



Date: 10/29/2021

Staff: Jennifer Betsworth

USN Number: 05938.000016

Name: Belgrave Motors

Location: 124 South Middle Neck Road, Great Neck NY 11021

Resource Status:

- 1. Determination:** Determined SR/NR eligible by the Commissioner of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation on the date noted above.
- 2. Contributing:**

Criteria for Inclusion in the National Register:

- A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns in our history.
- B. Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction; or represents the work of a master; or possesses high artistic values; or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.
- D. Have yielded, or may be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.



Summary Statement:



Based on the information available, Belgrave Motors at 124 South Middle Neck Road in Great Neck, is significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as a good example of the Tudor Revival style as adapted for an automobile showroom and service center. This early suburban commercial building was constructed as part of Belgrave Square, a residential area which was largely developed between 1916 and 1931. In 1931, Belgrave Square was incorporated into the larger Village of Thomaston. Many early buildings in the area used the Tudor Revival style, which was popular in new suburban developments in the region during the period. The automobile played an important role in facilitating suburban growth during this period. The use of the Tudor Revival style for the Belgrave Motors automobile showroom lent a sense of tradition and respectability to this modern form of transportation technology. The period of significance for the building is 1931, its date of construction.

Belgrave Motors is a two-story, nine-by ten-bay Tudor Revival-style brick, stone, and stucco building. Most of the building is common bond brick with stone around openings, as quoins, or irregularly placed in the wall. It has a variety of irregular slate roof features including five towers (one at each corner and a stair tower), long shed roof sections, projecting gable parapets, and crenellations. These are situated around a flat roof with pyramidal skylights.

On the façade (northeast elevation), the building's central bay is covered in stone and rises to a gable parapet on the second story. It has a wide open arched vehicle entranceway with a gate on the first story and a window on the second story with a Juliet balcony. All windows are contemporary replacements within the historic fenestration. The flanking sections each have large first story plate glass windows interrupted by a central entrance with a stone enframement and gabled slate canopies. A band of irregular stone detailing and projecting brick headers highlight the shop windows. The second stories of the flanking sections have four windows with irregular stone detailing around them. The windows in the corner towers are capped by a stucco arch and have additional stone detailing. The ends of the façade (northeastern and southeastern corners of the building) feature buttresses covered in stone. The secondary elevations have a similar palette of brick walls and stone detailing, with the addition of some larger sections covered in stucco. The southeast addition also has garage bays with stone detailing surrounding the openings.