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| 1. Name | of Prope | rty | | | | | | | |
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| Dyckman Street Subway Sta | ation (IRT) Ne | w York County, New | / York | | |
|--|--------------------------|---|--------------------|------------|--|
| Name of Property | Co | ounty and State | | | |
| 5. Classification | | | | | |
| Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as apply) Category of Property (check only one box) | | (Do not include previously listed resources in the count) | | | |
| [] private | [] building (s) | Contributing | Noncontributing | | |
| [] public-local [X] public-State | [] district [] site | | | Buildings | |
| [] public-Federal | [X] structure | | | Sites | |
| | [] object | 2 | 0 | Structures | |
| | | | | Objects | |
| | | 2 | 0 | TOTAL | |
| | | | | | |
| Name of related multiple (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of | | | buting resources | | |
| Historic Resources of the No | | previously listed | in the National Re | gister | |
| City Subway System | | 0 | | | |
| 6. Function or Use | | | | | |
| Historic Functions | | Current Function | ns | | |
| (Enter categories from instructions) | | (Enter categories from in | structions) | | |
| Transportation/rail-related | | Transportation/ra | il-related | | |
| Government/public works | | Government/public works | | | |
| | | | | | |
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| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| 7. Description | | | | | |
| Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions) | | Materials (Enter categories from in | structions) | | |
| Late 19 th & 20 th Century Revivals/ | | Foundation Conc | crete, steel | 5 10 | |
| Beaux-Arts | | Walls Brick | , concrete | | |
| | | Roof Stee | l, concrete | | |
| | | Other | | | |

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets) See continuation sheet

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7. Narrative Description

Dyckman Street (IRT) Subway Station (Broadway-Seventh Avenue Line) IRT Station is located in north-western Manhattan. The station was completed in 1906 as part of the original Interborough Rapid Transit (IRT) Contract 1. It is aligned in a north-south direction at and above grade on a triangular-shaped island located between Hillside and St. Nicholas Avenues, at the intersection of Dyckman Street and Nagle Avenues in the Washington Heights section of upper Manhattan. The station incorporates a Beaux-Arts style control house and platforms aligned in a north-south direction. Platform extensions were added in 1908, and in 1991, the interior of the control house underwent an extensive renovation. This narrative description was taken largely from the *Dyckman Street Station Report* (1994) and was supplemented with field observations undertaken in March 2004.

General Characteristics and Construction Methods

The Dyckman Street station is a two-track, side platform, transition station between subway and elevated lines. It is built on a steel frame with concrete decks and retaining walls. The platform level is situated at the base of a hill, where the subway emerges from the Fort George tunnel to the south and the elevated tracks meet grade at the north.

The following description of the construction of the elevated lines is taken from *The New York Subway: Its Construction and Equipment*, 1904:

The three-track viaducts are carried on two column bents where the tail is not more than 29 feet above the ground level, and on four-column tours for higher structures. The tops of the towers have X-bracing and the connecting spans have two panels of intermediate vertical sway bracing between the three pairs of longitudinal girders. In the low viaducts, where there are no towers, every fourth panel has zigzag lateral bracing in the two panels between the pairs of longitudinal girders.

The towers have columns consisting as a rule of web plate and four bulb angles. The horizontal struts in their cross-bracing are made of four 4x3-inch angles, latticed to form an I-shaped cross-section. The X-bracing consists of single 5x3.5-inch angles. The tops of the columns have horizontal cap angles on which are riveted the lower flanges of the transverse girders; the end angles of the girders are web-riveted to the transverse girders. The outside longitudinal girder on each side of the viaduct has the same depth across the tower as in the connecting span, but the four intermediate lines are not so

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deep across the towers. In the single trestle bents the columns are the same as those just described, but the diagonal bracing is replaced by plate knee-braces.

The double height, wedge-shaped control house is built below the elevated structure and serves as further support for the tracks and platforms above. The façade of the Beaux-Arts-style control house is visible on the north and east (Photo 1). It is made of concrete patterned to imitate ashlar stone construction. There is an articulated plinth and a corner pier on the northeast corner, at the junction with the elevated structure. On the north façade a pair of arched entry doors provides entry to the structure at the top of a flight of stairs (Photo 2). The west façade is characterized by a series of seven monumental arched windows.

On the platform level above, the canopies and parapet rails are typical of Contract 1 elevated stations. The canopy structure is made up of trussed-steel frame T-sections and the rafter tails are cut in a rounded motif. The roofs of the canopies are sheathed with standing seam metal. The parapet railings are ornamented in the typical rectangular castiron open work found the throughout the elevated structures of the IRT. Windscreens extend the length of the canopy on both platforms. On the uncovered platform section, the original ornamental lampposts have been replaced by simple steel tubes and modern cube-shaped fixtures. The railings are mostly intact and their historical condition is not hidden by metal windscreens.

Station Circulation

This station is accessed via a short flight of stairs on its northern end that lead from the street level. Once inside the control house, the control area is separated from the non-paying area by modern security gates and a bank of modern turnstiles placed approximately mid-way down the length of control house. Inside the paid area, two flights of stairs (one each on the east and west of the control house) lead up to platform level.

Control House

The interior of the control house was extensively renovated in 1990 –1991, but much of the original fabric of the space remains. The interior of the control house has a double-height concrete ceiling adjacent to the two large semi-circular windows which open to Hillside Avenue. On the east, the ceiling is dropped about five feet (to accommodate the track bed above) and is finished with an arched, suspended ceiling (Photo 3). These arches provide support for the track bed above. The rest of the ceiling is a grid of massive I-beams. The western wall is dominated by the massive arched windows that flood the

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interior space with natural light (Photo 4). A new metal and ceramic tile token booth is located on the east wall, which originally had three windows facing St. Nicholas Avenue; only one is now visible and filled-in with modern glass block (Photo 5). A set of new turnstiles and safety gates (fitted with spiked bird control devices along the top edge) divide the space roughly in half. The paid waiting area is located along the south wall and is flanked by concrete stairs which lead up to the platforms. A door in the recently built south wall gives the staff access to a corridor with lockers, a toilet and two mechanical spaces. Originally, these were public toilets for the waiting area (Photo 6). The passage also opens to the unembellished track crew quarters that are located along Hillside Avenue.

The eastern western and northern walls of the public area include an original 12-inch wide green mosaic frieze which frames the arched window and door openings. There is an original buff colored Roman brick wainscot that also extends around these three walls. The new south wall of the waiting area features a solid yellow colored tile band with a contemporary artist's rendition of birds in flight in bas relief. Throughout the station, the white glass tile field has been replaced with modern ceramic tiles. The floor is covered in 12-in ceramic tile.

Uptown Platform

The southern end of the uptown platform meets the entrance of the Fort George Tunnel. A tall concrete retaining wall lines the platform side at this point. An original "Dyckman Street" sign executed in blue and green tiles with white lettering is pressed into the wall at the far southern end of this platform (Photo 7).

Continuing north, the concrete retaining wall gradually reduces in height. Modern lampposts line the platform deck, and once the retaining wall has reached grade, original railings continue for the duration of the platform length (Photo 8). These railings are typical of those used in the original IRT elevated stations – paneled posts are connected to simple top and bottom rails by stylized fretwork and C-shaped scrolls (Photo 9). Windscreens have been placed along the platform for the length of each canopy. At the far northern end of the platform is a small wooden, hip-roofed structure which may have served as a signal tower (Photo 10).

Downtown Platform

One small masonry structure is located at the far southern end of the downtown platform. This was once the blacksmith's room. An additional temporary metal structure has been erected between the motorman's room and the south end of the platform. Continuing

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northward along the platform, the original railings, consisting of riveted panels and simple posts, remain. Wrought iron signs with scrolled brackets are attached to the top rail at regular intervals. A canopy, identical to the one found on the Uptown platform extends over the platform near the entrance to the control house (Photo 11). Windscreens have also been fitted along this side of the station in the area beneath the canopy.

The Fort George Tunnel Portal

Fort George is the common name of the neighborhood immediately surrounding the Dyckman Street Station and the name of the tunnel located immediately south of this station (Photo 12). The Fort George Tunnel Portal was designed by Heins & LaFarge in a Beaux-Arts style that matches the exterior of the Dyckman Street control house. The base is constructed of rusticated granite which forms an arch with a prominent keystone. This is surmounted by a concrete parapet wall decorated with pyramidal medallions (Photo 13). The tunnel opening is topped by a square pediment decorated with stylized scrolls on either side of an inscription that reads, "Fort George 1776-1906."

Dyckman Street Subway Station (IRT)

Name of Property

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- [X] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [] **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [X] C Property 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 lack individual distinction.
- [] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- [] **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- [] B removed from its original location.
- [] C a birthplace or grave.
- []D a cemetery.
- [] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- []F a commemorative property.
- [] **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- [] preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- 1 previously listed in the National Register
-] previously determined eligible by the National Register
-] designated a National Historic Landmark
- [] recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
- [] recorded by Historic American Engineering Record
 - #

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Transportation

Architecture

Engineering

Community Planning and Development

Social History

Period of Significance

1906-1908

Significant Dates

1906

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

1

Parsons, William Barclay (engineer)

Heins, George L. and

LaFarge, Christopher G. (architects)

[X] Local Government[] University[X] Repository name:

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office

NYC Transit Archives

[X] Other State agency

[] Federal Agency

NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission

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8. Narrative Statement of Significance

As part of the Multiple Property Submission of the Historic Resources of the New York City Subway System, the Dyckman Street Station (IRT), Broadway/7th Avenue line, is significant under Criterion A in the areas of transportation, community planning and development, and social history. The station also meets Criterion C in the areas of engineering and architectural design. The Dyckman Street Station was opened in 1906 as one of several stations built (Under Contract 1) for the original Interborough Rapid Transit (IRT) system. It was one of thirteen elevated stations in the original IRT system. The Dyckman Street Station retains a relatively high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Dyckman Street is one of the 12 elevated stations built by the IRT under Contracts 1 and is significant at the local and national levels.

William Barclay Parsons (1859-1902), a Columbia University-trained engineer, began to devise the plan for the creation of the subway system after he was named chief engineer of the Rapid Transit Commission in 1894. Although Parsons was not the first to utilize building techniques associated with underground rail construction, such as the cut-and-cover method, the early IRT system is undoubtedly one of the greatest public works projects ever undertaken.

The engineering and architecture of the early IRT stations was strictly divided between Parsons and the architectural firm he hired – Heins & LaFarge. While all of the structural elements were completed by Parsons, the architectural and artistic design of each station was left to George L. Heins and Christopher Grant LaFarge, a team already famous for the design of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in Manhattan and buildings at the New York Zoological Gardens in the Bronx. Heins & LaFarge drew on the ideas presented by the "City Beautiful" movement for their inspiration (HAER 1979:368). Proponents of the movement believed that by creating a beautiful municipality, its inhabitants would be inspired to a higher level of moral and civic virtue and the subway was to be no exception.

In 1891, the *Report of the Rapid Transit Commissioners* stated that every effort should be made "in the way of painting and decoration to give brightness and cheerfulness to the general effect" of the stations (in NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission, *IRT Subway System Underground Interior Designation Report* 1979: 4). Each subterranean IRT station had its own unique color scheme, while the majority of the elevated stations were built in an almost identical Queen Anne style with elaborate ironwork railings and

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simple but finely detailed control houses. Dyckman Street is a unique example of a Beaux-Art style above-ground control house and station. The elevated stations of the original IRT line reflect the traditional use of Neo-Gothic design in railroad station buildings in America and Europe at the turn of the century, as well as a taste for period revival styles in public architecture associated with the City Beautiful movement. The Dyckman Street Station is architecturally significant as a unique example of Beaux-Arts design by Heins & LaFarge (*NYCT Historical Properties Survey: Phase II* 1994: 8). The station is built into the side of the hill and incorporates the Fort George Tunnel located at the southern end of the station platform – both unique design obstacles that were overcome by Parsons and his team.

The influence of the Broadway and Lenox Avenue branches of the original IRT (Dyckman Street station is on the Broadway branch) on the development of upper Manhattan and Bronx cannot be underestimated. From 1904 to World War I the farms and small villages of the East Bronx were transformed through rapid urban development into densely settled working class neighborhoods (Hood:112).

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- Parsons, Brinckerhoff, Quade & Douglas, Inc., Historical Perspectives, Inc. and Robert E Olmstead, P.E. "Phase I: Reconnaissance Level Historical Survey of Transit Authority Properties," June, 1991.

| 10. Geographical Data Acreage of Property Less than one acre UTM References (Price additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.) 1 1 5 9 0 5 2 0 4 5 2 0 4 5 2 0 4 5 2 0 4 5 2 0 4 5 2 0 4 5 2 0 4 5 2 0 4 5 2 0 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 1 | Dyckman Street Subway Station (IRT)) | New York County, New York |
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| Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) 11. Form Prepared By (*See Continuation Sheet for authors*) name/title Contact: Kathleen A. Howe, Historic Preservation Specialist organization NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation Date July 26, 2004 street & number Peebles Island, PO Box 189 Telephone city or town Waterford state NY Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form. Continuation Sheets Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location. A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property. Additional items (Check with SHPO or FPO for any additional items) Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO) name MTA New York City Transit Contact: Hollie Wells, Project Administrator street & number 2 Broadway, 6 th Floor, D6.125 telephone 646-252-4268 | 1 1 8 5 9 0 5 2 0 4 5 2 3 6 4 0 | |
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| name <u>MTA New York City Transit</u> Contact: Hollie Wells, Project Administrator street & number <u>2 Broadway, 6th Floor, D6.125</u> telephone <u>646-252-4268</u> | Additional items (Check with SHPO or FPO for any additional items) | |
| street & number _ 2 Broadway, 6 th Floor, D6.125 telephone646-252-4268 | Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of the SI | HPO or FPO) |
| | name MTA New York City Transit | Contact: Hollie Wells, Project Administrator |
| city or town New York state NY zip code 10004 | street & number 2 Broadway, 6 th Floor, D6.125 | telephone 646-252-4268 |
| | city or town New York | state NY zip code 10004 |

properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act. As amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20503.

| NPS Form 10-900a (8-86) | OMB No. 10024-0018 |
|---|--|
| United States Department of the Interior National Park Service | |
| National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet | Dyckman Street Subway Station (IRT) |
| | Name of Property |
| Section 10 Page 1 | Bronx County, New York |
| | County and State |

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Dyckman Street Station – Broadway/7th Avenue Line is shown as the bold line on the accompanying site plan entitled, "Dyckman Station, Station Plan, Broadway/7th Avenue Line – IRT Division, 1998." The above-ground station boundaries are also shown on the accompanying location map entitled, "Washington Heights, MTA, 1999." The designation for the Dyckman Street Station includes all portions of the station at track level that fall within the boundaries of the current platforms, as well as the stairways and control house located at street level. It also includes the entrance portal to the Fort George Tunnel.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries for the Dyckman Street Station represent the portions of the original station completed by 1906 and, due to the overall structural integrity of the station, include platform extensions. The opening for the Fort George Tunnel immediately abuts the station at its southern end and is also included as part of the nomination. The boundaries are indicative of this station's period of significance – 1906 -1908.

NPS Form 10-900a (8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 11 Page 1

OMB No. 10024-0018

Dyckman Street Subway Station (IRT)

Name of Property New York County, New York County and State

11. Form Prepared By:

Steven Bedford, Principal Architectural Historian Stacey Vairo, Architectural Historian Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc. 72 Cedar Street Hartford, CT 06106 860-247-7200 NPS Form 10-900a (8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 11 Page 2

OMB No. 10024-0018

Dyckman Street Subway Station (IRT)

Name of Property New York County, New York County and State

Additional Documentation

List of Black and White Photos Dyckman Street Station (Broadway/7th Avenue) New York County, New York

Photographer: Stacey Vairo Date: March 2004 Negatives on file: Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc. 72 Cedar Street Hartford, CT 06106

1. Hillside Avenue entrance to control house. View southeast.

2. Tracks above entrance to control house. View south.

3. Interior of control house - main exit doors. View north.

4. View of large window on western wall of control house. View east.

5. Interior of the control house - ticket booth and security gates. View southeast.

6. Waiting area of the control house with tiled artwork. View south.

7. Tiled name tablet near Fort George Tunnel opening on Uptown platform. View southeast.

8. Railing along northbound track. View northeast.

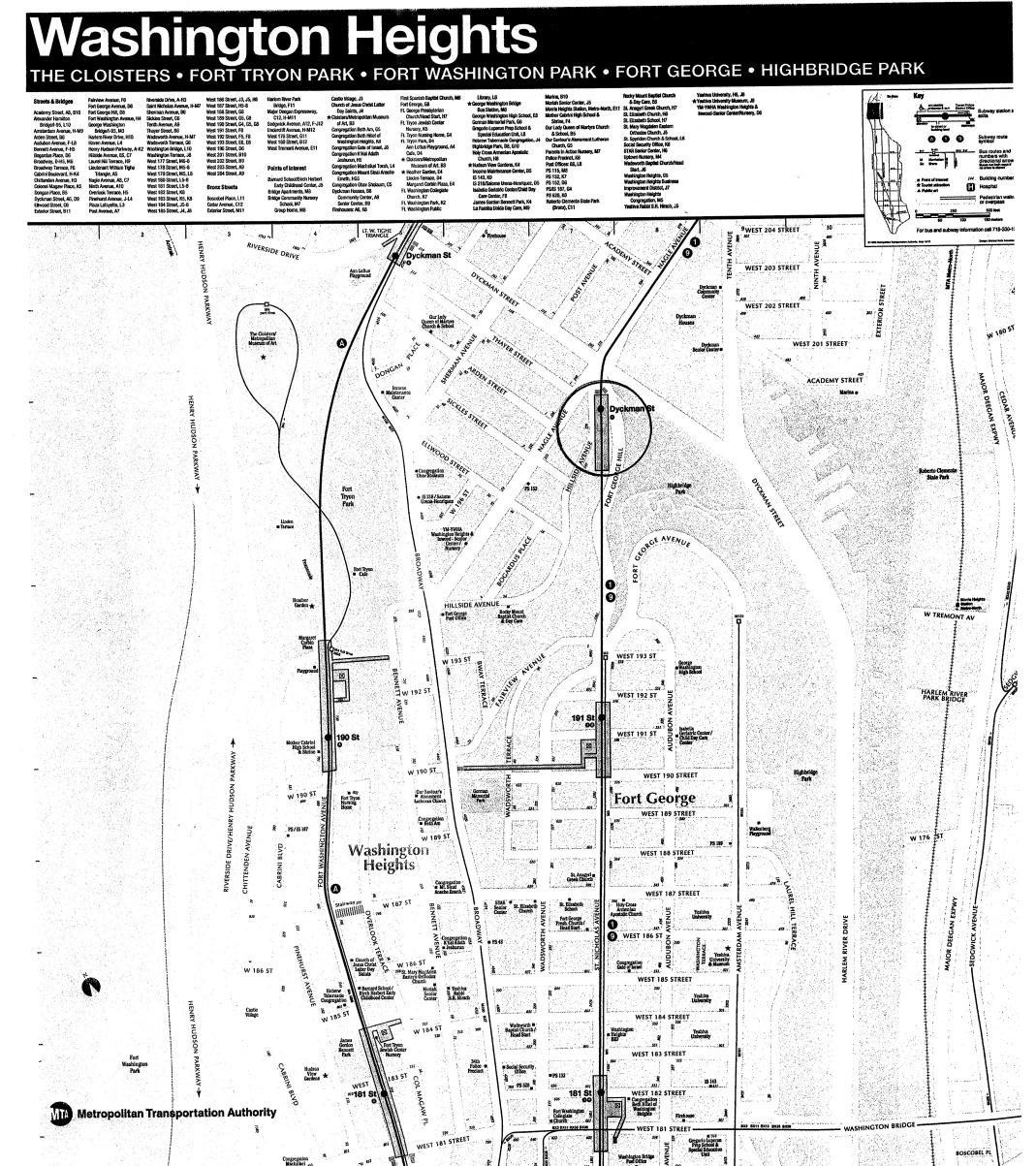
9. Railing along stairway leading down to the control house – northbound side. View north.

10. Far northern end of northbound platform including power distribution building. . View north.

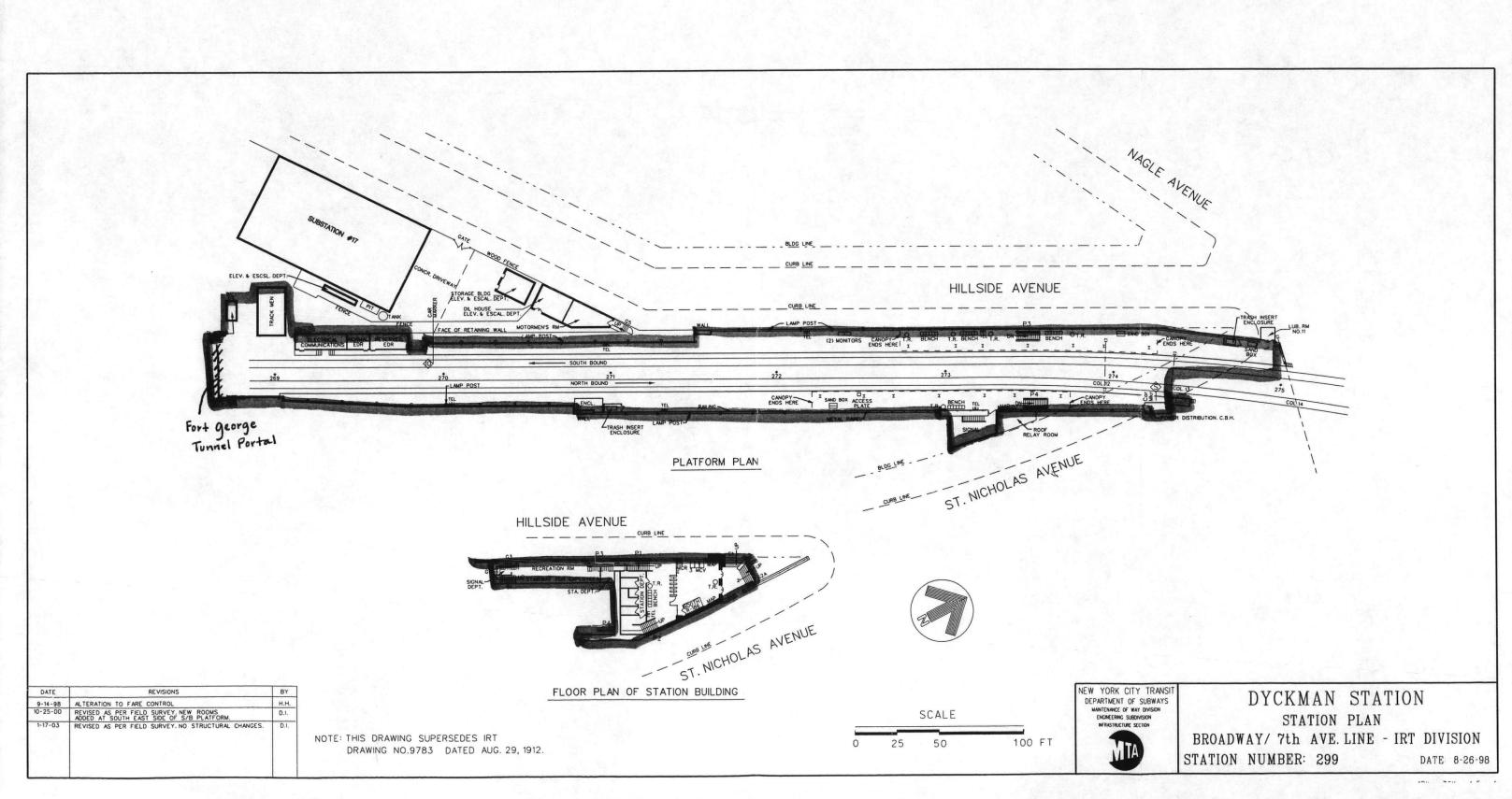
11. Detail of canopy ceiling over southbound platform. View north.

12. Entrance to the Fort George Tunnel Portal from the northbound platform. View south.

13. Detail of Fort George Tunnel Portal. View south.







UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Dyckman Street Subway Station (IRT) NAME:

MULTIPLE New York City Subway System MPS NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, New York

DATE RECEIVED: 8/05/04 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/26/04 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/10/04 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/18/04 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 04001021

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:NDATA PROBLEM:NLANDSCAPE:NLESS THAN 50 YEARS:NOTHER:NPDIL:NPERIOD:NPROGRAM UNAPPROVED:NREQUEST:NSAMPLE:NSLR DRAFT:NNATIONAL:Y

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

| RECOM. / CRITERIA Accept A4C | / |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| REVIEWER Savage | DISCIPLINE Avditectual History |
| TELEPHONE | DATE 9-17-04 |

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



Dyckman Street Station Bronx Co, NY View Southeast Photoby: Stacey Vario March 2004

R4- 19

Photo



Dyckman Street Station Bronx Co, NY View South Photo by: Stacey Vairo March 2004 R-4-8

Photo 2



Dyckman Street Station Bronx Co; NY View north Photo by: Stacey Vario March 2004 R21-14

Photo 3



Bronx Co:, NT View east Photo by: Stacey Vario March 2004

Photo A



Dyckman Street Station Bronx Co., NY View southeast Photo by: Stacey Vario March 2004

Photo 5



Dyckman Street Station Bronx Co., NY View south Photo by: Stacey Vairo March 2004

Photo b



Dyckman Street Station Bronx Co:, NY View southeast Photo by: Stacey Vairo March 2004

BH- 3

Photo 7



Dyckman Street Station Bronx Co, NY View northcast Photo by: Stacey Vairo March 2004



Dyckman Street Stations Bronx Co, NY View north Photo by: Stacy Vairo March 2004

Photo 9



Dyckman Street Station Bronx Co., NY View north Photo by: Stacey Vario March 2004

Photo 10



Dyckman Street Station Bronx Co; NY View north Photo by: Stacey Vairo March 2004



Bronx Co:, NY View south P.hoto by: Stacey Vairo March 2004

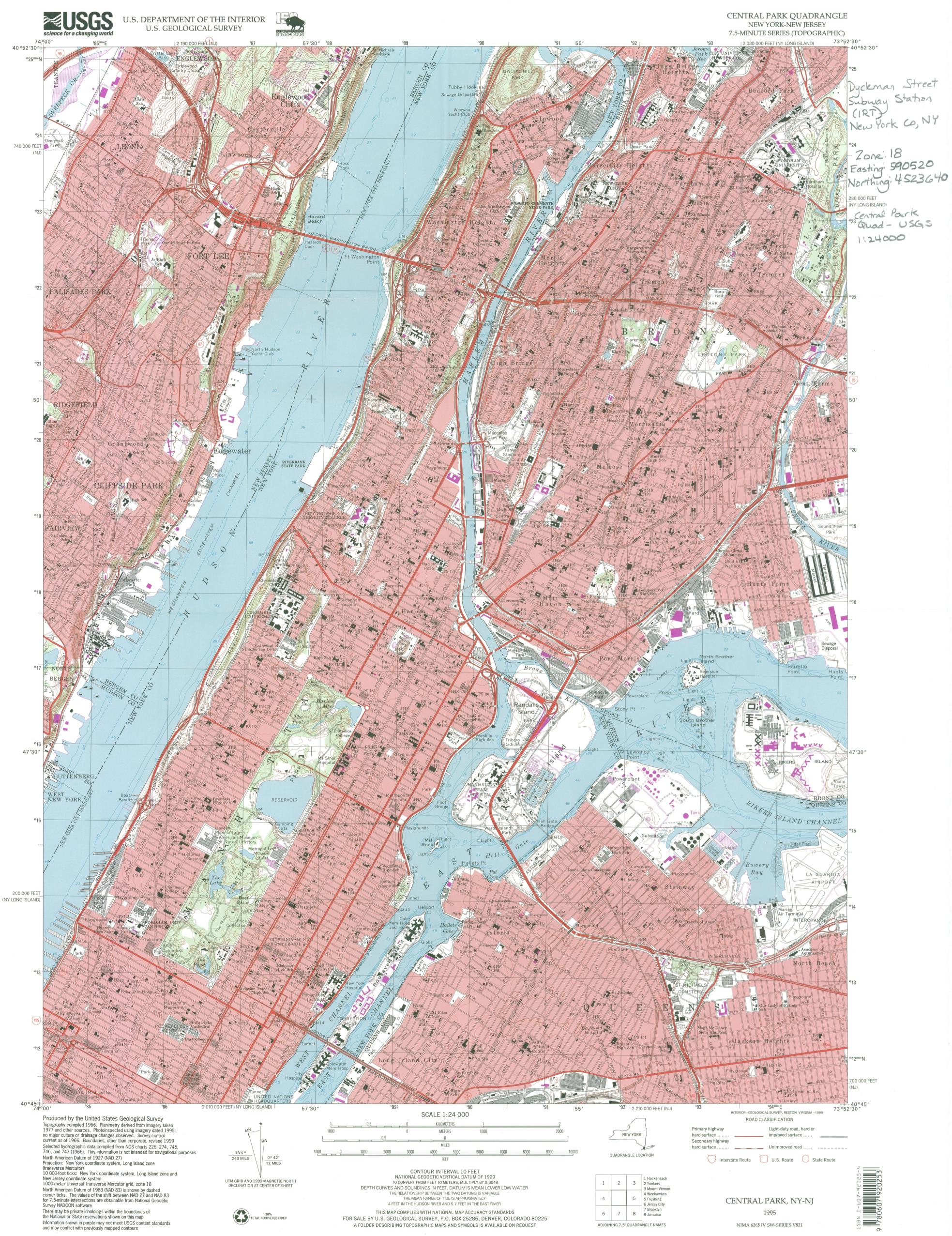
Photo 12

R



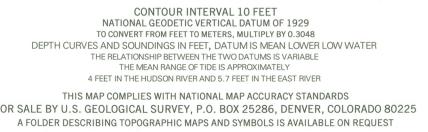
Dyckman Street Station Bronx Co; NT View Smith Photo by: Stacey Vairo March 2004

hoto 13



and may conflict with previously mapped contours





The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission



1 Centre Street, 9th Floor North, New York NY 10007 TEL: 212-669-7922 FAX: 212-669-7797 http://nyc.gov/landmarks/



May 10, 2004

Ms. Ruth Pierpont, Director New York State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau Peebles Island P.O. Box 189 Waterford, New York 12188-0189

H AV. HON S HURFALL

Re:

The Historic Resources of the New York City Subway System, New York, New York

Dear Ms. Pierpont:

I write on behalf of Chair Robert B. Tierney in response to your request for comment on the eligibility of The Historic Resources of the New York City Subway System (a multiple property listing) and the individual subway stations nominated for the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

In 1979, the Commission designated the subway stations at 33rd Street, 59th Street-Columbus Circle, 72nd Street, 79th Street, 110th Street, 116th Street-Columbia University, Astor Place, Bleecker Street, Borough Hall, City Hall, and Wall Street as part of the designation of the Interborough Rapid Transit System as a New York City landmark. The subway stations were designed by Heins & La Farge, while chief engineer William B. Parsons and his staff were responsible for the construction of the system. Mosaic sign panels and terra-cotta and faience plaques embellish each station.

The Commission has reviewed the materials submitted by the Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau and believes that the individual subway stations named above appear to meet the criteria for inclusion on the State and National Registers of Historic Places. The Commission believes that the subway stations at Jackson Avenue, Prospect Avenue, Simpson Street, Atlantic Avenue, Beverley Road, Dyckman Street, Times Square, and Main Street also appear to meet the criteria for inclusion on the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

Sincerely yours,

nduist

Ronda Wist

cc: Robert B. Tierney, Chair Mary Beth Betts

