Yale. He remained in this position until 1958. Josef Albers died in New Haven in 1976. Throughout his life he wrote, painted, and made prints. He also worked with stained glass, and taught a generation of art students.

Annelise (Anni) Fleischmann was born in 1899 in Berlin, Germany. She first began her art training in 1916 while studying under Martin

Brandenburg. In 1922 she enrolled at the Bauhaus in the hopes of studying wall painting, but was forced to study weaving. She reluctantly agreed to enroll as this was the only workshop open to her. It was at the Bauhaus that she met Josef Albers, and in 1925 they were married. In 1933, after the Bauhaus closed, Anni and Josef moved to North Carolina. Josef and Anni taught at Black Mountain College, and Anni became an assistant professor in the Art School. They remained in North Carolina until 1949 when Josef resigned from the college. He became Chair of the Department of Design at Yale University in 1950, and the Albers moved to New Haven. Josef Albers resigned from Yale in 1958, and died in 1976. After his death, Anni Albers continued to exhibit her art work as well as Josef's. She died in 1994. Throughout her life, Anni Albers designed with textiles, beginning with weaving. In 1970, she gave up weaving and devoted her life to printmaking.

Sources:

"Josef Albers, 88, Noted Artist, Dies," The Hartford Courant (1923-1990). March 27, 1976. Accessed December 8, 2015
<http://search.proquest.com/docview/544422679?accountid=10341>; Josef and Anni Albers Foundation. Accessed December 8, 2015
<http://www.albersfoundation.org/> Uconn database
Bob Gregson
Heller and Heller: North American Women Artists of the 20th c.
<http://www.albersfoundation.org/Home.php>

Photographer: The Albers Foundation **Date:**

View:

Organization: Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation

Address: 940 Whitney Avenue, Hamden CT 06517-4002

Form completed by: Kristen Nietering **Printed On:** December 21, 2015

Threats: None known

Subsequent field evaluations:



Photo from <http://albersfoundation.org/about-us/mission/>

FOR OFFICE USE:

Town # _____ **Site#** _____ **UTM** _____

District ☐ S ☐ NR **If NR, specify:** ☐ Actual ☐ Potential