

Waterbury landmark gutted by fire

by Mary Barnes

A big fire gutted an old Waterbury Landmark which was the restaurant of Lee Delphia on the corner of Stowe and Main St. Smoke was first seen by Shirley Boardman, employed by Lee's Restaurant, who was alone in the restaurant at the time when smoke seemed to be coming up from the Horseshoe Lounge which is located on the floor beneath the restaurant but was closed for the day. The Barbershop also on the lower floor operated by Richard Messier, since the death of his father, was badly damaged. The former Eddie's Restaurant was damaged by smoke and water as were the two apartments over Lee's Restaurant. One was vacant and the other was occupied by Mrs. Barbara Bourdman and three children.

The fire was under investigation Monday by the Fire Marshall and Police with the

Waterbury Fire Dept. It is not known the cause at this time but it is possible it was defective wiring.

The Bank of Waterbury was late in opening as it was hit with a great deal of smoke and had to be aired out.

At the scene of the fire besides Waterbury and Waterbury Ctr. Depts., there were the Middlesex, Montpelier and Goddard College departments. There was a shortage of water at the outbreak of the fire with a great deal of smoke. The crew of Waterbury Ambulance set up in the middle of the street (Bank Hill Road) to be able to aid the firemen, some of which were overcome by smoke and oxygen was administered and other help was given.

Estimate of the loss is now know, but it is a fact that Lee's Restaurant is hoping to be restored as expressed by Mr. Delphia Monday.